

TECHNICAL ANNEX

Syria Regional Crisis

FINANCIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

The provisions of the financing decision ECHO/WWD/BUD/2019/01000 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 which may be included in the related Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP).

1. CONTACTS

Operational Unit in charge	DG ECHO ¹ /B4
Contact persons at HQ	Team Leaders: Mamar MERZOUK (inside Syria): Mamar.MERZOUK@ec.europa.eu Magdalena MULLER-URI (Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt): Magdalena.MULLER-URI@ec.europa.eu Syria: Elena FRANCESHINIS: Elena.FRANCESCHINIS@ec.europa.eu Joe GALBY: Joe.GALBY@ec.europa.eu Martina GHELARDUCCI: Martina.GHELARDUCCI@ec.europa.eu Silvia NAVEIRA CAMPOS: Silvia.NAVEIRA-CAMPOS@ec.europa.eu Dina SINIGALLIA: Dina.SINIGALLIA@ec.europa.eu Desk Officer for Regional, Thematic and Operational Issues: Roxane HENRY: Roxane.HENRY@ec.europa.eu Lebanon: Nicolas RITZENTHALER: Nicolas.RITZENTHALER@ec.europa.eu Jordan: Jacopo LOMBARDI: Jacopo.LOMBARDI@ec.europa.eu Egypt: Gaetan MIONI: Gaetan.MIONI@ec.europa.eu

¹ Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)
ECHO/SYR/BUD/2019/91000

in the field

Syria (Damascus and cross-border hubs):

Olivier ROUSSELLE (Head of Office):

Olivier.Rousselle@echofield.eu

Olivier BEUCHER:

Olivier.Beucher@echofield.eu

Vanessa MERLET:

Vanessa.Merlet@echofield.eu

Anna ORLANDINI:

anna.orlandini@echofield.eu

Luigi PANDOLFI:

Luigi.pandolfi@echofield.eu

Cedric PERUS:

Cedric.Perus@echofield.eu

Lebanon:

Massimiliano MANGIA (Head of Office):

Massimiliano.Mangia@echofield.eu

Joachim DELVILLE:

Joachim.Delville@echofield.eu

Jordan:

Matteo PAOLTRONI (Head of Office):

Matteo.Paoltroni@echofield.eu

Branko GOLUBOVIC:

Branko.Golubovic@echofield.eu

Egypt:

Aldo BIONDI:

Aldo.Biondi@echofield.eu

Regional:

Aldo BIONDI (Head of Regional Office):

Aldo.Biondi@echofield.eu

2. FINANCIAL INFO

Indicative Allocation: EUR 260 000 000 (of which an indicative amount of EUR 16 500 000 for Education in Emergencies)

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

Country	Action (a) Man-made crises and natural disasters	Action (b) Initial emergency response/small- scale/epidemics	Action (c) DIPECHO	Action (d) to (h) Transport / Complementary activities	TOTAL
Syria	170 000 000				170 000 000
Lebanon	65 000 000				65 000 000
Jordan	20 000 000				20 000 000
Egypt	5 000 000				5 000 000

3. PROPOSAL ASSESSMENT

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).

3.1. Administrative info

Allocation round 1 SYRIA

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 170 000 000.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2019².
- c) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on Education in Emergencies, Disaster Preparedness.
- d) Potential partners³: All DG ECHO Partners. Preselected partner: ICRC (in view of its comprehensive presence in all countries in the region combined with its multi-sectoral intervention capacity and presence in the field, notably with respect to protection, ICRC has been pre-selected to run a Grand bargain related regional pilot project).
- e) Information to be provided: Single Form⁴.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 10/01/2019⁵.

Allocation round 1 LEBANON

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 65 000 000.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2019.
- c) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on Education in Emergencies, Disaster Preparedness.
- d) Potential partners⁶: All DG ECHO Partners. Preselected partner: ICRC (in view of its comprehensive presence in all countries in the region combined with its

² 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.

³ For UK based applicants (non-governmental organisations): Please be aware that you must comply with the requirement of establishment in an EU Member State for the entire duration of the grants awarded under this HIP. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 15 of the grant agreement.

⁴ Single Forms will be submitted to DG ECHO using APPEL.

⁵ 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.

multi-sectoral intervention capacity and presence in the field, notably with respect to protection, ICRC has been pre-selected to run a Grand bargain related regional pilot project). Preselected partner: UNHCR and WFP (given the fact that the current implementation framework set up in 2018 delivers cash assistance in a smooth manner to the beneficiaries, offers a good efficiency ratio and at an appropriate moment in time can be transferred towards other instruments, and also due to the size and the complexity of the operation, UNHCR and WFP have been pre-selected to implement the Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance).

- e) Information to be provided: Single Form.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 27/01/2019.

Allocation round 1 JORDAN

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 20 000 000.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2019.
- c) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on Education in Emergencies, Disaster Preparedness.
- d) Potential partners⁷: All DG ECHO Partners. Preselected partner: ICRC (in view of its comprehensive presence in all countries in the region combined with its multi-sectoral intervention capacity and presence in the field, notably with respect to protection, ICRC has been pre-selected to run a Grand bargain related regional pilot project).
- e) Information to be provided: Single Form.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 27/02/2019.

Allocation round 1 EGYPT

- a) Indicative amount: up to EUR 5 000 000.
- b) Costs will be eligible from 01/01/2019.

⁶ For UK based applicants (non-governmental organisations): Please be aware that you must comply with the requirement of establishment in an EU Member State for the entire duration of the grants awarded under this HIP. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 15 of the grant agreement.

