

12. Africa: Education

Commitment

“[The G8 reiterate their commitment to “Education for All” for sustainable development in Africa. As part of this commitment, in 2002 the major donors launched the Fast Track Initiative (FTI) to guide and accelerate the delivery of universal primary education in the world’s poorest countries. This approach focuses on sustainable multi-year education plans, measurable results, fiduciary controls, and coordinated donor funding, and as such enjoys the G8’s full support.] The G8 will continue to work with partners and other donors to meet shortfalls in all FTI endorsed countries, estimated by the FTI Secretariat at around US\$ 500 million for 2007. [We will work together with other donors and recipient governments towards helping to fund long-term plans provided by countries to ensure every child gets to school, with attention to low income countries and fragile states furthest away from the 2015 target of universal primary completion. We will especially focus on high quality education and capacity development. This initiative helps bring rigor to programming as it is based upon a strong commitment by host governments and a sound combination of bilaterally and multilaterally funded programmes.]”¹²⁴¹

Growth and Responsibility in Africa

Assessment

Country	Final Compliance Score		
	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score			+0.44

Background

At the World Conference on Education for All in Jomtien, Thailand (5-9 March 1990), delegates from 155 countries, as well as representatives from approximately 150 organizations, agreed to universalize primary education and massively reduce illiteracy before the year 2000.¹²⁴² Article III of the World Declaration on Education for All addresses universalizing access to, and promoting equity in, education, stating that “basic education should be provided to all children, youth and adults.”¹²⁴³ The Article also recognizes the most urgent objective to be ensuring access to, and improving the quality of, education for girls and women and removing every obstacle that hampers their active participation.¹²⁴⁴ Senegal hosted the World Education Forum in April 2000.¹²⁴⁵ Through the adoption of the Dakar Framework for Action, the 1100 participants of the Forum reaffirmed their commitment to achieving Education for All by the year 2015, and entrusted UNESCO with the overall responsibility of coordinating all international players and sustaining global

¹²⁴¹ Growth and Responsibility in Africa, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Date of Access: 20 May 2008.

<<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-africa.html>>

¹²⁴² The World Conference on Education for All 1990, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/background/world_conference_jomtien.shtml>

¹²⁴³ World Declaration on Education for All, UNESCO (Geneva) 1990. Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/background/jomtien_declaration.shtml>

¹²⁴⁴ World Declaration on Education for All, UNESCO (Geneva) 1990. Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/background/jomtien_declaration.shtml>

¹²⁴⁵ EDUCATION Primary Education, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=33163&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html>

momentum.¹²⁴⁶ The G8 countries reaffirmed their support for the Education for All agenda at the July 2001 Genoa Summit,¹²⁴⁷ and all nations endorsed the results of the G8 Education Task Force, which reported at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit.¹²⁴⁸ Three years later, at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders renewed their commitment to the Education for All Initiative, with an emphasis placed on its implementation in Africa.¹²⁴⁹ All participants expressed support for the Fast Track Initiative (FTI), a partnership between donor and developing countries guaranteeing progress toward universal primary education, an objective of the Millennium Development Goals. Candidate countries must display a strong commitment to implementing strategies geared to improving the education sector.¹²⁵⁰

Education was a topic of particular emphasis for the Russian Presidency of the G8. At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, leaders reaffirmed their support for the Millennium Development Goals, focused on education and stressed their commitment to the Education for All initiative.¹²⁵¹ Seven separate commitments on Education for All were included in the document *Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st Century*. These commitments reaffirmed support for promises made at previous G8 Summits, highlighted the importance of education in furthering African development, and stressed the necessity of including programs for HIV/AIDS awareness in education systems.¹²⁵² The leaders also agreed to assist FTI-identified nations in developing the capacity to sustain and procure the necessary resources to complete their goals on education.¹²⁵³

A summary of Official Development Assistance trends produced by the Fast Track Initiative in April 2008 shows a slowdown in commitments to education. Aid commitments dropped in 2004 from 2005 levels. Although they increased by US\$11.3 billion in 2006, they have not reached 2004 levels to date. Most aid has been disbursed at the post-secondary level, while basic education is a growing share.¹²⁵⁴

Team Leader: Christina Jabbour

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to support the Fast Track Initiative.

