



Summary

Under the Central Emergency Response Fund's window for underfunded emergencies, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocates funding to the least funded humanitarian emergencies. Twice a year, the CERF secretariat identifies the most underfunded emergencies (UFE) to support life-saving humanitarian action in these forgotten places. Both qualitative, contextual information and an analysis of quantitative data on funding, severity, risk and vulnerability underlie the identification of these crises. The information is collected during a consultation process and from established data sources. This document describes the methodology that underpins the funding, risk and vulnerability analysis. (A separate CERF UFE Guidance Note describes the consultation process in detail: <http://www.unocha.org/cerf/sites/default/files/CERF/CERF%20UFE%202017-2%20Guidance%20Note.pdf>)

The UFE 2017 second round began six weeks later than normal due to delayed and inadequate donor contributions to CERF coupled with increased demands for humanitarian funding. Because of this delay, there was a need to abridge the UFE country selection processes to avoid major interference with 2018 planning in the field and allow the nine-month implementation of agency projects to be completed by 30 June the following year, as determined in the Secretary-General's Bulletin.

The CERF Index for Risk and Vulnerability (CIRV), a trend analysis with enhanced food insecurity index and other features, was used to support the country selection in the previous three UFE rounds;¹ but given the time needed for this process, it will not be utilized in the UFE 2017 second round. For the abridged country selection process this round, the CERF secretariat will rely on nominations made by the headquarters representatives of the UN agencies of the UFE work group (UFEWG) for HRP and non-HRP countries. Based on the nominated countries, CERF will consolidate a short-list of countries, informed by agencies' support and rationale and a funding and vulnerability analysis. The methodology is described in detail in this document and the data will be shared with stakeholders and published on the CERF website, to ensure transparency and reproducibility. As per standard practice, the methodology is revised for each round to make it more rigorous, based on comments and lessons learned from earlier allocation rounds.

Introduction

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) twice each year identifies and allocates funding to the most underfunded humanitarian emergencies. The UFE window accounts for one third of CERF grants; and for 2017, is \$145 million is available of the \$435 million income projection. The first round had a volume of \$100 million, thus, for the second round, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has set aside \$45 million.

The selection of humanitarian emergencies for UFE 2017 second round is built on four components: (1) identification of those countries eligible for consideration for the round; (2) nomination of eligible countries with a majority vote by the nine members of the UFEWG; (3) a limited quantitative analysis of data on funding and humanitarian needs, risk and vulnerability, and (4) qualitative, contextual information collected from consultations and documents.

The information for different parts of the analysis comes from various sources. The qualitative information, as well as some funding and programmatic information for countries without a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) or other response plan,² is collected from UN agencies that participate in the UFEWG,³ members of the ICVA-led NGO Finance Working Group and different parts of OCHA, in particular the Programme Support Branch (PSB) which supports the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, as well as from documents such as HRPs and Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNO).

The quantitative data on funding for countries with an HRP or other plan, and on humanitarian needs for all countries, are collected from established, public sources for analysis.

¹ The CIRV was used in UFE 2016-1, UFE 2016-2, UFE 2017-1 and the methodology per round can be found at: <http://www.unocha.org/cerf/resources/how-apply/underfunded-emergencies-0>

² Including humanitarian strategic plans, regional refugee response plans and other plans that are tracked on the Financial Tracking Service, FTS

³ FAO, IOM, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO

Process

The process is described in detail in the CERF UFE Guidance Note. In summary: Eligible and excluded countries are identified. The UFEWG nominates six eligible HRP and non-HRP countries and provides a concise rationale for each nomination. Following the nomination, CERF will conduct funding and vulnerability analysis of only those countries with a majority number of nominations (at least five) by the nine members of the UFEWG. The CERF secretariat then combines the HRP and non-HRP parts to assess the level of underfunding and the level of severity, risk and vulnerability for each of the listed countries. The CERF secretariat shares the draft funding, risk and vulnerability analysis with the UFEWG, NGOs, and other parts of OCHA, and consults each either in meetings or by email before finalizing the analysis. Based on the final analysis, the CERF secretariat makes a recommendation on the selection of countries to the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), who makes the final decision both on which countries will be included in the UFE round and the apportionment of funding among the selected countries.

