

GLOBAL 20 HUMANITARIAN 18 OVERVIEW

A CONSOLIDATED APPEAL
TO SUPPORT PEOPLE AFFECTED
BY DISASTER AND CONFLICT



Acknowledgements

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The figures for people in need, people targeted and funding requirements are a snapshot as of 15 November. In the case of some HRPs, these figures may evolve between this publication and each HRP's official publication.

Front Cover

Zahara Ali, 9, cooks breakfast in a rural village in the Dubti Woreda, Afar Region, Ethiopia. She went to school until the third grade but quit two years ago when her family moved to their current village. She spends most of her day doing household chores. Zahara is not sure if she will ever go back to school but she says that she will definitely send her children to school when she starts her own family.

Credit: UNICEF/Bindra

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humanitarianresponse.info/appeals
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At a glance



PEOPLE IN NEED

135.7 M

PEOPLE TO RECEIVE AID

90.9 M



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

\$22.5B

The Global Humanitarian Overview

- Is the world's most comprehensive, authoritative and evidence-based assessment of humanitarian needs;
- Is based on detailed analysis of wide-ranging data from many different sources, and face-to-face interviews with hundreds of thousands of people directly affected by humanitarian crises across the globe;
- Sets out detailed, prioritised, costed plans for meeting the needs of affected people, coordinated across the United Nations, with contributions from governments, the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, other international organisations, NGOs and other relevant actors;
- Facilitates principled, effective, rapid and coordinated responses to humanitarian crises, supporting prompt life-saving action by humanitarian agencies generously financed by governmental, private and individual donors.

Reviewing 2017

- In 2017, humanitarian agencies reached more people in need than ever before: tens of millions of them, saving millions of lives;
- Donors provided record levels of funding to Humanitarian Response Plans—nearly \$13 billion by the end of November;
- Humanitarian agencies helped stave off famines in South Sudan, Somalia, north-east Nigeria and Yemen, through effective scale-up and the rapid release of funds by donors;
- Agencies stepped up to provide rapid assistance to refugees fleeing violence in Myanmar; and
- Mobilized to support countries in the Caribbean to prepare for and respond to successive hurricanes of a ferocity rarely seen before.
- Despite conflict and other constraints complicating the provision of assistance, plans were implemented effectively, with costs averaging approximately \$230 a year per person for essential needs.

In 2018

- Conflict will continue to be the main driver of humanitarian needs.
- Protracted violence will force people to flee from their homes, deny them access to enough food, and rob them of their means of making a living.
- Droughts, floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters will also create humanitarian needs. Although the risk of El Niño or La Niña is low next year, some scientists forecast an increased risk of earthquakes in 2018.
- In a number of countries, humanitarian needs will fall, but still remain significant, including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mali, and Ukraine.
- However, needs are rising substantially in Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Somalia and Sudan.
- And needs will remain at exceptionally high levels in Nigeria, South Sudan, the Syria region, and Yemen, which is likely to remain the world's worst humanitarian crisis.
- Overall, 136 million people across the world will need humanitarian assistance and protection.
- UN-coordinated response plans costed at \$22.5 billion can help 91 million.
- The overall number of people in need is more than 5% higher than in the 2017 GHO. The cost of the response plans sets a new record, about 1% higher than at the start of 2017.
- Humanitarian agencies will become more effective, efficient and cost-effective. They will respond faster to crises, in a way more attuned to the needs of those they are trying to help. They will undertake more comprehensive, cross-sectoral and impartial needs assessments. They will also contribute more to long-term solutions by working more closely with development agencies.
- Larger country-based pooled funds will improve the agility and prioritised use of funds in the places where they operate. An expanded Central Emergency Response Fund will better support the least-funded major crises.

Foreword

Mark Lowcock

*United Nations Under-Secretary-General for
Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator*

“Conflict – in particular protracted crises – will continue to be the main driver of need in 2018. All but two of the 2018 humanitarian response plans are for situations that have a major element of conflict.”

In September 2017, in my first week as United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, I visited Niger. In a small town called N’Gagam, I met a thirty-year-old woman called Achaitou and her four young children.

She told me how she had fled in fear from armed groups in Nigeria. She now lives with thousands of other people just like her in informal settlements. Achaitou remains terrified of violence. Every night, she takes her children into the bush, risking snake bites and disease, to keep them safe from abduction by armed men. Achaitou wants to return home to Nigeria, but would only do so if it is safe for her and her children. She told me how she owes her survival to the life-saving assistance provided by humanitarian agencies.

Sadly, millions of other people around the world suffer just like Achaitou and her children—vulnerable people fleeing from conflict, seeking protection and assistance. They often need food, clean water, and sanitation. Children need to be immunized, and yearn for the chance to go to school. Women and girls, who have often been the victims of unspeakable sexual and gender-based violence, need medical care and psycho-social support.

But there is also a positive story. Despite the suffering and fear that Achaitou and millions of others experience, the global humanitarian system is there to help them. With the generous support of our donors, humanitarian agencies help tens of millions of people, every year, saving millions of lives. Although the scale of the humanitarian need in the world has put the system under considerable strain, we are delivering tangible results.

At the start of 2017, experts predicted that four countries—Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen and north-

east Nigeria—were at risk of experiencing a famine. But because of effective early warning systems and the rapid commitment of funds from donors, humanitarians scaled up their operations and kept famine at bay.

In 2018, more people than ever before will need our assistance. 136 million people will be in need of humanitarian aid in 25 countries. To meet these needs, we will need US\$ 22.5 billion from our donors.

