

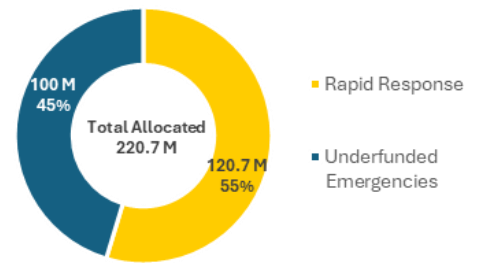
This background document provides an overview of CERF’s humanitarian responses so far in 2024 (page 1) and highlights key allocations since the Advisory Group meeting in December 2023 (page 2). More comprehensive, detailed, and real-time allocation information is available in CERF’s online information tools, including the [CERF online allocation tracker](#), the [CERF Data Hub](#), and the [Pooled Funds Data Hub](#).

**CERF IN ACTION**

The dire global humanitarian situation witnessed in 2023 has persisted into 2024, reflecting ongoing challenges and urgent needs for humanitarian assistance. According to the 2024 Global Humanitarian Overview, close to 300 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance (as of April 2024). In response, CERF has since the start of the year allocated \$220.7 million to enable partners to deliver life-saving assistance to millions of people in 25 countries.

**Jump-starting responses to emergent crises:** Between January 1<sup>st</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>, CERF has continued to be a catalyst for urgent responses to new and rapidly escalating crises worldwide. With \$120.7 million allocated through its Rapid Response (RR) window, CERF’s swift and decisive action has significantly expedited vital aid delivery, with some CERF-funded projects starting as early as 1 working day after the initial funding request.

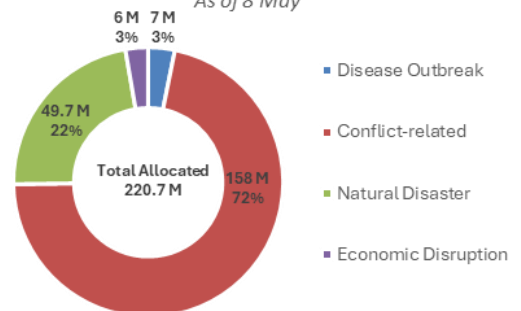
CERF FUNDING BY WINDOW (in US\$)  
As of 8 May



**Boosting underfunded operations:** In its ongoing commitment to strengthen underfunded humanitarian operations, CERF has in the first UFE round of 2024 allocated \$100 million to seven countries<sup>1</sup>. In line with the approach in the second UFE round of 2023, CERF continued to advance Accountability to Affected People by committing an additional dedicated funding envelope of up to \$4 million – on top of the UFE funding – to help strengthen collective measures to a) identify and promote the inclusion of minorities and marginalized groups, b) improve people’s access to information and c) systematically gather and evaluate beneficiary perceptions, including through collective feedback mechanisms. Further, in line with the commitments of the Grand Bargain and as per earlier UFE rounds, the ERC encouraged UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinators (RC/HCs) receiving UFE funding to engage local and national partners in the strategic prioritization of UFE allocations and has also called on them to set a benchmark for the percentage of resources being sub-granted to national and local partners.

**Responding to the main drivers of humanitarian needs:** As conflict remains a dominant driver of humanitarian needs worldwide, \$158 million or 71.5 per cent of total CERF allocations has so far this year been allocated to support critical humanitarian operations in countries affected by armed violence and conflicts. Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Syrian Arab Republic have to date received the largest amounts of funding in response to conflict-related crises and collectively account for nearly half of CERF’s funding that has been allocated in response to conflicts within this timeframe. Another 49.7 million, or 22.5 per cent of the total resources, has been allocated to address natural disasters - all have been linked to climate and weather-related events. This has been mostly driven by CERF’s proactive allocations to respond to El Niño-induced shocks (see page 2). In addition, \$13 million (6 per cent) has been allocated to respond to other drivers of humanitarian needs, including cholera outbreaks (\$7 million) along with severe economic disruptions (\$6 million).

CERF FUNDING BY EMERGENCY TYPE (in US\$)  
As of 8 May



**Enabling critical humanitarian activities:** While CERF has continued to enable a holistic response across all humanitarian sectors, the top funded sectors so far in the year have been food security (\$42 million), water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) (\$19 million), nutrition (\$17 million), and health (\$16 million).

<sup>1</sup> Chad (\$15 million), the DRC (\$20 million), Honduras (\$6 million), Lebanon (\$9 million), Niger (\$10 million), Sudan (\$20 million), Syria (\$20 million)

## ALLOCATION HIGHLIGHTS SINCE THE DECEMBER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

*Since the Advisory Group meeting in December 2023, CERF has responded to multiple emergencies worldwide. The below highlights some of the allocations made by CERF.*

**El Niño Allocations** (see [infographic](#)): Following the World Meteorological Organization's declaration of an El Niño event in July 2023, CERF adopted a proactive strategy for the 2023-2024 El Niño. An independent [review](#) of CERF's response to the severe El Niño episode of 2015-2016 identified opportunities for improvement, particularly in disbursing funds earlier. Consequently, CERF has taken early steps to reduce human losses and enhance cost-effectiveness by focusing on early action where possible, in addition to rapid response allocations. **This proactive approach has enabled earlier and more effective responses to El Niño in nine countries (Angola, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mongolia, Somalia, Timor-Leste, Zambia, and Zimbabwe), assisting around 2.1 million people through a total of \$62.1 million allocated<sup>2</sup>.** Funding towards early action represented over one-third of the total amount allocated. Ethiopia is so far the top recipient country, receiving \$25 million to mitigate the impacts of both floods and drought induced by El Niño.

