

**TECHNICAL ANNEX****SOUTH, EAST, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC****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**

Operational Unit in charge	DG ECHO/D4
Contact persons at HQ	Contact persons in the field
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## 2. FINANCIAL INFO

Indicative Allocation<sup>1</sup>: **EUR 100 447 097** of which an indicative amount of EUR 5 500 000 for Education in Emergencies.

In line with DG ECHO's commitment under the Grand Bargain initiative, Pilot Programmatic Partnerships (PPPs) have been launched in 2020 and 2021 with a limited number of partners. In 2022, an indicative amount of EUR 3 500 000 of this HIP will be reserved to the Pilot Programmatic Partnerships with FAO (from the DP budget line). New Programmatic Partnerships could also be signed in 2022 with other partners under indirect management and part of the allocation of this HIP could therefore also be attributed to these new pilot Partnerships. In addition, an amount of EUR 4 487 097 from the PPP budget has been added to this HIP for implementing the PPP with the IFRC.

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

Countries	Action (a) Man-made crises and natural hazards	Action (b) Initial emergency response/small- scale/epidemics	Action (c) Disaster Preparedness	Actions (d) to (f) Transport / Complement ary activities	TOTAL
Bangladesh <sup>2</sup>	39 604 000		5 300 000		<b>44 904 000</b>
Cambodia PPP IFRC	1 183 097				<b>1 183 097</b>
Myanmar	25 460 000		3 700 000		<b>29 160 000</b>
Regional Refugee Crisis	2 000 000				<b>2 000 000</b>
Philippines	11 500 000		1 500 000		<b>13 000 000</b>
Nepal			2 000 000		<b>2 000 000</b>
Regional South- East Asia DP			2 500 000		<b>2 500 000</b>
PPP FAO <sup>3</sup>			3 500 000		<b>3 500 000</b>
Regional flexibility reserve PPP IFRC	450 000				<b>450 000</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Including an amount of EUR 2 604 000 from the PPP with IFRC.

<sup>3</sup> Budget sources are from the Regional South-East Asia DP (EUR 1 500 000), from Bangladesh DP (EUR 500 000), from Philippines DP (EUR 500 000) and from ECHO/B/2 budget (EUR 1 000 000).

Regional Coordination and Visibility PPP IFRC	250 000				<b>250 000</b>
Sri Lanka	1 500 000				<b>1 500 000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81 947 097</b>		<b>18 500 000</b>		<b>100 447 097</b>

### 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 HIPs<sup>4</sup>), 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- Bangladesh**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 24 500 000
  - Up to EUR 16 500 000 for Humanitarian Operations
  - Up to EUR 3 500 000 for Education in Emergencies
  - Up to EUR 4 000 000 for Disaster Preparedness
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.

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<sup>4</sup> 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.

- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>5</sup>. Actions will start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on 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)<sup>6</sup>. 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 partners<sup>7</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form <sup>8</sup>
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information:
  - by 24/01/2022 for all Humanitarian Operations
  - by 24/01/2022 for all Education in Emergencies Operations
  - by 21/02/2022 for all Disaster Preparedness Operations

### **Allocation round 2 - Myanmar**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 22 460 000
  - Up to EUR 18 960 000 for Humanitarian Operations<sup>9</sup>
  - Up to EUR 1 500 000 for Education in Emergencies
  - Up to EUR 2 000 000 for Disaster Preparedness
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>10</sup>. Actions will start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on Disaster Preparedness. Follow-up actions, which continue/extend ongoing operations financed under the 2021-2027 Multi annual Financial

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<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>7</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>8</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

<sup>9</sup> This amount includes EUR 960 000 contributed by the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to the European Commission aiming to provide an integrated response to the multifaceted crisis in Myanmar. **It also includes EUR 10 million from the Operational Reserve for Myanmar.** This is reflected in the First and Second Modification of the 2022 HIP for South, East, South-East Asia and the Pacific.

<sup>10</sup> 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.

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)<sup>11</sup>. 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 partners<sup>12</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form <sup>13</sup>
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information:
  - by 17/01/2022 for all Humanitarian Operations
  - by 17/01/2022 for all Education in Emergencies Operations
  - by 21/02/2022 for all Disaster Preparedness Operations

### **Allocation round 3 - Regional Refugee Crisis**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 000 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>14</sup>. Actions will start from 01/01/2022.
- d) 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)<sup>15</sup>. 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 partners<sup>16</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form <sup>17</sup>
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: 17/01/2022

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<sup>11</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>12</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>13</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>16</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>17</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

#### **Allocation round 4 - Philippines**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 3 500 000
  - Up to EUR 1 000 000 for Humanitarian Operations
  - Up to EUR 500 000 for Education in Emergencies
  - Up to EUR 1 500 000 for Disaster Preparedness
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>18</sup>. Actions will start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on 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)<sup>19</sup>. 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 partners<sup>20</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form <sup>21</sup>
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information:
  - by 17/01/2022 for all Humanitarian Operations
  - by 17/01/2022 for all Education in Emergencies Operations
  - by 21/02/2022 for all Disaster Preparedness Operations

#### **Allocation round 5 - Nepal**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 000 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>22</sup>. Actions will start from 01/01/2022.

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<sup>18</sup> 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.

<sup>19</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>20</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>21</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on 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)<sup>23</sup>. 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 partners<sup>24</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form <sup>25</sup>
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: 21/02/2022

### **Allocation round 6 - Regional Disaster Preparedness**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 500 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>26</sup>. Actions will start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on 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)<sup>27</sup>. 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 partners<sup>28</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form <sup>29</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> 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.

<sup>23</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>24</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>25</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

<sup>26</sup> 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.

<sup>27</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>28</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>29</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.



- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: 21/02/2022.

