

This background document provides a brief overview of CERF 2023 allocations and highlights key allocations since the Group’s meeting in January 2023. More comprehensive, detailed, and real-time information of CERF allocations is available in the Funds’ online information tools, including the [CERF online allocation tracker](#), the [CERF Data Hub](#), and [the Pooled Funds Data Hub](#).

CERF allocations in 2023 at a glance (as of 6 June 2023)

Climate disasters, armed conflicts, and disease outbreaks continue to drive humanitarian needs. In response, CERF has so far in 2023 allocated \$357.1 million. These allocations have enabled recipient UN agencies and their implementing partners, including local aid organizations, to provide life-saving assistance to millions of people across 32 countries. This was enabled by the generous support of donors, which so far in 2023 have contributed \$409 million to the Fund.

Jump-starting time-critical operations and funding underfunded crises

To date, CERF has allocated \$211.1 million in 2023 through its Rapid Response (RR) window, to enable time-critical responses to new and deteriorating crises across the globe. The most urgent grant requests have been processed in less than two days, often making CERF the first available funding source. This included for example immediate allocations in response to the earthquake in Syria and Türkiye, totalling \$50 million.

CERF has continued to reinforce its commitment to boost underfunded humanitarian operations by allocating \$146 million through its Underfunded Emergencies (UFE) window. In the first UFE allocation round of 2023, CERF allocated funds to 12 countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas, and the Middle East, where funding gaps were critical and unmet humanitarian needs alarmingly high. The allocations are currently helping a scale up of humanitarian responses and sustained life-saving assistance in these underfunded emergencies.

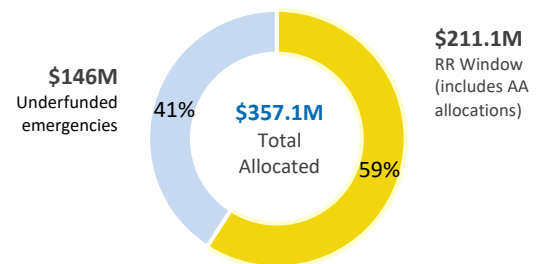
Responding to the main drivers of humanitarian needs

Violent conflict remains a major driver of humanitarian needs worldwide and has accounted for the largest share of CERF allocations so far this year, with a total of \$170 million (48 per cent). The Democratic Republic of Congo, Yemen, and Sudan have received almost half of CERF’s conflict-related funding. Some 47 per cent of total resources have been allocated in response to the humanitarian consequences of climate-related crises and other natural disasters. Another \$15 million (4 per cent) has been allocated to respond to other drivers of humanitarian needs, including to severe economic disruption and to human rights violations, and another \$5 million (2 per cent) in response to disease outbreaks.

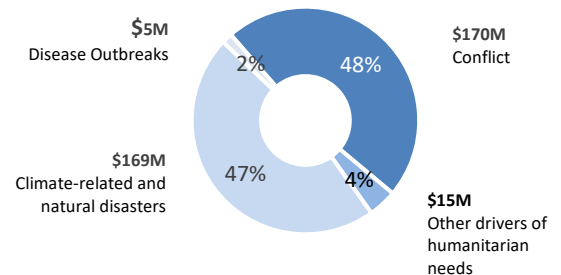
Supporting critical humanitarian activities

A significant amount of 2023 funding allocated has supported the food security sector (\$71 million). Funding to the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector (\$35 million) as well as the health sector (\$34 million), also remained high. Together, these three sectors account for the majority of total CERF funding so far in 2023.

