



**RESIDENT / HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR  
REPORT ON THE USE OF CERF FUNDS  
MONGOLIA  
RAPID RESPONSE  
EXTREME TEMPERATURE (COLD AND HEAT WAVES)  
2017**

**RESIDENT/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR**

**Beate Trankmann**

## REPORTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION SUMMARY

- a. Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

*The After-Action Review was conducted with great flexibility that combined focus group discussions and individual meetings with humanitarian partners to ensure availability and maximize the sharing of feedback. Ten humanitarian partners (ADRA, FAO, Mercy Corps, MRCS, NEMA, PiN, Save the Children, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and World Vision) and one development partner (IOM) participated in the After-Action Review conducted on different dates and time from May 29<sup>th</sup> until June 20<sup>th</sup> 2017.*

*Before the After-Action Review, a guideline was developed and provided in advance to the AAR target participants. Highlights of feedback from partners during the meetings were discussed with NEMA on two occasions; the first on May 17<sup>th</sup> and the second on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2017. Meetings with the National Emergency Management Agency – NEMA – also provided the opportunity to listen to NEMA's feedback on CERF; lessons learned and areas for improvement for CERF implementation.*

*The result of the After-Action Review provided the benefit of receiving spontaneous feedback from partners during cluster meetings and monthly regular Humanitarian Country Team meetings, which provided a venue to assess various operational issues of CERF implementation and agree on the solutions to address the delays. The spontaneous feedback of partners on how the coordination and the overall leadership of humanitarian response were exercised and shared during regular Humanitarian Country Team Meetings was invaluable for future CERF implementation.*

- b. Please confirm that the Resident Coordinator and/ or Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Report was discussed in the Humanitarian and/ or UN Country Team and by cluster/sector coordinators, as outlined in the guidelines.

YES  NO

*The overall status of CERF implementation was discussed during the Humanitarian Country Team meeting on 23 May 2017 and with the Cluster Coordinators and humanitarian partners during the After-Action Review. The highlights of the Post-Distribution Monitoring and UNDP and FAO Project results (Table 8) and the highlights of After- Action Review and CERF implementation were discussed with the RC and RCO team on 19 June 2017.*

- c. Was the final version of the RC/HC Report shared for review with in-country stakeholders as recommended in the guidelines (i.e., the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

YES  NO

*The highlights of the CERF final report were discussed with NEMA,<sup>1</sup> during the HCT meeting on 23 May 2017, and with cluster coordinators and humanitarian partners.*

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Gantumur, Head of State Reserve and Humanitarian Assistance Department and appointed NEMA-HCT Liaison. Mr. Tsigbayar succeeded Mr. Tsogbayar on June 2017

## I. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

TABLE 1: EMERGENCY ALLOCATION OVERVIEW (US\$)		
Total amount required for the humanitarian response: US\$ 6,671,000		
Breakdown of total response funding received by source	Source	Amount
	CERF	1,107,614
	COUNTRY-BASED POOL FUND (if applicable)	
	OTHER (bilateral/multilateral)	3,291,445
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,399,059</b>

TABLE 2: CERF EMERGENCY FUNDING BY ALLOCATION AND PROJECT (US\$)			
Allocation 1 – date of official submission: 13/01/2017; 11/01/2017			
Agency	Project code	Cluster/Sector	Amount
FAO	17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	700,000
UNDP	17-RR-UDP-001	Early Recovery	407,614
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1,107,614</b>

TABLE 3: BREAKDOWN OF CERF FUNDS BY TYPE OF IMPLEMENTATION MODALITY (US\$)	
Type of implementation modality	Amount
Direct UN agencies/IOM implementation	1,048,282
Funds forwarded to NGOs and Red Cross / Red Crescent for implementation	37,108
Funds forwarded to government partners	22,224
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,107,614</b>

## I. HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Mongolia experienced three major consecutive disasters in a row since the winter of 2015: the 2015-2016 dzud; the harsh, extended summer drought associated with the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon from June until October 2016; and the severe winter weather (called 'white dzud' by the Government of Mongolia) that immediately followed the summer drought. The Government called for assistance predicting a more significant impact of the 2016-2017 winter compared to the 2015-2016 dzud due to the early occurrence of harsh weather conditions.

Rapid assessments findings showed that:<sup>2, 3, 4</sup>

- 41,448 people from the most vulnerable part of the population including children under the age of 5 years old, elderly, pregnant and lactating women were at risk in 109 soums under dzud, as early as the first week of December,
- Coping mechanisms of herders were under heavy stress due to consecutive harsh conditions that did not allow for adequate time for preparation and recovery,
- More frequent extreme weather conditions – such as heavier snowfall and earlier onset of acute cold – happened compared to 2015-2016 dzuds,<sup>5</sup>
- Early closure of accessible roads (due to heavy snow) that prevented rural communities' access to basic public services such as medicine, food, and heating items, and
- Early outbreak of diseases that prevented herds from performing 'otor' (looking for better pasture) as locations affected were cordoned off for entry and access for several days.

In December 2016, extreme cold temperatures and heavy snowfall had unfolded in the northern belt of the country, closing access to roads and suspending routes to markets and public services at the soum and aimags centers. Major roads in the north – including Selenge, Orkhon, Bulgan, Bayan-Ulgi, Dornod, Khentii, Uvs, Khovd, Khuvsgul aimags and the Central region – were closed off for days. NEMA reported that 153,000 herder households with a total of 60.8 million livestock were vulnerable to the harsh winter in 109 soums of 13 aimags and 2 districts of Ulaanbaatar city. In addition, 16,000 herder households with a total of 7 million livestock were at risk.

Due to a short-lived rise in temperature, the snow cover partially melted in October to subsequently re-freeze followed by heavy snowfall. As a result, the snow turned into packed, hard ice that made pasture grounds inaccessible. Livestock were unable to graze in several aimags, including Khovd, Khuvsgul, Zavkhan, Bayan –Ulgii, Dornod and Khentii, and sought to migrate for pasture. However, during November and December, migration of herds in many northern locations was stopped by the government due to the "sheep pox" outbreak, a deadly infectious animal disease. Many families in the Khovd mountains were not allowed to migrate to pastures located down from the mountains. Similar quarantine restrictions were imposed in Arkhangai, Bayan-Ulgii, Khovd, Gobi-Altai, Dornogovi, Uvs, and Selenge, putting livelihoods of thousands of herders at an even higher risk.

According to the Ministry of Health 2,479 pregnant women, 26,166 children aged 0-5 years, and 12,813 seniors were highly vulnerable. With the increasing struggle of herder households to meet their basic needs, having already incurred loans to buy food, children were the most affected, according to Save the Children. The long and precarious journey of children going to school with inadequate nutrition and warm clothing exposed them to various respiratory diseases. Save the Children found that dormitories were not adequately equipped with heating facilities and children were thus increasing their vulnerability to diseases and adjustment problems.<sup>6</sup> Clearly, for the 41,448 most vulnerable family members, the 2016-2017 harsh winter posed a significant challenge.

The above factors considerably stretched the resilience and coping strategies to breaking point and increased the level of humanitarian need. The joint UN-Government field assessment mission in December 2016<sup>7</sup> found herder households unable to meet one or a combination of their basic needs for food and nutrition, including warm clothing, heating and cooking, phone units for emergency communication, and transport. The assessment mission also found the most vulnerable groups to be children under the age of 5, as well as pregnant and lactating women who were in need of multi-vitamins and minerals.

Due to prolonged exposure to disasters, the assets of herder households had been exhausted at various levels. Some resorted to multiple coping strategies, such as eating less, reducing their purchases of even essential supplies, buying items on loans and even selling their livestock to pay off debts, to prepare for the ongoing severe winter. However, prices of basic household commodities increased by around 10 per cent, while the selling prices of meat and animal products fell by 40-60 per cent, compared with 2015 prices during the same period.

Herder households needed additional cash to buy their most essential needs. Many also ran out of animal feed to save their herds, which provide their livelihoods. They needed hay and fodder and cash to protect their animals, while weak and sick animals – especially the young ones – needed hay, fodder and veterinary medicine to survive. Most herder households only had 30-50 per cent hay and fodder reserves that lasted for an estimated 5-16 days. The soum-level emergency hay and fodder reserve was low due to extended drought that preceded the winter season. In order to save the herds, ensuring their access to hay, fodder and veterinary medicine was extremely important.

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<sup>2</sup> NEMA, 8 December 2016.

<sup>3</sup> 2016/2017 Dzud Emergency Response Needs Assessment and Response Plan. People In Need, January 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Rapid Needs Assessment Report Mongolian Dzud (ver. 1). Arkhangai. Save the Children 10-14 January 2017.

<sup>5</sup> See footnote 2.

<sup>6</sup> See footnote 3.

<sup>7</sup> with the joint UN-NEMA Field Mission to Assess the Impact of a Potential Dzud, 13-18 December 2016, Dornod, and Khentii Provinces

The Government estimated that out of 37,000 herder households directly affected by the crisis, 8,000 herder households were considered vulnerable. The herder households with less than 200 sheep heads<sup>8</sup>- estimated to be 3,500 in total - were considered the poorest and most at risk of losing their main livelihood base due to the continuing harsh winter. CERF assistance was hence targeted towards this group in urgent need of cash, animal feed and veterinary medicine, in order to protect their livelihoods.

## II. FOCUS AREAS AND PRIORITIZATION

A joint UN-NEMA/Government assessment was launched on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and the result, together with the MRCS assessment and the government's winter assessment, formed the basis for determining the focus area and priority action for CERF. Based on the lessons learned from the past implementation of humanitarian assistance, the Humanitarian Country Team also agreed to use standard criteria for targeting the most affected geographic locations to ensure that the most vulnerable herder households receive CERF assistance. The HCT also decided to use a standardized assistance packages to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of aid support. The HCT committed to avoid duplication in the provision of assistance. The government's ongoing response as well as several small-scale responses by partners were taken into consideration, to ensure complementarity and determine the targeting of life-saving CERF assistance.

