



**EDUCATION
CANNOT
WAIT**

The global fund for education in emergencies

222 MILLION DREAMS: A CASE FOR INVESTMENT 2023-2026

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OUR CASE FOR INVESTMENT IS OUR CASE FOR HUMANITY

Investing in education means investing in humanity. Investing in those left furthest behind is a manifestation of profound humanity in response to absolute inhumanity.

Investing in education means investing in humanity. It means investing in a peaceful, prosperous future where everyone accesses their human rights, and we reach the sustainable development goals by 2030.

Investing in humanity means ensuring that no one is left behind and every child and young person affected by crises can access a quality education. Every girl and boy, whether caught in a violent conflict, climate disaster, or forced to flee their home, deserves the chance to pursue their dreams. These children suffer excruciating pain and loss, and they endure dispossession and trauma. Education is the key that unlocks the chain that traps them in disempowerment and loss of hope.

Our Case for Investment is an investment in these children and adolescents. It takes a laser focus on the 222 million young people living in the most crisis-affected countries and contexts across the globe. With a quality education, they will emerge empowered to realize their dreams, the dreams of their communities, countries and even the world. They will positively contribute to making the world

more prosperous and humane. Without an education, the reverse will most likely impact us all.

Education Cannot Wait represents a proven model in reaching those left furthest behind. Every year, we exponentially increase the number of children and adolescents reached with an inclusive, child-centred, and holistic quality education. During the initial year or two, we reached close to one million children and youth a year. Last year, alone, we reached 3.7 million, bringing the total to 7 million girls and boys in less than five years of operations.

This is made possible because Education Cannot Wait – the United Nations Global Fund for Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises – is a pioneering fund focussed exclusively on delivering education as a development right in humanitarian contexts. It is possible because we are an inclusive platform for United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, host-governments, donor governments, private sector partners, communities, and affected teachers, youth and children themselves.

By working together through joint programming, we bring humanitarian and development actors together, supporting coordinated responses and investing in collective outcomes. We are designed for complex crises, which allows us to move with humanitarian speed to achieve development depth. Our investments are flexible, efficient, dynamic and deliver high impact where it is needed most. For just US\$130, we can provide a child with three years of holistic education. This includes continuous access to education facilities, protection and psychosocial services, gender equality, teacher training, learning materials, school feeding, tests and exams showing advanced learning outcomes, early childhood education and an array of support that provides whole-of-child solutions to a whole-of-society problem.

As we set in motion our new 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, we call on our partners worldwide to urgently mobilize a minimum of US\$1.5 billion in additional resources to ensure 20 million children and young people affected by crises – including 12 million girls – receive a quality education over the next four years.

We know that investing in education generates tremendous return on investment. For every dollar invested in girls' education, there will be US\$2.80 in return. We also know that investing in education is an investment in peace, stability and prosperity. It's an investment in stronger economies and an end to hunger and poverty.

Indeed, education is our investment in the future. It is our investment in the 21st Century and in all the generations to come. Education is an investment in humanity, theirs and our own.



We call on our partners worldwide to urgently mobilize a minimum of US\$1.5 billion in additional resources.



YASMINE SHERIF
DIRECTOR,
EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT



ALICIA HERBERT
CHAIR, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT

#222MILLIONDREAMS ✨📚



Around the world, 222 million children and young people affected by the horrors of war, disaster and displacement are desperate to learn. 222 million young people dream of a brighter future. With \$1.5 billion between 2023-2026, Education Cannot Wait can provide education to 20 million children and youth in crises and help catalyse the action needed to put an end to this shocking statistic.

Since Education Cannot Wait was established in 2016, big steps have been taken to improve access to education in emergencies. ECW alone is reaching almost 7 million children and adolescents with quality education in some of the toughest and most complex crises.

But needs are growing so fast that this progress is under threat. Conflicts, climate change and the aftermath of COVID-19 are putting untold pressures on economies, education systems and international assistance.

ECW's latest research shows that 222 million children and adolescents affected by emergencies and protracted crises are in urgent need of education support. This is up from 75 million since similar estimates were made in 2015.

As many as 78 million are out of school, and close to 120 million are in school, but not achieving minimum proficiency in math or reading. In fact, just one in ten crisis-impacted children attending primary or secondary education are achieving these proficiency standards.

84% of those out of school are living in just ten protracted crises: Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia,

Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Yemen – all places where ECW is delivering its flagship multi-year resilience programmes.

Worryingly, ECW research has shown that responses to education in emergencies and protracted crises are chronically underfunded, and that the funding gap appears to have gotten even worse since the COVID-19 pandemic.

To respond to these alarming trends, ECW and strategic partners have launched the **#222MillionDreams** ✨📚 campaign. ECW is calling on world leaders, businesses, foundations, and high net-worth individuals to provide at least \$1.5 billion to ECW so it can deliver its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.

Millions of vulnerable girls and boys around the world await our collective action. From inside makeshift refugee settlements, damaged walls of classrooms and communities torn apart by war, 222 million children and youth are desperately holding on to the hope that education will allow them to realize their dreams.

Learn more about the
#222MillionDreams ✨📚
campaign.





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A CASE FOR INVESTMENT



I kept asking myself, how will I ever become a doctor when I can barely read or write?”

ARSEEL was at school in her hometown, Al-Bukamal, a border town in east Syria, when a shell hit the school building.

Arseel had always dreamed of becoming a doctor, yet it felt like the war had robbed her of that future.

Today, Arseel is enrolled in an ECW-supported programme that is helping her catch up to her peers.



I’m confident I will be one of the top students. I will realize my dream of becoming a doctor to help my people and make my father proud.”



