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CERF 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

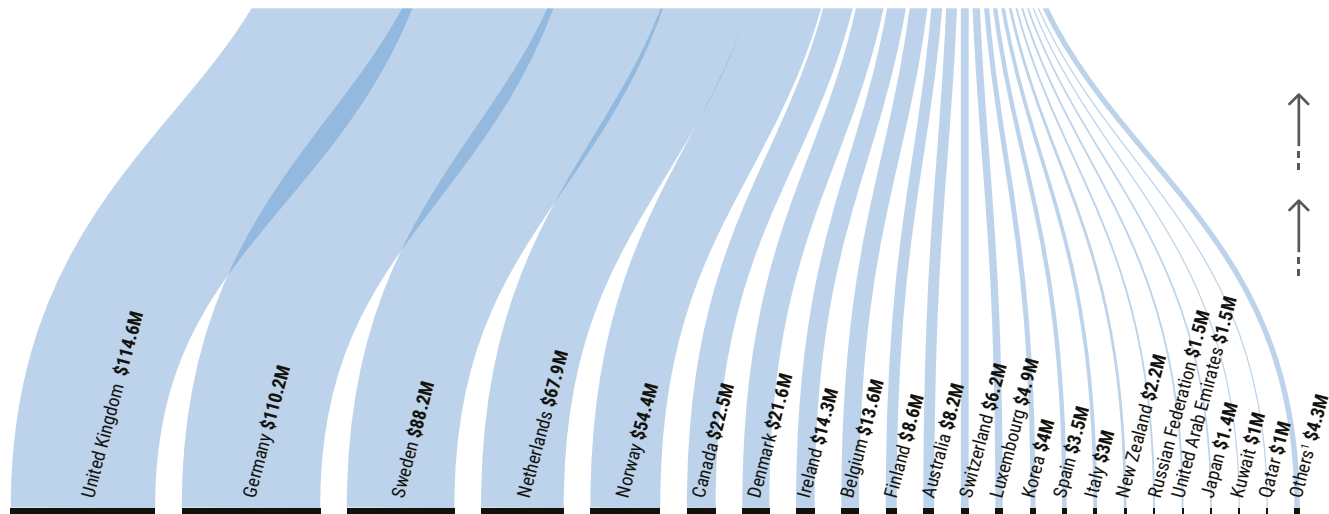
United Nations
CERF | Central
Emergency
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United Nations



\$558.6 MILLION
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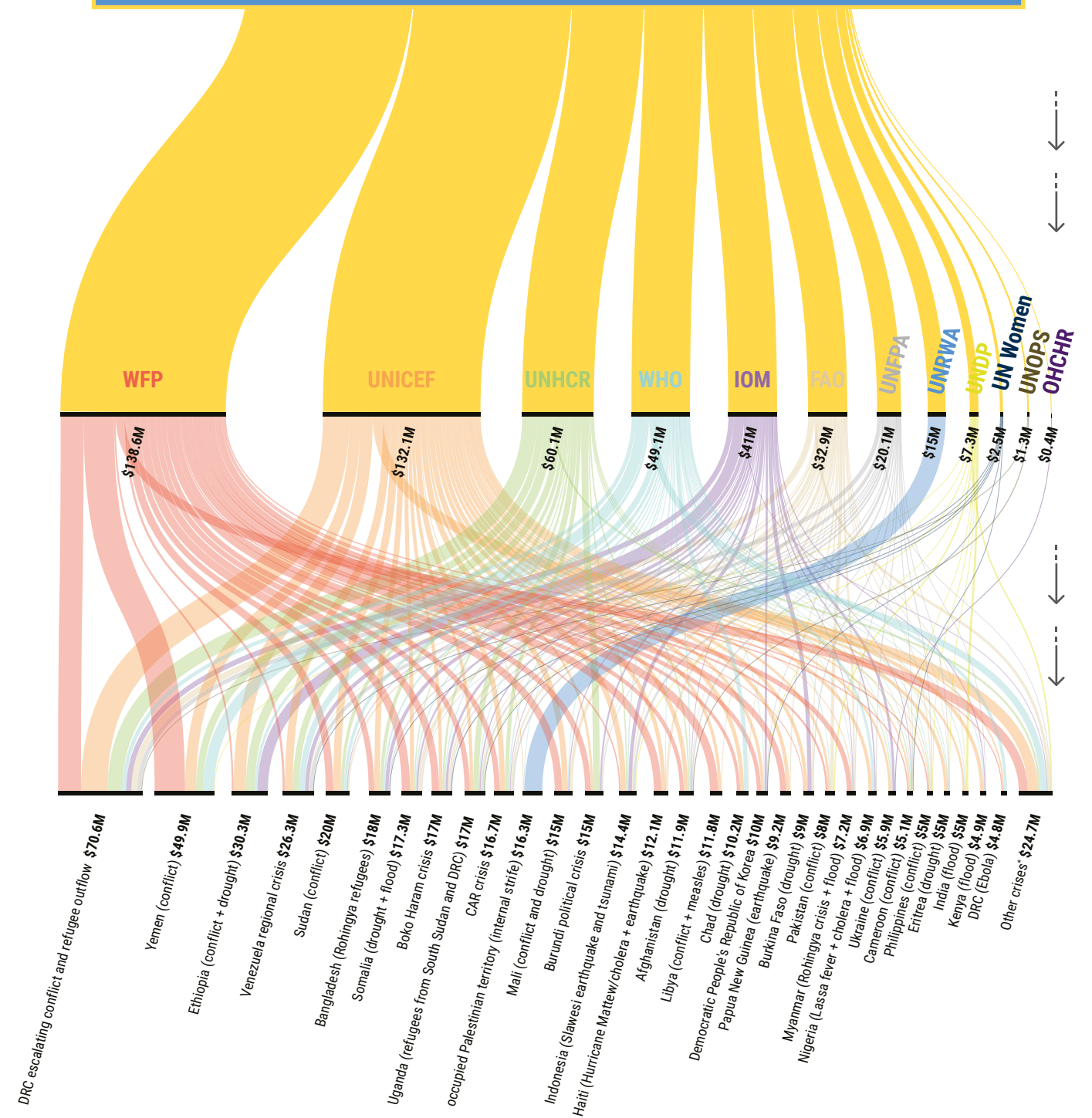


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² Al Jisr Foundation, ³ Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation, ⁴ Belgian Government of Flanders, ⁵ World Mission Society Church of God

\$500.5 MILLION
↓ ALLOCATED ↓



¹Republic of Congo (conflict), Mauritania (drought), Lao People's Democratic Republic (flood), Haiti (cholera), Zimbabwe (cholera), Burundi (political crisis), DRC (escalating conflict and refugee outflow), Niger (cholera), Guatemala (volcano), Djibouti (Tropical Cyclone Sagar), Lebanon (measles), Madagascar (plague).



United Nations | Central
CERF | Emergency
Response
Fund

CERF
2018
ANNUAL
REPORT

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CREDITS

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A girl on a way home after collecting water in Kananga, Kasai-Occidental province, Democratic Republic of Congo. © UNICEF/ Vincent Tremeau

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Map source: United Nations Geospatial Information Section

Numbers are rounded. Denominations are represented in United States dollars.



ABOUT CERF ANNUAL AND RESULTS REPORTS

CERF's reporting framework includes two annual publications: the Annual Report and the Results Report. While the documents complement each other, they can also be read individually. As of 2019, the Annual Report and the Results Report are launched jointly as an annual CERF publication package.

Annual Report

The Annual Report is a summary document that presents highlights of CERF funding allocated during the previous year. This year's Annual Report therefore focuses on 2018 CERF allocations.

The report also includes a summary of 2018 donor funding to CERF, key performance information, and information on ongoing efforts to increase the effectiveness of the fund in light of the changing humanitarian landscape.

Results Report

The Results Report is an analytical, data-driven document that provides detailed information on results achieved with CERF funding reported on during the previous year.

The implementation of CERF grants can take up to nine months, which is followed by a three-month reporting period. As a result, CERF grants allocated in 2017 were implemented and reported until the end of 2018.

This year's Results Report therefore focuses on results achieved with CERF funding allocated in 2017. The report also includes several analytical sections and uses data from recent years as background information.

Foreword

USG Mark Lowcock
talks with children in
Al Rabat Collective
Centre for displaced
people in Lahj
Governorate, Yemen.
© OCHA



In 2018, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) broke three records. For the first time, CERF disbursed over half a billion dollars, enabling millions of people affected by humanitarian crises to access life-saving assistance. CERF also received a record level of funding in 2018, over US\$500 million, thanks to the generosity of its donors. And CERF made the largest-ever single CERF allocation to date, providing nearly \$50 million to fight the growing risk of famine in Yemen amid the collapse in public services and a resurgence of the conflict there.

In 2018, CERF funds provided a lifeline to crisis-affected people in 48 countries and territories around the world. When conflict and insecurity erupted, CERF funds kick-started hu-

manitarian assistance to displaced people and the communities hosting them. When people were threatened by natural disasters or disease outbreaks, CERF supported rapid responses to save lives and support survivors.

And, when underfunding jeopardized the delivery of humanitarian assistance in neglected crises, CERF funding was critical to enable humanitarian organizations to sustain life-saving operations.

As Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), I have witnessed how CERF funds are able to provide the aid that is most needed to the people who need it most. Every day, CERF funding enables humanitarian organizations to provide life-sav-

ing food and healthcare to people caught up in crises, to give shelter and safety to refugees and internally displaced persons, to ensure that children do not miss out on their education, and to assist people living with disabilities and chronic illnesses in ways that support their needs, rights and dignity.

CERF funds play a vital role in ensuring that the specific needs of women and girls, who are disproportionately affected by crises, are at the front and centre of humanitarian response. After a massive earthquake struck Sulawesi in Indonesia last October, 40,000 pregnant women needed urgent help to safely deliver their babies. CERF provided money just for that. Days after the earthquake, when UN Secretary-General António Guterres and I visited Sulawesi, we saw how CERF funds had enabled immediate maternal health care, including continued access to the essential services of midwives and other community health workers.

In today's interconnected world, CERF enables a global outlook on humanitarian response that is more vital than ever. In 2018, CERF provided two innovative regional rapid response allocations: the first to support six countries affected by the outflow of refugees and migrants from Venezuela; and the second to support four countries neighbouring the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to step up their readiness and prevention efforts against the spread of the deadly Ebola virus. At the same time, transparency on the usage of CERF funds is a top priority. In 2018 CERF undertook a comprehensive review of its International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) reporting and as a result, CERF is now listed as the third-most transparent of the 969 organizations publishing their data to the IATI standard.

2019 may be another record-setting year. At CERF's pledging event in December, donors announced pledges of \$439 million – the high-

est ever pledged at the annual pledging event. Thanks to this growing support, the fund is uniquely placed to respond to global humanitarian challenges. As UN Secretary-General António Guterres said during the event: "If we are serious about humanitarian coordination, if we are serious about effective system-wide priorities and leaving no one behind, the sure bet is CERF. It is the best guarantee that, with increased funding entrusted to us by donors, aid reaches people whenever and wherever they are caught up in crises."

A stronger CERF can do even more in the future. Among the new approaches we will pursue is a potential role for CERF in funding anticipatory action, for example in response to an imminent natural disaster such as a drought, as well as looking at how CERF can help support chronically underfunded programme areas such as protection, disability, education and gender. These approaches will build on CERF's existing strengths and expertise, and in consultation with partners, be further developed and piloted in 2019 as part of CERF's ongoing efforts to reach more people with life-saving aid at the earliest stages of crises.

CERF is, without a doubt, one of our greatest humanitarian successes. I am immensely grateful to all of the donors and partners who have placed their trust in the Fund. Without your commitment to invest in humanity, none of these achievements would have been possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Lowcock'.

MARK LOWCOCK

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian
Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

About CERF



Halima, an internally displaced person, has returned to Kagalom island in Lake Chad as Boko Haram is no longer a threat. © OCHA/Ivo Brandau

About CERF

CERF is one of the fastest and most effective ways to enable life-saving humanitarian action for people affected by crises. Established by the UN General Assembly in 2005 as the UN Emergency Revolving Fund, CERF enables humanitarian responders to deliver life-saving assistance by providing rapid and flexible funding when it is needed most. CERF funds allow UN country teams to kick-start relief efforts immediately through a coordinated and prioritized response, and help partners scale up their relief operations in underfunded emergencies to avoid critical gaps. UN organizations are directly eligible to receive CERF funding and implement grants in partnership with local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), host governments and Red Cross/Red Crescent societies.

Each year on average, CERF grants help humanitarian partners deliver critical health care to 13 million people, water and sanitation to 10.3 million people, food assistance to 6.6 million people, protection to 4.3 million people, agriculture support to 3.5 million people, nutrition to 2.3 million people and shelter to 1.9 million people.¹ In addition, the fund supports services for refugees and internally displaced people, mine action, emergency education, camp management and early recovery for millions of people in need.

¹ Includes averages from 2015-2017. As part of ongoing enhancements to the CERF reporting framework, the CERF secretariat put in place an improved methodology resulting in a clearer distinction between people benefiting directly and indirectly from CERF-funded humanitarian action, leading to more accurate figures.

In 2018, CERF allocated \$500.5 million to support humanitarian action in 48 countries and territories. Some \$321 million went to kick-start and scale up operations in 37² countries and \$180 million was released to bolster aid operations in 18 of the world's most neglected crises.

Since the fund's inception, contributions from 126 UN Member States and observers, as well as regional governments, corporate donors, foundations and individuals, have enabled CERF to provide some \$5.8 billion to deliver life-saving assistance in 104 countries and territories through partners on the ground. One third of the countries that donated to CERF, themselves benefited from CERF funding during an emergency, making CERF truly a fund by all, for all. By pooling donors' fully unearmarked contributions into a single fund, donors invest in a humanitarian funding mechanism that adds value to every dollar spent. CERF is guided by the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality and resources are allocated in line with CERF's life-saving criteria. This way CERF ensures that funds help meet the most urgent needs of people caught in crisis around the world and are used where they have the highest potential for saving lives.

² This includes 35 countries which received direct CERF rapid response funding and an additional two countries which were included in the Venezuelan regional refugee and migration crisis

The nature of humanitarian crises has changed, and timely and flexible response is needed more than ever. CERF is an excellent tool in achieving this.

— H.E. Ms. Anne-Mari Virolainen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Finland

The humanitarian context in which CERF operates today has changed significantly from when the fund was established more than a decade ago. Crises have increased in scale, magnitude and duration, and the financial requirements to reach people in need have increased almost five-fold, with UN-led Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) requesting \$25.2 billion in 2018 to assist some 97.9 million people. Recognizing the clear need for more substantial and strategic humanitarian financing and considering CERF's impressive track record in resourcing life-saving assistance for crisis-affected people, in 2016 the UN General Assembly endorsed the Secretary-General's call to expand CERF's annual funding target to \$1 billion, commensurate with today's humanitarian needs.

“ Norway is proud to be among the top donors to CERF. In 2018, we signed a four-year agreement totalling 1.68 billion Norwegian kroner, or approximately US\$ 200 million. This will contribute to a more predictable, effective and principled humanitarian response, reaching those who are most in need. This is a key priority in Norway's new humanitarian strategy.

— Ine Eriksen Søreide, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs

CERF MANAGEMENT

The ERC manages CERF on behalf of the UN Secretary-General and approves CERF grants. The ERC is supported by the CERF secretariat, which ensures that funds are allocated properly, disbursed in a timely manner, and reported on appropriately and transparently. The CERF Advisory Group provides policy guidance to the Secretary-General through the ERC on the use and impact of the fund.

**On average, each year
CERF grants enable humanitarian
partners to deliver:**



**CRITICAL
HEALTH CARE TO
13 MILLION
PEOPLE**



**WATER AND
SANITATION TO
10.3 MILLION
PEOPLE**



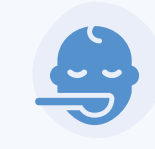
**FOOD ASSISTANCE
TO 6.6 MILLION
PEOPLE**



**PROTECTION TO
4.3 MILLION
PEOPLE**



**AGRICULTURAL
INPUTS TO
3.5 MILLION
PEOPLE**



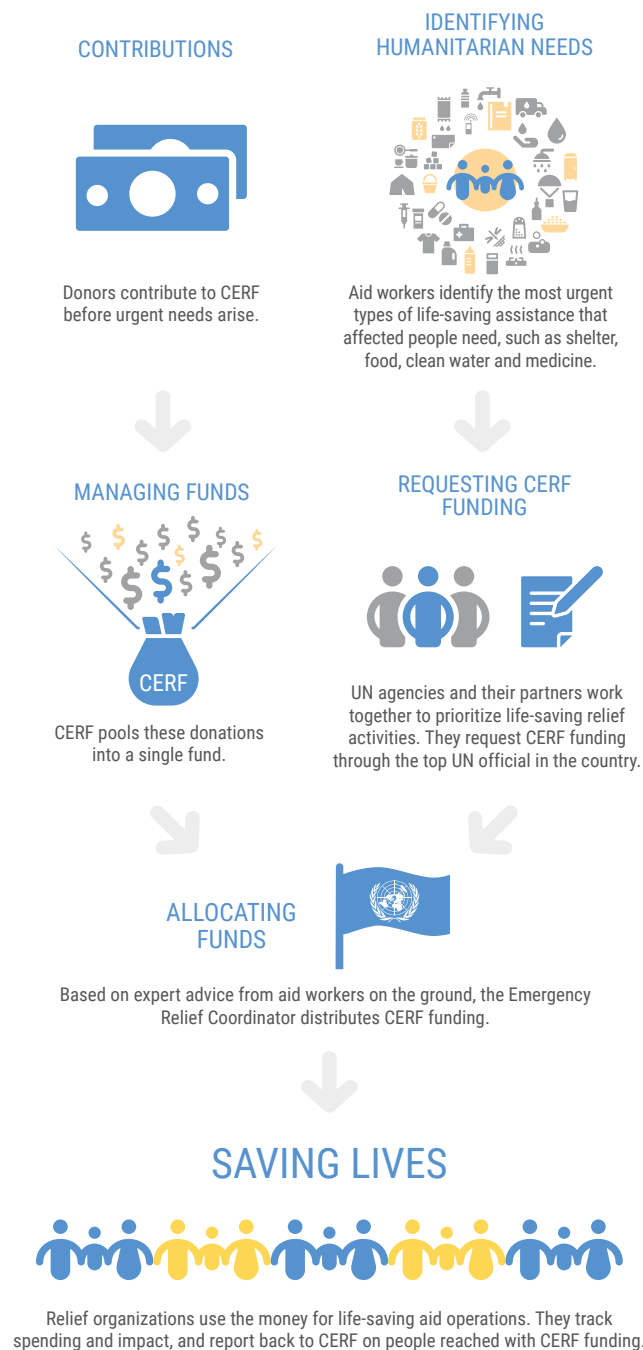
**NUTRITION
SUPPORT TO
2.3 MILLION
PEOPLE**



**SHELTER TO
1.9 MILLION
PEOPLE**

... as well as support services for refugees and migrants, mine action, emergency education and camp management for millions of people in need.

How CERF works



HOW CERF WORKS

Time lost means lives lost. Disasters and conflict can cut people off from the basic necessities for survival, including urgent health care, food, clean water, sanitation, shelter, protection and much more. The effect can be devastating and often immediate. CERF provides a fast and efficient way to channel funds to humanitarian responders, enabling the rapid delivery of life-saving assistance whenever and wherever crises hit.

During emergencies, humanitarian organizations on the ground jointly assess and prioritize humanitarian needs and can decide to apply for CERF funding when new needs exceed their capacity to respond. Determining the level and severity of needs and identifying people who most urgently need assistance requires joint planning and prioritization by UN Resident Coordinators/Humanitarian Coordinators (RCs/HCs), Humanitarian/UN Country Teams and other humanitarian organizations. By bringing humanitarian partners together to discuss and prioritize activities to be included in the CERF request, CERF helps ensure a coordinated and strategic prioritization and application process. When an application meets the CERF criteria for funding, funds are immediately released to partners on the ground.

Germany just celebrated 50 years of humanitarian assistance. Our engagement in support of the international humanitarian system has come a long way. A strong CERF is key to the effectiveness of a truly needs-based international humanitarian system. We are proud of having been the second largest contributor to CERF in both 2017 and 2018.

— Heiko Maas, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Germany

CERF is



GLOBAL

CERF provides humanitarian support across the globe, expanding the reach of its donors to all crises, whether new, worsening or forgotten.



PROMOTING COORDINATION AND COHERENCE

CERF funding is jointly allocated to multiple organizations based on humanitarian partners' agreed priorities. This promotes coordination among humanitarian actors, eliminates duplication and overlaps, prevents fragmented responses and supports the achievement of collective outcomes.



NEUTRAL, IMPARTIAL AND INDEPENDENT

CERF is fully unearmarked, principled and independent to ensure funding goes to meet the most urgent, life-saving needs wherever crises hit.



FAST

Time lost means lives lost. CERF allocates funding within hours of a crisis, making funding available at the beginning of a crisis when it is needed most.



CATALYTIC

CERF enables humanitarian partners to quickly scale up response and leverage additional donor support through demonstrated and timely humanitarian action.



NEEDS-BASED

CERF allocations are strictly life-saving and based on the needs identified and prioritized by humanitarian partners at the front lines of the emergency responses. This ensures early responses to the most time-critical humanitarian priorities.



PREDICTABLE

CERF is a trusted and dependable source of predictable funding for the most urgent and critical humanitarian action.



EMBODYING THE GRAND BARGAIN

CERF plays a key role in delivering the Grand Bargain: CERF funding is flexible, efficient, unearmarked, principled and transparent, supports cash programming, empowers humanitarian leadership and promotes a coordinated, inclusive and strategic humanitarian response.

”

Over the past thirteen years, CERF has been at the forefront of humanitarian response. I have long been a champion of this fund, having seen its effects in humanitarian crises around the world. CERF is without question one of our most important tools to reach people quickly and save lives. We need CERF now more than ever.

— António Guterres
United Nations Secretary-General



FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

CERF interventions support the involvement of implementing partners. Each year, approximately 25 per cent of CERF funds are implemented by more than 500 NGOs and local responders who have partnered with UN agencies.



COST-EFFECTIVE

CERF offers value for money by allowing donors to efficiently assist people in need wherever crises strike. When donors contribute to CERF, they ensure that limited resources go as far as they can to save lives and reduce the suffering of millions of women, men, girls and boys caught up in crises around the world.

Life-saving criteria

The allocation of funds is guided by CERF’s life-saving criteria, which were established in 2007 through a consultative process with UN agencies and other Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) partners. These guidelines provide a framework for prioritizing critical needs in line with CERF’s humanitarian mandate and help ensure that support provided to projects is rigorous and focused. The criteria reflect the basic humanitarian principle of placing the people affected by crisis at the centre of response and recognize the rights of all people as defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly the right to life with dignity. Considering that the last revision of the criteria was finalized in 2010, the CERF secretariat engaged over the course of 2018 in consultations with UN agencies to assess the need for a new update to adapt to developments in the humanitarian system. These consultations will continue in 2019.



At least **2/3** of CERF funding is set aside for **Rapid Response** allocations.

Up to **1/3** of CERF funding is channelled through the **Underfunded Emergencies** window.

TWO FUNDING WINDOWS

CERF can channel funds to UN agencies through its Rapid Response window and its Underfunded Emergencies (UFE) window. The formal application process for the two windows is similar, in that a CERF funding request is based on a field-driven process that gives the RC/HC the overall authority to determine the strategic priorities for funding and submit a consolidated package of proposals to the ERC. Consultations in-country with the Humanitarian/UN Country Team and the inter-cluster coordination mechanism, if present, are key to ensure that needs and priorities are jointly agreed and prioritized for the CERF request.

For CERF to fund a project, the proposed activities must meet the CERF life-saving criteria. While the process of developing a formal request is similar for both grant windows, the starting point for allocations differs. Rapid Response funding can be requested any time during the year by the RC/HC, in consultation with humanitarian partners on the ground, in the event of a clear trigger causing new needs. Such a request can be made in response to sudden-onset disasters, rapid or significant deteriorations of existing crises, or to support a time-critical intervention. Rapid Response grants are intended to provide seed money to kick-start the response while other funds are being mobilized. UFE allocations, on the other hand, start with a comparative global analysis of vulnerability and funding levels through two annual consultative processes at headquarters level involving UN agencies, OCHA and NGOs. Emergencies selected for UFE grants are those that have not attracted or are unlikely to attract sufficient and timely funding for life-saving activities, and where the highest levels of risk and vulnerability are evidenced by rigorous analysis and broad consultation.

