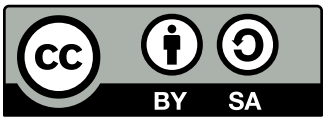
EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT

CASE FOR INVESTMENT

2027-2030

Copyright © Education Cannot Wait, August 2026



August 2026

ABOUT EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT

Education Cannot Wait (ECW) is the global fund for education in crises. The Fund provides rapid, flexible funding to locally led education responses that protect learning for refugee, internally displaced, and other children, while strengthening systems to sustain learning and resilience in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. ECW works with governments, public and private funders, UN agencies, civil society organizations, and other humanitarian and development aid actors so that no child is left behind.

As global crises intensify and the education financing gap widens, ECW calls on public and private sector partners to scale up investments so millions more crisis-affected girls and boys can learn and rebuild their futures.

Follow us:
@EduCannotWait

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

Cover image: © UNICEF/Benekire
Graphic Design: Svenja Greenwood

CONTENTS

04 The challenge

Conflict, climate shocks, and displacement are disrupting education at unprecedented scale, leaving 74 million children out of school completely across just twenty countries.

As crises become more frequent, complex, and prolonged, education remains one of the most underfunded areas of humanitarian response. When education is disrupted, protection risks increase, communities suffer, and recovery becomes significantly more expensive.

06 Why education in emergencies matters

In emergencies, education is a stabilising force that protects children and strengthens resilience.

It acts as shield against violence and abuse, including recruitment to armed groups and child marriage. Investing early prevents learning loss from becoming permanent, preserves education capacities, and reduces recovery costs. Over time, sustained education supports social cohesion, peace, and economic growth. When education collapses, inequality deepens and instability becomes harder and more costly to reverse.

12 Why invest in ECW

Education Cannot Wait is the global fund dedicated to financing education in the world's most severe crises—where other instruments often struggle to operate.

ECW responds rapidly at the onset of crises, operates in active conflict and highly constrained settings, aligns humanitarian and development actors and supports shifting power and resources closer to communities. Through pooled financing, low overheads, strong governance and shared risk, ECW offers donors a trusted platform that has mobilised over USD $1.7 billion in education financing and reached over 14 million crisis-affected learners, demonstrating that children can continue learning even in the most complex emergencies.

18 Investment Model

ECW's 2027–2030 investment model responds to today's realities and efforts to reform international cooperation.

Resources will be concentrated in 13-18 high-priority crisis contexts, with faster, and more flexible multi-year emergency responses, expanded anticipatory action/ pre-arranged finance, and stronger alignment and coherence at the nexus of humanitarian and development efforts. ECW will channel at least 50 percent of funding to local and national actors and work with new partners to incentivize co-financing and test innovative finance models.

24 ECW 2027-2030 Replenishment

ECW is seeking at least US$600 million for 2027–2030 to reach at least 10 million crisis-affected children with education - 5 million boys and 5 million girls, including 1 million children with disabilities.

This investment will support millions of refugees and displaced children, help build 12,000 schools and train and support 150,000 teachers. Investing in Education Cannot Wait is a concrete way to protect education during crisis and deliver measurable impact at scale.