On 7 February 2008, Beverley J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation, announced that Canada will be giving CAD302 million over three years to the African Development Bank, CAD72.5 million to the World Food Programme for emergency food aid initiatives, and CAD17 million to key governance initiatives. Part of this funding will go towards enrolling children in school, although the exact amount is not yet clear. This announcement renews Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper's commitment to double Canadian assistance to Africa from 2003-04 levels.¹²⁵⁵ Until 2008 Canada has been contributing 40% less than its "fair share" of the amount necessary to meet the FTI target goals. Thus, although

¹²⁴⁶ EDUCATION Primary Education, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=33163&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html>

¹²⁴⁷ Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>>

¹²⁴⁸ A New Focus on Education for All, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2002. Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/education.html>>

¹²⁴⁹ Africa, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>>

¹²⁵⁰ Africa, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2008.

<<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>>

¹²⁵¹ Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Date of Access:

20 January 2008. <<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>>

¹²⁵² Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Date of Access:

20 January 2008. <<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>>

¹²⁵³ Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Date of Access:

20 January 2008. <<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>>

¹²⁵⁴ Update on ODA Trends. April 2008. Date of Access: 3 May 2008. <<http://www.education-fast-track.org/>>

¹²⁵⁵ The Government of Canada Announces Major Step Towards Fulfilling its Commitment to Africa, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 7 February 2008. Date of Access: 10 May 2008. <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/acdicida.nsf/En/FRA-2711373-MH8>>

necessary, these funding commitments fall short of US\$125 million that Canada must allocate annually to meet FTI target goals by 2015.¹²⁵⁶

Canada, along with other members of the G8, reiterated its commitment to Education For All at the 2008 G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, which took place on 5 and 6 April 2008 in Tokyo. The need for well-balanced education systems, including vocational training, secondary and post-secondary education, was emphasized.¹²⁵⁷

These contributions are welcome in light of the fact that in its December 2007 report, the Education Program Development Fund (EPDF) did not list Canada as one of the Fund's major contributors.¹²⁵⁸ The only pledge made by Canada to the Fund, as of December 2007, was a contribution of US\$3.4 million in 2006.¹²⁵⁹ The Catalytic Fund, the FTI's other funding program, has not received any new pledges from Canada since 2006.¹²⁶⁰ It should be noted that no standard replenishment process exists for the Catalytic Fund.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) lists support of the Education For All Initiative as one of the components of its *Sustainable Development Strategy 2007-2009*.¹²⁶¹ Indeed, the Strategy states that "Canada's commitment to basic education is reflected in its support of a number of international agreements, which include the EFA Framework."¹²⁶² Nevertheless, CIDA has announced no new contributions specific to the EFA or the two Funds of the FTI since the release of its *Sustainable Development Strategy*. The last contribution listed on the CIDA website is Canada's pledge of US\$25 million for the EFA-FTI, which was made at the St. Petersburg G8 Summit in 2006.¹²⁶³

On 15 October 2007, Canadian Minister for International Cooperation Beverley Oda announced that the Canadian government would invest CAD8 million in the Aga Khan Foundation's Girls' Education Support Program (GESP). The GESP aims to support the Afghan government's efforts to expand primary education, train female teachers and integrate distance learning into the national educational system.¹²⁶⁴

A Senior Education Advisor from CIDA represented Canada at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹²⁶⁵ The meeting provides donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

While Canada has committed new funds for primary education in Africa, there is no evidence to suggest that it has actively pursued funding from other donors. Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Christina Jabbour

¹²⁵⁶ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹²⁵⁷ Chair's Summary of the G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, G8 Hokkaido Summit (Tokyo) 6 April 2008. Date of Access: 30 April 2008. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/other/g8_develop_s.html>

¹²⁵⁸ Education Program Development Fund (EPDF) Summary Progress Report, Education for All (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/EPDF_reportdec07.pdf>

¹²⁵⁹ Education Program Development Fund (EPDF) Summary Progress Report, Education for All (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/EPDF_reportdec07.pdf>

¹²⁶⁰ FTI Catalytic Fund Status Report, Education for All (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_dec07.pdf>

¹²⁶¹ Sustainable Development Strategy: 2007-2009, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 9 January 2008. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/RAC-1129144152-R4Q#act2b>>

¹²⁶² Sustainable Development Strategy: 2007-2009, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 9 January 2008. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/RAC-1129144152-R4Q#act2b>>

¹²⁶³ Sustainable Development Strategy: 2007-2009, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 9 January 2008. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/RAC-1129144152-R4Q#act2b>>

¹²⁶⁴ Canada's New Government Increases its Commitment to Enhancing Girls' Education, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 15 October 2007. Date of Access: 21 June 2008. <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/FRA-1015142436-PLG>>

¹²⁶⁵ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to meet shortfalls in the Fast Track Initiative countries.

