What is Education Out Loud?

Education Out Loud, a new funding mechanism for advocacy and social accountability, provides funding to support civil society to be active and influential in shaping education policy to better meet the needs of communities, especially of vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Funding adaptive and learning-oriented practices to strengthen transparency, accountability and civic participation in education, Education Out Loud will support institutionally healthy, sustainable, and creative civil society organizations able to effectively advocate for education on behalf of the public interest.

What makes Education Out Loud different?

Education Out Loud emphasizes learning of grantees and provides each grantee with up to one year of preparation time to analyze their context and build skills, and to develop strategies for monitoring, evaluation and learning before starting implementation.

To strengthen grantees capabilities, Education Out Loud will match them with learning partners to provide mentoring and training. Education Out Loud also links with GPE’s Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) by feeding into and drawing from learning networks at global, regional and country levels.
How will Education Out Loud contribute to GPE’s mission?

By financing the work of an informed and active citizenry to advocate for improved education, Education Out Loud, aims to support:

- Education policies that are more responsive to people’s needs.
- Increased political and civic support for education.
- Stronger voice from the most marginalized communities.
- Improved, more informed and responsive education sector planning, implementation and monitoring.
- Good governance of education systems leading to better alignment and better outcomes.

What type of activities does Education Out Loud fund?

Education Out Loud funds activities related to five key areas:

- **POLICY DIALOGUE**
  Participation of civil society in education planning, policy dialogue and monitoring processes

- **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**
  Social mobilization, communications and campaigns supporting education

- **DATA AND TRANSPARENCY**
  Development of tools for accountability and tracking of public education budgets and program implementation

- **ANALYSIS**
  Research on education challenges and policy implementation

- **STRENGTHENING CIVIC CAPACITY**
  Capacity development and peer learning

Who is managing Education Out Loud?

Education out Loud is a GPE funding mechanism, overseen by GPE’s Board of Directors. Oxfam IBIS is managing Education Out Loud through a global management unit based in Copenhagen and four regional units in Africa (Ghana and Uganda), Asia (Nepal) and Latin America (Mexico).

Oxfam IBIS will convene independent selection panels to review proposals, ensuring a fair and transparent review process. Oxfam IBIS will also work with learning partners, organizations contracted to support grantees in their learning and development.

Who is eligible to apply for Education Out Loud grants and how large are the grants?

Non-profit civil society organizations in GPE partner countries working on improving transparency and effectiveness of national education policies are eligible to apply for Education Out Loud grants.

Grants will be available for national and international civil society organizations and networks in eligible countries worldwide between January 2020 and December 2024. Grant sizes vary for each funding component:
**Component 1**

**STRENGTHEN NATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION PLANNING, POLICY DIALOGUE AND MONITORING:**

Grant size: **US$100,000 to US$300,000** (2 years)

**Eligible applicants:** Operational component 1 (OC1) builds on the strengths of the previous Civil Society Education Fund (CSEF) which was active between 2009 and 2018. This component will act as a successor to CSEF, providing continued support to education coalitions at national and regional level.

This call for proposals is by invitation only and to be eligible for funding, national education coalitions must be:

- previous recipients of CSEF grants
- based in countries eligible for GPE funding, which are either currently partner countries, or actively seeking to join the partnership.

A full list of eligible countries can be found in the call for proposals for OC1 in Education Out Louds’ webpage.

This support will enable national education coalitions to:

- Be more inclusive, particularly of marginalized groups.
- Have better capacity to engage in policy dialogue.
- Participate in and effectively influence policy processes.

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**Component 2**

**STRENGTHEN CIVIL SOCIETY ROLES IN PROMOTING THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION SECTOR POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION:**

Grant size: **US$450,000 to US$1.2 million** (3 to 4 years)

**Eligible applicants:** National organizations working on local and national education policy and implementation. Organizations should be based and working in one or more partner countries eligible for GPE funding. National organizations could include trade unions, women’s groups, youth groups, minority groups, school management committees, etc. Applying organizations must be registered. Organizations without registration status must work with registered organizations to access funds.

National chapters of international NGOs, and national education coalitions (funded under component 1) are not eligible for component 2 funding.

This support will enable civil society organizations to:

- Improve the availability of data and evidence to affect policy change and monitor of government commitments.
- Have increased capabilities to mobilize citizens to demand and shape education policies that meet their needs.
- Generate and exchange knowledge to strengthen CSOs and to use evidence effectively for advocacy.

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**Component 3**

**CREATE A STRONGER GLOBAL AND TRANSNATIONAL ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR NATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY ADVOCACY AND TRANSPARENCY EFFORTS:**

Grant size: **US$450,000 to US$1.2 million** (3 to 4 years)

**Eligible applicants:** One civil society organization may apply on behalf of global, regional or multi-country civil society alliances, which include at least one national civil society actor in GPE partner countries eligible for GPE funding. Grant activities must take place in more than one country, as part of a strategy to influence global and regional policy frameworks. The lead applicant must be a formally registered organization. Consortia can include actors not traditionally working in education but have education as a cross-sectoral priority or skills and tools which can be scalable in the education sector. Groups working with, on behalf of, or which are directly from marginalized groups will be given priority.

This support will enable transnational civil society alliances to:

- Develop and work together around strategic policy changes related to SDG 4, and increase their strategic advocacy.
- Change policies and practices at regional or global level through transnational advocacy.
- Create or strengthen mechanisms to follow up on global, regional or national commitments related to the right to quality education.

A full list of eligible partner countries for OC2 and OC3 can be found in the call for proposals that will be made available in Education Out Louds’ webpage.
When will Education Out Loud be operational?

The GPE Board has allocated US$55.5 million in funding for Education Out Loud through 2024.

Oxfam IBIS is planning to issue a first call for proposals for component 1 in August 2019. Coalitions will receive grants to support their work for a 2-year period between 2020 and 2021.

There will be two calls for proposals for components 2 and 3 in the fourth quarter of 2019 and in mid-2020 to support the work of grantees through 2024.

How can I apply for an Education Out Loud grant?

You can visit the Education Out Loud webpage, where you can review the guidelines of the call for proposals and submit your application through the website.

Where can I find more information about Education Out Loud?

You can find more information at: www.educationoutloud.org

For inquiries, please email: info@educationoutloud.org