



## Executive Committee Paper: ECW First Response Window Update

ECW aims to support catalytic investments and whole-of-system engagement politically, strategically and financially to reposition education in crises. ECW will achieve this by working with stakeholders to fulfill its five core functions:

- Inspiring political commitment
- Supporting joint planning & response
- Generating & disbursing new funding
- Strengthening capacity and,
- Improving accountability

In March 2017, Education Cannot Wait began to develop a prioritization methodology to operationalize one of its funding modalities, the **First Response Window**. A US \$20 million investment in this Window provides early funding support at the onset or escalation of a crisis, in order to reduce the impact of the crisis on education.

The First Response Window has four funding modalities:

- 1) **Rapidly injecting funds** at the onset of a crisis to meet immediate education needs
- 2) **Matching funds** for crises with a coordinated Humanitarian Response or Refugee Plans
- 3) **Funding project proposals** that support crises without a coordinated Humanitarian Response Plan
- 4) **Needs assessments** to support improved data and evidence

### Methodology

The ECW Secretariat had two objectives for the First Response test round, to allocate funds to the highest priority crisis situations and to test all four modalities in advance of the development of the full ECW strategy (and future investments). A range of crises would allow ECW to quickly reach children and youth in different contexts, while supporting engagement in several countries which might lead to further financing, including through the ECW Multi-Year window and from non-traditional donors, as well as supporting lesson-learning from a range of crisis contexts.

To select the highest priority emergencies, the Secretariat assessed **41 crisis-affected countries**, considering current funding levels for education, education needs and the severity of the crisis situation. The crises assessed are those on OCHA's list of 2017 underfunded crises. Based on this assessment ECW is engaging partners with coordination mandates on the ground, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators, OCHA,

the IASC Global Education Cluster and INEE to guide selection of countries and interventions.

Assessment was against three primary dimensions:

- Severity of the Crisis
- Humanitarian Financing for Education
- Educational Equity

### **Severity of the Crisis**

*The Index for Risk Management* (INFORM, [www.inform-index.org](http://www.inform-index.org))

INFORM scores were used as a proxy to reflect the severity of the crisis. INFORM is a collaboration of the former IASC Task Team for Preparedness and Resilience and the European Commission. It is a global, open-source risk assessment for Humanitarian crises and disasters. INFORM has three dimensions: hazard and exposure, vulnerability, and lack of coping capacity. Each dimension encompasses different categories, which are user-driven concepts related to the needs of humanitarian and resilience actors. For each category, several indicators may be included. Categories cover natural hazards, conflict, socio-economic factors including aid dependency, vulnerable groups including due to health conditions or food insecurity, and measures about the quality of institutional capacity and infrastructure. INFORM includes about 50 different indicators, which are listed in the annex, and scores range from 0 to 10, with higher values indicating a higher risk. ([CERF, 2017](#))

#### *Real Time Emergency Tracking*

The ECW Secretariat tracked sudden onset emergencies and escalations of on-going crises through UNICEF's OPSCEN system, a 24 hour emergency operations center that tracks developments through media channels, UN communications and emergency alert systems. This allows additional weighting under Severity of the Crisis as recent developments are not covered in INFORM, which is by design forward looking.

### **Humanitarian Financing for Education**

Equity in Humanitarian Financing: Data from humanitarian financing trends was taken from the [2016 Global Humanitarian Assistance Report](#) to identify countries that receive larger proportions of aid. Trend data indicated that a few countries with large appeals dominate funding requests and receipts.

ECW Funding: It was decided, in an effort to diversity funds, that countries that were a part of ECW Initial Investments would not be eligible for First Response Funds (in this test round).

Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) and Refugee Response Plans (RRP): These constitute proxies for scale of educational needs and funding levels. Analysis included whether there was a [UNICEF HAC](#) appeal and to what extent education had been funded. Education generally constitutes a larger proportion of UNICEF HAC appeals than OCHA humanitarian appeals and tends to receive education financing at a higher

proportion than in other humanitarian appeals. Analysis also included whether there was an [UNHCR RRP](#) in place or whether a country was the source of refugees. HAC and RRP data were put together to give an overall score to the level of funding of education needs. Appeals that are less funded as a share of total needs were given a higher priority in ECW's first Window.

Country Financing Capacity: Analyzes current education in humanitarian situation financing needs (requests unfunded) against the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as reported by the [World Bank](#).

## Educational Equity

Education: Assesses educational outcomes and inequities through proxy indicators as reported by the [UNESCO Institute for Statistics](#):

- Percentage of out-of-school children of primary school age.
- Gender Parity Index (GPI), calculated via the primary completion rate (using gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary education as a proxy), and using primary net enrolment rates and gross enrolment ratios as alternative indicators where data on GPI for completion is unavailable.

