



# 2016

## ANNUAL REPORT

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United Nations

# CERF

Central  
Emergency  
Response  
Fund



UNITED NATIONS

# FOR ALL, BY ALL

The results described in this report could not have been achieved without our donors' generous contributions, which allowed the fund to allocate \$439 million for life-saving action in 2016. This invaluable support benefited millions of people in crisis situations worldwide, reflecting the global solidarity of CERF donors, their commitment to saving lives wherever crises strike and their trust in the fund.

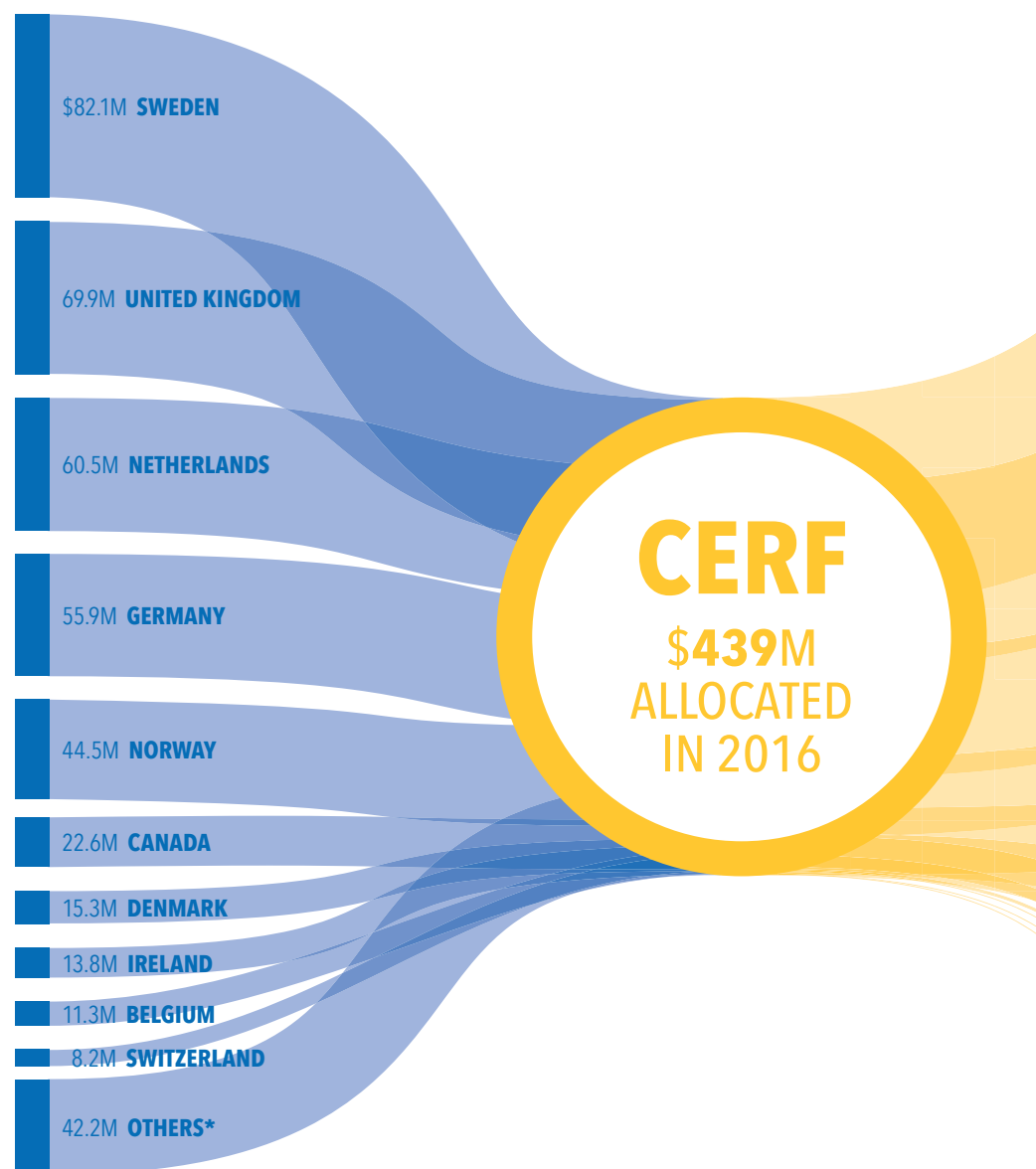
As a revolving fund CERF may disburse more or less than its income within a calendar year.

## 2016 CERF DONORS

50 MEMBER STATES AND OBSERVERS

1 INTERNATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

MULTIPLE PRIVATE SECTOR AND INDIVIDUALS



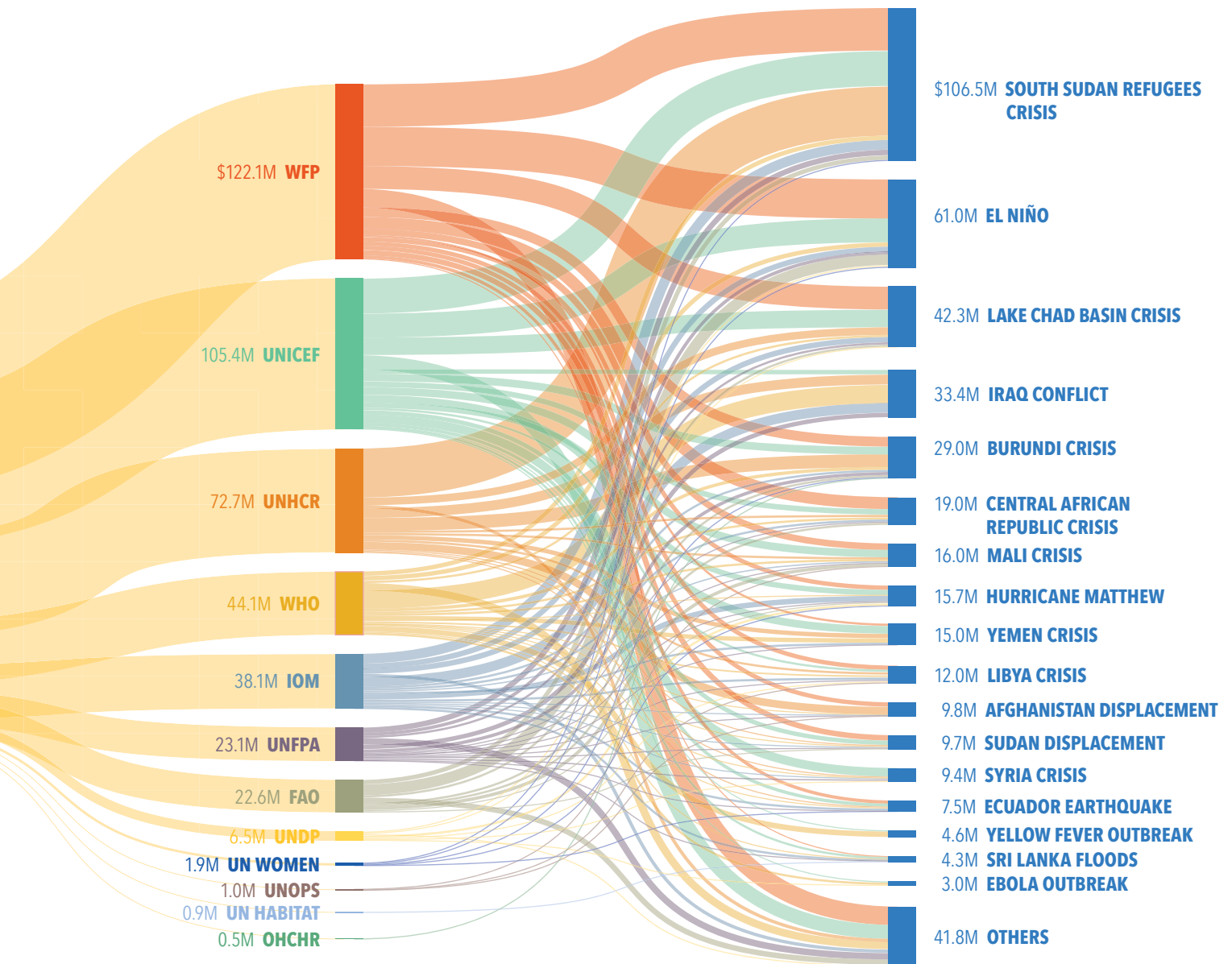
### \*Other donors

Donors	Contributions (US\$)	Donors	Contributions (US\$)	Donors	Contributions (US\$)	Donors	Contributions (US\$)
Finland	7,716,100	Spain	2,239,600	Government of Flanders (Belgium)	648,960	Iceland	300,000
Australia	7,575,664	New Zealand	2,026,200	China	500,000	Liechtenstein	204,729
Luxembourg	4,762,350	Russian Federation	1,500,000	India	500,000	Indonesia	200,000
Republic of Korea	4,000,000	Japan	1,285,908	Turkey	450,000	Saudi Arabia	150,000
United States	3,000,000	Kuwait	1,000,000	South Africa	428,878	Estonia	109,780
Italy	2,245,000	United Arab Emirates	1,000,000			Monaco	57,015

# IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

12 UN AGENCIES

# CRISES



Donors	Contributions (US\$)	Donors	Contributions (US\$)	Donors	Contributions (US\$)	Donors	Contributions (US\$)
Portugal	54,650	Andorra	16,633	Armenia	5,000	Peru	3,972
Singapore	50,000	Cyprus	13,910	Bangladesh	5,000	Guyana	2,179
Chile	30,000	Kazakhstan	10,000	Iraq	5,000	Montenegro	2,000
Thailand	20,000	Myanmar	10,000	Philippines	5,000		
Private donations through UN Foundation	19,631	Pakistan	10,000	Sovereign Military Order of Malta	5,000		
		Viet Nam	10,000				

**Credits:**

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) wishes to acknowledge the contributions to this document, particularly those from the programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.

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**Cover photo:**

A refugee girl from South Sudan stands outdoors in the child-friendly space at the UNHCR Transit Centre in Adjumani District.

© UNICEF/Everett

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**Map source:**

United Nations

Geospatial Information Section

Photo taken in Al Mukalla city in Southern Yemen. It shows a child looking at his destroyed house, carrying his toy, the only thing he was able to rescue.

© UNICEF/Omar Ba Rashid





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# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

UNITED NATIONS  
CENTRAL  
EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE FUND  
(CERF)

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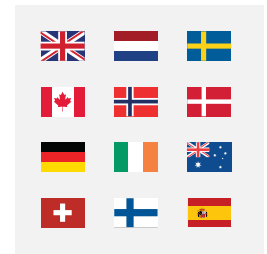
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# FOREWORD



Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator  
Stephen O'Brien visited Tarqui, Ecuador, in April of 2016  
© OCHA/María Mercedes Barahona



In 2016, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) embarked on its second decade of bringing urgent aid to the people who need it most - wherever and whenever crises strike.

Established as “a fund for all, by all” in 2005, CERF continued to be one of the fastest enablers of live-saving humanitarian action around the world. The fund allocated \$439 million to the UN and its partners on the front lines - at times, within hours of an emergency hitting the country. More than half of CERF’s total funding in 2016 - \$289 million - allowed humanitarian partners to jump-start or scale up urgent aid immediately in new or rapidly deteriorating emergencies. The fund also targeted more than six million people in dire need in some of the most silent and neglected emergencies, including in the Lake Chad Basin and central and eastern Africa.

As the world continued to face the growing number and magnitude of extreme weather events in 2016, CERF remained one of the first and largest supporters of early humanitarian action in response to El Niño, providing \$61 million to 13 countries throughout the year.

My appreciation goes to the 50 Member States that supported CERF in 2016. Thanks to their generous support, mothers fleeing to the Lake Chad Region from the fighting in northeast Nigeria received critical health services and clean water for themselves and their newborns. Families hit by severe drought and poor harvests in Zimbabwe received cash assistance; thousands of displaced people in hard-to-reach areas in the Upper Nile region of South Sudan received survival kits containing supplies for emergency shelter, health care and nutrition, delivered via UN airdrops; and the yellow fever outbreak in Angola was halted by a huge and timely vaccination campaign in which CERF played a critical role.

The pages of this annual report are filled with examples of the impact and achievements of CERF around the globe. They tell the story of a fund that has become indispensable to an effective humanitarian ecosystem delivering results for the people most in need.

This year we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the landmark resolution 46/182, which has played a vital role in strengthening our ability to deliver an efficient humanitarian response. This same resolution also laid the foundation for what we now know as CERF, a success story that we all can be proud of.

At the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in Istanbul, donors and humanitarian partners demonstrated their agreement on a Grand Bargain that will help get more resources into the hands of people in need. CERF embodies many of the aspirations set out in the Grand Bargain: The fund facilitates a collective and strategic humanitarian response, enhances coherence and leadership and strengthens coordination between partners.

In December this year, recognizing the fund’s significant achievements in facilitating life-saving assistance, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/71/127, which endorsed the call for \$1 billion for CERF. This is a resounding vote of confidence in CERF and a sign of our collective ambition to rise to the challenge of our times.

Today the humanitarian landscape in which CERF operates has changed dramatically since it started work in 2006. The scale of humanitarian deprivation is greater than at any time since the United Nations was founded. It is the common responsibility of all Member States to ensure that CERF is sufficiently resourced in order to fulfil its mandate and respond to ever-growing needs.

Every dollar invested in CERF is directly translated into stories of hope and survival for people who depend on this global “first aid” to stay alive and safe for a better chance tomorrow.



**Stephen O'Brien**

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

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# ABOUT CERF

CERF enables fast, flexible and needs-based support for people affected by humanitarian emergencies. The UN General Assembly established the fund in 2005 to provide timely assistance in crises. Since its operational launch in 2006, CERF has developed a reputation for its ability to kick-start humanitarian action, scale up the response to emergencies and serve as a lifeline for people struggling to survive in the world's most underfunded crises.

Throughout 2016, CERF allocations made food, clean water, medical care, shelter, sanitation, protection and other forms of support available to people experiencing disasters. By the close of the year, CERF had provided over \$4.7 billion in humanitarian assistance to 98 different countries.



In a world marked by dramatically increasing humanitarian needs, the CERF is a corner stone in the humanitarian system. The fund's flexible funding enables speedy, effective and principled humanitarian response to people most in need. That's why Sweden is proud to be a longstanding top donor to the CERF.

– *Isabella Lövin, Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden and Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate*

Every year, on average, CERF helps humanitarian partners to deliver:

- Critical health care to 20 million people
- Water and sanitation to 13 million people
- Food assistance to 9 million people
- Livelihood support to 5 million people
- Protection to 5 million people
- Shelter to 1 million people



Germany considers the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) as a key instrument for immediate, and flexible assistance. In 2016 alone, the UN provided fast and life-saving humanitarian assistance to more than 38 million people through the fund. We strongly support the goal of increasing CERF funding to \$1 billion annually by 2018. Germany increased its funding in 2016 and plans further steps.

– *Siegmar Gabriel, Federal Foreign Minister of Germany*

CERF also funds services that are vital to humanitarian operations, including safety and security, emergency telecommunications, logistics and shared air services. In addition, its allocations go to projects supporting vulnerable groups such as internally displaced people, refugees, migrants and those affected by conflict and natural disasters. Among them are nutrition programmes, mine action, emergency education, agriculture and livestock activities, as well as camp management for millions of people in need.



**CERF is a humanitarian tool par excellence - it enables the United Nations to provide principled, flexible and immediate emergency assistance when a natural disaster strikes, a conflict escalates, a disease breaks out or a human tragedy is ignored.**

*– Manuel Bessler, Assistant Director General, Head of Humanitarian Aid Department and Head of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit (SHA)*

## On average, each year CERF grants help humanitarian partners to deliver:



**CRITICAL HEALTH CARE TO 20 MILLION PEOPLE**



**WATER AND SANITATION TO 13 MILLION PEOPLE**



**FOOD ASSISTANCE TO 9 MILLION PEOPLE**



**LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO 5 MILLION PEOPLE**



**PROTECTION TO 5 MILLION PEOPLE**



**SHELTER TO 1 MILLION PEOPLE**

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

# HOW CERF WORKS

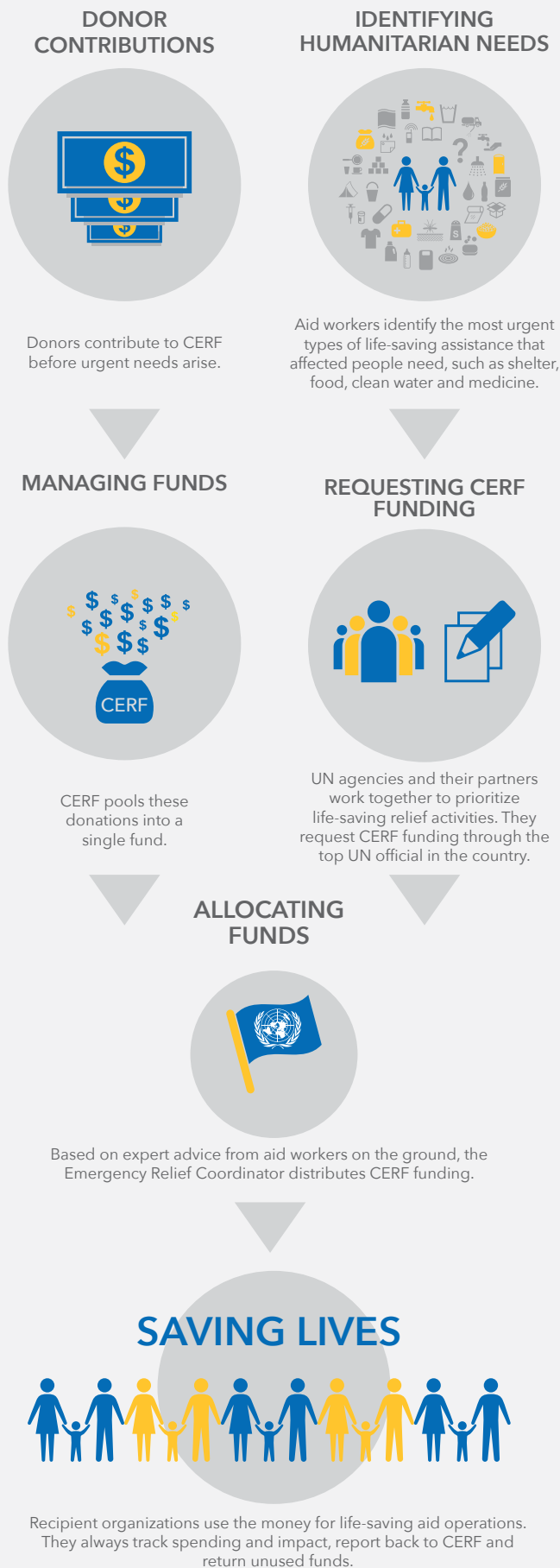
As time lost means lives lost, time and money shape the response to every crisis. The fund addresses both by facilitating strategic planning and coordination.

CERF pools contributions from governments and other donors in a fund with an annual target of \$450 million. It gathers resources before funding is required, then allocates them in response to critical needs identified on the ground. This allows the fund to distribute resources quickly and predictably, whenever and wherever humanitarian needs arise.

- In a sudden onset or rapidly deteriorating emergency, urgent needs are a given. The longer they go unmet, the greater the threat to people's lives and health. Unless funding for a strong humanitarian response is available quickly, each passing hour poses increasing dangers.
- In a long-running crisis evolving over years or decades, funding may decline slowly, or may never become substantial enough to enable robust action. People in neglected and forgotten emergencies face dangers just as grave as those in headline-making disasters, and are entitled to the same care and support.

The fund is both a shared resource and a shared responsibility. The General Assembly created CERF as a fund "by all, for all." It has received contributions from 126 UN Member States and observers, as well as regional governments, private donors and individuals.

