

## TECHNICAL ANNEX

### NORTH AFRICA

#### 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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<sup>1</sup> Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)  
ECHO/-NF/BUD/2022/91000

## 2. FINANCIAL INFO

Indicative Allocation: EUR 20 000 000 of which an indicative amount of EUR 2 400 000 for Education in Emergencies.

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 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/ Complementary activities	TOTAL
ALGERIA	11 000 000				11 000 000
EGYPT	5 000 000				5 000 000
LIBYA	3 000 000		1 000 000		4 000 000

## 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>2</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.

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<sup>2</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.

#### **4. ADMINISTRATIVE INFO**

##### **Allocation round 1 – Algeria (Sahrawi)**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 9 000 000.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>3</sup>.
- c) 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>4</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.
- d) Potential partners<sup>5</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners.
- e) Information to be provided: Single Form or Modifications requests of ongoing actions<sup>6</sup>.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 01/02/2022<sup>7</sup>.

##### **Allocation round 2 – Egypt and Libya**

- a) Indicative amounts: up to EUR 5 000 000 for Egypt and EUR 4 000 000 for Libya.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>3</sup>.
- c) 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>4</sup>. Education in Emergencies actions

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<sup>3</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. In case of amendments to existing agreements, the eligible date will however be the eligible date set in the initial agreement.

<sup>4</sup> Additional guidance may be issued by DG ECHO in this respect, as appropriate.

<sup>5</sup> Unless otherwise specified potential NGO partners refer to certified partner organisations.

<sup>6</sup> Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

<sup>7</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.

should have an initial duration of at least 24 months, unless there is a needs- or context-based justification for a shorter duration.

- d) Potential partners<sup>5</sup>: All DG ECHO Partners.
- e) Information to be provided: Single Form or Modifications requests of on-going actions<sup>6</sup>.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 15/02/2022<sup>7</sup>.

### **Allocation round 3 – Algeria (Sahrawi)**

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 2 000 000 for Algeria.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2022<sup>3</sup>.
- c) 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.
- d) Potential partners<sup>5</sup>: World Food Programme.
- e) Information to be provided: Modification request of on-going actions<sup>6</sup>.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 31/01/2023<sup>7</sup>.

## **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>8</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).

*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.

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

The HIP Policy Annex should be consulted in parallel.

**ALGERIA (Sahrawi crisis)**

**I. Horizontal mandatory requirements**

- ✓ Disaster Risk Reduction and environmental impact mainstreaming: all project proposals submitted to DG ECHO should be in line with the Grand Bargain commitments. They should be risk informed (cf. the resilience marker). The latter

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<sup>8</sup> In accordance with the relevant section of the Single Form guidelines (section 10).

means that they should systematically integrate risk assessments and monitoring of potential hazards as well as anticipate their impacts. Humanitarian actors have a collective responsibility to ensure that their work does not contribute to the deterioration of the environment. This calls for taking all necessary measures to reduce the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid as specified in the HIP Policy Annex. Activities aiming at reducing the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid should be present in all DG ECHO funded actions. Please refer to the DG ECHO ‘Compendium of good practices for a greener humanitarian response’<sup>9</sup>.

- ✓ The four dimensions of protection mainstreaming (access, accountability, safety/do no harm/dignity, participation/empowerment) should be integrated into all actions (see the policy annex for details).
- ✓ COVID-19: All actions shall be adapted to the COVID-19 as to ensure continuity of services while preventing risks of transmission in the Sahrawi refugee camps. Lessons learned from the pandemic should also be included in any project proposal.
- ✓ Coordination among humanitarian actors, advocacy and visibility remain important to raise the profile of this forgotten crisis and to attract development/stabilisation as well as non-traditional donors. DG ECHO will consider specific reference to humanitarian advocacy initiatives within all proposed actions.
- ✓ Humanitarian-Development Nexus: in the absence of immediate tangible perspectives for operationalising the nexus, DG ECHO partners will be required to adopt more efficient, qualitative, effective and sustainable approaches, in line with the multi-annual sectorial strategies, developed by the different sectorial coordination groups. Local ownership of essential services should be promoted as well. Nevertheless, advocacy for operationalising the nexus with development donors should continue and expand.
- ✓ For any partner proposing the provision of incentives or any similar approach, a strong justification must be provided to mitigate the risk of non-eligibility of the incentives, such as: i) a clear analysis and demonstration that the incentives are essential and critical for the proposed action; ii) the likely impact on the proposed action if incentives were not provided. Indeed, the conditions of eligibility for salary costs of the personnel of national administrations are set in the ECHO Financial Regulation. Art 186.4 (e) of the Financial Regulation specifies that *“Salary costs of personnel of national administrations may only be considered as eligible costs, to the extent that they relate to the cost of activities that the relevant public authority would not carry out if the action was not undertaken.”* This requires a coordinated approach across sectors (education, health, Wash...), between humanitarian organisations and an agreement with the Sahrawi camps authorities. Additionally, the engagement of development actors would help ensuring the sustainability of the system.
- ✓ VAT issues: In line with section 9.3. of the FPA guidelines, partners are expected to coordinate with the relevant authorities for an effective VAT exemption as granted by the Ministry of Finance since 2016. Only if this exemption is not

