GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW

2015

A consolidated appeal to support people affected by disaster and conflict
Acknowledgements

This publication was produced by the Appeal Coordination and Analysis (ACA) Section, Programme Support Branch (PSB), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

OCHA thanks all organizations and donors which regularly report to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS). FTS is the source for the funding updates contained in this status report.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

For more information, please contact the Appeal Coordination and Analysis Section, OCHA at aca@un.org.

fts.unocha.org
www.humanitarianresponse.info/appeals
www.unocha.org/2015appeal
Every year, on behalf of United Nations humanitarian agencies and our NGO partners, I launch a global humanitarian appeal, setting out the needs of the most vulnerable people in the world. Those needs reached a record high in 2014. At the beginning of the year we asked for US$12.9 billion to help 52 million people. By the end of the year it was $17.9 billion to help over 76 million people in 31 countries. As of 30 November, these appeals were funded at 52 per cent.

What we saw in 2014 was a sharp rise in the number of people living in regions of the world affected by conflict, with far-reaching political, security, economic, development and humanitarian consequences. Millions of people are fleeing violence and are dependent on humanitarian aid for their survival. For example in Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. In Sudan and South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya. In the Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of Congo and Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). We also saw natural disasters, including super typhoon Haiyan which claimed thousands of lives.

As we look forward to 2015 there is little prospect for change. We estimate that 77.9 million people will require humanitarian aid in twelve major crises spanning 22 countries. In this document we set out our plans targeting the most vulnerable people. But, as happens every year, we know that the figures will rise.

Humanitarian organizations will continue to put people front and centre of our relief efforts, to do everything we can to speed up our response, to save lives and protect people. We know we cannot do this on our own. We need support. From people who are affected by crisis, Governments, our UN and NGO partners and from our donors. Every year we ask more of you. Thank you for supporting us. I hope that support will continue.

Valerie Amos
Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs
and Emergency Relief Coordinator
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>3.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central African Republic (CAR)</td>
<td>2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAR RRP*</td>
<td>461,164 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)</td>
<td>5.2 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>5 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>536,400 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt)</td>
<td>1.6 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>2.8 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>4.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan RRP**</td>
<td>821,000 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>4.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria***</td>
<td>12.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria 3RP***</td>
<td>6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>900,000 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>8 million</td>
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* Estimates as of November 2014, including 90,000 people to receive aid covered by the DRC Humanitarian Response Plan
** Estimates as of November 2014, including 196,000 people to receive aid covered by the Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan
*** Estimates as of November 2014
Executive Summary

The gap between humanitarian needs and the resources available to meet them continues to grow. This document sets out inter-agency appeals requesting $16.4 billion to assist 57.5 million people in 22 countries in 2015.1

In 2014, three major crises with significant regional impact – Central African Republic, South Sudan and Syria – dominated humanitarian response efforts. These, in addition to Iraq, are the highest level (L3) crises declared by the humanitarian community. They will continue to require significant humanitarian assistance in 2015.

Due to the conflict in Syria, essential infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed. 191,000 people were killed and more than 12.2 million people require urgent assistance, including over five million children. Some 7.6 million people are internally displaced and another 3.2 million are refugees in neighbouring countries. Whilst the search continues for a political solution to the crisis, humanitarian organizations will do all they can to reach as many people as possible with life-saving assistance.

In 2014, conflict and insecurity in Iraq displaced over 2.1 million people across the country. Some 5.2 million people are in need of aid, 2.2 million of them in areas under the control of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), where humanitarian agencies have little or no humanitarian access. The outbreak of violence in South Sudan forced 1.9 million people to flee their homes in 2014. Close to 500,000 of these have sought refuge in neighbouring countries and 1.4 million are internally displaced. 1.5 million people are severely food insecure. In CAR, outbreaks of violence have prompted large-scale displacements of people and spikes in humanitarian needs. A quarter of the population (over one million people) has either been displaced by the conflict within CAR or has been forced to flee across the borders.

In addition to the L3 emergencies, long term crises caused by conflict, violence and natural disasters, including droughts and floods, mean that millions of people across the world will need humanitarian assistance in 2015 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Sudan, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Myanmar and elsewhere.

Note that the appeals for the Sahel and Djibouti will be launched in February 2015 as SRPs for these countries will be finalized in February 2015. Requirements for the Ebola crisis are not included in this document. However, support to countries experiencing its public health, economic, social, development and humanitarian consequences will continue to require donor attention in 2015.

Haiti and the Philippines are the only two countries in the appeals for 2014 which are no longer included in the global appeal for 2015. In Haiti, the Government, together with the UN and its partners, is preparing a Transitional Appeal (2015-2016) guiding both humanitarian action and resilience-building. In the Philippines, the Government announced the end of the humanitarian phase of the Haiyan response on 4 July 2014.

As needs increase, humanitarian organizations continue to look at ways to become more effective and efficient. Improved needs assessment and analysis, strategic planning and prioritization helped humanitarian organizations target their resources on the most vulnerable. Humanitarian country teams are taking a more holistic and integrated approach to address needs, for instance by looking at the humanitarian and development resources available and aligning the two. This is the approach used in oPt and Somalia. In countries where conflict or lack of infrastructure is increasing delivery costs, humanitarian organizations are pre-positioning items or extending cash programming. And in countries of protracted crisis with a complex mix of humanitarian and development challenges, country teams are distinguishing between acute, urgent humanitarian needs and chronic needs that require longer term solutions. And they recognize that strengthening the link between emergency preparedness, response and development is key to building the resilience of people affected by crisis and supporting governments in preparing to deal with future shocks. In Somalia and Iraq, for example, humanitarian country teams have developed multi-year plans. Putting people and their needs at the heart of humanitarian response involves continuous communication with communities affected by crisis. This is supported by recent technological developments, such as the KoBo Toolbox.