© UNICEF/Abdulaziz Aldroubi

\$1.5 BILLION TO REACH 20 MILLION

ECW needs at least \$1.5 billion to deliver its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan and ensure that an additional 20 million children and young people affected by crises – including 12 million girls – receive an education over the next four years.

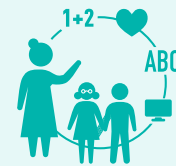
Reaching our funding target means that over the next four years ECW can:



Support **20 million** children and adolescents with quality education



Get **12 million** children and adolescents back into school following a new emergency or the escalation of a crisis



Provide three years of holistic education support to **8 million** children and adolescents in protracted crises



Support **12 million** girls with quality education



Support **2 million** children and adolescents with disabilities with quality education



\$1.5 billion

Resource mobilization target for the Education Cannot Wait Global Trust Fund



First Emergency Response

**\$32 per child -
Cost to get a child back into
education after an acute
emergency for 6-12 months**

- Continuous education access
- Protection and psychosocial support
- Teacher support
- Safe learning environments



Multi-Year Resilience Programmes

**\$130 per child -
Cost to keep a child in
school for three years in
a protracted crisis**

- Continued education access and participation
- Protection and psychosocial services and support
- Teacher training and incentives
- Safe learning environments
- School feeding
- Improved learning outcomes
- Sanitation and hygiene
- Gender equality
- Disaster Risk Management
- School management and administration support
- Inclusion of refugees in national systems
- Resource Mobilization
- System strengthening



HON. AWUT DENG ACUIL
MINISTER OF GENERAL EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION,
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

“222 million children are affected by the crises around the world. In South Sudan, +2 million, especially girls and children with disabilities, are out of school. We are proud to be a strategic partner of ECW and urgently appeal to stakeholders to make new funding commitments. We can help make #222MillionDreams 🌟📖 come true.”



IGNAZIO CASSIS
PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS
CONFEDERATION

“Despite its vital importance, education in emergencies remains chronically underfunded while needs are growing. That’s why Switzerland is partnering with Education Cannot Wait, the United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises. We are proud to co-host the Education Cannot Wait High-Level Financing Conference in Geneva together with Germany, Niger, Norway & South Sudan as co-conveners.”



ANTÓNIO GUTERRES
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

“Around the world, 222 million children are having their education cruelly interrupted. In the face of crises, the UN’s fund for education in emergencies – Education Cannot Wait – is standing with children across 40 countries. We need governments, businesses, foundations, and individuals to support the vital work of Education Cannot Wait. Help us keep #222MillionDreams 🌟📖 alive.”



I am passionate about studying the sciences. I would like to become a teacher someday, so that I can share knowledge with children and other girls like me.”

MEDA, 21, did not think it would be possible to resume her education after fleeing to the DRC with her mother and having a baby at a young age. Thanks to an ECW-funded campaign which raised awareness in refugee communities on the importance of sending children to school – especially young mothers and girls with caregiver duties – Meda re-entered the classroom and is thriving.

OUR NICHE: 3 REASONS TO FUND ECW

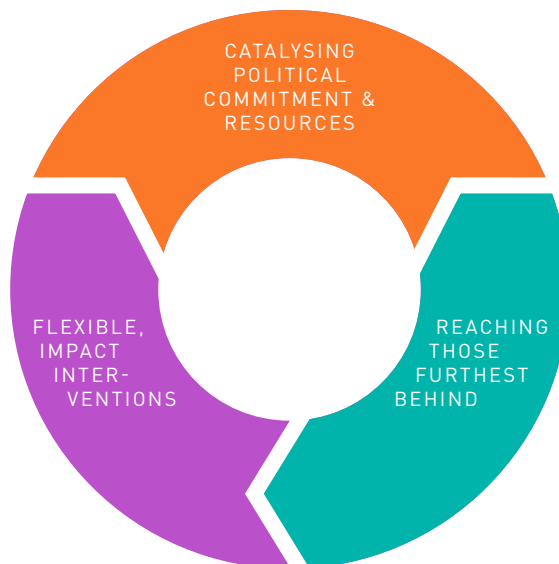


AMINA J. MOHAMMED
DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

“I strongly support ECW's High-Level Financing Conference. ECW is pioneering a new way of working: a partnership approach to invest in the education of children and youth left furthest behind in crisis. I urgently appeal to donors to contribute generously to this critical appeal.”

WE CATALYSE POLITICAL COMMITMENTS AND RESOURCES

ECW is a catalyst that brings together donors, host governments, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, civil society, private sector, academics, foundations, and others to place education in emergencies and protracted crises at the centre of the global public agenda and mobilize resources. In just five years we have mobilized over \$1 billion and led a global effort that has increased humanitarian education fivefold. ECW's **#222MillionDreams** 🌟🇺🇳 campaign will turbocharge these effort over the next four years, leveraging resources from non-traditional donors and the private sector and strengthening the global movement for education in emergencies and protracted crises.



WE REACH THOSE LEFT FURTHEST BEHIND IN THE MOST COMPLEX CRISES

ECW is the global fund dedicated to education in emergencies and protracted crises. We reach those left furthest behind: refugee, internally displaced and crisis-affected children and youth, and their teachers and communities - all of whom are desperately holding on to hope in refugee camps and communities torn by war, forced displacement, climate-induced disasters, and other crises. Our funding is focused on the most complex, protracted, and underfunded crises, and our interventions seek out those most likely to fall behind within those crises: girls, children with disabilities, and forcibly displaced populations.