On 4 October 2007, the Agence française de développement (AFD) announced that its Committee of Foreign States had approved the disbursement of two contributions, totaling €9.05 million, to the Catalytic Fund and the EDPF, the two funds that finance Fast Track Initiative (FTI) programs.¹²⁶⁶ It is not clear, however, how the money will be divided between the two funds.

On 27 March 2008, the official Education For All Fast Track Initiative website reported that French President Nicolas Sarkozy and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown would collaborate to contribute to the development of primary education in Africa.¹²⁶⁷ According to a communiqué released by the British government, the two governments had recognized the lack of schooling for 33 million children as being one of the greatest challenges in Africa. As such, France and the United Kingdom would combine their resources to each provide eight million school places by increasing funding for new schools and teachers by 2010.¹²⁶⁸

The French government co-funded the 2008 Education For All Global Monitoring Report, which encouraged increased aid for the Education Development Fund Program and the Catalytic Fund, two funds that provide financing for the FTI. However, information on France's 2008 financial contributions has yet to be announced.¹²⁶⁹

According to the Global Campaign for Education School Report 2007, the French contribution falls short of its "fair share" of the amount needed to meet the FTI target goals by 2015 by 39%. In order to meet these goals, France will need to give an additional US\$230 million annually.¹²⁷⁰

The Manager of the Education Division for Agence Française de Développement represented France at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹²⁷¹ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

In addition to the new funding for the two Funds of the FTI, the AFD has been very active in providing funding for country specific programs targeted at primary education. On 20 December 2007, the Board of Directors of the AFD announced that it would allocate €10 million for the Togolese government's "Education for all" plan, and a further €12 million to support Burkina Faso's primary education strategy, which includes complimentary programs for teaching illiterate adults to read and write.¹²⁷² On 19 November 2007, the Board also approved a €6.7 million allocation for the Chadian Ministry of Education, in order to assist that country in its pilot projects aimed at increasing its rate of access to primary education.¹²⁷³ Finally, on 4 October 2007, the Board of Directors of the AFD announced that it would the government of Burundi with €10 million in support of its education and training sectoral plan. The

¹²⁶⁶ Conseil d'Administration de l'AFD du 4 octobre 2007, Agence française de développement (Paris) 4 October 2007. Date of Access: 21 June 2008. <<http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/lang/fr/home/Communique/pid/3478>>

¹²⁶⁷ What's New Archives, Education For All Fast Track Initiative (Dakar) 27 March 2008. Date of Access: 15 April 2008. <<http://www.education-fast-track.org/default.asp>>

¹²⁶⁸ France and Britain Pledge School Places, 10 Downing Street (London) 27 March 2008. Date of Access: 15 April 2008. <<http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page15146.asp>>

¹²⁶⁹ Chair's Summary of the G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, G8 Hokkaido Tokyo Summit 6 April 2008. Date of Access: 30 April 2008. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/other/g8_develop_s.html>

¹²⁷⁰ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹²⁷¹ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

¹²⁷² Conseil d'administration de l'AFD du 20 décembre 2007, Agence française de développement (Paris) 20 December 2007. Date of Access: 21 June 2008. <<http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/lang/fr/home/Presse/Communique/pid/3853>>

¹²⁷³ Conseil d'Administration de l'AFD du 19 novembre 2007, Agence française de développement (Paris) 17 November 2007. Date of Access: 21 June 2008. <<http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/lang/fr/home/Presse/Communique/pid/3639>>

allocation will assist the Burundian government in keeping its promise of recruiting more teachers and providing free primary education to all of the country's citizens.¹²⁷⁴

France, along with other members of the G8, reiterated its commitment to Education For All at the 2008 G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, which took place on 5 and 6 April 2008 in Tokyo. The need for well-balanced education systems, including vocational training, secondary and post-secondary education, was emphasized.¹²⁷⁵

Thus, France has been awarded a score of +1 for its work with other donor nations and for its funding of the FTI and primary education programs in FTI-approved countries.

