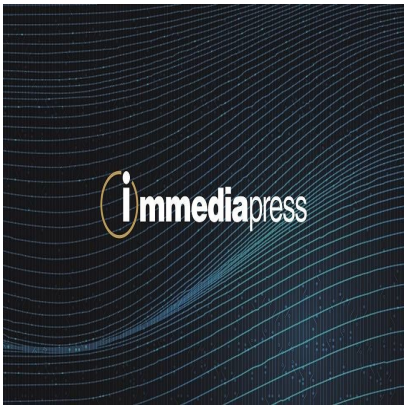


Education Cannot Wait announces US$52 million to keep 300,000 children learning in Lebanon, Myanmar and South Sudan

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COMUNICATO STAMPA â?? CONTENUTO PROMOZIONALE

About 10% of the money is set aside for the next shock, and most of the funding goes to local organisations who know these communities

GENEVA, Nov. 20, 2026 /PRNewswire/ â?? More than 300,000 children whose lives have been upended by war, floods and displacement in Lebanon, Myanmar and South Sudan will get back to learning, catch up on lost lessons and receive psychosocial support, thanks to US$52 million announced today by Education Cannot Wait (ECW), the global fund for education in crises within the United Nations.

The funding commitment comes on World Childrenâ??s Day, as 258 million children worldwide have their education disrupted by crises.

â??Every child has the right to learn, and for children living through war, floods and displacement, school is often what keeps hope alive,â?• said Maysa Jalbout, Director of Education Cannot Wait. â??Too often, help arrives only after the classrooms have emptied. These programmes keep children learning today and set aside emergency funds to keep them in school when the next crisis strikes.â?•

In Lebanon, more than 1.1 million people, including over 390,000 children, have been displaced since the conflict escalated in March 2026. The US$13 million programme, led by Ana Aqra Association and the International Rescue Committee, will help about 59,000 children back into school with catch-up classes, early childhood education, safer classrooms and psychosocial support. Local organisations will manage 74% of the funding.

In Myanmar, the US$16 million programme will reach nearly 150,000 children and adolescents across the country. Half of them are out of school today, and more than a third have been forced from their homes. The programme is delivered by international and national humanitarian partners, and local

organisations will manage or receive 74% of the funding.

South Sudan is the country most at risk of humanitarian crisis in the world, and around 2.8 million of its children are out of school. There, the US$23 million programme will reach more than 100,000 children in some of the hardest-hit areas, where floods, conflict and new arrivals from Sudan keep disrupting learning. It is led by Save the Children International, the national organisation Universal Network for Knowledge and Empowerment Agency (UNKEA), and local organisations will receive 59% of the funding.

In all three countries, at least half of the children reached are girls, and about one in ten is a child with a disability.

The three programmes are among the first under ECWâ??s new Crisis-Oriented Resilience and Emergency (CORE) approach, which brings together emergency response and longer-term support in a single investment. The response and a portion of the funding is planned in advance so classes can continue when a new crisis hits. Together, the programmes set aside more than US$5 million in crisis modifiers; funding that can be released quickly, without a new proposal, when agreed warning signs appear. Across the three countries, national and local organisations, including women-led organisations and organisations of persons with disabilities, will manage or receive most of the funding.

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Help close the gap

Earlier this month, donors at ECWâ??s High-Level Replenishment Conference in Geneva, hosted by Switzerland, helped ECW reach 90% of its US$600 million goal for 2027â??2030. ECW is calling on public and private partners to close the remaining US$58.4 million gap, so that more children in crises can keep learning.

Notes to Editors

Download fact sheets for:

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 organisations, 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.

Additional information available at: www.educationcannotwait.org

View original content to download multimedia:https://www.prnewswire.co.uk/news-releases/education-cannot-wait-announces-us52-million-to-keep-300-000-children-learning-in-lebanon-myanmar-and-

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