**Sudan:** A year after war erupted, Sudan is facing one of the fastest unfolding crises globally, with about 25 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and the country facing a risk of famine. Anticipating a deteriorating situation up to the lean season, in February 2024 **CERF responded with an allocation of \$15 million through its RR window, targeting over 195,000 people. This was followed by an UFE allocation of \$20 million in April 2024**, with a two-pronged approach focusing on displacement and food security. The CERF-funded response, complementary to projects financed through the Sudan Humanitarian Fund, is enabling direct action in food security, nutrition, WASH, and protection sectors. Since the beginning of the war, CERF has released \$151 million to ensure essential care, protection and basic services for the millions of people affected by conflict and displacement both inside Sudan and in neighboring countries. Together with allocations of over \$124 million from the OCHA-managed Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) in Sudan and South Sudan, this has helped to sustain the humanitarian response at a uniquely challenging time of widespread and severe needs.

**The DRC:** Exceptional rainfall since December 2023 triggered widespread flooding in the DRC, causing significant infrastructure damage across numerous provinces and affecting over 2.1 million people. In response, **in February 2024, CERF swiftly allocated \$6 million from its RR window to enable UN agencies and partners to deliver life-saving assistance to some 480,000 individuals**, including vulnerable groups, in the most flood-affected areas. The allocation serves as a crucial injection of early funds, empowering UN agencies and partners to promptly initiate timely relief efforts. In February 2024, **CERF also allocated \$20 million from its UFE window**, to enable life-saving and multi-sectoral humanitarian action in response to the displacement crisis in North and South Kivu. This CERF allocation was complemented by an additional \$20 million from the DRC Humanitarian Fund, which focuses on allocating funds directly to local and national organizations and strengthening the capacities of partners.

**Mali:** Central and northern regions of Mali are currently grappling with a sharp deterioration of food insecurity levels – with over 121,000 people projected to be in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 2,575 in Phase 5 (Catastrophe) in the upcoming lean season – and the arrival of 70,000 refugees, mostly from Burkina Faso. In response to these two crises, in April **CERF allocated \$11 million from its RR window to initiate life-saving humanitarian action for close to 327,000 people affected by the dual crisis.** The CERF allocation responds to the immediate food and nutrition needs of people facing severe food insecurity in the regions of Menaka, Gao and Mopti. In addition, it will assist the newly arrived refugees through multi-sectoral assistance in the regions of San, Bandiagara and Mopti. CERF-funded response aims to mitigate immediate life-threatening risks and prevent further deteriorations in the food security status of at-risk populations during the lean season.

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<sup>2</sup> At the cutoff date, two additional allocations for El Niño-related floods are in the pipeline but not yet endorsed by the ERC: **Kenya (\$3 million) and Burundi (\$2.5 million).**

## CERF ALLOCATIONS IN 2024 (As of 8 May 2024)

Country	Rapid Response US\$	Underfunded Emergencies US\$	Total Funds Allocated US\$	Percentage of Total
Sudan	15.0 M	20.0 M	35.0 M	15.9%
DRC	6.0 M	20.0 M	26.0 M	11.8%
Syrian Arab Republic		20.0 M	20.0 M	9.1%
Ethiopia	17.0 M		17.0 M	7.7%
Chad		15.0 M	15.0 M	6.8%
Haiti	12.0 M		12.0 M	5.4%
Mali	11.0 M		11.0 M	5.0%
Niger		10.0 M	10.0 M	4.5%
South Sudan	10.0 M		10.0 M	4.5%
Lebanon		9.0 M	9.0 M	4.1%
Zambia	8.0 M		8.0 M	3.6%
Mozambique	7.5 M		7.5 M	3.4%
Yemen	7.0 M		7.0 M	3.2%
Honduras		6.0 M	6.0 M	2.7%
Republic of Congo	3.6 M		3.6 M	1.6%
Angola	3.0 M		3.0 M	1.4%
Kenya	3.0 M		3.0 M	1.4%
Madagascar	3.0 M		3.0 M	1.4%
Zimbabwe	3.0 M		3.0 M	1.4%
Mauritania	3.0 M		3.0 M	1.4%
Timor-Leste	2.1 M		2.1 M	0.9%
Malawi	2.0 M		2.0 M	0.9%
Somalia	2.0 M		2.0 M	0.9%
Mongolia	1.6 M		1.6 M	0.7%
Comoros	1.0 M		1.0 M	0.5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>120.7 M</b>	<b>100.0 M</b>	<b>220.7 M</b>	<b>100.0%</b>