



United Nations

CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

People in Sindh and elsewhere face floods again in Pakistan.

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QUARTERLY UPDATE

3rd Quarter 2011

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is a humanitarian fund established by the United Nations to enable more timely and reliable humanitarian response to those affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts. CERF was approved by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 December 2005 to achieve the following objectives:

- promote early action and response to reduce loss of life;
- enhance response to time-critical requirements; and
- strengthen core elements of humanitarian response in underfunded crises.

Grants from CERF are made through rapid response or underfunded grants. Rapid response grants are made in response to sudden onset emergencies or rapidly deteriorating conditions in an existing emergency. Underfunded grants support activities within existing humanitarian response efforts that have not attracted sufficient resources.

CERF is funded through the voluntary contributions of governments and private sector donors such as corporations, individuals and private organizations.

CERF was created by all nations, for all potential victims of disasters. It represents a real opportunity to provide predictable and equitable funding to those affected by natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies.

This newsletter provides a quarterly overview of the income and expenditures of CERF. Since its inception, CERF has committed over \$2 billion to humanitarian agencies working in 82 countries and territories.

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Highlights

Horn of Africa Funding Latest

More than 13 million people remain in urgent need of assistance in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti. Since the beginning of the year, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has allocated more than \$128 million from the CERF in response to this catastrophe. Nearly 73 per cent of this—\$93.4 million—was provided in this third quarter.

The scale and severity of the crisis in Somalia makes it by far the most serious food security emergency in the world today. A state of famine has already been declared in six areas and is at risk of spreading further. Some \$53 million has been provided for the response in Somalia from the CERF, enabling UN agencies and their partners to intervene rapidly and as comprehensively as possible given the extremely challenging circumstances.

The effects of the drought and ensuing food crisis are also severely felt in Ethiopia and Kenya, where in addition to the urgent needs of their own population, both countries have received thousands of Somali refugees each day. The CERF has allocated more than \$46 million to UN agencies in Ethiopia and \$23 million for agencies in Kenya. A further \$6 million has been provided for the humanitarian response in Djibouti, where there are also urgent, time-critical needs.

Funding for the CERF

Despite the challenging global financial context, the CERF has now received \$450.4 million in pledges and contributions so far in 2011. CERF is on track to exceed the \$450 million target set for it by the General Assembly for the second time since 2006.

The CERF also continues to expand its support base. Twelve former donors have returned to the contributor's list in 2011, and the CERF has received contributions from several first-time donors including Serbia and the Regional Government of Flanders.

The CERF has now received support from 124 Member States and Observers, together with other public and private donors. Some 36 CERF contributors have also benefited from the Fund.



A residential area in Mogadishu, Somalia
© Kate Holt/IRIN

The Five-Year Evaluation of the CERF

The five-year evaluation of the CERF was completed in July, marking a major milestone for the Fund. The evaluation provides a positive assessment of the CERF's first five years overall and also identifies areas for improvement. Its recommendations will help the Fund to become even more effective and accountable. A management response plan has been developed by the CERF Secretariat to chart the way forward.

The evaluation found that the CERF had strengthened humanitarian coordination, and that agencies were more likely to work in collaborative and inclusive ways when funding was made available from the CERF. The CERF has improved the predictability of humanitarian financing, both for new emergencies and for chronic, underfunded emergencies. The CERF's rapid response window in particular was found to be one of the quickest funding mechanisms available, and had become increasingly quicker during its first five years.

In line with OCHA's Guidelines on Management Response and Follow-Up to Evaluations, the CERF Secretariat developed OCHA's Management Response Plan (MRP) to the five-year evaluation in consultation with a variety of stakeholders both inside and outside of the UN Secretariat. The Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms. Valerie Amos, then approved the MRP. Implementation of the follow-up actions contained in the MRP will be tracked by the CERF Secretariat and the MRP periodically updated before the meetings of the CERF Advisory Group.

The full report from the five-year evaluation and the management response plan are available on the CERF website.

