

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS | SDG 4

Education – the key investment in the future

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



While every child in Germany is able to attend school, **one in six children** world-wide has no such access. Yet those who do not learn to read, write or do arithmetic are denied many opportunities. Countries in the Global South, in particular, are held back by this, because education is the key to social and economic development. Multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) can inject important impetus here and open up education for young people.

For Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai, books and pens are the most powerful weapons against poverty and terrorism; education is the only solution. Yet many children, especially girls, are often deprived of even rudimentary education because their parents cannot afford the school fees and learning materials or the children have to work and contribute to their family's subsistence.

This is despite the fact that education is a human right. It is key to the achievement of many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Education fosters self-determination, helps combat poverty and hunger and facilitates participation in democratic processes. Developing countries in particular, though, with their rapidly growing populations, are often unable to respond to these needs as they lack schools, materials and well trained teachers, as well as funding, ideas and possibilities.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships

MSPs can play an important part here by making changes to frameworks, investing in education and training, transforming knowledge and experience and working together to create effective leverage towards achievement of the **global goal of Education for All** that was set at the World Education Forum in Dakar in April 2000. One good example of this is the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

An MSP can be initiated by companies, associations, academic organisations, civil society organisations and public sector institutions. The added value is obtained from the partners pooling core competencies, experience and resources and thereby achieving greater impact in a particular field.



Partnerships2030 – the MSP platform

On behalf of the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**, the Partnerships2030 project promotes multistakeholder partnerships and thus contributes to implementing the 2030 Agenda. BMZ now promotes around 80 MSPs through the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH** and **Engagement Global – benGo**. GIZ implements the Partnerships2030 project, supports MSPs and stakeholders in many different ways, creates networks to link them to partners and provides information.



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The MSP methodology

MSPs are a form of cooperation in which stakeholders from at least three sectors among civil society, the public sector, the private sector and academia join forces as equals in order to contribute to the common good. An MSP can generate a transformative impact through cooperation geared to the long term.

Better educational opportunities for schoolchildren

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) promotes education measures in around 90 partner countries. It is a good example of how MSPs can contribute towards the achievement of SDG 4.

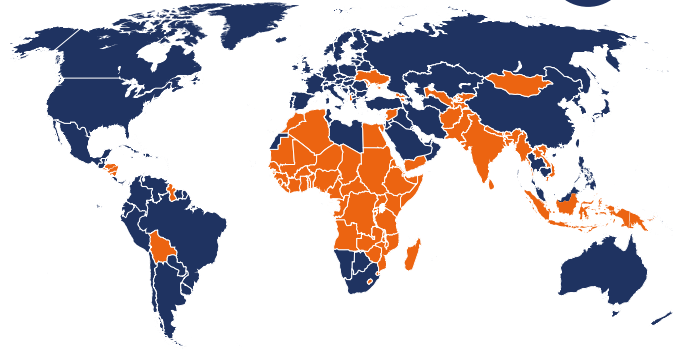
GPE aims to enable children and young people in poor countries to receive a good education. The partnership focuses on particularly disadvantaged children, first and foremost girls, children with disabilities and those living in regions affected by crisis and conflict.

GPE was formed in 2011, changing its name from the Education for All – Fast Track Initiative that was established under the G8. Within GPE, developing countries and donor countries work with multilateral organisations such as UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank and with civil society and the private sector. Germany was one of the co-founders of GPE and played an active part in shaping the orientation of its programme content from the outset. At the Global Education Summit in July 2021, BMZ pledged German contributions for the fourth replenishment (2021-2025) amounting to EUR 316 million for the period from 2021 to 2026. Of this, EUR 100 million is intended for girls' education and EUR 25 million to deal with the COVID-19 crisis.



Since 2002 GPE has invested almost EUR five billion in education measures in partner countries. Over the next five years, up to 90 developing countries can apply for funding: 70 per cent of the subsidies will be directed towards low-income countries, and 60 per cent of the funds will benefit fragile states and those affected by conflict. At the same

ENGAGEMENT OF THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION (GPE)



Up to **90** partner countries



time GPE also aims to help its partner countries raise their national expenditure on education to at least 20 per cent of their total budget. GPE assists partner countries in drawing up sustainable education plans, building schools, procuring teaching materials and training teachers.

These joint efforts are paying off. 'Since 2002, GPE has helped partner countries enrol an additional 82 million girls in school,' GPE points out. Altogether, **160 million more children have been able to attend school** thanks to GPE's commitment.

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