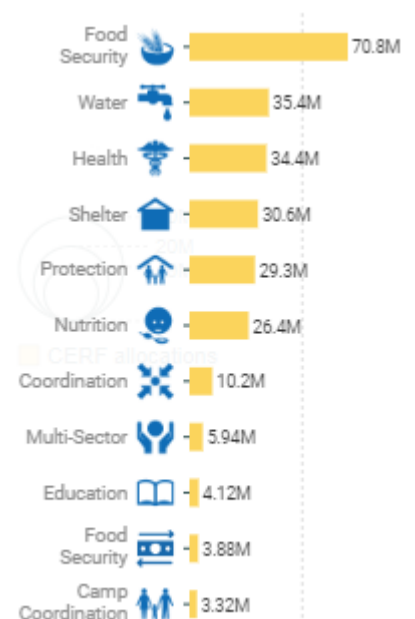
CERF FUNDING BY WINDOW SO FAR IN 2023



CERF FUNDING BY EMERGENCY TYPE SO FAR IN 2023



CERF FUNDING BY SECTOR SO FAR IN 2023



Allocation Highlights since the January 30 Advisory Group Meeting

Since the Advisory Group meeting in January 2023, CERF has responded to a series of emergencies. A few of these allocations are highlighted below. With a total allocation level of \$40 million, Syria is so far the largest recipient of CERF funding in 2023.

Responding to food insecurity: In February 2023, CERF provided a \$104 million multi-sectoral allocation to respond to and prevent famine in eight countries with alarming levels of food insecurity, including Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Haiti, Mali, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Somalia. In these countries, segments of populations were identified or projected to experience starvation or death (IPC 5), or at risk of deterioration towards catastrophic conditions (IPC 4).¹ To enhance the strategic use of CERF allocations, country teams were urged to build on and advance ongoing in-country initiatives across the nexus, identify opportunities for averting future food insecurity crises, promote localization and leverage the allocation to secure additional funding for humanitarian and food security interventions. Across the allocations, a total of \$23 million, 26 per cent, were transferred in the form of cash and voucher assistance, and it is expected that up to 20 per cent of the funding will be sub-granted to national and local partners.

First UFE round of 2023: In early 2023, CERF released \$146 million through the first UFE round of the year to help partners address humanitarian gaps in 12 countries. The funding was strategically used to strengthen localized humanitarian responses. Building on experience of the 2022 UFE allocations, CERF encouraged the 12 recipient countries to promote efforts to adhere to the Grand Bargain commitments on localization. CERF also encouraged RC/HCs to organize dedicated consultations with national and local partners and set ambitious targets for funding to be sub-granted to national and local organizations as implementing partners. It is expected that up to 25 per cent of the funding under the first UFE allocation of 2023 will be sub-granted to national and local partners.

In the first UFE window of 2023, CERF has allocated a total of \$146 million in: Chad, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Honduras, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Pakistan, Sudan and Syria – to combat food insecurity and address the impacts of conflict and climate change of protracted crises.

Responding to conflict in Sudan and the refugee influx in neighbouring countries: CERF has so far this year allocated a total of \$43 million to support humanitarian assistance in response to the crisis in Sudan. A recently approved \$18 million allocation to Sudan aims to strengthen UN agencies' ability to continue work across the country, replenish relief supplies, and provide support services for an enhanced humanitarian response, including an airbridge by the UN Humanitarian Air Service. Project approvals and disbursements are currently being expedited.



The allocations from CERF and the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF) (\$37 million) are conducted in close complementarity to maximize their impact. The CERF allocation plays a pivotal role in strengthening the overall humanitarian response by enhancing the capacity of UN agencies, while the SHF supports flexible, frontline engagement with communities affected by the crisis. To address the regional impact of the crisis and respond to the influx of displaced people from Sudan, CERF allocated an additional \$22 million, including to South Sudan (\$8 million), to Central African Republic (CAR) (\$4 million) to support Sudanese refugees arriving in the area of Bira, to Chad (\$8 million) and Egypt (\$5 million).

Responding to the earthquake in Syria and Türkiye: Within hours after the earthquake struck, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) announced a first \$25 million CERF allocation (\$15 million for Syria and \$10 million for Türkiye). Three days later, as the magnitude of the catastrophe became clearer, CERF fast-tracked an additional \$25 million UFE allocation to boost aid efforts in the earthquake-stricken parts of Syria, bringing the total CERF response to \$50 million. The funding enabled UN agencies, working with local partners, to address protection concerns such as GBV and child protection, as well as provide WASH, shelter, and health assistance, incorporating preventive measures for cholera resurgence and support for health services and mental health in affected areas. The CERF allocations were complemented by allocations from the Syria Cross-border Fund (SCHF) (\$91 million) and the Syria Humanitarian Fund (SHF) (\$28 million) allowing for continuity in scaling up and sustaining critical humanitarian services.