⁷ For UK based applicants (non-governmental organisations): Please be aware that you must comply with the requirement of establishment in an EU Member State for the entire duration of the grants awarded under this HIP. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 15 of the grant agreement.

- c) The initial duration for the Action may be up to 24 months, including for Actions on Education in Emergencies, Disaster Preparedness.
- d) Potential partners⁸: All DG ECHO Partners.
- e) Information to be provided: Single Form.
- f) Indicative date for receipt of the above requested information: by 27/02/2019.

3.2. Operational requirements

3.2.1. Assessment criteria:

1) Relevance

- How relevant is the proposed intervention and its coverage for the objectives of the HIP?
- Do joint (prioritised) needs assessment and coordination mechanisms of the humanitarian actors exist, and if so, has the joint needs assessment been used for the proposed intervention and/or has the proposed intervention been coordinated with other relevant humanitarian actors?

2) Capacity and expertise

- Does the partner, with its implementing partners, have sufficient country / region and / or technical expertise?
- How good is the partner's local capacity? Is local capacity of partners being built up?

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 actions (including where relevant use of single interoperable registries of beneficiaries).
- Extent to which the proposed intervention contribute to resilience, LRRD and sustainability.

⁸ For UK based applicants (non-governmental organisations): Please be aware that you must comply with the requirement of establishment in an EU Member State for the entire duration of the grants awarded under this HIP. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 15 of the grant agreement.

5) Cost-effectiveness/efficiency/transparency

- Does the proposed intervention display an appropriate relationship between the resources to be employed, the activities to be undertaken and the objectives to be achieved?
- Is the breakdown of costs sufficiently displayed/explained?⁹

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.

3.2.2. *Specific operational guidelines and operational assessment criteria:*

This section outlines the specific operational guidelines that need to be taken into account by DG ECHO partners 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 will be applied by DG ECHO in the specific context of the HIP to which this Technical Annex relates when assessing proposals submitted in response to the related HIP.

STRENGTHENING EARLY RESPONSE CAPACITY

(1) Emergency/Rapid Response Mechanisms (ERM/RRM) as stand-alone actions

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

(2) Flexibility embedded into the actions

Whenever relevant, partners should introduce flexibility to mobilize resources from ongoing actions and swiftly respond to any new emerging shocks occurring in the area of their operations (a crisis within a crisis). Flexibility measures can be triggered to provide initial lifesaving multipurpose response in the aftermath of a rapid onset crisis; the two main scenarios are: i) to fill the time gap while waiting for additional resources; ii) to respond to small scale humanitarian needs which would otherwise remain unaddressed.

The application of flexibility measures should be based on a multi-risk analysis and the development of worst and most likely scenarios. Partners should develop a detailed plan considering prepositioning of stocks, surge staff, triggers and sectors of intervention.

ERM/RRM and flexibility measures are complementary and do not exclude each-other; flexibility measures enable to bridge the time gap between the shock and the time needed to mobilize ad-hoc resources through the ERM/RRM or additional funding. Timeliness of

⁹ In accordance with the relevant section of the Single Form guidelines (section 10).

response is a key element for effectiveness of both flexibility measures and ERM/RRM. Partners should adopt indicators to measure the timeframe required to deliver the first assistance (e.g. lifesaving response for xxx persons, and/or need assessment within xxx days from the displacement/disaster/alert/exceeded triggers).

CASH ASSISTANCE

Where assistance is to be delivered in the form of cash transfers, particular attention will be paid to the principles laid down in DG ECHO's cash guidance note, which will form the basis for the assessment and selection of partners, in particular in the case of large scale transfers. Partners will be expected to demonstrate a satisfactory efficiency ratio and, to the extent possible and taking into account the operational context, partners will be assessed on their ability to work on the basis of common targeting criteria, single or interoperable beneficiary registries, a single payment mechanism, a common feedback mechanism and a common results framework. In line with the cash guidance note DG ECHO will expect partners to strive for segregation of duties and full transparency on the costs of implementation. For the delivery of smaller-scale cash transfers, DG ECHO will assess proposals paying particular attention the Guidance note's principles of coordination, harmonisation and multi-partner approach. A good efficiency ratio will also be expected for small-scale projects.

SYRIA

Programming priorities

In 2019, DG ECHO will continue to focus on responding to the life-saving needs and protection concerns of the most vulnerable persons inside Syria. Assistance must be delivered through the most appropriate modalities and entry points, in a timely, principled and quality manner, ensuring the provision of integrated and flexible life-saving assistance as well as coordinated and targeted multi-sectorial life-sustaining response.

Proposed interventions should be context-specific, **needs-based**, underpinned by a well-defined situation and response analysis, with access strategy and contingency/preparedness planning considerations clearly detailed. Robust primary needs assessments – in addition to and complementing the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) – and continuous needs monitoring arrangements aimed at responding to changes in the context must be clearly outlined. Adherence to humanitarian principles, including the "do no harm" principle, should remain a cornerstone of all proposals.

In line with the need to ensure flexible and timely response to evolving needs and changing context, DG ECHO will continue to promote in-built multi-sectorial emergency response through its First Line Emergency Response (FLER) approach.

Unpredictable context development may result in restricted access. In order to ensure the effective continuity of services to beneficiaries, partners are encouraged to factor this risk in their response and plan for operational contingency/preparedness in line with DG ECHO's FLER approach. Transition to remote management should also be considered where appropriate.