Analyst: Marianne Madeline Lau

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to meet shortfalls in the Fast Track Initiative.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development website reported in December 2007 that Germany was planning to contribute €8 million between 2007 and 2009 to the EFA-FTI Catalytic Fund.¹²⁷⁶ However, no contributions were announced in the first half of 2008 and the timing of the allocations announced in 2007 remains unclear.

German Development Minister Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul attended the G8 Development Ministers Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan on 5 and 6 April 2008. Before leaving for Japan, Minister Wieczorek-Zeul stated that she was going to "support the confirmation and implementation of existing commitments."¹²⁷⁷ Although an increase in funding for Africa was mentioned, the Development Minister did not address the EFA-FTI fund specifically. Germany co-funded the 2008 Education For All Global Monitoring Report, which encouraged increased aid for the Education Development Fund Program and the Catalytic Fund, the two funds that provide financing for the FTI.

According to the Global Campaign for Education School Report 2007, the German contribution falls short of its "fair share" of the amount needed to meet the FTI target goals by 2015 by 61%. In order to meet these goals, Germany will need to give an additional US\$472 million annually.¹²⁷⁸

Three officials from various official development agencies represented Germany at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹²⁷⁹ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time of publication of this report, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

In the Chair's Summary for the G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, Germany, along with other donor countries, re-affirmed its commitment to African education.¹²⁸⁰ However, the German government has not

¹²⁷⁴ Conseil d'Administration de l'AFD du 4 octobre 2007, Agence française de développement (Paris) 4 October 2007. Date of Access: 21 June 2008. <<http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/lang/fr/home/Communique/pid/3478>>

¹²⁷⁵ Chair's Summary of the G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, G8 Hokkaido Summit (Tokyo) 6 April 2008. Date of Access: 30 April 2008. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/other/g8_develop_s.html>

¹²⁷⁶ Education for All – Quenching the Thirst for Education: International forum "Capacity Development for Education for All – Putting policy into practice", Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) December 2007. Date of Access: 3 May 2008. <http://www.bmz.de/en/EU_G8/Blickpunkte/blickpunkt_efa_bonn/index.html>

¹²⁷⁷ Wieczorek-Zeul: Africa remains an important topic for the G8, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 4 April 2008. Date of Access: 3 May 2008. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/2008/april/pm_20080404_33.html>

¹²⁷⁸ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹²⁷⁹ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

¹²⁸⁰ Chair's Summary of the G8 Development Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 April 2008. Date of Access: 30 April 2008. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2008/other/g8_develop_s.html>

announced any transfer of funds to the Fast Track Initiative, nor to the Catalytic Fund or the Education Program Development Fund.

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Marianne Madeline Lau

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment on the FTI. It has pledged new funds to the Fast Track Initiative, but has done relatively little to obtain shortfall funding from other donors.

On the Italian Development Cooperation website, Education for All is listed as one of Italy's "most important initiatives."¹²⁸¹ Indeed, Italy has followed through on the modest funds it pledged to the Fast Track Initiative's Catalytic Fund between 2003 and 2006.¹²⁸² More recently, it has committed to increase funding from US\$1.3 million in 2006 to US\$4.2 million in 2007 and 2008 respectively.¹²⁸³ Italy has not yet committed to funding the Catalytic Fund in 2009.

According to the Global Campaign for Education School Report 2007, the Italian contribution falls short of its "fair share" of the amount needed to meet the FTI target goals by 2015 by 83%. In order to meet these goals, Italy will need to give an additional US\$404 million annually.¹²⁸⁴

Three officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs represented Italy at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹²⁸⁵ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

Over the last year, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have spoken several times on the importance of African development and the Millennium Development Goals. For example, in an address to African ambassadors on 23 November 2007, Minister of Foreign Affairs Massimo D'Alema said: "We are guided by the objectives indicated by the Millennium Development Goals [...] This is one of the reasons which convinced us to increase our efforts in the field of cooperation to development."¹²⁸⁶ Yet, Italian representatives have spoken very little about education, choosing to focus primarily on issues of agriculture and health.

Italy has not helped to secure shortfall funding from other donors. As a result, it has been awarded a score 0.