Significant efforts are being made to ensure that the specific needs of women, children and other vulnerable groups are integrated into humanitarian response efforts. For example, in South Sudan camp coordinators and local NGO staff hold regular discussions with displaced people in camps to identify cases of harassment and sexual violence. As a result responses tailored to address these protection concerns have been incorporated in programmes.
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Mapping Humanitarian Requirements in 2015

Sahel Strategic Response Plans for Burkina Faso, Gambia, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon and Senegal to be launched in February 2015.

Central African Republic
PEOPLE TO RECEIVE AID: 2 MILLION
SRP REQUIREMENTS: $612.9 MILLION

CAR Regional Refugee Response Plan*
Chad, Cameroon, DRC and Congo
PEOPLE TO RECEIVE AID: 461,164
RRRP REQUIREMENTS: $298 MILLION
Humanitarian Funding Overview
as at 30 November 2014

$16.4 BILLION
2015 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS
(EXCLUDING SAHEL AND DJIBOUTI TO BE FINALISED IN 2015)

Inter-agency humanitarian response plans for 2015 require $16.4 billion. This analysis includes preliminary estimates for certain countries which are subject to change in the coming weeks. Over 70 per cent of the current requirements are to respond to L3 emergencies.

Funding requirements for Djibouti and the Sahel are not included here, as these plans will not be issued until early 2015.

3 SRPs have decreased their requirements compared to last year by more than 5 per cent.

3 SRPs have increased their requirements by more than 20 per cent compared to last year.

* This amount includes $3.16 billion required for refugees and $1.26 billion required for resilience activities. It excludes $600 million required by the Government of Jordan and $169 million required by the Government of Lebanon through the SRP.

2014 SRP FUNDING & REQUIREMENTS
US$ 17.9 BILLION

52% COVERED

52% REQUIREMENTS $8.5 BILLION
FUNDED $9.4 BILLION

The combined requirements for inter-agency response plans reached a record high in 2014. The global ask of $17.9 billion includes the SRP requirements for 2014 as well as RRP requirements not covered by the SRP. 60 per cent of inter-agency requirements in 2014 are for L3 emergencies and 33 per cent alone are for the Syria crisis. Over half the funding received to date (65 per cent) has been for L3 response plans, including contributions towards the response to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. Non-L3 requirements are currently funded at 46 per cent, compared to 57 per cent for L3 requirements. This appears to indicate that the Iraq, Syria, CAR, South Sudan and Typhoon Haiyan SRPs have attracted higher funding than non-L3 crises. Discrepancies in relative funding across SRPs are striking; while Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Djibouti, Gambia, Libya, Nigeria, Republic of Congo and Senegal have attracted less than 35 per cent of the funds appealed for, SRPs for South Sudan, Afghanistan, Niger, Iraq and CAR are funded at over 60 per cent.

14 COUNTRIES
WITH HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

* The Philippines Typhoon Haiyan SRP runs from November 2013 to October 2014, the Bohol earthquake action plan from October 2013 to April 2014 and the Zamboanga action plan from October 2013 to August 2014.
Overall, in 2014 global funding for humanitarian activities as reported in FTS reached $17.9 billion. This global sum includes funding allocated for activities in the SRPs, amounting to $9.4 billion, and the $3.5 billion attributed to activities or actors outside these plans in the same countries. Examples would be MSF and ICRC, or in-kind contributions. An additional $5 billion of funding was reported for emergencies without SRPs.

SRP funding as reported to FTS reached an unprecedented high in 2014, exceeding 2010 funding levels following the Haiti and Pakistan disasters. The funding for response plans increased by 13 per cent compared to last year. A growing number of Member States are directing humanitarian contributions towards SRP activities (representing a 40 per cent increase compared to the year 2000).

Yet, requirements are also taking a steep upwards curve and the funding gap is widening to reach a record high. The current SRP requirements are only 52 per cent covered, the lowest coverage ever compared to the average funding level of 60 per cent up to 2013.