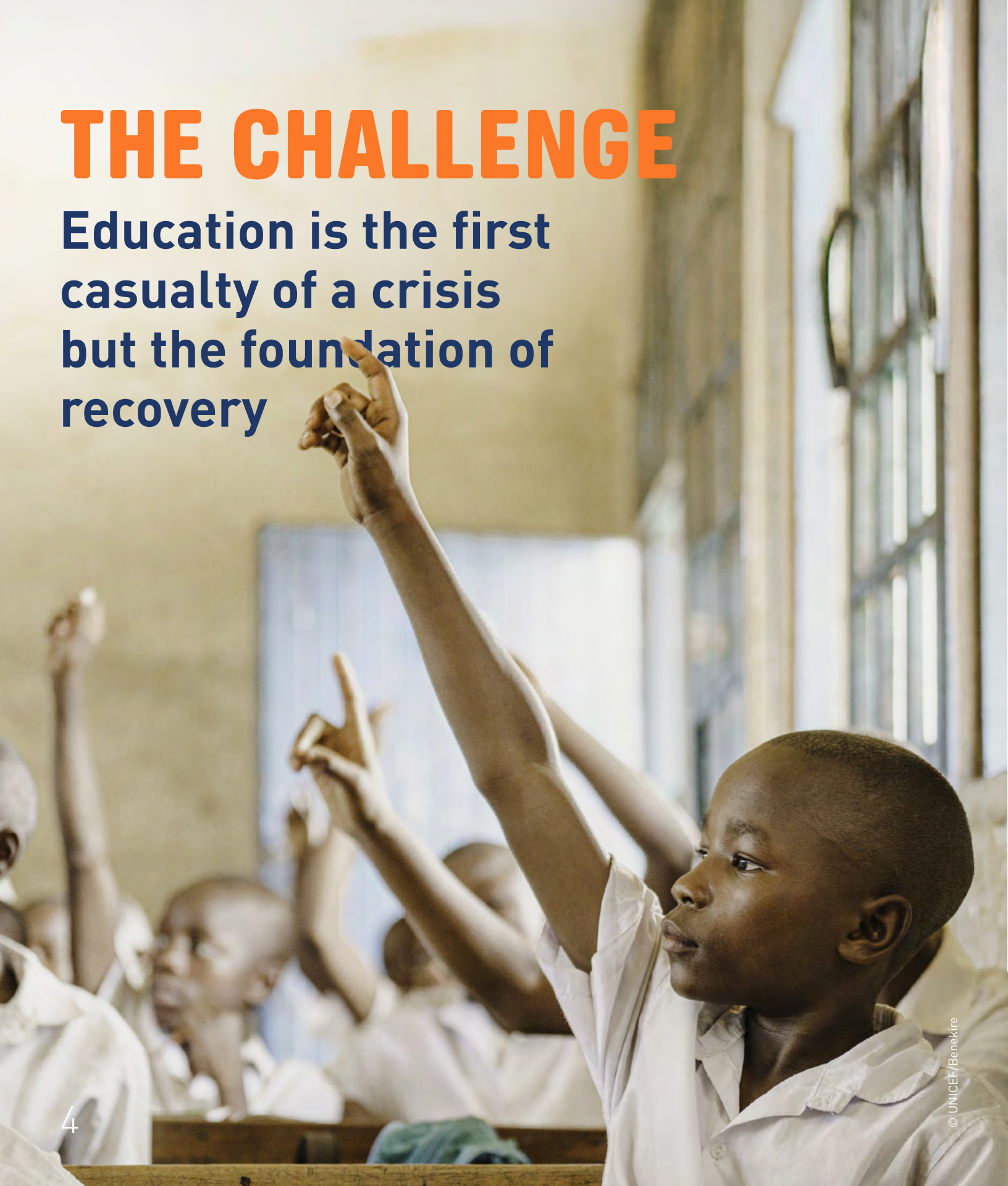
31 References

Iganzio Cassis
Federal Councillor of the Swiss Confederation

"When humanitarian emergencies threaten children's futures, we must act quickly to protect lives and ensure continued access to education. Education Cannot Wait provides fast funding to reach those most at risk, with strong governance and results. Switzerland calls on public and private partners to step forward with ambitious commitments to ECW's replenishment."

THE CHALLENGE

Education is the first casualty of a crisis but the foundation of recovery



© UNICEF/Benekire

Our world is undergoing a period of profound change. Protracted conflicts, accelerating climate shocks and economic pressures are driving humanitarian needs to unprecedented levels with crises becoming more frequent, more complex, and more prolonged. There are now more than 120 million people forcibly displaced worldwide - the highest number recorded since World War II.

The consequences for education are severe. Conflict, climate shocks, displacement, and protracted emergencies are stripping entire generations of their right to learn with 74 million children out of school completely across just twenty countries. For girls, children with disabilities, and refugees, the risks are even greater—early marriage, child labour, exploitation, and lifelong poverty.

At the same time, the international aid landscape is undergoing significant transformation. Official development assistance is declining, while the Humanitarian Reset and UN80 reforms are reshaping how the international system prioritizes, finances and delivers support. As budgets tighten, difficult trade-offs are being made, redefining who responds to crises and how.

The result is a widening of the gap between escalating education needs and shrinking financial support. Beyond the immediate impact on children, underfunding education during crises accelerates the loss of education delivery capacity, forces partners to scale down or exit, weakens national systems, and undermines previous investments. As crises become more protracted, the cost of rebuilding education systems - and the broader social and economic consequences - grows significantly.

Minister Reem Alabali Radovan, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Government of Germany

"In a world of growing crises, education is essential for peace and stability. It is the key to a better future for children around the world. Education Cannot Wait helps to ensure that children can keep learning even in the toughest places. Germany calls on partners to make ambitious pledges to ECW's replenishment."