OUR INTERVENTIONS ARE FLEXIBLE AND DELIVER HIGH IMPACT

ECW offers a unique combination of rapid education responses in emergencies and multi-year investments in complex protracted crises. Emergency grants provide immediate resources to support lifesaving and life sustaining education responses, while ECW's resilience seed funds support multi-year efforts and rally joint action across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. Within ECW's multilateral pooled fund model, strategic partners exercise decision-making in investments. ECW also offers the agility and flexibility required to mitigate risks in volatile crisis situations.



MARTIN GRIFFITHS
UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL FOR HUMANITARIAN
AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR AT
THE UNITED NATIONS

"ECW has delivered quality education to millions of children in more than 40 countries, such as Afghanistan, Syria, and Ukraine. I call on everyone to unite around education – together we can, and we must, put the schooling of the world's children back on track."



JUTTA URPILAINEN
EU COMMISSIONER FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

"Today, 222 million school-aged children and adolescents are affected by crises and in urgent need of education support. With Education Cannot Wait, the European Union is helping provide them with education opportunities and hope. Let us help their #222MillionDreams 🌟🇪🇺 come true!"

EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT



“

My dream is to be an architect, because I like to draw. And I need to go to school in order to achieve my dream in the future.”

AMÍLCAR (RIGHT), 14, was able to continue learning amidst the COVID-19 pandemic thanks to ECW-supported television and radio education programmes in Mozambique – bringing him closer to achieving his dreams!

ALZIRA (LEFT), 17, dreams of becoming a civil engineer. When her school closed at the height of the pandemic, ECW and partners ensured that children and adolescents in Mozambique could continue learning through television and radio education programmes.

ECW 2023-2026: A BOLD, NEW STRATEGIC VISION



VISION

A world where all children and adolescents affected by crises can learn free of cost, in safety and without fear



MISSION

To generate greater shared political, operational, and financial commitment to meet the educational needs of millions of children and young people affected by crises, with a focus on more agile, connected, and faster responses that span the humanitarian - development - peace continuum to achieve sustainable education systems.



REFAT SABBAH
PRESIDENT OF THE GLOBAL
CAMPAIGN FOR EDUCATION

“222 million school-aged children are affected by crises around the world today. ECW’s holistic approach to education brings crucial learning opportunities to crises ranging from Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Ukraine, the Sahel, Bangladesh, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and beyond. By committing substantive funding to ECW, we can help make #222MillionDreams come true.”



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

ECW's central priority will be to address the two most critical and persistent challenges to closing the quality education gap in emergencies and protracted crises: a lack of funding and weak capacities and systems.



INCREASED AND BETTER FUNDING

- Mobilizing \$1.5 billion for the ECW Global Trust Fund
- Leading global efforts to inspire political commitment and mobilize more funding
- Creation of a new Financing Observatory
- Strengthening predictability and alignment at the country level



STRONGER CAPACITIES AND SYSTEMS

- Stronger coordination at the nexus
- Stronger localization and community participation
- Improved sharing and use of data
- Increased inclusive policies, approaches, and standards

To learn more about
ECW's 2023-2026
Strategic Plan [click here](#).



PRINCIPLES

- Defending education as a fundamental human right and an enabler of all other rights.
- Championing holistic, quality education.
- Leaving no child or adolescent behind.
- Advancing the empowerment of girls, women, and children living with disabilities.
- Protecting children from violence, exploitation, and abuse.
- Investing in local actors and building local-level capacities.
- Role-modelling an agile, coordinated, and sustainable response.
- Remaining fully accountable to the affected populations we serve first and foremost.



ANNE BEATHE TVINNEREIM
MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
NORWAY

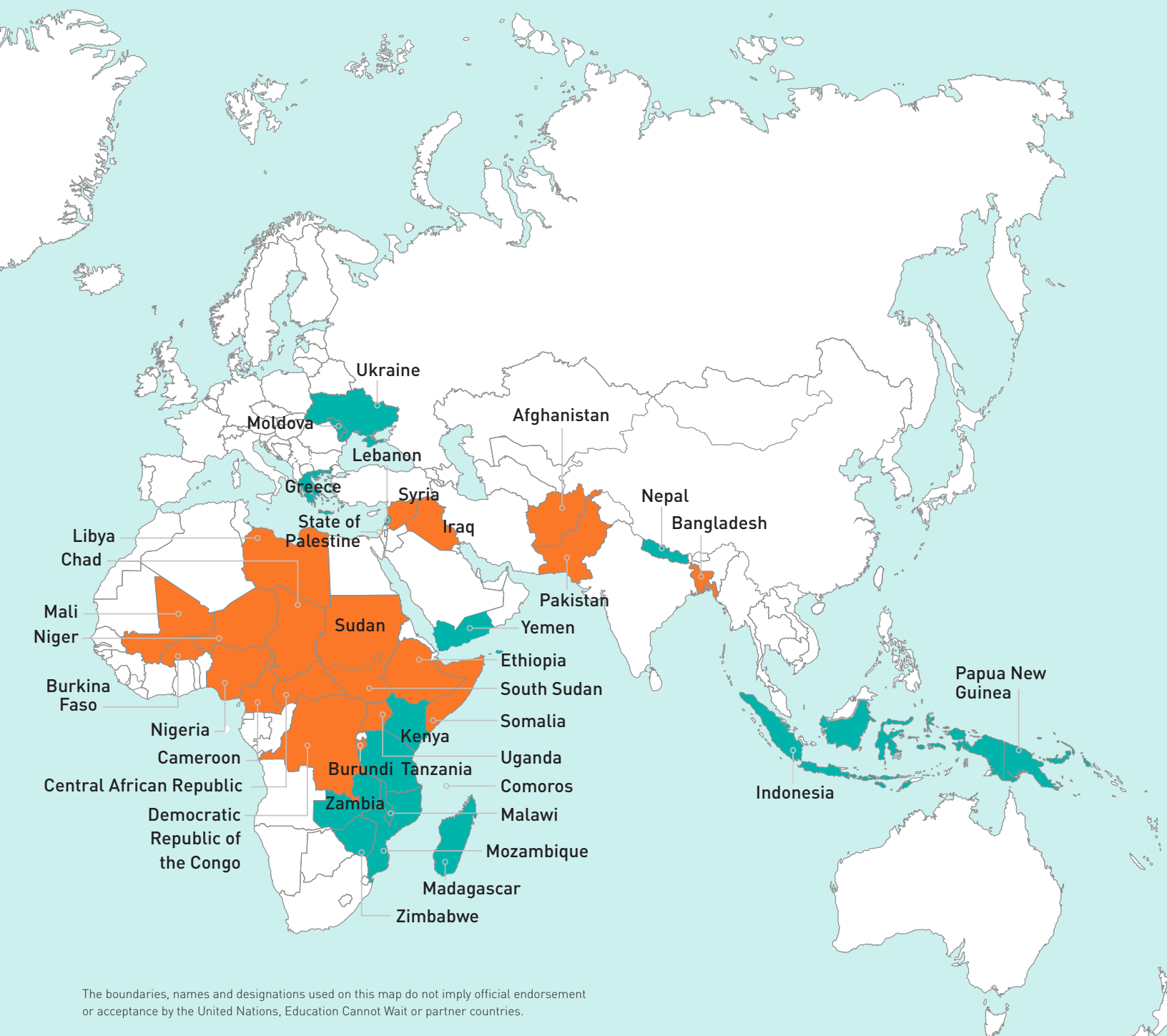
"Norway is proud to be a co-convenor of Education Cannot Wait's High-Level Financing Conference and the #222MillionDreams 🌟🇳🇴 Campaign. Together, we must take action to address the global education crisis."