Mainstreaming of basic protection principles will remain of paramount importance to DG ECHO – irrespective of the sector covered or objective. While this closely links to the 'do no harm' principle, it also includes prioritising safety and dignity of beneficiaries and local populations, preventing causing and/or exacerbating harm, ensuring meaningful access, clear accountability, due diligence, genuine participation and empowerment. Proposals must demonstrate the actual integration of these principles in all relevant sections of their proposals, in particular in the response strategy and logic of the intervention sections and indicators.

Advocacy, at all levels, can be supported when it is based on strong evidence and clear objectives. Partners willing to carry out advocacy initiatives must share a detailed advocacy plan providing information on the activities to be undertaken and under which timeframe, resources required for implementation, expected outcomes, as well as potential risks and mitigation measures to be put in place. Advocacy initiatives must be conducted in the best interests of beneficiaries and pursue clear humanitarian and protection objectives. Partners should develop realistic, achievable and concrete advocacy plans and objectives, as well as specify the level at which advocacy activities should be undertaken. Advocacy should primarily focus on key protection issues, including violations of International Humanitarian and Human Rights Laws (IHL and IHRL), including inter alia issues related to access, protection of civilians, including of humanitarian workers and health staff, civilian infrastructure such as schools and hospitals.

Effective and transparent operational coordination - at hub and inter-hub levels - remains critical for all actions inside Syria. This includes inter-sector coordination. This needs to be reflected in all proposals. Efforts to strengthen coordination could also be supported. Within the overall country strategy, a multi-purpose response requires a high level of coordination across sectors and agencies. Cost-efficiency gains should be optimized through effective operational coordination platforms aiming at the establishment of a single programme approach that streamlines assessments, targeting, joint delivery mechanisms and monitoring. These dimensions should be clearly addressed in proposals.

Partnership with local actors and implementers must be clearly explained, highlighting the nature and scope of the partnership, shared accountability and commitment to DG ECHO principles, management and monitoring arrangements, distinct budget lines and shared visibility obligations.

Accountability mechanisms should be enhanced through adequate Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) as well as Information Management (IM) capacities and systems aimed at quality evidence-based analysis and outcomes evaluation.

Thematic priorities

Multi-Purpose Assistance

With a view to promote a comprehensive and adapted approach as well as cost-efficiency gains, DG ECHO will support multi-purpose assistance through a combination of delivery modalities.

The basic needs assistance proposed should include the following elements:

- Well-articulated multi-sector response analysis, which should build on comprehensive and sector-specific needs assessments. Market assessments and Household Economic Analysis (HEA) are encouraged as part of the response analysis, especially in the case of cash-based response;
- The choice of response(-s) and modality(-ies) should be duly justified according to the needs and vulnerabilities of the targeted groups and in line with the above mentioned assessments. Whenever relevant and feasible, DG ECHO will support cash transfers to allow beneficiaries to meet their needs in a comprehensive, flexible, timely and dignified manner.
- Detailed and adequate targeting and prioritization mechanisms with focus on the most vulnerable persons.
- Flexible and reactive operations with capacity to scale up rapidly.

Humanitarian Food Assistance (HFA)

DG ECHO may consider two types of Humanitarian Food Assistance: access to basic food basket (in kind, cash, voucher) and access to the means to produce food at household level.

Food assistance interventions will be prioritized as life-saving response to severe, transitory food insecurity, preferably as part of an integrated response aiming for greater efficiency and effectiveness. Proposals should clearly identify food gaps and include relevant food outcomes related Key Objective Indicators (KOIs) and Key Result Indicators (KRIs). Proposed actions should prioritize support to operations which target the most vulnerable households, with well-identified basic humanitarian food and nutrition needs. Clear justification needs to be provided where a blanket approach is proposed (e.g. sudden onset emergency). Market assessments and Household Economic Analysis (HEA) are recommended as part of the response analysis. Justification would need to be provided should those not be available. Any conditionality proposed should be duly justified according to the specific vulnerabilities of the targeted group. Proposals should advocate for linkages between food assistance interventions and other sectors, e.g. Protection, Health, Nutrition, Education in Emergencies outcomes, including immediate practical actions to adequate feeding and care practices. The modality proposed, as well as the duration of the assistance, should be duly justified in proposals, according to a thorough decision tree analysis for the selection of the most appropriate delivery modality, including Ready-to-Eat (RTE), food distribution/rations as well as cash and voucher based responses.

DG ECHO may consider other modalities, including in-kind and cash transfer which respond to the basic needs of households, especially aiming at allowing the most vulnerable the means to produce food at household level and to improve their food security. Any conditionality proposed should be duly justified according to the specific vulnerabilities of the targeted group. Partners should also be able to demonstrate the capacity to report on SMART outcome indicators in terms of basic needs improvement.

Protection

DG ECHO puts protection of affected persons at the centre of its response and will prioritize it as a sector encompassing, status and protection of individuals, prevention of and response to violence (including GBV and torture), assistance to specific vulnerable groups including Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and the elderly, Child Protection,

humanitarian mine action activities such as Mine Risk Education (MRE), access to documentation and information management. Interventions designed to reduce and mitigate the protection risks of man-made violence, coercion, deprivation and abuse of persons inside Syria will be supported in the form of stand-alone or integrated programmes aimed at achieving protection outcomes through other programme activities and protection-sensitive targeting. Decisions on specific activities to be supported will be based on an up-to-date and comprehensive protection risk analysis but also on capacities and expertise demonstrated by partners to provide quality services in a do no harm approach. These dimensions must be specifically described in all proposals. Partners are expected to contribute to a comprehensive service mapping and referral mechanism within their specific areas of intervention.