### **Allocation round 7 – OR Philippines Typhoon RAI**

- a) Indicative amount: EUR 10 000 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to section 0 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022. Actions may start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action may be up to 6 months.
- e) Potential partners: DG ECHO Partners with the capacity to operate immediately in the affected areas in terms of structure, personnel, financial means, and technical expertise to respond effectively to the emergency on the scale required.
- f) Priority activities to be supported are food security and support to livelihood recovery, non-food items, water and sanitation, health, shelter and settlements, logistics, protection and support to education in emergencies.
- g) Information to be provided: Single Form.<sup>30</sup> A modification or amendment of an existing proposal may also be considered.
- h) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: two weeks after the publication of this version of the HIP.<sup>31</sup>

### **Allocation round 8 – OR Bangladesh Rohingya crisis**

- a) Indicative amount: EUR 17 000 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to section 0 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/05/2022. Actions may start from 01/05/2022.
- d) The expected 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.
- e) Potential partners: All DG ECHO Partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: three weeks from the date of publication of this HIP.

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<sup>30</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL

<sup>31</sup> The Commission reserves the right to consider Single Forms transmitted after this date, especially in case certain needs/ priorities are not covered by the received Single Forms.

### **Allocation round 9 - Myanmar**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 5 000 000 for Humanitarian Operations
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to section 0 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022.
- d) The initial duration for the Action modified may remain up to 36 months.
- e) Potential partners<sup>32</sup>: DG ECHO Partners funded under the 2022 HIP Allocation Round 2. Only Modification Requests of ongoing contracts are eligible from the following pre-identified Partners: UNHCR; UNICEF; UNOPS; WFP; Solidarité International (SI-FR); Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC-NO).
- f) Information to be provided: Revised Single Form<sup>33</sup>.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: Two weeks from the publication of this HIP.

### **Allocation round 10 – PPP IFRC**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 4 487 097
- b) Cost will be eligible from 01/04/2022
- c) Potential partner: IFRC. The funding will be allocated to the Pilot Programmatic Partnership Programme: “Accelerating local action in humanitarian and health crises” in the following countries: Bangladesh and Cambodia.
- d) Information to be provided: Single form <sup>32</sup>

### **Allocation round 11 – Sri Lanka**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 1 500 000 for Humanitarian Operations
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the HIP and to the specific guidelines under section 4.1 of this Technical Annex.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/09/2022. Actions may start from 01/09/2022.
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action may be up to 12 months.
- e) Potential partners: All DG ECHO Partners.
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form.

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<sup>32</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>33</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: two weeks from the date of publication of this HIP.

### **Allocation round 12 – DP Top Up from Lebanon**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 1 000 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the section 0 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022. Actions may start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action may be up to 48 months.
- e) Potential partners: Two DP actions have been targeted for this top up:
  - 1. NRC-NO Myanmar ECHO/-XA/BUD/2022/91017 (“FLER 2”) - EUR 700,000
  - 2. IOM-CH Bangladesh ECHO/-XA/BUD/2022/91024 (“Towards better management of disaster displacement and increased resilience of refugees.”) - EUR 300,000
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: two weeks from the date of publication of this HIP.

### **Allocation round 13 – DP Top Up from Palestine**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 000 000
- b) Description of the humanitarian aid interventions relating to this assessment round: Please refer to the section 0 of the HIP.
- c) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022. Actions may start from 01/01/2022.
- d) The expected initial duration for the Action may be up to 48 months.
- e) Potential partners: Two DP actions have been targeted for this top up:
  - 1. NRC-NO Myanmar ECHO/-XA/BUD/2022/91017 (“FLER 2”) - EUR 1,000,000
  - 2. IOM-CH Bangladesh ECHO/-XA/BUD/2022/91024 (“Towards better management of disaster displacement and increased resilience of refugees.”) - EUR 1,000,000
- f) Information to be provided: Single Form.
- g) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: two weeks from the date of publication of this HIP.

## **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?
  - 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 contribute to resilience and sustainability.
- 5) Cost-effectiveness/efficiency/transparency
- Does the proposed intervention display an appropriate relationship between the resources to employed, the activities to be undertaken and the objectives to be achieved?
  - Is the breakdown of costs sufficiently documented/explained?<sup>34</sup>

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).

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<sup>34</sup> In accordance with the relevant section of the Single Form guidelines (section10)

#### *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 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.

The HIP Policy Annex should be consulted in parallel.

#### **For all country operations, the Single Form should ensure:**

- All interventions must be evidence-based and built on robust and continuous needs assessments, to enable agile response to sudden onset of needs.
- Actions must be based on a solid comprehensive all-risks analysis (threats, hazards, vulnerabilities, and capacities) and adequate preparedness plan. Protection, gender, age and disability analysis should inform the response strategy.
- Interventions must respect humanitarian principles, and in particular the principle of impartiality and *avoid doing harm*.
- Mainstreaming of protection, gender, age, and disability inclusion based on the comprehensive all-risks analysis, will be a pre-condition for selection. This includes considering strategies to prevent risks of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and appropriate measures ensuring inclusion of people with disabilities in proposed actions.
- To that end, the actions, must include independent complaints & follow-up mechanism accessible to all beneficiaries, to allow for adjustments of projects so that the quality of assistance can meet the expectations of beneficiaries.
- DG ECHO partners should demonstrate synergies to identify common methodologies for data collection, analysis, and response. Effective and transparent coordination remains crucial.
- Humanitarian advocacy must be addressed through coordinated and evidence-based actions in all proposals.

#### **Education in Emergencies**

For **Education in Emergencies (EiE) actions**, priority will be given to funding projects which target at least 50 % girls, unless there is a context-based justification for different targeting.

For cash in education projects, attention should be paid to sustainability of the interventions and, when possible, linkages to longer-term livelihood solutions.

#### **Cash Transfer within a Basic Needs Approach**

Modality choice should be informed by a **needs-based and people-centred** response analysis, incorporating **market, operational and environmental analyses**. The use of cash should systematically be considered, across the variety of response mechanisms (anticipatory action, rapid response mechanisms, crisis modifiers, shock-responsive social protection) funded by DG ECHO.

DG ECHO prioritises a Basic Needs Approach (BNA), which seeks to address people's needs in a coordinated and demand-driven way, by putting them at the centre of interventions. Basic needs are the goods, utilities, services, or resources required by households to ensure long-term survival and minimum living standards, without resorting to negative coping mechanisms.