“Luxembourg is and will remain a reliable partner of CERF. The role of the fund remains essential, especially in the context of underfunded and “forgotten” crises. Our support for CERF is a sign of our commitment to strengthening the international humanitarian system and an appreciation of the outstanding work that humanitarian actors are doing around the world.

— Paulette Lenert, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, Luxembourg

LOAN FACILITY

In addition to the two grant windows, CERF also has a \$30 million loan facility intended to cover critical funding gaps in UN humanitarian operations based on indications that donor funding is forthcoming. When a UN agency, fund or programme experiences a cash flow problem when attempting to provide a rapid and coordinated response to a humanitarian emergency, a loan for up to one year may be requested towards immediate response activities. The ERC determines the amount to be advanced in each situation.

STRATEGIC USE OF CERF AND COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUNDS

CERF allocations are designed to complement other humanitarian funding sources, such as Country-Based Pooled funds (CBPFs), bilateral donor funding, existing agency funding, and government response efforts. Both CERF and CBPFs enable timely, effective and principled humanitarian action by promoting leadership, coordination and coherence in response. Used jointly and strategically, they are powerful funding tools for the RC/HC and the humanitarian community. By leveraging their comparative advantages — including CERF’s global reach and focus on life-saving assistance and CBPFs’ abilities to directly fund a wider range of partners including local NGOs through more flexible operational modalities — the strategic use of these funds enables partners to deliver a stronger collective response, maximizing the impact of limited resources.



”Owing to its recognition of the quantitative and qualitative increase in the humanitarian disasters and emergencies around the world, which necessitated establishing a central fund able to intervene rapidly to provide help and relief, the UAE vowed to become one of the main actors and supporters of the CERF, in order to save and protect lives especially in the early hours and days of the crisis. Whereas the Fund has indeed proven its efficiency and professionalism in rapid response to many of the disasters worldwide, which helped in alleviating the hardship of humanitarian situation in these settings.

— Khalifa Alketbi, Head of Coordination and Humanitarian Response Section Foreign Aid Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, United Arab Emirates

Women and children fill jerrycans with water in Hodeidah, Yemen, where water is scarce. © UNICEF/Ayyashi



Overview of 2018 CERF allocations

Women wait in line in the Kutupalong refugee
camp, Ukhia, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.
© OCHA/Vincent Tremeau

Overview

Despite global economic progress and development gains, humanitarian need increased in 2018. At the beginning of the year, 135.7 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance due to the devastating impacts of conflicts and disasters. UN-led Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) initially requested \$22.5 billion to assist 90.9 million people in 41 countries. Throughout the year, crises grew more severe, protracted and complex, particularly in the DRC, Ethiopia and Yemen. Natural disasters including earthquakes and widespread floods affected hundreds of communities. By December, the funding requirements for 2018 had risen to \$24.9 billion and 101 million people were targeted to receive assistance through HRPs, the highest numbers on record.

Donors responded to the high levels of need with increasing generosity, contributing \$13.9 billion to HRPs and other UN-coordinated humanitarian plans and appeals and another \$8.1 billion outside these appeals.³ Nonetheless, significant funding gaps remained a challenge, and global funding coverage for UN-led appeals was only 56 per cent by the end of the year.

In 2018, CERF received record high income of over \$558.6 million. These funds allowed UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations to deliver life-saving shelter, water and sanitation, health care, camp coordination

³ Funding outside the requirements of UN-coordinated appeals includes support for organizations and/or activities that are not part of HRPs. This typically includes reporting funding towards the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (ICRC and IFRC), some NGOs, as well as bilateral contributions channeled directly from one government to another. It may also include core funding for humanitarian organizations and for crises that do not have HRPs. More information is available on OCHA's Financial Tracking Service at fts.unocha.org

and camp management, logistics, emergency livelihoods and protection services to millions of the most vulnerable crises affected people around the world.

Emergencies related to conflict and internal strife were the principal cause of humanitarian needs in 2018, continuing the trend of recent years. In total, 86.7 per cent of the funds provided through the UFE window, and 57 per cent of the funding provided through the Rapid Response window in 2018, went to assist people affected by conflict. This included \$49.9 million in rapid response funding to provide life-saving food assistance to 1.3 million people living in conflict-affected areas who were severely food insecure and malnourished.

Among the most severely affected people were those displaced by conflict internally and across borders into neighbouring countries. CERF provided \$207.8 million to support responses to conflict-related displacement in 17 countries: Angola, Bangladesh, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Congo, DRC, Ethiopia, Libya, Mali, Niger, the Philippines, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia.

Natural disasters also generated urgent humanitarian needs. In 2018, CERF allocated \$125.3 million to assist millions of people around the world who required life-saving assistance as a result of droughts, flooding, earthquakes and storms. On 28 September, a series of strong earthquakes struck Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province, resulting in a tsunami and landslides causing significant damage and loss of life. Thousands died or were seriously injured, and



537,000 people were directly impacted by the disaster. On 1 October, the Government of Indonesia announced that it would accept offers of international assistance and the following day, the ERC allocated \$14.4 million through the CERF Rapid Response window to support the Government-led response. The CERF funding was used to kick-start the most urgent, life-saving humanitarian activities to assist 191,000 most vulnerable people affected in Central Sulawesi.

Every year, CERF supports the most underfunded and protracted emergencies, where the risk and vulnerability indicators are extremely high

and funding levels remain critically low. In 2018, CERF allocated \$179.7 million towards these neglected crises — the highest amount provided in a single year through the UFE window. In January 2018, the ERC allocated \$99.7 million through the UFE window to respond to the critical needs of 4.3 million people in Cameroon, DRC, Eritrea, Haiti, Mali, Pakistan, the Philippines, Tanzania and Uganda. In the second round, in August 2018, \$80 million was allocated to fund projects aiming to assist 2.7 million people in Angola, Bangladesh, Burundi, CAR, Congo, DPRK, Libya, Rwanda and Sudan.

A local Yemeni boy next to a damaged boat at a beachside in Aden, Yemen.
© OCHA/Giles Clarke

Allocations and funding windows

In 2018 CERF allocated \$500.5 million, the highest amount in its history, to humanitarian operations in 48 countries and territories (including 6 countries that benefited from a regional CERF allocation). Of this, \$320.8 million was allocated from the Rapid Response window. A further \$179.7 million was allocated in two rounds from the UFE window: \$99.7 million in the first round and \$80 million in the second. The ERC also approved a \$15 million loan to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in April 2018 to provide life-saving health care, cash and food assistance.

CERF funds supported responses to the most urgent humanitarian emergencies. As in previous years, the majority of CERF allocations in 2018 went towards emergencies related to conflict and internal strife. In total, \$338.5 million—67.6 per cent of all 2018 allocations—was allocated to 246 projects aiming to assist people affected by displacement, disruption of basic services and other conflict- and internal strife-related issues. The countries with the highest amounts of CERF funding linked to conflict and internal strife were Yemen with \$49.9 million in allocations, the DRC with \$47.8 million, and Ethiopia with \$24.9 million.

CERF also supported humanitarian response to natural disasters, allocating a total of \$125.3 million to relief operations triggered by drought, floods, earthquakes, storms and volcanoes. In Somalia, \$17.3 million was allocated in response to drought in March and to floods in May. In Indonesia, CERF funding supported the response to the October earthquake in the Sulawesi region that triggered a tsunami, liquefaction and landslides. CERF released \$14.4 million to respond to the most urgent needs of 191,000 affected people, including 93,020 women and girls.

BY WINDOW

Rapid Response window

In 2018, the ERC approved \$320.8 million in rapid response funding to address humanitarian needs in 37 countries.⁴ The largest share of rapid response funding in 2018, 57 per cent, responded to needs resulting from conflict and internal strife. A further 35.7 per cent addressed critical needs resulting from geophysical, meteorological and other climate-related natural disasters. Yemen received the highest allocation, with CERF providing \$49.9 million at the beginning of the year in response to worsening humanitarian conditions resulting from the ongoing conflict. In DRC, a total of \$30.5 million was allocated in response to multiple crises, including violence and displacement in Kasai, Tanganyika and South Kivu (Level 3 (L3) emergency), Ebola outbreaks in May and August, and the urgent needs of returnees from Angola in December. In Ethiopia, CERF provided a combined \$30.3 million to respond to an upsurge in intercommunal violence and displacement in March, floods in May and increased insecurity in border regions in July.

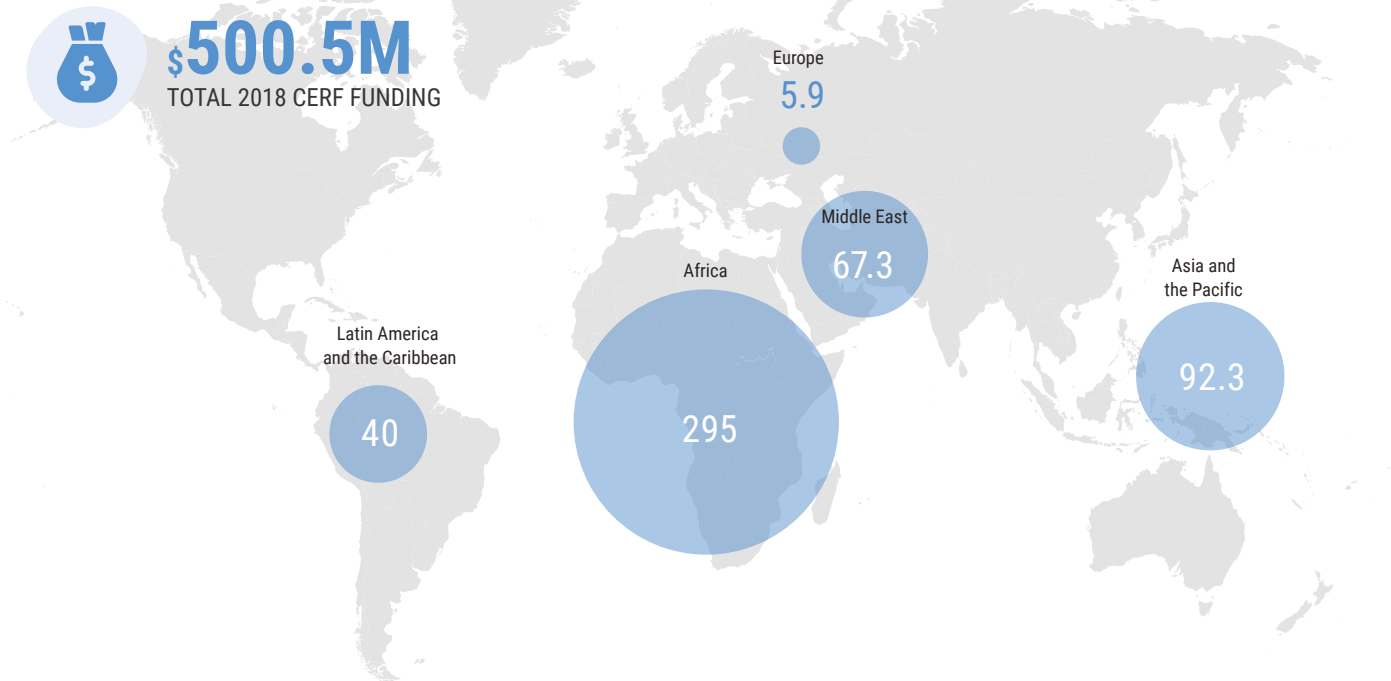
Underfunded Emergencies window

CERF provided \$179.7 million through the UFE window for humanitarian responses in 18 countries. This funding for a total of 140 projects enabled implementing partners to assist 18 million people in need, including 6.4 million refugees and 3.4 million internally displaced people (IDPs). The majority of the funds, 86.7 per cent, went to assist people affected by conflict. The highest amounts were allocated to DRC, with \$27.8 million allocated in response to displacement due to conflict; to Sudan, with \$20 million

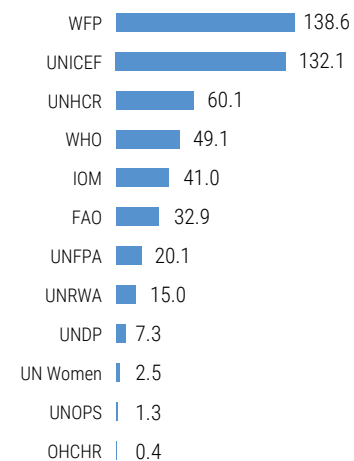
⁴ This includes 35 countries which received direct CERF rapid response funding, and an additional two countries which were included in the regional rapid response allocation for the Venezuela crisis.

CERF 2018 allocations

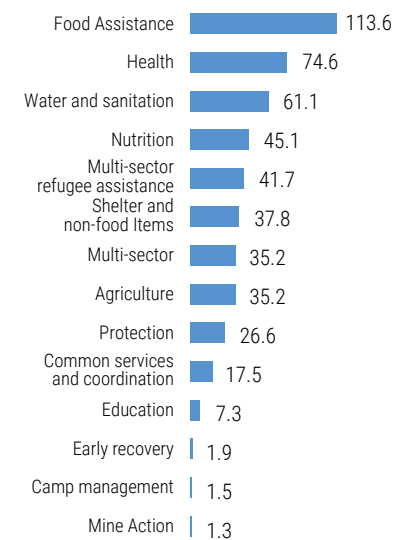
Funding by region
in US\$ million



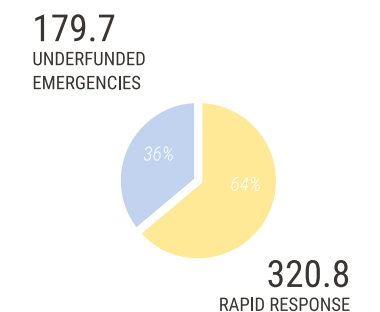
Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million



Allocation by windows
in US\$ million



to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition; and to Bangladesh, with \$18 million for the response to the Rohingya refugee crisis.

In the first round of UFE allocations in January 2018, \$99.7 million was allocated to strengthen the humanitarian response in neglected crises. The projects aimed to assist 4.3 million people in nine countries. The majority of the funding, \$85.7 million—86 per cent of the first UFE allocation—supported humanitarian operations in conflict-related crises in seven countries: Cameroon, DRC, Mali, Pakistan, the Philippines, Uganda and Tanzania. The remaining funds were allocated to Eritrea, where \$5 million was directed to projects targeting more than 460,000 people affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, and to Haiti, where \$9 million was provided for life-saving interventions aiming to assist 1.3 million people affected by disease outbreaks and hurricanes.

In the second UFE round, \$80 million was approved for nine countries, aiming to assist a total of 2.7 million people. A total of \$50 million, almost two thirds of the funding in this round, was allocated to support interventions responding to conflict-related displacement in Angola, Bangladesh, Burundi, CAR, Congo, Libya and Rwanda. A further \$20 million, the biggest single allocation from this round, went to support humanitarian response in Sudan and aimed to assist 736,000 people in need. Finally, \$10 million was allocated to provide life-saving health assistance to people in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, particularly children aged under five years, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and people suffering from multi drug-resistant tuberculosis.

BY SECTOR

Food assistance was again in 2018 the largest recipient sector with more than \$113.6 million—22.7 per cent of all CERF allocations—out of which \$84.2 million was allocated towards conflict- and internal strife-related crises. The proportion of CERF funding allocated to food assistance, nutrition and agriculture combined was 38.7 per cent, with \$193.9 million in total allocations. A total of \$74.6 million was approved for health services and \$61.1 million for water and sanitation-related interventions. Another \$41.7 million was allocated towards multisector refugee assistance, \$37.8 million for shelter and non-food items, and \$26.6 million for protection. The remaining \$64.8 million was released for activities related to logistics, emergency telecommunications, camp management, mine action, early recovery and other multisectoral interventions.

BY REGION

The highest share of CERF funding in 2018 was allocated towards humanitarian interventions in African countries, which received a total of \$295 million, almost 60 per cent of all allocations. While this represents a \$7.7 million increase in the total amount compared to the previous year, the share of overall funding allocated to Africa decreased from 69 per cent in the previous year due to growing needs in other regions such as the Middle East. Humanitarian programmes in East Africa received \$112.8 million, 22.5 per cent of all CERF funding, and \$106.2 million was allocated to Central Africa. A total of \$204.8 million was allocated towards conflict-related humanitarian emergencies in Africa, roughly mirroring the global proportion of conflict-related allocations, and \$67.9 million was directed towards climate-related emergencies, primarily drought. The country that received the highest amount of CERF funding in 2018 was in Africa: DRC received \$58.4 million, most of which aimed to address needs arising from displacement. Ethiopia received the second-largest total allo-

cation within Africa—\$30.3 million in response to rising intercommunal violence, displacement and floods. Uganda was the third-highest African recipient country, with \$23.1 million to support ongoing refugee operations.

Asia and the Pacific received 18.4 per cent of all allocations, a total of \$92.3 million, of which the largest share—\$47 million—addressed humanitarian emergencies resulting from natural disasters like the earthquake in Indonesia, drought in Afghanistan and floods in India, Laos and Myanmar. Additionally, \$35.3 million was allocated towards interventions in conflict-related crises in Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan and the Philippines. The countries receiving the highest amounts of overall CERF funding in Asia and the Pacific were Bangladesh with \$18 million, Indonesia with \$14.4 million and Afghanistan with \$11.9 million. In 2018, \$23 million (24.9 per cent of the funding in Asia and the Pacific) was allocated towards the response to displacement in Bangladesh and the Philippines. Across the region, \$51.2 million (55.5 per cent) was allocated through the Rapid Response window and \$41 million through the UFE window.

In the Middle East, Lebanon, the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) and Yemen were funded with a total of \$67.3 million through the Rapid Response window. Yemen received the largest allocation in the region and the second-largest overall, with \$49.9 million to assist more than 2.8 million people affected by the conflict. CERF also supported responses to humanitarian needs in oPt with \$16.3 million, and health assistance in response to a measles outbreak in Lebanon with \$1.1 million.

Humanitarian action in Latin America and the Caribbean received \$40 million. The largest allocation, \$12.1 million, was directed to Haiti to support emergency responses related to residual humanitarian needs following the 2017 hurricane season, ongoing cholera cases, and an earthquake in October.

BY AGENCY

The World Food Programme (WFP) again received the highest amount of CERF funding in 2018, correlating with high levels of food insecurity around the world. CERF allocated \$138.6 million to 66 projects providing food assistance in 34 countries. As in 2017, this represents more than 25 per cent of all funds released. The second and third highest allocations to agencies were also the same as in the previous year, to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), with \$132.1 million for 122 projects in 43 countries, and to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with \$60.1 million for 33 projects in 24⁵ countries. Almost two thirds, 66.1 per cent, of overall CERF funding was allocated to these three agencies.

LOANS

CERF maintains a \$30 million loan facility to provide loans to eligible organizations while they are mobilizing resources to fill crucial gaps. In April 2018, CERF provided \$15 million to UNRWA to avert an imminent funding crisis that could have affected UNRWA’s field operations both in oPt and in neighbouring countries. The loan supported life-saving health services, food and cash assistance, and was repaid on 28 February 2019, ahead of the scheduled date of 5 April 2019.

⁵ An additional five countries benefited through the regional CERF allocation for the Venezuelan regional refugee and migration crisis.

Accountability to affected people

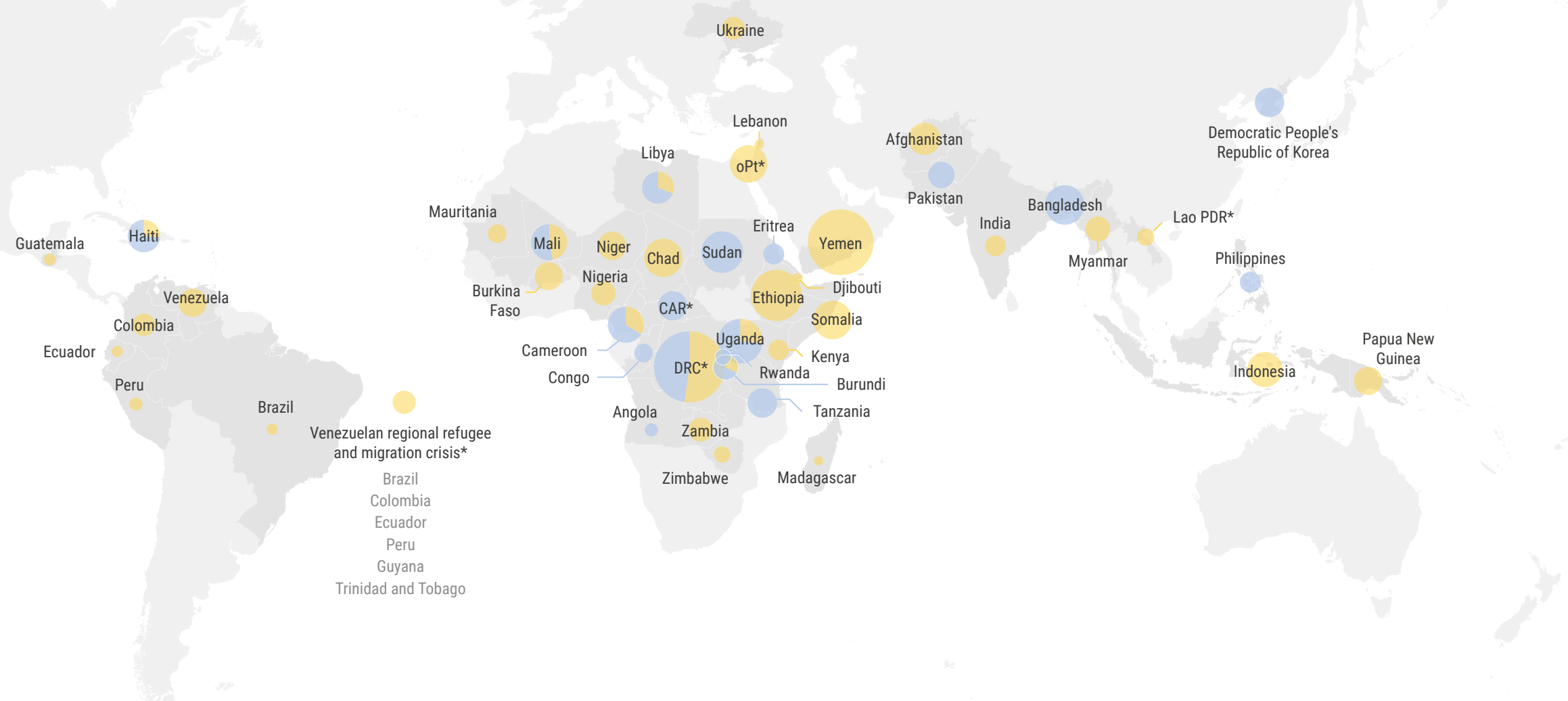
In 2018, CERF continued to promote the engagement of affected people in the design and delivery of humanitarian assistance. While CERF is not an operational entity that can directly incorporate accountability to affected people (AAP) measures into humanitarian programming, it is committed to promoting AAP by ensuring that AAP measures are considered in project proposals and remain visible throughout the CERF programme cycle. The CERF secretariat systematically analyses the data provided in the grant reports against the IASC commitments. For a detailed analysis please consult the CERF Results Report.

