



CERF Annual Results Report 2020 edition

OCHA
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
FOR THE COORDINATION
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

United Nations | Central
CERF | Emergency
Response
Fund



United Nations

2019

FOR ALL, BY ALL

The achievements described in this publication would not have been possible without donors' generous contributions to CERF, which in 2019 enabled the Fund to allocate US\$ 539 million for life-saving humanitarian response in 49 countries and territories.

This invaluable funding benefited 29.4 million people in crisis situations reflecting the commitment of CERF donors to saving lives wherever crises strike and their trust in the Fund.

\$834.6M in contributions from
54 Member States and observers
3 Regional and local authorities
1 Foundation
Multiple private contributions

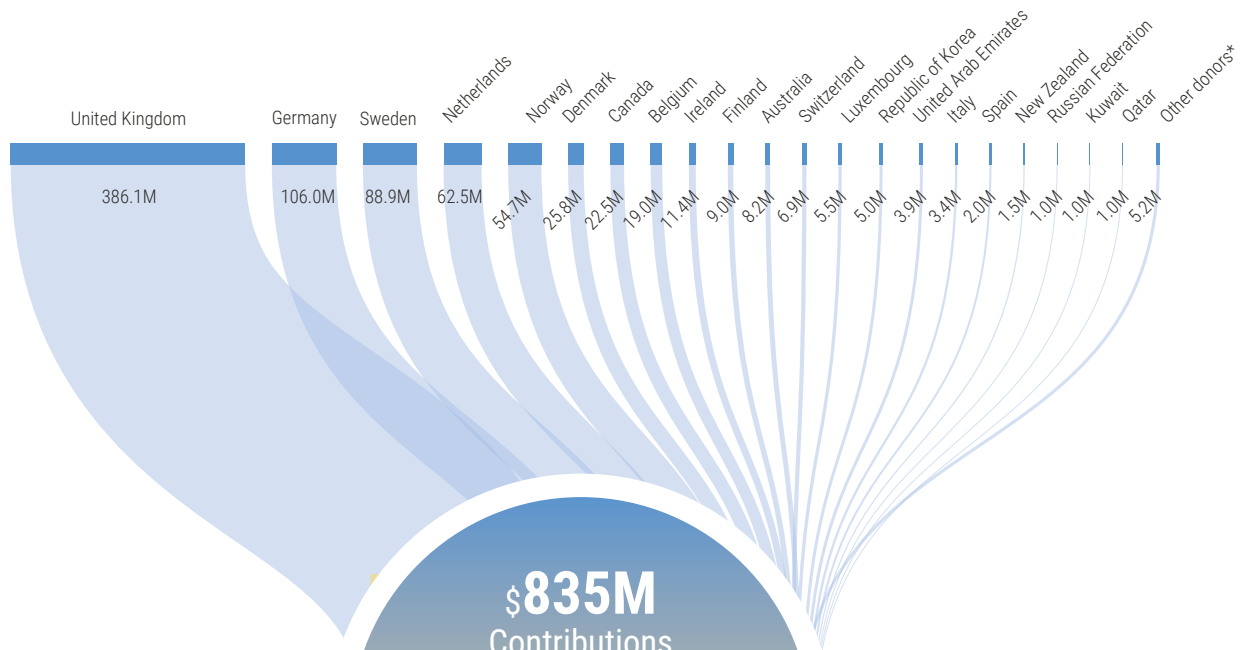


Donors	Contributions (in US\$)	* Other donors	Contributions (in US\$)
United Kingdom	386.1M	Qatar	1.0M
Germany	106.0M	Japan	680k
Sweden	88.9M	China	500k
Netherlands	62.5M	Iceland	465k
Norway	54.7M	Turkey	400k
Denmark	25.8M	Indonesia	220k
Canada	22.5M	Czech Republic	219k
Belgium	19.0M	Liechtenstein	201k
Ireland	11.4M	Portugal	170k
Finland	9.0M	Saudi Arabia	150k
Australia	8.2M	Estonia	114k
Switzerland	6.9M	Monaco	114k
Luxembourg	5.5M	Colombia	90k
Korea, Republic of	5.0M	Oman	50k
United Arab Emirates	5.0M	Singapore	50k
Italy	3.9M	Chile	30k
Spain	3.4M	Iran, Islamic Republic of	24k
New Zealand	2.0M	Azerbaijan	20k
Russian Federation	1.5M	Bangladesh	20k
Kuwait	1.0M	Thailand	20k
		Andorra	17k
		Kazakhstan	10k
		Mongolia	10k
		Myanmar	10k
		Pakistan	10k
		Sri Lanka	10k
		Viet Nam	10k
		Armenia	5k
		Tunisia	5k
		Moldova, Republic of	3k
		Peru	3k
		Philippines	3k
		Guyana	2k
		Bhutan	2k
		Belgian Government of Flanders	689k
		Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation	325k
		Basque Agency for Development Cooperation	109k
		Private donations	453k

14 UN agencies in partnership with
 International NGOs
National NGOs
Government entities
Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies

29.4M people assisted
in 49 countries and territories

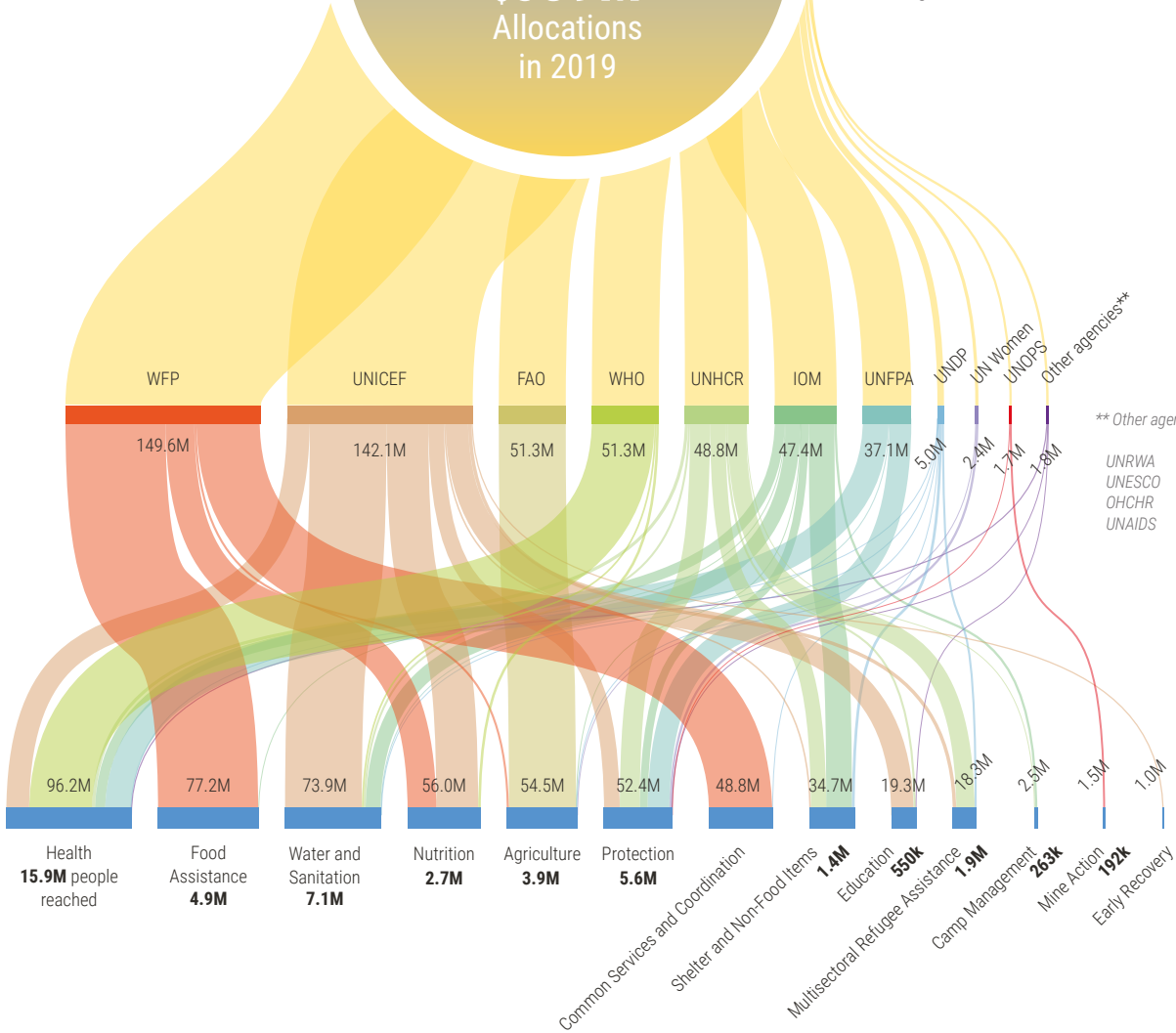




\$835M
Contributions
for 2019

\$539M
Allocations
in 2019

CERF received exceptionally generous contributions in December 2019 totaling \$391 million. Most of this funding will be allocated in 2020.



** Other agencies Funding received

- UNRWA 758k
- UNESCO 500k
- OHCHR 414k
- UNAIDS 150k

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CREDITS

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Cover and title page photo:

A displaced girl collects water at in Doonyaale IDP camp, Galkayo, Puntland, Somalia. © UNICEF/Knowles-Coursin

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The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this report do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

Map source: United Nations Geospatial Information Section

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

Foreword



During a visit to Haiti, USG Lowcock meets with the president of the local NGO Fondation Haitienne de Rehabilitation (FONHARE).
© OCHA/Nadia Todres

I am pleased to share with you the first edition of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Annual Results Report. It provides a consolidated review of the actions CERF undertook in 2019 and the results obtained with your investments in the Fund. I hope it will give you a thorough understanding of the difference we have made together, and are making every day, for people affected by crisis.

Established as “a fund for all, by all”, CERF remains one of the fastest enablers of humanitarian action around the world, helping aid agencies save lives and protect people whenever and wherever they needed it most.

Throughout the year, we saw an unprecedented demand for CERF funding. CERF contributions enabled the scaling-up of life-saving operations in Yemen, supported vulnerable communities after Mozambique’s deadly cyclones, provided aid and protection for people affected by intercommunal violence in Burkina Faso, and helped contain a measles outbreak in Samoa and neighbouring islands in the Pacific—to name only a few examples.

CERF allocated a record US\$539 million to UN and humanitarian organizations working at the front lines to help millions of crisis-affected people across 49 countries.

Of that amount, some \$339 million allowed humanitarian partners to jump-start or scale up urgent aid in new or deteriorating emergencies. Another \$200 million helped them deliver life-saving assistance to an estimated 14.4 million people in 23 critically underfunded and neglected crises.

Throughout 2019, CERF allocations strengthened support to four priority areas that are often underfunded in humanitarian operations. By prioritizing programmes targeting women and girls, people with disabilities, education in protracted crises and other aspects of protection, CERF helped ensure that the most vulnerable people received the attention and support they need and deserve.

CERF is one of the greatest shared successes of the international community. No other global mechanism enables the humanitarian system to act as rapidly and at such scale when sudden-onset emergencies strike. No other humanitarian fund steers resources to critically underfunded and forgotten crises as effectively as CERF does.

This success would not have been possible without the generous support of donors. In 2019, donors once again demonstrated their confidence in CERF by contributing a record \$835 million, a 50 per cent increase compared with 2018.

At the time of writing the world is facing an unprecedented threat. COVID-19 has a foothold across the globe and is impacting vulnerable people in countries already grappling with humanitarian crises. The crisis will require us to strengthen our common resolve to respond to unprecedented need. Thanks to timely donor contributions to the Fund I was able to make three early CERF allocations totaling \$95 million to support pandemic response efforts, and to demonstrate global solidarity.

I am extremely grateful to all the donors and partner agencies who make CERF’s life-saving work possible.

As we face one of our most daunting challenges ever, I count on your continued support to strengthen and enhance CERF’s impact on people who need us the most.

MARK LOWCOCK

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

Introduction

The 2020 edition of the CERF Annual Results Report is the first of its kind. This publication combines, into a single document, the contents previously found in the CERF Annual Report and the CERF Results Report. This report was designed based on feedback from CERF donors, Advisory Group members, UN agencies and other important stakeholders, which advised on the merging of the CERF Annual Report and the CERF Results Report into a single publication.

This new publication provides a comprehensive overview of how CERF has made a difference, bringing together information about funding allocated in the past year, and an analysis of results achieved. The publication includes key information about the fund (Part I and V); a summary overview of allocations made in 2019 (Part II); an analysis of results achieved with CERF funding (Part III); and highlights provided by recipient agencies on CERF's role in enabling agencies' humanitarian operations (Part IV).

The 2020 edition of the Annual Results Report demonstrates the impact that CERF is having on the lives of people living in crisis. It shows that the number of people reached with CERF funding is even higher than the number of people originally targeted in the planning phase. According to the analysis, which looked at reported data for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018, the number of people reached exceeded the number of people targeted with humanitarian assistance, by 20 per cent or more in each of the three years.

Until last year, CERF used to publish the numbers of people assisted with CERF funding when the information on people reached was reported in the reports of the Resident Coordinators/Humanitarian Coordinators on the use of CERF funds. However, based on the findings from the analysis, as of 2020, the CERF secretariat has started to use the numbers of people targeted for aggregation of anticipated CERF results before the reports on people reached are available. This eliminates the need to wait for reports on the use of CERF funding and allows for much timelier global reporting on the reach of CERF. Nevertheless, the CERF secretariat will continue to monitor the incoming reports on the use of CERF funds and will report on any variations between targeted and reached figures.

The launch of the new CERF Annual Results Report is complemented with another key milestone in improving CERF's transparency and information sharing: the launch of CERF's online allocation tracker. Summaries of CERF allocations are now published in real time on CERF's website, rather than once a year, as a core component of the CERF Results Report. Moving the allocation summaries online has enabled their immediate availability and further improved timely communication to partners on the activities of the Fund.

In line with recent discussions in the CERF Advisory Group, and inspired by the success of CERF as an effective enabler of humanitarian action that is documented in this publication, CERF will in 2020 and 2021 look ever more deeply at how to further increase and better capture the Fund's impact and results achieved.

Executive summary

2019 was an exceptional year for Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The Fund supported humanitarian responses at an unprecedented scale by allocating US\$538 million to urgent needs worldwide. It continued to provide fast, predictable and flexible life-saving assistance and protection for more than 29 million people affected by humanitarian crises in 49 countries and territories.

In 2019, almost half of people assisted with CERF funding (13.7 million people), were caught in conflicts. CERF also supported people affected by natural disasters (representing 43 per cent of people assisted) and people affected by disease outbreaks (10 per cent of people assisted). ([See pages 30-45](#))

CERF funding allowed partners to kick-start relief efforts immediately when new crises emerged. When two subsequent cyclones left a trail of destruction in Southern Africa, CERF was there to support the scale-up of humanitarian responses across the hardest hit countries. CERF also helped to sustain protracted relief operations to avoid critical gaps in life-saving assistance when no other funding was available. In Afghanistan, for example, CERF funding was a lifeline to people affected by conflict, which this year was compounded by the worst drought in a decade.

In 2019 CERF made significant headway in helping the humanitarian community reach the most vulnerable people by encouraging programmes that address particularly underfunded humanitarian areas. By placing emphasis on support to women and girls, people with disabilities, education in emergencies and other aspects of protection, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has effectively helped ensure progress. Specifically, 2019 saw the highest ever CERF funding for education in emergencies with more than \$19 million. CERF gave \$52 million to projects in the protection sector. ([See pages 70-85](#))

In 2019 CERF piloted a \$10 million two-year grant to Bangladesh through the Underfunded Emergencies window. The pilot helps to strengthen the quality of the humanitarian response, in a complex operating environment, through more predictable funding. Over two years CERF is supporting education for Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar, with project activities running until mid-2021. The implementing agencies, United Nations Children's Fund and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, have indicated the positive impact of CERF multi-year funding and emphasized that the longer-term perspective provides more programming flexibility and much-needed predictability. ([See page 136](#))

In 2019, CERF worked with partners to promote a more anticipatory response to predictable humanitarian shocks. Along with the World Bank, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and other partners, CERF developed an anticipatory action framework for drought in Somalia. In 2020, the anticipatory action framework was triggered – and CERF released funding towards the pre-agreed humanitarian action plan, addressing food insecurity early on, anticipating and mitigating humanitarian need. ([See page 137](#))

CERF continued to address the humanitarian consequences of forced displacement and supported the mitigation of new displacement throughout 2019. In total, CERF funds targeted 18 million people affected by displacement in the world's most severe humanitarian crises. This represents 61 per cent of all people targeted with 2019 CERF funding, up from 54 per cent the year before. Of these, 6.1 million were internally displaced persons, 3.2 million refugees, 1.9 million returnees and 6.8 million people hosting displaced populations. CERF funding to the Venezuela Regional Refugee and Migrant Crisis, for example, allowed UN agencies and partners to provide life-saving assis-

tance to more than 170,000 of the most critically affected refugees and people in host communities across Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. [\(See pages 52-55\)](#)

2019 again proved the difference that CERF makes in responding to the life-saving needs of people in humanitarian crises across the world. CERF resources were used to support more than 29 million people in 49 countries with different sectoral interventions – enabling UN agencies and their partners to target 15.9 million vulnerable people with health care, 7.1 million with water and sanitation, 5.6 million with protection support and 4.9 million with food assistance. The Fund supported 3.9 million people with agriculture-based livelihood support, 2.7 million with nutrition assistance, 1.9 million with multisectoral refugee support and 1.4 million with shelter assistance or basic relief items. Several hundreds of thousands of people benefitted from camp management, education, mine action and multipurpose cash assistance. [\(See pages 47-53\)](#)

In 2019, a review found that CERF-funded humanitarian action consistently reached more people than initially targeted by as much as 34 per cent. This has provided reassurance that data on people targeted is a good proxy for estimations of people reached, and that CERF's actual reach is greater than what is reflected in funded proposals. [\(See pages 54-59\)](#)

CERF's performance as assessed by Resident Coordinators/Humanitarian Coordinators (RC/HC) ⁱ affirmed yet again the Fund's strategic added value in enabling fast, timely and more coordinated responses and serving as a catalyst for the mobilization of additional resources. Overall, 96 per cent of Rapid Response CERF allocations led

to fast delivery of assistance, 82 per cent of CERF allocations helped improve coordination and 84 per cent of allocations had directly or indirectly helped improve resource mobilization from other sources. In addition, RC/HCs said that all CERF allocations had helped partners respond to time-critical needs. [\(See pages 60-69\)](#)

Again in 2019, CERF was one of the fastest sources of humanitarian emergency funding available to the humanitarian community. The average duration between the submission of an application and the disbursement of CERF funds was 12 working days. For the most time-critical grants the process was even faster. For example, CERF's allocation of \$14 million to Mozambique in the aftermath of Cyclone Idai was disbursed within five days of the application submission. This allowed UN agencies and their partners to immediately respond to the humanitarian emergency. [\(See pages 100-103\)](#)

In 2019, CERF expanded its reach through the broadest partnership network in the history of the Fund. Through a wide-ranging network of 717 non-UN partners, including 567 national and local organizations, some \$137 million of CERF funding (27 per cent) was channeled through UN agencies to their implementing partners. Of this, more than half, \$73 million, was provided to national and local organizations. This was the highest ever annual amount passed on to implementing partners in both absolute and relative terms, up more than \$40 million from the previous year. [\(See pages 94-99\)](#)

In 2019, CERF introduced the Gender and Age Marker (GAM)ⁱⁱ into its applications and reporting templates to better promote gender- and age-sensitive humanitarian programming. The high rate of CERF projects that applied the GAM – 99 per

ⁱ From reporting on all CERF funding provided in 2018 and implemented across 2018 and 2019.

ⁱⁱ From 2015 until 2019, CERF required UN agencies to provide the IASC Gender Marker in its application and reporting templates.

cent – is far above the Inter-Agency Standing Committee target of 80 per cent and demonstrates CERF’s added value for strengthening gender- and age-equality programming across the system. About 53 per cent of people assisted with CERF funding in 2019 were women and girls, and 55 per cent were children under the age of 18. CERF funding to some sectors had specific focus on women and girls and on children. For instance, 25 out of 41 CERF-funded projects in the nutrition sector focused specifically on the provision of supplementary food to pregnant and lactating women, and children. CERF-funded projects in the education sector focused entirely on children. [\(See pages 72-75\)](#)

In 2019, some 60 per cent of CERF-funded projects included at least one component focusing on protection from gender-based violence (GBV), a slight increase compared to 2018 and 2017 but up from 50 per cent in 2016. At the same time the percentage of CERF-funded projects that had protection from GBV as the main objective plateaued at 8 per cent. The ERC’s initiative on underfunded humanitarian areas have led to improved prioritization of protection from GBV: CERF funding to United Nations Population Fund’s GBV and Sexual and Reproductive Health work increased by 50 per cent compared to previous years. [\(See pages 82-85\)](#)

CERF continued to promote the use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) in humanitarian action as the default response modality in 2019. The number of projects supported with CVA represented \$48.7 million, or 9 per cent, of total funds allocated. 2019 saw significant progress in making CERF funded cash-based assistance more flexible for beneficiaries - with the proportion of unrestricted CVA almost doubling from 45 per cent in 2018 to 79 per cent in 2019. Some 2.6 million people

received life-saving assistance through cash and vouchers in 32 countries, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Malawi, Somalia and Zimbabwe. [\(See pages 86-89\)](#)

In 2019, CERF further improved the way it assesses Accountability to Affected People (AAP), ensuring that affected communities are meaningfully and continuously involved in decisions that directly impact their lives. For each proposal submitted to CERF, the quality of AAP measures was reviewed using a stricter and more detailed approach. Notwithstanding, in more than 70 per cent of CERF-funded projects, affected people were able to participate in decisions about project design and delivery. For example, in Cameroon UN Women implemented a full community-based strategy in their GBV project, involving traditional leaders, religious groups and networks of women’s associations, and by engaging in discussions with people receiving assistance. [\(See pages 90-93\)](#)

Thanks to donors’ generous support, CERF remained a global fund that continued to demonstrate unparalleled reach in 2019. For the third consecutive year, CERF received record-high contributions amounting to \$834.6 million.ⁱⁱⁱ This is \$276 million more than the former record from 2018, and only \$165.4 million short of the ambitious \$1 billion annual funding target endorsed by the General Assembly in 2016. It was, however, based on an extraordinarily high contributions from the United Kingdom, followed by Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands and Norway. In total, 129 CERF donors (as of May 2020) have contributed more than \$6.7 billion to the Fund since 2006, showing extraordinary solidarity and making CERF “a fund for all, by all”. It is thanks to this solidarity, and these resources, that 2019 was such a remarkable year. [\(See pages 10-13\)](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ Significant donor contributions in December 2019 led to unusually high carry-over that is available for programming in 2020.



CERF Annual Results Report 2020 edition



United Nations
CERF

Central
Emergency
Response
Fund

2019 CERF RESULTS AT A GLANCE



29.4M
PEOPLE ASSISTED



49
COUNTRIES



61% of people assisted were affected by population displacement



3.2M Refugees



6.1M IDPs



1.9M Returnees



6.8M Host communities

11.4M Other affected people



15M people assisted in new or deteriorating crises



14.4M people assisted in ongoing underfunded emergencies



13.7M people faced conflict-related crises



12.7M people faced natural disasters



3M people faced disease outbreaks



53% of people assisted were women and girls



55% of people assisted were children under age 18

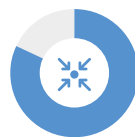
ACCORDING TO RESIDENT COORDINATOR/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR REPORTS ON THE USE OF CERF FUNDING*



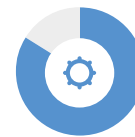
96% of CERF allocations led to **fast delivery** of assistance



100% of CERF allocations helped respond to **time-critical** needs



82% of CERF allocations helped **improve coordination**



84% of CERF allocations **improved resource mobilization** from other sources

* From reports on all CERF funding provided in 2018 and implemented in 2018 and 2019.

In 2019
CERF grants enable humanitarian partners
 to deliver:

Critical
Health Care



15.9M people



Water and
Sanitation



7.1M people



Protection



5.6M people



Food
Assistance



4.9M people



Agricultural
inputs



3.9M people



Nutrition
support



2.7M people



Multisectoral
Refugee
Assistance



1.9M people



Shelter
and NFIs
support



1.4M people



Education



550k people



Camp Management
assistance



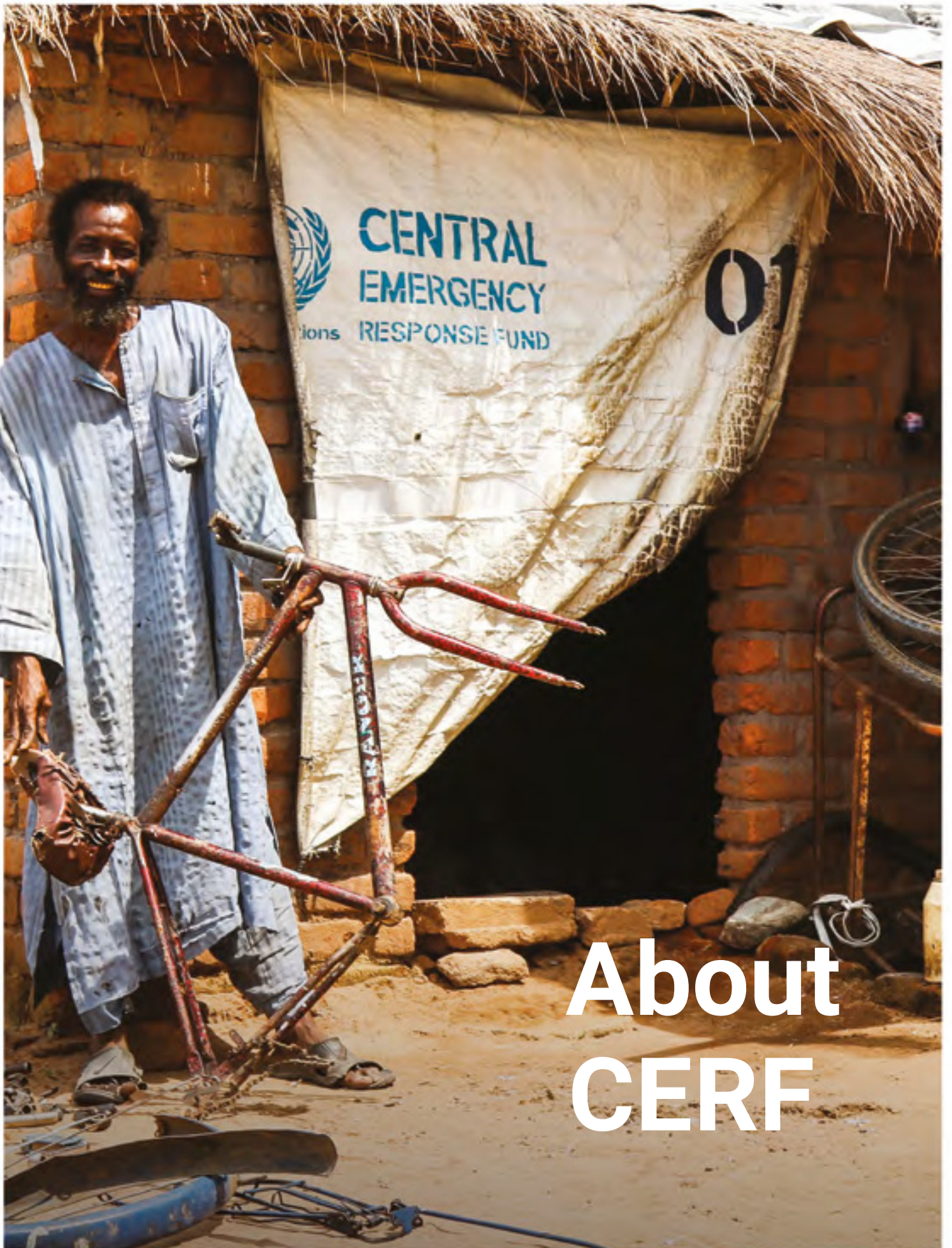
263k people



Mine Action
support services

192k people





About CERF

About CERF

Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is one of the fastest and most effective ways to ensure that urgently needed life-saving assistance reaches people caught up in crises. Established by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in 2005 as the UN global emergency response fund, CERF enables humanitarian responders to deliver life-saving assistance by providing rapid and flexible funding when and where it is needed most.

Funding from CERF allows UN agencies to kick-start relief efforts immediately and help partners scale up their relief operations in underfunded emergencies to avoid critical gaps, all through coordinated and prioritized responses supported by CERF's funding processes. UN organizations are directly eligible to receive CERF funding and implement grants in partnership with local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), host governments and Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies.

In 2019 alone, CERF allocated \$538.7 million to support humanitarian action in 49 countries and territories—the highest ever allocated in a single year. Some \$338.8 million went to kick-start and scale up operations in 34 countries and \$199.9 million was released to bolster aid operations in 23 of the world's most neglected crises.

Allocations from CERF are only possible with the strong support of CERF donors. Since the Fund's inception, contributions from 129 UN Member States and observers, as well as regional governments, corporate donors, foundations and individuals have enabled CERF to provide more than \$6.5 billion to deliver life-saving assistance in 109 countries and territories.

A Chadian returnee makes ends meet by repairing bicycles and motorcycles in Djako camp, Chad.

© OCHA/Federica Gabellini



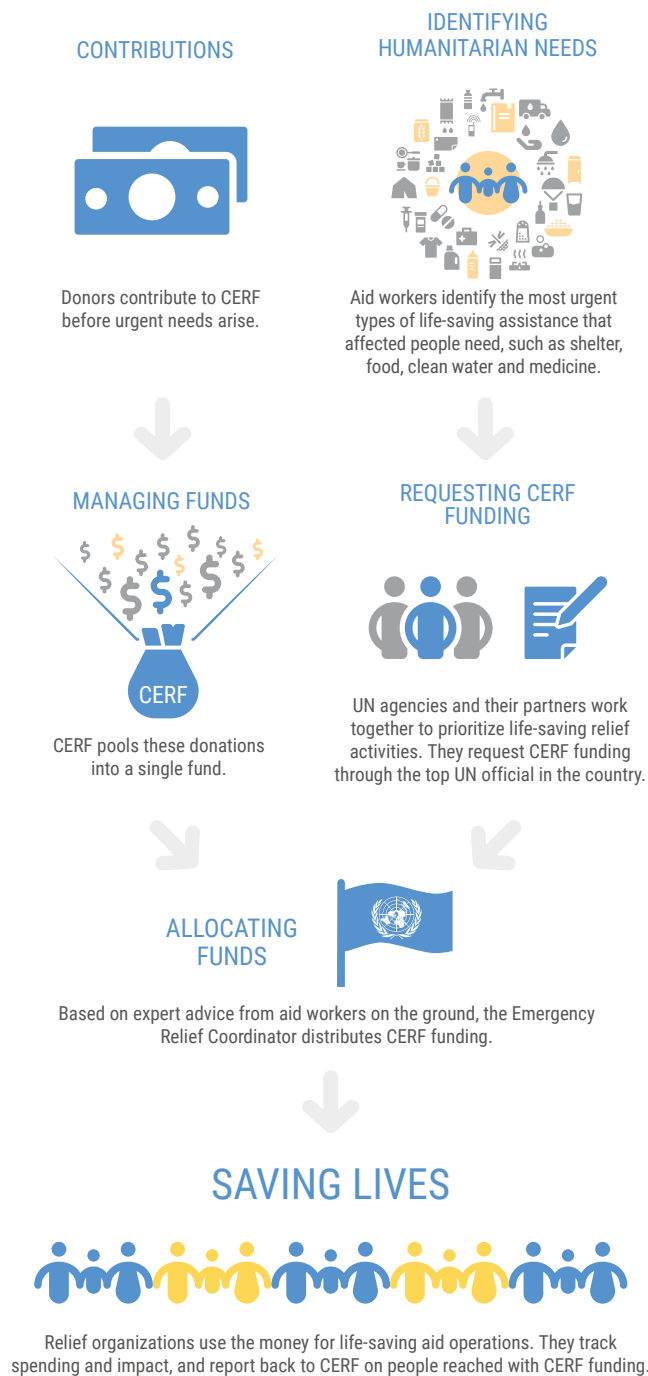
CERF is the most effective investment you can make in humanitarian action. It is our message of hope and global solidarity with people caught up in crises. I have witnessed CERF's life-saving impact time and time again, all over the world. CERF is a humanitarian success, but it is a success that is only made possible with the support of its donors and partners. They all share CERF's remarkable achievements, making CERF a fund for all, by all.

- António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

Remarkably, one third of the countries that have donated to CERF have themselves benefited from CERF funding during an emergency, making CERF truly a fund by all, for all. As donors' contributions to CERF are fully unearmarked, donors supporting the fund invest in a humanitarian funding mechanism that adds value to every dollar invested.

The humanitarian context in which CERF operates today has changed significantly from when the Fund was established fifteen years ago. Crises have increased in scale, magnitude and duration, and become more complex. The financial requirements to reach people in need have increased almost five-fold, with UN-led Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) requesting \$21.9 billion to assist some 93.6 million people in 2019. Recognizing the clear need for more substantial and strategic humanitarian financing, and considering CERF's impressive track record in resourcing life-saving assistance for crisis-affected people, in 2016 the UN General Assembly endorsed the Secretary-General's call to expand CERF's annual funding target to \$1 billion, commensurate with today's humanitarian needs.

How CERF works



CERF MANAGEMENT

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

HOW CERF WORKS

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

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

CERF is guided by the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality, and resources are allocated in line with CERF's Life-Saving Criteria. CERF ensures that funds help meet the most urgent needs of people caught in crises around the world and are used where they have the highest potential for saving lives.

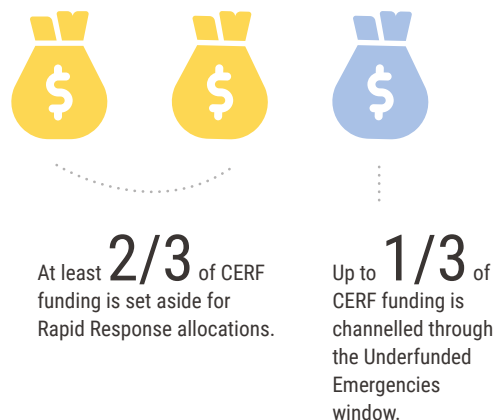
Two funding windows

CERF can channel funds to UN agencies through its Rapid Response (RR) window and its Underfunded Emergencies (UFE) window. While the process of developing a formal request is similar for both grant windows, the starting point for allocations differs. RR funding can be requested any time during the year by the RC/HC, in consultation with humanitarian partners on the ground, in the event of a clear trigger causing new needs. UFE allocations, on the other hand, start with a comparative global analysis of vulnerability and funding levels through two annual consultative processes at headquarters level involving UN agencies, OCHA and NGOs.

The details of CERF allocation processes for both windows are described in depth later in this report.

Loan facility

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



The State of Kuwait is proud to be a consistent donor to CERF and will remain a reliable and committed partner. Humanitarian assistance has always been a central pillar of Kuwait's foreign policy, and we will continue to play an active role within the international community's collective efforts to respond to the numerous global challenges and humanitarian crises facing our world.

*- H.E. Dr. Ahmed Nasser AlMohammed AlSabah,
Minister of Foreign Affairs, State of Kuwait*

CERF is



PROMOTING COORDINATION AND COHERENCE

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



FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

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



GLOBAL

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



CATALYTIC

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



NEUTRAL, IMPARTIAL AND INDEPENDENT

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



NEEDS BASED

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



COST EFFECTIVE

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



FAST

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



PREDICTABLE

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



EMBODYING THE GRAND BARGAIN

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

Strategic use of CERF and Country-Based Pooled Funds

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

About Country-Based Pooled Funds

CBPFs are pooled funds, locally managed by OCHA under the leadership of the HC and in close consultation with the humanitarian community. Contributions from donors to support a given country’s operations are collected into a single, unearmarked fund to support local humanitarian efforts. CBPFs directly allocate funds to the highest-priority projects of the best-placed responders, including international and national NGOs, Red Cross/Crescent organizations and UN agencies, through an inclusive and transparent process in support of crisis-specific HRPs. They foster broader and stronger partner engagements in coordination mechanisms, help build local response capacities while minimizing transaction costs, and reinforce collective ownership and accountability of emergency response. For more on CBPFs visit http://bit.ly/OCHA_CBPF



The proliferation of humanitarian crises and the unprecedented threats we face today call for a collective and coordinated effort. Turkey remains a committed supporter of CERF and reiterates its call for concrete action and a higher level of international solidarity. Turkey is a leading nation in the world in terms of humanitarian assistance as well as the world’s largest refugee hosting country. In our pursuit for effective remedies and mitigation for the global crises, the principle of burden sharing must be respected and the most vulnerable groups and countries must be protected. This is all the more necessary in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. I have full confidence that our collective efforts will prevail.

- Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Turkey

Donor funding and advocacy

CERF's success as an indispensable enabler of global humanitarian action is only possible due to the generous contributions of its donors. The donor community's support to CERF is remarkable in its span and consistency. It allows CERF to respond to crises with the pace, flexibility and impartiality that is necessary to ensure aid is provided to the millions of people globally who need it the most, when they need it the most.

In 2019, for the third consecutive year, CERF received record high pledged contributions, amounting to \$834.6 million, of which \$831.6 million was received by 31 December 2019. The total contribution in 2019 is \$276 million higher than the contribution received in 2018, and only \$165.4 million short of the \$1 billion annual funding target endorsed by the General Assembly. In 2019, the largest contributions were received from the United Kingdom, followed by Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands and Norway.

The significant increase in the funding level in 2019 owes to the exceptionally generous contributions received in the month of December totaling \$390.8 million. This led to an unusually high carry-over that is available for programming in 2020.

The funds that donors provided to CERF for 2019 enabled 14 UN agencies, working jointly with hundreds of implementing partners, to target 29.4 million people with the provision of life-saving assistance in humanitarian emergencies worldwide. Thanks to CERF's donors, in 2019, 15.9 million vulnerable people were targeted with health care; 7.1 million with water and sanitation

“In 2019, humanitarian needs grew to unprecedented levels. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, this trend continues. The international community has been breaking new ground to address this increase with innovative instruments. Therefore, Germany supports anticipatory humanitarian financing through CERF to save more lives, reduce human suffering, and efficiently use resources.

- Heiko Maas, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Germany


interventions; 5.6 million with protection support; 4.9 million with food assistance; 3.9 million with agriculture-based livelihood support; 2.7 million with nutrition assistance; 1.9 million with multisectoral refugee support; 1.4 million with shelter assistance or basic relief items; and several hundreds of thousands of people with camp management, education, mine action and multisectoral assistance.








In total, 54 Member States and observers, 3 regional authorities, as well as private sector donors contributed to the Fund in 2019. Many Member States increased their contributions to the Fund in 2019 as compared to 2018. These include Bangladesh, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland,

Donor contributions in 2019





in US\$ million

 **\$835 million**
Total contributions in 2019

 **54**
MEMBER STATES

 UNITED KINGDOM 386.1M	 GERMANY 106M	 SWEDEN 88.9M	 NETHERLANDS 62.5M	 NORWAY 54.7M	 DENMARK 25.8M	 CANADA 22.5M	 BELGIUM 19M	 IRELAND 11.4M
 FINLAND 9M	 AUSTRALIA 8.2M	 SWITZERLAND 6.9M	 LUXEMBOURG 5.5M	 REPUBLIC OF KOREA 5M	 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 5M	 ITALY 3.9M	 SPAIN 3.4M	 NEW ZEALAND 2M
 RUSSIAN FEDERATION 1.5M	 KUWAIT 1M	 QATAR 1M	 JAPAN 680k	 CHINA 500k	 ICELAND 465k	 TURKEY 400k	 INDONESIA 220k	 CZECH REPUBLIC 219k
 LIECHTENSTEIN 201k	 PORTUGAL 170k	 SAUDI ARABIA 150k	 ESTONIA 114k	 MONACO 114k	 COLOMBIA 90k	 OMAN 50k	 SINGAPORE 50k	 CHILE 30k
 ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN 24k	 AZERBAIJAN 20k	 BANGLADESH 20k	 THAILAND 20k	 ANDORRA 17k	 KAZAKHSTAN 10k	 MONGOLIA 10k	 MYANMAR 10k	 PAKISTAN 10k
 SRI LANKA 10k	 VIET NAM 10k	 ARMENIA 5k	 TUNISIA 5k	 REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA 3k	 PERU 3k	 PHILIPPINES 3k	 GUYANA 2k	 BHUTAN 2k

OTHER DONORS

 BELGIAN GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS (BELGIUM) 689k	 CATALAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (SPAIN) 325k	 BASQUE AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (SPAIN) 109k	 PRIVATE DONATIONS 114.3k
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CERF's ability to respond fast and early is crucial to helping some of the world's most vulnerable people in the most harrowing humanitarian crises imaginable. Put simply, it saves lives. I am proud the UK has been—and continues to be—one of the Fund's leading supporters. Its urgent help is needed now more than ever as we face the devastating impact of coronavirus, which could push particularly fragile countries further into poverty.

*- Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Secretary of State,
United Kingdom*

Italy, the Republic of Korea, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and Spain through the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation regional authority. In addition, some of CERF's core supporters contributed a combined total of nearly \$20.4 million on top of their initial 2019 pledges. These include Denmark, Germany, Norway and Switzerland.

In addition to the seven existing multi-year agreements with Australia, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Qatar, Sweden and the United Kingdom, four more donors have made new multi-year funding commitments in 2019: Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and New Zealand. These multi-year commitments have ensured greater predictability in CERF's life-saving response.

Seven Member States returned as CERF donors in 2019: Colombia, Moldova, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Tunisia and Viet Nam. Islamic Republic of Iran and the Basque Agency for Development Cooperation regional authority (Spain) became first time contributors to the Fund in 2019.

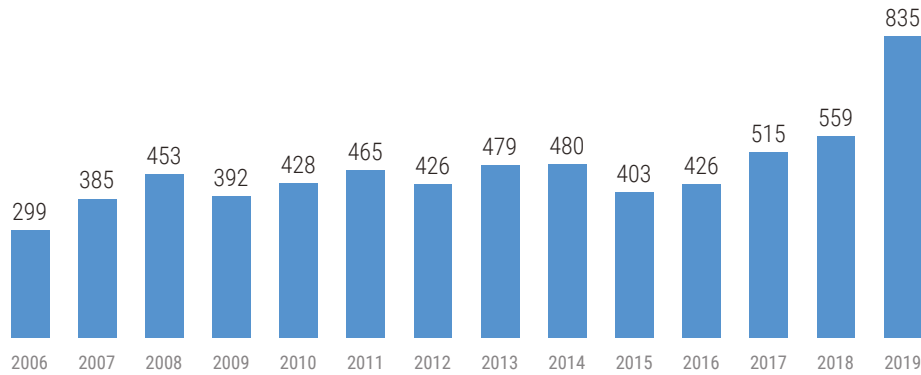
Six countries—Bangladesh, Colombia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines and Islamic Republic of Iran—received allocations from and contributed to CERF in 2019. They are part of the 54 recipient Member States that gave back to CERF since 2006, as solidarity to people in need outside their own countries.

Approximately 94 per cent of contributions to CERF for 2019 came from the top 10 donors, and 99.3 per cent of contributions from the top 20 donors. CERF's results and achievements are the success of all its donors, large and small.

OCHA consistently seeks to broaden the diversity of donors and expand its financial support base, while still maintaining and, where possible, increasing funding from CERF's strongest supporters. New and additional support from a diverse range of Member States, and regional and private entities, is needed to continue to effectively respond to the increasing magnitude of humanitarian requirements. A strong CERF able to deliver on its mandate is every Member States' responsibility and a step towards the humanitarian community's commitments to leave no one behind and to reach the furthest left behind first.

Donor contributions to CERF 2006-2019

In US\$ million



Since its inception, CERF donors have included 129 Member States and observers (as of 1 May 2020), as well as regional authorities, foundations, corporate donors and individuals. In total, CERF donors have contributed more than \$6.7 billion to the fund, showing good humanitarian donorship, extraordinary solidarity and strong faith in CERF.

Advocacy

Advocacy and digital outreach to mobilize resources and demonstrate the achievements through CERF funding continued as a priority in 2019.

With more than 115,000 followers, CERF's Twitter account has a global reach encompassing a wide range of partners. CERF's website, as the Fund's digital portal, conveys the global identity of the fund and continued to be a valuable tool to showcase CERF to the public.

CERF also engaged in public fundraising campaigns in 2019, created tailored assets for donors to support advocacy and resource mobilization efforts, and leveraged its digital and media outreach to highlight achievements in various crises.

CERF allocation processes

CERF can allocate funds to UN agencies through its RR window and its UFE window.

The application process for the two windows is similar: a CERF allocation request is based on strategic priorities for funding which are developed based on solid needs assessments and determined by the RC/HC in consultation with the UN or Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) (as relevant). A package of proposals is submitted to the ERC for consideration. For the request to be granted it is essential that all projects meet the CERF Life-Saving Criteria.

While the process for requesting funds is similar for both grant windows, the starting point for allocations is different. RR funding is triggered by needs stemming from sudden-onset disasters, rapid or significant deterioration of existing crises, or to support a time-critical intervention. RR funds can be requested at any time by the RC/HC in consultation with humanitarian partners on the ground as long as there is a clear trigger. UFE allocations start with a comparative global analysis of vulnerability and funding levels, which is undertaken twice a year through a consultative process at headquarters level.

CERF Life-Saving Criteria

The CERF Life-Saving Criteria define eligibility for CERF funding. They do not seek to define what are considered life-saving humanitarian interventions more broadly, but rather seek to specifically codify humanitarian activities that can be considered for CERF funding. CERF has developed the Life-Saving Criteria in consultation with partners, as guidance for use at country-level in the development of applications for CERF funding. The criteria also guide the review of funding applications by the CERF secretariat. The current version was developed through an inter-agency collaborative process in 2009, and was approved by the ERC in January 2010.