Within the BNA, DG ECHO **prioritises a single multipurpose cash (MPC) payment to meet basic needs**, complemented by other modalities, and timely referrals, to meet specific sectoral outcomes. The Transfer Value should be defined based on an estimation of the gap between the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and beneficiaries' resources and be sufficient to cover or contribute to **recurrent basic needs plus other specific needs** that are not recurrent basic needs. Government-endorsed MEBs and Social Protection Programs' Transfer Values can be used as reference but might not fully reflect the needs in a humanitarian response, particularly in the aftermath of rapid-on-set disasters, when, other acute needs shall be factored in the assistance.

Cash assistance should be risk informed and targeted based on **socio-economic vulnerability, and the protection concerns of individuals and groups**.

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, using the **Total Cost to Transfer Ratio (TCTR)**, alongside analysis of the effectiveness of the overall humanitarian response.

The **sectoral and multisectoral outcomes of cash programmes should be monitored** against internationally accepted norms in a consistent way and should comply with the cross-cutting and sector-specific Grand Bargain MPC outcome indicators.

Markets should consistently be monitored to **inform and adapt assistance**, irrespective of the modality. In contexts of high inflation and currency depreciation, partners should put in place **triggers to adapt cash assistance based on market monitoring data, and design programmes from the outset to anticipate potential inflationary shocks**.

All cash interventions should comply with DG ECHO's cash thematic policy, including the sector-specific considerations in Annex 2 of that document. In addition, programmes above EUR 10 million should comply with the large-scale cash guidance note.

**Utilisation of cash in protection programming** must have a clear protection outcome and will not be supported unless embedded within legal assistance, case management or accompaniment, and within a wider comprehensive and/or integrated protection response

**Applying cash in healthcare and nutrition programming** will only be considered on a case-by-case basis and if justified by in-depth assessment and analysis of the availability of healthcare in the proposed area of intervention. Potential cash application in healthcare and nutrition intervention will need to have clear healthcare and nutrition outcomes, with the application of associated indicators in the proposal.

**The use of the services by legally registered cash transfer agents in Myanmar** can be approved as eligible expenditure in the framework of DG ECHO grants, with the application of a maximum of 5% of each amount transferred through the concerned cash

transfer agent, in line with the principles of reasonable and justified costs and of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency<sup>35</sup>. At the latest in the final report, the Partner shall provide a justification for the use of such cash transfer agents as a last resort as well as information as to internal control measures in place to mitigate the risks associated with the use of such agents, such as risk of diversion of funds to persons or entities designated under the EU sanctions<sup>36</sup> or to entities engaged in illicit activities. Beyond cash programmes, such agents can also be used under the same conditions as above where cash transfers are necessary on a last resort basis to meet Partners' organisational and operational needs (such as paying staff or suppliers).

### **Humanitarian Food Assistance**

Improving availability of and accessibility to food shall be considered in the contexts of displaced populations and people affected by both human and natural hazard induced disasters. As needs are multiple, food assistance shall be part of a BNA. Needs and future risks shall be identified through a combination of food security analysis and multi-disciplinary early warning systems (e.g. climate outlook, price trends, population movement tracking) so to allow to prepare for and act early.

Partners are expected to consider minimum environmental arrangements adapted to the context (urban/rural, recent/protracted crisis) to reduce the environmental footprint of food assistance, while preserving its effectiveness: e.g. i) Cooking stoves that are energy-efficient and reduce in-door air pollution; ii) Alternative fuels for cooking that reduce the impact on forests and natural resources; iii) Food varieties with shorter cooking time; iv) Locally-purchased and sustainably-produced food and food supplements vs international procurement; v) Reduced use of plastic for packaging; vi) Farmers' markets; vii) Livelihoods interventions to prevent negative coping mechanisms (e.g. cutting wood for sale) and/or contributing to the protection against extreme weather events.

### **Strengthening Early Response Capacity**

#### **(1) Emergency/Rapid Response Mechanisms (ERM/RRM) as standalone actions**

Emergency/Rapid Response Mechanisms (ERMs/RRMs) are stand-alone actions pooling capacities of different partners for improved and more coordinated preparedness and early response, guided by early warning and contingency plans. ERMs/RRMs are designed to provide initial lifesaving multipurpose assistance when other response mechanisms are not yet in place. ERMs/RRMs are mostly used for rapid-on-set crisis. For slow-on-set, objective indicators with thresholds for engagement / disengagement should be defined in coordination with other stakeholders including the State Authorities.

#### **(2) Flexibility embedded into the actions<sup>37</sup>**

Whenever relevant, partners should introduce flexibility to mobilise resources from on-going actions and swiftly respond to any new emerging shocks occurring in the area of

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<sup>35</sup> DG ECHO will apply this interpretation regarding reasonable and justified costs with respect to fees paid to cash transfer agents in connection with cash transfers taking place after 15 August 2022.

<sup>36</sup> EU restrictive measures are available at: [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). The EU Official Journal is the official source of EU law and, in case of conflict, its content prevails.

<sup>37</sup> Please refer for more details to the Annex II of the DG ECHO DP Guidance

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 plan considering prepositioning of stocks, surge staff, triggers and sectors of intervention.

ERM/RRM and flexibility measures are complementary and do not exclude each-other; flexibility measures enable to bridge the time gap between the shock and the time needed to mobilise ad-hoc resources through the ERM/RRM or additional funding. Timeliness of response is a key element for effectiveness of both flexibility measures and ERM/RRM. Partners should adopt indicators to measure the timeframe required to deliver the first assistance (e.g. lifesaving response for xxx persons, and/or need assessment within xxx days from the displacement/disaster/alert/exceeded triggers)

### **Impact of COVID-19**

As the global pandemic continues and countries are still battling with the direct impact of the crisis, the secondary impacts of COVID-19 will likewise be extensive with far reaching consequences for the most vulnerable populations in terms of food insecurity, access to basic needs and increased protection risks.

All actions must be adapted to the evolution and the impact of COVID-19 in-country. While continuing lifesaving services, partners are requested to ensure the safety and protection of their staff and beneficiaries through COVID-19 sensitive programming. Further, the duty of care towards humanitarian staff is of critical importance for DG ECHO across all actions.