Analyst: Allison Martell

¹²⁸¹ Italian Development Cooperation, Ministero degli Affari Esteri. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.

<<http://sedi.esteri.it/portaledqcs/portaledqcs/inglese/intro.html>>
¹²⁸² FTI Catalytic Fund Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.
<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_dec07.pdf>

¹²⁸³ FTI Catalytic Fund Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.
<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_dec07.pdf>

¹²⁸⁴ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹²⁸⁵ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.
<<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/tmpparticipants.pdf>>

¹²⁸⁶ Minister of Foreign Affairs Massimo D'Alema addresses Ambassadors of the African Group (Rome) 23 November 2007. Date of Access: 5 May 2008.
<http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Ministero/Ministro/Interventi/2007/11/20071123_intervento_riuinione.htm>

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to meet shortfalls in all Fast Track Initiative countries.

From 21-25 April 2008 The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted the Education for All – Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI) Technical Meeting and related meetings in Tokyo. Representatives from donor countries, international organizations and recipient countries met to share their views on their experience and efforts towards improving primary education in the FTI countries.¹²⁸⁷

On 23 April 2008 Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Masahiko Koumura emphasized the importance of education as a driver for personal fulfillment, success and a life of dignity in a speech entitled “Education for All: Human Resource Development for Self-Reliance and Growth”. Minister Koumura also put forth concrete proposals for the international community in order to attain the goals of Education for All. The first proposal called for basic education to be expanded in quantity and quality. The second proposal called for enhanced support for a variety of aspects of education beyond the basic level. The third proposal encouraged greater interaction between education and other development sectors. Finally, Minister Koumura proposed that partnerships be created to include all members of society, domestically and internationally.

Furthermore, Minister Koumura announced that over the next five years Japan will construct approximately 1 000 schools in Africa, providing enough classrooms for 400 000 children. During this time, Japan also aims to improve the management of 10 000 schools through a model known as “School for All” that started in Niger. The Minister proposed the creation of multilayered partnerships to expand participation to include local communities, the private sector, academia, and non-government organizations.¹²⁸⁸ In addition, Japan will assist in improving the teaching methods of 100 000 teachers in Africa, focusing mainly on math and science.¹²⁸⁹

According to the Global Campaign for Education School Report 2007, the Japanese contribution falls short of its “fair share” of the amount needed to meet the FTI target goals by 2015 by 70%. In order to meet these goals, Japan will need to give an additional US\$914 million annually.¹²⁹⁰

Seventeen officials from various government ministries and development agencies represented Japan at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹²⁹¹ The meeting provides donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

Despite these efforts, Japan has not actively pursued further funding from other donors. Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of 0.

Analysts: Julia Kulik and Katya Prokhorova

¹²⁸⁷ MOFA: The Education for All-Fast Track Initiative Technical Meetings and Related Meetings, and a Policy Speech by Mr. Masahiko Koumura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 April 2008. Date of Access: 1 May 2008. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/event/2008/4/1179263_932.html>

¹²⁸⁸ MOFA: Policy Speech by Mr. Masahiko Koumura, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 1 May 2008. <<http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/fm/koumura/speech0804.html>>

¹²⁸⁹ TICAD IV Informal Cluster Group on Education Policy Recommendations, Education For All – Fast Track Initiative (Washington D.C.) 24 April 2008. Date of Access: 3 May 2008. <<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/ticad.pdf>>

¹²⁹⁰ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹²⁹¹ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to fund shortfalls in FTI countries.

The Russian Federation committed to contribute US\$4 million to the Catalytic Fund of the FTI in 2006-2008, US\$1 million in 2006, US\$2 million in 2007 and US\$1 million in 2008.¹²⁹² According to the FTI Secretariat, as of 31 October 2007, Russia has paid out US\$ 3 million.¹²⁹³

Russia has committed to pay out to the Education Program Development Fund US\$1.2 million in 2007 and US\$2 million in 2008. According to the Annual Report 2007, issued by the FTI on 10 December 2007, Russia's contributions had not yet been received by the EPDF.¹²⁹⁴

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Yakovenko emphasized that participation in the FTI of the Education for All is one of Russia's priorities. He confirmed that Russia would help Africa both with policy advice and financing.¹²⁹⁵

Three officials from various organs of the state represented the Russian Federation at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹²⁹⁶ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

Thus, Russia has been awarded a score of 0 for its contributions and pledges to the Catalytic and Education Program Development Funds of the FTI and its failure to engage other donors on the issue of long-term funding.