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Examples of people reached in 2014
a glance at humanitarian aid delivered around the globe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2.8 MILLION</strong></th>
<th><strong>930,000</strong></th>
<th><strong>570,000</strong></th>
<th><strong>13</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE RECEIVED HEALTH SERVICES IN YEMEN</td>
<td>PEOPLE RECEIVED FOOD ASSISTANCE IN CAR</td>
<td>HOUSEHOLDS REACHED WITH EMERGENCY SHELTER &amp; DURABLE ROOFING SOLUTION IN THE PHILIPPINES</td>
<td>AID HUBS ACROSS SOUTH SUDAN PROVIDED WITH ESSENTIAL INTERNET &amp; RADIO CONNECTIVITY</td>
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<th><strong>185,000</strong></th>
<th><strong>600,000</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN IN SOUTH SUDAN WERE HELPED THROUGH NUTRITION PROGRAMMES</td>
<td>PEOPLE IN SOUTHERN IRUMU IN DRC RECEIVED FOOD ASSISTANCE AFTER BEING DISPLACED OR AFFECTED BY CONFLICT</td>
<td>PEOPLE WERE VACCINATED AGAINST CHOLERA IN 7 HIGH-RISK CHOLERA AREAS IN HAITI</td>
<td>PEOPLE IN CHAD RECEIVED FOOD VOUCHERS WORTH $10 MILLION</td>
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<th><strong>140,000</strong></th>
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<th><strong>1.8 MILLION</strong></th>
<th><strong>39,604</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>PERSONS AFFECTED BY FLASH FLOODS IN NORTHERN AFGHANISTAN RECEIVED EMERGENCY RELIEF</td>
<td>PEOPLE FROM RAKHINE, KACHIN &amp; NORTHERN SHAN STATES IN MYANMAR WERE REACHED WITH MONTHLY FOOD AID</td>
<td>CHILDREN IN THE SAHEL OF WHOM 800,000 WERE SEVERELY MALNOURISHED, WERE TREATED FOR ACUTE MALNUTRITION</td>
<td>IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO REFUGEES IN CAMEROON TO ENSURE THEIR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>NFI 700,000</strong></th>
<th><strong>3.15 MILLION</strong></th>
<th><strong>795,000</strong></th>
<th><strong>1 MILLION</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SYRIAN REFUGEES HAVE BENEFITED FROM THE DISTRIBUTION OF BASIC HOUSEHOLD &amp; CORE RELIEF ITEMS</td>
<td>PEOPLE REACHED MONTHLY WITH FOOD ASSISTANCE IN SINDI</td>
<td>SYRIAN REFUGEES BENEFITED FROM SHELTER ASSISTANCE IN CAMP &amp; NON-CAMP SETTINGS</td>
<td>PROVIDED WITH MEDICINES &amp; MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN IRAQ</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>328,000 +</strong></th>
<th><strong>73,090</strong></th>
<th><strong>3.9 MILLION +</strong></th>
<th><strong>24,000</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTERNALLY DISPLACED FAMILIES IDENTIFIED &amp; MONITORED THROUGHOUT IRAQ &amp; THEIR MULTI-SECTORAL NEEDS DETERMINED</td>
<td>PEOPLE RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FOR PASTORALIST ACTIVITIES IN MALI</td>
<td>PEOPLE RECEIVED FOOD AID IN SYRIA IN SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>FISHERMEN ASSISTED WITH BOAT BUILDING &amp; REPAIR IN THE PHILIPPINES</td>
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<th><strong>200,000 +</strong></th>
<th><strong>330 TONS</strong></th>
<th><strong>250,000 +</strong></th>
<th><strong>567,000</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE IN SOUTHERN IRUMU IN DRC RECEIVED FOOD ASSISTANCE AFTER BEING DISPLACED OR AFFECTED BY CONFLICT</td>
<td>OF CRITICAL SUPPLIES TRANSPORTED THROUGH EMERGENCY FLIGHTS REACHING OVER 66,000 AFFECTED PEOPLE IN 3 REGIONS OF SOMALIA</td>
<td>CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO RETURN TO SCHOOLS WHICH WERE SURVEYED AND CLEARED OF EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR IN EPI</td>
<td>PEOPLE DIRECTLY REACHED BY COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES IN CAR</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>328,000 +</strong></th>
<th><strong>5,516</strong></th>
<th><strong>70%</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>INTERNALLY DISPLACED FAMILIES IDENTIFIED &amp; MONITORED THROUGHOUT IRAQ &amp; THEIR MULTI-SECTORAL NEEDS DETERMINED</td>
<td>PUPILS ARE ENROLLED IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE KIRYANDONGO REFUGEE SETTLEMENT IN UGANDA</td>
<td>OF PLANNED BENEFICIARIES, 173, 285 PERSONS, SAW THEIR STANDARD OF LIVING IMPROVED IN DJIBOUTI</td>
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<th><strong>570,000</strong></th>
<th><strong>158,000</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>PEOPLE RECEIVED PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT IN MALI</td>
<td>HOUSEHOLDS REACHED WITH EMERGENCY SHELTER &amp; DURABLE ROOFING SOLUTION IN THE PHILIPPINES</td>
<td>HOUSEHOLDS GIVEN DURABLE ROOFING SOLUTION IN THE PHILIPPINES</td>
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Countries in focus

Afghanistan
Central African Republic
Democratic Republic of Congo
Iraq
Myanmar
occupied Palestinian territories (oPt)
Somalia
South Sudan
Sudan
Ukraine
Syria
Yemen

Countries for which SRPs will be launched in February 2015
Djibouti
Sahel: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal

Through joint needs assessment and analysis humanitarian organizations identify the overall number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in each country. The strategic response plans target the most vulnerable, based on analysis of national capacity, access and security.

Humanitarian needs overviews and strategic response plans can be found at: www.humanitarianresponse.info/appeals
Afghanistan

Afghanistan is in political, military and economic transition, marked by the election of a new president and a withdrawal of international troops. The continuing conflict, poverty and cycle of natural disasters have led to high levels of humanitarian needs.

105,800 people were displaced by conflict in Afghanistan in 2014. The safety of aid workers is of concern, with NGOs reporting 174 incidents this year. Since the start of military operations in Pakistan’s North Waziristan Agency 225,000 people have fled to Afghanistan. A sharp decline was observed in the number of Afghan refugees returning mainly from Pakistan and Iran as compared to 2013.

The 2015 humanitarian response plan focuses on providing life-saving assistance to 3.8 million people affected by disaster, conflict, illness and malnutrition. It promotes resilience activities to reduce reliance on humanitarian assistance.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The DRC faces multiple challenges, including weak governance and lack of capacity, ongoing violence, particularly in the east of the country, ethnic tension and widespread poverty. Human rights violations are commonplace, with armed groups attacking villages, killing indiscriminately and torturing, mutilating and raping vulnerable women and girls. Humanitarian needs are acute. Seven million people are currently in need of assistance throughout the country, including 2.7 million IDPs. In 2014 alone, 770,000 people fled their homes and became internally displaced.