Given the changes in the humanitarian landscape since 2010, the CERF secretariat has started reviewing the Life-Saving Criteria. The revision will however not revisit the core mandate of the CERF nor seek to significantly expand or change the range of activities supported by the Fund. Following the completion of consultations with UN agencies, the CERF secretariat has held consultations with global clusters and other key stakeholders, and presented the revised version of the Life-Saving Criteria to the CERF Advisory Group in June 2020. The Criteria will be approved by the ERC thereafter.

Determining CERF Rapid Response eligibility

When a new crisis hits, or an ongoing crisis deteriorates, the RC/HC may contact the ERC or the CERF secretariat with a request for assistance if existing resources are not sufficient to respond to the new needs. The CERF secretariat or an OCHA office may also reach out proactively to an RC/HC to provide guidance if a situation that might warrant CERF assistance is identified. In exceptional situations, the ERC may provide multi-country grants to one or several agencies to respond to rapidly evolving trans-border needs, such as locust infestations or infectious disease outbreaks.

When informed about a possible CERF request, the CERF secretariat conducts a quick, preliminary assessment of the situation based on information provided by the requesting country team through a concept note, teleconferences or written communication. Aspects considered include the trigger for the request, for example the new or

unanticipated needs versus unmet needs as part of agencies' regular programming; the scale and scope of the life-saving activities; the geographical focus and complementarity of the interventions; and the financial requirements.

The available funds in CERF and its forecasted income also set certain limits independent of the context of a specific emergency and the content of a related CERF application. Given that CERF's specific role is to jump-start or expand activities, the CERF secretariat also considers the proportion of the overall requirements that are requested from CERF and assesses how the proposed response activities fit with CERF's RR implementation timeline.

Based on the initial assessment the CERF secretariat presents the information to the ERC, who decides on a provisional funding envelope. When this happens a summary of information from a concept note, preliminary funding envelope and other key allocation data are published on the CERF website with a status 'Under review'. This ensures real-time information sharing and transparency on CERF processes.



COVID-19 knows no borders. It will hit countries already in the midst of humanitarian crises the hardest. CERF plays a vital role in supporting the most vulnerable of the vulnerable. It has ensured a quick transition to counter COVID-19 and save lives across the globe.

- Peter Eriksson, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden

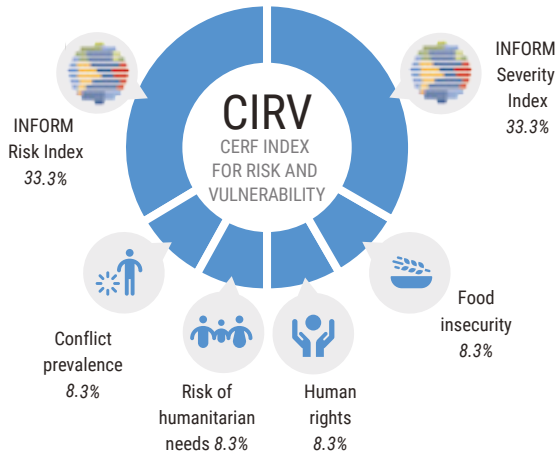
Determining CERF Underfunded Emergencies eligibility

UFE grants target the world's least funded and most neglected crises. They are a lifeline to countries with significant unmet humanitarian needs. Twice a year, the ERC selects these countries based on quantitative data analysis on funding and humanitarian needs, risk and vulnerability, and qualitative, contextual information collected from consultations with UN agencies, OCHA offices, NGO and other sources.

CERF Index for Risk and Vulnerability (CIRV)

compositions

CIRV consists of 6 measures weighted as shown in the graph



CERF allocations

Main differences

	Rapid Response	Underfunded Emergencies
Initiation	As needed throughout the year, based on a specific trigger	Twice a year
Initiated by	RC/HC (in-country)	ERC (at headquarters)
Emergency	Sudden-onset disasters, rapid and significant deterioration of existing crises, time-critical interventions	Protracted or neglected emergencies where vulnerability is high but funding is critically low
Maximum standard grant duration	6 months	9 months
Amount available annually	At least 2/3 of all CERF funding	Up to 1/3 of all CERF funding

Main commonalities

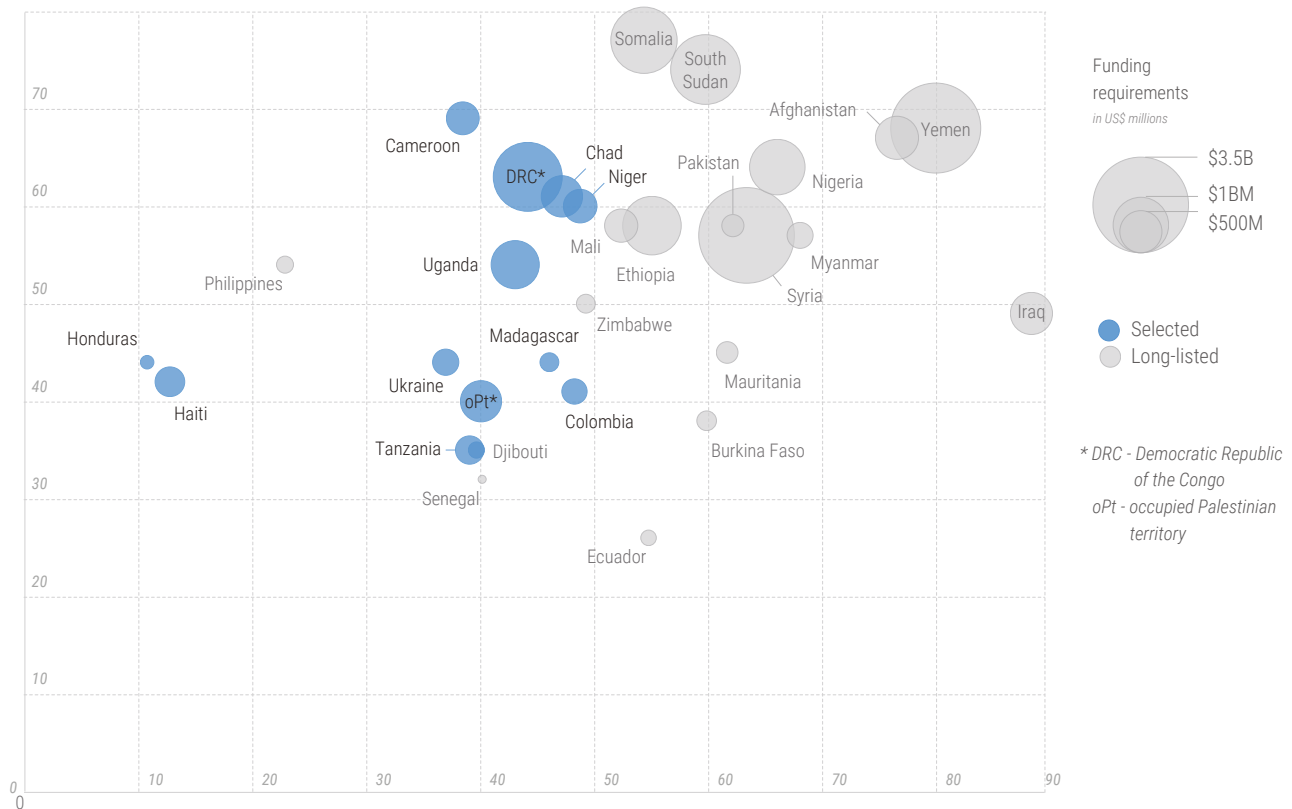
Application process	Field-driven, led by RC/HC and in consultation with UNCT/HCT, consolidated package of proposals based on jointly agreed strategic priorities
Eligibility of activities	Adherence to CERF's Life-Saving Criteria

The crises considered for funding are those with a HRP and those with major humanitarian needs that require a multisectoral response but have no HRP or comparable appeal (referred to as non-HRP countries). A specific number of non-HRP countries, as determined by CERF, can be recommended by headquarters-based representatives of OCHA and the UN agencies who participate in the UFE Working Group.

Funding from the UFE window goes to crises that have not attracted or are unlikely to attract sufficient and timely funding for life-saving activities, as assessed by:

- **The degree of funding shortfall (analysis of funding received against total annual requirements):** Funding analysis is the primary criterion for selection in a UFE round. It identifies humanitarian operations with the lowest levels of funding by comparing available funding for humanitarian programming to funding requirements. Data for the funding analysis of HRP countries comes from the Financial Tracking Service, while members of the UFE Working Group provide the data for non-HRP countries. The CERF secretariat also seeks to eliminate as best as possible any known factors that may skew funding-level comparisons between appeals.
- **The analysis of risk, vulnerability, severity of humanitarian needs and type of programmes and activities:** For the emergencies identified as eligible by the funding analysis the level of risk and vulnerability, and the severity of humanitarian needs are assessed. Data on all aspects of risk, vulnerability and humanitarian needs are combined into a single index: the CERF Index for Risk and Vulnerability (CIRV). The CIRV includes six measures that cover the full range of factors influencing the humanitarian situation. These measures are standardized and then weighted according to the scope of information each covers before being included in the CIRV. The Index for Risk Management (INFORM) Global Risk Index accounts for

1st round of 2019 Underfunded Emergencies analysis



33 per cent of the CIRV, and the INFORM Global Crisis Severity Index accounts for 33 per cent of the CIRV (added in 2019). The five other components combined account for the remaining 33 per cent.

- Consultations:** Before finalizing the analysis, separate consultations are held with the UFE Working Group; the NGO Finance Working Group, led by the International Council of Voluntary Agencies; and the OCHA Operations and Advocacy Division. The CERF secretariat then makes a recommendation to the ERC on the selection of countries.

- The ERC's country selection and funding allocations:** Based on the consolidated analysis, the ERC makes the final decisions on which countries will be included in the UFE round and on the funding allocations. The ERC informs the RC/HC in the selected country, and may emphasize gaps to consider during the prioritization process. The ERC's decision triggers publishing preliminary funding envelopes and other key data on the CERF website, with a status 'Under review' to ensure transparency.

The figure above shows the funding and vulnerability analysis of countries considered for the first UFE round of 2019. Following rigorous analysis and consultations, twelve countries were selected by the ERC to receive UFE allocations totaling \$125 million.

Developing a joint application

Once an emergency has been deemed eligible for CERF funding through either the RR or the UFE window, the formal application process begins. For RR funding, humanitarian partners—under the leadership of the RC/HC and the OCHA office, or RC’s office—prepare a joint application consisting of a common strategy for the CERF-funded response in the context of the overall emergency and individual agency project proposals, in line with this strategy. For UFE allocations, a provisional allocation and funding envelope is communicated to the selected RC/HC, who are asked to first submit a prioritization strategy for the use of funds to the CERF secretariat before submitting a full application.

For both grant windows the joint application sets the collective priorities of humanitarian partners and ensures a well-informed and prioritized CERF response. The process of developing the joint application is meant to be inclusive and transparent, involving relevant in-country humanitarian actors and coordination mechanisms, such as the inter-cluster coordination group and cluster leads, where present. The strategy must set out collective priorities, eliminate overlapping activities and avoid fragmentation across several disjointed or small projects. The RC/HC and in-country stakeholders may decide to focus the strategy on particular sectors or clusters, a particular caseload, or specific geographic areas.

” CERF continues to show its value for much needed speedy, flexible and effective humanitarian response. As a longstanding supporter The Netherlands welcomes the Fund’s increase in 2019. Together donors and the UN enable CERF to provide lifesaving assistance to people struck by conflicts or natural disasters.

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

Application review

Once the RC/HC submits the joint application the CERF secretariat reviews the request in consultation with OCHA’s Operations and Advocacy Division, and with the relevant OCHA regional office, where applicable. The strategy is assessed in terms of coherence and focus—which includes the collective priorities, high impact and complementarity of proposed activities and elimination of overlap—and its alignment with CERF’s mandate and Life-Saving Criteria to ensure that the CERF-funded projects have the highest impact, targeting the most vulnerable people in need. It should also consider possible operational and security constraints, such as access to people in need and the implementation capacity and presence of UN agencies and their partners. The CERF secretariat also looks for demonstrations of value for money and economies of scale, cost efficiencies, and administrative and operational efficiencies.



Individual projects are assessed in terms of their contribution to the collective objectives of the overall strategy and their adherence to CERF's Life-Saving Criteria, which set out the type of activities eligible for CERF funding. The project budgets are also reviewed to ensure they comply with UN rules for trust fund management, and that budget inputs are commensurate with the planned activities and expected outputs.

The overall amount allocated may vary from the initial indicative envelope and depends on the content of the application, including, but not limited to, needs, proposed activities, overall funding requirements, operational context and capacities, and complementarity with other resources. To maximize the impact of CERF's often comparably limited investment, the complementarity of CERF funding to other funding sources, such as CBPFs, earmarked and unearmarked donor funds, existing agency funds and government response efforts is an extremely important factor in CERF's review of the application.

ERC decision on funding

Following the application review at the strategic and project levels, the CERF secretariat presents funding recommendations for each project to the ERC. Although applications are assessed as a whole, each project is processed individually. This ensures that grants can be disbursed as soon as individual projects are approved. When all projects within an allocation are approved the status of it changes from 'Under review' to 'Under implementation' on the [CERF website](#). In cases where agencies have started project implementation or had expenditures related to life-saving activities before CERF funds are disbursed, the agency may request an early project start date not exceeding six weeks prior to the disbursement date and not before the onset of the emergency. This allows agencies more flexibility to begin critical response activities in the initial phase of an emergency, and effectively means that CERF funding can achieve an impact prior to disbursement of funds. Once all project grants are disbursed, the ERC officially communicates to the RC/HC the details of the overall allocation, the related implementation timeline and the reporting requirements.

Heavy monsoon rains in Bangladesh in July triggered widespread flooding.

© OCHA ROAP

CERF allocations



Overview

In 2019, CERF made unprecedented contributions to humanitarian operations worldwide, allocating \$538 million, the largest amount in a single year in the history of the Fund.

Despite global economic progress and development gains, humanitarian needs increased in 2019. At the beginning of the year, **131.7 million** people were in need of humanitarian assistance due to the devastating impacts of conflicts and disasters. UN-led HRP^s initially requested \$21.9 billion to assist **93.6 million** people in 42 countries. Throughout the year, crises grew more severe, protracted and complex. New crises emerged, such as in Madagascar, Mozambique, Venezuela and Zimbabwe. By December, the funding requirements for 2019 had risen to \$29.8 billion, and **117.4 million** people were targeted to receive assistance through HRP^s, regional Refugee Response Plans and other appeals, the highest numbers on record.

Donors responded to the high levels of need with increasing generosity, contributing \$18.2 billion to HRP^s and other UN-coordinated humanitarian plans and appeals, and another \$6.2 billion outside these appeals.¹ Nonetheless, significant funding gaps remained a challenge and global funding coverage for UN-led appeals was only 61.1 per cent by the end of the year.

In 2019, CERF allocated \$538.7 million to humanitarian operations in 49 countries and territories. This was the largest amount approved in a single year in the history of the Fund. These

¹ Funding outside the requirements of UN-coordinated appeals includes support for organizations and/or activities that are not part of HRP^s. This typically includes reporting funding towards the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (ICRC and IFRC), some NGOs, as well as bilateral contributions channeled directly from one government to another. It may also include core funding for humanitarian organizations and for crises that do not have HRP^s. More information is available on OCHA's Financial Tracking Service at fts.unocha.org

A view of the refugee camp in Kalambambuji, DRC.

© OCHA/Alioune Ndiaye

Funds enabled UN agencies and partners to deliver life-saving assistance to 29.4 million of the most vulnerable crises-affected people around the world. CERF also provided two loans in 2019, totaling \$50 million, to UNRWA to respond to critical needs of Palestine refugees.

By emergency type

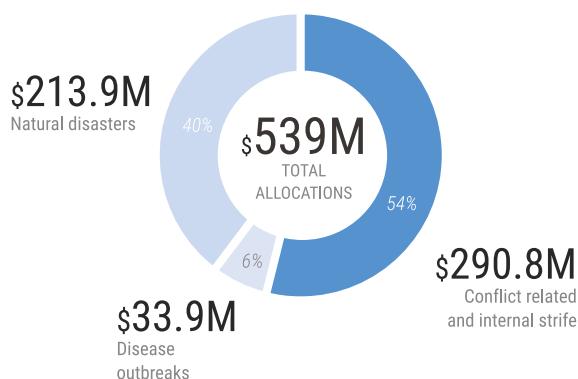
Emergencies related to conflict and internal strife again determined the majority of CERF allocations in 2019, albeit to a lower extent than in 2018. In total, \$290.8 million—54 per cent of all 2019 allocations—was provided to such projects. CERF funding sought to assist 13.7 million people affected by displacement, disruption of basic services and other needs caused by conflict and internal strife.

Natural disasters also generated urgent humanitarian needs, to a much larger extent than in previous years. In 2019, CERF allocated \$213.9 million to assist 12.7 million people around the world affected by earthquakes, droughts, flooding and storms. This was nearly twice as much as was allocated by CERF in response to natural disasters in 2018.

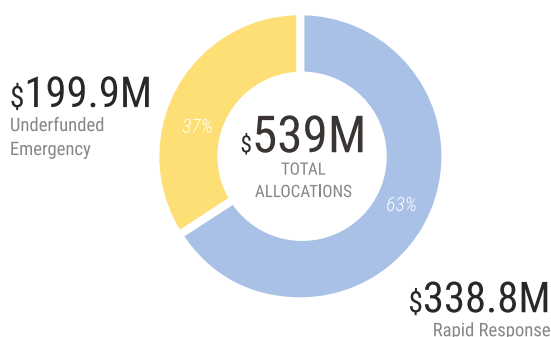
In 2019, CERF provided \$33.9 million to support integrated, coordinated and multisectoral response to disease outbreaks. This funding enabled the provision of life-saving assistance to 3 million people in response to cholera, Ebola, measles and

2019 CERF funding

2019 CERF funding by emergency type *in US\$ million*



2019 CERF funding by window *in US\$ million*



other health emergencies. It represents a 62 per cent increase compared to 2018.

By window

Of \$538.7 million allocated in 2019, \$338.8 million was provided from the RR window and \$199.9 million was allocated in two rounds from the UFE window.

RAPID RESPONSE

In 2019, the ERC approved \$338.8 million in RR funding to address humanitarian needs in 35 countries and territories. This funding enabled UN agencies and partners to provide immediate life-saving assistance to 15 million people.

The countries that received the largest levels of funding through this window were Somalia (\$49.9 million in response to floods and droughts), Yemen (\$31.7 million to enable the scale up of live-saving humanitarian activities), Sudan (\$29.4 million in response to economic crisis and food insecurity), Mozambique (\$28.9 million in response to cyclones Idai and Kenneth), and South Sudan (\$27.9 million in response to floods, internal displacement and Ebola readiness).

The largest share of RR funding in 2019, \$204.3 million (60 per cent), responded to needs resulting from geophysical, meteorological and other climate-related natural disasters. A further \$108.4 million (32 per cent) addressed critical needs due to conflict and internal strife. Disease outbreaks accounted for \$26 million (8 per cent) of CERF RR funding.

UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES

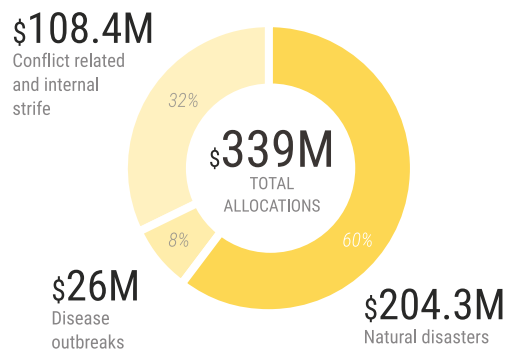
In 2019, CERF allocated \$199.9 million towards neglected crises—the highest amount provided in a single year through the UFE window. This funding enabled UN agencies and partners to assist 14.4 million people in need. The vast majority of the funds, \$182.4 million (91 per cent), went to assist people affected by conflict and internal strife. The remaining \$9.6 million (5 per cent) and \$7.9 million (4 per cent) was used to respond to natural disasters and disease outbreaks respectively. The five countries that received most funding through the UFE window were the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) (\$31.8 million), Uganda (\$18 million), Cameroon (\$16.3 million), Afghanistan (\$16 million), and Sudan (\$14 million).

In the first round of UFE allocations in January 2019, \$124.8 million was allocated to assist more than 9 million people in 13 countries: Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, DRC, Djibouti, Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Niger, occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Ukraine.

Almost half of the funding, \$59.7 million (48 per cent), was allocated to five countries (Chad, Colombia, DRC, Djibouti and Madagascar) that used the funding to address humanitarian needs stem-

2019 CERF funding

Rapid Response CERF funding by emergency type
in US\$ million



ming from multiple, complex crises. For example, Madagascar used the funding to target needs resulting from drought and a measles outbreak.

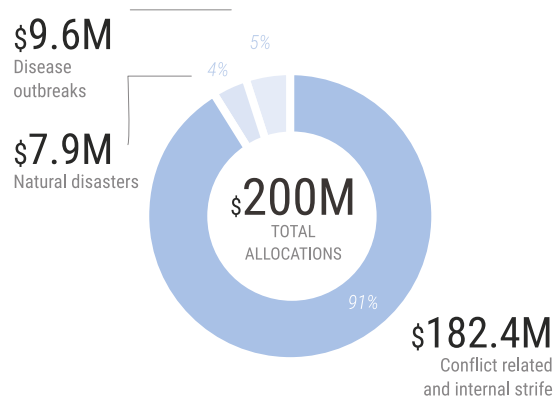
Another \$57 million (46 per cent) supported humanitarian operations in conflict-related crises in six countries: Cameroon, Niger, oPt, Uganda, Ukraine and United Republic of Tanzania. The remaining funds were allocated to Haiti, where \$5 million was directed to projects targeting more than 330,000 people affected by cholera, and to Honduras, where \$3 million was provided for life-saving interventions aiming to assist 80,000 people affected by drought.

In the second UFE round, \$75.1 million was approved for eight countries and for a regional response,² targeting more than 4 million people in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, Mali, Sudan, and Venezuela and neighboring countries.

A total of \$59.1 million, over three quarters of the funding in this round, was allocated to support interventions responding to conflict-related displacement in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, and Venezuela and neighboring countries. Another \$14 million was allocated to provide life-saving assistance to people affected by economic crisis and food insecurity in Sudan, and \$2 million went to support 370,000 drought-affected people in Eritrea.

² A regional allocation to IOM and UNHCR to support the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan benefitted affected Venezuelans in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.

Underfunded Emergencies CERF funding by emergency type
in US\$ million



By sector

In 2019, the food security, health, and water and sanitation sectors were the three highest recipients of CERF funding, collectively accounting for 56 per cent of the overall funding amount. Food security, which comprises food assistance (\$77.2 million) and agriculture-based livelihood support (\$54.4 million), received \$131.7 million (24 per cent), becoming the highest funded sector again in 2019. In addition, \$56 million (10 per cent) was approved for nutrition assistance, bringing the total for food security and nutrition to \$187.7 million (35 per cent) of allocated funds. This was a slightly lower proportion than in 2018, when 38.7 per cent of CERF funding was allocated to food security and nutrition.

More than \$96.2 million (18 per cent) was allocated for health related interventions, an increase compared to the 15 per cent of CERF funding allocated to health interventions in 2018. In 2019, 18 per cent of CERF allocations ensured life-saving health assistance. CERF allocated \$96.2 million for health sector projects, including \$53.5 million through the RR window and \$42.7 million through the UFE window. CERF-funded health activities included maternal, neonatal and child health care; reproductive health care; immunization; mental health care; provision of medical supplies, and much more. CERF also supported health-related activities in other sectors, including the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition and the provision of safe drinking water.

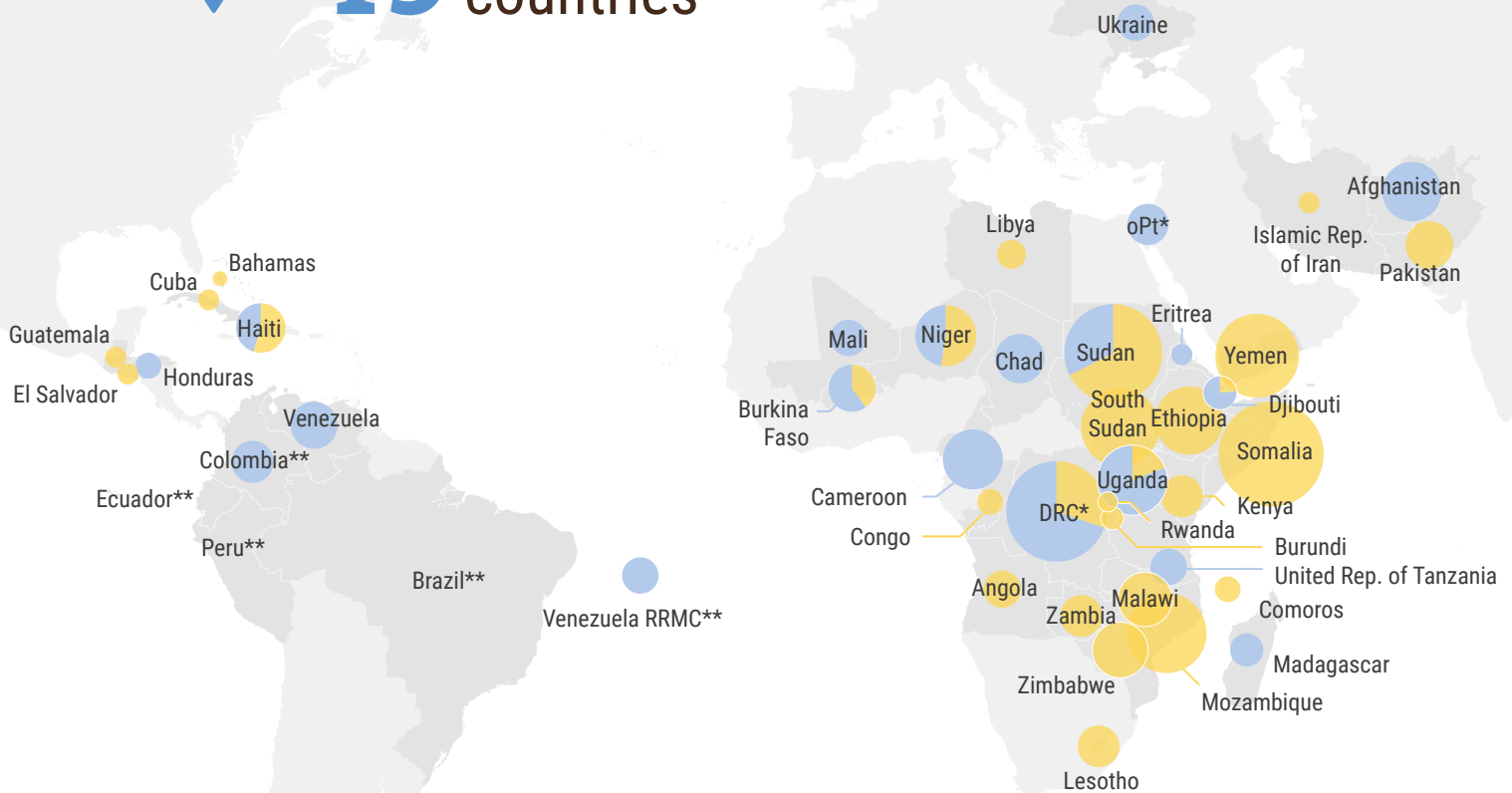
In 2019, CERF allocated



 **\$538.7 million**

to enable life-saving assistance for

 **29.4 million** people in

 **49** countries



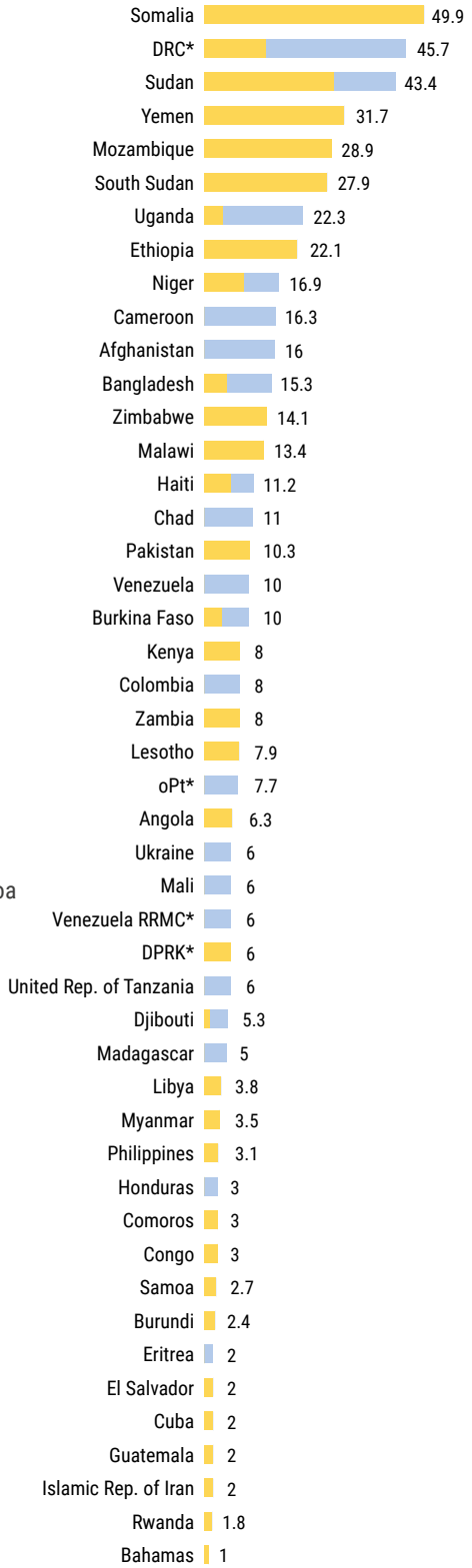
-  Rapid Response window
-  Underfunded Emergencies window

* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea
oPt - occupied Palestinian territory

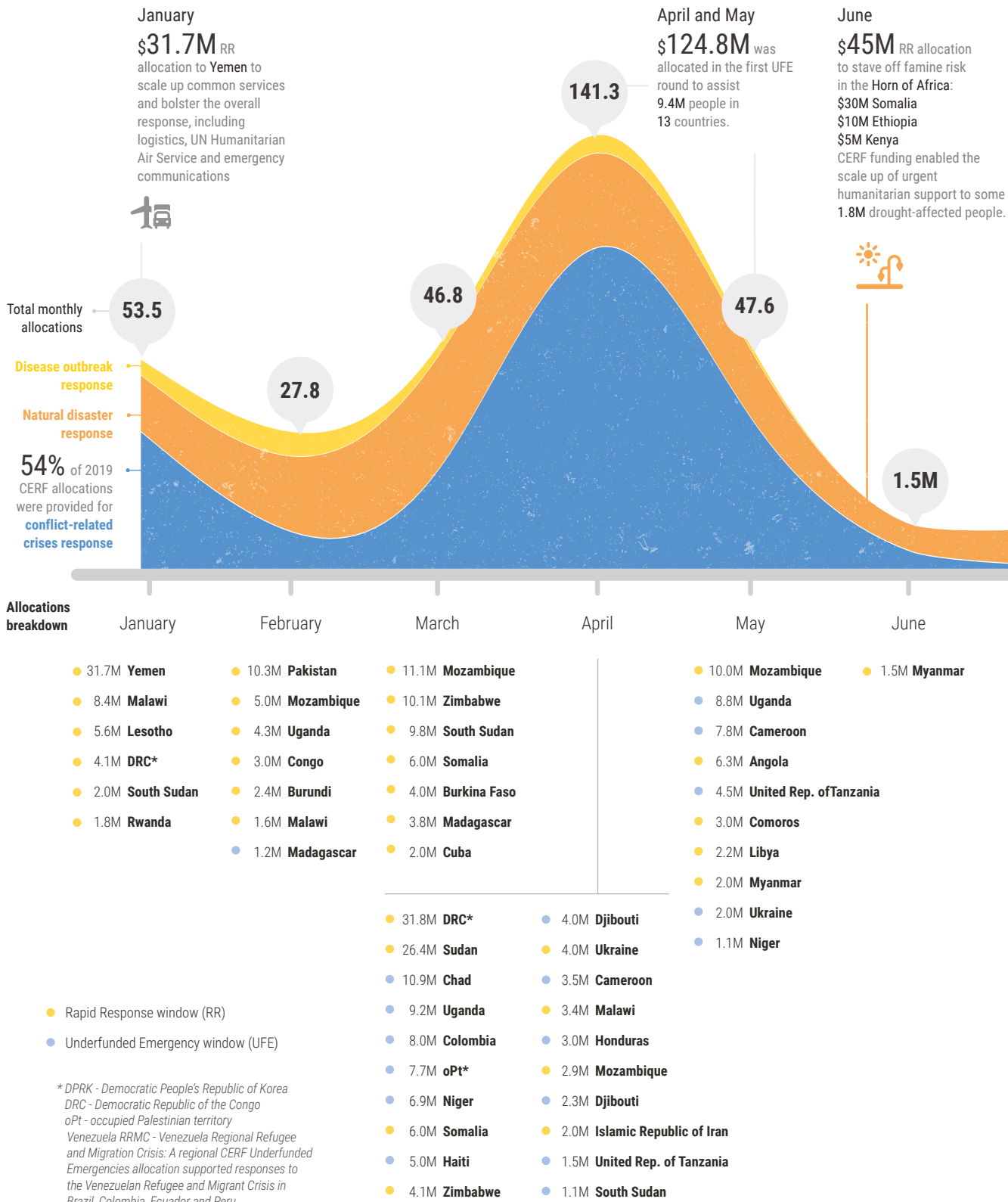
** Venezuela RRCM - Venezuela Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis: A regional CERF Underfunded Emergencies allocation supported responses to the Venezuelan Refugee and Migrant Crisis in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.



ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTRY *in US\$ million*



2019 CERF funding timeline



April, September and October

\$43.4M three complementary allocations to **Sudan**:
 \$22.3M RR allocation in response to the increase in market prices benefiting 1.1M people in April.
 \$14M UFE allocation in September in response to deepening economic crisis and low funding levels benefiting 1.2M people.
 \$3M RR allocation in October in response to a cholera outbreak benefiting more than 850k people.



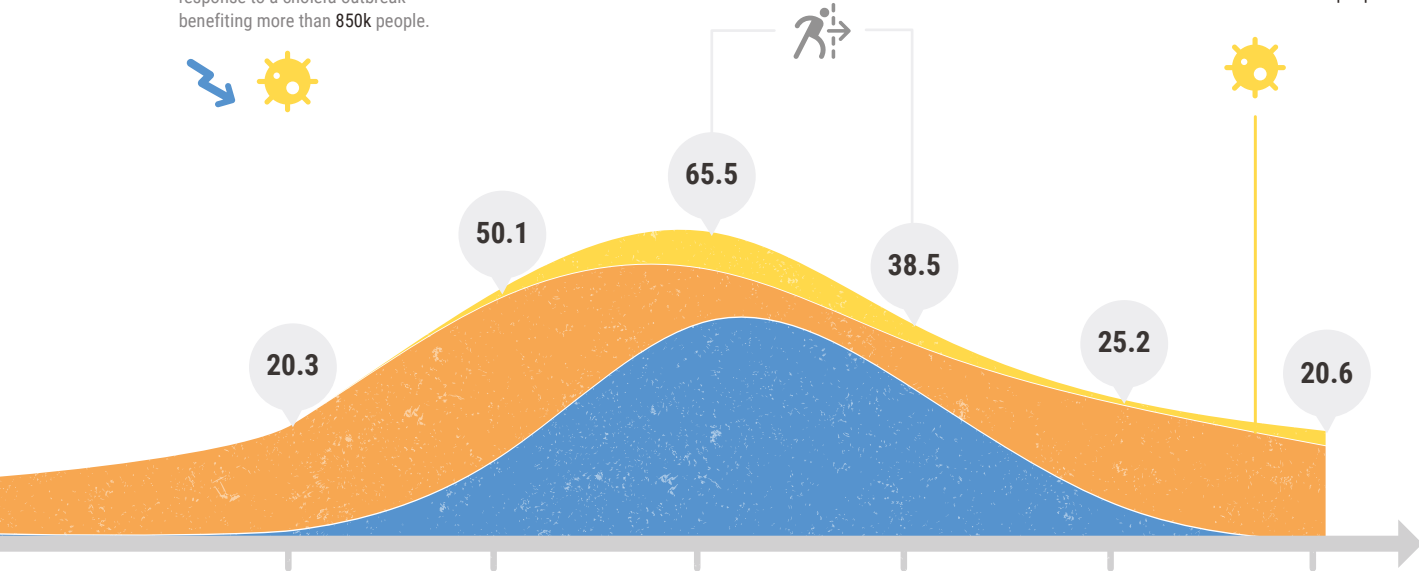
September and October

\$75.1M was allocated in the second UFE to assist 4.2M people in 8 countries and the Venezuela RRMCM*.



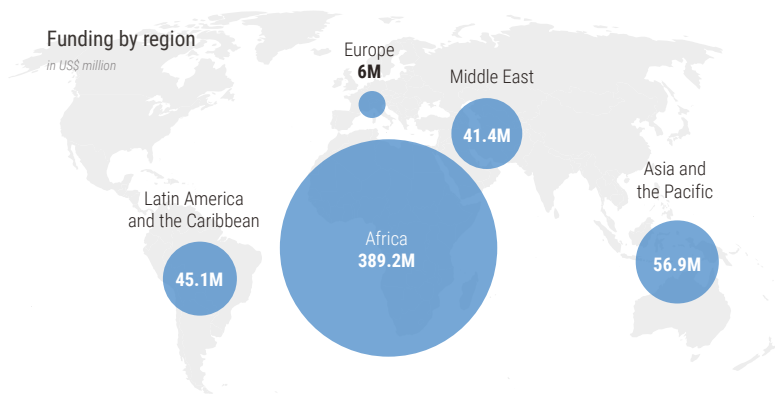
December

\$2.7M RR allocation helped to tackle a measles outbreak in **Samoa** and neighboring countries. The CERF funding complemented national responses and assisted 1.1M people.



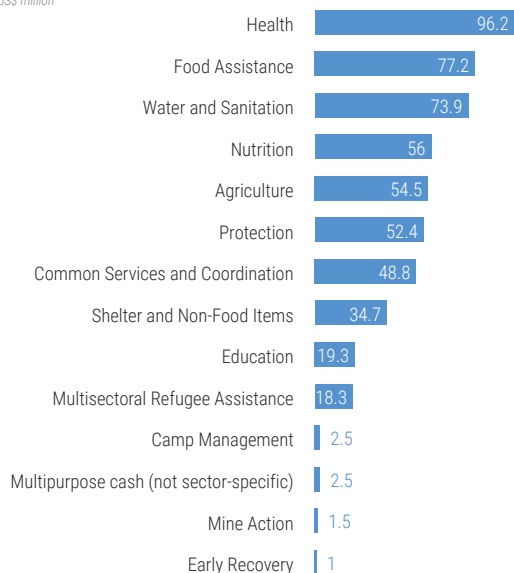
- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ● 10.0M Ethiopia | ● 28.6M Somalia | ● 16.0M Afghanistan | ● 10.4M Sudan | ● 10.8M South Sudan | ● 8.0M Somalia |
| ● 5.0M Kenya | ● 11.1M Ethiopia | ● 10.1M Bangladesh | ● 8.0M Niger | ● 6.0M Zambia | ● 4.2M South Sudan |
| ● 2.0M El Salvador | ● 5.2M Bangladesh | ● 9.8M DRC* | ● 6.0M DPRK* | ● 3.1M Philippines | ● 2.7M Samoa |
| ● 2.0M Guatemala | ● 5.1M Haiti | ● 7.3M Venezuela | ● 3.5M Cameroon | ● 2.8M Kenya | ● 2.3M Lesotho |
| ● 1.3M Somalia | | ● 6.0M Mali | ● 3.0M Venezuela RRMCM* | ● 1.1M Haiti | ● 2.0M Zambia |
| | | ● 4.0M Burkina Faso | ● 3.0M Sudan | ● 0.9M Niger | ● 1.2M Djibouti |
| | | ● 3.1M Sudan | ● 2.7M Venezuela | ● 0.5M Sudan | ● 0.2M Kenya |
| | | ● 3.0M Venezuela RRMCM* | ● 2.0M Burkina Faso | | |
| | | ● 2.0M Eritrea | | | |
| | | ● 1.6M Libya | | | |
| | | ● 1.5M Cameroon | | | |
| | | ● 1.0M Bahamas | | | |

2019 CERF funding



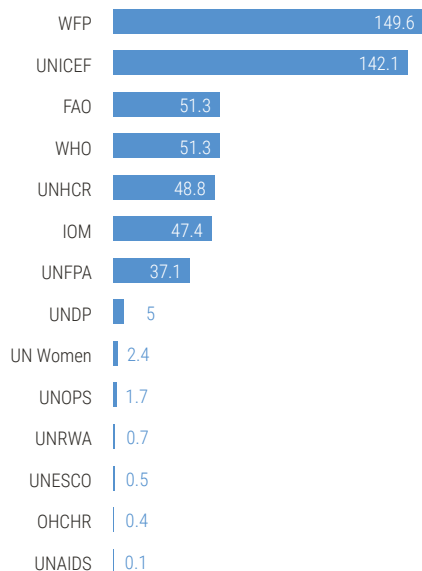
Funding by sector

in US\$ million



Funding by agency

in US\$ million



A total of \$73.9 million (14 per cent) was allocated for water and sanitation activities in 2019. This is also a higher proportion compared to the 12 per cent of CERF funding allocated to water and sanitation in 2018.

The protection sector received \$52.4 million, the common services and coordination sector \$48.8 million (this includes humanitarian air service), and the shelter and non-food items sector received \$34.7 million.

The remaining \$45 million were allocated to camp management, early recovery, education, mine action, multipurpose cash, and multisectoral refugee assistance sectors.

By region

With a total of \$389.2 million (72 per cent), humanitarian responses in Africa received the highest share of CERF's funding in 2019. This is an increase in total amount and percentage compared to the \$260 million allocated in 2018, representing 60 per cent of all 2018 CERF funding.

Overall, 9 out of the top 10 CERF recipient countries in 2019 were in Africa. Combined, the 5 top recipient countries in Africa, namely, Somalia (\$49.9 million), DRC (\$45.7 million), Sudan (\$43.4 million), Mozambique (\$28.9 million) and South Sudan (\$27.9 million), accounted for half of all CERF funding on the continent.

Of the \$389.2 million allocated to Africa in 2019, \$190.8 million (49 per cent) was to address needs stemming from conflict or internal strife; \$172.3 million (44 per cent) was in response to natural disasters, mainly drought (\$110.6 million); and \$26.2 million (7 per cent) went to disease outbreaks.

The biggest share of 2019 CERF funding to Africa, \$152.1 million (39 per cent), was used for food security and nutrition interventions. A total of \$66.1 million (14 per cent) of the funds was allocated for health-related assistance, while \$54.2 million (16 per cent) was used to respond to the water and sanitation needs of affected people.

A total of \$56.9 million (11 per cent) was allocated to address humanitarian needs in Asia and the Pacific in 2019. This is a decrease compared to the proportion of CERF funding allocated to the region in 2018, which stood at \$92.3 million or 18.4 per cent of all CERF funding. The top two recipient countries Afghanistan (\$15 million) and Bangladesh (\$15.3 million) together received 55 per cent of all CERF funding in Asia and the Pacific.

A total of \$29.6 million (52 per cent) went to address conflict-induced displacement in Asia and the Pacific region; \$21.5 million (38 per cent) went to climate-related shocks, such as droughts, floods and hurricanes; \$3.1 million (5 per cent) was allocated for an earthquake in the Philippines; and \$2.6 million (5 per cent) was used to respond to a measles outbreak in Samoa. While \$18.5 million (33 per cent) of the total allocations in Asia and the Pacific was for food security and nutrition interventions, more than \$14.9 million (26 per cent) was allocated for health interventions. Over \$9.3 million (16 per cent) went to respond to the water and sanitation needs of affected people.

CERF-funded interventions in Latin America and the Caribbean amounted to \$45.1 million (8 per cent) in 2019, the same proportion of CERF funding as in 2018. More than \$25 million (56 per cent) was used to respond to needs stemming from conflict or internal strife, of which \$16 million went to address humanitarian needs of people in Venezuela and in four neighbouring countries, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, affected by the Venezuelan Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis. Emergencies related to geophysical events, primarily droughts and hurricanes, amounted to \$15.1 million (33 per cent). A total of \$5 million (11 per cent) was allocated in response to residual underfunded humanitarian needs and a cholera outbreak in Haiti.

Humanitarian operations in the Middle East received \$41.4 million (8 per cent) for responses in Islamic Republic of Iran, the oPt and Yemen. This is a decrease compared to the \$67.3 million (13 per cent) of CERF funding allocated to the region in 2018. Of the total allocated in 2019, CERF provided \$31.7 million to Yemen and \$7.7 million to

the oPt to address needs stemming from conflict or internal strife (combined 95 per cent). The flood response in Islamic Republic of Iran received \$2 million (5 per cent).

In Eastern Europe, \$6 million was allocated through the UFE window to address conflict-induced needs in the Ukraine.

By agency

WFP received the highest amount of CERF funding in 2019. CERF allocated \$149.6 million to 75 projects providing food assistance in 37 countries. This represents an increase from 25 per cent of all CERF funding in 2018 to 28 per cent in 2019, correlating with exceptionally high levels of food insecurity around the world.

UNICEF received the second highest allocation amount, with \$142.1 million for 119 projects in 44 countries.

