

TECHNICAL ANNEX

SOUTHERN AFRICA AND INDIAN OCEAN¹

FINANCIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

The provisions of the financing decision ECHO/WWD/BUD/2022/01000 and the General Conditions of the Agreement with the European Commission shall take precedence over the provisions in this document.

The activities proposed hereafter are subject to any terms and conditions that may be included in the related Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP).

1. CONTACTS

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2. FINANCIAL INFO

Indicative Allocation³: **EUR 50 854 487⁴** of which an indicative amount of EUR 6 500 000 for Education in Emergencies.

¹ This HIP covers the following countries in the Southern Africa and Indian Ocean region (SAIO): Angola, Botswana, Comoros Islands, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

² Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)

³ The Commission reserves the right not to award all or part of the funds made or to be made available under the HIP to which this Annex relates, or to allocate part of the funding to interventions with a regional or multi-country approach.

⁴ Total amount of the HIP

In line with DG ECHO's commitment under the Grand Bargain initiative, pilot Programmatic Partnerships have been launched in 2020 and 2021 with a limited number of partners. New Programmatic Partnerships could be signed in 2022 with partners under indirect management. Part of the allocation of this HIP could therefore also be attributed to these new pilot Partnerships.

Breakdown per Actions as per Worldwide Decision (in euro):

Country /Region	Action (a)		Action (c)	TOTAL
	Pillar 1: Man-made crises and natural disasters	Pillar 2: Education in Emergencies	Pillar 3: DIPECHO	
Angola	3 000 000	-	-	3 000 000
Eswatini	2 824 789	-	-	2 824 789
Lesotho	1 000 000	-	-	1 000 000
Madagascar	12 613 504	-	1 000 000	13 613 504
Malawi	2 500 000-	-	1 500 000	4 000 000
Mozambique	11 000 000	6 500 000	1 500 000	19 000 000
Zambia	1 559 611	-	-	1 559 611
Zimbabwe	-	-	2 000 000	2 000 000
Southern Africa and Indian Ocean (Regional)	-	-	3 000 000	3 000 000
Programmatic Partnership Regional flexibility reserve*	450 000	-	-	450 000
Programmatic Partnership Coordination & Visibility*	406 583	-	-	406 583

**In the framework of the pilot Programmatic Partnership with IFRC*

3. PROPOSAL ASSESSMENT

a) Co-financing:

Under the EU Financial Regulation, grants must involve co-financing; as a result, the resources necessary to carry out the action must not be provided entirely by the grant. An action may only be financed in full by the grant where this is essential

for it to be carried out. In such a case, justification must be provided in the Single Form (section 10.4).

b) Financial support to third parties (implementing partners)

Pursuant to Art. 204 FR, for the implementation of actions under this HIP, partners may provide financial support to third parties, e.g. implementing partners. This financial support can only exceed EUR 60 000 if the objectives of the action would otherwise be impossible or excessively difficult to achieve. Such situations can occur in cases where only a limited number of non-profit non-governmental organisations have the capacity, skills or expertise to contribute to the implementation of the action or are established in the country of operation or in the region(s) where the action takes place.

Ensuring broad geographical/worldwide coverage while minimising costs and avoiding duplications concerning in particular presence in country, prompted many humanitarian organisations to network, e.g. through families or confederations. In such a context, the situations referred to above would imply that the partner would rely on other members of the network. In such cases, justification must be provided in the Single Form.

c) Alternative arrangements

In case of country or crisis-specific issues or unforeseeable circumstances, which arise during the implementation of the action, the Commission (DG ECHO) may issue specific ad-hoc instructions which partners must follow. Partners may also introduce via the Single Form duly justified requests for alternative arrangements to be agreed by the Commission (DG ECHO) in accordance with Annex 5 to the Grant Agreement.

d) Field office costs

Costs for use of the field office during the action are eligible and may be declared as unit cost according to usual cost accounting practices, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions for such unit costs and the amount per unit is calculated:

- i. using the actual costs for the field office recorded in the beneficiary's accounts, attributed at the rate of office use and excluding any cost which are ineligible or already included in other budget categories; the actual costs may be adjusted on the basis of budgeted or estimated elements, if they are relevant for calculating the costs, reasonable and correspond to objective and verifiable information
and
- ii. according to usual cost accounting practices which are applied in a consistent manner, based on objective criteria, regardless of the source of funding.

e) Actions embedded in multiannual strategies

Funding under this HIP may be used to finance actions implemented in the framework of multiannual strategies, as and when provided for in the HIP.

f) Regional and multi-country actions

Regional/multi-country actions can be supported under this HIP (and where relevant in conjunction with other HIPs⁵), where they are proven more suitable/effective than country-based interventions to respond to identified needs, taking into account the operating context, the strategy and the priorities set out in the HIP (or respective HIPs), the operational guidelines provided in section 3.2.2. of this Annex, as well as the applicant organisation's capacities. The proposals should specify the breakdown between the different country allocations.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE INFO

Allocation round 1

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 6 500 000
 - up to EUR 5 500 000 (pillar 1);
 - up to EUR 1 000 000 (pillar 3)
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: This assessment round will exclusively allocate the funding for **Madagascar** in view of reinforcing 2021 DG ECHO's response to the acute levels of food insecurity and undernutrition (under pillar 1) as well as strengthening drought preparedness in Grand-Sud (under pillar 3).
- c) Costs will be eligible⁶ from **01/01/2022**
- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, in particular for Disaster Preparedness. Follow-up actions, which continue/extend ongoing operations financed under the 2021-2027 Multi annual Financial Framework, can be submitted as modification requests for the ongoing action with a time extension of up to 24 months and a total duration of the modified action of up to 48 months. The same approach may also be used to the extent appropriate in furtherance of any multiannual strategies provided for by the HIP (see point e) of section 2 above)⁷. Education in Emergencies actions should have an initial duration of at least 24 months, unless there is a needs- or context-based justification for a shorter duration.
- e) Potential partners⁸: All DG ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form or Modifications requests of on-going actions⁹
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: **by 3/12/2021**

⁵ For multi country actions falling under more than one HIP, partners are requested to submit only one proposal in APPEL. The single form should refer to the HIP that covers the majority of targeted countries.