MAP OF ECW COUNTRY INVESTMENTS

As of September 2022, ECW investments have supported 43 crisis-affected countries around the world.

■ MYRP
■ FER





OUR FUTURES, OUR DREAMS

A short statement from the global youth community for education in emergencies and protracted crises



Currently, funding for EiE is only 2-4% of the global humanitarian funding. 222 million crisis affected children need educational support. It is little wonder that most children and young people stay out of school, shattering their dreams during crises. This is a result of our governments and implementing organisations not prioritising EiE.

For refugee children and youth, there are not enough deliberate measures to address their motivation to learn. Having a learning space is not a guarantee for them.

Ebola, coronavirus (Covid-19) and other health pandemics put education on hold without alternatives like learning remotely in most areas. In developing countries, alternative provision is not good enough and many students fail national exams while others drop out of school and fall into many other malpractices which exposes them to further harm.

Climate related crises like cyclones, drought and floods also put school on hold for millions of children. Resulting risks mean education for children with disabilities and girls is not prioritised. Equality and inclusion are severely lacking.

For these reasons, we are calling for all individuals, institutions, governments, and world leaders to join hands in advocating and providing increased and adequate funding for EiE. Having enough funding for EiE will enable our governments to always be prepared to deliver the dreams of children and young people seeking refuge.

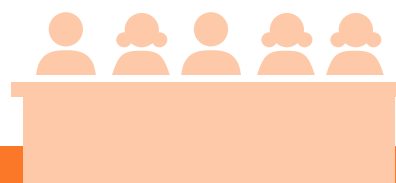
It will enable us to have effective alternatives for learning while at home. It will help us build more resistant classrooms to withstand climate change issues and ensure and inclusive education system for all in emergency settings.

This is our call: fund education in emergencies before it is too late. Starting with \$1.5 billion for Education Cannot Wait so it can deliver its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan and reach 20 million crisis-affected children and youth."



MICHELLE CHIKURUNHE
YOUTH4EIE GLOBAL YOUTH PANEL
MEMBER, REPRESENTING ZIMBABWE

“I am excited to support the #222MillionDreams 🌟🇷🇪 Campaign because I believe in the mission to deliver an inclusive, continued quality education to millions of young people and children who have been deprived and denied their education. I urge all relevant stakeholders to invest in education in emergencies.”

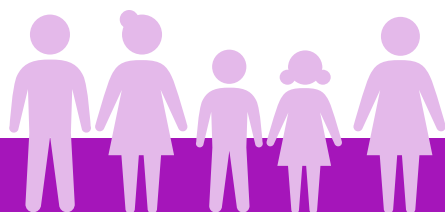


The Global Youth Panel for Education in Emergencies is a panel of 16 members from 8 countries. The panelists aim to raise increased awareness for the barriers to education in emergencies (EiE) and advocate for increased and adequate funding for EiE. They work in partnership with Plan International and Education Cannot Wait (ECW).



DAMIEN BARAKA
YOUTH4EIE GLOBAL YOUTH PANEL
MEMBER, REPRESENTING MALAWI

“I’m proud to support the #222MillionDreams 🌟🇷🇪 Campaign because this is the campaign which will show issues that children, and in particular girls, face when emergencies strike and call for attention from world leaders. I urge world leaders and donors to join hands in this battle so we’re fighting together.”