In 2018, CERF allocated

 **\$500.5 million**

for life-saving operations in

 **48 countries**



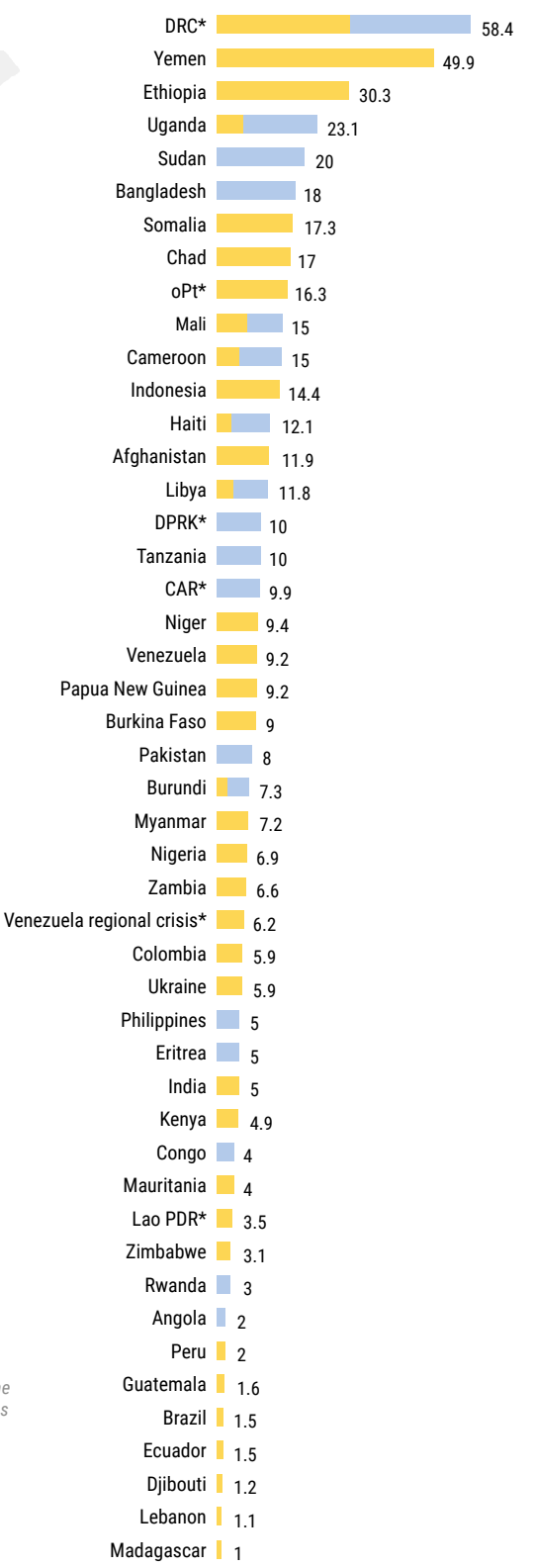
 Rapid Response window

 Underfunded Emergencies window

* CAR - Central African Republic
DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Lao PDR - Lao People's Democratic Republic
oPt - occupied Palestinian territory
Venezuela regional crisis - A regional CERF Rapid Response allocation supported responses to the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTRY in US\$ million



2018

ALLOCATIONS TIMELINE

in US\$ Million



*Venezuela regional crisis - A regional CERF Rapid Response allocation supported responses to the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago.
** Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Gender and gender-based violence

The majority of people caught up in humanitarian crises are women and girls. Every day more than 500 women and girls die from pregnancy and childbirth complications in crisis-affected countries. Girls in conflict zones are more than twice as likely as boys to be out of school. During the Ebola outbreak in the DRC, twice as many women as men were infected.

”

Canada is proud to provide multi-year support to the CERF, a unique and critical mechanism to provide life-saving assistance, especially for women and girls that are often the most affected during a crisis.

— Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, Canada

In 2018, CERF helped to preserve the health and protection of women and girls through life-saving gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) interventions around the world. It helped to provide equipment

and medicines for safe deliveries, reproductive health and clean delivery kits, gender-specific sanitation facilities, community awareness on GBV, referrals systems for survivors, nutrition counseling, emergency obstetric care and much more.

Following the earthquake and tsunami in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, CERF supported the provision of timely reproductive health services, prevention of GBV, and data availability for the response to the disaster. Within days, CERF funding enabled humanitarian partners to deploy 77 midwives to strengthen the health workforce and equip 135 local and temporary midwives with midwifery kits to ensure outreach and quality maternal health services at the Reproductive Health Clinics/Tents for survivors. In the first three months of the intervention, over 70,000 people received reproductive health service and information and more than 250 safe deliveries were conducted by health workers.

CERF funding also contributed to providing life-saving comprehensive SRH and GBV prevention services for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. With CERF funds, 2,500 pregnant women were provided with clean delivery kits, 21,775 women were served by midwives at health facilities and birthing units, 571 safe deliveries

“Women must be bold and raise their voices”

Twenty-six-year-old Nan Sa Aell Daung Paing is a champion for gender equality in her community of Kayin State in Myanmar.

“In my village, I see and hear the stories of women who are pressured by their families or societies to stay with their abusive partners. People name it as a cultural thing, but it’s not ok for women. Culturally, domestic violence is not seen as a serious social problem.”

Nan learned about GBV and gender inequality issues for the first time through a training for community volunteers provided by UN Population Fund (UNFPA) in the aftermath of the severe floods in 2018.

“The training was a real eye-opener for me. In addition to physical abuse, I came to realise that many women were also suffering emotional abuse. We need to bring the issue to the surface and also listen to the voices of women while engaging men to build a gender-balanced community and to promote gender-equality in our society.”

Nan, who was raised by her single mother since she was ten, said women would achieve many things if they were empowered and given opportunities. “My mother raised me and my five siblings alone since my father passed. We were told several times that we needed a man to lead and manage the household. But my mother did an incredible job. It was difficult, but she raised us and educated us.”

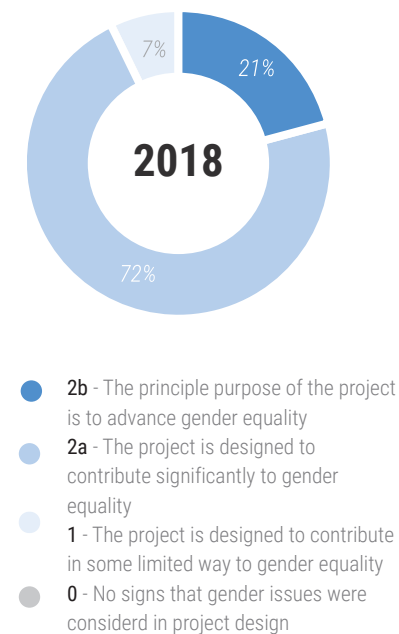


Since Nan attended the training in November 2018, she has been promoting gender-equality in her community, shedding light and educating women and girls in her village and surrounding areas on GBV issues.

“Gender is not a women’s issue. Men also need to understand and participate to promote gender-equality. Gender-equality is not women taking men’s role. Women and men have different roles in the society. We just need to accept and respect each other’s role. Women must be bold and raise their voices on GBV issues to create a better-balanced world.”

Nan Sa Aell Daung Paing is a champion for gender equality in her community in Kayin State, Myanmar. © UNFPA Myanmar

Gender Marker in CERF-funded Projects (2018)



were conducted, 10,000 women and girls were provided with dignity kits, and 13,497 people accessed safe spaces. Through CERF-funded emergency response mobile camps, 18,481 affected people were reached with SRH services including prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections and health response to GBV, along with psychosocial support.

Gender was systematically mainstreamed across CERF interventions in 2018, with nearly three quarters of all CERF-funded projects (275) indicating strong gender mainstreaming (IASC Gender Marker 2a). A total of 80 projects (21 per cent) were marked 2b indicating a targeted gender action.⁶

The mandatory GBV assessments showed that eight per cent of all the projects funded by CERF in 2018 had GBV as the focus of action and 58 per cent had a GBV component.

⁶ The IASC Gender Marker is a tool that uses a scale of 0–2 to code whether a humanitarian programme will ensure that women, girls, boys and men will benefit equally from the programme or whether the programme will advance gender equality in some other way. All CERF application templates include the Gender Marker and has helped CERF to track the humanitarian assistance that goes to women and girls, men and boys.

Cash-based assistance

In recent years there has been an increase in the use of cash in humanitarian assistance. For CERF-funded interventions, the decision to use cash-based programming lies with humanitarian partners and RCs/HCs in the field. The CERF secretariat ensures that the fund remains cash-ready by continuously improving CERF guidance and grant templates so that they appropriately support and capture cash-based elements and strategies in CERF submissions.

The global uptake in the use of cash in humanitarian response has been reflected in an increase in the number of projects with cash-based components in CERF applications and more recently, in requests for CERF funding for multipurpose cash interventions addressing intersectoral needs. The increase in the use of cash in CERF-funded projects is consistent with the commitments laid out in the Grand Bargain, which encourages the use of cash-based programming in contexts that demonstrate market functionality which can support the intended project objectives.

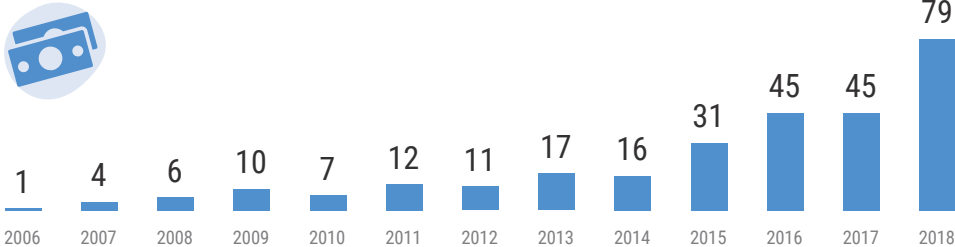
The number of projects with cash-based components funded by CERF increased from one project in 2006 to 45 projects in 2017 and 79 projects in 2018.⁷ In 2018, 40 out of 67 CERF allocations included at least one project with a cash-based component.

The total value of cash to be transferred to affected people through projects funded by CERF in 2018 amounted to \$50.5 million, an increase of 85 per cent over the \$27.3⁸ million reported for 2017 CERF grants. More than half of this amount (\$29 million) was in the food sector, followed by shelter and non-food items (\$6.4 million) and agriculture (\$6.1 million).

In 2018, WFP submitted the highest number of project proposals with cash transfer programming components (23 projects), followed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and UNHCR (12 projects each), and the

⁷ CERF established a formalized methodology for tracking projects with cash-based components in 2014. The data from 2006 to 2013 may therefore underestimate of CERF-funded projects with cash components.
⁸ The transferred amount differs from the planned figure of \$29 million due to changes in the operational context during project implementation.

Number of projects with cash transfer programming funded by CERF (2006 – 2018)





I started saving until I had everything I needed

Hadja was always a shopkeeper. She knew the business well, and had built up a wonderful shop to support her nine children. But when Boko Haram invaded her village, she took her children and ran while everything she had worked for burnt to the ground.

Like thousands of women, men and children who have been forced to flee their homes because of violence, Hadja eventually made it to a refugee camp. It was here that she started receiving cash vouchers that she would use to save for a new shop. Hadja started small, and over time earned enough that she could build up her business again. Now, everyone loves to buy from her. “Coca-cola is what men buy most. Women mostly buy salt and spaghetti.” She explains. “A shopkeeper must be welcoming. If you are nice, people come back to you.”

For ten years now, armed conflict and violence has displaced entire communities in the Sahel region of West Africa. It’s one of the world’s most severe humanitarian crises. Families have lost everything. CERF helps them get back on their feet. Cash is best because they can buy exactly what they need. People, like Hadja, know their business better than anyone – they just need the right support to get going again.

Shopkeeper Hadja has rebuilt her business after fleeing violence in Lake Chad, Chad.
© Ivo Brandau/OCHA

International Organization for Migration (IOM) (11 projects). Other agencies that received CERF funding for cash transfer programming in 2018 were the UNICEF, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Employment of Women (UN Women) the UNFPA and UNRWA. CERF also funded joint agency cash initiatives. For example, in response to sudden floods in Myanmar, with the support from CERF, WFP and UNICEF worked jointly to provide cash assistance covering the food security and water and sanitation needs of affected people. The project used common targeting criteria to provide unconditional and unrestricted cash transfers aiming to reach 29,000 people.

The proportion of multipurpose cash projects remained similar in 2017 and 2018. About a quarter of CERF-funded cash projects in these years were designed to cover a range of household needs through multipurpose cash grants, while three quarters were designed to cover needs within specific sectors.

Between 2017 and 2018 the proportion of CERF-funded cash projects providing unrestricted cash decreased. While 31 per cent of projects funded in 2017 provided assistance restricted to specific goods or services (usually through the use of vouchers), the proportion of restricted projects increased to 41 per cent among the cash projects funded in 2018. The proportional decrease of unrestricted cash assistance could be attributed to the type of rapid responses that did not support a multipurpose cash approach at the onset of the response, and should be considered in the context of an overall almost doubling in the use of cash in CERF projects between the two years.

Support for people with disabilities

Enabling provision of life-saving assistance to the people who are most in need is the core objective of the CERF. Persons with disabilities are often the most vulnerable and most severely affected by emergencies. They may have special needs and often face additional barriers in accessing humanitarian assistance and other services. They are also at a heightened risk of violence, exploitation or abuse during emergencies.

In 2018, the CERF secretariat has adjusted the CERF application and reporting templates to further promote consideration of disability in CERF-funded humanitarian action. CERF already supports projects targeting disabled people when prioritized by RCs/HCs, but the added focus will make CERF more responsive to the needs of people with disabilities and will help improve advocacy and visibility around the needs of people with disability in humanitarian crises.



“The explosion took my leg and almost killed me”

“The explosion took my legs and almost killed me. When I regained consciousness, I realised what had happened.”

A year has passed since Halima returned to her island village on Kangelom island in Lake Chad. Life is slowly improving. Along with her village, she is rebuilding from nothing – putting back together the pieces of a community that was torn apart.

“With all that has happened, I decided to go back to school. I want to be an example,” she says. “I want to stay in school as long as possible. I would like to see my village develop, in peace. Then all children can go to school. Then things will get better.”

Even before Boko Haram destroyed Halima’s village and stole her freedom, life in the Lake Chad Basin had been difficult. Families wondered if they could survive into the future. Fisheries were in decline, and clean drinking water was increasingly hard to find.

When Boko Haram reached the islands in Lake Chad in 2017, entire villages were evacuated, and many communities left desolated. During the attack, Halima almost lost her life. She spent a full year recovering from her injuries. It took her a long time to start walking again with her two prosthetic legs. Day-to-day living remains a challenge and walking long distances under the scorching sun is painful on her prosthetic legs.

People with disabilities are often being marginalized within their communities, but thankfully, her community accepted her back. With help from CERF,

people with disabilities have returned home and are now working together to create a better future. Halima has learned how to live with her prosthetic legs and walk carefully.

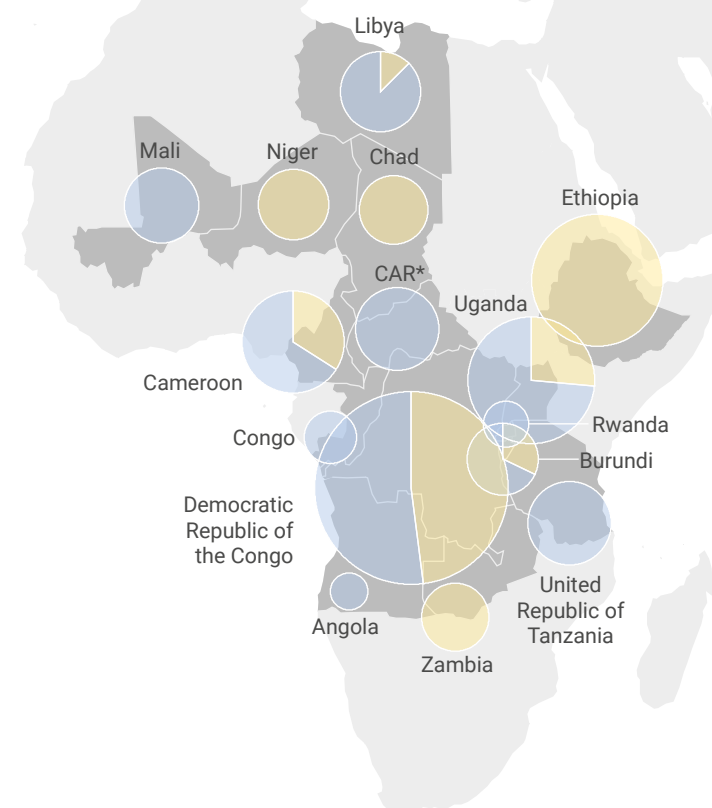
In 2018, CERF supported more than 50,000 women, men and children to return to their villages throughout the Lake Chad Basin. CERF has been there to help Halima and communities like hers reconcile after the conflict, rebuild and protect themselves. They’ve helped villagers rebuild their homes revive small business, like fishing and weaving. They’ve set up healthcare centres, provided food and clean water.

Now, Halima is doing well at school and determined to give other girls a choice about their future. She still feels the pain of Boko Haram – but things are getting better.

Halima from Lake Chad learnt to walk again with her prostheses after losing both legs.
© Ivo Brandau/OCHA

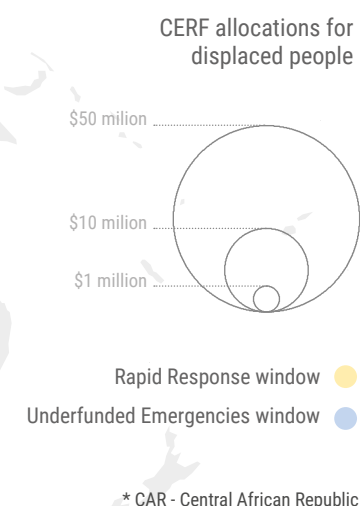
 **\$343.3M**
TOTAL 2018 CERF ALLOCATIONS
TO REFUGEES, IDPs AND HOST COMMUNITIES

 **39**
COUNTRIES



Bangladesh

Philippines



CERF response to global displacement

By the end of 2018, persecution, conflict, violence or human rights violations had displaced 70.8 million people around the world. Over 41 million people were internally displaced within their own countries, and 25.9 million refugees and 3.5 million asylum seekers were forced to flee their countries to escape conflict and persecution. The levels of conflict-related displacements far outstripped returns or other solutions. Although 2.9 million people returned to their areas or countries of origin in 2018, 13.6 million people were newly displaced.⁹

⁹ Global Trends, Forced Displacement in 2018, UNHCR

Beyond conflict-related displacement, in 2018 17.2 million people were forced to flee their homes due to natural disasters. Weather-related hazards triggered the majority of these displacements. Storms accounted for 9.3 million, floods for 5.4 million and droughts for 764,000.¹⁰

Addressing the needs of people in displacement settings is an essential part of CERF-funded humanitarian action. Nearly 70 per cent of 2018 CERF funding — \$343.3 million — was allocated for the provision of life-saving assistance to refugees, migrants, IDPs and communities hosting them in 39 countries. Moreover, CERF

¹⁰ 2019 Global Report on Internal Displacement, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, NRC

allocations to 19 countries were made specifically to address humanitarian consequences of new or chronic population displacement.

For instance, in 2018 CERF allocated \$18 million from its UFE window to ensure the provision of life-saving food, nutrition, health, water and sanitation assistance to 246,600 of the most at-risk Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. Escalating violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State in August 2017 led to displacement on a massive scale, with over 740,000 Rohingya fleeing into neighbouring Bangladesh by the end of 2018. The speed and scale of the population movement made it one of the world's fastest growing refugee crises.

In Ethiopia, where by the end of 2018 over 2 million people had fled their homes due to inter-communal violence, CERF made two allocations to enable the delivery of life-saving assistance. In March, CERF provided \$9.9 million in rapid response grants to provide water and sanitation as well as shelter assistance to 370,000 IDPs and communities hosting them in the Oromia and Somali regions. In July, another CERF rapid response allocation of \$15 million supported emergency shelter, relief items, health and water and sanitation services for over 800,000 new IDPs and communities hosting them in Oromia and Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples regions.

”

Our world faces a multiplicity of humanitarian crises and global risks. Therefore, we have no option but to combine our efforts to deal with these unprecedented challenges. In line with the “leaving no one behind” motto, Turkey strongly supports CERF and continues its call for coordinated international efforts. More solidarity is a must. I am proud that my country, compared to its GDP per capita, is the most generous nation of the world in the field of humanitarian assistance. Turkey also hosts the largest number of refugees in the world. We urge the international community to unite and ensure effective burden and responsibility sharing.

— H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Turkey

In Uganda, the unprecedented influx of refugees continued into 2018. By the end of the year, Uganda hosted 1.4 million refugees, the largest refugee population in Africa and the fifth largest in the world. Despite critical needs, the humanitarian operations in Uganda were severely underfunded. Consequently, CERF allocated \$17 million to Uganda from its UFE window to ensure the continued delivery of life-saving assistance to over half a million refugees from South Sudan and the DRC. This funding strengthened the emergency response in seven under-served refugee settlements in northern and western Uganda.

In DRC, CERF allocated \$58.4 million in 2018 through five allocations to address escalating humanitarian needs in the country. Of this amount, \$47.8 million addressed humanitarian needs triggered by internal displacement and \$5.7 million enabled urgent response for meeting the humanitarian needs of Congolese returnees from Angola. In addition, CERF released two rapid response allocations totaling \$4.8 million to respond to Ebola outbreaks. In total, CERF funding to DRC enabled assistance to more than 1.9 million IDPs, close to 120,000 refugees and 1.3 million people hosting displaced people.

CERF also provided \$17 million in allocations to Angola, Burundi, Uganda and Zambia to address critical needs of refugees fleeing from DRC. In total, CERF funding to these operations enabled the provision of life-saving education, food, health, nutrition, protection and water and sanitation assistance to over 80,000 newly displaced Congolese refugees.

In response to large-scale population outflows from Venezuela, CERF provided a regional allocation to kick-start response efforts targeting 195,000 refugees and migrants across Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago. As the outflow increased, an additional \$17.1 million was provided to scale-up relief assistance to millions of Venezuelans arriving in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

Strategic use of CERF and Country-Based Pooled Funds

Both CERF and CBPFs are designed to each enable timely, effective and principled humanitarian action through promoting leadership, coordination and coherence in response. Yet when used jointly and strategically, leveraging their comparative advantages—such as CERF’s additionality and focus on immediate life-saving assistance and CBPFs’ abilities to directly fund a wider range of partners, including local NGOs, through more flexible operational modalities—these two funding mechanisms can help partners deliver an even stronger collective response.

In 2018, CERF and CBPFs together allocated a record-breaking \$1.34 billion for humanitarian action. A total of \$237 million, equivalent to 47 per cent of all CERF funds allocated in the year, went to 12 of 17 countries and territories with an active CBPF, including countries that have been long-standing recipients of significant amounts of CERF funds, such as the DRC, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen.

The HCs and Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) in these countries pursued different strategies to ensure programmatic synergies and complementarity between the two OCHA-managed pooled funding mechanisms and maximize the collective impact of available resources. These included a coordinated approach at inter-cluster level to identify people to receive assistance, joint selection or strategic division of sectoral activities and geographic coverage, awarding funds to different types of humanitarian actors, and sequencing funding, among others. In most OCHA country offices, the same staff support CBPF and CERF allocation processes, which further helps to ensure that the two funds foster coherent and effective humanitarian action.

Country-Based Pooled Funds

CBPFs are established by the ERC when a new emergency occurs or when an existing crisis deteriorates, informed by specific country contexts including the operational presence and coordination capacity of the humanitarian community and the prospect of sufficient donor contributions to sustain the fund. They are managed by OCHA under the leadership of the HC in close consultation with the humanitarian community. Contributions from donors are collected into a single, unearmarked fund to support local humanitarian efforts. CBPFs directly allocate funds to the highest-priority projects of the best-placed responders (including international and national NGOs, Red Cross/Crescent organizations and UN agencies) through an inclusive and transparent process in support of crisis-specific HRPs. They foster broader and stronger partner engagements in cluster systems, help build local response capacities while minimizing transaction costs, and reinforce collective ownership and accountability of emergency response. For more on CBPFs, visit <http://bit.ly/GiveToCBPFs>

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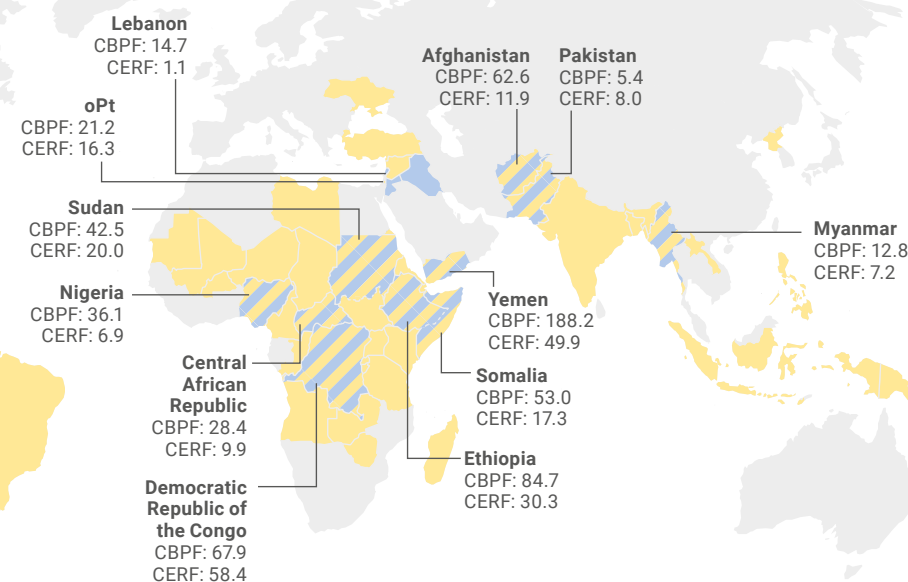
Being a CERF donor since its creation, Spain fully believes in the extraordinary added value of CERF as one the fastest and most effective ways of ensuring urgent life-saving humanitarian action for people in need. This fund also remains a key financial tool for addressing the needs of the most vulnerable people in the least visible or neglected crises

— Juan Pablo de Laiglesia, Secretary of State for International Cooperation, Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain

CERF and CBPFs allocations in 2018

in US\$ million

- CERF recipient country
- CBPF recipient country
- CERF and CBPF recipient country



For example, in response to monsoon floods that displaced over 160,000 people in south-east Myanmar from early July to mid-August 2018, CERF and the Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) launched an integrated allocation to ensure programmatic synergies and the best value for money of the two pooled funding mechanisms. With \$3 million from CERF's Rapid Response window and \$1 million from MHF's reserve allocation modality, the integrated allocation addressed critical unmet needs of flood-affected people based on joint strategic prioritization of partners and sectoral activities to be carried out concurrently. CERF funds enabled UN agencies to deliver life-saving food assistance (both in-kind and cash-based), water and sanitation, health and protection assistance, while the MHF directly funded NGOs with proven access and operational experience in the prioritized geographical areas to deliver cash-based interventions, shelter and non-food items, and education services. The joint allocation targeted some 50,000 flood-affected people with multi-sectoral assistance.