Analyst: Igor Churkin

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment on the Fast Track Initiative. It has continually committed new funds to primary education and shown leadership in mobilizing further support.

On 27 March 2008, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and French President Nicolas Sarkozy pledged to create sixteen million new schools in Africa by 2010. The Prime Minister noted that the lack of education for 33 million children is one of Africa's "greatest challenges."¹²⁹⁷ On 4 March 2008, PM Brown was present for the start of the Global Campaign for Education's "Send My Friend" initiative, which encourages children to ask their MP to state what action they will take to help attain universal education by 2015. The pledges are to be sent prior to PM Brown's departure for the 2008 G8 Leaders' Summit in Japan. The Prime Minister stressed that efforts need to be doubled to reach the 2015 mark, pledging an additional GBP150 million in support of India's national program for elementary education.¹²⁹⁸

According to the Department for International Development (DFID), the UK has committed GBP8.5 billion towards education to 2015, with disbursements of GBP1 billion a year from 2010 onwards, including

¹²⁹² Annual report 2007, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 10 December 2007. Date of Access: 15 December 2007.

<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/AR2007_Eng_Full.pdf>

¹²⁹³ Annual report 2007, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 10 December 2007. Date of Access: 15 December 2007.

<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/AR2007_Eng_Full.pdf>

¹²⁹⁴ Annual report 2007, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 10 December 2007. Date of Access: 15 December 2007.

<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/AR2007_Eng_Full.pdf>

¹²⁹⁵ Alexander Yakovenko: Russia Hill take part in the World Electronic Library creation, PolitRussia (Moscow) 29 October 2007. Date of Access: 15 December 2007. <<http://www.politrussia.ru/life/8111.html>>

¹²⁹⁶ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.

<<http://www.efasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

¹²⁹⁷ 'France and Britain Pledge School Places,' 10 Downing Street (London) 27 March 2008. Date of Access: 7 May 2008.

<<http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page15146.asp>>

¹²⁹⁸ 'PM Signs Child Education Pledge,' 10 Downing Street (London) 4 March 2008. Date of Access: 7 May 2008.

<<http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page14887.asp>>

GBP150 million to the Fast Track Initiative.¹²⁹⁹ Nevertheless, according to the Global Campaign for Education School Report 2007, the UK contribution falls short of its “fair share” of the amount needed to meet the FTI target goals by 2015 by 8%. In order to meet these goals, the United Kingdom will need to give an additional US\$48 million annually.¹³⁰⁰

In its December 2007 report, the Education Program Development Fund (EPDF), one of the two Funds associated with the FTI, noted that pledges from the UK, the Netherlands and Norway accounted for 75% of the EPDF’s funding in 2007.¹³⁰¹ The United Kingdom pledged US\$5.4 million in 2007 and an additional US\$1 million in 2008 for the EPDF.¹³⁰² Payments have only been received for 2005 and 2006 totaling US\$5.9 million.

Next to the Netherlands, the United Kingdom is the second biggest contributor to the Fast Track Initiative’s Catalytic Fund, committing US\$124.4 million in 2007 and US\$16.8 million in 2008. The 2006 pledge of US129.1 million has been received to date.¹³⁰³

Three officials from the Department for International Development represented the United Kingdom at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹³⁰⁴ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

The UK has been involved in mobilizing political will for the education initiative. On 31 July 2007, speaking at the United Nations headquarters in New York, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown called for a renewed international effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, of which Goal 3 is universal primary education. The Prime Minister called for an emergency meeting to be held in 2008 to report on progress toward this goal.¹³⁰⁵

As a result of its comprehensive funding pledges and its many initiatives to encourage other donors to commit more money towards education, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Christina Jabbour

United States: 0

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to meet shortfalls in all Fast Track Initiative countries.