This Global Humanitarian Overview for 2018 provides a comprehensive and evidence-based assessment of the totality of humanitarian needs across the world. It also sets out a context-specific, country-by-country plan for how the United Nations and its partners—national authorities, the Red Cross, the NGOs and others—will meet these needs, and how much it will cost.

Conflict—in particular protracted crises—will continue to be the main driver of need in 2018. All but two of the 2018 humanitarian response plans are for situations that have a major element of conflict. In addition to the tragic human cost of violence, conflicts often lead to people fleeing from their homes. Children cannot go to school. People cannot work to support their families. War often disrupts food supplies and people’s access to food.

Natural disasters will also generate humanitarian needs in 2018. Although the world has become better at predicting and preparing for disasters, the most vulnerable people on the planet are still hit hard. Climate change will increase the number of extreme weather events and make drought in some regions chronic. The risk of droughts, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes and typhoons and other seismic and meteorological events will remain high in 2018.



The new Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, speaks with displaced women at Wege Camp in Pulka, north-east Nigeria. The Lake Chad Region crisis is affecting some 17 million people. In north-east Nigeria alone, 8.5 million people need humanitarian assistance and more than 1.7 million people are internally displaced. Credit: OCHA/Ivo Brandau

The humanitarian system can only succeed in responding to these needs with the generous funding of our donors. As of 27 November, of the \$24 billion we have sought for 2017, the United Nations-coordinated appeals have received \$12.6 billion (52%) to assist 105 million people in 38 countries—the highest annual total ever.

Investing in humanitarian action is a sound choice. It delivers tangible and measurable results, and has a proven track record of success. By supporting the Humanitarian Response Plans, donors are ensuring that their resources are channelled to partners with the presence and capacity to deliver to people in need. They are backing a common, prioritized strategy, based on clear evidence and coordinated with all humanitarian agencies on the ground.

But, I am committed to doing more to strengthen our assessment and planning processes. We cannot afford to stand still in the face of ever-growing needs and more complex crises. In 2018, we will undertake more joint needs assessments, provide more rigorous and transparent data and analysis, and better link funding to results and outcomes. We will become faster and more efficient. We will put those we are trying to help at the centre of everything we do. We will in particular focus on the needs of women and girls, including by protecting them from sexual exploitation and abuse.

The Secretary-General's ambitious UN reforms also offer a genuine opportunity to improve how humanitarians work, particularly through strengthening alignment and cooperation with development agencies. The Grand Bargain, launched at the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, is improving how we work and helping ensure that adequate resources are available to meet growing needs.

OCHA's vision is for a world in which people affected by humanitarian crises get the help they need. With your help we can realise that vision.

The challenges facing us in 2018 are daunting. But I am confident that we have the right strategies and approaches to meet them. With the support of our donors, we can be more effective and efficient at meeting Achiatou's needs, and those of the millions of people like her across the world.

Thank you,

Mark Lowcock

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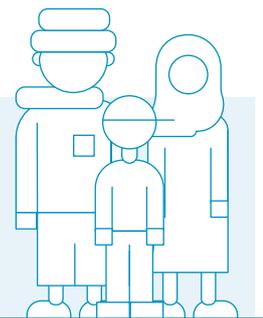
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2017 in review: results, impact, data and trends

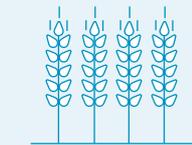
In 2017, the humanitarian system reached a record number of people. Funding for humanitarian response plans reached a new peak. However, the level of need has grown so that the gap between requirements and funding is also larger than ever. We successfully averted the immediate threat of four famines that arose early in 2017. 2017 saw two major new conflict-related crises, in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Bangladesh following the influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Myanmar, which increased the overall demand on the global humanitarian system.



Examples of people reached in

2017

A snapshot of humanitarian aid delivered around the globe



2,295

tons of crop seeds supplied for 72,600 of 120,000 households targeted in **CAR**

Nearly

97%

of new refugee arrivals in **Bangladesh** have received food assistance



1.6 million

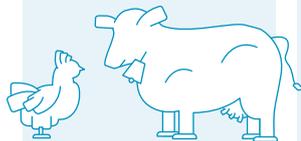
people reached with shelter and household items in **Iraq**



Close to

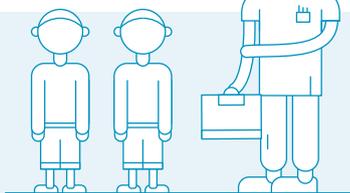
3 million

people in **South Sudan** received livestock and agricultural inputs, to help reduce food insecurity and avert famine in the medium term



2.7 million

children in **Syria** reached through polio campaigns

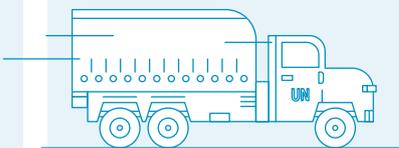


1.7 million

children reached with vitamins and micronutrients in **DPRK**

First of new roads

constructed to improve delivery of aid for the Rohingya in **Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh**



66,150 MT

of food—enough to fill a line of trucks 26 kilometers long—distributed to 4.8 million people in **Ethiopia** in the space of three months

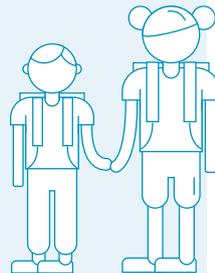
1 million

people in Al Hudaydah, **Yemen** benefit from improvements to water, sanitation and hygiene