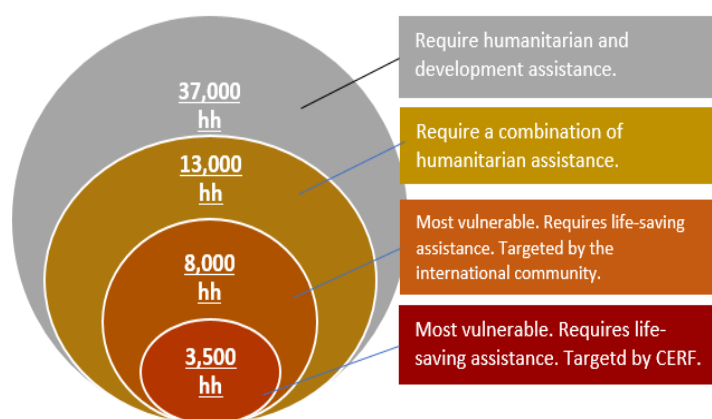
The scope of coverage and focus of CERF assistance is illustrated in the following figure:

Continuing severe weather that culminated in October saw a drop in temperatures followed by heavy snowfall that prompted the HCT to discuss preparedness. Government briefings on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 highlighted the ongoing crisis and called for increased preparedness. Several agencies started to mobilize resources. UNFPA procured dignity kits, UNICEF began to procure nutrition supplies, and Mongolia Red Cross Society launched a funding appeal. Subsequent consultations with the Government of Mongolia and the partners led by the Resident Coordinator through the HCT resulted in a decision to request CERF assistance. OCHA ROAP was called in to support.

### Geographical priority

The CERF assistance for 2016-2017 placed strict criteria for selecting geographical priority, impact and vulnerability using evidence base, consultations and applying lessons learned to identify the focus and priority for CERF assistance. The result, as shown in the following was presented and agreed at the HCT meeting on 20 December 2016.

Coverage of CERF and humanitarian community.



The Government identified that some 37,000 herder households in 110 soums in 16 aimags (including Ulaanbaatar) were severely affected by the harsh winter. The number of priority soums with a total of targeted herder households are as follows:

Aimags	No. of Soum	Total of Poor, Very Poor, <200 SH
Arkhangai	8	1,072
Bayankhongor	1	40
Bayan-Ulgii	1	194
Bulgan	1	29
Darkhan-Uul	2	70
Dornod	3	86
Khentii	3	156

Aimags	No. of Soum	Total of Poor, Very Poor, <200 SH
Khovd	2	558
Khuvsgul	7	910
Orkhon	1	27
Tuv	1	62
Ulaanbaatar	1	4
Uvs	5	292
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3,500</b>

A total of 3,500 of the most vulnerable herder households in 36 priority soums of 13 aimags were initially prioritized for CERF projects (UNDP and FAO).

Additionally, reports of the increased death of livestock in nine soums of the five aimags throughout Mongolia broke out during the third week of March, prompting government authorities to approach the FAO/CERF project for additional assistance. The Government confirmed the highest animal mortality rate of 8.2 per cent for the first time had occurred in Tsetserleg soum of Khuvsgul aimag, higher than the average animal mortality rate for a regular winter, which is 6 per cent. Other soums with a lower rate of animal mortality were included by the Government, due to the risk of animal deaths and large numbers of herder households with less than 200 heads of sheep.

<sup>8</sup>Sheep Head is a system for calculating the equivalent number of animals in each household and uses the ratio 1:5 small ruminants (goats and sheep) to large ruminants (cattle, horse, camel), respectively.

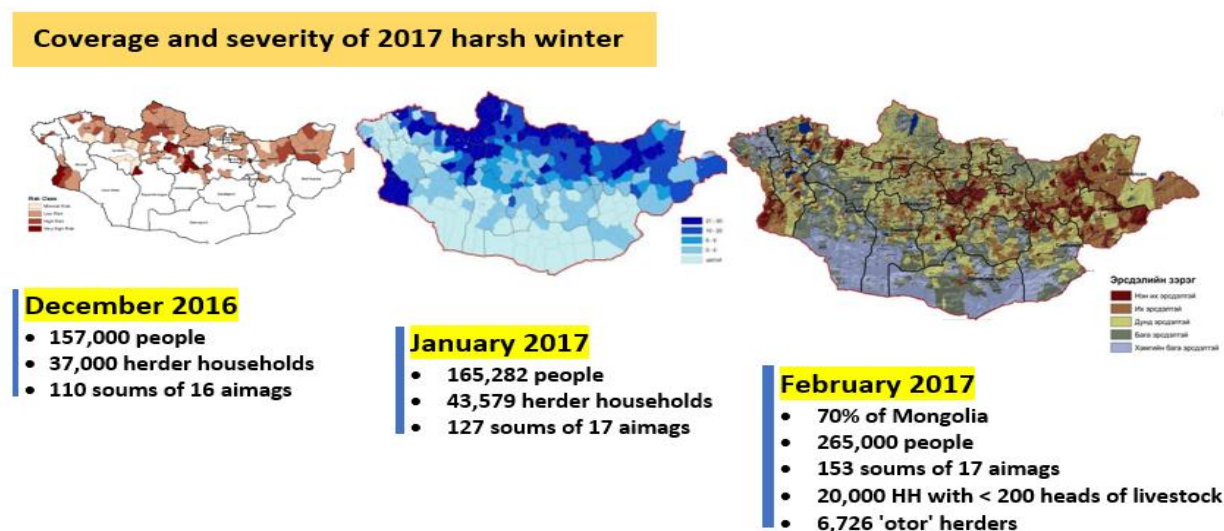
The nine additional priority soums (with enclosed aimags) are **Tsetserleg, Burentogtokh and Galt** (Khuvsgulaimag), **Bulgan** (Bayan-Ulgii aimag), **Umnudelger and Bayan-Ovoo** (Khentii aimag), **SonginoKhairkhan (21<sup>st</sup>Khoroo) and Khan-Uul (13<sup>th</sup>Khoroo)** (Ulaanbaatar City), and **Orkhon** (Bulgan aimag). All nine aimags – including Ulaanbaatar – are on the CERF-approved list of aimags.

The addition of 500 most vulnerable herder households from the 9 additional soums made the FAO/CERF project increase target from 3,500 to 4,000 as shown in the following table:

Aimag	No. of Soum	Total of Poor, Very Poor, <200 SH	Aimag	No. of Soum	Total of Poor, Very Poor, <200 SH
Arkhangai	8	1,072	Khovd	2	558
Bayankhongor	1	40	Khuvsgul	10	1140
Bayan-Ulgii	2	244	Orkhon	1	27
Bulgan	2	69	Tuv	1	62
Darkhan-Uul	2	70	Ulaanbaatar	3	84
Dornod	3	86	Uvs	5	292
Khentii	5	256	<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>4,000</b>

## Severity of impact

The Government monitors the weather through the National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring and regularly provides updates to the Humanitarian Country Team. Weather records for 2016-2017 for three consecutive months of winter shows the severity of winter where both the number of people affected and geographical coverage is recorded. According to the Government data, the number of people affected has progressively increased, with areas impacted by severe weather from 157,000 in December 2016 to over 265,000 in February, and from 110 soums (16 aimags) to 153 soums in three consecutive months (see figure below).



Source: NEMA 2016/2017 report updates to the Humanitarian Country Team.

For herder households, animals are often the only source of food, transport, heating materials, and purchasing power. Herder households that own less than 200 livestock are incredibly vulnerable to shocks such as drought, dzud and market price fluctuations, with little other coping capacities.

## Vulnerability

By combining the meteorological data from the National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring with the underlying poverty data from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the 110 affected *soums* were divided into four risk categories – 'very high,' 'high,' 'low' and 'minimal risk.' Focusing on 'very high-risk' and 'high-risk' *soums* narrowed down the selection to 36 priority *soums* in 13 *aimags*, with an estimated 13,000 people likely to be in need of one or multiple forms of assistance.

After several months of exposure to harsh weather (drought, rains, extreme temperature and snow), poor herder households became less resilient, and their coping mechanisms were over-stretched.