Funding Analysis

The objective of the funding analysis is to identify emergencies with the highest levels of underfunding. This is the primary criterion for inclusion in a UFE round.

The data for the funding analysis of HRP countries come from the Financial Tracking Service (FTS).⁴ The funding data for recommended non-HRP countries are collected from the members of the UFEWG, since the data are not fully available on FTS.

At the onset of this round, the global funding average of HRPs was determined as of a particular date; and all countries with funding levels at or higher than this percent were excluded from consideration. In the analysis, available funding for humanitarian programming is compared to funding requirements to calculate the funding level. The funding level of each eligible HRP country and of the recommended non-HRP countries is compared to the average funding level. The average funding level is calculated in a number of ways, including:

1. The average funding level of all response plans (33%), with all response plans weighted equally
2. The average funding level of all eligible response plans including non-HRP countries (29%), with all response plans weighted equally

Emergencies whose funding level is below the global average remains in the pool of eligible countries; unless otherwise explained for extraordinary reasons.

The funding level of each response plan is calculated in two different ways:

1. Available funding as a share of response plan requirements
2. Available funding overall for an emergency (both inside and outside a humanitarian response plan) to get an understanding of each country's total funding level

Note that the funding data for non-HRP countries are provided by UN agencies and do not contain NGO funding.

Analysis of Risk, Vulnerability and Severity of Humanitarian Needs

For underfunded emergencies, as defined during the funding analysis, the level of risk, vulnerability and severity of humanitarian needs is assessed. The Index for Risk Management (INFORM) accounts for 100 per cent of this analysis since it already includes about 50 different measures. The IASC Early Warning, Early Action Report provides additional consideration for those countries identified in the report.

The two measures included are:

1. The **Index for Risk Management (INFORM)**,⁵ a collaboration of the former IASC Task Team for Preparedness and Resilience and the European Commission, is a global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters. It indicates risk three years into the future but cannot predict individual crises. INFORM has three dimensions: hazard and exposure, vulnerability, and lack of coping capacity. Each dimension encompasses different categories, which are user-driven concepts related to the needs of humanitarian and

⁴ <https://fts.unocha.org/>

⁵ www.inform-index.org

resilience actors. For each category, several indicators may be included. Categories cover natural hazards, conflict, socio-economic factors including aid dependency, vulnerable groups including due to health conditions or food insecurity, and measures about the quality of institutional capacity and infrastructure. INFORM includes about 50 different indicators, which are listed in the annex, and ranges from 0 to 10, with higher values indicating a higher risk.

2. The **IASC Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness Report**,⁶ from the IASC Reference Group on Early Warning and Preparedness, lists countries with serious risks of strategic operational concern or with a high probability of increasing humanitarian needs. These countries are identified by the IASC Emergency Directors Group and an analysis working group, and are categorized as having one of five levels of seriousness: very low, low, moderate, high or very high. Each country is assigned one or several of three risk types: conflict, flood or drought. The IASC Early Warning Report assesses the risk half a year into the future. As it is based on qualitative assessments rather than a quantitative analysis, it complements INFORM and other measures. Level 3 emergencies⁷ are not included in the report because they are considered already to be at the highest level of seriousness. For the analysis, the seriousness levels are translated into an indicator, with very low at 1 and very high at 5. Level 3 emergencies are also assigned a score of 5.

Funding Apportionment

Once the most underfunded emergencies with the highest levels of vulnerability have been identified and the ERC has made a decision on which countries will be included in a UFE allocation round and therefore receive funding, the available funding envelope is apportioned among the selected countries. The CERF secretariat makes a recommendation and the ERC makes the final decision about the funding allocated to each of the selected countries.

