GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd)

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd) hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

   International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd):

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.

3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.

4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission to *support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions.*

5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.

6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes, focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector, skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.
7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.
8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

In particular:

Financial support commitments

International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd):

Informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities in support of SDGs 1 and 2 and the Global Alliance´s objectives:

International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd) announced the launch of it's operations at the UN Summit of the Future (2024) with an initial $1.5 Billion to fund education and skills development in lower-middle-income countries (LMICs) and unlock potentials of children and young adults.

IFFEd works closely with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to develop education and skills projects in LMICs (home to nearly 50% of the world's children) and fund these sovereign led initiatives.

In the first phase of operations, IFFEd is partnering with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to fund projects in 10 countries (Bangladesh, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam) in Asia and Pacific. In 2025, IFFEd will be launching operations in 16 African countries through another MDB partnership.

Given the oversized impact early childhood experiences can have on the arc of one's life, IFFEd's policy basket includes development and funding of early childhood projects through concessional financing.

We aspire to create a portfolio of projects for LMICs that supports the unlocking of human potential starting with early childhood experiences and progressing on to other stages including primary, secondary and TVET to unlock the potential of human capital for LMICs. Our support would include evidence, project shaping, technical assistance and funding.

IFFEd has allocated half a billion dollars of funding for projects in Asia and Pacific along with a matching grant of $50 million (10% of project value). The 10 target countries in Asia and Pacific are Bangladesh, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam. IFFEd is currently reviewing project submissions from India and Philippines for approval and expects to fund the first project in 2025.

IFFEd funding is aligned with progressing the SDG Target 4.2 in alignment with the Maternal and Early Childhood sprint. Equal access to quality pre-primary education: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the destination, allocation and alignment of the use of its resources, including through coordination and cooperation facilitated by the Global Alliance, to support member countries to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of select programmes or policy instruments in the Alliance's reference basket to drive the fight against hunger and poverty, in line with sustainable country-led financing and implementation strategies.

General acknowledgments

Recognizes the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.