In January 2015, the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated US$98.5 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to boost life-saving relief in 12 countries where humanitarian needs are high but financial support is low. Some $77.5 million will go to six countries affected by the crisis in Syria. Another $13 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 continues to have disastrous effects. The remaining $8 million will help sustain long-standing, but critically underfunded humanitarian operations in Colombia, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Djibouti. This is the first of two CERF underfunded emergencies rounds planned for 2015.