Ongoing instability in the DRC continues to have a regional impact, threatening peace and security in the Great Lakes region and beyond. There are over 420,000 Congolese living as refugees and asylum seekers in neighbouring countries whilst the DRC continues to host 120,000 refugees, mainly from the Central African Republic, Rwanda and Burundi. The DRC also suffers from a severe nutrition and health crisis: three million children are malnourished and epidemics such as measles and cholera kill tens of thousands a year.

In 2015, humanitarian organizations require US$692 million for response activities across the whole country to address humanitarian crises linked to conflict, malnutrition, epidemics and natural disasters.
CAR is one of the worst protection crises faced by the international community. Security conditions continue to be volatile. Recent flare-ups in Bangui demonstrate the continued fragility of the country. Outbreaks of violence have prompted large-scale displacements of people and an increase of humanitarian need. Over a million people have been displaced internally, and some 423,000 people sought refuge in neighbouring Cameroon, Chad, DRC and Congo. Women and children are particularly vulnerable. 8,000 to 10,000 children have been recruited by armed groups. Some one million people may require food assistance during the lean season as household food and income sources remain disrupted, and the food consumption gap approaches crisis levels. Active conflict has hindered immunization and other preventive health programmes, increased malnutrition rates and led to damage and destruction of hospitals and health clinics. Violations of international humanitarian and human rights law continue unabated and humanitarian actors are increasingly targeted by armed groups.

The focus of the SRP is on improving living conditions for displaced people by meeting their immediate protection and other emergency needs and improving their access to basic social services. People will receive livelihoods support to strengthen their resilience and to help promote early recovery. The strategy focuses on humanitarian and cross-cutting issues such as gender mainstreaming, communication with communities and accountability to affected people. It also prioritizes the creation of conditions conducive to the safe return of those displaced by violence and promotion of humanitarian principles which are essential for the safe conduct of operations in conflict zones. The SRP is independent from, but complements the transitional government’s Emergency Programme for Sustainable Recovery 2014-2016.

The 2015 CAR Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) targets the needs of 461,164 CAR refugees in Cameroon, Chad, the DRC and Republic of Congo. The plan also includes an element of support to host communities in the affected countries. The RRRP focuses on all CAR refugees.

Interventions with refugees, third country nationals, returnees and host communities will focus on increasing the quality of services provided at refugee sites and in host communities to ensure that all protection needs are met. The regional plan supports the strengthening of community health, water and education infrastructure and aims to boost local economic development through livelihood interventions.

**Central African Republic crisis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SRP</strong></th>
<th><strong>2.7 MILLION</strong></th>
<th><strong>2 MILLION</strong></th>
<th><strong>$612.9 MILLION</strong></th>
<th><strong>430,000</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PEOPLE IN NEED</strong></td>
<td><strong>PEOPLE TARGETED</strong></td>
<td><strong>REQUIREMENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN</strong></th>
<th><strong>461,164</strong></th>
<th><strong>$298 MILLION</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PEOPLE TARGETED</strong></td>
<td><strong>REQUIREMENTS</strong></td>
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* Includes 90,000 people to receive aid covered by the DRC Humanitarian Response Plan

** Estimate as of November 2014, including a portion earmarked for refugees from CAR in DRC included in the DRC Humanitarian Response Plan financial requirements
Iraq

Armed conflict between Government Armed Forces and ISIL-affiliated groups in Iraq has steadily escalated since January 2014, creating a protection crisis for millions of Iraqis across the country. Basic social services have been eroded by months of political instability and decades of under-investment in social infrastructure. Oil revenues have sharply decreased as a result of ISIL territorial acquisitions. Some 5.2 million people are in need of assistance throughout the country. 3.6 million people are living in areas under control of ISIL and affiliated armed groups. Violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by all parties and against civilians of all ethnic and religious backgrounds continue to be committed.

As many as 800,000 of an estimated 2.1 million people newly displaced since January 2014 urgently need emergency shelter and 940,000 require basic household items. The conflict has disrupted the public subsidized food distribution system which more than 4 million Iraqis rely on, and at least 2.8 million people are now food insecure.

* Estimate as of November 2014

Myanmar

Humanitarian needs persist in Myanmar due to ongoing armed conflict in Kachin and northern Shan States and continuing inter-communal tensions in Rakhine State. 240,000 people remain displaced. Largely as a result of restrictions on their movement and limited access to livelihood opportunities, the displaced are almost entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance. Shelters require reconstruction and items distributed early on in the crisis need replacing. Women are exposed to violence and children are missing school as a result of conflict or inter-communal tensions.

The 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan is part of a broader engagement by the United Nations and its partners in Myanmar to build peace and aid recovery and longer-term development. The plan aims to protect the people affected by conflict and disaster in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan, the three States with the most urgent humanitarian needs. Projects are designed to save lives and protect wellbeing; ensure equitable access to basic services and livelihoods and strengthen resilience to shocks from future conflict and disaster, including through early recovery and durable solutions’ initiatives. The strategy also stresses the importance of the commitment to joint advocacy, communications with affected people and conflict sensitivity.
A mix of factors including drought, soaring food prices, conflict, access constraints and inadequate funding has led to a serious deterioration of the humanitarian situation in 2014, jeopardizing the political, security and socio-economic gains made in recent years in Somalia. For the first time since the 2011 famine, the number of people in need of life-saving assistance has increased. Over a million Somalis are unable to meet their basic food requirements. A further 2.1 million people are on the verge of acute food insecurity, bringing the total number of people in need of humanitarian assistance to 3.2 million.

