



United Nations
CERF

Central
Emergency
Response
Fund

Q1 QUARTERLY UPDATE

January–March 2015

CERF is managed by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Photo: Storm damage is seen in Port Vila, capital of Vanuatu. UNICEF Pacific / Alice Clements

"Hundreds of thousands of people will receive the treatment they urgently need. The CERF contribution will ensure that critical shortages in medicines and medical supplies are filled."

Dr Jaouad Mahjour

World Health Organization Director of

Programme Management for the Eastern Mediterranean

CERF-funded supplies were delivered to hospitals in Al-Baida in Libya in March 2015

TOP ALLOCATIONS 1ST QUARTER 2015 (US\$ million)

\$ 29.9	to Syria for emergency assistance to people affected by the crisis (March).
\$ 18.0	to Lebanon for life-saving support for people affected by the Syrian crisis (March).
\$ 9.0	to Jordan for emergency assistance related to the Syrian crisis (March).

Q1 SUMMARY

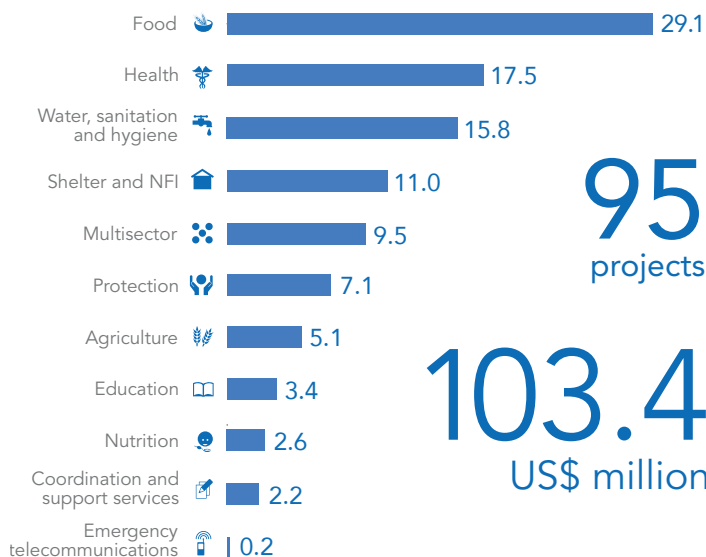
During the first quarter of 2015, CERF supported life-saving humanitarian aid operations in 17 countries with allocations totalling US\$103.4 million.

The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) allocated \$17.6 million from CERF's Rapid-Response Window for emergencies in five countries this quarter. These grants included \$10.9 million in support of thousands of families displaced by major floods in Malawi and Mozambique.

The ERC also approved some \$100 million for aid operations in Syria and poorly funded crises in 11 other countries as part of CERF's first round of Underfunded-Emergencies Window allocations. This is the first of two rounds of CERF funding in 2015 to boost aid operations in countries where humanitarian needs are high but financial support is low.

At the end of the quarter, the ERC approved \$28 million for life-saving relief work for people fleeing violence in Nigeria. These allocations will be allocated in the second quarter and are not included in the totals presented in this update.

Q1 2015 CERF projects approved by sector (in US\$ million)



1ST QUARTER 2015 HIGHLIGHTS (US\$)

Pledges for 2015
As of 31 March 2015

419.3
US\$ million

Contributions received by end Q1
For 2015, as of 1 March 2015

102.3
US\$ million

Total allocations by end Q1
1 January to 31 March 2015

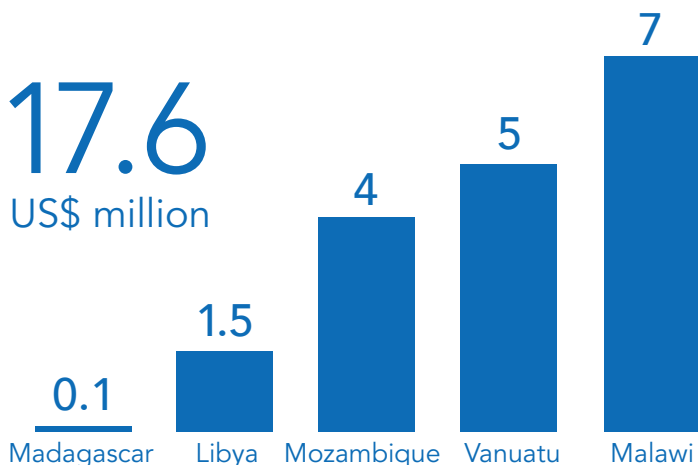
103.4
US\$ million

Q1 RAPID RESPONSE ALLOCATIONS

The ERC allocated \$17.6 million through CERF's Rapid Response Window in the first quarter of 2015. These funds supported aid agencies responding to humanitarian crises in five countries.