CERF serves as the world community's contingency fund against urgent humanitarian need, a collective cash reserve to protect those who may become vulnerable, whether slowly or suddenly. Its grants are available for any country facing a humanitarian crisis. UN applicants may request them at the start of an emergency, or if a situation declines sharply, or for crises that, over time, fail to attract enough funding for a strong response.



## How funding is allocated

Every CERF grant is made in direct response to needs on the ground. Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) identify the people and places requiring urgent assistance, and then apply for CERF funding. The country's top UN official - the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) - leads a process to identify proposed projects that will produce life-saving results through efficient, targeted and strategic action. Because the funding requests arise from an HCT's close knowledge of a country and its crisis, they ensure that CERF resources meet the local humanitarian needs that are the highest priority.

CERF works in synergy with Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs), which are set up in-country for large, persistent emergencies. The two funds serve as complementary tools for delivering timely, coordinated and principled assistance. Their flexible funding makes it possible to allocate funds strategically where they are most needed, and to work in synergy to achieve maximum impact.

To ensure that the process is rigorous and aligned with the fund's mission, applications are reviewed against the CERF Life-Saving Criteria. UN agencies, partners and humanitarian colleagues developed this set of guidelines to determine how well a proposed project meets critical needs. With the criteria as a guide, CERF's fund manager, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), confirms which projects will receive grants.

CERF funds about 500 projects each year. Only UN agencies can directly receive these grants. They, in turn, may pass along funds to partners including local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local governments and civil society, which then implement projects on the UN's behalf.

## CERF's life-saving criteria

To ensure that it remains rigorous and focused in selecting projects to support, the fund follows CERF's life-saving criteria. These guidelines have been established through consultations with UN agencies, partners and humanitarian colleagues and provide a benchmark for determining how well a project responds to critical needs.

The criteria reflect the basic humanitarian principle of focusing first, in a crisis, on the people in need and the affected communities. They recognize the rights of all people as defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly the right to life with dignity.



**CERF is much more than a funding instrument. By promoting integrated programming across sectors, it also helps increase efficiency and effectiveness, in turn increasing the impact of our collective efforts to provide life-saving assistance to children in crisis.**

*– Anthony Lake, UNICEF Executive Director*



**By unlocking time-critical aid for some of the world's most pressing humanitarian crises, CERF saves human lives and upholds human dignity. Canada's multi-year commitment to this fund is a strategic response to humanitarian situations. Predictable funding is a smart way to approach the many challenges the world now faces.**

*– Marie-Claude Bibeau, Canadian Minister of International Development and La Francophonie*

# HOW CERF FUNDING SAVES LIVES

CERF provides funding at the three most crucial phases of an emergency. Support has the greatest potential for life-saving impact when it is delivered:

- At the beginning, when quick resources can jump-start a humanitarian response
- When an ongoing crisis deteriorates rapidly
- When a crisis fails to attract enough funds for an effective response

The fund's allocations flow through two channels, or "windows":

- The Rapid Response Window (RR) focuses on new emergencies, existing crises in which conditions are deteriorating, and time-sensitive needs requiring swift action
- The Underfunded Emergencies Window (UFE) provides allocations for use in responding to underfunded and often protracted crises. These grants are delivered in two rounds, at the beginning and in the middle of each year.

## The Rapid Response Window (RR)

*Jump-starts the humanitarian response to a crisis*

CERF can make funds for life-saving assistance available within hours of a disaster. Rapid Response funding may be requested following a new emergency or a deterioration in an existing situation, allowing UN agencies and implementing partners to start work right away. And because CERF allocations meet urgent, immediate needs, they kick-start operations that would otherwise remain on hold until other resources are mobilized and procured, while that critical "window of opportunity" following a disaster elapses rapidly.



At least **2/3** of CERF's funds are set aside for Rapid Response allocations.

## The Underfunded Emergencies Window (UFE)

*Strengthens the response when funding declines or remains critically low*

UFE grants reinforce support for protracted or neglected emergencies where vulnerability is high but funding is critically low. They are allocated when the humanitarian situation is already grave and threatens to decline further.

CERF makes grants through this window twice each year to countries selected by the Emergency Relief Coordinator. The majority of funds are allocated in the first round at the beginning of each year, allowing partners to get a head start on life-saving projects. They also function as a form of advocacy. Simply by enabling the response to underfunded emergencies, CERF raises awareness in the humanitarian community of the need for additional funding for crises that might otherwise be overlooked.



Up to **1/3** of the fund's resources are channelled through the Underfunded Emergencies window.



Livelihoods are people's best defence against hunger. Rapid and efficient agriculture support is a critical aspect of humanitarian efforts to save livelihoods – and thus lives to promote recovery and return affected populations to self-reliance. Keeping livelihoods intact can also prevent displacement out of rural areas and make recovery both faster and cheaper. FAO recognizes the vital role played by CERF in ensuring timeliness, predictability and flexibility in funding to ensure affected populations can take advantage of agricultural seasons, protect their assets and feed themselves and their communities.

– José Graziano da Silva, Food and Agriculture Organization Director General

### **How CERF chooses underfunded emergencies for support**

The ERC selects countries to receive Underfunded Emergency grants twice a year based on a detailed analysis of global funding coverage, as well as levels of risk, vulnerability and humanitarian need. CERF gathers this information in cooperation with headquarters-based representatives of UN agencies, OCHA and NGO working groups on humanitarian financing.

Based on recommendations received from the CERF secretariat, the ERC selects countries and determines how much UFE funding they will receive. While the majority of humanitarian crises are vastly underfunded, the emergencies chosen for UFE support have more severe funding shortfalls than others.

The ERC then communicates the selected countries to the Resident Coordinators/Humanitarian Coordinators (RC/HCs). The RC/HCs, in turn, are responsible for leading Humanitarian Country Teams in identifying the most effective use of CERF funds to address problems on the ground by developing an agreed strategic response with associated projects.

All project activities must be consistent with the fund's life-saving criteria, a set of guidelines ensuring that funding serves the most critical needs.

CERF information on UFE selection process:  
<http://www.unocha.org/cerf/ufemethod>

## **Loan Facility**

*Bridges gaps for immediate emergency relief*

UN agencies and OCHA can request loans through CERF's \$30 million lending facility which provides readily available cash for a fast start to relief operations. To receive a loan from the fund, organizations must prove that they have secured additional funding from other donors, and that they will be able to repay the amount fully within six months. CERF's loans play a crucial role in humanitarian assistance, because organizations may experience delays when receiving donors' contributions. The loan mechanism has disbursed some \$500 million since it was created in 1992 by the General Assembly.

# HUMANITARIAN ACTION IN 2016

CERF responded to historic levels of need in 2016, and joined the world community in adapting to the growing challenges in the humanitarian landscape. At the start of 2016, the global humanitarian appeal required some \$20.1 billion to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance to over 87.6 million people across 37 countries, most of which are in conflict.

Since the fund's launch in 2006, crises have grown more severe, protracted and complex. The forces that drive them increasingly overlap and amplify each other. The consequences are profound: in 2016, the world community saved, protected and supported more people than in any previous twelve-month period since the United Nations was founded in 1945.

In the course of the year, CERF's funding enabled the UN and humanitarian partners to respond to three "mega-crises": in Iraq, Syria and Yemen. These emergencies were so great in scale and impact that they were prioritized for the fastest, most comprehensive assistance. Their impact stretched across borders and engulfed regions, as refugees seeking safety fled into neighbouring and distant countries alike.

Displacement crises dominated the year's humanitarian picture. The

number of people forced from their homes by armed conflict, natural disasters and political instability reached a record high of more than 65 million - a level not seen since the Second World War. Nearly half were children, and more than half were displaced within their own countries. The trend is growing. In 2015 and 2016, almost 70 per cent of CERF's funding - totalling about \$600 million - was allocated to operations focusing on displaced people and their host communities.

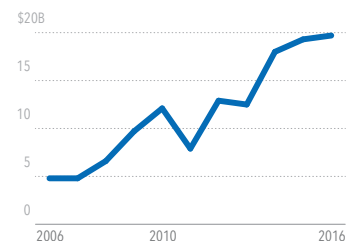
Natural disasters - from earthquakes and storms to famine and floods - have been central to CERF's work from the fund's earliest days. 2016 saw them gain in power and scope. Hurricanes, droughts and other forms of extreme weather underscored concerns about climate change's potential to intensify dangerous conditions.

No disaster had greater reach than the El Niño phenomenon, which brought drought and flooding to countries from Asia and Africa to Latin America and the Pacific Islands. CERF was an early leader in the global response to El Niño, making allocations from early 2015 - a move that signalled the need for urgent humanitarian action ahead of the emergency's most destructive phase.

## HUMANITARIAN APPEALS

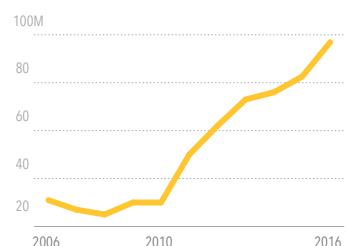
### Amount requested through inter-agency appeals

in US\$ billion



### People targeted

in millions



Source: Financial Tracking Services, as of 31 December 2016



# The World Humanitarian Summit

The global community recognized that the humanitarian system must change in response to the sharp increase in the number of people in need. In May 2016, OCHA convened the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, around a five-point agenda to alleviate suffering and reduce risk and vulnerability. The summit brought together 9,000 participants from around the world to demonstrate their support for the Agenda for Humanity and its five Core Responsibilities.

For CERF, the summit was a crucial moment, with the Secretary-General calling for the fund's annual target to be increased to \$1 billion by 2018 and several Member States voicing their support for the proposal. Ministers from Germany, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden and Canada joined the ERC in an op-ed piece on 'Why we need a \$1 billion Central Emergency Response Fund', which was published in several news outlets.

At the summit, a High-Level Leaders' Round Table was convened to discuss the theme 'Invest in Humanity', one of the Core Commitments of the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity. Participants called on governments to guarantee the minimum resources necessary to preserve the lives and dignity of people affected by conflict and disasters. The round table focused on measures such as the improved mobilization, allocation and use of resources.

Among the outcomes of the round table:

- New financial contributions and commitments to provide more flexible, multi-year funding, unrestricted by earmarks, including support for raising CERF's funding target to \$1 billion
- Innovative financing partnerships between humanitarian organizations and private-sector companies
- Increases in the share of financing available to local and national humanitarian organizations

A "Grand Bargain" between donors and aid agencies to make aid more efficient and effective, enabling humanitarians to reach more people with life-saving assistance and protection. CERF embodies many of the aspirations set out in the Grand Bargain by providing high-quality funding that creates incentives for a strategic and coherent response to crisis. For more on CERF and the Grand Bargain, see <http://www.unocha.org/cerf/grandbargain>

## Other milestones

Throughout the year, support grew for the proposal to expand CERF to \$1 billion. In December, the UN General Assembly (GA) formally endorsed the call to raise CERF's annual funding target. Recognizing the significant achievements of CERF in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people, GA resolution A/RES/71/127 was adopted: this called upon all Member States, and invited the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the fund.

A few days later, at the fund's High-Level Pledging Conference in December 2016, Member States and UN organizations expressed their support for an expanded CERF.



AGENDA  
FOR HUMANITY  
5 CORE  
RESPONSIBILITIES

#1  
CORE RESPONSIBILITY  
PREVENT  
AND END  
CONFLICT



#2  
CORE RESPONSIBILITY  
RESPECT  
RULES  
OF WAR



#3  
CORE RESPONSIBILITY  
LEAVE NO  
ONE BEHIND



#4  
CORE RESPONSIBILITY  
WORKING  
DIFFERENTLY  
TO END NEED



#5  
CORE RESPONSIBILITY  
INVEST  
IN HUMANITY



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# 2016 IN REVIEW

In the global response to emergencies, CERF is the world's "ambulance": a rapid, reliable source of help that enables humanitarians to kick-start relief efforts immediately when an emergency either develops or fails to attract enough support.



In the interests of quality and effectiveness, Luxembourg is a strong advocate of multi-donor funding and an impartial, needs-based approach. With its focus on rapid, life-saving action worldwide, CERF enables us to fulfil that goal and to respond to crises where they occur. CERF is thus a vital instrument and an essential part of Luxembourg's humanitarian assistance, allowing us to support direct humanitarian action also in regions in which we are not present at the time of crisis.

– Romain Schneider, Luxembourg Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs

Throughout the year, CERF allocated funding to a broad range of crises, from sudden, high-profile natural disasters to protection emergencies that went virtually unnoticed and remained gravely underfunded.

## ALLOCATIONS IN 2016

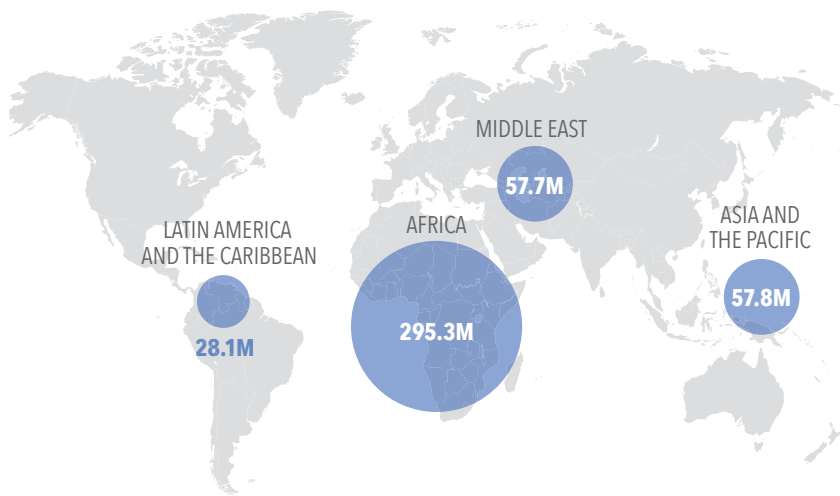
Near the close of 2015, as the UN and its partners launched an appeal for funds to meet the world's humanitarian needs in the coming year, they offered this assessment: "The situation is grim." They sought over \$20 billion to assist more than 87 million people in 37 countries, most of which were experiencing armed conflict.

By the end of 2016, conditions had worsened, with estimates indicating that close to 93 million people required some \$22 billion in support. As one measure of the extent to which need has increased in less than two decades, the first humanitarian appeals from UN agencies, rolled out in 1992, aimed to raise close to \$3 billion.

To fund the international community's humanitarian response in 2016, CERF allocated close to \$439 million across 47 countries. It supported the work of 12 UN agencies and partners, and directed funding to 11 sectors – from food and clean water to support services for humanitarian operations in logistics and emergency telecommunications.

## ALLOCATIONS IN 2016

Funding by region in US\$ million



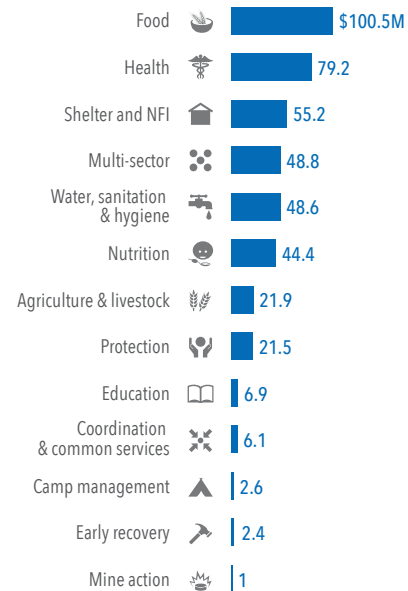
### By region and country

Of the world's emergencies, Iraq received the biggest portion of CERF's total allocations - over \$33 million, or more than 8 per cent. The country's humanitarian crisis is one of the largest in the world, driven by years of fighting and economic decline. The second- and third-largest total allocations went to countries in northern, eastern and western Africa - targeting millions of people in Uganda, the Republic of Sudan, Nigeria and South Sudan. Together with Iraq, where the siege of Fallujah intensified critical humanitarian needs, CERF funding accounted for some 30 per cent of the year's disbursements.

The emergencies in Uganda, Sudan, Nigeria and South Sudan were part of a vast displacement crisis that stretched across the central and eastern part of the continent, fuelled by armed conflict, political instability and food insecurity. Northern and eastern Africa were the primary targets of CERF's first Underfunded Emergencies allocation of 2016, and received Rapid Response funding as needed during the year.

The El Niño phenomenon remained a central concern for the fund in 2016. CERF was one of the first and largest supporters of early humanitarian action in response to it. Since mid-2015, it has allocated close to \$118 million in 19 countries affected by drought, flooding, storms and other consequences of El Niño.

Funding by sector in US\$ million



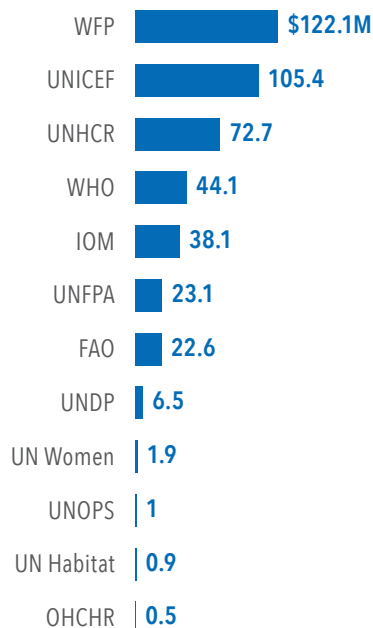
### By sector

More than half of the year's CERF funding was disbursed to meet three needs vital to the daily survival of people caught up in crises: food, health care and shelter. Water and sanitation, as well as nutrition, followed to complete the top five sectors receiving the fund's support.

The greatest amount of funding was allocated to food: over \$100 million, or more than 23 per cent of the year's total giving. Health, the next-highest category, received close to \$80 million, or 18 per cent.

CERF's mission focuses on the provision of life-saving assistance that helps people in emergencies to regain their dignity. It also includes humanitarian leadership and coordination. The fund's grants in 2016 to sectors such as logistics, camp management, telecoms and the UN Humanitarian Air Service show the breadth of CERF's evolving role.