Where appropriate, partners should ensure linkages with other relevant sectors (e.g. SGBV and PSS within Health interventions, Child Protection and case management or referral to specialised services within Education in Emergencies programmes, security of tenure within Shelter interventions, etc.), including cross-sectorial referrals.

Specific protection interventions that can be considered for funding include, amongst others:

- Emphasis on the dissemination and compliance with IHL and IHRL, including activities related to mobilisation and persuasion.
- **Prevention and response to violence:** Assistance to victims of any kind of violence, including SGBV, will be supported. All proposed activities should entail, as a minimum, identification, referral and basic response. Particular modalities which will be supported include:
 - Case management for SGBV survivors (full package, including conflict related SGBV prevention activities);
Psycho-Social Support (PSS) to enhance the well-being of individuals and communities. Activities for both individuals and at the community level will be supported. All PSS activities will need to demonstrate an improvement in well-being¹⁰.
- **Child Protection:** Partners willing to engage in child protection activities must have demonstrated capacities in adequate child protection case management inside Syria and in line with international child protection case management guidelines and child safeguarding measures.
 - For children at risks: case-management, including Best Interest Assessment (BIA) and alternative care arrangements (where possible) as well as family tracing and reunification to the extent possible. Unaccompanied and separated children/minors (UAMs) are a particularly vulnerable category.
 - For children in other situations of neglect or abuse: community-based interventions and case management.

¹⁰ PSS activities integrated into Education in Emergencies (EiE) will be considered as part of the integration of EiE and Child Protection necessary for adequate identification and referral (for child protection specialised services).

- Assistance to children engaged in armed forces or armed groups (CAFAAG), Activities which involve engagement and dialogue on issues related to child recruitment could be supported.
- **Humanitarian Mine Action:**
 - On account of the degree of contamination by Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) – such as land-mines, Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs) and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) - a comprehensive approach to Humanitarian Mine Action (including humanitarian demining/removal, assessment, mapping and marking; assistance to victims, Mine Risk Education and information on contamination)) will be considered either as a stand-alone project or as part of an integrated programme;
 - Awareness-raising will be prioritized during emergency phases. This includes basic information on risks, as well as service provision. Specifically, the provision of information to affected populations will be prioritized. Any information sharing and/or basic counselling activities during emergency phases that focused on providing awareness on potential risks will be prioritized.
- **Access to documentation:**
 - Registration;
 - Family tracing and reunification;
 - Access to civil documentation (among others) and legal assistance.
- **Information Management**, such as, but not limited to, population movement tracking, including returns, protection monitoring and protection assessment.
- **For people deprived of their liberty:**
 - Monitoring of detention conditions will be supported for partners engaging in response to detention. Partners should consider activities which contribute to maintain family links.
 - Provision of basic services or protection specific services in detention conditions and to others deprived of their liberty.
 - Specific MHPSS interventions targeting victims of torture and abuse, but also including people deprived of their liberty.

Health

Improving access to quality basic health services for the most vulnerable population, including war wounded victims, and ensuring the continuity of services will be considered for funding by DG ECHO. Specifically:

- Comprehensive Primary Health Care (PHC), following the Essential Primary Health Care Package as defined by the health cluster. This includes the provision of services for communicable diseases but also preventive and cost-efficient care for non-communicable diseases. Maternal and child care should be addressed, including Ante- and Post-Natal Care (ANC/PNC) as well as screening for under-nutrition. Coordinated scale up of accessible and sustainable mental health services should be enhanced.

- Emergency, life-saving and comprehensive medical care for war wounded, including first line response, trauma, surgical, postoperative and rehabilitation services.
- Comprehensive care for victims of GBV, both male and female, including Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) and Psycho Social Support (PSS), should be integrated as much as possible in all proposed health facilities.
- The functionality and contribution to both disease surveillance systems (EWARN and/or EWARS) should be assessed systematically and, in case of need, actions to reinforce them proposed.
- Whenever feasible, partners should address disability related needs more systematically. Within that context, services targeting war victims with disabilities or aiming at improving their access to comprehensive health services will be considered. Partners should ensure WASH and Protection considerations are duly integrated within Health services.

WASH, Shelter and Non Food Items (NFIs)

DG ECHO will prioritize proposals clearly embedding an integrated programming approach, based on the linkages between WASH, Health, Shelter, CCCM and Protection, to ensure coordinated, multi-sectoral response focused on effectiveness and efficiency. Partners are encouraged to demonstrate a sound justification of costs, based on technical specificities, including minimum quantity and quality standards as per international guidelines (e.g. SPHERE standards).

WASH interventions should support integrated interventions targeting urgent life-saving humanitarian needs among the most affected and vulnerable populations throughout Syria. This includes supporting emergency life-saving responses, with the ability to rapidly transition to more durable and life-sustaining interventions.

For Water and Sanitation, community level rehabilitation and repair of existing basic services, especially with regards to the provision of safe and sufficient water, will be prioritized. Sanitation activities, including waste water management, will be supported only if the partner can demonstrate the direct cause of life-threatening health conditions and risks such as communicable diseases. Investment in water and waste water infrastructure should be supported by a quality assurance mechanism that includes detailed technical documents (e.g. technical assessments, technical designs and specifications, Bill of Quantities (BoQs), etc.), establishment of Water Safety Plans (WSP)¹¹, Operation and Maintenance plans (O&M), as well as strengthening technical capacity at local level.