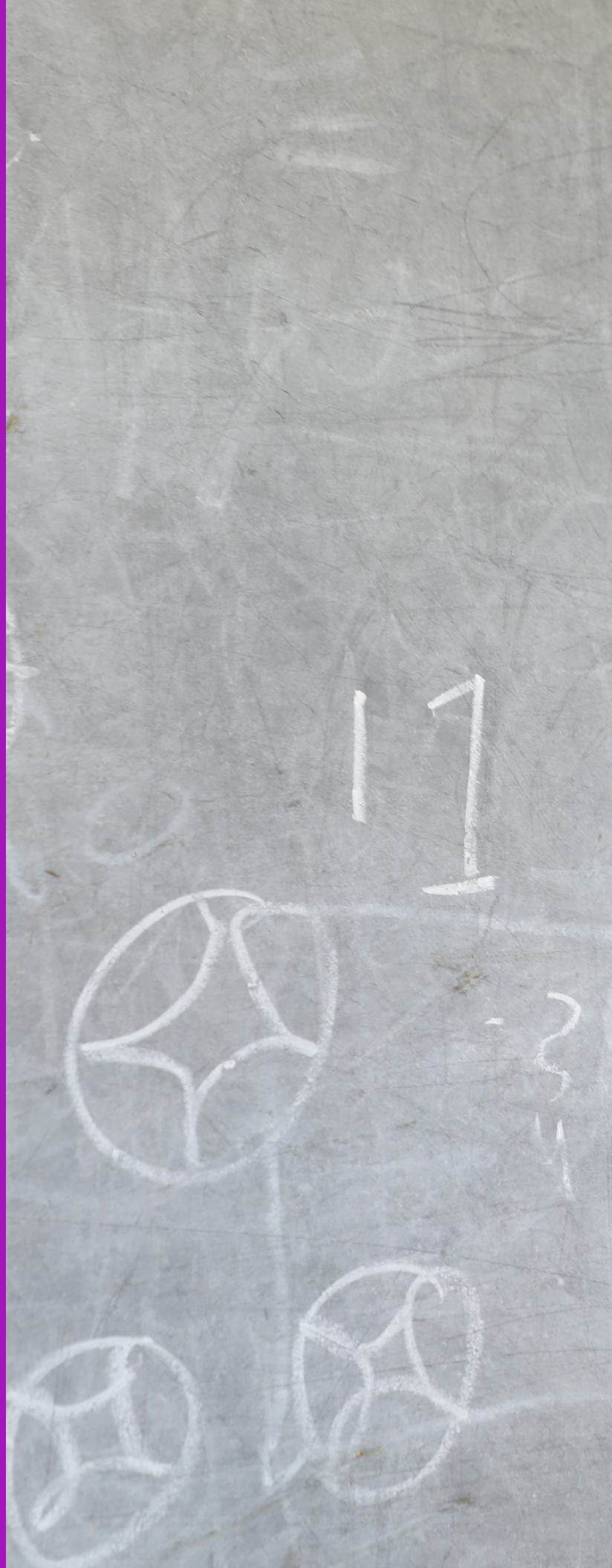


In 2021, ECW took concrete steps to democratically include youth in its governance structure and decision-making processes. Young people are represented alongside government ministers, heads of UN agencies, civil society organizations, and private sector leaders — a refreshing example of intergenerational collaboration at the highest levels of humanitarian aid.



When I grow up,
I want to be a teacher
for children living with
disabilities. Seeing
myself, I believe
those children need
education and more
care. I also want to
own a big shop so
I will have a good
source of income to
provide for my needs.”

ECW investments in Ethiopia are helping vulnerable learners like **ALI, 11**, reach their full potential!





A COORDINATED RESPONSE TO THE FORGOTTEN CRISIS IN THE CENTRAL SAHEL

The humanitarian situation across the Central Sahel is among the most quickly deteriorating in the world. Growing insurgency, combined with extreme poverty, climate change, food insecurity, malnutrition and the COVID-19 pandemic has driven around 3.5 million people among which 1.7 million are children in need of humanitarian assistance.

In the face of conflict, forced displacement and natural disasters, education is generally the first service interrupted and the last to be resumed. Over 5,500 schools were closed due to insecurity at the end of 2021 and 13 million children out of school.

Adolescent girls are disproportionately impacted, facing heightened risk of child marriage, early pregnancy, and gender-based violence. Adolescent boys are at increased risk of recruitment into armed groups. Education Cannot Wait focusses on these groups as a matter of priority.

In Kaya, in the North Central region of Burkina Faso, ECW supports quality holistic education for children displaced by the violence.



© ECW/Cisse

A REGIONAL APPROACH TO EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Education Cannot Wait has adopted a regional approach to the complex crisis in the Central Sahel, dispersing \$30 million across Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger since 2019.

Rather than responding to individual countries, the cross-border response promotes regional coordination, knowledge sharing and increased efficiencies, while allowing for greater engagement with policy dialogues and advocacy.

Since 2019, ECW funds have helped address the most urgent needs for the delivery of pre-school, primary and secondary education. Teachers were recruited and trained in child protection and mental health, gender-segregated latrines were built so girls could feel safe and distance learning opportunities were provided for the hardest-to-reach children. These first emergency responses are reaching over a quarter of a million girls and boys affected by forced displacement.

TARGETING THE MOST MARGINALIZED THROUGH MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMMING

In 2021, building on the First Emergency Response, ECW launched a regional Multi-Year Resilience Programme (MYRP) in the Central Sahel. The programme - which will reach 300,000 children in total - specifically targets displaced, refugee and returnee children, adolescent girls, children with disabilities and children currently out of school.

ECW funds support a comprehensive package of interventions, addressing the myriad needs of young people affected by conflict, forced displacement and COVID-19. School feeding, psychosocial support and improved sanitation facilities complement investments in teacher training and recruitment, school rehabilitation and back-to-school campaigns.