Addressing this gap requires a financing mechanism that can act quickly, operate in high-risk and politically constrained environments, sustain support over time, and protect education as a stabilizing force during crises, while laying the groundwork for recovery and longer-term development.

Education remains one of the most underfunded sectors in humanitarian response, receiving a fraction of overall aid despite its proven power to save lives, protect communities, rebuild societies and drive economic growth and stability.

Education Cannot Wait exists to change this.

WHY EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES MATTERS

Education is a fundamental human right, including for children living through conflict and crisis.

© UNICEF Nigeria

Education saves lives, protects children and builds resilience

In emergencies, education delivers far more than just learning, it is a stabilizing force that protects children and strengthens community resilience:

- Reduces exposure to child labour, early marriage, gender-based violence, trafficking, and recruitment by armed groups
- Provides structure, routine, and psychosocial support during periods of extreme disruption
- Serves as entry points for mental health support, school feeding, and health and vaccination services and helps strengthen community resilience[1]

Neale Richmond
Ireland's Minister of State for
International Development and Diaspora

"Access to education is a fundamental human right, guaranteed to all children regardless of the situation they live in. Ireland believes Education Cannot Wait's work is critical to allowing children living through crisis realise their right to education. We call on our partners to support ECW's replenishment."

Investing early during crises reduces long-term costs

Resumption of education during emergencies makes recovery less expensive.

- OECD research shows that learning disruptions from the COVID pandemic could lower average annual GDP by approximately 1.5 percent over the long term[2]
- UNICEF Innocenti analysis shows that chronic underfinancing results in significantly more costly interventions down the line to rebuild capacity, re-establish services, and protect children[3]

Education promotes peace, stability and prosperity

Education in emergencies delivers strong returns for individuals, societies, and economies. Evidence shows that:

- Each additional year of school increases average earnings by 10%[4]
- Universal primary education can reduce the likelihood of civil war by 50%[5]
- Where educational inequality doubles, the risk of conflict is more than double[6]
- Investing in girls' education could deliver trillions to the global economy[7]

Cost of Inaction

6X

GIRLS WITH NO EDUCATION

are up to 6× more likely to marry before age 18 than those completing secondary school

1.5%

Learning disruptions could **REDUCE AVERAGE ANNUAL GDP** by 1.5% over the long term

50%

Universal primary education could **REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF CIVIL WAR** by up to 50%

10%

Globally, there is about a **10% INCREASE IN HOURLY EARNINGS** for every extra year of schooling.

COUNTRY EXAMPLE

Responding rapidly to support communities displaced by the conflict in Sudan

ECW supporting

650,000 CHILDREN

10 MILLION CHILDREN

out of school due to conflict

NEARLY 12 MILLION

people displaced since April 2023

© UNICEF/Eltatih

Following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan, ECW launched a rapid emergency education response inside the country and across refugee-hosting neighbours including Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, Uganda. Flexible financing enables partners to establish safe learning spaces, provide psychosocial support and sustain teaching despite insecurity and access constraints.

Multi-year funding and built-in crisis modifiers allow partners to rapidly reallocate resources as violence, displacement or climate shocks evolve, maintaining continuity for internally displaced children, girls and children with disabilities. Top up support from the government of the United Kingdom allowed ECW and its partners to reach an additional 250,000 children.

Abdullah Modhesh
Education Cluster Coordinator Sudan

"In a crisis where Sudan's education system has stood at the brink of collapse since April 2023, and families are uprooted repeatedly due to insecurity, rapid funding allowed the education cluster partners to keep learning spaces open at moments when children needed them most. In this reality, education isn't just schooling – it is a lifeline of safety, stability, and hope. Support that is this fast and flexible is rare, yet it's often the only thing preventing children from being cut off from that lifeline entirely."

COUNTRY EXAMPLE

Funding emergency education during active conflict in Gaza

US$23.5 MILLION
in ECW emergency financing (Oct 2023–July 2025)

90%+ OF SCHOOL
buildings damaged or destroyed

650,000
school-age children with education severely disrupted for more than two years

© NRC/Amjad Al Fayoumi

Following the collapse of Gaza's education system after October 2023, ECW mobilized an integrated US$23.5 million emergency investment package to prevent education from disappearing altogether. When formal public systems are no longer able to function during active conflict, this type of emergency financing becomes essential to preserve even minimal learning continuity and child protection. Implemented through UNRWA, UNICEF, NRC and Save the Children, the response prioritized mental health and psychosocial support, temporary and non-formal learning, learning supplies, and digital and remote modalities under conditions where full system delivery was impossible.