The CERF's Advisory Group

The Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of six new members to the CERF's Advisory Group in September. Twelve of the Advisory Group's eighteen members will continue to serve, helping to preserve the Group's institutional memory. The CERF's Advisory Group provides policy guidance and expert advice on the use and impact of the CERF through the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms. Amos, who manages day-to-day operations of the Fund on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Members of the Advisory Group serve in their individual capacity, rather than as representatives of their countries or governments. They include government officials from contributing and recipient countries, representatives of humanitarian non-governmental organizations, and academic experts, carefully selected on the basis of their humanitarian expertise, as well as geographical and gender balance.

The members are Mr. Carlos Eduardo Zaballa (Argentina), Mr. Jan Vandemoortele (Belgium), Mr. Milton Rondó Filho (Brazil), Mr. Stephen Salewicz (Canada), Mr. Hong Zhu (China), Ms. Satu Helinä Lassila (Finland), Mr. Barges Hamoud Al Barges (Kuwait), Mr. Mohameden Ould Zein (Mauritania), Ms. Saadatou Mallam Barmou (Niger), Mr. Silvano Langa (Mozambique), Ms. Biya Han (Republic of Korea), Ms. Janina Ochojska (Poland), Mr. Abdullah Muhammad Al-Sowaidi (Qatar), Mr. Marius Daniel Dogeanu (Romania), Mr. Mikael Lindvall (Sweden), Mr. Osman Nüvit Bektas (Turkey), Ms. Sue Wardell (United Kingdom) and Mr. Jon Brause (United States).

The next meeting of the CERF Advisory Group is taking place on 26 and 27 October 2011 in New York. More information about the Advisory Group, its members and its work, is available on the CERF website at cerf@un.org.



IDPs searching for water in Mogadishu, Somalia
© Mohamed Amin Jibril/IRIN

Rapid Response Emergencies

Funding by Country

While the \$128 million allocated to the **Horn of Africa** crisis accounts for more than a third of all CERF allocations during 2011 to date from both the Rapid Response and Underfunded window, several other emergencies benefited from the Fund's Rapid Response window during this quarter.

South Sudan's declaration of independence in early July 2011 took place in the context of heightened tensions along its northern border, and at least 110,000 people were displaced following violence in the town of Abyei. More than \$11 million was made available from the CERF to allow UN agencies to provide assistance to people displaced by the conflict. With CERF support humanitarian organizations were quick to respond ensuring sustained support for the most vulnerable among the affected population.

CERF has allocated \$17.6 million to provide water, food, shelter and healthcare to thousands of families devastated by floods in **Pakistan**. The assistance will target the most vulnerable families living in temporary settlements in the eight hardest-hit districts of Sindh, in southern Pakistan. IOM, UN Habitat, UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA will deliver the assistance in support of Government-led relief and recovery efforts.

