

Education Cannot Wait Advocacy in Washington – Key Results and Key Messages

ECW Results to date

- **Over 1.5 million children and youth living in crisis can now grow and thrive because they've been given the hope, opportunity and safety of a quality education.**
 - ECW and its partners reached over 1.5 million children and youth to date. These crisis-affected children & youth now benefit from quality, inclusive education, helping them cope with stress of crises and regain the chance to be productive members of society.
- **Girls are being put first. We cannot leave girls behind – to date, ECW reached +750,000 girls.**
 - As efforts are scaled-up through multi-year resilience programmes, more girls will be empowered through education to build a better future for themselves. Through ECW investments, girls living in war zones, displacement camps and natural disasters are able to learn in safer environments. With trained teachers and improved gender-based approaches, girls are safer from exploitation, early childhood marriage and other issues that put girls at risk in these complex and dangerous environments.
- **Through education opportunities, children and youth displaced from their homes are finding increased safety and a sense of normalcy in a dangerous, unpredictable world.**
 - Of those reached to date, 51% were refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs).
- **To support children and youth in accessing their inherent human right of an education, we need to support teachers. Without trained teachers, there is no quality education.**
 - Teachers were trained to respond to the unique needs of girls and boys living in crisis. 89% of ECW-supported countries trained +21,000 teachers, 47% of whom were women. Putting teachers first, ECW also provided incentives to teachers in 39% of countries supported through the Fund.
- **Momentum continues to grow. Since its inception, ECW has mobilized US\$454 million (this includes the \$110M DFID funding). Note: total was US\$333.5 million by end of 2018.**
 - This funding results from a global movement to Act for Education in Crises to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG4. By 2021, ECW and its partners seek to mobilize US\$1.8 billion to reach 9 million children and youth annually.
- **ECW and its partners are devoted to building sustainable solutions to bring quality education to the 75 million children living in crises who don't have access to an education.**
 - In 2018, four ground-breaking Multi-Year Resilience Programmes (MYRPs) were launched in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, CAR and Uganda and there was improved disbursement of funds for First Emergency Responses, with 41% of funds for FERs being disbursed within 8 weeks of submission to the ECW Secretariat. In 2019, ECW supported a total of 32 countries, including 10 MYRPs (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, CAR, Chad, Ethiopia, State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Uganda).
 - By 2021, ECW and its partners are working to launch MYRPs in 25 priority countries.
- **Grand Bargain - Children are benefiting from local, effective, streamlined responses.**
 - In 2018, in support of the Grand Bargain and local capacity-building, ~30% of ECW funds were channelled as directly as possible to local NGOs (an increase from 19% in 2017).
- **10% Challenge: Our collective efforts to build support for education in emergencies is a foundational element to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.**
 - The Fund's high-level advocacy in partnership with donors, civil society organizations, national governments and UN Agencies, positively impacted the European Commission's announcement at the European Parliament in November 2018 to devote "10 per cent of the Union's humanitarian aid to education from 2019."

The Funding Gap for Education in Emergencies

- **A massive funding gap for education in emergencies remains.**
 - While donors increased their focus on education in emergencies and protracted crises by investing US\$578 million in 2018, the funding gap remains very large (56% of the total amount of resources needed for Education in Emergencies appeals was unfunded).
- **Education in emergencies is an essential component for humanitarian development.**
 - ECW advocacy helped increase the share of funding for education in emergencies, but this increased only slightly, from 3.8% to 4.3% of all humanitarian funding in 2018.
- **We are finding more effective ways to target crisis-affected countries.**
 - The share of education development funding going to crisis-affected countries has more than doubled from 14% to 35% over the last ten years.

Nigeria Learning Outcomes Case Study:

- 5,000 formerly out-of-school children, aged 6-15 years, participating in non-formal education with ECW investments significantly improved learning over 6-months. Two key results: 55% could do addition (baseline was 18%); and 42% could read words (baseline was 9%).

Next Steps

- **Early learners will be put first. More investment is needed to support children aged 3 to 5.**
 - ECW will increase this support thru partnerships and strengthened ECE quality.
- **Quality teaching and learning outcomes are essential.**
 - Education in emergencies interventions isn't just about reaching more children - quality is crucial. With host governments and implementing partners, ECW works to improve the quality of learning outcomes. All new ECW MYRPs will include this as an indicator.
- **Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MH-PSS) is a key requirement for EiE interventions.**
 - In 2018, 33% of ECW-supported countries provided psychosocial support. ECW will reach out to experts and partners in 2019 to ensure that all ECW investments assess the need for MH-PSS. In 2019, ECW and MHPSS Collaborative partnered to deliver improved MH-PSS for children living in the world's worst humanitarian crises.
- **Too many children are being pushed away from schools by violence and intimidation.**
 - Protection is an ECW priority and we continue to promote international law and support protection, safe learning environments and prevention of attacks against children, teachers, schools. In 2018: 44% of ECW-supported countries promoted use of a teacher's code of conduct; 50% of countries trained teachers in psychosocial support.

Education Cannot Wait - By the Numbers

- All 32 countries supported by ECW in 2019 were assisted to improve sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data collection and systems.
- 89% of ECW-supported countries provided subject materials to teachers, classrooms, and/or students to support teachers and learners to deliver and receive quality education.
- 78% of countries supported 259,556 children (of whom 50% were girls), to access non-formal education (e.g. remedial classes, accelerated learning programmes or vocational training).
- ECW exceeded its target by supporting nearly 13,700 children and youth (5,623 girls and 8,063 boys) with disabilities to attend formal school.