1st quarter 2015 rapid response allocations

Amounts allocated and projects approved, in US\$ million



MALAWI AND MOZAMBIQUE

In January 2015, heavy rains and floods displaced 230,000 people in Malawi, and 50,000 people in Mozambique. With thousands of families in need of urgent assistance, the ERC approved \$10.9 million from CERF to support the emergency response.

"The Humanitarian Country Teams in both countries requested CERF funding to kick-start emergency relief efforts. CERF has been part of the collective effort to provide critical, life-saving assistance for those affected by the floods in Malawi and Mozambique," said Mr. Ignacio Leon-Garcia, Head of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Regional Office for Southern Africa.

CERF allocated \$7 million for Malawi, where displaced families fled with what little they could carry. Many had found shelter in makeshift structures, schools, churches and other public buildings while thousands were forced to sleep out in the open.

"The funding comes at a critical time. We are working hard with a range of partners to scale up our support to the Government-led response to save lives and bring food, medicine and other vital supplies to flood-affected areas," said Ms. Mia Seppo, UN Resident Coordinator in Malawi, when the allocation was announced.

In neighbouring Mozambique, CERF provided \$3.9 million for relief operations for 50,000 people housed in temporary in accommodation facilities in hardest hit Zambézia province.

With these funds, humanitarian partners in Malawi and Mozambique provided urgent aid including food, shelter, clean water and sanitation services and seeds and tools so for affected farming families.

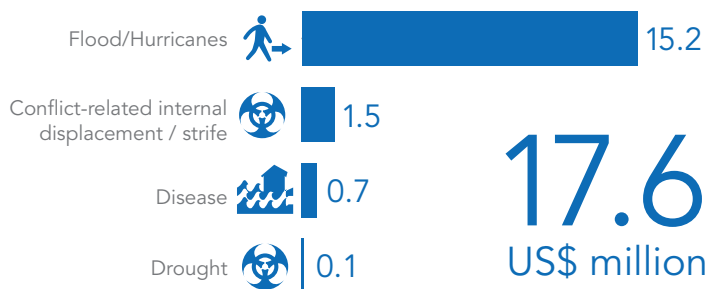
VANUATU

Tropical Cyclone Pam swept through the archipelago of Vanuatu in the Pacific on 13 March 2015, wiping out homes, infrastructure and crops.

Aid agencies estimated that some 75,000 people were in need of shelter and 110,000 people lacked access to safe drinking water. More than half the country's population was affected by the storm.

In response, the ERC immediately approved \$5 million from CERF for the provision of emergency life-saving assistance for thousands of people. Aid included the provision of clean water, food, shelter and health care and education and protection support for children. Funds were also used to support telecom and logistics services to help enable coordination of the emergency response.

Q1 rapid response allocations by emergency type (in US\$ million)



17.6
US\$ million



Flood victims in Malawi rush to a rescue boat. Credit: UNDP / Arjan van de Merwe

Q1 UNDERFUNDED EMERGENCIES

In January 2015, the ERC approved some \$100 from CERF's first round of Underfunded-Emergencies Window to boost life-saving work in Syria and 11 other countries.

The ERC allocates funding through CERF's Underfunded-Emergencies Window twice a year to provide a temporary lifeline for people caught in crises where current donor contributions fall short but needs are extreme and major assistance is required.

Some \$77.5 million has been allocated to countries affected by the Syria crisis. The highest single allocation will go to Syria (\$30 million), and the remainder will go to humanitarian agencies in Egypt (\$3.5 million), Iraq (\$8 million), Jordan (\$9 million), Lebanon (\$18 million) and Turkey (\$9 million).