An estimated 8,000 herder households living in the most-affected areas were categorized as 'very poor' or 'poor.' Therefore, this vulnerable group is the target of the international community. Of the total 8,000 households targeted by the international community, CERF targeted

households with less than 200 heads of livestock converted to sheep-head equivalent,<sup>9</sup> as they were most at risk to the harsh winter conditions as a result of lacking assets. The target locations classified as vulnerable are as follows:

VERY HIGH RISK		HIGH RISK			
Soum	Aimag	Soum	Aimag	Soum	Aimag
1. Bayanbulag	Bayankhongor	1. Bulgan	Dornod	14. Ulaangom	Uvs
2. Bayan-O'ndor	Orkhon	2. Cagaan-Uul	Khovsgol	15. Dashbalbar	Dornod
3. Bulgan	Khovd	3. Arbulag	Khovsgol	16. Xo'lonbuir	Dornod
4. Cecerleg	Arxangai	4. Erdenesant	To'v	17. Tu'rgen	Uvs
5. Jargalant	Arxangai	5. Batnorov	Hentii	18. Baganuur	Ulaanbaatar
6. Mo'ron	Khovsgol	6. Mogod	Bulgan	19. Alag-Erdene	Khovsgol
7. O'giinuur	Arxangai	7. Xyargas	Uvs	20. Bayan-Adraga	Hentii
8. O'lziit	Arxangai	8. Zu'unxangai	Uvs	21. U'yench	Khovd
9. Xashaat	Arxangai	9. Tu'nel	Khovsgol	22. Sagsai	Bayan-Olgii
10. Xotont	Arxangai	10. Erdenemandal	Arxangai	23. Norovlin	Hentii
The joint Government-UN multi-sectorial assessment in December 2016 identified 36 soums in 13 aimags out of 110 soums in 16 aimags as "high and very high risk."		11. Cagaannuur	Khovsgol	24. To'vshru'ulex	Arxangai
		12. Tes	Uvs	25. Darxan	Darkhan-Uul
		13. Bayanzu'rx	Khovsgol	26. Sharyngol	Darkhan-Uul
<b>ADDITIONAL SOUMS IDENTIFIED BY GOVERNMENT IN MARCH 2017 AS "HIGH AND VERY RISKY" DUE TO HIGH RATES OF ANIMAL MORTALITY:</b>					
SOU	AIMAG	SOU	AIMAG	The sudden increase in animal death for up to 8.2% in some soums prompted the Government to approach FAO for additional assistance. 500 most vulnerable herder households were identified resulting in an increase of beneficiaries from 3,500 to 4,000 (the average animal mortality during normal winter is 6%).	
11. Bayan-Ovoo	Khentii	16. Khan-Uul (13 <sup>th</sup> Khoroo)	Ulaanbaatar		
12. Bulgan	ByaanUlgii	17. Orkhon	Bulgan		
13. Burentogtokh	Khuvsgul	18. Songinokhairkhan (21 <sup>st</sup> Khoroo)	Ulaanbaatar		
14. Tsetserleg	Khuvsgul	19. Umnudelger	Khentii		
15. Galt	Khuvsgul				
Total number of Soum covered = 45			Total number of aimags covered = 13		

<sup>9</sup>Livestock animal converted to sheep head equivalent is critical in the Mongolian context as it provides a more accurate picture as to what assets herders have. It also allows comparison between households with a different type of livestock. The conversion is as follows: one horse has the value of seven sheep, one cow represents six sheep, one camel represents five sheep, and one goat is valued at 0.9 of a sheep.

## Coverage, severity, and vulnerability

The increased severity of the weather-exposed more herder households to multiple vulnerabilities, as highlighted in the Government's assessment (see figures above), which showed a rapid rise in the number of affected people.

Within CERF project locations, the Government identified approximately 1,000 of the most exposed herder households that were added to the 8,000 identified during the CERF planning. This was envisaged as it was agreed to use the government's old data during the planning stage and then to confirm the actual number during the implementation. However, the Government estimated 25 per cent of households in CERF target locations that were in need of one or a combination of assistance such as food, basic winter non-food items, medicine, of which 10 per cent is considered most susceptible according to the CERF beneficiary selection criteria.

Based on this assessment, there were **3,500 herder households** targeted by the international community within the CERF target areas.

A sudden surge in animal mortality in March enabled FAO to utilize its remaining CERF fund to assist an **additional 500 herder households in 9 soums**, raising the total number of beneficiaries covered by FAO/CERF from 3,500 to 4,000 and increasing the total number of soums covered from 36 to 45. There was no change in a number of aimags.

## CERF Funded Sectors

The needs assessments conducted for the 2016-2017 dzud/harsh winter identified various needs of herder households. Depending on the herders' coping mechanisms, herder households needed one or a combination the following sectors: food security, such as nutrition and protection interventions, along with health and emergency agriculture goods and emergency cash. Humanitarian agencies targeted a fraction of the 8,000 herder households for one or a combination of the above sectors.

Sectors conceptualized the CERF-funded response as a package of complementary, time-critical interventions at the household level. The Early Recovery sector (provision of multi-purpose cash grants) and Agricultural sector (provision of high-grade fodder, mineral supplements, and emergency veterinary supplies) were delivered as a package of basic relief assistance designed to ensure the survival of the most vulnerable herder households. The Nutrition sector (provision of vitamins and micro-supplements) assistance complemented CERF aid by giving CERF beneficiaries a priority for the distribution of micro-nutrients and vitamins to children under five years old, along with pregnant and lactating women. Additionally, the Protection sector (provision of dignity kits) also provided mutual support which targeted all women and girls in CERF (and also non-CERF) project locations.

## Agriculture (FAO)

Pastoral herding is the primary livelihood and asset of the 160,648 households in Mongolia. Unpredictable weather patterns in 2016, attributable to the El Niño Southern Oscillation created a dry summer in the northern parts of the country that significantly reduced hay production. The dry summer was followed by continuous rains in late September that damaged a significant portion of hay reserves. Subsequently, substantial and constant snowfall in the northern belt of the country started as early as October 3rd, which partially melted and soon formed hard, icy layers above the ground. The local authorities reported that around ten days of continuous snowfall in November was comparable to the total depth of snow for an average winter of four months. The livelihoods that depend on pastoral herding were increasingly being put at a higher risk.

Agriculture is a key component of CERF response. Noting the scarcity of hay and inaccessible pasture, HCT stressed the importance of supporting the agriculture sector to save the livelihoods of thousands of herders. The government equated ownership of 200 heads of livestock to Mongolia's poverty line, which is approximately US\$ 70 per person per month (2014 figure). Based on the surveys, herder households with less than 100 herds earn an equivalent of US\$ 30 per household member per month and US\$ 60 for households with 100-200 heads of animals. The figures indicate that any reduction in the number of animals below 200 heads would significantly increase the vulnerability of the herder households to higher debt and inability to provide adequate food and other basic needs for their families.

The the areas of needs within the sector have emerged as time-critical:

- 1) The starvation of herds – the primary asset of pastoral households – began in November, resulting in stress and exhaustion of the animals. Many animals were sick and exhausted by the beginning of winter. Consequently, herders suffered from the severe income loss.



The increased animal mortality reported from 9 soums of 5 aimags during the third week of March prompted FAO to allocate a portion of its CERF funding to provide livestock emergency support. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industries (MOFALI) and local authorities confirmed the soums of **Tsetserleg, Burentogtokh, Galt** (Khuvsgul aimag), **Bulgan** (Bayan-Ulgi iaimag), **Umnudelger and Bayan-Ovoo** (Khentii aimag), **Songinokhairkhan/21 Khoroo and Khan-Uli/13th Khoroo** (Ulaanbaatar) and **Orkhon** (Bulgan aimag) had the highest rates of animal deaths, with an average of 2.5 per cent. Tsetserleg soum recorded the highest mortality rate of 8.2 per cent. The local authorities identified 500 of the most vulnerable households in the nine soums using the CERF project beneficiary selection criteria and the vetting procedure.

After completing all the project procurement, FAO allocated CERF's remaining budget of US\$70,800 to meet the immediate needs of the additional 500 at-risk households for fodder, minerals (for livestock) and emergency veterinary kits that were all found within the 13 approved aimags. The increase in the number of beneficiaries from 3,500 to 4,000 and allocation of US\$ 70,800 to assist an additional 500 most vulnerable households constituted 17.7 per cent of the total funding, which was within approval limits of the RC.<sup>10</sup>

- 2) The productivity of surviving animals has significantly decreased due to poor health, resulting in miscarriages and poor production performance. The hay reserves of households were not enough to sustain the requirement of their herds due to an extended period of reduced feed intake. The Government reserves were spread thinly over many aimags affected by dzud/ harsh winter.

Even though the government's preparedness for dzud events has improved in recent years, the lack of financial resources, widespread drought preceding the 2017 winter, compounded by vast steppe fires, diverted government reserves and impeded full hay preparation. The Government capacity allowed pre-positioning of hay and wheat bran in 24 provincial branches and 49 points of the State Reserve Fund, which is sufficient only for an emergency feeding of 25 per cent of the national herd for two days. The attempts by herders to buy hay by selling animals saturated the market resulting in a drop in meat prices to approximately 50 per cent. For herders, whose main asset (and bank collateral) are their animals, the sharp decrease in prices resulted in more debt at a time when the purchase of animal feed and household needs were essential to survive winter.

The support from the agriculture sector saved the livelihoods of the most vulnerable herder households because they cannot buy hay and fodder, complemented by the early recovery sector intervention through the provision of multi-purpose cash grants.

### Early Recovery (UNDP)

Having no resources to meet the most urgent and critical needs of family members during a harsh winter is a devastating situation. Under normal weather, herders generate enough cash to buy basic goods and services by selling their meat and dairy products. However, during the dzud/harsh winter, access to roads was entirely cut-off in most locations and prices of basic commodities increased. Therefore, with no cash to replace their animal feed and stocks, herder households risk obtaining a sizable amount of loans by putting their remaining livestock as collateral, resulting in increased indebtedness. The herders repay their loans from the sale of their livestock, but with low prices for their livestock and increased prices of basic commodities, the most vulnerable households found that they were unable to meet their repayments and their household basic needs.

The joint NEMA-UN assessment mission in December 2016 found that herder households were unable to meet one or more of their basic needs, including nutritional and sufficient food; warm clothing, medicine, heating fuel, petrol and/or cash for transportation to access markets and health centers or phone units for emergency communication. The herder households that live in remote communities are at risk due to inaccessible roads, because of the harsh weather conditions. The mission further reported that poor herder households were becoming less resilient and their regular coping mechanisms were overstretched. As a result, they resorted to negative coping strategies, such as reducing food intake, buying food on loans, a chain of loans and debts, and discontinuing their children's enrollments in school. To minimize the impact of negative coping mechanisms, the mission recommended the provision of cash to provide families with flexibility to spend for their emergency needs. Support for Early Recovery enabled the most susceptible 3,500 herder households to purchase time-critical and life-saving goods, including food, fuel for heating, phone credit for emergency communication and basic medicines, through the one-time provision of multi-purpose cash grants to help themselves survive the extreme winter.