DG ECHO will maintain attention on the most vulnerable population groups – those impacted by the secondary consequences of COVID-19 and those categories that for reason of nationality, ethnicity, legal status, or other reasons, are marginalised and excluded from national safety nets and access to basic services. In this perspective, responding to acute humanitarian basic needs originated by displacement, conflict, natural hazards remain the focus of DG ECHO. Beneficiary targeting needs to consider the combined effects – i.e. shocks and the secondary impact of COVID-19. Likewise, humanitarian actors are expected to adapt targeting tools including enhanced livelihood analysis and geographic focus, in order to improve the capacity to identify the new categories of people in need.

Partners shall take measures to reduce the risks of spreading the pandemic through gathering of crowds during the delivery of assistance; in particular DG ECHO recommends to: i) enhance digital solutions; ii) remove conditionalities requiring gatherings; iii) increase cash-out / vouchers redemptions / in-kind food distribution points; iv) enhance hygiene and distancing at outlet/cash-out/distribution points.

Concomitantly, considering that saving lives generally remains at the core of DG ECHO engagements as a humanitarian donor, it needs to be assured that engagements in COVID-19 activities are not at the expense of other lifesaving activities and a response is based on prioritisation of critical gaps. In line with the global response to COVID-19, support to essential lifesaving activities not directly related to COVID-19 must be sustained.



### **Zoonotic diseases and new emerging communicable diseases with epidemic and pandemic potential**

Asia is prone to the emergence of zoonotic diseases and of diseases caused by new variant viral strains. Diseases that through their epidemic potential pose threats not only to the communities and countries of origin, but also regionally and even globally. Such communicable diseases emerge regularly, as exemplified by seasonal influenza and by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, fuelled by population density, close proximity between humans and animals, and by climatic favourable conditions, including higher environmental temperatures as seen with ongoing global climate changes. Anticipating that such favourable conditions and events will increase possibly significantly in the years to come, it is pertinent that we intensify preventative and response efforts aimed at mitigating the impacts of these epidemics and pandemics. Reducing transmission of pathogens from animals to humans, strengthening of early warning systems, reinforcing rapid response instruments, and investment in the generation of effective and safe medicines and vaccines, are crucial strategic elements in the outlining of epidemic preparedness and response mechanisms that effectively address the threats associated with new emerging communicable diseases.

### **Nexus: Humanitarian – Development (Peace)**

DG ECHO strives to achieve more coherent and complementary planning, programming and financing, through increased cooperation and coordination between humanitarian, development and peace actors. A shared analysis of risks, needs, vulnerabilities, dynamics and cross-shared information on field realities is the basis of DG ECHO's programming and is systematically developed and updated.

In order to achieve the most effective use of resources, DG INTPA and DG ECHO multiply their efforts to promote rationalisation and operational coordination, within our own institutions and with other donors and partners, e.g. UN, INGOs and the World Bank. DG ECHO will ensure that Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) policies work together while protecting our mandate, principles and perception.

Actions, when applicable and pertinent, should focus on operationalising the HDP nexus, in particular the nexus between operations in the realm of humanitarian and development funding. Partners should display the (potential) complementarity of the proposed action.

### **Environmental Requirements**

As an overarching principle, negative impacts on the environment should be avoided, and where this is not possible, mitigating measures to reduce the potential negative environmental impact should be implemented, applying a precautionary approach. The commitment to reducing the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid will guide DG ECHO's own actions and cooperation with partners. Environmental impacts should be addressed at both the organisational and project-level.

### **Allocation round 1 – BANGLADESH**

*Humanitarian aid:* in 2021 the refugee response has witnessed humanitarian access restrictions, relocation of refugees (to the island of Bhasan Char or to other camps), new barriers created by the fencing, multiple fires and floods. In 2022 DG ECHO will continue to assist the Rohingya population and most vulnerable host communities through

interventions that address risks and mitigate vulnerabilities in areas where critical gaps are evident and target groups are particularly impacted by the evolving context.

Protection remains central in its mainstreamed and programmatic elements (child protection, legal assistance, SGBV response, access to justice, housing, land and property rights, detention, border monitoring, protection monitoring, advocacy) particularly in areas where the current COVID-19 restrictions have hit the most. Groups at great risk of early marriage, trafficking, and exploitation due to the current context will be at the centre of response.

Support for primary health services including sexual and reproductive health, medical response to SGBV, mental health, and surveillance and response. Communication campaigns will aim at improving health seeking behaviours of the population assisted. Referral services will be strengthened across all sectors.

EiE and child protection needs remain high, given the pre-existing education gaps, now exacerbated by COVID-19 preventive measures. Education and learning gaps are expected to be deep thus focus will be on actions aiming at proposing solutions for meaningful return to learning including appropriate accelerated education measures<sup>38</sup>, whilst also removing barriers for out-of-school children to access learning. Close linkages between EiE and child protection interventions must be sought.

Targeted nutrition interventions for children and vulnerable mothers will be considered in areas impacted by the current context.

Water, sanitation and hygiene interventions will be considered only if integrated into other sectors, such as health and nutrition. Shelter and NFI will be considered based on actual definition of needs and punctual response to events.

Cash remains the preferred assistance modality for DG ECHO whenever relevant and possible. Given the current limitations on the use of cash for refugees, DG ECHO encourages the adoption of delivery platforms and ways of improving unrestricted assistance to basic needs.

Actions will include mainstreamed COVID-19 prevention components. Secondary consequences of COVID-19 on the various dimensions of socio-economic, health and nutritional status of vulnerable groups, as well as protection and education space will have to be considered and reflected in the actions.

Actions will consider resource and service rationalisation (in accordance with sectors guidance and site management/site development rationale) to improve coordination, innovative modalities, and attention to environmentally friendly programming in the design.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) remains relevant, with the scope of fostering meaningful access to the affected population by the humanitarian community but also to reinforce the capacity of refugees and local community to participate in the response.

