

May 2024

CLIMATE ACTION ACCOUNT



CERF climate action

Established in 2005 by the United Nations General Assembly as a fund for all, by all to promote early action and reduce loss of life, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is the world's largest pooled fund to support humanitarian action whenever and wherever crises strike.

Since its inception, and with donations from 130+ countries, the Fund has provided more than US\$9.1 billion to enable UN agencies and partners to deliver timely, coordinated, life-saving assistance in more than 110 countries and territories.

CERF has become the leading global humanitarian funding tool for responding to climate-related humanitarian emergencies with an average of more than a quarter of its total allocations going to climate-related disasters each year.

In recent years, CERF has led the way in innovative humanitarian finance solutions in climate-related emergencies, including pioneering anticipatory action to save lives, reduce suffering and help communities mitigate humanitarian impacts ahead of imminent calamity from climate-related disasters.

[Find out more about CERF](#)

Photo: FAO/Saikat Mojumder

CERF's Climate Action Account

Climate change is contributing to more frequent and severe weather events, significantly escalating global humanitarian needs. Humanitarian efforts play a key role in addressing the consequences of the climate crisis by minimizing and addressing losses and damages from climate-related disasters and supporting communities to build their resilience to future shocks.

CERF has consistently demonstrated its effectiveness in supporting timely life-saving action globally. CERF is uniquely placed to support the world's most vulnerable communities who find themselves on the front-line of the global climate crisis, particularly in challenging contexts of fragility, conflict, and violence.

CERF's Climate Action Account offers a quick, efficient and impactful avenue for climate-related finance to assist the world's most vulnerable communities in facing the consequences of the climate crisis. While these communities contribute the least to climate change, they are often the most affected and may not benefit from other climate action measures.

Contributions to the account directly support scaling up anticipatory action and humanitarian responses to climate-related disasters such as floods, droughts, storms and extreme heat, anywhere in the world. And importantly, contributions are used to finance and promote life-saving action that supports adaptation and resilience, helping individuals and communities to better cope with future climate-related shocks and stresses.

The **Climate Action Account** will:

- Support adaptation and resilience,
 - Scale anticipatory action and
 - Boost responses
- ... to climate disasters.



\$2.4 B

in response to climate disasters since 2006



Some **\$90 M**

provided for humanitarian anticipatory action for predictable climate shocks since 2020



1.5 days

Average time between a funding request and start of activities in 2023. For anticipatory action, CERF disburses funding based on forecasts and early warnings.



How does the Climate Action Account work?

The Climate Action Account will ensure that CERF evolves to keep pace with new demands and help catalyze and coordinate the systemic change required for the global humanitarian system to respond more effectively to a reality shaped by the climate crisis. The aim is that as the CERF Climate Action Account grows, it will increasingly drive innovation and generate best practice on climate action in fragile contexts.

Specifically, the account will bolster and incentivize life-saving actions that also reduce exposure or vulnerability, supporting adaptation and resilience, to future climate-related shocks and stresses for individuals and communities. The account will also help scale anticipatory action for predictable climate shocks and boost responses to climate related disasters.

Going forward, CERF funding requests will require grant recipients to provide information on whether and to what extent planned life-saving activities support adaptation and resilience to future climate shocks and stresses for individuals or communities. This will not only capture the role CERF-funded actions already play in addressing the climate crisis, but also incentivize better humanitarian programming in the future.

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The account will enable donors to channel additional financing directly to address the risks and impacts of climate-related disasters.”

- António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

CERF will provide dedicated reporting on its climate action portfolio on an annual basis. Reporting will be improved through additional climate-relevant indicators and will include analysis, learning, and insights from case studies that illustrate CERF’s important niche in responding to the climate crisis. The report will also attribute results to the Climate Action Account and demonstrate its added value in strengthening CERF’s climate action.

The introduction of the Climate Action Account upholds the Fund’s life-saving mandate and preserves its established, needs-based decision-making processes, and administrative and operational frameworks.

To ensure additionality of funding to the Climate Action Account contributions should be funds that would not have been available to CERF otherwise.

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Isn't it the worst of ironies and the most blatant of injustices that the communities least responsible for the climate crisis are the most likely to suffer its consequences, and the least likely to receive climate financing to adapt and recover from its impact? We have the tools and know-how to deliver fast, effective funds in the places that need it most.”

- Martin Griffiths, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator.

How can YOU help?



Member States, donors, foundations and businesses are invited to contact: ocha.donor.relations@un.org



Individuals can donate online here: <https://crisisrelief.un.org/climate-action>