In consultation with partners and the government, a one-time provision of USD100 helped to meet the emergency needs of the most vulnerable households. The amount was based on the standard practice of partners (MRCS and SC) and in line with Mongolia's minimum wage of MNT 240,000 (USD100). The support for early recovery was complemented by the provision of animal Feed and animal First Aid kits from the Agriculture Cluster to the same household beneficiaries.

### III. CERF PROCESS

The CERF process was prompted by the Government's request to the international community for humanitarian assistance. On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, the Government of Mongolia called for humanitarian assistance from international organizations in light of the harsh winter unfolding. Through a series of consultations and engagement with government authorities and HCT partners and with the support of OCHA ROAP under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, the CERF request launched the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), which was co-chaired by the Resident Coordinator and the Government of Mongolia that led the coordination of preparedness and response interventions. In 2010, the HCT

<sup>10</sup>Modification to apply US\$ 70,800 to 500 new beneficiaries was below the 20% threshold that requires CERF approval. Modification in close consultation OCHA ROAP.

was established by NEMA, UN agencies, IFRC, MRCS, and international NGOs to coordinate and harmonize preparedness and response to humanitarian disasters at the national level.

The launch for CERF followed a timeline of events that culminated in the submission and subsequent funding of CERF proposals. The process ensured a quick and effective turnaround, consistent with the life-saving/ emergency nature of the request, and it is documented succinctly in the following timeline:

- October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the HCT met to discuss winter preparedness alerted by the emerging signs of a harsh winter
- Following a Government briefing on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, national and local authorities, as well as several UN agencies and INGOs, ramped up their preparedness and response activities (i.e., WVIM tapped into the contingency fund; UNFPA started the procurement of dignity kits, UNICEF procuring nutrition supplies, MRC started preparing an appeal).
- During the HCT meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the Government of Mongolia articulated the humanitarian needs and priorities resulting from the early, unusually heavy snowfall and low temperatures experienced across the country. Learning from previous responses, which also benefited from CERF funding, the HCT suggested using the CERF mechanism to meet vital immediate needs related to herder households' survival.
- On December 9<sup>th</sup>, the RC reached out to OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) to seek advice regarding the strategic use of CERF to kick-start response operations.
- On December 13<sup>th</sup>, OCHA staff joined the NEMA-UN assessment, which confirmed pockets of humanitarian needs in the following sectors: Agriculture, Early Recovery and Livelihoods, Nutrition, Protection, Health, and Education.
- Based on the initial findings of the joint NEMA-UN needs assessments, the MRCS assessment, as well as the Government's winter assessment, and taking into consideration the urgent needs and life-saving criteria, as well as the need to complement the Government's response and the ongoing small-scale responses, the RC and HCT decided to proceed with a very targeted request from the CERF secretariat.
- On December 19<sup>th</sup>, the Core Advisory Group (CAG)<sup>11</sup> met to plan the response and identify the key life-saving activities. The CAG prioritized two life-saving activities: the provision of multipurpose cash grants and livestock input. These activities, taken together, were aimed to empower families to adequately address their critical needs to survive the severe winter (i.e. food, heating fuel, transportation, phone credit for emergency communication), while at the same time ensuring the survival of their productive assets essential for nutrition, transport, and income during the winter and the rest of the seasons.
- The final proposal for the prioritization and targeting approach to be adopted for CERF was presented and endorsed at the HCT meeting on December 20<sup>th</sup> which was attended by the Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister and representatives of NEMA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The HCT also decided to use standardized targeting criteria; provide a standardized cash package to avoid discontent and resentment among the beneficiaries; and prioritize geographic areas of intervention to ensure that most vulnerable herder households are reached, while at the same time avoiding duplications and gaps.

Based on the result of several assessments and on-going consultation with partners, the HCT prioritized the following time-critical interventions to ensure the survival of herders and their livestock during the winter:

Sector	Activities
Agriculture (FAO)	Provision of Animal Feed and Animal First Aid kits for most vulnerable herder households
Early Recovery (UNDP)	Provision of multipurpose cash assistance to vulnerable herder household affected by dzud

International humanitarian agencies mobilized USD 4.4 million to complement the government's response to the 2016-2017 harsh winter, of which, the UN mobilized USD 1.1 million through the CERF fund and US\$ 3.3 million through various funding sources by ADRA, Mercy Corps, MRCS, NEMA, PiN, SC, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WV.

#### IV. CERF RESULTS AND ADDED VALUE

##### Agriculture

Due to the continued extreme weather conditions since October 2016, access to quality animal nutrients and feed were increasingly limited, resulting in gradual starvation and subsequent weakening of the herds. Pregnant and young animals were particularly at risk by the increasing scarcity of forage and quality nutrients. Households with less than 200 sheep units were at the most risk of losing their livelihoods. The CERF project provided high-grade fodder, mineral blocks and animal first aid kits to a total of 4,000 herder households which were most at risk in 45 soums of 13 aimags (including Ulaanbaatar City).

As previously noted that the initial target for the FAO/CERF project was 3,500 herder households, but the unforeseen need to prevent the increase of animal deaths allowed a portion of remaining FAO/CERF funding to assist 500 most vulnerable herder households in nine soums, thereby increasing the total number of beneficiaries assisted by the agriculture inputs to 4,000. The government confirmed the soums of Tsetserleg, Burentogtokh, Galt (Khuvsgul aimag), Bulgan (Bayan-Ulgii aimag), Umnudelger and Bayan-Ovoo (Khentii aimag), Songjinokhairkhan/21 Khoroo and Khan-Ull/13th Khoroo (Ulaanbaatar) and Orkhon (Bulgan aimag) had the highest rate of animal death with an average of 2.5 per cent. Tsetserleg soum recorded the highest mortality rate of 8.2 per cent.

<sup>11</sup>The HCT established the Core Advisory Group (CAG) in December 2015 to support the RC to coordinate and manage the emergency response preparedness and a 2015/16 dzud response. For the 2016/17 dzud response, the CAG was expanded to include Save the Children, who showed interest in creating a cash working group to coordinate cash-transfer programming in Mongolia.

There was no change in the beneficiary selection criteria, and the aimag targets were maintained, which confirms the reliability of the selection of priority aimags. Using the same beneficiary selection criteria and vetting procedure, local authorities identified the 500 most vulnerable households in nine affected soums of priority aimags. The FAO allocated its remaining USD\$70,800 from its USD 700,000 funding from CERF to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable herder households for fodder, minerals (for livestock) and emergency veterinary kits. The distribution of agricultural inputs for the first 3,500 beneficiaries was completed during the middle of March, and during the last week of April 2017 for the remaining 500 beneficiaries.

By helping 4,000 herder households, CERF assisted 14,567 individuals, of which 45 per cent were female and 55 per cent were men. Of the number assisted, 147 pregnant, 470 lactating women, 1,789 children under the age of 5 and 550 disabled were assisted.

With the USD700,000 provided by CERF for livestock livelihood support, partners mobilized USD 209,744, which made it possible to assist an additional 2,400 herder households within CERF priority aimags with partner agency contribution in USD as follows: ADRA- 57,614, World Vision- 52,130, Save the Children- 50,000 and FAO- 50,000.

In addition to the above, the FAO/CERF partnerships with other HCT partners – SC, MC, WV, PiN, and Soum Government Offices – ensured efficient distribution of time-critical supplies. Partners provided warehouse facilities and mobilised logistical support and outreach to herder households residing in remote communities.

It is widely acknowledged that this year's humanitarian response, with funding from CERF, brought greater clarity and efficiency in the beneficiary selection, delivery of services and coordination and sharing of information among partners that improved synergy of assistance (FAO, UNDP, UNICEF/Nutrition) and eliminated duplication of services.

**TABLE 4: AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS AND REACHED DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY SECTOR**

Total number of individuals affected by the crisis: 265,000									
Cluster/Sector	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Agriculture	2,298	4,196	<b>6,494</b>	2,905	5,168	<b>8,073</b>	5,203	9,364	<b>14,567</b>
Early Recovery	2,018	3,589	<b>5,607</b>	2,621	4,662	<b>7,283</b>	4,639	8,251	<b>12,890</b>

### Early Recovery

Faced with decreased prices of livestock and increased prices of household commodities in the face of the severe and harsh winter, herder households were increasingly unable to meet their basic survival needs. Due to several months of exposure to severe winter weather, the herds were exhausted and household coping mechanisms stretched to their limits. For the most vulnerable herder households that are traveling on *otor*, availability of cash was critical to ensure availability of food, medicine, heating fuel, transport, and warm clothes. The UNDP CERF project provided USD 100 cash grant to 3,500 most vulnerable herder household in partnership with Khan Bank and State Bank that served as the servicing banks for the community.

### Beneficiary Estimation

The joint NEMA-UN needs assessment mission on December 13th, 2016 confirmed the existence of humanitarian needs among the local population experiencing severe winter. The assessment also found that herder households were most severely affected due to direct exposure of their animals, their primary livelihoods, to harsh weather. An estimated 37,000 herder households (157,000 people) were experiencing severe winter conditions in 110 soums across 16 aimags. A total of 37,000 households (157,000 people) were estimated in need of some form of assistance. Of these, the international community targeted some 8,000 herder households, which were categorized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MoLSP) as 'very poor' and 'poor.' The target population was defined by HCT in consultation with OCHA by cross-referencing the data sources provided by NEMA, Information, and Research Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (IRIHME) and the MoLSP.

