



Position Specification

Global Partnership for Education (GPE)
Chief Executive Officer

This specification should be read in conjunction with information on the Global Partnership for Education website at: <https://www.globalpartnership.org/>

Our Client

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is the largest global fund solely dedicated to transforming education in close to 70 lower-income countries, and a unique, multi-stakeholder partnership. It is the only global partnership and fund dedicated to helping children in lower-income countries get a quality education, so they can unlock their potential and contribute to building a better world. Bringing together governments, teachers, civil society, donors, United Nations agencies, development banks, businesses, and private foundations to achieve a shared vision of a quality education for every child, GPE is a shared commitment to end the world's learning crisis.

For nearly two decades, GPE has been delivering funds and supporting solutions to build strong and resilient education systems so that more children in the poorest countries, especially girls, get the education they need to contribute to building a more prosperous and sustainable world. Since 2002, 160 million more children in partner countries have set foot in classrooms for the first time.

GPE's new strategic plan, GPE 2025, sets out to deliver this transformative change by convening partners, mobilizing funds, and catalysing reforms to help partner countries get more children in school, improve teaching and learning, and build equitable, inclusive, and resilient education systems fit for the 21st century. GPE currently supports 76 developing countries transform their education systems. Since 2002, 160 million more children in GPE partner countries have set foot in classrooms for the first time, more than half of them girls.

The GPE Secretariat, with over 160 full-time employees and hosted by the World Bank, translates the policies and strategies set by the Board into practical support for partner countries in coordination with diverse stakeholders. The Secretariat's headquarters are in the World Bank's offices in Washington, D.C. and the European office is in Paris with a satellite office in Brussels.

GPE is committed to upholding the following principles in all aspects of their work:

- Education as a public good, a human right, and an enabler of other rights. It is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfilment, and sustainable development.
- Focusing resources on securing learning, equity and inclusion for the most marginalized children and youth, including those affected by fragility and conflict.
- Achieving gender equality.
- Enabling inclusive, evidence-based policy dialogue that engages national governments, donors, civil society, teachers, philanthropy, and the private sector.
- Providing support that promotes country ownership and nationally identified priorities and is linked to country performance in achieving improved equity and learning.
- Improving development effectiveness through harmonization and aligning aid to country systems.
- Promoting mutual accountability and transparency across the partnership.
- Acting on the belief that inclusive partnership is the most effective means of achieving development results.

GPE 2025

GPE's most ambitious strategy to date will accelerate efforts to reach Sustainable Development Goal 4 through transformed education systems, putting gender equality at the heart of what GPE does.

To ensure all girls and boys can learn equally, learn early, and learn well, GPE will prioritize the following:

- Focussing on the most stubborn barriers to get every child learning
- Getting money to where it matters most

- Using smart funding requirements and incentives to drive change
- Helping education ministries influence budget allocation
- Using innovative finance to support national priorities.

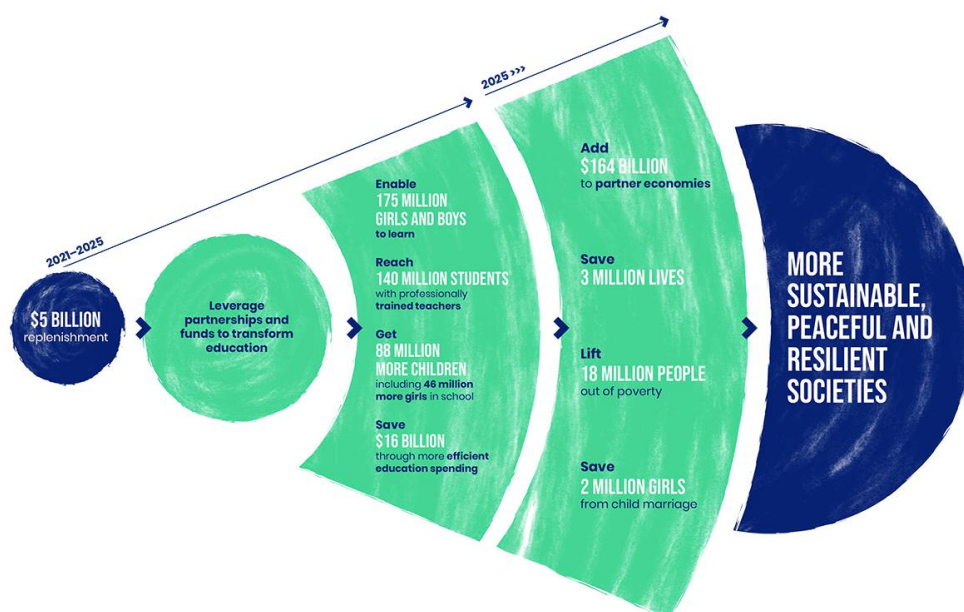
The 2025 Strategic Plan for GPE is published here:

<https://www.globalpartnership.org/content/gpe-2025-strategic-plan>

Financing 2025

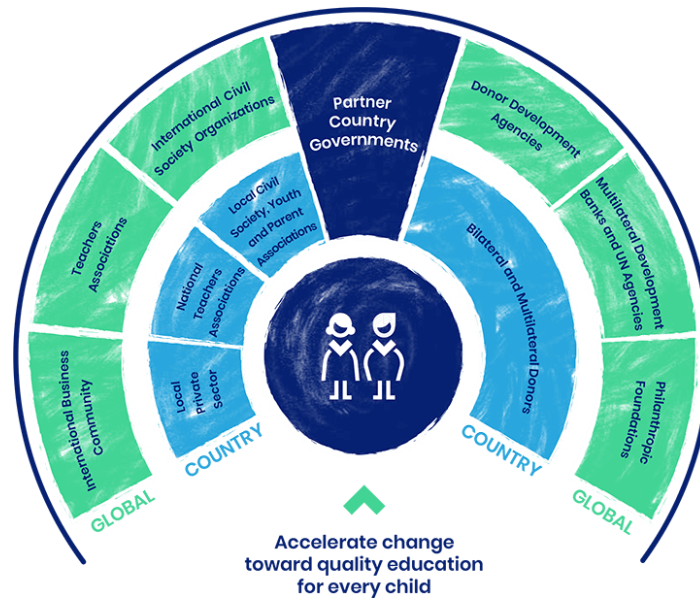
At the start of October 2020, GPE launched its fourth financing campaign and has already received \$4 billion in funds, 80% of its total goal to support progress towards a quality education for every child.

By utilizing a variety of funding instruments to leverage these resources, including education funding by lower-income countries themselves, GPE is a leader in catalysing real change. By facilitating a ripple effect of investment and contributing to building more sustainable, peaceful, and resilient societies, by 2025 GPE is expected to add an estimated \$164 billion to partner country economies, lifting 18 million people out of poverty, saving three million lives, and preventing early marriage for two million girls.



In addition to longer-term investment, GPE is also well positioned to react rapidly to emergencies, as it has done during the current Covid-19 pandemic. The social and economic impact of the coronavirus has triggered an education crisis on unprecedented scale, and in developing countries 393 million children have been cut off from schools. In a matter of weeks, GPE mobilized more than \$500 million to support partner countries with planning and implementing their response to the pandemic. Sixty-six grants were approved for a total of \$467 million to ensure regional and global efficiencies and knowledge sharing.

GPE's Partners



The Role

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will lead GPE, a maturing organization and partnership, into its next chapter by charting an ambitious course for delivering on its strategy to transform education. The CEO will capitalize on and enhance GPE's global leadership position, ensuring the partnership and the organization are delivering results effectively and efficiently at scale.

Responsibilities

Delivering results:

- Ensures the whole partnership and Secretariat focus on achieving results.
- Has overall responsibility to lead and be accountable for the performance of the GPE Secretariat.
- Ensures the Secretariat gives priority attention to diversity, equity and inclusion in its internal and external operations and delivers on GPE's commitment to gender equality and inclusion of marginalized populations.
- Ensures appropriate internal control and compliance policies and procedures are in place and being followed, including with respect to the World Bank's fiduciary and safeguard policies and guidelines.