In Sudan, \$20 million was allocated from CERF's UFE window in October 2018, alongside the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF)'s standard allocation of \$13 million, to avert the country's escalating food insecurity and malnutrition crisis affecting 5.5 million people. A joint strategic prioritisation of the two allocations resulted in coordinated geographic targeting based on the results of nutrition assessments and aligned interventions in the food security, nutrition, health and water and sanitation sectors. CERF funds leveraged UN agencies' capacity to procure bulk supplies and commodities that were then channelled through implementing partners, including those funded by the SHF, while SHF funds were allocated predominantly to NGOs to support their ground operations. Furthermore urgent, life-saving interventions were integrated under CERF-funded projects, while resilience-focused interventions were supported by the SHF, which allowed for a longer project timeframe.



CERF and CBPFs bring relief to people in Sudan

When 55-year old Khadija Abdulshafi lost her daughter in 2017, she took charge of raising her five grandchildren in the Nertiti IDP camp, in Central Darfur State. The youngest was just one-month old. The newborn, traumatised by separation from her mother, kept losing weight until she became malnourished. Powdered milk, the only source of food for the newborn was not helping anymore.

Khadija was afraid her granddaughter would not make it. She reached out for help and was soon enrolled in a livelihood project in the Nertiti IDP camp, funded by the SHF. The project supported communities with access to crops and livestock-based interventions,

helping people diversify their food basket while improving their income.

At the same time, a CERF-funded project supported animal supplementary feeding for small ruminants, including goats, to ensure milk and dairy products supply for malnourished children in the same communities. Both projects saved the newborn child and gave Khadija a chance to feed the children. She was able to give goat milk to the baby while securing food for the children. The health of Khadija's granddaughter started improving immediately and her family is now able to access food.

Khadija at a gathering with other women living in the Nertiti displacement camp, Sudan.
© FAO Sudan



CERF and conflict-related crises

Children carry wood in the
Cox's Bazaar refugee camp in
Bangladesh. © OCHA/
Vincent Tremeau

CERF 2018 allocations
to Rohingya refugee crisis

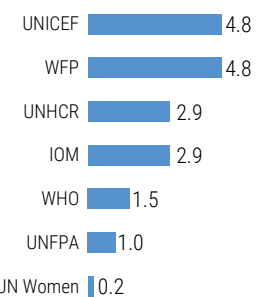


Total allocations
18.0 US\$ million

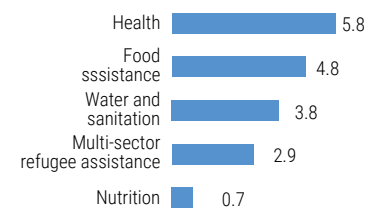
Allocation window
**Underfunded
Emergencies**

Allocation time
September

Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million



Bangladesh: Rohingya refugee crisis

Humanitarian context

The escalation of violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State in late August 2017 forced hundreds of thousands of Rohingya to flee into neighbouring Bangladesh. The speed and scale of the population movement made it one of the world's fastest growing refugee crises, and the influx of new refugees stretched basic social services in existing camps beyond their limits. CERF responded immediately with \$19 million in rapid response funding to scale up the response.

In March 2018, a new Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya humanitarian crisis was launched, covering the period from March 2018 to December 2018. The plan aimed to assist 1.3 million people, including 900,000 Rohingya refugees (300,000 of whom were in Cox's Bazar before the August influx) and 300,000 host community members, who were also directly affected by the crisis.

Protection and humanitarian assistance for people in need remain central to the Netherlands' international engagement. CERF enables a real-time, effective response, wherever and whenever needed. Through CERF, we work to leave no one behind.

— Sigrid Kaag, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, the Netherlands

A year after the 2017 influx began, an estimated 919,000 refugees were living in highly congested sites in Ukhiya and Teknaf sub-districts of Cox's Bazar district, and another 15,000 in host communities. Despite the large scale-up of interventions at the onset of the crisis, refugees continued to face critical humanitarian needs. They were particularly vulnerable during the monsoon season, when they faced the risk of flooding and landslides caused by the heavy rains. As with many new emergencies, the plight of the Rohingya refugees had slowly dropped off the radar and funding was badly needed.



CERF response

In September 2018, CERF released \$18 million through the UFE window to sustain relief programmes and support life-saving assistance for 247,000 of the most vulnerable refugees in the Teknaf and Ukhiya subdistricts of Cox's Bazar district for approximately nine months.

The CERF funds targeted vulnerable refugees directly affected by recurrent incidents such as landslides and floods due to the monsoon as well as the topography and soil properties of the site. Due to inadequate access to quality water and poor nutrition status, these refugees were also at constant and immediate risk of disease

outbreaks with epidemic potential and other health emergencies. With CERF funds, UN agencies provided emergency healthcare, including sexual and reproductive health services, and maternal and neonatal healthcare; distributed food assistance and provided curative and preventive nutrition services; increased access to safe water and sanitation facilities; distributed shelter and relief items; and expanded community-based protection activities in the camps.

Overall, CERF supported the response to the Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh with \$24.1 million in 2017 and \$18 million in 2018.

Sayera Begum works as a paid volunteer at a food shop in the Balukhali refugee camp, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. © WFP/Saikat Mojumder



Amina Khatun received a food card for her family and is now using it to buy food at the food shop in the Balukhali refugee camp, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. © WFP/Saikat Mojumder

“We can now collect food with dignity”

Amina has been living in Bangladesh for one-and-a-half years. She has a husband and two children.

“I came to Bangladesh because of the extreme violence. People were being beaten, driven away from their houses and couldn’t move around freely. When it began, none of us had the time to sit or eat. We all ran away. In the beginning, we would search for food in different places, sometimes even begging.”

Amina now has a electronic food card from the WFP. She can choose the food that she and her family need from a store.

“This is truly beneficial for us. We can find most of the items here and we can secure our food supply in peace. We don’t need to hustle in a queue to collect food items. We can now collect food with dignity.”

Fatema and her four children have been living in Bangladesh for a year. While fleeing violence in Myanmar, she and her husband became separated from each other. She hasn’t been able to find him since.

“I ran for my life immediately. I only managed to take my children with me. I don’t know where my husband is; I barely escaped with other village members.”

Fatema received her first electronic food card three months ago. “I am very grateful to the people here. With the food card, we can buy our own food when we want and as per our choice. I am immensely grateful for this as it restored my dignity. I feel stronger. I can come and get only my preferred food items freely. I don’t have to worry about standing in a queue. I feel safer and more in control.”



Khodiza has been a refugee for more than thirty years, when her family fled violence in Myanmar and found safety in Bangladesh. She has raised her family in a refugee camp; all six were born in Bangladesh.

“My father and my mother were killed in Myanmar. It was then that I decided that there was nothing left for me, so my husband and I left for Bangladesh. We shifted to this camp [Balukhali] only a year back when more people from Myanmar started arriving here. In Myanmar we had a lot. Abundance of food, land, we owned our own land, cattle, everything. But we had to leave everything behind. “When so many people from Myanmar started arriving here, I still had two of my sisters living there. Then, a few days back, my sisters stopped receiving my calls. Just two days ago, a neighbour received my call. They told me that my sisters were no more, both my sisters had died. I have lost my voice mourning for them; I miss them so much.



For a while, I used to stand in a queue for food supply. I am grateful for whatever people have given us. But the food I buy using this food card, is much more convenient. I can do my shopping in quiet, no chaos and I don’t have to stand in a line with of hundreds of people.

Now I can decide what to buy today and what to buy for the next days. I can even buy my food supply on any day. I buy dried fish, garlic, fresh vegetables, spices, anything according to my needs.

Top: Fatema received a food card three months ago for the six members of her family and is now using it to buy food at the shop in the Balukhali refugee camp, Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. Bottom: Khodiza is a mother of eight children. She received a food card three months ago and is now using it to buy food at the shop in the Balukhali refugee camp, Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. © WFP/Saikat Mojumder

CERF and natural disasters

A man walks past a car hanging from the roof of a house in the aftermath of the tsunami which struck after an earthquake in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.
© UNICEF/Wilander



CERF 2018 allocations to Indonesia earthquake

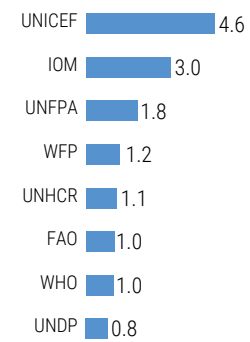


Total allocations
14.4 US\$ million

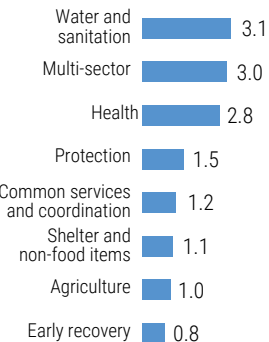
Allocation window
Rapid Response

Allocation time
October

Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million



“CERF is a vital mechanism for responding to disasters in the Asia-Pacific. Australia is proud to be an ongoing CERF partner because of its transparency, local prioritization, and delivery by best-placed actors on the ground..

— Jamie Isbister, Head of Humanitarian Division Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

Indonesia: earthquake

Humanitarian situation

On 28 September 2018, a series of strong earthquakes struck Indonesia’s Central Sulawesi province. The strongest was a 7.4 magnitude earthquake only 10 km deep and with its epicentre close to the provincial capital, Palu. The earthquake triggered a tsunami whose waves reached up to 3 m in some areas, striking beaches in Palu and Donggala, and causing landslides and liquefaction that destroyed entire villages. The disaster damaged an estimated 67,000 homes as well as vital infrastructure, including roads and bridges. Thousands of people were unable to return to their damaged or destroyed homes. In all, some 4,340 people died and 173,000 were left homeless. More than 2,700 schools were damaged, in addition to health facilities and water supply systems. While the Government and first responders worked tirelessly to deliver life-saving aid, the needs remained vast. The Central Sulawesi Earthquake also followed close on the heels of the series of earthquakes that struck Lombok in August 2018, where more than 340,000 people were displaced.

In consultation with the Government, the HCT in Indonesia developed and launched the Central Sulawesi Earthquake Response Plan on 5 October 2018. The plan focused on providing targeted technical assistance in support of the Government-led response in the areas prioritized and requested by Government, including early recovery, education, food security, health, logistics, protection, shelter and camp management, and water and sanitation.

“The Government of Indonesia is experienced and well-equipped in managing natural disasters, but sometimes, as with all other countries, outside help is also needed. Given the scale and complexity of this emergency, UN agencies and humanitarian organizations are working closely with Government counterparts to provide life-saving assistance. CERF funds will support UN agencies already on the ground to help respond to key priorities identified by the Government and assist the tens of thousands of people in need. To give just one example, reports make clear that many health clinics and hospitals are damaged and overstretched. Staff from UNFPA are already in Pula, and CERF money will be used to help them and other agencies meet the needs of women and girls, who we know from experience round the world are often particularly vulnerable in circumstances like this.

— Mark Lowcock, Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, announcing CERF’s allocation



CERF Response

Within five days of the earthquake, CERF allocated \$14.4 million to allow UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations to support the Government-led response in the areas of logistics, shelter, safe water and sanitation, health care, camp coordination and camp management, emergency livelihoods and protection services. Targeting some 191,000 (including 93,020 women and girls) of the most vulnerable people among the 537,000 people directly affected by the earthquake, tsunami and landslides/liquefaction, the plan requested \$50.5 million to fund urgent action over the next three months.

The CERF funding was used to kick-start the most urgent, life-saving activities included in the HCT Response Plan launched in the priority areas identified by the Government of Indonesia. The aim was to utilize the funds requested from CERF in the first three months of the response to target the needs of the most vulnerable people affected by the earthquake and resulting tsunami and landslides.

Incoming assistance for earthquake and tsunami victims at Balikpapan Airport in Palu, Sulawesi, Indonesia. © OCHA-UNDAC/ Yosuke Takada

Afghanistan: Drought in Central Asia

Humanitarian context

In 2018, Afghanistan faced a fifth consecutive year of lower-than-average rainfall across the country, severely impacting 20 of its 34 provinces. Water resources were put under further pressure by limited snowfall during the 2017-2018 winter season, which negatively affected water availability during the spring melt season, and by high temperatures over the summer. This combination of factors significantly decreased water availability in Northern, Western and Southern Regions, leading to acute water shortages for both people and livestock. Water consumption was reduced to less than 5 litres per person per day, forcing people to rely on unprotected water sources and expose themselves to water-borne diseases. The main planting season for wheat (October-February) was also compromised, which was anticipated to negatively impact the 2019 spring and summer agricultural harvest.

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) conducted in late 2017, most of the drought-affected areas were at or beyond crisis level (IPC 3). By November 2018, some 3.6 million people were experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC 4), a 24 per cent increase from 2017. The drought had a negative impact on the nutritional status of vulnerable groups, especially children aged under five years. Reduced access to safe water and health concerns also increased the potential for malnutrition to severely worsen, especially in provinces that already had a high prevalence.

CERF 2018 allocations to drought in Afghanistan

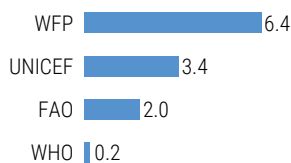


Total allocations
11.9 US\$ million

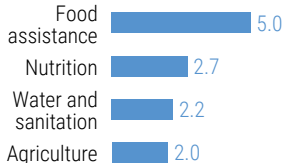
Allocation window
Rapid Response

Allocation time
July

Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million



CERF's response

CERF responded with a \$12 million Rapid Response allocation to meet the most urgent needs of those impacted by the drought in 20 high-priority provinces. CERF funds allowed humanitarian organizations to scale up life-saving activities in the affected provinces while also complementing funding provided through the Afghanistan Humanitarian Pooled Fund. The response met the most urgent needs of 662,728 food insecure people in 20 provinces through interventions in food security, water and sanitation, and nutrition. More specifically, CERF funded programmes provided 297,500 individuals with immediate food assistance, 204,708 individuals with a package of WASH interventions, 52,720 children and women with nutritional support and 53,900 people with agriculture and livestock assistance.

Livestock feeding in Afghanistan

Mr Jelani has a family of six and lives in Jurah-e-Sang-Qala village of Shahrak district in Ghor province, Afghanistan. He is dependent on agriculture and livestock as his only source of livelihood. However, he lost more than half of his livestock due to severe drought during the last five years, leaving him with only two cattle and six sheep. Furthermore, Jelani's family owns 4 jeribs (or 0.8 hectares) of agricultural land, but due to the lack of wheat seeds, fertilizers and farming tools, they are only able to cultivate 1 jerib (0.2 hectares) of land.

"My income couldn't meet the basic needs of my family; hence, I would have had to find other ways to survive. I would have to sell my cattle and sheep at below-market price as their health conditions were getting worse every day", said Mr Jelani who was selected as one of the beneficiaries for the livestock component of the project.

He was provided with 100 kg of concentrated animal feed along with 3 kg of fodder seeds. He also received comprehensive training on livestock management and other related issues, which has helped him to protect his animals against parasites and diseases.



Mr Jelani has now sufficient animal feed for his livestock and uses their milk to improve the nutrition of his family and doesn't need to sell his livestock anymore. "I am grateful for the support received. It saved my life and my animals. Now, I can keep my cattle and sheep until the spring season, and they will grow better. I hope to receive similar assistance in the future as well", he said.

Mr Jelani has received livestock support to feed his family in Ghor province, Afghanistan.
© FAO Afghanistan

A woman wearing a blue protective suit and gloves is placing a baby into a bed. The woman is looking down at the baby with a gentle expression. The baby is lying in a bed with a patterned blanket. The background is a plain wall.

CERF and disease outbreaks

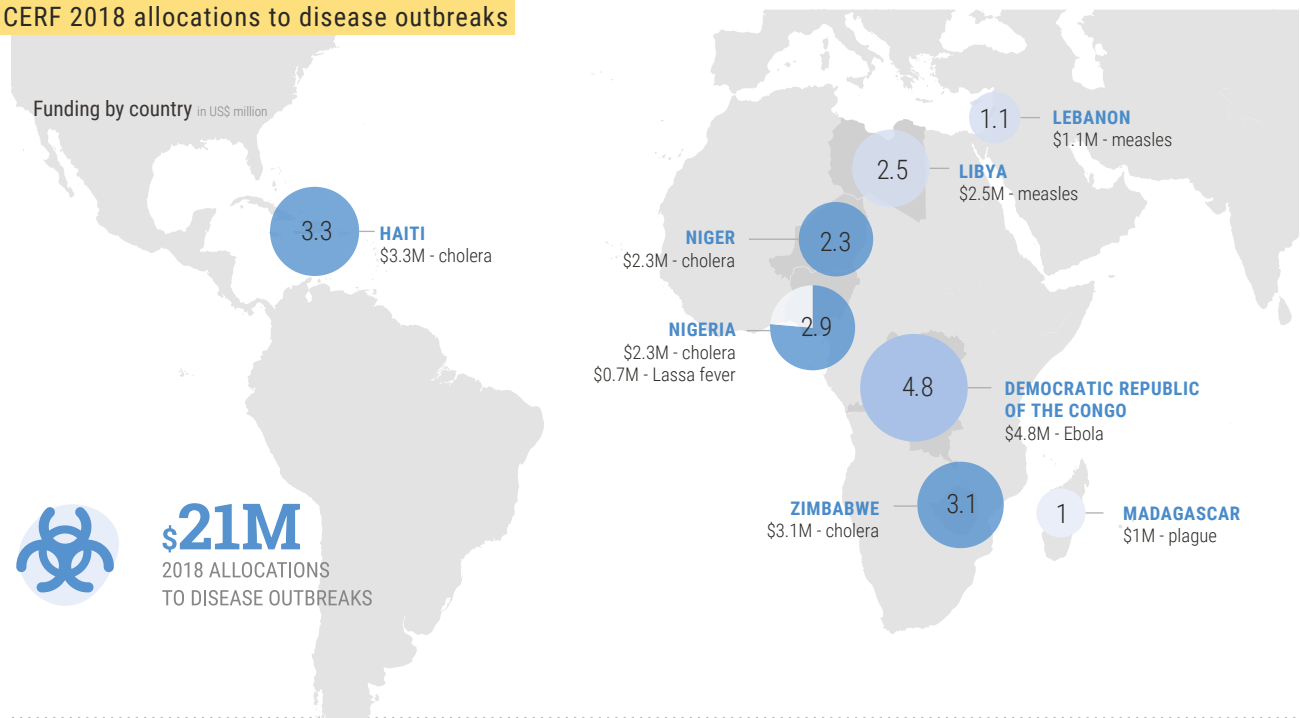
In 2018, more than 100 million people caught up in humanitarian crises needed critical health care. Many in protracted conflicts where damaged health systems result in a lack of access to doctors, medicine and health facilities. In addition, outbreaks of epidemic diseases threaten the health of populations and strain already weakened health systems.

Some 15 per cent of CERF allocations in 2018 ensured life-saving health assistance in humanitarian emergencies across the globe. CERF-funded health activities included maternal, neonatal and child health care, reproductive health care, immunization, mental health, provision of medical supplies and much more.

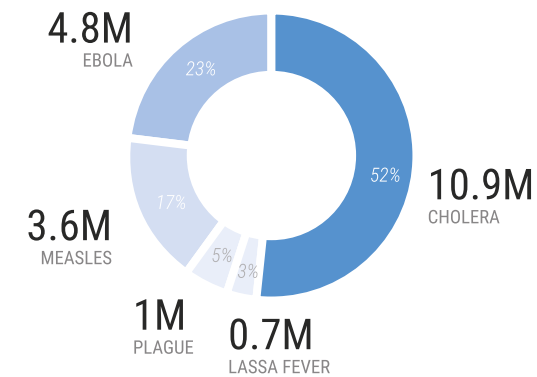
At the same time, CERF allocated \$21 million to support an integrated, coordinated response to outbreaks of Ebola, cholera, measles and the plague. Of this, \$14.8 million enabled critical health interventions while \$6.2 million was allocated for supporting activities such as logistics and safe water and sanitation facilities.

An Ebola survivor puts 6-month-old Josué to bed at a crèche in Beni, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. © UNICEF/Hubbard

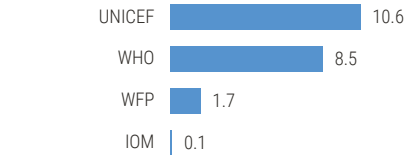
CERF 2018 allocations to disease outbreaks



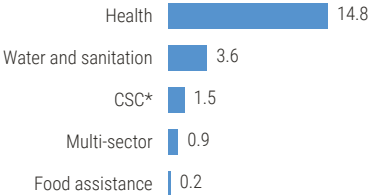
Funding by disease outbreak type in US\$ million



Funding by agency in US\$ million



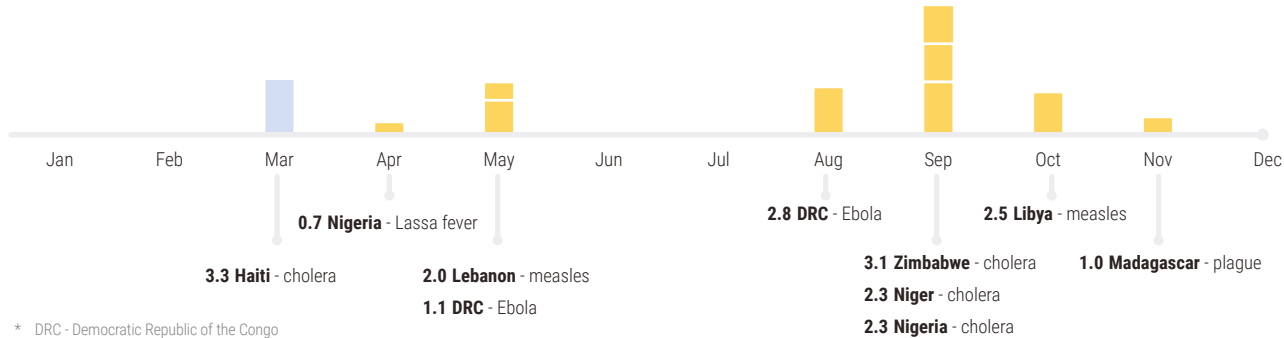
Funding by sector in US\$ million



*Common services and coordination

Funding timeline in US\$ million

17.7M Rapid Response
3.3M Underfunded emergencies



* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo

EBOLA

In May 2018, the Ministry of Health of the DRC declared an Ebola outbreak in Equateur Province. Within 48 hours, CERF allocated \$2 million for response efforts. The Ebola virus disease fatality rate is around 50 per cent but rates have varied up to 90 per cent in past outbreaks. Effective outbreak control relies on applying a range of interventions, namely case management, infection prevention and control practices, good laboratory services, safe burials and social mobilization. The CERF allocation supported several of these activities, including case management, surveillance, contact tracing, safe burials, infection prevention and control, and rapid deployment of emergency teams and equipment and services through the UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS). In August, DRC declared a new, unrelated Ebola outbreak in North Kivu and Ituri provinces. CERF allocated an additional \$2.8 million to contain the outbreak, prevent its spread and facilitate access to the affected areas. In both cases, the CERF allocations allowed the HCT to kick-start activities and likely save thousands of lives while the country mobilized additional resources. By the end of the year, the virus had been brought under control in various locations; however, new cases continued to be reported in new locations.

In December 2018, the ERC announced \$10 million from CERF's Rapid Response window to support Ebola readiness activities in Burundi (\$2.4 million), Rwanda (\$1.8 million), South Sudan (\$2 million) and Uganda (\$3.8 million). These countries were identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as being at high risk of a potential spread of Ebola from DRC. The allocation to Uganda also included \$500,000 for the establishment of a Common Logistics Services Regional Ebola Staging Area in the country. CERF disbursed these allocations in 2019.