⁶ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest. In case of amendments to existing agreements, the eligible date will however be the eligible date set in the initial agreement.

⁷ Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

⁸ Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

⁹ Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL

Allocation round 2

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 20 500 000
 - a. up to EUR 6 000 000 (pillar 1)
 - b. up to EUR 6 500 000 (pillar 2)
 - c. up to EUR 8 000 000 (pillar 3)
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round:
This assessment round will allocate the funding for Mozambique under pillar 1 and 2 as well as the funding for Disaster Preparedness under pillar 3 including **Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi, regional and multi-country interventions**.
- c) Costs will be eligible from **01/01/2022**
- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on Disaster Preparedness as well as for any other sectors identified in this HIP when duly justified in view of improving efficiency/effectiveness of the interventions. Follow-up actions, which continue/extend ongoing operations financed under the 2021-2027 Multi annual Financial Framework, can be submitted as modification requests for the ongoing action with a time extension of up to 24 months and a total duration of the modified action of up to 48 months. The same approach may also be used to the extent appropriate in furtherance of any multiannual strategies provided for by the HIP (see point e) of section 2 above)¹⁰. Education in Emergencies actions should have an initial duration of at least 24 months, unless there is a needs- or context-based justification for a shorter duration.
- e) Potential partners¹¹: All DG ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form or Modifications requests of on-going actions ¹²
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: **by 24/01/2022**

Allocation round 3

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 000 000 (Pillar 1) **for Angola only**
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round:
This assessment round will be exclusively focused on the allocation of funding for Angola for the delivery of emergency nutrition assistance. Please refer to section Pillar 1; Priority 3 – Angola: Nutrition Emergency life-saving humanitarian assistance.
- d) Action which continues/extends ongoing operations financed under the 2021-2027 Multi annual Financial Framework, can be submitted as modification request for the ongoing action with a time extension.
- c) Potential partners¹³: UNICEF as the Internationally mandated agency for nutrition

¹⁰ Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

¹¹ Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

¹² Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL

- d) Information to be provided: Single Form¹⁴.
- e) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: **by 25/03/2021**

Allocation round 4

- a) Indicative amount: unallocated amount under allocation round 1 for **Madagascar only: EUR 1 000 000 (pillar 3) under Disaster Preparedness budget line (DPBL)**
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: This assessment round corresponds to the needs described in section Pillar 3; Priority 2 – Madagascar: Drought Preparedness in Grand Sud in view of system-strengthening drought preparedness in Grand-Sud.
- c) Costs will be eligible¹⁵ from 01/04/2022
- e) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months. Follow-up actions, which continue/extend ongoing operations financed under the 2021-2027 Multi annual Financial Framework, can be submitted as modification requests for the ongoing action with a time extension of up to 24 months and a total duration of the modified action of up to 48 months. The same approach may also be used to the extent appropriate in furtherance of any multiannual strategies provided for by the HIP (see point e) of section 2 above)¹⁶.
- f) Potential partners¹⁷: All DG ECHO Partners
- g) Information to be provided: Single Form or Modification requests of on-going actions¹⁸.
- h) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: **by 20/04/2022**.

Allocation round 5

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 4 000 000 for **Madagascar** and 5 000 000 for **Mozambique**
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: This assessment round will exclusively allocate funding to **Madagascar and Mozambique**. In Madagascar, the allocation will reinforce the food assistance of the people in need through cash transfers. In Mozambique, the allocation will mainly target provinces affected by the Cabo Delgado crisis, including provinces affected by recent natural disasters. The response will focus on providing 1/food assistance through cash transfers to the extent possible and 2/nutrition treatment including essential drugs for nutrition treatment.

¹³ Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

¹⁴ Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL

¹⁵ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest. In case of amendments to existing agreements, the eligible date will however be the eligible date set in the initial agreement.

¹⁶ Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

¹⁷ Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

¹⁸ Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL

- c) Potential partners¹⁹: WFP and UNICEF as the internationally mandated agencies for food assistance and nutrition respectively.
- d) Information to be provided: Modification requests.
- e) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: **by 25/05/2022**

Allocation round 6

- a. Indicative amount: up to EUR 7 354 487
- b. Cost will be eligible²⁰ from 01/04/2022
- c. Potential partner: IFRC. The funding will be allocated to the pilot Programmatic Partnership action ‘Accelerating local action in humanitarian and health crises’ in the following countries: Eswatini, Madagascar, Zambia
- d. Information to be provided: Single form²¹

Allocation round 7

- a) Indicative amount: EUR 5 500 000 including up to EUR 2 500 000 for **Malawi** and EUR 1 000 000 each for **Angola, Eswatini and Lesotho**.
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: This assessment round will exclusively allocate funding to **Malawi, Angola, Eswatini and Lesotho**. Mainstreaming protection will be required in all contexts. Please refer to pillar 1 priorities 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the below section 4.1.2. Specific operational guidelines and operational assessment criteria.
- c) Potential partners²²:
 - a. Angola: UNICEF, as the internationally mandated agency for nutrition.
 - b. Eswatini: WFP, as the internationally mandated agency for food assistance.
 - c. Lesotho and Malawi: All DG ECHO Partners
- d) Information to be provided: Modification requests or new proposals.
- e) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information:
 - a. **Angola: by 15/12/2022**
 - b. **Eswatini, Lesotho and Malawi by 16/01/2023**

4.1 Operational requirements:

4.1.1 Assessment criteria:

- 1) Relevance
 - How relevant is the proposed intervention and its compliance with the objectives of the HIP?