1 million

children affected by the **Syria crisis** enrolled in formal or non-formal education programmes in the region



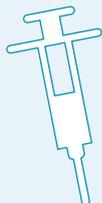
390,000

refugees, undocumented returnees and conflict-induced IDPs in **Afghanistan** received multi-purpose cash assistance

More than

4.3 million

people received food assistance in **South Sudan** this year



5.5 million

people in **Democratic Republic of the Congo** vaccinated against measles (103% of target)

1 million

people affected by Hurricane Matthew in **Haiti** received emergency household items



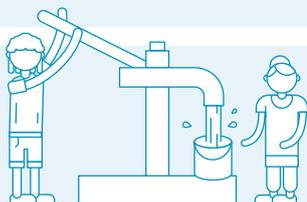
Every month about

3 million

people in **Somalia** receive cash, vouchers, or other life-saving assistance and livelihood support

1.3 million

people received access to safe drinking water in **Nigeria**



2.1 million

people accessing to improved water sources in **South Sudan**

Funding overview and analysis

The Global Humanitarian Overview for 2017 presented initial funding requirements of \$22.2 billion to help 92.8 million people in need. Over the course of the year, these figures rose to \$24.0 billion to help 105.1 million people. The increase stems from new or expanded crises, plus some humanitarian response plans that were revised after the GHO's launch.

Funding for humanitarian response continued to increase in 2017. However, the growth in requirements (which are measured by the aggregation of the humanitarian response plans) has outpaced the increase in funding. This has resulted in a wider gap between humanitarian needs and available resources.

Many humanitarian crises have become so protracted that they seem permanent. Nineteen of the 21 humanitarian response plans presented in this overview are for humanitarian crises that have been running for five years or more. Three have had humanitarian plans and appeals each year for at least 18 years (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan and Somalia).

People divide up sacks of food distributed after an airdrop in the village of Aburoc, South Sudan. For many people, displaced for months, this is the first food aid they have received. Credit: UNICEF



