

## ECW Executive Committee Meeting December 13th, 2018

### Decision Paper

This meeting is being called to discuss the follow-up and way forward after the ExCom Retreat, to request approval from ExCom for the Multi-Year Resilience Programme in CAR and a reprogramming request for the Initial Investment in Yemen, and to present current staffing requirements for approval. ExCom will further be informed on major benchmarks and calendar dates for 2019.

#### **1. ExCom retreat-Follow Up and Way forward**

- *Paper - Retreat Report*

The revised retreat report summarizes the main achievements, outputs and follow up actions. ECW will brief on the next steps on the agreed way forward.

#### **2. CAR Multi-Year Resilience Programme**

- *Paper - MYRP CAR Proposal*  
- *CAR MYRP Feedback Matrix*

#### Background

ECW is pleased to share with you the Central African Republic's (CAR) submission to ECW's Multi-Year Resilience Window - *Education Cannot Wait Facilitated Multi-Year Resilience Programme (MYRP) 2019-2021*. Building on ECW's 2017 First Emergency Response (FER) allocation to the CAR, this \$77.6 million programme aims to reach an estimated 900,000 children over 3 years: 654,000 Pre-Primary to School Age children, (3-14 years including 50 % girls), 228,000 adolescents, young men and women (15-24 years) and 12,000 teachers (35% female teachers).

The programme was developed under the leadership of the Emergency Unit (the "Cellule d'Urgence") within the Ministry of Primary, Secondary, Technical and Literacy Education with support from the Education Cluster Strategic Advisory Group in close collaboration with development partners from the Local Education Group (known as the Groupe Local des Partenaires de l'Education – GLPE). The MYRP is informed by the Education Cluster Triennial Strategy, which is itself linked to the government's transitional Education plan. The process placed significant emphasis on inclusion of humanitarian and development stakeholders and has thus in addition to addressing the nexus and fostering joint planning with immediate response and longer-term efforts, has been open, transparent and consultative.

The ECW seed funding amounts to a total of \$19.5 million - \$6.5 million per year over the duration of the programme. The amount of \$6.5 million for 2019 will be released upon approval by ExCom. Subsequent instalments of \$6.5 million for 2020 and 2021 will be released subject to assessment of the performance of the MYR programme, meaning that ExCom would not commit to the release of funds for year two unless there was satisfactory performance.

The MYRP has gone through a rigorous review process: A first draft was received by the ECW secretariat in late September. Following an internal review by the secretariat expertise on programming, education, gender, and M&E, a second submission was received from CAR colleagues in early November. Following an additional round of review by the ECW secretariat, this was submitted to the

current interim review panel for scoring and feedback. A third draft was received in the first week of December and this version is submitted to ExCom for review and approval. Comments were addressed by the in-country team through several iterations of feedback and the CAR MYRP Feedback matrix documents the changes that have been made as a result is attached for your reference.

**ECW requests ExCom:**

- a) **To approve the MYRP proposal for CAR.**
- b) **To approve the release of the year one seed funding in the amount of \$6.5 million.**

**3. Reprogramming of Yemen**

- *Paper - Yemen Reprogramming Request*

Background

The ECW programme of \$15 million was officially approved on 1 August 2017. However, the complex and dynamic situation on the ground in Yemen has directly impacted the implementation of the programme due to i) security concerns, ii) political interference and iii) rapidly changing needs.

Reprogramming rationale:

Since the beginning of the conflict early 2015, the total number of out-of-school children is estimated to have increased to at least 2 million across the country. With insufficiently equipped classrooms, limited access to textbooks, children's cognitive functions and ability to attend school affected by hunger and insecurity, as well as reduced donor presence and support, the **education sector in Yemen is on the verge of collapse**

**Teachers** are also victims. 135,000 teachers and school staff that live and work in governorates under control of de facto authorities (approximately 67% of all public-sector teachers in Yemen) have not received a regular salary since October 2016. In these circumstances, little **learning** is expected to take place. Both 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school year have ended prematurely. Field visits by UNICEF as well as partner organizations during the last school year showed that in many schools of affected governorates, children were only taught one or two classes per day as teachers leave school early to work somewhere else to compensate for lost income.

An estimated \$70.8 million is required to ensure the payment of incentives to approximately 135,000 teachers and school staff during the current school year (2018/2019). Reprogramming part of the ECW funding that originally was allocated to activities in the governorates in the North, will complement the funding provided by Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (KSA/UAE). ECW has been catalytic in advocating and mobilizing additional funding for this purpose and will possibly serve the first payment, while the arrangements for the additional funding are being finalized. In fact, the initial dialogue with ECW on teacher incentives is what gave it prominence and drew attention from Gulf donors.

Proposed changes:

The reprogramming document outlines the changes as proposed to the budget and duration of the programme to allow completion of activities in 2019, including changes to priority activities, notably the inclusion of a \$7 million incentive programme and a reduction, or elimination of others, notably a \$4 million savings on textbook procurement. A detailed justification along with a revised budget for the programme is attached for your reference.

**ECW requests ExCom:**

- a) **To approve the request for Reprogramming of Yemen (shifting \$7,387,891 for teachers' incentives and realignment in payment for grantee costs).**
- b) **To approve an extension of the programme until end 2019 at no additional cost.**
- c) **To approve the release of the remaining \$5 million of the total budget.**

**4. ECW Staffing Requirements**

- *Paper - Staffing Requirements*

**ECW asks ExCom:**

- a) **To approve the staffing request.**

**5. Timeline and benchmarks for 2019**

- *Paper - Calendar dates and benchmarks*

ExCom will be informed on key dates and benchmarks for 2019.