The third highest allocation amount of \$51.3 million was received by both FAO and WHO for 39 and 54 projects respectively. UNHCR and IOM followed closely, receiving the fourth and fifth highest amounts of \$48.8 million for 38 projects in 27 countries, and \$47.4 million for 40 projects in 25 countries.

LOANS

In March 2019, CERF provided a \$20 million loan to UNRWA to maintain vital food security assistance for over 1 million Palestine refugees in Gaza. The funding covered the procurement and distribution of food and was repaid in March 2020. A second loan of \$30 million was granted to UNRWA in November 2019 to manage a severe cash flow crisis and avert an imminent interruption of services in UNRWA's field operations in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, Lebanon and Syria. Of the \$30 million received by UNRWA in November, \$20 million was already repaid by the end of December 2019, and the remaining \$10 million will be repaid in 2020.

CERF and conflict-related crises



Humanitarian needs continue to grow on an unprecedented scale. Belgium strongly believes in the necessity of front-loading financial means for immediate availability whenever and wherever disaster strikes. The role of the CERF in management and oversight of pooled funding mechanisms within the humanitarian aid system is therefore essential. Since its inception Belgium has been a loyal partner of the CERF.

- Alexander De Croo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development Cooperation of Belgium



2019 CERF allocations to conflict-related crises



\$291M
ALLOCATIONS



26
COUNTRIES

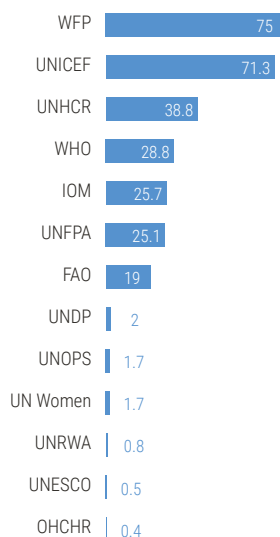


13.7M
PEOPLE ASSISTED

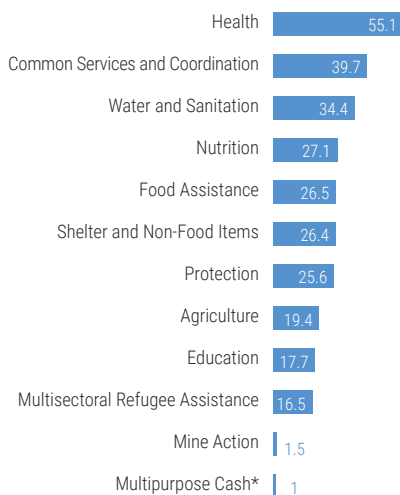


\$108.4M Rapid Response
\$182.4M Underfunded Emergencies

By agency in US\$ million



By sector in US\$ million



* not sector specific

With 41 active highly violent conflicts worldwide in 2019—an increase from 36 at the beginning of the previous year—conflict remained one of the primary drivers of humanitarian needs.³ In 2019, some \$291 million, or 54 per cent, of total CERF funding was allocated in response to crises related to conflict or internal strife, representing the largest proportion of CERF funding by emergency type. This funding was a lifeline for 13.7 million people caught in severe humanitarian emergencies in 26 countries.

Of the \$291 million, \$108.4 million (38 per cent) was allocated through the RR window enabling the provision of immediate assistance to people in sudden-onset or quickly deteriorating emergencies; and \$182.4 million (62 per cent) was allocated through the UFE window for assistance to people caught in critically underfunded, protracted crises. Sudan received the largest amount of \$40.4 million, followed by the DRC (\$35.9 million) and Yemen (\$31.7 million).

3 2020 Global Humanitarian Overview

COUNTRIES IN FOCUS

CERF IS A LIFELINE FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD'S MOST NEGLECTED AND PROTRACTED CRISES

CAMEROON

Throughout 2019, Cameroon experienced the impact of complex humanitarian crises, fueled primarily by violence and insecurity, which led to some 4.3 million people needing humanitarian assistance and more than 1 million people being displaced. This was an increase of almost one third compared to 2018.

A resurgence in violence in Cameroon's Far North Region uprooted more than 486,000 people, including 271,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), 105,000 Nigerian refugees and 110,000 returnees from neighboring countries. In the North-West and South-West regions insecurity and attacks against civilians left more than 1.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. In the East and North regions, Cameroon hosted some 280,000 refugees from the Central African Republic, exerting significant pressure on already limited natural resources and basic social services. The 2019 HRP for Cameroon requested \$298.9 million to assist 2.3 million people and was only 43 per cent funded by the end of 2019.

Considering the critical humanitarian needs and very low level of funding to Cameroon, in 2019 CERF provided a total of \$16.3 million through both rounds of the UFE allocations to ensure the continuation of life-saving assistance for more



than two million people. A first allocation of \$11.3 million in April enabled UN agencies and partners to provide life-saving assistance to more than 1.3 million people, including some 689,000 IDPs and more than 565,000 returnees. CERF-funded activities included interventions to combat gender-based violence (GBV), helping more than 197,000 people; the provision of access to quality education for 29,600 children; and the provision of emergency food assistance through food and cash transfers to 50,000 people.

A second allocation of \$5 million in September supported UN agencies and partners to address critical needs of more than 711,000 people in the North-West and South-West regions. Activities in the education, health, nutrition and protection sectors included, among others, providing essential healthcare to almost 510,000 people and multipurpose cash assistance to the most vulnerable 7,500 people.



AFGHANISTAN

Ongoing conflict, the worst drought in decades, and deepening poverty have contributed to a deteriorating humanitarian situation across Afghanistan in 2019. As many as 6.3 million people required humanitarian assistance in 2019, including 3.7 million people with severe and acute needs due to a convergence of factors arising from exposure to escalating violence, displacement, loss of livelihoods and limited access to basic services.

Half the population of Afghanistan, some 17 million people, living in conflict-affected areas were routinely exposed to human rights violations, including the deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure, sexual and reproductive health (SRH), as well as forced recruitment. The ongoing conflict displaced more than 350,000 in 2019. At the same time, hunger and malnutrition were at dangerously high levels.

In September 2019, CERF allocated \$16 million through the UFE window to Afghanistan to enable the provision of life-saving assistance to nearly 995,000 people affected by the ongoing conflict, including 350,000 displaced people and 43,500 people with disabilities. CERF funding focused on the 22 priority provinces with the highest malnutrition rates and enabled UN agencies and partners to provide critical assistance, such as emergency nutrition services to nearly 40,000 acutely malnourished children as well as pregnant and lactating women; access to health services for more than 993,000 people; water supply and sanitation assistance to 150,000 people; humanitarian mine action benefitting 100,000 people, and other protection activities benefitting 50,000 people.

Mariam and her best friend at Nahr-e-Shahi village outside of Mazar City, Afghanistan where hundreds of families have settled after fleeing from conflict-affected areas of Faryab and Balkh.
© OCHA/Charlotte Cans





DRC:
**“Most importantly,
I hope the child
is healthy.”**

When Furaha’s village in Ituri Province in the DRC came violent attack, she fled for her life, leaving behind all her belongings. Her village was looted and largely destroyed, including the health centre. “We lost everything we had”, Furaha recalls.

She found refuge at the IDP site, near Fataki, with her husband and thousands of other displaced people. They stayed in a small makeshift shelter. Now, When Furaha became pregnant with her first child she went to a CERF-funded mobile clinic for pre-natal screenings.

At the clinic, midwife Esther was one of the team that provided emergency services to women affected by the conflict. When the team set up the mobile clinic in the early morning, dozens of pregnant and other women arrive.

“We know of women who had to deliver in such bad conditions that they died. We give them hygiene kits so that at least they can deliver with minimum hygiene”, Esther explained. “The women are very vulnerable. Some don’t even have clothes. Some children show signs of malnutrition.”


“This will be my first child”, Furaha explained, as she was examined by Esther. “I’m happy that Esther can be with me. Most importantly, I hope the child is healthy.” Esther still had many patients waiting for her and it was another long day before she went home.

For Esther however, nothing could stop her from being a midwife. “I am a midwife because I want to help women and their newborn babies”, she explained. “We are here to serve humanity. I came to relieve people who are in crisis. That’s why I am here.”

Furaha in her tent at the IDP site in Fataki, DRC. © OCHA/Ivo Brandau


CERF and natural disasters

2019 CERF allocations to natural disasters

 **\$214M**
ALLOCATIONS

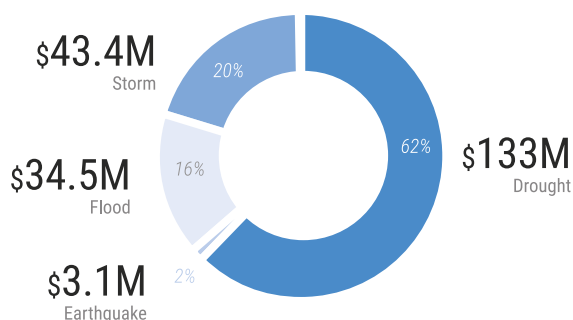
 **25**
COUNTRIES

 **12.7M**
PEOPLE ASSISTED

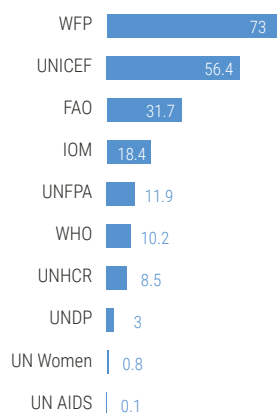
 **\$204.3M** Rapid Response
\$9.6M Underfunded Emergencies



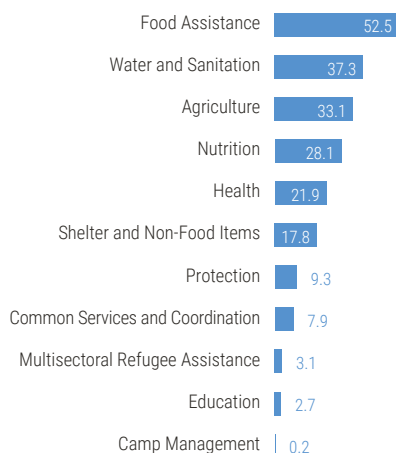
By emergency type in US\$ million



By agency in US\$ million



By sector in US\$ million



In 2019, 91 million people worldwide were caught in natural disasters such as droughts, floods, cyclones, hurricanes, typhoons and other storms, earthquakes and landslides, and required immediate assistance.⁴ CERF allocated \$214 million in 2019 to ensure the provision of life-saving assistance to 12.7 million people critically affected by natural disasters in 25 countries. This represented 40 per cent of the total funding allocated by CERF in 2019.

The majority of this funding, \$204 million or 95.5 per cent, was provided from the RR window and enabled immediate provision of life-saving assistance to people who depended on quick response. This funding allowed UN agencies and partners to rapidly start emergency responses or quickly expand already ongoing operations. For instance, when Cyclone Idai made landfall in Mozambique, CERF approved a \$14 million allocation within 48 hours from the submission of the proposal. This funding enabled rapid provision of life-saving assistance to over 1.2 million people.

More than 60 per cent (\$133 million) of 2019 CERF funding to natural disasters went to droughts in eastern and southern Africa, Central America, Haiti and Pakistan; followed by \$43 million to cyclones in southern Africa, typhoons in Asia and hurricanes in the Caribbean, and \$34 million to floods in Bangladesh, eastern Africa and Islamic Republic of Iran. CERF also provided \$3 million in response to the earthquake in the Philippines.

⁴ <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/total-affected-by-natural-disasters>

CERF IS FAST

CYCLONES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Southern Africa was hit by two major cyclones in 2019. Cyclone Idai, a Category 4 cyclone, made landfall in central Mozambique on 14 March, and then struck Malawi and Zimbabwe. The cyclone left 600 people dead and an estimated 1.85 million people in need of multisectoral humanitarian assistance in Mozambique. In Malawi, 870,000 people were affected and in Zimbabwe, preliminary reports indicated that some 270,000 people with existing acute levels of vulnerability were affected.

On 26 April, Cyclone Kenneth, another Category 4 cyclone, hit the northern Comoros archipelago, in particular the main island of Grande-Comore, and north-eastern Mozambique. This was the first time in recorded history that two strong tropical cyclones, above Category 2, made landfall in Mozambique in the same season.

Within days of the cyclones' landfall, CERF had allocated RR funds to both emergencies: \$21.4 million for Cyclone Idai and \$12.9 million for Cyclone Kenneth. The CERF-funded response targeted some 3.1 million of the most vulnerable people among the 4.3 million people directly affected by the two cyclones in the four countries.

”Portugal has been a consistent contributor to CERF since its creation. In line with our National Humanitarian Strategy, this fruitful partnership has allowed us to finance the early stages of humanitarian assistance and relief, while at the same time meeting the needs of the people affected by recent crises as well as forgotten crises.

- Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Portugal



Denmark has provided predictable funding to the CERF every year since its start in 2006 and is proud consistently to be among the top 10 donors to the Fund. CERF is a vital part of our collective tool-box to address substantial humanitarian needs. It is a solidarity fund that provides indispensable funding for life-saving Rapid Response and Underfunded Emergencies and it is truly a fund by all, for all.

- Rasmus Prehn, Minister for Development Cooperation, Denmark



In response to Cyclone Idai, CERF allocated \$14 million to Mozambique targeting 1.3 million people, \$4 million to Zimbabwe targeting some 350,000 people, and \$3.3 million to Malawi targeting 600,000. This funding jump-started the delivery of the most time-critical, life-saving assistance to the affected people. It enabled UN agencies and partners to provide food; access to safe drinking water; protection against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); emergency shelter and relief items, and much more.

In response to Cyclone Kenneth, CERF allocated \$10 million to Mozambique targeting 620,000 people and \$3 million to Comoros targeting 280,000 people. This funding allowed UN agencies to start the implementation in the main life-saving sectors. Among other assistance, it enabled the provision of primary health care services; access to clean water and sanitation; immediate food assistance; and livelihood support.



Mozambique: Restoring hope after Cyclone Idai

Castro Antonio, the tailor of Mandruzi, with his sewing machine.

© WFP/Rafael Tarasantchi

Cyclone Idai wreaked havoc in Mozambique in March 2019, killing 1,200 people and uprooting thousands of families.

Many people had to start all over again including rebuilding homes and replanting farms. As well as their homes, livelihoods, and missing loved ones, many said they had also lost the sense of who they were.

With CERF support, WFP helped thousands of Mozambicans to get back on their feet. In the Mutua resettlement area, around 45 km from the hard-hit city of Beira, families registered for WFP assistance cards that enabled them to get vouchers to redeem in shops. This allowed them to receive rations of rice, beans and vegetable oil that lasts for 15 days. They were also given a voucher to buy food of their choice in local shops.

As the situation improved and markets started functioning again, vouchers helped the economic recovery.

Castro Antonio lost everything he had after Cyclone Idai, but managed to get an old sewing machine from a cousin. He started to work straight away, sewing and selling clothes.

Thanks to the vouchers, he and his family can get the food they need from local shops but he is eager for his business to take off so he can move beyond assistance.

“Business is still slow”, he says, “but word needs to get out that I’m here making clothes.”

DROUGHT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

In 2019, parts of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia suffered from severe drought as a result of a succession of failed seasonal rainfalls. The situation caused serious water shortages in a region where the farmers and herders were dependent on rain and were highly vulnerable to climate variations. An estimated 11.2 million people were expected to be in severe food insecurity by October 2019.

In June, CERF allocated \$45 million from the RR window, which included \$30 million to Somalia, \$10 million to Ethiopia and \$5 million to Kenya, to support drought-affected people. This funding enabled the provision of critical life-saving support to 1.8 million people, including 590,000 women, 465,000 girls and 9,900 people with disabilities. The assistance included the provision of access to safe and reliable water supply; agricultural and livestock interventions; immediate food assistance; nutritional support and protection mainly to women and girls affected by GBV. The CERF funding also enabled the scale up of responses against cholera, measles and other communicable diseases.



Since 2011 Qatar Fund for Development has supported CERF. Our eight year amazing partnership witnessed a successful, prosperous, fast and effective humanitarian assistance. We hope to continue this fruitful relationship in order to continue to reach more people that are caught up in crises around the world. We are proud to be part of CERF's supporters.

*- Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Kuwari,
Director General of Qatar Fund
for Development*


A dried up water catchment in Odweine District, Somaliland.

© WFP/Kevin Souma




CERF and disease outbreaks

2019 CERF allocations to disease outbreaks

 **\$34M**
ALLOCATIONS

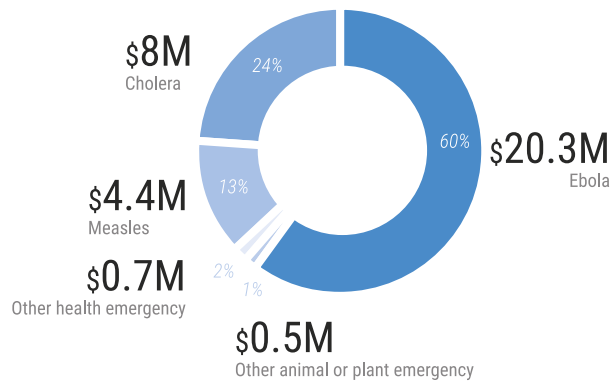
 **3M**
PEOPLE ASSISTED

 **11**
COUNTRIES

 **\$26M** Rapid Response
\$7.9M Underfunded Emergencies



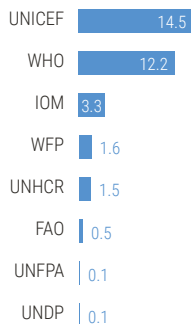
By emergency type in US\$ million



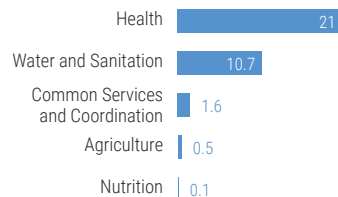
In 2019, CERF allocated \$33.9 million to support an integrated, coordinated and multisectoral response to disease outbreaks. This represented a 62 per cent increase compared to 2018. The 2019 CERF funding in response to disease outbreaks enabled the provision of life-saving assistance to 3 million people in 11 countries. It also enabled Ebola readiness activities benefiting an estimated 57 million people.

Of the \$33.9 million allocated to disease outbreaks in 2019, \$20.9 million enabled critical health sector interventions, while \$12.9 million was allocated for activities through other sectors such as the provision of safe water and sanitation, and logistics.

By agency in US\$ million



By sector in US\$ million



Three-quarters of the CERF funding for disease outbreaks was allocated through the RR window, primarily for Ebola-related responses in the DRC, and Ebola-readiness in neighboring Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda. CERF also allocated funding for cholera responses in Haiti and in Sudan, and for measles responses in Djibouti, Madagascar and Samoa.

IN FOCUS:

CERF RESPONDS TO PRIORITY NEEDS

EBOLA

In September 2019, CERF allocated \$10 million from the RR window to provide life-saving assistance to people affected by Ebola in the DRC. The Ebola outbreak in DRC had continued in eastern Ituri and North Kivu provinces for more than a year, with 2,787 recorded cases and a case fatality rate of 67 per cent. The humanitarian needs were extensive. Access to basic health and other essential services was inadequate, or simply did not exist at all. The CERF funding enabled UN agencies and partners to, among other assistance, procure and distribute urgently needed water and sanitation supplies, and support 100 screening sites at different points of entry into the DRC. The ERC noted at the time: “Despite the scale up of the Government-led response and the heroic efforts of frontline health workers, community members and other partners, the disease is not under control. The risk of further spread—including to neighboring countries—is very high.”

At the beginning of 2019, CERF also allocated \$10.5 million to UN agencies for Ebola response readiness in four of DRC’s neighbouring countries: Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda. These funds supported surveillance points of entry; pre-positioning of medical supplies and equipment; community-based risk communication; and other prevention and control activities. With the unexpected worsening of the Ebola outbreak in the DRC, the quick provision of CERF funding that enabled the scale up of life-saving operations was crucial.

”

Estonia was the very first contributor to CERF and has ever since been a reliable and trustworthy partner. Why? Because we value transparency, efficiency and flexibility, which is particularly important in humanitarian emergencies, especially when it comes to protecting civilians in conflict situations.

- Urmas Reinsalu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Estonia



”

We consider CERF a key UN mechanism for allocating urgent funds in order to address consequences of disasters during the initial hours and days that are critical for saving lives as well as for covering the shortfalls of financing “forgotten crises”. We appreciate the Fund’s impartial approach in identifying priority areas for assistance and we are focused on providing regular support to CERF’s humanitarian operations.

- Sergey Vershinin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation

DRC: “We are Ebola survivors together”



Uleda Kisenye
Kahambu
breastfeeds her
3-month-old daughter,
Merdi.
© WHO DRC

CERF provided \$3.9 million to WHO in September 2019 for immediate response to the Ebola outbreak in the DRC. This funding allowed the agency to strengthen free and non-discriminatory access to emergency health care for affected people through providing health clinics with critically needed infection prevention control kits and emergency health kits. The project aimed to reduce the impact on people affected by the Ebola virus and benefited over 1 million people, including 570,000 women and girls.

“I put my feet on the ground and wiggled my toes. It felt strange to touch the ground for the first time in weeks. Slowly, I stood up, holding the hand of the nurse. I held my swollen belly and smiled.” That was the moment Rachel Kahuko Kavugho began to let herself believe that she might survive Ebola “and that the baby in my belly might get to live.”

She is one of five women in Beni, in northern DRC, who have not only survived Ebola while pregnant but has given birth to a baby—a welcome sign of survival.

Women are especially vulnerable to Ebola. According to data from WHO, women and girls aged 11 and older have been infected by Ebola at a higher rate than men and boys in the same age range.

“When my results came back positive, I thought I would die”, says Uleda Kisenye Kahambu, another of the five mothers who survived Ebola. “Even after I was cured, I worried every day for the rest of my pregnancy that my baby would die.”

Three months after giving birth, both Kahambu and her baby, Merdi, were doing well. Pregnant Ebola survivors in Beni can stay in a special facility built for new mothers and babies next to the Ebola treatment centre a month before their due date, a practice borrowed from the public health strategy to limit maternal mortality generally. This helps doctors monitor them closely. When they go into labour, they are brought to the treatment centre, which means babies can be tested for Ebola straight after delivery.

Kavugho’s baby, Kakule, tested positive for Ebola soon after he was born. “I was scared,” she says, “but, having survived myself, I had more confidence. The doctors and the nurses treated him, and he got better very quickly.”

As well as testing the babies, health care workers, who have been trained by WHO, also test the mother’s breastmilk. While Kavugho’s breastmilk was found to contain traces of the Ebola virus, this is not always the case. Kahambu and her friend Aimer Bikengya Kavira, another survivor and new mother, were both given the all clear to breastfeed.

“I lost my husband and my daughter to Ebola”, says Kavugho. “I have suffered a lot, but now I am so grateful I have my son. We are both Ebola survivors together.”

CHOLERA

Since the start of the cholera epidemic in 2010 in Haiti, over 800,000 cases and over 9,700 deaths have been reported in the country. With a potential 3,370 new cases in 2019, cholera continued to pose serious life-threatening health risks in Haiti. While strong vigilance and a joint water and health response capacity had to be ensured, key humanitarian operations in Haiti were severely underfunded at the beginning of 2019.

In April 2019, the ERC allocated \$5 million through CERF's UFE window to the cholera response in Haiti. This funding enabled UN agencies and partners to provide urgent services for 333,000 people, including access to sanitation and hygiene facilities for over 252,000 people; enhancing the treatment and prevention of cholera; strengthening cholera surveillance and coordination; and the provision of vital medical supplies.

On 9 September 2019, Sudan's Federal Ministry of Health announced the outbreak of cholera in Blue Nile State. Despite the initial control measures put in place by health and water and sanitation partners, there were concerns that the outbreak could spread. According to WHO, close to 23 million people were at risk in the eight states of Blue Nile, Gederef, Gezira, Kassala, Khartoum, River Nile, Sennar and White Nile.

In response, CERF allocated \$3 million through the RR window to ensure the timely provision of life-saving assistance to over 853,000 people. UN agencies and partners used the CERF allocation to improve access to safe drinking water and hygiene promotion for over 300,000 people; provide life-saving nutrition treatment to some 170,000 people; and provide health and water and sanitation equipment, improving access to treatment of the disease for nearly 150,000 people.



Spain is a proud partner and donor to CERF, an effective instrument to rapidly deliver emergency assistance while ensuring a more predictable and timely response. The role of this fund in the response to supporting forgotten and least visible crises as well as the struggle efforts against gender-based violence is outstanding.

- Arancha González Laya, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Spain

MEASLES

On 15 November 2019, the Government of Samoa declared a state of emergency over a growing measles outbreak. Measles vaccine coverage varied in Pacific Islands, ranging from 31 per cent in Samoa to 99 per cent in the Cook Islands, Nauru and Niue. In response to the outbreak, CERF allocated \$2.7 million from its RR window to support life-saving assistance to tackle the measles outbreak in Samoa and neighboring countries. The CERF funds complemented the national responses in Samoa, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Tonga and Vanuatu, targeting more than 1.1 million people. CERF funding enabled UN agencies and partners to support emergency vaccinations and related social mobilization, case management, and access to critical health assistance.

CERF and global population displacement



Going into 2019, almost 70.8 million people were displaced globally. Approximately 13.6 million people have been newly displaced by conflict in 2018,⁵ a figure far surpassing the 2.9 million people who returned to their countries or areas of origin in this period. The total figure of displaced people was composed of 25.9 million refugees (including 5.5 Palestinian refugees), 41.3 million IDPs and 3.5 million asylum seekers.

Beyond conflict-related displacement, 17.2 million people were forced to flee their homes in 2018 due to natural disasters.⁶ Weather-related hazards triggered the majority of these displacements. Storms accounted for 9.3 million, floods for 5.4 million and droughts for 764,000.

Addressing the humanitarian consequences of population displacement remains an essential part of CERF-funded humanitarian action. CERF also plays an important role in mitigating new displacement, by enabling the provision of immediate life-saving assistance, which helps to provide affected people with the means to cope with emergencies while in their places of origin, whenever it is safe and possible to do so.

Sixty two per cent of 2019 CERF funding—\$332.2 million—was allocated for the provision of life-saving assistance to refugees, migrants, IDPs and communities hosting them in 35 countries. Moreover, CERF allocations to 19 countries were made specifically to address humanitarian consequences of new or chronic population displacement.

The 2019 CERF funding enabled the provision of life-saving assistance to 3.2 million refugees, 6.1 million IDPs 1.9 million returnees, and 6.8 million people in host communities. In total, CERF funds enabled the provision of humanitarian assistance to 18 million people affected by displacement in the world's most severe new or deteriorating emergencies, and in critically underfunded protracted emergencies. This represents 61 per cent of all people assisted with 2019 CERF funding.

In conflict-related situations, 90 per cent of people assisted with 2019 CERF funding were refugees, IDPs, returnees or members of communities hosting these displaced people. By contrast, in CERF funding in response to natural disasters and disease outbreaks, 38 per cent and 24 per cent of people assisted respectively were people affected by population displacement.

⁵ UNHCR *Global Trends – Forced Displacement in 2018 Report*

⁶ IDMC *Global Report on Internal Displacement 2019*

VENEZUELA REGIONAL DISPLACEMENT CRISES

Refugees and migrants from Venezuela continued to require humanitarian assistance and protection in 2019, with little prospects for return in the short to medium term. In mid-2019, there were over 4 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the region, most of whom were travelling on unsafe routes, were extremely vulnerable and were arriving at their destinations in very poor health. Increasing movements of people led to a large concentration of Venezuelans at border points, which were unable to cope with the influx due to limited reception facilities. Throughout 2019 the vulnerability of refugees and migrants continued to increase due to the restricted access to basic services such as health care and protection, and because of the exploitation and abuse by migrant smugglers and traffickers. Women and children were particularly vulnerable due to insufficient protection measures and inadequate support to survivors of GBV.

The funding from CERF enabled the provision of life-saving assistance to 170,400 of the most critically affected refugees and host communities in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. Response activities included the provision of food to 49,600 people and multipurpose cash assistance to over 15,000 people; protection activities benefiting over 55,000 people; shelter and basic relief items benefiting 20,500 people; critical reproductive health care, including GBV interventions, to over 1,000 women and girls; and much more.

SUDAN

Sudan was severely affected by conflict, a dire economic situation, food insecurity and a cholera outbreak in 2019. Assessments indicated a severe deterioration of the humanitarian situation as people's coping mechanisms were becoming exhausted. In 2019, UN agencies and their partners targeted 4.4 million people with humanitarian assistance, of whom 1.9 million were IDPs, 916,000 were refugees, and 350,000 were returnees. Along with the massive displacement crisis, the population was facing critical protection, food security and nutrition risks. The

situation was compounded by precarious security conditions due to lingering conflict in many parts of the country.

Sudan received three complementary CERF allocations in 2019. An RR allocation in response to the increase in market prices benefiting 1.1 million people in April; a UFE allocation in September in response to deepening economic crisis and low funding levels benefiting 1.2 million people; and an RR allocation in October in response to a cholera outbreak benefiting more than 850,000 people. In total, the 2019 CERF funding to Sudan enabled the UN agencies and partners to provide life-saving food, health, protection, nutrition, shelter, and water and sanitation assistance to over 3 million people of whom nearly 1 million were IDPs, over 600,000 were refugees and 350,000 were returnees.

PHILIPPINES

A series of strong earthquakes struck southern Philippines in October 2019 resulting in casualties, large population displacement and extensive damage to property and infrastructure. Over 324,000 people needed humanitarian assistance, including 106,000 displaced people who were in evacuation centers and ad hoc settlements. The consolidated assessment identified protection concerns and critical acute needs in camp coordination and management, education, emergency shelter, and water and sanitation sectors. Meeting the needs of the displaced people was an immediate priority.

In response, CERF provided \$3 million from its RR window to jump-start time-critical humanitarian assistance aiming to reach over 44,000 of the most vulnerable displaced people, primarily women and children. The CERF funds enabled the provision of protection interventions to 18,000 children to prevent and address violence, exploitation and abuse; emergency shelter assistance to 15,000 people inside and outside of evacuation camps; access to quality education services and safeguarding of rights in a protective environment to 9,750 girls and boys; life-saving SRH and GBV response services to 8,000 women and girls; and access to drinking water to 3,700 families.

2019 CERF funding for assistance to refugees, IDPs, returnees and host communities



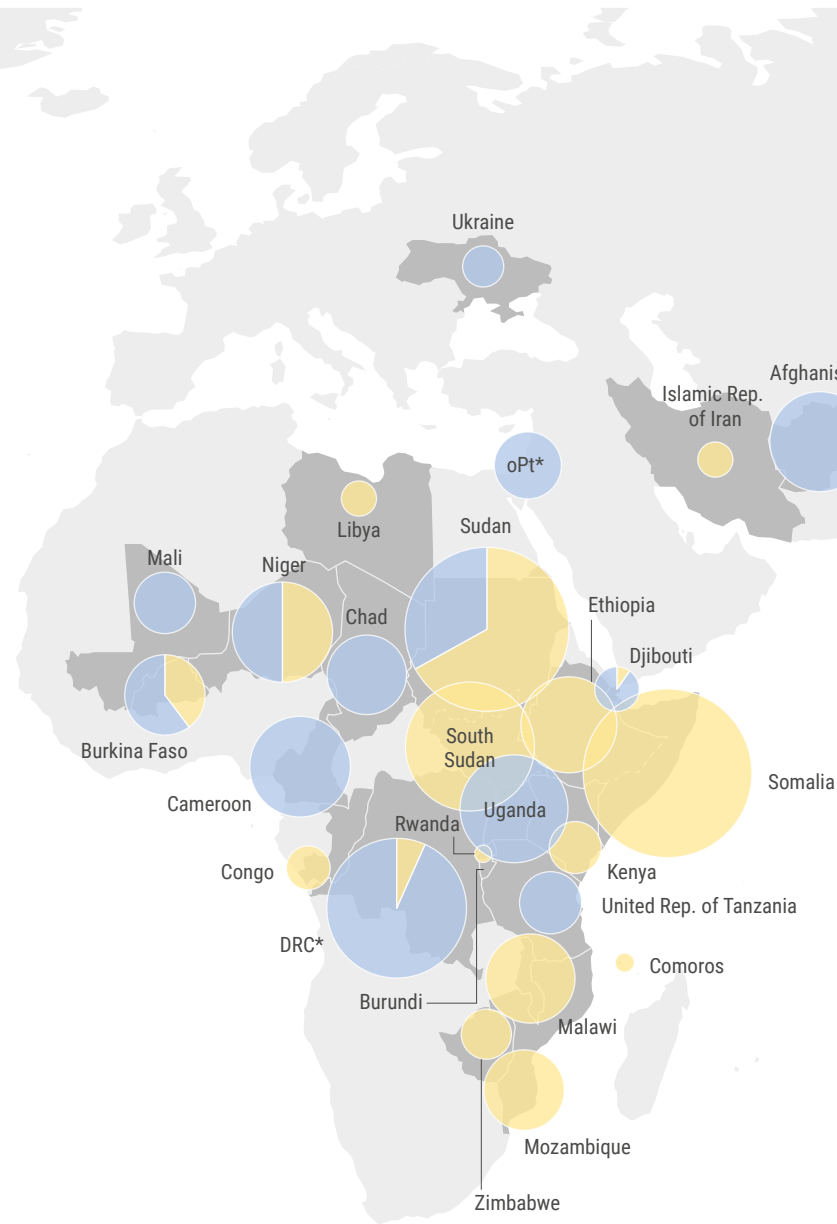
\$332M

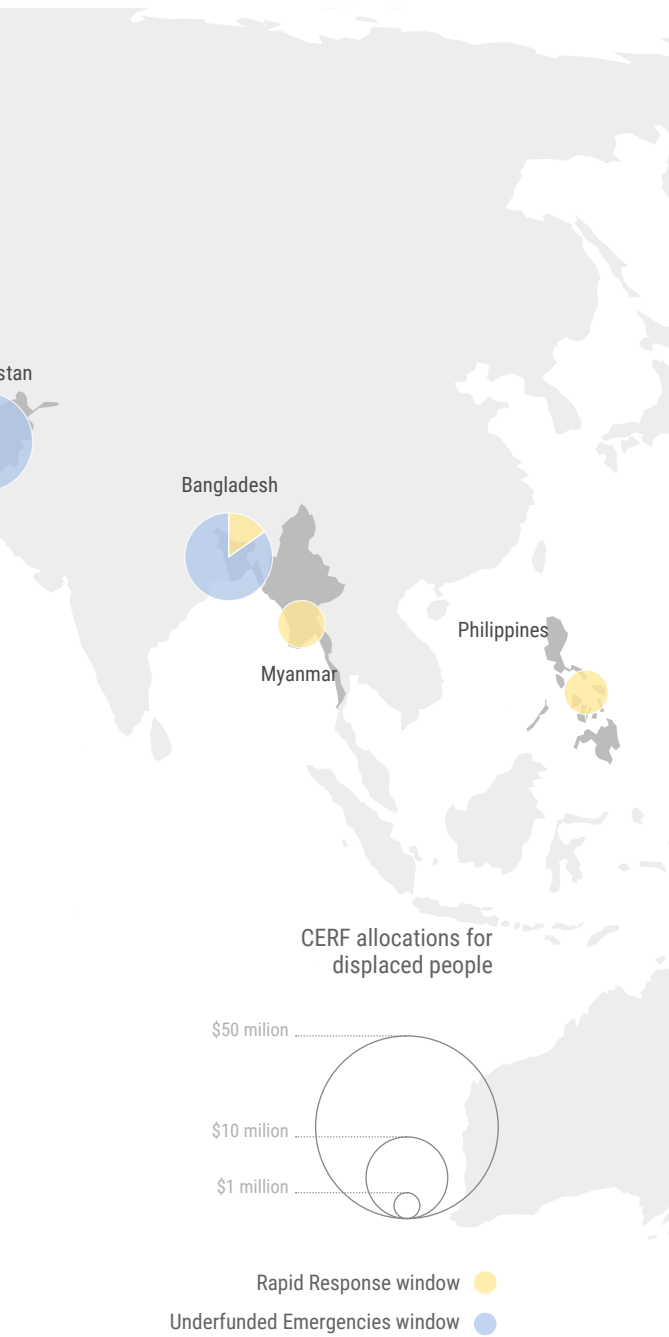
TOTAL 2019 CERF ALLOCATIONS TO REFUGEES, IDPs AND HOST COMMUNITIES



35

COUNTRIES





*DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
oPt - occupied Palestinian territory

**Venezuela RRM - Venezuela Regional
Refugee and Migration Crisis: A regional
CERF Underfunded Emergencies allocation
supported responses to the Venezuelan
Refugee and Migrant Crisis in Brazil,
Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.



Sadiya, 45, and her children at Garin Kaka refugee site in Maradi, Niger. They are amongst many who fled when criminal gangs attacked their village in Nigeria.

© OCHA/Eve Sabbagh

Niger: “We feel safe here”

Maryam and Sadiya were among the 40,000 Nigerian refugees who fled violence in the north-western states of Katsina, Sokoto and Zamfara to seek shelter in neighboring Niger.

“My husband was killed before my eyes. I don't know how we managed to escape. We ran”, Sadiya, 45 years old, recalled. “There is nothing left and I hear they are still killing people.”

Maryam and her baby fled when criminal gangs attacked their village, stealing cattle from the Fulani communities living there.

In Niger, they were first hosted in a site close to the border but were relocated as violence started spreading in March 2019.

In Diffa, south-eastern Niger, violence intensified with the resurgence of attacks by non-state armed groups in 2019, with the number of people killed, injured or abducted the highest since the crisis began in 2015.

Thanks to CERF funding provided to IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and WHO, a new refugee site in Garin Kaka was created, shelters were built, and child-friendly spaces were set up. Refugees received food, clean water, health services and protection assistance. Host communities in the neighbouring village also received assistance to alleviate pressure that the refugee camp put on their resources.

Maryam and Sadiya have now set up new lives in Garin Kaka. Sadiya said: “We feel safe here.”



**People
reached with
CERF funding**

People targeted with 2019 CERF funding

In 2019, CERF supported humanitarian action across the globe, expanding the reach of its donors to crises, whether new, worsening or forgotten. CERF funding enabled partners to deliver life-saving assistance to more than 29 million of the most vulnerable crises-affected people in 49 countries and territories, up from 27.4 million in 2018.

CERF funding allocated in 2019 targeted 29.4 million⁷ people in 49 countries with life-saving assistance. The consolidated information on people reached with this funding will only be available towards the end of 2020, when all reports on the use of 2019 CERF funding will be available. However, the numbers of people targeted has proven to be a reliable indication of the numbers of people reached and most likely underrepresents actual achievements of CERF-funded projects (see [next chapter](#) for more details).

Overall, 53 per cent of people targeted with 2019 CERF funding were women and girls. CERF funding to some sectors in 2019 had specific focus on women and girls. For instance, 25 out of 41 CERF-funded projects in the nutrition sector focused specifically on the provision of supplementary food to pregnant and lactating women, and children. In total, 62 per cent of people targeted in this sector were women and girls.

⁷ People indirectly reached through 2019 Ebola readiness allocations to Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda are not included in this figure.

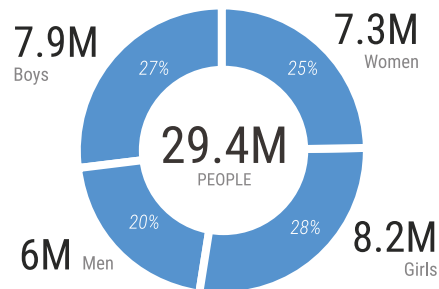
Communities affected by widespread flooding in Bangladesh are sharing their experiences of how CERF funding supported their recovery.

© OCHA/Anthony Burke

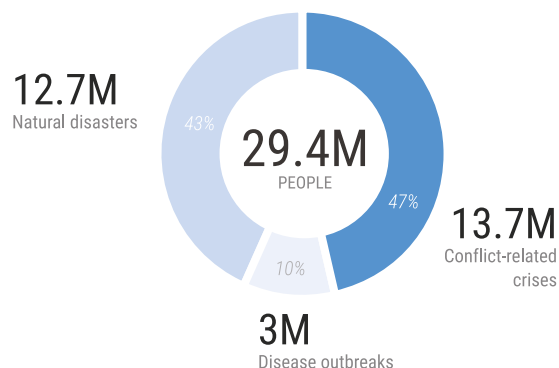
People targeted with 2019 CERF funding



By sex and age *in million*



By emergency type *in million*



People targeted with 2019 CERF funding by sector

SECTOR	PEOPLE TARGETED	FEMALE	MALE	CHILDREN	ADULTS
 Health	15.9M 	53% 	47% 	54% 	46% 
 Water and Sanitation	7.1M 	51% 	49% 	49% 	51% 
 Protection	5.6M 	60% 	40% 	52% 	48% 
 Food Assistance	4.9M 	51% 	49% 	51% 	49% 
 Agriculture	3.9M 	53% 	47% 	35% 	65% 
 Nutrition	2.7M 	62% 	38% 	68% 	32% 
 Multisectoral Refugee Assistance	1.9M 	53% 	47% 	60% 	40% 
 Shelter and NFIs	1.4M 	54% 	46% 	55% 	45% 
 Education	550k 	50% 	50% 	100% 	0% 
 Camp Management	263k 	53% 	47% 	50% 	50% 
 Mine Action	192k 	41% 	59% 	46% 	54% 

CERF-funded projects in the protection sector also targeted a high proportion of women and girls, 60 per cent. In this sector, 34 out of 115 CERF-funded projects focused on GBV prevention and response.

Close to 55 per cent of people targeted were children under age 18. Some CERF-funded projects in 2019 had a specific focus on children. For instance, CERF-funded projects in the education sector focused entirely on children and 68 per cent of people targeted in the nutrition sector were children.

CERF funding in 2019 enabled life-saving assistance to 13.7 million people affected by conflict-related crises, 12.7 million people impacted by natural disasters and 3 million people in response to disease outbreaks.

CERF-funded humanitarian assistance is typically multisectoral and tailored to the specific needs of affected people in a given emergency context. Accordingly, through 2019 CERF funding UN agencies and their partners targeted 15.9 million vulnerable people with health care; 7.1 million with water and sanitation interventions; 5.6 million with protection support; 4.9 million with food assistance; 3.9 million with agriculture-based livelihood support; 2.7 million with nutrition assistance; 1.9 million with multisectoral refugee support; 1.4 million with shelter assistance or basic relief items; and several hundreds of thousands with camp management, education, mine action and multipurpose cash assistance.

CERF also funded a large-scale Ebola response and operational readiness in Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda in 2019, which indirectly benefitted an estimated 57 million⁸ people.

The 2019 CERF funding targeted 15 million people in 35 countries through RR allocations and 14.4 million people in 23 countries through UFE allocations.

Sudan was the country with the highest number of people assisted in 2019. In April, the country received an RR allocation in response to the increase in market prices benefiting 1.1 million

⁸ This figure is not part of any data presentations in this report.

Methodology of tracking numbers of people targeted and reached with CERF funding

The CERF secretariat applies a consistent methodology for tracking the numbers of people targeted and reached with CERF funding. Nevertheless, the global figures remain estimates due to the great complexity of humanitarian situations and the multisectoral nature of CERF-funded assistance. The challenge of accurately gauging the number of people targeted and reached is not unique to CERF; it is an inherent problem across humanitarian action.

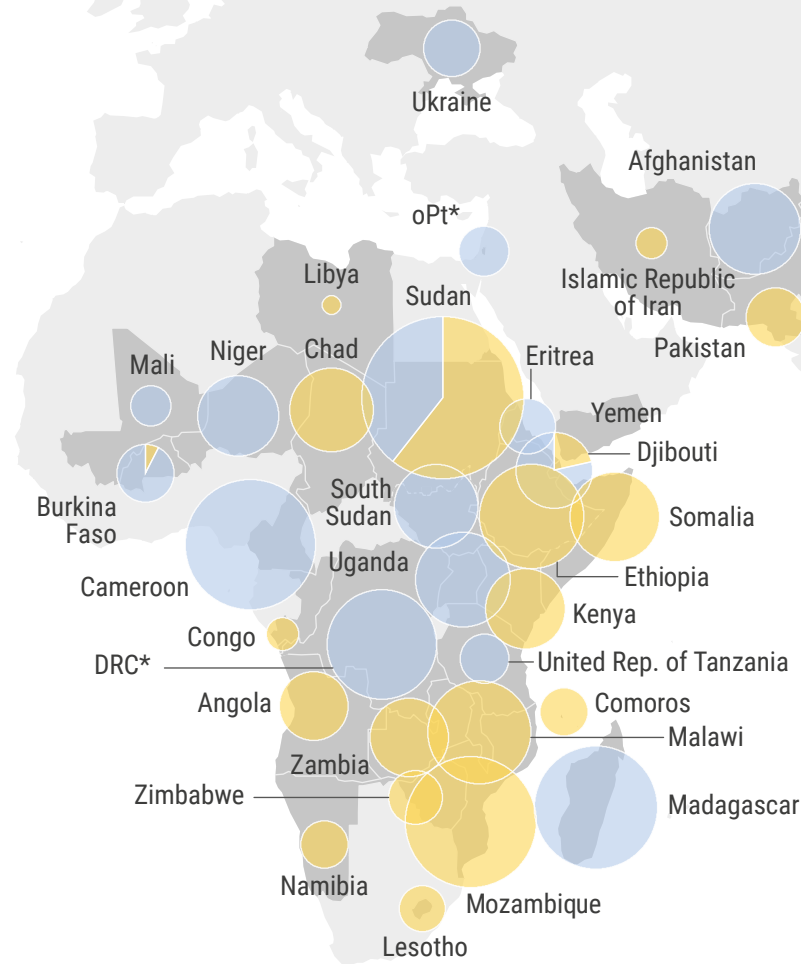
The CERF secretariat requires all recipient agencies to provide detailed information on the numbers of people directly targeted and reached with each CERF-funded project. After careful review, the numbers are recorded in CERF's Grants Management System.