US Contributions to Date

- **State PRM has contributed \$10M so far (and will contribute another \$10M at UNGA)**
 - The total as of next week from State PRM (Popl/Migrn/Refg Bureau) will be \$20M
- **USAID has contributed \$11M so far (and will contribute another \$2M at UNGA)**
 - The USAID total as of next week will be \$13M
- **The combined State PRM and USAID total today is: \$21M**
 - The combined State PRM and USAID total as of next week will be \$33M

Thanks for US civil society organizations and US government support

- **ECW has had discussions with US civil society over the past 8 months and US government:**
 - Yasmine met with US civil society on margins of the World Bank Spring Meeting in April
 - Michael met twice with Mr. Adam Yezerski to update him on ECW progress & funding
 - Two letters were sent from the House and the Senate to the Appropriations Committee (Sen. Lindsey Graham)
 - Yasmine replied with a thank you letter
 - In August the CSOs made a call for action (attached).
- **In those discussions, we shared that we'd like the US government to become 1 of the top 3 donors to ECW and to do so, would need to commit \$150M over 3 years.**
 - Thereby the US would also at headquarter level mirror the strong partnership ECW has with the US representations in-country.
 - The CSOs advised that we should have a phased approach and start with \$25M, before moving to \$50M/year.

Adam Yezerski

- **Adam is a staffer for Senator Lindsey Graham and by having him on board, we increase likelihood of a positive review by the Appropriations Committee.**
 - The document is still in draft - so yet to be fully adopted as part of the US appropriations bill for FY2020, but we are certainly on the right track.
- **Based on earlier discussions with Adam, good to emphasize private sector/foundation collaboration, Sahel (Mali, Niger, BF) and response to the crisis in Venezuela, including:**
 - ECW is strongly committed to engaging all actors and have made great strides in getting commitments from the private sector and private foundations.
 - Private foundations have been part of ECWs board from the beginning (Dubai Cares and Dutch Postcode Lottery) and next week at UNGA, the US government (\$10M PRM/\$2M USAID) will announce \$12M to ECW - matched by \$12.5M pledge from LEGO Foundation.
 - Further, ECW has strong partnerships with Hewlett-Packard & ProFuturo Foundation.
 - **For the ProFuturo Foundation:** mention that it is based in Spain and financed by a bank (La Caixa) and a technology company (Telefonica). ProFuturo aims to reach 10 million children and have previously worked predominantly in Latin America with promoting learning outcomes through technology and are now partnering with ECW to also reach children affected by conflict.
 - ECW is on target to deliver quality education to 1 million children affected by conflict through partnerships with the private sector and foundations. (HP 20,000; ProFuturo 600,000; LEGO 140,000. We need 1-2 additional partnerships to get there).

Sahel

- **As a global fund, ECW is committed to addressing the needs of children affected by crisis wherever they are. However, when we look at conflict and protracted crisis, it is clear that the Sahel is particularly challenging.**
 - In ECW we have or are preparing programmes across the Sahel, including Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon and South Sudan.
- **Our most recent intervention is a regional first emergency response for Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso that will next year be supplemented by a regional MYRPs for the same countries.**
 - Children in need: 4.5 million under 18; girls are particularly vulnerable to missing school
 - 1.4 million school-aged children in need of education humanitarian assistance
 - Across the 3 countries, food insecurity, abject poverty, lack of livelihoods and basic services affect millions of children, compounding the education crisis
 - As of June 2019, 3,000 schools are closed across the 3 countries due to insecurity

Mali Visit

- **I visited Mali earlier this month, and even though we get used to crisis and desperation in our line of work, I have never seen anything like the despair in Mali.**
 - The Rohingya situation in Bangladesh is dire and there are many challenges in a situation like Lebanon, but in Mali the situation is desperate, with an active conflict in an extremely harsh environment, very low government capacity and no alternatives for children.

Human story from Mopti, Mali

- **In central Mali, 12 years-old Awa was herding her family's sheep when she heard screaming and saw smoke coming from her village. She ran towards her house, only to find her village under attack. Huts were burning, people were running in all directions, children holding on to any adults they could find in the midst of the chaos.**
 - Awa's eyes are still filled with fear as she recounts these terrible memories of her flight. Despite her trauma and the fact Awa and her family lost everything they owned, the girl was still lucky. Around 160 people were killed when armed men attacked the village of Ogossagou, including 45 children.
 - Awa now lives in a settlement of internally displaced persons in Mopti – the biggest town of the region. Here, regional authorities and aid organisations are providing support to the displaced families.
 - UNICEF and its partners have set up temporary learning spaces for children where they receive basic lessons of French and Arabic and mathematics. Awa and other girls like her also participate in discussion groups with facilitators to address issues such as sexual violence, early marriage and pregnancies, the importance for girls to access school, etc. These learning spaces provide Awa and other girls with a sense of security and safety and a chance to feel a sense of normalcy.

Venezuela

- **Another recent programme that ECW has invested in, is the response to the crisis in Venezuela that has sent millions of refugees across the border and into neighbouring countries.**
 - ECW has facilitated that partners in the region have formulated a joint proposal covering refugee Venezuelan children & host communities in Brazil, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador.

To learn more, please follow [@educannotwait](#) and visit www.educannotwait.org