An estimated 1.1 million displaced people live in extremely difficult conditions in overcrowded settlements with limited access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene services (WASH), placing them at high risk of water and sanitation-related diseases. Internally displaced people make up the majority of those affected by food insecurity (62 per cent). Displaced people continue to face forced evictions, discrimination and gender-based violence, threats from explosive hazards and lack of adequate protection and durable solutions.

In 2015 humanitarian partners in Somalia will aim to assist 2.76 million or 86 per cent of the 3.2 million people in need, focusing on three overriding objectives: providing life-saving support, improving protection, and strengthening resilience.

The ongoing blockade of Gaza, internal Palestinian political divisions and the lack of progress in the peace process are the principal drivers of humanitarian need and vulnerability in oPt.

In the Gaza Strip, the 52-day conflict which ended on 26 August resulted in a high number of civilian deaths and destruction of critical infrastructure. Some 100,000 people were newly displaced. Humanitarian needs in oPt also result from seasonal events such as recurrent flooding and winter storms.

In 2015, 1.9 million people, out of a population of 4.5 million will need humanitarian assistance. Key concerns include restricted access to basic services such as WASH, health, and education; continued high food insecurity and declining resilience; physical protection, forced displacement and the shelter needs of IDPs. The goals of humanitarian assistance in 2015 are to ensure that vulnerable Palestinians have access to basic services, to sustain resilience through livelihoods development, to mitigate the impact of shocks and address protection concerns.

In 2015 humanitarian partners in Somalia will aim to assist 2.76 million or 86 per cent of the 3.2 million people in need, focusing on three overriding objectives: providing life-saving support, improving protection, and strengthening resilience.
Conflict in South Sudan continues to devastate the lives of millions of people. In 2014, 1.9 million people fled their homes in fear of violence. 1.5 million people, almost twice as many as before the war in December 2013, are severely food insecure. The situation will worsen in 2015, when some 6.4 million people will need aid to survive. Support is vital if rising malnutrition rates and disease are to be contained. The ongoing violence, acute food insecurity and the possibility of famine will continue to force people to flee their homes and many of them will seek refuge in neighboring countries.

Some 3.5 million people received aid in 2014. Partners involved in the South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan for 2015 will organize efforts around six operational priorities. These include expanding the reach and scope of assistance, improving coordination among agencies, and pre-positioning supplies during the dry season. The aid community will also strengthen its capacity to stay and deliver aid in insecure environments, protect people being subjected to violence and continue to push for increased humanitarian access to people in need. Clearance of landmines and explosive remnants of war will be essential to ensure the safe movement of civilians and humanitarian workers.

Women and children are 70 per cent of the refugees arriving in neighbouring countries. The number of unaccompanied and separated children is high. Refugee registration and profiling continues to be an important element of capturing the needs and vulnerabilities of newly arrived refugees and ensuring appropriate gender and child-sensitive programming. The Regional Refugee Response Plan prioritizes immediate life-saving activities in the food, nutrition, health and water, sanitation and hygiene sectors. Identification of suitable land to accommodate newly arriving refugees continues to be an urgent priority. Some 270,000 South Sudanese are likely to become refugees in 2015.

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### South Sudan crisis

- **6.4 million** people in need
- **4.1 million** people targeted
- **$1.8 billion** requirements*
- **1.95 million** people displaced due to conflict & flooding

### REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

- **821,000** people targeted**
- **$783.9 million** requirements***
- **270,000** South Sudanese refugees (projected)

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* Estimate as of November 2014
** Includes 196,000 people to receive aid covered by the Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan
*** Estimate as of November 2014, including a portion earmarked for refugees from South Sudan in Sudan included in the Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan financial requirements
Sudan

In 2014, ongoing violence in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile and the influx of refugees from South Sudan have contributed to a significant deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Sudan. Approximately 6.6 million people are currently in need of humanitarian assistance. In Darfur, more than 450,000 people have fled their homes since January. Most of the newly displaced have moved into IDP camps already hosting over 2 million people, adding to the demand for under-resourced basic services. In South Kordofan and Blue Nile, hundreds of thousands people in opposition-held areas have been cut off from humanitarian assistance as a result of Government operations against the SPLM-N.

Conflict has exacerbated malnutrition and food insecurity but some of the highest rates of malnutrition have been recorded in the relatively peaceful east of the country. An estimated 1.2 million children under the age of 5 suffer from acute malnutrition. More than 5 million people were food insecure during the 2014 pre-harvest lean season. Humanitarian needs in Sudan are increasing but the capacity of the humanitarian system to respond to these needs has decreased.

Ukraine

The security situation in eastern Ukraine remains volatile and continues to deteriorate. As a result of hostilities and the instability caused by events in March 2014 in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, people have fled their homes and have become increasingly vulnerable as the conflict escalates. To date, close to one million people have been displaced within Ukraine and abroad. A ceasefire agreement was signed in September by the Government of Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the self-proclaimed Luhansk and Donetsk People’s Republics. However, indiscriminate shelling and other ceasefire violations are still reported daily in Donetsk and Luhansk.

The humanitarian community aims to assist 900,000 people in five regions of eastern Ukraine in 2015. These are the most vulnerable of the estimated 1.4 million people in need of assistance. The focus of response efforts in 2015 will be on the protection needs of displaced and other conflict-affected people, provision of life-saving assistance to women, girls, boys and men and ensuring access to quality essential services. The plan also aims to improve the access of displaced and other conflict-affected people to early recovery programmes such as livelihoods support, basic services, return and post-conflict reconciliation programming.
Four years after the start of conflict, the humanitarian situation in Syria continues to deteriorate. 12.2 million people now require humanitarian assistance, including over five million children. Some 9.8 million people are food insecure and 11.6 million in need of clean water and sanitation. Less than half of Syria’s hospitals are fully functioning, and around a quarter of schools have been damaged, destroyed or converted into shelters, leaving between 2.1 and 2.4 million children out of school or attending classes irregularly.

