

## **Decision Paper: ECW Resource Mobilization 2023-2026**

### **Purpose**

To provide information for the ECW Executive Committee to approve ECW's future resource mobilization target and timeline at their November 2021 meeting.

### **Decisions**

- A. To agree in principle the proposed timeline for a High-Level Financing Conference in Spring 2023.
- B. To agree in principle the proposed ECW funding target of \$1 billion for 2023-2026.

### **Executive summary**

- ECW proposes to continue using the current Case for Investment, based on the amount of \$400 million for Global Trust Fund, to meet the RM targets for 2021 and 2022.
- ECW proposes to launch a global resource mobilization campaign, alongside the launch of its next Strategic Plan, in the margins of the 2022 UNGA / ECW HLSG.
- The global resource mobilization campaign would culminate in a High-Level Financing Conference for Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises in 2023 preferably in the margins of the 2023 World Bank Spring Meetings. This would be the set piece fundraising moment for ECW to raise the funds required for the delivery of the next Strategic Plan.
- The target for the global resource mobilization campaign will be \$1 billion for the four years 2023-2026. This includes the option of a transitional year between the next and subsequent Strategic Plans.
- Subject to the approval of the aforementioned decisions, ECW will begin engaging with its partners to identify host governments for the financing campaign and event.

### **1. Background**

- ECW developed an interim Case for Investment of \$400 million to ensure the financial sustainability of the fund through the COVID-19 crisis and subsequent 1-year extension of the current 2018-2021 Strategic Plan. The \$400 million target was set to be mobilized during the period 2021-2022.
- During consultation on the resource mobilization campaign, feedback from diverse partners across ExCom advised that a longer-term resource mobilization timeline would be preferable. There were several reasons for this:
  - To align resource mobilization efforts with the new ECW Strategic Plan, allowing for a greater emphasis on multi-year financing for EiE – a key strategic goal for ECW.
  - To develop a more ambitious financial target that can help renew political commitment to EiEPC in the post-COVID world, encouraging donor partners and host countries to think big for children caught in crises.
  - To ensure a consistent RM message to donors and partners throughout the next 14 months and into the next strategic cycle.
- ECW presented an example of what a revised long-term RM target could look like to the ExCom at its September 2021 meeting. Based on feedback from a range of partners, this paper sets out in greater detail ECW's proposed RM target and timeline through the period of the next Strategic Plan.

## 2. Programme expenditure forecasts

The below table sets out the anticipated ECW programme expenditure for the period 2023-2026, reinstating the gradual growth in ECW's annual program expenditures at an average of USD 235 million per year.

Year	MYRP	FER	AF	Programme expenditure	Funding target
2023	170	25	10	205	600
2024	190	25	10	225	130
2025	210	25	10	245	140
2026	230	25	10	265	140
<b>Total</b>				<b>940</b>	<b>1,000</b>

Assumptions:

- The AF window will continue to be allocated up to 10M USD equalling around 4% of expected programmatic expenditure. The actual disbursements from the AF window depends on the number of calls launched, applications considered and how well these respond to the strategic priorities.
- The FER window will continue to receive an allocation restoring the reserve to \$25M in the beginning of the year. This may be supplemented by earmarked contributions from donors to specific responses.
- The MYRP window is set to increase its disbursements as ECW continues to grow. The number of MYRPs are expected to stay stable with new additions subject to ExCom approval. The funding for MYRPs will continue to be a combination of seed funding, additional funding flows through ECW and in-country contributions to the MYRP that do not flow through ECW. **ECW will propose ExCom to consider whether the current procedure for approving funding to MYRPs can be more effective.**

## 3. RM targets

- Until the launch of the next Strategic Plan and proposed 2023-2026 Case for Investment, ECW will continue to use the existing interim Case for Investment (2021-2023) target of \$400 million. There will be no global campaign around this figure, it will instead be used in targeted resource mobilization efforts, where required, to ensure ECW's financial sustainability.
- From September 2022, following the launch of the new Strategic Plan, ECW will launch a global resource mobilization campaign to finance the Strategic Plan. From this point onwards, ECW will embrace a consistent message **to raise \$1 billion for the Global Trust Fund - and \$3 billion in leveraged funding for multi-year resilience plans - up until 2026.**

## 4. RM moments

- ECW proposes to work through ExCom, HLSG and the wider EiE community **to organize an ambitious High-Level EiE/PC Financing Conference in early 2023 alongside World Bank Spring Meetings**. This will be the set piece resource mobilization moment for the new Strategic Plan. Agreement on this date is critical to:
  - A) ensure ECW can identify host(s) for the financing campaign / event
  - B) begin planning internally and allocating resources towards the campaign
  - C) plan externally with the civil society Campaign Champions Group
- In addition to the High-Level EiE/PC Financing Conference at in early 2023, ECW will use bi-annual HLSG meetings and other opportunities such as Global Citizen Live that fall after the conference to announce new annual contributions, making up any shortfall between the funds mobilized at the High-Level EiE/PC Financing Conference and the overall target.

