



**EDUCATION
CANNOT
WAIT**



ECW'S COMMITMENT TO GENDER EQUALITY



Factsheet
March 2023

In crisis contexts, girls' learning outcomes often fall behind boys' due to the compounding and intersecting forms of marginalization (based on gender, age, disability, geography, ethnicity, faith, sexual orientation, displacement, statelessness and more) they experience. In recognizing these prevailing gender inequalities, Education Cannot Wait (ECW) has committed to placing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, in and through education in emergencies and protracted crises (EiEPC), at the forefront of its investment and advocacy efforts.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Since its inception, ECW has strived to reach 60% girls in all its First Emergency Response (FER) and Multi-year Resilience Programme (MYRP) investments. **95% of ECW-supported programmes have shown improvement in terms of equal access for girls and boys in education in crisis-affected communities**, thereby fulfilling this commitment to gender parity.



In 2021, ECW launched the **Gender Lead Organization function** to ensure gender capacity is embedded within the design, implementation and monitoring phases of MYRPs.



ECW – together with INEE and the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) – developed the Education in Emergencies (EiE) **GenKit**, a core resource package to promote improved gender and education outcomes in emergencies, and developed gender-specific guidance for use with MYRP and FER partners and internally.

ACCELERATING RESULTS

ECW's Strategic Plan 2023-2026

ECW's Strategic Plan 2023-2026 outlines new commitments aimed at advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in and through EiEPC. These commitments include:



Locally-driven intersectional gender analysis and meaningful engagement of in-country gender expertise that informs programme design and delivery



A minimum resource allocation (15% for FERs and 25% for MYRPs) for gender-targeted interventions across all investments, in line with the UN sector-wide approach 2.0



Partnerships with Local Women's Organizations

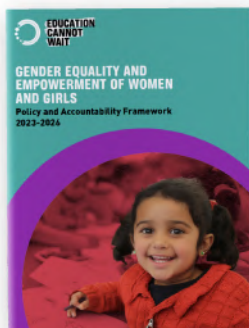


All MYRPs being supported by a Gender Lead Organization at the design and implementation phase to ensure capacity strengthening



Gender-based violence risk mitigation measures systematically costed and measured in all investments

ECW's Gender Equality Policy and Accountability Framework 2023-2026



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ECW's second **Gender Policy** defines what ECW must do – in line with a core set of values and principles – to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in and through education is realized systematically through its investments, partnerships and operations.

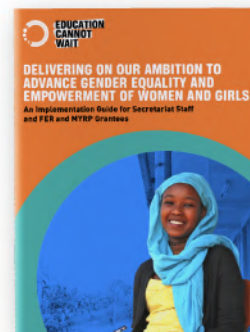
The Fund's **Accountability Framework** highlights the key actions and performance indicators ECW strives to implement to achieve its objectives.

Delivering on Our Ambition to Advance Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls 2023-2026: An Implementation Guide for Secretariat Staff and FER and MYRP Grantees

ECW's **Gender Implementation Guide** is intended for use by ECW Secretariat staff and FER/MYRP country teams to guide them in their efforts to deliver gender-equitable programming across FER and MYRP investments. It provides minimum standards for gender-responsive FER and gender-transformative MYRP investments and for gender integration across ECW's thematic priorities (e.g. disability inclusion, MPHSS, early learning, etc.)



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CONCRETE ACTION TO FULFILL OUR COMMITMENTS



Programming: ECW commits to intentionally investing in gender-responsive FERs and gender-transformative MYRPs.



Partnerships: ECW commits to engaging partners at all levels (including Local Women's Organizations, United Nations agencies, multi-laterals, private sector and civil society actors).



Organizational fitness: ECW commits to being a gender-transformative organization with enhanced ambitions for institutional gender equality and inclusion