## Funding by agency in US\$ million



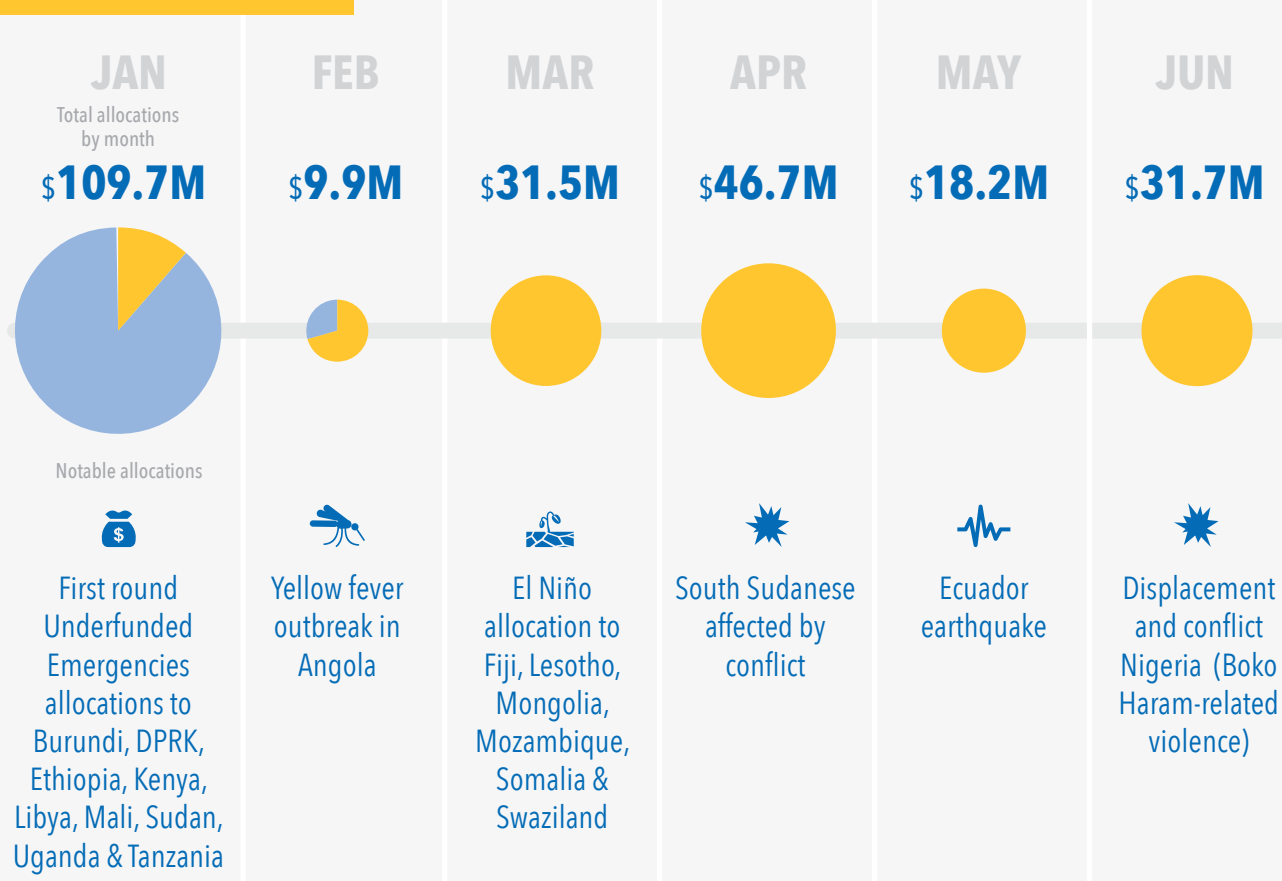
## By agency

Among UN agencies, the World Food Programme (WFP) received the highest total amount of CERF funding for the year, underscoring the massive food insecurity experienced during 2016's emergencies. The fund allocated over \$122 million to the agency – more than 28 per cent of the overall funding CERF disbursed during the year.

The second- and third-highest total allocations went to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), reflecting the large numbers of children affected by disasters, and the prevalence of displacement crises during the year.

On average, every year, UN agencies disburse over 25 per cent of their CERF allocations to implementing partners for projects approved by the ERC. Much of that funding is channelled to local and national partners involved in the same work. National and international NGOs collaborate closely with UN agencies to provide humanitarian assistance in crises. They bring local knowledge and a keen awareness of priorities on the ground, helping to direct CERF grants to the places where the need is greatest.

## ALLOCATIONS TIMELINE



## By window

### Rapid Response Window

CERF allocated nearly \$289 million in Rapid Response funding throughout 2016 to kick-start support for humanitarian emergencies. RR grants are available throughout the year, as the need arises.

The powerful 7.8-magnitude earthquake that struck Ecuador in April demonstrated how quickly Rapid Response funding can trigger a humanitarian response. With hundreds dead, thousands injured and over 720,000 people affected, CERF made some \$7.5 million available within 72 hours to support life-saving action following the disaster. Later, in October, Hurricane Matthew brought devastation to Haiti and Cuba. A CERF grant of \$5 million helped to spark fast relief in the hardest-hit areas in Haiti, while another \$5.3 million provided immediate relief to affected people in Cuba.

### Underfunded Emergencies Window

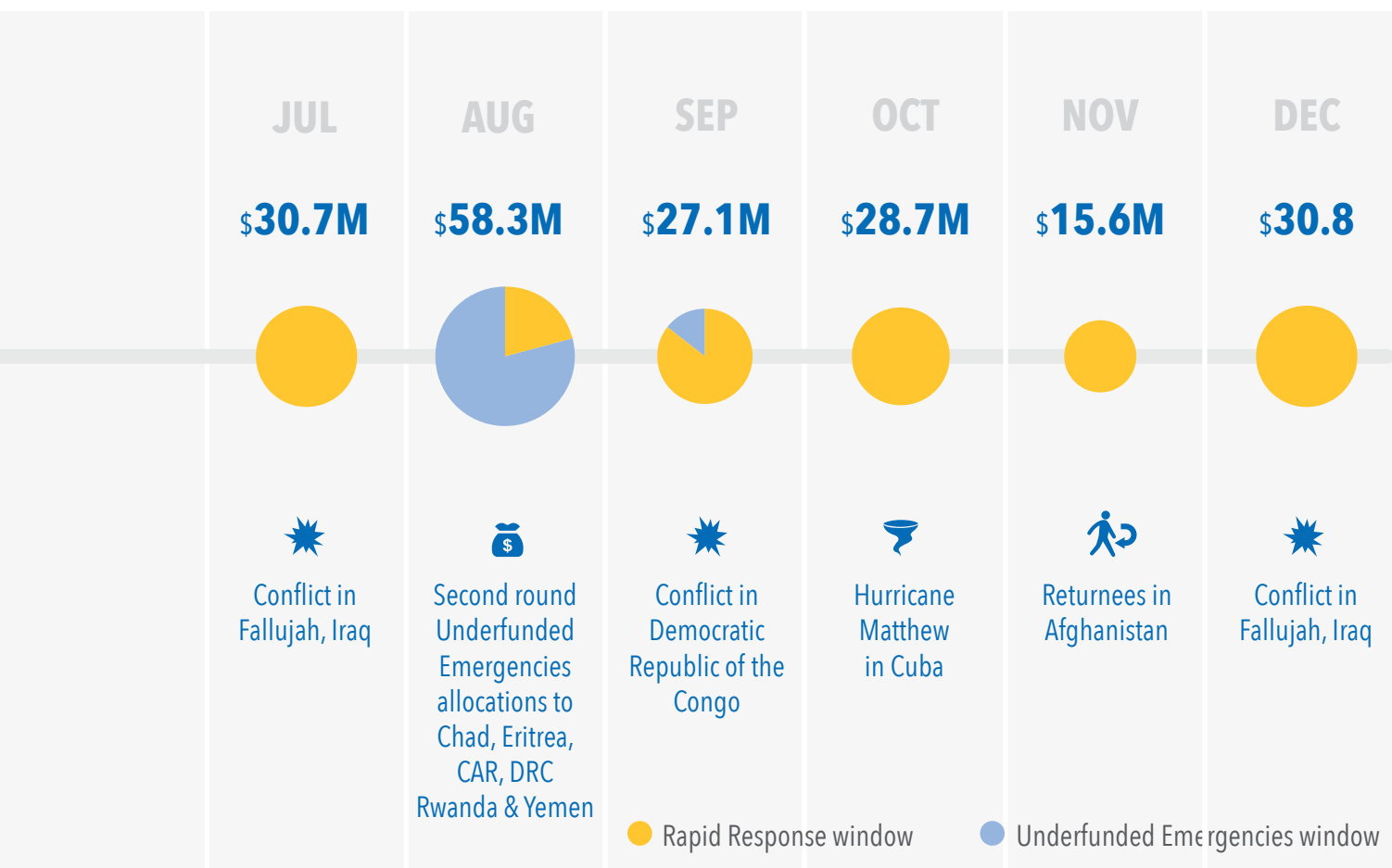
CERF released close to \$150 million in 2016 to sustain operations in the world's most neglected crises, where levels of vulnerability are alarmingly high but funding remains critically low. These funds targeted over 6.5 million people.

The first UFE round of almost \$100 million concentrated on the displacement crisis spanning much of northern and eastern Africa. CERF provided \$64 million to bring relief to some 1.7 million people in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda, while \$36 million was provided for other crises in Libya, Mali and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The second allocation, totalling nearly \$50 million for six countries, bolstered the humanitarian response to emergencies in Central Africa, Eritrea and Yemen, assisting about 2 million people in need.

Funding by windows in US\$ million

**\$289M** RAPID RESPONSE

**\$150M** UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCY



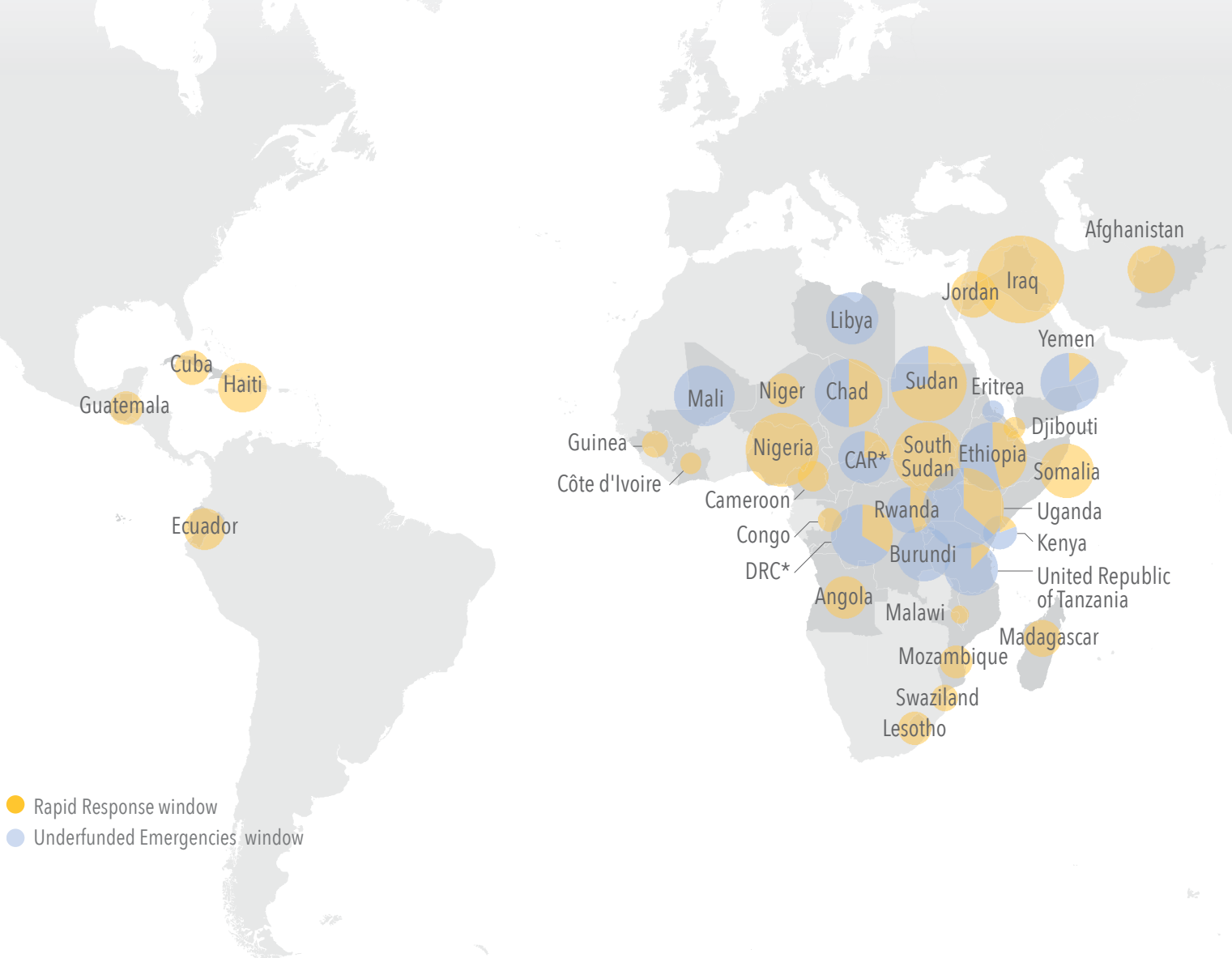
2016 ALLOCATIONS

IN 2016 CERF ALLOCATED

**\$439 MILLION**

FOR LIVE-SAVING OPERATIONS IN

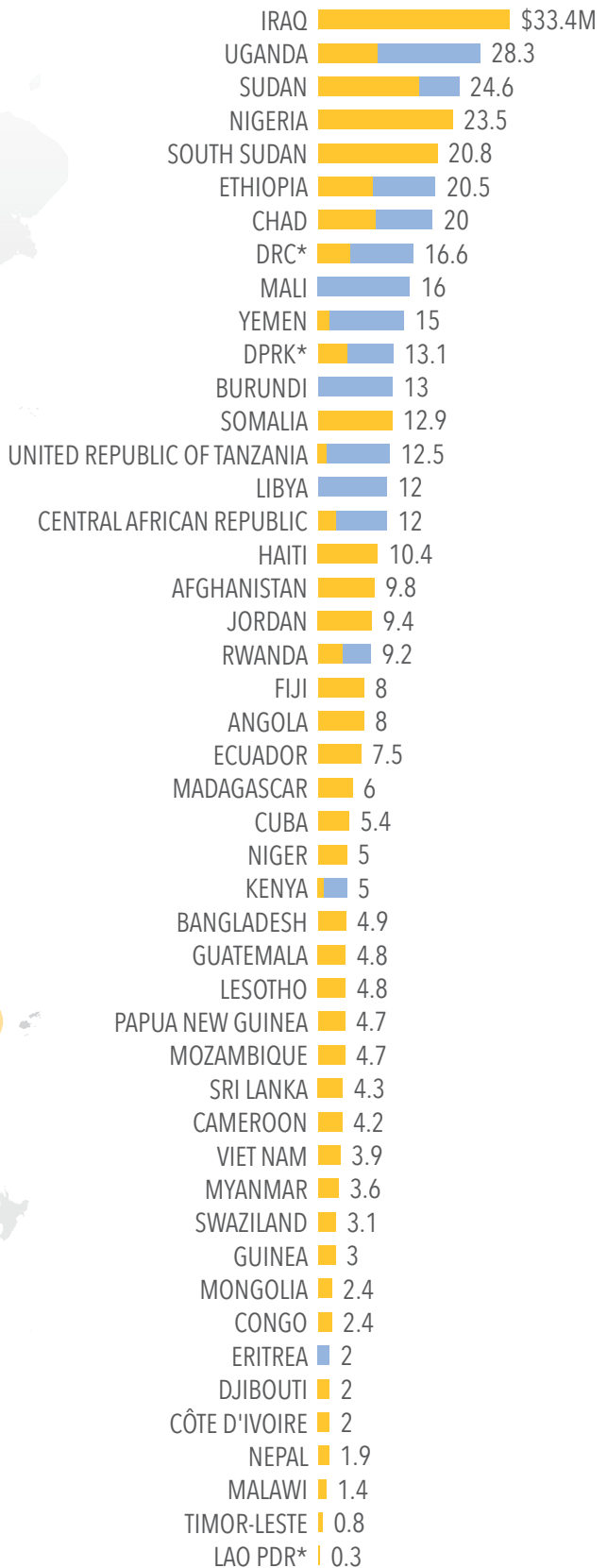
**47 COUNTRIES**



- Rapid Response window
- Underfunded Emergencies window

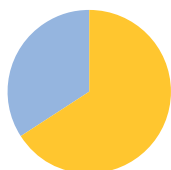
\* CAR - Central African Republic  
 DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo  
 DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
 Lao PDR - Lao People's Democratic Republic

### Funding by country in US\$ million



### Funding by windows in US\$ million

**\$150M**  
UNDERFUNDED  
EMERGENCY



**\$289M**  
RAPID  
RESPONSE

CERF IS FAST







Effective humanitarian response requires urgency and timeliness. CERF's Rapid Response funding window kick-starts relief efforts immediately through a global network of partners working to achieve collective, coordinated life-saving action.

“

Since 2006, IOM's partnership with CERF has resulted in some \$300 million to enable IOM to respond to rapid onset and underfunded emergencies around the world. The CERF secretariat understands that migrants are among the most vulnerable during emergencies. Because of IOM's forward-thinking and dynamic relationship with CERF, we were able to respond to the particular needs of the most vulnerable migrant families and communities around the world. CERF has enabled IOM to maintain its operational expertise and to reach more than 1.6 million IDPs in 2016 alone.

– William Lacy Swing,  
*International Organization for  
Migration Director General*

On 29 April 2016, a boy walks over rubble created by the earthquake in San José de Chamanga. © UNICEF/Reinoso

# ECUADOR

## Magnitude 7.8 earthquake

### THE SITUATION

A massive 7.87 earthquake struck northwest Ecuador on 16 April 2016, leaving more than 670 people dead and some 21,000 injured. According to the government, some 127,035 households (totalling 387,202 people) were affected and registered for government assistance. The disaster caused extensive damage to housing and infrastructure, leaving thousands of people without shelter, water, food or health services. Their lives, health and safety were immediately at risk. Only substantial funding, delivered quickly, could launch a humanitarian response strong enough to protect them.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

Within 72 hours CERF announced an allocation of \$7.5 million through CERF's Rapid Response Window to implement eight projects and to target over 8,500 affected people. The fund's intervention allowed protection teams to spread out across the disaster zone, assessing damage that could pose a threat to life. Partners were able to reach the most vulnerable communities after the earthquake and build capacity, in national and local institutions, to respond to an emergency in camps and in spontaneous displacement sites. Moreover, it allowed the community to be involved in its own recovery.

CERF's allocation also made it possible for Ecuador's government to provide sexual and reproductive health services, filling a gap in service delivery created by the earthquake. In addition, it enabled the World Health Organization (WHO) to restore refrigeration in the field for temperature-sensitive medical supplies such as vaccines.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

By making substantial funding for relief activities available quickly, CERF encouraged UN agencies to launch a humanitarian response without delay, dispatching staff and supplies to areas affected by the earthquake. The fund also promoted work by UN agencies across sectors and among the humanitarian community, addressing overlapping needs for shelter, food and water. This allowed the agencies to build Ecuador's capacity to respond to the emergency with camps and spontaneous displacement sites, and gave the community a role in its own recovery.



## ALLOCATIONS TO ECUADOR

Total allocation

**\$7.5 million**

Allocation window

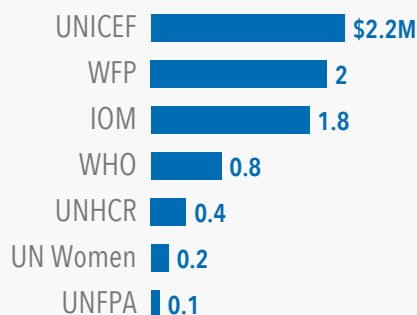
**Rapid Response**

People targeted

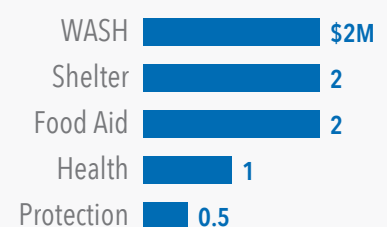
**91,400**



### Funding by agency in US\$ million



### Funding by sector in US\$ million



## Assessing needs and tracking displacement in the aftermath of Ecuador earthquake

When a crisis displaces large numbers of people, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) can use an information management system called the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to gather and sort information about the humanitarian needs that result.

Following the 2016 Ecuador earthquake, the agency relied on the DTM to assess the needs of some 20,000 people across three affected provinces. CERF funding helped to make this life-saving work possible.

IOM's findings showed that displaced people were living in government-organized camps, in "spontaneous" shelters, in open spaces and with host families.

Among them was Luz Villareal, a woman staying at a "spontaneous" site.

"We have been here since the earthquake," she said, "and one of our main problems is the lack of water and showers."

Indeed, the DTM showed that drinking-water shortages were a major problem. More than half

of the sites reported receiving less than 2 litres per person per day. At many, showers or latrines were not separated by gender, and some had no latrines at all.

"We do not have a space where we can cook," said Luz, "and the children get sick very often because of the living conditions." The DTM showed that acute respiratory infections and diarrhoea were the most common ailments at the locations surveyed.