Syria remains the world’s largest protection crisis. To date, over 191,000 people have been killed, including from the impact of barrel bombs and around one million injured. Violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law continue.

Palestine refugees in Syria are also seriously affected with 64 per cent displaced. Almost the entire Palestine refugee population remaining in Syria is dependent on UNRWA to cover their basic needs. Some 7.6 million people are internally displaced and more than 3.2 million people have fled to neighbouring countries Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq as well as to Egypt. Essential services in these countries, such as health and education, have been placed under severe strain, and development gains achieved prior to the conflict are at risk of being reversed.

The 2015 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan is based on the “whole of Syria” approach. The plan seeks to promote the protection of affected people in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law; provide life-saving aid to people in need, prioritising the most vulnerable; strengthen resilience, livelihoods and early recovery; and improve coordination and the response capacity of humanitarian organizations.

The Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) addresses the adverse social, humanitarian and economic effects of the Syrian conflict on neighbouring countries, aiming to mitigate the demographic and economic shock arising from the large influxes of refugees. The 3RP addresses the protection and humanitarian needs of refugees living in camps, settlements and host communities, and those of vulnerable members of affected communities. Stabilization-based development activities will address the long-term needs of affected and vulnerable communities, and national crisis response plans will be supported through provision of strategic, technical and policy support. The country chapters in the 3RP complement the respective national crisis plans.

The Lebanon Crisis Response Plan targets 2.2 million vulnerable people with acute humanitarian needs and prioritizes investments in services, economies and institutions to reach up to 2.9 million people in the most vulnerable locations. The Plan is aligned with the Government of Lebanon Policy Paper on Syrian Displacement.

In Jordan, the Government in collaboration with partners has developed the 2015 Jordan Response Plan to address the needs of refugees and vulnerable host communities.

* Estimates as of November 2014
** Initial estimate, depending on further discussion with the Government
Yemen

Yemen's humanitarian crisis stems from years of under-development, endemic poverty and weak state authority and rule of law, exacerbated by political instability and conflict in many parts of the country. The outlook for 2015 is challenging with a looming fiscal crisis, and the risk of expansion of the conflict.

The collapse of basic services, endemic food insecurity, destruction of livelihoods, under-development and conflict-induced displacement, have caused a humanitarian emergency likely to persist at least into 2016. 10.6 million people are food insecure and nearly a million children under age five suffer from acute malnutrition. Half the population lacks access to adequate water or sanitation facilities and 8.4 million people have insufficient access to health services.

Over 330,000 Yemenis remain displaced, mainly in the north of the country. In the south, an estimated 215,000 returnees need assistance to rebuild their lives. 250,000 refugees, mostly from Somalia, and tens of thousands of mainly Ethiopian migrants live in vulnerable conditions in Yemen. An estimated 700,000 Yemeni migrants expelled from Saudi Arabia require immediate life-saving assistance and protection upon arrival, adding to the pressure on scarce basic services. The final Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan will be published in January 2015.

Countries for which Strategic Response Plans will be launched in February 2015

Djibouti

As the humanitarian response plan for Djibouti enters its second year (January 2014-December 2015), food assistance, livestock replacement, prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition and diseases, and WASH services, remain priorities. The plan also encompasses refugee and migrant protection and community resilience. Recurrent drought has drastically reduced pastures and the flow of well water and caused death among livestock. Competition for natural resources between refugees and the inhabitants of the region of Ali Sabieh remains high. As many as 42 per cent of the population live in absolute poverty; 44 per cent of the rural population has no access to water and 40 percent are food insecure. People are seeking opportunities outside rural areas, on the outskirts of the capital, where conditions are precarious and public services are weak or non-existent. This is putting additional pressure on already overstretched public services along the migration route.

In 2015, projects to promote agricultural production, access of the rural population to water, and the safeguarding of livelihood assets, will be implemented. In addition, activities aimed at the prevention and treatment of malnutrition and illnesses such as acute diarrhea, acute respiratory infection and malaria will be undertaken.

NOTE: The second part of the two-year Djibouti SRP will be available in February 2015. Needs and funding requirements are not reflected in the global overview.
The humanitarian situation in the Sahel remains of grave concern. Conflict and displacement, erratic weather patterns and epidemics continue to result in substantial humanitarian needs across the region. In 2015 humanitarian action in the Sahel will be guided by the 2014-2016 Regional Strategic Response Plan.

High levels of food insecurity are likely to persist into next year as rains in the region were late and erratic this year affecting farmers and pastoralists in several countries. Preliminary assessments suggest that the number of food insecure people in the Sahel in 2015 may be lower than the recent high of almost 25 million people. Niger, Nigeria, Mali and Chad represent over 70 per cent of this total. Agriculturalists in The Gambia, Mauritanian and Senegal were also seriously affected by the late rains as were pastoralists in Niger.

Acute malnutrition persists at high levels. An estimated 6.4 million children under age 5 suffered from acute malnutrition in 2014, 1.6 million of whom required treatment for severe acute malnutrition. In Mali, almost half a million children under age 5 suffered from acute malnutrition. Nigeria currently accounts for about 50 per cent of the region’s acute malnutrition cases, with most of the remainder in Niger, Chad, Mali and Burkina Faso. An estimated 1.2 million children under age 5 die annually in the Sahel and some 570,000 of these deaths are associated with malnutrition and related diseases.

