

# Towards a Unified GASTPE Strategy in Basic Education

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# Unified GASTPE Strategy in Basic Education

Integrating three policy notes:

- Extending GASTPE TO K-6 (2023)
- Targeting and grant amounts in ESC (2025)
- Targeting and grant amounts in SHS VP (2025)

# System Challenges Across All Levels

Access  
gaps

Quality  
crisis

Fiscal  
inefficiency

## Access Gaps: K–6 to SHS

Gross enrollment rate decline in K-6

1.5M out-of-school children aged 5-11

Affordability barriers in JHS & SHS

# Systemwide Quality Crisis

Lowest rank in PISA & TIMSS

Private school learning advantage

Cumulative learning effects

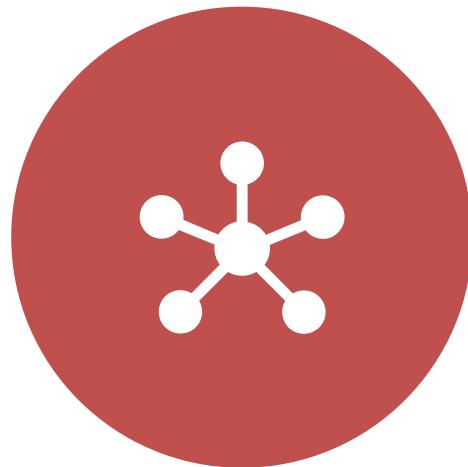
# Fiscal Inefficiencies

Public provision costly

Private sector underutilized

Structural classroom shortages

# Why a Unified K-12 Strategy?



CHALLENGES ARE  
INTERCONNECTED



SOLUTIONS MUST BE  
INTEGRATED

# GASTPE for K–6: Access Rationale

COVID-19 learning losses, including GER down from 108% to 92%

1.5M out-of-school children in K-6

Private school capacity - 433k–867k private seats available

# GASTPE for K–6: Quality Rationale



PRIVATE SCHOOL  
ADVANTAGE

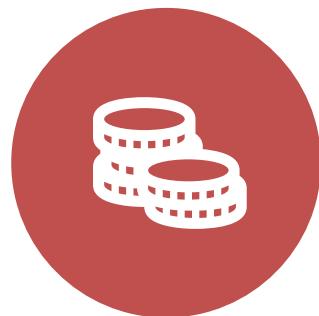


EARLY EXPOSURE  
BENEFITS



WORLD BANK  
FINDINGS

# GASTPE for K–6: Financial Rationale



ESC COSTS 58% OF  
PUBLIC JHS



SHS VP SAVES 33–  
48%



₱3B+ ANNUAL  
SAVINGS

# ESC: Key Issues

2017 grants unchanged

26–39% fee coverage

Mis-targeting persists

# Pricing behavior among GASTPE-participating schools

	Maximum support values	Average school fees of participating schools	Coverage (support value as a % of school fees)	% of schools (ESC) or offerings (SHS VP) at or below the maximum support value
NCR				
ESC	13,000	49,408	26%	1%
SHS VP	22,500	43,029	52%	32%
HUCs				
ESC	11,000	40,330	27%	1%
SHS VP	20,000	33,820	59%	20%
Non-HUCs				
ESC	9,000	23,275	39%	3%
SHS VP	17,500	24,496	71%	25%

# ESC: Proposed Reforms

Targeted criteria



Grant adjustments



Governance improvements



## SHS VP: Key Issues

Stagnant  
voucher levels

Declining  
beneficiary share

Affordability  
barriers

# SHS VP: Proposed Reforms



Inflation-  
adjusted  
vouchers



Quality  
assurance

# Cross-Cutting Reforms

Aligned  
subsidy levels

Digital  
verification

Monitoring &  
performance

# Final Policy Ask

Extend

Extend GASTPE to K–6

Adjust

Adjust ESC & SHS VP subsidies

Institutionalize

Institutionalize GASTPE

# More Work to Do

Clarity/ Consensus on goal (congestion, access, equity, quality, choice)

Shift from access to quality

Stronger governance mechanisms – 3<sup>rd</sup> party NAT, publicly available school profiles, standardized selection processes, recognition et al.

Operationalize public-private complementarity

# Maraming Salamat Po!

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