The investments reached hundreds of thousands of children, including children with disabilities and those requiring specialized rehabilitative support, maintaining safety, wellbeing and connection to learning while longer-term recovery solutions are developed through coordinated international partnerships.

Jan Egeland, Secretary General, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

"This September will mark a fourth school year lost to war for Gaza's children. They have spent crucial formative years with unbearable lessons of displacement, danger and destruction. Now they need hope and classrooms, teachers and books. We must give them the chance to be students again."

WHY INVEST IN EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT

© ECW/Tesfaye

ECW responds rapdily in the most complex crises

ECW funds partners who operate in the world's most complex and fragile contexts, including conflict zones, refugee settings, and climate-affected regions. Through rapid response mechanisms and multi-year resilience investments, ECW financing:

REACHES THOSE FURTHEST BEHIND

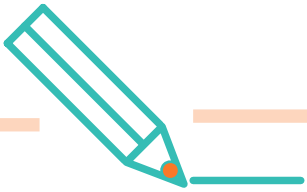
Reaches children in active conflict and politically estranged settings where governments and other financing mechanisms often can't reach

ENABLES RAPID DISASTER RESPONSE

Responds rapidly to floods, storms, and other climate-induced disasters,while also supporting anticipatory action and preparedness

ALIGNS HUMANITARIAN & DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

Aligns humanitarian and development actors around shared results



ANCHORS EDUCATION STABILITY

Supports education as a multi-year stabilizing foundation for peacebuilding

FUNDS COMMUNITIES ON THE FRONTLINES

Channels funding to local partners in crisis-affected contexts

DELIVERS LEARNING OUTCOMES

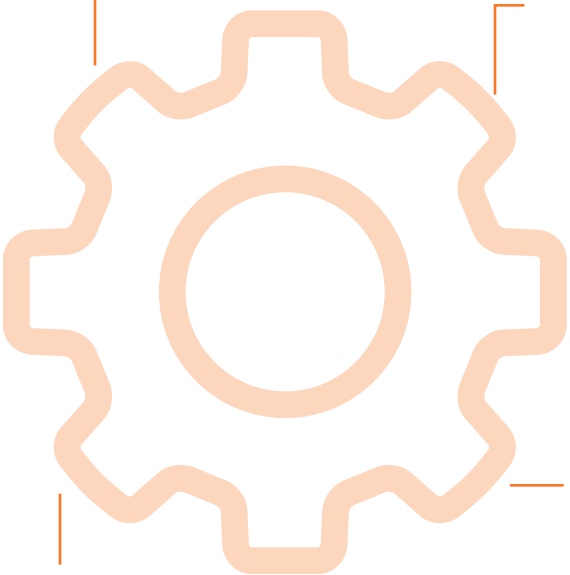
Prioritises learning outcomes, not just access, so children continue to learn even in the most complex crises.

ECW is an efficient, accountable partnership platform for donors

Pooled financing that reduces costs, fragmentation and duplication

Value for money with **low overheads of 7%** and streamlined, flexible processes

Robust safeguarding and adherence to UN financial and compliance regulations



Transparent governance and **rigorous results monitoring**

Committed to **working with governments, global funds, and education partners on reform** efforts to strengthen coherence, efficiency, and impact

A platform **aligned with the Humanitarian Reset**, climate action and SDGs

Donor visibility and influence at global and country levels

Fahad Al-Sulaiti
Director General of Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD)

"In times of crisis and displacement, protecting access to education must remain a global priority. The State of Qatar proudly supports Education Cannot Wait and its mission to deliver quality education to the most vulnerable. Through strong partnerships and innovative financing, we remain committed to ensuring no child is left behind."

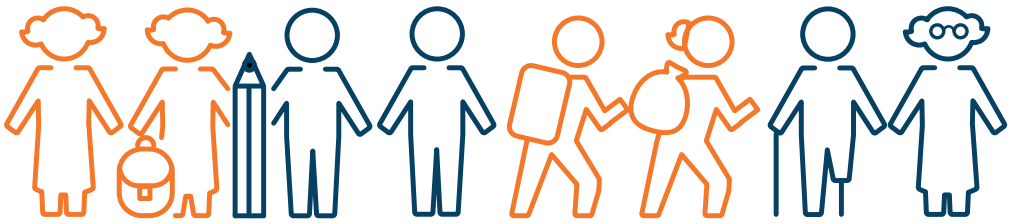
For governments, foundations, and the private sector, ECW is a way to maximize impact at scale.