Beyond food insecurity and acute malnutrition, continued political instability and conflict in and around the region brought large-scale displacement. The region enters 2015 with some 3.3 million people displaced. Ongoing conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR) for example, continues to displace people into neighbouring Chad and Cameroon where over 330,000 refugees, returnees and third country nationals (TCNs) have sought refuge to date. As the conflict escalates in northeast Nigeria an estimated 1.5 million are internally displaced. Over 80,000 Nigerian refugees have fled to neighbouring Niger, Cameroon and Chad.

Cameroon faces multiple challenges. Malnutrition, epidemics and food insecurity threaten many in the Sahel belt in the North. The impact of the influx of more than 270,000 refugees from CAR and Nigeria is a strain on host communities.

Chad also faces food insecurity, malnutrition and under-development exacerbated by instability outside its borders. Chad is the seventh largest refugee-hosting country in the world, hosting some 460,000 refugees from CAR, Libya, Nigeria and Sudan. In addition, some 200,000 Chadians have returned from Libya and CAR, placing additional pressure on already scarce resources.

Life-saving humanitarian assistance will be needed across Mali. In the north, the volatile security situation had resulted in serious protection issues, hampering the return of refugees, affecting the functioning of markets and preventing the full restoration of basic services. Some 143,400 Malian refugees remain in Mauritania, Niger and Burkina Faso and at least 86,000 Malians remain internally displaced.

Epidemics in the Sahel will continue to demand urgent attention in 2015. Besides cholera, meningitis, yellow fever and other epidemic threats to the region, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa has resulted in fatalities in Nigeria, Senegal and Mali.

Humanitarian partners recognize that the cycle of food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty in the Sahel requires a holistic approach aligning humanitarian priorities with the work of development partners. This is at the heart of the Sahel strategy.

NOTE: Humanitarian Needs Overviews are undertaken in November when harvest forecasts become available. SRPs will be finalized in February 2015. Needs and funding requirements are not reflected in the global overview.
A child waits to receive a polio vaccination on the first day of a campaign in Dahuk Province. Mobile and fixed teams trained and supported by the World Health Organization move around the city, identifying the internally displaced and offering them free vaccinations. Over 500,000 IDPs are currently staying in Dahuk Province, putting a strain on social services and housing.
Early in the morning Mary Nyaluak Ajak prepares breakfast in Minkaman. There are 16 people in the Mamer household. Before the violence erupted Mary worked as a shopkeeper. Today, after fleeing her home in Bor and arriving in Minkaman she has to take care of the family and there are no prospects of finding work or income.
Innovative programming aiming to increase the effectiveness of aid delivery will increase in 2015. The KoBo Toolbox, cash programming, and new approaches to gender mainstreaming are three examples of current areas of innovation.

The KoBo Toolbox open-source software for mobile data collection is a suite of free tools developed by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative in collaboration with OCHA and the International Rescue Committee (IRC). It enables rapid generation of standardized electronic forms by non-technical staff; digital data collection using mobile phones and tablets; and analysis of data without the margins for error found in transcription. The toolbox allows humanitarian workers to capture and collate data on operational situations in a way that helps to align response efforts more closely with the actual needs of affected people. KoBo has been used successfully in Colombia, Haiti, and CAR to support initial rapid assessment (MIRA).

Cash transfer programmes (CTP) are being increasingly used, particularly in urban and conflict settings as a means of giving people direct access to the aid they need. A recent evaluation in Lebanon shows that 80 per cent of refugees prefer cash to in-kind relief assistance. Cash transfers can also decrease the sense of dependency created by other forms of aid delivery. As part of the Typhoon Haiyan response, cash transfers were used to support repair of damaged infrastructure and to help the recovery of those who had lost their livelihoods. In a country with a high reliance on remittances, making use of the existing financial structures allowed the humanitarian community to reach people affected quickly and enabled rapid improvements to food insecurity, livelihoods development and provision of shelter. A number of international humanitarian organizations worked with CTP in 2014. Four of these are estimated to have transferred some $34 million in cash to around 1.4 million disaster-affected households.

In Haiti, CAR and the Ukraine, post-distribution monitoring and focus group discussions with affected people have shown that cash transfers can support long-term recovery and development and are a more dignified, effective, accountable, and innovative way of providing aid.

The umbrella term “gender mainstreaming” refers to initiatives aimed at increasing gender awareness and improving the quality of humanitarian assistance provided to women and men. In South Sudan protection actors, camp coordinators and local NGO staff have had regular discussions with displaced people living in camps, including the elderly, women, girls and boys. These conversations brought to light cases of harassment and sexual violence in the proximity of latrines and communal wash points.
A man gestures at a sea of mud surrounding his tent just after a torrential downpour in the Baharka camp in northern Iraq. He is one of hundreds of thousands of internally displaced Iraqis living in such camps for the past few months. Northern Iraq has witnessed intense rains marking the onset of winter.
In response to these concerns, discussions were held on ways in which WASH facilities could be adapted to accommodate gender needs and mitigate the risks of gender-based violence (GBV). GBV and protection staff identified several specific areas for improvement in the design of the facilities, including more physical separation between women’s and men’s facilities, designs to improve privacy, and better lighting.

These ideas were put into practice in the specifications for a new IDP camp. In addition, guidance was developed for local actors on reporting, referral and assistance to GBV survivors.

The IASC gender marker is being revised to influence every aspect of the humanitarian programme cycle – from preparedness to assessments, response planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Humanitarian organisations are also looking at ways to make gender mainstreaming an integral part of the responsibilities of humanitarian actors in all their areas of expertise.