**TABLE 5: TOTAL DIRECT BENEFICIARIES REACHED THROUGH CERF FUNDING**

	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
<b>Female</b>	2,298	4,196	6,494
<b>Male</b>	2,905	5,168	8,073
<b>Total individuals (Female and male)</b>	<b>5,203</b>	<b>9,364</b>	<b>14,567</b>

Both Agriculture and Early Recovery sectors reached same households of 3,500 except the additional 500 households that FAO reached. Therefore, the total direct beneficiaries are equal to the total beneficiaries that Agriculture sector reached.

### Complementary Assistance (NOT FUNDED BY CERF)

Tapping into CERF funding attracted additional resources through humanitarian partners as follows:

#### 1) ADRA

ADRA assisted 142 herder households in CERF-targeted locations and 393 households in non-CERF targeted locations that were affected by harsh winter through four projects: Multi-agency Dzud Response, Emergency Food Assistance, National Emergency Management and ADRA's programs, which were mostly focused on disaster recovery and resilience building with some elements of emergency preparedness training.

## **2) MRCS/IFRC<sup>12</sup>**

MRCS/ IFRC provided multi-purpose cash grants of USD100 each to 3,480 of the most vulnerable herder households across the nine most affected aimags identified. Of the nine aimags assisted, seven are in CERF target covering 21 soums. USAID contributed USD100,000 for the cash transfers through the Red Cross/ IFRS. MRCS also provided cash to 1,740 household beneficiaries for education purposes in five aimags, of which three were assisted by CERF. The Mongolia Red Cross through NEMA also distributed 940 kits composed of kitchen kit (300 boxes), hygiene kits (250 boxes), food kits (290 boxes), warm jackets (300 pieces), blanket (400 pieces), and mattresses (400 pieces) to the worst-impacted soums.

## **3) NEMA**

The Mongolian Government issued six resolutions that resulted in the mobilization of MNT6.2 billion (estimated USD2.6 million) from the Government's reserve fund to support the needs of local communities in 15 aimags most affected by severe winter. This included prepositioning and supplying hay and fodder, veterinary medicines, food and non-food items and cash to support emergency operations in the most affected aimags. The government also deployed power generators and vehicles to support the operations of Provincial Health Centers, the Provincial Emergency Management Agency and the Food and Agriculture offices. Furthermore, the government mobilized donations from the State Bank of Mongolia (in the amount of MNT9.4 million), the Mongolian Students Federation in the Republic of Korea (in the amount of MNT2.7 million), and voluntary contributions from charitable institutions.

## **4) People In-Need**

PIN provided animal-balanced feed packages and the multi-purpose cash grants to 2,469 herder households in 11 soums of Dornod aimag, three of which were in the CERF targeted locations, which made it possible to assist 952 boys, 815 girls, 1,537 men, 1,548 women, and 63 pregnant women (none from lactating women).

## **5) Save the Children**

Save the Children delivered a variety of sectorial services in and outside of CERF priority locations. In the agriculture sector, Save the Children provided a livestock feed package that contained bran fodder, milk replacement, multivitamins, milk replacer (amintun), needles and syringes to 672 of the most vulnerable herder households in Zavkhan (non-CERF area). A total of 2,920 family members were assisted, comprising boys (658), girls (695), men (634), women (754), along with pregnant and lactating women (179). In the Education sector, Save the Children provided heating coal to targeted schools in Arkhangai, Bayan-Ulgii, Dornod, and Zavkhan, benefiting 18,271 people. 2,840 school children received hygiene and nutrition kits, while 32 school dormitories in Arkhangai, Bayan-Ulgii, Dornod, and Zavkhan were provided with a land phone for communication. There were also compensatory classes conducted for children that missed classes due to severe winter and spring weather. In addition, heating coal, cash for transport and various water, sanitation and hygiene kits were provided to selected schools in Arkhangai, Bayan-Ulgii, Dornod, and Zavkhan. 4,472 children were assisted from CERF targeted locations. In the food security sector, a total 89 households in Zavkhan aimag were provided with a cash grant of USD100 per beneficiary to meet emergency needs. Finally, in the Health sector, 2,872 households in Ulzii, Uguinuur, Erdenemandal, Sagsai, and Bulgan soums – all within CERF targeted locations – were provided with conditional cash grant fuel, per diems, as well as basic and urgent medical tools.

## **6) UNFPA**

A total of 2,465 dignity kits, worth 160 million tugriks (estimated USD 54,061) were distributed in 15 aimags and 131 soums. The aimags included; Dornod, Sukbaatar, Khenti, Arhangai, Bayan-Ulgi, Drakhan-Uul, Zavkhan, Orkhon, Uvurkhangai, Selenge, Uvs, Tuv, Khovd, and Khuvsgul. The dignity kits contained sanitary supplies and hygiene products such as clothes, socks, underwear, laundry soaps, bath soaps, towels, toothbrushes and toothpaste for women and girls. The kits also included a torch with batteries, so that women and girls would have the mobility to travel and move about safely at night, as well as an emergency whistle in case of distress. Due to UNFPA's expertise in gender-based violence, the inclusion of such items (whistle and torch) will help to improve the protection of women and girls who are at a higher risk of facing gender-based violence during an emergency. In addition, there were also pamphlets, which provided information and resources for sexual/reproductive health and gender-based violence that were distributed with the dignity kits.

## **7) UNICEF**

UNICEF'S nutrition interventions consisted of the provision of Multiple Micronutrient Powder (MNPs) for children 6-59 months old and multiple micronutrient supplements for pregnant and lactating women. It also involved nutrition screening to identify cases of acute malnutrition requiring referral for lifesaving treatment and nutrition counseling, with focus on infant and child feeding, as well as care practices for their parents. USD333,712 was mobilized from the Canadian Government to fund the nutrition interventions. The first batch of essential nutrition supplies arrived in Mongolia on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and was distributed to each target soum on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016. By the end of April 13,267 (50.8%) children under five years old and 6,370 (40.3%) pregnant/lactating mothers received micronutrient supplements and counseling services. The second batch of emergency supplies arrived in June. The project is on-going.

## **8) World Vision**

A total of 2,470 the most vulnerable herder households received a livestock feed package containing fodder, a mineral (amintun), milk replacement, multivitamins, multi-purpose cash grants, two-month food rations with eight packs of wheat bran. The most at-risk households also

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<sup>12</sup>Mongolia Red Cross Society/ International Federation of the Red Crescent Society

received a set of warm clothes (coat, cap, gloves, jumper) and hygiene supplies. Out of the 2,470 herder households assisted, 1,452 were supported from CERF targeted locations.

## **CERF's ADDED VALUE**

### **a) Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to beneficiaries?**

YES  PARTIALLY  NO

To obtain insights on the effectiveness and efficiency of CERF-funded assistance, 5 per cent of all the total beneficiaries of CERF (3,500 households for UNDP/CERF and 4,000 for FAO/CERF) were interviewed in a random order through the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM). At least 175 beneficiary households were interviewed randomly. The PDM result shows:

- The distribution of multi-purpose cash was completed during the last week of February 2017 through the local Khan Bank branches. During this time, most resources of households have been exhausted and HHs began resorting to negative coping mechanisms such as reducing food intake, forced-selling of their animals, and obtaining loans to provide for the household's basic needs, to mitigate the impact of crisis due to early exposure to extreme disaster.
- Distribution of livestock inputs was not complete until the end of March, with delays due to compliance with approval requirements of FAO outside Mongolia.
- Local procurement and transport of project inputs from Ulaanbaatar to local beneficiaries were fast, from delivery within a day to an average of seven days for remote rural locations.
- Strong collaboration with local authorities facilitated delivery and ensured agricultural inputs were received by beneficiaries as soon as they arrived in the soums. This strong collaboration enhanced coordination and partnership.
- For remote locations where small vehicles cannot travel, communities jointly organized trucks that can travel through the snow to pick up the inputs from the soum centers.

### **b) Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs<sup>13</sup>?**

YES  PARTIALLY  NO

- Based on the results of the Post Distribution Monitoring, 96 per cent of household beneficiaries received animal supplies on time when they needed them most, with the supplies in good condition and complete.
- Due to CERF assistance, 43 per cent of beneficiaries did not have to reduce food intake, 23 per cent of beneficiaries avoided loans, and 43 per cent reduced livestock losses.

### **c) Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?**

YES  PARTIALLY  NO

- A total of USD 4.4 million was raised to respond to the humanitarian needs during the severe winter of 2016/2017. The funding met 66 per cent of the initial requirement of USD 6.68 million estimated by the Humanitarian Country Team, leaving a 34 per cent funding gap.
- USD 1.1 million was provided by CERF through two partners – UNDP and FAO – which met 25 per cent of the initially estimated funding requirement. CERF remains the biggest donor for the 2016/2017 humanitarian response, followed by Save the Children (22%) and MRCS (21%).
- The Government of Mongolia mobilized USD 0.45 million for the HCT-led humanitarian response as part of an estimated USD 2.6 million (MNT 6.2 billion) from government reserves to respond to the needs of affected communities not targeted by CERF. The Government also mobilized cash (USD 5,042) from various sources (USD 3,917 from the State Bank of Mongolia and USD 1,125 from the Mongolian Student's Federation) and in-kind resources with the unvalued amount for overall response (refer to page 12 for more information).

### **d) Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?**

YES  PARTIALLY  NO

- The CERF significantly improved coordination of humanitarian aid by setting a clear basis for targeting, leading the elimination of duplication of services by sharing target beneficiary lists, working with other humanitarian projects to promote complementarity (e.g. on Nutrition), as well as fostering collaboration and partnership with governmental and non-governmental organizations for the delivery of services.