## 5. Alignment with new Strategic Plan

- The proposed timing of the High-Level Financing Conference for EiE/PC allows for the advanced publication of the new Strategic Plan and therefore alignment between the timelines of the next strategic cycle and resource mobilization cycle.
- The new ECW Strategic Plan should be approved by the September 2022 HLSG. There will be a comprehensive consultation and engagement process over the next 12 months and the ECW Secretariat aims to share a draft with ExCom for feedback by June 2022.
- The RM targets for 2023-26 included for approval in this paper provide the overarching financial framework within which the new Strategic Plan will be developed. The figures are centred on evidence-based programmatic expenditure forecasts and are inclusive of assumptions around needs, as well as ECW's growth, operational capacity, and the absorption capacity of programmes.

## 6. Timeline

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
2-year ECW funding ask of \$400 million for Global Trust Fund		4-year ECW funding ask of \$1 billion USD for Global Trust Fund			
	Launch of new ECW Strategic Plan and associated Case for Investment	High-level EiE/PC financing conference World Bank 2023	Annual pledging opportunity at HLSG	Annual pledging opportunity at HLSG	
	Global Resource Mobilization campaign				
Development of new Strategic Plan	Development of new Strategic Plan	ECW Strategic Plan 2023-2025			Option for 4 <sup>th</sup> year of new Strategic Plan or transitional year into next plan

## 7. In-country RM

In addition to the campaign to mobilize \$1 billion for the Global Trust Fund for 2023-2026, ECW will continue its work to mobilize resources for individual MYRPs at the country-level. This includes 'aligning' existing funding with the goals of individual MYRPs and 'leveraging' new, additional resources for individual MYRPs. **ECW will aim to mobilize \$3 billion for individual MYRPs in-country up until 2025.**<sup>1</sup>

## 8. Civil Society support and campaign readiness

- With support from the INGO, Southern CSO, and Youth constituencies, ECW is ready to launch a public campaign once ExCom has approved the target and timeline. A full campaign infrastructure, including global and local coordinating mechanisms has been established since June 2021
- All three constituencies, and ECW's wider campaign partners, are supportive of the proposed \$1 billion target and stand ready to support the campaign once decisions have been taken by ECW governing bodies.

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<sup>1</sup> Estimates for the total funds leveraged or aligned in country for the period of 2019-2021 equal \$1 billion. Based on the assumption included in section 4 on the number of MYRPs, we anticipate mobilizing roughly \$2billion for in-country financing throughout the fundraising period.

## **9. The High-Level EiE/PC Financing Conference and campaign**

- The High-Level EiE Financing Conference will be the set piece resource mobilization moment, around which the RM campaign will focus its advocacy efforts.
- ECW intends to secure two host governments to lead the diplomatic arm of the RM campaign. One government should be an ECW strategic donor partner and the other should be a refugee/IDP-hosting government.
- The High-Level EiE Financing Conference will:
  - Serve as a critical moment to renew the political commitments made to EiE at the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016.
  - Provide a platform for political leaders to announce financial and policy commitments to education in emergencies and protracted crises.
  - Include discussions on key challenges affecting the education for those left furthest behind in crises including the long-term impact of COVID 19, climate change, displacement and attacks on education.
  - Amplify the voices of children and young people living in crisis-affected contexts, with a focus on girls and children with disability, by sharing their stories and expertise;
- To ensure a successful EiE/PC campaign and High-Level Financing Conference, the expected role of the host government would include:
  - The announcement of an ambitious, multi-year pledge that would position the host among the fund's few largest donors. ECW encourages a pledge that incentivizes other donor partners to aim high and commit funding over several years, in line with the Grand Bargain commitments.
  - For the refugee-hosting government, this could include ambitious policy reforms or commitments to in line with ECW's strategic priorities.
  - Leveraging the hosts' leadership and political influence at Head of State or Foreign Minister level, in a similar way to the UK/Kenya GPE campaign in 2021, to call on public and private sector donors to renew and increase their contributions to ECW/EiEPC.
  - Facilitating strengthened partnerships with private sector actors, including corporations, private foundations, high net worth individuals and other philanthropic actors.
  - Putting forward government leaders as media spokespeople, through social media engagement and through other PR activities to be determined.
  - Engage at the highest level in a range of public and private events, including discussions with other political leaders, private sector CEOs, as well as children and young people and participate in high level events during the campaign period.
  - If travel restrictions permit, travel on field visits to one or several of ECW's priority countries.
  - To the extent possible, encouraging in-country representatives – Embassies and Development Cooperation agencies – to support ECW multi-year programmes through their bilateral assistance envelopes in crisis-affected countries.