**HUMA**

**Humanitarian aid**

**REGULATION OF THE COUNCIL**

(EC) No 1257/96 concerning of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid

Period of Application

2016 – No end date

**RELEVANT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!br44Rp

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING**

(EUR MILLION)

| 2014-2020  | 10 264.9 |
| 2021      | 1 503.0  |
| 2022      | 1 595.1  |
| 2023      | 1 626.9  |
| 2024      | 1 660.7  |
| 2025      | 1 693.6  |
| 2026      | 1 727.5  |
| 2027      | 1 762.5  |
| **Total programming** | **11 569.2** |

**Challenge**

The scale, frequency and duration of crises that demand international humanitarian response is increasing, aggravated by long-term trends such as climate change, population growth, rapid and unsustainable urbanisation, resource scarcities as well as increasingly protracted armed conflicts. These are, and will continue to be, among the main drivers of humanitarian crises, which in turn generate growing humanitarian needs globally. The situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) presented funding requirements of $35.1 billion to assist 159.9 million of the 235.4 million people in need. While humanitarian funding is constantly increasing, it is not increasing at the same speed as needs. Funding for the plans included in the 2020 GHO reached $19.11 billion (50.1% of total requirements). This funding gap is expected to continue to grow, as is the need for front-line life-saving humanitarian assistance.

The EU is able to fill some of the gaps in global humanitarian aid, including by addressing needs in areas which are difficult to access, and by providing response not only to the biggest and most humanitarian crises, but also to those receiving no or insufficient international aid and political/media attention. Member States often look at the EU as a donor to provide assistance in crises where they are not able to intervene in a national capacity. Member States also benefit from the EU’s “humanitarian diplomacy”, because of the financial weight (the EU and its Member States together are a leading donor), allowing for stronger advocacy for the respect of International Humanitarian Law. In addition, larger programmes result in more effective provision of humanitarian aid, through, e.g., economies of scale. Another key element of EU added value for Member States lies in the strong operational knowledge and technical expertise of the EU’s unique network of humanitarian field offices spread over almost 40 countries.

**Mission**

**HUMA** provides emergency, life-saving assistance to people, particularly the most vulnerable, hit by man-made or natural disasters.

In line with the Humanitarian Aid Regulation (1257/96), people affected by disaster or conflict, irrespective of their race, ethnic group, religion, sex, age, nationality or political affiliation benefit from humanitarian assistance, which must not be guided by, or subject to, political considerations. The EU acts on the basis of the international humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

Humanitarian aid is often the only EU instrument able to intervene concretely in acute conflict situations. Thanks to its flexibility, humanitarian aid has also made a significant difference in many of the countries and crises at the origin of the global refugee and migration crisis.

**Objectives**

**HUMA’s main specific objectives are to:**

- provide needs-based delivery of EU assistance to save and preserve life, prevent and alleviate human suffering and safeguard the integrity and dignity of populations affected by natural disasters or man-made crises, also including protracted crises;
- build the resilience and capacity to recover of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities, in complementarity with other EU instruments.

**Actions**

Humanitarian interventions mainly consist of funding projects carried out by around 200 partner organisations - non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including national societies of the Red Cross, International Organisations including United Nations agencies and Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, and Member States’ specialised agencies. Most of the times these interventions occur in complex, risky contexts with difficult access conditions. Besides being lead donor, the EU has been playing a leading role in the development of new policy approaches (e.g. education in emergencies; or people-centred inter-sectoral needs assessment) and innovative funding modalities (e.g. cash-based assistance).

**Delivery mode**

In most cases, the Commission delivers assistance through financial support through individual agreements with partner organisations (NGOs, United Nations agencies, or other international organisations). The management mode applied with NGOs is direct management, and with the UN and International Organisations, indirect management.

**Link to the 2014–2020 MFF**

The Humanitarian Aid Regulation is not bound by duration to a specific MFF, hence the policy and legal framework for the EU’s humanitarian aid is not expected to change.
### Performance Framework

**Provide an adequate and effective humanitarian assistance to populations affected by humanitarian crises**

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<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Dimension measured</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Data availability</th>
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<td>A global humanitarian donor</td>
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<td>Percentage humanitarian aid funding targeting actions in forgotten crises.</td>
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<td>Number of children reached with EU Education in Emergencies assistance</td>
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**Ensure people and communities at risk of disasters are resilient and prepared**

<table>
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<td>Percentage of humanitarian assistance grants including elements of disaster preparedness, resilience and disaster risk reduction</td>
<td>Preparedness, resilience and disaster risk reduction</td>
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<td>EVA Actions - EU Database</td>
<td>First data in 2021; estimated lag three months; annually</td>
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### Estimation of baselines and targets

**Geographical coverage of the EU Humanitarian Aid: Number of countries with EU-supported operations as a percentage of countries in need of humanitarian assistance according to UN Humanitarian Appeals:**

This indicator shows the geographical coverage of the EU humanitarian aid. It measures the number of countries with EU-supported operations as a percentage of countries in need of humanitarian assistance according to UN Humanitarian Appeals. This indicator aims to confirm the EU role as a main, influential humanitarian actor, promoting a principled response. The UN appeals are an international agreed reference for the humanitarian aid sector.