2017 FUNDING OVERVIEW



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

\$24.0 B

FUNDED AMOUNT

\$12.6 B

UNMET REQUIREMENTS

\$11.4 B

COVERAGE

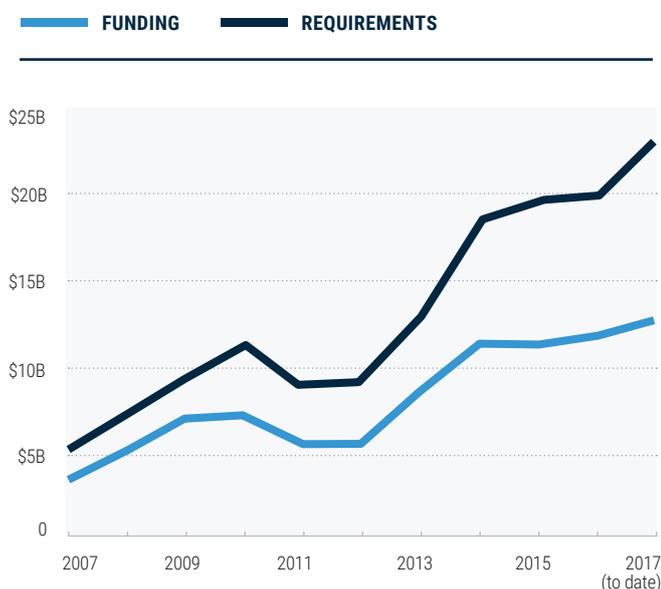
52%

Data are as at 27 November 2017

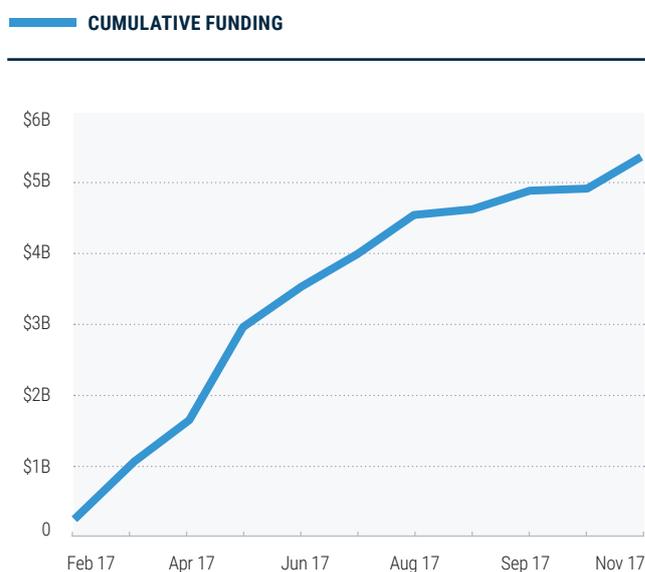
RESPONSE PLANS	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS	FUNDED AMOUNT	FUNDED	NOT FUNDED	%
Humanitarian Response Plans					
Afghanistan	CBPF \$409.4 M	\$286.7 M			70.0%
Burkina Faso	\$61.1 M	\$27.4 M			44.9%
Burundi	\$73.7 M	\$40.5 M			55.0%
Cameroon	\$238.1 M	\$111.9 M			47.0%
Central African Republic	CBPF \$497.3 M	\$181.4 M			36.5%
Chad	\$588.6 M	\$227.0 M			38.6%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	CBPF \$812.6 M	\$388.4 M			47.8%
Djibouti	\$43.0 M	\$11.1 M			25.8%
Dominica Flash Appeal	\$31.1 M	\$15.1 M			48.6%
¹ Ethiopia	CBPF \$1.42 B	\$549.6 M			38.8%
Haiti	\$192.2 M	\$71.3 M			37.1%
Iraq	CBPF \$984.6 M	\$808.7 M			82.1%
Kenya Flash Appeal	\$119.9M	\$85.8 M			71.6%
Libya	\$151.0 M	\$85.7 M			56.8%
Madagascar Flash Appeal	\$20.1 M	\$13.3 M			66.2%
Mali	\$304.7 M	\$129.3 M			42.4%
Mauritania	\$74.5 M	\$25.2 M			33.8%
Mozambique Flash Appeal	\$10.2 M	\$4.6 M			45.2%
Myanmar	CBPF \$150.3 M	\$97.7 M			65.0%
Niger	\$287.3 M	\$213.0M			74.1%
Nigeria	CBPF \$1.05 B	\$731.0 M			69.3%
occupied Palestinian territory	CBPF \$551.9 M	\$266.2 M			48.2%
Peru Flash Appeal	\$39.5 M	\$11.1 M			28.0%
Republic of Congo	\$23.7 M	\$9.4 M			39.8%
Senegal	\$15.8 M	\$2.9 M			18.1%
Somalia	CBPF \$1.51 B	\$882.6 M			59.3%
South Sudan	CBPF \$1.64 B	\$1.15 B			70.0%
Sudan	CBPF \$804.0 M	\$326.2 M			40.6%
Syria	CBPF \$3.35 B	\$1.68 B			50.0%
Ukraine	\$203.6 M	\$56.9 M			28.0%
Yemen	CBPF \$2.34 B	\$1.33 B			56.9%
Regional Refugee Response Plans					
Burundi RRP	\$429.3 M	\$74.3 M			17.3%
Nigeria RRP	\$241.2 M	\$130.4 M			54.0%
South Sudan RRP	\$1.38 B	\$393.3 M			28.4%
² Syria 3RP	\$4.63 B	\$2.27 B			49.1%
Other Appeals ³					
Bangladesh	\$434.1 M	\$149.1 M			34.3%
Caribbean RRP	\$27.1 M	\$4.5 M			16.5%
Cuba	\$55.6 M	\$10.3 M			18.6%
DPR Korea	\$113.5 M	\$30.6 M			27.0%
Pakistan	CBPF \$339.4 M	\$115.4 M			34.0%

AND TRENDS IN APPEALS

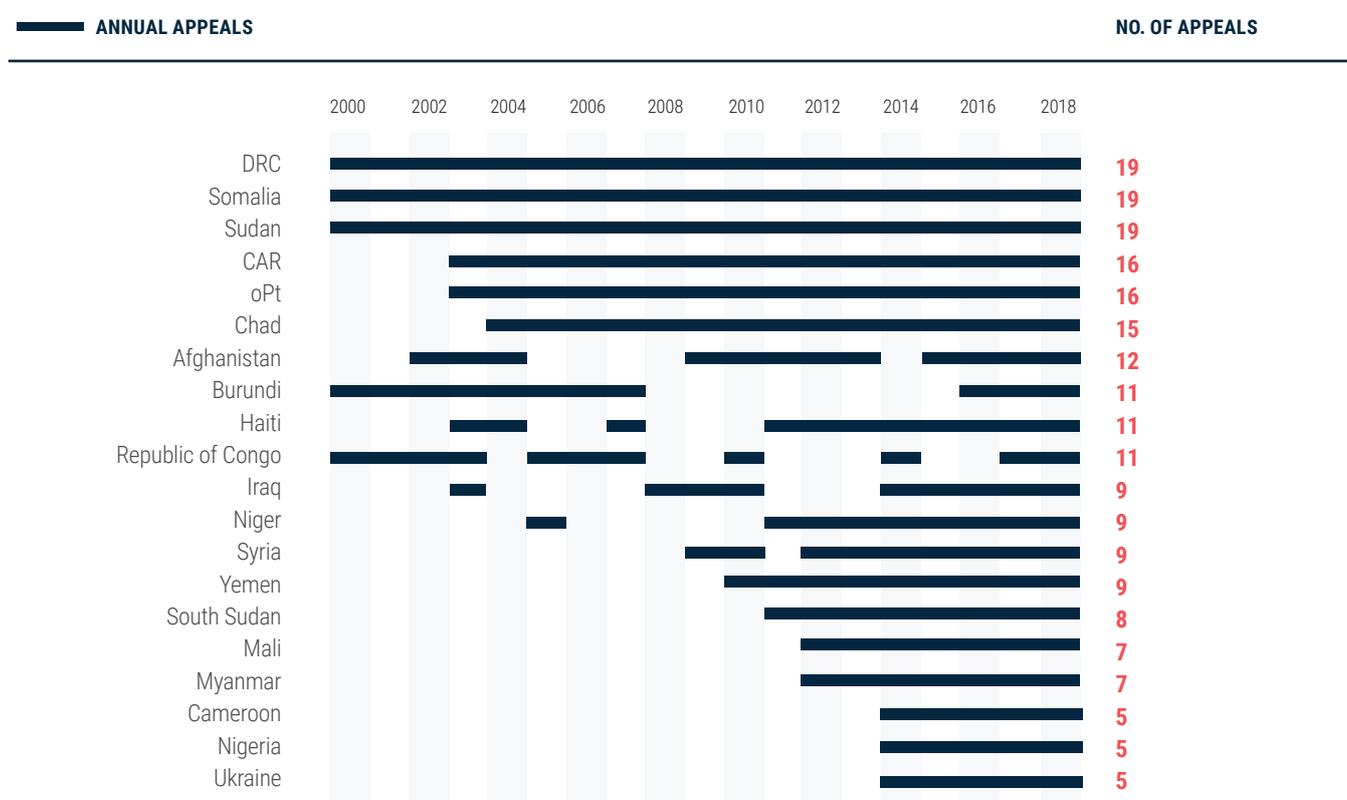
TREND IN HRP REQUIREMENTS, FUNDING GAP (2007-2017)