In support of US President George W. Bush’s Africa Education Initiative, the American people have donated over 500 000 English language textbooks to primary schools in Ethiopia. Announced on 17 April 2008, this donation will increase access to basic educational opportunities in Africa.¹³⁰⁶ An aspect of USAID’s Africa Education initiative is a partnership with U.S. minority-serving colleges and universities with the aim of providing fifteen million textbooks to children throughout Africa. The regional focus is on six Sub-Saharan African nations, including Ethiopia. The textbooks donated on 17 April 2008 were developed through a close partnership with Alabama A&M University and the Ethiopian Ministry of

¹²⁹⁹ Millennium Development Goals, Department for International Development (London) 1 August 2007, Date of Access: 8 December 2007. <<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/mdg/progress-07.asp>>

¹³⁰⁰ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹³⁰¹ Education Program Development Fund (EDPF) Summary Progress Report, Education for All (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/EPDF_reportdec07.pdf>

¹³⁰² Education Program Development Fund (EDPF) Summary Progress Report, Education for All (Dakar) December 2007. Date of Access: 25 January 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/EPDF_reportdec07.pdf>

¹³⁰³ FTI Catalytic Fund Status Report, Education for All (Dakar.) December 2007. Date of Access: 5 May 2008. <http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_dec07.pdf>

¹³⁰⁴ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <<http://www.efasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

¹³⁰⁵ Millennium Development Goals, Department for International Development (London) 1 August 2007. Date of Access: 8 December 2007. <<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/mdg/progress-07.asp>>

¹³⁰⁶ U.S. Support Improves Primary-School Education in Ethiopia, USAID (Washington D.C.) 17 April 2008. Date of Access: 7 May 2008. <<http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2008/pr080417.html>>

Education. These partnerships allow for the improvement of material content, teacher training on the use of textbooks, and the sharing of knowledge and innovation in educational development.¹³⁰⁷ Previously, on 26 June 2007 the First Lady announced that the Africa Education Initiative would provide 800 000 textbooks to school children in Senegal.¹³⁰⁸

Two officials from USAID represented the United States at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹³⁰⁹ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. At the time this report was published, resolutions from this meeting were not yet available.

On 15 February 2008 President George W. Bush embarked on a trip to Africa, which included six countries: Liberia, Benin, Ghana, Rwanda, and Tanzania. The purpose of the trip was to showcase the part of the continent that is experiencing sustained growth. These six countries have all worked to promote democratic institutions, free and fair elections, and solid economic policies. President Bush reiterated that the best way to enhance development is to invest in people, drawing attention to the fact that the United States Africa Education Initiative has committed US\$600 million over eight years to increase access to basic schooling. Its aim is to distribute more than fifteen million textbooks, train one million teachers, and provide 550 000 scholarships for women by 2010.¹³¹⁰

On 24 September 2007, First Lady Laura Bush announced that, beginning in 2008, the US government would aim to provide an additional four million children with access to basic education. In order to fund this goal, USAID requested an additional US\$535 million from Congress.¹³¹¹ Mrs. Bush also reiterated President Bush's commitment to provide basic education in Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Liberia, Mali, and Yemen, announced on 31 May 2007. The President's Africa Education Initiative promised US\$525 million over the next five years to the FTI countries to expand basic education for African children.¹³¹²

According to the Global Campaign for Education School Report 2007, the US contribution falls short of its "fair share" of the amount needed to meet the FTI target goals by 2015 by 78%. In order to meet these goals, the United States will need to give an additional US\$2.7 billion annually.¹³¹³

American representatives have also encouraged other nations to support the EFA-FTI and other UNESCO-driven educational campaigns. On 18 October 2007, Education Secretary Spelling urged participants at the UNESCO General Conference to support programs to measure the results of literacy campaigns and provide accountability for educational programs throughout the world.¹³¹⁴ She also reminded participants that, in order to make the EFA-FTI programs effective, they had to "leverage every available resource to maximize efficiency and results."¹³¹⁵

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of +1 for its continued funding of primary education in Africa and its encouragement of other donors to follow suit.