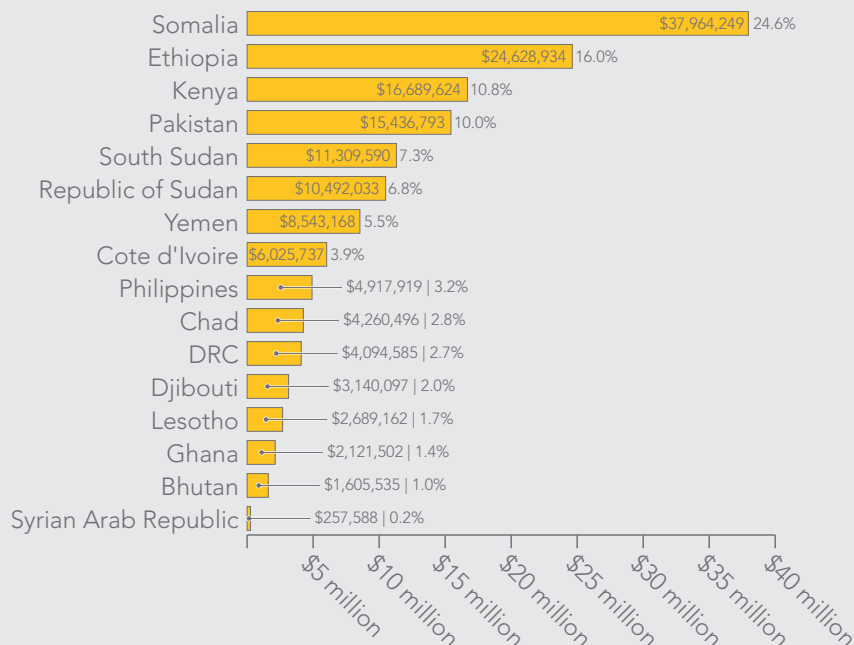
The CERF provided some \$2.7 million to respond to a food security crisis in **Lesotho** in September. Food security assessments demonstrated that food shortages caused by heavy rains and flooding in late 2010 and early 2011 had combined with already high food prices to cause acute vulnerability, particularly among poorer households. CERF funds will enable partners to support farmers in advance of the next planting season and carry out food-for-work programmes that provide short-term food inputs to the most vulnerable and medium-term community benefits.

An earthquake of magnitude 6.9 on the Richter Scale struck **Bhutan** on 18 September damaging more than 8,000 homes as well as much infrastructure throughout the country. In response, the CERF provided \$1.6 million for the provision of emergency shelter support to more than 3,300 people.



A man carries a child through the flood waters in Digri, Sindh province. Southern Pakistan has been struck by severe monsoon floods 12 months after last year's devastating flood emergency that affected most of the country
© UNICEF Pakistan/2011/Warrick Page

RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING by COUNTRY 1 July to 30 September 2011



Underfunded Emergencies

Funding by Country

During the second underfunded round of 2011, finalized on 30 September, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated nearly \$60 million for emergencies in ten countries.

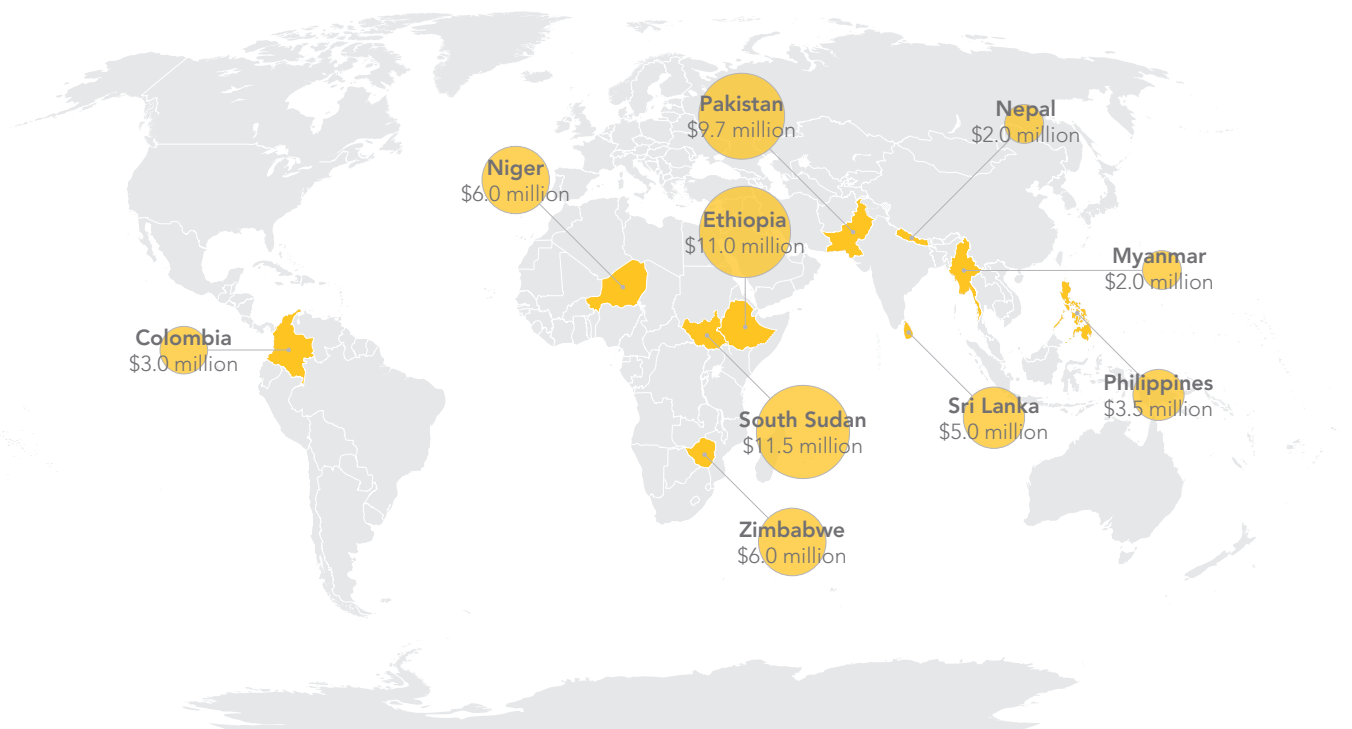
The largest recipient during this round was the Humanitarian Country Team in newly independent South Sudan, which received \$11.5 million. Funding was provided against the Consolidated Appeal (CAP), which had received just 37 per cent of the funding needed at the time of the allocation, and supported UN agencies assisting thousands of people returning to South Sudan after independence. This was in addition to the \$11 million rapid response allocation in July.