ECW has a providen track record of impact

$1.67 BILLION
Resources mobilized

$1.25 BILLION
Resources disbursed

14 MILLION
children and adolescents reached



7 MILLION
Girls reached

7 MILLION
Boys reached

5.5 MILLION
Refugees and IDP reached

200,000
Children with disabiities reached

25,000+
Schools built/ rehabilitated

200,000+
teachers trained

29%
of funding to local and national partners

88%
of multi-year programmes saw gains in literacy and numeracy

COUNTRY EXAMPLE

Embedding sustainability and national ownership as Iraq transitions from humanitarian response

60,000 CHILDREN REACHED

through ECW-supported programmes

1,200+ TEACHERS TRAINED AND 227 CLASSROOMS REHABILITATED

US$30+ MILLION IN ALIGNED DONOR FUNDING

leveraged, plus US$5.2 million match financing

© Save the Children

Through a multi-year investment focused on system strengthening, inclusive policy reform and leveraged financing, ECW has positioned its support in Iraq to leave a durable legacy as the country transitions out of a humanitarian context. Working in partnership with the Iraq Federal and Kurdistan Ministries of Education, ECW supported investments that strengthened national ownership, including a 2025 directive requiring all schools to admit children with disabilities.

ECW also supported durable pathways for refugees, internally displaced children and returnees through integration into public schools and accelerated non-formal education. Delivered through a consortium model with national and international partners, the programme strengthened institutional capacity while laying the groundwork for a credible transition to long-term development and sustainable financing.

Gentjana Gjergji, ECW programme Director, Save the Children Iraq

"After 18 years managing education programmes, ECW's support remains the most impactful I have seen. Its flexible, long-term approach strengthens national systems and transforms lives. I will always remember Ahmed*, a child with Down syndrome from Baghdad, who told me during a field visit that joining school through this programme was the greatest gift in his life—because it allowed him to make friends."

*The name is changed to protect the identity of the child.

COUNTRY EXAMPLE

Healing and reintegration for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in North-East Nigeria

98% ATTENDANCE RATE

© ECW

ECW supported an initiative with the Global Survivors Fund to enable adolescent survivors of conflict-related sexual violence to safely return to learning. Education pathways combined literacy and numeracy with psychosocial services in stigma-free environments.

High attendance and improvements in confidence and emotional resilience demonstrate education's role in recovery, protection and long-term reintegration for highly marginalized learners.

Survivor in Borno

"What I went through as a child left deep wounds in my heart. I did not feel like I belonged anywhere. But this learning centre gave me the chance to heal. I no longer feel broken. I feel like I matter."

ECW'S 2027-2030 INVESTMENT MODEL

© Save the Children/Rubina Alee

In response to growing calls for reform in the international aid system, ECW will sharpen its focus though the implementation of its 2027–2030 Strategic Plan.

A more focused investment portfolio

- Concentrate most resources in around at least 13 high-priority crisis contexts
- Retain flexible contingency capacity to respond rapidly to new or escalating emergencies
- Strengthen complementarity and sequencing with national systems and development partners, including the Global Partnership for Education, to support coherent transitions and sustainable exit pathways
- Maintain close coordination with humanitarian partners to avoid delays and duplication

Faster, more flexible emergency response

- Scale up anticipatory action andpre-arranged financing, shifting from reactive response toward crisis readiness
- Reduce response time to eight weeks following the onset or escalation of a crisis from previous target of 12 weeks
- Work with pre-identified partners to enable rapid activation and ensure funding and operational plans are ready to deploy when shocks occur

Omar Abdi,
Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNICEF

"Education in emergencies remains severely underfunded, even as needs grow. Flexible, sustained financing is essential to reach the hardest-to-reach children, protect learning, and maintain access to basic services. UNICEF calls on the international community to step up with stronger funding commitments and ensure that no child is left behind."