However, the numbers of people reached by each project cannot simply be added to achieve sectoral totals. Likewise, the totals by sector cannot be added to accurately estimate allocation totals. CERF funds comprehensive multisectoral response, meaning that often the same person receives CERF-funded assistance through several projects and sectors. For instance, a person can receive medical care, a vaccination, food and relief items. If the numbers of people reached by all CERF-funded projects were simply added together, this person would be counted four times, potentially leading to inflated estimates.

CERF avoids counting the same people multiple times through two steps. First, sector leads in consultation with implementing agencies identify duplications within sectors. Consequently, people reached at sector level are counted only once even if they received assistance through several projects.

Second, OCHA field offices or RCs' offices identify duplications of people reached between sectors within the same CERF allocations. This ensures that people reached at allocation level are counted only once although they may have received assistance in several sectors.

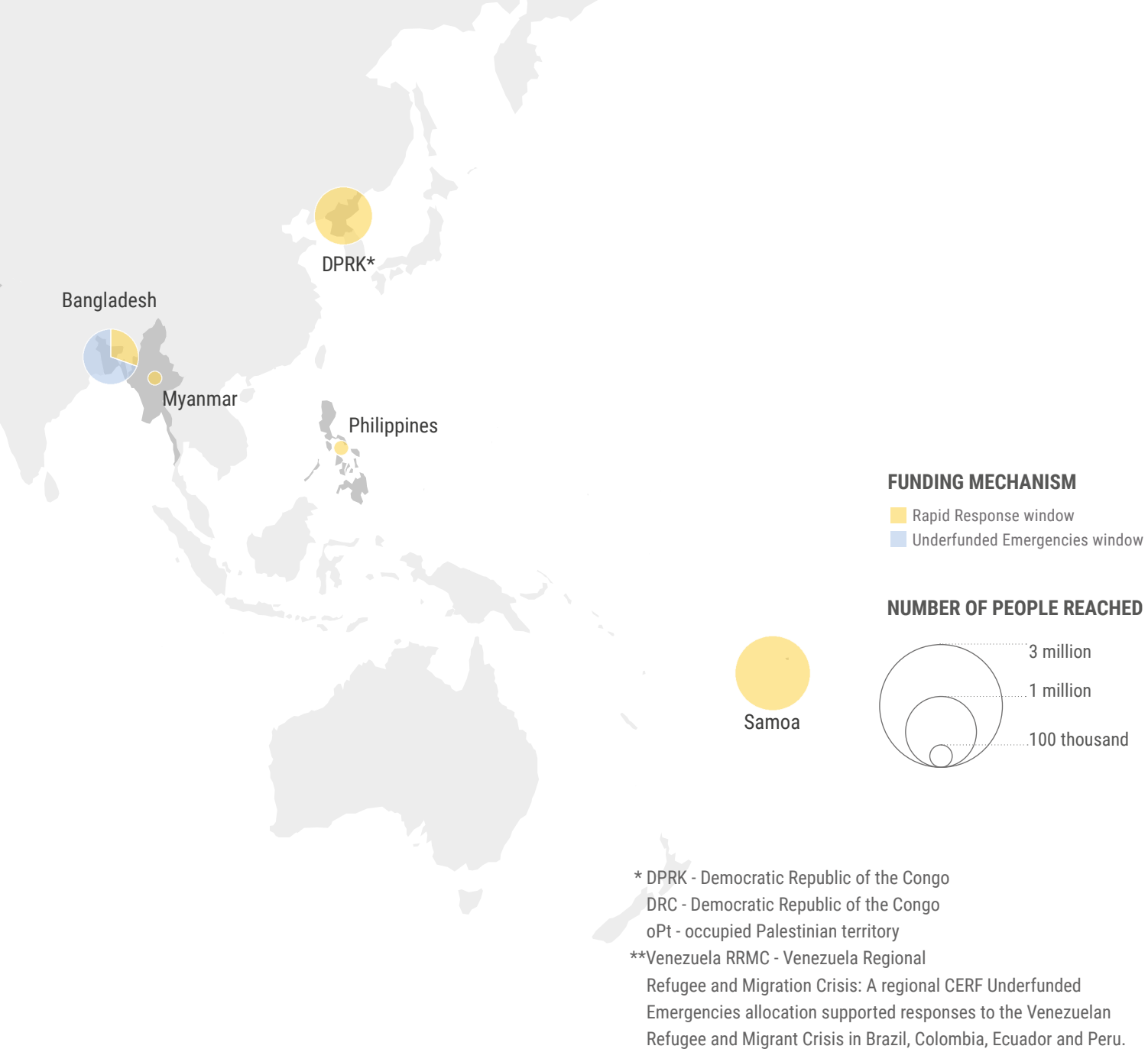
People targeted with CERF funding by country



people; a UFE allocation in September in response to deepening economic crisis and low funding levels benefiting 1.2 million people; and an RR allocation in October in response to a cholera outbreak benefiting more than 850,000 people. In total, the 2019 CERF funding to Sudan enabled the UN agencies and partners to provide critical life-saving assistance to over 3 million people.

Mozambique was the country with the second highest number of people targeted with life-saving assistance through 2019 CERF funding. UN agen-

cies in Mozambique received an RR allocation in February in response to severe food insecurity benefiting 156,000 people. Mozambique also received two large RR allocations in March and May in response to two strong, consecutive tropical cyclones Idai and Kenneth. The two allocations benefited 1.2 million and 620,000 people respectively. In total, the 2019 CERF funding to Mozambique enabled the UN agencies and partners to provide critical life-saving assistance to 2.1 million people.



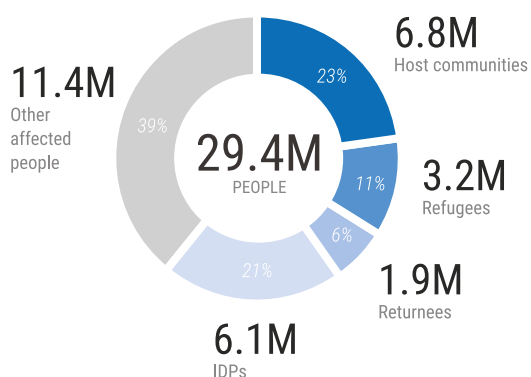
CERF funding in 2019 also enabled the provision of assistance to over 2 million people in Cameroon. In April, the country received an UFE allocation in response to a deepening displacement crisis, benefiting 1.3 million people; and another UFE allocation in September allowed the response to be scaled up, reaching a further 700,000 people.

CERF funding targeted over 1 million people in a number of countries, including the DRC, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Samoa and Uganda; and 14 million people in total in 40 other countries and territories.

People targeted with 2019 CERF funding

- displacement data

in US\$ million



Displacement figures

Addressing the humanitarian consequences of population displacement and mitigating new displacement is an essential part of CERF-funded humanitarian action. CERF funding allocated in 2019 enabled the provision of life-saving assistance to 3.2 million refugees, 6.1 million IDPs, 1.9 million returnees and 6.8 million people hosting displaced populations. In total, CERF funds targeted 18 million people affected by displacement in the world's most severe new or deteriorating emergencies, and in critically underfunded protracted crises. This represents 61 per cent of all people targeted with 2019 CERF funding.

By emergency type

90% of people assisted in conflict-related crises were affected by population displacement

Conflict-related and internal strife



Natural disasters



Disease outbreaks



Host communities



Returnees



Other affected people



Refugees



IDPs

In conflict-related situations, 90 per cent of people assisted with 2019 CERF funding were refugees, IDPs, returnees and host community members. By contrast, for natural disasters only 38 per cent of people targeted under CERF projects were impacted by displacement, and for CERF-funded humanitarian response to disease outbreaks the proportion was 24 per cent.

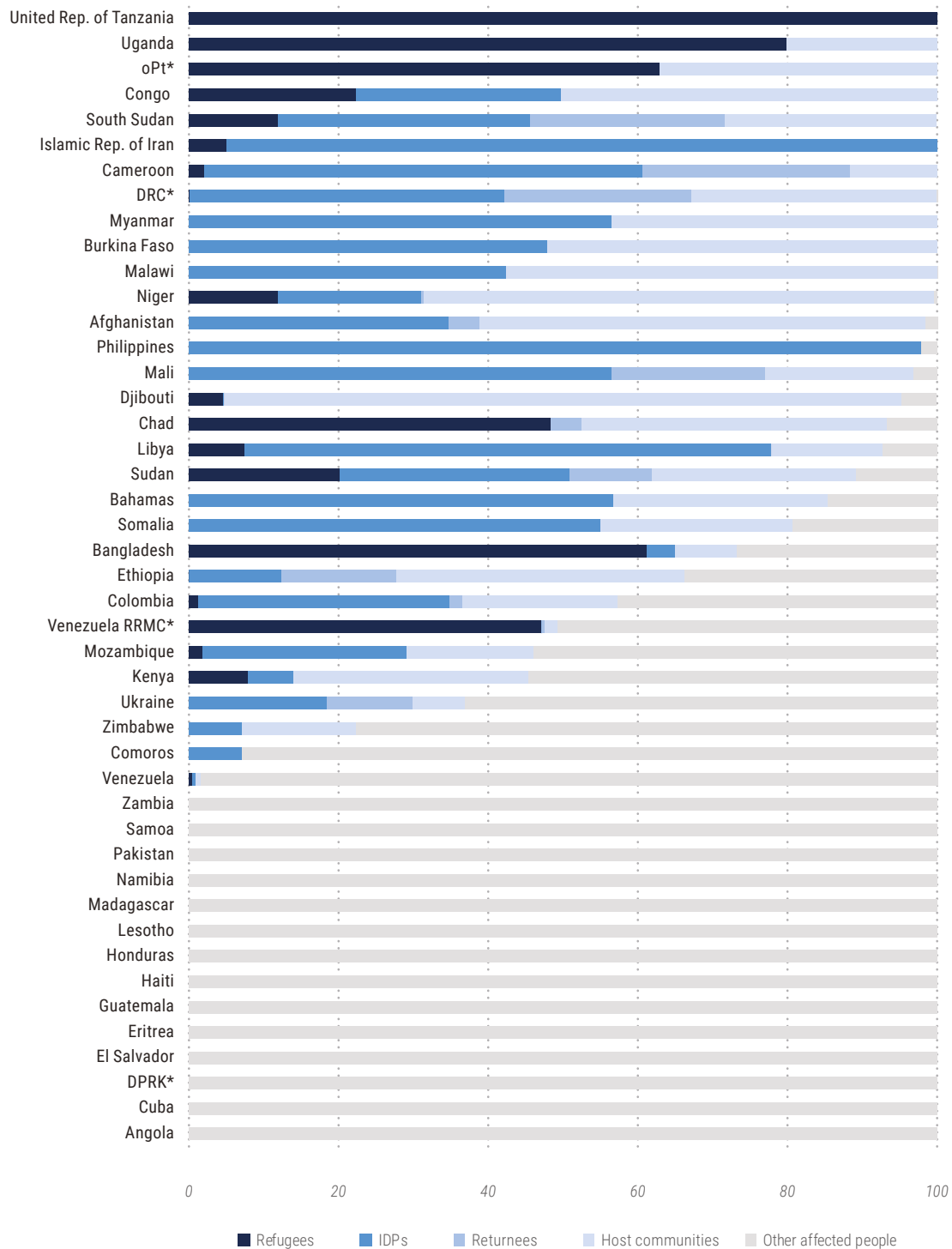
The 2019 CERF funding enabled the provision of assistance to people affected by population displacement in 35 out of the 49 countries and territories funded. In 11 countries – DRC, Malawi, Burkina Faso, Myanmar, Cameroon, Islamic Republic of Iran, South Sudan, Congo, oPt, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania – all people assisted with 2019 CERF funding were either refugees, IDPs, returnees or populations hosting them.



CERF has been a strong and reliable partner to Uganda for many years. As our country continues to host the largest refugee population in Africa, CERF has been at the forefront, supporting our efforts where needed. In 2019, when services for refugees were stretched and the humanitarian situation rapidly deteriorated, CERF was there to bridge an urgent funding gap and made sure life-saving action continued.

- Hon. Sam Kahamba Kutesa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uganda

People targeted with 2019 CERF funding by country - displacement data



* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
 DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 oPt - occupied Palestinian territory
 Venezuela RRM - Venezuela Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis

Comparison of people targeted and reached with CERF funding

In 2019, CERF undertook an important review of its results, comparing the number of people targeted and reached with its funding. The review found that CERF-funded humanitarian action consistently reached more people than initially targeted - sometimes by as much as 34 per cent. This has provided reassurance that data on people targeted is a good proxy for estimations of people reached.

People targeted—a good proxy for CERF results

CERF has in recent years build increasingly sophisticated reporting and data management systems allowing for improved analysis of key CERF data, including data on people reached with CERF funding. As a result, for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 CERF now has complete data on people originally targeted through CERF proposals, as well as reported information on the actual number of people reached through CERF funded activities. Complete data for 2019 will only be available later in 2020 once all reports for 2019 CERF grants have been submitted from the field. A comparison of data on people targeted and people reached with CERF funding in these three years showed that in each year the number of people reported as reached with CERF funding, significantly exceeded the number of people originally targeted when CERF proposals were developed and submitted.

The analysis strongly indicates that using the number of people targeted under CERF submissions as proxy for the number of people that will eventually be reached is a conservative assumption, as it will likely underestimate the actual later achievements.

Until last year, CERF only published the numbers of people assisted with CERF funding once the information on people reached was provided in

the reports of the RC/HCs on the use of CERF funds, leading to a one-year ‘delay’.⁹ However, based on the findings of the analysis described in this section, as of 2020, the CERF secretariat has started using the aggregated numbers of people targeted in CERF submissions as proxy for anticipated CERF results. This eliminates the need to wait for the conclusion of and reporting on all CERF-funded projects before analysing CERF’s reach for a given year; and will allow for more timely and useful communication on CERF’s results. Nevertheless, to ensure accountability and continued validation of the approach, the CERF secretariat will continue to monitor the incoming reports on the use of CERF funds and will report on any variations between targeted and reached figures when data becomes available.

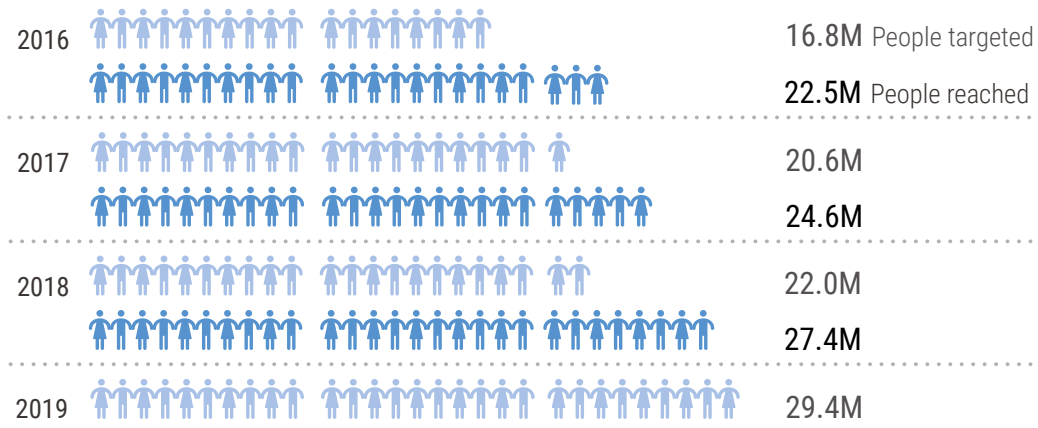
Total numbers of people targeted and reached with 2016-2018 CERF funding

The analysis of information reported by field partners through the RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funds shows that the 2016, 2017 and 2018 CERF funding reached 134 per cent, 119 per cent and 122 per cent of people targeted respectively.

⁹ Reports on the use of CERF funds are available three months after the completion of implementation of CERF-funded projects. Standard implementation time of RR projects is six months and UFE projects is nine months.

Total number of people targeted and reached with 2016-2018 CERF funding

The number of people reached with 2016, 2017 and 2018 CERF funding **significantly exceeded** the number of people originally targeted in each of the three years.



The total number of people reached with CERF funding increased from 22.5 million in 2016 to 24.6 million in 2017 and to 27.3 million in 2018. The increase in the numbers of people reached is likely the result of the increase in funding allocated by CERF from \$438.9 million in 2016 to \$500.5 million in 2018, combined with the types of programmes prioritized for CERF funding in these years.

People targeted and reached with 2016-2018 CERF funding by allocation

Although cumulatively CERF funding reached more people than had been targeted in 2016-2018, some CERF allocations underreached their targets due to changes in the operational context or due to other unforeseen limitations to programme implementation. It needs to be noted that some CERF applications, especially in sudden-onset situations, are developed based on initial needs assessments and the numbers of people targeted in them can only reflect initial broad estimations.

Out of 190 CERF allocations made from 2016 to 2018, 154 reached or overreached the numbers of targeted people, while 36 allocations underreached their targets. For instance, in 2017, a CERF allocation to Uganda to provide life-saving assistance to refugees from South Sudan reached many more

Data on people targeted and reached

As of 2016, the CERF secretariat was able to systematically process and analyse information on people targeted and reached with CERF funding at the project, sector, allocation and global levels. This was due to the recent improvements in the analytical capacity of the CERF secretariat, the CERF reporting framework, and the CERF Grants Management System.

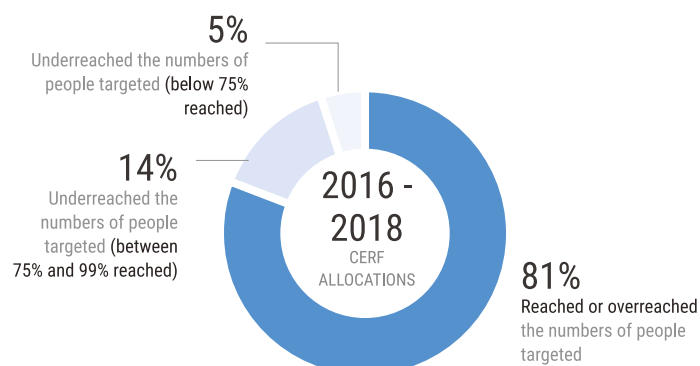
The information on people targeted in 2016, 2017 and 2018 was submitted to the CERF secretariat in 190 consolidated funding applications covering 1,237 CERF-funded projects. The information on people reached with this funding was reported against the planned allocation and project data in the RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funds.

people with assistance than originally planned. While 881,555 people had been targeted, over 1.1 million people were reached because of the higher than anticipated influx of refugees into the settlements.

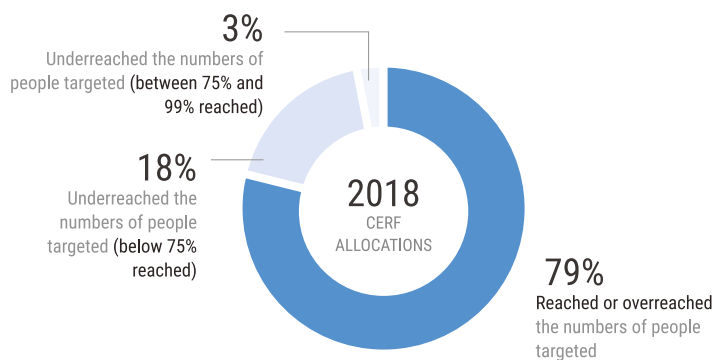
Most of the 2016-2018 allocations that underreached their targets were close to reaching their planned figures. Out of 36 allocations that underreached, 27 reached more than 75 per cent of the targeted caseload.

Percentage of people overreached and underreached by CERF allocations

2016-2018 CERF allocations



2018 CERF allocations



Information on people targeted and reached

The information on people targeted with CERF funding represents planning figures that are available upon approval of CERF allocations. These figures are frequently based on estimates because the exact target groups are often not fully defined at the time of project planning. Moreover, changes in operational context, and various other limitations during the implementation of CERF-funded activities, may affect achieving project targets.

The number of people reached with CERF funding is only available after the implementation of CERF-funded projects is completed. It represents project outputs as per agency reporting. This information reflects actual achievements but is only available around a year after the allocation of CERF funds (six months for implementation of standard RR projects or nine months for implementation of standard UFE projects followed by a three-month reporting period).

For instance, the allocation in support of the establishment of the new Pamir refugee camp in South Sudan in 2016 reached fewer people than what was set as target in the CERF submission. While the plan was that 20,000 refugees should receive life-saving assistance, only 13,585 were reached. This was because a renewed outbreak of conflict in Juba delayed the opening of new facilities in Pamir. Many refugees were relocated to a different site until the security situation stabilized.



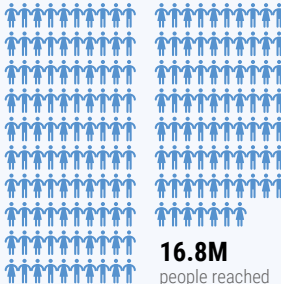




































People targeted and reached with 2018 CERF funding by allocation

Out of 67 allocations made in 2018, the most recent year for which the numbers of people targeted and reached are both available, 53 allocations reached or overreached their targets, while 14 allocations underreached their targets.

For instance, in Nigeria, the 2018 RR allocation to respond to a cholera outbreak in the north-eastern part of the country targeted 460,094 people, but reached 729,830. This was because there was an increased demand for services due to the additional population displacement, and because implementing agencies achieved greater than anticipated community engagement and outreach due to effective coordination with local authorities.

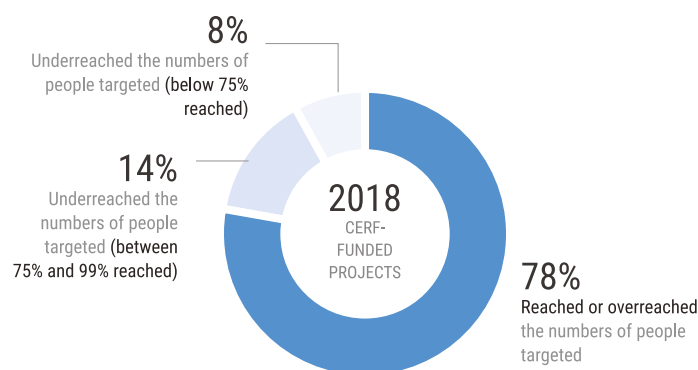
Out of the 14 allocations that underreached their targets in 2018, 12 allocations reached more than 75 per cent of their planned figures. For instance, in Chad the allocation to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition, caused by lower than average rainfall, reached 312,582 people out of the planned 453,267. This was due to the evolving food security situation and reprioritization of the target population. As a result, CERF funding reached a lower number of people than planned, but provided assistance for a longer duration.

People targeted and reached with 2018 CERF funding by sector

SECTOR	PEOPLE TARGETED in millions	PEOPLE REACHED in millions	PROJECT REACHED/ OVERREACHED	PROJECT UNDER- REACHED
 Health	 14.4M people targeted	 16.8M people reached	117% ▲ reached	76% 24%
 Water and Sanitation	 6.6M	 7.4M	114% ▲	91% 9%
 Food Assistance	 4.5M	 4.7M	104% ▲	50% 50%
 Protection	 3.7M	 3.9M	104% ▲	69% 31%
 Nutrition	 3.2M	 3.4M	105% ▲	70% 30%
 Agriculture	 2.5M	 2.9M	116% ▲	79% 21%
 Shelter and NFIs	 1.7M	 2.0M	116% ▲	71% 29%
 Multisector	 582k	 684k	117% ▲	89% 11%
 Camp Management	 140k	 284k	202% ▲	100% 0%
 Multisectoral Refugee Assistance	 278k	 281k	101% ▲	81% 19%
 Education	 184k	 200k	109% ▲	91% 9%
 Mine Action	 290k	 294k	102% ▲	50% 50%
 Early Recovery	 162k	 76k	47% ▼	75% 25%

Percentage of people overreached and underreached

by CERF-funded projects



People targeted and reached with 2018 CERF funding by sector

The information in the RC/HC reports shows that 2018 CERF-funded programmes cumulatively overreached the numbers of people targeted in all sectors, apart from the early recovery sector. However, the percentage of projects that reached or overreached their targeted people varied from sector to sector.

In the health sector, 16.8 million people were reached through 2018 CERF funding as compared to 14.4 million people targeted (117 per cent). Three quarters of CERF-funded health projects reached or overreached their planned figures. For example, in Lao a CERF-funded project in response to damages to health facilities caused by flooding originally targeted 136,500 people, but reached 342,750. This was because the scale and severity of needs were underestimated during the project planning. With a combination of supplies distribution to the affected population and assistance provided by mobile medical teams, services successfully reached a much higher number of people than planned. Reversely, a CERF-funded project in response to conflict-related displacement in Cameroon's western regions targeted 110,000 people and reached only 73,703 people. The difference was due to people fleeing from several project locations before assistance was delivered, combined with prolonged access limitations due to attacks on health facilities and personnel.

In the water and sanitation sector, 7.4 million people were reached through 2018 CERF funding as compared to 6.5 million people targeted in the original

project proposals (114 per cent). A total of 89 per cent of CERF-funded projects in the sector reached or overreached their planned figures. For instance, a CERF-funded project in response to drought affected areas in Afghanistan targeted 205,000 people, but reached 273,000 people. More people received assistance because life-saving water and sanitation activities were provided in areas with higher numbers of IDPs than initially anticipated.

In the food assistance sector, 4.7 million people were reached through 2018 CERF funding as compared to 4.5 million people initially targeted (104 per cent). Half of CERF-funded projects in the sector reached or overreached their planned figures. In Yemen, for example, a CERF-funded project in response to food insecurity, exacerbated by ongoing conflict, targeted 1,367,500 people, but reached 1,686,000 because WFP was able to procure more food at a lower cost than anticipated. However, in Sudan a CERF-funded project in response to malnutrition among refugees and IDPs reached 234,500 people in need of the targeted 265,000 because the influx of refugees was slower than projected.

The early recovery sector was the only sector that cumulatively underreached its targeted people. Within the sector, three CERF-funded projects overreached the targeted caseloads, and one project reached fewer people than planned. The project that underreached was in response to flooding in Lao. Although the targeted number of people had been 136,500, the project only reached 50,000 because the population in need had been largely overestimated during the project planning. Consequently, project activities continued for a month longer than initially anticipated.

People targeted and reached with 2018 CERF funding by project

In total, 313 out of 401 CERF-funded projects in 2018 (78 per cent) reached or overreached the number of people originally targeted in CERF proposals, while 88 projects underreached their targeted caseloads. Most of the projects that underreached were close to reaching their planned figures. Out of 88 projects, 56 reached 75 per cent or more of their targeted figures.



oPt:
“These animals
are our greatest
productive assets”

Thirty-eight-year-old Mohamad Khamis lives in a village near the city of Jericho in the West Bank. His family of seven relies primarily on livestock for sustaining their livelihood. Like many other Bedouins and herders in the region, they have faced a ban on constructing permanent structures and animal shelters.

The harsh living conditions for livestock and the absence of protective shelters have been a leading cause for mortality and, consequently, food insecurity for the families that depend on them.

To support this highly vulnerable group of herders, FAO conducted community consultations to identify the most impactful interventions to urgently address their food security needs and increase their resilience. Animal shelters that would protect animals from winter rains and cold temperatures, and that would not be targeted for demolitions, were a high priority for herders. Thanks to CERF funding, FAO was able to provide nearly 2,200 herding families with mobile plastic animal shelters.

Mohamad’s family owns about 90 sheep and was one of the recipients of the CERF-funded mobile shelters. Each year, the family expects around 70 lambs from their flock. However, they had been losing an average of 20 lambs per year due to avoidable animal diseases induced by the cold. After receiving the mobile shelter, Mohamad turned it into a nursery room where he kept the newborn lambs. As a result, mortality has reduced to three lambs dying this season, significantly increasing household income.

“These animals are our greatest productive assets, and we work hard all year feeding the pregnant ewes. If we lose two lambs from one ewe, that is an entire year’s work and a lot of money that will have been lost”, said Mohamad.

In addition to increased productivity, the CERF-funded mobile plastic shelter also came as a relief to Mohamad’s mother who cleans the animals’ dwellings. The provision of plastic sheds has led to animal shelters being less muddy and dirty, requiring less time and effort to clean them, leaving space for other productive activities.

Mohammed’s mother stands in front of a movable animal shelter in Gaza.

© FAO/Hend Younis

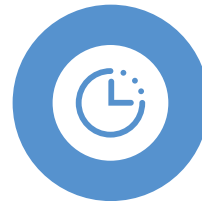
CERF's strategic added value beyond the provision of funds

Beyond providing much needed funding for life-saving humanitarian action, CERF showed its value added by enabling fast, timely and more coordinated responses and serving as a catalyst for the mobilization of additional resources. A survey of RC/HCs has affirmed yet again CERF's strategic value.

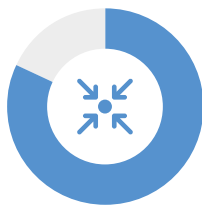
According to Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator reports on the use of CERF funding*



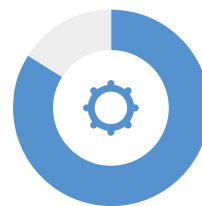
96% of CERF Rapid Response allocations led to **fast delivery** of assistance



100% of CERF allocations helped respond to **time-critical** needs



82% of CERF allocations helped **improve coordination**



84% of CERF allocations **improved resource mobilization** from other sources

*From reports on all CERF funding provided in 2018 and implemented in 2018 and 2019.

CERF'S ADDED VALUE

CERF is designed to ensure that every dollar it allocates leverages additional strategic gains in support of humanitarian response. Although CERF represents a relatively small portion of global humanitarian funding, the strategic and catalytic nature of CERF funding has a multiplier effect, making the Fund an indispensable element of the global humanitarian architecture. Key ways in which CERF adds strategic value to global humanitarian action include:



ENABLING FAST DELIVERY OF ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE IN NEED

CERF funds are mobilized prior to emergencies and are always on standby. With its tried and tested allocation and disbursement systems, CERF provides funding quickly and efficiently when and where it is needed most.

CERF allocations can be announced within hours of sudden-onset emergencies or deteriorations of existing crises. Consequently, CERF is often the fastest source of external funds for immediate life-saving responses.

The speed is further amplified by agencies being able to begin life-saving humanitarian operations as soon as they know that CERF funds are forthcoming.



ENSURING BETTER RESPONSE TO TIME-CRITICAL HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The ability to meet time-critical needs is just as important as speed of delivery. These are needs that must be addressed at a specific time to reduce loss of lives and livelihoods and minimize human suffering.

Since CERF funds are always on standby, CERF has the flexibility to provide funds to humanitarian operations when they are needed the most. RC/HCs can call upon CERF any time to respond to top-priority time-critical needs, whether at the onset of a new emergency or at crucial moments during an ongoing response.



Coherence

IMPROVING COORDINATION AMONG THE HUMANITARIAN COMMUNITY

CERF funding is allocated by HCTs under the leadership of the RC/HC. The allocations are informed by priorities identified jointly by sector partners under the leadership of sector leads. This strengthens leadership and coordination and improves the coherence of humanitarian action. The highest priority needs are determined jointly by the humanitarian organizations involved in the response, which ensures that CERF funding is used where it is most needed.

CERF funding is allocated to multiple humanitarian organizations according to a joint intersectoral strategy. As such, CERF goes beyond focusing on individual projects and supports the achievement of collective humanitarian outcomes. The implementation of CERF funding and the results achieved are later reviewed and reported on jointly by implementing organizations, which fosters collective ownership and accountability for the use of CERF funds.



Catalytic effect

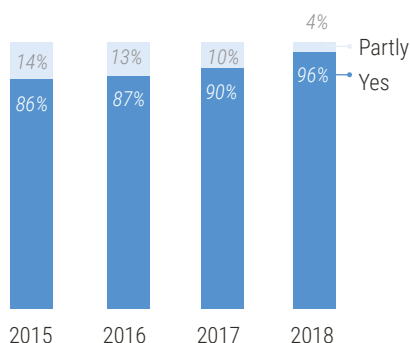
LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM OTHER SOURCES

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

CERF results are therefore measured not only in terms of the number of people assisted and lives saved but also in terms of the strategic benefits generated. To gauge CERF's strategic added value, RC/HC and HCTs are asked to assess CERF's contribution to the four strategic benefits in their reports. The RC/HC reports include a qualitative rating along with a narrative justification against each of the four objectives. The following is an analysis of added value assessments from all 2018 RC/HC reports.



Did CERF lead to fast delivery of assistance to people in need (Rapid Response allocations only)?



Switzerland is a long standing supporter of the CERF because the CERF permits the international community to act quickly and in a coordinated way when tragedy strikes. CERF is often the first funding source in sudden emergencies, which is a proof of its efficiency.

- Manuel Bessler, Deputy Director General, Head of Humanitarian Aid Department and Head of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit (SHA), Switzerland

The RC/HC reports on CERF RR allocations made between 2015 and 2018 strongly confirmed CERF's important strategic role in enabling quick delivery of life-saving assistance.

A total of 96 per cent of RC/HC reports on 2018 RR allocations (47 reports) indicated that CERF funding led to the fast implementation of humanitarian response, while 4 per cent (2 reports) indicated that CERF partly did so. No reports stated that CERF did not contribute to the fast delivery of assistance.

In addition, the Independent Review of CERF Allocations to the DRC, 2017-2018, which looked at the conflict-related population displacement in early 2018 and the two subsequent Ebola outbreaks, concluded that CERF was one of the first funding sources available to kick-start response activities. Interviewees in the review highlighted that the application process for CERF funding was “very fast”, thereby enabling the timely provision of urgently needed humanitarian assistance.

The two reports that indicated that CERF only partially led to the fast delivery of assistance to people in need either stated challenges beyond the control of CERF or a lengthy application process leading to delayed start dates of CERF-funded projects. The CERF secretariat took note of these reports and continues to refine its allocation processes to deliver funding as quickly as possible.

The following quotes from RC/HC reports on 2018 RR allocations exemplify CERF's role in enabling fast delivery of assistance to people in need:



There was a huge lack of funding for the measles outbreak immunization response in Libya. The funding that CERF provided helped with the **quick procurement** of vaccines and other related supplies, as well as with timely implementation.

- Libya RC/HC report (Measles)

CERF funds were vital to implement initial life-saving interventions, such as blanket distribution of hygiene kits and the chlorination of drinking water. The rapid release of funds helped to **quickly scale up activities** in the critical phase of cholera case acceleration at the onset of the outbreak.

- Zimbabwe RC/HC report (Cholera)

The CERF allocation was critical in ensuring **rapid delivery of assistance** to the flood-affected households by enabling the effective procurement and provision of core supplies.

- Ethiopia RC/HC report (Flood)

Without CERF Rapid Response funds this landmark humanitarian achievement in **responding to the time-critical needs** of the refugee population in Zambia would not have been possible.

- Zambia RC/HC report (Displacement)

The CERF-funded cash assistance to drought-affected households ensured **immediate access** to food and provided emergency livelihood assistance to ensure the **quick recovery** of agricultural production.

- Somalia RC/HC report (Drought)

The CERF allocation was utilized to **kick-start the humanitarian response** in non-government controlled areas. This ensured an adequate coverage in areas that have been reached by limited support in the past years.

- Ukraine RC/HC report (Disruption of basic services)

The CERF Rapid Response funds enabled UN agencies to focus on the nutrition needs of drought-affected people. The funds were crucial in the **prompt delivery** of animal feed and food assistance to agro-pastoralist communities.

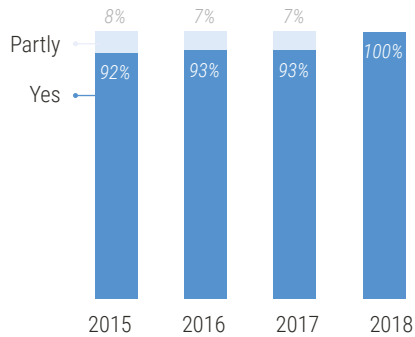
- Mauritania RC/HC report (Drought)

CERF was **faster** compared to other funding sources.

- Cameroon RC/HC report (Displacement)



Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?



The RC/HC reports on CERF allocations made between 2015 and 2018 reaffirmed CERF's ability to provide timely funding that strengthens the humanitarian system's response to time-critical needs. All reports on 2018 CERF allocations (67 reports) indicated that CERF helped respond to time-critical needs.

The Independent Review of CERF Allocations to the DRC, 2017-2018, quoted UN agencies senior managers stating that CERF's contributions were vital to address time-critical needs by filling in key gaps, and facilitating the significant expansion of the operational footprint of UN agencies. The study also provided numerous examples highlighting how CERF funds helped respond to time-critical needs. For instance, CERF funds made available to UNHCR filled a critical gap in core supply items and in the delivery of protection assistance.

Communities affected by widespread flooding in Bangladesh are sharing their stories of how CERF funding supported their recovery. © OCHA/Anthony Burke



For many years, CERF has been providing critical assistance to people caught up in emergencies. CERF's response, especially in underfunded situations and for displaced persons has been crucial. The global surge of humanitarian emergencies render CERF's role all the more essential. Bangladesh, both a recipient and donor country, would continue to support CERF in its endeavours to save distressed humanity.

- Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, MP Minister, of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh

The following quotes from RC/HC reports on 2018 allocations exemplify CERF's role in enabling response to time-critical needs:



CERF funds allowed FAO to address the **urgent needs** of farmers for agricultural inputs for the winter season. They also procured agricultural inputs that were distributed before the summer planting season.

- Myanmar RC/HC report (Displacement)

The CERF allocation enabled UNICEF and WHO to deliver **time-critical interventions** to stop the further spread of the cholera outbreak. The funds provided immediate life-saving assistance to the affected communities.

- Nigeria RC/HC report (Cholera)

The CERF Rapid Response funds enabled UN agencies to focus on **time-critical needs**, and averted the disruption of basic services.

- Yemen RC/HC report (Disruption of basic services)

The **time-critical needs** of the refugees were met with CERF funding as the peak of the monsoon season was approaching.

- Bangladesh RC/HC report (Displacement)

CERF funds helped the UN to respond to **time-critical needs**, including the procurement of life-saving vaccines and medicines; provision of higher food rations during the lean season; and provision of supplementary food to lactating women. The funds also ensured sufficient capacity to respond to a sudden increase in refugees who registered for voluntary repatriation.

- United Republic of Tanzania RC/HC report (Displacement/Migration)

The CERF allocation helped respond to **time-critical needs** by enabling the procurement and distribution of seeds in time for the 2018 winter planting season.

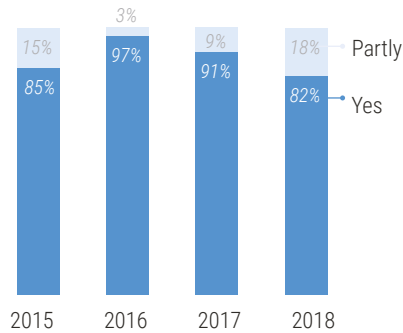
- Afghanistan RC/HC report (Drought)

CERF funds enabled the **timely provision** of primary and reproductive health care services, including HIV/AIDS prevention to refugees, mainly women and girls, in the Lóvua settlement.

- Angola RC/HC report (Displacement)



Did CERF help improve coordination among the humanitarian community?



Nowadays the world is tremendously hit by humanitarian crises caused by conflicts, natural disasters, and pandemics. The global humanitarian response must be rapid, effective and well coordinated. Italy deeply values the role of the CERF in supporting the UN humanitarian system to deliver immediate and effective assistance to the most vulnerable people, as for the Covid-19 emergency crisis.

- Emanuela C. Del Re, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy

The RC/HC reports on CERF allocations made between 2015 and 2018 strongly confirmed CERF's important role in strengthening coordination in emergency responses.

A total of 82 per cent of reports on 2018 CERF allocations (55 reports) stated that CERF improved coordination among the humanitarian community, while 18 per cent (12 reports) said it partly did so.

The 2018 RC/HC reports that indicated that CERF partially helped improve coordination among the humanitarian community were from Burkina Faso, Eritrea, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Madagascar, Mauritania, Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia and United Republic of Tanzania. The majority of these reports emphasized CERF's positive impact on coordination, but pointed to insufficient joint planning between agencies and local authorities. The report from Eritrea stated that CERF facilitated humanitarian coordination among various actors, however coordination meetings between agencies were held in an ad hoc and bilateral manner, reducing information sharing.

The Independent Review of CERF Allocations to the DRC, 2017-2018, found that CERF allocations added value to the Ebola response and supported the level-three emergency scale up by strengthening inter-cluster coordination, and enabling strategic and complementary interventions through a transparent and well managed prioritization process.

The Independent Review of the Added Value of the CERF to the Venezuela Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis found that CERF funding to Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru considerably enhanced coordination through inter-agency platforms and, in some cases, cross-border collaboration. The review lists several examples of CERF-funded projects at the country level integrating UN agencies in joint programming and implementation.

The following quotes from RC/HC reports on 2018 CERF allocations exemplify CERF's role in improving coordination among the humanitarian community:



CERF funds **strengthened internal and external coordination** through bringing partners together to implement an integrated response.

- [Lesotho RC/HC report \(Drought\)](#)

CERF facilitated the **establishment of local community networks** that created strong collaboration with local government, NGOs and affected communities. These networks are aimed at enhancing local resilience to reduce the risk of future humanitarian crises, especially those originating from local tribal and communal conflict.

- [Papua New Guinea RC/HC report \(Earthquake\)](#)

CERF processes helped UN agencies and partners to jointly evaluate and monitor their responses through improvements in information sharing. **Greater respect of the humanitarian corridor** was proof of this coordinated improvement.

- [Niger RC/HC report \(Displacement\)](#)

CERF **improved the coordination** of humanitarian aid by creating complementarity through joint strategic programming with the Sudan Humanitarian Fund, helping to identify priority needs, determine gaps and avoid duplications.

- [Sudan RC/HC report \(Disruption of basic services\)](#)

CERF funds supported coordination between UN agencies and local partners. They contributed to a sector coordination mechanism and **boosted collective response strategy**, complementarity and solving operational challenges. CERF-related inter-agency consultations helped determine priority needs and design a multi-agency response.

- [Ukraine RC/HC report \(Disruption of basic services\)](#)

CERF **strengthened the inter-agency dialogue** on the importance of incorporating a gender approach in all rapid-response actions, highlighting the agreements of the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016.

- [Colombia RC/HC report \(Displacement\)](#)

CERF funding has **effectively improved and strengthened coordination** within the humanitarian community through inter-agency communication and collaboration during the programming of the response; avoiding duplications; and transparent and coordinated monitoring and reporting after the response.

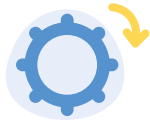
- [Central African Republic RC/HC report \(Displacement\)](#)

CERF **enabled inter-cluster communication and collaboration** at the national and sub-national level, and contributed extensively to improve the response towards the needs of the affected population.

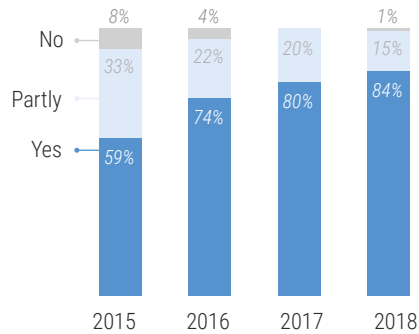
- [Ethiopia RC/HC report \(Floods\)](#)

The CERF allocation in response to Cyclone Sagar in Djibouti was very useful in **building and strengthening the humanitarian coordination** within the UN agencies, as well as escalating the links with the Government on several components of the humanitarian preparedness and response system.

- [Djibouti RC/HC report \(Storm\)](#)



Did CERF help improve resource mobilization from other sources?



CERF's role in leveraging additional funding can be difficult to assess as there are seldom direct and documented linkages between CERF allocations and donors' funding decisions. Nevertheless, 84 per cent of RC/HC reports on CERF allocations made in 2018 (56 reports) assessed that CERF funds helped improve resource mobilization from other sources, and 15 per cent (10 reports) stated that CERF did so partly. There was 1 per cent (1 report) that stated CERF did not improve resource mobilization.

The assessments from RC/HC reports between 2015 and 2017 CERF allocations had slightly fewer affirmative answers. Still, the large volume of information provided in support of this strategic added value, the small number of negative answers and a strong positive trend over the last years suggest a strong correlation between CERF funding and additional funding from other sources.

The reports on 2018 CERF allocations that indicated that CERF only partially helped improve resource mobilization from other sources were from Afghanistan, Burundi, DRC, Eritrea, Haiti, Indonesia, Mauritania, Rwanda and Zambia. Most of these reports justified their response by explaining that it was difficult to measure the impact of CERF funding on broader resource mobilization.

However, the 2018 report from Haiti observed, for example, a varying impact of CERF funds between sectors. While CERF partially improved resource mobilization for already underfunded sectors, such as protection, it did not manage to attract more funding to the health, nutrition and food security sectors.

The report from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) was the one report that stated CERF did not improve resource mobilization. However, the report noted that there was a mixed response among organizations, with some saying that CERF had been to some extent helpful in improving resource mobilization.

Beyond the RC/HC reports, an Independent Review of the Added Value of the CERF to the Venezuela Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis concluded that CERF funding helped UNHCR and IOM to leverage additional resources from other sources by allowing the two agencies to capitalize on the credibility and results achieved with CERF-funded interventions. Moreover, the review stated that agencies that received CERF funding were able to mobilize additional resources internally.

The following quotes from RC/HC reports on 2018 CERF allocations exemplify CERF's role in improving resource mobilization from other sources:



The prompt mobilization of CERF funding facilitated the establishment of evidence-based analysis to **improve and accelerate the mobilization of resources** from other donors to cover the measles response.

- Lebanon RC/HC report (Measles)

.....

The CERF Rapid Response allocation has highlighted the deteriorating situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The funds have **stimulated the international donor community to mobilize additional resources** for an intensified response against the Ebola outbreak.

- Democratic Republic of the Congo RC/HC report (Ebola)

.....

