



Guidance Note for DG ECHO Partners on Flexible Funding Measures

DG ECHO is committed to support its humanitarian partners amidst global funding challenges. The EU's humanitarian actions will continue to be principled and aiming at saving lives, preserving the dignity of people caught up in emergencies and alleviating human suffering.

To effectively address some of the immediate issues, DG ECHO encourages its partners to explore the already **built-in flexible measures**:

DG ECHO's **Model Grant Agreement (MGA)** and **Humanitarian Aid Contribution Agreement (HACA)** provide the necessary flexibilities to:

- amend the project (objectives, type of activities, budget, achievable results, duration, etc.), and
- suspend or terminate the project in case of exceptional circumstances.

1. Amending the project

DG ECHO may authorise delays in implementation or changes to the action on a case-by-case basis.

For on-going projects, where relevant, DG ECHO partners should integrate the consequences of other donors' funding suspension in section **13.7 'Financial Contribution by other Donors'** of the Single Form and adjust the action/project accordingly.

Redirection of funding within an ongoing action is also possible if a partner considers it necessary. Non-substantial changes in activities are normally 100% flexible. Substantial changes to the action (e.g. to results) trigger an amendment. For more information on changes see: <https://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/ngo/changes>.

2. Budget flexibility

DG ECHO partners have **full budget flexibility** to shift funds between budget lines, co-partners and implementing partners, and even create or remove budget items without requiring a formal amendment, as long as no substantive change is made in respect of the description of the action. These adjustments should be reported in the Final Periodic Report.

To strengthen the existing flexible measures DG ECHO may consider, for a **short-term period** and **on case-by-case basis**, the **additional flexible measures** to ensure continuous support to the most vulnerable communities and individuals:

3. Increase of pre-financing

DG ECHO partners may via a modification request ask DG ECHO to raise pre-financing **up to 90% for projects ending before 30 June 2025**.

For projects ending after this date or new contracts in 2025, current pre-financing rates remain unchanged.

4. Accept a higher rate of co-funding or waive co-funding requirements

DG ECHO partners may submit a justified request to DG ECHO to accept higher rate of/waive co-funding **up to 100% of eligible costs**.

This Guidance note may be adapted pending future developments.