MEASLES

In September 2018, Libya counted 591 cases of measles across four regions of the country. Measles is another highly contagious viral disease that remains a significant cause of death among young children globally, despite the availability of a safe and effective vaccine. The low level of immunization coverage, the ongoing conflict in the country and the weakened health system put the population of Libya at risk of a serious epidemic. A reactive immunization campaign was needed immediately. CERF allocated \$2.5 million for the country to procure 280,000 vials of ten doses of measles vaccines, 33,000 packs of vitamin A and other immunization commodities such as 2,000 cartons of safety boxes for the proper disposal of used needles. The CERF allocation covered around 2 million vulnerable children, half of them girls, in the western and southern parts of the country and allowed humanitarian organizations and national health authorities to leverage additional funding to support the rest of the life-saving immunization campaign. Earlier in the year, in May, CERF also allocated \$1.1 million to Lebanon to enable mobile vaccination units, compulsory vaccination of children crossing the border, and a reactive campaign in Baalbeck and Beqaa governates in response to a measles outbreak.

In November 2018, amidst an ongoing measles outbreak, the high risk of a large-scale plague epidemic was identified in Madagascar. Aggravating factors included the occurrence of plague cases near populated urban areas, and presidential campaign activities which presented opportunities for crowds. CERF allocated \$1 million for early response to the high risk of a large-scale plague epidemic. The CERF intervention bolstered surveillance, vector control, case management, and infection prevention and control activities.

CHOLERA

In October 2018, Nigeria experienced a higher-than usual seasonal outbreak of cholera, reporting 40,771 suspected cases and 812 deaths. More than 25 per cent of the cases occurred among children aged 5 to 14 years. Cholera is an extremely virulent disease that can be fatal within hours if left untreated. Due to the scale of the outbreak, limitations in the response capacity and aggravating factors (including floods and lack of health, water and sanitation services), the epidemic spread quickly. A total of 19 states were affected including the north-

A cholera surveillance team investigates a case in an IDP site in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria.
© OCHA/Yasmina Guerda



“Sweden is fully behind the CERF as a timely and flexible actor that supports the delivery of urgent life-saving activities in fluid and rapidly changing emergency situations.

— Peter Eriksson, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden

east states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe. The epidemic quickly spilled over to Niger, which registered more than 3,692 cholera cases and 68 deaths, with 56 per cent of the cases among women. CERF allocated \$2 million to Nigeria and \$2.2 million to Niger to scale up the response, treat affected people and prevent further contagion. These allocations helped UN agencies to establish cholera treatment centres, procure and distribute cholera kits, provide drinking water and enable the rapid transport of supplies and emergency personnel to remote areas. Cholera transmission is closely linked to inadequate access to clean water and sanitation facilities. When outbreaks take place in the midst of a humanitarian crisis where water and sanitation systems are disrupted or displaced people are living in overcrowded camps, the risk of transmission is extremely high. Had the outbreak not been quickly contained, it likely would have spread to nearby countries including Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali. In the same month, CERF also allocated \$3.1 million to Zimbabwe in response to a cholera outbreak in Harare. The funds ensured the immediate rapid scale-up of the cholera outbreak response activities and prevented the disease from spreading around the country.



Surviving Ebola

Bénédicte might look like an ordinary baby, but the first few weeks of her life were far from typical. She was born in December, in a health centre in Beni – one of the epicentres of an Ebola outbreak that has struck eastern DRC. Sadly, just a few hours after she was born, Bénédicte lost her mother to Ebola.

Seen as at high risk of being infected herself, Bénédicte was admitted to a nursery set up by UNICEF next to the Ebola treatment centre in Beni. At just a week-old, the fears she might be infected were confirmed as Bénédicte started to develop the first symptoms of the disease.

After being transferred to the treatment centre, Bénédicte remained in isolation for more than a month. Ebola survivors, who are immune to the disease, were on hand to support Bénédicte – cradling and cuddling her and giving her the love that every newborn needs.

The attention paid off. Day by day, Bénédicte’s condition began to improve, and she was eventually declared cured of Ebola. She left the treatment centre in the arms of her father, Thomas, who says that Bénédicte is his first child – and is already offering him hope.

Cases like Bénédicte’s provide a welcome dose of optimism in a region that has been hard hit by Ebola.

Ensuring that babies like Bénédicte don’t contract Ebola is an important step in the fight to end the disease. And thanks to the care provided by treatment centres like the one in Beni, those efforts are getting a boost. Just ask Joséphine.

Joséphine tested positive for Ebola eight months into her pregnancy, prompting concerns not just for her own health, but that of her soon-to-be-born baby, too.

Joséphine was admitted to the Ebola treatment centre in Beni, where, after treatment, she was declared free of the disease. But her care didn’t end there. In order to allow the centre to monitor the final days of her pregnancy, Joséphine stayed at a nearby nursery. And, when it was time to deliver the baby, she was closely supervised to ensure everything was being done to help the newborn baby avoid contracting the virus.

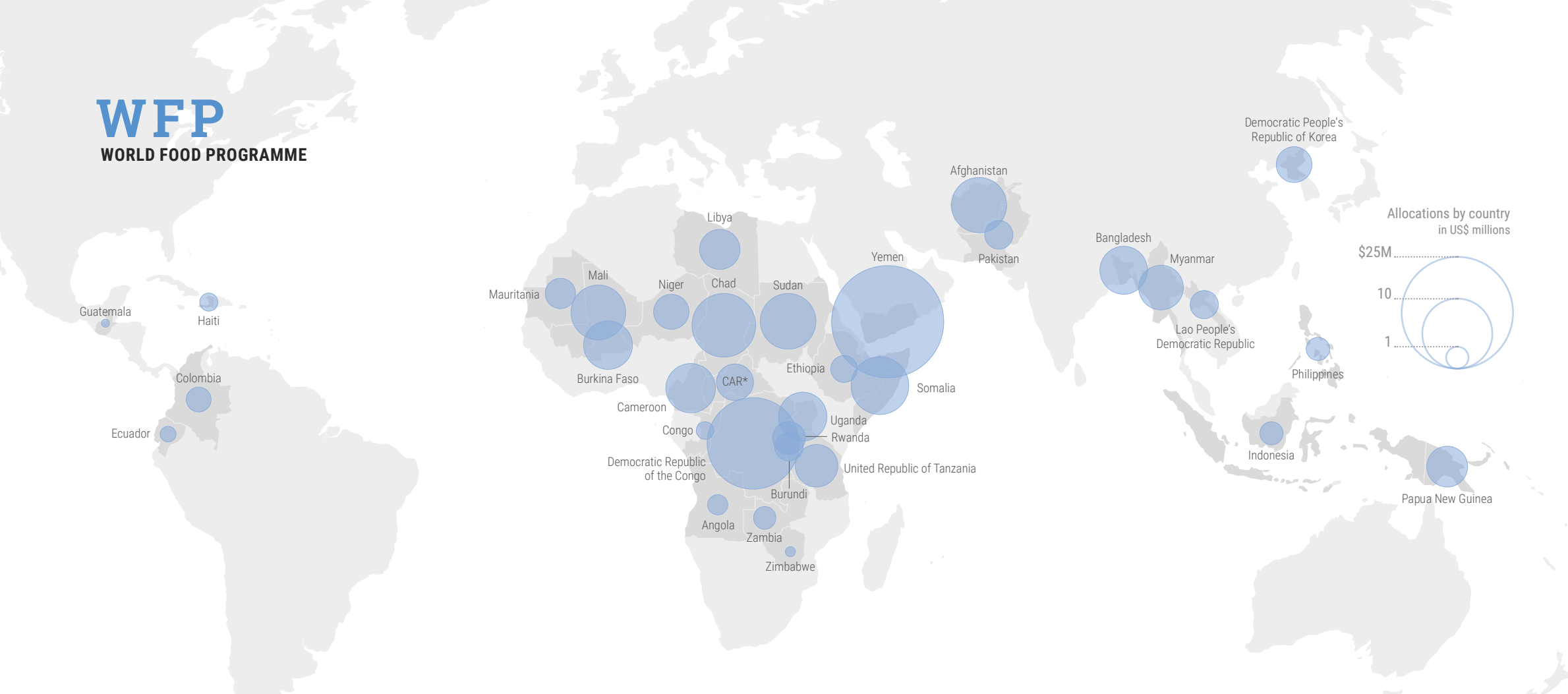
The result? A healthy birth – including two laboratory tests confirming that baby Sylvana was Ebola negative. Sylvana is the first baby with a mother who tested positive during her pregnancy to be born without the virus at the treatment centre during the latest outbreak. Her example offers motivation – and hope – to an entire community as it works together to end Ebola.

A nurse with Bénédicte after her recovery from Ebola in Jemima, eastern DRC.
© UNICEF/ Hubbard

Overview of CERF recipient agencies

Over the course of 2018, 13 UN Agencies received funding from CERF to respond to humanitarian crises in 48 countries and territories across the globe. UN Agencies are in the frontline, delivering directly or through their partners, life-saving assistance to people affected by conflicts, natural disasters and other humanitarian crises.

A volunteer is handing medication to a woman suspected to have cholera in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria.
© OCHA/Yasmina Guerda



Enabling fast and time-critical response

In 2018, CERF allocated \$138.6 million to the WFP, which remained the largest recipient of CERF funds. As a key partner, CERF enabled WFP to provide timely and effective life-saving assistance in 34 countries, contributing to WFP's delivery of critical food and humanitarian assistance across a diverse range of sudden-onset and underfunded emergencies.

Food crises are increasingly driven by complex conflicts and compounded in many cases by extreme climatic shocks. CERF provides the humanitarian community with a robust and flexible mechanism to rapidly kick-start or scale up responses to crises while enhancing coordination for increased effectiveness. In addition, the funding CERF provided to WFP

for the UNHAS, the Logistics Cluster and the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster contributed to the continuity of common services for humanitarian actors when funding shortages put their availability at risk.

Promoting best practices and coordination

Across all 34 countries, CERF funding enabled WFP and the wider humanitarian community to meet the most urgent, life-saving needs. In Yemen, WFP relied on CERF funding for time-critical food and nutrition assistance including the implementation of a comprehensive famine prevention package for those most in need at a critical moment. In Bangladesh, CERF funds provided a strong opportunity for WFP and UNICEF to join efforts in providing vulnerable

Rohingya refugees with immediate food and nutrition assistance through synergized actions and resources.

In 2018, the Sahel region was faced with a premature lean season compounded by drought and political instability. CERF funding enabled WFP to immediately begin a relief operation, tackling critical food insecurity and acute malnutrition while resources were secured to sustain WFP's long-term resilience scale-up across the region. Similarly, in Somalia, CERF's timely funding for WFP's flood response helped alert the wider donor community and other partners to the scale of the emergency and the level of resources required. This allowed WFP to respond and to extend the reach of complementary programmes.

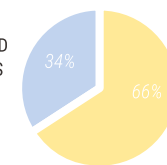
\$138.6M
CERF FUNDING

34
COUNTRIES

66
PROJECTS

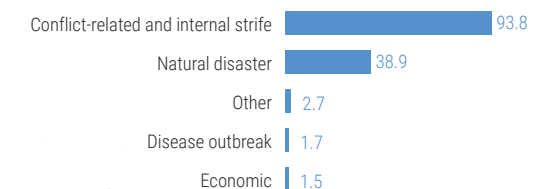
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million

47.1M
UNDERFUNDED
EMERGENCIES

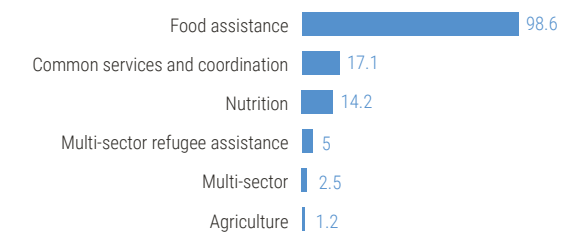


91.5M
RAPID RESPONSE

Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



Allocation by sector in US\$ million

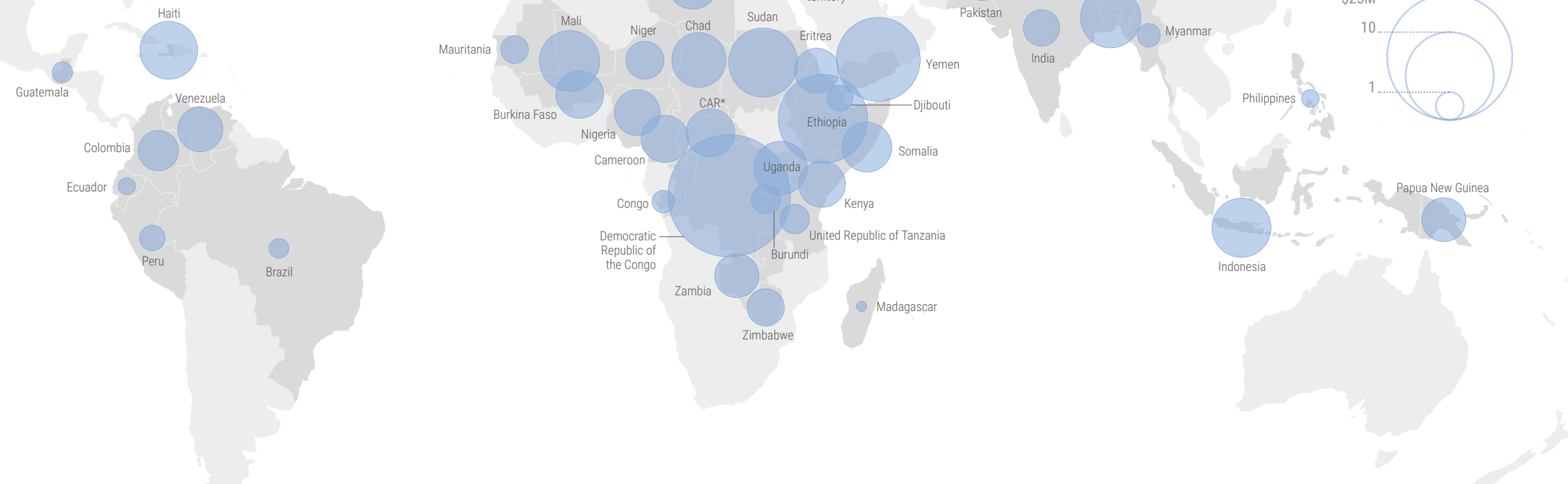


* CAR - Central African Republic

”

The crises we face today – the Sahel, Yemen, DRC and others driven by conflict and climate shocks – require quick, massive action. Thanks to CERF, the World Food Programme can respond immediately and at scale. Put simply, CERF's support saves lives. Our heartfelt thanks go to CERF donors for supporting an even more robust and flexible CERF, which helps us respond to increasingly challenging emergencies.

– David Beasley, Executive Director of WFP



Enabling fast and time-critical response

In 2018, UNICEF received \$132.1 million from CERF, its largest-ever annual allocation total, which translated into life-saving services for people in need in 43 countries. CERF continued to be a reliable partner for UNICEF's efforts to address critical needs of children and women caught up in sudden-onset emergencies and protracted conflicts. In addition, CERF played a key role in enabling UNICEF to deliver against the commitments of the World Humanitarian Summit and the Grand Bargain, strengthening the humanitarian community's ability to deliver in a timely, coordinated and principled manner as an important step towards the global commitment to leave no one behind.

Promoting effective coordination

CERF funding helped to strengthen in-country coordination mechanisms and the leadership role of the respective RC/HC. This improved inter-agency coordination led to better management of available resources by eliminating duplication of efforts and overlaps in the planned responses, and increasing efficient information sharing on gaps in coverage. For instance, in Libya, CERF funding enabled UNICEF together with IOM, UNHCR and the WHO, under the leadership of the National Centre for Disease Control, to conduct a nationwide measles, rubella, and polio vaccination and vitamin A supplementation campaign targeting children on the move and those held in detention centres.

”

With the largest annual CERF allocation ever of \$132 million, UNICEF was able to provide timely and life-saving support in over 43 countries in 2018. In emergency after emergency, children are surviving and getting the help they need. Thank you to CERF! Your ability to provide rapid support and support to forgotten crises is invaluable.

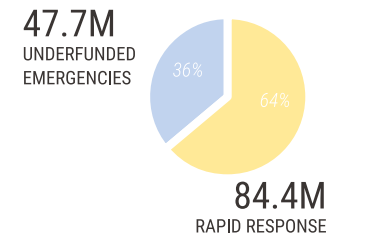
— Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director of UNICEF

\$132.1M
CERF FUNDING

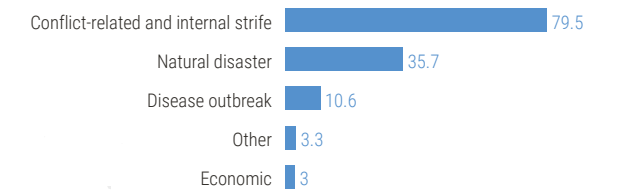
43
COUNTRIES

122
PROJECTS

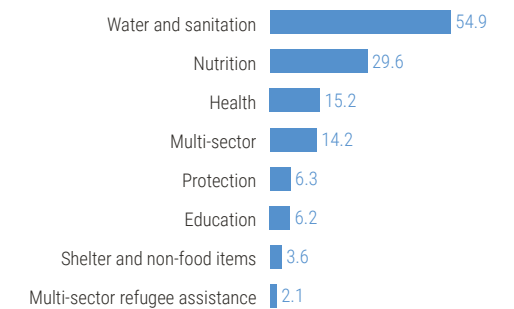
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million



Allocation by emergency type *in US\$ million*



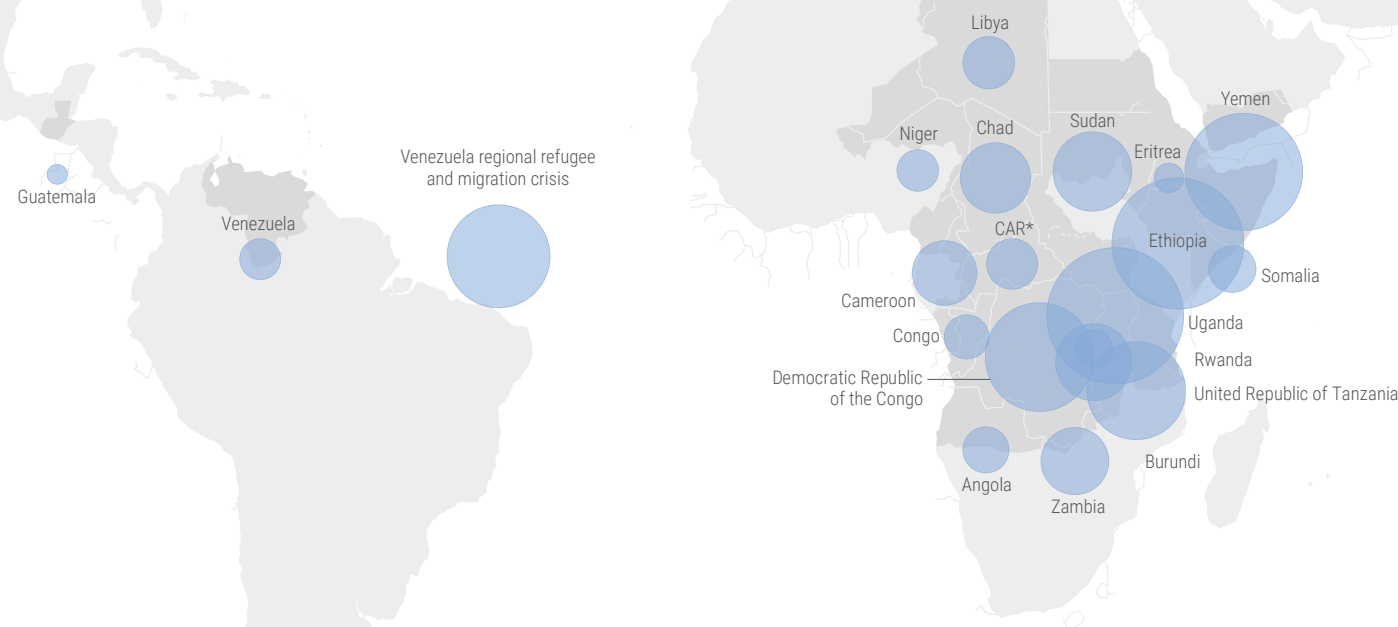
Allocation by sector *in US\$ million*



* CAR - Central African Republic

Promoting effective partnerships with local responders

CERF's time-critical funding was vital to UNICEF's humanitarian work in 2018. After a tsunami hit Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province in September 2018, CERF funding enabled UNICEF to provide tsunami-affected children with protection and health services. Through strong partnerships with local partners, UNICEF was able to reach the most vulnerable households with emergency water and sanitation services within a short time span, ensuring access to safe water for more than 200,000 people.



Allocations by country
in US\$ millions

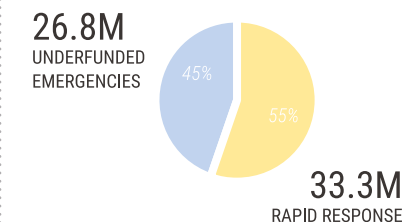


\$60.1M
CERF FUNDING

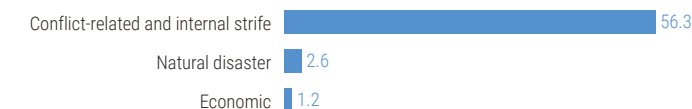
30
COUNTRIES

33
PROJECTS

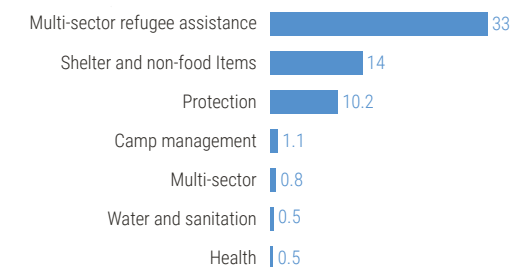
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million



Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



Allocation by sector in US\$ million



* CAR - Central African Republic

Enabling responses to displacement crises

UNHCR received \$60.1 million in CERF grants in 2018, supporting UNHCR's response to multiple ongoing displacement crises and several new ones that emerged during the year. This was almost double what UNHCR received from CERF in 2016, and moved CERF from being UNHCR's sixteenth-largest contributor in 2017 to its twelfth in 2018. The increase reflects the growing toll of global displacement: there are now more than 67 million people of concern to UNHCR around the world, including refugees, stateless persons, returnees, and IDPs affected by conflict, a number which has doubled over the past two decades.

Providing reliable, global and life-saving funding

CERF continued to play a vital role in supporting UNHCR, contributing through its Rapid Response window to the majority of the new or deteriorating major crises during 2018, including those in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nigeria and South Sudan. Through its UFE window, CERF

also contributed to the protection and assistance of people trapped in protracted crisis such as in Burundi, CAR, DRC, Rwanda, Uganda, and Tanzania. Throughout 2018, UNHCR heavily focused on emergency responses, which strained capacities and resources across the organization. CERF funding was critical in filling financial gaps during the decisive first weeks of emergency operations, allowing UNHCR to quickly mobilize resources for life-saving interventions and giving it time to develop resource mobilization strategies for securing medium- to long-term support for its activities.