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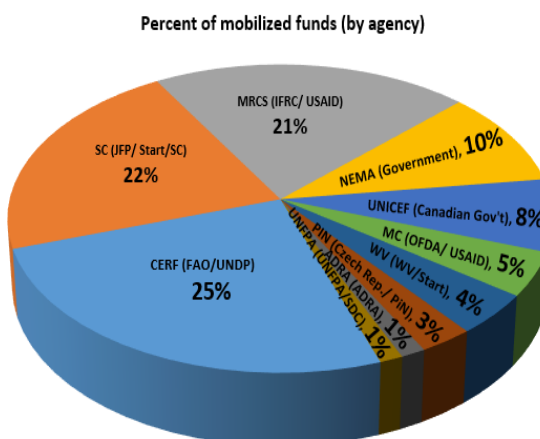
<sup>13</sup> Time-critical response refers to necessary, rapid and time-limited actions and resources required to minimize additional loss of lives and damage to social and economic assets (e.g., emergency vaccination campaigns, locust control, etc.)?

Response to 2016/2017 Severe Winter

**Humanitarian Funding (in US\$)**

<b>US\$ 4.40 million made available / donor</b>	<b>Contribution by agency</b>
CERF (FAO/UNDP)*	1,107,614
SC (JFP/ Start/SC)	952,500
MRCS (IFRC/ USAID)	932,000
NEMA (Government)	445,000
UNICEF (Canadian Gov't)	333,712
MC (OFDA/ USAID)	201,928
WV (WV/Start)	189,630
PiN (Czech Republic/ PiN)	125,000
ADRA (ADRA, various)	57,614
UNFPA (UNFPA/SDC)	54,061
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,399,059</b>
<b>Initial Projected Requirement</b>	<b>6,671,000</b>
<b>Funding Gap (%)</b>	<b>34%</b>

\* Main partners: UNDP & FAO



e) If applicable, please highlight other ways in which CERF has added value to the humanitarian response.

**Achievement of non-CERF contribution**

Number of beneficiaries assisted within CERF and outside CERF locations.

Main Humanitarian Partners	CERF-assisted soums (herder hh assisted)	Non-CERF-assisted soums (herder hh assisted)	Types of assistance
1) MRCS	2,600	2,956	Cash grant, assorted non-food items.
2) PiN	496	688	Animal balanced-feed packages. Cash grant.
3) SC	2,872 <sup>14</sup>	583	Animal balanced-feed packages, cash grants, assorted non-food items, health services.
4) UNFPA	2,242 <sup>15</sup>	2,465	Dignity kits.
5) UNICEF	3,600 <sup>16</sup>	2,311	Multi-nutrient powder (vitamins and minerals).
6) WV	1,452	1,018	Animal balanced-feed packages, Cash grant.
7) ADRA	142	393	Mostly non-emergency (capacity building for disaster recovery and resilience building)
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,404</b>	<b>10,414</b>	<b>Total households assisted: 23,818 herder households</b>

CERF targeting was consistent with the results. A total of 13,404 herder households in CERF locations received assistance from humanitarian partners through a combination of one or multiple of the following elements including cash grants, feed packages, multi-nutrient powder, and to a limited scale capacity-building for emergency, covering 12,576 females and 11,242 males. The total number of beneficiaries assisted includes recipients of supplementary services, such as nutrition and protection (provision of dignity kits). Discounting the beneficiaries of complementary services, i.e., Protection (2,242) and Nutrition (3,600) from the total number of beneficiaries (13,404), the result is 7,562 herder households, which roughly corresponds to the number of most vulnerable herder households initially targeted by the humanitarian community, which is 8,000.

<sup>14</sup>Adjusted to herder household units.

<sup>15</sup> See footnote 14.

<sup>16</sup>See footnote 15.

## Additional CERF Added value:

Based on the lessons of 2016 CERF implementation, the Humanitarian Country Team composed of NGOs, the Red Cross, UN agencies, donors, and the Government of Mongolia agreed on several measures to ensure effective and efficient implementation of CERF-supported humanitarian response for 2017 as follows:

- a) **Development of Standard Criteria for Selecting Beneficiaries and Providing Assistance:**  
Through the Humanitarian Country Team, partners agreed to prioritize the most vulnerable herder households identified through stringent vetting procedures and elaborate geographical identification based on the vulnerability criteria. The process allowed a more focused identification of most vulnerable populations targeted by humanitarian agencies. Please refer to page 5 for further information.
- b) **Elimination of Duplication of Services and Promoting Coordination:**  
Partners made sure that no two similar services were provided by diligently comparing the beneficiary list. CERF's detailed beneficiary list was shared with all partners for cross-checking, to ensure a beneficiary did not get the same type of services twice. Other partners also shared their beneficiary lists. The leadership from the Deputy Prime Minister's office in coordinating humanitarian response was highly commendable. It helped to eliminate duplication of services and promoted much-needed transparency when the severity of the winter increased, and more people sought humanitarian assistance.

The most vulnerable herder households have had several basic critical needs beyond the capacity of a single agency's services. For instance, basic nutrition for pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and wasting children called for the Nutrition Sector's intervention that resulted in 98 per cent of identified PLW and wasting children provided with the micro-nutrient supplements from UNICEF.

- c) **Increased Outreach to the Most Vulnerable Herder Households:**  
With the increasing gravity and scope of the harsh winter, more people were exposed to risk, thus requiring humanitarian assistance. The increase in outreach beyond the initial humanitarian target is explained as follows:
  - Following the inter-agency needs assessment in December 2016 led by the Government of Mongolia, 13,000 herder households were identified as in need of a combination of various humanitarian and development assistance, of which the most vulnerable 8,000 households were targeted by the humanitarian community.
  - The validation (vetting) of beneficiaries at the community level, led by local authorities, found at least 1,000 additional herder households were missed during a desk identification of CERF's target. These represented 33 per cent of the total CERF beneficiaries, or 7.69 per cent of 13,000 herder households that required one or a combination of basic humanitarian assistance.  
The Government confirmed that an increase in a number of the most vulnerable herder households was due to the growing severity and breadth of the harsh winter that continued to put the northern belt of the country at risk. Furthermore, local communities were aggravated by prolonged exposure to extreme weather elements as early as the summer (El Nino) of 2016.
  - The Government reported (refer to page 6 for details) at least 37,000 herder households from 110 soums of 16 aimags during the 2016 summer experienced severe drought, brought on by the El Nino phenomenon, and had become at risk due to a direct exposure to one or a combination of extreme temperature, rains, and sudden, heavy snowfall from as early as October 2016. The severity and impact of severe weather continued to expand until January 2017, when 43,759 herder households in 127 soums of the 17 aimags were reported at risk by the Government.
  - Thereafter, in February 2017, severe weather continued to affect 82,000 households (265,000 people) in 153 soums of 17 aimags, with at least 20,000 herder households with less than 200 heads of livestock and 6,726 'otor' herders or a total of 26,726 or 32.5 per cent at high risk and vulnerable to losing their herds.
  - The increased number of vulnerable populations prompted the government to deploy a significant amount of cash and non-cash resources to non-CERF most-affected locations that included snow-clearing equipment, as well as hay and fodder, to complement the services provided by humanitarian partners. CERF-targeted locations also benefitted from complementary government services of the equipment and health services.
  - The sudden increase in animal mortality of over 8 per cent, which was beyond the rate for a normal winter year of 2-5 per cent, in late of March 2017 in both CERF and non-CERF locations prompted humanitarian agencies and the government to expand the provision of humanitarian support and assist 23,818 herder households with one or a combination of cash grants, assorted non-food items, animal balanced-feed packages, health support services, dignity kits and multi-nutrient powder (vitamins and minerals). Over 10,414 herder households in non-CERF locations that were severely affected were assisted (refer to page 15). The partners agreed that the rapid and extensive humanitarian response, as well as the immediate action of the government prepositioning of hay and fodder as early as January 2017, resulted in low animal mortality during the 2017 severe winter.





## V. LESSONS LEARNED

TABLE 6: OBSERVATIONS FOR THE <u>CERF SECRETARIAT</u>		
Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/ improvement	Responsible entity
Confusion on the use of the cluster system in terms of whether these serve the purpose for emergency or development; mobilization and funding of clusters by Cluster Lead Agencies depend on formal activation of the clusters.	Raise awareness on the fact that the IASC can establish clusters in an emergency context where there is a need to strengthen sector coordination, otherwise it's UNCT at strategic level and sectors at operational level that coordinate the small to medium scale response or development activities, as some partners expressed an inability to mobilize their emergency funds for cluster / sector coordination, since the clusters were not formally established. As a result, cluster operations to render clusters functions-based responsibilities were minimal, while expectations were high.	CERF/RCO

TABLE 7: OBSERVATIONS FOR <u>COUNTRY TEAMS</u>		
Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/ improvement	Responsible entity
Better coordination, standardization of assistance packages, and sharing of beneficiary information fostered efficiency and reduced potential duplication of services.	Practice should continue.	Government/ HCT
The on-going development of an early warning system led by the RC Office is highly welcomed.	Efforts to support the Government to develop early warning system should continue.	HCT/ NEMA
Effective targeting and use of multi-purpose cash grants.	Future decisions on the use and size of multipurpose cash grant should be based on analysis of the household economy, size and composition, along with social entitlements.  The size of cash grants should consider the real needs of households based on their size (e.g. a household with a size of 3 members should not receive the same amount as a household of 6), duration of support needed (some locations endure longer and more severe winters) and their level of vulnerability.	HCT/ Cash Working Group
Frequent turnover of government counterparts reduced the efficiency of monitoring shared with government partners.	A system-wide capacity assessment and capacity-building of government partners as well as line departments is necessary, to support the government's launch of an effective humanitarian response. Capacity-building will include the provision of basic equipment, to ensure accurate monitoring of cases (e.g., providing weighing scales to MoH).	UNFPA FAO UNICEF
The HCT response to the Dzud should not be a recurrent event, and as such current initiatives by HCT and NEMA to develop early warning and preparedness action is a welcome development.	The RCO will continue supporting the government to develop early warning and preparedness action.	RCO/HCT/NEMA
Protection and early recovery elements could have been more mainstreamed into the development program and	Protection and gender should be mainstreamed in humanitarian action, including putting in place a mechanism for protecting women and girls in emergencies.	UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP.