For the apportionment, 25 per cent of the available funding envelope is distributed evenly among the selected countries, to create a baseline. The remaining 75 per cent are allocated among the selected countries as a function of their funding gap, including both the relative gap (the share, in per cent, of UN HRP requirements that has not been funded) and the absolute gap (the difference, in USD, between HRP requirements and funding received). Third, the calculated amounts are adjusted. In many cases they will be rounded to nearest million or half-million. However, in some cases, other factors may influence the apportioned amount, such the level of vulnerability (for example, a country with a higher score on INFORM may receive more UFE funding than a country with a lower INFORM score even if they have the same funding level), past CERF funding, implementation capacity, and the focus of the UFE allocation (for example, if the UFE allocation is targeted at a specific region or group rather than the whole country, the apportioned amount may be lower than it would have been otherwise).

Conclusion

The CERF secretariat has developed and refined the process and analysis for UFE rounds over years and continues to adjust it in response to feedback and lessons learned from previous allocation rounds. Given the delayed start to the UFE 2017 second round, the process has been condensed due to time constraints and this document provides an overview of the methodology underpinning the allocation for the round. The CERF identifies eligible and excluded countries; the UFEWG nominates HRP and non-HRP countries; the CERF secretariat analyses the level of underfunding and the level of risk and vulnerability for the nominated HRP and non-HRP countries; in addition to the UN agencies participating in the UFE Working Group, NGOs and different parts of OCHA are consulted; and the ERC makes a final decision on the selected countries and the apportionment of funding. The CERF secretariat continues to improve the UFE methodology from round to round, based on feedback from partners. In recent rounds, this has included: consultations with NGOs; the risk and vulnerability analysis considered additional data sources, especially with regard to protection, human rights and conflict; the data sources are weighted according to their importance and combined into a new measure: the CERF Index for Risk and Vulnerability; a trend analysis of levels of funding and humanitarian needs was introduced, as well as a more comprehensive indicator of food insecurity and the need for external food assistance.

⁶ <http://reliefweb.int/report/world/iasc-alert-early-warning-and-readiness-report-outlook-period-november-2015-april-2016>

⁷ <http://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-transformative-agenda/news-public/I3-iasc-system-wide-response-activations-deactivations>

Annex: Indicators and Data Sources for the Index for Risk Management (INFORM) and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Early Action, Early Warning Readiness Report

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
1-2	Exposure to earthquakes of MMI category 6⁸ Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Earthquake	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program (GSHAP), LandScan ⁹ (ETH Zurich)	www.seismo.ethz.ch/static/GSHAP
3-4	Exposure to earthquakes of MMI category 8¹⁰ Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Earthquake	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program (GSHAP), LandScan ¹¹ (ETH Zurich)	www.seismo.ethz.ch/static/GSHAP
5-6	Exposure to tsunamis Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Tsunami	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	PREVIEW Global Risk Data Platform (UNEP, UNISDR)	http://preview.grid.unep.ch
7-8	Exposure to flood Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Flood	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	PREVIEW Global Risk Data Platform (UNEP, UNISDR)	http://preview.grid.unep.ch
9-10	Exposure to storm surges of Saffir-Simpson category 1¹² Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Tropical Cyclone	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	PREVIEW Global Risk Data Platform (UNEP, UNISDR)	http://preview.grid.unep.ch

⁸ Modified Mercalli Intensity scale. Category 6 is “strong”: “felt by all [...] Damage slight,” <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/topics/mercalli.php>

⁹ This product was made utilizing the LandScan (insert dataset year)TM High Resolution global Population Data Set copyrighted by UT-Battelle, LLC, operator of Oak Ridge National Laboratory under Contract No. DE-AC05-00OR22725 with the United States Department of Energy. The United States Government has certain rights in this Data Set. Neither UT-BATTELLE, LLC NOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, NOR ANY OF THEIR EMPLOYEES, MAKES ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OR ASSUMES ANY LEGAL LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, OR USEFULNESS OF THE DATA SET.

¹⁰ Category VIII is “severe” with “considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings”.

