When people struck by emergencies need food

Immediate CERF funding is there to save lives and protect people.

CERF 2016 FOOD ALLOCATIONS

The UNITED NATIONS has a CENTRAL mechanism to ensure that in any EMERGENCY people have the RESPONSE they need, through a global FUND from all nations and for all people.

An estimated 108 million people globally face food insecurity.

CERF ensures rapid funding for life-saving food assistance the moment crises strike and also enables aid when the world’s attention to the crises later fades away.

In a world of dramatically increasing needs, the CERF is a cornerstone of the UN’s humanitarian system. It’s effective, it is efficient and it readily reaches those most in need, a large UN leader states in his address to the UN Secretary-General’s call to increase the contributions to the CERF.

—Isabella Lövin, Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden and Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate

CERF allocates approximately US$450 million to emergencies across the globe. On average, US$107 million of these ensure urgent food assistance for 10 million people.

CERF 2016

FOOD ALLOCATIONS

Source: Global Report on Food Crises 2017, FSIN
CERF is the UN’s global humanitarian fund enabling coordinated life-saving humanitarian response. Each year on average, CERF enables partners to reach 20.5 million people with life-saving assistance. Of these, a total of 4.2 million people received food assistance. In addition to CERF’s food grants, the fund also provides agriculture and livestock related grants that contribute to ensure longer term food security.

In a disaster, time lost means lives lost. CERF raises and pools funds from donors in advance of disasters, then allocates them quickly and flexibly to those in need. In El Nino-related droughts, CERF doubled support to 19 countries. During the 2017 drought in Ethiopia, CERF was one of the quickest and largest supporters. CERF funding within hours, allowing them to kickstart a response and ensure that people receive food assistance.

CERF ensures that urgent food assistance reach 1 million people with food, 5 million people with agricultural assistance, 4.5 million people with health services, 13 million people with clean water and sanitation, 10 million people with shelter, 4 million people with nutrition, and 1.5 million people with protection. In 2017, CERF response to Famine Prevention in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and Niger saw an increase of 500% in overall funding when compared to the same time the previous year. In 2018, the CERF allocation to North-East Nigeria was 47% higher than in 2017.

CERF was founded in 2006, in response to the UN General Assembly’s call for a global fund enabling coordinated humanitarian action in emergencies. The first allocation of $50 million was made in August 2006. Since 2006, CERF has allocated more than $1 billion to the UN agencies and other humanitarian partners in the field. In 2017, CERF disbursed $1.2 billion, the largest in its history. In 2018, CERF disbursed $1.3 billion.

Over the past five years, CERF has allocated more than half a billion USD. Nearly a quarter of all allocations from CERF every year go to food assistance in humanitarian crises. During the past five years, CERF has allocated more than half a billion USD to the UN agencies to ensure food assistance to hundreds of millions of people in need.

Some 145 million people today require humanitarian assistance and a record high number of people are vulnerable to secure a minimum level of food for survival. Today, 108 million people globally face food insecurity. Food crises are exacerbated and severe and often fuelled by protected armed conflicts coupled with natural disasters.

In addition to ensuring rapid responses to new emergencies, CERF is a lifeline to people in the world’s most neglected and underfunded humanitarian crises. In 2017, CERF reached 145 million people with life-saving assistance in 21 countries. Of these, 108 million people globally face food insecurity. Of the $145 million allocated to the world’s most neglected and underfunded crises, more than $22.5 million is dedicated to food assistance to underfunded emergencies. CERF is a ‘fund by all, for all’.

Innovating the response: CERF is increasingly supporting cash transfers in emergencies where markets remain intact. More than half of all food assistance interventions. CERF is able to act quickly and empower partners to save lives through the support of its donors. Today, 120 member states and 6 international organizations and the private sector have pledged to CERF – including 47 member states that also have contributed to the UN’s humanitarian agencies. Since CERF was founded, 108 million people globally face food insecurity. Food crises are exacerbated and severe and often fuelled by protected armed conflicts coupled with natural disasters.

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CERF is global and a ‘fund by all, for all!’

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