Using innovative approaches to provide humanitarian funding

UNHCR, together with IOM, received a trans-boundary CERF regional Rapid Response allocation in support of their activities in six countries affected by the exodus of Venezuelan migrants and refugees: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago. UNHCR received \$4.5 million in CERF for the innovative regional approach including the protection against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); and

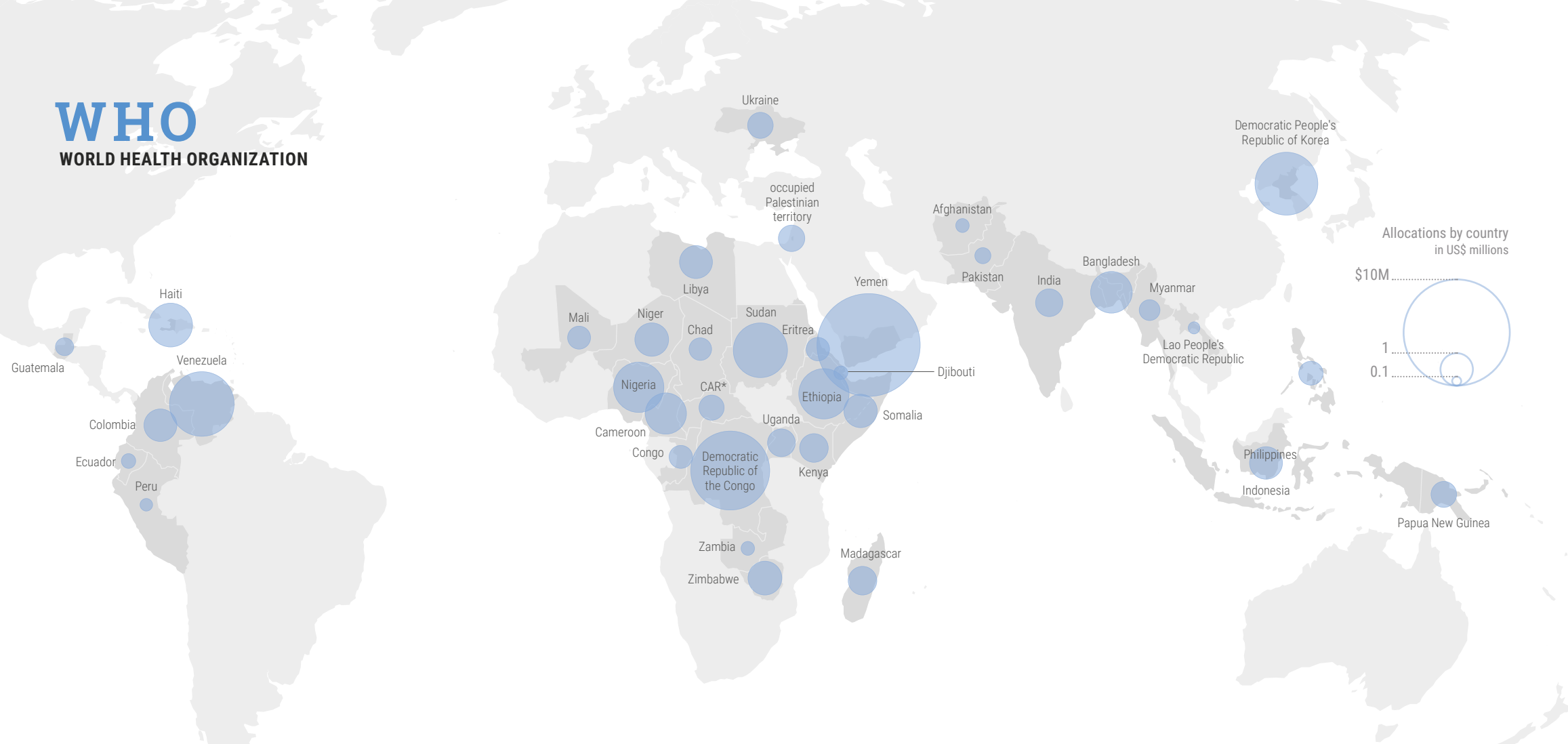
provision of documentation, shelter, health care, and direct cash-based assistance. The CERF funding was also key in establishing the co-leadership arrangement for a Regional Coordination Platform and the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan between IOM and UNHCR. CERF was among the first donors to support the innovative regional approach, which was critical to respond to some of the most pressing needs of those most at risk.

The added value of the CERF contribution in filling protection gaps was its multisectoral, regional dimension at a moment when the severity of the situation and the need for immediate action was yet to be sufficiently recognized and regional coordination mechanisms were just emerging. The CERF regional contribution enabled agencies to assist a moving and geographically spread-out population and bring relief in a coordinated, complementary and effective manner.

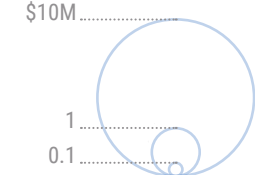
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CERF is an agile instrument that supports UNHCR in the delivery of life-saving protection and assistance to refugees and displaced people around the world enabling a rapid emergency response, or sustaining support in protracted crises. Some \$60 million from CERF in 2018 allowed UNHCR to help over 3.5 million refugees and displaced people. I thank those who have donated to the CERF and encourage your continued support to this important fund.

— Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Allocations by country
in US\$ millions

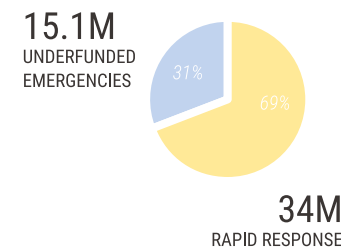


\$49.1M
CERF FUNDING

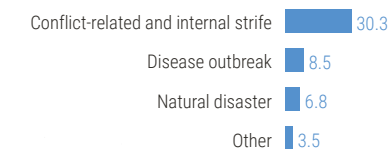
38
COUNTRIES

47
PROJECTS

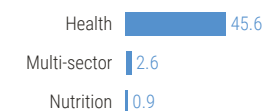
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million



Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



Allocation by sector in US\$ million



* CAR - Central African Republic

Enabling fast and time critical response

In 2018 CERF provided \$49.1 million to WHO, playing a crucial role in enabling WHO to respond to acute and protracted health emergencies in 38 countries. This funding was an increase by more than one-third compared to the previous year, making CERF, WHO's fourth-largest humanitarian contributor in 2018, compared to the sixth-largest humanitarian contributor in 2017. CERF funds received in 2018 enabled WHO to provide time-critical and life-saving essential health services to affected people and to strengthen the health components of humanitarian responses in a wide range of sudden-onset and protracted emergencies.

Restoring health services and responding to health outbreaks

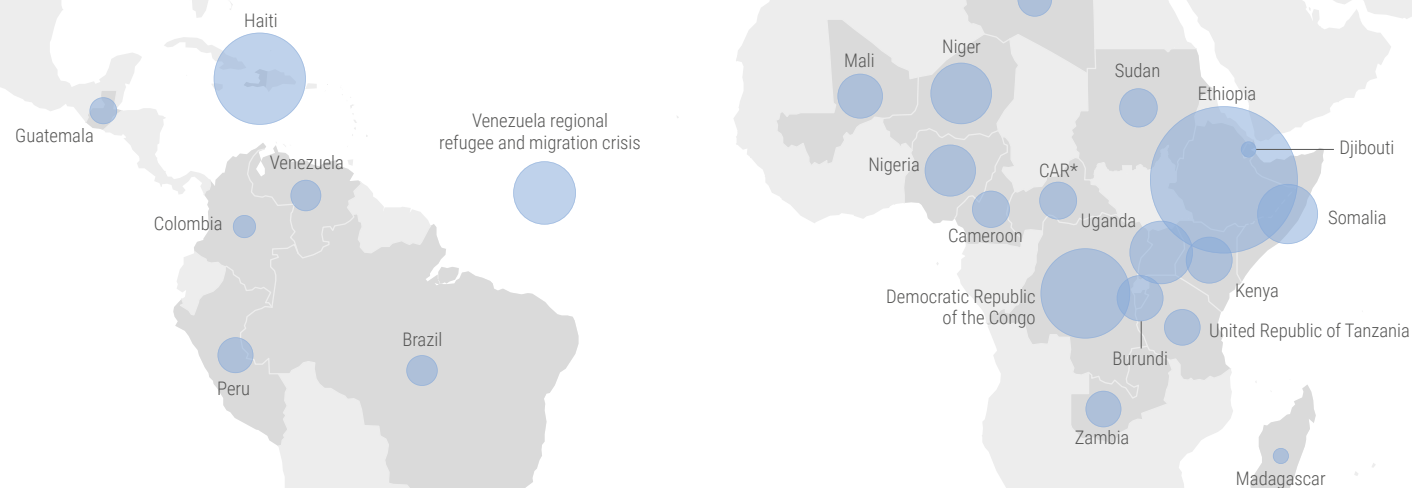
Natural disasters often result in destruction or damage to health facilities and the disruption of water and electricity supplies, which has a detrimental effect on the provision of health services. Thanks to CERF funding, WHO was able to restore health facilities in the aftermath of the earthquake in Papua New Guinea, and after catastrophic floods and severe droughts in Somalia. CERF funds also enabled WHO to implement time-critical and life-saving activities in a range of emergencies, in line with its strategic priorities to serve the most vulnerable people. This included the response to outbreaks of cholera, chikungunya, and measles caused by flood-induced displacement in Kenya, where CERF-funded projects enabled WHO to support health sector partners to scale up investigations of all disease outbreak alerts and the deploy rapid response teams.

CERF as a lifeline for people in forgotten crises worldwide

CERF contributions provided the funds necessary for WHO to deliver critical health services not only in the major crises leading the headlines, but also in lesser-known crises. In many neglected crises, such as in CAR, Eritrea, Haiti or the Philippines, WHO depended heavily on CERF funds, which remained a lifeline for people in need.

Promoting effective partnerships and localization of funding

In 2018, WHO transferred \$5.8 million, 12 per cent of the total funding it received from CERF, to 25 national and international implementing partners in 11 countries. Thanks to CERF funding, WHO also continued to strengthen its Emergency Medical Team (EMT) mentoring programme. EMTs provide a key frontline response capacity during sudden-onset health emergencies, while also leveraging local, existing expertise and resources.



Enabling coordinated, fast and time-critical response

In 2018, CERF allocated \$41 million to IOM, the second-largest funding amount to the organization since CERF's inception. These funds translated into immediate response and life-saving services for displaced people in 31 countries. In most of these crises, few other funding sources were available. CERF served as a critical partner, providing flexible funding in both rapid-onset emergencies and protracted crises, and catalyzing greater inter-agency collaboration.

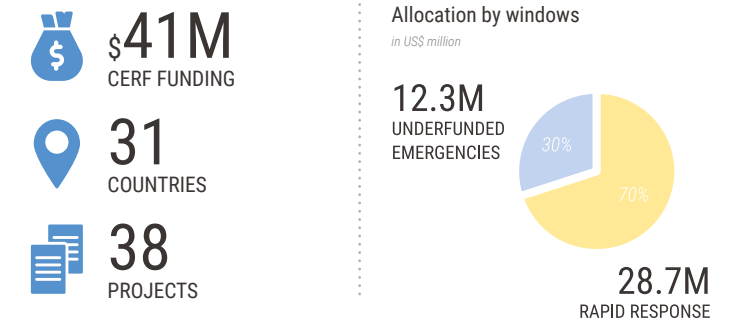
Using innovative approaches to provide humanitarian funding

CERF was one of the first sources of funding to support a holistic regional response to the humanitarian needs of refugees and migrants from Venezuela in 2018. CERF provided a trans-boundary regional Rapid Response allocation to IOM and UNHCR in support of their activities in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago. IOM received \$1.6 million in CERF funding for the innovative regional approach, which, among other things, was critical in tracking some 30,000 Venezuelan migrants and refugees through the Displacement Tracking Matrix and in providing shelter and assistance to almost 3,500 to other affected people. The CERF funding was also key in establishing the co-leadership arrangement for a Regional Coordination Platform and the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan between IOM and UNHCR. In addition, IOM received grants totaling

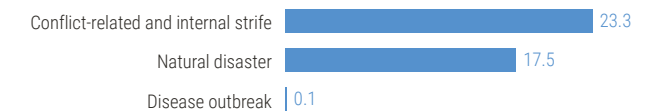
\$1.2 million through CERF country-level Rapid Response allocations to Colombia, Brazil and Peru in response to the refugee and migrant influx from Venezuela.

Establishing a lifeline in protracted and underfunded crisis

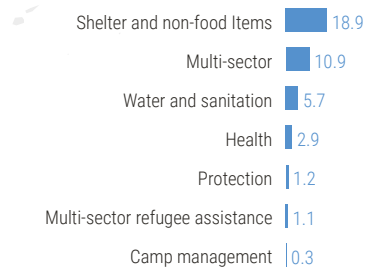
In Bangladesh, CERF funding was a lifeline for vulnerable people in Cox's Bazar, where the monsoon season's landslides and floods had a devastating impact on health, water and sanitation services in the refugee camps for the Rohingya. CERF's support to IOM enabled the organization to fill significant programming gaps and provide urgently-needed sanitation services that had not attracted sufficient donor funding. With improved sectoral coordination as a result of the CERF-funded projects, IOM was able to improve health and sanitation services including solid waste management and support individual and collective health seeking behaviors.



Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



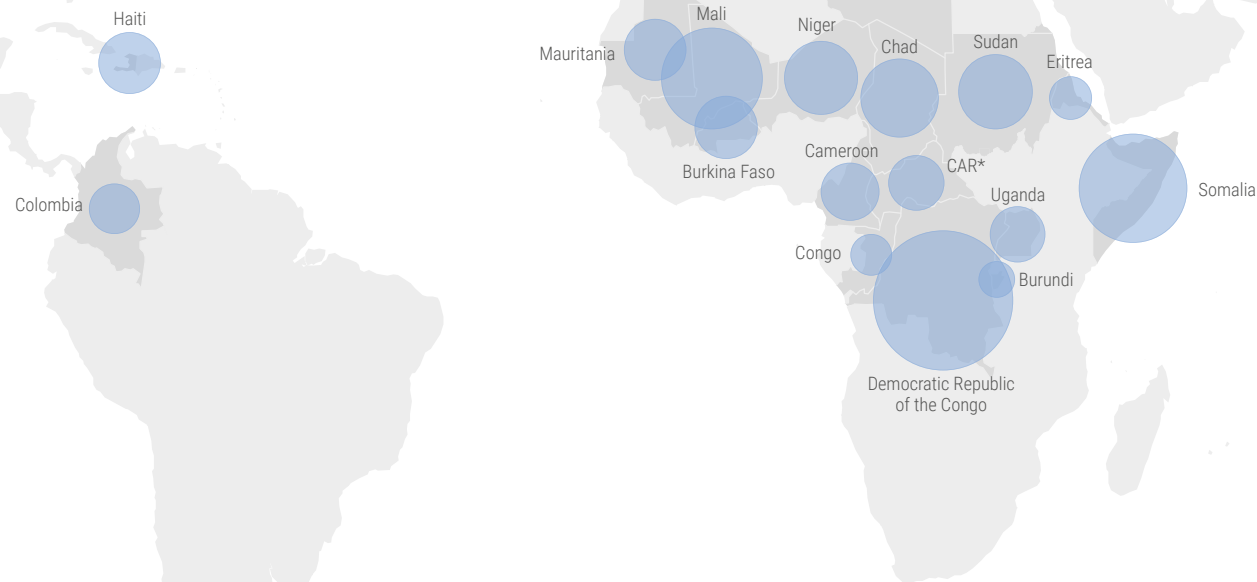
Allocation by sector in US\$ million



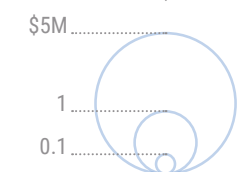
* CAR - Central African Republic

” IOM recognizes the pivotal role that the CERF plays in coordinating multi-agency responses to the most time critical needs. In 2018, CERF enabled IOM and sister agencies to reach vulnerable populations in underfunded emergencies in CAR, Tanzania, and Haiti, where resources and support were not readily available. Without this harmonized support it would be difficult to meet the needs of at-risk populations, especially women and children.

— António Vitorino, Director General of IOM



Allocations by country
in US\$ millions



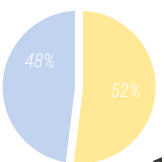
\$32.9M
CERF FUNDING

25
COUNTRIES

25
PROJECTS

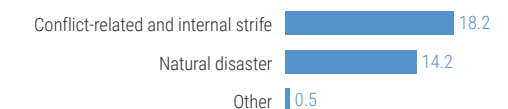
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million

15.8M
UNDERFUNDED
EMERGENCIES



17.2M
RAPID RESPONSE

Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



Allocation by sector in US\$ million



* CAR - Central African Republic

”

CERF backing allows FAO to act swiftly in the early days of crises, when livelihoods-focused interventions are particularly effective in preventing worst-case hunger scenarios from materializing – and lets us do so on a truly global scale. To save lives, we also need to save livelihoods. In 2018, CERF funding enabled FAO to support the livelihood of 2.8 million vulnerable and agriculture-reliant people in 25 different countries.

— José Graziano da Silva, Director-General of FAO

Restoring agricultural livelihoods saves lives worldwide

In 2018, CERF provided 30 grants to FAO, totaling almost \$33 million and making CERF the sixth-largest funding source to FAO's emergency operations. The funds enabled FAO to provide urgent and time-sensitive support to people affected by humanitarian crises in 25 countries.

Filling critical funding gaps and strengthening coordination

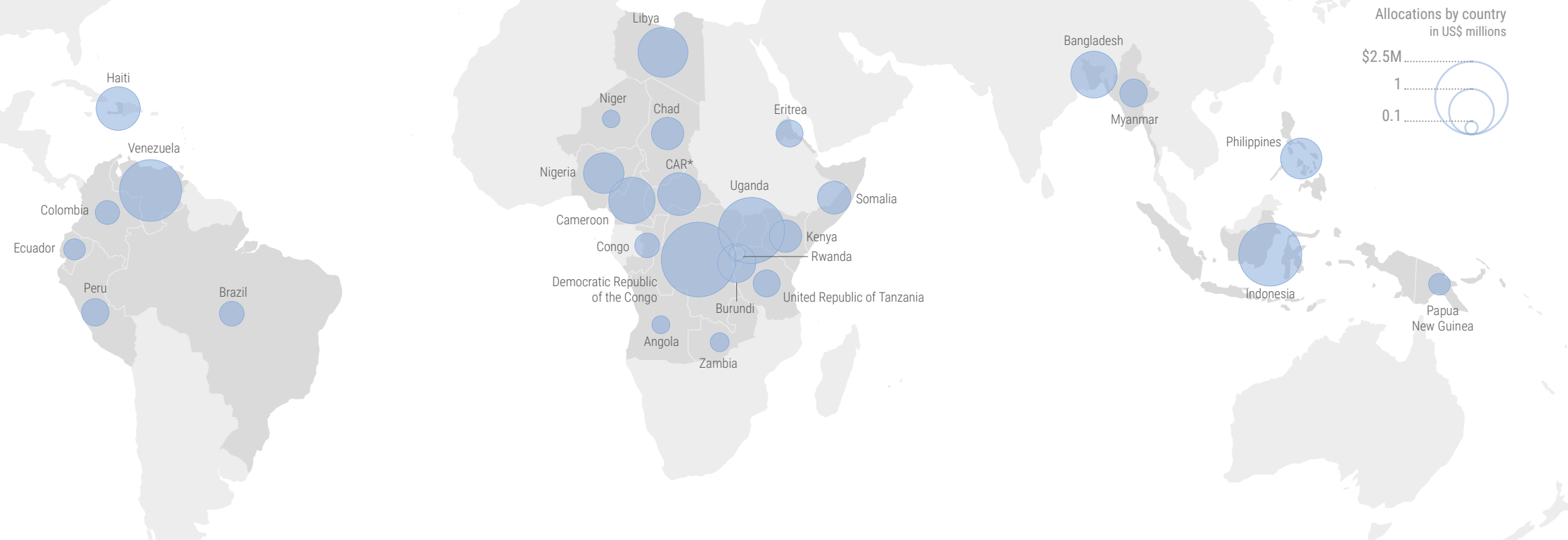
Millions of agricultural livelihoods are compromised each year by extreme weather events, protracted crises and conflicts, which put people at risk of hunger and malnutrition. Investing in agriculture from the onset of a crisis saves lives and enables people to resume local food production. With agriculture being one of the least-funded sectors in humanitarian appeals in 2018, receiving just 0.3 per cent of total required

funding, CERF added value by filling critical funding gaps in humanitarian responses. Fast provisions of funds through the Rapid Response window allowed for time-critical and effective responses to sudden-onset disasters such as hurricanes and floods, as well as to slow-onset emergencies like droughts. Funding through CERF's UFE window enabled FAO to address food insecurity in countries that did not attract sufficient support from resource partners.

CERF funding promoted coordination among humanitarian actors by bringing key partners together to address needs coherently. For example, CERF-funded joint FAO and WFP interventions have improved results for vulnerable and crisis-affected people. In Uganda, FAO and WFP were able to meet the food security and nutrition needs of affected people through harmonized targeting between the provision of food and food production.

Providing reliable, global, life-saving funding

CERF funding enabled FAO to rapidly respond and support people affected by natural disasters such as drought in Afghanistan, a hurricane in Haiti and floods in India. The CERF-funded response to the drought-caused pastoral crisis in the Sahel helped to restore the livelihoods of more than 600,000 food-insecure agro-pastoralists in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger through emergency agricultural and livestock interventions. In Myanmar, CERF supported a joint FAO and WFP project that assisted people affected by the conflict in northern Rakhine State. Crisis-affected women, men, girls and boys received food assistance in a timely manner to meet their daily food and nutritional needs; and through livelihood assistance communities were able to produce enough to ensure the availability and accessibility of nutritious foods. With CERF's support, FAO also continued to invest in linking early warning with early action to mitigate the impact of disasters by protecting assets and livelihoods.



Protecting women and girls affected by crisis worldwide

In 2018, UNFPA received CERF funding totaling \$20 million, which enabled the organization to reach 3 million women and girls in 28 countries affected by humanitarian crises. The funds, which made CERF the third-largest contributor to UNFPA's emergency operations, were critical in enabling UNFPA to preserve the health and protection of women, girls and young people through GBV and SRH interventions, including support for more than 55,000 safe deliveries and providing 200,000 dignity kits.

The unique needs of women and girls are often neglected in situations of conflict, natural hazards, pandemics and displacement. In 2018, of the 135.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, an estimated 34 million were women of reproductive age and 5 million of those

women were pregnant. CERF funds were a lifeline for these women and girls, as they enabled UNFPA to provide of time-critical, life-saving GBV and SRH services.

Providing time-critical funding, strengthening cooperation and reinforcing local capacities

The short mobilization phase and timely availability of CERF funds are key added values for UNFPA. For example, in Rwanda, CERF funding allowed UNFPA to quickly respond to the needs of refugees fleeing the DRC. In Haiti, CERF supported a rapid deployment of midwives into health institutions and mobile clinics in remote areas. CERF funding also contributed to building strong partnerships with local health facilities, NGOs and governments, ensuring substantive support in the implementation of the projects. In

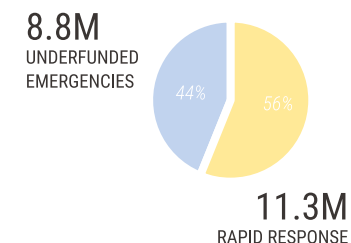
Myanmar, for example, partnerships with local organizations with strong community networks of volunteers were critical to ensure access to information and services for women and girls in need. While partnerships with a wide variety of humanitarian actors are a strategic key priority for UNFPA, thanks to CERF funding, UNFPA was able to strengthen the overall capacity of local partners and national systems in the provision of lifesaving SRH and GBV interventions. In Rwanda, CERF-funded activities are being implemented in partnership with African Humanitarian Action, an NGO in charge of health issues in camps for Congolese refugees.

\$20.1M
CERF FUNDING

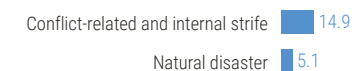
28
COUNTRIES

41
PROJECTS

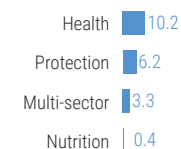
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million



Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



Allocation by sector in US\$ million



* CAR - Central African Republic

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CERF is a lifeline for women and girls, whose unique needs have long been neglected and underfunded in crises. In 2018, CERF funding enabled UNFPA and its partners to respond quickly with critical sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence services for an estimated three million women and girls in 28 countries. CERF funding is saving women's and girls' lives, and we thank all CERF donors for their generous support.

— Natalia Kanem, Executive Director of UNFPA

Enabling coordinated, fast and time-critical response

In 2018, CERF provided \$7.2 million to UNDP, enabling the organization to save lives and assist people in a diverse range of humanitarian emergencies in 11 countries, helping them to return to a path of sustainable development.

In the aftermath of the September 2018 earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province, UNDP used CERF funding to facilitate emergency debris removal in earthquake-affected areas to increase access for aid

delivery and provided cash-for-work to kick-start the early recovery of those most affected. In the Pool region of the Republic of Congo, CERF funding enabled UNDP to improve the food security of IDPs by providing them with agricultural and pisciculture material and equipment. UNDP also facilitated CERF funding towards the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in Cameroon, Papua New Guinea and Yemen, which was crucial in supporting further humanitarian action and the UN system in general.

”

132 million people in 42 countries around the world need humanitarian assistance. The Central Emergency Response Fund plays a vital role in providing real-time funding in crisis situations, and it enables the UN including UNDP and its partners to save lives and support people to get back on a path of sustainable development.

— Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator

Allocations by country
in US\$ millions

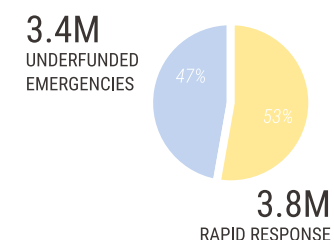


\$7.3M
CERF FUNDING

11
COUNTRIES

12
PROJECTS

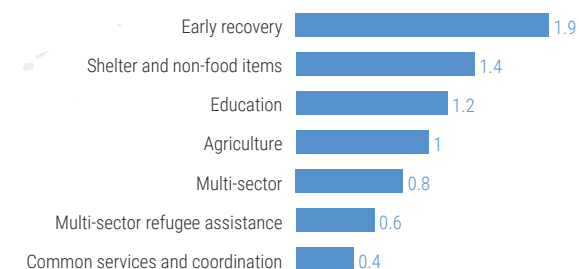
Allocation by windows
in US\$ million



Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million

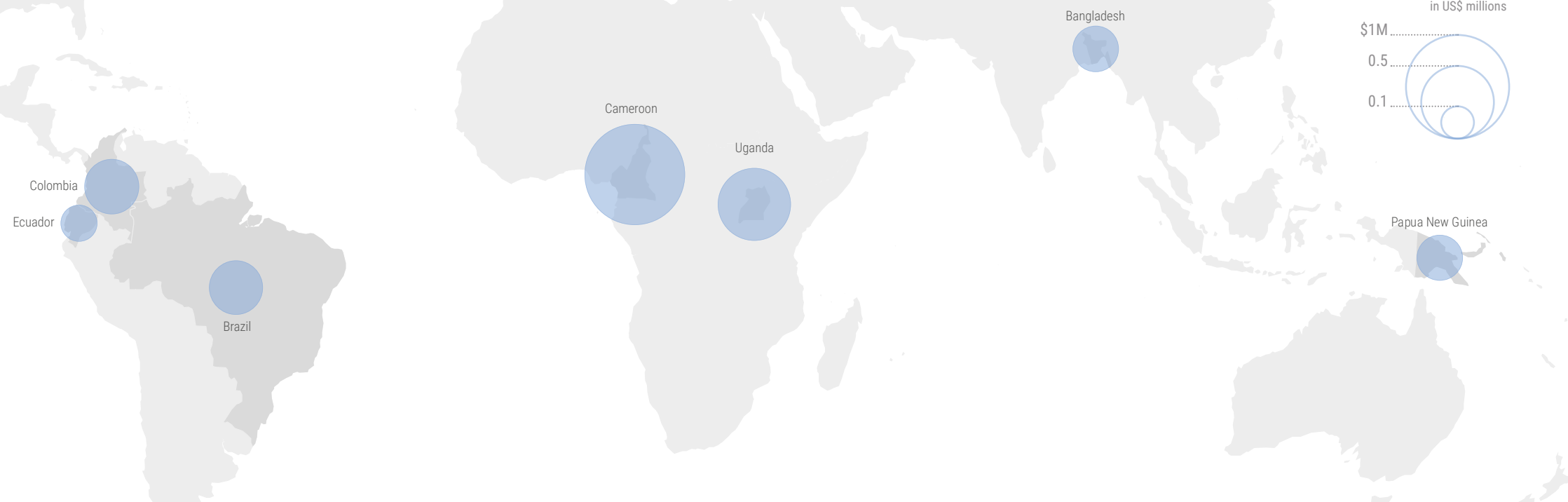


Allocation by sector in US\$ million



Promoting effective partnerships and coordination

CERF funds helped partners to operate and coordinate in a more coherent manner in response to crises, and several UNDP country offices documented that the CERF allocation strengthened coordination and action on the ground. UNDP forged strong partnerships with other UN agencies, NGOs and national partners in the project design and implementation of CERF-funded programmes. For example, CERF-funded UNDP projects often provided a platform, particularly at provincial level, for improved planning and coordination with and among the main government partners. The timely availability of CERF funds enabled UNDP to contribute to life-saving activities and provide time-critical assistance, which also helped catalyze additional funding to continue vital activities.



Enabling responses to the needs of crisis-affected women worldwide

UN Women received \$2.5 million from CERF in 2018, its highest-ever allocation amount. The funds enabled the agency's much-required presence in emergency responses when other funding was not forthcoming, and facilitated life-saving protection services and assistance for survivors and those at risk of sexual and GBV across seven countries. It also enabled UN Women to support more gender-responsive humanitarian action to better reflect and respond to the needs of women and girls.

The increased CERF funding allowed UN Women to provide a consistent selection of services across a variety of humanitarian contexts. This included support services to affected women

and girls displaced from Venezuela across three international borders of Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador, and the provision of survivor services to refugee and IDP women affected by conflict in three different locations in Cameroon.

Promoting effective partnerships to strengthen gender sensitive responses

Across all seven countries, CERF's support allowed UN Women to work with the UN system, other humanitarian agencies, national and local authorities, security forces, civil society and affected communities to build capacity and develop strategies to directly address gender differentiated needs. It further facilitated the inclusion of women and girls in decision making processes which eventually affect them

and their families. Such initiatives included the development of a national Action Plan for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Uganda, the training of security and police forces in Brazil and Cameroon and the mobilization of community leaders to work with women in remote conflict-affected regions of Papua New Guinea.

Empowering crisis-affected women and girls to reduce their vulnerabilities and enhance their resilience to future shocks is at the heart of UN Women's humanitarian work, and is central to any efforts to improve and stabilize emergencies in an effective and sustainable manner. CERF funding enabled UN Women's offices to contribute to this goal by allowing them to intervene in crises a timely manner, act catalytically through partnerships and mobilize additional resources for longer-term interventions.

Allocations by country in US\$ millions

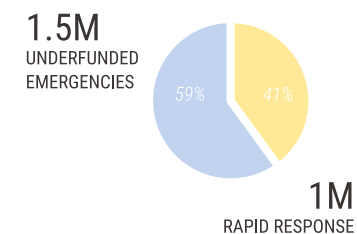


\$2.5M
CERF FUNDING

7
COUNTRIES

8
PROJECTS

Allocation by windows in US\$ million



Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million



Allocation by sector in US\$ million



”By enabling UN Women's provision of much-needed emergency response programming when other funding is unavailable, CERF funding facilitates desperately needed, life-saving protection services and assistance for survivors and those at risk of sexual and gender based violence. It also enables UN Women to support the humanitarian system and local actors to deliver a more gender-responsive humanitarian action that better reflects and responds to the needs of women and girls.

— Dan Seymour, Director of Humanitarian Action and Crisis Response Office, UN Women

UNRWA
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS
AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

UNOPS
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR
PROJECT SERVICES

OHCHR
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

UNRWA

CERF as a lifeline for Palestinian refugees

In 2018, UNRWA experienced an unforeseen and massive shortfall in funding to its emergency operations, which jeopardized the provision of vital food security assistance to Palestinian refugees in the West Bank and Gaza. Thanks to the quick mobilization of \$15 million of CERF Rapid Response funding, UNRWA was able to continue supporting the food security needs of almost 640,000 vulnerable Palestinian refugees in the West Bank and Gaza, preventing a dramatic deterioration in their living conditions. In Gaza, with CERF funding, some 560,000 vulnerable Palestinian refugees received in-kind food assistance. In the West Bank, food security activities benefitted almost 59,000 Palestinian refugees inside and outside the camps. Different modalities of humanitarian assistance were used, such as in-kind food distribution, cash-for-work and food vouchers, reflecting the different operating conditions and the impact of donor policies in the West Bank and Gaza.

Recognizing the urgent humanitarian needs and deep funding shortage, CERF made an additional \$15 million loan available to support UNRWA's life-saving humanitarian activities in the oPt and its other fields of operation. The loan was fully repaid in February 2019 after UNRWA was able to mobilize additional funding from other donors.

”It is the genuine solidarity of our partners at OCHA, and their generous provision of a CERF loan to UNRWA, that has allowed life-saving humanitarian activities including food assistance in the oPt to continue uninterrupted, thus providing a sense of security and predictability to Palestine refugees.

— Pierre Krähenbühl, Commissioner-General of UNRWA

occupied Palestinian territory
UNRWA

Libya
UNOPS

Democratic Republic
of the Congo
UNOPS

Ukraine
OHCHR

Allocations by country
in US\$ millions

15M

UNOPS / UNMAS

Enabling time-critical mine action

The UNOPS acts as the main operational platform for the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) by supporting the implementation of mine action projects around the world, including in challenging humanitarian contexts. Through a total of \$1.3 million of CERF funding in 2018, two projects in DRC and Libya contributed to major national and international strategic achievements of managing explosive risks in humanitarian emergencies. In both countries, CERF-funded humanitarian mine action projects implemented by UNMAS focused on mitigating threats posed by explosive hazards to at-risk communities in the territories. In DRC, UNMAS also launched a radio and text messaging campaign to spread awareness on the risks posed by explosive hazards, reaching an estimated 153,090 people. These projects illustrate how CERF remains a necessary and valuable contributor to efforts to reduce the impact of unexploded ordinance and raise awareness of explosive risks among vulnerable groups.

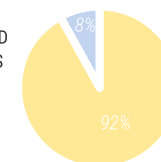
\$16.7M
CERF FUNDING

4
COUNTRY

4
PROJECTS

Allocation by windows
in US\$ million

1.3M
UNDERFUNDED
EMERGENCIES



15.4M
RAPID RESPONSE

Allocation by emergency type in US\$ million

Conflict-related and internal strife 16.7

Allocation by sector in US\$ million

Food assistance 15

Mine action 1.3

Protection 0.4

OHCHR

Promoting the protection of crisis-affected people

In 2018, CERF provided \$350,000 to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for activities in the Eastern Ukraine region, becoming the sixth-largest contributor to its operation there and providing funding to the organization for the first time in three years. Armed hostilities in the region resulted not only in civilian casualties, but also in numerous human rights violations and abuses. CERF funds were crucial to sustain OHCHR's life-saving activities in armed group-controlled territory of Ukraine and around the contact line at a time when they were critically underfunded. Some 1,500 civilians benefited from the intervention, which included field visits from human rights monitoring teams as well as recording of and reporting on civilian casualties. These activities were coordinated with and amplified by similar efforts by other key actors, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine and other humanitarian actors.



CERF Donors

Children in the
Hakimpara refugee
camp, Ukhiya, Cox's
Bazar, Bangladesh.
© OCHA/Vincent
Tremeau

CERF Donors

In 2018, CERF received record high pledges amounting to \$558.6 million thanks to the staunch financial support of CERF donors. This is an increase of \$46.4 million over the \$512.1 million pledged in 2017. Due to exchange rate fluctuations, \$558.6 million pledges materialized into \$555.3 million received contributions, including \$6.8 million received in 2017, \$543.3 million received in 2018, and \$5.2 million received in 2019.

In total, 52 Member States and observers, two regional governments, two private foundations, and many individuals contributed to the fund in 2018. Their generous contributions enabled CERF to respond expeditiously to humanitarian emergencies in 48 countries and territories.

To help CERF respond to growing humanitarian needs, many donors increased their contributions to the fund as compared to 2017. These include: Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom (UK). Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Switzerland and the UK contributed a combined total of nearly \$107.7 million on top of their initial 2018 pledges, amounting to 19.4 per cent of CERF's total income for 2018. The number of multi-year agreements also increased. Norway and Sweden signed multi-year agreements with CERF in 2018, in addition to the seven existing multi-year agreements with Australia, Belgium, Canada, Iceland, Luxembourg, Qatar and the UK. Four additional Member States are considering renewing or entering into multi-year agreements with CERF in 2019. All the above is a clear show of support from donors for an expanded CERF and a strong indicator of the trust placed on the fund in view of the increasing number of people in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

Approximately 92.3 per cent of contributions to CERF for 2018 came from the top 10 donors; 98.9 per cent of contributions from the top 20 donors. Each year, about 50 Member States provide funding to CERF. Since its inception, CERF donors have included 126 Member States and observers, as well as regional authorities, foundations, corporate donors and individuals. In 2018, six Member States that had not donated for at least a year returned as donors: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Guyana, Iraq and Mongolia. Four countries – Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar, and the Philippines – received allocations from and contributed to CERF in 2018, a testament to their solidarity with the fund. As a first-time contributor in 2018, the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation became the fourth regional and local authority to provide funding to CERF.

At the CERF High-Level Conference on 7 December 2018, 41 donors announced record pledges amounting to \$439 million for 2019, an increase of \$56 million compared to the amount pledged at the previous year's conference.

CERF's achievements are the collective successes of its donors. The fund's ability to respond to the increasing humanitarian needs and deliver life-saving support globally is the shared responsibility of the global humanitarian community. Going forward, efforts will be increased to deepen and diversify the donor base beyond the primary Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee donors, while maximizing support from current and returning donors. It is also critical to ensure timely transfer of pledges into contributions to enable the financing of all activities in line with operational demands. OCHA also continues to explore options for applying innovative financing to the CERF context that will augment and broaden financial support to CERF.

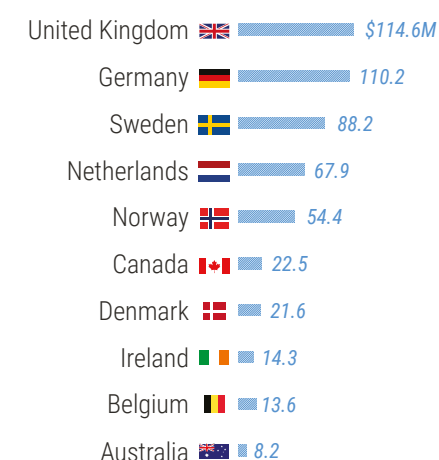
CERF RECEIVED A RECORD HIGH INCOME

\$558.6M

THANKS TO THE STAUNCH FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ITS DONORS

52 MEMBER STATES AND OBSERVERS
2 REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS
2 PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS
MANY INDIVIDUALS

TOP 10 DONORS



INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS



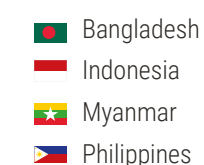
MULTI-YEAR AGREEMENTS



ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS



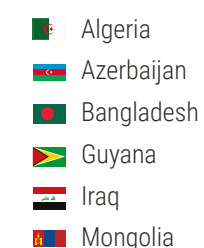
RECIPIENT-COUNTRY DONORS



FIRST TIME CONTRIBUTOR



RETURNING DONORS



Community health worker Awa
is helping her village fight
malnutrition in Yeonke, Burkina
Faso. © OCHA/Eve Sabbagh

CERF performance



Oversight



TRANSPARENCY

The CERF secretariat has made transparency on the usage of CERF funds a top priority. In 2018, CERF undertook a comprehensive review of its International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) reporting. As a result, CERF's IATI transparency score increased to 94 per cent, making CERF the third-most transparent among the 969 organizations publishing their data to the IATI standard. All CERF grant decisions are also made available in real time through a dedicated allocations module on the CERF website, OCHA's Financial Tracking Service site and through the Humanitarian Data Exchange. CERF also tracks and analyses the "second layer" of grant implementation, which reflects funding from recipient UN agencies to their implementing partners. Additionally, methodologies of allocation decisions, summaries of the country selection processes for UFE allocations, narrative reports on the use of CERF funds and a global report on results achieved are made available publicly, thereby providing full transparency on the operations of the fund.

CERF complements its Annual Report with a detailed report on results achieved with CERF-funded projects. The Results Report is compiled based on RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funding and demonstrates CERF's key role in enabling the provision of life-saving assistance to people in need. The report also presents information reported by RCs/HCs on the strategic value CERF adds to the humanitarian system, summarizes each CERF allocation made and includes analysis on several themes.



CERF COUNTRY REVIEWS

CERF is widely recognized as one of the fastest and most effective ways to enable urgent life-saving humanitarian action for people affected by crises anywhere in the world. With more than \$500 million allocated to UN agencies and partners in 2018, donors need an appropriate level of assurance that the funds are managed and used properly and lead to meaningful results in line with the fund's mandate. To this end, the CERF Performance and Accountability Framework (PAF) was established in 2010. It provides a clear set of accountability mechanisms and reporting processes for the CERF secretariat, and by extension, the ERC.

As mandated by the PAF, three to five country level reviews are conducted annually by independent evaluation experts, assessing CERF's added value to humanitarian response against key performance benchmarks and planned results for the fund. Each review also explores certain strategic questions or thematic areas unique to the specific allocation. Since the first pilot review in 2010, 29 independent reviews have been conducted.

In 2018, CERF commissioned three reviews. One focused on the fund's added value to the humanitarian response in the DRC, including strategic questions around CERF's role in supporting collective operational priorities for the L3 response in early 2018 and the later Ebola outbreaks, as well as in large-scale protracted emergencies more broadly. Another review looked at CERF's added value to the 2017 hurricane response in Cuba and the Eastern Caribbean, including a question on the potential feasibility of a CERF anticipatory approach for sudden-onset emergencies. A third review

looked at CERF's response to the Venezuela refugee and migration crisis, with a focus on the regional allocation covering six countries as well as the four country-level allocations to Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

The reviews included field visits to meet with the respective RCs/HCs, UN Country Teams, agencies and partners, and identified a set of key findings and practical recommendations to help further improve the operational aspects of CERF in the future. The reviews will be available on the CERF website by August 2019.

MONITORING



The CERF secretariat has put monitoring tools in place to ensure that key information about CERF-funded projects is readily available during and after project implementation. CERF developed a guidance note on country level monitoring that clarifies roles and responsibilities in monitoring the implementation of CERF grants and in ensuring that relevant and timely information is available to RCs/HCs. In addition, CERF requires mandatory interim project status updates to facilitate information sharing on the implementation of CERF-funded projects at the country level.

The guidance note is provided to all RCs/HCs upon approval of each CERF allocation, and a tailored interim update template is shared with the RC/HC and CERF focal point during grant implementation. The monitoring arrangements have helped ensure that RCs/HCs, country-level humanitarian actors and the CERF secretariat are kept informed about the implementation of CERF-funded projects.



The Qatar Fund For Development is a strong supporter of internationally coordinated mechanisms to assist victims of disasters and conflict rapidly, efficiently and effectively. CERF fulfills this critical mission with a high level of transparency, catalyzing early further funding and responses in the main humanitarian crisis hotspots. The State of Qatar has been committed to CERF since 2010.

— Khalifa bin Jassem Al-Kuwari, Director General of Qatar Fund for Development



FRAUD MANAGEMENT

Fraud poses a serious risk to humanitarian efforts. Potential cases of fraud related to CERF grants are treated in accordance with the rules, regulations and oversight mechanisms of the recipient agencies and of the UN. To ensure adequate transparency and accountability, the CERF secretariat has in place guidance that sets out procedures for communicating to donors potential cases of fraud in CERF-funded projects implemented by UN agencies and their partners. The guidance outlines the communication responsibilities of recipient agencies and of the CERF secretariat, and was developed in consultation with the CERF Advisory Group and recipient agencies. In addition, to ensure effective and consistent monitoring of potential fraud cases, the CERF secretariat has in place internal standard operating procedures covering all phases of the process from initial notification by partners to the conclusion of investigations and follow-up actions. In line with the communications guidance, CERF's top donors are kept informed of any new cases reported to CERF, as well as of developments in ongoing investigations, and the annual report of the Secretary-General on CERF provides an overview of all investigations in a given year. In 2018, the CERF secretariat and OCHA's CBPF Section streamlined fraud handling procedures for the two funds further to ensure better information sharing, facilitate prevention and coordinate follow-up.

CERF's strategic added value to the humanitarian response

CERF is an indispensable part of the global humanitarian architecture. Although it represents a relatively small portion of global humanitarian funds, CERF is designed to ensure that every dollar it allocates creates additional strategic gains in support of humanitarian response. The injection of CERF funding in an emergency adds value to humanitarian operations in four key ways, creating a multiplier effect.



CERF enables fast delivery of assistance to people in need.

CERF funds are mobilized prior to emergencies and are always on standby. With its tried and tested allocation and disbursement systems, CERF provides funding quickly and efficiently when and where it is needed most. As a result, CERF is often the fastest source of external funds after sudden onset emergencies, enabling humanitarian organizations to immediately start life-saving operations.



CERF ensures better response to time-critical humanitarian needs.

The same flexibility allows CERF to provide funds to ongoing humanitarian operations at critical moments when they are needed the most. RCs/HCs can therefore call upon CERF when time-critical response to severe humanitarian shocks is required to mitigate the suffering of vulnerable people.



CERF improves the coordination of humanitarian action.

CERF funds are allocated collectively by humanitarian organizations on the ground, which strengthens humanitarian coordination under the leadership of UN RCs/HCs. This ensures that CERF funding targets the highest priority needs, while also improving the coverage of the response and eliminating duplication. Humanitarian organizations on the ground have to create a coherent, intersectoral strategy for how CERF funds will be used. This ensures that the projects funded by CERF work together to achieve the results that affected people need.



CERF leverages additional resources from other sources.

CERF allocations signal the severity and urgency of humanitarian needs and can be leveraged by the humanitarian community to attract funding from other sources. CERF funding allows partners to kick-start humanitarian operations and achieve results, which often gives donors assurance of the humanitarian community's readiness and capacity to deliver.

To gauge CERF's strategic added value, RCs/HCs and HCTs are asked to assess CERF's contribution to these four key areas. The following is a summary of the added value assessments from all 2017 RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funds.

ACCORDING TO UN RESIDENT AND HUMANITARIAN COORDINATORS

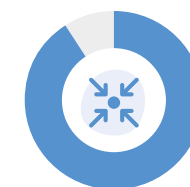
Did CERF lead to fast delivery of assistance to people in need?*

* Rapid Response allocations only



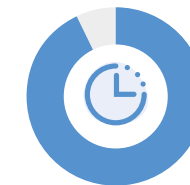
90% of CERF allocations led to **fast delivery** of assistance

Did CERF help improve coordination among the humanitarian community?



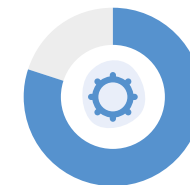
91% of CERF allocations helped **improve coordination**

Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?



93% of CERF allocations helped respond to **time-critical needs**

Did CERF help improve resource mobilization from other sources?



80% of CERF allocations **improved resource mobilization** from other sources

Results achieved with CERF funding allocated in 2017



CERF is the most effective first-responder for millions of people in needs, and allows the international community to address humanitarian crises worldwide with agility, predictability, and flexibility. In recognition of this critical role, the Republic of Korea has contributed to CERF since the inception. I am happy to note that Korea will further increase the contribution by 25% this year.

— HE Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, RoK Foreign Minister, Republic of Korea

Partnerships

Partnerships are at the heart of CERF-funded response. CERF funding is jointly planned by UN agencies and NGOs. Subsequently, CERF funding is implemented through partnerships between UN agencies and NGOs, host governments and Red Cross/Red Crescent societies.

With 2017 CERF funding (the latest year for which partnership data is available), UN agencies entered into partnerships with 568 non-UN organizations in 33 countries. This included 121 international NGOs and 447 local and national partners.

This represents a global reach that would be difficult to achieve for CERF or CERF's donors through direct funding agreements. Moreover, the collective nature of CERF processes and the extensive partnerships between such a wide and diverse group of organizations foster co-ordination and knowledge-transfer that would otherwise not have materialized.

”

The Czech Republic appreciates CERF as a reliable friend in need. A friend both for the countries in need of urgent assistance, for the donors in transitional budgetary period, and for the UN agencies in the field. A reliable friend targeting both urgent and forgotten needs in an efficient and transparent way.