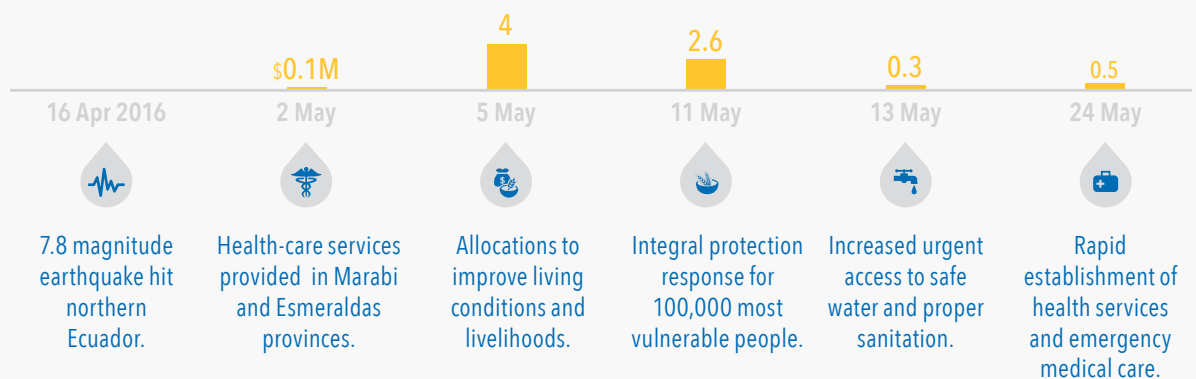
The government ran about 40 per cent of the sites IOM reviewed. "The Ecuadorean government's response to the challenges is impressive," said Damien Thuriaux, IOM's Chief of Mission in Ecuador, "and they provide substantially better services in the 28 government-managed camps."

But some 60 per cent of the sites operated informally, and the DTM showed that people there had great humanitarian needs. "The persistent challenge is how to improve the conditions of those who, for justifiable reasons, do not wish to be in camps, and require targeted support," said Thuriaux.



An earthquake survivor sits outside her makeshift shelter in Ecuador. © IOM 2016

### Allocations timeline in US\$ million



# IRAQ

## Fallujah displacement crisis

### THE SITUATION

As Iraqi security forces moved to take the city of Fallujah from ISIS militants in mid-2016, more than 85,000 residents fled their homes to escape the fighting. Those who remained confronted extreme shortages of food, clean drinking water, electricity and medicines. In all, the emergency was estimated to have affected some 150,000 people.

Temperatures in the region averaged 115°F/46°C and above, with little shade available. Already vulnerable communities were at increased risk of disease, and fears of a cholera outbreak grew. Relief supplies ran low, forcing humanitarians to set priorities in allocating whatever resources they had.

UN agencies had prepared for the Fallujah crisis for some time, but the scale of the emergency and the sheer numbers involved pushed humanitarian organizations to the limits of their capacity.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

In early July, the UN's Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq applied to CERF for Rapid Response funds for the Anbar Governorate, which includes Fallujah, as well as the Baghdad Governorate. The fund allocated \$15 million for protection, health, shelter, water and sanitation, as well as refugee camp management and coordination.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

CERF's allocation enabled UN agencies including UNICEF, UNHCR and WHO to act quickly in support of Fallujah's displaced people. The UN and its partners had launched a Humanitarian Response Plan for Iraq - a multi-year plan supporting people's right to survive and thrive amid complex, protracted crises - which by mid-2016 remained less than 50 per cent funded. CERF funding helped to prevent the situation from deteriorating further.

## ALLOCATIONS TO IRAQ

Total allocation

**\$15 million**

Allocation window

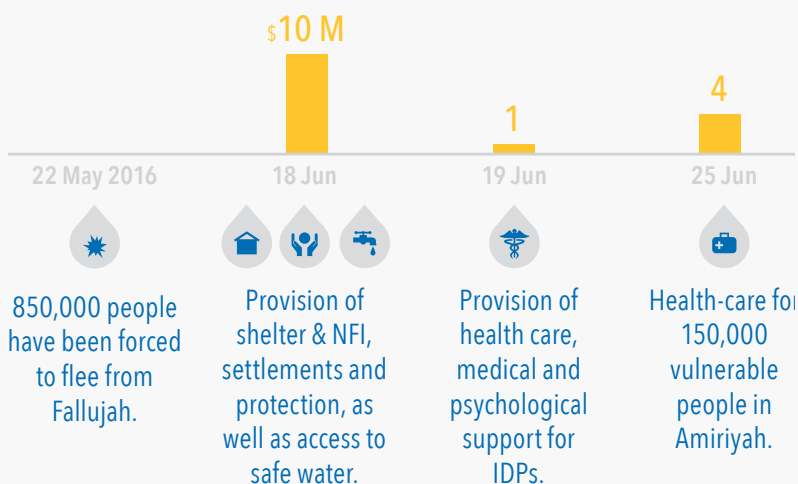
**Rapid Response**

People targeted

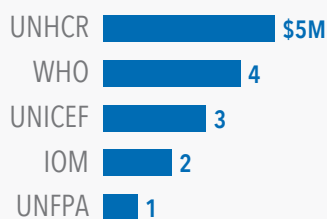
**150,000**



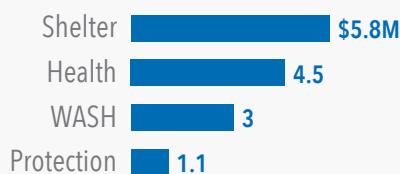
Allocations timeline in US\$ million



Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million





Jeffer, a retired teacher, has been forced to flee Fallujah, 70 km west of Baghdad. © OCHA/Themba Linden

## **“The city has not seen anything like this in a hundred years” - enabling urgent aid for the people fleeing from Fallujah.**

“The first time I tried to flee the city,” said Jaffer, a retired teacher who escaped Fallujah in 2016, “my car was burned in punishment.” At 74 years of age, he had found safety at a camp in Ameriyat al-Fallujah, an area in Iraq’s Anbar Governorate that serves as a refuge for the region’s displaced people.

People at the camp had brought virtually nothing with them, so they needed almost everything essential for daily life. CERF grants helped UN agencies and their humanitarian partners provide food, shelter, health care and kits containing household items.

But as it swelled with displaced people, the camp ran out of tents to distribute to new arrivals. Some 200 families now sheltered inside huge tents used as warehouses, and slept in the desert at night.

Alham, a pregnant widow whose husband had been killed just months earlier, was caring for five children on her own. She had received a tent, but was increasingly

desperate for other forms of help. Little support was available for newborns, and most children arriving from places outside government control had not been immunized.

Some struggled with old wounds. The widowed mother of four-year-old Hatab had carried him for days to reach the camp. The boy had been badly injured in a 2014 explosion in Fallujah, and doctors had amputated parts of his feet, leaving him unable to walk. The camp’s mobile teams provided psychological support, and specialized activities were launched to help women and children, but funding shortages limited the help available.

Despite its hardships, the camp offered precious safety from the dangers the refugees had left behind. “These last months in Fallujah, I have seen killings and burnings,” said Jaffer. “The city has not seen anything like this in a hundred years.”

CERF IS  
EFFECTIVE AND  
EFFICIENT

Young Khadija, 12, fetches water from the newly established water point in the village of Andour, Eastern Chad.  
© UNICEF/Bahaji





CERF maximizes the value of contributions by directing them where need is greatest. It works strategically, allocating funds through existing humanitarian structures with a view to strengthening the overall response to an emergency. The fund supports targeted interventions that humanitarians on the ground jointly agree will have the largest potential impact. A dollar to CERF is an investment in the world's most vulnerable.

“

At a critical time when the deteriorating situation in northeastern Nigeria had resulted in mass displacement, severe food insecurity and fears of famine, CERF's timely response enabled WFP to scale up its operations and provide life-saving assistance to thousands of vulnerable children, women and men.

– Ertharin Cousin, WFP  
Executive Director

# CENTRAL AFRICA

## Lake Chad Basin crisis

### THE SITUATION

The emergency centred on the Lake Chad Basin is one of the world's largest humanitarian crises. It affects the four countries bordering the lake: Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon and Niger. Violence fuelled by the Boko Haram insurgency has caused massive displacement throughout the region. By late 2016, some 2.3 million people had been driven from their homes, including over 200,000 Nigerian refugees sheltering in other countries. A fast-growing population, deepening insecurity and severe vulnerability add to the complexity of the emergency.

Food insecurity in the region is extensive, affecting one in three families, with malnutrition and related deaths critically high. The effects of climate change, together with the farmers' inability to tend their fields consistently, have made food shortages worse. Protecting vulnerable groups, especially women and children, has proved challenging for humanitarians. Millions lack access to basic services such as clean water, health care and education.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

Between 2014 and 2016, CERF allocated \$104 million for urgent aid to people in the region affected by conflict and the deepening food crisis. More than a third of the funding went to operations in Nigeria that supported displaced people and the communities hosting them.

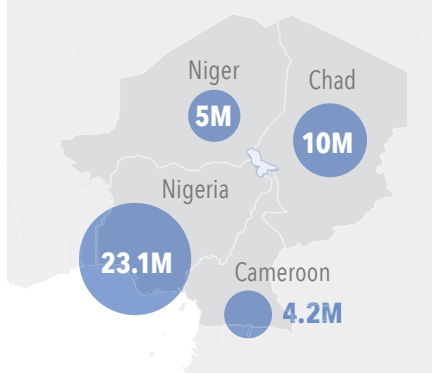
In Nigeria, the fund granted \$13 million in July to scale up humanitarian operations in Borno and Yobe States after they were liberated from Boko Haram control. Assessments of humanitarian need found severe food insecurity and malnutrition. CERF responded to the urgent needs of some 118,000 people with a flexible assistance package. It included cash transfers, food distribution and protection for displaced people who had experienced trauma, among them survivors of sexual violence. The impact of the emergency can be seen beyond the country's borders. There, too, CERF funding provides support. In Niger's Diffa region, for instance, Nigerian

## ALLOCATIONS TO CENTRAL AFRICA

Total allocation in 2016

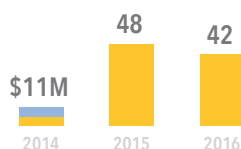
**\$42 million**

Funding by country in US\$ million

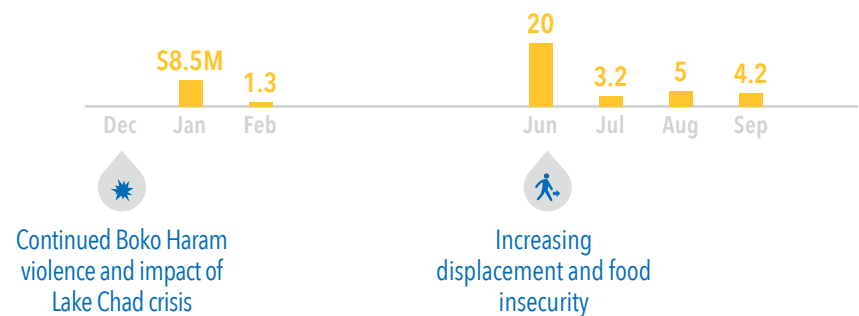


Funding by country in US\$ million

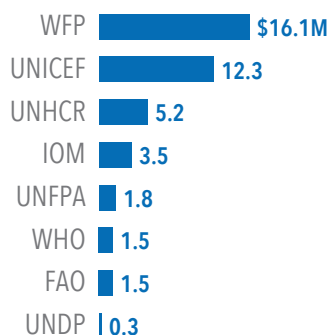
**\$101 million**  
allocations since 2014



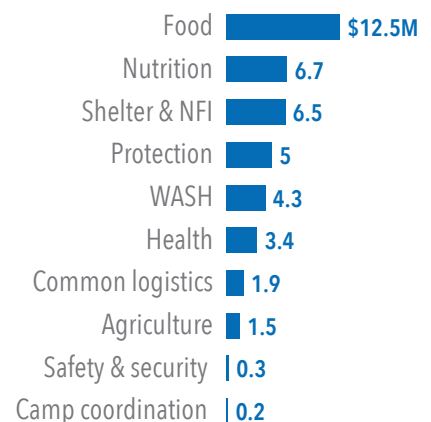
2016 allocations timeline in US\$ million



Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million







Adam, Khadija's brother, holds water fetched from the wadi (ephemeral riverbed) in his left hand and from the water point in his right hand. © UNICEF/Bahaji

refugees and internally displaced people sought safety after fleeing Boko Haram. The fund allocated \$5 million in August to nutrition, emergency shelter, clean water and sanitation, protection and logistics. The result was life-saving help for some 76,000 people in desperate need.

In Chad, a \$10 million CERF allocation in June targeted a fast-growing "hunger gap" created by a drop in available food and a surge in conflict-based displacement. The grant covered a range of emergency relief and protection measures for about 127,000 of the country's most vulnerable people, including displaced people and their hosts.

#### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

The Lake Chad Basin emergency is vast, and determining where relief can do the most good is challenging. CERF's unique allocations system allowed funding to reach the people and places in greatest need as agreed by UN representatives and partners on the ground.

The fund's involvement contributed to coordination between agencies and partners focusing on the health sector, especially WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF - all of which received CERF grants. It provided an opportunity for accountability, helped humanitarians set and refine their strategies for meeting project priorities, and led to improved relationships with local officials and residents.

## "Water is good now" - CERF funds change lives of refugees and host communities in Chadian villages

In 2016, Chad had the world's seventh-largest number of refugees. People fleeing conflict in countries including Sudan, Nigeria and the Central African Republic sought safety and security there.

Some were from Sudan's Darfur region, where political instability had triggered a surge of displaced people into Chad. About 180,000 lived in harsh conditions in the Mile Refugee Camp near the Sudanese border. The little Chadian village of Andour was close by and, like other host communities in the area, it struggled with the strain the refugees placed on its resources - including safe drinking water.

Twelve-year-old Khadija lives in Andour. "We share everything with the refugees," she said. "Land, water, even our school. Our parents used to argue over grazing and firewood, but it was mainly about water."

The family relied on wadis - riverbeds that go from dry to full during rainfall - as a water source. But what they gathered there was dirty, and potentially a health risk.

"We had to dig deep to get water and fill our tanks," said Khadija, "and then wait till the next morning for the sand to go down so we could drink. The taste was terrible."

With support from CERF, UNICEF installed a water point in Andour. Now fresh, clean water was both available and convenient.

"During the dry season, it was more difficult to find water and we had to take a donkey," she recalled. "It was a three-hour ride every day after school. Now, with the water point in our village, it takes less than three minutes."

CERF funding also meant that the community faced a much lower risk of water-borne diseases and outbreaks.

"Water is good now," said Khadija. "We're not afraid of getting sick when we drink. Even our clothes are cleaner now!"

CERF IS ALIGNED  
WITH LOCAL  
PRIORITIES





A child living with her family at the camp for displaced people in Kegalle District, Sri Lanka.  
© WFP Colombo/NguyenDuc Hoang

CERF's allocations meet urgent needs identified by humanitarians on the ground. They are based on life-saving priorities set collaboratively by the UN and its partners, using existing coordination structures and processes. This allows the fund to reinforce cooperation and coordination among humanitarian organizations while promoting partnership, predictability and a focus on what matters most.

“

Saving lives and livelihoods in humanitarian crises demands the delivery of quick and substantive emergency aid. In 2016, CERF once again proved a flexible and effective mechanism to kick-start speedy humanitarian action whenever and wherever crisis hits. That is why for the Netherlands it has served as a key instrument to fulfil our ambitions with regard to our responsibility as a member of the international community.

– *Lilianne Ploumen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development of the Netherlands*

# SRI LANKA

## Flooding after Tropical Storm Roanu

### THE SITUATION

Tropical Storm Roanu struck Sri Lanka in mid-May, causing the island nation's worst flooding in 25 years. Heavy rains led to landslides and left entire villages submerged. The storm affected more than 340,000 people. It wiped out homes, leaving about 237,000 people displaced and with only limited access to basic services, including clean water and sanitation facilities.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

Assessments by humanitarian partners and government officials found that clean water and sanitation, shelter, health care and food were the most urgent needs following the storm. The UN's humanitarian representative in Sri Lanka applied to CERF for funding to kick-start the emergency response.

On 25 May, less than two weeks after Roanu swept over the island, CERF approved \$4.6 million in Rapid Response funds for life-saving action to address the needs identified in the assessments. Because the request to CERF was linked to specific, urgent challenges identified locally, the funding was targeted to some 220,000 people in the four districts most in need: Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle and Ratnapura.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

A fast, reliable humanitarian response is at the heart of CERF's work, but funds must be clearly directed to the most pressing needs in a crisis before they can be disbursed. In the Sri Lanka response, the high quality of the grant application, supported by assessments showing where the need was most urgent, allowed the fund to approve the request quickly. Access to expert humanitarian knowledge at local level enabled CERF funds to perform exactly as intended, benefiting those people in greatest need - with what they needed most.

## ALLOCATIONS TO SRI LANKA

Total allocation

**\$4.3 million**

Allocation window

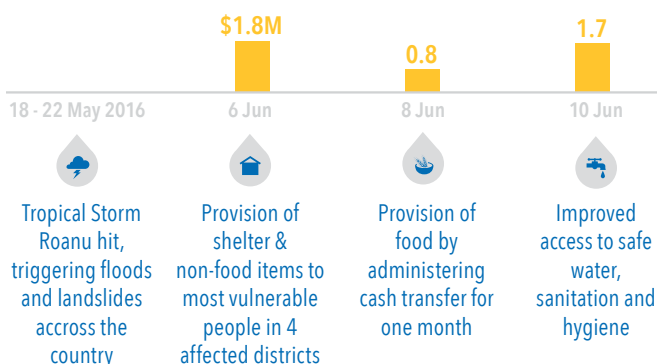
**Rapid Response**

People targeted

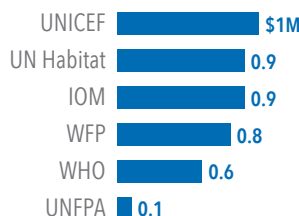
**220,000**



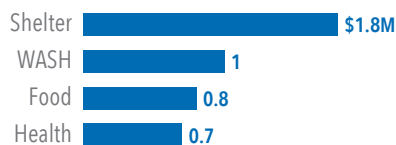
### Allocation timeline in US\$ million



### Funding by agency in US\$ million



### Funding by sector in US\$ million



## Partners bring local perspective

The fund's link to partners through UN agencies ensures that needs are assessed by local humanitarians with direct knowledge of the situation and the capacity to support a response. This helps to "localize" the humanitarian response and build the capacity of national actors in crisis-affected countries.

Each year, about a quarter of CERF funding is directed through sub-grants to NGOs and local responders. In 2014 alone, 648 implementing partners received \$120 million in CERF funding, including more than 300 national and local NGOs.



Ravindra Mithrajith, Kusumawathie and their son outside their new home. © UN Habitat/Jayasinghe

## Rebuilding homes after tropical storm Roanu

For nine years, Ravindra Mithrajith and his wife Kusumawathie made their home in a simple house not far from Colombo, Sri Lanka's largest city. Ravindra built it mainly from wooden planks, and it sheltered the couple as their family grew to include two children.

But when Tropical Storm Roanu hit Sri Lanka, their home could not survive the intense flooding that followed.

A nearby river overflowed its banks, and the water rose to a height of about eight feet. It destroyed the house and ruined the belongings inside. Ravindra, Kusumawathie and their children took refuge with a neighbouring family and waited for the flood to recede.

Following the storm, CERF funding helped UN Habitat bring relief to people affected by Roanu in the Colombo and Gampaha Districts in Sri Lanka's Western Province. The agency provided temporary shelters and basic items needed for daily life, repaired wells and cleaned canals. It aimed to deliver


shelter to some 130 families whose homes were damaged or destroyed, including Ravindra's.

