



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA COOPERAZIONE
PER LO SVILUPPO

GPE Replenishment Conference
Statement by Italy
June 26, 2014

Italy is strongly committed to promote quality education for all children in line with the Millennium Development Goals. The new Guidelines 2014-2016 of the Italian Development Cooperation establish education as a priority sector. We are concentrating in particular on promoting access to primary schools as well as teacher training.

Bilaterally, Italy is working to enhance quality, equity and inclusiveness of the education systems especially in African countries.

In Ethiopia Italy has co-financed (15 million euro) the “General Education Quality Improvement Package”. Within the present “Ethiopian-Italian Cooperation Framework”, 7.5 million euro were additionally pledged for the II phase of the Package, which will include a new ICT component.

Italy also participates to the Common Fund to Support the Education Sector in Mozambique with a focus on improving teaching capacities and enlarging access to education based on equity and gender criteria. We disbursed 3 million euro in the last triennium; we are contributing 3.4 million euro for the next three years. In Senegal, we place a strong emphasis on fostering rural development and social protection through a gender mainstreaming approach. We have recently promoted a pilot programme in support of girls’ education implemented by the Ministry of Education, developing an integrated model now considered a best practice. Italian cooperation intends to renew its engagement in supporting education in Senegal in 2014-2017.

On the multilateral channel, since 2002 our Development Cooperation has been supporting the Education for All Fast Track Initiative”, nowadays “Global Partnership for Education”. We share in particular the strategic priorities of the GPE, encouraging the focus on quality, learning outcomes and hard-to-reach children as well as promoting effective equality and opportunity for girls.

Reiterating its support to Global Partnership for Education, for 2014 Italy pledges the amount of 1.5 million Euro to the Global Education Fund and expects, subject to future annual budgetary allocations by the Italian Parliament, to maintain the same level of commitment per year between 2015 and 2018.