

NEWSLETTER

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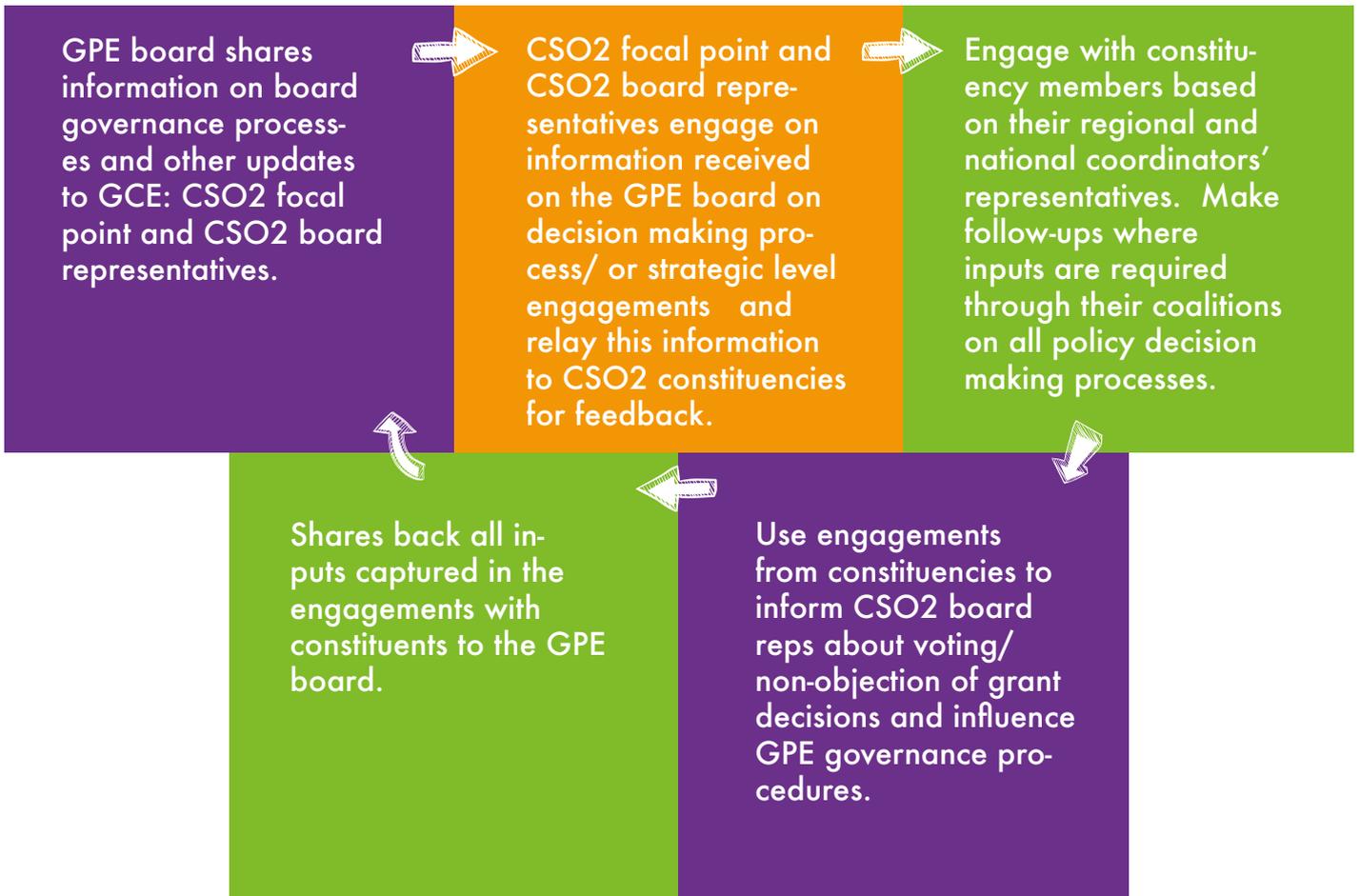
CSO2 Newsletter, Issue 1

CSO2 GPE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

The Global Partnership for Education has a Board composed of representatives of different electorates, including civil society. CSOs actively participate in the Global Partnership for Education Board of Directors. CSO2 board representatives were elected in April 2021 for a two-year term that ends in December 2023, with [Solange Akpo](#) as the main board member and [Abeer Tamimi](#) as the alternate board member. The role of CSOs board members in GPE is to contribute to GPE policymaking, institutional direction, and decision-making processes.