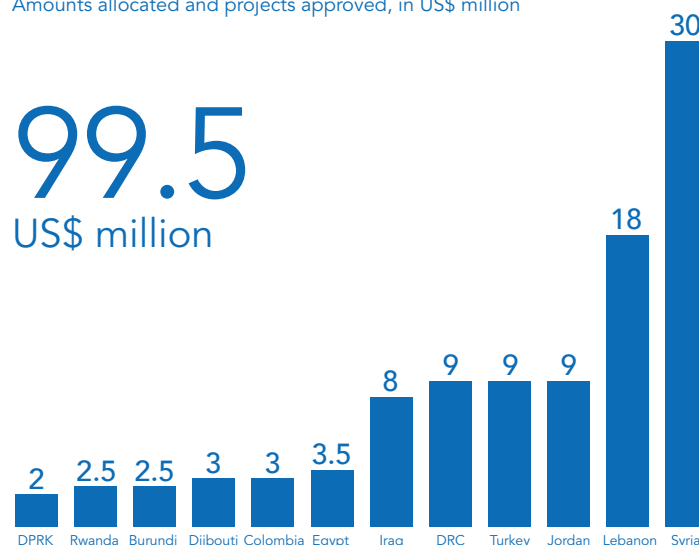
"Despite critical funding gaps, humanitarian workers remain committed to helping every vulnerable Syrian they can. This allocation from CERF will help ensure that they can continue their life-saving work," said Ms. Amos. In less than four years, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in Syria has gone from one million to over 12 million. Many more have fled to find refuge across the border.

Another \$14 million will support aid operations in three countries in the Great Lakes Region in Africa, where the long running conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continues to have disastrous effects. Aid agencies in DRC (\$9 million) and neighbouring Burundi (\$2.5 million) and Rwanda (\$2.5 million) will receive funds to provide urgent assistance for people displaced by violence and the vulnerable communities that host them.

Additionally, humanitarian partners in Colombia (\$3 million), Djibouti (\$3 million) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (\$2 million) will receive support to sustain long-standing, but critically underfunded humanitarian operations, including the delivery of food and basic health services.

"This underfunded emergencies allocation of \$100 million will help millions of people who are caught in crises where the scale of needs has outpaced contributions," said Ms. Amos.

1st quarter 2015 rapid response allocations
Amounts allocated and projects approved, in US\$ million



99.5
US\$ million

Q1 CONTRIBUTIONS OVERVIEW

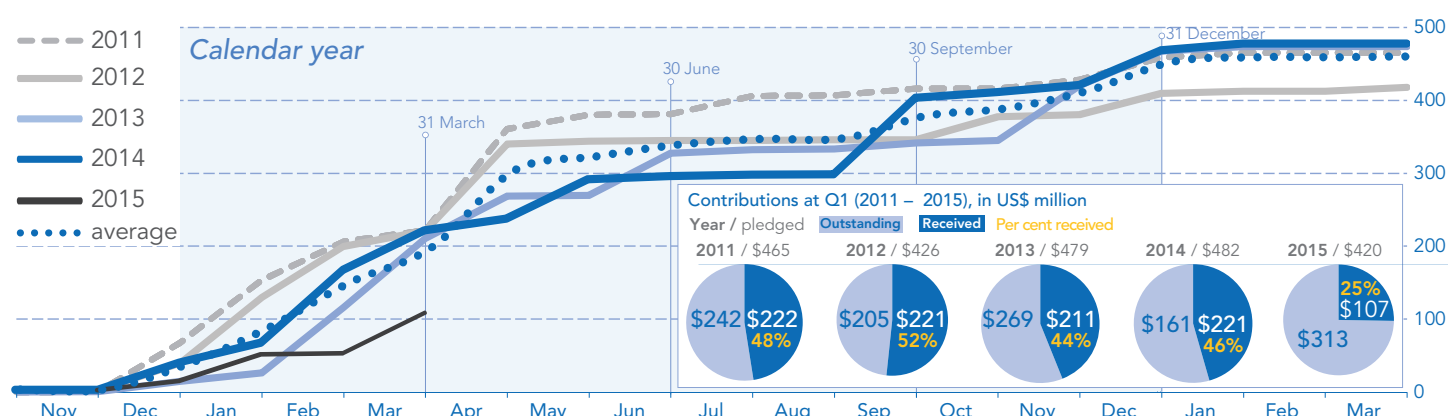
During the first quarter (Q1) of 2015, CERF received \$103.6 million in contributions. Of that amount, 98.7 per cent (\$102.3 million) is for 2015. The remaining 1.3 per cent covers outstanding commitments for 2014.

These donations brought total contributions for 2015, including funds received for 2015 in late 2014, to \$106.7 million, or 23.7 per cent of CERF's \$450 million annual funding target. This is 25.4 per cent of the \$419.3 million pledged to-date for 2015.