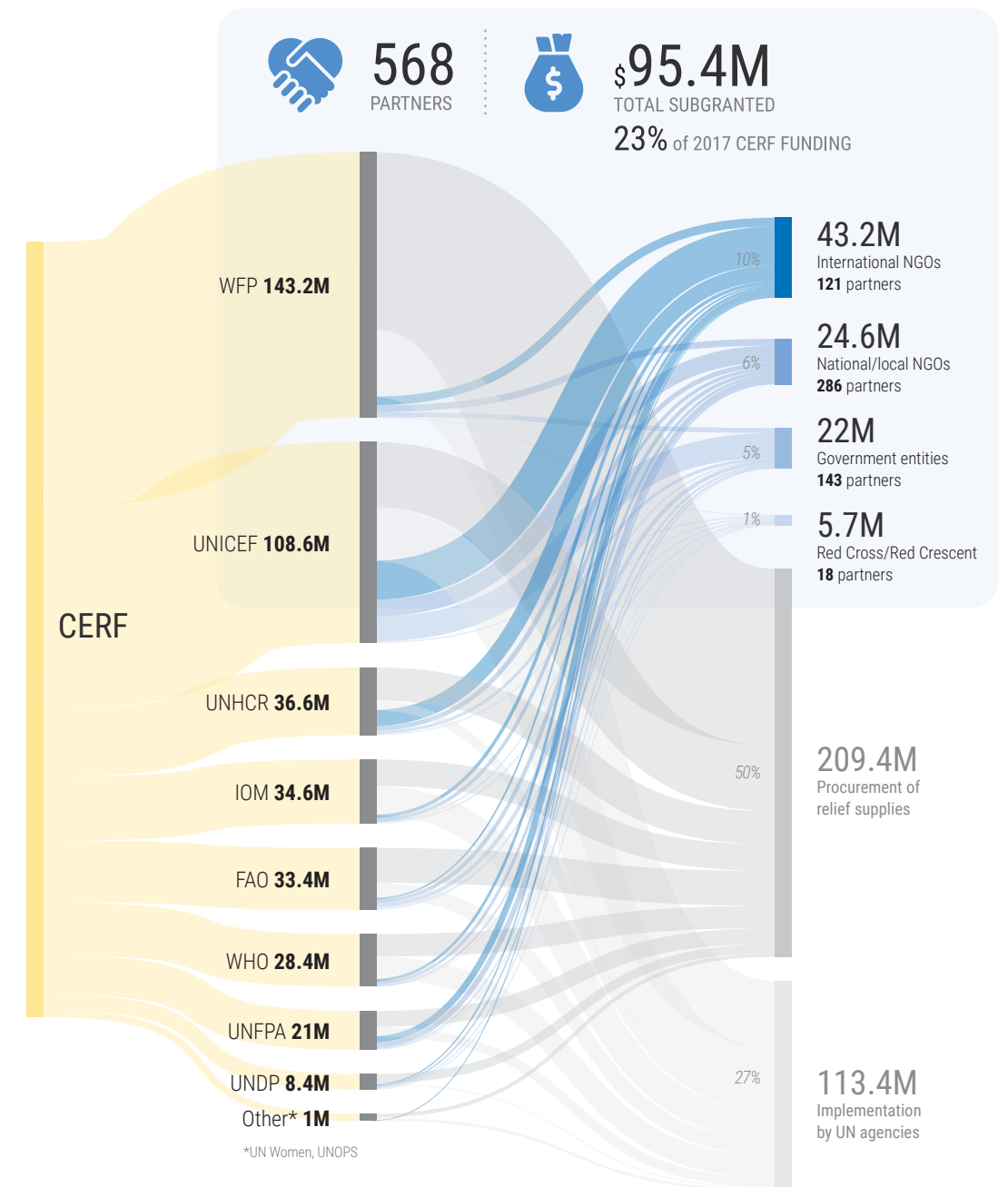
— Hana Volná, Deputy Director of the Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic

Of the \$418.2 million allocated by CERF in 2017, \$95.4 million, or 23 per cent, was subgranted to non-UN organizations through the partnership networks of UN agencies. This amount does not include the value of in-kind partnership arrangements.

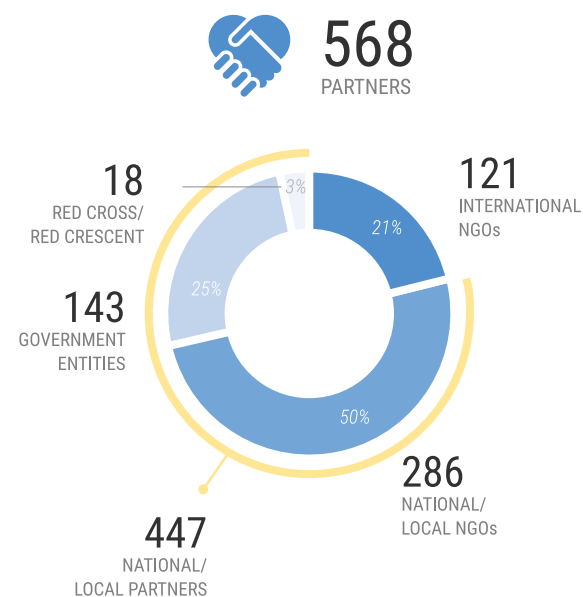
More than half of all subgranted 2017 CERF funding, \$52.2 million, went to national and local partners. This represents 12.5 per cent of total CERF funding allocated in 2017. Partnerships with local organizations familiar with the context and with an existing operational presence close to the people in need help to localize humanitarian response and support more sustainable solutions anchored in local structures.

Partnerships between UN agencies and non-UN organizations leverage their comparative strengths to deliver the most effective responses. For instance, UN agencies are able to procure bulk relief supplies, which are then distributed through the networks of partners with an existing presence on the ground. According to the budget breakdown of all 2017 CERF-funded projects, recipient agencies used 50.1 per cent of CERF funding, or \$209.4 million, to procure relief supplies, such as food, shelters or medicines.

Partnerships in the implementation of 2017 CERF funding in US\$ million



Number of partners in the implementation of CERF funding allocated in 2017



CERF Advisory Group

The CERF Advisory Group was established to advise the Secretary-General, through the ERC, on the use and impact of the fund. In 2018 the Secretary-General appointed five new members to the Advisory Group, bringing the total number of members to 19, with a view to strengthening the group and ensuring the diversity of its membership.

The Advisory Group met twice in 2018. At the May meeting, the group expressed support for exploring increased early action funding by CERF, acknowledging that early action reduces suffering and that it generally is more cost efficient to fund early action when possible than to respond to an emergency that has already occurred. Other topics discussed included ways to broaden and deepen the CERF donor base, and the launch of the annual Results Report on results achieved with CERF funding.

At the October meeting, the group discussed early action with the ERC, and received a briefing from the Overseas Development Institute

Members

Leni Stenseth (Chair)

Director, Section for Humanitarian Affairs
Norwegian MFA
Norway

Ricardo Toro Tassara

National Director of the Chilean Emergency Office
Chile

Claus Lindroos

Director for Humanitarian Assistance
Foreign Ministry of Finland
Finland

Alison Milton

Counsellor - Ambassador Designate to Colombia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Ireland

(ODI) that presented initial findings from a study exploring what an anticipatory approach for CERF could look like in practice. The group agreed that CERF could play a role in funding activities ahead of known crises. The group also discussed how to ensure the development of a successful investment case for CERF, advocacy initiatives to promote the visibility of CERF and its donors, and the relevance of ensuring strong communication around CERF’s main allocations during the year.

Throughout the year, the CERF secretariat ensured close collaboration with the CERF Advisory Group, not least with a view to helping the group’s members fulfill their functions as champions of CERF. Several Advisory Group members played significant roles as advocates for CERF, thereby contributing to the record level funding for CERF in 2018.

Additional information on topics discussed and decisions reached at Advisory Group meetings in 2017 is available on the CERF website: cerf.un.org/about-us/advisory-group

Bruno van der Pluijm

Director
General Belgium Foreign Office
Belgium

Peter Felten

Head of Division, Humanitarian Policy
Federal Foreign Office
Germany

Mairo Mandara

Chair of Board
Girl Child Concerns
Nigeria



Hilal Al-Sayer

President Kuwait Red
Crescent Society
Kuwait

Rahel Asfaw Belachew

Director, Disaster
Response & Rehabilitation
National Disaster Risk
Management Commission
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Deputy Director-General, Head
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Jelte van Wieren

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James Wallace Isbister

Head of Humanitarian Division
Department of Foreign
Affairs and Trade
Australia

Keiko Kiyama

Secretary General
Japan Emergency NGO
Japan

Hong Liang

Deputy Director-General
Ministry of Commerce
China

Rahmawati Husein

Vice Chair of Muhammadiyah
Disaster Management Center
Indonesia

Aissata Kane

Ambassador, Deputy
Permanent Observer
Organisation of Islamic
Cooperation to the United
Nations in Geneva
Mauritania

Tariq Ali Faraj Al-Ansari

Ambassador, Director of
International Cooperation,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Qatar

Beverley Warmington

Director Humanitarian,
Security and Migration,
Department for
International Development
United Kingdom

Back row: Mr. Per Enarsson, Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm, Ms. Alison Milton, Dr. Salah Almazroa, Mr. Ricardo Toro Tassara, Mr. Jelte van Wieren, Mr. Claus Lindroos, Ms. Rahel Asfaw Belachew, Mr. Peter Felten. Front row: Ms. Hong Liang, Ms. Lisa Carty, Dr. Mairo Mandara, Ms. Aissata Kane, Ms. Keiko Kiyama, Ms. Rahmawati Husein, Ms. Lisa Doughten, Ms. Leni Stenseth, Mr. James Wallace Isbister, Dr. Hilal Al-Sayer, Mr. Tariq Ali Faraj Al-Ansari. ©OCHA/Charlotte Cans

Learning engagement

In 2018, the CERF secretariat continued to implement its revised training strategy, which shifted its focus from humanitarian partners to OCHA field staff who facilitate CERF processes such as application, monitoring and reporting. The training was tailored to OCHA staff because they have a multiplier effect on the quality and speed of CERF processes.

”

The CERF performs a critical life-saving function within the international humanitarian system. CERF's flexibility means humanitarian assistance gets to where it is needed most, when it is needed. By pooling funds, CERF amplifies the contributions of individual donors, enabling humanitarian funding from countries like New Zealand to have greater reach and impact.

— Deb Collins, Divisional Manager, Partnerships, Humanitarian and Multilateral Division, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

CERF uses a blended approach to learning that combines in-person workshops with follow-up online webinars. Workshop participants enter a network of highly experienced and trained OCHA staff which supports cross-learning and experience sharing. In 2018, the CERF secretariat trained nearly 50 OCHA country office and regional office staff through three workshops in Bangkok, Dakar and Nairobi.

The CERF secretariat also strengthened its support of trainings on CERF by UN agencies in 2018. For example, UNFPA's surge roster trainings simulate a humanitarian emergency response that includes a CERF application for emergency grants. The CERF secretariat participates in the simulation by providing feedback to training participants on their CERF applications. CERF has created learning partnerships with UNHCR and UNFPA and will continue to support training efforts by other agencies in 2019.

In 2018 the CERF Handbook was launched to provide easily accessible programmatic and technical information to stakeholders. It is a reference tool that provides information on all aspects of CERF: background and mandate; applications, implementation, monitoring and reporting processes; and communications and branding approach. It provides a way for stakeholders to quickly find answers on the CERF as well as a guide to applying for and maximizing the impact of CERF funds.

The CERF secretariat's learning engagements have led to more focused, better-prioritized CERF submissions from HCTs. In 2019, CERF will engage with the network of trained OCHA field staff it has built while continuing to deliver field workshops and online webinars.

CERF for the future

In December 2018, UN Secretary-General António Guterres urged Members States to “have the ambition to make the CERF a larger fund, because that will dramatically improve our capacity to respond to the multiplication of emergency situations [...] and the protracted crises.” Donors heeded the call, announcing additional contributions for 2018, which brought CERF funding to a record \$555.3 million for the year.

With funding levels increasing, CERF can make larger allocations and have greater coverage. This means CERF can achieve greater impact for crisis-affected people, in line with prioritised humanitarian needs, while maintaining its focus, scope and speed. Increased funding levels will also allow CERF to adapt how the fund responds to humanitarian shocks.

Among the new strategies and approaches being developed is a proposal to broaden CERF's area of intervention to include systematic financing for anticipatory action.

CERF-funded anticipatory action

There is growing evidence and recognition that interventions undertaken before the full impact of a disaster can help save lives, mitigate suffering and significantly lower the cost of responding to the humanitarian consequences of shocks. With the improvements in forecasting and communicating early warnings over the years, work has also advanced on leveraging financing to ensure that early warning is translated into early action.

In the context of a larger CERF and following the findings of several studies, in 2018 OCHA started to develop a formalized approach for CERF to finance anticipatory humanitarian action. There is increasing recognition that given CERF's proven track record, its funding volume, effective systems and global reach, the fund can fill a gap in the financing architecture in terms of supporting multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral early action at scale. This will focus on reducing or preventing humanitarian consequences in crises including slow-onset emergencies such as drought and potentially also infectious disease

ERC's strategic priorities

Looking forward, on 29 January 2019, the ERC sent a communication to the RC/HCs of countries with ongoing humanitarian operations asking to ensure more attention to four generally under-funded priority areas in CERF and CBPF funding requests. The four areas for future prioritization that have been identified are: (a) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment, (b) programmes targeting disabled people, (c) education in protracted crises and (d) other aspects of protection. The four priority areas are being integrated in the CERF grant cycle in 2019.

outbreaks. By providing a degree of assurance of access to early action funding, CERF could also increase incentives for actors at country-level to invest in preparedness activities, such as collective risk analysis, anticipation, and contingency planning. By doing so, CERF could help leverage systemic change towards a more anticipatory humanitarian system.

To develop anticipatory financing approaches for CERF, in 2018 the CERF secretariat undertook consultations with technical experts and donors, and commissioned studies and reviews. At donor level, this included bilateral meetings, discussions at the two CERF Advisory Group meetings and a meeting hosted by Germany and the UK during the UN General Assembly. At technical level, CERF met with experts from UN agencies, the World Bank's Famine Action Mechanism, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Start Fund, and OCHA staff participated in a Dialogue Platform on Forecast-Based Financing in Berlin. In terms of research, CERF collaborated with the ODI on a study funded by the UK's Department for International Development regarding options for a CERF anticipatory approach and commissioned two independent reviews of CERF operations, the findings of which will influence the design of CERF-funded anticipatory action.

In 2019, OCHA plans to pilot the use of anticipatory CERF funding for slow onset drought-related crises.

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RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY

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UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY

98

TOTAL GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY AND WINDOW

99

BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY EMERGENCY TYPE AND WINDOW

99

BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY REGION AND WINDOW

100

BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY SECTOR AND WINDOW

100

BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY AGENCY AND WINDOW

101

CONTRIBUTIONS PLEDGED BY MEMBER STATES AND OBSERVERS

101

CONTRIBUTIONS PLEDGED BY REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

101

CONTRIBUTIONS BY PRIVATE SECTOR, INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Acronyms

CAR	Central African Republic	oPt	occupied Palestinian territory
CBPFs	Country-Based Pooled Funds	RC	Resident Coordinator
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo	SHF	Sudan Humanitarian Fund
EMT	Emergency Medical Team	SRH	Sexual and reproductive health
ERC	Emergency Relief Coordinator	UFE	Underfunded Emergencies
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN	UN WOMEN	UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Employment of Women
GBV	Gender-based violence	UNDP	UN Development Programme
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator	UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team	UNFPA	UN Population Fund
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
IDP	Internally displaced person	UNMAS	UN Mine Action Service
IOM	International Organization for Migration	UNOPS	UN Office for Project Services
L3	Level 3	UNRWA	UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
MHF	Myanmar Humanitarian Fund	WFP	World Food Programme
NGO	Non-governmental organization		

Annexes

ANNEX I: RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY (IN US\$)

COUNTRY	AMOUNT APPROVED	COUNTRY	AMOUNT APPROVED
Afghanistan	11,937,469	Libya	3,653,061
Brazil	1,502,535	Madagascar	1,000,000
Burkina Faso	9,015,030	Mali	6,997,663
Burundi	2,350,572	Mauritania	3,975,873
Cameroon	5,096,994	Myanmar	7,206,253
Chad	16,982,338	Niger	9,386,907
Colombia	5,929,493	Nigeria	6,866,877
Democratic Republic of the Congo	30,510,947	occupied Palestinian territory	16,265,209
Djibouti	1,196,791	Papua New Guinea	9,186,710
Ecuador	1,499,915	Peru	1,975,196
Ethiopia	30,288,894	Somalia	17,269,031
Guatemala	1,559,967	Uganda	6,098,619
Haiti	3,157,660	Ukraine	5,904,612
India	4,979,186	Venezuela	9,202,761
Indonesia	14,425,020	Venezuela regional crisis*	6,203,340
Kenya	4,945,502	Yemen	49,909,290
Lao People's Democratic Republic	3,509,410	Zambia	6,559,772
Lebanon	1,127,942	Zimbabwe	3,099,371
		Total	320,776,210

*A regional CERF Rapid Response allocation supported responses to the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago.

ANNEX II: UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY (IN US\$)

COUNTRY	ROUND I	ROUND II	TOTAL
Angola		2,000,950	2,000,950
Bangladesh		18,002,515	18,002,515
Burundi		4,999,296	4,999,296
Cameroon	9,884,487		9,884,487
Central African Republic		9,932,158	9,932,158
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		10,003,768	10,003,768
Democratic Republic of the Congo	27,840,104		27,840,104
Eritrea	4,994,295		4,994,295
Haiti	8,985,177		8,985,177
Libya		8,105,330	8,105,330
Mali	7,999,800		7,999,800
Pakistan	7,993,805		7,993,805
Philippines	5,031,703		5,031,703
Republic of Congo		3,976,882	3,976,882
Republic of the Sudan		19,997,876	19,997,876
Rwanda		3,000,067	3,000,067
Uganda	16,988,192		16,988,192
United Republic of Tanzania	9,995,458		9,995,458
Total	99,713,021	80,018,842	179,731,863

ANNEX III: TOTAL GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY AND WINDOW (IN US\$)

COUNTRY	RAPID RESPONSE	UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES	TOTAL (US\$)
Afghanistan	11,937,469		11,937,469
Angola		2,000,950	2,000,950
Bangladesh		18,002,515	18,002,515
Brazil	1,502,535		1,502,535
Burkina Faso	9,015,030		9,015,030
Burundi	2,350,572	4,999,296	7,349,868
Cameroon	5,096,994	9,884,487	14,981,481
Central African Republic		9,932,158	9,932,158
Chad	16,982,338		16,982,338
Colombia	5,929,493		5,929,493
Democratic People's Republic of Korea		10,003,768	10,003,768
Democratic Republic of the Congo	30,510,947	27,840,104	58,351,051
Djibouti	1,196,791		1,196,791
Ecuador	1,499,915		1,499,915
Eritrea		4,994,295	4,994,295
Ethiopia	30,288,894		30,288,894
Guatemala	1,559,967		1,559,967
Haiti	3,157,660	8,985,177	12,142,837
India	4,979,186		4,979,186
Indonesia	14,425,020		14,425,020
Kenya	4,945,502		4,945,502
Lao People's Democratic Republic	3,509,410		3,509,410
Lebanon	1,127,942		1,127,942
Libya	3,653,061	8,105,330	11,758,391
Madagascar	1,000,000		1,000,000
Mali	6,997,663	7,999,800	14,997,463
Mauritania	3,975,873		3,975,873
Myanmar	7,206,253		7,206,253
Niger	9,386,907		9,386,907
Nigeria	6,866,877		6,866,877
occupied Palestinian territory	16,265,209		16,265,209
Pakistan		7,993,805	7,993,805
Papua New Guinea	9,186,710		9,186,710
Peru	1,975,196		1,975,196
Philippines		5,031,703	5,031,703
Republic of Congo		3,976,882	3,976,882
Republic of the Sudan		19,997,876	19,997,876
Rwanda		3,000,067	3,000,067
Somalia	17,269,031		17,269,031
Uganda	6,098,619	16,988,192	23,086,811
Ukraine	5,904,612		5,904,612
United Republic of Tanzania		9,995,458	9,995,458

Venezuela	9,202,761	9,202,761
Venezuela regional crisis*	6,203,340	6,203,340
Yemen	49,909,290	49,909,290
Zambia	6,559,772	6,559,772
Zimbabwe	3,099,371	3,099,371
Total	320,776,210	179,731,863
		500,508,073

**A regional CERF Rapid Response allocation supported responses to the Venezuelan refugee and migrant crisis in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago.*

ANNEX IV: BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY EMERGENCY TYPE AND WINDOW (IN US\$)

EMERGENCY TYPE	RAPID RESPONSE	UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES	TOTAL
Conflict-related and internal strife	182,703,456	155,748,623	338,452,079
Natural disaster	114,634,652	10,706,299	125,340,951
Disease outbreak	17,713,393	3,273,173	20,986,566
Other		10,003,768	10,003,768
Economic	5,724,709		5,724,709
Total	320,776,210	179,731,863	500,508,073

ANNEX IV: BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY REGION AND WINDOW (IN US\$)

EMERGENCY TYPE	RAPID RESPONSE	UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES	TOTAL
Eastern Africa	72,808,552	39,977,308	112,785,860
Eastern Asia		10,003,768	10,003,768
Eastern Europe	5,904,612		5,904,612
Latin America and the Caribbean	31,030,867	8,985,177	40,016,044
Melanesia	9,186,710		9,186,710
Middle Africa	52,590,279	53,634,581	106,224,860
Nothern Africa	3,653,061	28,103,206	31,756,267
South-Eastern Asia	25,140,683	5,031,703	30,172,386
Southern Asia	16,916,655	25,996,320	42,912,975
Western Africa	36,242,350	7,999,800	44,242,150
Western Asia	67,302,441		67,302,441
Total	320,776,210	179,731,863	500,508,073

ANNEX IV: BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY SECTOR AND WINDOW (IN US\$)

SECTOR	RAPID RESPONSE	UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES	TOTAL
Agriculture	18,383,667	16,767,714	35,151,381
Camp management	319,980	1,149,979	1,469,959
Common services and coordination	15,699,729	1,850,020	17,549,749
Early recovery	1,229,489	691,923	1,921,412
Education	3,261,526	4,058,497	7,320,023
Food assistance	80,937,298	32,697,875	113,635,173
Health	49,512,854	25,081,521	74,594,375
Mine action		1,349,995	1,349,995
Multi-sector	22,300,664	12,874,516	35,175,180
Multi-sector refugee assistance	15,380,420	26,328,857	41,709,277
Nutrition	24,953,518	20,172,587	45,126,105
Protection	16,840,449	9,804,244	26,644,693
Shelter and non-food items	28,620,204	9,153,980	37,774,184
Water and sanitation	43,336,412	17,750,155	61,086,567
Total	320,776,210	179,731,863	500,508,073

ANNEX IV: BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY AGENCY AND WINDOW (IN US\$)

AGENCY	RAPID RESPONSE	UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES	TOTAL
Food and Agriculture Organization	17,183,703	15,759,490	32,943,193
International Organization for Migration	28,735,040	12,253,799	40,988,839
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	350,058		350,058
United Nations Children's Fund	84,416,265	47,733,219	132,149,484
United Nations Development Programme	3,838,610	3,447,209	7,285,819
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	1,043,281	1,495,659	2,538,940
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	33,332,812	26,768,182	60,100,994
United Nations Office for Project Services		1,349,995	1,349,995
United Nations Population Fund	11,305,312	8,758,601	20,063,913
United Nations Relief and Works Agency	15,005,129		15,005,129
World Food Programme	91,533,383	47,098,664	138,632,047
World Health Organization	34,032,617	15,067,045	49,099,662
Total	320,776,210	179,731,863	500,508,073

ANNEX V.A: CONTRIBUTIONS PLEDGED BY MEMBER STATES AND OBSERVERS (IN US\$)

COUNTRY	PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS*	COUNTRY	PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS*
Algeria	10,000	Korea	4,000,000
Andorra	17,735	Kuwait	1,000,000
Armenia	5,000	Liechtenstein	212,993
Australia	8,184,524	Lithuania	22,727
Azerbaijan	20,000	Luxembourg	4,942,469
Bangladesh	10,000	Monaco	123,457
Belgium	13,572,204	Mongolia	10,000
Bhutan	1,500	Myanmar	10,000
Bulgaria	20,000	Netherlands	67,901,235
Canada	22,528,736	New Zealand	2,201,027
Chile	30,000	Norway	54,445,519
China	500,000	Philippines	50,000
Côte d'Ivoire	10,000	Portugal	116,144
Czech Republic	177,470	Qatar	1,000,000
Denmark	21,618,968	Russian Federation	1,500,000
Estonia	116,144	Saudi Arabia	150,000
Finland	8,641,975	Singapore	50,000
Germany	110,199,651	Slovakia	34,247
Guyana	2,179	Spain	3,488,382
Iceland	465,030	Sri Lanka	5,000
Indonesia	220,000	Sweden	88,197,970
Iraq	10,000	Switzerland	6,239,618
Ireland	14,253,735	Thailand	20,000
Italy	2,962,085	Turkey	400,000
Japan	1,360,714	United Arab Emirates	1,500,000
Kazakhstan	50,000	United Kingdom	114,574,091
		Total	557,182,529

ANNEX V.B: CONTRIBUTIONS PLEDGED BY REGIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES (IN US\$)

COUNTRY	PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS*
Belgian Government of Flanders	710,900
Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation	291,375
Total	1,002,275

ANNEX V.C: CONTRIBUTIONS BY PRIVATE SECTOR, INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS (IN US\$)

COUNTRY	PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS*
Al Jisr Foundation	250,000
Private donations through UN Foundation (under \$10,000)	41,524
World Mission Society Church of God	100,000
Total	391,524

* Contributions are based on the pledged year of the donors and differ from the amount reported as revenue under IPSAS. Actual received contributions may differ from the originally recorded pledges, due to fluctuations in exchange rates.

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- 3

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