



Search for

Chief Technical Officer

The Organization

Established in 2002, the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), has grown and evolved to become the premier partnership focused on basic education in developing countries by bringing together 65 of the world's poorest developing countries, over 20 donor nations regional, and multilateral agencies; development banks; the private sector; civil society groups; and teachers' organizations to fund and support education and advance the Sustainable Development Goals. The GPE governance structure includes the [Board of Directors](#) and its [Chair](#), and 5 Board committees. The Board of Directors sets GPE's policies and strategies and approves all funding.

With over 100 staff and hosted by the World Bank, the GPE [Secretariat](#) is responsible for translating the policies and strategies set by the Board into practical support for its developing country partners. Secretariat staff are primarily located in the World Bank offices in Washington DC with a small number in Brussels. The Secretariat is led by the [Chief Executive Officer](#), Alice Albright. For a deeper understanding of the organization's history, structure, performance, and go-forward strategy, please visit the [GPE website](#).

Overview of the Role

GPE's Chief Technical Officer (CTO) is expected to be one of the foremost thought leaders in the global education sector. The CTO will serve as the key external and internal champion for GPE's philosophy, strategy, and model, and will serve as the spokesperson for GPE on all relevant technical, policy, and thematic matters. The CTO will be GPE's primary liaison with its I partners, institutions and academia.

The CTO will be instrumental in driving GPE's strategy. Working closely with GPE's country facing teams and technical partners, the CTO's role will be to harness the partnership's vast intellectual network and assets to help country partners strengthen their education systems – with a particular focus on improving quality and equity. This will involve maximizing the impact of GPE's finance, business model and tools such as its new windows for Knowledge and Innovation Exchange and Social Advocacy and Accountability. Further particular opportunities include GPE's Results Framework and new M&E strategy, its recently-launched data roundtable and its focus on investing in data and learning assessment. The CTO will play a key internal role building consensus and working closely with GPE's partners and country-facing teams to assure that best practices are integrated into GPE's core work.

The CTO will serve on GPE's Management Team and will also lead and manage a team of professionals currently composed of three elements: results and performance, quality assurance, and education policy and learning.

Key, role-specific responsibilities include but are not limited to: balanced thought and executive leadership to manage GPE's mission to tangible results; strategy development and implementation through collaboration and coordination throughout GPE to ensure consistency of thinking.

Candidate Profile/Selection Criteria

The successful candidate will possess:

- A Master's degree in a relevant discipline with a body of professional work able to command respect in the global education community; a PhD is preferred
- Significant previous experience in educational policy development and implementation within a developing country/region, including countries experiencing fragility and crisis; ideally will have had a direct hand in successful systemic education reform

- Evidence of significant experience, communication, leadership, and management skills in order to effectively support Board members and committees through the consideration of complex material to ensure effective decision-making
- Knowledge of the institutional environment related to the global education and/or development community, and experience working effectively with governments, civil society, multilaterals, and the private sector
- An understanding of how to deliver results and measure impact on the ground, in terms of actual learning achieved
- Strong experience with and understanding of the impact of data, analytics, and technology on the education field
- The ability to work effectively across pedagogical, ideological, cultural, and political lines with countries in varying stages of development; learning and adapting to different cultures in previous global assignments

S/he must be enthusiastic and motivated by GPE's goals, and convey a genuine belief in the organization and its ability to positively impact the global educational agenda.

Competencies

The successful candidate would possess the following skills and attributes:

Ability to execute for results

- Strong and proven management skills and the ability to lead and ensure the effectiveness of the organization and its staff
- Ability to take the long view and persist over time to achieve the desired agenda, but also convey a sense of urgency and drive issues to closure

Relationship development and achieving progress through influence

- A strong network of external relationships at high levels in the field of education and/or global development and the ability to use it strategically to accomplish objectives
- Experience that allows one to build effective coalitions to move an agenda forward
- Presence, gravitas, demonstrated ability to develop trusted working relationships internally and externally

Proven policy dialogue skills

- A track record of conducting effective policy dialogue with country counterparts
- The ability to communicate and defend difficult issues and positions to senior partner management and government officials

Other personal attributes of the ideal candidate include:

- Outstanding intellectual capability, strong analytical and problem-solving ability
- The ability to relate to people at all levels of an organization with excellent communication, listening, and judgment skills
- Highly collaborative, enthusiastic about shared responsibility, and resilient
- Integrity-focused, with a strong ethical sense
- Judgment combined with humility; a focus on personal development and continued learning

- A high capacity for work and frequent international travel
- A good sense of humor

Languages

Fluency in written and spoken English is essential; French language skills would be an advantage.

***The World Bank Group is committed to achieving diversity in terms of race, gender, nationality, culture, and educational background. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

Note: If the selected candidate is a current Bank Group staff member with a Regular or Open-Ended appointment, s/he will retain his/her Regular or Open-Ended appointment. All others will be offered a 3-year renewable Term appointment.

Interested parties should submit in electronic format a resume and letter of motivation to:

Derek Wilkinson

Partner

Head, International Development Practice-US

Odgers Berndtson

Derek.Wilkinson@OdgersBerndtson.com

O: +1 202 536-5168

and/
or

Margaret (Peggy) Plympton

Partner

Global Education Practice

Odgers Berndtson

Margaret.Plympton@OdgersBerndtson.com

O: +1 617 932 7783