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<sup>38</sup> Please refer to

[https://inee.org/system/files/resources/AEWG\\_COVID19\\_%20Decision%20Tree\\_screen.pdf](https://inee.org/system/files/resources/AEWG_COVID19_%20Decision%20Tree_screen.pdf)

The needs of persons with disabilities will continue to be addressed through multi-sectoral approaches. Where appropriate, community networks, Rohingya civil society groups and volunteers' engagement will be reinforced through specific actions.

DG ECHO encourages partners with cross border capacity to include elements of conflict sensitivity analysis, preparedness, protection programming and advocacy.

Linkages to medium term programming and actions that include sustainable outcomes and opportunities for operational nexus are encouraged.

Actions will include elements to reflect modalities to improve or contribute to efficient coordination and response.

*Disaster Preparedness* In 2022, DG ECHO will aim at: (i) strengthening multi-risk/hazards Anticipatory/Early/Forecast based Action in multiple geographic areas; (ii) strengthening localisation of disaster risk management systems in urban and rural settings; (iii) improving data management across the State and communities of practice.

To this extent, DG ECHO funded actions must contribute to: (i) improve coordination at national and sub-national level to prepare for and act early in both anticipation and response to shocks and crises; (ii) support the creation of a system-wide, multi-hazard-based definition of triggers; (iii) improve information management for DP and response at any (different) levels.

DG ECHO continues to advocate and support all opportunities to integrate contingency and preparedness arrangements to respond to natural-hazards and human-induced disasters, for example using cash transfers or exploring inclusion of shock responsive safety net programs for delivering emergency assistance (including to the refugee population) in time of crisis. Actions strengthening preparing for and acting early ahead of future risks must include a risk informed analysis; forecast-based related capacity building; necessary pre-determined planning; taking forecast-based cash transfers to scale; linking forecast-based action with social protection programming when and where this could add value based on demonstrable evidence.

Geographic focus will be on the most disaster-prone districts in the country, including refugee camps and surrounding communities, and highly congested urban areas of Dhaka. A particular attention will be given to marginalised groups and vulnerable segments of the population throughout the proposed strategy. Linkages to the existing development programmes and environmentally informed programme design are encouraged. Linkages to and engagement of private sector, where applicable, are encouraged. Strengthening of localised and consolidation based on available learning of community-based and local structures are encouraged.

## **Allocation round 2 – MYANMAR**

Considering the extremely volatile Myanmar context, the severity and acuteness of expected needs in 2022 present complexity to forecasting, although it is assumed that they will remain significantly high, as a result of the combined impact of the military coup d'état and the third wave of COVID-19. DG ECHO will thus maintain a flexible approach, based on the actual situation at the time of proposals submission, to accommodate possible

new scenarios, while strongly supporting operational nexus initiatives across sectors. The following thematic priorities have been identified for 2022. Protection remains an essential entry point, due to the very nature of the crisis and should be factored in all proposals. Should 2022 be still marked by intense conflicts between the Myanmar Armed Forces and Ethnic Armed Groups and/or other armed opposition groups, a crosscutting priority will be to provide emergency humanitarian response across eligible sectors. Geographical targeting needs to remain open, considering the unpredictable expansion of conflicts to new areas, and is not restricted to the HRP targeting, yet to be developed at the time of drafting the HIP 2022. DG ECHO will give particular attention to actions covering urgent needs in underserved and/or remote areas.

The sector priorities will be:

- **Protection:** Priority interventions include monitoring and analysis; specialised services (case management, legal aid, accompaniment, and psychosocial support) for victims of all kinds of violence and violations irrespective of age, gender, and diversity; mainstreaming and systematic application of the DG ECHO basic protection package in emergency response; and dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL). The specific nature of the crisis in Myanmar makes protection an entry point for most DG ECHO supported actions. In this regard, DG ECHO partners are requested to provide 1) a protection risk analysis and 2) an articulated “avoid doing harm” strategy, as it is essential that activities are properly contextualised and protection sensitive, as per DG ECHO Guidelines.
- **Health & COVID-19:** The major focus will be on the provision of emergency (fixed or mobile health services), along with access to primary health care (State and/or non-state services, depending on the situation then and in targeted areas), primarily focusing on Internally Displacement Persons (IDPs), conflict-affected and hard to reach populations. Partners’ approaches should however be based on an up-to-date situation and needs analysis. Support to COVID-19 prevention should be mainstreamed across all sectors.
- **Preparedness for, and provision of emergency multi-sector assistance:** Focus of capacity building and strengthening of local CSOs networks to cover most urgent basic needs in situations of displacements or natural hazards, along with timely, coordinated and harmonised assistance with a strong localisation focus. This should primarily be proposed through the FLER (First Line Response Mechanism) with a BNA covering Food/Non-Food Items (NFIs)/Shelter/WASH/Protection needs (see above) and linking with other services to the extent possible.
- **Other DP focus will, depending on the prevailing situation, be considered for rural vulnerable and hazards / conflict-affected settings.** Preparedness for emergencies in urban settings will be eligible, with a focus on diverse types of local actors and volunteers’ networks.
- **EiE should primarily focus on retention in/return to learning through temporary learning opportunities while ensuring linkages with child protection in conflict-affected areas and displacement settings. Appropriate accelerated education measures<sup>39</sup>**

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<sup>39</sup> Please refer to [https://inee.org/system/files/resources/AEWG\\_COVID19\\_%20Decision%20Tree\\_screen.pdf](https://inee.org/system/files/resources/AEWG_COVID19_%20Decision%20Tree_screen.pdf)

must be part of the strategy, as should protection of education against attacks. DG ECHO EiE policy should be strictly applied, and a well elaborated Nexus dimension is strongly encouraged, including capacity-building of local service providers, where relevant and feasible.

