Salient One analysis

Great Lakes 2026

Donor: European Commission — DG ECHO

Location: Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania

Deadline: Application deadlines: Rolling applications — Single Forms may be submitted at any time during the year following HIP publication; allocation rounds also state indicative receipt dates.; Rolling applications — Single Forms may be submitted at any time during the year following publication; allocation-round receipt dates are indicative, not a call-wide deadline.

Call description

Purpose: Prioritise severe and recent humanitarian needs linked to DRC conflict, the Great Lakes refugee crisis and disaster preparedness.

Target location: Great Lakes region.

Funding and response priorities

The total call funding is EUR 101,402,966 (Indicative current HIP allocation; includes the indicative Education in Emergencies suballocation.)

Activities

Priority activities:

- Integrated life-saving basic services for people affected by recent conflict, epidemics, disasters or new displacement, including food assistance, NFIs, protection, health and nutrition.

Priority activities — Democratic Republic of the Congo:

- Immediate multi-sector assistance for newly displaced people; restore basic social services and essential inputs in return areas; support coordinated, sustainable reintegration where viable.

Priority activities — Democratic Republic of the Congo; Protection:

- Specialised protection and case management; child protection and CAAFAG identification, referral and reintegration; GBV prevention and response; MHPSS; civilian protection; HLP and mine-action support where relevant.

Who can apply

Applicants must be DG ECHO partners.

NGO partner award: Excluded: Audited financial statements not submitted on time without proper justification; Insufficient financial capacity in light of liquidity and solvency ratios in latest available audited annual accounts; Exception: A proper justification may explain late or missing audited financial statements.

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Potential Round 2 partners — priority: Partners pre-identified for the DRC Ebola response under ALERT Epidemics funding made available in May 2026, IFRC for community engagement and frontline public health activities. Applies to: Allocation round 2.

Pre-identified Round 3 potential partners — priority: DRC: ICRC and WFP for mandates; MCNL, HEKS/EPER and UNICEF for eastern DRC RRM; MEDAIR as lead NGO Ebola partner; DCA for de-mining, Regional refugee response: UNHCR as lead agency. Applies to: Allocation round 3.

Conditions that materially affect an application

EU-funded award — required: Respect applicable EU Conditionality Measures; Excluded: Legal commitments under direct or indirect management with covered Hungarian public-interest trusts established under Act IX of 2021 and affiliated entities; Applies when: Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 remains applicable.

Action cost-eligibility date — required: Use the later of the date in the Single Form and the HIP eligibility date; Exception: For amendments to existing agreements, retain the eligible date in the initial agreement.

Follow-up to operations financed under a previous HIP — permitted option: Permitted: Submit modification requests to continue or extend ongoing operations, including where appropriate under HIP multi-annual strategies; Maximum 48 months.

Multi-year funding action outside separate EiE and disaster-preparedness provisions — required:

- At least 24 months duration.
- Full budget committed upfront.
- Demonstrate efficiency gains, monitor them during implementation and report them in the final report.

Minimum 24 months.

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Submission and timing

Application deadline: Rolling applications — Single Forms may be submitted at any time during the year following HIP publication; allocation rounds also state indicative receipt dates.

Applications are submitted through APPEL.

Start date: 1 January 2026 — Action start/cost-eligibility date, not a submission date. Applies to: Allocation round 1.

Start date: 1 May 2026 — Action start/cost-eligibility date, not a submission date. Applies to: Allocation round 2.

Start date: 1 January 2026 — Action start/cost-eligibility date, not a submission date. Applies to: Allocation round 3.

Sources

ec.europa.eu - Call document

ec.europa.eu - Call document

ec.europa.eu - Call document

ec.europa.eu - Call document

Salient One analysis. Official call documents and amendments govern the funding conditions.
Selected passages represent only part of Great Lakes — Humanitarian Implementation Plan 2026 (ECHO/COD/BUD/2026/91000).

Selected passages represent only part of echo_cod_bud_2026_91000_v5.pdf.

Selected passages represent only part of thematic_policies_annex_2026.pdf.

Great Lakes — Humanitarian Implementation Plan 2026 (ECHO/COD/BUD/2026/91000); echo_cod_bud_2026_91000_v5.pdf; thematic_policies_annex_2026.pdf: PDF conversion can omit pages, columns, tables and annexes. Compare this preview with the original; no OCR or page-completeness guarantee.