CSO2: A NETWORK OF GLOBAL SOUTH CIVIL SOCIETY COALITIONS

CSO2 Serves as the largest civil society constituency in GPE that represents the Global South. CSO2 are key GPE partners that engage at global, regional, and country levels to make GPE a more inclusive partnership. The current CSO2 board representatives were elected to contribute to the GPE by representing the voice of southern civil society in GPE governance, weighing in on [GPE Strategies](#), policies, and grant decisions. Given this platform, a multi-stakeholder approach with well-coordinated mobilisation efforts to disseminate local realities and conditions in fostering 'meta governance' in the new global agenda for sustainable efforts in education.



CSO2 ENGAGEMENT PROCESSES

CSO2 gives coalitions a platform for collaborative efforts to establish innovative solutions and act as a critical accountability guard at the global level to ensure that SDG-4 goals and challenges are addressed and fulfilled in strategic advocacy spaces such as GPE. Through the support of [Global Campaign for Education](#) advocacy officer: Phumza Luthango acting as a [CSO2 focal coordinator](#) of its membership at national and regional levels. CSO2 promotes education policy-oriented advocacy by putting pressure on governments and international donors to derive inclusive, transformative education and financing support for developing country partners.

In instrumenting meaningful civil society engagements with GPE as the most considerable education global funder; active involvement of members of the coalitions at the national and regional level on country-related concerns raised by CSO2 GPE board representatives is crucial: This informs Solange Akpo and Abeer Tamimi on how to vote according to their electorate's mandates based on informed context-sensitive information. This engagement process promotes accountability and transparency within the movement to effectively respond, integrate and monitor the country's performance while ensuring that decisions made by Developing Country Partners-DCPs and NECs in GPE are within the people's interests for impact.

[The Effective Partnership Review](#) has worked in recent years to clarify roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities across the GPE partnership by seeking to strengthen partners' engagement in collaborative policy dialogue at the country level within influential, government-led local education groups. Consultations with national and regional coalitions before board decisions feed into the high-level discussions from a grounded-in perspective, providing critical context-relevant information ahead of and during pre-board negotiation. These consultations are held to capture the inputs of their constituents on the ground (including groups of women, young people, the disabled, and marginalized communities).

These consultations with CSO2 members translate into advisory presence and institutional recognition in implementing effective response in [GPE transformation systems](#). CSO2 engagement can enhance participation in this space which relates to impact and effectiveness in development processes while helping build democratic country ownership.

CSO2 Key Priorities so far: Is tax justice, gender, and resource mobilization, considering the current state of affairs of war, climate disaster, displacement, and the pandemic in developing countries. Transforming education by mobilizing investments centering on marginalized groups remains a CSO2 key advocacy mandate.



THE ROLE OF LEGS AND HOW CSOS CAN ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN GPE PROCESSES



A **LEG** is strategically effective when it leverages country-led, inclusive policy dialogue around shared priorities to accelerate progress towards education results. LEG members can advance towards agreed objectives when organizational and collaborative capacities are in place or fostered.

A fundamental objective of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) work with its country partners is to support inclusive, evidence-based policy dialogue supporting national education systems through the engagement of national governments, donors, civil society, teachers, philanthropy, and the private sector. Dialogue may occur through the medium of a local education group.

National Education Coalitions should use engagement in LEGs to consult their constituencies in critical issues to reach a common position before engaging in LEG. CSOs can actively participate at the country level through LEGs.

The GCE and the GPE encourage strong civil society participation in the LEG. LEGs are responsible for meaningful and practical support to sector analysis, development, implementation, and monitoring through inclusive, government-led policy and monitoring dialogue mechanisms. Civil society must be active, credible, and respected participants in LEGs and demonstrate their value to governments and donors. The effective engagement by civil society with local education groups builds the capacity of civil society to demand more collaborative and robust relationships. The strength of citizens' voice and action to hold governments accountable includes civil society's technical and advocacy skills.

OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE

An invitation will be sent out to prepare and formally mobilize for the next GPE Board.

- GPE Board meetings: 13th, 14, and 16th of June 2022
- CSO2 consultation dates will be on the [19th of May 2022 at 12:00 - 14:00 PM SAST](#) and the [3rd June 2022 at 15:00 - 17:00 SAST](#). All members are urged to join at the most suitable time and date.

We look forward to advocating with you.

Aluta Continua