The CERF grant **raised awareness among donors** about the continuing humanitarian needs of those displaced by the Marawi conflict in the Philippines.

- Philippines RC/HC report (Displacement)

The CERF Underfunded Emergencies grant helped **raise awareness amongst the donor community** of this protracted humanitarian crisis. Awarding of CERF funding also raised the credibility of the implementing partners and helped them mobilize funds from other donors. The funding level of the Humanitarian Response Plan improved, rising from 18 per cent to 57 per cent by the end of the year.

- Burundi RC/HC report (Displacement)

.....

The funds received from CERF gave visibility to the extent of the humanitarian situation and needs faced by migrants and the host population. In addition, the implementation of one-time food assistance through CERF funds **demonstrated to donors the capacity and the feasibility of the response.**

- Ecuador RC/HC report (Displacement)

CERF funding was used as a **catalyst** to support the initial humanitarian response. The funds helped demonstrate to donors the financial gaps, and helped mobilize other resources for the response.

- Uganda RC/HC report (Displacement)

.....

The donor community welcomed CERF's contribution to programmes in an affected area where there was limited humanitarian access and difficult operating conditions. As immediate needs were addressed through CERF funding, **mobilization efforts** were targeted towards further needs.

- Myanmar RC/HC report (Disruption of basic services)

Underfunded priority areas

In 2019 CERF made significant headway in helping the humanitarian community reach the most vulnerable - by encouraging the elaboration of programs that address some particularly under-funded humanitarian areas: women and girls, people with disabilities, education in protracted crises and other aspects of protection. This initiative, while in the early stages, has already yielded positive results.

The Four Underfunded Areas Initiative



Support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment



Programmes targeting people with disabilities



Education in protracted crises



Other aspects of protection

Reaching everyone and transforming the lives of those most at risk of being left behind is the third core responsibility of the Agenda for Humanity. This involves empowering and protecting women and girls, ending gaps in education and making targeted efforts to support persons with disabilities who are among the most marginalized. Despite international commitments, these needs remain the most chronically underfunded in humanitarian assistance.

Therefore, in January 2019, the ERC sent a communication to the RC/HC of countries with ongoing humanitarian operations on leveraging CERF funding requests to ensure more attention to four priority areas. The ERC requested that RC/HCs give due consideration to these four areas when developing CERF applications, as well as when supporting the preparation of CBPF allocation strategies. The four areas are: support for women and girls, including tackling GBV, reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection.

CERF submissions shall remain needs-based and in line with CERF's life-saving criteria, with a focus on humanitarian needs as discussed and agreed in the UN Country Teams/HCT under the leadership and coordination of the RC/HC. However, increased focus on the four areas is expected where relevant, either through targeted sectoral action or mainstreaming. This is expected to eventually result in the dedication of increased

CERF funding to support these areas. Country teams are asked to pay special attention to the four areas during country-based discussions on how to utilize CERF funds and agencies to, in turn, incorporate these aspects into their CERF submissions as required by the given humanitarian situation. Using CERF to increase focus on the four priority areas is also expected to serve as a signal and leverage attention to these underfunded areas beyond the CERF allocations at the local as well as global levels, and thereby support the mobilization of additional resources through bilateral donor contributions and other channels.

Measuring tangible results after a one year period is challenging, and the initiative will likely need a longer timeframe to show results and change. In addition, due to the one year CERF grant implementation and reporting cycle, detailed information about results achieved with all 2019 CERF funding on the four priority areas will only be available at the end of 2020 when the final grant reports on the implementation of 2019 allocations will have been received.

With a view to assess the changes the initiative has brought about at country-level, the CERF secretariat has also launched an external review under its Performance and Accountability Framework. Carried out by independent experts, the review aims to examine how the guidance on the four priority underfunded areas was taken up at field level, what activities that were funded as a result, and how CERF can promote these areas even more effectively in the future.

The review covers four 2019 UFE allocations to three selected countries, Cameroon, Sudan and Ukraine. It also covers RR grants in these countries. In addition, the review includes four desk-based case studies covering Bangladesh,



The rights and needs of persons with disabilities have not been sufficiently addressed in humanitarian crises. CERF has made an important contribution by highlighting the need to prioritize disability inclusion. We hope that others will follow.

- Ville Skinnari, Minister for Development and Foreign Trade, Finland

the DRC, Somalia and Zimbabwe. The review is expected to be finalized in the third quarter of 2020. The CERF secretariat will use the findings to further inform its approach to the four priority areas and the guidance it provides to country teams when preparing CERF applications. The findings will be presented in next year's CERF Annual Results Report together with information from RC/HC reports.

While the CERF secretariat awaits more substantive evidence from the independent review and from CERF grant reports, initial feedback on the initiative—including from RC/HC—along with examples of agencies' field work has already been received through the agency headquarter reports and interim grant reports. From these sources, it is already now evident that the initiative has helped ensure that agencies' efforts in these areas are more clearly and concisely presented in the CERF project proposals.

In the remainder of this chapter, CERF-funded humanitarian action in 2019 is viewed through the lens of the four priority areas and relevant linkages to the initiative is made when possible.

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Gender norms and pre-existing inequalities disproportionately impact women and girls in emergencies and may intersect to further compound individual experiences in emergencies together with other factors. Crises can deepen the risks of GBV for women and girls, especially when family and community protections have broken down or have been strained. Early and forced marriage, trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse, rape, harassment and intimate partner violence are common types of GBV in emergencies. At the same time, women are often on the front lines of crises and play a central role in the survival of their families and communities, but they frequently face challenges in accessing and benefitting from humanitarian assistance.

Recognizing the different needs, challenges and opportunities faced by women, men, girls and boys is central to CERF-funded humanitarian action. Gender is integrated in CERF's programme cycle in several ways. At the strategic level, HCTs are asked to outline how gender was considered during the strategy formulation and in the prioritization of needs for CERF funding. In addition, HCTs and implementing agencies are required to provide sex and age disaggregated data on people targeted in their CERF proposals, and in reports, to demonstrate that the specific needs and vulnerabilities of affected people are adequately considered in the design of CERF-funded projects. At the project level, agencies are also required to assign a Gender with Age Marker (GAM) and a GBV project assessment.

With the recent introduction of the GAM, as of 2019, the CERF secretariat changed the Gender Marker (GM) into the GAM in grant applications and reporting templates to better promote gender- and age-sensitive humanitarian programming.

Unlike the old GM, assigning a GAM score requires an implementing agency to assess a range of specific accountability and protection indicators that collectively outline the elements required to design a gender- and age-responsive program. The application of the GAM assessment can therefore support greater consistency in programme design

as it relates to gender and age and helps increase the quality of programming. GM and GAM scores are not comparable.

In 2019, 443 out of 448 CERF-funded projects (99 per cent) applied the GAM assessment and provided a GAM score. This is far above the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) target that sets out that at least 80 per cent of IASC projects should apply GAM methodology in 2020. The high rate in application of GAM in CERF funding demonstrates CERF's added value as a tool for promoting reform across the system, including in strengthening gender- and age-equality programming.

Approximately 53 per cent of the 29.4 million people targeted with life-saving assistance through CERF in 2019 were women and girls. This is very similar to ratios since 2016 when CERF started capturing global statistics for people assisted with CERF funding. CERF funding in some sectors had specific focus on women and girls. For instance, 35 out of 60 projects in the nutrition sector focused on providing nutrition assistance to pregnant and lactating women, and children. In total, 62 per cent of people targeted in this sector were women and girls. CERF funding to the protection sector also targeted a high proportion of women and girls, 60 per cent. In this sector, 34 out of 115 CERF-funded projects focused on GBV prevention and response.

As a follow-up to OCHA's commitments to the Call to Action on Protection from GBV in Emergencies initiative, the CERF secretariat incorporated in its project template a dedicated mandatory GBV self-assessment. The GBV assessment indicates if the projects funded by CERF have dedicated GBV components and requires agencies to provide a brief description of how GBV prevention and response was considered in the project design.

The GBV assessment indicated that 8 per cent of CERF-funded projects in 2019, amounting to \$23 million, had GBV as their main objective, the same per cent as in 2018. Another 60 per cent of CERF-funded projects included GBV components, a slight increase compared to 2018 and 2017 but up from 50 per cent in 2016. Since these compo-



Bangladesh: “I have new hope”

In Bangladesh, heavy monsoon rainfall in July 2019 caused massive flooding in low lying areas of the country, affecting an estimated 7.6 million people. Homes, crops and livestock were lost.

Many people took shelter in overcrowded temporary sites, where inadequate water supplies and sanitation services meant that outbreaks of water-borne diseases were common.

Among the affected people, an estimated 5,500 female-headed households (FHHs) were particularly vulnerable. They were most likely to have lost their livelihoods and be burdened with increased household responsibilities without resources or an adequate support system. Women also faced a high risk of GBV and were prone to negative coping mechanisms, such as forced labour, child marriage or trafficking.

Thanks to CERF funding, UN Women identified 4,200 FHHs and partnered with local district officials to provide livelihood skills training on raising livestock and protecting animals from floods. The FHHs were then provided with emergency conditional and unrestricted cash grants through mobile cash transfers. More than 95 per cent of the women bought livestock with the cash support.

“I have new hope”, said Bizli, a woman who lost her tailoring business in the floods and now supplements her income by selling eggs. Monowara, another participant, added: “I am now so happy to see the results and I will apply my knowledge of rearing the animals for a better outcome.”

Bizli had lost her tailoring business in the floods but with a cash grant and livelihood training she is able to supplement her income by selling eggs. © UN Women Bangladesh



Mubar, 12 years old, is one of the many children who left her hometown due to drought and conflict.

© UNICEF/ Murtaza
Mohammad

Afghanistan: Strengthening gender-focused humanitarian assistance

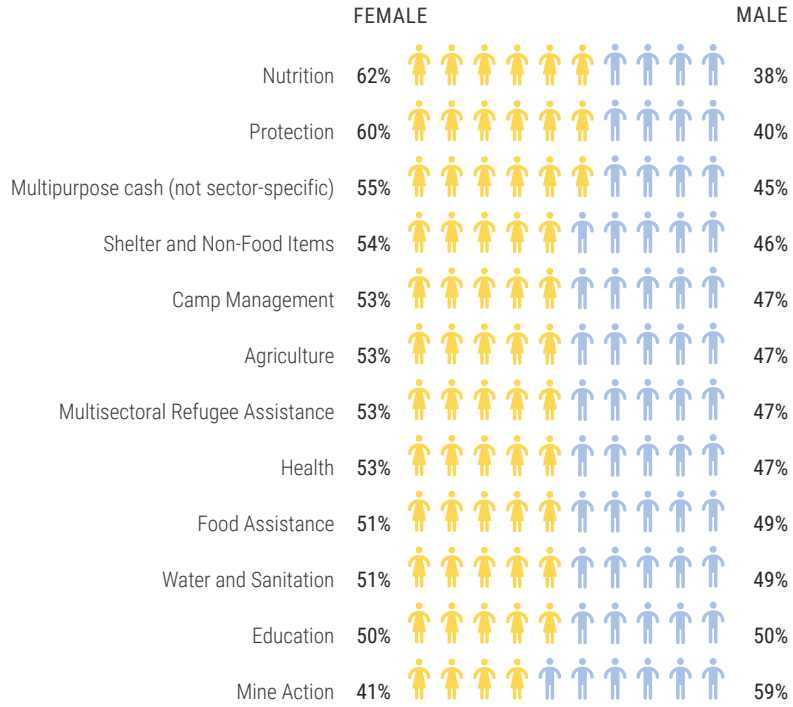
In late 2019, humanitarian needs in Afghanistan showed no signs of abating. Over six million people required humanitarian assistance and protection services. This included 3.7 million people who had severe and acute needs due to a convergence of factors arising from escalating violence, forced displacement, loss of livelihoods and limited access to basic services. Conflict, natural disasters and poverty continued to drive humanitarian needs. Recent studies on disability in Afghanistan showed a very high prevalence rate, with close to 14 per cent of Afghans living with a disability. Responding to the needs of people with disabilities was a key component of the 2019 Health Cluster strategy.

According to a recent UN report, only 7 per cent of registered incidents of extreme violence against women in Afghanistan were addressed by the formal justice system. Another major problem is the limited access of women to the health services for GBV survivors, due to the limited capacity in health care delivery system.

Against this backdrop, CERF allocated \$16 million from its UFE window to UN agencies in Afghanistan to provide life-saving assistance and protection to more than 1.3 million people, including 440,000 displaced people and 44,000 people with disabilities. Among other interventions, CERF enabled UN agencies and partners to respond to trauma and primary health care needs emerging from conflict and displacement. This included provisions to address disability because of trauma, including prosthetic care, psychological first aid, physiotherapy, mental health, and psychosocial support for survivors of conflict-related injuries. An estimated 30,000 people with disabilities received assistance under the project as a vulnerable group.

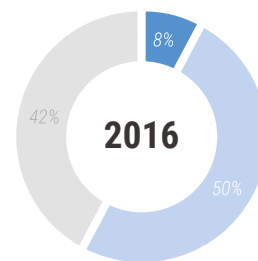
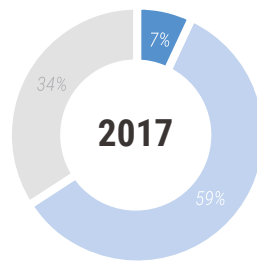
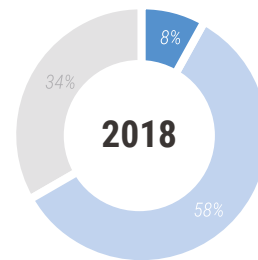
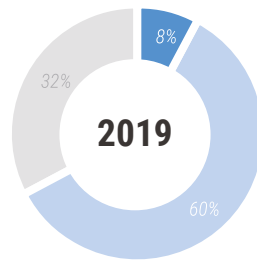
Emphasis was given to supporting over 300,000 women and girls through tackling GBV and strengthening emergency primary health care with a focus on maternal, reproductive and child health services. In addition, a GBV centre at a national-level hospital was renovated, equipped and supported with capacity building and trainings on GBV treatment. Among other services, over 13,000 people received trauma care as a result of CERF-funded interventions.

Sex disaggregated data – people targeted with 2019 CERF funding



2019 GBV assessment in CERF funded-projects

- Yes, GBV protection is the main objective
- Yes, GBV protection is a component
- No





Midwife at the IDP site in Fataki, examines her patient, a displaced woman expecting her first child.

© OCHA/Ivo Brandau

DRC: “No woman lost her life whilst giving birth”

Fidéline Mputu, the humanitarian midwife deployed in Kamonia, a very remote and hard to reach area with a lack of health facilities, proudly reported at the end of her tour of duty: “In this city of approximately 448,843 residents the Kamonia health zone received several reproductive health services and no woman lost her life whilst giving birth. This was unheard of and thanks to the CERF project, all the red indicators went up to green. This would have not been possible without the CERF UFE grant and UNFPA’s decisive and innovative strategies to provide quality midwifery services and supplies.

In the Kasai province of the DRC, the birth rate is among the highest in the country and women have an average of twelve pregnancies. This negatively impacts women’s SRH. CERF support allowed UNFPA to perform lifesaving childbirth services, counselling and provide contraceptive services as well as medical management and psychosocial support of GBV survivors.

nents were integrated into the project design and were not separately costed, the funding amount allocated to them is not possible to estimate.

In their 2019 CERF report, UNFPA specifically notes that the ERC’s four priority areas have contributed to mainstreaming these areas into programming and have led to improved prioritization of these areas in the CERF submission, especially facilitating closing gaps in areas of UNFPA’s mandate, namely SRH and GBV.

For example, in Colombia, due to the extra attention created by the initiative a gender approach was mainstreamed in different clusters and funding to gender components in humanitarian projects increased. In Venezuela, the focus contributed to the prioritization and better programming of SRH actions, with emphasis on reducing maternal mortality and family planning, as well as promoted empowerment and resilience for the prevention of GBV.

In Zimbabwe, the emphasis provided by the ERC, reinforced by the continuous advocacy by the GBV sub-cluster and SRH working group to ensure inclusion of these areas into humanitarian programming, have contributed to an enhanced visibility of these areas at inter-cluster and HCT level. This was reflected in a gradually increasing inclusion of GBV prevention and response, and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) integration into all clusters’ operations. In addition, CERF funding to UNFPA’s GBV and SRH work increased by 50 per cent compared to previous years.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In emergencies, people with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable because they are frequently less visible during the assessment phase and may be unable to access goods and services offered by relief organizations. In 2019, half of CERF projects provided data on people with disabilities. This represents a significant and immediate improvement over the previous years.

Several agencies have in 2019 reported an enhanced focus on people with disabilities, including UNICEF that pointed out that the request for consideration of the four priority areas had definitively driven more attention to these issues within the 2019 UFE allocation. For example, UNICEF informed that a dedicated water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) training was implemented exclusively for people with visual and auditory disabilities in Honduras in cooperation with local partners. This used sign language and delivered material on WASH positive behaviours to the participants following principles of inclusion, protection and attention to persons with disabilities.

Another example of CERF supported projects incorporating reinforced disability perspectives is the \$2 million allocated to Eritrea in September in response to recurrent droughts. This featured a cash-for-work project implemented by UNDP to restore food security. The project included specific provisions for 160,000 people with disabilities who were given unconditional cash transfers. These people were affected by the crisis but were unable to carry out physical labour.

Svitlana, 76, recovers after a complex hip surgery. With funds from CERF, UNHCR provided Svitolana with a wheelchair and medical assistance.

© UNHCR Ukraine

Ukraine: Helping the most vulnerable

Svitlana, 76, from the city of Donetsk, was diagnosed with diabetes two years ago and is now fully insulin dependent. In 2019, her health further deteriorated, and she had a complex hip surgery. She lives in a conflict-affected area where she is unable to access basic social and medical services.

Because of her challenges with mobility, she was unable to travel for a regular identification procedure required to confirm her identity every three months, resulting in her losing her pension. Without any source of income or family to support her, Svitolana needed help in receiving a certificate, confirming her disability status, and regular medical assistance.

UNHCR and its NGO partner, Donbas Development Center, provided individual protection assistance in-kind to Svitolana in the form of a wheelchair, which has increased her mobility and has enabled her to become more independent. Before this assistance she felt forgotten and abandoned. Now she feels hope. Today, Svitolana can visit the local market, the communal garden where she can get some vegetables, and participates in social activities.

Thanks to CERF funding in 2019, 1,230 vulnerable internally displaced or conflict affected elderly persons in East Ukraine received individual protection assistance either in-kind or in cash on both sides of the contact line.



EDUCATION IN PROTRACTED CRISES

Children’s educational needs are often neglected in humanitarian emergencies. This becomes particularly damaging in protracted emergencies when children may miss multiple years of schooling, with lost time that is difficult to make up. 2019 saw the highest CERF funding level to the education sector since the Fund was established in 2006, with more than \$19 million allocated to emergency education projects, up from \$15 million in 2018 and more than double the amount allocated in 2017. 2019 CERF funding for education was not only the highest ever amount in a single year but also the highest ever proportion of CERF funding allocated towards education. An estimated 550,000 children benefited from emergency education funded by CERF in 2019.

In addition, CERF’s first ever multi-year grant was provided to UNHCR and UNICEF in 2019 to support refugee education in Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh. This funding will benefit over 175,000 children, of whom about 100,000 are girls. UNHCR reported that the momentum from these efforts had helped UNHCR broaden support for refugee children’s access to education, securing new commitments to include refugee children in national school systems, facilitate access to tertiary education and vocational training, and many other specific pledges made at the December 2019 Global Refugee Forum.

According to UNHCR, CERF prioritization of education in emergencies in 2019 highlighted education gaps in humanitarian response, reinforcing commitments to the Sustainable Development

Goals on education and related provisions in the Global Compact for Refugees.

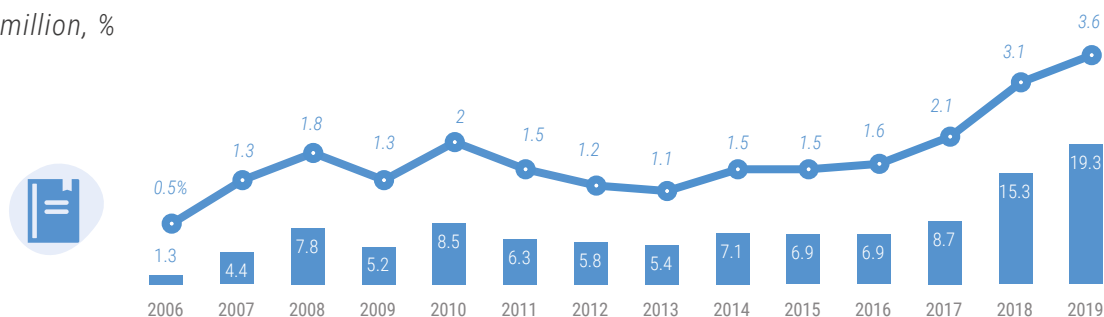
The High Commissioner stated that “While great strides have been made, most refugee children and youth still lack access to education. CERF’s support of education in emergencies has been essential to bolstering our collective response and preventing a lost generation. CERF contributions for emergency education in Bangladesh, for example, helped protect and empower Rohingya refugee children and gave them hope and opportunity for a better future.”

In Palestine, UNICEF utilized CERF funding to ensure a safe learning environment in four high risk checkpoint locations related to 12 schools. The efforts allowed some 600 children to access their schools safely. In Gaza, an additional 4,595 students in 50 vulnerable schools were supported with a remedial programme to mitigate their risk of dropping out of school.

CERF also provided \$4.5 million to UNICEF to ensure access to quality and inclusive education for children affected by the displacement across several provinces of the DRC. The project included provisions to distribute 1,725 school kits and 277 recreational kits, reinforce teaching capacities, improve school facilities through cash-based assistance, as well as recreational activities with peace-oriented and peaceful cohabitation messaging. The project benefited 63,690 children including 29,401 girls and 1,385 children living with disabilities.

CERF funding to education (2006-2019)

in US\$ million, %



Cameroon: Improving access to education for the most vulnerable children

In early 2019, Cameroon was home to one of the fastest growing crises in Africa with more than one million displaced people. This was double the number of displaced people than in 2018. The situation in the North-West (NW) and South-West (SW) regions of Cameroon continued to present challenges. Persistent insecurity and attacks against civilians had forced over 437,000 people to flee their homes. This humanitarian crisis magnifies the existing power inequality, leading to various forms of violence, particularly against women and girls. Women and girls with disabilities are among the most vulnerable, often with limited access to response services. Since the crisis began, about 80 per cent of schools had been declared closed, denying almost one million children the right to education. Over 80 schools had been attacked and destroyed in the NW and SW regions. Teachers and school workers had worked under constant threat and were often attacked and killed. Most of the teachers and education workers left the two regions due to the insecurity.

In May 2019, in response to the intensification of the crisis and a sharp rise in humanitarian needs, CERF allocated \$11.3 million from its UFE window to bolster the assistance and protection efforts of the humanitarian community. This funding enabled UN agencies and partners, among other interventions, to provide improved access to quality education to 27,000 children. This included improving numeracy and literacy skills for 80 per cent of internally displaced children in Fako (SW) and Mezam (NW) areas; ensuring that 1,000 teachers acquired knowledge and skills in child-centred pedagogy and psychosocial support; and ensuring that school monitoring is in place.

CERF funding also enabled an improved access to health services and response to GBV benefiting nearly 120,000 women and girls. The response aimed at empowering survivors and providing them with integrated services. Particular attention was paid to ensuring that the needs of women and girls with disabilities were incorporated. As part of the project, 10 service delivery points offering clinical management of rape were equipped and 20,000 people were reached with GBV awareness raising messages.

”The ERC’s initiative to encourage more focus on the needs of people with disabilities, education, child protection and support to GBV survivors in CERF-funded projects was a major boost to our efforts to spotlight and address these vulnerabilities across our humanitarian action in Cameroon. The ERC’s initiative was a true lifeline for these vulnerable groups. The prioritized CERF allocations allowed us to specifically consider how to best support these vulnerable groups and ensure that they are no longer left behind.

*- Allegra Maria Del Pilar Baiocchi,
RC/HC for Cameroon*

Children at a Nursery and Primary School in Buea, Cameroon.
© OCHA/Giles Clarke





Cuba:
**“The children
remember
what happened”**

In late January 2019 a tornado, with winds up to 300 km an hour, devastated Cuba’s Havana Province. Thousands of houses collapsed and over 250,000 people were affected across five municipalities.

Over 100 schools suffered infrastructure damage, disrupting education for about 15,000 children. Los Peloteritos was among the 23 day care centers affected, losing all its doors and windows.

“These were tough days. We had to stay late at night at the day care centre cleaning and coordinating the construction”, said Yuleidys



Alayo, the Director of the centre. “We were receiving donations from families and from municipal and provincial authorities. We never felt alone, and I think that is very important.”

Many of the children have been traumatized, witnessing the damage that the tornado has caused. “The door of my home split apart and the windows blew away”, Diana, four years old, remembers.

With support from CERF, UNICEF was able to help over 1,400 children go back to day care centres, and provided access to early childhood, primary and secondary education

in safe, protective and functional learning spaces. Many of the children received early development kits, which included materials specifically created to strengthen the response for young children caught in natural disasters or emergencies.

Los Peloteritos reopened its doors 18 days after the impact of the storm. Yanet Elizalde, 30 years old, one of the teachers at the centre, said: “The children remember what happened, we talk about it when we play. The [CERF-funded] materials we received were very useful for them, not only as a teaching tool but as a means for socio-emotional recovery.”

With the early days kit, boys and girls from pre-school level draw a collaborative work with their professor.

© UNICEF/Fesser López



Deborah Malala and other beneficiaries receive food assistance at a WFP food distribution point in Kalemie, DRC.

© WFP/Deborah Nguyen

DRC: “I am in good health because of the food I eat at school”

According to Mr. Ahmedoul Sarr, WFP Programme Officer in the DRC overseeing implementation of the school feeding programme at the national level, almost 30,000 students, 467 teachers and 300 cooks were supported by WFP thanks to funding received from CERF.

This assistance helped boys and girls enrol and stay in school, which is very important in a country where conflicts and other factors keep many school-aged children out of formal education. Cooks and teachers also received take home food rations that they could share

with their families, providing additional support to vulnerable people. Efforts were made to purchase local foods as much as possible.

The school official noted: “Students have become hardworking and are able to focus on the lesson. Their grades are improving. There is positive change among some pupils who have been very inactive before but are now demonstrating considerable efforts thanks to the meals they eat at school.”

A student from an elementary school stated: “I am satisfied with everything that is going on in this project because I had very poor health, but I am now in good health because of the food I eat at school. I now follow the courses very well and receive good marks.”

The mother of an elementary school student said: “We are happy with this project because the children eat their fill. There was a big change in my daughter’s health because she was malnourished but since this project is here my daughter is now in good health. The meal we give them at school is of good quality. Now we go to the field reassured because we know that our children will eat at school.”

PROTECTION

CERF funding to the protection sector reached \$52 million in 2019, the highest annual amount ever and the highest proportion of CERF funding in a year towards protection with close to 10 per cent. Consequently, the number of people targeted with CERF-funded life-saving protection assistance reached a record high of 5.6 million in 2019. In addition, protection activities were mainstreamed into projects funded through other sectors which cannot be easily tracked and quantified.

UNHCR noted that it very much welcomed the ERC's introduction of the four priority areas. Funding to UNHCR for protection increased from \$10.7 million in 2018 to \$15.2 million in 2019. Among other things, this helped UNHCR ensure that this life-saving activity is incorporated from the very onset of emergency responses. Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees stated that "UNHCR protection activities supported by CERF, such as protection monitoring for IDPs in South Sudan and Somalia, community-based protection in the DRC, and psychosocial assistance and legal counselling in Venezuela, help protect the forcibly displaced while awaiting durable solutions to their plight."

In Cameroon, CERF funding of \$2.5 million enabled UNHCR to respond to the protection needs of 437,515 IDPs and host communities. The project provided protection and shelter to the affected population, contributing to meeting basic and domestic needs of displaced populations in the targeted areas, through the distribution

” CERF delivers fast and efficient life-saving assistance, protection and coordination in acute and underfunded humanitarian crises across the world. This is why Norway has been a consistent top-donor to CERF since the Fund was established.

- Ine Eriksen Søreide, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Norway

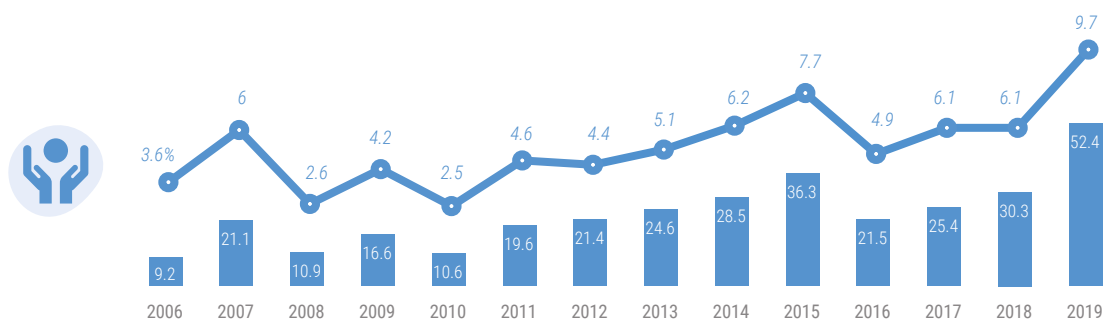
of 5,000 non-food item kits, 4,000 shelter kits to enable IDPs to build their own emergency shelter, protection monitoring, assistance to SGBV survivors and facilitating individual identification and documentation.

CERF also allocated \$858,943 to UNICEF to respond to abuse, exploitation and neglect of vulnerable women and children affected by secondary and tertiary displacement in Ethiopia. The project aimed to provide protection services to 53,000 people and help reunify 4,000 children with their families.

In Chad, CERF allocated \$692,528 to UNFPA to reinforce access to essential services for survivors of GBV. The project aimed to provide protection services for 245,000 people, conduct treatment focused workshops for GBV victims and health personnel in refugee camps and host villages, and offer security trainings for protection of staff and humanitarian actors.

CERF funding to protection (2006-2019)

in US\$ million, %



Ukraine: Addressing the needs of people living with disabilities in emergencies



The ERC's four priorities are highly relevant to the humanitarian context in Ukraine. While they have been an integral part of the work of the Ukraine humanitarian partners, the CERF allocation significantly increased the focus on these important areas. All humanitarian projects in Ukraine funded by CERF in 2019 reflected activities falling under at least one of these priorities. CERF funding helped strengthen the delivery of critical protection and gender-based violence assistance to people in need. It has also encouraged UN agencies and their implementing partners to collaborate in a more concerted manner to address common operational and policy challenges in the four areas.

An elderly resident of a village in Luhanska oblast fetches home drinking water collected from a local well, as water supply gets often interrupted due to shelling.

© OCHA/ Maloletka

- Osnat Lubrani, RC/HC for the Ukraine

At the beginning of 2019, when CERF funding was allocated to Ukraine, 3.5 million people required protection and humanitarian assistance. Violence, as well as people's compromised access to basic services and social entitlements, has created wide-ranging protection needs. A total of 9 out of 10 households in the area closest to the contact line lived in constant fear of shelling. Widespread landmine and explosive remnants of war contamination exposed civilians to a high risk of death and maiming, as well as severely curtailed freedom of movement. The deterioration of the economic situation has pushed many people to use harmful survival strategies that increase the risk of sexual violence and trafficking. There was strong evidence of a marked uptake in sex work, including among adolescent girls, with insufficient health services for GBV survivors.

The CERF allocation of \$6 million to Ukraine from the UFE window allowed the HCT to provide protection services for some 200,000 children, including psychosocial support to 8,000 girls, boys and their caregivers, and a large-scale mine risk education campaign. The funding from CERF also enabled increased protection of approximately 10,000 vulnerable people living in hard-to-reach areas along the contact line through deployment of human rights monitoring teams to provide protection by presence, document civilian casualties, and advocate for remedy and reparation to survivors and their families. Moreover, the allocation included tailored measures to accommodate specific needs of over 15,000 people with disabilities (PwD).

The CERF funding to Ukraine enabled UN agencies and partners to provide critical life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including medical care to 1450 SGBV survivors, and maternal and new-born life-saving services and treatment to more than 175,000 women and girls. This included provision of skilled assistance to 14,650 normal and complicated deliveries, as well as cases of complications related to abortion and miscarriage; provision of post-exposure HIV, sexually transmitted infections and unintended pregnancy prevention assistance to 1,200 women; provision of STI treatment to 6,250 woman and their sexual partners; and provision of trainings and medical supplies to 28 clinics.



Chad: Strengthening critical protection and GBV assistance for people in need

”

The ERC's request to ensure added attention to the four priority areas has prompted organizations to ensure that they are more explicitly considered in CERF funded humanitarian projects, even by UN agencies that already have existing policies for addressing these areas. Consultations on the prioritization of the four priorities particularly highlighted the need to ensure specific and cross-cutting protection efforts, including child protection activities, activities aiming to combat sexual and GBV and activities addressing people with disabilities. This has for example helped ensure that a CERF-funded food and nutrition focused project by FAO in Eastern Chad contains an element of protection for pastoral women and single women with dependents, ensuring that they have sufficient income to meet the needs of the household.

- Violet Kakyomya RC/HC for Chad

Political, military and socioeconomic challenges continued to contribute to the vulnerability and suffering of millions of people in need of humanitarian assistance in Chad. Considerable gaps remained in protection with close to 800,000 people being in need. The recent multisectoral assessment indicated major protection risks including sex for survival and sexual exploitation, rape and sexual violence against women and girls, child labour, juvenile delinquency and separation of families.

The refugee and returnee women and girls remained particularly affected, along with the most vulnerable women and girls from host communities. They were at risk of GBV, aggravated by limited access to medical services, a lack



of psychosocial support, a deficit of information about these services, socio-cultural constraints, and the non-existence of economic empowerment activities.

In view of Chad's rising humanitarian needs and critical funding shortfalls, CERF allocated \$11 million from its UFE window in April 2019. The allocation aimed to enable UN agencies and partners to address the most urgent needs and ensure the provision of key life-saving assistance to more than 780,000 people. The CERF allocation helped strengthen protection efforts in Chad, including supporting psychosocial care through the establishment of child-friendly spaces offering vulnerable girls and boys recreational and leisure activities; strengthening the capacity for registration, tracing and temporary care of unaccompanied and separated children, and family reunification. These activities benefitted approximately 5,700 people.

CERF funding also supported the strengthening of access to essential prevention and multisectoral response services for GBV survivors benefitting approximately 244,000 people. This included, among other activities, the purchase of sexual assault post-exposure kits; providing medical and psychosocial care for GBV survivors, training of health staff in the treatment of GBV survivors; training of social workers in psychosocial care; facilitating sexual exploitation and abuse reporting; and the establishment of a complaint mechanism.

Three Chadian returnee girls at the Danamadja site. Underage girls represent about one third of the overall site population.
© OCHA/Federica Gabellini

Cash and Voucher Assistance in CERF-funded projects

CERF continues to promote the use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) in humanitarian action as the default response modality. While in 2019, the number of projects supported with CVA reached a plateau, cash and voucher programs still represent 9 per cent of total funds allocated. CERF is looking at ways to further expand this contribution.

The CERF secretariat ensures that CERF remains cash-ready by continuously improving the Funds guidance and grant templates so that they appropriately support and capture cash-based elements and strategies in CERF submissions. CERF promotes the use of CVA in humanitarian action as a default modality where it is appropriate and feasible. For all projects that do not include CVA, CERF requires agencies to provide specific justifications on why CVA was not used. Nevertheless, for CERF-funded interventions, the decision to

use CVA lies with humanitarian partners and RC/HC in the field.

2019 CERF funding enabled UN agencies to target 2.6 million people to receive life-saving assistance through CVA in 32 countries. Countries with the highest numbers of people to receive CERF-funded CVA were Malawi (761,000 people), Somalia (513,000 people) and Madagascar (183,000 people).

According to the information included in approved 2019 CERF applications, the total value of CVA planned to be transferred to affected people through 2019 CERF-funded projects was \$48.7 million. This was 9 per cent of the total allocated in 2019 CERF funding. The value of CVA as delivered to people in need through 2019 CERF-funded projects will only be known towards the end of 2020, when all RC/HC reports on the use of 2019 CERF funding will be received.

Out of the \$48.7 million to be transferred in CVA through 2019 CERF-funded projects, \$11.1 million was for assistance to the affected people in Somalia (23 per cent). CERF also supported large CVA programmes in Malawi (\$5.9 million), DRC (\$3.4 million), Zimbabwe (\$3.1 million), Lesotho (\$3.0 million), Ethiopia (\$2.6 million), Haiti (\$2.5 million), Bangladesh (\$2.5 million), Chad (\$2.1 million), and Burkina Faso (\$2.1 million).

2019 CERF funding enabled the delivery of life-saving CVA to **2.6 million** people in **32** countries

The total value of CVA to be provided to people in need through 2019 CERF grants amounts to **\$48.7 million**

The proportion of unrestricted CVA in CERF funding increased from 45 per cent in 2018 to **79%** in 2019

The number of CERF-funded projects with CVA increased from 79 in 2018 to **80** in 2019



Cash-based assistance ... [is] one of the most significant reforms in humanitarian assistance in recent years, one that helps us to better serve affected populations in a principled and dignified manner and gives them a greater decision-making role in their own lives interrupted by conflict and natural disasters.

- OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP
Principals, December 2018

CERF funding for CVA was allocated to eight UN agencies in 2019. WFP was the largest implementer planning to transfer \$31.1 million to affected populations. This was 64 per cent of the total value of CVA in 2019 CERF-funded projects. IOM planned \$5.7 million in CVA (12 per cent), FAO \$4.9 million (10 per cent), UNHCR \$3.5 million (7 per cent), UNDP \$1.5 million (3 per cent), UNICEF \$0.9 million (2 per cent), UN Women \$0.7 million (1 per cent), and UNFPA \$0.5 million (1 per cent).

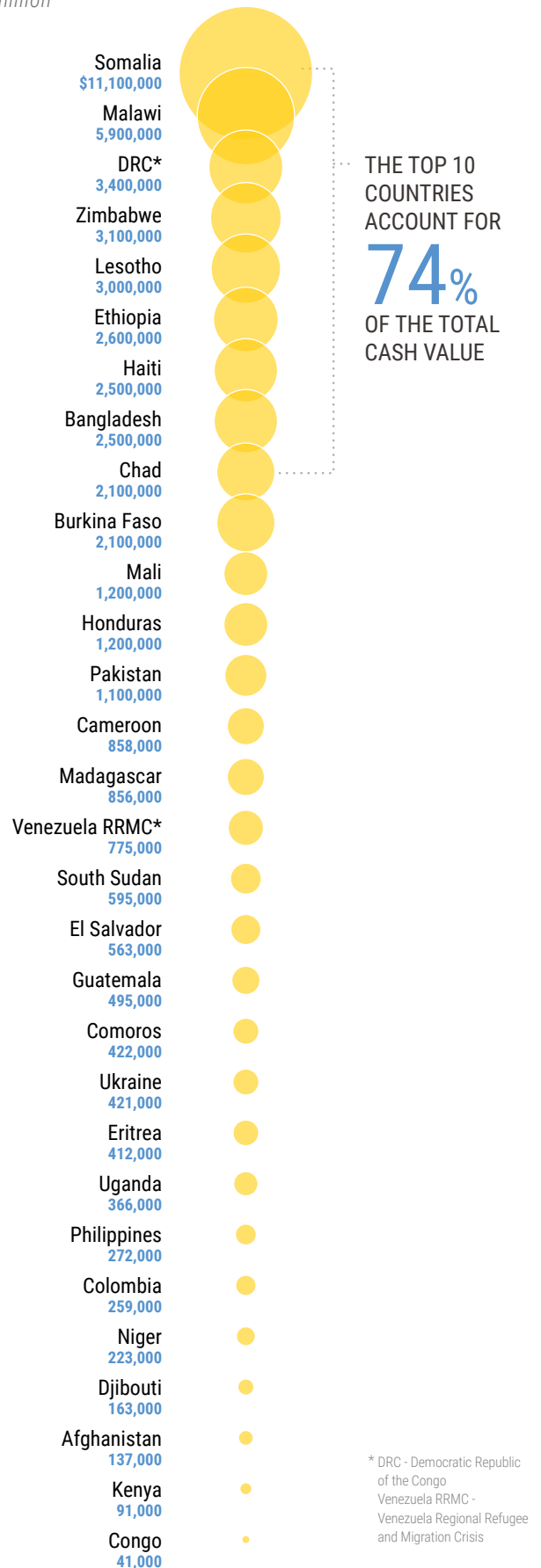
More than half of the planned CVA amount for 2019 (\$29.7 million) was in the food assistance sector and was implemented mostly by WFP. The second largest sector was agriculture with \$7.1 million, followed by shelter and non-food items with \$6.2 million.

Given CERF's overall objective to promote a co-ordinated approach to emergency response, the Fund is uniquely placed to act as a catalyst enabling integrated, multiagency cash programmes. Such programmes use common platforms, co-ordinated transfers covering multisectoral needs, and harmonized targeting criteria to identify people in need.

The vast majority of CERF-funded cash programming in 2019 was unrestricted and unconditional. This gives targeted people greater flexibility to choose how to use the assistance to best meet their needs.

Value of CVA in 2019 CERF funding by country

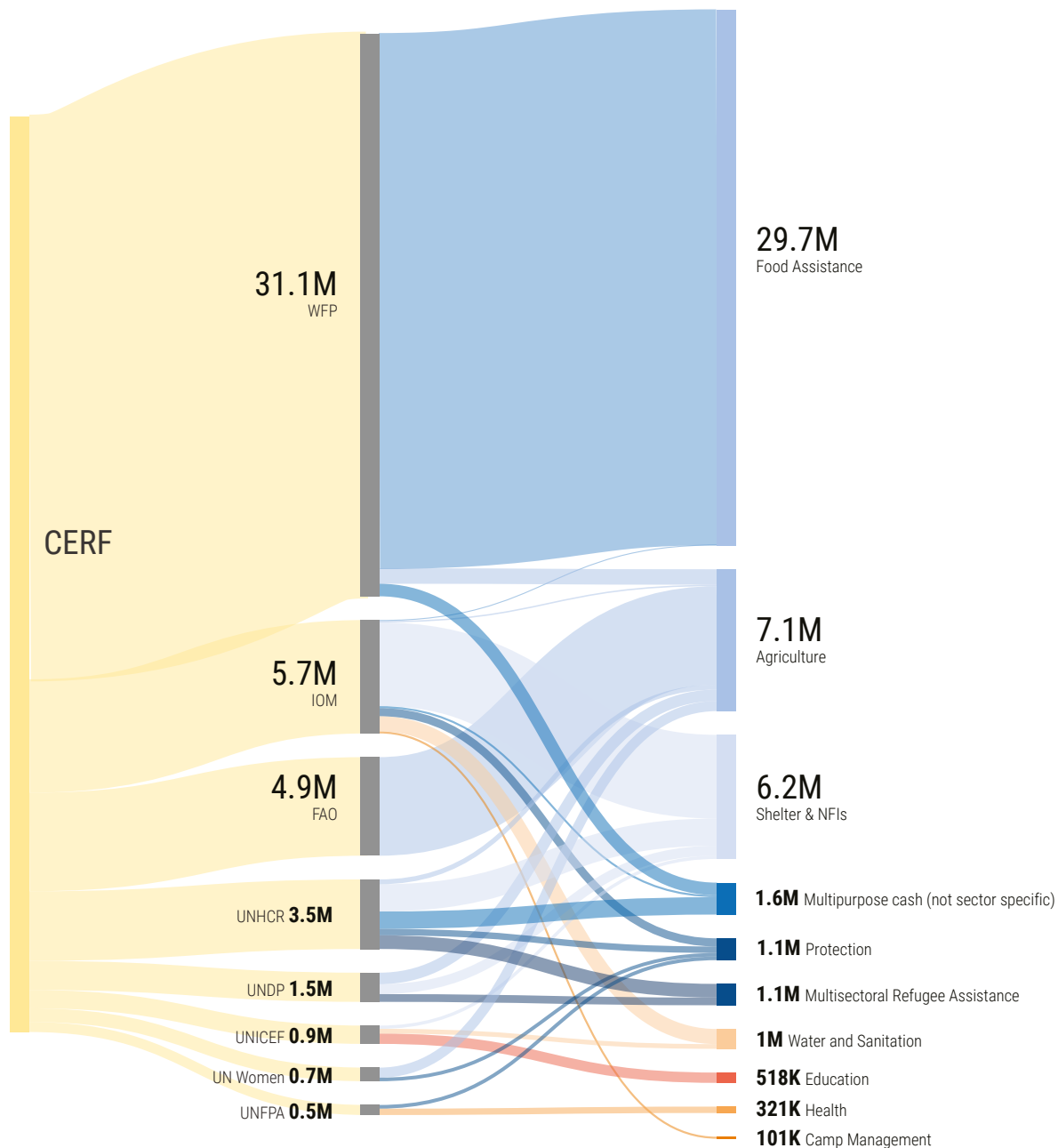
in US\$ million



* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
Venezuela RRM* - Venezuela Regional Refugee and Migration Crisis

CVA in 2019 CERF funding by sector and agency

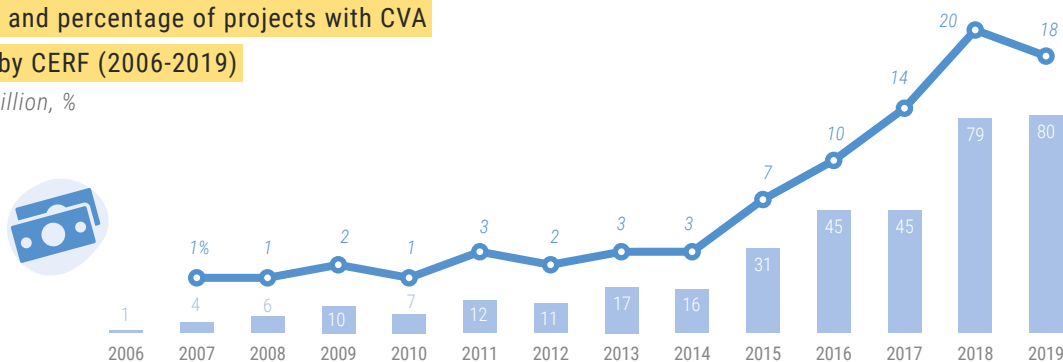
in US\$ million



Number and percentage of projects with CVA

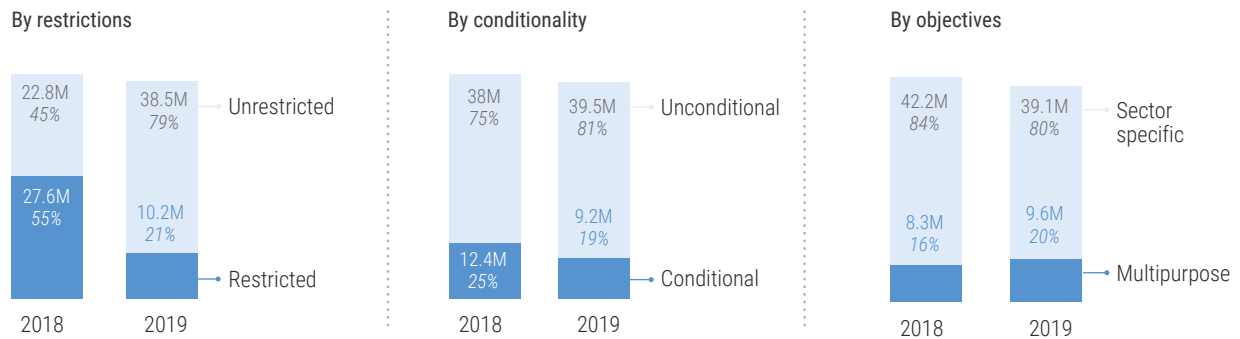
funded by CERF (2006-2019)

in US\$ million, %



Value of CVA in 2019 CERF funding

in US\$ million



Between 2018 and 2019 there was a decrease in restrictions on the use of cash in CERF-funded projects. While 55 per cent of cash in 2018 projects was for assistance restricted to specific goods or services, usually through the use of vouchers, the proportion of restricted cash decreased to 21 per cent in the projects funded in 2019.

