Financial Tracking Service
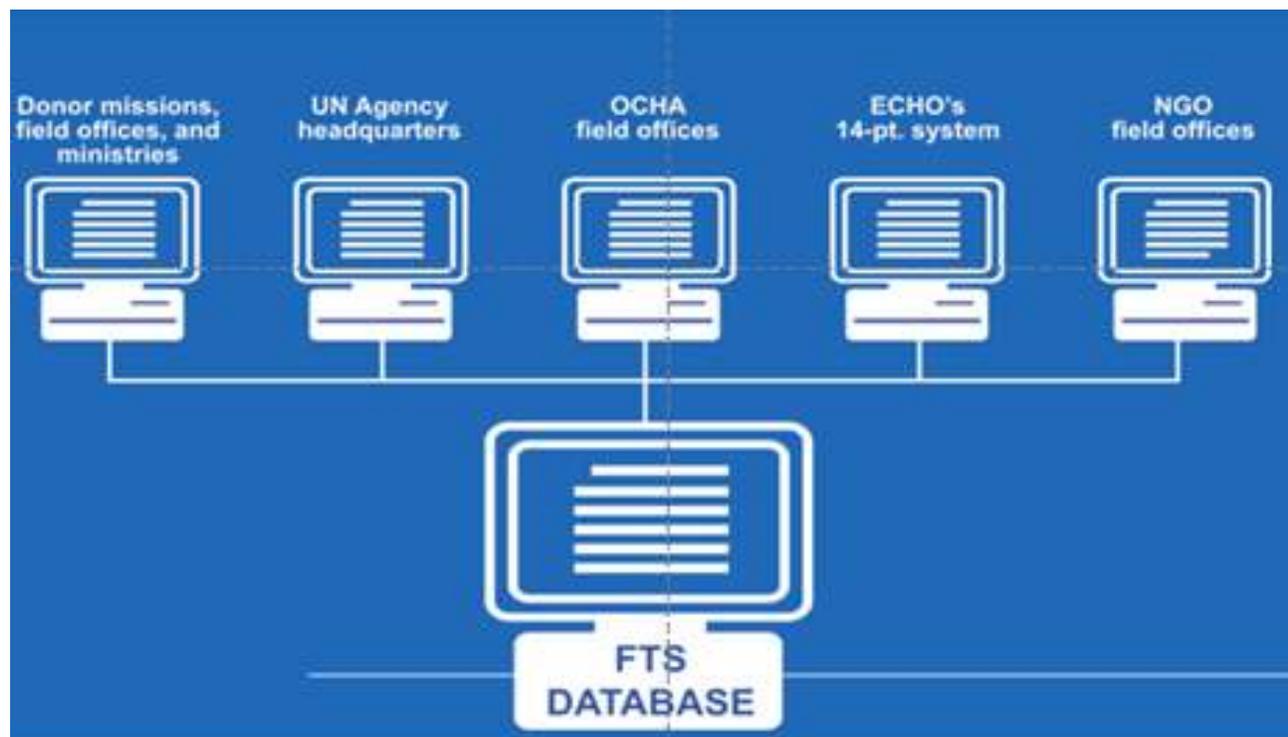Tracking Global Humanitarian Aid Flows

FTS DATA SOURCES

Where does the information come from ?

The Financial Tracking Service (FTS) is a global, on-line, real-time database of humanitarian funding needs and international contributions. It serves to improve resource allocation decisions and advocacy, by clearly indicating to what extent populations in crisis receive humanitarian aid, and in what proportion to needs. FTS offers a series of analytical tables that show humanitarian aid flows to specific crises, as well as donor profiles and quick donor searches. FTS also allows users to produce custom tables on demand. It covers all countries for which international humanitarian funding is reported. FTS is managed by OCHA and located at http://fts.unocha.org.

As most of you already know, FTS is a global, on-line, real-time database of humanitarian funding needs and international contributions. However, FTS is not telepathic: it is a recording service that can only post what is reported to it. Regular reporting mechanisms exist, but they require consistent support from all partners to ensure accuracy. The graphic below presents an overview of our main data sources and a detailed explanation follows.

1. Donor missions, field offices and ministries

Many donors send a consolidated report to FTS on a monthly basis, while others report major funding decisions as they are made. For some donors, their field offices play a major role in updating FTS, while for others, the information is channelled through the Permanent Missions in New York or Geneva, or comes directly from the concerned department (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, USAID, etc.).

2. UN Agencies

UN Agency headquarter offices report directly to FTS. As agreed in the 65th IASC Working Group meeting (5-7 July 2006), agencies agree to report once a month to FTS. To maintain consistency, FTS only accepts funding information from HQs (with the exception of UNDP field offices). However, field staff are often in the best position to spot errors or omissions, so everyone's attention is needed.

3. OCHA field offices

As per OCHA policy (November 2009), FTS is the centralized repository of humanitarian funding data and OCHA field offices provide crucial support in promoting FTS and forwarding information gathered at the field level (which is cross-checked with agencies and donors when required).

4. ECHO's HOLIS 14-point system

The HOLIS system contains real time information on ECHO and Member States' contributions to humanitarian aid. Contribution information submitted to ECHO is automatically forwarded to FTS and recorded. For more information, see:
https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hac/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.start&cfid=3619&cftoken=1111cf96f33b89f5-B87B3785-ABEC-FF3F-2908E3DC06833607

5. NGO field offices

NGO field offices: FTS primarily relies on NGO field offices to report funding through email (fts@un.org) or through the on-line reporting form: (http://fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=submit-submit14pts&type=donor).
If informed of contributions, FTS can show each NGO's full effort in a given crisis. In addition to funding from official donors, FTS can show the results of a NGO's private humanitarian fundraising campaigns for particular countries/projects.

FTS staff in Geneva cross-check all information received. Seriously incomplete data undermine the FTS' reliability and its usefulness for coordination and visibility. Conversely, full information makes a powerful coordination tool and helps all stakeholders see the full extent of humanitarian activities and resources in each country.

Please contact us for additional information: fts@un.org