Power and resources closer to communities

- Increase the share of funding reaching local and national actors as directly as possible to 50 percent.
- Back local leadership by shifting greater decision making and responsibility to national and community actors, strengthening ownership, accountability, sustainability

Innovative finance and partnerships

- Use proven results, robust measurement, and grant funding to incentivize co-financing from climate funds, development banks, and private and philanthropic investors
- Offer private and philanthropic partners clear investment modalities: matching funds, testing innovative finance, and co-creating targeted education solutions in crisis settings

Matthew Hollingworth,
Assistant Executive Director,
Programme Operations,
World Food Programme

"School meals are a lifeline in fragile contexts and even during emergencies, keeping children in school and learning. WFP greatly values its partnership with ECW in advancing this shared priority. Together, we must ensure children are healthy, protected, and ready to learn, even in the most challenging contexts."

ECW's investment model is designed to deliver impact at scale while maintaining strong value for money. A lean Secretariat, pooled financing, and strong governance will allow ECW to mobilise and deploy funding quickly, avoid duplication, and maximise cost efficiency and impact in high-risk contexts. In addition to a 7% ceiling for overheads, ECW will assess value for money across efficiency, effectiveness, and equity through reviews and evaluations of its work.

COUNTRY EXAMPLE

Acting ahead of floods and disasters in Pakistan

©UNICEF/Ahmed

ECW activated anticipatory financing ahead of forecasted floods in Pakistan, enabling schools and communities to secure learning materials, adapt education plans and prepare temporary relocation arrangements before damage occurred. Early action reduced disruption, protected infrastructure and strengthened local preparedness.

Pakistan represents one example of how ECW is operationalizing anticipatory action and flexible programming across its portfolio. Similar approaches are already in place in Somalia, with additional programmes under development in Chad, and crisis modifiers and other flexible financing mechanisms deployed in contexts such as South Sudan. Scaling anticipatory action, preparedness and flexible financing is a core pillar of ECW's 2027–2030 strategy, alongside exploring how innovative climate risk financing solutions can be integrated where feasible to further protect education investments from climate shocks.

Taluka Education Officer, Dadu, Sindh

When the water started rising in 2025, we actually knew what to look for and what to do. The early warning system helped us set things up properly so we weren't guessing, we were taking action based on information."

THEMATIC SPOTLIGHT

SHIFTING POWER TO WOMEN-LED ORGANIZATIONS ON THE FRONT LINES

29% OF ECW BUDGETS

to local and national organizations in 2024

15 PROGRAMMES

strengthened local partnerships

In 2024, 29% of ECW programme budgets were channelled to local and national organizations, with growing engagement of women-led groups across crisis responses. Fifteen programmes reported stronger partnerships with local actors, including women-led organizations, organizations of persons with disabilities and refugee-led groups. In Lebanon, women-led partners produced reusable sanitary pads, delivered menstrual hygiene campaigns and created livelihood opportunities for marginalized women. In Cameroon, women-led organizations provided gender sensitization and psychosocial support to help adolescent girls remain in school despite displacement and insecurity.

In Ethiopia and Colombia, Women's Advisory Groups strengthened the participation of women-led organizations in education coordination and decision-making. Together, these investments demonstrate how localization improves relevance, inclusion and sustainability by placing community leadership at the centre of education delivery.

Mulikat Bamidele,
Executive Director,
GHIV Africa

"Women-led organizations understand the realities faced by girls in crisis. Education Cannot Wait's investments in Nigeria are helping keep girls in school, reducing early marriage and protecting them from violence. I strongly support ECW's 2027–2030 replenishment and call for sustained, multi-year funding to expand this life-changing impact"

THEMATIC SPOTLIGHT

REACHING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH TARGETED SERVICES AND SYSTEM-WIDE INCLUSION

200,000 CHILDREN REACHED

ECW applies a two-track approach to disability inclusion: mainstreaming accessibility across all programmes while funding targeted interventions. In Chad, children received tailored therapies and individualized education plans. In Ethiopia, community screening identified and enrolled hundreds of children previously excluded from schooling.

This approach improves equity, strengthens participation and protects learning continuity for children with disabilities in fragile contexts. Over the next four years - as part of its commitments made at the Global Disability Summit hosted by the governments of Germany and Jordon and in 2025 – ECW will go even further to target 1 million children with disabilities.

Jose Maria Viera
Executive Director, International Disability Alliance

"This project shows that inclusive education in emergencies is possible and transformative. By placing persons with disabilities at the centre and strengthening systems, we are turning policy into practice—ensuring that even in crisis, every person including those with disabilities can learn, belong, and shape their future with dignity and opportunity"

ECW 2027 – 2030 REPLENISHMENT

Education Cannot Wait is calling on donors to replenish its Trust Fund with at least US$ 600 million for the 2027–2030 period to finance education for the most vulnerable, crisis-affected children globally.