¹⁹ Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

²⁰ The eligibility date of the Action is not linked to the date of receipt of the Single Form. It is either the eligibility date set in the Single form or the eligibility date of the HIP, whatever occurs latest. In case of amendments to existing agreements, the eligible date will however be the eligible date set in the initial agreement.

²¹ Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

²² Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

- Has the joint needs assessment been used for the proposed intervention (if existing)?
 - Has the proposed intervention been coordinated with other relevant humanitarian actors?
- 2) Capacity and expertise
- Does the partner, with its implementing partners, have sufficient expertise (country / region and / or technical)?
 - How good is the partner's local capacity / ability to develop local capacity?
- 3) Methodology and feasibility
- Quality of the proposed response strategy, including intervention logic / logframe, output & outcome indicators, risks and challenges.
 - Feasibility, including security and access constraints.
 - Quality of the monitoring arrangements.
- 4) Coordination and relevant post-intervention elements
- Extent to which the proposed intervention is to be implemented in coordination with other humanitarian actors and actions (including, where relevant, the use of single interoperable registries of beneficiaries).
 - Extent to which the proposed intervention contributes to resilience and sustainability.
- 5) Cost-effectiveness/efficiency/transparency
- Does the proposed intervention display an appropriate relationship between the resources to be employed, the activities to be undertaken and the objectives to be achieved?
 - Is the breakdown of costs sufficiently documented/explained?²³

In case of actions ongoing in the field, where DG ECHO is requested to fund the continuation thereof, a field visit may be conducted by DG ECHO field expert (TA) to determine the feasibility and quality of the follow-up action proposed.

No award will be made to NGO partner organisations which have not complied with their obligations concerning the submission of audited financial statements (i.e. which would not have submitted those in due time to the Commission without a proper justification) or which would appear not to offer sufficient guarantee as to their financial capacity to implement the proposed actions (in light of their liquidity and independency ratios as appearing from their latest available annual statutory accounts certified by an approved external auditor).

4.1.2. Specific operational guidelines and operational assessment criteria:

This section outlines the specific operational guidelines that DG ECHO partners need to take into account in the design of humanitarian operations supported by DG ECHO. It also

²³ In accordance with the relevant section of the Single Form guidelines (section10)

lists and explains the assessment criteria – based on those outlined in section 3.2.1 - that DG ECHO will apply in the specific context of the HIP to which this Technical Annex relates when assessing proposals submitted in response to the related HIP.

As 2022 will be the first year with basic **environmental** requirements in place, most of which are likely to be context specific, appropriate space should be dedicated to referencing these requirements.

This section describes the **three Pillars and their respective Priorities**.

As a general consideration for all pillars:
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1. All projects should be compliant with the HIP, HIP Technical Annex and HIP Policy Annex.
2. Actions integrating several HIP pillars priorities in their response are welcome provided the components are connected and bring an added value to the response. Please note that funds coming from pillar 2 and 3 have to be integrated in specific results.
3. All actions to be funded under this pillar **must mainstream gender, humanitarian protection and Disaster preparedness (DP), and integrate Covid-19 mitigating measures in their interventions. The Covid19 risk/needs analysis** should also be integrated in the intervention, with the necessary preventive measures and activities. Partners should also outline current ways of working and M&E capacities and share scenarios and mitigating measures.
4. **Responsiveness and flexibility of the response** is critical due to variety of dynamic environments in the region. Partners are encouraged to consider including a Crisis Modifier (CM) in all actions, both response and DP, when relevant, as a separate result with an allocated budget This should allow to mobilise resources from on-going actions and swiftly respond to any new emerging shocks occurring in the area of their operations (a crisis within a crisis). Flexibility measures can be triggered to provide initial lifesaving multipurpose response in the aftermath of a rapid onset crisis; the two main scenarios are: i) to fill the time gap while waiting for additional resources; ii) to respond to small scale humanitarian needs which would otherwise remain unattended.

The application of flexibility measures should be based on a multi-risk analysis and the development of worst and most likely scenarios. Partners should develop a detailed preparedness and response plan with clear thresholds and triggers to guide actions, considering prepositioning of stocks, surge staff, and sectors of intervention.

When activating the Crisis Modifier (CM), partners shall inform DG ECHO Country Office. If the funds of the CM are not used, the partner shall propose to DG ECHO how to reallocate the resources, in the interim report or not later than one month before the end of the action.