## Scoring and Prioritization

### Scoring

A score was calculated combining Severity of the Crisis, Humanitarian Financing for Education and Educational Equity using INFORM, humanitarian financing indicators and education system statistics. The maximum possible score was 24.

Area	Indicator	Points
Educational Equity	OOSC	0 to 4 points
	GPI	0 to 2 points
Humanitarian financing for education	HAC and RRP GAP	0 to 4 points
	Country financing capacity	0 to 4 points
Severity of the crisis	INFORM	0 to 10 points
<b>Total</b>		<b>0 to 24 points</b>

### Prioritization

ECW focused on countries with the highest score as per the computations above. It selected only countries where it is not already operating and which are not among the most highly funded crises. Selection of countries also considered whether the context allowed testing of the four modalities, privileging forgotten crises. Significant consideration was given to new or escalating crises with the objective of mitigating negative impacts on the education of children and youth and bolstering the education sector response. When selecting countries for Modality 2, an analysis was also undertaken of current Central Emergency Response Fund appeals, considering whether they included education, what proportion of children and youth in need the education appeals targeted and their current levels of funding.

All analysis was conducted based on data as of March 2017.

For more information about the First Response Window, please refer to the Education Cannot Wait: [Grantee Operating Manual](#). You can also view the webinar recording, [“What is the First Response Window?”](#)

## ECW ALLOCATIONS

The ECW Secretariat has been actively reaching out to partners to share information on the ECW First Response window. A brief presentation was made to civil society constituents facilitated by Save the Children to answer questions about ECW and its funding windows. A global webinar was held with the support of the GPE in May 2017 with over 80 participants. The ECW website has regularly been updated with information about processes as they evolve on the ground and information has also been disseminated via INEE and the IASC Education Cluster.

ECW has developed guidance, tools and templates to support funding processes and decisions at country level, including a methodology on calculating direct and intermediary beneficiaries. Key education stakeholders, particularly those with formal coordination mandates were invited to facilitate or participate in country level decision making. Coordinating agencies to date are: MoE in Peru, Education Clusters in CAR, Madagascar, Somalia & Ukraine, MoE in Afghanistan and UNHCR in Uganda. Five of seven countries will be finalized by the end of July and countries managing Requests for Proposals will be complete in August.

(Modality) & Country	Children in Need	Total Appeal	% Funded as of Mar '17	Envelope Awarded *20% of unfunded appeal
<b>(1) Peru</b>	52,910 FLASH PIN: 1,638,000	2.6	0%	250,000
<b>(2 &amp; 4) CAR*</b>	300,000 HRP PIN: 400,000	30	0%	6,000,000
<b>(2) Madagascar*</b>	45,000 FLASH	2.5 2.4	6%	475,000
<b>(2) Ukraine*</b>	150,000 HRP PIN: 600,000	7.6 6.7	11.4%	1,350,000
<b>(2 &amp; 4) Somalia*</b>	250,000 HRP PIN: 528,000	33.9 25.1	25.8%	5,000,000
<b>(3) Afghanistan</b>	PIN: 9,3 million 56% of displaced are children	Education Excluded from 2017 HRP	N/A	3,350,000
<b>(3) Uganda</b>	PIN: 928,079 South Sudanese Refugees, 63% are 17 and under	51.9	N/A	3,350,000

**Status as of 7 July 2017**

	<b>Status</b>	<b>Targeted</b> Girls/Boys	<b>Funds Recipients</b>
<b>Peru</b>	In process	Proposal will be submitted by MoE by 14 July.	
<b>CAR</b>	In process	Recommendation Report expected by 19 July.	
<b>Madagascar</b>	Complete	<b>33,182 Total</b> 15,378 girls 17,742 boys 62 education authorities	(2) UNESCO UNICEF
<b>Ukraine</b>	Complete	<b>52,550 Total</b>	(2) Save the Children UNICEF
<b>Somalia</b>	Complete	<b>50,378 Total</b> 22,631 girls 27,741 boys	(12) - ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) - BREC (Bay Regional Education Committee) - CISP (International Committee for the Development of Peoples) - FENPS (Formal Education Network for Private Schools) - INTERSOS - NCA (Norwegian Church Aid) - NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council) - RI (Relief Intl) - SCI (Save) - SCC (Somalia Community Concern) - SHARDO (Shabelle Relief and Development Organisation) - Swisso Kalmo

<b>Afghanistan</b>	<b>In process</b>	Coordinated by MoE and EiE WG: process launched, Recommendation Report expected by 18 August.
<b>Uganda</b>	<b>In process</b>	Coordinated by UNHCR, information meeting held. ECW Secretariat support mission 17-21 July. Report expected by 25 August.
<b>Total Target to Date</b>	<b>136,110 children and youth</b>	

### No Objection Approvals

Country	Rationale	Amount USD
Madagascar	UNICEF Allocation	412,000
Ukraine	UNICEF Allocation	772,000