<p>objectives, to meet humanitarian needs during a disaster.</p>	<p>Humanitarian action should not end with delivery of cash, animal supplies, and other services, but with a deliberate effort to link relief assistance to longer-term recovery objectives by responsible agencies, such as UNDP and humanitarian/development partners.</p>	
<p>Efforts to standardize the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) in order to foster a joint impact is highly welcomed.</p>	<p>The use of PDM to inform humanitarian programming and strategy should be encouraged. Humanitarian assessments and planning should benefit from the findings of PDMs to analyze outcomes and impact from users' perspectives in a systematic manner, rather than only relying on random assessments. On the other hand, the result of PDMs – which is based on statistical probability – provides a reliable basis for drawing conclusions.</p> <p>Continue standardizing PDM for similar activities based on select outcome indicators that are agreed by the HCT.</p> <p>PDM should be conducted by a third-party, to encourage reliability of assessment results.</p>	<p>RCO/HCT</p>
<p>The allocation of agricultural inputs based on the number of herds, rather than equal amount for all herder households had a strong, positive and equitable impact.</p>	<p>This practice should be continued, not only for the distribution of agricultural goods, but also for cash.</p>	<p>Cash Working Group (for further study)</p>
<p>Delay in the delivery of assistance to the beneficiaries was due to the lack of resources of the local authorities to provide fuel for the vehicle to clear inaccessible roads.</p>	<p>Fuel costs for responsible local government agencies should be included in the CERF proposal.</p>	<p>Proposing agencies.</p>
<p>Clusters/ sectors lack the necessary baseline information of their sectors.</p>	<p>Clusters/ sectors need to develop and update baseline data regularly for their sectors at the soum level.</p>	<p>Cluster Lead Agencies/ HCT</p>

## VI. PROJECT RESULTS

### Agriculture Sector

TABLE 8: PROJECT RESULTS						
CERF project information						
1. Agency:	FAO	5. CERF grant period:	20/01/2017-19/07/2017			
2. CERF project code:	17-RR-FAO-001	6. Status of CERF grant:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing			
3. Cluster/Sector:	Agriculture		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concluded			
4. Project title:	Provision of Animal Feed and Animal First Aid kits for most vulnerable herder households.					
7. Funding	a. Total funding requirements <sup>17</sup> :	US\$5,200,000	d. CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners:			
	b. Total funding received <sup>18</sup> :	US\$913,744	▪ <i>NGO partners and Red Cross/Crescent:</i>		US\$37,108	
	c. Amount received from CERF:	US\$700,000	▪ <i>Government Partners:</i>		US\$22,224	
Beneficiaries						
8a. Total number (planned and actually reached) of individuals (girls, boys, women, and men) <u>directly</u> through CERF funding (provide a breakdown by sex and age).						
Direct Beneficiaries	Planned			Reached		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Children (< 18)	2,300	2,300	4,600	2,298	2,905	5,203
Adults (≥ 18)	4,200	3,800	8,000	4,196	5,168	9,364
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>12,600</b>	<b>6,494</b>	<b>8,073</b>	<b>14,567</b>
8b. Beneficiary Profile						
Category	Number of people (Planned)		Number of people (Reached)			
Refugees						
IDPs						
Host population						
Other affected people			12,600		14,567	
<b>Total (same as in 8a)</b>			<b>12,600</b>		<b>14,567</b>	
<i>In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category distribution, please describe reasons:</i>	Unforeseen need to prevent the increase of animal deaths due to starvation allowed the remaining portion of FAO/CERF funding to assist the 500 most vulnerable herder households in nine soums, thereby increasing the total number of beneficiaries assisted through the provision of agricultural goods from 3,500 to 4,000, which was raised to 1,678 individuals.					

<sup>17</sup> This refers to the funding requirements of the requesting agency (agencies in case of joint projects) in the prioritized sector for this specific emergency.

<sup>18</sup> This should include both funding received from CERF and from other donors.

CERF Result Framework			
<b>9. Project objective</b>	Protect livelihoods and minimise loss of life of 3,500 drought and dzud-affected herder households through asset protection with animal feed and animal first aid kits.		
<b>10. Outcome statement</b>	The 3,500 most vulnerable herder households' primary livelihood assets in the target area were protected and their loss of life and livelihoods minimised.		
<b>11. Outputs</b>			
<b>Output 1</b>	Primary income assets of 3,500 households, including sheep, goats, cows, horses, yaks and camels have a survival rate of 50% as a result of receiving balanced animal feed packages for their livestock.		
<b>Output 1 Indicators</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Reached</b>
Indicator 1.1	3,500 households receive balanced animal feed packages	3,500 HH (6,500 women, 6,100 men)	4,000 HH (6,494 women, 8,073 men) 116%
Indicator 1.2	3,500 households receive animal first aid kits	3,500 HH (6,500 women, 6,100 men) 100%	4,000 HH (6,494 women, 8,073 men) 116%
Indicator 1.3	Reduced mortality rate by 50%	262,500 sheep head unit	Survival rate is 89%
<b>Output 1 Activities</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Implemented by (Planned)</b>	<b>Implemented by (Actual)</b>
Activity 1.1	Identification of beneficiaries	FAO/UNDP/Local Government	UNDP//FAO/Local Government
Activity 1.2	Procurement of balanced animal feed packages and animal first aid vet kits with FAO	FAO	FAO
Activity 1.3	Establishment of service contracts with providers via FAO	FAO	FAO
Activity 1.4	Orientation/ Briefing with local authorities and communities about the assistance	FAO/MOFALI/NEMA	FAO/INGOs such as Mercy Corps, Save the Children, People in Need and World Vision/EMD of Arkhangai, Khuvsgul, and Uvs aimags
Activity 1.5	Distribution of animal feed packages and provision of veterinary service on site under Service Contract with FAO	District government/FAO contractors	Under the TORs of FAO LoA 4 INGOs and 15 Districts Government offices and the Department of Food and Agriculture of Ulaanbaatar
Activity 1.6	Monitor survival rates of animals in the target locations	FAO/ MOFALI*/District Government	FAO/MOFALI
Activity 1.7	Post distribution monitoring/ spot checking inputs by FAO, Clusters and other Partners, as well as the RC Office	UNDP, Cluster and other Partners, RC Office	FAO/UNDP, Mercy Corps, Save the Children, and local government authorities, RC Office
Activity 1.8	Analysing emerging needs as part of regular monitoring and reporting to CERF	UNDP, Cluster and other Partners, RC Office	FAO/UNDP, Mercy Corps, Save the Children, People in

			Need and World Vision, MoFALI, NEMA, and beneficiary soums' authorities, RC Office
Activity 1.9	Submission of CERF final report	FAO	FAO

**12. Please provide here additional information on project's outcomes and in case of any significant discrepancy between planned and actual outcomes, outputs and activities, please describe reasons:**

There is no significant discrepancy between the planned and actual outcomes, outputs and activities that were observed in the implementation of the FAO/CERF-funded project. The smooth implementation of the project demonstrated a strong capacity of the project team to manage project risks caused by the continuation of extremely challenging weather conditions.

The project also capitalized on its strong partnership with the Government and INGO partners that facilitated a speedy delivery of agricultural goods to beneficiaries in remote, hard-to-reach locations. In particular, governments at the soum-level provided adequate storage space to stockpile the supplies and made the way to access remote locations through road-clearing. NGO partners facilitated the contact and transport of emergency agricultural goods to remote locations that were difficult to access.

**13. Please describe how accountability to affected populations (AAP) has been ensured during project design, implementation and monitoring:**

The actions to ensure the accountability to affected populations (AAP) included conducting community consultations in close cooperation with members of the agriculture cluster and the local authorities of beneficiary aimags and soums.

A joint Government-UN multi-sector rapid needs assessment was conducted in two of the most affected north-eastern provinces of Mongolia - Dornod, and Khentii. All herder households visited and interviewed consistently reported insufficient hay and fodder, as well as concentrated animal feed, first aid veterinary items to ensure the survival of their productive assets [NEMA-UN joint assessment, 13-17 Dec]. Based on the needs assessment, the project was designed to provide an animal survival package with goods that enable a balanced feed diet, including hay/fodder, protein-rich concentrate, vitamin-mineral supplements, milk replacer, and other feed components. Also, animal first aid vet kits were provided for the treatment of abrasions caused by digging for grass under hard snow and ice-covered pastures, as well as klieg eyes caused by excessive exposure to intense light from the snow. They were also used for controlling the external parasites generated from animals crowding together for warmth in shelters and other ailments for beneficiary herder households.

During the project design, the FAO and RCO organized meetings with the Agriculture Cluster and agreed to work closely with four-member INGOs such as the Mercy Corps (MC), People in Need (PIN), Save the Children (SC), and the World Vision (WV) for the distribution of animal survival package in areas where the INGOs had ongoing activities. In locations where INGOs were not present, the FAO and CERF project team worked directly with local authorities and local leaders.

