

Somalian refugees wait to be registered at Dadaab refugee camp in north eastern Kenya. © Kate Holt/IRIN

QUARTERLY UPDATE

2nd 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.

CERF Secretariat
United Nations
Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
380 Madison Avenue (6th floor)
United Nations - New York
cerf@un.org
<http://cerf.un.org>

Highlights

CERF Allocates US\$59.7 Million to the Horn of Africa

In response to the intensifying crisis in the Horn of Africa, Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Valerie Amos has allocated US\$59.7 million in July from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to provide urgent life-saving assistance. Among other projects, this funding will enable the delivery of over 40,000 metric tons of food and mass-vaccinations of live-stock. This is in addition to a \$30 million allocation made in early 2011.

Increase in Rapid Response Allocations

The first half of 2011 was a relatively quiet one for CERF's rapid response window, with some \$87.3 million going to boost emergency responses in 18 countries. In early July, however, that trend began to change. By mid-July, a sudden increase in applications for drought related emergency programmes across the Horn of Africa and three allocations for helping conflict-affected persons in Sudan and the newly independent South Sudan combined to make July one of CERF's busiest months ever. As of 31 July 2011, more than \$198 million has been allocated to emergencies worldwide.

Second Underfunded Round

The ERC announced the allocation of some \$58 million in 2011's second underfunded round in July. This was the second round of allocations from CERF's window for underfunded emergencies in 2011. Some \$84 million was made available to humanitarian agencies during the first round of underfunded allocations in January.

Pledges and Contributions for 2011

In June, the United Kingdom, already CERF's largest overall contributor (\$422 million in total), announced an additional contribution of 20 million pounds/\$32.2 million. This brings the United Kingdom's contribution for 2011 to some \$96 million, by far the largest contribution made by one country to CERF in any single year.

With the UK's additional contribution, pledges and contributions for CERF in 2011 from some 65 Member States, Observers and public and private donors now total \$424 million.

Five-Year Evaluation

The United Nations General Assembly-mandated Five-year Evaluation of CERF will be completed by the end of July. Its main findings will be conveyed to the General Assembly through the Secretary-General's annual report, and the evaluation will be published in its entirety shortly thereafter.

Rapid Response Emergencies

Funding by Region and Country

The Emergency Relief Coordinator approved \$89.6 million from the CERF's rapid response window to 15 countries between 1 April and 31 July 2011. Allocations were made to the humanitarian country teams in Sudan (\$18.3 million), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (\$10 million), Chad (\$6.4 million), the Philippines (\$4.9 million) and Pakistan (\$4.9 million).

In **Sudan**, an initial grant of \$7.8 million was made available in April to help agencies support IDPs in Darfur and cope with a measles outbreak in the south. An additional \$10.5 million was later allocated to provide humanitarian support to people who are returning to the newly independent South Sudan.

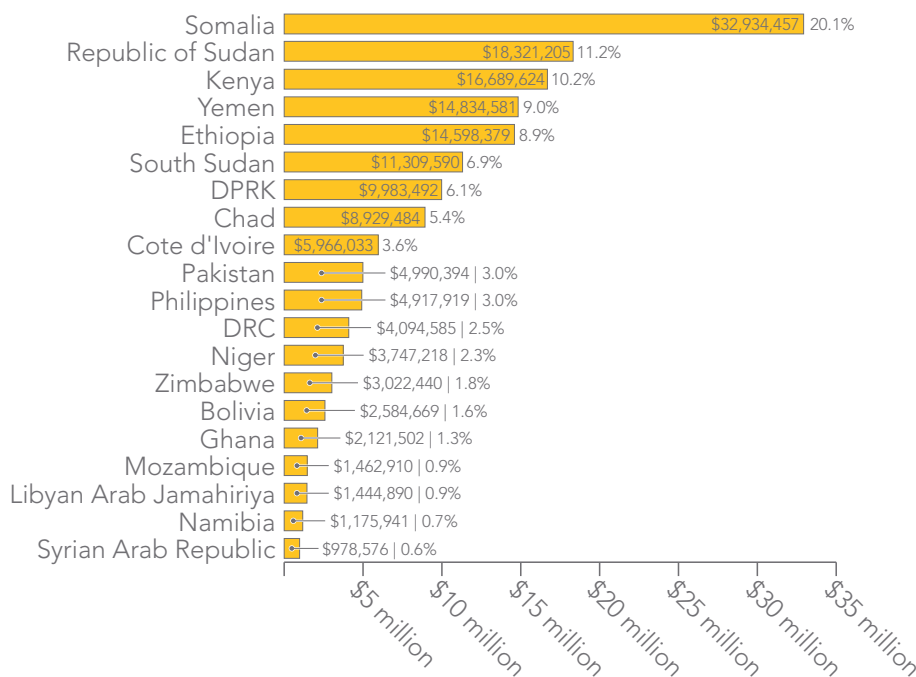
Two allocations from the CERF were made to support life-saving humanitarian assistance in **Yemen** following country-wide civil unrest and ongoing conflict in the north. Initial allocations totaling \$8.5 million in May were followed by a further \$7.5 million in July.