5. DG ECHO promotes a **common programming approach** to reduce fragmentation, with streamlined systems created to avoid duplication and parallel ways of working. This includes common targeting criteria, single or interoperable beneficiary registries, a single payment mechanism, a common feedback mechanism and a common results framework. DG ECHO will systematically assess the cost-efficiency of cash programmes, using the Total Cost to Transfer Value (TCTR), alongside analysis of the effectiveness of the overall humanitarian response.
6. **Visibility and Communication**: Partners will be expected to ensure full compliance with visibility requirements and to acknowledge the funding role of DG ECHO, as set out in the applicable contractual arrangements. The DG ECHO Visibility Guidelines are available here: <https://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/visibility>. The guidelines also explain the three main Visibility & Communication options available to partners when submitting project proposals, and the possible budgets. Partners are encouraged to liaise regularly with the DG ECHO Information and Communication team based in Nairobi. This will facilitate a regular flow of information products and help DG ECHO support the various Visibility & Communication actions throughout the project cycle.
7. **Accountability and Complaint mechanisms**: For any type and modality of transfer, beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance are exposed to the risk of having their entitlement reduced/taken (kickbacks, forced or “voluntary” sharing, coercion, harassment, larceny and violence). While such risks can be reduced in all phases of the action, a complaint mechanism is an essential element to stably reduce abuses, rectify targeting errors and spot frauds. Complaint mechanisms should have SOPs and designated responsibilities among staff to classify and pursue cases, whistleblowing and privacy policies. Awareness is of a particular importance, as beneficiaries are too often not informed about the existence of such mechanisms. To reduce conflict of interest and promote confidentiality, partners are strongly encouraged to outsource the complaint mechanisms to third parties, i.e. specialised institutions such as monitoring, audit, insurance companies, universities, etc. PSEA mechanism should be embedded in the prevention and response component of all interventions.
8. Partners should apply a **nexus approach** in programming to harness resilience and facilitate transition to longer-term predictable and adequate social schemes/services. Without compromising humanitarian principles, DG ECHO's partners are expected to consider if it is appropriate to deliver humanitarian assistance through national systems available at local level, especially related to basic social services (health/ nutrition, WASH, education), social care and direct (cash/voucher/ food) transfers to households, as a way of preserving/further strengthening existing systems during crises.
Partners are also expected to assess if it is possible to use the humanitarian response as a window of opportunity to trigger further investments by development actors in the development of higher quality, more (geographically/ financially) accessible and crisis-sensitive services for populations in the intervention areas. Thus, by investing in evidence-building, sharing of best-practices and dialogue/ advocacy with longer-term actors, as a way of increasing shared responsibility among humanitarian and development actors for crisis-affected population.

9. **Climate change adaptation and environmental considerations:** Adapting responses to future climate change as well as reducing environmental degradation are highly relevant in partners' interventions. Such actions also contribute to the European Commission's overall implementation of the European Green Deal²⁴. All partners must take all necessary measures to reduce the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid, and ensure that their work does not contribute to the further deterioration of the environment, or the health and well-being of the people living in the target area. Partners should take measures such as choosing materials with a lower carbon footprint, using clean energy solutions, avoiding deforestation, implementing robust waste management systems, greening the organisation's logistics or supply chain, or working more closely with local actors to decrease intercontinental transport.

PILLAR 1: Multi-sector response to climate and/or human induced disasters affecting the region

The main **objective** of **this Pillar** is to provide needs-based, rapid and lifesaving humanitarian aid to populations affected by climate and human induced disasters. There are **two priorities** under this pillar as described below.

Priority 1: Northern Mozambique (Cabo Delgado crisis) - Multi-sector and life-saving humanitarian assistance

This priority aims at providing life-saving humanitarian assistance to conflict affected populations including internally displaced populations and their host communities. Actions under this priority will be supported in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa Provinces, but also in other areas affected by violence / conflict that may emerge during the HIP period, as a consequence of the Cabo Delgado crisis spill-over.

A **coordinated multisector humanitarian assistance** will be supported. In this perspective, partners are requested to be active in humanitarian coordination platforms to maximise impact and avoid duplications. When feasible, referral pathways between the different actions/components of a project funded by DG ECHO or by other Donors are encouraged. Such referral pathways should be established at the initial stages of implementation.

Partners should demonstrate their capacity to deploy **adequate and qualified staff** to respond to complex emergencies and demonstrate having clear **security** procedures in such a tense environment where armed forces, non-state armed groups and humanitarian actors co-exist. In this context, ECHO may also consider supporting actions aiming to improve both **humanitarian and civil-military coordination**. Action should systematically integrate a **crisis modifier** in their actions to give more flexibility considering the volatile environment.

²⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

Stockpiling of emergency stocks and related logistics preparedness is a key element for early response and needs to be included, framed and justified within a comprehensive preparedness and response strategy enabling a rapid mobilisation. When embedded into an action, it should be subject of a specific result, as well as for crisis modifiers.

In addition to targeted multi-sector projects, DG ECHO is exploring the possibility to support a small scale and stand-alone action - building on existing lessons learnt - **pooling capacities of different partners** for improved and more coordinated preparedness and early response, guided by early warning and contingency plans. This action would be designed to provide initial lifesaving multipurpose assistance, when other response mechanisms are not yet in place, and used for rapid-onset crisis. Preparatory work is required on criteria related to the alert/triggers, the targeting, vulnerability analysis, the elaboration of a common M&E system/framework (to ensure data coherence and analysis); elaboration of Standard Operating Procedures to define the coordination mechanisms and the different steps of the response (from the Identification until the Post Distribution Monitoring). Partners are encouraged to explore other sources of funding to complement DG ECHO support to maximise the coverage and capacity to respond to emerging needs.