Response monitoring

Needs assessments provide the evidence base for the formulation of strategic plans. In September 2014 the IASC completed its Humanitarian Response Monitoring Guidance which explains how humanitarian country teams should assess and monitor progress in the delivery of the objectives in their plans to ensure accountability.

The report prepared by the inter-cluster coordination group for the Philippines HCT is an example of a final periodic monitoring report. The Philippines Typhoon Haiyan Strategic Response Plan (November 2013 – August 2014) is the reference point. In light of the magnitude of the damage and the declaration of a Level 3 crisis, monitoring was particularly important. The report summarizes the overall achievements of the response and then goes into detail, looking at each objective. It addresses the cross-cutting issues of coordination, protection, gender, accountability to and communications with affected communities and cash transfer programming. An analysis of funding received, disaggregated by cluster, revealed that although the plan was 61 per cent funded overall, some clusters were seriously underfunded with an impact on their results, and others such as food security were generously funded (over 70 per cent). The Philippines periodic monitoring report also stresses the importance of disaster response preparedness.

To access the complete final periodic monitoring report, visit: [http://goo.gl/ObhVlI](http://goo.gl/ObhVlI)
A new water system is improving lives of thousands of displaced families in camps around Goma and local communities. Intense fighting and prolonged conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo has forced tens of thousands of families to abandon their homes.
Planning a needs-based response

A step-by-step process

The humanitarian programme cycle incorporates every stage of emergency response planning, starting with needs assessments and placing them at the core of the process. Humanitarian actors gather and analyse information, design and monitor plans, and mobilize funds for strategic plans by building each step of the cycle into the next for maximum reliability. Humanitarian country teams in protracted crises generally engage in the planning from September to November each year, but there is room for flexibility. Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Strategic Response Plan (SRP) updates can be carried out in the course of the year. The following is an example of a typical cycle.

**NEEDS ANALYSIS**
Humanitarian partners agree on parameters for consolidating, analysing and measuring data on humanitarian needs. Assessment results are analysed to reach a common understanding of the needs to be addressed.

**RESPONSE PLANNING**
Humanitarian partners review the HNO and agree on how they will collectively meet the needs identified by elaborating a country strategy, followed by cluster response plans. Humanitarian partners will also estimate the cost of the joint response.

**RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**
OCHA headquarters organizes an event to launch a global humanitarian appeal and publishes an overview of humanitarian needs, response plans and financial requirements. Humanitarian country teams may choose to develop a joint overall strategy for resource mobilization, including organizing local launches.

**RESPONSE MONITORING**
This is a continuous process that records aid delivered to affected people. A monitoring framework measures progress towards achieving the objectives of the SRP, and Periodic Monitoring Reports (PMRs) present the findings and make recommendations.

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**KICK OFF MEETING**

**ASSESSMENT DATA CONSOLIDATION**

**JOINT NEEDS ANALYSIS**

**HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW (HNO)**

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLANNING WORKSHOP**

**CLUSTER STRATEGY**

**CLUSTER RESPONSE PLANS**

**STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLAN (SRP)**

**GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW (GHO)**

**GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN APPEAL**

**COUNTRY-SPECIFIC LAUNCHES**

**MONITORING FRAMEWORK**

**PERIODIC MONITORING REPORTS (PMR)**

**GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW: STATUS REPORT**

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**HNO**
The HNO consolidates and analyses information on the needs of affected people and represents a shared understanding by the humanitarian country team of the needs, priority issues and the likely evolution of the situation.

**SRP**
The SRP sets the course and serves as the guide for carrying out and monitoring the collective response. It is composed of two interlinked components: a country strategy and cluster response plans.

**GHO**
This annual report accompanies the launch of appeals and summarizes needs and financial requirements in the SRPs.

**MONITORING FRAMEWORK**
The monitoring framework explains how humanitarian actors collect and analyse monitoring data on the response, and determines the frequency of PMRs during the year.

**PMR**
The PMR analyses monitoring data, including funding levels, and makes recommendations for improving the response.

**GHO: STATUS REPORT**
The GHO status report presents needs and outstanding requirements.

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**LEGEND**

- PRODUCT
- EVENT
More than 40 schools have either been constructed or renovated and equipped with blackboards, latrines and better access to safe drinking water. These changes helped improve the learning environment and increased regular attendance by 20 per cent of school children.
1. Contributing to Strategic Response Plans
To see each country’s Humanitarian Needs Overview and Strategic Response Plan, and donate directly to these country plans, please view the specific country page on the OCHA website. Each country plan has online information on participating organizations and persons to contact concerning donations.
www.humanitarianresponse.info/appeals

2. Donating through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
CERF provides immediate funding for life-saving humanitarian action at the onset of emergencies. The majority of contributions to CERF come from governments but private companies, foundations, charities and individuals also make contributions. More information about CERF and how to donate can be found here:

3. Donating through Country Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs)
Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) are multi-donor humanitarian pooled funds established by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC). They are operated and managed at the country-level under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator. They enable the Humanitarian Coordinator, in consultation with the humanitarian community, to allocate resources for timely and flexible funding to NGOs and UN agencies based on priority needs identified within a Strategic Response Plan (SRP) or Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).
For more information on CBPFs please go to:

4. In-kind relief aid
The United Nations asks donors to make cash rather than in-kind donations to ensure that the most needed supplies can be delivered quickly. If you are only able to make in-kind contributions in response to disasters and emergencies, please contact: logik@un.org.

OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) made to humanitarian emergencies. Updates on funding to humanitarian emergencies can be found on fts.unocha.org. Please report your contributions to FTS, either by email to fts@un.org or through the online contribution report form.

fts.unocha.org
There is a clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development. In order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance should be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development. Thus, emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development.

UN Resolution 46/182, December 1991