EVOLUTION OF FUNDING TO COUNTRIES AT RISK OF FAMINE (2017)



RECURRENCE OF APPEALS (2000-2018)



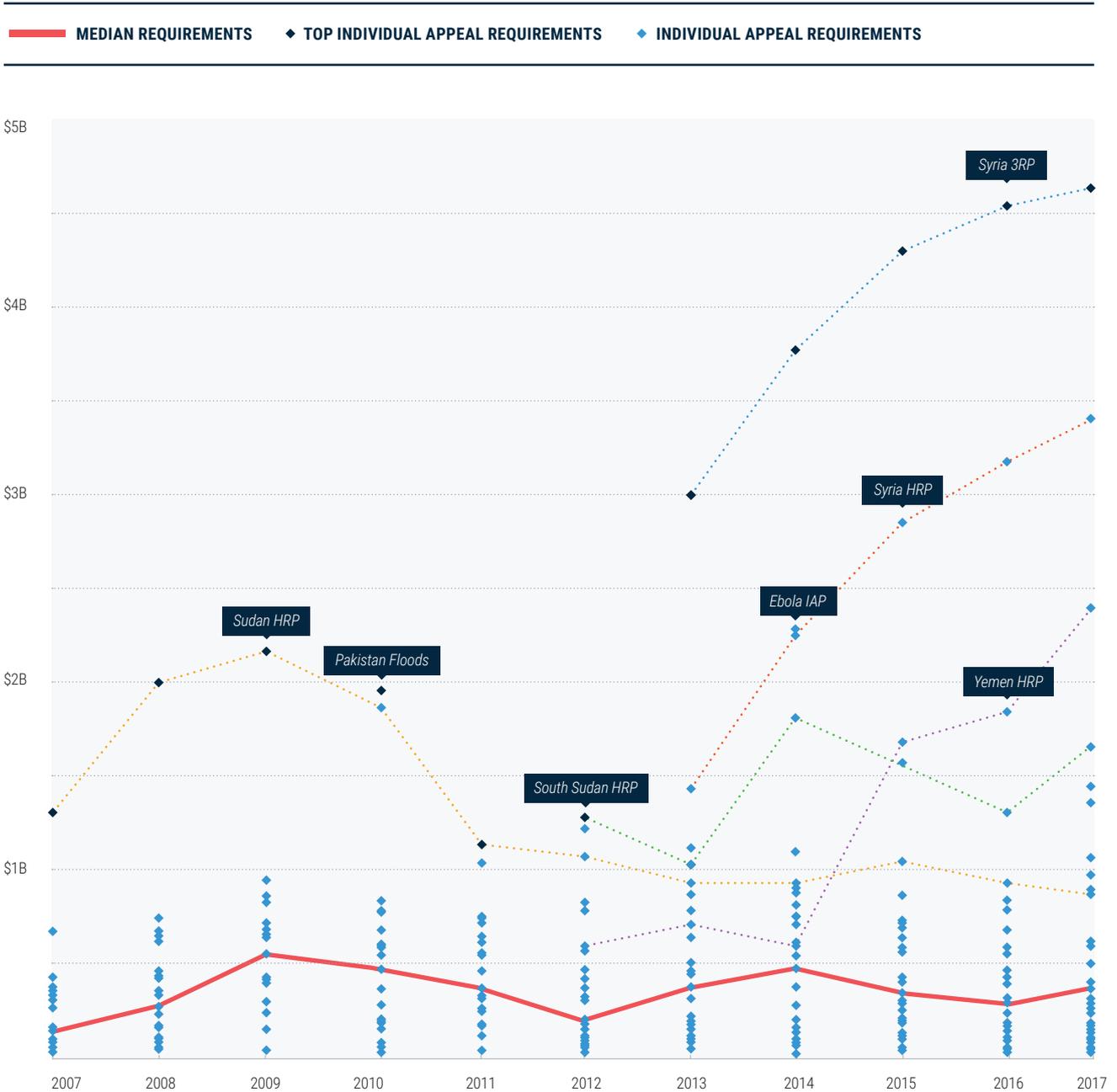
Note: The graph shows 2018 HRPs with at least five previous HRPs.

¹ In-country reports indicate that \$1.169 million in funding has been received (82% funded). Recording of some contributions on FTS is pending triangulation and verification.
² UNHCR reports the original full 3RP requirement as \$5.6 billion which includes multi-year funds already received for 2017, making the total 2017 unmet requirements \$4.63 billion appealed for under the 3RP in 2017.
³ Contributions received towards activities in Bangladesh, Caribbean, Colombia, Cuba, DPRK and Pakistan are counted as global humanitarian funding outside appeals.

