

GPE PROJECTS UPDATE

25 March 2026



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Save the Children



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 1)

Background

Project Title: System Capacity Grant (SCG) **Donor:**

Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Grant

Agent: Save the Children Australia (SCA)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Education and Training

Budget: USD700,000

Completion Date: 31 December 2025 extended to 31 Dec 2026



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System Capacity Grant (Tranche 1)

Objective

To provide timely, high quality technical advice to the Ministry of Education and Training and Local Educational Group on education sector analysis, planning and joint sector review.



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System Capacity Grant (Tranche 1)

PROGRESS TO DATE

Joint Sector Review (JSR)

- **2023 JSR(Completed)**
- **2024 JSR(Completed)**
- **2025 JSR – Completed**
- **2026 JSR – Planned for August 2026**
- **Followed by JSR report and Case study**

Hama eLearning Platform HAMA

- **Expanded License for a year**
- **Linking to WakaMoana elearning platform to share resources**
- **Provision on Camera for Media team in support of HAMA**

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 1)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Disbursement To Date (MET ONLY)

Total Budget (USD)	Disbursed (USD)	Disbursed (TOP)	Balance (USD)
585,000	453,715	1,047,455	131,285

Statement of Receipt and Payment as of 28 Feb 2026(MET Only)

Disbursed Amount (TOP)	Expenses (TOP)	Balance (TOP)
1,047,455	927,551	119,904

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

Background

Project Title: System Capacity Grant (SCG) Tranche 3 **Donor:**
Global Partnership for Education (GPE) **Grant Agent:** Save the
Children Australia (SCA)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Education and Training(MET)

Budget: USD260,000

Completion Date: 31 December 2026



System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

Components

1. Strengthen policies and plans to reduce exclusion
2. Revitalizing the Standardized Tests of Achievements for Tonga (STAT)

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

Component 1 Activities	Deliverable	Status
1.1 Develop and implement an equitable School Grants Policy.	Policy SOP	Currently working with Finance team to finalise the TWG outcome to submit to CEO and Hon Minister Cabinet Submission Followed by Workshop for stakeholders after approval
1.2 Develop and disseminate National Teacher and Principal Standards.	Standards	Progressing Well One more TWG then off to CEO & Minister National Teachers – Already completed with support of other donors Quality Assurance Framework
1.3 Update and disseminate Minimum Service Standards.	Standards	Approved by CEO and Former Minister, Chairlady working on Cabinet submission

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

<p>1.4 Develop and implement a Gender Policy.</p>	<p>Policy SOP</p>	<p>2026 starts April – awaiting Confirmation of TWG members from Non Government Stakeholders</p> <p>Presentation on Gender Policy by Project Coordinator</p> <p>Timeframe – April – October (finalised)</p>
<p>1.5 Strengthen annual planning and reporting process.</p>	<p>Corporate Plan Annual Management Plan</p>	<p>2025 – Completed</p> <p>2026 – Support continues</p>
<p>1.6 Update MET website.</p>	<p>Website Home</p>	<p>Completed , Ongoing support by PMU</p>

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

Component 2 Activities	Deliverable	Start Date
2.1 Item writers for STAT 5.	496 items per Class	Completed
2.2 Item writers for STAT 6.		Completed
2.3 Item writers for STAT 3.		2026 started in FEB
2.4 Develop STAT 3 level descriptors.	Class 3 level descriptors	2026 ongoing
2.5 Develop STAT 3 item banks.	STAT 3 item bank	2026 April
2.6 Trial STAT 3 items.		2026 August

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

Component 2 Activities	Deliverable	Start Date
2.7 Revise STAT 3 item bank.	Item bank	2026 August
2.8 Develop SOP.	STAT 3 SOP	2026 April
2.9 In-service training on STAT 3 SOP.	Training report	2026 March-July
2.10 Print and distribute materials.	STAT 3 tests	2026 Jun-July
2.11 Conduct pilot STAT 3.	STAT 3 assessment report	2026 August
2.12 Analyse STAT 3 pilot.		2026 August
2.13 Disseminate STAT 3 pilot findings.	Knowledge products	2026 August
2.14 Capacity building for MET personnel.	Capacity plan	2026 March-September

System Capacity Grant (Tranche 3)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Disbursement To Date (MET ONLY)

Total Budget (USD)	Tranche 1 Requested (USD)	Disbursed (TOP)	Balance (USD)
238,337	106,302	253,614	124,186

Statement of Receipt and Payment as of 28 Feb 2026 (MET Only)

Disbursed Amount (TOP)	Expense (TOP)	Balance (TOP)
253,614	120,997	132,617

System Transformation Grant (STG)

Project Title: System Transformation Grant (STG)

Donor: Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

Grant Agent: Save the Children Australia (SCA)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Education and Training (MET)

Budget: USD\$ 2,200,000

Completion Date: 1 Jan 2025 - 31 Dec 2028



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING



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System Transformation Grant (STG)

Component 1: Classroom Libraries

Activities	When
1.1 Develop classroom libraries	
1.1.1 Map genres and text length against curriculum.	Completed
1.1.2 Write, adapt, translate & illustrate reading books: Y5-6	Completed
Y3-4 reading books	2026 Q1-2 - started
Y1-2 reading books	2026 Q1-2 – started
1.1.3 Produce accessible versions of reading books.	2026-2027
1.1.4 Print and distribute classroom libraries.(depending on shipment)	2026-2028
1.1.5 Upload to HeLP website and app.	2026-2028

System Transformation Grant (STG)

Component 2 Home reading program

Activities	When
2.1 Home Reading Journals	
2.1.1 Write and illustrate Home Reading Journals. (by local writers) – Y1-Y5 all at the same time	2026 Q1 currently working on this
2.1.2 Design, write and illustrate Home Reading Flipbook.	2026 Q2
2.1.3 Print and distribute Home Reading package.	2026 Q3-4

System Transformation Grant (STG)

Component 2 Home reading program

Activities	When
2.2 Home reading campaign	
2.2.1 Write PTA training module.	2026 Q2
2.2.2 Develop and test home reading behaviour change campaign.	2026 Q3
2.2.3 Broadcast home reading messages.	2026-28
2.2.4 Train PTAs in home reading program.	2027-28
2.2.5 Monitor and support PTAs.	2027-2028

System Transformation Grant (STG)

Component 3 Boys' education support	
Activities	When
3.1 School counsellors	
3.1.1 Identify suitable candidates for counselling course. Identify for Cohort 2 – 2026, USP cohort also	Q1 2025 – Q2 2027
3.1.2 Write Standard Operating Procedures guidance.	2026
3.1.3 Scholarships for school counsellors.	Q2 2025 - 2027
3.1.4 Community of practice and support for school counsellors.	2026-28
3.1.5 Monitoring visits for early warning and intervention.	2027-28

System Transformation Grant (STG)

Component 3 Boys' education support

Activities	When
3.2 Reading booster program	
3.2.1 Write and illustrate Reading Booster and teacher training module.	2027 Q1
3.2.2 Print and distribute Reading Booster materials.	2027 Q2
3.2.3 Train teachers and school counsellors.	2027 Q3
3.2.4 Evaluate the pilot program.	2028 Q3

System Transformation Grant (STG)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Disbursement To Date (MET ONLY)

Total Budget (USD)	Disbursed (USD)	Disbursed (TOP)	Balance (USD)
2,046,000	361,446	848,037	1,684,555

Statement of Receipt and Payment as of 28 Feb 2026 (MET Only)

Disbursed Amount (TOP)	Expenses (TOP)	Balance (TOP)
848,037	164,055	683,982

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