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<sup>9</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/default/files/doc\\_eu\\_environment\\_compendium\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/default/files/doc_eu_environment_compendium_en.pdf)

granted and partners demonstrate that they had taken all the necessary steps, VAT could be considered eligible.

- ✓ Security: DG ECHO acknowledges the security risks for humanitarian workers in the Saharan context. Security-related costs will therefore continue to be eligible.

## **II. Sectorial specific requirements**

### **Food Assistance**

The focus should be on the provision of nutrition sensitive food assistance for the most vulnerable refugees taking into consideration the high burden of micronutrient deficiencies and important nutritional demands amongst children, pregnant and lactating women. In that regard, the provision of fortified vegetable oil, and fortified wheat flour will be important. The food assistance should be in line with local dietary preferences, and nutritionally balanced to meet the kilo calories and micronutrient needs of the population. Enhanced access should be ensured, in line with DG ECHO food assistance and nutrition policies. Food assistance should be complemented with contextual nutrition awareness sessions and continued monitoring of food security and nutritional trends. DG ECHO might consider supporting the access to fresh food for the most vulnerable food insecure refugees with poor food consumption scores (FCS).

Food security vulnerability targeting rather than blanket status-based coverage will be the preferred approach to be included and progressively implemented in all project proposals. Partners should take into consideration the reduced coping strategy index and food consumption score to target the most vulnerable. Strict monitoring of inclusion and exclusion errors and measurement food security key outcome indicators will be required.

The introduction of cash transfers is encouraged. 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 funded by DG ECHO. All cash interventions should comply with DG ECHO's cash thematic policy, including the sector-specific considerations as specified in Annex 2 of that document.

For efficiency and effectiveness of the assistance, and proper aid accountancy, DG ECHO will encourage digitalization of aid. As the latest Food Security Assessment dates back to 2018, it will be important to carry out such an assessment in 2022, so that the assistance is well tailored to the needs.

The additional budget (EUR 2 million) is intended to support the most vulnerable refugees to maintain the food rations of 2100 kcal/person/day over the next months. Vulnerability analysis and vulnerability index based targeting rather than blanket status-based coverage is strongly preferred as approach. Reinforced and regular monitoring both during and post distribution will be required in that respect.

### **Nutrition**

While trends of wasting undernutrition appear stable overtime, the latest available assessment indicates a slight deterioration in acute undernutrition and worrying trends of anaemia, stunting and obesity. Proposed nutrition assistance should sustain the



stabilisation or further reduction in the prevalence of acute malnutrition, among children under 5 years old and women. Focus intervention will include improved quality of service delivery for management of acute malnutrition, provision of adequate supplementary feeding to children under 5 years old as well as lactating and pregnant women. Active community MUAC screening and referral and improved nutritional follow-up of infants and children in health facilities are also required. Education on nutrition good practices and infant and young child feeding approach (1000 days) targeting specifically mothers and families should be included as a complementary activity. All actions in this regard will have to be in line with the Social Behavior Change Communication Strategy 2020-2025 for the Sahrawi Camps. As the latest nutrition survey dates back to 2019, it will be of the outmost importance to carry out a nutrition survey as soon as possible.

### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

There is a need to improve access to safe water and upgrade management and sustainability of WASH facilities/services. Any support will have to be strictly in line with the guidance and priorities set by the existing Water strategy and its multi-annual action plan.

DG ECHO will support operations aimed to secure and preserve the water resources, increase water production and distribution, and improve water management. Project proposals designed to improve access to safe water will have to integrate cost analyses and address only the most acute needs. Monitoring of the supplied services will have to guarantee the respect of minimum standards in terms of water quantity and quality. Facilitating a progressive transition of the water supply management to the Sahrawi water department will be of the essence.

All partners submitting WASH proposals are required to take into account the risks linked to natural hazards. Risk mapping of construction sites is mandatory. The COVID-19 pandemic serves as a reminder of the importance of these services in a daily emergency context. Activities that can strengthen wash preparedness for response to waterborne diseases or to react rapidly to “unpredictable” or latent events are also recommended.

### **Health**

Needs analysis of new proposals should be based on Health Information System data. Proposals should reflect lessons learned from previous projects in the sector of health. The list of problems that need to be addressed includes but is not limited to (1) the gaps in preparedness in case of spread of communicable diseases (including Covid-19), (2) the existing prevalence of non-communicable diseases resulting from poor nutritional status such as obesity, (3) prevention and promotion of healthy lifestyle and adequate nutrition.

DG ECHO will consider project proposals guaranteeing the provision and management of drugs, including those for non-communicable diseases and small equipment, based on the needs of the refugees and as determined in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM). The NLEM should be updated as its dates back to 2017/2018 and should consider lessons learnt from COVID-19 response. Local purchases of drugs and medical equipment need to respond to the quality criteria as described in the Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA). Cost effective local purchases are encouraged, whenever appropriate.

COVID-19 preparedness and response will have to be included, and particularly support to the COVID-19 immunization campaigns.

### **Education in Emergencies (EiE)**

Through the Education in Emergencies policy, DG ECHO promotes access to safe, inclusive, quality education for girls and boys affected by crises. In Algeria, DG ECHO will support project proposals which:

- i. target children/adolescents who are out of school or at risk of dropping out (including at secondary level);
- ii. provide capacity development for teachers and other education staff;
- iii. provide materials to improve teaching and learning outcomes;
- iv. promote a contextualized and holistic approach through integration of relevant sectors, contributing to education outcomes.

All proposed actions should strictly be in line with the 5-year Education strategy and contribute to the roll-out of the strategy in demonstrated coordination with the Education Working Group. Generation of evidence and lessons learned, together with efforts to strengthen coordination, strategic planning and resourcing will be supported.

Unless there is a need- or context-based justification to do otherwise, ensure that the initial duration for actions on Education in Emergencies is at least 24 months and covers full academic year(s).

### **Shelter and non-food items:**

Project proposals providing shelter and NFIs will be considered *only* in case of response to a severe natural disaster. They need to be in line with DG ECHO Shelter and Settlement thematic policy.

## **EGYPT**

### **I. Horizontal mandatory requirements**

- ✓ All actions will have to ensure a meaningful and equitable “One Refugee approach”. Beneficiary selection should be based on vulnerability and not status.
- ✓ Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus: DG ECHO partners will be required to follow and support in-country discussions on operationalising the Nexus, including the initiatives launched by the Government of Egypt. Partners are encouraged to include Nexus related activities in their proposals.
- ✓ Coordination among humanitarian actors, advocacy, and visibility remain important to raise the profile of the humanitarian dimension of the refugee situation in Egypt and to attract development/stabilization donors. DG ECHO will consider including specific humanitarian advocacy within all proposed actions. Enhanced coordination and advocacy shall aim at redressing the overall inequitable response

based on nationality. Coordination will also be of the essence to promote the operationalization of the Nexus framework.

- ✓ COVID-19: All actions shall be adapted to COVID-19 as to ensure continuity of services while preventing risks of transmission. Lessons learned from the pandemic should also be included in any project proposal.
- ✓ Environmental impact mainstreaming: Humanitarian actors have a collective responsibility to ensure that their work does not contribute to the deterioration of the environment. This calls for taking all necessary measures to reduce the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid as specified in the HIP Policy Annex. Activities aiming at reducing the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid must be present in all DG ECHO funded actions. Please refer to the ECHO ‘Compendium of good practices for a greener humanitarian response’<sup>10</sup>.