The baseline set in 2018 is 96%. In order to set it, DG ECHO compared in OCHA FTS the list of countries for which there is a humanitarian appeal to the list of countries to which the Commission contributes. Contributions reported in FTS can be pledges, commitments and payments, therefore, for a given project/country, commitments and payments will often appear on different years.

**Percentage humanitarian aid funding targeting actions in forgotten crises:**
The baseline set in 2019 is 15.77%, in line with the political commitment to keep annual funding for forgotten crisis at least at 15% of the initial humanitarian aid budget.

**Percentage of Humanitarian Aid initial budget allocated to Education in Emergencies**

This indicator reflects the 10% funding commitment put forward in the Commission’s Communication 25 on Education in Emergencies and Crises (COM(2018)304 of May 2018).

This baseline set in 2020 is 10%, in line with the commitment included in the Communication to allocate every year 10% of the initial budget in Education in Emergencies. This constraint is taken into account in every Humanitarian Implementation Plan, which provide more detailed information on the operational priorities identified.

**Number of children reached with EU Education in Emergencies assistance:**

This indicator provides information on the number of children benefitting from EU-funded Education in Emergencies support.

The baseline set for projects concluded in 2019 is 1.86 million children.

**Number of humanitarian projects per sector:**

This indicator provides information on the reach of EU humanitarian assistance and focuses on the number of humanitarian projects per sector of intervention and serves the purpose of tracking, on a yearly basis, the evolution of Humanitarian Aid spending in each sector of intervention.

The baseline set in 2019 is:

- Multi-purpose cash transfer - 77
- Protection - 539
- Food Security and Livelihood - 229
- Health - 304
- Education in Emergencies - 228
- Shelter and Settlements - 156
- Nutrition - 280
- WASH - 315
- Disaster risk reduction/ preparedness - 501
- Coordination - 266
- Support Operations - 135
- Mine actions - 25

**Number of interventions of ECHO-funded humanitarian aid operations**

These statistical data are based on the aggregation of the estimated number of “action beneficiaries” as declared by the partners implementing humanitarian projects funded by the Commission. The calculation is done on a yearly basis. One single individual beneficiary in need of humanitarian assistance can benefit from more than one humanitarian action and from more than one project.

The baseline set for projects in 2019 is 177 million interventions.

**Percentage of humanitarian assistance grants including elements of disaster preparedness, resilience and disaster risk reduction**

This indicator measures the consideration of risks in humanitarian assistance programming, including needs based and risks based approach in humanitarian assistance.

The baseline set in 2020 is 58%.

**Targets**

**Geographical coverage of the EU Humanitarian Aid: Number of countries with EU supported operations as a percentage of countries in need of humanitarian assistance according to UN Humanitarian Appeals:**

The EU aims to confirm the EU role as a main, influential humanitarian actor, promoting a principled response, therefore it aims to increase the percentage of countries with EU-supported operations.

The target is to increase the current performance and reach 100% of countries in need of humanitarian assistance according to UN Humanitarian Appeals.
**Percentage humanitarian aid funding targeting actions in forgotten crisis:**

The target is defined by the political commitment that at least 15% of the initial planned budget will be allocated to forgotten crises.

**Percentage of Humanitarian Aid initial budget allocated to Education in Emergencies**

The target is to allocate 10% of the initial Humanitarian Aid budget to Education in Emergencies, in line with Commission’s Communication on Education in Emergencies and Crises (COM(2018)304 of May 2018).

**Number of children reached with EU Education in Emergencies assistance:**

DG ECHO will continue its Education in Emergencies (EiE) actions across the world, and at the same indicative target rate as in 2020, dedicating 10% of EU humanitarian aid to EiE. The overall aim of these actions is to restore and maintain access to safe, quality, and inclusive education during humanitarian crises, and to support out-of-school children to quickly enter or return to quality learning opportunities.

The target is to improve the current performance and increase the number of children reached every year.

**Number of humanitarian projects per sector:**

This is an indicator tracking what was done with the budget. This indicator is for monitoring purposes only, therefore no target is set. **Number of interventions of ECHO funded humanitarian aid operations (beneficiaries)**

The target is to improve the current performance and increase the number of interventions.

**Percentage of humanitarian assistance grants including elements of disaster preparedness, resilience and disaster risk reduction**

In line with the political commitment to mainstream preparedness and disaster resilience, the target is to improve compared to the 58% baseline set in 2020 and reach 75%. The indicator measures the percentage of humanitarian assistance grants including elements of disaster preparedness, resilience and disaster risk reduction (DRR) over the overall number of grants.