Priority 2: Madagascar (Grand-Sud) - Humanitarian Food Assistance/Nutrition integrating protection

ECHO's emergency funding will focus on Humanitarian Food Assistance and Nutrition, with a strong integration of Protection (targeting especially children, pregnant and lactating women) with the continuous provision of Severe Acute Malnutrition treatment, the timely identification and referral of malnutrition cases (nutrition surveillance). Standalone Moderate Acute Malnutrition services will not be considered for funding. Actions under this priority will be implemented in the most affected areas in Grand-Sud (IPC 3 and above and high Global Acute Malnutrition)

The provision of food assistance should be considered through either in-kind rations and/or cash transfers (where applicable) in sufficient quantity, coverage and time.

Small scale and filling the gap WASH interventions could be considered only when complementing Humanitarian Food assistance and nutrition components.

The implementation of **innovative approaches** (i.e. simplified protocol, CMAM surge) are strongly encouraged when demonstrated as safe for beneficiaries and acceptable by national institutions, if they are expected to provide advantages such as enabling access to treatment in remote or insecure areas, increasing cost-efficiency or efficiently preventing undernutrition.

Complementary short term emergency livelihood activities could be considered for funding, however standalone **short term emergency livelihood activities** can only be considered when the food consumption gaps are already covered in order to support short term strategies for self-reliance and livelihood protection, focusing on the most vulnerable.

Actions should aim at **reinforcing the linkages with the EU Delegations' funding under the upcoming Multiannual Indicative Plan (MIP)** in which the Grand-Sud has been identified with opportunities for **Triple Nexus**. More investments are particularly needed on resilience-building and capacity strengthening activities to support affected communities' livelihood in areas recurrently affected by climate shocks.

Priority 3: Angola - Nutrition Emergency life-saving humanitarian assistance

ECHO's emergency funding will focus on Nutrition in emergency ensuring the continuous provision of treatment for acute malnutrition. The priority for this reinforcement will be given to the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). This will include as primary aspects therapeutic nutrition supplies, drugs procurement and their last mile distribution to avoid stock ruptures along provision of dedicated technical support based at field level, including staff and implementing partners, aimed to enhance supervision and monitoring of the treatment facilities including the most remote areas in the southern provinces of Angola.

For this purpose, ECHO funds will increase the on-going UNICEF intervention and its implementing partners in order to scale up and intensify the emergency nutrition operation and its last mile distribution. Appropriate Crisis Modifier must be included.

Priority 4: Eswatini

The focus of this emergency funding will be on Humanitarian Food Assistance (HFA). It will aim to address food consumption gaps during the lean season using unconditional and unrestricted cash-based interventions for the most food insecure populations. Appropriate Crisis Modifier must be included.

Priority 5: Lesotho

The focus of this emergency funding will be on Humanitarian Food Assistance (HFA). It will aim to address food consumption gaps during the lean season using unconditional and unrestricted cash-based interventions for the most food insecure populations. Appropriate Crisis Modifier must be included.

Priority 6: Malawi

ECHO's emergency funding will focus on:

(i) Reinforcing and complementing the Government of Malawi 2022/2023 National Lean Season Food Insecurity Response Plan by targeting districts whose vulnerable populations are experiencing high acute food insecurity (IPC 3, Crisis) to meet the immediate life-saving food needs of the affected households, to protect livelihoods/assets and to reduce food consumption gaps. The provision of food assistance to vulnerable households should be considered preferably through **cash transfer modalities**, sufficient in quantity, coverage and time. The response modalities and the corresponding transfer values should be fully aligned to what agreed by all responding agencies, by the Cash

Working Group for the 2022/2023 National Lean Season Food Insecurity Response, and it should be coherent with the social protection system.

(ii) Provision of food assistance through emergency cash transfers for refugees in Dzaleka Camp to meet urgent food gaps and declining food security indicators. Complementary **short-term emergency livelihood activities could be considered** for funding provided: (i) the proposed interventions are demonstrated to foster durable economic and social cohesion effects for refugees and hosting communities; (ii) reduce particularly vulnerable refugees' households' dependency on emergency assistance.

Furthermore, in case short-term emergency livelihood interventions are considered, the action must demonstrate a solid nexus and/or continuity with development programmes and confirm technical as well as financial sustainability beyond the acute phase. At this regard, considering the serious environmental degradation caused by the overcrowded refugees' camp, income generating activities with a strong focus on environmental impact mitigation will be prioritised to the extent possible (e.g. reforestation; improved and safe access to alternative source of energy; waste management and recycling; etc.).

Appropriate Crisis Modifier must be included.

PILLAR 2: Education in Emergencies (EIE)

Actions funded under this pillar aim to ensure education continuation in the context of humanitarian crisis. The focus is on safe learning spaces and on the provision of adequate education programmes for children in areas affected by violence and displacement. Actions under this priority will be supported in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa Provinces, but also in other areas affected by violence / conflict that may emerge during the HIP period, as a consequence of the Cabo Delgado crisis spill-over.

For **Education in Emergencies actions**, priority will be given to funding projects which target at least 50 % girls, unless there is a context-based justification for different targeting. All EiE actions should have a minimum duration of 24 months unless there is a needs- or context-based justification for a shorter duration. For cash in education projects, attention should be paid to sustainability of the interventions and, when possible, linkages to longer-term livelihood solutions.

EIE must integrate a child protection component within the intervention. Actions should primarily target out-of-school children and those at risk of education disruption, forcibly displaced children (among internally displaced people), children within their host communities, and **children with disabilities** in line with the Commission staff working document "Education in Emergencies in EU-funded Humanitarian Aid Operations". Gender age marker must be included to actively promote access of girls to primary education.