- WASH standalone actions should focus on acute needs of IDPs, with a strong component on COVID-19 prevention and Nexus. Emergency WASH assistance in more recently conflict-affected areas will be given particular attention.
- Food assistance & Nutrition: The scope of intervention and geographic targeting should be based on up-to-date needs assessments and also considering other basic needs. A focus on conflict-affected populations and IDPs will remain.
- Nexus remains a crosscutting priority in Myanmar despite the drastic contextual evolution since the coup d'état in February 2021. Partners are strongly encouraged to identify opportunities of operational nexus across eligible sectors. Investing into local actors toward strengthened capacities to deliver effective, principled and accountable assistance is considered key in the operationalisation of HDP Nexus strategies.
- Coordinated approaches: Specialised sector-based interventions (e.g. health, protection...) should consider including an emergency response capacity that could complement other multi-sector emergency response actions. This should be adequately reflected in the needs and response analyses.
- DG ECHO is promoting the development of a comprehensive partnership approach, which should include technical and organisational capacity development, but also well-defined standards of “good partnership” (mutual benefit, transparency, equity, risk sharing/duty of care). DG ECHO partners should detail their approach through a dedicated annex.
- Access: Considering the specificity of the Myanmar context, further compounded by the coup d'état and the COVID-19 pandemic, all negatively impacting both humanitarian actors' access and people's access to essential services, DG ECHO recommends outlining in the Single Form or an annex a detailed access strategy. This review shall include: 1) Review/analysis of access constraints and patterns 2) Mitigation measures proposed and, when relevant, 3) Alternative modalities of operations.
- Remote management: Partners' proposals should clearly define the level of access and direct management expected in their interventions. Partial or full remote management should be acknowledged through the submission of the DG ECHO remote management questionnaire as an annex to the proposal.
- In the complex context of Myanmar, it is understood that advocacy is a sensitive matter. However, DG ECHO is supporting the development of advocacy strategies at local, national, and international levels. Partners should outline in a separate annex their approach on advocacy in the form of an advocacy plan. The collection and provision of evidence-informed data to feed advocacy on protection and rights violations will be considered.

### **Allocation round 3 – REGIONAL REFUGEE CRISIS**

*Scope of response:* In 2022, DG ECHO will continue to build and respond to the forced displacements stemming from crises in the region. The scope of this component is two-

fold. The first aims to address **regional implications of the Rohingya crisis in Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and India**, and the second to **address regional refugee implications following the coup in Myanmar in February 2021**. Considered ‘safe havens’ for many, South and Southeast Asian countries, in particular Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and India have long hosted considerable numbers of refugees and asylum seekers from various nationalities (Myanmar including Rohingya, Afghan, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Somalia). However, none of these countries, who also hosts a significant number of refugees and asylum seekers, are signatories to the international conventions on refugees and statelessness and correspondingly they also lack national frameworks to protect refugees and asylum seekers. This places refugees and asylum seekers in a highly precarious legal void, where recipient countries consider them as ‘illegal’ and hence they are often denied their fundamental right to protection. Thus, whilst focus is on displacement originating in the situation in Myanmar, the envisaged response encompasses, **a non-discriminatory “one-refugee” approach aiming to support humanitarian interventions targeting the most severely affected populations in need of protection and assistance, irrespective of their country of origin**. This legal void calls for a protection centred response. As such a solid protection risk analysis and clear articulation in the response strategies, combined with a quality monitoring framework and AAP need to be ensured.

*Regional implications of the Rohingya crisis in Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and India*

*Response strategy:* With protection as the core response, programming priorities need to take into consideration country specific contexts as well as common grounds of action. The regional envelope for Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and India will, therefore, work along four main axes:

**Analysis and research** – Support to regional protection monitoring for existing caseloads (ideally applying the same methodology for consistency), monitoring triggers that lead to new refugee flows, undertaking rapid protection assessments, strengthened analysis on coping mechanisms, regular intention surveys, research on access barriers, etc. With these, undertake evidence-based advocacy on conditions in displacement as well as conditions for returns to ensure effective consultation to support decision-making and AAP.

**Preparedness for and first response** – Support scenario planning for minimum response across the region on natural-hazard and human-induced disasters, boat movements, relocations / repatriations, etc. This will be done to a) harmonise targeting and response strategies for different scenarios taking cognisance of country specific socio-political-cultural contexts b) ensuring minimum response capacity across the region for provision of immediate basic needs around protection, health, food, nutrition, shelter (NFIs) and WASH activities in case of large-scale movements (whether forced or voluntary).

**Protection programming** – Strengthen protection services focused on legal aid, documentation, refugee status determination (RSD) including expedited renewals of RSD, restoring family links, child protection (alternative care and tracing for unaccompanied minors) and follow-up of those detained for illegal migration in the region (Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, and India). Simultaneously also provide protection response to victims of all kinds of violence. Attention to be paid to alternative strategies where appropriate such as work rights and livelihood opportunities.

**Coordination and advocacy** – Support mechanisms and platforms that promote effective regional and cross-border coordination to ensure effective protection monitoring,

preparedness and response plans, and joint evidence-based advocacy, for example, through joint advocacy statements by the INGO Forums in ASEAN countries and India while also reviving the Bali Process.

Actions demonstrating a regional perspective will be prioritised over multi-country perspectives. Partners are strongly encouraged to ensure partnership(s) at local level with national organisations.

All actions should include a "Crisis Modifier" to be proposed according to the requirements detailed by DG ECHO on its DP Guidance, Annex II "The Use of Crisis Modifiers."

#### *Regional refugee implications following the coup in Myanmar in February 2021*

*Response strategy:* For refugee responses in India and Thailand, a protection focused multi-sectoral emergency response is envisaged, which prioritises core elements of refugee protection such as registration, documentation, and legal aid (when/if possible), timely assistance to meet immediate basic needs, and an appropriate (as comprehensive as possible) protection response to victims of all kinds of violence including to those still on the move. Mobility and protection monitoring in border areas will also be supported to feed into crucial protection analysis informing programming strategies and approaches and evidence-based advocacy. The latter remains key considering the limited access to territory and asylum for those fleeing. Limited and relevant coordination structures might also be supported. Demonstrated flexibility in assistance approaches, delivery modalities, and geographical areas of intervention – assist people where they are – will be a core component of evaluating proposals.