© UNICEF Pakistan/Khatri

Reaching the

US$600 MILLION TARGET

for 2027–2030 will enable ECW to:

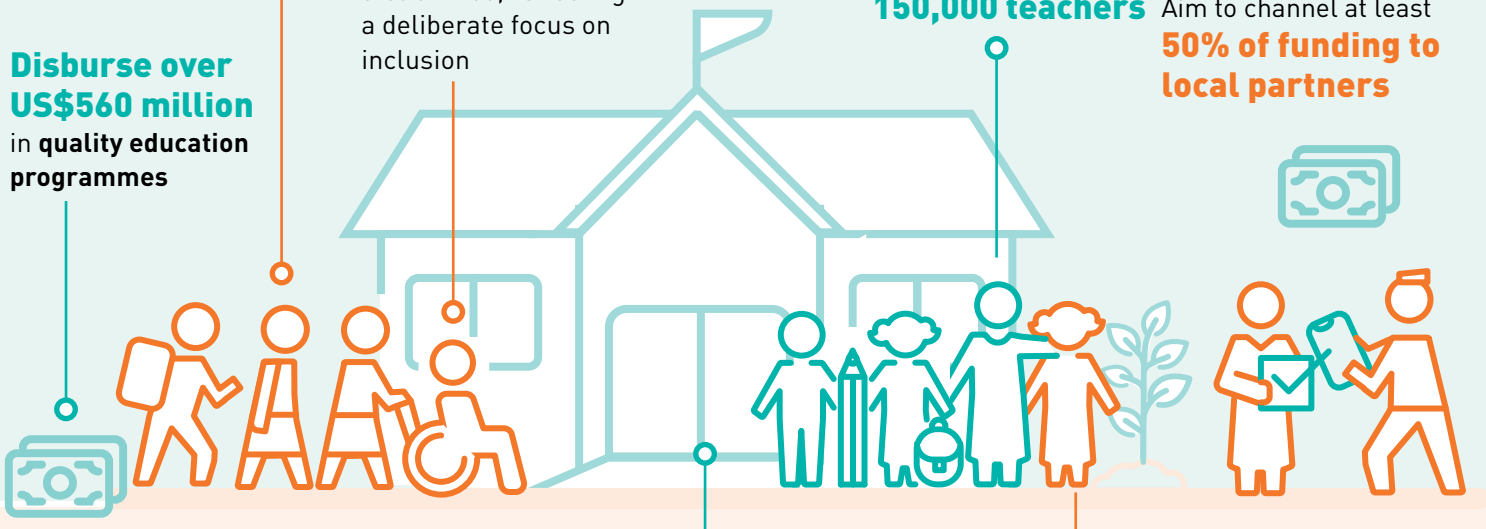
Reach at least 10 million crisis-affected children with education
5 million girls and 5 million boys

Include at least **1 million children with disabilities**, reflecting a deliberate focus on inclusion

Support training for **150,000 teachers**

Aim to channel at least **50% of funding to local partners**

Disburse over US$560 million in **quality education programmes**



Build or rehabilitate **over 12,000 schools**

Improve literacy, numeracy and socio-emotional skills of children in crises

Education Cannot Wait's ability to act early, operate in high-risk settings, and deliver results through a focused, efficient model makes these ambitious results achievable. By preventing learning loss and exclusion from taking hold, investment in ECW also supports longer-term peace, stability, and prosperity in the world's most fragile places.

Education Cannot Wait's 2027–2030 replenishment is an opportunity join a dynamic partnership and deliver impact at scale where it is needed the most:

HOPE STARTS HERE

When crises strike, children don't give up on learning. Hope doesn't disappear – the systems and funding that support it often do.

Hope Starts Here is Education Cannot Wait's global campaign to mobilize the partnerships and financing needed to ensure 10 million more crisis-affected children can continue learning through the world's toughest crises.

#HopeStartsHere

Scan to explore the campaign and join the movement.

Kofi Abotsi,
ECW HLSG Representative, Youth Constituency

"For children and young people affected by conflict and disaster, education means protection, stability and opportunity. We support ECW's call to raise $600 million so that more learners can access safe, quality education when they need it most."

© ECW/Tesfaye

PRIVATE SECTOR EXAMPLE

SCALING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN CRISES WITH THE LEGO FOUNDATION

A 12 MILLION GRANT

reached over 147,000 children

$65 MILLION

provided since inception

With ECW, the LEGO Foundation has transformed early childhood education (ECE) in emergencies.

