

**A. RELIEF STAFF POOL (RSP) INITIATIVE**

As part of ECDA's ongoing efforts to improve educators' working conditions, Minister Masagos announced in October 2022 that ECDA would be growing a pool of relief staff to better enable educators to take time off to attend to their personal and professional needs.

Following market research and consultations with the EC sector, ECDA launched an Open Call from March to May 2024 to invite proposals from eligible service providers to provide affordable relief staff services that could be accessed by the entire sector (comprising approximately 1,900 licensed preschools). This effort aims to ensure that all preschools have access to a ready pool of relief staff at reasonable charges and reliable service standards, which they can tap on to maintain service continuity while their educators take time off work.

The selected service provider(s) will be officially appointed and communicated to the sector by end-2024.