Ravindra has a job manufacturing cement blocks, while Kusumawathie looks after the family. UN Habitat selected them for assistance because they lacked the funds needed to rebuild their house themselves.

In October 2016, work began on their shelter. Ravindra used his knowledge of construction skills to assist. Just ten days later, the new home was complete, with a living room, bedroom and small kitchen under a roof of zinc aluminium sheets.

The building was meant to be temporary, and after the family moved in, they started saving for a permanent home. Kusumawathie created a small vegetable garden to supplement their meals.

"After the hardships we suffered during the flood," the couple said, "we are all very happy to move into this house. It is a relief for the entire family."

A young girl is pointing at a chalkboard. The chalkboard has a grid and lists food items in French: 'Tomates', 'Carottes', and 'Pommes de terre'. The girl is wearing a blue patterned shirt and several silver and green bracelets on her right wrist. The background is a chalkboard with a grid and handwritten text in French.

# CERF IS A LIFELINE FOR THE WORLD'S MOST NEGLECTED AND PROTRACTED CRISES

Kobiteye returnee site, Chad.  
At the distribution site, a girl  
points at the board that lists  
the different foods available  
and how much they cost.  
© OCHA/Naomi Frerotte



# UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES

The fund allocates grants based on needs alone, and strengthens the response to emergencies that receive little media attention or that struggle to attract support. In 2016, through its Underfunded Emergencies (UFE) window, CERF enabled relief for 15 of the world's most overlooked and severely underfunded crises, targeting some 7.3 million people in dire need of humanitarian assistance with \$150 million.



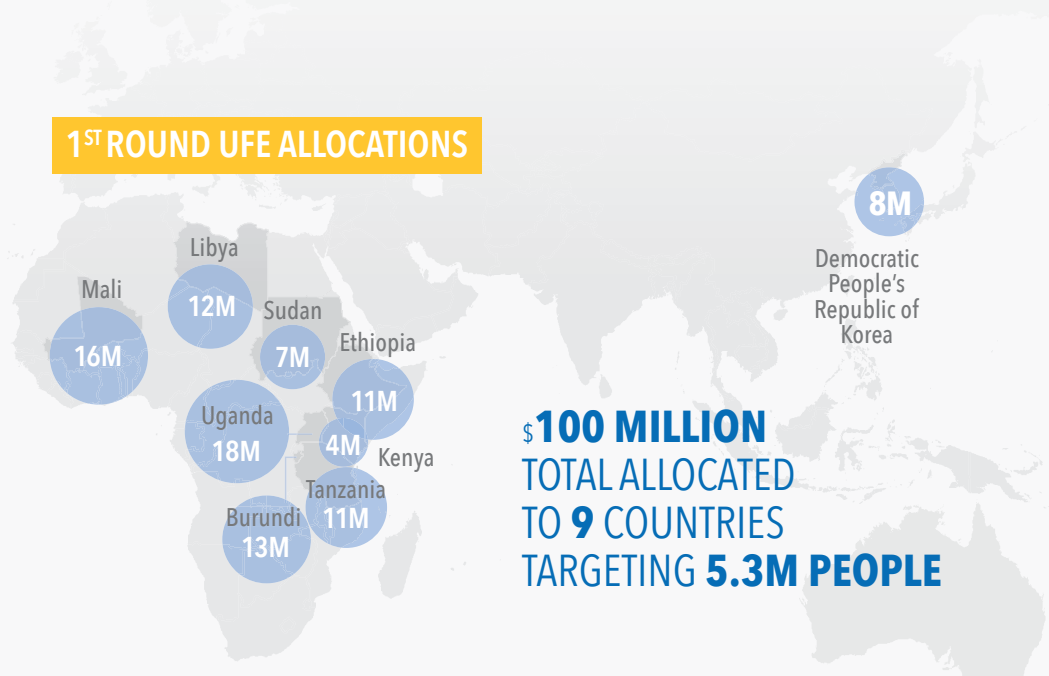
Women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights are particularly at risk during humanitarian crises. In these situations, gender based violence tend to be exacerbated and access to reproductive health care becomes limited. Denmark has been a proud supporter of the CERF since its launch in 2006. CERF is an effective mechanism to address acute needs, including the particular vulnerabilities of women and girls in crisis situations. On average, more than half of CERF-funded humanitarian action addresses the needs of women and girls. In crises like Syria, CERF funds are enabling life-saving reproductive health services for tens of thousands of women.

– Ms. Ulla Tørnæs, Minister for Development Cooperation of Denmark

# First Round of UFE Funding

## Focus: Burundi and Tanzania

CERF made its first UFE allocation of 2016 in January, releasing \$100 million to help some 5.3 million people in nine emergencies: in Libya, Sudan, Ethiopia, Mali, Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, DPRK and Tanzania. The refugee crises affecting Burundi and Tanzania were part of a massive displacement crisis covering much of Central and East Africa.



# BURUNDI

### THE SITUATION

More than 344,000 people left Burundi for neighbouring countries after political turmoil sparked civil unrest. Fear and intimidation spurred people to flee their homes, leaving an estimated 170,000 people internally displaced. Among Burundian households, 21 per cent experienced food insecurity, with over 800,000 people in critical need of food. Severe rains near the start of 2016 contributed to the displacement crisis, driving 30,000 people from homes damaged by floods and landslides.

Funding for Burundi's emergency was low, and the country had one of the world's highest levels of vulnerability. Its humanitarian and food security situation was considered to be at high risk in the year before the CERF allocation.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

The country teams directed CERF's UFE grant of \$13 million to a range of humanitarian activities in six Burundian provinces where needs were immense. The funds were intended to reduce vulnerability caused by both political unrest and the powerful floods.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

The fund's timely intervention in Burundi enabled humanitarian agencies to help offset the acute vulnerabilities caused by the political crisis in the country since April 2015 and the increasing localized flooding. By introducing substantial funding when it was unavailable through other channels, and doing so as need was increasing, CERF helped to avert worsening conditions that would have cost lives and demanded an even greater investment of resources later.

## ALLOCATIONS TO BURUNDI

Total allocation

**\$13 million**

Allocation window

Underfunded emergencies

People targeted

**442,000**





## Facing malnutrition in Burundi - CERF enables partners to reach the people most in need

Donavina Ndereyimana could see that her 13-month-old daughter Angie-Marie was seriously ill. But for this mother of five, living in a remote, impoverished community in Burundi's Cibitoke Province, the cause was a mystery.

"I don't know what is happening with my little child," said Donavina. "She is not eating well and has lost her appetite little by little. We are worried, and I don't like to see her suffering."

Angie-Marie was weak. She was suffering from diarrhoea, and her belly and feet were swollen. Her hair was turning a yellowish hue. When a community health worker measured her arm to check for malnutrition, the girl cried loudly.

Malnutrition has long been a problem in Burundi, but political unrest, rising food prices and a faltering economy have increased its impact. A recent World Food Programme (WFP) study found that nearly half of the country's households have experienced food insecurity.

UNICEF and humanitarian partners responded, using CERF funds to help launch a programme that deployed hundreds of volunteers to screen children for malnutrition. These community health workers are often the only hope for reaching affected families in isolated places like the one where Donavina and her family live.

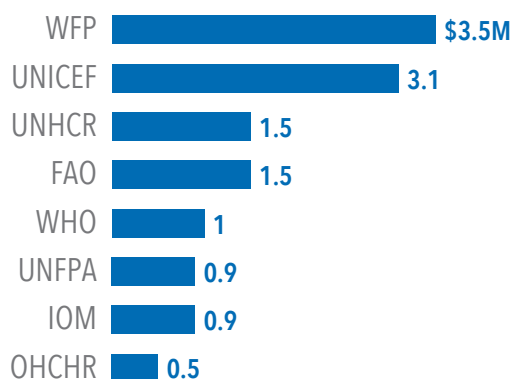
The volunteer examining Angie-Marie found that the girl was suffering from severe acute malnutrition. She needed medical care urgently. Donavina brought her to a community health centre, where staff treated her with therapeutic food and medicine. It was the child's first step towards recovery.

Through the hard work of its volunteers, the UNICEF project reached nearly 4,900 Burundian children in mid-2016. Like Angie-Marie, those found to be severely malnourished were referred to health centres for urgent treatment. In a country where one in twelve children will not survive to see their fifth birthday, this CERF-supported work made life-saving action possible.

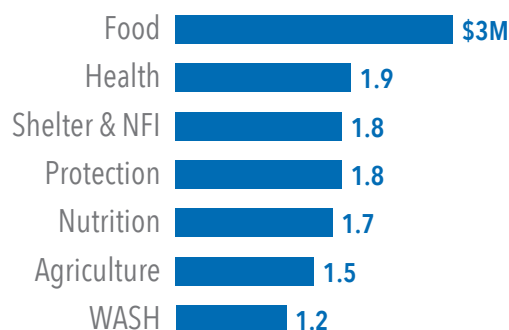


Donavina, 34, sits with her children. The family is worried about little Angie-Marie (right), who suffers from severe acute malnutrition. © UNICEF Burundi/Haro

### Funding by agency in US\$ million



### Funding by sector in US\$ million



## CERF and the global displacement crisis

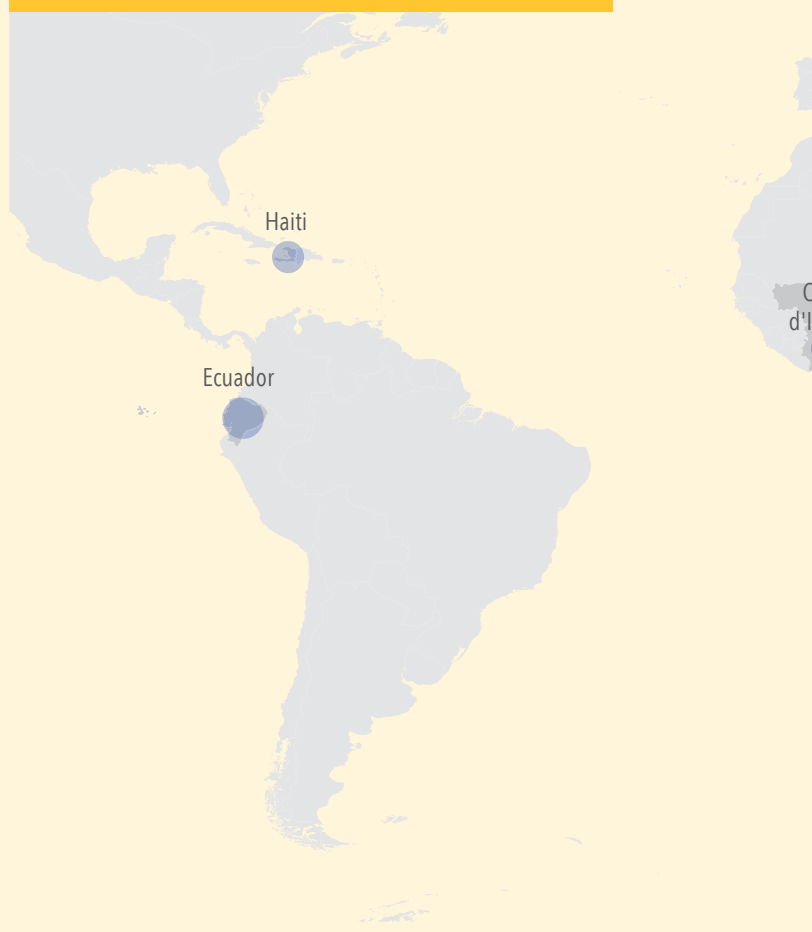
The number of people around the world forcibly displaced from their homes has risen steadily in recent years. In 2015, UNHCR put the total at 65 million – the highest level since the Second World War. Among them were 41 million internally displaced people, 21 million refugees and 3 million asylum seekers.

Violence and conflict forced many to leave, but natural disasters have also displaced an average of 25.4 million people per year for the past eight years. The impact of the refugee crisis extends to those who take them in. Millions of displaced people are living in host communities that were already vulnerable.

Today, one in every 113 displaced people around the world is seeking asylum, is internally displaced or is a refugee.

Since 2011, CERF has allocated over \$1.5 billion to support millions of people forced from their homes by violence, instability and natural disasters, with annual allocations increasing every year. In 2015 and 2016, two thirds of CERF allocations supported operations targeting internally displaced people, refugees or host communities.

### 2016 CERF ALLOCATIONS TO OPERATIONS SUPPORTING DISPLACED PEOPLE



## UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

### THE SITUATION

Beginning in April 2016, Burundi's civil unrest drove more than 343,000 refugees across the border into neighbouring Tanzania, with about 1,500 people continuing to arrive every week. The UN supported the Government of Tanzania in responding to the crisis, though funding constraints posed operational challenges throughout 2016.

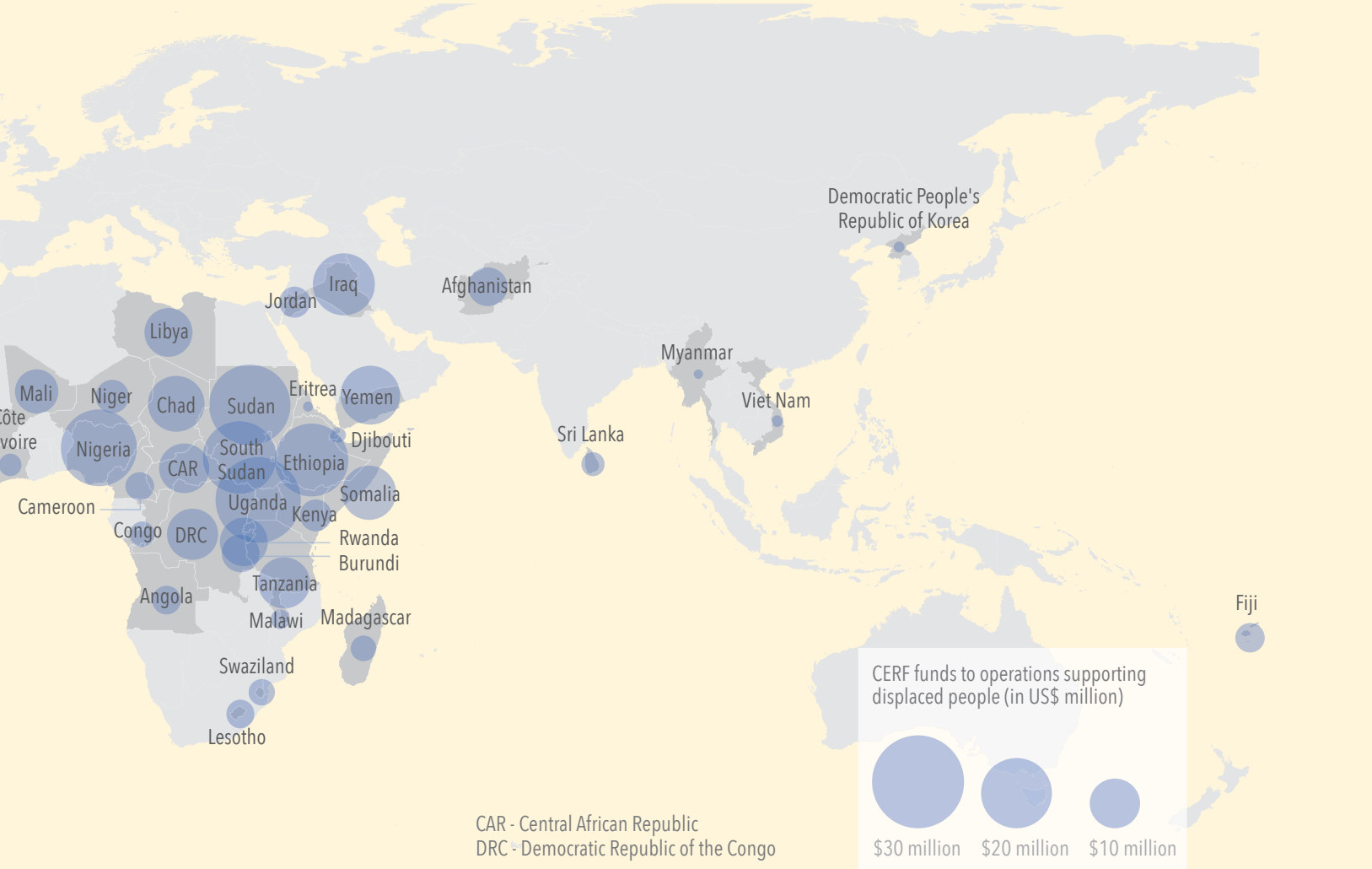
The UN had appealed for \$189 million for Tanzania in 2015. The emergency was only 29 per cent funded, and vulnerability and risk were expected to worsen in 2016 as new refugees arrived from Burundi and other nearby countries. The refugees and host communities urgently needed clean water, adequate sanitation, health care, food and shelter.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

The \$11 million Underfunded Emergencies grant bolstered the response for about 120,000 people at four of Tanzania's refugee sites, enabling humanitarian partners to set up water supplies in new camp locations, continue the distribution of food and fuel-efficient stoves, strengthen the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, and ensure safe transportation and settlement in camps for refugees.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

The allocation helped provide life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable people in Tanzania. When funds for a crisis run low, restoring them can take months or years and may not even be possible. By making a substantial grant available when it was needed, CERF helped to scale up the response to the Burundi refugee crisis in Tanzania to protect lives and safeguard health.



## ALLOCATIONS TO UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Total allocation

**\$11 million**

Allocation window

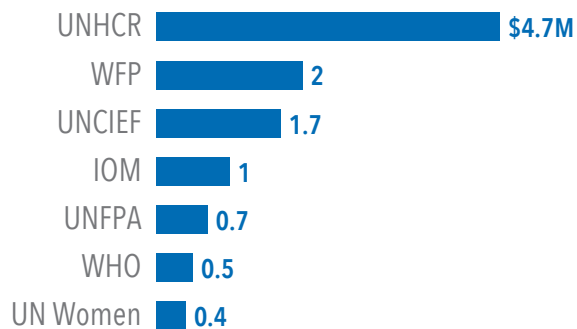
Underfunded Emergencies

People targeted

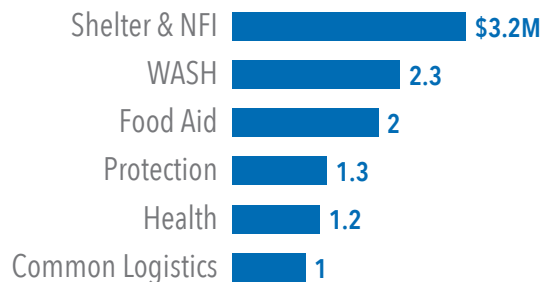
**255,917**



Funding by agency in US\$ million



Funding by sector in US\$ million



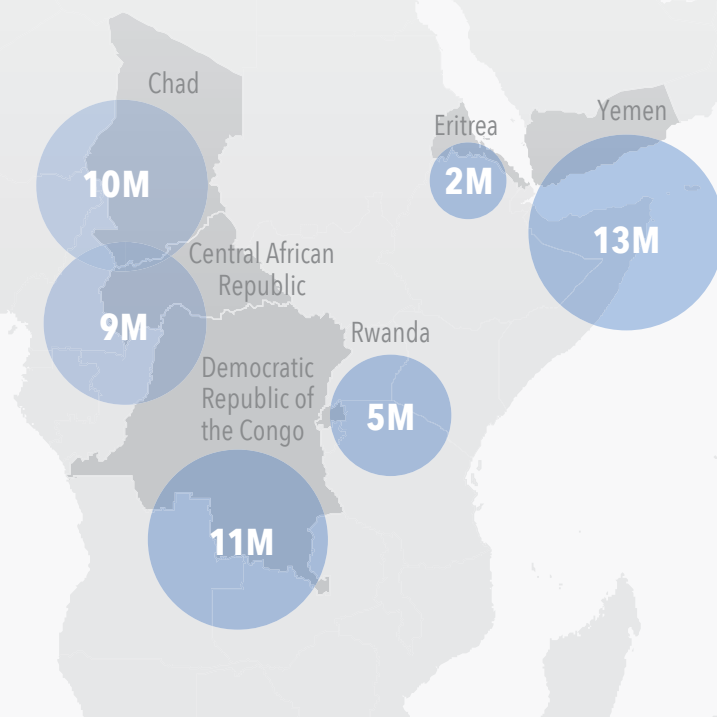
## Second Round of UFE Funding

### Focus: Chad

CERF's mid-year round of UFE grants channelled \$50 million to six neglected emergencies, with life-saving results for some 2 million people. The allocation was concentrated on Central Africa, with funds allocated to the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. Additional funding went to support the humanitarian crises in Yemen and Eritrea.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> ROUND UFE ALLOCATIONS

**\$50 MILLION  
TOTAL ALLOCATED  
TO 6 COUNTRIES  
TARGETING  
2M PEOPLE**



## CHAD

### THE SITUATION

Since late 2013, a growing political and humanitarian crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR) has led thousands to seek safety in neighbouring countries, including Chad. By 2016, nearly 4 million people in Chad were experiencing crisis conditions, including around 3.8 million affected by food insecurity, as well as some 728,000 children suffering from acute malnutrition. The country's displacement emergency was vast, encompassing 73,000 Central African refugees, 83,000 citizens of Chad who had been forced to return from the Central African Republic, and 600,000 people in Chadian host communities.