A $12.5 million grant in the latest phase reached over 147,000 children aged 3–6 in Uganda and Ethiopia with play-based learning, while also strengthening national systems with new ECE guidelines.

Since inception, LEGO Foundation has provided $65 million, making it ECW's top private sector donor and eighth-largest overall. This support inspired ECW to drastically scale up its ECE investments to over $100 million, surpassing its 10% allocation target and helping to reshape global advocacy for ECE in crises.

— Tarek Alami
Vice President - Head of International Programmes at the LEGO Foundation

"In times of crisis, children are among the most vulnerable. Through our partnership with Education Cannot Wait, we support children's access to education in crisis and humanitarian settings so they can keep growing, learning and thriving, even in the hardest circumstances. We urge other funders to support ECW's replenishment, too."

PRIVATE SECTOR EXAMPLE

UNLOCKING SUSTAINABLE PRIVATE CAPITAL FOR EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES WITH THE SWISS CANTONAL BANKS

2% OF A FINANCE SOLUTION

by the Swiss Cantonal Bank is donated annually to ECW.

15 PROGRAMMES

strengthened local partnerships

With ECW, the Swiss Cantonal Banks established an investment solution to support the education of children and adolescents affected by crises. The product, based on investments in sustainable bonds and equities, donates 2% of its volume annually to ECW, creating a predictable, multi-year funding stream to support children in crisis.

The new fund was launched with CHF 10 million in seed capital and provides a compelling model for aligning philanthropic giving with responsible financial investment. According to recent projections, it is expected that the partnership may yield up to CHF 7 million in annual contributions.

For ECW, the partnership demonstrates how private finance can be harnessed in a practical, replicable way to diversify funding sources and reduce reliance on traditional aid flows. It provides a proof point for engaging financial institutions in crisis education financing.

Anja Hochberg
Chief Investment Officer
Zurich Cantonal Banks

"Education is not a luxury good. It is a basic human right for everyone, and it is the foundation of economic and social development. Together with ECW, Zurich Cantonal Bank and the Association of Swiss Cantonal Banks have developed an innovative investment solution that combines a sustainable investment strategy with financing for education. Join us in supporting Education Cannot Wait."

PRIVATE SECTOR EXAMPLE

MEASURING LEARNING OUTCOMES IN CRISES WITH PORTICUS

Porticus has partnered with ECW since 2020 to embed holistic learning outcome measurement across crisis-affected contexts. Through catalytic co-funding, Porticus supported the inclusion of compulsory learning outcomes measurement in every ECW Multi-Year Resilience Program, covering both academic and socio-emotional domains such as self-awareness, emotional regulation, and conflict resolution.

Co-funding assessments in seven countries, and directly supporting programs in Bangladesh and Ukraine, Porticus has helped shape ECW's strategic direction and ensure that impact is measured in terms of learning as well as access.

Dieuwerke Luiten, Global Grant Manager

"Supporting ECW has helped put a spotlight on the importance of socio-emotional learning as a key element of quality learning. It is an excellent example of how philanthropic funders, global pooled funds and implementing partners can come together to help ensure that all children receive inclusive, high-quality education that enables them to reach their full potential."

7 COUNTRIES SUPPORTED

for learning measurement

LEARNING MEASUREMENT MANDATORY

across all ECW multi-year programmes

REFERENCES

1. https://www.wvi.org/sites/default/files/2025-07/Education%20in%20Emergencies%20and%20Protracted%20Crisis%20Framework.pdf

2. https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/the-economic-impacts-of-learning-losses_21908d74-en.html

3. https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/stories/financing-social-spending-humanitarian-settings

4. https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/education/overview

5. C. Thyne, "ABC's, 123's, and the Golden Rule: The Pacifying Effect of Education on Civil War, 1980–1999," International Studies Quarterly 50 (2006): pg 733–54

6. UNICEF and FHI 360, Does Horizontal Education Inequality Lead to Violent Conflict? A Global Analysis (New York: UNICEF, Peacebuilding Education and Advocacy Programme, 2015), https://www.fhi360.org/resources/does-horizontal-education-inequality-lead-violent-conflict/

7. https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/education/publication/missed-opportunities-the-high-cost-of-not-educating-girls

ABOUT EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT

Education Cannot Wait (ECW) is the global fund for education in 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.

Follow us:
@EduCannotWait

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

Copyright © Education Cannot Wait, August 2026