The joint programme is running for three years, and ECW has provided \$33 million in seed funding to get the programme off the ground. An additional \$117 million in co-financing is now urgently needed.

ECW'S COMMITMENT TO #EMPOWERHER

ADVANCING GENDER EQUALITY AND GIRLS' EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES AND PROTRACTED CRISES



MALALA YOUSAFZAI
CO-FOUNDER OF MALALA FUND

“In a crisis, girls are often the first to be removed from school and the last to return. Yet girls’ education is central to rebuilding communities and countries. Educating young women grows economies, improves public health and reduces the risk of future conflict. To keep girls learning and build a safer world, we need leaders to renew their investment in Education Cannot Wait.”

Education Cannot Wait recognizes the complex and multi-dimensional barriers to education that girls face in emergencies and protracted crises. We also recognize the ripple effects that educating a girl has on her family, community, and society.

ECW’s Call to Action to Empower Her outlines how we advance gender equality through all areas of our work to reach both our financing and programmatic goals.





SVENJA SCHULZE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, GERMANY

“It is our common responsibility to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality education. Opportunities for education, especially for girls and young women, pay off – because young people are agents of change and transform our societies fearlessly.”

ECW'S APPROACH TO ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN EIEPC IS THREE-FOLD:

- 1** Ensure ECW-supported investments are designed based on locally driven gender analysis through collaboration with Local Women and Girls Organizations and in-country gender expertise.
- 2** Hardwiring gender in the design and implementation of ECW-supported investments through gender mainstreaming.
- 3** Tailoring gender-targeted interventions to redress gender inequalities and empower disadvantaged children and adolescents in all their diversity “by utilizing all parts of an education system – from policies to pedagogies to community engagement – to transform gender stereotypes, attitudes, norms, and practices.

IN LINE WITH THIS APPROACH, ECW AND PARTNERS HAVE ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS:



Since inception, ECW has reached **3.3 million girls** (48.4% of total) in some of the world's most challenging humanitarian contexts.



92 % of programs in 2021, that reported on access for girls and boys demonstrated an improvement in gender parity.



In 2021 alone, **8,411 female teachers** were trained on a variety of topics and that **14,191 teachers** (44 % female) were trained on gender-related aspects.

- Five out of the seven multi-year programs developed in 2021 focused on changing social norms, attitudes and behaviors that reinforce gender inequality and keep girls out of school.
- In 2021, all programs that reported gender-disaggregated learning outcomes achieved improved learning results for girls.
- Evaluations have highlighted that attention to gender issues is a common thread across FERs and that ECW's evolving, more strategic approach with respect to MYRPs has seen improvement in gender equality over the MYRP generations.
- Since 2021, GBV risk mitigation is systematically costed and integrated in all ECW-supported investments.
- To strengthen gender capacity at country level, all MYRPs include a gender lead organization to support gender capacity strengthening, monitoring, and knowledge management and production at country level.

EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT



For **EMEBET, 17**, the conflict in Ethiopia resulted in her school being burned down. ECW investments supported the reconstruction of the building and ensured that students and teachers in the community received new learning supplies. Emebet now says,

“

I want to become an accountant to provide banking services for my parents and my community.”

ECW'S COMMITMENT: SPOTLIGHT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change and extreme weather events will continue to present key humanitarian challenges. Natural disasters, such as cyclones, typhoons, and floods, continue to trigger most new internal displacements worldwide.

The total number of people newly displaced because of natural disasters in the first half of 2020 was 9.8 million. By 2050, this number is expected to rise to 140 million people across South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America.

ECW will address and mitigate the devastating impact of climate change through its investments and policy work. We will identify the impact and intersection of climate change and education in emergencies and embed climate priorities into our programmes. For example:

- Increase the number of emergency responses to climate events to protect children and education in times of crisis.
- Enhance our investment mechanisms to include climate risks in needs assessments and needs-based decision-making and programme design.
- Endorse the revised Comprehensive School Safety Framework 2022–2030 and work with partners to support its adoption and implementation.
- Support global learning and research on climate resilience in education in emergencies and protracted crises (EiEPC) and global guidance on climate resilient education systems in EiEPC.
- Support greater collaboration on the climate-EiEPC intersection.
- Explore accessing and distributing climate finance through our existing funding mechanisms and setting organizational emission reduction targets for ECW in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.



140 million
people across South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America are expected to be newly displaced because of natural disasters.

Source: World Bank



12.5 million
girls will be prevented from completing their education each year due to climate change as a contributing factor by 2025, if current trends continue.

Source: Malala Fund



HARJIT S. SAJJAN
MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CANADA

“Canada is proud to be a strategic donor to Education Cannot Wait and I join the urgent appeal for governments, private sector, foundations and high-net worth individuals to make new funding commitments to ECW.”



VICKY FORD
MINISTER OF STATE FOR
DEVELOPMENT IN THE
FOREIGN, COMMONWEALTH &
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, UK

“Every child deserves an education – not only to protect them from trauma today, but to help secure their future tomorrow. That is why the UK is proud to support ECW. Help join the call today to raise funds for ECW so that they can make #222MillionDreams🌟🇬🇧 come true.”



JAN EGELAND
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

“With funding from ECW, NRC has been able to provide education for out-of-school children in many neglected, desperate places where there was only conflict, disaster and displacement. We urge all donors to help realise the dream of getting all 222 million children now engulfed in conflict and despair into education.”