The steep rise in funding requirements over the years is mainly driven by a set of large-scale protracted crises with humanitarian funding requirements over a billion dollars per year (primarily the Syria crisis, Yemen and South Sudan). The median funding requirements per protracted crisis have remained relatively consistent over the past ten years. To address this increase in protracted

crises, we need greater political and financial investment in mediation, conflict prevention and peacebuilding. This is a priority for the Secretary-General. We also need to a longer-term approach to addressing humanitarian needs that integrates development action. This should include steps to reduce people’s vulnerability to crisis, such as investing in social safety nets and livelihoods.

REQUIREMENTS PER YEAR (2007-2017)



Humanitarian financing in 2017

The preliminary OECD DAC¹ figures for 2016 on official development assistance show that both humanitarian and development aid continue to rise. Humanitarian aid now comprises about 15% of the total, or \$14.45 billion in 2016. Humanitarian aid (by OECD-DAC's definition which excludes in-country refugee costs) as a proportion of total official development assistance has increased from 7% in 2007 to 15% in 2016.

Despite the increasing requirements, the global humanitarian system offers donors excellent value for money. In 2017, humanitarians needed only \$232 per person for comprehensive, year-long, multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance.

Four major humanitarian pledging conferences were held in 2017. These events attracted additional funding announcements, and in several cases policy commitments, for crises in Nigeria and the Lake Chad region, Syria and neighbouring countries, Yemen, and the Rohingya refugee crisis. In total, these conferences raised more than \$7.8 billion for use in 2017 as well as almost \$4 billion for 2018 and beyond.

To raise funds for specific crises, the humanitarian system develops country-specific humanitarian response plans and appeals. These HRP's are complemented with ongoing information throughout the year on the evolution of needs, delivery and impact of aid, and key funding gaps.

In parallel to this, the Central Emergency Response Fund analyses the degree of under-funding of the various crises, and allocates funds from its under-funded-crisis window based on an objective and transparent methodology.

Financing that is invested directly into the humanitarian system operates alongside other funding sources and financing instruments that contribute to meeting humanitarian needs, building resilience, and reducing vulnerability to external shocks. Remittances, foreign direct investment, and development aid are all crucial sources of funding in many countries that have protracted humanitarian crises. The World Bank is playing an increasingly important role alongside the UN in preventing crises, building resilience and supporting recovery. Its financial support complements and is additional to UN coordinated humanitarian response plans.

Some notable donor increases

China has contributed \$124.7 million for international humanitarian action to date in 2017, its highest reported annual total ever. The African Development Bank has also reached a new annual high in 2017 with \$82.6 million, mostly for famine response and prevention.

PLEDGE CONFERENCES (2017)

	PLEDGE CONFERENCE	NUMBER OF PLEDGERS	2017 PLEDGES	2018-2020 PLEDGES	FULFILLMENT RATE OF 2017 PLEDGES
	Nigeria and Lake Chad Region	15	\$458.0 M	\$214.0 M	93%
	² Syria and the Region	42	\$6.00 B	\$3.73 B	88%
	Yemen	43	\$1.10 B	\$77.0 M	92%
	³ Rohingya Refugee Crisis	36	\$360.0 M	-	48%

¹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Development Assistance Committee

² Post-Brussels Conference Financial Tracking: Report Four - as of end September.

³ Pledges include \$6 million for 2018.

Impact and results

The evidence from 2017 shows that when the humanitarian system is adequately financed, it is effective and delivers results.

In February 2017, the Secretary-General called on the world to avert four possible famines in north-east Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. The international community stepped up and quickly mobilized funding. In less than a month, \$1 billion was disbursed. Two months later, that amount had tripled to nearly \$3 billion, and it has now topped \$5 billion.

The spread of famine in South Sudan was halted, and famine-like conditions in the three other countries were curtailed as 13 million people per month are now reached with emergency assistance. At the same time, the World Bank financed complementary, immediate support and longer-term resilience-building needs. Joint analysis and planning, data sharing, prevention and risk management, and drawing of a range of financial sources have all contributed to addressing the critical requirements in the four countries.

The Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh—the fastest-growing refugee crisis in the world this year—also attracted significant donor resources beginning in late August. Over 30 countries made official announcements of aid in September and early October, and 36 announcements of funding totalling more than \$360 million for the two countries were made at a pledging event on 23 October. The response has scaled up significantly since August. More than 633,000 people have received food assistance, 567,000 people are benefiting from water-sanitation-hygiene services, 526,000 have received health care, and 750,000 people are benefiting from emergency shelter kits.

*Newly arrived Rohingya refugees travel by boat from Myanmar on the Bay of Bengal to Teknaf in Cox's Bazar district, Chittagong Division in Bangladesh.
Credit: UNICEF/Patrick Brown*



The humanitarian system has also successfully responded to number of natural disasters this year. In September 2017, three major hurricanes (Irma, Jose and Maria) hit the islands of Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Puerto Rico, St. Barths, St. Martin / St Maarten, Turks and Caicos. 2.6 million people were affected.

International humanitarian organizations and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) activated their cooperation arrangements as soon as the hurricanes were on the horizon. UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams were pre-deployed to the region to support national authorities' preparedness measures and facilitated coordination among all actors. The UNDAC teams also supported the CDEMA Regional Coordination Centre with civil-military coordination, information management and mapping of needs, pledges and relief in the pipeline, plus assessments of initial damages.

Humanitarian partners launched coordinated response plans and appeals for the countries most affected by the hurricanes. The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocated \$13 million for response efforts in Cuba and Dominica, and to support logistics and communication across the affected areas. CERF funds allowed partners to immediately provide food, critical health care, clean water and other items to the most vulnerable, particularly women and girls.