At the project implementation stage, these four INGOs mentioned above and the 15 district government offices and the Department of Food and Agriculture of Ulaanbaatar acted as implementing partners of the project. In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Letter of Agreement issued with the FAO, they worked closely with local authorities and undertook arrangements to ensure secure reception and storage of livestock emergency packages in the soum center. They also organized the distribution of packages for beneficiary households within five working days after the delivery of goods was completed to the corresponding soums' center and the receipt of packages by each of the beneficiaries was certified by the FAO form 'delivery of goods'. Additionally, as per conditions in the Letter of Agreement, implementing partners – with the support of the respective soum's veterinary and animal breeding unit – conducted a random survey by selecting one out of each of the five beneficiary households or 20 percent of the total beneficiaries. For the survey the following five questions were used: How many animals have died so far? How, and how, much animal fodder was prepared to overcome the harsh winter and spring conditions? What problems were faced in preparation of a sufficient amount of hay and fodder? What were the challenges for marketing live animal and products of animal origin? And does the beneficiary household have a bank loan or debt? Upon completion of the designated services, all partners prepared and submitted their final reports, along with all the supporting documents including certification of receipts signed by each beneficiary herder household, to the FAO promptly.

During the implementation of the project, the project team did not receive any complaints from the beneficiaries that the animal survival package did not meet their needs.

5 per cent of all beneficiaries were interviewed for the CERF monitoring checklist. All interviewed beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the animal survival emergency package and how it met their emergency needs, enabling them to overcome the harsh winter and spring.

As planned, during the project monitoring stage, in addition to the presence of the implementing and government partners, the involvement of the Aimags' Department of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Emergency Management was ensured.

<b>14. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?</b>	EVALUATION CARRIED OUT <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The project has not been evaluated, but as agreed with UNDP’s Early Recovery team, the post-distribution monitoring of the CERF interventions and field spot-checking in soums of Arkhangai, Bayankhongor, Bayan-Ulgii, Bulgan, Khovd, Khuvsgul, Orkhon and Uvs aimags was conducted by the FAO. Systematic sampling was applied for the selection of beneficiaries for monitoring. This aimed at reviewing whether the principal beneficiaries were well-targeted, assessing if the emergency support packages met the needs of the beneficiaries and identifying additional support to meet emerging needs. The recommendations from the monitoring are indicated in the lessons learned section of this report. The sample size was 5 per cent of the total beneficiaries.</p>	EVALUATION PENDING <input type="checkbox"/>
	NO EVALUATION PLANNED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Early Recovery Sector

**TABLE 9: PROJECT RESULTS**

TABLE 9: PROJECT RESULTS						
CERF project information						
<b>1. Agency:</b>	UNDP		<b>5. CERF grant period:</b>	01/02/2017-30/06/2017		
<b>2. CERF project code:</b>	17-RR-UDP-001		<b>6. Status of CERF grant:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing		
<b>3. Cluster/Sector:</b>	Livestock			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concluded		
<b>4. Project title:</b>	Provision of multipurpose cash assistance to vulnerable herder households affected by dzud					
<b>7. Funding</b>	a. Total funding requirements <sup>19</sup> :	US\$1,300,000	d. CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners:			
	b. Total funding received <sup>20</sup> :	US\$407,614	▪ NGO partners and Red Cross/Crescent:		US\$ 0	
	c. Amount received from CERF:	US\$ 407,614	▪ Government Partners:		US\$ 0	
Beneficiaries						
<b>8a. Total number (planned and actually reached) of individuals (girls, boys, women, and men) directly through CERF funding (provide a breakdown by sex and age).</b>						
Direct Beneficiaries	Planned			Reached		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Children (< 18)	2,300	2,300	4,600	2,018	2,621	4,639
Adults (≥ 18)	4,200	3,800	8,000	3,589	4,662	8,251
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>12,600</b>	<b>5,607</b>	<b>7,283</b>	<b>12,890</b>
8b. Beneficiary Profile						
Category	Number of people (Planned)			Number of people (Reached)		
Refugees						
IDPs						
Host population						
Other affected people	12,600			12,890		
<b>Total (same as in 8a)</b>	<b>12,600</b>			<b>12,890</b>		
In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category distribution, please describe reasons:						

<sup>19</sup> This refers to the funding requirements of the requesting agency (agencies in case of joint projects) in the prioritized sector for this specific emergency.

<sup>20</sup> This should include both funding received from CERF and from other donors.



CERF Result Framework			
<b>9. Project objective</b>	To address time-critical survival needs of 3,500 subsistence herder families (12,600 people) in the regions most affected by the harsh winter.		
<b>10. Outcome statement</b>	To minimize the negative impact of dzud by meeting the basic, life-saving needs of 3,500 vulnerable herder households.		
<b>11. Outputs</b>			
<b>Output 1</b>	3,500 vulnerable herder households received cash to meet basic, life-saving needs.		
<b>Output 1 Indicators</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Reached</b>
Indicator 1.1	No. of poor herder households receiving emergency cash grants.	3,500	3,500
<b>Output 1 Activities</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Implemented by (Planned)</b>	<b>Implemented by (Actual)</b>
Activity 1.1	Identify beneficiary households in collaboration with local authorities, along with the Nutrition and Agriculture Cluster	UNDP	UNDP
Activity 1.2	Establish a working arrangement with the Cluster partners and a formal agreement with a local commercial bank	UNDP	UNDP
Activity 1.3	Provide emergency cash grants (USD100) to beneficiary households through a partner bank (Khan Bank)	UNDP	UNDP
Activity 1.4	Validate receipt of cash grants with households, monitoring of cash grant provision, analyse emerging needs and report to CERF	UNDP, Cluster and other partners, RC Office	UNDP, FAO and NEMA

**12. Please provide here additional information on project's outcomes and in case of any significant discrepancy between planned and actual outcomes, outputs and activities, please describe reasons:**

The project was implemented as planned. The CERF funding enabled UNDP to complement the life-saving assistance and initiate the early recovery response in dzud-affected areas, through the provision of multi-purpose cash grants. The cash grants were transferred to the beneficiaries' bank accounts at two banks, namely Khan Bank and the State Bank, in two installments on February 21<sup>st</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 respectively.

All of the targeted 3,500 vulnerable herder households received cash assistance, and they were able to purchase food staples, warm clothes, medicine, firewood, fuel, cellphone credits and other products needed to survive the harsh winter.

**13. Please describe how accountability to affected populations (AAP) has been ensured during project design, implementation and monitoring:**

The following actions were undertaken in collaboration with the local governments and partners to ensure accountability to the affected populations:

- A joint UN mission comprising of OCHA, UNDP, FAO, UNFPA, and UNICEF was organized in two of the highly affected provinces (Khentii and Dornod), to undertake a preliminary assessment of harsh winter conditions and identify the immediate humanitarian needs of affected communities from December 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> 2016. The mission team not only consulted with local Government officials on the harsh winter conditions, but also visited and interviewed a total of 13 herder households visited individually by the mission team in seven soums across two provinces;
- Based on the assessment findings, the overall selection criteria of targeted beneficiaries were identified through a wider consultation with humanitarian actors;
- The affected soums and beneficiary communities were identified in close consultation with the central and local Governments. A national database at the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare was a basis for initial selection of target households that are the recipients of the social welfare programme. The list was verified, cross-checked and validated through the local Government officials, *i.e.*, the soum and bagh Governors, as well as with social workers in each of the targeted soums;
- For accountability to communities and fairness in selecting target beneficiaries, the list of beneficiaries for humanitarian assistance was placed on public information boards of soum Governor Offices for three working days. Based on the grievances and feedback from the local communities, the list was cross-checked; and
- The CERF project implementation support unit ensured they received and responded to grievances from the local communities throughout the implementation process.

<b>14. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?</b>	EVALUATION CARRIED OUT <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>A Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was undertaken with the support of provincial Emergency Management Departments between April 17<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. The PDM aimed at reviewing whether the beneficiaries were well targeted, whether the humanitarian assistance packages met the survival needs of the beneficiaries and identifying whether further support is needed. Out of 3,500 beneficiary households, a total of 68 targeted households in 15 soums in 5 aimags and one district in Ulaanbaatar have been visited and interviewed. The key findings are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash assistance was well-timed and helped them to overcome the harsh winter with little or no loss of livestock, and hugely contributed to preventing households from going into debt.</li> <li>• 80.8 per cent of the surveyed households spent the cash on food, animal feed, medicine and warm clothes.</li> <li>• 60.3 per cent purchased firewood, fuel and cellphone credits.</li> </ul> <p>The survey and consultations with local authorities revealed that the selection criteria for the vulnerable herder households needed further improvement – namely, to consider the number of people per household, rather than only the number of animals.</p>	EVALUATION PENDING <input type="checkbox"/>
	NO EVALUATION PLANNED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## ANNEX 1: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

CERF Project Code	Cluster/Sector	Agency	Partner Type	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner US\$
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$16,343
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$16,168
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$1,212
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	INGO	\$3,384
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$939
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$2,515
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$572
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$2,519
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$1,702
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$2,971
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$1,765
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$1,674
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$908
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$908
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$1,675
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$602
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$756
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$756
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$756
17-RR-FAO-001	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$1,205

## ANNEX 2: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
ADRA	The Adventist Development and Relief Agency
CAG	Core Advisory Group
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross
IRIHME	Information and Research Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology, and Environment
MC	Mercy Corps
MNP	Multiple Micronutrient Powder
MoFALI	The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industries
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
MRC	Mongolian Red Cross
MRCS	Mongolian Red Cross Societies
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PaLW	Pregnant and Lactating Women
PDM	Post Distribution Monitoring
PIN	People in Need
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
SC	Save the Children
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Populations Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WVI	World Vision International
WVIM	World Vision International Mongolia