THE CLIMATE CRISIS: ECW IN ACTION

In 2019, Southern Africa was hit by two of the most extreme cyclones to ever make land-fall in the region, leaving a trail of devastation across Comoros, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. It resulted in an estimated \$773 million of damage to buildings, infrastructure, and agriculture. Families lost their homes and mass displacement occurred. Thousands of schools were damaged or destroyed, leaving hundreds of thousands of students at risk of never returning. This caused academic achievement and enrolment rates to plummet.

ECW responded swiftly to the crisis via a \$15.5 million emergency investment, which made a significant contribution to the humanitarian appeal. ECW funding supported: reparations for damaged schools; the provision of educational supplies to communities; training of education personnel on psychosocial support for students; and support to government to implement long-term disaster mitigation strategies. ECW-funded education awareness, disaster preparedness, and health campaigns reached over 635,000 people across Comoros, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. ECW funding also facilitated continuity of education for over 745,000 students (50 per cent girls).



© UN Habitat/Veridiana Mathieu

A teacher in a newly-built resilient classroom in Mozambique. ECW support enabled implementing partners to rebuild more resilient schools, like this one, following their destruction during devastating cyclones Kenneth and Idai.



I love school.
It helps you
to become
someone.
Myself, I want
to be a doctor.”

© JRS Chad/Irene Galera

RAKINA, 17, and girls throughout Chad are benefiting from ECW investments which provide menstrual hygiene management kits and training – combating stigma around menstruation and helping adolescent girls stay in school when they have their periods.



© JRS Chad/Irene Galera

LEAVING NO YOUNG PERSON BEHIND

ECW exists to support education for children and youth left furthest behind in crises. Ensuring our investments reach the forcibly displaced, children and adolescents with disabilities, vulnerable adolescent girls and children traumatized by the horrors of conflict is central to our values and operating model. All our Multi-Year Resilience Programmes are designed in view of evidence-based targeting to ensure that children and communities left furthest behind are reached.

Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) are core priorities of ECW's, mainstreamed across investments. ECW recognizes that no child or youth can learn unless their trauma of conflict and forcible displacement is addressed. We are also mindful of the fact that these experiences can be a great source of resilience when managed and channelled through effective MHPSS.

ECW's Accountability Framework on Disability Inclusion sets out a blueprint for action to mainstream disability inclusion across all areas of work. This includes an ambitious target to reach 10% of children with disabilities across investments. ECW leverages a two-pronged approach. In each programme, ECW seeks to target girls and boys with disabilities through interventions meeting their specific requirements. Interventions also embed the perspectives of learners with disabilities so that they can benefit and be active stakeholders on an equal basis with others.

The inclusion of forcibly displaced children and adolescents in education systems is also a top priority for ECW. Through its advocacy and investments, ECW promotes the inclusion of refugee, youth, and teachers into national education systems. These efforts will be intensified throughout the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan including the scale up on best practices in distance learning to reach the displaced learners.

ECW GLOBAL RESULTS SINCE ECW INCEPTION



43%

percentage of children
reached who are refugees
or IDPs



62,274

children with
disabilities reached



54,038

teachers trained in
mental health and
psychosocial support



I want to meet Messi and play football with him! I also want to study hard so that one day I can find a job and support my family.”

ZUBAIR loves soccer and dreams of meeting his hero – as well as getting a quality education. Thanks to ECW support in Bangladesh, Rohingya refugee children like Zubair are able to access the protection, hope and opportunity of education.

DELIVERING TOGETHER WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND FOUNDATIONS

ECW works with businesses, foundations, and philanthropists to transform education for children and youth affected by emergencies and protracted crises. Our private sector partners contribute meaningfully to our efforts to get crisis-affected children in school and learning. Together, we get resources out quickly and partners join the global movement of thought leaders and decision makers of Education Cannot Wait. Existing private sector partners include The LEGO Foundation, Dubai Cares, Verizon, Global Citizen, The Postcode Lottery, and Porticus Global.

In the face of conflict, forced displacement and climate-induced disasters, education is generally the first service interrupted and the last to be resumed. We know that to reach the 222 million children in crisis and achieve SDG4 we need ground-breaking new partnerships, ideas, and innovations. We want to work with like-minded business leaders and philanthropists who share our passion for making the dreams of crisis-affected children a reality; leaders who share our dedicated, entrepreneurial, and impatient approach.

SHARED VALUES – A SNAPSHOT OF LEADERSHIP FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND FOUNDATIONS

THE LEGO FOUNDATION – BUILDING CREATIVE AND ENGAGED LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, CEO of The LEGO Foundation, shares ECW's commitment to achieve SDG4 through a strong focus early childhood education and Learning Through Play, particularly for children and youth impacted by crises and emergencies. The LEGO Foundation is the leading philanthropic donor to ECW, working closely with us since 2019 to deliver inclusive quality education for crisis-affected children and youth.

The LEGO Foundation believes deeply in the power of Learning Through Play for children affected by conflicts and crises. Research proves that play provides comfort, helps children to overcome traumatic experiences, builds resilience and allows a return to the routine and normalcy of being a child, all of which are critical for young people affected by crises.

The LEGO Foundation's investment in ECW protects children and promotes their learning and wellbeing by providing safe, equitable, locally relevant, and age-appropriate learning through play opportunities. This partnership also supports the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of all children.



ANNE-BIRGITTE ALBRECHTSEN
CEO OF THE LEGO FOUNDATION

“The LEGO Foundation is proud to be the largest private funder of Education Cannot Wait and we call on all funders to use the opportunity of ECW's upcoming High-Level Financing Conference to take urgent, collective action to make sure that #222MillionDreams 🌟🇪🇨🇼 can come true.”