Among the world's emergencies, Chad stood out for its low levels of support and high levels of vulnerability. The country's Humanitarian Response Plan, a funding roadmap linked to an analysis of need and engagement with the global humanitarian community, had reached just 14 per cent of the \$567 million it needed in funding.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

Faced with such an extensive emergency, the Humanitarian Country Team in Chad brought clarity to the question of how best to support those in greatest need within the

country's borders. Based on severity of impact and the capacity of the partners confronting the crisis, the HCT called for a "cluster" response - a collaboration between humanitarian organizations working toward shared goals. It prioritized southern Chad for life-saving assistance with health, nutrition and food security, along with additional work on water and sanitation, education and shelter.

The HCT's guidance informed CERF's \$10 million Underfunded Emergencies grant for the Chad crisis. It opened the way for aid agencies to deliver humanitarian relief to 217,000 people, including those displaced and their host communities.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

Humanitarian Country Teams play a central role in shaping requests for CERF funding. They use their in-depth knowledge of local conditions and the global humanitarian system to coordinate the most effective response for those in greatest need. Their assessment of a crisis, under the leadership of the RC/HC, guides the country's use of CERF allocations for life-saving results. This link to the broader humanitarian system makes CERF funding uniquely effective.



Danamadja returnee site, Chad. Togoye, her husband Abdoulaye, his own father and their three eldest children fled CAR on foot.  
© OCHA/Naomi Frerotte

## Cash vouchers secure a living for Togoye and her family

In late 2013, a wave of people fleeing conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR) crossed the border into neighbouring countries. Among them were some 100,000 Chadians, returning to the place they had once called home.

Many had left Chad decades earlier. After such a long absence, they could no longer rely on friends or family for help. Now, with no one to support them, they gathered in returnee sites in the southern part of the country.

Among them was a woman named Togoye. She had walked to Chad with her husband, father-in-law and three children. It took the family six months to make the journey from their home in CAR, near the country's border with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

By 2016, more than 600,000 people were displaced across Chad. Some, like Togoye's family, had left behind the conflict in CAR. Others had escaped fighting in the Lake Chad Basin linked to the Boko Haram insurgency or had fled insecurity in Sudan.

A CERF grant in late 2016 enabled UN agencies and humanitarian partners to provide life-saving help for some 200,000 returnees and refugees, as well as the Chadian communities hosting them.

Much of the CERF allocation allowed people to buy urgently needed food through vouchers. Limited global support for the Chad emergency had forced aid agencies and the government to reduce food distributions and malnutrition aid at some displacement sites.

As families fled conflict, many children were orphaned or separated from their parents. Some became heads of households. At one site, an orphaned girl named Aishatou cared for her three brothers and sisters, preparing meals with ingredients purchased with vouchers. Many women and girls at two returnee sites in southern Chad said the food vouchers were the first help they had received in seven months.

### ALLOCATION TO CHAD

Total allocation

**\$10 million**

Allocation window

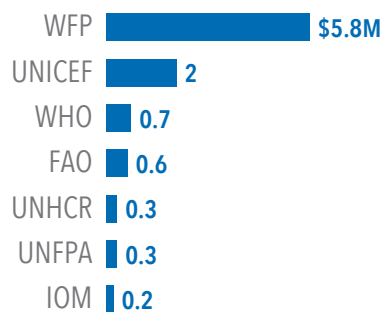
Underfunded Emergencies

People targeted

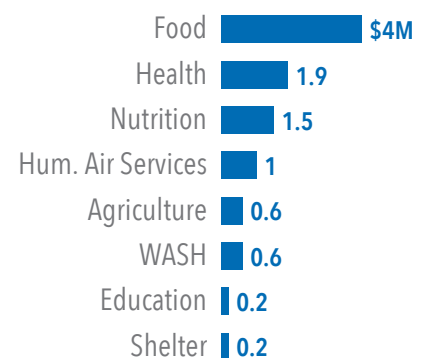
**216,780**



#### Funding by agency in US\$ million



#### Funding by sector in US\$ million





CERF IS  
TIMELY AND  
RELIABLE



Emergencies demand swift action, and only a timely, well-resourced response will prevent conditions from deteriorating further. CERF pools funds before they are needed and directs them where they will have the greatest impact. When a crisis occurs, humanitarian organizations are often able to receive an assurance of CERF funding within hours, allowing them to start life-saving work immediately.

“

CERF plays a strategic and crucial role in supporting WHO's timely response to acute and protracted emergencies. With a total of \$44 million received in 2016, CERF has become a critical partner for WHO's work in emergencies through a wide range of activities, from reactivating health services for people affected by natural disasters and responding to disease outbreaks, to supporting access to health services in conflict situations in over 30 countries worldwide.

– Dr. Peter Salama, WHO Executive Director Health Emergencies Programme

Ondjiva, Cunene Province, Angola. A little girl is receiving a yellow fever vaccination.  
© UNICEF/Clark

# GLOBAL

## El Niño phenomenon

### THE SITUATION

Beginning in early 2015, the El Niño phenomenon brought drought and flooding to large areas of the globe, including many countries that were already vulnerable. By 2016 it had affected some 60 million people in Eastern and Southern Africa, the Pacific Islands, Southeast Asia, the Caribbean and parts of Central America.

Its impact was vast and devastating. Harvests were poor or failed completely, reducing food stocks and pushing up prices. This added to the financial burden on households already struggling with poor crop production, loss of livestock and lack of employment. In drought-affected areas, scarce water created hardship for people and livestock alike, with especially severe consequences for herders. Other places experienced heavy rains and floods that overwhelmed fields, raised the risk of water- and mosquito-borne diseases, and increased malnutrition.

### CERF'S RESPONSE

The fund was among the first to act against the global threat of El Niño, approving \$117.5 million from mid-2015 through 2016 for 19 countries. By making support available quickly, CERF gave UN agencies and their implementing partners the time they needed to start or scale up a response, saving lives and limiting negative impacts. In 2016 alone, CERF granted funds totalling some \$61 million to 13 countries experiencing the effects of El Niño, in regions from Africa, Asia and the Pacific Islands to Latin America.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

CERF continued its work on the El Niño crisis into 2016. It carried forward its response to the urgent needs identified by humanitarian country teams, and fine-tuned its allocations based on reliable data sources and assessments. This helped UN agencies and implementing partners to address the critical humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable people and communities before the situation deteriorated further.

CERF funds represented a small percentage of the overall funding released for the El Niño response, but they made crucial and timely support possible while national response systems and larger development organizations worked to scale up assistance.

## EL NIÑO ALLOCATIONS

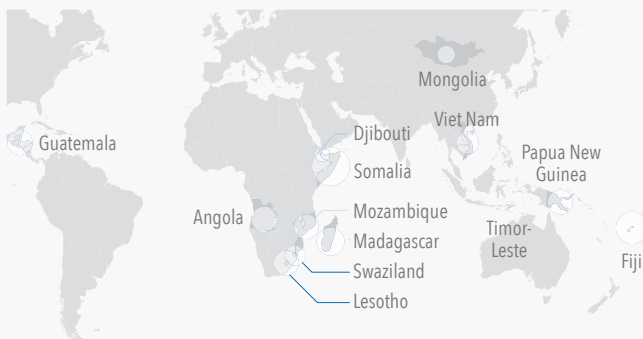
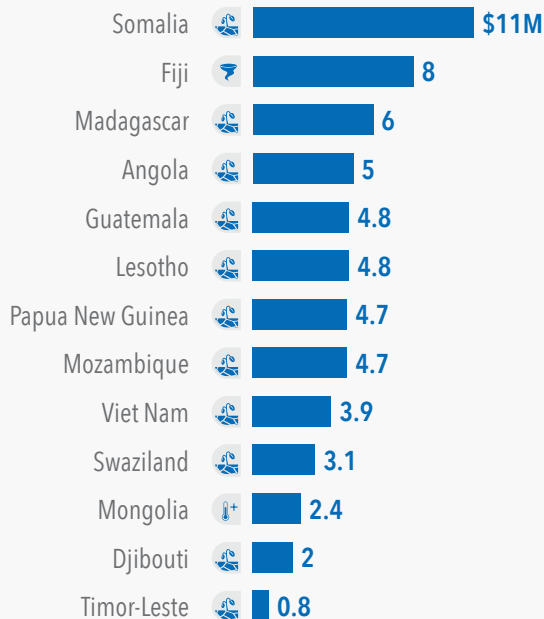
Total allocation

**\$61 million**

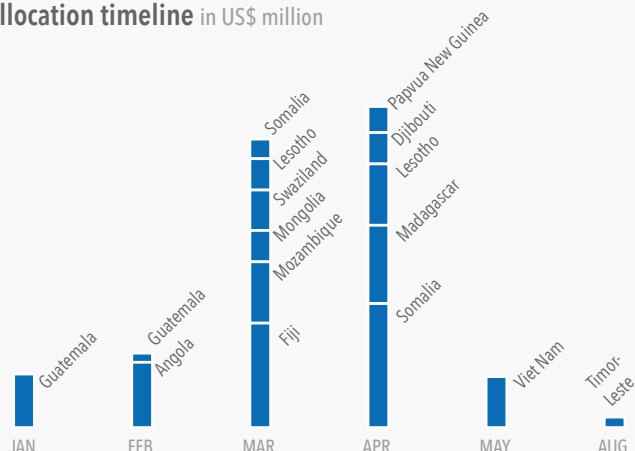
Allocation window

**Rapid Response**

Funding by country in US\$ million



Allocation timeline in US\$ million







Ethiopia, Amhara region, Bella village. Berhane Workie smiles with relief as she receives nutritious food for her twins. © WFP/Michael Tewelde

## CERF funds bring food to people affected by El Niño

Berhane Workie smiles with relief. She has come to the health centre to get special nutritious food for her twins, both moderately malnourished.

One of them nearly died a few months ago; it took two weeks in a stabilization centre for severely malnourished children to save him. For the first time, Berhane has also received food assistance: it helped the family pull through hard times, as the yield from their land came in at just 2 quintals instead of 5.

The twins are now showing “yellow” on their MUAC (Mid-Upper Arm Circumference) screening. This is a quick and simple way to determine whether a child is malnourished, using a coloured plastic strip. Yellow means the child suffers from moderate malnutrition.

# ANGOLA

## Yellow fever outbreak

### THE SITUATION

In late 2015 an outbreak of yellow fever was declared in the most heavily populated district of Angola’s Luanda Province. Yellow fever is a haemorrhagic disease transmitted by mosquitoes. Several days after infection occurs, it progresses to an acute phase and can become life-threatening. Up to half of those severely affected by the disease will die from it.

Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent or end a yellow fever outbreak. The disease posed risks both in Angola and globally, through international trade and migration.

The Yellow Fever National Response Plan was launched in February 2016 with a focus on five strategic areas: investigation and laboratory research; vaccination; vector control; case management; and communication and social mobilization.

In March, the Humanitarian Country Team in Angola requested CERF funding for a vaccination campaign. At that point the country had some 1,255 suspected yellow fever cases, with over 470 cases confirmed and nearly 180 deaths attributed to the disease.

### CERF’S RESPONSE

To begin immunization as quickly as possible, the International Coordinating Group (ICG) for Vaccine Provision, which manages vaccine stocks for diseases including yellow fever, sent about 6.4 million doses to Angola in February.

Through the Rapid Response window, CERF provided \$3 million for WHO, to enable it to replenish the ICG yellow fever vaccine supply and to undertake the mass vaccination of the population, including those at risk. By the end of May 2016, for example, approximately 91 per cent of the people in the three most affected provinces of Luanda, Benguela and Huambo had been vaccinated.

### HOW CERF ADDED VALUE

With time short and lives at stake, CERF was ready with pooled funding to rebuild vaccine stocks. Without the fund’s support, replenishment would not have been possible. The vaccines replaced through CERF funding helped to roll back the outbreak and reduced the impact of yellow fever in Angola and other countries.

# DONORS TO CERF

CERF embodies the spirit of global solidarity. In 2016, 50 Member States contributed to CERF, helping the fund mobilize \$426.3 million. However, despite their support, CERF ended the year with a funding shortfall of nearly \$24 million against its annual \$450 million target. About \$13 million of the shortfall was due to exchange rate fluctuations in the currencies of top donors against the US dollar, some of which were related to the impact of Brexit.

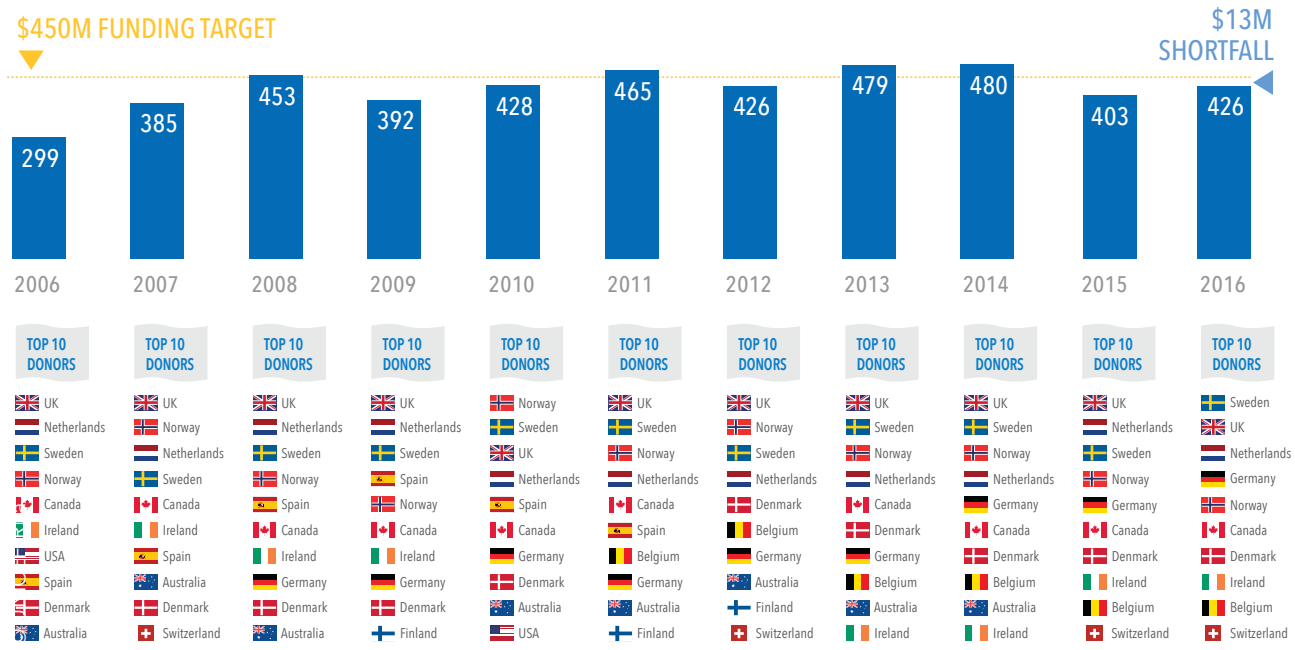
The 20 donors who contributed the most to the fund provided about 93 per cent of the year's total contributions. Sweden ranked as top donor, followed by the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany and Norway. In particular, five major donors increased their contributions in their local currencies, while eleven donors maintained

their funding – a good sign in a challenging fund-raising environment. In light of the importance of a predictable income, Canada joined the list of donors that have signed multi-year agreements.

CERF generally receives almost 8 per cent of its funding through additional contributions. In 2016, six major donors contributed additionally to the fund with some providing end-of-year “top-ups”. These countries include Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, Norway and Iceland. Sweden provided \$23 million, the largest additional contribution.

In addition, some CERF recipient countries also contributed to the fund – a testament to their solidarity with CERF. These countries included Iraq and Myanmar.

## HISTORICAL DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS





As the third-largest recipient of CERF allocations, UNHCR values the fund as a quick and essential partner to its operations. With more people displaced every day, the importance of continued strong donor support for CERF could not be more urgent. This is a moment of unprecedented challenges, which we must address together through concrete action in support of refugees and other crisis-affected communities.

– Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Reaching or surpassing CERF’s annual target is not simply a matter of principle – it is crucial. This is the only global fund for emergency response that reinforces the core principles of humanitarian action – fast, flexible, impartial aid to people who need it the most, with what they need most – and donor contributions make that life-saving work possible. The General Assembly’s endorsement of the Secretary-General’s recommendation for the fund’s expansion to \$1 billion underscores the global community’s confidence in CERF. Partnerships with Member States are vital to lay and reinforce the building blocks and diversify CERF’s funding base, including by using innovative ways to help meet the ambitious new target of \$1 billion.

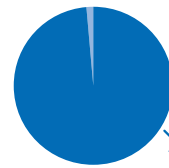


CERF is one of the most important inventions in humanitarian response of the last 15 years – and it serves as a guide as we reshape the field following the World Humanitarian Summit. The UAE chose to make some of its first major multilateral contributions to CERF because it operationalizes our cornerstone principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. Growing humanitarian needs necessitate more mindsets like CERF’s, and we will engage closely in its evolution.

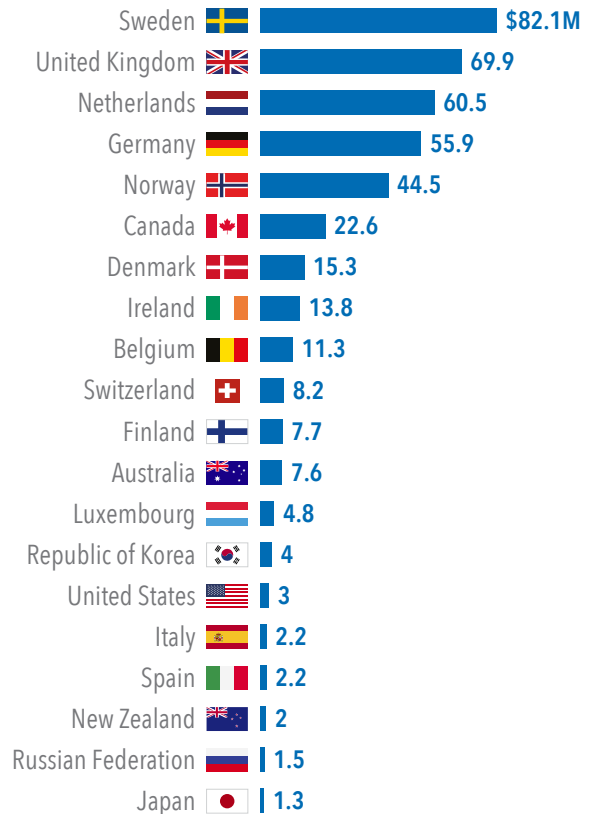
– Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates

## 2016 DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS

**\$426.3** million total contributions



TOP 20 DONORS in 2016



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# MANAGEMENT OF CERF

## Transparency: FTS, IATI and HDX



The CERF secretariat worked in 2016 to increase the fund's transparency through initiatives that included the development of the Grant Management System (GMS), which makes all data on CERF grants readily available and easy to find. When projects are approved and funding is disbursed, the system automatically sends the funding data to UN OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) platform, as well as to the fund's website. It provides public data according to the standards of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), and for other purposes as required.

