

ECW Executive Committee Meeting September 20th, 2018

Decision Paper

This meeting is being called to request approval from ExCom for two multi-year education response plans: Bangladesh and Uganda.

1. Bangladesh Multi-Year Resilience Programme

- *Papers - MYRP Bangladesh Proposal*
 - *Bangladesh MYRP Feedback Matrix*

Background

Following the decision at the Aug 28 ExCom call, ECW is pleased to share with ExCom the **ECW-facilitated Multi-Year Resilience Programme for Bangladesh: A multi-year response framework for the provision of education for Rohingya refugees and host community in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh**. This programme, which builds on that supported by the First Emergency Response, will target vulnerable populations in the camps, while also supporting quality improvements in host communities. It aims at reaching an estimated 88,500 students aged 3-18 years (50% girls) and 2,000 teachers.

The development of this MYRP, which is aligned with the Government of Bangladesh-approved Joint Response Plan, was undertaken by the Sector Coordination mechanism based in Cox's Bazar and has brought together humanitarian and development actors, donors and civil society. The process was all-inclusive, consultative and transparent and took into account all related existing programmes and funding streams in the country to avoid duplications and enhance synergies/complementarities.

The overall budget of the ECW-facilitated MYRP amounts to US\$222 million over the period 2018-2020, of which the ECW seed funding amounts to a total of US\$ 12 million - \$6m per year. The amount of \$6m for the first year will be released upon approval by ExCom. The amount of \$6m for the second year 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: quality checked by the ECW Secretariat's expertise on programming, education, gender, and M&E; followed by a review by the ExCom assigned independent review panel. All comments were exhaustively addressed by the in-country team through several iterations of feedback and the Bangladesh MYRP Feedback matrix documents the changes that have been made as a result.

ECW requests ExCom

- a) to approve the MYRP proposal for Bangladesh.**
- b) to approve the release of the seed funding to the amount of \$12 million. The amount of \$6m for the first year will be released upon approval by ExCom. The amount of \$6m for the second year will be released subject to assessment of the performance of the MYR programme.**

2. Uganda Multi-Year Resilience Programme

- *Papers - MYRP Uganda Proposal and Budget for Seed Funding*

- *Uganda MYRP Feedback Matrix*

Background

The **ECW-facilitated Multi-Year Resilience Programme for Uganda: Education Cannot Wait Programme Uganda, 1 November 2018-31 December 2021** is based on the three and half year Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda which is costed at USD 389 million. The ECW seed funding amounts to a total of US\$ 11 million. The Education Response Plan is being launched by the Government of Uganda, UN, NGOs and civil Society and Development partners/donors on Friday 14 September 2018 in Kampala.

Given the severity of the South Sudanese refugee influx, Uganda was chosen as one of the first allocations for Education Cannot Wait. (There were 1,073,125 refugees originating from South Sudan as of end July 2018.)

Following the joint mission between the Education Commission and Save the Children, and the Uganda Solidarity Summit, calls were made for a more comprehensive approach. Against this background, ECW undertook a multi-stakeholder mission to Uganda in July 2017. The mission's aim was to lay the groundwork to scale up strategic, financial and political support and commitment to the Education sector and current response, situating it within the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), while linking to the Refugee and Host Population Empowerment approach (ReHoPe), the Government National Development Plan and the Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA) and Sustainable Development Goals.

Considering the urgency of the humanitarian situation, an allocation of \$3.35 million for Uganda was approved in 2017 by ECW's High-Level Steering Group (HLSG) from the Fund's First Response Window to allow for the implementation of emergency response activities while the plan was under development. A country-level task force prioritized eight partners to receive this funding. The first response focused on the following activities: accelerated education, school construction, early childhood development, and refugee teacher certification.

ECW together with the Government of Uganda, and local and international humanitarian and development partners, have worked together over the course of 2018 to complete an Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda. The Plan will reach just over 567,500 refugee and host community learners per year.

The ECW Programme Uganda document has gone through a rigorous review process: quality checked by the ECW Secretariat's expertise on programming, education, gender, and M&E; followed by a review by the ExCom assigned independent review panel. All comments were exhaustively addressed by the in-country team through several iterations of feedback and the Uganda MYRP Feedback matrix documents the changes that have been made as a result.

ECW requests ExCom

- a) **to approve the MYRP proposal for Uganda.**
- b) **to approve the release of the seed funding for year one to the amount of \$11 million with future tranches to be approved and released subject to availability of funds and satisfactory performance and implementation of the MYRP.**