*For both refugee interventions,* focus remains on protection and immediate life-saving needs, while nexus opportunities should be analysed and promoted to establish a link with longer-term engagement of development support, particularly to address increasing needs for livelihood support due to the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19, as well as issues such as trafficking, smuggling and exploitation. Sustainability and cost effectiveness of basic services should be considered when designing the intervention, including fair community participation.

#### **Allocation Round 4 – PHILIPPINES**

*Humanitarian assistance:* Mindanao is the priority for provision of humanitarian assistance specifically for populations that are in complex situations of recurrent armed conflict, high exposure to cyclones, flooding, landslides, and other hazards, and where access to assistance is mostly not available. Families that are most vulnerable and whose rights are violated during this crisis are the priority for targeting. Participation, community engagement, and inclusion with no discrimination due to age, gender, and disabilities are fundamental aspects of assistance. DG ECHO partners are expected to uphold independence of humanitarian aid all the time. Coordination with major stakeholder groups is encouraged including civil-military coordination when necessary.

Most urgent, unmet needs should be addressed through a BNA seeking to provide coordinated and demand-driven response encompassing humanitarian food assistance, water, sanitation, and hygiene services, psychosocial first aid and support to primary health care including COVID-19 response, shelter and settlement solutions, and basic protection services. Use of a single cash transfer to cover recurrent basic needs (MEB) and

other emergency needs is encouraged where feasible, safe and more beneficial to the families.

*EiE:* The priority remains to support conflict-affected children to remain in and/or return to learning by providing access to safe, qualitative, and protective education. Beneficiary targeting in 2022 will prioritise children who have stopped (or are at risk of doing so) their schooling due to the displacement especially due to recent, major conflicts in Maguindanao, in Lumad areas and in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi (BASULTA) islands. Appropriate accelerated education measures<sup>40</sup> must be part of the strategy. Schools will be supported to build their capacities in EiE and child protection especially against grave violations of child's rights and protection of education against attacks. Nexus opportunities should be explored to enhance the sustainability of improving the education system in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and Mindanao.

*Disaster Preparedness:* The four DP BL 2021-24 DG ECHO priorities will be financed. Integrated risk management and multi risk/hazard approach will be encouraged in all DP proposals. DP targeted investments will need to demonstrably strengthen local preparedness capacities in complex, fragile settings such as in Mindanao. Especially for communities where International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and IHL violations are severe, DP proposals will support and/or strengthen capacities of local DRRM systems to prepare for and respond to emergency needs of the most vulnerable populations. Actions may include capacity building of local government units in mainstreaming and replicating DP strategies using local resources. Risk-based anticipatory actions and rapid response mechanism are systematically linked to DRRM plans especially in urban areas. Linkages with longer term urban resilience must be detailed in proposals, as well as how pilot actions in several strategic localities are evaluated, measured, referred, and evidenced to support informed consolidation of this strategy and adoption at the BARMM and provincial levels. Partners are encouraged to actively participate in national initiatives on establishing anticipatory action at the country level. Measurable impact and evidence will be an integral part of DP actions wherein valuation of improved resilience of the families is a key outcome indicator of the actions. Opportunity for nexus and complementarity of outputs with the EU and other development programs should also be considered. The Philippine DP country program is expected to complement the DG ECHO ASEAN regional strategy in advocating for AADMER<sup>41</sup> implementation.

### **Allocation round 5 - NEPAL**

*Disaster Preparedness:* DG ECHO will consider actions along two priorities:

**Strengthen local Disaster Risk Management (DRM) governance ownership for risk-based preparedness and anticipatory action** in landslide and flood prone regions of Nepal. Proposals, by identifying and understanding risk scenarios, will be stimulating a demand driven resourcing from provincial and federal government to encourage and enable local administration to manage and consolidate preparedness and response plans for their constituencies. Enhanced coordination frameworks between the three governmental

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<sup>40</sup> Please refer to

[https://inee.org/system/files/resources/AEWG\\_COVID19\\_%20Decision%20Tree\\_screen.pdf](https://inee.org/system/files/resources/AEWG_COVID19_%20Decision%20Tree_screen.pdf)

<sup>41</sup> ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response Work Plan 2021-25



levels must be described in detail in proposals with a view to strengthen response mechanisms for future risks.

Complementary to the above priority, **support to local government in an all of society risk informed approach** to prepare for natural-hazard induced disasters by **ensuring the inclusion of disadvantaged and marginalised population groups**. Proposals must describe how, for example by fostering better complementarity between early action and shock responsive social protection (SRSP), risk informed approaches that inform standard protocols for anticipatory and early action (linking forecast, early warning, triggers, response etc.) will be operating under overarching preparedness planning. All proposals must clearly reflect and describe any complementarity with development actions.

### **Allocation round 6 – REGIONAL DP SOUTH-EAST ASIA**

At regional level, the four priorities of DG ECHO DP BL 2021-24 will be advanced, looking specifically at the following:

**Priority 1 – Risk based and anticipatory actions.** Pivoting for humanitarian assistance in ASEAN to mitigate most vulnerable people's challenges by preparing for and act early ahead of shocks and crises' deterioration, this priority aims to strengthen practice previously financed through targeted investments into regional ASEAN policy and strategy definition to foster sustainability and replicability of the approach across all levels. Anticipatory Action will not be feasible or appropriate everywhere or cover all needs, as it must be tailored according to context and time specificity. Partners will be financed to systematically support being prepared for any type of risks, so to be able to act as early as possible based on a comprehensive risk analysis before a shock hits or a crisis deteriorates. Likewise, despite SRSP representing a type of anticipatory action, this must not be prescriptive. Partners and stakeholders are encouraged to design "toolbox" typologies of anticipatory approach, which are defined based on what vulnerable and marginalised people require.