CERF is working with key donors to time their contributions to try to mitigate potential losses related to currency fluctuations. A drop in the value of currencies of most major contributors to CERF against the US dollar over the past months is likely to result in a realized loss of the actual dollar contribution in 2015 versus the amount pledged in December 2014.

To contribute to CERF, contact the CERF secretariat (cerf@un.org) or go to www.unocha.org/cerf/our-donors/how-donate.

Cumulative contributions to CERF by month against the CERF fiscal year (January to December) for the period 2011 – 2015
In US\$ million, data as of 31 March 2015



Q1 CERF SECRETARIAT UPDATES

MEMBER STATES BRIEFING

The first CERF Member States briefing for 2015 took place in New York on 25 March. The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), Valerie Amos, briefed Member States on the use and impact of CERF in 2014 and 2015 and explained the main findings of two scoping studies on a reformed CERF (more in next column). This was the Ms. Amos' last briefing on CERF.



United Nations humanitarian chief and ERC, Valerie Amos, addresses Member States in New York in March 2015. Credit: OCHA

STUDIES ON A REFORMED CERF

In March 2015, CERF published two scoping studies to look at CERF's role in the changing humanitarian landscape and to ensure that funding entrusted to CERF effectively and efficiently serves those people most affected by crises.

The studies focussed on two issues: whether expanding CERF's annual funding target beyond \$450 million would better position CERF to respond to growing global humanitarian needs; and the viability of using UN assessed contributions to fully or partially fund CERF.

Those interviewed – including donor and recipient agency representatives and NGOs – stressed CERF's importance in ensuring an effective global humanitarian response and commended the fund for being:

- focused on its objectives;
- fast, flexible and well-managed;
- well-supported by donors; and
- crucial for ensuring an immediate response to emergencies of all sizes.

The importance of retaining these attributes was repeatedly emphasized. Both studies and their outcomes are available on the CERF website here: <http://bit.ly/1CX3oQI>

Q1 SUMMARY TABLES

Approvals: 1st quarter 2015 (by approval date/emergency, in US\$)

Approval dates	Emergency / window		Amount
2 Jan	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya*	RR	1,491,012
3-6 Feb	Mozambique	RR	3,247,508
4-11 Feb	Malawi	RR	6,961,397
24 Feb	Turkey	UFE	834,600
25 Feb	Jordan	UFE	4,300,033
27 Feb	Burundi	UFE	896,639
2-4 Mar	Burundi	UFE	1,598,607
2-3 Mar	Mozambique	UFE	748,857
3-6 Mar	Egypt	UFE	3,500,065
3-13 Mar	Jordan	UFE	4,300,313
6-12 Mar	Djibouti	UFE	3,000,059
7-10 Mar	Turkey	UFE	2,557,900
9-13 Mar	DPRK	UFE	2,000,285
10-17 Mar	Rwanda	UFE	2,498,220
13-27 Mar	Colombia	UFE	2,749,386
13-26 Mar	Syrian Arab Republic	UFE	29,926,021
17-24 Mar	Lebanon	UFE	17,000,399
20-24 Mar	DRC	UFE	4,947,669
23-26 Mar	Iraq	UFE	5,723,937
27 Mar	Madagascar	RR	104,004
27-30 Mar	Vanuatu	RR	5,038,408
Total			103,425,319

Amounts in US\$ as received by CERF between 1 January - 31 March 2015.

* Approval dates refer to dates when the first and last projects within the allocation were approved by the Emergency Relief Coordinator. Allocations marked with an asterisk (*) have had projects approved before or after 1 January - 31 March 2015.

Contributions: 1st quarter 2015 (by country/pledge year, in US\$)

Date	Donor	For year	Amount
Jan			
2	India	2015	500,000
5	Turkey (2/2)	2014	199,630
9	Portugal	2015	9,034
9	New Zealand	2015	2,337,600
13	Australia	2015	9,346,567
16	Canada	2015	24,418,604
16	Italy	2014	1,161,383
20	Belgian Government of Flanders	2015	345,690
21	Denmark	2015	7,789,132
Feb			
2	Liechtenstein	2015	271,769
2	South Africa	2015	172,563
9	Viet Nam	2014/2015	20,000
23	Andorra	2015	11,478
25	Armenia	2015	5,000
26	Kuwait	2015	1,000,000
Mar			
2	Thailand	2015	20,000
11	Luxembourg	2015	4,277,200
25	Myanmar	2015	10,000
31	Denmark	2015	14,556,041
31	United Kingdom (1/2)	2015	37,222,500
Total			103,674,191