## **II. Sectorial requirements**

### **Education in Emergencies**

DG ECHO will support interventions that help refugee children/adolescents to enter, re-enter or be retained in education, with emphasis on accredited, formal education. This may involve non-formal education support to provide pathways for out of school children to transition into accredited, formal streams (or, where this is not possible, other resilience pathways), or support to directly enter and be retained in accredited, formal schools.

Support to refugee community schools will be considered, including enhancing quality and fostering innovative approaches for sustainability, as appropriate together with coordination, if relevant. An exit strategy, for impact and sustainability, is to be included in all proposals. The intervention duration should respect the school year and be in line with defined project objectives.

Coordination with development partners, other EU and donor instruments, the Egyptian Ministry of Education and relevant line ministries, together with sector and refugee working groups, must be specifically addressed in proposals.

All proposals shall be strictly in line with the interagency Education strategy for refugees and asylum seekers and its action plan (under definition), and contribute to the roll-out of the strategy, in coordination with the Education Working Group. DG ECHO partners will be required to follow the SOPs, guidelines, and other programmatic documents developed by the Education Working Group. Partners are encouraged to conduct joint advocacy activities.

### **Protection**

DG ECHO will welcome the integration of protection programming with Education interventions. Pending a solid gap and opportunity analysis, dedicated protection interventions, such as responsive /remedial protection services, may be considered.

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<sup>10</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/default/files/doc\\_eu\\_environment\\_compendium\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/default/files/doc_eu_environment_compendium_en.pdf)

Possible protection activities shall include: protection monitoring, disclosure and referral of persons at risk/survivors of protection violations (providing availability of appropriate services and confidential referral mechanisms are in place), individual case management, provision of specialized services to victims of all kinds of violence, including Gender Based Violence (GBV), community-based protection interventions focusing on enhancing refugee resilience. All protection activities should be grounded in a thorough risk analysis and compliant with international guidance. Psycho-social support services (PSS) will be supported for partners with a demonstrated track record on providing PSS in the context, and all PSS interventions must include indicators that measure improvements in the well-being of the targeted population.

A gender and age analysis would advantageously drive the prioritisation of needs. Actions targeting the remaining disparities between the refugee populations (Arab/non-Arab speaking- Syrian and non-Syrian refugees), and emerging protection concerns, could be considered. Coordination and advocacy on protection issues could be supported if relevant, and if the partner can demonstrate experience and an added value in coordination.

### **Basic Needs Approach**

DG ECHO may consider continuing funding multipurpose cash transfers (MPCT) - albeit with a reduced sectorial allocation compared to previous years - to address the basic needs of the most vulnerable beneficiaries based on a full-fledged one refugee approach and robust needs analysis. The targeting criteria must delink from the status-based approach and strictly follow the socio-economic vulnerability criteria.

Innovative pilot projects promoting venues to initiate the formulation of a Nexus approach in linking refugee cash transfers to the Government-led social protection system shall be considered.

Where assistance is to be delivered in the form of cash transfers, 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. Within the BNA, DG ECHO prioritises multipurpose cash (MPC) payments 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 beneficiary resources, and be sufficient to cover, or contribute, to recurrent basic needs, plus other specific needs that are not recurrent basic needs. Cash assistance should be needs and risk informed, and targeted based on socio-economic vulnerability and the protection concerns of individuals and groups.

All cash interventions should comply with the new DG ECHO cash thematic policy, including the sector-specific considerations in Annex 2 of that document. A common programming approach is to be ensured 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 complaints and feedback mechanism, and a common results framework. DG ECHO will systematically assess the cost-efficiency, to the extent possible, and considering the operational context. Partners will be assessed on their ability

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

The sectoral (e.g., protection, education, Food Security and Livelihoods) and multisector 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.

DG ECHO will assess proposals paying particular attention to the Cash Guidance note's principles of coordination, harmonization, and multi-partner approach.

Any delivery of cash assistance for specific sectoral purposes must demonstrate:

- sound technical justification (grounded in contextualized evidence), including exit/continuity strategy to sustain access to services, as appropriate,
- due coordination within the sector, and with the Cash Working Group, and ensuring do no harm principles,
- lessons learnt from previous actions.