Bridging critical cash-flow gaps with CERF loans: Given the immense environmental and humanitarian consequences of a potential oil-spill of the Floating Storage and Offloading (FSO) Safer off the coast of Yemen, CERF approved a loan of \$20 million as a last resort to bring the SAFER project funds up to the minimum amount needed to start activities. By bridging the funding gap, CERF enabled UNDP to start a time critical operation to remove more than 1 million barrels of oil to help avert a humanitarian catastrophe. The loan will be repaid as soon as additional funding is mobilized for the operation. Furthermore, as part of the efforts to enhance relief operations following the catastrophic earthquake in Syria, OCHA utilized the CERF loan facility to address cash-flow challenges in donor contributions to the Syria Cross-border Fund. A CERF loan of \$10 million was approved, enabling the fund to proceed with urgent allocations for earthquake response while awaiting donor contributions. The loan has now been repaid.

¹ WFP and FAO. 2023. Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity, June 2023 to November 2023 outlook. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc6206en>
Annex I (2023 CERF allocations) and Annex II (overview of 2023 allocations by country) provide a substantial overview of 2023 allocations and for real-time information of CERF allocations (as of June 6), funding details and historic allocation data, please consult the CERF [online allocation tracker](#), [CERF Data Hub](#) and the [Pooled Funds Data Hub](#).

CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

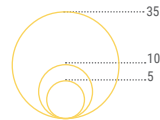
Allocations in 2023

As of 6 June 2023

In 2023*, CERF allocated over **\$357.1 million** to support millions of people in need of urgent assistance in **32 countries**