Partners must demonstrate their capacity to evaluate and assess the impact of investments to water and waste water systems, by providing data related to improvements to access and availability based on pre- and post-implementation status of the system. A mapping of the water infrastructure should be provided in order to justify the choice and area of intervention. Water trucking should be envisaged as a last resort that is well planned and executed with a defined exit strategy at the emergency response phase. Partners should explore alternative options to water trucking (e.g. rain water harvesting systems,

¹¹ WSP focus on ensuring safe, drinkable water throughout the safe water chain, from source to point of consumption. WSP are centred on proper system assessment; effective operational monitoring; and management and communication to ensure proper adherence to procedures.

boreholes) and invest in such solutions to reduce the overall dependency on water trucking, while ensuring better cost-efficiency and sustainability of the intervention. This should be accompanied by a detailed water quality monitoring protocol.

Stand-alone Hygiene Promotion (HP) activities will not be considered. While in the frame of a water and sanitation project, HP will only be considered if supported by a detailed HP strategy, based on harmonized messages and communication channels in line with the country-specific WASH Cluster guideline.

For **Shelter/NFI**, emergency interventions will be prioritised. Partners will have to demonstrate their ability to target the most vulnerable households within a given community, even in emergency settings and responses. Specifically, Shelter/NFI support will be prioritised for:

- Distribution of tents, sealing-of kits, shelter kits (related tools and material) for newly displaced persons;
- Support to camps, informal settlements and collective centres (including CCCM/CSMC approaches and winterisation);
- Rapid and light rehabilitation and repair of individual buildings and houses aiming at accommodating the most vulnerable people can be considered and should be designed with a life-saving lens. Communal shelters should be given priority and rehabilitations and repairs of individual houses should be kept light, marginal, limited in financial investment per unit and should target the most vulnerable HHs. The relevance for such intervention, its cost-efficiency (incl. effective capacity of the building in terms of number of people that can be accommodated and respect of the SPHERE standards) and sustainability, must be duly demonstrated. The selection of buildings/houses will be based on specific vulnerability criteria, protection considerations and not be status-based. Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights must be integrated and considered all along the intervention. Conditions/damage assessment and measures to accommodate the needs of people with special needs (incl. disability) must be included in the proposal.

Distribution of **NFIs and hygiene items** will be considered provided that grounds for emergency response are demonstrated. Actions must prioritize support to operations which target the most vulnerable households with clearly identified humanitarian needs. Clear justifications need to be provided where blanket approaches are proposed (e.g. sudden emergency). Proposals should foster the integration between NFIs/hygiene kits distribution and other sectors (inter-sectorial coordination and integration).

Education in Emergencies (EiE)

DG ECHO's support will focus on contributing to the reintegration of out-of-school children (OOSC) into primary and secondary school education in areas where the OOSC population is high, as well as areas where education services have been disrupted by the conflict. Within this context, **Non-Formal Education** (NFE) activities will be prioritised and must provide pathways for the most vulnerable children to enter/re-enter the formal education system. NFE support may include catch-up classes, accelerated learning programmes (ALP), homework support, self-learning activities, or any course designed to meet the needs of OOSC returning to formal primary school. In particular, the development of basic literacy and numeracy course will be considered for use by the wider

education sector. It is essential that education programmes proposed integrate child protection activities, such as psycho-social support (PSS), social/emotional support, and where possible case management or referral pathways for children in need of specialised services if those cannot be provided by the partner. EiE actions that are integrated in multi-sectorial emergency responses (when relevant) will be supported.

Packages of support to re-open schools that have closed or been disrupted for several months or years due to the conflict may be considered where the formal education system is not fully operational. These activities should be time-bound, with clear entry criteria and an exit strategy to hand over to relevant authorities/communities as appropriate. Light repairs to school facilities/learning spaces can be considered, to ensure a minimum standard of safety for children returning to school and where this is undertaken with the clear objective to ensure service provision to children.

Barriers to OOSC returning to education should be addressed based on prioritized needs (e.g. PSS, teaching and learning materials). Individual support to out of school vulnerable children will be considered (based on needs assessments).

DG ECHO will support the roll-out of the Safe Schools Declaration to school level to protect education from attack. This may involve partnership with non-education actors to prevent occupation of learning spaces and attacks on education facilities and actors.

Actions proposed should be aligned to the INEE Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies. Adherence to Conflict Sensitive Education principles and the establishment of strong child safeguarding mechanisms is required in all actions.

The duration of EiE actions can be up to 24 months with a view to allow partners to support the transition of children into the formal system.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and information management (IM)

DG ECHO will only consider proposals paying particular attention to M&E and IM components that both build upon and help improve existing capabilities and systems in accordance with guidelines and standards adopted by inter-agency working groups. In this respect, M&E and IM tools should be:

- Harmonized and compatible in order to enable IM and M&E systems to produce comparable information and data.
- Time-sensitive in order to allow for appropriate analysis of information/data, early emergency response, and decision-making when and if programme adjustments are required as well as the development of a solid base of lessons learnt that should feedback into the programme cycle and help inform longer-term strategies.
- Efficient and cost-effective, making full use of existing capacities and technical/technological resources. The use of new, additional capabilities or resources must be clearly justified.

LEBANON

Programming priorities

Considering the protracted nature of the Syria crisis, and building on the strategic lines set by the previous DG ECHO HIP (2018), DG ECHO's 2019 programming priority remains to enhance the protection space and dignity of the refugees seeking safety in Lebanon. The 2019 DG ECHO strategy is an integral part of the broader EU response in Lebanon and is designed in synergy with the interventions funded by other EU instruments.