Prior to the 2014 rollout of the GMS, the fund stored its allocation data in its legacy IT system, the CERF Admin database. In 2016, the fund finished migrating the pre-2014 data from the legacy system to the GMS. All funding information dating from CERF's launch in 2006 to the present now exists in one searchable location, available to corporate business intelligence tools and ready to be used for external reporting.

One sign of the progress made is CERF's greatly expanded reporting to IATI. This voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiative seeks to improve the transparency of aid resources in order to increase their effectiveness in tackling poverty. CERF now reports all of its allocations through this initiative. The CERF secretariat has also taken steps to publish all its allocations and contributions on the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX), an open platform for sharing data relating to emergencies.

## Accountability: Framework for fraud investigations



OCHA and the CERF secretariat take the potential misuse of grants from the fund extremely seriously. In 2016, CERF built on previous work to track and investigate cases of alleged fraud.

In 2015 the fund's Advisory Group endorsed guidelines for sharing fraud-related information with donors. Following this, the secretariat developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for handling cases of potential fraud. These include guidance on two topics: the information concerning possible cases that must be reported by recipient agencies, and how to notify donors of investigations into suspected cases that may involve fraud. These new procedures and guidelines were implemented in 2015.

In keeping with the communication guidelines and SOPs, in 2016 the CERF secretariat continued to liaise with agencies and donors regarding potential fraud cases, and it updated its SOPs based on lessons learned.



**Thanks to CERF, a response for affected women and girls is enabled right from the start, holding us accountable to the people we serve.**

*– Natalia Kanem, United Nations Population Fund Deputy Executive Director/Programme*

## Performance and Accountability Framework: Review of 2016 with a focus on El Niño



CERF's Performance and Accountability Framework (PAF) was initially established in 2010 as a means for formalizing a clear set of accountability mechanisms and reporting processes. Following a comprehensive 2013 review of PAF, the CERF secretariat, and by extension the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), today use the framework to clarify performance expectations and management accountability among various actors.

The PAF is intended to ensure that the fund's flexibility and straightforward nature are complemented by an appropriate level of transparency and accountability.

Among other things, the PAF specifies that three to five country-level reviews of CERF's value should be added each year. The reviews are commissioned by the fund's secretariat and conducted by independent evaluation experts.

In 2016, CERF published reviews of its allocations to the Syria, Iraq and South Sudan crises. While the CERF secretariat has in recent years conducted country-specific and regional reviews, in 2017 it will conduct its first thematic review, assessing the value added by CERF funding to the humanitarian response to the El Niño phenomenon.

In 2015 and 2016, CERF provided approximately \$119 million for El Niño-related activities in 19 countries (Angola, Djibouti, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mongolia, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea, Somalia, Swaziland, Vietnam and Zimbabwe). The PAF study will include a mix of field visits and desk reviews.

As with previous studies, one of the review's major aims will be to provide the ERC with an assurance that CERF is meeting key performance benchmarks and achieving planned results. It will also include recommendations aimed at improving the fund's operational aspects, and may identify relevant policy issues to be addressed at a global level. Unlike past reviews, however, it seeks to answer a set of higher-level strategic questions relating to CERF's role in the El Niño response by reviewing the fund's impact across a range of countries.

## Monitoring



In 2016, the CERF secretariat drafted a guidance note on monitoring the fund's allocations at country level. It clarifies roles and responsibilities in tracking the implementation of CERF grants, and outlines the activities needed to ensure that critical information is available during and after implementation. The note was developed in response to requests from field-level CERF practitioners, findings and recommendations from CERF-related evaluations, and audits by the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS).

In addition, the secretariat developed an interim project reporting template to facilitate easy information-sharing at country level. It will help ensure that the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators and other humanitarian actors at country level are informed about progress in the implementation of CERF-funded projects.

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# MEASURING THE RESULTS OF CERF FUNDING

CERF is committed to demonstrating life-saving results for the funding it allocates. The fund measures its results by tracking the numbers of people reached through each project it supports, and by assessing its strategic added value to the overall delivery of humanitarian assistance in response to emergencies.

Because CERF grants take up to nine months to implement and the reporting process requires an additional three months, information on CERF's results becomes available

one year after funding is allocated. This section of the 2016 Annual Report therefore presents the consolidated results of CERF funding allocated in 2015. It is based on the reports from the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinators (RC/HCs) on the use of CERF funding.

All RC/HC reports, as well as the detailed CERF Results Report, are available on the CERF website <http://www.unocha.org/cerf/cerfresultsreport>.

## People reached with CERF funding

In 2015, CERF enabled 11 UN agencies together with 648 implementing partners to provide life-saving assistance for millions of people affected by humanitarian crises.

Overall, an estimated 53 per cent of people reached with CERF funding allocated in 2015 were women and girls. However, some specific sectors had an even higher share of women and girls among reported beneficiaries: Nutrition, for instance, with 61 per cent, or Health with 55 per cent. Moreover some sectors, such as Education, focused predominantly on children, while in the Nutrition sector a reported 71 per cent of those reached were children.



CERF also played an important role in addressing the humanitarian consequences of growing population displacement worldwide. Of the people reached with CERF funding allocated in 2015, an estimated 60 per cent were refugees, internally displaced people or host communities suffering severe humanitarian crises in 37 countries.



As we continue to face the challenge of unprecedented levels of global human suffering, famine and displacement, the role of the CERF is more critical than ever and will be key to achieving the aspirations set out in the Grand Bargain and the wider commitments from the WHS. I am proud of Ireland's continued and consistent support to the CERF and I look forward to Ireland playing an even stronger role with CERF in the coming years

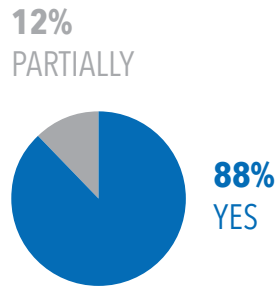
– Mr. Ciarán Cannon, Minister of State for the Diaspora and International Development of Ireland Programme

## PEOPLE REACHED IN 2015, BY SECTOR

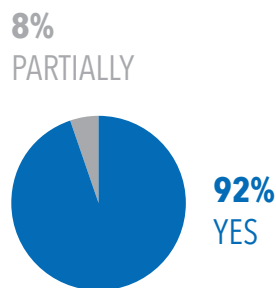
SECTOR	PEOPLE REACHED in millions	ADULTS in millions	CHILDREN in millions	FEMALE %	MALE %
 Water, sanitation and hygiene	<b>18.7M</b>	10.8M	7.9M	52%	48%
 Health	<b>12.8</b>	6.2	6.6	55%	45%
 Food	<b>10.1</b>	4.9	5.2	51%	49%
 Protection	<b>5.7</b>	3.0	2.7	53%	47%
 Agriculture	<b>3.4</b>	1.9	1.5	48%	52%
 Shelter and non-food items	<b>2.0</b>	1.0	1.0	52%	48%
 Nutrition	<b>2.0</b>	0.5	1.5	61%	39%
 Mine action	<b>0.9</b>	0.4	0.5	51%	49%
 Early recovery	<b>0.8</b>	0.4	0.4	48%	52%
 Camp management	<b>0.5</b>	0.3	0.2	54%	46%
 Multi-sector	<b>0.5</b>	0.2	0.3	48%	52%
 Education	<b>0.2</b>	0.0	0.2	48%	52%

## RC/HC FEEDBACK

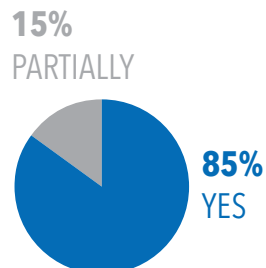
Did CERF funds lead to fast delivery of assistance to beneficiaries?



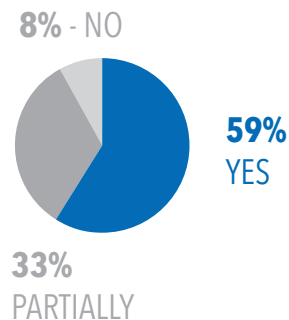
Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?



Did CERF improve coordination among the humanitarian community?



Did CERF help improve resource mobilization from other sources?



## CERF'S added value to the humanitarian response

CERF funds are used strategically to maximize their impact. Through its speed of response and inclusive allocation processes, the fund adds value to humanitarian action over and above the amount of money allocated.

CERF provides flexible funding, allocated at critical moments and directed where and when it is needed most. As a result, the fund is often one of the first sources of funding for new emergencies. CERF enables the humanitarian community to kick-start an urgent, life-saving response immediately while mobilizing funding from other sources to expand or continue aid delivery.

Because the fund enables a response so quickly, humanitarian organizations can receive an assurance of CERF funding within hours of the onset of a crisis. For instance, CERF committed \$15 million for critical humanitarian action within 48 hours of the 2015 earthquake in Nepal. With funding so readily available, humanitarians can confidently launch response activities immediately.

RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funds allocated in 2015 confirmed the fund's important strategic role in improving the humanitarian system's speed of response. Eighty-eight per cent of 2015 reports indicated that CERF funding led to fast humanitarian action in crises, while the remaining reports showed that CERF played a partial role in implementing a timely response.

In addition to providing timely and flexible funding, CERF's processes are also intended to strengthen humanitarian leadership, improve coordination among humanitarian organizations, and increase the coherence of crisis response.

Unlike most bilateral funding, which focuses on the work of individual agencies, CERF's allocations are designed to enable the humanitarian community to launch a joint response and to achieve results collectively. The fund's processes are also structured to ensure that humanitarians implement projects backed by CERF funds in a coordinated manner and following a coherent strategy.



## CERF partnerships for localized humanitarian action

CERF gives funding directly to United Nations humanitarian agencies, capitalizing on their extensive partnership networks in crisis-affected countries to reach the people who need life-saving humanitarian assistance. So although CERF is anchored in the UN system, it benefits the entire humanitarian community.

Local, national and international NGOs, host governments and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies – as the implementing partners of UN agencies granted CERF allocations – received sub-grants totalling \$120 million: over a quarter of all 2015 CERF funding. More than half of this support was provided to local partners.

Partnerships help to localize humanitarian action, build the capacity of national organizations in crisis-affected countries, and foster a coordinated, coherent response by the wider humanitarian community.

In addition to implementing humanitarian activities directly funded by CERF sub-grants, international NGOs and local partners also play an important role in distributing relief supplies procured by UN agencies with CERF funds. Over half of CERF-funded project budgets in 2015 – \$241 million – went to procuring these life-saving supplies.

The fund's 2015 allocations reached 320 national NGOs, 24 Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies, 161 government entities and 143 international NGOs to support their humanitarian action in 45 countries. This represents an unparalleled global reach that would be difficult to achieve for CERF's donors through direct funding agreements. Since its inception in 2006, CERF has funded humanitarian action in 98 different countries.

The portion of CERF funding transferred by recipient UN agencies to partners has steadily increased. In the five-year period since CERF started tracking and recording sub-grant data, over \$500 million has been reported as sub-granted to NGOs and other partners, of which \$258 million went to local partners.

The CERF secretariat and the CERF Advisory Group work closely with CERF recipient agencies and other Inter-Agency Standing Committee partners to make partnerships in implementing CERF grants as effective and efficient as possible.

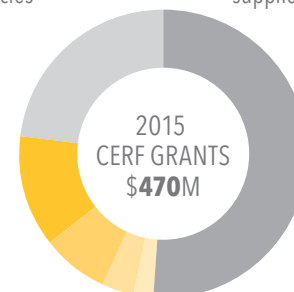
## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

**\$108M (23%)**

Other implementation costs by UN agencies

**\$241M (51%)**

Procurement of relief supplies by UN agencies



**\$120M / 26%**

Sub-granted by UN agencies to implementing partners

**\$58.2M / 48%**

**143** International NGOs

**\$35.3M / 29%**

**320** National NGOs

**\$17.2M / 14%**

**161** Government entities

**\$9.7M / 8%**

**24** Red Cross/Red Crescent societies



**CERF is at the forefront of humanitarian response and Norway is proud to be a top donor to the CERF. Each year, CERF and its partners provide millions of people with emergency health services, food assistance, protection, and water and sanitation.**

*– Børge Brende, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway*

## PARTNERS IN IMPLEMENTING CERF FUNDING



**\$470M**

TOTAL 2015\*  
CERF FUNDING

**\$120M**

SUB-GRANTED  
TO PARTNERS

**26%**

PERCENTAGE  
SUB-GRANTED



**143**

International  
non-governmental  
organizations

**320**

National/local  
non-governmental  
organizations

**161**

Government  
entities

**24**

Red Cross/  
Red Crescent  
societies

% of CERF funding implemented  
by partners



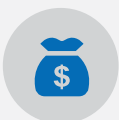
<10 20 30 40 >40%

Country

#of partners | Sub-granted amount (in US\$M)



## NATIONAL/LOCAL PARTNERS IN IMPLEMENTING CERF FUNDING



**\$470M**

TOTAL 2015\*  
CERF FUNDING

**\$62M**

SUB-GRANTED TO  
NATIONAL/LOCAL  
PARTNERS

**13%**

PERCENTAGE  
SUB-GRANTED



**320**

National/local  
non-governmental  
organizations

**161**

Government  
entities

**24**

Red Cross/  
Red Crescent  
societies

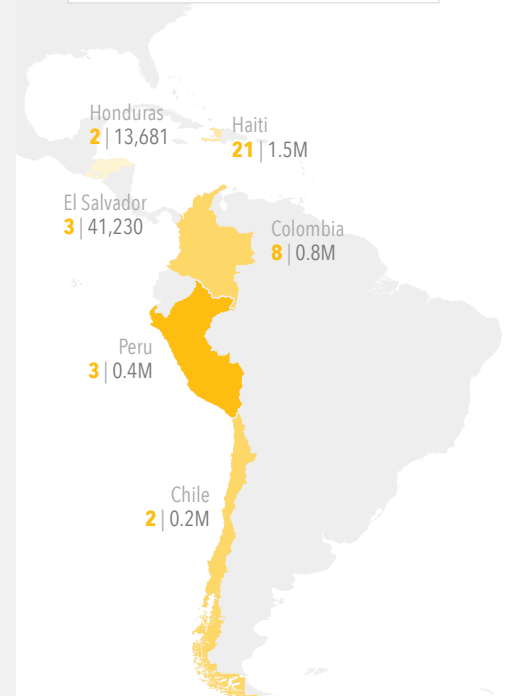
% of CERF funding implemented by  
national/local partners



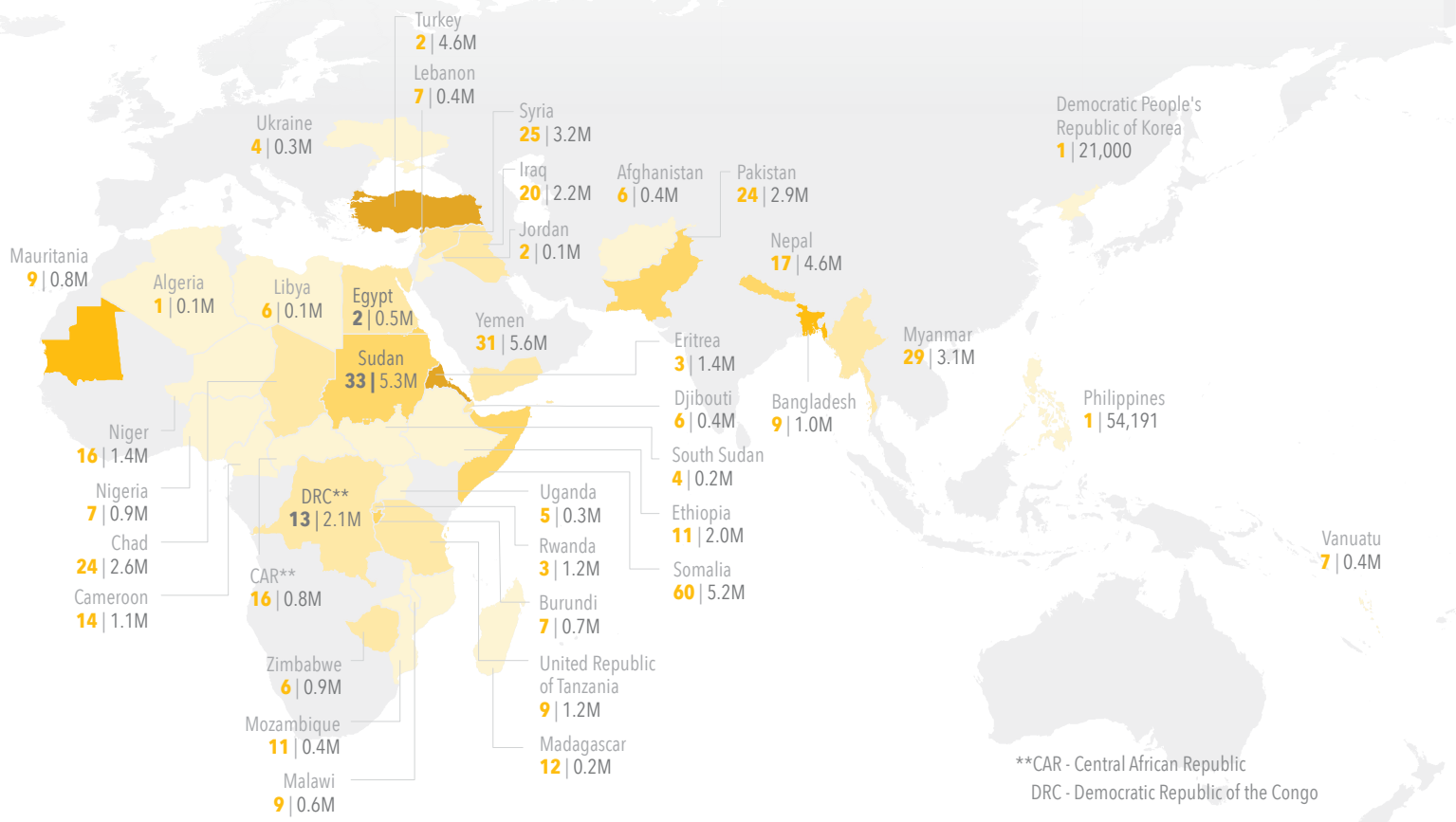
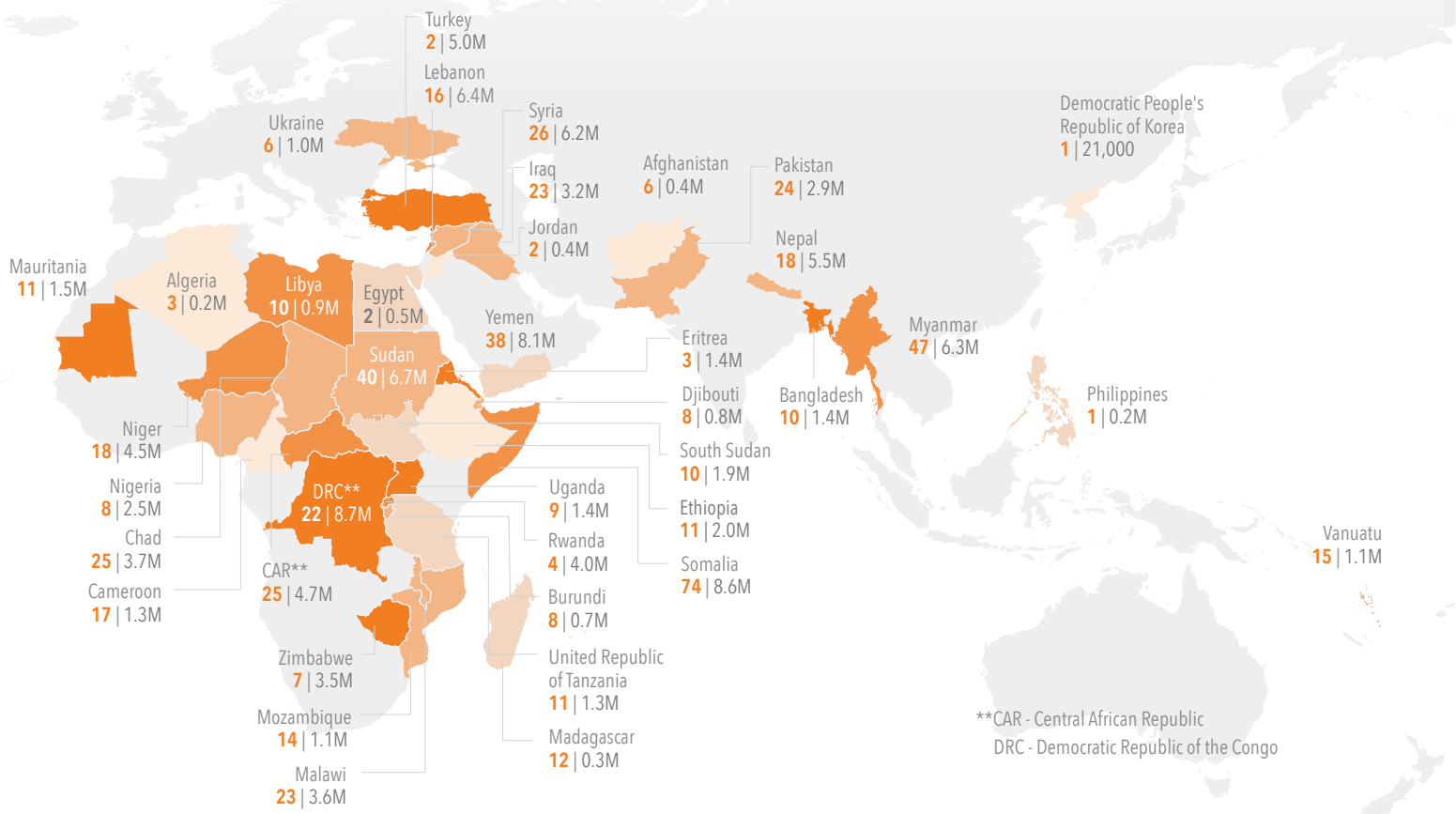
<10 20 30 40 >40%