¹¹ This product was made utilizing the LandScan (insert dataset year)TM High Resolution global Population Data Set copyrighted by UT-Battelle, LLC, operator of Oak Ridge National Laboratory under Contract No. DE-AC05-00OR22725 with the United States Department of Energy. The United States Government has certain rights in this Data Set. Neither UT-BATTELLE, LLC NOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, NOR ANY OF THEIR EMPLOYEES, MAKES ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OR ASSUMES ANY LEGAL LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, OR USEFULNESS OF THE DATA SET.

¹² Category 1 is “very dangerous winds” of 119-153 km/h that “produce some damage,” www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
11-12	Exposure to tropical cyclone of Saffir-Simpson category 1 ¹³ Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Tropical Cyclone	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	PREVIEW Global Risk Data Platform (UNEP, UNISDR)	http://preview.grid.unep.ch
13-14	Exposure to tropical cyclone of Saffir-Simpson category 3 ¹⁴ Average annual number and percentage of people exposed	Natural, Tropical Cyclone	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	PREVIEW Global Risk Data Platform (UNEP, UNISDR)	http://preview.grid.unep.ch
15	Annual probability to have more than 30% of agriculture area affected by drought	Natural, Drought	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	FAO	
16-17	Drought-affected people Average annual number and percentage of people affected by drought	Natural, Drought	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database	www.emdat.be
18	Drought frequency	Natural, Drought	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database	www.emdat.be
19	National power conflicts	Human, Conflict Intensity	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	Conflict Barometer - HIIK (Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research)	www.hiik.de/en/konfliktbarometer/index.html
20	Subnational conflicts	Human, Conflict Intensity	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	Conflict Barometer - HIIK (Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research)	www.hiik.de/en/konfliktbarometer/index.html
21	Probability of violent internal conflict	Human, Projected Conflict Intensity	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	Global Conflict Risk Index (GCRI)	http://conflictrisk.jrc.ec.europa.eu

¹³ Category 1 is “very dangerous winds” of 119-153 km/h that “produce some damage,” www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php

¹⁴ Category 3 is winds of 178-208 km/h that cause “catastrophic damage”, www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
22	Probability of highly violent internal conflict	Human, Projected Conflict Intensity	Hazard and Exposure	INFORM	Global Conflict Risk Index (GCRI)	http://conflictrisk.jrc.ec.europa.eu
23	Human Development Index	Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Development and Deprivation	Vulnerability	INFORM	UNDP Human Development Report	http://hdr.undp.org/en/data
24	Multidimensional Poverty Index	Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Development and Deprivation	Vulnerability	INFORM	UNDP Human Development Report	http://hdr.undp.org/en/data
25	Gender Inequality Index	Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Inequality	Vulnerability	INFORM	UNDP Human Development Report	http://hdr.undp.org/en/data
26	Inequality in income or consumption Income GINI coefficient	Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Inequality	Vulnerability	INFORM	World Bank	http://hdr.undp.org/en/data
27	Public aid per capita Development and humanitarian aid	Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Aid Dependency	Vulnerability	INFORM	FTS, OECD DAC	http://fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLE2A
28	Net Official Development Assistance (ODA) received as Percent of Gross National Income (GNI)	Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Aid Dependency	Vulnerability	INFORM	World Bank	http://data.worldbank.org
29	Refugees by country of asylum	Vulnerable Groups, Uprooted People, Total people of concern	Vulnerability	INFORM	UNHCR Global Trends	www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c4d6.html
30	Internally Displaced People	Vulnerable Groups, Uprooted People, Total people of concern	Vulnerability	INFORM	IDMC (NRC)	www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/(httpPages)/22FB1D4E2B196DAA802570BB005E787C?OpenDocument