Priority will be given to activities that include, as relevant:

- The establishment of **safe, protective and quality learning environments**. Integrated EIE and Child protection programming including specific targeting of children

presenting protection, gender and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) needs such as disabled children, unaccompanied and separated children, children exposed to GBV, neglected children, stress/trauma, **is a priority to restore a protective environment**. To ensure a response to protection cases, referral towards protection and **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (PSS)** services (health and legal, CP/PSS services – if existing) **and/or social and emotional learning (SEL)** have to be added to ensure child protection case will be adequately supported. **Protection and EIE** evidence-based assessments, analysing the impact of the crisis on the formal education system response capacities and the immediate education and protection, including psychosocial support needs for children. Reinforced linkages between emergency and development programmes in relation to EiE and Child protection are encouraged.

- The provision of **Conflict-Sensitive Education** in line with the INEE principles and guidelines²⁵ including understanding the context in which the education programme takes place, analysing how conflict affects education and how education might contribute to conflict or mitigate it, and acting to minimise negative impacts and maximise positive impacts of education policies and programming on conflict.
- IHL: Finally, to better **protect schools** against military use of its facilities and children/teachers, DG ECHO is looking to support advocacy work/strategies to promote IHL compliance through the promotion of the safe school declaration. Projects may include awareness-raising, mapping of protection issues, support for reporting and referral mechanisms, and in some cases, direct engagement with groups to negotiate the protection of education in their areas of operation.
- The identification and provision of appropriate **accelerated education programmes, or catch-up and remedial classes** that should be assessed as per the definitions, tools and guidance developed by Accelerated Education Working Group, and based on context-specific children education needs analysis, especially in the (post-) COVID context and school re-opening process.²⁶
- **Child safeguarding systems** as a minimum requirement in the preparation, planning and implementation of EIE and Child Protection interventions. PSEA complaint mechanisms must be set up to ensure that children will be protected from harm (including GBV in schools) following a code of conduct and child safeguarding policies. Information and communication system for rapid feedback on PSEA and violence.
- **Emergency stock related to EiE and protection for IDPs**. (i.e. include shelters, Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS), Child friendly spaces, other shelter equipment, first aid and WASH kits, life vests, ‘School in Box’, CFS kits, hygiene kit for girls, flash light, thermal blankets, etc.)

²⁵ <https://inee.org/collections/inee-conflict-sensitive-education-pack>

²⁶ “When it comes to Non formal Education programmes such as AEPs or catch-up, partners are strongly encouraged to use the definitions, tools and guidance developed by the AEWG (Accelerated Education Working Group): <https://inee.org/collections/accelerated-education>”

- Enhanced hosting **school capacity** in case of major displacement to absorb new learners. The support may include the adaptation of infrastructures (classrooms), the purchase of learning and teaching material, and work towards an adequate teacher/pupil ratio). The provision of Temporary Learning Spaces and Child Friendly Spaces are key elements to restore a protective environment for (structured) psycho social activities.
- Activities like **rehabilitation, relocation and retrofitting** of schools to ensure protection of children and minimum disruption of education that should be part of a structured process with a strategic vision, in line with government rules and, to the extent possible replicable. The rehabilitated schools should be integrated in community contingency plans as potential shelters during evacuations when this option represent the best alternative. Priority for upgrade should be given to communities where no other existing building to be used as shelter is present. DG ECHO encourages partners to refer and adopt building norms and models as developed in the region by UNHABITAT. In order not to disrupt access to education, partners are encouraged to plan for Temporary Learning Spaces.

All proposals must demonstrate **coordination** with development, and other humanitarian actors (Protection, health...). Coordinated approached across pillars are also encouraged. The connection between humanitarian assistance and development is critical to help build the long-term resilience of the education systems and social protection services.

In the Single Form, the result addressing this priority should be clearly identified by the following sector: ‘Education in Emergencies’ and appropriate KRIs and KOIs have to be used.

PILLAR 3: Disaster Preparedness

In line with DG ECHO regional Disaster Preparedness strategy described in the HIP document and considering ongoing funded actions across the region, priority has been given to the following **targeted countries**: Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. This pillar also includes regional and multi-country interventions.

General considerations for Pillar III:

- Standalone prepositioning interventions will not be supported. When applicable, prepositioning should be a component of a wider DP project. DP budget line should not be used for humanitarian response.

All proposals submitted under Pillar III) should include also the following:

- Budget travel for two or three people (including the DP Action responsible and one from the NDMA) to participate in the annual DP DG ECHO and partner workshop in South Africa (or other country in the SAIO region)
- Contribution to the Cap4Dev Platform of DG ECHO: ‘Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the Southern Africa and Indian Ocean funded by DG ECHO’. ²⁷

²⁷ Available at this link: <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/disaster-risk-reduction-drr-in-the-southern-africa-and-indian-ocean-funded-by-echo>

Priority 1: Northern Mozambique - Disaster preparedness to natural hazards in a conflict setting

This priority aims at strengthening the preparedness capacities of key local stakeholders / early responders, including local Disaster Management Authorities, Police, local NGOs, National Red Cross Societies and other civil society members to assist populations in line with international humanitarian standards and principles facing both human-induced and disasters and natural disasters. Given that Northern Mozambique is exposed to natural hazards and hit by violence, their vulnerability is high compared to other parts of the country. Partners are requested **to integrate preparedness to natural hazards in a conflict zone in their actions**. Interventions should be articulated with the National Disaster Management Authorities.