Ethiopia and Pakistan were also major recipients during this underfunded round, with \$11 million and \$10 million allocated respectively. In Ethiopia underfunded response funding was used to address drought and food insecurity in Oromiya Region as well as the need of refugees from Eritrea. In Pakistan the CERF enabled UN agencies to address acute vulnerability relating to the ongoing conflict in the north-west.

In addition, Niger received \$6 million to enhance health and food security programmes. Humanitarian partners in Zimbabwe received \$6 million for cholera, protection and drought response activities. The Humanitarian Country Team in Sri Lanka utilized a \$5 million allocation to assist people returning to their homes after the conflict. Protection, education, health and food security programmes for conflict-affected communities in Mindanao, the Philippines benefited from a \$3.5 million allocation. UN agencies in Colombia were allocated \$3 million to assist millions affected by the ongoing conflict. Myanmar received \$2 million for humanitarian projects in Northern Rakhine State. Finally, \$2 million was allocated to Nepal for assistance to refugees from Bhutan.



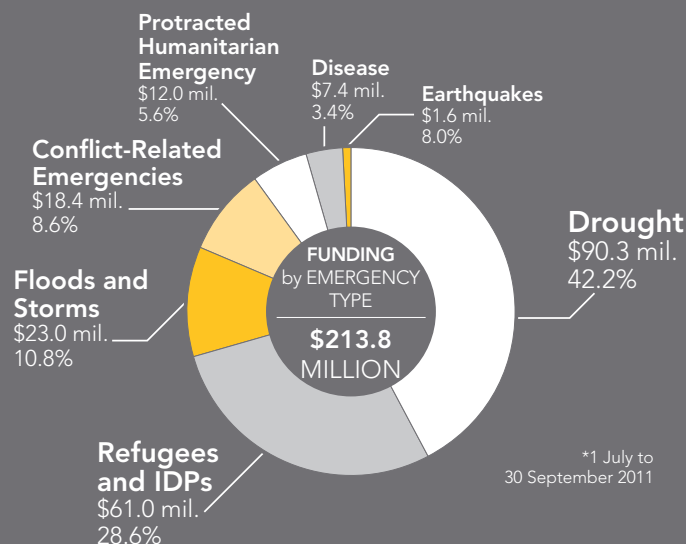
Southern Sudanese returnees await departure from Khartoum before traveling to Bentiu, Unity State
© UN Photo/Paul Banks



The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The colour shades depicted define the coverage of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' (OCHA) Regional and Sub-Regional Offices and do not represent boundaries or frontiers recognized by the United Nations Secretariat or OCHA. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu & Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Funding by Emergency Type

Drought response in the Horn of Africa accounts for the largest proportion of funding made available from the CERF during this quarter at 41 per cent. Allocations provided to refugee and IDP-related emergencies in nine countries were also substantial at 29 per cent. Floods and storms received 11 per cent of the quarter's allocations while conflict-related emergencies accounted for just 9 per cent of allocations.