**In 2022, focus will be placed on supporting further institutionalisation, sustainability, and replication of the approach through frameworks set at the sub-national levels of local administration above and beyond national and regional ones.** Transition to gradually owned risk financing strategies incorporating pre-determined as well as recourse to ex-post fiscal room will be advanced. Conducive environments (such as in the Philippines and Vietnam) will be capitalised upon by further building and learning of previous targeted **DP investments which led to enhanced States' risk ownership with own resources.**

**Priority 2 – Preparedness in conflict and fragile settings.** Through targeted DP investments, DG ECHO will additionally support those who are most vulnerable and marginalised to better prepare for and act early ahead of recurrent and protracted hazards' manifestation in the region which further exclude them, inclusive of conflict risk, shocks, crises, and violence. Preparing for conflict-risk is complex and *avoid doing harm* considerations will be prioritised by contracting a selected set of Partners which have the necessary conflict-sensitivity expertise and knowledge. To mitigate ambitions, a multi-hazard approach will be systematically operationalised, allowing for testing and learning accordingly during implementation.

**Priority 3 – Climate and environmental resilience.** With climate-induced hazards increasing in intensity and frequency, shocks, crises, and disasters result in a high human

and economic cost. Countries experiencing violent conflict and/or fragile governance are in addition those least likely to be able to respond to disasters and adapt to climate change. Inclusion of climate and environmentally sensitive programming will be systematically promoted through a multi-hazard and multi-sector approach whereby at all times risks are identified by those who are most vulnerable, marginalised and in need. In 2022, a wider approach to risk mitigation will be pursued, considering human-induced vulnerabilities and ensuring conflict-sensitive actions.

**Priority 4 – Urban preparedness.** Emphasis for risk-analysis and planning to be cognisant of the intersectionality of pre-existing vulnerability, current needs, past and future risks of those living and using the ‘urban ecosystem’, its space, land use, and built environment, will be placed and mainstreamed across the DG ECHO’s strategy. Partners and stakeholders must ensure systematic inclusion of those who are most vulnerable in urban areas in relevant DRM plans at all levels, advocating for inclusive policies that comprehensively protect vulnerable and at-risk populations so that they are better prepared to withstand shocks and crises wherever they reside.

The COVID-19 pandemic further aggravates humanitarian concerns across the region. Persons of concern are facing barriers in accessing services, whilst humanitarian actors encounter obstacles and impediments in delivering assistance. **Inclusion of those who are most marginalised and vulnerable will always be at the forefront of this strategy, seeking unfettered access, incorporation, coverage, redressal in any relevant DRM plan at any level.** This will include how conflict affects different individuals’, groups’ and communities’ experience of violence.

Developing comprehensive partnerships beyond traditional communities of practice is key to achieve progress in tackling complex, multi-layered hazards. **A crucial component of this strategy will be the establishment of partnerships, notably with regional fora and/or networks that facilitate the exchange of information and learning across communities of practice** (humanitarian, development, climate adaptation, private sector, academia, and Government administration). Likewise, opportunities for engagement in national and regional advocacy initiatives and policy influencing will be systematically researched and Partners are encouraged to do so.

**Evidencing and measuring to which extent losses and suffering were avoided by investing earlier and better will be an integral part of the DP investments researched by DG ECHO.** Robust emphasis on intensified M&E to learn about what works and what doesn’t, and measuring evidence of impact, will be systematically researched, through both mainstreaming it across regional preparedness investments as well as an intensified DP investment on its own merit.

The strategy will additionally leverage the Programmatic Partnership thematic support through FAO at the global level on shock-responsive social protection in Asia.

The strategy will be further operationalised through mainstreaming preparedness across all DG ECHO’s action as guided by the DG ECHO DP Guidance Note. A multi-country operational specific component and regional learning and advocacy components will continue to be operationalised to reinforce each other as they are designed to support the implementation of the AADMER work programme (2021-25).

### **Allocation round 11 – Sri Lanka**

The humanitarian assistance shall target households that due to pre-existing economic fragility have exhausted their coping capacity and are now incapable to meet their food and basic needs. Partners shall consider multipurpose cash, complemented with other modalities and the support to access basic services, as preferred option.

Transfer Value and rounds of distribution shall be aligned with Cash Working Group recommendations and shall be adequate to meet the gaps between the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and households' own resources. Additional transfers (cash or other modality) for particularly vulnerable households or sector outcomes might be considered if properly justified. In line with the Good Practice Review on cash in inflation/depreciation contexts<sup>42</sup>, triggers and SOPs shall be developed to ensure swift adaptive measures to preserve the adequacy of the TV and of the modality. Innovative / digital solutions are encouraged. Alternative distribution mechanisms shall be considered to ensure inclusion.

Indicators. Sector Key Objectives Indicators (KOI) and the Multi-Purpose Cash Transfers (MPCT) indicators developed by the Grand Bargain workstream (protection mainstreaming, Food Consumption Score-FCS, Reduced Coping Strategies Index-RCSI, Livelihood coping strategies-LCS, basic need indicator) shall be used since the targeting phase, so to allow measuring outcomes of the assistance against baselines. Partners are also recommended to examine the distribution of expenditure within and across households through the use of indicators developed by the Grand Bargain cash workstream. Option 1: *"Percentage of households with total monthly expenditure which exceeds the MEB"*. Option 2: *"Total monthly expenditures by sector relative to MEB sectoral components/amounts"*.

Geographic areas shall consider priorities identified by the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (Sept. 2022) including urban context, norther provinces, tea estates.

Households shall be identified though a multi-dimensional analysis of the vulnerability including protection risks alongside with the economic capacity to meet basic needs. Social and structural aspects that might increase risk of exclusion/ineligibility from Safety Nets will have to be factored and addressed through household case management with specific referral and assistance.

Nexus. Proposals should harness all operational opportunities for concerted effort between the humanitarian response and ongoing longer term development programs.

In consideration of the exposure and vulnerability of potential beneficiaries to hydrometeorological hazards, operational flexibility through preparedness and Crisis Modifier should be embedded in the proposals to strengthen early response capacity in case of new emerging shock in the same area of intervention.

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<sup>42</sup><https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/good-practice-review-on-cash-assistance-in-contextsof-high-inflation-and-depreciation/>

Proposals shall be aligned with DG-ECHO Thematic Policy Document n°3 Cash transfers<sup>43</sup>.

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<sup>43</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/sectoral/thematic\\_policy\\_document\\_no\\_3\\_cash\\_transfers\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/policies/sectoral/thematic_policy_document_no_3_cash_transfers_en.pdf)