However, in some places around the world, the humanitarian system does not have sufficient financial resources to reach all the people in need. For example, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance jumped by 79% in 2017—from 7.3 million people at the beginning of the year to 13.1 million by the end of the year. Violence in the previously peaceful Kasai regions displaced 1.4 million people at its peak, and gravely weakened food and nutrition security. Meanwhile, Tanganyika and South Kivu provinces saw a sharp increase in inter-communal violence and armed conflict, causing new or repeated displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. Insecurity in these areas had a devastating impact on food security. 7.7 million people across the DRC are now food-insecure (a 30% increase from last year), and the risk of acute malnutrition has doubled in the Kasais. Communicable diseases are also spreading rapidly—the 2017 cholera outbreak will likely be the largest in ten years.

“In some places around the world, the humanitarian system does not have sufficient financial resources to reach all the people in need. For example, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance jumped by 79% in 2017.”

Despite increasing needs, humanitarian funding has fallen to its lowest level in a decade in DRC, with only 48% received of the required \$813 million. Humanitarians in the DRC have the know-how and systems to deliver, but without sufficient funding hundreds of thousands of people are left without assistance. In the Kasais, 750,000 children under five are affected by acute malnutrition, including 380,000 who are severely malnourished. Current resources allow partners to reach only 14% of these children.

The worsening crisis in the Central African Republic also suffers from insufficient funding. Armed conflict is now engulfing territories that had previously been relatively stable and nearly 70% of the country is de facto controlled by armed groups. There has been a 50% spike in internal displacement, which means that there are now over 600,000 internally displaced people in Central African Republic.

However less than 40% of the \$497 million required by the 2017 HRP has been mobilized. In several regions aid workers have had to reduce or stop their operations due to underfunding or insecurity. Food rations that ensure the survival of the most vulnerable families have been halved.

Global Humanitarian Overview 2018

Conflict will cause the largest proportion of humanitarian needs in 2018. Drought and other adverse weather events will also lead to humanitarian needs, including food insecurity, vulnerability, loss of livelihoods, and disease outbreaks. Global forecasts suggest that there will be minimal improvement in 2018 in most conflicts, with worsening food security. The Horn of Africa will continue to suffer from poor harvests, although there is a low risk of El Niño or La Niña. Some scientists predict greater earthquake risk. The country-specific 2018 Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) are based on a rigorous assessment and analysis of need and coordinated planning by humanitarian agencies on the ground. The plans are also better aligned with the work of development agencies, where the context allows, and increasingly plan over multiple years for protracted crises.