Some \$10 million was made available to provide assistance to some nine million people in need of emergency food assistance in the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**. The country faced major food shortages after a particularly harsh winter.

Nearly \$3.2 million was allocated in response to an outbreak of meningitis and measles in southern and eastern **Chad** in April. An additional \$3.3 million was allocated in July in response to a cholera outbreak threatening five million people in southern and western parts of the country.

After severe flooding in **the Philippines**, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated \$4.9 million to address the most urgent life-saving humanitarian needs of 900,000 flood-affecteds and more than 70,000 displaced from their homes.

FUNDING by COUNTRY 1 April to 31 July 2011



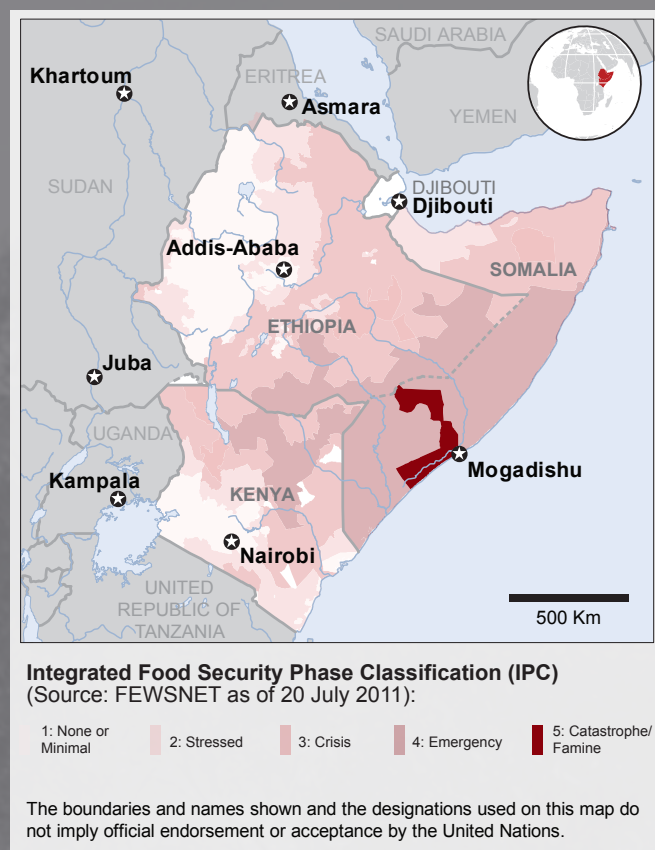
Girls carrying home piles of firewood in drought-ravaged Ethiopia.
© Jaspreet Kindra/IRIN

Horn of Africa

Eastern Africa was stricken by the worst drought in more than half a century in 2011, affecting an estimated 11.6 million people across the region in countries including Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. By mid-July a famine had been declared in Somalia and the CERF had allocated more than \$59.7 million to allow humanitarian agencies to carry out urgent life-saving interventions in all three countries.

Ethiopia

The Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated \$14.6 million from the CERF to provide urgent life-saving assistance to more than 475,000 people affected by the drought in southern Ethiopia. More than three million people were estimated to be in need of urgent assistance, with reports of a dramatic increase in the numbers of children in particular suffering severe malnutrition. Assistance funded by the CERF included emergency food, nutritional supplements and vital medicines for malnourished children, and a measles immunisation campaign for the most vulnerable drought-affected children.



Kenya

The CERF provided \$14 million to address the humanitarian consequences of the drought in northern, eastern and south-eastern parts of Kenya. Some three million Kenyans were estimated to have been affected by extremely low rainfall, with reports of drastic increases in malnutrition levels and reduced availability of safe water. Fragile health systems were overwhelmed, with disease outbreaks putting vulnerable groups such as children and pregnant women at major risk. The CERF enabled humanitarian agencies to provide food, safe water, primary health care and support for agriculture in the worst-affected areas.

An additional \$3.1 million was also made available from the CERF to provide humanitarian assistance for refugees arriving at three refugee camps in Dadaab in north-eastern Kenya. More than 200,000 refugees have arrived at the camps over the past four years, mainly from drought-stricken areas of Somalia. The camps have nearly doubled in size during this time and have become severely overcrowded.

