

FINANCING ACROSS THE NEXUS

November 2022



Fast, Timely, Catalytic, Needs-based, Impartial, Predictable, Cost-effective, Fostering partnerships and Promoting coordination, coherences and humanitarian principles

Catalytic, Timely, Risk-Tolerant

Catalytic, Transformative, Country-led for SDG acceleration

OBJECTIVES

To enable humanitarian partners to deliver life-saving assistance in a coordinated, prioritized and principled manner whenever and wherever humanitarian crises strike.

Drives cohesion of UN strategies across pillars. Responds quickly and with flexibility to opportunities for peacebuilding; catalyzes processes and resources in a risk-tolerant fashion.

Incentivizes integrated and transformative policy shifts; supports the UN's key role in convening and creating SDG financing strategies; makes catalytic investments that enable countries to leapfrog in their development.

Established in 2005 as the UN's global emergency response fund to pool voluntary contributions from donors around the world into a single fund, allowing humanitarian responders to deliver life-saving assistance whenever and wherever crises hit.

Established in 2005 by the GA and the SC, the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund is the organization's financial instrument of first resort to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk or affected by violent conflict.

Established in 2017 as a key piece of the reform of the UN Development System. The Secretary-General referred to the Joint SDG Fund as the "muscle" for RCs and a new generation of UNCTs to help countries to deliver the SDGs, through catalyzing integrated, transformative policy change and innovative financial investment.

FOCUS AREAS

- Health care
- Water & sanitation
- Food assistance
- Protection
- Agricultural support
- Services for refugees and IDPs
- Mine action
- Emergency education
- Camp management
- Early recovery
- Nutrition
- Shelter

- Implementation of peace agreements
- Dialogue & coexistence
- Peace Dividends & socioeconomic recovery
- Re-establishment of basic services
- Priority windows:**
 - Facilitating transition of UN configurations
 - Youth & women empowerment
 - Cross border & regional programming

- Works across the 17 SDGs to:**
 - Identify & activate SDG "accelerators"
 - Reinforce the SDG financing architecture & ecosystem
- Catalyze strategic programming & investments**
- Cross-cutting:**
 - Leaving no one behind
 - National capacity development

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- UN Agencies (direct)
 - Governments*
 - NGOs*
 - Red Cross/Red Crescent*
 - CSOs*
- *indirect sub-grantees

- UN Agencies
- CSOs
- Governments
- Regional organizations

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GRANTS

RR Rapid Response Window

Funding is allocated to sudden onset emergencies or following significant deterioration of an existing one. Also used for early response and anticipatory action for pre-approved contexts.

- 6-month projects
- Approvals within hours

UFE Underfunded Emergencies Window

Funding is allocated to sudden onset emergencies or least funded or forgotten emergencies during set funding rounds.

- 6-month projects

REVOLVING LOAN FACILITY
\$30 million, available to ALL UN Agencies

IRF Immediate Response Facility

- Projects up to 24 months
- Projects up to \$5 million

PRF Peacebuilding Recovery Facility

- Projects up to 36 months
- SG eligibility valid for 5 years
- Projects up to \$15-20 million/year

GPI Gender Promotion Initiative

YPI Youth Promotion Initiative

Annual competitive proposal due every June

Integrated Policy

Special emphasis on Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)

- Projects up to 24 months
- Projects up to \$2 million

Finance

- Enabling Environment: Projects up to 24 months, Projects up to \$1 Million
- Catalytic Investment: Projects up to 48 months, Projects up to \$10 million

DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

ACCOUNTABILITY

Performance and Accountability Framework encompassing

- Country reviews
- Evaluation
- Audits
- Grant reports
- Financial reports
- Annual Agency HQ Reports
- Annual Results Reports & SG Reports

- All projects evaluated
- Portfolio evaluation every 5 years – eligible countries
- Bi-annual reporting cycle
- Annual SG Report

- Independent technical assessment of proposals
- Quality assurance of final joint programmes
- External evaluation of all joint programmes
- Mid-term evaluation of the Joint SDG Fund

Submission

Reviews



Decision

Administration

Advisory Group

GOVERNANCE

- Humanitarian Coordinator
- UN Secretariat
- CERF Secretariat
- 19 CERF Advisory Group Members
- Under-Secretary-General/Emergency Relief Coordinator