In 2019, DG ECHO will build upon the operational response implemented under the HIP 2018 by reinforcing the focus on protection, integrated approach as well as humanitarian advocacy. The 2019 strategy aims at consolidating the approach developed along two major integrated programmes:

- i. Protracted basic needs – Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to address the socio-economic vulnerability of the most vulnerable refugees.
- ii. Acute unmet and sudden needs - Integrated and inter-sectoral response to address protection-related needs at community, household and individual levels.

Thematic priorities

Multi-Purpose Assistance

DG ECHO considers multi-purpose assistance (MPA) to be the most effective modality of addressing chronic, structural socio-economic vulnerabilities in Lebanon. DG ECHO will continue pursuing its vision to enhance the multi-purpose response in Lebanon in line with the Grand Bargain commitments. The principles of efficiency and cost-effectiveness, accountability and protection coupled with consistent governance and sound operational structure remain key elements to place the needs of the beneficiaries at the centre of the response.

The current Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance scheme will be re-conducted in 2019 with a view to a transfer towards existing social safety nets.

Integrated Response to acute unmet and sudden needs

While structural and chronic needs will be addressed by the Basic Needs Assistance (BNA) programme and close coordination and synergies built with other EU instruments, DG ECHO will prioritise coordinated, inter-sectoral and integrated projects that address acute and urgent needs that are too often left unattended by the current response.

Any supported humanitarian response needs to be comprehensive and integrated. It must be anchored to a strong context analysis of threats, vulnerabilities and capacities. This analysis should specifically consider both external threats to the target population as well as community's coping strategies, at the same time balancing any protection concern. Based on this risk analysis, DG ECHO partners must propose integrated programme responses at community and household levels, where protection actions contribute to addressing needs in other sectors and where other sector actions mitigate or increase resilience to protection risks. Supported actions should also demonstrate capacities to

adapt and respond to arising sudden shocks or proven deterioration into emergency situations.

Humanitarian advocacy remains essential for DG ECHO. Partners are expected to integrate a strong advocacy strategy in their action that aims at strengthening effectiveness and accountability of the humanitarian system at all levels.

Strategic partnerships are essential to the strategy as above and will continue to be sought with DG ECHO partners with demonstrated capacity and mandate to consolidate efforts - inter alia in the form of consortia. Effective coordination is essential and must be demonstrated by partners through their active engagement in the existing coordination mechanisms.

Protection

Focus on protection is a key feature of DG ECHO's strategy in Lebanon, to provide refugees with improved access to protection, legal assistance and quality services. Protection monitoring will only be considered when it provides an evidence-based trend analysis and informs direct programming and coordinated advocacy efforts. Protection monitoring activities should always be complemented by response activities, most notably provision of information and referrals. Sudden rapid protection assessment capacity can be considered depending on the area of intervention/ future developments.

Protection interventions will be supported through the following modalities:

- Legal assistance –provision of specific protection services, including access to documentation, legal assistance and counselling when based on sound identification of needs, identifying the most appropriate response modality and demonstrated capacities.
- Case management protection services will be considered when based on an individual protection assessment and if in line with international case management guidelines. Community activities as an entry point may be considered if there is a correlation for identification of cases.
- Psychosocial support activities will be supported if the partner can demonstrate specific needs in a location or issues of access to MHPSS services. PSS activities must be based on a structure that allows the partner to measure improvements in well-being. PSS activities can be delivered for both individuals or groups. Activities will only be supported for partners with demonstrated capacities, including capacities to run integrated programmes.
- Refugee recording and verification activities, and underlying evidence-based analysis linked to performance of related activities (effectiveness, accountability) and to the link between refugee status, vulnerability and timely access to humanitarian assistance.

Utilization of cash for protection must have a clear protection outcome and will not be supported unless embedded within one of the above modalities (legal assistance /case management or accompaniment) and within a wider comprehensive and integrated protection response.

Education in Emergencies (EiE)

Specific needs of the most vulnerable out-of-school children (OOSC) will be addressed through quality and appropriate non-formal education activities. These activities should facilitate the eventual access of children to formal education and enhance self-resilience. Activities in this sector should complement and be integrated with multi-sector response that will tackle barriers to education from multiple angles - primarily protection and basic needs response - with the aim of mitigating the main economic and legal causes that limit access to formal education. All EiE actions should include child protection response, including referrals to and from protection activities, and the provision of psycho-social support for children. Strong monitoring of education and protection outcomes is required. All proposals must be closely coordinated and compliant with education sector SOPs and guidance. Evidence-based analysis must be built in EiE programming to allow for advocacy on barriers.

Coordination and advocacy

DG ECHO will support coordination and advocacy mechanisms if operationalized within integrated and coordinated strategic partnership frameworks. Development of robust information management systems will be supported if they lead to informed programming decisions and evidence-based advocacy. In this regard, coordination should essentially be articulated as a structural means to improve the timeliness, inclusiveness, transparency and connectedness of proposed actions within existing coordination set ups. Advocacy will be supported when it is based on evidence collected through DG ECHO-funded programming. Partners wishing to engage in advocacy should be prepared to submit an advocacy plan that is able to provide more information on key issues, messaging, target audience, tools, expected outcomes, potential risks and mitigation measures.

JORDAN**Programming priorities**

DG ECHO's priorities in 2019 focus on the provision of timely, adequate and appropriate humanitarian assistance to persons stranded in border areas as well as to refugees living in camps and/or in hosting communities based on vulnerability assessment.