Between 2018 and 2019 there was a decrease in conditionality on the use of cash in CERF-funded projects. While 25 per cent of cash in 2018 projects was linked to a requirement of undertaking a specific activity to receive the assistance, the proportion of conditional cash decreased to 19 per cent in the projects funded in 2019.

The proportion of cash with a multipurpose scope increased slightly from 16 per cent in 2018 to 20 per cent in 2019.



Iceland is proud to support the CERF through a multi-year agreement, providing important unearmarked funding for urgent humanitarian needs. CERF is a vital humanitarian instrument allowing for immediate relief efforts for the most vulnerable.

- Guðlaugur Þór Þórðarson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Iceland

CVA in CERF-funded projects 2006-2019

The upward trend that took place between 2006 and 2017 in the number of CERF-funded projects with cash and voucher components stabilized in 2019. While the absolute number of CERF-funded CVA projects increased slightly in 2019 compared to the previous year, from 79 to 80, the percentage decreased from 20 per cent in 2018 to 18 per cent in 2019. Nevertheless, the percentage of CERF-funded projects with CVA components in 2019 was higher compared to the period between 2006 and 2017.

Accountability to Affected People in CERF-funded projects

In 2019, CERF continued to actively promote Accountability to Affected People (AAP). As part of this, CERF tightened the methodology used for assessing the integration of AAP considerations in CERF projects. This updated methodology will allow CERF to provide more specific advice to UN agencies on their consideration of AAP issues in CERF projects.

71% of CERF-funded projects in 2019 provided evidence of ensuring the participation of affected people in decisions about project design and delivery.

24% of CERF-funded projects in 2019 provided evidence of giving the affected people access to closed-loop complaint and feedback mechanisms, which were accessible to all members of the affected communities, inclusive of gender, age, illiteracy and disability.

In November 2017, the IASC endorsed four updated commitments on AAP and PSEA. These principles replaced the previous five commitments adopted in 2011 in order to reflect essential developments, such as the Core Humanitarian Standards and the work done by IASC on inter-agency community-based complaints mechanisms, including those for PSEA. The updated commitments also reflected the importance of meaningful collaboration with local stakeholders, which came out as a priority recommendation from the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit and in the Grand Bargain.

2017 IASC Commitments on Accountability to Affected People and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse*

1. Leadership
2. Participation and partnership
3. Information, feedback and action
4. Results

* <https://bit.ly/IASCAAP>

CERF is committed to promoting AAP by ensuring that that appropriate operational steps are considered in developing project proposals and AAP measures are fully visible throughout the CERF programme cycle.

Since 2015, the CERF secretariat has used the IASC commitments as a framework to analyse how AAP has been considered in CERF-funded projects. For 2015 and 2016, CERF assessed projects against four out of the five original AAP commitments: information-sharing and transparency, participation, feedback and complaints, and design, monitoring and evaluation. The 2017 revision grouped these commitments, and the AAP information in the 2019 edition of the CERF Results Report was assessed against two out of the four revised commitments: participation and partnership, and information, feedback and action. The other two updated IASC commitments, leadership and results, were not included in CERF analysis because they involve activities that go beyond a single project and are measured at the UN agency and overall response level.

As of this year, the CERF secretariat was able to analyse the information on AAP received in CERF applications, which was possible due to the recent improvements in the quality of this information. Until 2019, the CERF secretariat used information on AAP from RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funding and had to wait until project completion and final reporting before having access to AAP information. The improvement has allowed for presenting AAP information covering 2019 CERF funding in this report, instead of the reported information covering CERF funding allocated in 2018.¹⁰

¹⁰ RC/HC reports on the use of CERF funds are due three months after the implementation of CERF-funded projects. Hence, they provide information with approximately one year time lag, as compared to CERF applications.

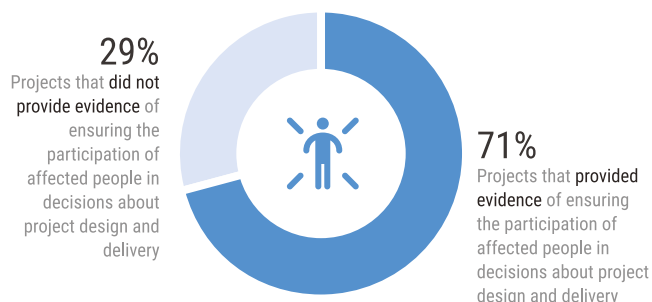
Participation and partnership

In 2019, 71 per cent of CERF-funded projects have demonstrated efforts to strengthen participation and partnerships by integrating it in their project formulations.

IASC AAP Commitment 2 - Participation and partnership

“Adopt agency mechanisms that feed into and support collective/coordinated people-centred approaches that enable women, girls, boys, men, including the most marginalized and at-risk people among affected communities, to participate in and play an active role in decisions that will impact their lives, well-being, dignity and protection. Adopt and sustain equitable partnerships with local actors to build upon their long-term relationships and trust with communities.”

Participation and partnership in 2019 CERF-funded projects



For example, in South Sudan, UNHCR conducted consultations with IDPs, IDP returnees and host communities before and during the implementation of a protection, and shelter and non-food items project. The communities actively played a role in the identification and selection of people targeted by paying close attention to the requirements of women, people with specific needs, young people, people with disabilities and elderly groups. A community-based complaint mechanism was used to ensure all people were able to provide feedback. The participation of the communities resulted in clear distribution criteria and reduced tensions between targeted communities.

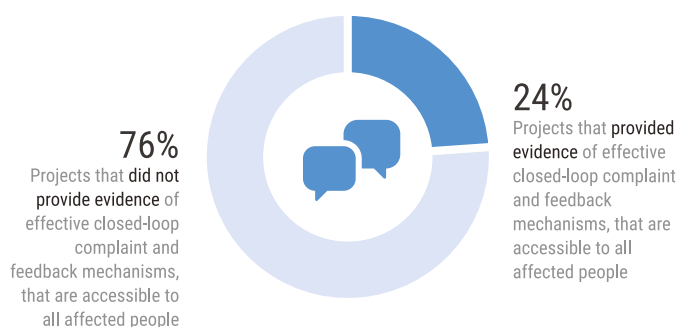
In Cameroon, UN Women implemented a full community-based strategy in their GBV project responding to the Boko Haram crisis. This involved traditional leaders, religious groups and networks of women’s associations, and discussions with people receiving assistance. Social cohesion was ensured through women mediators identified and trained within communities. Outreach activities and information pamphlets were also available to the affected population.

In the occupied Palestinian territories, UNRWA engaged all sections of the Palestine refugee community in a health project, empowering all to participate in the design and implementation, as well as having their voices heard. UNRWA has continued to strengthen community structures aimed at ensuring the participation of and accountability to Palestine refugees.

Information, feedback and action

This year, the CERF secretariat further improved its assessment of the IASC AAP commitment on information, feedback and action. In addition to verifying if the feedback mechanisms were planned for, CERF also looked for evidence that these mechanisms were designed to inform community members of the actions that were taken following their complaint, and that the mechanisms were designed to be fully accessible to all affected people, inclusive of gender, age, illiteracy and disability. The new methodology led to more conservative but higher-quality assessments than in the previous years.

Information, feedback and action in 2019 CERF-funded projects



IASC AAP Commitment 3 - Information, feedback and action

“Adopt agency mechanisms that feed into and support collective and participatory approaches that inform and listen to communities, address feedback and lead to corrective action. Establish and support the implementation of appropriate mechanisms for reporting and handling of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)-related complaints. Plan, design and manage protection and assistance programmes that are responsive to the diversity and expressed views of affected communities.”



CERF has been an important partner for Ethiopia for many years, providing reliable support to the Ethiopian people in times of need. This support continued in 2019 as Ethiopia faced serious challenges. CERF's swift response together with the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia ensured that vulnerable people, especially women and girls who are often disproportionately affected by crisis, received life-saving assistance.

*- H.E. Gedu Andargachew,
Foreign Minister, Ethiopia*

According to the new assessment approach, 24 per cent of CERF-funded projects in 2019 provided evidence of planning closed-loop complaint and feedback mechanisms that are accessible to all affected people, inclusive of gender, age, illiteracy and disability. While the remaining 76 per cent of projects did not convincingly demonstrate closed-loop feedback mechanisms that were accessible to all community members, many of them made provisions for feedback mechanisms but without providing sufficient information about them.

Examples of integration of information and feedback mechanisms for affected populations in 2019 CERF funded projects include:

In Mozambique, during the drought response in the beginning of 2019, FAO used an inter-agency closed-loop complaints feedback mechanism, the Linha Verde hotline, to stay connected with affected people. The hotline was designed to support three core elements of AAP: information provision; complaints, feedback and response mechanisms; and community participation.

Information on AAP in CERF funding

In 2017, CERF revised the application template in order to include a dedicated AAP section providing detailed guidance and requesting information on how AAP is considered during all project phases. The revision resulted in the availability of improved information on AAP in CERF-funded projects.

Nevertheless, some AAP practices may be underrepresented in CERF applications if they are mainstreamed into programming and not outlined as a distinct engagement. Other factors may influence underrepresenting AAP information, such as non-uniform understanding of AAP between agencies at field level, security and access constraints, or government policies.

The CERF secretariat will continue improving its templates and guidance to ensure that CERF promotes AAP; that AAP commitments are fully reflected in the CERF programme cycle; and that AAP information is systematically analysed and presented in CERF's annual results reports.

In Malawi, during the response to Cyclone Idai, a UNFPA project supported the dissemination of a hotline through community radio and mobile short messaging service. Suggestion boxes were put in all the camps enabling victims of abuse, including sexual assault, to report anonymously. Referral pathways were created to raise awareness among affected people, and how to report the issues to relevant authorities for assistance.

In Libya, during a response to conflict-induced displacement, WFP provided several means for affected people to voice complaints and provide feedback in a safe and dignified manner. The first was a toll-free hotline enabling communities and beneficiaries to raise issues and give feedback; and the second was the engagement of a private company to conduct remote monitoring surveys, which also obtained beneficiaries' feedback on safety, protection and accountability issues. Both tools dealt with priority cases, including security and protection cases, by following a fast-tracked process to address such issues.

Partnerships in the implementation of 2018 CERF funding

CERF continues to encourage partnerships with national and local organizations in the implementation of funding. CERF funding in 2018 involved the highest ever number of non-UN implementing partners.

717 non-UN partners, including **567** national and local partners, were involved in the implementation of 2018 CERF funding. The broadest partnership network in a single year in the history of the Fund.

\$137 million of 2018 CERF funding (27%) was subgranted by UN agencies to non-UN partners, including **\$73 million** to national and local partners. The highest on record amounts of subgranted CERF funding to partners within a single year.

Partnerships are at the heart of the CERF-funded response. CERF funding is jointly prioritized and planned by HCTs and cluster or sector groups, which include NGOs as active participants and sometimes leads. Subsequently, CERF funding is implemented through partnerships between UN agencies and NGOs, host governments and Red Cross/Red Crescent societies.

General Assembly Resolution 46/182 (1991) sets out that CERF can directly fund UN agencies only. By limiting the direct recipients of grants to UN agencies, CERF can disburse funding quickly and efficiently with streamlined processes, enabling it to meet its rapid-response mandate. Subsequently, non-UN organizations receive CERF funding from UN agencies as implementing partners through subgrants.

According to the information provided in CERF RC/HC reports, UN agencies entered into partnerships to implement 2018 CERF funding with 717 non-UN organizations in 45 countries. This included 150 international NGOs and 567 local and national partners, of which 373 were national or local NGOs, 176 were government entities and 18 were Red Cross/Red Crescent societies.

This was the broadest partnership network recorded in a single year in the history of the Fund and it represents a global reach that would be difficult to achieve for CERF or CERF's donors through direct funding agreements. Moreover, the collective nature of CERF processes, and the extensive partnerships between such a wide and diverse group of organizations, foster coordination and knowledge transfer benefits that would otherwise not have been achieved.

Of the \$500.5 million allocated by CERF in 2018, \$137 million, or 27 per cent, was subgranted to non-UN organizations through the partnership networks of UN agencies. This was the highest amount of subgranted CERF funding to partners on record in a single year. This amount does not include the value of relief-goods distributed by implementing partners and other in-kind partnership arrangements between UN agencies and their partners. In total, UN agencies made 1,137 subgrants with 2018 CERF funding.

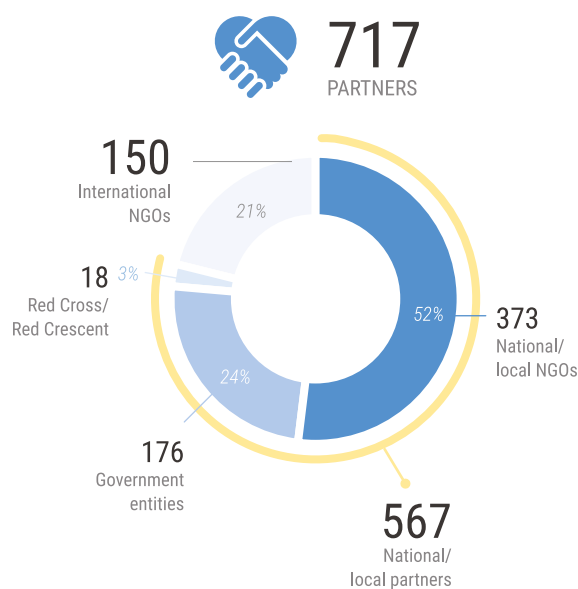
More than half of all subgranted funding, \$73.2 million, went to national and local partners. This represents 53 per cent of subgranted funding and 15 per cent of total CERF funding allocated in 2018. This was also the highest amount of subgranted CERF funding to national and local partners on record in a single year. National and local NGOs received \$45.8 million in 2018 CERF subgrants, government partners received \$22.6 million and Red Cross/Red Crescent societies¹¹ received \$4.8 million.

Partnerships with local organizations familiar with the context and with an existing operational presence close to the people in need help to localize humanitarian response, and support more sustainable solutions anchored in local structures.

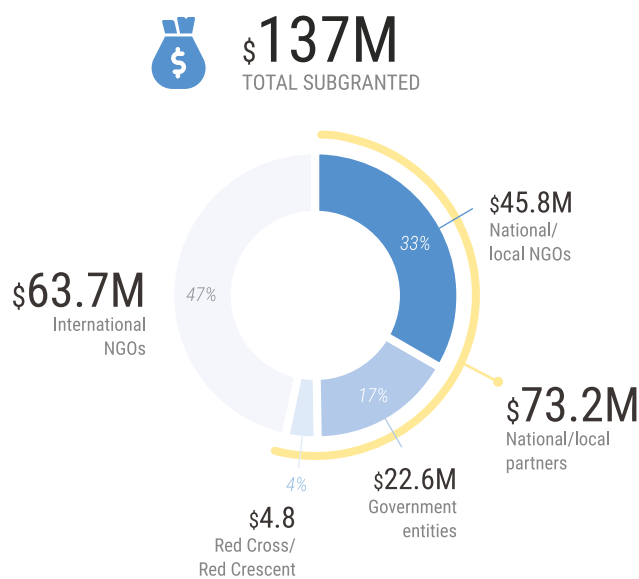
Partnerships between UN agencies and NGOs leverage their comparative strengths to deliver the most effective responses. For instance, UN agencies are able to procure bulk relief supplies, which are then distributed through the networks of non-governmental partners with an existing presence on the ground. According to the budget breakdown of all 2018 CERF-funded projects, re-

¹¹ More than 83 per cent of subgranted CERF funding in this category went to national/local Red Cross/Red Crescent societies and 16 per cent to International Red Cross/Red Crescent societies, hence Red Cross/Red Crescent societies are counted as national/local partners in this report.

Partners in the implementation of 2018 CERF funding

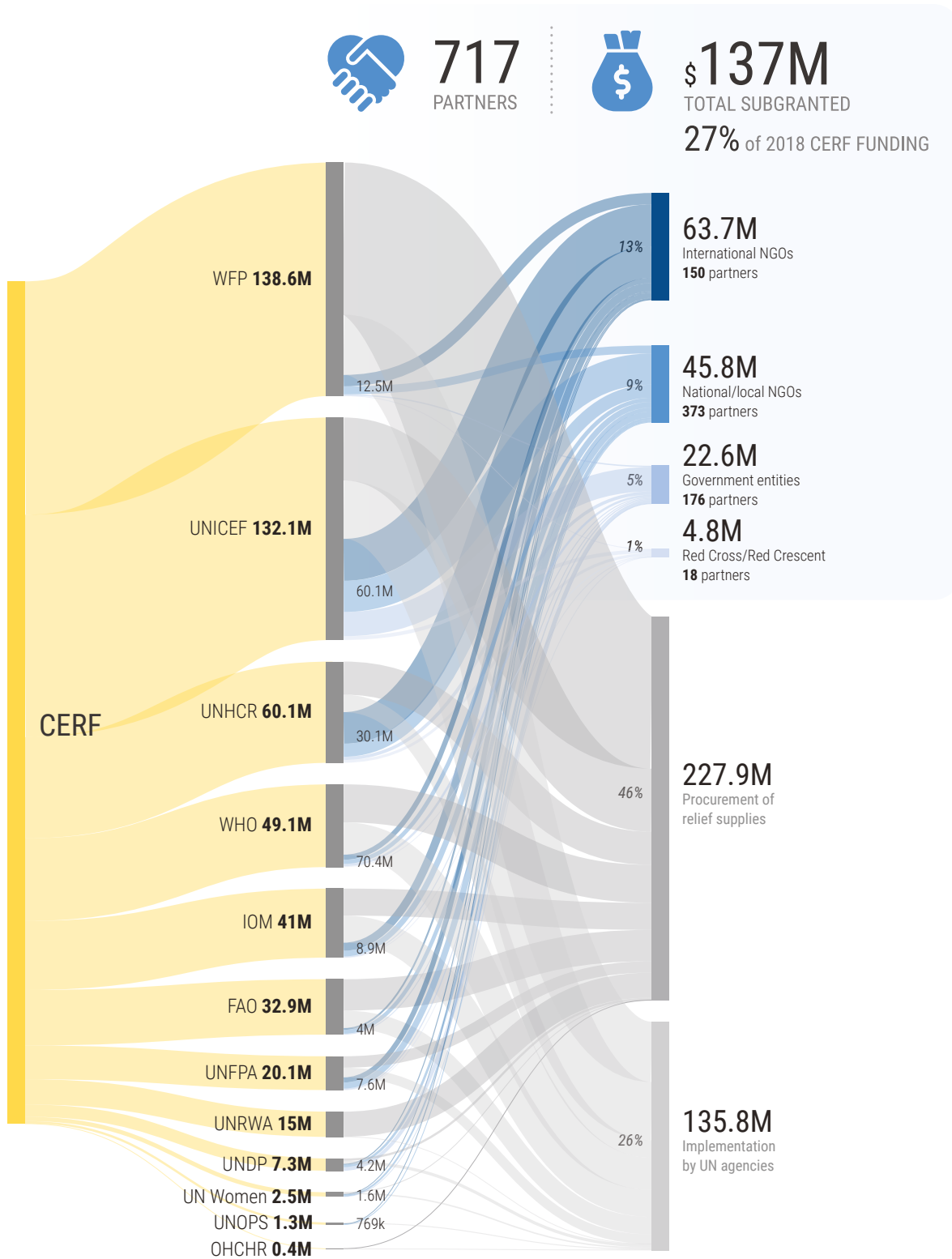


Subgranted 2018 CERF funding



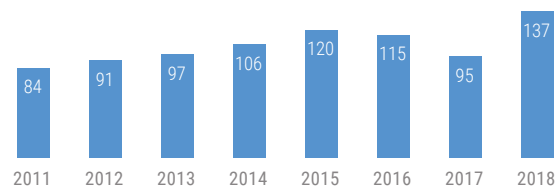
Partnerships in the implementation of 2018 CERF funding

in US\$ million, %

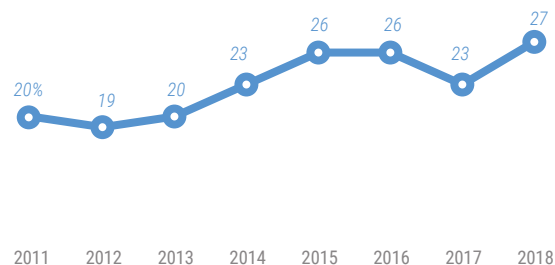


Partnerships in the implementation of CERF funding (2011-2018)

Amount of subgranted CERF funding 2011-2018
in US\$ million



Per cent of subgranted CERF funding 2011-2018



recipient agencies used 46 per cent of CERF funding, or \$228 million, to procure relief supplies such as food, shelters or medicines.

In the implementation of CERF funding, UN agencies entered into partnerships with non-UN organizations in 45 out of 48 countries supported by CERF in 2018.

The level of subgranting varies across CERF allocations according to the context and type of humanitarian programmes funded. The subgranted funding ranged between 10 per cent and 50 per cent in the majority of countries. However, in Lebanon, 91 per cent of CERF funding was subgranted to non-UN organizations; in Brazil, Djibouti, India and Peru more than half of CERF funding was subgranted. On the other hand, subgrants to non-UN organizations accounted for less than 10 per cent in Pakistan and Venezuela. In the DPRK and the occupied Palestinian territories activities were implemented entirely by UN agencies.

Most CERF recipient agencies reported working with partners through CERF subgrant arrangements. UNICEF, the second largest recipient of CERF funds in 2018, provided the largest total amount in subgrants to partners—\$60 million, or 46 per cent of CERF funding received. UNHCR implemented the second largest amount of CERF funding through subgrants to partners—\$30 million, or 50 per cent of CERF funding received. By comparison, WFP, the largest CERF recipient, subgranted \$12 million, 9 per cent of CERF funding received. OHCHR and UNRWA did not report any subgrants.

The level of subgranting was nearly the same across the CERF funding by emergency type. A total of 28 per cent of CERF funding to conflict-related emergencies, 28 per cent of funding to natural disasters, and 26 per cent of funding to disease outbreaks was subgranted to non-UN organizations.

The subgranted CERF funding reported by UN agencies has been on a progressively upward trend since 2011. The proportion of subgranted CERF funding increased from 20 per cent in 2011, to a high of 26 per cent in 2015 and 2016. It dipped to 23 per cent in 2017 before increasing to 27 per cent in 2018.

In dollar terms, the subgranted CERF funding reported by UN agencies was \$84 million in 2011, steadily increasing to \$137 million in 2018, with a drop to \$95 million in 2017.

The proportions of subgranted funding by partner type across the years for which data has been collected are very similar, with approximately half of subgranted funding going to local and national organizations, and half to international NGOs. The distribution between the different types of local and national partners (NGOs, government partners, Red Cross/Red Crescent societies) shows some variations between years, likely as a reflection of the specific context and the type of humanitarian programmes funded.

CERF funding implemented by partners



\$500.5M

TOTAL 2018 CERF FUNDING

\$137M

SUBGRANTED TO PARTNERS

27%

SUBGRANTED



717

PARTNERS

150

International NGOs

\$63.7M | 13% of 2018 CERF funding

567

National/local partners

\$73.2M | 15% of 2018 CERF funding

373

National/local NGOs

\$45.8M | 9% of 2018 CERF funding

176

Government entities

\$22.6M | 5% of 2018 CERF funding

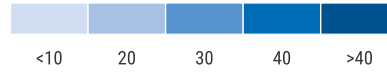
18

Red Cross/Red Crescent

\$4.8M | 1% of 2018 CERF funding

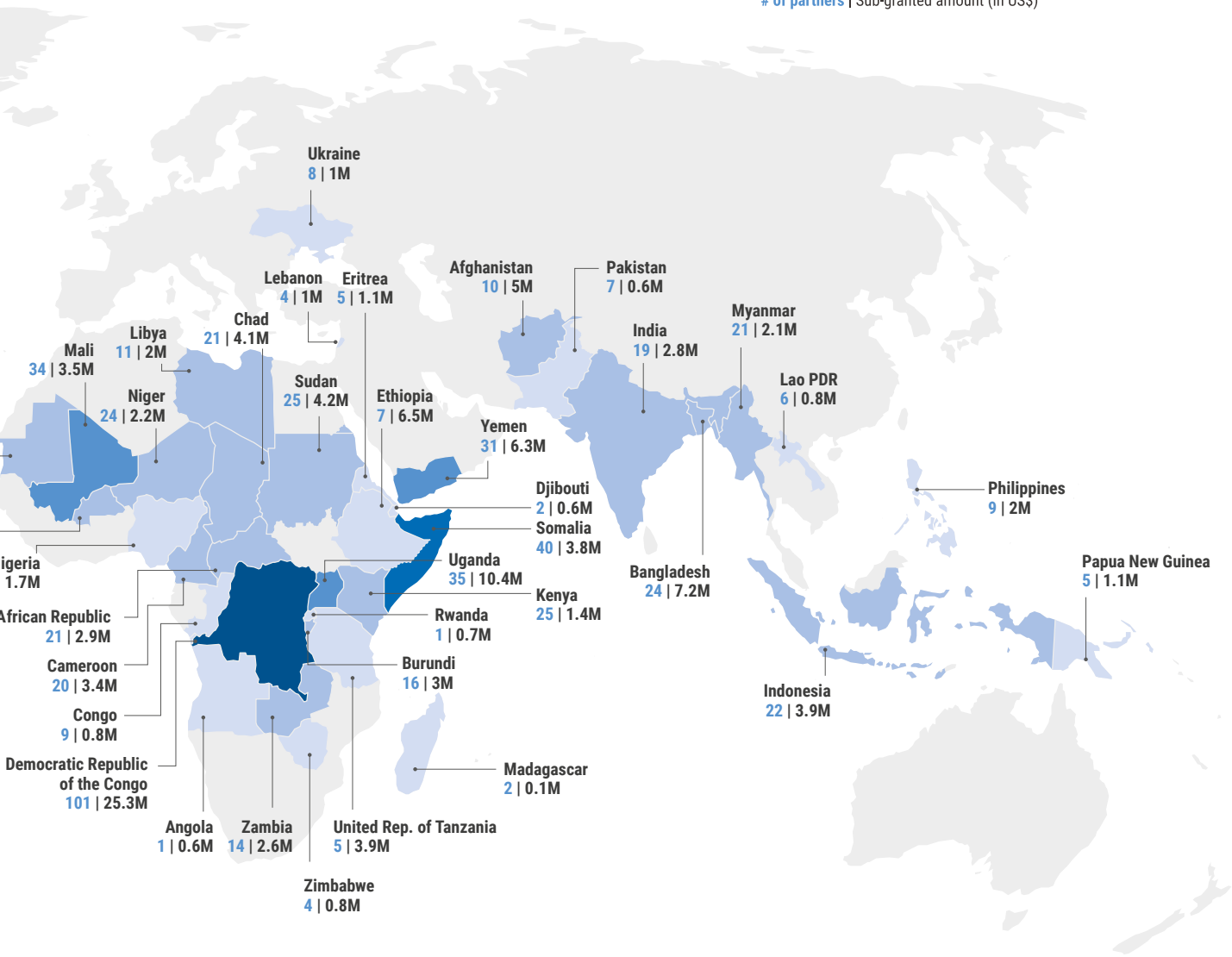


% of CERF funding implemented by partners



Country

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



Speed of CERF

In 2019, CERF maintained the speed for which it is known - the average duration between the submission of the CERF application from the field to the disbursement of CERF funds to recipient agencies was 12 working days with the most urgent grants processed in as little as 3 days.

One of the most important strategic advantages of CERF is its ability to provide life-saving funding when and where it is needed most. In some cases, such as in sudden-onset crises or the rapid deterioration of an emergency, the speed of CERF processes can be of utmost importance. In other situations, the ability to provide funding at the right time to the right interventions in an emergency is more important than the speed with which this happens. The timeliness of CERF allocations therefore needs to be considered in the context of each emergency and cannot be assessed based on the speed of CERF processes alone.

The timeliness aspect of CERF's performance is explored more in depth from a qualitative perspective in the section on the strategic added value of CERF (page 60). This section documents that 96 per cent of RC/HCs in countries receiving CERF funding in 2018 stated that CERF led to fast delivery of assistance to people in need, and all RC/HC assessed that CERF funds helped humanitarian organizations respond to time-critical needs.

The volume of funding and coordination benefits that characterize CERF allocations must also be considered when assessing the duration of CERF allocation processes. The processes needed to strategically allocate millions of dollars to multiple organizations are inevitably more complex than the processes governing the allocation of smaller or individual grants. Therefore, time taken to collectively allocate CERF funding is an investment that increases the strategic and operational impact of the funds.

While the speed of CERF processes does not directly equate to the Fund's ability to provide timely funding, it provides an indication of the CERF secretariat's performance and is therefore systematically tracked.

An analysis of key dates within the allocation processes of all 300 RR¹² projects funded by CERF in 2019¹³ showed that the average¹⁴ duration between the submission of the first version of the CERF application from the field to the CERF secretariat and the disbursement of CERF funds to recipient agencies was **12.1 working days**.

However, agencies do not have to wait for CERF funds to arrive in their accounts before starting to implement life-saving activities. Agencies can request an earlier implementation start date that allows them to charge expenditures for response activities undertaken before the receipt of CERF funds to the CERF project. An early implementation date of up to six weeks prior to the disbursement date can be approved as long as it does not predate the onset of the emergency. This allows agencies¹⁵ to start response activities earlier using internal reserves in the knowledge that CERF funds will be forthcoming.

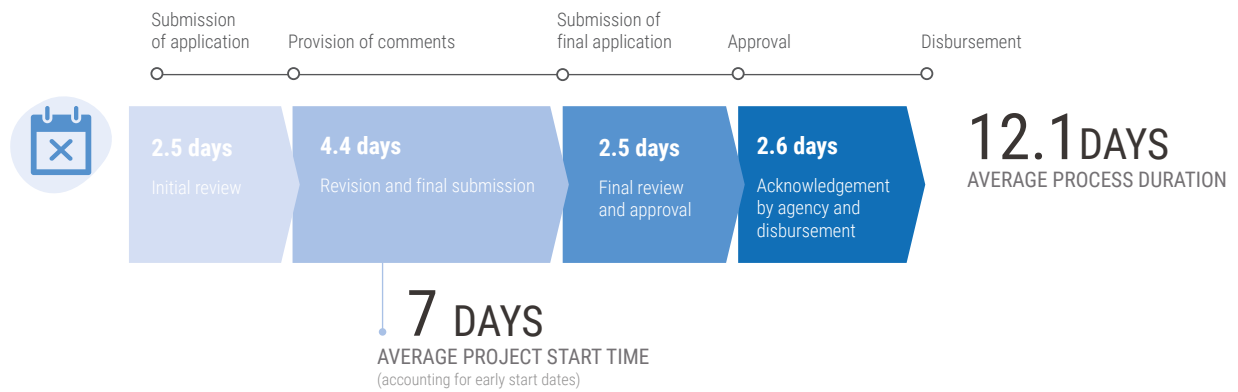
Of the 300 CERF RR projects funded in 2019, 91 projects started implementing life-saving activities before the disbursement of CERF funds (on

¹² Duration of allocation processes is a less important factor for allocations from the UFE window, hence they are excluded from this analysis.

¹³ The most recent data covering the full year of CERF allocations available.

¹⁴ Represents arithmetical mean.

¹⁵ Not all agencies can use early implementation start dates due to internal administrative limitations.



Initial review: The CERF secretariat undertakes programmatic and financial reviews of initial applications* to ensure the strategic use of the funding, adherence to CERF’s life-saving criteria and compliance with budget requirements. In 2019, CERF completed the initial review of applications on average within 2.5 days** from the date of submission from the field.

Revision and final submission: With support from the CERF secretariat, OCHA field offices, RC/HC offices and agency focal points at the country-level revise applications according to the questions and comments raised during the initial review. At this stage the CERF secretariat starts processing each project separately to ensure that finalized projects are approved quickly and are not delayed by projects which are still under review. In 2019, OCHA field offices or RC offices in collaboration with country-level agency focal points reviewed and finalized CERF project proposals on average in 4.4 days. This sometimes included more than one round of comments and revisions.

Final review and approval: Following a final submission, the CERF secretariat works on financial and programmatic clearance of final project proposals and seeks official approval from the ERC. In 2019, the final review, clearance and approval of CERF project proposals took on average 2.5 days.

Acknowledgement by agency and disbursement: Recipient agencies counter sign CERF grant letters and thereafter the CERF secretariat works with the Office of Programme Planning, Finance and Budget (OPPFB) of the UN Secretariat on the disbursement of funds. In 2019, the acknowledgement by agencies and disbursement of CERF funds took on average 2.6 days.

* An application is the term used for a consolidated request for CERF funds submitted by an RC/HC consisting of an overall humanitarian response strategy for which CERF funds are sought and project proposals that collectively aim to operationalize this strategy.

** Number of days included throughout this section represent official working days.

average more than three weeks earlier than the disbursement). This flexibility significantly contributes to humanitarian partners' ability to meet time-critical needs with CERF funding and helps minimize potential limitations resulting from collective CERF allocation processes. If the early start dates of CERF grants are taken into account, the average time from initial submission of the CERF request to project start date was **7 working days** across all 2019 RR projects.

The CERF secretariat uses emergency fast-track procedures for processing time-critical allocations to sudden-onset crises to ensure that funds for kick-starting emergency responses are made available as quickly as possible. In such cases, CERF secretariat applies maximum flexibility during application review and alerts the OPPFB to prioritize the projects for immediate disbursements.

For instance, when Cyclone Idai made landfall in Mozambique, leaving 600 people dead and an estimated 1.85 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, CERF applied emergency fast-track procedures. As a result, CERF secretariat processed the funding application from Mozambique (including 16 projects totaling \$14 million) in an average of 4.2 working days from the initial submission to the disbursement of funds. The six 'fastest' projects within the application were processed in three working days and another six projects were processed in four working days. The 'slowest' project was processed in nine working days due to programmatic and budgetary clarifications required from a requesting agency. It also needs to be noted that all projects, apart from one, were approved either the next day or two days after the initial submission of the application.

Apart from the procedures used, the timing of submissions may also affect overall speed as multiple concurrent RR requests, coupled with UFE requests, may lead to slower processing of some requests due to competing demands on the CERF secretariat.

Certain aspects of CERF processes, such as the ability to quickly review applications or disburse funding, are within the control of the CERF secretariat and are good internal operational

benchmarks. Other aspects, such as the time it takes country-level partners to submit or revise a funding proposal and the time it takes agencies to countersign and submit allocation letters, are beyond the direct control of the CERF secretariat.

Field level consultation and prioritization processes leading up to the first official submission of a CERF funding request may not directly involve or be known to the CERF secretariat, and the duration of this phase cannot be systematically tracked for all applications.

Since its inception in 2006, CERF has continuously sought to optimize and streamline its allocation processes for faster disbursement of funds. Key measures that were undertaken included:

- In 2011 CERF finalized umbrella letters of understanding with all recipient agencies, which allowed for swifter countersigning of approval letter for each CERF project.
- In 2014 CERF obtained approval from the UN Controller's Office for specialized financial treatment of CERF grants in Umoja, the UN Enterprise Resource Planning system.
- In 2014 CERF launched a Grant Management System, which allows for electronic processing of CERF project proposals throughout all stages of allocation processes.
- In 2015 CERF obtained a fast-track process in consultation with the OPPFB that enabled CERF projects to be prioritized for disbursement.
- In 2018 CERF put in place emergency fast-track procedures for processing time-critical allocations.

These and other efforts have helped improve the speed of allocation processes. For instance, the final administrative disbursement step (step 4) has been reduced from an average of 6.1 working days in 2014 to only 2.6 days in 2019, more than halving the time needed. The CERF secretariat will continue to monitor the duration of its allocation processes and undertake efforts to process RR allocations in the shortest time possible.

CERF and CBPF complementarity in 2019

In 2019, CERF continued to explore ways to ensure complementarity with the CBPFs. CERF has documented the different strategies used by HCTs to ensure programmatic synergies, and continues to share these with field colleagues, to strengthen the practice.

In 2019, CERF and CBPFs together allocated a record-breaking \$1.55 billion for humanitarian action. Both funding mechanisms are designed to enable timely, effective and principled humanitarian action and can, when used jointly and strategically, help partners deliver an even stronger collective response, leveraging their comparative advantages. CERF's focus on speed and scale in providing immediate life-saving assistance to new needs or critical gaps complements CBPF's ability to directly fund a wider range of partners, including local NGOs, through more flexible operational modalities.

In 2019, CERF allocated \$259.1 million, almost half of all its funds, to support humanitarian response in 11 out of 18 countries and territories with a CBPF. Many of these countries have been long-standing recipients of significant CERF funding, such as the DRC, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. CERF funding was also allocated to Ukraine, which had a newly established CBPF.

The HCs and HCTs in these countries have pursued different strategies to ensure programmatic synergies and complementarity between the two pooled funds mechanisms. These include a coordinated approach to identify priority humanitarian needs; joint selection of sectoral activities and

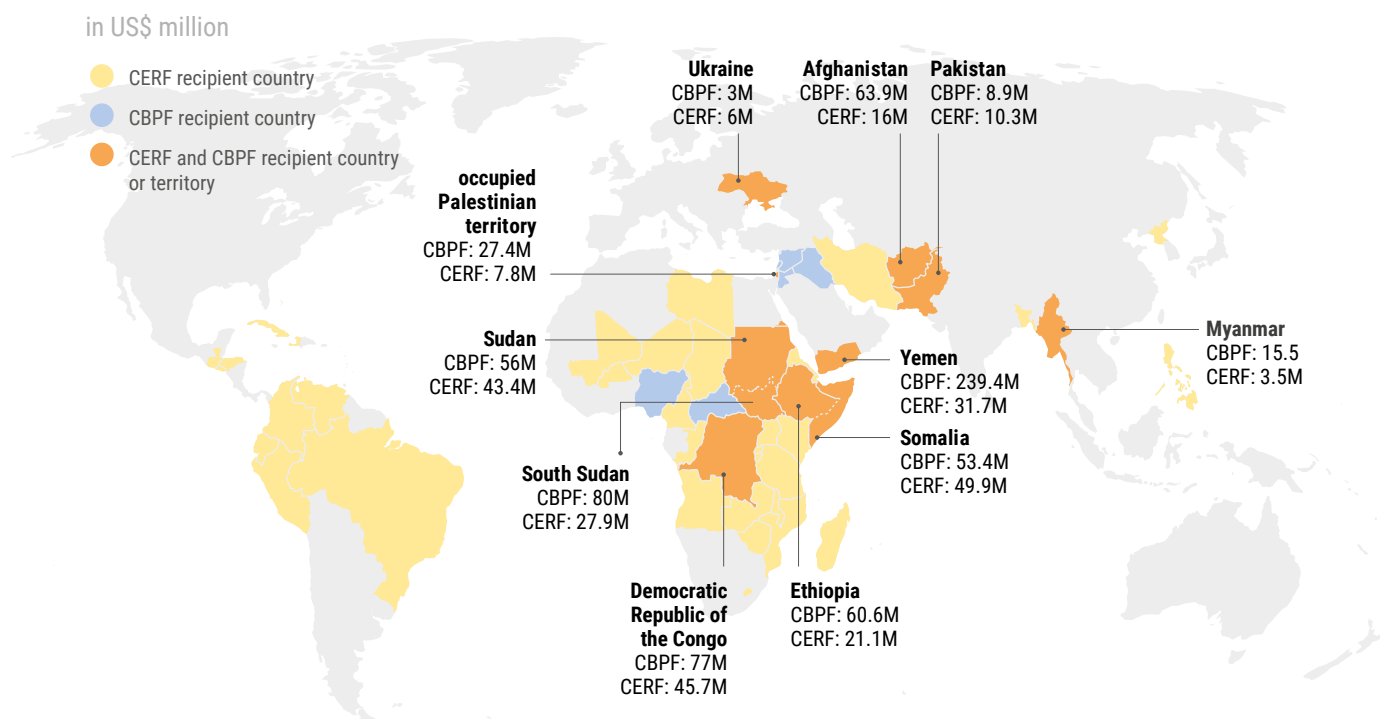
\$1.55 billion allocated from
CERF and CBPFs in 2019 to
55 countries

geographic coverage; awarding funds to different types of humanitarian actors and interventions according to CERF and CBPF comparative advantages; sequencing funding; and joint messaging to leverage additional donor funding. In most OCHA country offices the same staff support CBPF and CERF allocation processes, which further helps to ensure coherent and effective allocation of the funds.

The following are examples of coordinated CERF and CBPF allocations in 2019:

In South Sudan, heavy seasonal rains and floods devastated large parts of the country in the second half of 2019, affecting 900,000 people in areas that were already facing high humanitarian needs. The complementary allocation of \$15 million from CERF's RR window and \$9.8 million from the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF) ensured the fast delivery of life-saving assistance to 570,000 flood-affected people. Leveraging their compara-

CERF and CBPF allocations in 2019



tive advantages, the two pooled funds enabled humanitarian organizations to scale up the response and catalysed additional bilateral funding. As a result of the joint strategic programming, CERF was used to fill critical gaps in supply pipelines early in the response. This enabled UN agencies to provide water and sanitation; core relief items, such as mosquito nets and blankets; primary and reproductive health care services; and emergency food and livelihood support. Concurrently, SSHF helped to scale up frontline activities directly implemented by NGOs in the prioritized geographical areas to deliver protection activities, nutritional treatments and education services.

In Pakistan, CERF's RR allocation of \$10.3 million in February 2019 was complemented by a \$6.2 million allocation by the Pakistan Humanitarian Pooled Fund (PHPF) in January and February, respectively. This was to help respond to time-crit-

ical needs caused by severe drought conditions in Sindh and Balochistan provinces, which exacerbated food insecurity and malnutrition affecting some 4.7 million people. A joint strategic prioritization of the two allocations resulted in coordinated geographic targeting and aligned interventions in the water and sanitation, health, nutrition, and food and livelihood support sectors. The complementarity use of the CERF and PHPF also created an advocacy platform for UN agencies and partners to raise the awareness for this crisis internationally. It enhanced their capacities to overcome funding shortfalls by catalysing additional funding, for instance, from the World Bank and bilateral donors.

In DRC, the Ebola has claimed thousands of lives since its outbreak. Following the IASC's Humanitarian System-Wide Scale-Up activation on 29 May 2019 to address the continuing outbreak, the

DRC Humanitarian Fund (DRC HF) launched a \$10 million reserve allocation. To complement this, CERF allocated \$9.8 million from its RR window in September 2019 in order to strengthen early detection of the disease, reinforce prevention and infection control measures, provide psychosocial and nutritional support to affected people, and bolster engagement with communities. The CERF allocation was made in addition to two previous allocations in response to Ebola of \$2 million in May 2018 and \$2.8 million in August 2018. CERF enabled UN partners to provide emergency health care services and Ebola treatment, and facilitated access to the affected areas by providing logistics support. Meanwhile the DRC HF allocated funds directly to five NGO partners to contribute to the interruption of virus transmission including strengthening of community engagement, cutting transmission chains and mitigating the disease's impact on the affected population. CERF and the DRC HF also supported conflict-related and other humanitarian assistance in EVD-affected districts through additional funds to complement the Ebola response.

By early 2019 in Somalia, about 4.9 million Somalis faced acute food insecurity. This included 1.5 million people whose conditions were expected to deteriorate by mid-2019. Malnutrition rates remained high, particularly among displaced people, while localized conflict hindered access to affected people. Throughout 2019, CERF and the Somalia Humanitarian Fund were used in complementarity to boost emergency response. Several allocations took advantage of the joint strategic prioritization processes within the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and the HCT and ensured the complementary use of funds. This approach shortens the time required to identify priority activities and implementation areas.