Somalia

A famine was declared in Somalia in July as 3.7 million people (nearly half of the entire Somali population) were estimated to be in need of urgent assistance. Southern areas were worst-affected, with vulnerability heightened due to the ongoing conflict. Some \$28 million was allocated from the CERF's rapid response window to enable the transportation and distribution of 18,000 metric tons of emergency food to an estimated 1.3 million drought-affected people in the south. Funding was made available to repair safe water supplies and community-based food sources, and provide emergency health services including treatment of severely malnourished children. The CERF was also used to launch the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) in southern Somalia, opening up access to the affected population for vital humanitarian supplies and personnel.

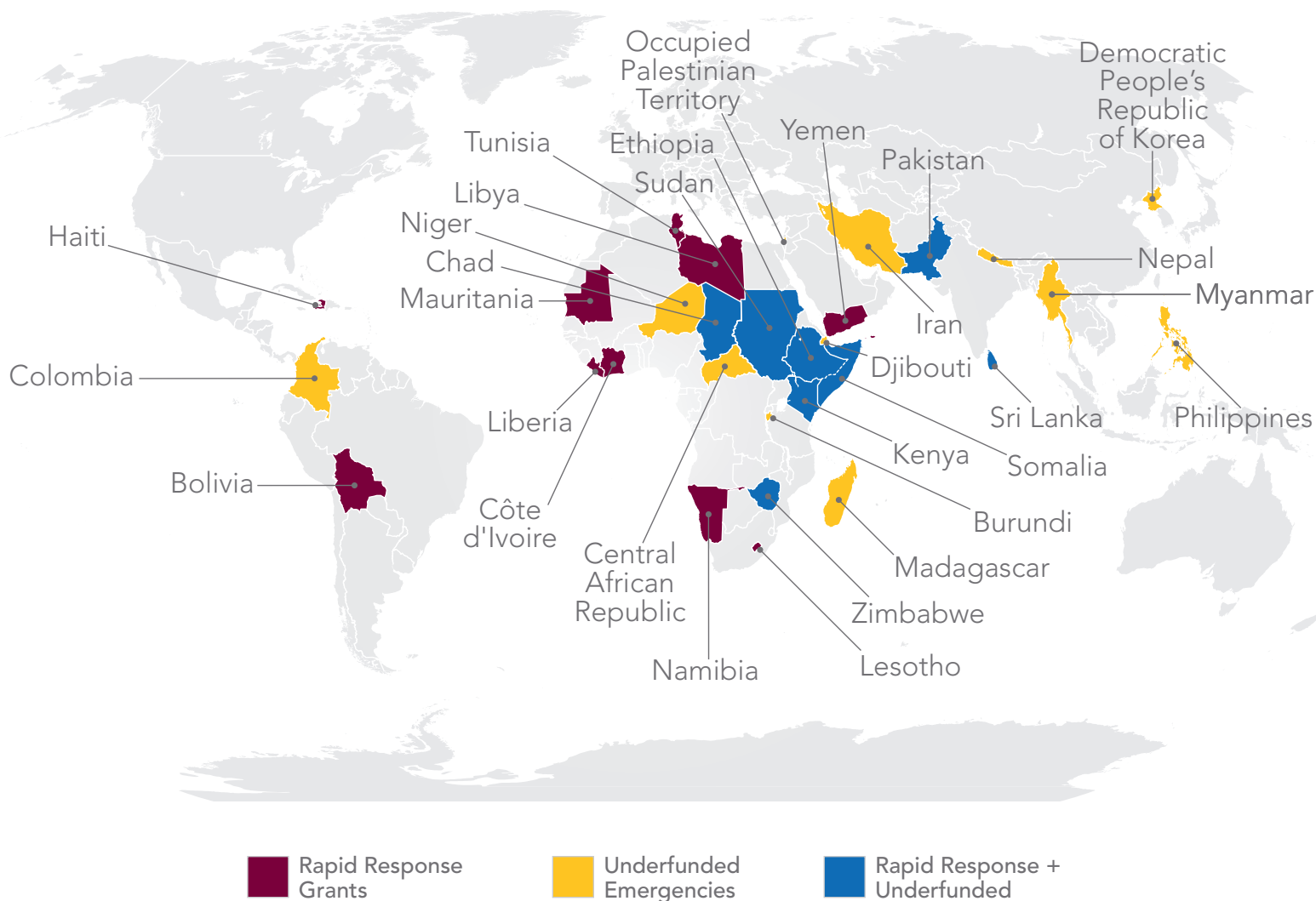
A woman walking the arid landscape in Sericho, Kenya to take water from a recently restored water point during a three year drought in the region. © OCHA/Dan DeLorenzo

Second Underfunded Round Kicks Off

The United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated some \$58 million to underfunded humanitarian operations in nine countries during the second underfunded round of 2011 in July.