Thematic priorities***Protection***

Protection should be addressed systematically in all proposals to DG ECHO, preferably as part of an integrated programming approach. ECHO would consider activities aiming at:

- Providing civil and legal documentation thus enabling refugees to access available services.
- Provision of specialized protection services for vulnerable individuals or groups at risk due to specific discrimination or risk factors.
- Related advocacy.

Proposed target groups for the intervention could include people living in transit centres, camps, hosting communities as well as those stranded at the Berm.

DG ECHO will consider funding specific protection interventions amongst the following:

- At the Berm and in transit centres:

Advocacy for refugees' access to the Jordanian territory, prevention of *refoulement* as well as principled humanitarian assistance delivery to Syrian asylum seekers/refugees;

- Needs profiling of conflict affected people stranded at the Berm;
- Unhindered access to the affected population.
- Advocating for durable solution for those stranded at the Berm.

In camp settings:

- Activities to ensure that a robust screening and referral system is in place to capture and track all types of protection cases, and follow up of referred cases ensuring access to services;
- Advocacy towards the camp management and relevant Jordanian authorities to expedite refugees' screening in Azraq camp, thus guaranteeing their freedom of movement and access to the necessary services including basic needs, health, and protection;
- Whilst GBV issues could be addressed, related services must be integrated with reproductive health (RH) services if possible.
- Specialized protection services to children – specialized services should focus children at particular risk, and should be provided by partner with demonstrated capacities and according to international guidelines.

In the hosting communities:

- Continuation of monitoring activities as per previous DG ECHO HIPs aiming at protection needs identification and the provision of protection services;
- Provision of protection services, especially for refugees lacking proper documentation and/or registration to enable access to all available services;
- Address legal support and/or accompaniment of protection cases beyond basic legal advice.
- Specialized protection services to specific groups at risk – specialized services should focus on particular groups or individuals at risk, and should be provided by partner with demonstrated capacities and according to international guidelines.

Multi-Purpose Assistance

At the 2018 Brussels Conference, the GoJ and the international community committed to finding practical solutions to support the national authorities in advancing the achievements of the education sector, and appropriately applying best practices and lessons learnt to other priority sectors, in particular social protection. The GoJ and the donors have agreed to work together on building the administrative, technical and technological capacities of the National Aid Fund (NAF) with a view to piloting a “Donor Refugee Window” at the fund aimed at aligning humanitarian and development systems for social protection. Nevertheless, the transition process/agenda should not undermine the necessity to maintain the humanitarian space for refugees in Jordan, particularly for the most vulnerable individuals. In that respect, and with the aim of promoting a comprehensive approach and increased efficiency, DG ECHO will continue to support multi-purpose cash assistance. In Jordan, refugees have been facing multiple needs since several years, resorting to extremely negative coping mechanisms. Given refugees' limited access to livelihood opportunities, DG ECHO deems the multi-purpose approach as the most appropriate to allow refugees to meet the multiple needs they face in Jordan.

Health

At the Brussels II Conference, the GoJ and the international community committed to review health system approaches and develop a long-term strategy and costed action plan that is sufficiently supported. This will give Syrian refugees equitable access to national health care systems and provide life-saving interventions to all. Until the moment this will materialize, DG ECHO will consider funding specific health interventions amongst the following:

In the hosting communities

- Support the most vulnerable individuals to access the health services, with particular focus on the reproductive health services. Cash assistance could be considered if improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the system.
- Strengthening of referral mechanisms and health assistance in mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), physical rehabilitation services, as well as secondary health care for refugees will be considered.

In camp settings

- Proposals ensuring that refugees, inclusive of new arrivals, have access to direct health services according to their needs will be prioritized.
- Activities aimed at ensuring that functioning, robust referral mechanisms capture and track information will be considered. The methodology to capture, track and follow-up referred cases until their completion must be described in proposals (e.g. type of cases disaggregated by age/sex, waiting times especially for chronic conditions or elective surgery, end result, etc.).

Shelter & NFIs

ECHO will consider funding specific interventions amongst the following:

In the hosting community

- Timely winterization activities based on a sound targeting methodology that focuses on the most vulnerable, primarily undocumented and unregistered refugees will be considered.
- Coordination arrangements must be detailed, ensuring that a proper referral system is in place¹².

In camp settings

- Winterization activities, including shelter upgrades with appropriate delivery modality given the specific context, must be described. Likewise, the methodology to ensure proper targeting and follow up must be fully described. Priority should be given to the most vulnerable individuals.

The use of cash based and/or in-kind (NFIs) distribution modalities, if supported by a comparative analysis, which takes into account cost effectiveness and efficiency, will be considered by DG ECHO.

WASH is not identified as a priority sector for DG ECHO funding, although special consideration could be proposed if immediate life-saving needs arise in specific locations.

¹² This should be in coordination/through the WG (BNA) and RAIS II

Education in Emergencies

DG ECHO will support education activities that support vulnerable refugees to enter, re-enter or be retained in formal education. This may involve non-formal education (NFE) support to provide pathways for children to transition into formal education, or support to children to directly enter and be retained in formal education. Specifically DG ECHO will consider supporting education activities both in hosting communities and in refugee camps which meet following criteria:

- Levels of education to be targeted by proposals are: primary and secondary. However, since the drop-out rate is higher within children registered in the secondary education, priority should be given to support children at this level.
- Proposed EiE activities should include an analysis of the barriers faced by vulnerable refugees in Jordan in accessing and succeeding in their education.
- EiE proposals should include activities to support the protection needs of children so they can participate in education, including referral pathways for children in need of specialized protection services. Any proposed activity must be tailored to take into account the different needs of children based on their age, gender and other circumstances including disabilities, early-married girls and young mothers.
- Coordination arrangements must be detailed. Partners should adhere to Conflict Sensitive Education principles and align to INEE Minimum Standards for EiE.
- Coordination with development programmes and alignment with national education sector plan.