DUBAI CARES – IMPARTING QUALITY EDUCATION TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Under the leadership and strategic vision of Dubai Cares' Chief Executive Officer and Vice-Chairman, H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Gurg, Dubai Cares contributes to the evidence-base in education, leverages funding and invests in strategic relationships and programs that support the global education agenda. As a founding member of the High-Level Steering Group of ECW, he has been a vocal advocate for education in emergencies and youth empowerment.

A long-standing champion and funder of ECW, Dubai Cares believes that education in emergencies and protracted crisis settings is one of the most effective ways to provide stability, security and hope to children and youth during crises. Working in partnership with ECW during the COVID-19 pandemic allowed Dubai Cares to gain in-depth insights into different educational interventions and to support a coordinated, coherent response effort.

Dubai Cares has raised the alarm on global education financing, galvanised global action and thought leadership through the RewirEd agenda and advocated greater connectivity and access to distance learning opportunities for crisis-affected children.



H.E. DR. TARIQ AL GURG
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF DUBAI CARES

“Dubai Cares has long maintained a sharp focus on supporting education in emergencies and protracted crises as one of the most effective ways to provide stability, security and hope to children trapped in these circumstances. As a founding partner of ECW, Dubai Cares calls upon the global community to urgently intervene and support this proven model of providing quality education to the world’s 222 million crisis-affected children.”



CLARA GOVIER
MANAGING DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE'S
POSTCODE LOTTERY

“ECW’s holistic approach includes a clear focus on girls’ education, climate resilience and gender equality – key priorities for the Postcode Lottery in our aim to build a fairer, greener world. By committing new, substantive funds during ECW’s High-Level Financing Conference in 2023, we can make #222Million-Dreams 🌟🇪🇺 come true.”

THE DUTCH POSTCODE LOTTERY – SOCIETY ALWAYS WINS

The Dutch Postcode Lottery supports charities that work to create a better and greener world. The Dutch Postcode Lottery has supported Theirworld and ECW to fund emergency education for thousands of refugee children on the Greek islands.

More than 10,000 people in the overcrowded refugee camps in the Greek Aegean islands are school-aged children and fewer than 15 per cent have any form of education. Including the Greek mainland, there are about 46,000 refugee children and youth. Only 13,000 of them are in formal schools.

THE JACOBS FOUNDATION – EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO UNLOCK FULL POTENTIAL

The Jacobs Foundation believes that whatever their background, place of residence or family income, all children should have the chance to reach their full potential. During the 2022 World Economic Forum, Fabio Segura, Co-CEO of the Jacobs Foundation, reinforced that the participation and contribution of the private sector has many advantages.

In emergencies and conflict, the private sector could play a role in scaling what works. Fabio Segura stresses the need to look at the contribution of education in business and, at the same time, look at the contribution of business to education. This, he says, makes a case for engagement beyond capital and financing in emergencies as it means expanding horizons for investments and horizons for education returns.



FABIO SEGURA
CO-CEO OF THE JACOBS FOUNDATION

“One of the things we have learned is that it is not just the financing of the gap in education but the logic and the thinking that the private sector can bring or contribute to managing education and scaling education solutions. That logic, thinking, and intellectual capital are critical even though we do not often discuss education matters in the private sector.”

HOW CAN YOU HELP?



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Funding is the most helpful way of contributing to our mission as it allows us to address the most pressing needs through those best placed to respond. We can facilitate unearmarked contributions, country-specific support, or thematic support. Multi-year investments, creative giving challenges, online crowd funding, are a small selection of ways to extend the reach of your impact. We also work with many public sector donors who are open to match funding opportunities with private sector partners.



SPREAD THE WORD

From introducing ECW at industry convenings, to leveraging branding on corporate assets to peer introductions, we rely on the engagement, influence, and leadership of our partners. You can reinforce ECW's value and impact with industry peers, partners, government representatives, employees and consumers and help us reach new audiences.



GIFTS, MATCHING & EMPLOYEES

In times of crisis, private sector individuals, companies and foundations are often the first to seek ways to give and support. Our donation platform, Pledgeling, enables easy integration into organizational initiatives such as corporate and employee giving and corporate social responsibility contributions. Selecting ECW as a partner of choice in times of crisis will leverage your dollars for immediate relief, while simultaneously engaging your internal and external stakeholders to raise awareness for our cause and your commitments.



INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Support for innovative education approaches through our Acceleration Facility can help ECW bring impact to scale, minimize duplication, and provide a clear and easy entry point for other donors to support innovation.



IN-KIND / TECHNICAL SUPPORT

While welcome, this type of support goes hand in hand with other partnership offerings and must always first be vetted by local implementers to ensure there is an existing need, determine fit for purpose and adequate funding.



“

When I grow up, I will be a teacher to teach the next generation so that our country will be beautiful.”

RADIA has big dreams for her future. An ECW-funded programme in Yemen is supporting her dream through rehabilitating schools, establishing temporary learning spaces, setting up water/sanitation facilities, supplying school materials and ensuring that teachers are receiving a salary.



About Education Cannot Wait (ECW):

Education Cannot Wait is the United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises. We support quality education outcomes for refugee, internally displaced, and other crisis-affected girls and boys so no one is left behind. ECW works through the multilateral system to both increase the speed of responses in crises and connect immediate relief and longer-term interventions through multi-year programming. ECW works in close partnership with governments, public and private donors, UN agencies, civil society organizations, and other humanitarian and development aid actors to increase efficiencies and end siloed responses. ECW urgently appeals to public and private sector donors for expanded support to reach even more vulnerable children and youth.

Additional information is available
at www.educationcannotwait.org
Contact: info@un-ecw.org

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