



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**HON. ASERI RADRODRO**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

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**TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**183/2024**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

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**Hon. Premila Kumar to ask the Minister for Education – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the following in relation to the development of the Education Sector Plan which was funded by the Global Partnership for Education in 2022 –**

- (a) the specific milestones that have been achieved from 2023;**
  - (b) how much of the allocated funds have been utilised, and for what specific purposes; and**
  - (c) what are the tentative dates for the completion of the Education Sector Plan and how will it be implemented.**
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**(a) the specific milestones that have been achieved from 2023**

**Background 2022**

Fiji became a member of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in June, 2022. As part of its membership requirements, Fiji needed to form a Local Education Group which includes Education Sector stakeholders. As such the Education Partner Group (EPG) was established in 2022, co-chaired by the MOE (PSE) and the Australian High Commission (First Secretary AHC).

With GPE membership, Fiji received a System Capacity Grant (SCG) allocation of **1.5mil USD** with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) as Grant Agent, and DFAT is the Coordinating Agent.

An Enabling Factors Analysis (EFA) was produced by a core technical team, with active engagement across the Ministry, and, at key points, contributions from education stakeholders and partners to identify key priority areas for the Ministry that needs support.

- The Enabling Factor Analysis (EFA) identified the following priorities:
  - First was the Education Sector Analysis (ESA) which is an in-depth and holistic analysis of our education system. The objective is to ascertain and understand how the education system is currently working and how it can be improved. The ESA provides the evidence base for decision making in preparing the Education Sector Plan.
  - Second priority: The drafting and development of the ten-year Education Sector Plan (ESP 2024-2034) as well as the extensive planning and consultation process for the Fiji National Education Summit (FNES). The FNES was convened in September 2023.

An MOE ESP consultant was engaged to start work on the MOE ESP in 2022, followed by a series of workshop conducted for MOE officials and its stakeholders.

### **Program of Work and Milestones 2023**

The work on the Education Sector Plan came to a stop in 2022 following the change in MOE administration. The work on the Education Sector Analysis (ESA) began again in 2023.

#### ESA progress in 2023

- An ESA consultant was engaged to undertake the development of the ESA report. The work of the consultant involved field work, consultations, research with MOE stakeholders and partners: Donor partners, faith-based Organization, teachers, Heads of Schools (HOS), students, community members, Teacher Unions, Teacher Training Institutions (TTI), tertiary students.
- The ESA will provide an in-depth analysis of the current status of the Education sector.
- ESA Report is in its draft Form.

### **Compact Document**

The compact document is the road map to transformation. It articulates how a GPE partner country intends to work with others around a priority reform with the potential to catalyze systemwide change.

The partner country leads and develops its compact with the support of an inclusive local education group. The compact document is shared with the GPE Board, which uses it as a basis for decision making for GPE funding.

To develop the partnership Compact, the Ministry of Education, Fiji planning unit convened a broad technical group involving all its departments, ministerial advisors, partners, and pre-summit consultation workshops in Fiji's four geographical divisions.

The compact document aims to strengthen system-wide collaboration to enhance teaching quality and thereby improve learning outcomes. The compact document has since been submitted to the GPE for which approval has been granted. The release of the compact funding is dependent on the receipt of the Program development document.

A consultant has been engaged to develop the Program Development document from the Compact Priority Areas as identified by MOE. This program development document is currently being drafted by the consultant and submission is due in the last quarter of 2024.

- FIJI NATIONAL EDUCATION SUMMIT (FNES) 2023  
Nationwide consultation conducted from April – September 2023, culminating with the FNES at Denarau, Nadi. The outcome of the Summit was the confirmation of the 2023 Denarau Declaration, a 10 year Policy Framework of the Ministry.

The following documents will be used to inform and guide the MOE Education Sector Plan (ESP) for the next 10 years

1. 2023 Denarau Declaration
2. Education Sector Analysis Report
3. Compact

(b) how much of the allocated funds have been utilised, and for what specific purposes;

<b>Window 1 Activities</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Approved *SCG funds by GPE (USD)</b>	<b>SCG Fund Spent (USD, est.)</b>	<b>Extra Funds Spent by UNICEF (Technical Partner Funding) (USD, est.)</b>
<b>Development of the Compact</b>	EFA was not specifically listed but costs associated with EFA development are included here.	31,821	19,794	
<b>Education Sector Analysis, Thematic Analysis, Bottlenecks and Opportunities Study, Development of ESP including the</b>	Costs for associated consultations are included. The contributions to Pre-Summit and Summit costs are associated with consultations	497,472	534,257	<b>70,432</b>

<b>Education Summit activities</b>	contributing to ESA and ESP.			
<b>Grant Agent Cost</b>	Costs associated with UNICEF management of funds. Only partially reflects UNICEF technical support to the work. Some technical support from UNICEF is funded through other sources.	58,586	33,829	<b>24,757</b>
		<b>587,879</b>	<b>587,879</b>	<b>95,189</b>

\*SCG refers to System Capacity Grant

**(c) what are the tentative dates for the completion of the Education Sector Plan (ESP) and how will it be implemented.**

The tentative date for the completion of the 10 Year MOE ESP is March 2025. This 10 year plan will be implemented in phases. Implementation is informed by the priorities of the MOE.

The Annual Costed Operational Plan (COP) will be developed in alignment with the 10 year Plan and to be implemented, monitored, evaluated and learning (MEL) annually for the next 10 years. There is provision for review of the 10-year plan. The review will be dependent on government priorities, funding implications and legislation.