

CERF FUNDING FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY



These guidelines outline the common safety and security activities that fall within the scope of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

I. OVERVIEW

Safety and security are essential to enable humanitarian agencies to reach affected people and safely and effectively deliver assistance.

These guidelines are intended for use by RC/HCs and country teams, as well as OCHA, to guide the prioritization, formulation and selection of CERF grant requests.

II. CERF LIFE-SAVING CRITERIA

Support for common safety and security activities is in line with the [CERF Life-Saving Criteria](#):

Sector	Activities
Safety and Security	Provision of common security measures for safe delivery of humanitarian efforts

III. GUIDELINES

Proposals to CERF should convey critical security gaps that have to be addressed in order to carry out emergency humanitarian activities. CERF funds for common safety and security will only be considered under two circumstances:

1. A new emergency where there are critical security gaps for common safety and security services
2. In on-going complex emergencies, on an exceptional basis, when there is a deterioration of the situation and when humanitarian activities are hampered by insecurity

CERF funding for common safety and security generally falls under two basic categories:

1. Security equipment to achieve UN MOSS compliance: Only security equipment, which are part of the approved country MOSS or a specific Security Risk Assessment may be funded. Funding for other equipment must be funded by other donors or by the agency itself.
2. Specific security projects, e.g., Security Information Operations Cell, which can benefit all UN field agencies and INGOs/NGOs; surge deployment of security officers (but no new recruitment); management of emergency communications system; and quick refresher trainings to enhance the safety and security of UN Personnel as part of a larger project.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR CERF SUBMISSIONS AND SPECIFIC EXPLANATION FOR NARRATIVE AND BUDGET LINES

Beneficiary of the service: Provision of safety and security services must benefit the wider humanitarian community.

Sustainability: The requesting agency should ensure that the project is sustainable. The overall management and all operational costs of the deployed infrastructure and personnel should be described in the project. The activities should be financially sustainable beyond the contribution from CERF, e.g., with all participating agencies agreeing to cost sharing in the future.

Staff costs: CERF will typically only support security as a common service. CERF does not cover technical experts and consultants at the regional or headquarters levels.

Training: CERF only funds quick refresher training. Training costs should be limited.

Initial safety and security assessments: As per other sectors, CERF will not fund initial assessments for provision of safety and security services. Consideration will only be given to exceptions for inter-agency assessments including initial safety and security requirements on a case-by-case basis.

IV. Funding arrangements

UNDSS cannot receive CERF funding directly. Thus, UNDP (in rare instances WFP) submits CERF project proposals on behalf of UNDSS, countersigns the approval letter and receives funding. As a result, UNDP (or WFP) is responsible for the implementation of the project, accountability and oversight, and financial reporting. Where UNDSS does not have a presence, other agencies that provide common security and safety measures can also apply for CERF funding.

All CERF project proposals need to be cleared by the Designated Official (DO) and UNDSS headquarters, prior to the RC/HC submitting the proposal to the CERF secretariat.¹

The DO has the responsibility to ensure that security requirements and initiatives are an integral component of humanitarian operations. The DO is responsible for ensuring the efficacy and appropriateness of the overall security sector.

¹ UNDSS is responsible to ensure that the clearance is obtained as quickly as possible so as not to impede the RC/HC's submission.