- Resident Coordinator
- MPTFO
- PSG-PAC
- 10 Members
- ASG PBSO

- Resident Coordinator
- MPTFO
- ASG DCO
- 17 Members
- Operational Steering Committee*
- UN Secretariat

*5 UN agencies, chaired by UNDP

DONORS

131 Members States, **2** observers, **5** regional/local authorities and private donors

39 Members States

13 Members States and Private Donors

APPROVALS

INCEPTION	\$7.7 billion
2020	\$848 million
2021	\$548 million

INCEPTION	\$1.5 billion
2020	\$176 million
2021	\$195 million

INCEPTION	\$239 million
2020	\$42 million
2021	\$91 million

RECIPIENT COUNTRIES 2021

33 countries

31 countries

118 countries

COORDINATED AND SYNERGISTIC PLANNING AT COUNTRY LEVEL

Country leadership

Coordinated planning for any potential use of the three global pooled funds is done at country level. All three funds rely upon the leadership of the Resident Coordinator (and Humanitarian Coordinator where assigned) to facilitate planning and prioritization discussions across the UN Country Team (UNCT) and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). RCs call upon their own offices with their five key functions, OCHA, and any additional support deployed to their offices, in particular Peace and Development Advisers (PDAs) and Human Rights Advisers (HRAs), to assist in these planning and coordination tasks.

In consultation with UNCTs and HCTs, including the Results Group chairs and Cluster coordinators, the RCs or RC/HC draws on the Common Country Analysis and Cooperation Framework and where relevant and appropriate Humanitarian Needs Overviews and Humanitarian Response Plans, to ensure full alignment of any global pooled fund submissions to agreed priorities.

The RC or RC/HC is the UN official that ultimately submits proposals – counter-signed by partners where appropriate – to the global pooled funds. As such, the RC carries a leadership accountability, in addition to the specific implementation accountabilities of the agencies, funds and programmes (AFPs) receiving funds. The RC or RC/HC similarly leads on building the

relationship with the relevant authorities to ensure that they are involved in the appropriate measure regarding any proposals submitted. The RC is accountable for the overall results of joint programmes financed through the Joint SDG Fund, the Peacebuilding Fund, as well as CERF. The RC or RC/HC also leads on any UN-system wide communications at country level pertaining to the allocation and use of the funds. Generally speaking, project-specific reporting is done by the recipient AFPs, however the RC or RC/HC has at a minimum the requirement to monitor that all reporting requirements are met, and depending upon the fund in question, may have additional reporting roles.

Planning and monitoring tools

Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs): HNOs are produced to support the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in developing a shared understanding of the impact and evolution of a crisis and to inform response planning. The HNO presents a comprehensive analysis of the overall humanitarian situation and associated needs.

Common Country Analysis (CCA): CCAs are the UN system's independent, impartial, and collective assessment (i.e., a description of a country situation) and analysis (i.e., a description of causes and their implications) of a country situation for internal use in developing the Cooperation Framework. CCAs examine progress, gaps, opportunities, and bottlenecks vis-à-vis a country's commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda, UN norms and standards, and the principles of the UN Charter, including as reflected in the Cooperation Framework Guiding Principles. Published as a UN analysis, CCAs draw from and add to existing data, statistics, analyses, reviews, research, capacities and resources from within and outside the UN system, including the HNO and any conflict analyses that may have been done. The UN CCA is not a one-off event and is now a core analytical function of the UN. Therefore, CCA tracks situational developments and informs the UN system's work on a continuous basis hence it is updated annually. The CCA process encourages a shared understanding of risks and vulnerabilities and context-specific complementarity of actors.

Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP): The HRP is the presentation of a coordinated and strategic response by humanitarian organizations to meet the acute needs of people affected by the emergency. It is based on the evidence of the needs described in the HNO and addresses them. HRP is a management tool for the humanitarian coordinator (HC) and Humanitarian Country Teams and also serve as a resource mobilization tool.

UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF): The UNSDCF is the most important instrument for the planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in each country, in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to be prepared and finalized in full consultation and agreement with national Governments. The UNSDCF duration is flexible (usually a 3-5 year period) to allow for alignment to national cycles and ensure a responsive framework in changing country contexts. It remains responsive to emerging and unforeseen country needs through annual reviews of progress towards strategic priorities, outcomes and outputs, and assessment of significant changes. The CF is implemented through country programming instruments of UN development entities which are translated into UN Joint Work Plans that specify UN entity (individual or joint) planned contributions to UNSDCF outputs.

[Humanitarian] Financial Tracking System (FTS): FTS is a centralized source of curated, continuously updated information on humanitarian funding flows. Government donors, UN-administered funds, UN agencies, NGOs and other humanitarian actors and partners exchange data and information with FTS to provide visibility of their financial contributions to humanitarian activities and information on funding flows between donors (government and private) and operational humanitarian actors (UN agencies, the Red Cross Movement, NGOs and CSOs). FTS also enables timely monitoring of funding progress against HRP and appeal requirements.

UN Info: UN Info is a global web-based platform that covers all development programming of the UN at the country level, using the UNSDCF and their corresponding Joint Work Plans as the central organizing tool. It tracks programmatic, financial and partnership information of the UNCT as well as the results at the Outcome and Output level. It does not include humanitarian activities.

Synergies

The three global funds cover distinct areas of work. In addition, communications to the country level for each of the funds goes through the UN Resident Coordinator or RC/HC. For these reasons, there is no risk of duplication. There is, however, potential for greater synergies. Ambitions include:

More attention to joint analytics and risk assessment: UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and Humanitarian Teams (HCTs) can more proactively interact at the time of their respective analytical stages to better address underlying drivers of need. Some assessments, especially forward-looking risk and vulnerability exercises, could be done jointly, in order to inform humanitarian, peacebuilding and development planning. In the case of anticipatory action in particular, there may be opportunities to initiate complementary development actions. Doing this effectively may require more capacity in support of Resident Coordinator Offices (for example nexus advisers).

Greater use of 'collective outcomes': Collective outcomes are those outcomes to which humanitarian, development and peacebuilding activities contribute, if the local context allows. For example, in the case of a large humanitarian caseload – say an IDP population – humanitarian action may provide life-saving support whereas development programming might strengthen existing local capacities – perhaps of local government – to deliver services or improve the policy, institutional and legal framework for integration of IDPs (as proposed by the SG's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement under the priority of development solutions).

Greater use of the Cooperation Framework, in coordination with the HRP: The UNSDCF provides the perfect planning instrument for all UN action that is undertaken in partnership with the host country Government. Peacebuilding actions included in UNSDCFs can be financed by PBF; a portion of collective outcomes can be anchored in the UNSDCF, to which actions in the HRP, perhaps financed by CERF or Country-Based Pooled Funds, can contribute; and joint programs addressing UNSDCFs outcomes are financed by the Joint SDG Fund – both for integrated policy support and SDG financing.

Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF): An INFF and the associated National SDG Financing Strategy, provides a mapping of overall financing flows towards SDGs (including both public and private) in a specific country, and identifies ways to accelerate financing towards SDGs. In countries where these have been completed, the SDG financing strategy (as part of the INFF) provides a useful framework that can be used to identify ways that contributions from the three Global Funds can be used to catalyze additional resources and partnerships for action to influence the overall SDG Financing. Many of the INFFs and SDG financing strategies have focused on wider social protection and other service sectors that are and can be activated to support transitions from humanitarian to development efforts. They have also focused on identifying financial flows and setting up monitoring systems for sustainable development finance as well as wider social protection and other service sectors that are and can be activated for humanitarian and transition purposes.

Greater articulation of synergies with country-level funding, including country-based pooled funds: In many countries, humanitarian, development and other thematic or region-specific country-level pooled funds exist. These funds allow the pooling of contributions from funding partners to support the delivery of prioritized actions. Many active sustainable-development oriented pooled funds are devised to contribute to UNSDCF implementation, whereas the OCHA-managed country-based pooled funds mainly support HRP priorities. Coordinated planning efforts, with the tools listed above, can support the use of the global funds in complementarity with those of the various country-level pooled funds. Effort should be made to strengthen the articulation of this complementarity when applicable. Greater clarity can also be provided of how the global funds supplement and work with other funding flows, beyond those provided through pooled fund mechanisms.