## **LIBYA**

### **I. Actions falling under the following sectors and based on sound needs assessments will be prioritised:**

Partners are required to integrate an exit strategy in their proposals, outlining the path of handing over activities to local actors and/or stabilization/development donors, and eventually the government authorities, to the extent possible.

#### **Protection**

DG ECHO seeks to improve the quality of humanitarian assistance through protection programming that is age and gender sensitive, and prevents, reduces, mitigates and responds to protection threats. Actions to prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of persons at risks will be supported through integrated programming. All protection activities should be grounded in a thorough risk analysis and compliant with international guidance.

Actions may include (1) protection monitoring and strengthening the protection information management system. Specialized protection services may include (2) protection case management and/or referral to appropriate services, including medical care for victims of violence (including GBV victims), Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), legal assistance (e.g. to address gaps in documentation) and IPA (individual protection assistance) for vulnerable persons, and their referral to existing social care structures and /or cash support as relevant.

DG ECHO will support strengthening of interagency of protection referral mechanisms. Partners may propose initiatives to enhance evidence-based advocacy and efforts to promote protection principles and respect for IHL/IHRL. DG ECHO may support intervention focusing on the dissemination of internationally recognized protection principles, human rights standards and International Humanitarian Law (IHL) to

community leaders and members, security forces and armed actors, and other relevant institutions and authorities.

In relation to humanitarian mine action, DG ECHO might support mine risk education in areas of return while mine surveys, mapping of contamination and mine clearance may be supported through other funding instruments.

## **Health**

Support will focus primarily on areas that are hard to reach and were conflict affected, where basic health services are unavailable or inaccessible to vulnerable populations. The objective is to save lives and prevent permanent disability. Health services funded by the EU humanitarian assistance should be free of charge for beneficiaries and made available to all, including refugees, internally displaced persons, vulnerable migrants and third-country nationals, without discrimination.

*The following activities are prioritised:* emergency health care, rehabilitation services including prosthesis and orthopaedics; restoration/ provision of essential primary and /or secondary healthcare services in conflict-affected areas, mainly through support to existing health structures and mobile teams when duly justified. Services should include maternal and child health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), including gender-based violence case management -plus post exposure prophylaxis-, non-communicable disease management and referral to secondary/tertiary care as necessary. They may include the provision of essential medicines, medical equipment and temporary deployment of medical staff. COVID-19 pandemic is part of the new norm; it impacts on access and care provision should be part of health need analysis and address unmet needs. It is expected that health partners support epidemiological surveillance and integrate appropriate IPC measures, in accordance with identified gaps in their geographic area of intervention. As required, further support to the COVID vaccination campaign should be included. Attention to the specific needs of highly vulnerable groups is required. The lack of medical supplies being a recurrent challenge, partners are invited to systematically share their supply strategy and mitigation plan.

## **Education in Emergencies (EiE)**

DG ECHO may consider actions that provide safe and quality education for children affected by conflict and the impact of COVID, including displaced, migrant and refugee children with limited or no access to education. EiE support may focus on formal and/or non-formal education, with the aim for children to enter and be retained in the formal system, and ensure effectiveness in terms of learning outcomes. Analysis of the specific crisis-related barriers to quality education is required, with an appropriately tailored response. Contributing to education outcomes, EiE interventions are expected to integrate, as appropriate, protection programming and include analysis of and response to child protection needs (e.g. Psychosocial Support (PSS), case management and referrals). Mine Risk Education (MRE) should be included in areas affected by active conflict, displacement or return, as relevant. Access barriers, including availability of safe drinking water and adequate gender-sensitive WASH facilities in schools need to be addressed, as applicable, possibly in coordination with WASH partners and funding from other sources. Sector coordination may be supported. All actions have to consider COVID-19 response modalities, allowing for continuity of education in a safe and efficient manner. Interventions should demonstrate alignment with sector frameworks, and coordination

with stakeholders, including the Ministry of Education, Education Sector Working Group and Education Cannot Wait to optimize synergies, complementarities and avoid any overlap. It is expected that approaches to teacher training, non-formal education or psycho-social support are aligned, towards a coherent and sustainable response.