Country

#of partners | Sub-granted amount (in US\$M)



\*2015 is the latest full year for which complete sub-grant data is currently available



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# ADVISORY GROUP

CERF's 18-member Advisory Group provides expertise and policy guidance on the use of the fund. The group meets biannually at UN Headquarters to assess CERF's impact and analyse the fund's future.

At their first 2016 gathering, in March, the members declared their support for the proposed expansion of CERF to \$1 billion, while calling for the fund to maintain its focus on speed and life-saving work. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon encouraged the group's members to advocate for greater support for CERF among their humanitarian networks.

The Advisory Group stressed the importance of keeping the fund's resources strong, to ensure timely, reliable responses to humanitarian emergencies. Among other things, members also discussed CERF's results and innovative approaches to financing.

Additional information about topics discussed and decisions reached at the Advisory Group's meetings in 2016 is available on the CERF website:

<http://www.unocha.org/cerf/advisorygroup>

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Director-General, International Humanitarian Assistance, Global Affairs Canada Canada



Back Row: L-R: Mr. Stephen O'Brien (Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator), Dr. Ashraf Shikhaliyev (Azerbaijan), Mr. Per Örneus (Sweden), Dr. Julius Oketta (Uganda), Mr. Joost Andriessen (the Netherlands), Dr. Eltje Aderhold (Germany).

Front Row: L-R: Mr. Manuel Bessler (Switzerland), Ms. Jette Michelsen (Denmark), Mr. Samson Palia Wangusi (Kenya), Ms. Judy Cheng-Hopkins (Malaysia), Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Ms. Nozipho Mxakato-Diseko (South Africa), Ms. Christina Buchan (Canada), Ms. Rachel Turner (UK), Ms. Lisa Doughten (Chief CERF secretariat). © UN Photo/Rick Bajornas

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**Dr. Al-Sayer (Mr.)<sup>a</sup>**

President of the Kuwait Red Crescent Society, Board Chairman of Dasman Diabetes Institute  
Kuwait

**Mr. Jelte van Wieren<sup>a</sup>**

Director of the Stabilization and Humanitarian Aid Department of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Netherlands

<sup>a</sup>Newly appointed member in 2016

<sup>b</sup>Term ended in July 2016

# CERF'S HUMANITARIAN IMPACT IN 2017 AND BEYOND



The nature of crisis has changed, and approaches to funding the humanitarian response must change with it. Today CERF faces emergencies far greater and more complex than those the fund encountered at its launch in 2006. Displacement is at a historic high, armed conflict and political discord are growing, and climate change is intensifying already dangerous conditions. The world cannot shape tomorrow's humanitarian interventions with yesterday's tools alone.

A strong CERF is vital to the health of the humanitarian system. But time, inflation and the explosive growth of need all require the world to think anew about the fund's current capacity to save lives.

In the decade since the launch of CERF, its annual fundraising goal of \$450 million has remained unchanged. The world's humanitarian requirements, however, have more than quadrupled, soaring from just over \$5 billion in 2006 to some \$21 billion in 2016. The United Nations estimates that over \$22 billion is required in 2017 to meet the needs of nearly 93 million of the world's most vulnerable people.

By 2016, CERF's funding target as a percentage of global needs had declined from nearly 9 per cent to slightly above 2 per cent. When adjusted for inflation, the \$450 million target represents just \$375 million in 2006 dollars. Conversely, to maintain the same funding power it had a decade earlier, CERF would have needed to raise close to \$540 million in 2016.

Recognizing that the fundraising target defined for CERF by the General Assembly in 2006 is no longer aligned with the scale of the world's crises, the Secretary-General has called for the fund to be expanded to \$1 billion by 2018. The General Assembly has officially supported this goal in a resolution, and some donors have already increased their contributions accordingly.

A \$1-billion CERF would increase the fund's impact while maintaining its focus, scope and speed. It would make more funding readily available for sudden and underfunded crises alike, and ensure that CERF can continue to carry out the life-saving mission assigned to it by the General Assembly.



**Australia's support for the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) reflects our commitment to providing assistance to those with significant humanitarian needs. The CERF delivers critical life-saving assistance by responding rapidly to fast-developing crisis situations and providing support to underfunded existing crises.**

*– Hon Julie Bishop MP, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs*



## CERF and the Grand Bargain

At the World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016 in Istanbul, donors and humanitarian partners reached agreement on the Grand Bargain, a call to deliver more resources to people in need and to do so more effectively and efficiently. The Grand Bargain recognizes that, with the world's humanitarian response system woefully short of resources, new approaches are required immediately. While more and larger contributions are clearly needed, existing funding must be used for maximum benefit.

The Grand Bargain calls for changes through ten commitments to greater efficiency, including less earmarking of humanitarian donor funding, improved transparency in aid delivery, greater support for national and local humanitarian responders and a commitment to cash-based programming.

CERF's working methods are already aligned with many of the Grand Bargain's goals. Its flexible, unearmarked funding can reach those who need it most. The fund also supports a collective, strategic response among humanitarians in a country experiencing crisis, and provides cash programmes. Transparency is built into its processes, with grant decisions available online in real time and grant reports provided for each allocation.

In response to the Grand Bargain's objective of lower management costs for aid organizations, CERF cut its programme support cost from 3 per cent to 2 per cent as of 1 June 2016. The reduction was expected to make an additional \$4 million available for life-saving assistance, based on CERF's current funding target of \$450 million per year.

## The investment case for CERF

CERF occupies a unique place in the global humanitarian landscape through its combination of speed, reliability, convening power and substantial resources. The General Assembly created it to fill a gap in the humanitarian response by saving lives that would otherwise be lost owing to delayed action or insufficient funding.

CERF achieves this goal by leveraging the combined strength of the humanitarian partners. No other organization is in a position to bring leadership and coordination to an emergency response in quite the same way. And because CERF links its allocations directly to carefully defined needs on the ground, a contribution to the fund is an investment with a guaranteed return.

When the story of someone else's suffering touches us, we naturally want to offer support. For more than a decade, CERF has offered a way to do so before an emergency unfolds. By bringing the world community together to pool resources in advance, CERF frees the humanitarian response from the need to catch up in a crisis.

A contribution to CERF today ensures that, thanks to the generosity of CERF's donors, the world's most urgent needs will be met quickly and reliably, wherever and whenever they appear.

Refugee children race each other in the sanctuary of northern Uganda, after fleeing the fighting in South Sudan  
© UNHCR/Will Swanson

# ANNEXES

## ANNEX I Underfunded Emergencies grants allocated by country (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Country	Round 1	Round 2	Amount Approved
Burundi	12,985,955		12,985,955
Central African Republic		8,999,815	8,999,815
Chad		10,000,551	10,000,551
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	8,000,692		8,000,692
Democratic Republic of the Congo		10,995,505	10,995,505
Eritrea		2,002,599	2,002,599
Ethiopia	10,991,119		10,991,119
Kenya	3,998,746		3,998,746
Libya	11,989,024		11,989,024
Mali	15,999,980		15,999,980
Republic of the Sudan	6,991,425		6,991,425
Rwanda		4,998,778	4,998,778
Uganda	18,000,027		18,000,027
United Republic of Tanzania	10,994,664		10,994,664
Yemen		12,988,837	12,988,837
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,951,632</b>	<b>49,986,085</b>	<b>149,937,717</b>

## ANNEX II Rapid Response grants allocated by country (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Country	Amount Approved	Country	Amount Approved
Afghanistan	9,782,398	Lesotho	4,782,918
Angola	7,989,386	Madagascar	5,988,888
Bangladesh	4,890,038	Malawi	1,437,503
Cameroon	4,187,543	Mongolia	2,442,974
Central African Republic	2,985,563	Mozambique	4,679,803
Chad	9,991,552	Myanmar	3,570,457
Côte d'Ivoire	1,965,416	Nepal	1,942,999
Cuba	5,352,736	Niger	4,989,275
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	5,054,519	Nigeria	23,483,769
Democratic Republic of the Congo	5,594,179	Papua New Guinea	4,736,155
Djibouti	1,972,054	Congo	2,366,915
Ecuador	7,501,349	Sudan	17,644,007
Ethiopia	9,491,863	Rwanda	4,218,944
Fiji	8,022,382	Somalia	12,885,332
Guatemala	4,829,690	South Sudan	20,823,623
Guinea	2,971,319	Sri Lanka	4,320,080
Haiti	10,383,240	Swaziland	3,141,908
Iraq	33,354,244	Timor-Leste	846,703
Jordan	9,377,520	Uganda	10,297,497
Kenya	962,943	United Republic of Tanzania	1,498,097
Lao People's Democratic Republic	328,811	Viet Nam	3,897,864
		Yemen	2,000,000
		<b>Total</b>	<b>288,984,456</b>



### ANNEX III Total grants allocated by country and window (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Country	Rapid Response	Underfunded Emergencies	Total
Afghanistan	9,782,398		9,782,398
Angola	7,989,386		7,989,386
Bangladesh	4,890,038		4,890,038
Burundi		12,985,955	12,985,955
Cameroon	4,187,543		4,187,543
Central African Republic	2,985,563	8,999,815	11,985,378
Chad	9,991,552	10,000,551	19,992,103
Côte d'Ivoire	1,965,416		1,965,416
Cuba	5,352,736		5,352,736
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	5,054,519	8,000,692	13,055,211
Democratic Republic of the Congo	5,594,179	10,995,505	16,589,684
Djibouti	1,972,054		1,972,054
Ecuador	7,501,349		7,501,349
Eritrea		2,002,599	2,002,599
Ethiopia	9,491,863	10,991,119	20,482,982
Fiji	8,022,382		8,022,382
Guatemala	4,829,690		4,829,690
Guinea	2,971,319		2,971,319
Haiti	10,383,240		10,383,240
Iraq	33,354,244		33,354,244
Jordan	9,377,520		9,377,520
Kenya	962,943	3,998,746	4,961,689
Lao People's Democratic Republic	328,811		328,811
Lesotho	4,782,918		4,782,918
Libya		11,989,024	11,989,024
Madagascar	5,988,888		5,988,888
Malawi	1,437,503		1,437,503
Mali		15,999,980	15,999,980
Mongolia	2,442,974		2,442,974
Mozambique	4,679,803		4,679,803
Myanmar	3,570,457		3,570,457
Nepal	1,942,999		1,942,999
Niger	4,989,275		4,989,275
Nigeria	23,483,769		23,483,769
Papua New Guinea	4,736,155		4,736,155
Congo	2,366,915		2,366,915
Sudan	17,644,007	6,991,425	24,635,432
Rwanda	4,218,944	4,998,778	9,217,722
Somalia	12,885,332		12,885,332
South Sudan	20,823,623		20,823,623
Sri Lanka	4,320,080		4,320,080
Swaziland	3,141,908		3,141,908
Timor-Leste	846,703		846,703
Uganda	10,297,497	18,000,027	28,297,524
United Republic of Tanzania	1,498,097	10,994,664	12,492,761
Viet Nam	3,897,864		3,897,864
Yemen	2,000,000	12,988,837	14,988,837
<b>Total</b>	<b>288,984,456</b>	<b>149,937,717</b>	<b>469,650,008</b>

## ANNEX IV

### A. Breakdown of allocations by sector and window (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Sector	Rapid Response	Underfunded Emergencies	Total
Agriculture	12,917,071	6,996,589	19,913,660
Camp Coordination and Camp Management	1,800,000	750,000	2,550,000
Child Protection	2,913,877	5,520,645	8,434,522
Common Humanitarian Air Services		1,000,000	1,000,000
Common Logistics	2,492,684	999,997	3,492,681
Common Telecommunications	44,940		44,940
Early Recovery	1,352,594	1,000,001	2,352,595
Education	4,515,149	2,336,939	6,852,088
Food Aid	68,899,392	31,612,557	100,511,949
Health	52,698,656	26,487,418	79,186,074
Human Rights		499,960	499,960
Livestock	1,950,843		1,950,843
Mine Action	232,232	740,644	972,876
Multi-sector		8,216,051	8,216,051
Multi-sector refugee assistance	22,844,938	17,725,001	40,569,939
Non-Food Items	14,436,044	4,965,013	19,401,057
Nutrition	25,188,545	19,239,023	44,427,568
Protection	3,851,388	1,475,000	5,326,388
Safety and Security of Staff and Operations	1,528,374		1,528,374
Sexual and/or Gender-Based Violence	5,158,750	2,069,993	7,228,743
Shelter	27,453,382	8,371,032	35,824,414
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	38,705,597	9,931,854	48,637,451
<b>Total</b>	<b>288,984,456</b>	<b>149,937,717</b>	<b>438,922,173</b>

### A. Breakdown of allocations by agency and window (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Agency	Rapid Response	Underfunded Emergencies	Total
Food and Agriculture Organization	14,867,914	7,780,589	22,648,503
International Organization for Migration	29,929,677	8,172,576	38,102,253
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights		499,960	499,960
United Nations Children's Fund	69,510,677	35,891,897	105,402,574
United Nations Development Programme	5,461,060	1,000,001	6,461,061
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	1,217,639	650,000	1,867,639
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	39,317,277	33,386,049	72,703,326
United Nations Human Settlements Programme	927,080		927,080
United Nations Office for Project Services	232,232	740,644	972,876
United Nations Population Fund	15,619,064	7,529,353	23,148,417
World Food Programme	79,864,462	42,227,861	122,092,323
World Health Organization	32,037,374	12,058,787	44,096,161
<b>Total</b>	<b>288,984,456</b>	<b>149,937,717</b>	<b>438,922,173</b>

### C. Breakdown of allocations by emergency type and window (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Emergency type	Rapid Response	Underfunded Emergencies	Total
Biological (human disease outbreak and other health emergency)	12,817,842		12,817,842
Biological (animal and flora) "	328,811		328,811
Conflict-related	151,892,569	98,959,467	250,852,036
Geophysical	8,999,446		8,999,446
Internal strife	16,966,018	42,977,558	59,943,576
Meteorological, Hydrological and Climatological	97,979,770		97,979,770
Multiple		8,000,692	8,000,692
<b>Total</b>	<b>288,984,456</b>	<b>149,937,717</b>	<b>438,922,173</b>

### D. Breakdown of allocations by region and window (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Region	Rapid Response	Underfunded Emergencies	Total
Africa	166,350,297	128,948,188	295,298,485
Asia and the Pacific	49,835,380	8,000,692	57,836,072
Latin America and Caribbean	28,067,015	-	28,067,015
Middle East	44,731,764	12,988,837	57,720,601
<b>Total</b>	<b>288,984,456</b>	<b>149,937,717</b>	<b>438,922,173</b>

## ANNEX V

### A. Contributions pledged by Member States and observers (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Country	Pledged contributions <sup>a</sup>
Albania	1,000
Andorra	16,633
Argentina	60,000
Armenia	5,000
Australia	7,728,582
Bangladesh	5,000
Belgium	10,893,246
Canada	22,528,736
Chile	30,000
China	500,000
Cyprus	13,910
Denmark	15,151,515
Djibouti	1,000
Estonia	109,890
Finland	7,803,790
Germany	55,133,606
Guyana	2,179
Iceland	300,000
India	500,000
Indonesia	200,000
Iraq	5,000
Ireland	13,917,151
Italy	2,507,694
Japan	1,285,908
Kazakhstan	10,000
Kuwait	1,000,000

Country	Pledged contributions
Liechtenstein	201,816
Luxembourg	4,923,414
Monaco	55,866
Montenegro	2,000
Myanmar	10,000
Netherlands	60,175,055
New Zealand	2,063,274
Norway	45,385,514
Pakistan	10,000
Peru	3,973
Philippines	5,000
Portugal	54,705
Republic of Korea	4,000,000
Russian Federation	1,500,000
Saudi Arabia	150,000
Singapore	50,000
South Africa	428,878
Spain	2,219,756
Sweden	83,349,933
Switzerland	8,007,256
Thailand	20,000
Turkey	450,000
United Arab Emirates	1,000,000
United Kingdom	69,720,796
United States	3,000,000
Vietnam	10,000
Sovereign Military Order of Malta	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>426,512,076</b>

### B. Contributions pledged by regional and local authorities (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Country	Pledged contributions <sup>a</sup>
Government of Flanders (Belgium)	659,341
<b>Total</b>	<b>659,341</b>

### C. Private donations through UN Foundation (under \$10,000) (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2016) in US\$

Country	Pledged contributions <sup>a</sup>
Private donations through UN Foundation (under \$10,000)	19,632
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,632</b>

<sup>a</sup> Contributions are based on the year of the donor's pledge and differ from the amount reported as revenue under IPSAS. Actual received contributions may differ from the pledges originally recorded, owing to fluctuations in exchange rates.

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Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - United Nations

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