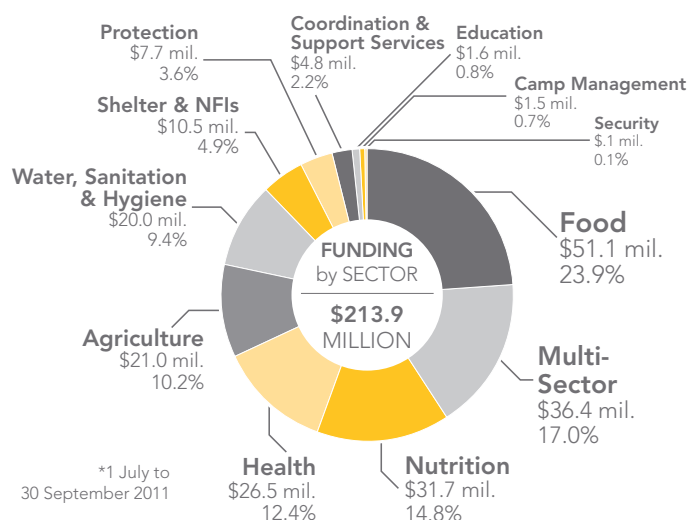


Funding by Sector

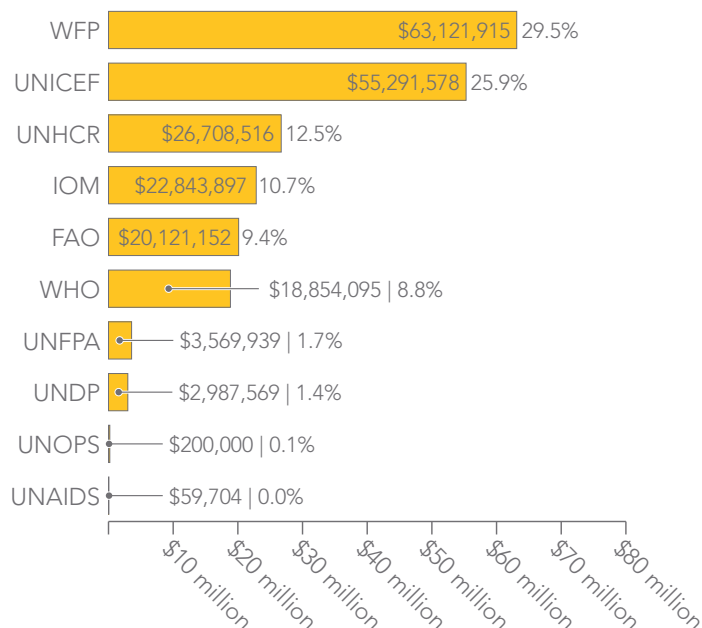
Consistent with previous quarters, the Food sector is the biggest recipient of funding from the CERF (24 per cent), followed by Multi-sector projects primarily for refugees (17 per cent), and Nutrition-based interventions (15 per cent).

Funding by Agency

Given its major role in the Horn of Africa food crisis, it comes as no surprise to find that WFP was the largest recipient of CERF funding during this quarter (30 per cent). UNICEF (26 per cent) and UNHCR (12 per cent) were the second and third biggest recipients respectively.



FUNDING by AGENCY 1 July to 30 September 2011



A woman spreads out small fish, minnows, on cloth nets to dry in the sun in Bondo, Nyanza province, Kenya
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