EGYPT

Programming priorities

DG ECHO's focus in 2019 will be on further consolidating and slightly expanding the small-scale niche response so far to keep abreast with the upward trend of new arrivals and increased vulnerabilities of its urban protracted refugee caseload. Whilst the Syrian refugees remain DG ECHO's entry point, assistance to the most vulnerable among other refugees groups and their hosting communities will be considered in line with the one-refugee approach promoted by DG ECHO.

Project proposals should adhere to the overall DG ECHO's response strategy aimed at strengthening protection for the most vulnerable whilst at the same time addressing basic needs of the most vulnerable through MPCT and enhancing access to emergency health and education services, including through EiE.

Given the urban-protracted nature of humanitarian needs and in line with the EU commitment to the refugees-migration nexus, DG ECHO partners should submit proposals that clearly demonstrate robust complementarities and synergies with other EU instruments such as the Regional Development and Protection Programme/Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (RDPP/AMIF) for protection and mix-migration, the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI); the MADAD Trust Fund, the EU Trust Fund for Africa (North-Africa window), as well as with any other action under the 3RP-Egypt and the Egypt-specific Humanitarian Appeal.

Thematic priorities

Protection

Given the upward trend for new arrivals and amongst them the sharp increase of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC), strengthening core protection activities for new arrivals and for the most vulnerable among the protracted caseload will remain the paramount objective of DG ECHO. Project proposals aiming at enhancing access to basic services as main objective, should give due consideration to protection mainstreaming including the inclusion of a protection mainstreaming indicator.

DG ECHO will specifically consider funding protection interventions among the following:

- Information management and advocacy aimed at extending residence visa and facilitating free and safe access to basic services.
- Child protection including special assistance for UASC and other specific groups. Priority will be given to partners that are able to deliver service to UASC and other disadvantaged groups including a BIA, alternative care arrangements and case management. Coordination and advocacy on child protection issues could be supported if relevant.
- Assistance to victims of all kind of violence including GBV.
- Community-based protection interventions focusing on enhancing the self-protective capacities of refugees, including through information and counselling services, referrals to services and PSS services targeting individuals' and groups' enhanced well-being.
- Particular gaps in documentation, status determination and legal protection of individuals, especially those not covered by other donors

Multi-Purpose Assistance

DG ECHO considers multi-purpose assistance, preferably through cash (MPCA), among the most effective modalities of addressing the basic needs of an urban protracted refugee situation emerging from increased socio-economic vulnerabilities.

In the absence of a full-fledged social protection schemes for refugees, project proposals for basic-needs assistance preferably through MPCA will be assessed against well-defined and properly monitored vulnerability criteria and solid and transparent targeting mechanisms aimed at reducing discrimination among the different refugee groups. DG ECHO believes that there should be one nationwide approach to refugees in Egypt, based on one targeting system, one card and one single, unrestricted, monthly cash transfer to cover the basic needs of severely vulnerable refugees. The response should include robust referral/appeal systems and linkages with complementary actions to guarantee accountability to the affected population, equity and transparency. Furthermore, independent monitoring and evaluation systems as well as a governance structure are required to guarantee transparency, accountability and overall efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the response. Streamlined processes, segregation of duties and budget transparency must be reflected into any proposal in a detailed manner.

Education in Emergencies

DG ECHO will support education activities that support vulnerable refugees to enter, re-enter or be retained in formal education. This may involve non-formal education (NFE) support to provide pathways for children to transition into formal education, or support to children to directly enter and be retained in formal education. All education actions should be complemented with child protection responses and strong child safe-guarding mechanisms.

Proposals should demonstrate a focus on out-of-school children and those at risk of dropping out of school, with clear understanding of education pathways into accredited formal education reflected upon. ECHO may also consider funding retention activities where a clear needs assessment demonstrates high risks of drop-out. Proposals targeting areas with the highest concentration of refugees will be prioritized.

Coordination with development partners, other EU instruments, Ministry of Education and other relevant line ministries must be specifically addressed in proposals, in addition to the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) principles and to globally recognize minimum standards for Education in Emergencies (INEE) and Child Protection.

DG ECHO support to education activities in Egypt will focus on primary levels of education, with possible exceptions for secondary school levels based on a clear needs assessment. Non-formal education responses (such as Community Learning Centers at primary level) will be considered solely if coordination with the Ministry of Education and clear entry pathways for children to pursue public education options is detailed. Actions to prepare children for, to support, and to complement government initiatives for refugee education, such as experimental language schools, may be considered.

Health

Whilst refugees in Egypt are legally entitled to access public health services, several structural causes (e.g. poor quality of services), calling for developmental investments, limit their capacity to benefit from them.

ECHO will consider proposals for funding that facilitate access to emergency health services, particularly maternal and reproductive health, for those refugees without financial means to afford health fees as well as for those victims of discrimination and marginalization. Hosting communities may also benefit from these interventions, as long as the most vulnerable groups or individuals are targeted. Proposals under this sector should specifically envisage a gradual phase out and transition to longer term instruments. Although local capacity building is paramount, ECHO funding should not be used to promote stand-alone capacity building schemes.

WASH, Food Assistance and Shelter are not identified as priority sectors for ECHO funding in Egypt in 2019, although special consideration could be given if immediate life-saving needs manifest in specific locations as duly justified by partners.