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
31	Returned refugees	Vulnerable Groups, Uprooted People, Total People of Concern	Vulnerability	INFORM	UNHCR Global Trends	www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c4d6.html
32	Adult prevalence of HIV/AIDS Estimated number of adults (>15) living with HIV	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Health Conditions	Vulnerability	INFORM	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository	http://apps.who.int/ghodata
33	Malaria mortality rate Deaths due to malaria per 100,000 people	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Health Conditions	Vulnerability	INFORM	United Nations Millennium Development Goals indicators	http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/SeriesDetail.aspx?srid=663
34	Tuberculosis incidence Number of cases of all forms of tuberculosis per 100,000 people	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Health Conditions	Vulnerability	INFORM	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository	http://apps.who.int/ghodata
35	Child mortality Probability of dying by age 5 per 1,000 live births	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Children under 5	Vulnerability	INFORM	Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME)	www.childmortality.org
36	Children under weight Children under 5 years old	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Children under 5	Vulnerability	INFORM	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository UNICEF The State of the World's Children	http://apps.who.int/ghodata www.unicef.org/publications/index_pubs_statistics.html
37	Number of people affected by natural disasters in the last three years	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Recent Shocks	Vulnerability	INFORM	EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database	www.emdat.be
38	Average dietary supply adequacy Average dietary energy supply as a percentage of the average dietary energy requirement	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Food Insecurity	Vulnerability	INFORM	FAO	www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/ess-fadata/en

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
39	Prevalence of undernourishment Percent of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Food Insecurity	Vulnerability	INFORM	World Bank	http://data.worldbank.org
40	Domestic Food Price Level Index A measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Food Insecurity	Vulnerability	INFORM	FAO	www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/ess-fadata/en
41	Domestic Food Price Volatility Index Compares the variations of the Domestic Food Price Index across countries and time	Vulnerable Groups, Other Vulnerable Groups, Food Insecurity	Vulnerability	INFORM	FAO	www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/ess-fadata/en
42	Government Effectiveness Index	Institutional, Governance	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	World Bank	http://data.worldbank.org
43	Corruption Perception Index	Institutional, Governance	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	Transparency International	http://cpi.transparency.org
44	Hyogo Framework for Action Disaster Risk Reduction activities, measured on 5-point indicator	Institutional, DRR	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	UNISDR	http://preventionweb.net/applications/hfa/qbnhfa
45	Literacy rate Percent of people aged 15 years and older	Infrastructure, Communication	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	UNESCO Institute for Statistics	http://stats.uis.unesco.org/unesco/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx
46	Access to electricity Percent of population	Infrastructure, Communication	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	World Bank	http://data.worldbank.org
47	Internet use Internet users per 100 people	Infrastructure, Communication	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	World Bank	http://data.worldbank.org

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
48	Mobile cellular subscriptions Per 100 people	Infrastructure, Communication	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	World Bank	http://data.worldbank.org
49	Improved sanitation facilities % of population with access	Infrastructure, Physical Infrastructure	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	WHO, UNICEF	www.wssinfo.org/data-estimates/table
50	Improved water source % of population with access	Infrastructure, Physical Infrastructure	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	WHO, UNICEF	www.wssinfo.org/data-estimates/table
51	Road density km of road per 100 km ² of land area	Infrastructure, Physical Infrastructure	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	International Road Federation	www.irfnet.ch
52	Health expenditure per capita In Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) international dollar	Infrastructure, Access to Health Care	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository	http://apps.who.int/ghodata
53	Measles (MCV) immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (%) Children under 1 who received at least one dose	Infrastructure, Access to Health Care	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository	http://apps.who.int/ghodata
54	Physicians density Number of medical doctors (generalist and specialist) per 10,000 people	Infrastructure, Access to Health Care	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository	http://apps.who.int/ghodata
55	Maternal mortality ration Ratio of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births	Infrastructure, Access to Health Care	Lack of Coping Capacity	INFORM	Maternal Mortality Estimation Group	http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/monitoring/maternal-mortality-2015/en/
56	Projected risk of increase in humanitarian needs 6 months into the future	--	--	--	IASC Alert, Early Warning and Readiness Report	https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/reference-group-risk-early-warning-and-preparedness

#	Indicator	INFORM Category	INFORM Dimension	Index	Source	Link
	5-point scale of seriousness of risks of strategic operational concern or that have a high probability to influence humanitarian needs					