The funds made available will be granted to United Nations humanitarian agencies and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and through them to partner organizations, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to cover funding gaps in key humanitarian projects in the affected countries. Countries were selected to receive grants based on an analysis of the funding levels of their aid programmes, and the severity of the humanitarian needs.

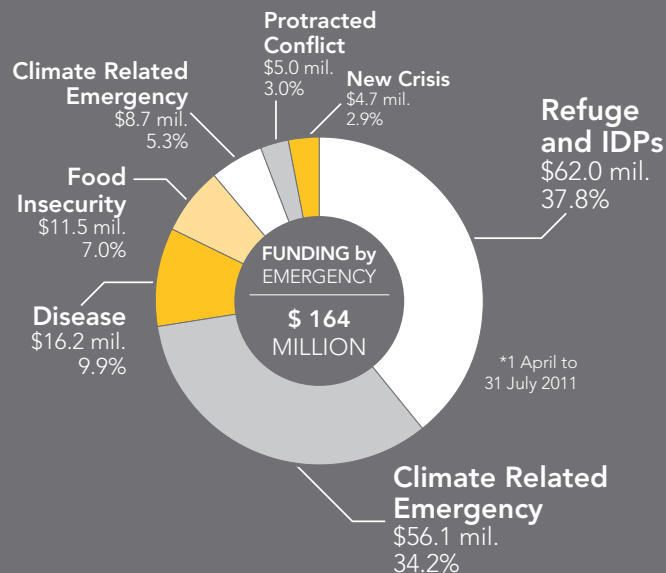
Humanitarian actors in South Sudan will receive \$11.5 million, the largest single allocation. Humanitarian organizations in Ethiopia will receive \$11 million, while the humanitarian country team in Pakistan has been allocated some \$10 million. Humanitarian agencies in Niger and Zimbabwe will each receive \$6 million in funding. CERF will allocate \$5 million to help the humanitarian country team in Sri Lanka to address humanitarian needs there. Some \$3.5 million will go toward important humanitarian projects in the Philippines and another \$3 million to assist conflict-affected communities in Colombia. An allocation of \$2 million will go to support refugee assistance efforts in Nepal.



International boundaries shown as of 30 June 2011. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

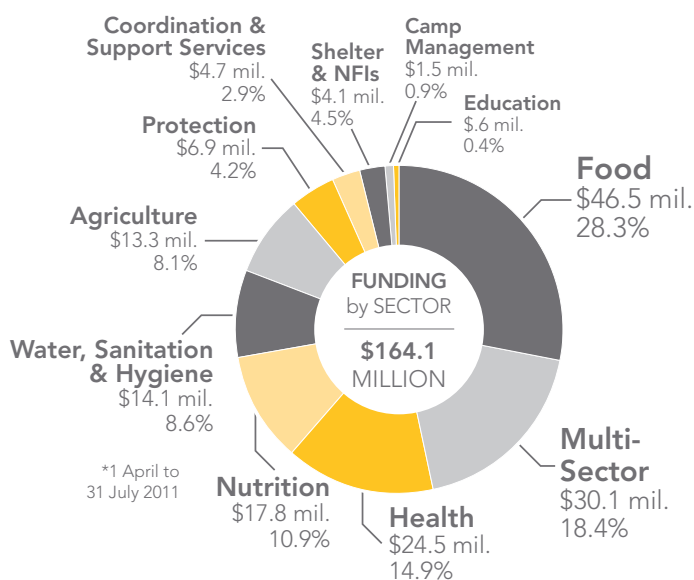
Funding by Emergency Type

In its first five years of operation, nearly two-thirds of CERF allocations went towards responses to natural disasters. The second quarter of 2011 was usual because only 36 per cent (\$34.7 million) were for natural disasters, including drought, 41 per cent for refugees and IDP-related projects, 13 per cent for disease outbreaks, and 10 per cent for needs related to civil unrest in complex emergencies.



Funding by Sector and Agency

WFP (32 per cent), UNICEF (24 per cent) and IOM (14 per cent) were the three largest recipients of CERF funding. Food (29 per cent), Multi-Sector (22 per cent) and Health-based (16 per cent) projects received the largest allocations overall.



FUNDING by AGENCY 1 April to 31 July 2011