In March, the Somalia Humanitarian Fund allocated \$32.7 million for integrated drought response. The majority of the funding went to international NGOs (\$17 million) and national

NGOs (\$14 million). It complemented the CERF RR allocation of \$11.9 million in response to drought in hot spot areas in northern Somalia, targeting the most critical areas where the severely food insecure population was at the highest risk of sliding from Crisis to Emergency food insecurity. An additional \$29.9 million RR allocation from CERF in August followed a \$7.5 million Somalia Humanitarian Fund reserve allocation in June to south and central Somalia to support ongoing drought response.

In November, a total of \$18.9 million was allocated by the two pooled funds in response to floods. The \$8 million CERF RR allocation was used in Phase I of the response for immediate life-saving assistance. The \$10.9 million Somalia Humanitarian Fund reserve allocation continued into the second phase with repair of damaged infrastructure in schools, health and nutrition facilities, and water and sanitation facilities, while also providing response in secondary flood-affected districts.

Complementing the Sudan Humanitarian Fund allocations, CERF allocated a total of \$43 million to Sudan through three allocations in March (RR), September (UFE) and October (RR). The March and September CERF allocations were provided in response to economic crisis and food insecurity, while funds allocated in October supported the cholera response. CERF funds were provided alongside the Sudan Humanitarian Fund allocations through a joint allocation strategy that ensured complementarity between the two pooled funds to maximize impact. The joint strategy focused on a targeted set of geographic and sectoral priorities. The \$14 million CERF allocation in September supported supplies through UN agencies, while the SHF provided support to local partners with a focus on service delivery. By leveraging their comparative advantages—such as CERF's disbursement speed and SHF's direct funding for NGOs—the humanitarian community rapidly scaled up and was able to deliver an effective collective response.

Overview of CERF recipient agencies



The 2019 CERF funding enabled 14 UN agencies to provide life-saving assistance to 29.4 million people who were severely affected by humanitarian crises in 49 countries and territories across the globe. This chapter presents a summary of CERF funding received and an overview of results achieved by each agency. The chapter also offers insights into the strategic added value by CERF towards the fulfillment of each agency's humanitarian mandate.

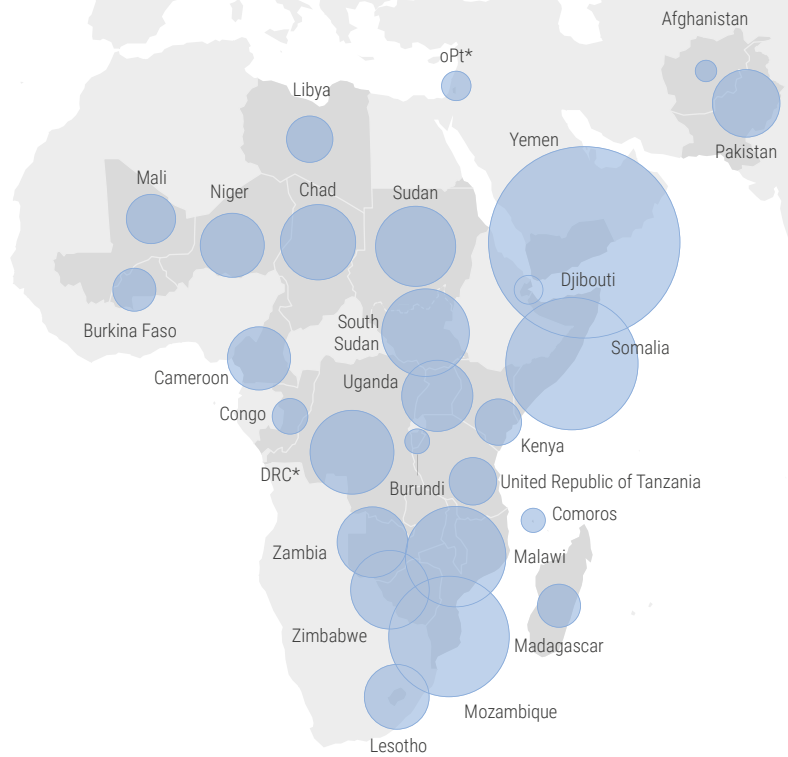
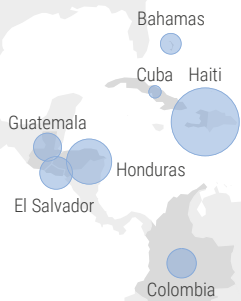
The key information on CERF funds received, geographical coverage and people assisted is presented in maps, charts and tables for each agency. The analysis is complemented by text and quotes sourced from the 2019 agency reports on the use of CERF funding.

UN agencies are in the frontline delivering life-saving assistance to people affected by conflicts, natural disasters and other humanitarian crises directly or through their partners. CERF results reported in this overview are achieved by them.

UN agencies funded by CERF in 2019

AGENCY	2019 CERF FUNDING <i>in US\$</i>
WFP - World Food Programme	149.6M
UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund	142.1M
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization	51.3M
WHO - World Health Organization	51.3M
UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	48.8M
IOM - International Organization for Migration	47.4M
UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund	37.1M
UNDP - United Nations Development Programme	5.0M
UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	2.4M
UNOPS - United Nations Office for Project Services	1.7M
UNRWA - United Nations Relief and Works Agency	758k
UNESCO - United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization	500k
OHCHR - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	414k
UNAIDS - Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	150k

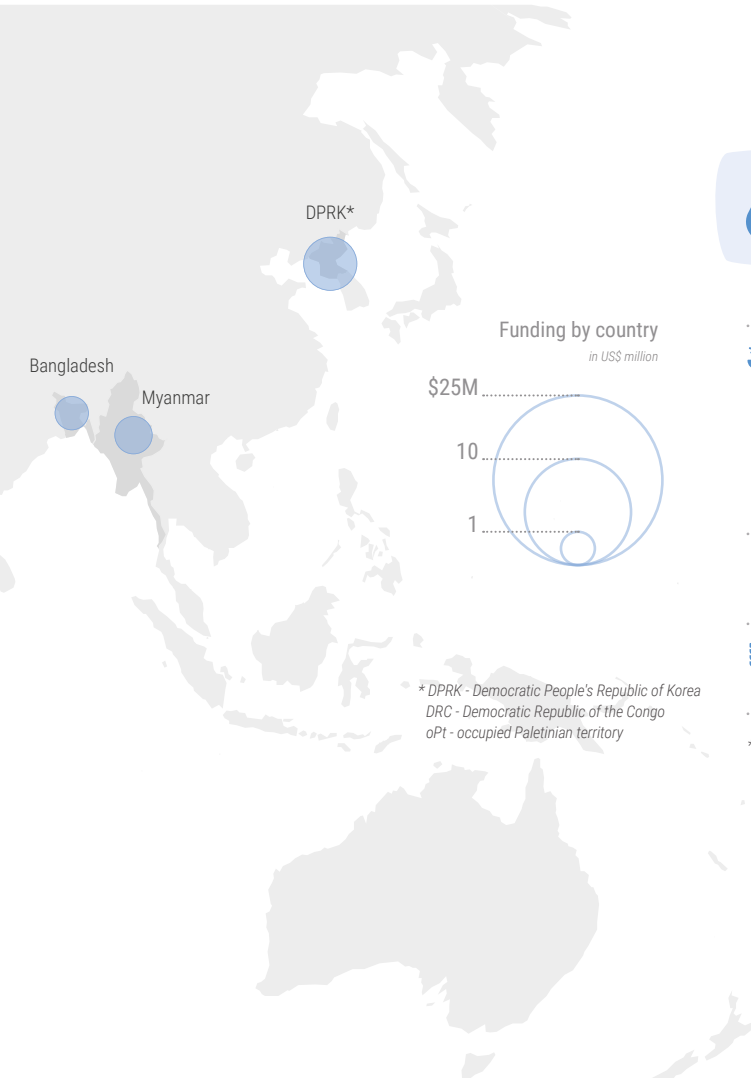
Onyevetu Laitia, left, and Marta Ndimaoshitya, carrying a 20-litre bucket of water in the Cunene Province in southern Angola. Both girls have to walk for over an hour every day to fetch water for their families. © UNICEF/Louzada



Strong and reliable funding amid an unprecedented number of humanitarian crises

CERF has been a key partner in supporting WFP’s response to the unprecedented number of humanitarian challenges in 2019, with food crises driven increasingly by conflict and climate shocks. It continued to be one of WFP’s strongest and most reliable partners, providing timely and effective life-saving assistance to populations affected by humanitarian crises across the globe. WFP remained the largest recipient of CERF funds in 2019 receiving \$149.6 million to support critical humanitarian assistance in 37 countries. In addition to life-saving food and nutrition interventions, CERF funding provided to WFP for UNHAS, the Logistics Cluster and the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster contributed to the continuity of common services for humanitarian actors when funding shortages put their availability at risk.

CERF funding facilitated the timely provision of food assistance through cash-based transfers and food distributions in countries in the Central Sahel, Horn of Africa and Southern Africa. In Bangladesh, the time-critical response allowed by CERF funding made possible the provision of immediate food assistance to female-headed households in the districts worst affected by the devastating monsoon floods. In Myanmar, the timeliness of CERF funding was crucial as it allowed WFP and partners to take advantage of an opening in limited humanitarian access to deliver critical assistance to the most vulnerable people. Funding from CERF’s UFE window was vital for providing visibility and funding for chronically underfunded operations such as the protracted refugee assistance programmes in United Republic of Tanzania and Malawi.



* DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
 oPt - occupied Palestinian territory

\$149.6M
 2019 CERF FUNDING

37
 COUNTRIES

75
 PROJECTS

PEOPLE TARGETED*		
Food Assistance	5.1M	51% female 49% male 52% children 48% adults
Nutrition	623k	62% children 38% adults 75% children 25% adults
Agriculture	15k	54% children 46% adults 25% children 75% adults

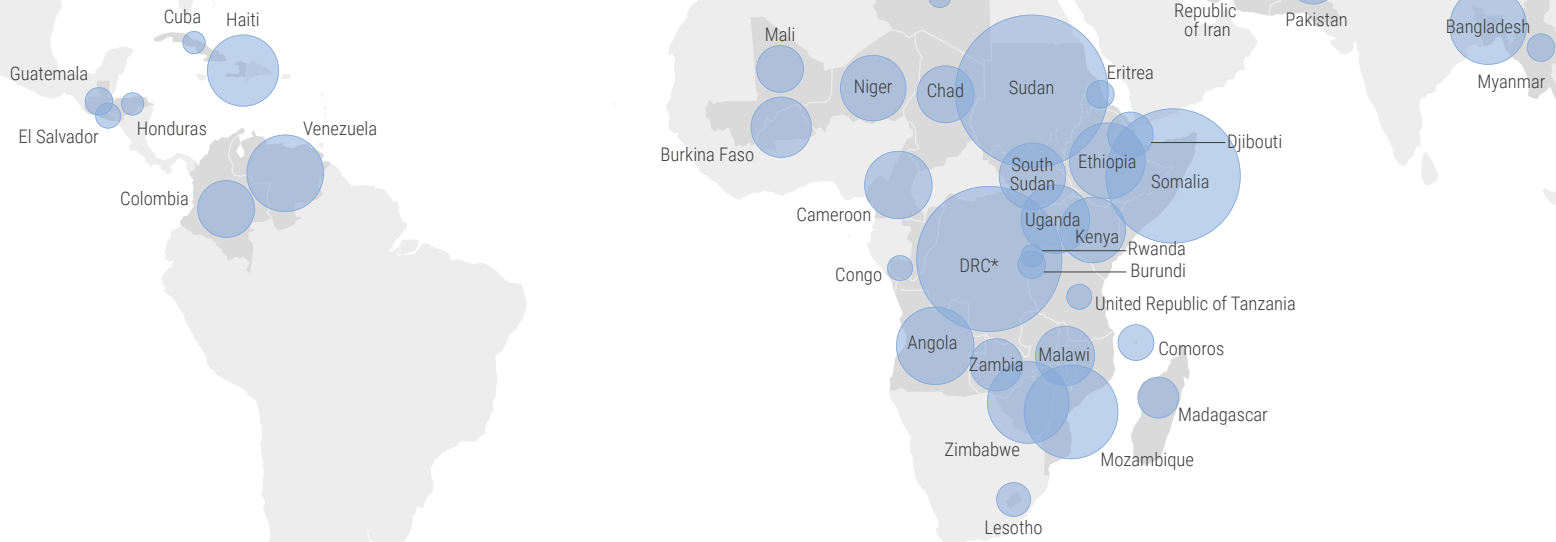
* Excludes Ebola response indirect beneficiaries

Facilitating enhanced coordination and resource mobilization

CERF funding and mechanisms have also supported wider coordination and resource mobilization efforts. Partnerships among UN agencies have enabled the CERF UFE Working Group to work efficiently and effectively in identifying priority countries and ensuring they receive much needed funding. CERF also supported WFP in enhancing coordination among humanitarian partners. For example, in collaboration with UNICEF, WFP used CERF funding to address malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months in Mozambique and was regarded as the best practice to demonstrate the UN collective efforts in addressing emergency needs in Lesotho.

“The crises we face today, driven by conflict and climate shocks, require a huge mobilization of resources. From the floods in Southern Africa, the conflict in Central Sahel or the ongoing catastrophe in Yemen, CERF has been crucial to WFP’s efforts to save lives in 2019. Our thanks goes to donors for supporting an ever more robust and flexible CERF and helping us provide a larger scale response to increasingly complex emergencies.

- David Beasley, Executive Director, WFP



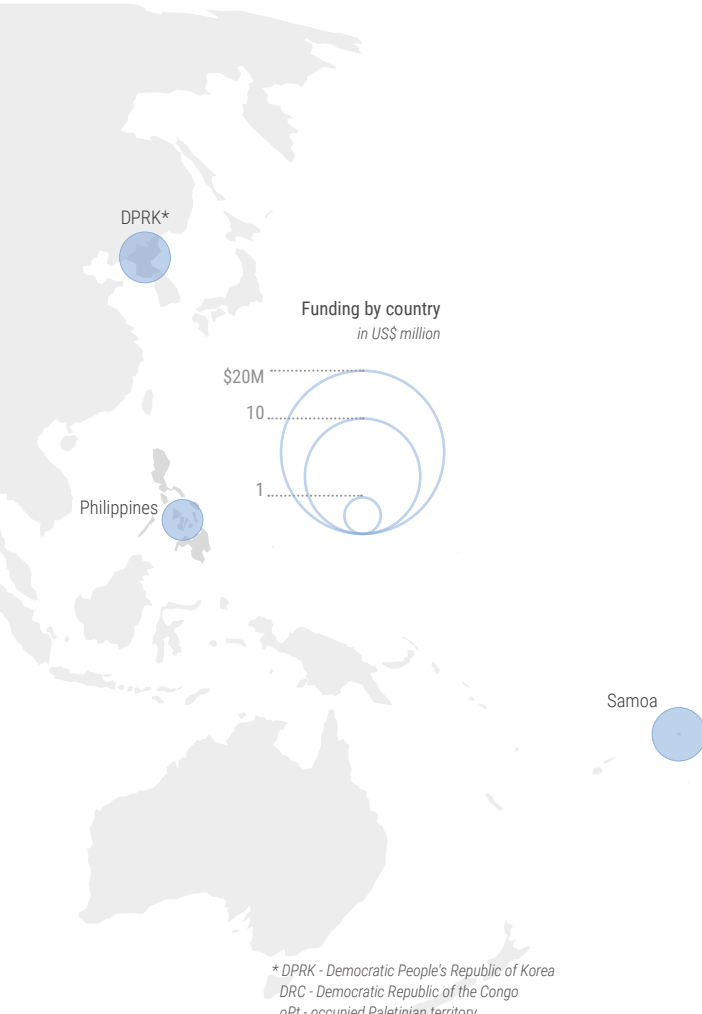
Enabling timely and life-saving support

In 2019, CERF funding supported UNICEF’s activities in 44 countries, through 119 grants, representing a total of \$142.1 million. CERF played a vital role in UNICEF’s quick and equitable support to humanitarian crises, as extreme weather events, infectious disease outbreaks, and intensifying, protracted conflicts continued to affect a growing number of children.

In 2019, UNICEF continued its work responding to rapid-onset humanitarian crises and urgently scaling-up programmes in response to deteriorating humanitarian situations. In the DRC, for example, CERF support provided timely emergency public health and psychosocial support in response to the Ebola outbreak. In Madagascar, with CERF support, UNICEF and its partners vaccinated over 1.6 million children, halting the spread of a measles epidemic. In 2019, when the situation of children and families in Sudan deteriorated amid a severe and acute economic crisis, UNICEF carried out health, nutrition, WASH interventions targeting

communities in highly vulnerable areas, including in the conflict-affected Darfur states. In Bangladesh, with the support of CERF, UNICEF helped improve access to safe and protective learning environments, and to provide water, sanitation and health facilities for 42,000 Rohingya refugee children displaced by the humanitarian emergency in Rakhine State, Myanmar.

Through its UFE window, CERF has also been critical in helping UNICEF respond to the world’s most neglected and underfunded crises. In 2019, UNICEF supported safe access to water, sanitation and health services to over 27,000 people affected by drought in the Central American Dry Corridor in Honduras. The UFE window also supported UNICEF in scaling-up its child protection interventions in conflict-affected regions of Ukraine amid increasing need and chronic underfunding, reaching over 11,000 children, adolescents, and their caregivers.



\$ 142.1M
2019 CERF FUNDING
 44
COUNTRIES
 119
PROJECTS

		PEOPLE TARGETED*	
	Health	6.3M	52% female 65% children 48% male 35% adults
	Water and Sanitation	6.2M	52% female 48% male
	Nutrition	2.1M	61% female 71% children 39% male 29% adults
	Protection	982k	54% female 71% children 46% male 29% adults
	Education	466k	51% female 100% children 49% male 0% adults
	Multisectoral Refugee Assistance	172k	55% female 93% children 45% male 7% adults
	Shelter and Non-Food Items	73k	52% female 51% children 48% male 49% adults

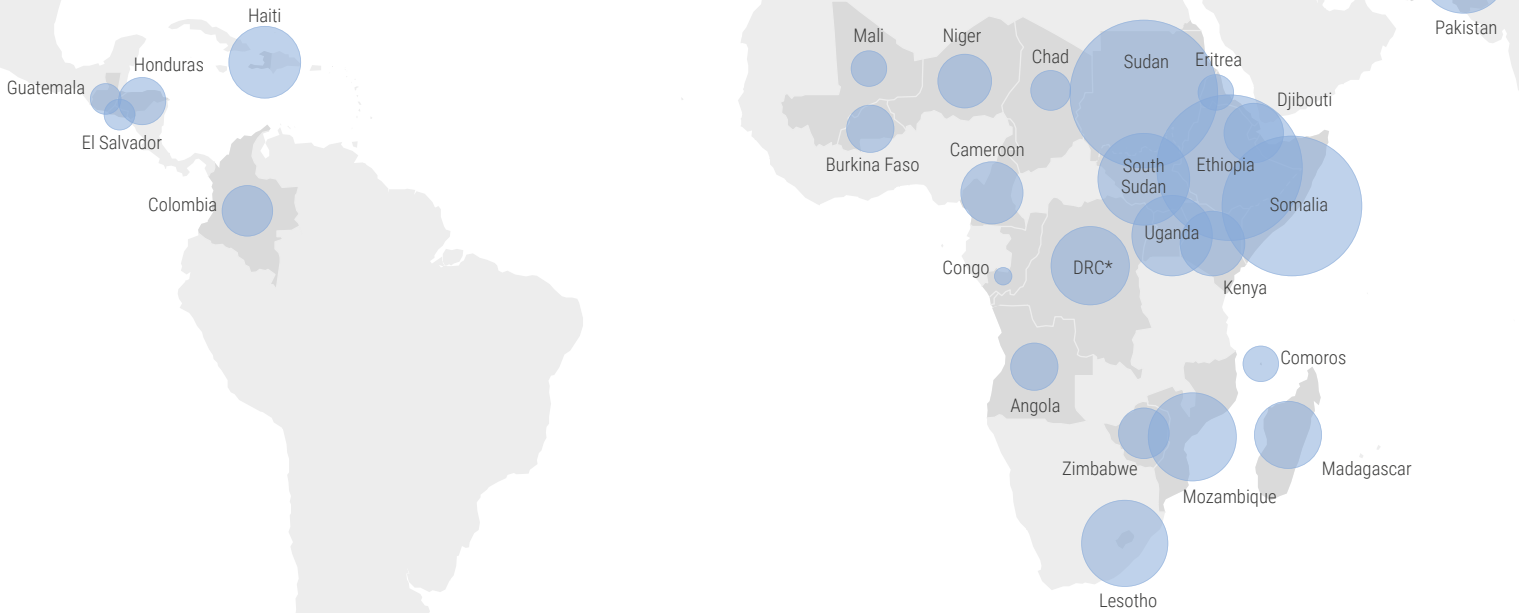
* Excludes Ebola response indirect beneficiaries

Throughout 2019, CERF played a critical leading role in piloting anticipatory action approaches to support lasting development in humanitarian crises. CERF's timely and life-saving support helped UNICEF save the lives of millions of children. Thank you to CERF for helping us stay one step ahead of crises and support the most vulnerable children and their families in their moment of need.

- [Henrietta H. Fore](#),
 Executive Director, UNICEF

Coordination and delivering as one

CERF funding has played a key role in enabling UNICEF to deliver against the Grand Bargain commitments and to strengthen the humanitarian community's ability to deliver timely, coordinated and principled assistance as an important step towards the global commitment to leave no one behind. In 2019, CERF funding continued to play a key role in strengthening in-country coordination mechanisms and the leadership role of the RC/HC and inter-agency coordination, including by facilitating information sharing on gaps and potential duplication of efforts.

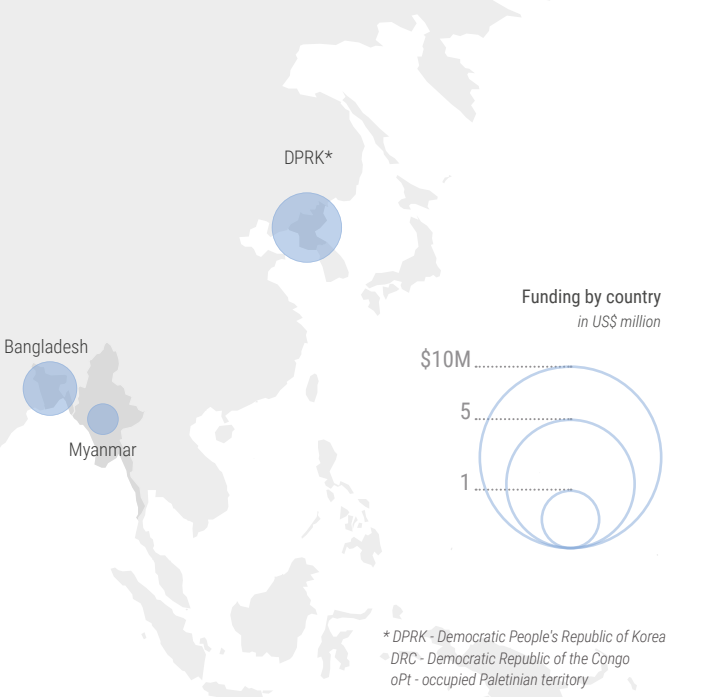


“ Thanks to the largest annual total CERF allocation ever to FAO, in 2019 we were able to assist 4 million people facing acute hunger in 32 countries worldwide. CERF’s support is invaluable for FAO. Its rapidity, flexibility and global reach allow FAO to save lives by saving the livelihoods of vulnerable people and enabling them to produce their own food.

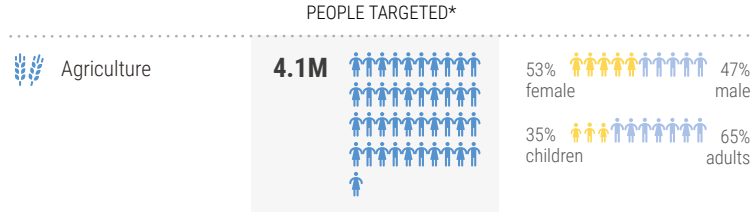
— *Qu Dongyu, Director General, FAO*

Restoring agricultural livelihoods to save lives worldwide

In 2019, CERF provided 39 grants to FAO, totalling over \$51.3 million and making CERF the third largest funding source to FAO’s emergency operations across 32 countries. Thanks to CERF’s crucial support, FAO continued to provide critical and time-sensitive assistance to vulnerable farmers, herders and fishermen, with special attention to women, to allow them to resume their own food production.



\$ 51.3M
2019 CERF FUNDING
 32
COUNTRIES
 39
PROJECTS



* Excludes Ebola response interdict beneficiaries

Enabling rapid and time-critical livelihoods response worldwide

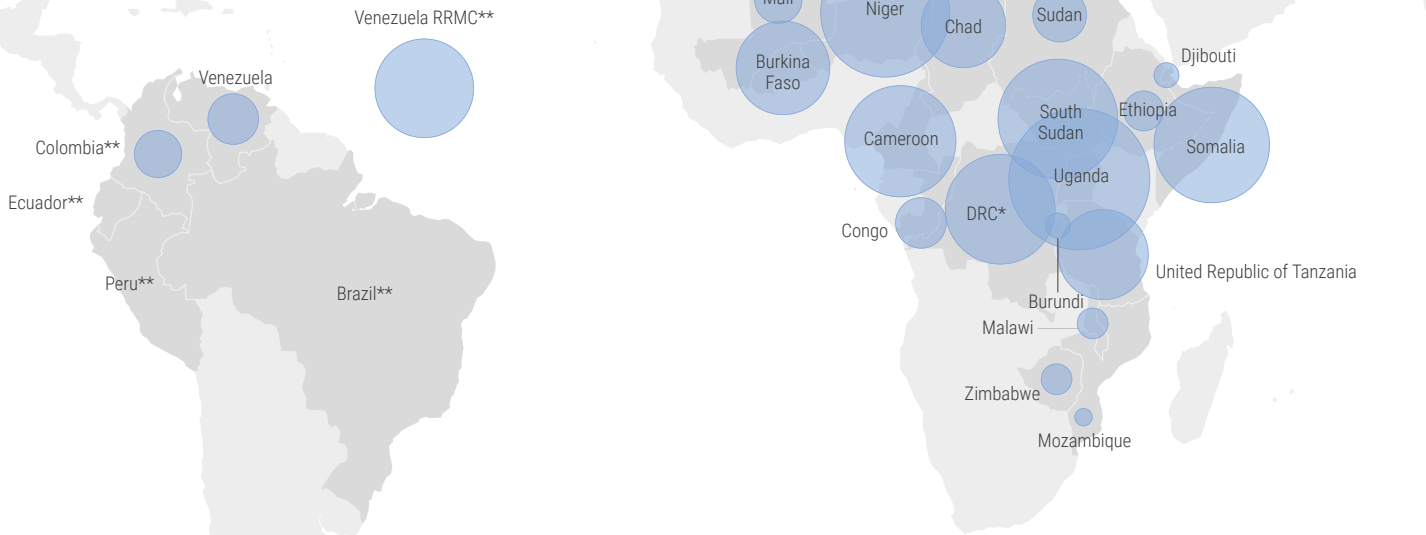
In 2019, the number of people experiencing hunger and malnutrition remained persistently high as a result of conflict, political instability, climate-related disasters and economic shocks that eroded food systems and vulnerable populations' livelihoods. Areas such as eastern and southern Africa, the Sahel and the Dry Corridor in Central America saw major drought and flooding create significant humanitarian needs. Countries such as Cameroon, South Sudan and Ukraine experienced complex livelihoods crises as a result of many factors, including the cumulative effects of conflict, extreme climate-related events and economic crises.

In this context, with CERF funding, FAO reached over 4 million people in need of critical livelihoods support. For example, in Central America, CERF funding enabled FAO to provide life-saving assistance that supported food diversification in response to crises in Haiti and the Dry Corridor of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. In 2019, FAO, with CERF funding, enabled nearly 10,000 vulnerable people meet their food needs and resume disrupted agricultural production activ-

ities due to drought and flooding in Somalia. In Ethiopia, CERF funding allowed FAO to provide emergency livestock assistance to 24,000 vulnerable pastoral households following below-average rainfall and the effects of consecutive years of drought. This safeguarded the livelihoods of drought-affected pastoral households and prevented displacement and further deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

Filling critical gaps and promoting coordination

CERF funding is timely and flexible and has allowed FAO to fill critical gaps in humanitarian responses. CERF has played a crucial role in contributing to FAO's wider resource mobilization and coordination efforts. The CERF process at country-level supports coordination among humanitarian partners, encouraging all to deliver as one. In Burkina Faso, for instance, FAO and WFP adopted joint targeting of geographical areas and beneficiaries, providing complementary assistance that has allowed both agencies to maximize the impact of their humanitarian response.



Supporting equity and innovation in humanitarian response

In 2019, UNHCR received 38 grants from CERF totalling over \$48.8 million, supporting life-saving assistance to vulnerable displaced people and host communities in 29 countries. CERF funding to UNHCR in 2019 played an important role in supporting emergency operations in Africa, where diminishing donor interest has long threatened the promise of equity in humanitarian response. CERF support enabled life-saving aid despite these challenges, and supported advancement and innovations, such as community-based responses. CERF also provided increased funding in support of protection initiatives, helping UNHCR to ensure that this life-saving activity is incorporated from the very onset of emergency responses. CERF critically ensured that protection is incorporated in the humanitarian system’s response to situations of internal displacement, as well as to refugee crises.

CERF was key to UNHCR’s multi-country response in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela in 2019, with several timely contributions for protection, shelter and cash assistance, with a reach of approximately 80,000 people affected by the refugee and migration crisis.

Enabling response across priority sectors

CERF’s support for education in emergencies in 2019 enabled UNHCR and partners to meet their commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals on education and related provisions of the Global Compact for Refugees. CERF’s first ever multi-year grant was provided to UNHCR and UNICEF in 2019 to support refugee education in Bangladesh. The momentum from these efforts helped UNHCR to broaden support for refugee children’s access to education, securing new commitments to include refugee children in national

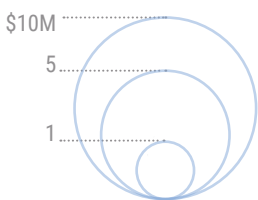
\$48.8M
2019 CERF FUNDING

29
COUNTRIES

38
PROJECTS

Bangladesh
Myanmar

Funding by country
in US\$ million



* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
** Venezuela RRM - Venezuela Regional
Refugee and Migration Crisis: A regional
CERF Underfunded Emergencies allocation
supported responses to the Venezuelan
Refugee and Migrant Crisis in Brazil,
Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

PEOPLE TARGETED*

Protection	2.3M	54% female 49% children	46% male 51% adults
Multisectoral Refugee Assistance	1.7M	53% female 60% children	47% male 40% adults
Water and Sanitation	415k	52% female 58% children	48% male 42% adults
Shelter and Non-Food Items	338k	53% female 51% children	47% male 49% adults
Health	285k	49% female 56% children	51% male 44% adults
Camp Management	62k	51% female 52% children	49% male 48% adults
Education	7k	52% female 100% children	48% male 0% adults

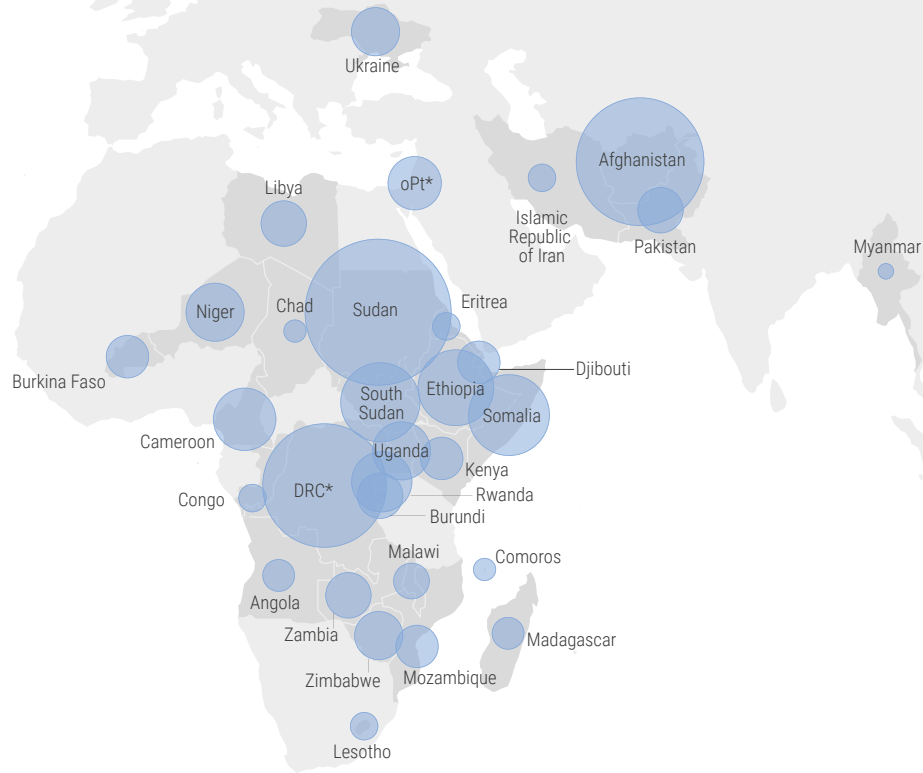
* Excludes Ebola response interdict beneficiaries

school systems and facilitate access to tertiary education and vocational training, among others. CERF funding played a particularly important role in supporting UNHCR's efforts to address critical gaps in humanitarian crises.

In 2019, CERF's support to UNHCR's vital work with IDP was significant as UNHCR continued to work to meet its commitment to expanding protection-driven responses to situations of internal displacement. CERF funding for UNHCR's IDP programmes increased from 1 per cent in 2017, to 43 per cent in 2019. This support is critical to UNHCR as a provider of camp coordination, camp management and governance, protection and shelter in situations of conflict and internal displacement.

“Once again, CERF helped UNHCR save lives throughout 2019. The rapid injection of CERF funds allowed UNHCR to immediately mobilize an effective response in support of people displaced by sudden crises, kick-starting relief efforts while additional funds were mobilized. CERF also supports where needs are equally great but donor interest wanes. Responses through the UFE window, such as in Chad and Niger, once again provided an essential lifeline to people desperate for help.

- Filippo Grandi, High Commissioner
for Refugees, UNHCR



Enabling fast and timely response to health emergencies

In 2019, CERF continued to play a pivotal role in enabling WHO to fulfill its mandate in responding to health emergencies caused by climate disasters, conflicts or disease outbreaks. WHO received \$51.2 million in CERF funding in 2019, benefitting 38 countries, primarily in Africa and the eastern Mediterranean. CERF funding enabled WHO to provide time-critical and life-saving essential health services, both in sudden-onset and protracted emergencies. Particularly in Afghanistan, DRC, Somalia, Sudan and Venezuela, WHO was able to carry out timely interventions with the support of CERF funding that contributed greatly to the overall humanitarian response.

Restoring health services and responding to health outbreaks

Natural disasters often lead to the destruction or damage of health facilities, the disruption of water and electricity supplies and interruption of health services. Thanks to CERF funding, WHO was able to restore health facilities in the aftermath of Cyclone Idai in Mozambique and Zimbabwe, and again following Cyclone Kenneth in Comoros. CERF funds also enabled WHO to implement life-saving activities in a range of emergencies, including the response to outbreaks of Ebola in DRC, measles in Samoa and cholera in Sudan. Through CERF-funded projects, WHO supported health sector partners to scale up investigations of disease outbreak alerts and deploy rapid-response teams.



\$51.3M
2019 CERF FUNDING

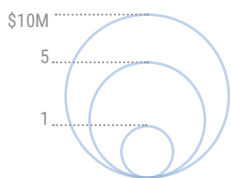


38
COUNTRIES



58
PROJECTS

Funding by country
in US\$ million



* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
oPt - occupied Paletinian territory

Samoa

PEOPLE TARGETED*

Health	11.2M		50% female		50% male	
			52% children		48% adults	
Water and Sanitation	484k		49% female		51% male	
			56% children		44% adults	
Nutrition	13k		58% female		42% male	
			84% children		16% adults	

* Excludes Ebola response interdict beneficiaries

CERF as a lifeline for people in forgotten crises worldwide

CERF contributions were necessary for WHO to deliver critical health services not only in major crises prominent in global media coverage, but also in less visible contexts. CERF's UFE window was again a unique funding resource. In 2019, it was essential to WHO's efforts to provide critical health services in Burkina Faso, Chad, Columbia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Niger and the oPt.

Promoting effective partnerships and localization of funding

CERF funding also encouraged coordination efforts within countries, including through the prioritization process. This provided an opportunity to raise the profile of the health sector among the UN HCTs and partners. The CERF process strengthens and highlights the importance of UN agencies' capacity to build relationships and facilitate the achievement of a common goal in responding to humanitarian emergencies.



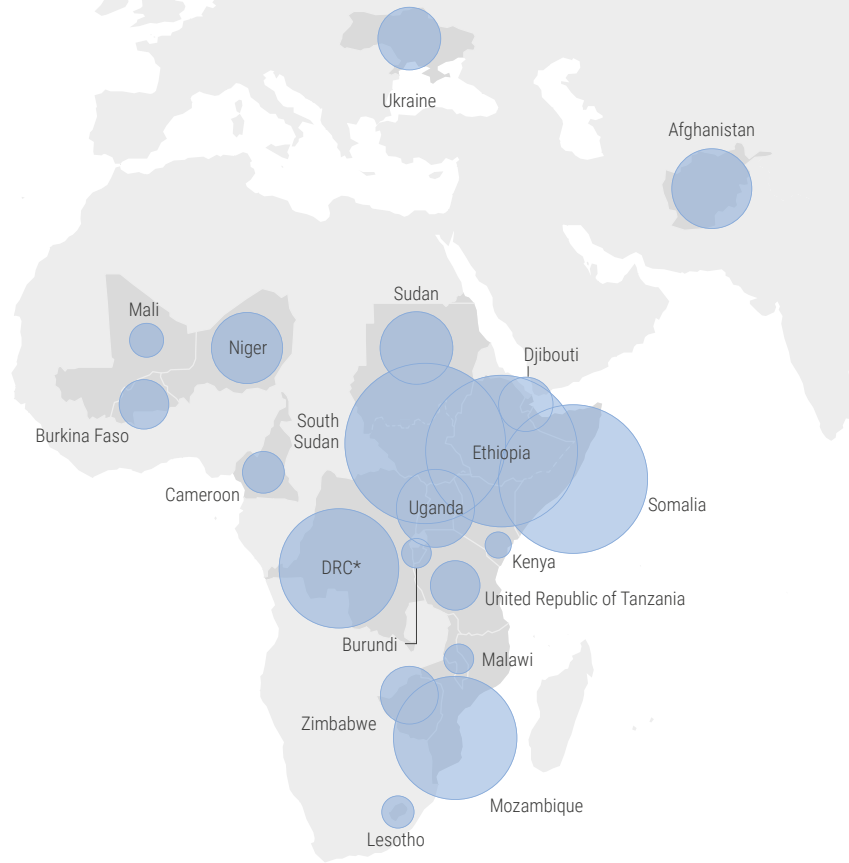
From ensuring life-saving trauma care in Afghanistan, to sustaining the fight against Ebola in DRC, CERF funding helped WHO respond to emergencies in 38 countries and territories in 2019, enabling us to reach millions of people in need.

- Dr. Tedros A. Ghebreyesus, Director General, WHO



Supporting life-saving assistance worldwide

In 2019, with support from CERF, IOM continued to carry out timely programming in rapid-onset humanitarian emergencies and protracted crises, while supporting enhanced inter-agency coordination and collaboration. In 2019, CERF provided 40 grants to IOM, representing over \$47.4 million in total funding. These funds enabled IOM to provide immediate life-saving assistance to displaced people, host communities, migrants, refugees and returnees in 28 different countries across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East. In 2019, a range of complex drivers, including climate change, instability, conflict, poverty and exploitation compounded the dire humanitarian situation for many people. With CERF funding, IOM was able to work towards its Strategic Vision 2019-2023 and support timely response to vulnerable, crisis-affected populations by bringing relief in a coordinated, complementary and effective manner.



Critical funding for flexible and timely response

In 2019, IOM carried out immediate and time-critical, life-saving assistance with support from CERF's RR funding. For example, IOM, with CERF support, provided timely health and shelter assistance in Mozambique after it was heavily impacted by cyclones Idai and Kenneth, which struck within four weeks of each other. In the Bahamas, Abaco and Grand Bahama islands were heavily impacted by a Category 5 hurricane in September 2019. CERF funding enabled IOM to rapidly deploy assistance, reaching the affected population quickly. CERF funding also enabled IOM to respond in a timely manner, and at scale, with life-saving support to the emergency response in Ethiopia. In Somalia, CERF funding permitted IOM to provide emergency shelter in Bay and Gedo regions, as well as emergency primary health care services in Jubaland and Southwest states in response to a drought.



\$47.4M
2019 CERF FUNDING



28
COUNTRIES



40
PROJECTS

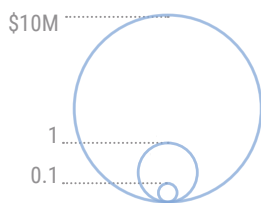
Bangladesh



Philippines



Funding by country
in US\$ million



* DPRK - Democratic People's Republic of Korea
** Venezuela RRM - Venezuela Regional
Refugee and Migration Crisis: A regional CERF
Underfunded Emergencies allocation
supported responses to the Venezuelan
Refugee and Migration Crisis in Brazil,
Colombia, Ecuador
and Peru.

PEOPLE TARGETED*

Shelter and Non-Food Items	737k	51% female 49% male
Water and Sanitation	493k	52% children 48% adults
Health	467k	50% female 50% male
Protection	284k	51% female 49% male
Camp Management	214k	58% female 42% male
Food Assistance	50k	53% female 47% male
Agriculture	2k	45% children 55% adults
		48% female 52% male
		55% female 45% male
		45% children 55% adults
		40% female 60% male
		52% children 48% adults
		56% female 44% male

* Excludes Ebola response interdict beneficiaries

CERF is a key funding source enabling IOM to provide life-saving, flexible and direct humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable affected populations at the onset of emergencies. CERF also, importantly, enabled IOM to respond to protracted and underfunded crises situations that are not getting the donor attention they should.

- António Vitorino, Director General, IOM

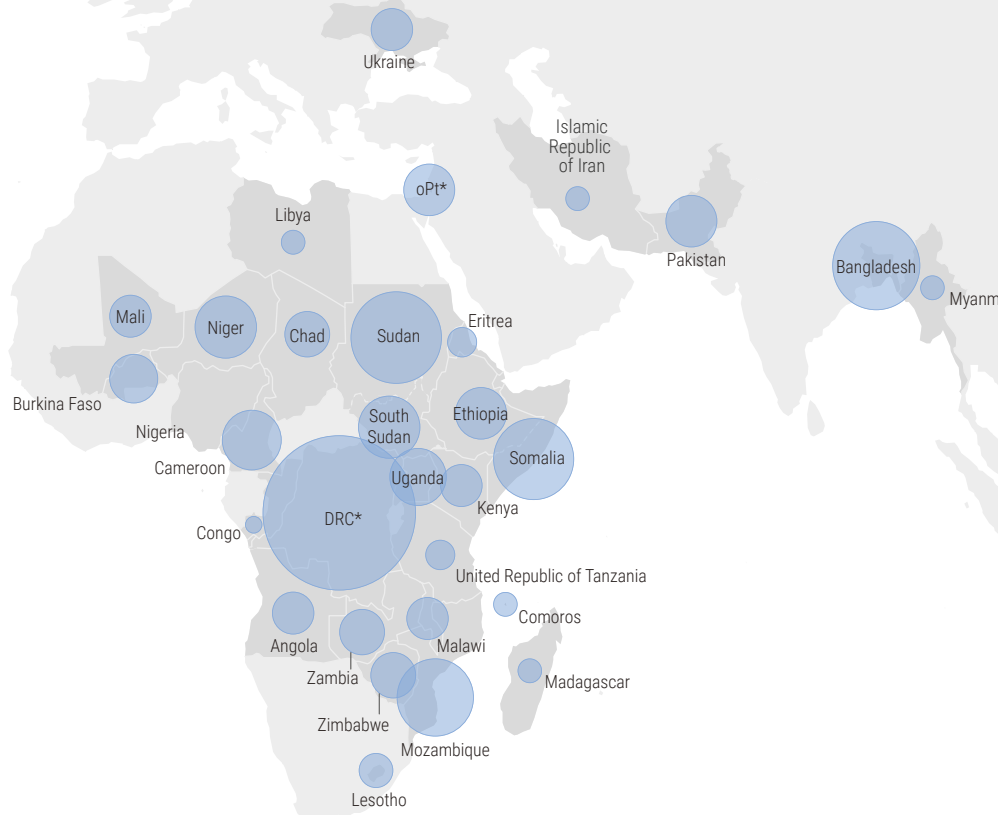
Support for protracted and underfunded emergencies

CERF funding has also supported IOM's response in protracted and underfunded crises. In Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, CERF funding allowed IOM to fill significant programming gaps for water and sanitation, shelter and health services. This continued to provide a dignified response for over 942,000 Rohingya refugees, two years after the largest exodus of the Rohingya population into Bangladesh. CERF funding was also critical to the regional response to the Venezuela refugee and migrant crisis, which required significant scaling-up in 2019 when the number of refugees and migrants reached more than 4.8 million. IOM, together with UNHCR and partners, was able to provide life-saving protection, shelter and food assistance to increasingly vulnerable migrants and refugees in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru through CERF support.