External Leadership:

- Acts as a global ambassador for education and an influential and powerful advocate for GPE and the broader educational agenda, including achievement of SDG4 and greater resources for education.
- Strengthens GPE by building strategic cooperative relationships among partners and a large and diverse group of stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of GPE funding and initiatives.
- Advocates for and generates funding for GPE's programs, diversifies funding streams, introduces innovative funding approaches, and, with the Chair and Vice Chair, leads GPE's replenishment campaigns.

Strategic Direction:

- Building on the strengths of all its partner organizations, leads GPE in the formulation of its role to contribute to closing education achievement gaps in developing countries
- Drives strategic reform and improves the performance and impact of GPE.
- Strengthens the reputation of GPE and ensures it has a leadership role in development debates about education.
- Champions global knowledge and innovation, including technology, and ensures the dissemination of effective approaches, drawing on evidence and good practice.

Accountability

The CEO is accountable to the Board of Directors for achieving GPE's strategy, objectives, and outcomes. The CEO also reports, administratively, to the Vice President of the Human Development Network at the World Bank, the GPE Secretariat's host organization.

Personal and Performance Competencies:

- Strong strategic orientation – with demonstrated strategic, conceptual, and analytical skills required to operate at a CEO level in a dynamic environment.
- Exceptional leadership and management capabilities – with high-level capacity and operational experience to manage all aspects of a diverse international organization, including driving results, building organizational capability, and inspiring innovation, commitment, and excellence from staff.
- A change management leader – with a proven ability to drive and successfully implement change and ability to manage ambiguity while working to achieve the priorities of GPE's Board of Directors.
- Exceptional communicator and collaborator – with effective advocacy and negotiation skills; demonstrated ability to act as an influential representative with media and a range of partners and stakeholders; and

outstanding interpersonal, diplomatic and partnership skills to build and maintain effective collaborative relationships and networks across different cultural contexts.

- Impeccable integrity and commitment to ethical leadership – with ability to drive an ethical, open-minded organizational culture; high level professionalism, probity, resilience, and excellent judgment; and demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Professional qualifications and international experience – with profound understanding of the challenges of international development, and experience in achieving results in more than one world region.
- Client Orientation: Builds linkages across boundaries for optimal performance.
- Drive for Results: Facilitates and impacts results across units.
- Teamwork (Collaboration) and Inclusion: Leverages capabilities of others within and across boundaries
- Knowledge, Learning and Communication: Produces and disseminates knowledge products to create added value.
- Business Judgment and Analytical Decision Making: Provides leadership in analytical decision making across boundaries.
- Courage of your Convictions - Stands up to others and challenges when necessary.
- Leading the Team for Impact - Generates high levels of commitment to the GPE mission.
- Influencing Across Boundaries - Leverages sophisticated influence strategies.
- Fostering Openness to New Ideas - Facilitates change.
- Building Talent for the Future - Develops broad capabilities.

Candidate Profile

The CEO will have extensive experience in leading an international organization, strong skills in public relations and advocacy at a global level, the capacity to work in a complex environment, and high-level experience in delivering results and managing multiple funding arrangements.

The successful candidate will have:

- Extensive experience in leading and managing an international organization to achieve results
- Demonstrated experience in delivering results, including through driving improvements in policy and program implementation
- Experience in overseeing multiple funding arrangements
- Strong skills in public relations and advocacy at a global level
- The capacity to work in a complex environment
- The ability to bring to bear their extensive experience to advance the interests of GPE and deliver on GPE's strategy for education transformation.
- Experience as a leader in education is desirable.
- Fluent English language capability is essential; French or Spanish fluency is preferred and knowledge of another UN language is considered an advantage.

Preferred location

The preferred location for the role is Washington DC.

How to Apply

To apply, please send your CV, and supporting statement to responses@russellreynolds.com by 5 May, 2022. Your supporting statement should succinctly highlight your motivation, experience, and skills against the requirements of the role. Please include the role title and 2202-110NA in the subject of your email. If you have a question about the position, or your application, please contact the Russell Reynolds Team at responses@russellreynolds.com.

GPE welcomes candidates from all fields and all types of organizations: public, multilateral, business, NGO and academia.

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