DG ECHO will favour actions that contribute to:

- **Mainstreaming of core Protection principles** across all Disaster Preparedness actions remains critical. The active integration of specific and **targeted Protection activities** in Disaster Preparedness actions is also recommended. It should also allow the mitigation of the social impact of Covid-19, as well as the adaptation of institutional and local capacities to better respond to potential recrudescence of the pandemic.
- **Anticipatory actions in a multi-hazard setting imply:**
 - **the development of comprehensive approaches to multi-risk analysis** for early identification of specific threats and vulnerabilities and frame an action that is evidence-based.
 - **the understanding of specific local dynamics** and of the local perception of protection threats and risks in order to support disaster preparedness planning and processes.
 - The **gaps identification of stakeholders** in the ground to provide a rapid conflict sensitive response in line with international standards and (taking into account the existing conflict dimension and protection threats) to further define capacity strengthening strategies for key local actors / early responders.
 - **Disaster Preparedness activities related to climate change and meteorological hazards**, in particular cyclones, for people affected by conflict should be articulated with **adapted Early Warning System (EWS)**.
- For partners implementing actions related to **IDP Camp Coordination and Camp Management approaches (CCCM)**, their actions will integrate into it systematically disaster preparedness considerations.
- **Actions may contribute in setting-up Emergency stocks prepositioning and logistic preparedness**. Those stocks should be part of a disaster preparedness strategy.
- **Climate and environmental** consideration should be included and documented in the proposal. For instance, preparedness activities related to the waste management in IDPs camp and climate and environmental risk analysis incorporated and guiding **contingency plans/guidelines** specifically dealing with camp management.

Priority 2: Madagascar: Drought preparedness in Grand-Sud

Given the recent drought and renewed interest for the Plan de Development intégré du Grand- Sud and the EU Delegation commitment to the triple nexus in Grand-Sud, partners should to the extent possible link short term humanitarian actions to longer term development actions.

DG ECHO's partners are expected to consider reinforcing the shock responsiveness of existing national and local systems especially related to basic social services (health/nutrition, WASH, education), social care and direct transfers to households (cash/voucher/food), as a way of preserving/further strengthening existing systems in anticipation of future crises.

Given the increasing incidence of shocks, from droughts to COVID-19, and the weak capacity of the existing systems to adequately respond to them, it is essential to develop and scale up systems that are capable of predicting, and responding (early), where possible through innovative approaches. To allow for better capacity to monitor, forecast and plan for the impact of shocks, notably drought, specific work is required, including:

- Developing and strengthening of Early Warning Systems for the Grand-Sud, that include improved impact-based drought forecast;
- Support to relevant national actors and coordination mechanisms;
- Development of action plans that include agreed triggers and creation of Standard Operating Procedures;
- Possible link to climate related displacement tracking tools;
- A strong conflict sensitive approach (in view among others the growing “dahalo” phenomenon)

Priority 3: Zimbabwe: Local preparedness and response system**Priority 3.1: Reinforce the Department of Civil protection's capacity**

This priority aims to strengthen and equip the Department of Civil Protection to better prepare and respond to rapid on set disasters.

Stockpiling and related logistics preparedness is a key element for early response and needs to be framed and justified within a comprehensive preparedness and response strategy and within a larger preparedness project.

Mainstreaming of logistic preparedness and capacity to manage prepositioning of emergency stocks will be essential.

Building on the experience of the CARE consortium, the Red Cross, the systematic inclusion of crisis modifier in all ECHO funded actions but also the breath of expertise brought by the Logistic Working Group in country, ECHO will support action aiming at increasing the local capacity for improved and more coordinated preparedness and early response, guided by agreed upon early warning systems, locally own contingency plans, standardised rapid assessment approaches and centralised management of NFI and other stockpiled item.

Projects should adequately equip and capacitate local civil protection department to be the first respondent to a crisis.

Attention will have also to be paid to

- Fostering interlinkages between Early Warning (EW) and Early Action (EA) at national / province / district / community level; with protocols / guidelines in place and tested and documented in preparedness plans
- Multi-hazard and digital contingency plans with appropriate triggers, digital risk mapping modelling, capacity to use modern technologies for DP and integration of national EWS with local traditional ones.
- Coordinated stockpiling management with clear line of command to mobilise strategic localised and sufficiently large emergency pre-positioning for a faster, more effective and efficient response.
- Advocacy and technical support to DMAs at central level, including capacity to activate and use European Civil Protection Mechanism UCPM support services

Priority 3.2 - Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) system

This priority will continue supporting the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) system to regularly and systematically provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of returning migrants and displaced populations.

Particular attention should be paid to historical and real-time analysis of mobility patterns, including across regional borders and returnee population specific needs, vulnerabilities and aspiration in order to help the development of appropriate normative and policy frameworks and influence relevant development processes at local, sub-national and national levels.

Priority 4: Malawi - Urban preparedness and climate/environmental resilience

Priority will be given to **Urban Preparedness** as part of strengthening and linking Early Warning (EW) to Early Action (EA) and adoption of risk-based and anticipatory actions in urban contexts of **high exposure to climate/environmental hazards and high vulnerability**.

The **geographic focus** will be on **urban areas** including medium-sized agglomerates such as Lilongwe, Blantyre, Mzuzu and Zomba. Within urban and peri-urban agglomerates, **risk-prone areas exposed to natural hazards** in need of further DP support.

DG ECHO's partners are expected to strengthen capacities of National and Local Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAs) as well as civil society for more effective urban response. Actions are expected to feature the following components:

- Development/reinforcement of **SOPs, protocols and action plans for NDMAs and civil society for urban response** with clear definitions of roles/responsibilities of each actor involved and required operational capacity.
- **Risk and vulnerability assessments in urban settings** - including dynamic risk modelling - which consider (i) climate and environmental risk analysis; (ii) protection risk factors such as inequity, women- and children-led households, people living with disabilities, elderly, etc. that further contribute to increase disaster and climate vulnerabilities.