Bahamas
Cuba

Venezuela

Colombia



Protecting women and girls in humanitarian crises

In 2019, with the support of 54 CERF grants, representing over \$37.1 million, UNFPA carried out life-saving SRH and GBV interventions in 36 countries.

In 2019, the 132 million people in need of humanitarian assistance worldwide included an estimated 35 million women of reproductive age, over 4 million of them were pregnant women. CERF is a lifeline for women and girls, whose unique needs, access to basic SRH services and being protected from harm, have long been neglected and underfunded in crises. More than half of all maternal deaths take place in countries affected by humanitarian crisis and fragility. GBV takes a particularly brutal toll in crises, shattering lives for millions of women and girls worldwide.

Through the 2019 CERF funding more than 150,000 safe deliveries were conducted, the Onestop Centre model for survivors of GBV was established in more than 800 health facilities, more than 200,000 dignity kits were delivered, and life-saving assistance was provided to thousands of rape survivors. In total, the 2019 funding from CERF enabled UNFPA to reach 7 million women, girls and young people.

Enabling fast and time-critical responses

With CERF’s flexibility and timely availability of funds, UNFPA provided fast and time-critical services to women, girls and young people affected by humanitarian crises in a wide range of sudden-onset and protracted emergencies. In Cameroon, UNFPA and its partners responded to the crisis in the insecure Far North, North-West and South-West regions. With CERF funding,



\$37.1M
2019 CERF FUNDING

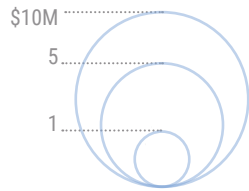


36
COUNTRIES



54
PROJECTS

Funding by country
in US\$ million



Philippines

* DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo
oPt - occupied Palestinian territory

Samoa

“Without CERF, the urgent and unique needs of millions of women and adolescent girls would go unmet. CERF helps us keep women and girls at the forefront of humanitarian action. Sexual and reproductive health and rights, and the dignity and protection of women and girls are not negotiable. CERF funding saves women’s and girls’ lives, and millions will continue to depend on UNFPA for help.

- Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UNFPA

UNFPA was able to rapidly meet the SRH- and GBV-related needs of over 160,000 internally displaced women and girls of reproductive age. In Mozambique, UNFPA, with CERF support, was able to help meet the unique needs of women and girls following cyclones Idai and Kenneth by establishing Women-Friendly Spaces and providing psychological support for the survivors of GBV. In Eritrea, UNFPA, with CERF funding, provided a timely life-saving response by establishing Maternity Waiting Homes for pregnant mothers, and improving skilled birth attendance levels.

PEOPLE TARGETED*

Health	4.7M		61% female 34% children		39% male 66% adults	
Protection	2.2M		70% children 43% adults		30% adults	
Water and Sanitation	39k		100% children 19% adults		0% adults	

* Excludes Ebola response interdict beneficiaries

Promoting effective partnerships and coordination

In 2019, CERF support continued to play a leading role in raising the profile of the SRH services and protection from harm in humanitarian crisis settings. In Cuba, UNFPA supported the National Statistics Office and the Ministry of Public Health in developing and implementing assessments of the needs of women and girls. In DRC and Malawi, with CERF support, UNFPA worked closely with partners to assure needs assessments and prioritization of activities reflected the unique needs of women and girls.

Across all responses, UNFPA has a strong focus on localization. As part of its Grand Bargain commitment to provide more support and funding tools to local and national responders, UNFPA allocated a significant portion—38.6 per cent in 2019—of its humanitarian funds to national and local partners, including women-led and women’s rights groups. In 2019, 29 per cent of total CERF expenses by UNFPA went to local or national partners: 27 per cent to local NGOs and 2 per cent to governments.



Cuba



Libya



Eritrea



Djibouti



Ethiopia



Cameroon



Uganda



Comoros



Madagascar



Bangladesh

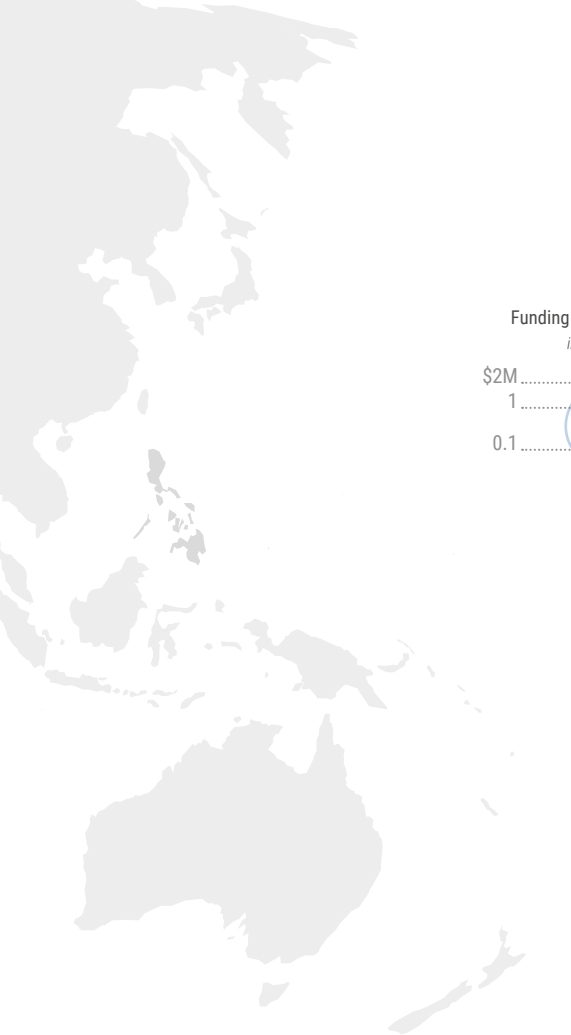
Enabling coordinated, fast and time-critical response

In 2019, UNDP carried out timely life-saving interventions and supported a path of sustainable development in 11 countries, supported by \$5 million provided by CERF.

For example, in response to natural disasters UNDP supported the life-saving provision of emergency shelter and technical assistance targeting female-headed households following flooding in Bangladesh. In Djibouti, UNDP supported the removal of stagnant wastewater following

flooding. In Eritrea, UNDP improved the food and nutrition security of drought-affected pastoral and agropastoral households through cash-based interventions.

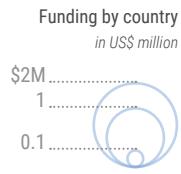
UNDP continued to play a vital role in facilitating CERF funding towards the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). In 2019, UNDP facilitated the work of UNDSS in Cameroon, Ethiopia and Libya that was crucial to expanding humanitarian access and enabling the vital activities of the UN system in rapidly evolving crises settings.



\$5.0M
 2019 CERF FUNDING

11
 COUNTRIES

12
 PROJECTS



Samoa

		PEOPLE TARGETED	
	Health	143k	 50% female / 50% male 61% children / 39% adults
	Water and Sanitation	120k	 51% children / 49% adults 40% female / 60% male
	Multisectoral Refugee Assistance	63k	 60% children / 40% adults 0% female / 100% male
	Shelter and Non-Food Items	37k	 51% children / 49% adults 36% female / 64% male
	Agriculture	3k	 58% children / 42% adults 0% female / 100% male

Promoting effective partnerships and coordination

Through UNDP, CERF funds helped to promote effective partnerships and coordination in response to crises. Several UNDP country offices documented that the CERF allocation strengthened coordination and action on the ground. UNDP forged strong partnerships with other UN agencies, NGOs and national partners in the design and implementation of CERF-funded programmes. For example, in Samoa, UNDP coordinated with the national Government and humanitarian partners on the measles vaccination campaign supported by CERF. In addition, UNDP supported scaling-up the intervention through the digitization of critical immunization records.

UN WOMEN

UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY
AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN



Colombia

Cameroon

Uganda

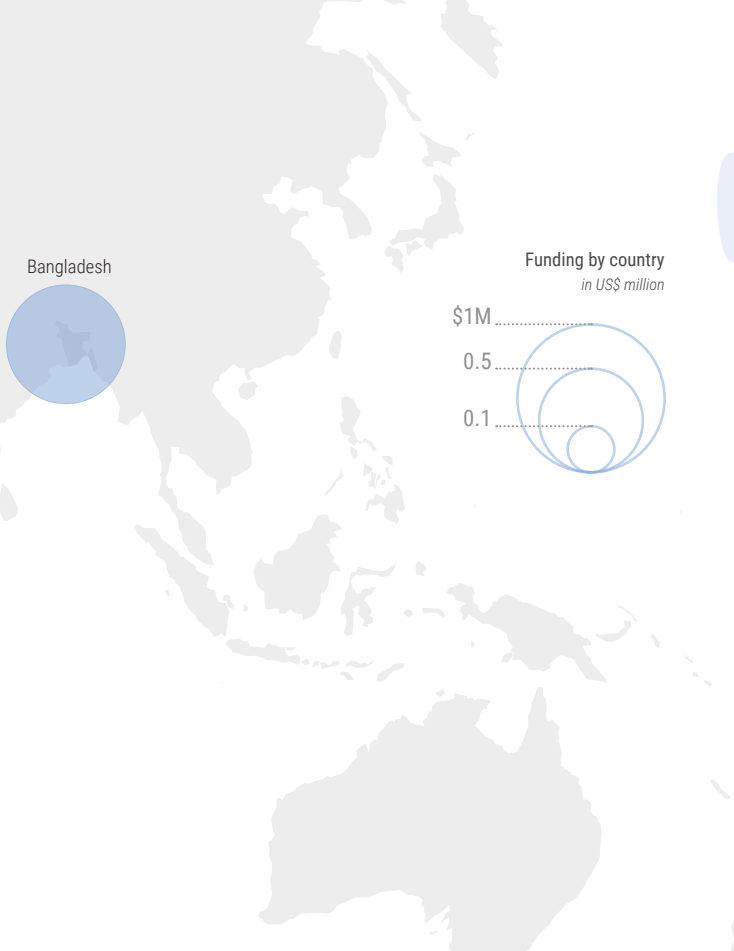
Malawi

Enabling essential protection work

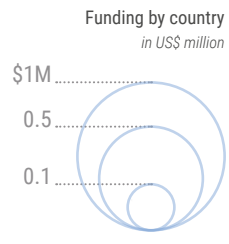
In 2019, UN Women, with CERF's support, worked in five countries—Bangladesh, Cameroon, Colombia, Malawi and Uganda—to provide much needed and timely humanitarian services that address the gender-specific needs and vulnerabilities of crisis-affected women, men, girls, and boys. Through these activities, UN Women reached some 100,000 individuals with critical, life-saving protection services in crisis settings.

In northern Uganda, with CERF support, UN Women continued its essential protection work in the protracted refugee context, reaching nearly 25,000 South Sudanese refugees and host communities through psychosocial support, legal aid, livelihoods and environmental protection

programmes. In areas of Colombia with weak state presence and high levels of illegal armed groups and violence related to armed conflict, UN Women, with CERF support, provided life-saving protection services to at-risk women human rights defenders and community leaders. CERF funding also enabled UN Women to respond in a timely manner with protection assistance in rapid-onset emergencies, including the floods in Bangladesh, where UN Women supported over 4,000 female-headed households with life-saving livelihoods support. In Malawi, UN Women assisted response coordination in its identification, awareness raising and response to heightened SGBV following Cyclone Idai, reaching 25,000 people.



Bangladesh



\$2.4M
2019 CERF FUNDING
 5
COUNTRIES
 5
PROJECTS

PEOPLE TARGETED

Protection	100k	81% female 	19% male
Agriculture	4.2k	50% children 	50% adults

” CERF’s hugely appreciated ongoing support of UN Women’s response interventions allows us to provide much needed protection, along with livelihood and support services to some of the most at-risk women and girls. Critically, CERF’s support also helps UN Women engage with local women’s organizations to ensure the most effective delivery of these essential services, recognizing the capacity of local women’s groups to act as responders and agents of change.

- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka,
Executive Director, UN Women

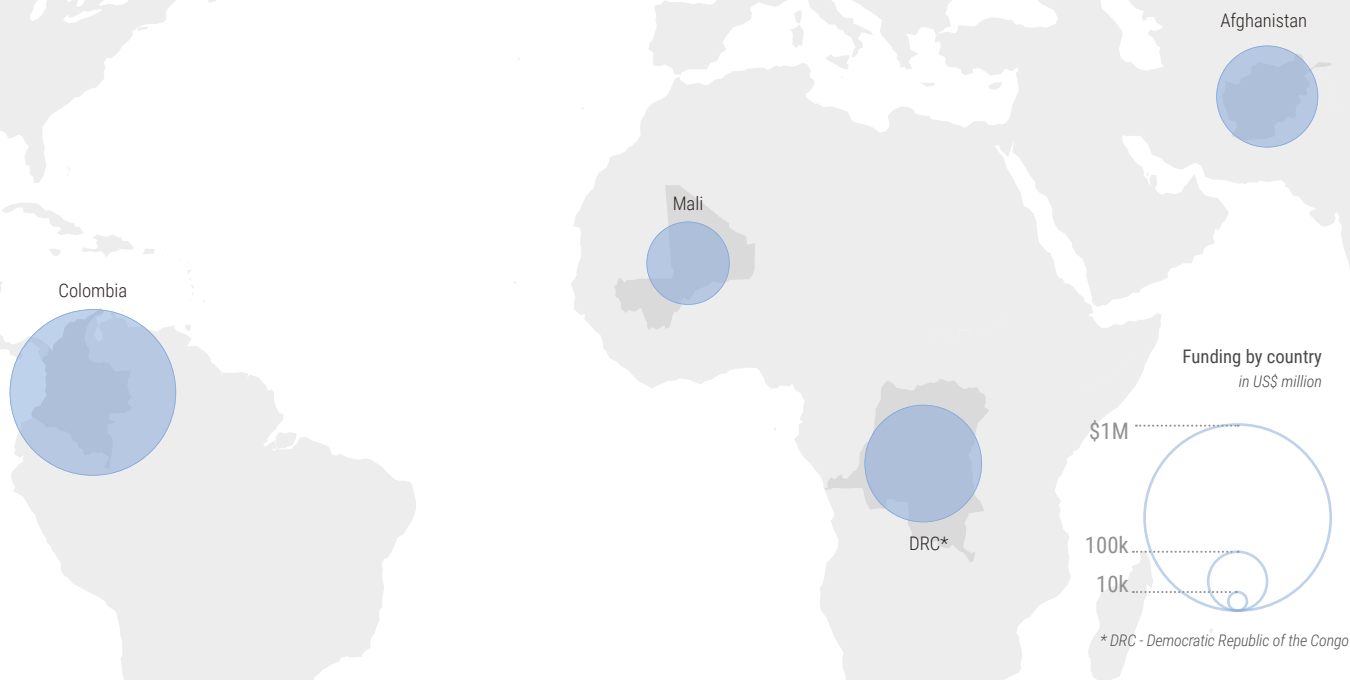
Enhanced coordination and awareness-raising among humanitarian partners

CERF funding also contributed to UN Women’s broader resource mobilization efforts. In Colombia, UN Women was able to leverage achievements made through initial CERF-funded activities to mobilize an additional \$5 million in resources to support medium-term programming, and continue the vital work of protecting women human rights defenders and community leaders. CERF funding also allowed UN Women to demonstrate its added value and enhance its role in humanitarian coordination mechanisms in its crisis context operations. With CERF support, UN Women has raised awareness among humanitarian partners of SGBV, reproductive health issues and empowerment. In Bangladesh, UN Women was able to assist the Food Security Cluster in identifying and assisting 4,200 vulnerable female-headed households, providing life-saving support while also building their self-reliance and resilience. UN Women was also able to facilitate the inclusion of local women’s organizations in the decision making and implementation processes. In Malawi and Uganda, UN Women, with CERF support, provided training to the UN coordination mechanism and government officials on the use of gender statistics and gender responsive budgeting.

UNMAS / UNOPS

UNITED NATIONS MINE ACTION SERVICE

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES



\$1.7M
2019 CERF FUNDING
 4
COUNTRIES
 4
PROJECTS

PEOPLE TARGETED	
Mine Action	192k <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>41% female</p> <p>46% children</p> </div> <div> <p>59% male</p> <p>54% adults</p> </div> </div>
Protection	5k <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>52%</p> <p>52%</p> </div> <div> <p>48%</p> <p>48%</p> </div> </div>

Support for mine awareness and risk reduction

In 2019, UNMAS, with CERF support, provided critical mine awareness and risk reduction activities worldwide, helping to address the special needs of the most affected communities in humanitarian crisis settings. UNOPS played an important role as the manager of CERF-funded humanitarian activities for UNMAS.

CERF funding enabled UNMAS to implement campaigns to combat the impact of landmines and improvised explosive devices (IED) in Afghanistan's most affected provinces. In DRC, UNMAS, with support from CERF funding, reached approximately 65,000 at-risk individuals with education sessions to increase awareness of the risks of explosive remnants of war. Through risk education and victim assistance intervention, UNMAS partners in Colombia facilitated a gender-integrated methodology to address the impact of explosive ordnance on Afro-Colombian women and girls in Chocó Department. In Mali, with the support of CERF funding, UNMAS worked to identify IED survivors and delivered life-saving awareness messages on explosive threats to affected communities in the Mopti and Ségou regions of the country.

UNRWA

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY



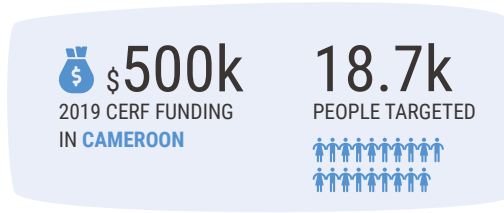
CERF as a lifeline for Palestine refugees

In 2019, UNRWA continued to experience a massive and unprecedented shortfall in funding that jeopardized the provision of critical services to Palestine refugees. These services included mental and psychosocial support to children in Gaza. However, with CERF funding, UNRWA was able to complement existing resources to ensure continued provision of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to vulnerable children, their parents and teachers at 250 UNRWA schools throughout Gaza for September 2019 to December 2019. Through this initiative, UNRWA directly assisted over 18,500 Palestine refugees and provided 86 students with disabilities, comprehensive MHPSS support to improve their resilience and emotional well-being. Crucially, UNRWA, with CERF’s timely support, was able to maintain these critical services without disruption for the 2019 school year.

In 2019, CERF also extended two loans to UNRWA, totalling \$50 million, in light of the urgent humanitarian needs of Palestine refugees and continued funding shortage faced by the agency. These funds ensured uninterrupted implementation of UNRWA’s life-saving activities targeting 2.5 million people in need of critical humanitarian assistance, until other funding was received.

UNESCO

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION



Enabling education in conflict settings

Since 2016, the North-West (NW) and South-West (SW) regions of Cameroon have been embroiled in a brutal civil conflict between government military forces and non-state armed groups. This has impacted the education sector, with armed groups directing schools to close until a political solution to the crisis is agreed. As a result, less than 20 per cent of schools were still operating in the two regions in 2019. UNESCO responded by increasing its intervention in the education sector. With support from CERF, UNESCO provided access to quality education and psychosocial support to over 18,000 conflict-affected and out-of-school children in six divisions of the NW and SW regions, contributing significantly to increasing school enrolment of crisis-affected children. This urgent and time-critical response helped ensure that children, many of whom had been out of school for almost four years, were not permanently deprived of education. Through this intervention, UNESCO, with CERF support, was able to contribute to the achievement of its strategic goal of strengthening its vision on access to quality education for all on an equal footing, and the principle of ‘leave no one behind.’ This work further supported the goals of the Declaration on Safe Schools, which calls for active measures to combat the impact of violence and conflict on learning institutions. It also enabled UNESCO to advance its programme for increased learning opportunities for persons in vulnerable situations, with particular attention to crisis-affected populations.

OHCHR

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

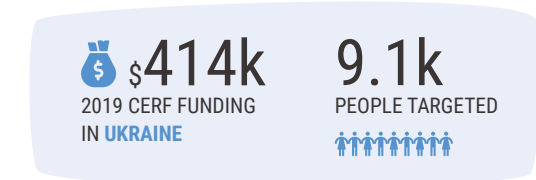


CERF funding contributes to further expanding the life-saving engagement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, strengthening our protection of people living in conflict-affected areas and our work to mitigate civilian casualties.

- Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR

A vital source of funding for protection activities in Eastern Ukraine

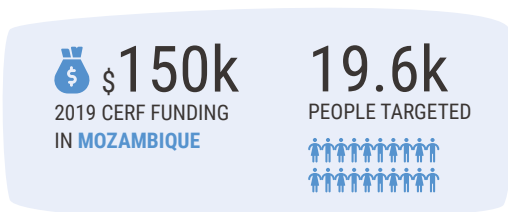
In 2019, with support from a \$414,000 CERF grant, OHCHR continued its vital protection activities in conflict-affected Eastern Ukraine. For the sixth year, the armed conflict continued to impact the civilian population, affecting 3.4 million people in the country and causing human rights violations, destruction, injury and death. Due to donor fatigue and lack of funding, CERF was crucial in ensuring the viability of OHCHR's life-saving activities. OHCHR expanded its advocacy work on conflict-related civilian casualties and provided protection by presence on both sides of the con-



tact line, directly benefiting over 9,000 civilians. Combined with its work in monitoring, documenting and reporting international human rights and humanitarian law violations, OHCHR, with CERF support, promoted accountability, carried out informed and sustained advocacy for victims and their families, responded to restrictions on freedom of movement, and assisted individual victims of human rights violations. In addition to its direct impact, this work promoted social cohesion, paving the way for eventual peacebuilding efforts. It also served as an early warning tool for future events. The activities carried out with CERF funding supported coordination with other agencies in Ukraine and attracted interest from other donors contributing to OHCHR's overall resource mobilization efforts.

UNAIDS

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME
ON HIV/AIDS



Demonstrating the importance of comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care in humanitarian emergencies

In 2019, extreme weather events in Mozambique, including Cyclone Idai, resulted in displacement, generalized epidemics and a gap in regular health services. Health facilities were left destroyed or non-operational. This situation created specific vulnerabilities for people living with HIV. Timely emergency response was imperative to quickly identify people living with HIV and ensure continuation of their treatment. With support of a \$149,650 grant from CERF, UNAIDS was able to respond rapidly. This enabled over 19,600 people to maintain their treatment, sustaining their health care and protecting them against other illnesses. CERF's support allowed UNAIDS' intervention

” Addressing HIV during the aftermath of Cyclone Idai was not a matter of choice but rather a human right. CERF allowed us to work with communities to address the immediate needs of people living with HIV, especially regarding treatment retention and follow up.

*- Eva Kiwango, UNAIDS,
Country Director, Mozambique*

that enabled concerted action through community-based response, and extensive messaging on where and how to access life-saving antiretroviral treatment and other support. The intervention was an excellent example of the principles of greater involvement of people living with HIV and community ownership in project delivery. It also served as a powerful demonstration of the importance of comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care services in humanitarian emergency settings.

Management of the Fund



Advisory Group

The CERF Advisory Group was established to advise the Secretary-General, through the ERC, on the use and impact of the Fund. In 2019, the Secretary-General appointed seven new members to the Advisory Group, bringing the total number of members to 21, with a view to strengthening the group and ensuring the diversity of its membership. The Advisory Group met twice in 2019. At the June meeting, the Group together with the ERC discussed the role the Fund can play in supporting improvements in the humanitarian system. The group agreed that within the fund's humanitarian life-saving mandate CERF could play a role in funding activities ahead of known crises and reiterated its support to CERF's efforts in the area of anticipatory action. The group also agreed that new allocation approaches should be undertaken in a structured manner, with built-in learning opportunities to inform decisions on future innovations.

At the meeting in December, the group discussed with the ERC and the HCs for Cameroon and the Ukraine the implementation of the ERC's four priority areas in CERF-funded humanitarian action. The Advisory Group expressed appreciation for the initiative and reiterated the importance of ensuring increased attention to the four areas in humanitarian response. In both meetings, the group discussed the challenges that recipient UN agencies face in identifying and investigating cases of fraud, as well as challenges in determining the

“The ability of CERF to respond with early action in time-critical situations, has made it an essential feature of international humanitarian action. CERF's reach, scale, and commitment to reaching those in greatest need make it a vital tool for humanitarian donors like Ireland. It has been a privilege to serve as the CERF Advisory Group Chair over the last year.

- Alison Milton, Ambassador of Ireland to Columbia, Chair of the CERF Advisory Group 2019-2020, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland

potential involvement of CERF funding in such cases. Other topics discussed included ways to broaden and deepen the CERF donor base, and the continued improvement of CERF's annual results report on results achieved with CERF funding.

Throughout the year, the CERF secretariat ensured close collaboration with the CERF Advisory Group, not least with a view to helping the group's members fulfil their functions as champions of CERF. Several Advisory Group members played significant roles as advocates for CERF, contributing to the record level funding for CERF in 2019. Additional information on topics discussed and decisions reached at Advisory Group meetings in 2019 is available on the CERF website: <https://bit.ly/CERFadvisorygroup>.

António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General, at the Annual CERF High-Level Pledging Event.

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The 2019
CERF Advisory
Group members:

Mr. Tariq Ali Faraj Al-Ansari
Ambassador of the State of Qatar in the Republic
of South Africa
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Qatar

Mr. Saud H. al-Shamsi
Deputy Permanent Representative
United Arab Emirates Mission to the United Nations
United Arab Emirates

Ms. Rahel Asfaw Belachew
Director, Disaster Response & Rehabilitation
National Disaster Risk Management Commission
Ethiopia

Ms. Yngvild Berggrav
Policy Director, Section for Humanitarian Affairs
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Norway

Mr. Per Enarsson
Deputy Director-General
Head of Department for Conflict and Humanitarian
Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sweden

Mr. Md Abdul Hannan
Honorary Adviser
All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) of
the Bangladesh
National Parliament
Bangladesh

Dr. Rahmawati Husein
Vice Chair
Muhammadiyah Disaster Management
Center (MDMC)
Indonesia

Mr. James Wallace Isbister
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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
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Ms. Noralyn Jubaira-Baja
Assistant Secretary, Office of United Nations and
International Organizations
Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs
Philippines



Ms. Hong Liang
Deputy Director-General
Ministry of Commerce
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Mr. Claus Lindroos
Director for Humanitarian Assistance
Foreign Ministry of Finland
Finland

Ms. Amanda Magambo
Head of Civilian Component
Uganda Rapid Deployment Capability Centre (URDCC)
Uganda

Dr. Mairo Mandara
Chair of Board
Girl Child Concerns
Nigeria



Ms. Alison Milton

Ambassador of Ireland to Colombia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ireland

Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm

Director General
Belgium Foreign Office
Belgium

Ms. Marriët Schuurman

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

Mr. Ricardo Toro Tassara

National Director of the Chilean
Emergency Office
National Emergency Office (ONEMI)
Chile

Ms. Beverley Warmington

Director Humanitarian, Security, Migration
Department for International
Development (DFID)
United Kingdom

Dr. Thomas Zahneisen

Director for Humanitarian Assistance
German Federal Foreign Office
Germany

The CERF Advisory Group with António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General. Top row: Per Enarsson, Thomas Zahneisen, Ricardo Toro Tassara, Md Abdul Hannan, Bruno van der Pluijm, Tariq Ali Faraj Al-Ansari, Saud H. al-Shamsi

Front row: Yngvild Berggrav, Marriët Schuurman, Alison Milton, Marianne Hagen, SG Guterres, Amanda Magambo, Rahmawati Husein, Mairo Mandara, ERC Mark Lowcock
© OCHA/Paolo Palmero

Country Reviews

With some \$500 million allocated to UN agencies annually, donors require an appropriate level of assurance that funds are managed properly and lead to meaningful results in line with CERF's mandate. Similarly, the ERC requires an appropriate level of assurance around the achievement of key performance benchmarks and planned results for CERF. These benchmarks are defined by CERF's Performance and Accountability Framework (PAF) that was adopted in 2010. The PAF formalizes a clear set of accountability mechanisms and reporting processes. It clarifies performance expectations and management accountabilities among different actors involved in CERF processes. Among other things, the PAF specifies that CERF's value added to the humanitarian response be studied in three to five countries per year. These reviews are commissioned by the CERF secretariat and conducted by independent evaluation experts. Since 2009 CERF has commissioned 24 reviews covering 36 countries and published the resulting reports on CERF's website.

In 2019, the CERF secretariat commissioned two such reviews with field visits to a total of six countries. Launched in late 2019, final reports are expected in the third quarter of 2020. Due to travel restrictions imposed by COVID-19, only two of the six country missions could be conducted, with the remainder covered through remote interviews.

The first review aims to assess CERF support to four priority underfunded areas identified by the ERC:

- Support for women and girls, including tackling GBV, reproductive health and empowerment;
- Programmes focusing on people with disabilities;
- Education in protracted crises; and
- Other aspects of protection.

In 2019, the ERC requested that RC/HC give due consideration to these four areas when developing CERF applications. when developing CERF applications. The review is designed to provide an additional source of information for assessing the process and results of the ERC's guidance. It complements the CERF secretariat's efforts to capture, monitor and report on the results of the ERC's guidance on the

four priority areas. The review planned for field visits to three countries: Cameroon, Sudan and the Ukraine. In addition, desk reviews were planned for four countries, Bangladesh, DRC, Somalia and Zimbabwe. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions only one country mission, to Ukraine, took place, and all other countries were covered remotely.

Specifically, the review seeks to identify key lessons learned and best practices and challenges. It reviews how the priority areas were incorporated into the full CERF programme cycle. It also aims to assess how effective CERF has been as a mechanism to enhance focus on the four areas in humanitarian programmes at country-level and institute change. A key objective of the review is to identify forward looking recommendations for CERF to further improve attention to the four priority areas.

The second review focuses on the role of CERF in smaller emergencies that often attract limited donor funding. Acknowledging that additional resources were often not mobilized for this type of emergency in addition to CERF's initial provision of funds, the review examines the role of CERF allocations when CERF is the only or main source of emergency funding in a humanitarian response. The review studies CERF allocations for a select number of small-scale emergencies in recent years and assesses whether CERF should consider a different funding approach to such small-scale emergencies to ensure greater impact. Based on an analysis of funding,¹⁶ three countries where CERF had provided a large share of the overall resources for an emergency response were selected for study, namely Djibouti, Haiti and Lesotho. Similar to the first study, COVID-19 affected travel to the selected countries and only one country mission, to Djibouti, took place, while the other two were covered remotely.

Once finalized, the reports of these two studies will be published on the CERF website and findings discussed with the CERF Advisory Group.

¹⁶ Considered were 2019 allocations to emergencies with requirements up to \$150 million where CERF accounted for 20 per cent or more of contributions.

New online tracker with allocation summaries

The CERF secretariat has developed an online tracker that publishes narrative summaries of funding allocations in real time. The allocation summaries were formerly published once yearly, as a core component of the CERF Results Report.

As of 2020, for each CERF allocation, the online tracker provides up-to-date narrative information on the humanitarian emergency, on the rationale for CERF funding and on assistance to be provided. The tracker also publishes summaries of all CERF-funded projects and key allocation data.

The online tracker provides a complete real-time picture of CERF allocations throughout the entire CERF programme cycle. Summaries are published as soon as the ERC allocation for a given emergency, and additional information is added as individual projects are finalized and approved. Once implementation of an allocation has been completed and an RC/HC has submitted a narrative report on the results achieved, this information is reflected in the summaries.



In conjunction with this tracker, the CERF secretariat has developed a service that gives stakeholders the option of receiving e-mail notifications of new allocations. The e-mail notifications help partners stay abreast of the ongoing work of the Fund and provide easy reference to the most up-to-date allocation information.

This new functionality represents another major step forward in CERF's transparency, information sharing and reporting on the Fund's performance. The module can be accessed through the following link: <https://bit.ly/CERFallocationsummaries>.

Strategic Initiatives

In the face of complex humanitarian challenges CERF tested several innovative, strategic approaches. At the beginning of 2019, the ERC identified four chronically underfunded priority areas and encouraged RC/HCs to consider these when applying for CERF funding. Moreover, CERF explored opportunities for multi-year funding for protracted humanitarian needs through the UFE window and piloted an anticipatory action approach through the RR window. The aim is for CERF to lead by example through these initiatives, encouraging their further expansion by the broader humanitarian system.



Underfunded priority areas

In the beginning of 2019, the ERC advised RC/HCs with ongoing humanitarian operations to leverage funding from CERF to ensure more attention to four strategic areas that remain chronically underfunded despite international commitments and that are critical to quality assistance. The four priority areas encompass: (i) the support for women and girls, including tackling GBV, reproductive health and empowerment; (ii) programmes targeting people with disabilities; (iii) education in protracted crises and (iv) other aspects of protection.

The aim is to ensure additional consideration of the four strategic areas in CERF allocation strategies and projects. Using CERF to increase focus on the four priority areas will also draw attention to these underfunded areas at the global level. Comprehensive information on the impact of the initiative will be available when all grant reports on 2019 allocations become available at the end of 2020 and when an ongoing review of the initiative is finalized in late summer 2020. Preliminary findings from data analysis and anecdotal evidence indicate that the initiative has helped ensure that agencies' efforts in these areas are more clearly and consistently addressed in CERF funding. For details on the roll-out of the initiative in 2019 please refer to the section on ERC priority areas ([page 70](#)).



Multi-year funding from CERF provides us with a much-needed longer term perspective.

- Steven Corliss, UNHCR Representative, Bangladesh



Multi-year funding

A growing evidence base points to the benefits of predictable multi-year humanitarian funding. The often repetitive recipients of CERF UFE allocations suggest a possible unrealized potential for increasing the impact of available funding through strategic multi-year funding especially for certain protracted humanitarian situations. CERF piloted a multi-year grant to Bangladesh in 2019, allocating \$10 million over two years to support education in emergencies for Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar. In the context of deep linkages between education in emergencies and protection, as well as the associated protection risks experienced by out-of-school children, the Bangladesh education in emergencies multi-year pilot falls squarely within the CERF Life-Saving Criteria.

The pilot is intended to demonstrate the benefits of coordinated multi-year humanitarian funding and identify lessons to inform possible future use of CERF funds for multi-year humanitarian programmes in relevant contexts. So far, the implementing agencies, UNICEF and UNHCR, have been positive about the impact of multi-year funding. They have emphasized that the longer-term perspective provides them with more programming flexibility and much needed predictability, which is particularly important for education in emergencies.



Anticipatory action

Following the completion of several studies and technical consultations, in 2019, OCHA together with the World Bank and other partners, developed an anticipatory action framework for drought in Somalia. CERF and other financing instruments will release funding if an out-of-the-ordinary drought shock is expected to result in extraordinary humanitarian need. The framework consists of forecasting and decision making rules, with triggers to activate pre-arranged financing agreements. It also includes a pre-agreed plan of humanitarian actions and implementation arrangements. Funding will be released if the predefined forecast thresholds are reached and will enable timely implementation of the planned actions to reduce the humanitarian impact of the forecasted drought, protect vulnerable people and mitigate worsening conditions. While the threshold for triggering a disbursement has not been reached to date, the HCT continues to monitor the forecast, and thanks to the preparatory work on the anticipatory action framework is ready to take action should the threshold be reached.

Revision of CERF Life-Saving Criteria

CERF Life-Saving Criteria is a guidance document that defines eligibility for CERF funding. CERF Life-Saving Criteria does not seek to define what are considered life-saving humanitarian interventions more broadly, but rather specifically codify humanitarian activities that can be considered for CERF funding under the Fund's RR and UFE windows. CERF has developed the Life-Saving Criteria, in consultation with partners, as guidance for use at country-level by RC/HC, and UN HCTs for the development of applications for CERF funding. The Life-Saving Criteria also guide the review of funding applications by the CERF secretariat.

The current version of the Life-Saving Criteria was developed through an inter-agency, inter-cluster collaborative process in 2009, and was approved by the ERC in January 2010. For a decade, the Life-Saving Criteria have served as a fundamental document guiding the use of CERF funds and as a reference guide for humanitarian operations when seeking CERF funding.

Although the General Assembly's mandate for CERF has not changed, the humanitarian landscape in which CERF operates has evolved, necessitating a revision of the Life-Saving Criteria. Consequently, a process to update the Life-Saving Criteria was launched aiming to align the criteria with current humanitarian approaches and terminology and reflect normative agreements within the IASC and across the humanitarian sector. It will neither revisit the core mandate of CERF nor seek to significantly expand or change the range of activities supported by the Fund.

In the first phase the CERF secretariat conducted a series of external consultations with UN agencies to identify key aspects and areas that required further refinement, clarification or updating. The second phase is planned for 2020 and includes consultations with global clusters and other key stakeholders. It will conclude with the presentation of the revised Life-Saving Criteria to the CERF Advisory Group in June 2020, and the approval by the ERC thereafter.

CERF and the Grand Bargain

The Grand Bargain is an agreement between donors and aid providers that aims to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian action. It includes 51 voluntary commitments organized into nine workstreams. The Grand Bargain was first proposed in 2016 by the High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing as one of the solutions to address systemic challenges in humanitarian financing.

The Grand Bargain includes a series of changes in the working practices of donors and aid organizations designed to deliver an extra \$1 billion over five years for people in need of humanitarian aid. These changes include gearing-up cash programming, greater funding for national and local responders and cutting bureaucracy through harmonized reporting requirements. As of mid-2019, 61 donors and aid organizations had endorsed the Grand Bargain.¹⁷

CERF is uniquely placed to serve as a catalyst for improvements to the humanitarian system. Promoting the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian action is one of its core objectives.

Since CERF's establishment in 2005, the Fund's policies, allocation models and operational practices have been continuously refined to better meet humanitarian needs. CERF embodies many aspirations of the Grand Bargain. The Fund is actively engaged in Grand Bargain processes and continues to explore measures to leverage the delivery of its commitments. Key CERF contributions towards all nine Grand Bargain workstreams are outlined below.

¹⁷ <https://www.agendaforhumanity.org/initiatives/3861>



Greater transparency

CERF continued to improve its reporting under the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) in 2019. As a result, CERF's IATI transparency score has increased to 95 per cent putting CERF among the top 10 of over 1,100 organizations publishing their data in IATI standards.¹⁸

In 2019, the CERF secretariat developed an online module that publishes narrative summaries of funding allocations in real time. For each CERF allocation, the online module provides up-to-date narrative information on the humanitarian emergency, on the rationale for CERF funding and on assistance to be provided. The module also publishes summaries of all CERF-funded projects and key allocation data ([page 135](#)).

CERF also continues to publish all grant decisions on its website, on the Financial Tracking Service and via the Humanitarian Data Exchange. In addition, CERF publishes the methodologies for allocation decisions, summaries of the country selection processes for UFE allocations, narrative reports on the use of CERF funds and this global report on results achieved.

¹⁸ http://publishingstats.iatistandard.org/summary_stats.html. The overall score is a composite of the rating of publishers along three dimensions: timeliness, the extent to which data is forward looking and comprehensiveness.



More support and funding tools to local and national responders

CERF systematically tracks, analyses and reports on subgrants from recipient UN agencies to implementing partners. Of the \$500.5 million CERF allocated in 2018,¹⁹ \$137 million (27 per cent) was subgranted from UN agencies to 722 implementing partners in 45 countries. Of that amount, \$74 million went to 572 national and local organizations. This represents a global reach that would be difficult to achieve for CERF or CERF’s donors through direct funding agreements.



Increase use and coordination of cash-based programming

CERF remains cash ready and has long funded cash transfer programming when prioritized by country-level partners. In 2019, there were 80 CERF-funded projects with cash-based components. The total value of cash and vouchers to be transferred to affected people through 2019 CERF-funded projects was \$48.7 million, according to available information in agencies’ project proposals. This level is comparable to 2018, where CERF funded 79 projects with \$50.5 million to be transferred to people in need ([page 86](#)).

19 The analysis of subgrants made with CERF funds is based on data submitted by recipient agencies as part of their end-of-project reporting. Since reports are due three months after the end of grant implementation, 2018 is the most recent year for which full subgrant data is currently available.



Reduce duplication and management costs with periodic functional reviews

Under the leadership of the RC/HC, CERF funding is jointly prioritized, planned and implemented by country-level partners against a common inter-sectoral strategy. This improves the coherence of humanitarian responses and reduces the risk of duplication and overlap.

CERF also reduced its management costs by one third (from 3 per cent to 2 per cent) as of June 2016. In 2019 alone, this reduction freed up approximately \$5.1 million of CERF funding for additional programming.



Improve joint and impartial needs assessments

CERF requires that funding proposals are prioritized against a common response strategy and informed by joint and impartial needs assessments. As such, CERF can be a catalyst for joint and impartial needs assessments by humanitarian partners to ensure that funding is targeted to the most urgent humanitarian needs.



A Participation Revolution: include people receiving aid in making the decisions that affect their lives

CERF promotes the enhanced engagement of affected people in the design and delivery of humanitarian assistance. Information on different aspects of AAP is systematically gathered throughout CERF’s programme cycle. This provides the CERF secretariat with feedback on how AAP commitments have been considered in CERF-funded projects and allows for periodic AAP analyses.



Increase collaborative humanitarian multi-year planning and funding

While CERF's current RR and UFE allocation modalities will remain the core of the Fund's allocation strategy, CERF is constantly seeking innovative ways in which to increase the impact of humanitarian funding and further leverage its catalytic potential. One such innovation explored in 2019 is multi-year grants. Due to its funding modalities that build on and support collective action, the size of available funds, proven delivery and accountability processes and systems at field and global levels, CERF is uniquely positioned to test coordinated multi-year funding for the humanitarian system. In 2019, CERF piloted a multi-year grant to Bangladesh, with the ERC allocating \$10 million to support critical education in emergencies assistance for the Rohingya refugee crisis response in Cox's Bazar. At the end of the pilot CERF will review, analyse and discuss the findings with donors, recipients, the CERF Advisory Group and other stakeholders to assess impact and potential future efforts to take multi-year funding to scale ([page 136](#)).



In a global environment that is increasingly challenged by the scale and complexity of humanitarian needs, the pooling of our efforts becomes an imperative for the delivery of a stronger and more coherent response. For Luxembourg, CERF is a key enabler for rapid assistance to those most affected by crisis. As a steadfast supporter for over 15 years, Luxembourg will not waver in its political and financial support to CERF so that it can fulfill its role of serving the most vulnerable persons, including in so-called forgotten humanitarian crises.

- Franz Fayot, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, Luxembourg



Reduce the earmarking of donor contributions

CERF is the only global unearmarked humanitarian response fund at scale. Up to the end of 2019, CERF had provided more than \$6 billion to humanitarian action in 106 countries, using fully flexible unearmarked contributions from 127 UN Member States and observers, as well as regional governments and the private sector. A total of \$831 million was contributed to CERF in 2019, the highest ever annual amount. CERF encourages the Good Humanitarian Donorship principle of unearmarked funding by demonstrating efficiency and value for money, providing donors with full transparency on how CERF funding is allocated, offering detailed reporting on results achieved, and by ensuring strong accountability on the use of funds. Recognizing the need for more unearmarked, flexible humanitarian funding, the General Assembly endorsed an increase of CERF's annual funding target to \$1 billion.



Harmonize and simplify reporting requirements

CERF reports to all its donors through the consolidated annual results report. Furthermore, CERF has a light reporting framework for its partners that focuses on the overarching collective results achieved with CERF funds. It is aligned with the harmonized 8+3 reporting template piloted under the Grand Bargain workstream.

Commitment to learning

In 2019, the CERF secretariat continued to implement its training strategy and increasingly utilized webinar technology to reach a wider audience, while further integrating CERF specific briefings into recipient agency trainings. The use of webinars allowed CERF to provide briefings and hold question and answer sessions for humanitarian staff who were involved in CERF processes. For example, CERF offered webinars on the strategic use of CERF to HCTs in operations that received an UFE allocation in the two UFE rounds. Six UFE webinars reached over 100 humanitarian staff in over 12 operations. The CERF secretariat also delivered webinars in French and Spanish for the first time. Furthermore, CERF delivered tailored webinars with the OCHA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, and for the Bolivia HCT to build the capacity of an operation without an OCHA office.

In 2019, the CERF secretariat further strengthened its support of training on CERF by other UN agencies. For example, a CERF secretariat staff facilitated UNFPA's annual surge roster training workshop with over 35 participants. The week-long workshop in September 2019 included an information session on CERF and a humanitarian emergency response simulation exercise, during which participants practiced preparing CERF RR projects. Participants received feedback on their simulated project proposal directly from the CERF secretariat staff, providing them hands on experience with the application process. The CERF secretariat has created partnerships with both UNFPA and FAO. The plan in 2020 will be to continue to build these partnerships, while looking for opportunities to build partnerships with other agencies.

Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to affected populations
CVA	Cash and Voucher Assistance
CBPF	Country-Based Pooled Funds
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DRC HF	DRC Humanitarian Fund
ERC	Emergency Relief Coordinator
GBV	Gender-based violence
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plans
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDP	Internally displaced persons
IED	Improvised explosive devices
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OPT	occupied Palestinian territory
PHPF	Pakistan Humanitarian Pooled Fund
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
RR	Rapid Response
RC	Resident Coordinator
SGBV	Sexual and gender-based violence
SRH	Sexual and reproductive health
SSHF	South Sudan Humanitarian Fund
UFE	Underfunded Emergencies
UN	United Nations
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene

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OCHA Donor Relations Section in
Geneva, Switzerland
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1 Online donations

Visit: <http://bit.ly/GIVETOCERF>

2 Bank transfer to CERF

Contact the CERF secretariat in New York, USA

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3 Payment by cheque

Cheques need to be made out to the United Nations Foundation. The memo line of the cheques should read "Donation to CERF."

Cheques should be mailed to:

United Nations Foundation/Central Emergency
Response Fund
P.O. Box 96721
Washington, D.C. 20090-6721, USA

Please include your name and contact details so that we can track and respond to your contribution accordingly. Note: US tax-deductible donations can also be made via money order or wire transfer.

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