### **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Preparedness (DP)**

All humanitarian actions, regardless of the sector of intervention, must be risk informed. Therefore, partners are requested to ensure all projects submitted are designed based on a detailed risk analysis, identifying the main threats for both the targeted populations and the action. Anticipatory and contingency measures should be embedded in the action to anticipate and mitigate these risks to the best possible extent.

In addition to mainstreaming DRR/DP in humanitarian projects, DG ECHO will support targeted Disaster Preparedness (DP) actions by further strengthening the emergency health surveillance system in Libya. The approach to strengthen communicable disease surveillance nationwide will be articulated around three priorities: 1) Enhanced EWARN that will yield real-time information to support the timely detection and verification of potential disease outbreaks caused by emerging and epidemic-prone diseases, 2) improved national capacity to respond to emerging and epidemic-prone diseases; 3) strengthened diagnostic capacity to support the prompt confirmation of outbreaks and monitor their spread.

*Priority DP actions to be supported should include the following components:*

Standardise and systematise data collection, reporting tools and data processing for an effective EWARN.

Strengthen rapid response capacities and protocols for an effective response to outbreaks. (Provide operational support to the national authorities to carry out rapid field investigations and confirm suspected outbreak alerts, forecast needs and plan/stockpile goods and supplies for health care facilities and laboratories at national and sub-national levels to support the rapid mobilization of resources in the event of disease outbreaks.

Capacity building of EWARN staff at all levels through refresher/on-the-job training focusing on EWARN basic concepts, epidemiology, surveillance and outbreak response.

Strengthen the capacity of peripheral laboratories to confirm disease outbreaks, monitor their spread and confirm they have been brought under control.

Targeted DP actions should be conducted in close partnership with the Ministry of Health and relevant national and local services to ensure sufficient ownership and sustainability from the start. Plans for an exit strategy and an effective integration of EWARN into the national HIMS (Health information management system) should be detailed in the proposal.

### **Basic Needs Approach**

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. 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.

DG ECHO prioritises multipurpose cash transfers (MPCT) 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 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. 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 case 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 Annexe 2 of that document.

## **Coordination and Support Services**

Strengthening of existing coordination mechanism through support for dedicated coordination staff will be envisaged with the objective to uphold humanitarian principles and the centrality of protection in the response, to enhance evidence based needs analysis, improve operational coordination with Libyans stakeholders, reinforce capacity of local responders, increase access and accountability to affected population and to address gaps in assistance provision, including underserved or otherwise neglected communities.

### **II. Actions falling under the following sectors could be considered in case of proven urgent unmet needs:**

#### **Shelter**

Shelter emergency assistance to the most vulnerable forcibly displaced persons and returnees could be considered, if targeted according to documented vulnerability criteria. Partners are required to use SMART technical outcome indicators specific to shelter and settlement to ensure outputs can be traced and quality assured.

#### **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

Exceptionally, WASH activities may complement health or education interventions to ensure the delivery of adequate health services in the facilities supported.



**Other Operational Considerations**

Partners are expected to mainstream protection and use protection-sensitive targeting across all sectors to ensure: 1) do no harm (including considerations of beneficiary safety and security), 2) unhampered and meaningful access (to beneficiaries and by beneficiaries to assistance), 3) accountability, including through feedback & complaints and Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) mechanisms, and 4) participation and empowerment. Protection mainstreaming aspects should be systematically monitored during the intervention using an impact indicator at specific objective level, e.g.:% of beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex, age and diversity) reporting that humanitarian assistance is delivered in a safe, accessible, accountable and participatory manner.

Due to the (semi-)remote management context, increasing the support to local partners on protection mainstreaming and protection principles including PSEA is paramount to ensure minimum standards.

A stand-alone Rapid Response Mechanism will not be considered for funding under the 2022 HIP.

**Preparedness and environmental impact mainstreaming**

Project proposals submitted to DG ECHO need to be in line with the Grand Bargain commitments. They should be risk informed and systematically integrate risk assessments and monitoring of potential threats. They should also anticipate potential emergencies and their impacts.

Humanitarian actors have a collective responsibility to ensure that their work does not contribute to the deterioration of the environment. This calls for taking all necessary measures to reduce the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid as specified in the HIP Policy Annex.