The main objective of the Programming Document for the Sustainable Development of Greenland 2007-2013 was to contribute to a higher standard of living and quality of life in Greenland through developing better education, skills and knowledge. The programme targeted only post-elementary education.

The following specific objectives were pursued to achieve the overall objective:

- securing Greenland’s continuous economic progress in the increasingly globalised world economy through ensuring a qualified, flexible and competitive workforce;
- supporting the Government in its effort to reform the education and training sector, to be able to respond rapidly to the changing demands of the labour market;
- focusing on education and training opportunities for the most vulnerable target groups – youth, unskilled and unemployed workers;
- retaining expertise in Greenland and recruiting a larger share of the workforce locally.
**Actions and expected results**

EU support was coupled with an increase in domestic funding to address several priority objectives within the education sector. Progress can in particular be reported regarding the construction of infrastructure (such as educational buildings and dormitories), staffing, monitoring and developmental projects.

During Phase 1 of the Greenland Education Programme (GEP), attendance increased by 43% on average (from 2,700 in 2005 to 3,862 in 2013), across all levels of post-elementary education. This resulted in a 59.7% increase in the number of pupils graduating (from 581 in 2005 to 928 in 2013), which can be considered a crucial increase in the level of educational attainment of the population. Of the cohort that turned 35 in 2012, 56% completed education above elementary level.

During the same GEP phase, local guidance and introduction centres (piareersarfíit) were established and provided guidance and counselling on (adult) education, training and apprenticeship programmes.

**Implementation**

The sector reform contract with Greenland was implemented via budget support from January 2007 to December 2013. The financial envelope was as follows:

- Budget support component: EUR 175 million (through yearly Financing Agreements)

The programme has been completed and implementation is concluded.