- Reinforcement of the **institutional capacity of multi-hazard EWS** by ensuring inter-linkages, inter-connections and harmonisation among different disaster management systems and platforms already in place in Malawi for effective early action.
- Development/reinforcement of **urban-tailored multi-hazard EWS** including adaptations in relation to information transmission using modern and/or innovative technologies enhancing swift alerts communicated to the broadest reachable audience, as well as their link and effective usage at national and urban community level for early action and decision making.
- Development/adaptation of **contingency plans in urban** contexts inclusive of **environmental risk-mitigating measures** (e.g. use of renewable energy and energy-efficient solutions, solid waste management, etc.) and of **evacuation routes** and practices based on climate risk/impact projections.
- **Prepositioning of emergency stocks/supplies** and **logistics preparedness** in strategic urban locations for effective emergency response.
- Promotion of **cash preparedness and SRSPS** using mobile technologies to be used for anticipatory cash distribution, as a way to link development programmes and emergency response.
- **Promotion of public awareness on urban DP and on risk knowledge** with particular focus on urban vulnerable groups and households.
- **Protection mainstreaming** specifically adapted to urban settings (i.e. prioritise safety & dignity, avoid causing harm, meaningful access, accountability, participation and empowerment) within every aspect of the action.

Priority 5: Regional and multi-country interventions

Priority 5.1: Anticipatory actions

Anticipatory actions entail the use of forecasts of extreme weather events and other shocks to trigger funding and/or an action in advance, or before acute impacts are felt.

Under this priority, DG ECHO is looking at supporting the scale up of anticipatory action approaches in the region, beyond small-scale pilots, by addressing some of the technical and institutional challenges SADC countries are facing. Taking stock of the many ongoing anticipatory actions approaches being piloted in different countries in the region and the diversity of actors²⁸, projects are expected to:

- Help harmonising approaches and terminologies across stakeholders and strengthening coordination of various stakeholders and initiatives with the goal of developing a joined-up vision of how diverse anticipatory actions mechanisms at country level may complement each other and strengthen the broader national and regional Disaster Risk Management systems (i.e., avoiding duplication of effort and creating synergies).
- Foster inter-country experiences sharing and develop forecasting and decision-making mechanisms with the goal of establishing multi-stakeholder agreements/protocols at country level to forecast the impacts associated with weather events

²⁸ Forecast based Financing from the Red Cross Movement including the Anticipatory Protocols under the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) of IFRC, the Food Security Climate Resilience Facility (FoodSECuRE) of WFP, the Early Action Fund of FAO, the Anticipatory Window of the Start Network, the ongoing exploration of an anticipatory action role for the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) by OCHA and others)

and triggers for early action. A multi hazard approach is recommended, including human-induced disasters (conflict/displacement) should be considered where relevant and feasible.

- Develop agreed upon early actions protocols for various hazards (SOPs) exploring various delivery mechanisms (community-based emergency preparedness processes, other specific early action protocols, social protection systems, etc.).
- Strengthen country and regional disaster risk financing analysis to better understand financing options available at country/ regional level (dedicated funds, specific windows in emergency response funds, insurance and direct links to regular resource allocation processes, etc.).
- Contribute to the establishment of a regional knowledge Management Platform on anticipatory actions, ultimately owned by SADC as an entry for strengthening policy dialogue with SADC DRR secretariat.
- The action will integrate an advocacy component towards donors to contribute to disaster risk financing and anticipatory actions funding.

Priority 5.2: Promotion of Innovative Technologies

The objective of this priority is to pilot, promote and consolidate the use of innovative technological solutions for their inclusion in Disaster Preparedness, through the i) provision of (increased) capacity, ii) deployment of expertise and iii) advanced technological equipment. This service will be given directly at regional level to SADC and at national levels to the National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAs), but also to international and local agencies dealing with disaster preparedness and emergency responses.

Under this priority, DG ECHO will continue supporting the WFP's Competence Centre established in South Africa which DG ECHO contributed to set-up, through a standalone regional action. DG ECHO will look at expanding and rolling out the use of innovative technologies such as unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), Robotic, Artificial Intelligence (AI), use of Social Media and other technologies, to improve disaster preparedness.

Linkages with research institutes will be encouraged to explore innovative ways to use modern and useful technologies for Disaster Preparedness and document the outcomes.

Briefly, the solutions offered would include:

1. **mapping capacity**, including identification and rapid assessment of disaster zones using UAV and artificial intelligence, interactive maps, geotagging and high-resolution imagery.
2. **search and rescue (SAR)** operations integrating drone technologies with machine learning turning imagery products into immediate operational data;
3. **connectivity solutions** that can swiftly be deployed and simple to use for emergency responders and / or use of transfer modalities like mobile cash;
4. **Cargo Drones** for specific contexts and operations for very light goods and shipments in remote areas with the aim of improving the coverage, accessibility and cost efficiency of emergency response in hard to reach humanitarian contexts.

This action will provide countries in the SAIO region with the technical expertise (knowledge and hardware) that can be rapidly deployed, when needed. The action will also integrate an advocacy component building on lessons learnt/case studies developed in the framework of the action to be disseminated at international, regional and national

levels in order to inform policy/decision makers. For this purpose, collaboration with research institutes and Universities is strongly recommended to have solid scientific approach and outcomes.