¹³⁰⁷ U.S. Support Improves Primary-School Education in Ethiopia, USAID (Washington D.C.) 17 April 2008. Date of Access: 7 May 2008. <<http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2008/pr080417.html>>

¹³⁰⁸ Address by First Lady Laura Bush at Grand Medine Primary School, State Department (Washington D.C.) 26 June 2007. Date of Access: 31 December 2007. <<http://www.state.gov/p/af/rls/87664.htm>>

¹³⁰⁹ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008. <<http://www.efafasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>

¹³¹⁰ Partnership with Africa through Public Diplomacy and Development Assistance, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 14 February 2008. Date of Access: 1 May 2008. <<http://www.state.gov/p/af/rls/rm/2008/101439.htm>>

¹³¹¹ Fact Sheet: Today's Education Announcement, The White House (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2007. Date of Access: 31 December 2007. <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/09/20070924-3.html>>

¹³¹² Fact Sheet: A Record of Commitment to Africa, The White House (Washington D.C.) 8 June 2007. 31 December 2007. <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/06/20070608-14.html>>

¹³¹³ School Report 2007, Global Campaign for Education (Saxonwold, South Africa) 2007. Date of Access: 9 December 2007. <<http://www.campaignforeducation.org/documents/news/2007/April/EngsNarrativelowres.pdf>>

¹³¹⁴ Secretary Spellings's Remarks to the UNESCO General Conference Plenary Debate in Paris, France, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2007. Date of Access: 22 February 2008. <<http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2007/10/10182007.html>>

¹³¹⁵ Secretary Spellings's Remarks to the UNESCO General Conference Plenary Debate in Paris, France, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2007. Date of Access: 22 February 2008. <<http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2007/10/10182007.html>>

Analyst: Julia Kulik

European Union +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment on funding shortfalls in FTI countries. The European Commission's Directorate-General for Development has increased its funding commitments to the Fast Track Initiative's Catalytic Fund, and has also encouraged its member states to accelerate progress towards Education for All.

Since the Heiligendamm Summit, the European Commission pledged to provide more funding for the Catalytic Fund. It provided a single pledge of US\$40.3 million in 2006, which has already been contributed to the Fund, and has pledged to provide US\$21.4 million in 2007 and an additional US\$21.4 million in 2008 for Asian, Caribbean and Pacific nations.¹³¹⁶ In the April 2008 report of the Catalytic Fund, it was revealed that the EC had made a further pledge of funding for the Catalytic Fund, the distribution of which will be the sole prerogative of the Fund. The pledge consists of three annual disbursements: US\$15.4 million in 2007, US\$12.3 million in 2008 and US\$3.1 million in 2009.¹³¹⁷

The European Commission has also lobbied member states to increase funding for the Fast Track Initiative. The Africa-EU Lisbon Summit of 8-10 December 2007 produced a statement of principles that included specific support for the FTI. The objective states the goal to: "accelerate the achievement of the Education Targets of the MDGs." The statement lists EU member states as "actors."¹³¹⁸ A recent communiqué, issued 9 April 2008 by the European Commission, stressed the importance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The Fast Track Initiative was not mentioned specifically, but member states were forcefully reminded that "achieving the MDGs requires specific action in education."¹³¹⁹

Four officials represented the European Commission at the Fast Track Initiative Technical Meeting, held on 24-25 April 2008 in Tokyo.¹³²⁰ The meeting provided donors with a forum to discuss challenges and opportunities for development. Resolutions from this meeting were not yet available at the time this report was published.

Thus, the European Union has been awarded a score of +1 for its increased funding of the Catalytic Fund and its efforts to obtain shortfall funding from its member states.

Analyst: Allison Martell

¹³¹⁶ FTI Expanded Catalytic Fund Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) May 2007. Date of Access: 8 May 2008.

<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_may07.pdf>

¹³¹⁷ FTI Catalytic Fund: Interim Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Tokyo) 22 April 2008. Date of Access: 6 June 2008.

<http://www.education-fast-track.org/library/CF_statusreport_apr08.pdf>

¹³¹⁸ The Africa-EU Strategic Partnership: A Joint Africa-EU Strategy, European Union (Lisbon) 9 December 2007. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.

<http://ec.europa.eu/development/icenter/repository/EAS2007_joint_strategy_en.pdf>

¹³¹⁹ The EU - a global partner for development - Speeding up progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2008. Date of Access: 10 May 2008.

<http://ec.europa.eu/development/icenter/repository/COMM_PDF_COM_2008_0177_F_EN_ACTE.pdf>

¹³²⁰ FTI Technical Meeting, Tokyo, Participants, FTI Secretariat (Dakar) 23 April 2008. Date of Access: 9 May 2008.

<<http://www.efasttrack.org/library/tmparticipants.pdf>>