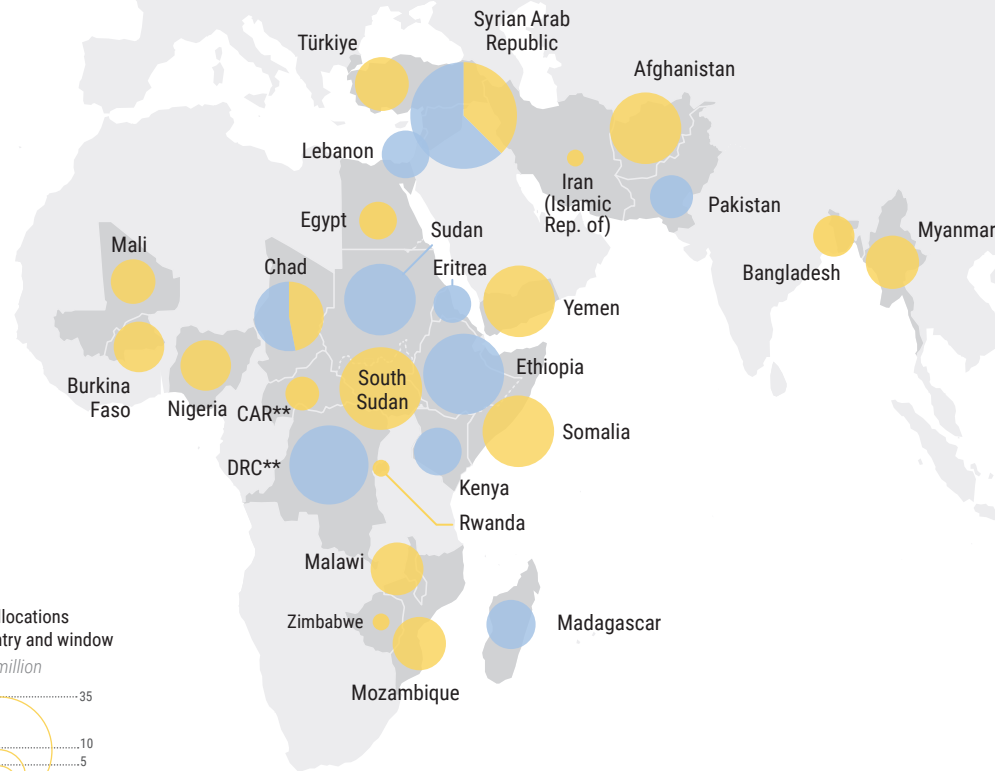


CERF allocations by country and window in US\$ million

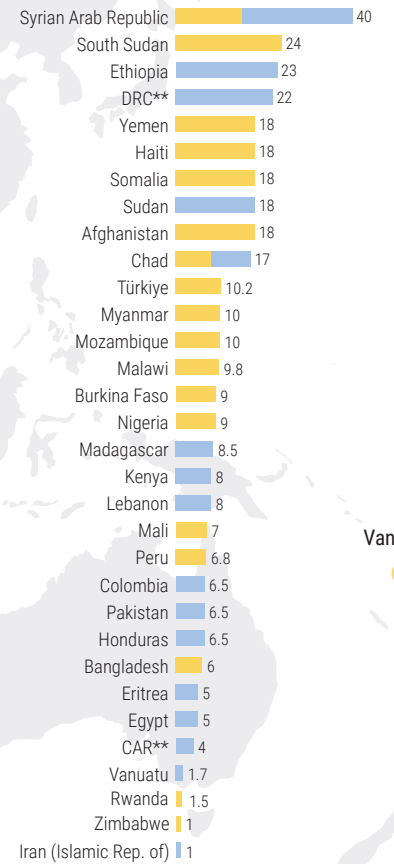


- Rapid Response window
- Underfunded Emergencies window

As of 6 June 2023
 ** CAR - Central African Republic
 DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo



Allocations by country and window in US\$ million



For the latest CERF allocations check out [CERF data hub](#)

Annex II: 2023 CERF Allocations by Country (as of 6 June 2023)

Country	Rapid Response US\$	Underfunded Emergencies US\$	Total Funds Allocated US\$	Percentage of Total
Syria	15.0 m	25.0 m	40.0 m	11%
South Sudan	24.0 m	-	24.0 m	7%
Ethiopia	-	23.0 m	23.0 m	6%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	-	22.0 m	22.0 m	6%
Yemen	18.0 m	-	18.0 m	5%
Haiti	18.0 m	-	18.0 m	5%
Somalia	18.0 m	-	18.0 m	5%
Republic of the Sudan	-	18.0 m	18.0 m	5%
Afghanistan	18.0 m	-	18.0 m	5%
Chad	8.0 m	9.0 m	17.0 m	5%
Türkiye	10.2 m	-	10.2 m	3%
Myanmar	10.0 m	-	10.0 m	3%
Mozambique	10.0 m	-	10.0 m	3%
Malawi	9.8 m	-	9.8 m	3%
Burkina Faso	9.0 m	-	9.0 m	3%
Nigeria	9.0 m	-	9.0 m	3%
Madagascar	-	8.5 m	8.5 m	2%
Kenya	-	8.0 m	8.0 m	2%
Lebanon	-	8.0 m	8.0 m	2%
Mali	7.0 m	-	7.0 m	2%
Peru	6.8 m	-	6.8 m	2%
Colombia	-	6.5 m	6.5 m	2%
Pakistan	-	6.5 m	6.5 m	2%
Honduras	-	6.5 m	6.5 m	2%
Bangladesh	6.0 m	-	6.0 m	2%
Eritrea	-	5.0 m	5.0 m	1%
Egypt	5.0 m	-	5.0 m	1%
Central African Republic	4.0 m	-	4.0 m	1%
Vanuatu	1.7 m	-	1.7 m	1%
Rwanda	1.5 m	-	1.5 m	0.4%
Zimbabwe	1.0 m	-	1.0 m	0.3%
Islamic Republic of Iran	1.0 m	-	1.0 m	0.3%
Grand Total	211.1 m	146.0 m	357.1 m	