Section

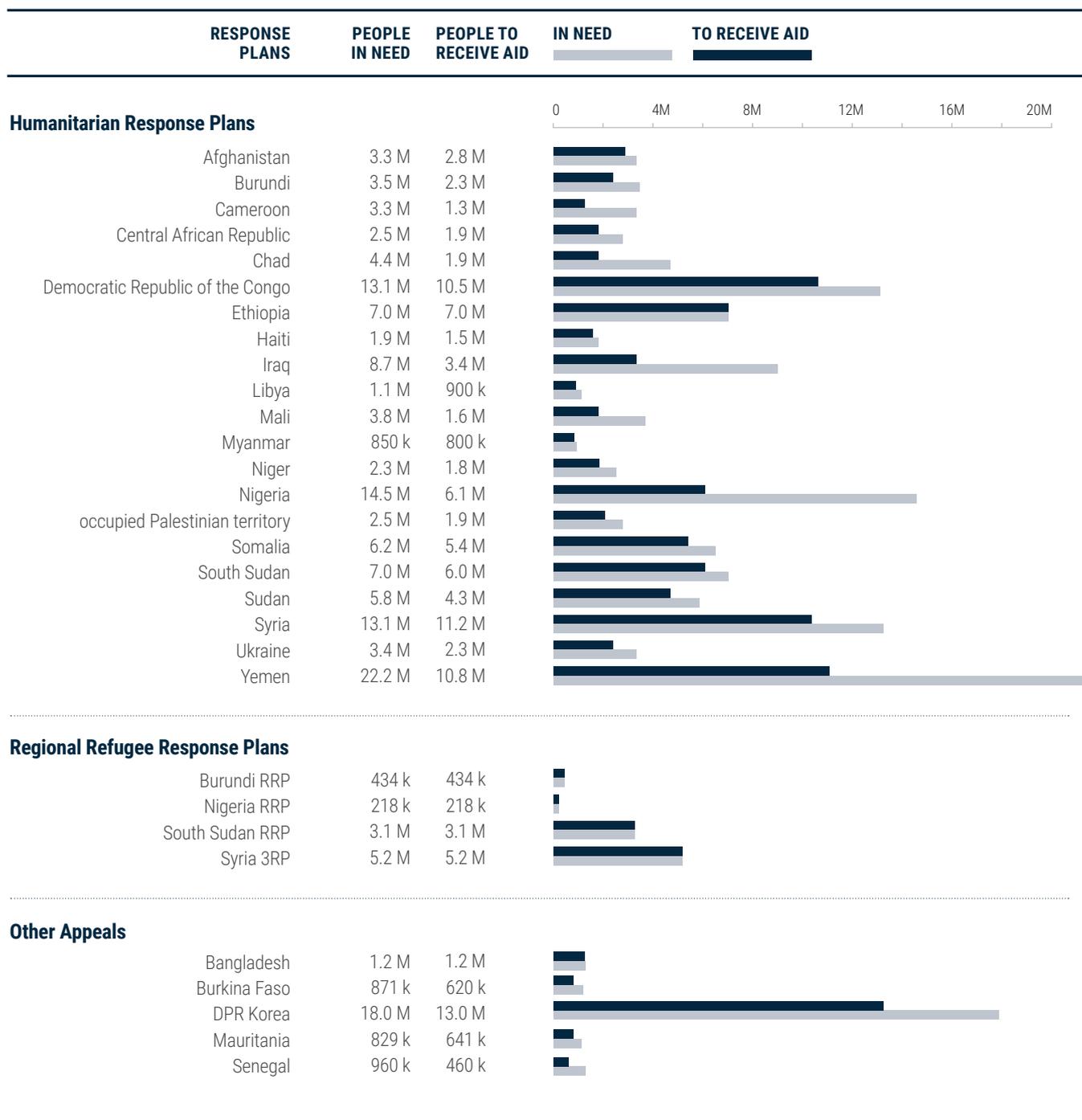
02

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS IN 2018



PEOPLE IN NEED
135.7 M

PEOPLE TO RECEIVE AID ¹
90.9 M



¹ Response plans typically target a subset (usually the large majority) of people in need, because affected country governments and other actors target a portion, and/or because of capacity constraints among organizations participating in the response plan.

Note: Financial requirements and people in need include all Humanitarian Response Plans and the Syria Regional Refugee & Resilience Response Plan. The Regional Refugee Response Plans for Burundi, Nigeria and South Sudan are not included in the figure (because some of the populations they cover are included in respective countries' HRPs), nor are Other Appeals (Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, DPR Korea, Mauritania and Senegal).

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN 2018



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

\$22.5 B

CHANGE FROM GHO 2017 AT LAUNCH

↑ 1%

RESPONSE PLANS	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS	REQUIREMENTS	CHANGE FROM 2017
Humanitarian Response Plans			
		0 \$1B \$2B \$3B \$4B \$5B	
Afghanistan	\$430.0 M		22% ↓
Burundi	\$94.7 M		28% ↑
Cameroon	\$305.7 M		28% ↑
Central African Republic	\$515.6 M		29% ↑
Chad	\$558.1 M		5% ↓
Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$1.69 B		125% ↑
Ethiopia	\$895.0 M		37% ↓
Haiti	\$290.6 M		51% ↑
Iraq	\$550.0 M		44% ↓
Libya	\$250.0 M		66% ↑
Mali	\$255.5 M		16% ↓
Myanmar	\$162.6 M		8% ↑
Niger	\$338.0 M		18% ↑
Nigeria	\$1.10 B		4% ↑
occupied Palestinian territory	\$539.7 M		1% ↓
Somalia	\$1.50 B		74% ↑
South Sudan	\$1.72 B		5% ↑
Sudan	\$1.00 B		25% ↑
Syria	\$3.50 B		3% ↑
Ukraine	\$186.9 M		13% ↓
Yemen	\$2.50 B		7% ↑
Regional Refugee Response Plans			
Burundi RRP	\$387.6 M		10% ↓
Nigeria RRP	\$157.1 M		35% ↓
South Sudan RRP	\$1.51 B		9% ↑
¹ Syria 3RP	\$4.16 B		10% ↓
Other Appeals			
Bangladesh	\$434.1 M		-
Burkina Faso	\$58.8 M		4% ↓
DPR Korea	\$114.0 M		0%
Mauritania	\$103.9 M		4% ↑
Senegal	\$16.8 M		6% ↑

¹As the 2018 3RP is currently being finalized, the figure presented here is preliminary based on the requirements in draft 3RP country chapters and initial estimates of funding amounts that have already been received or have agreements under negotiation for 2018. The final 2018 funding requirements figures will be included in the first GHO update of 2018.

Note: Financial requirements and people in need include all Humanitarian Response Plans and the Syria Regional Refugee & Resilience Response Plan. The Regional Refugee Response Plans for Burundi, Nigeria and South Sudan are not included in the figure (because some of the populations they cover are included in respective countries' HRPs), nor are Other Appeals (Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, DPR Korea, Mauritania and Senegal).

Forecasting humanitarian needs in 2018

Conflict will continue to be the key driver of humanitarian need in 2018. Current conflicts are likely to continue at a similar scale and intensity. Some will worsen. There are several possible new conflicts that could erupt, or frozen conflicts that could escalate to create additional humanitarian needs.

Protracted crises are the new normal. In modern conflicts, overwhelming military victories or negotiated peace deals are less common. As the 'War Economy' becomes lucrative for fighters, peace becomes a less attractive proposition. Many modern conflicts appear to be internal or civil wars, but they are often fuelled by other States pursuing their own political and economic interests. External actors are less concerned about the human and economic costs of prolonged conflict, and their incentive to reach a peace deal is much lower. The internationalization of conflicts also makes mediation more difficult.

Even when violence does subside, large-scale humanitarian needs often persist for some time, and can even increase as people venture from their places of refuge and attempt to return to and rebuild their homes and livelihoods.

Protracted conflicts lead to long-term displacement. When people flee their homes in fear, they are more likely to settle somewhere in their own country than try to cross a border into another country. The largest proportion of people displaced are displaced within their own countries. The global number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has reached an all-time high with a total of 40.3 million people living in conflict- and violence-related displacement as of the end of 2016 (the latest year for which worldwide figures are available). Over the year, 31.1 million people were newly displaced, 24.2 million of them due to disasters and 6.9 million to conflict and violence. This trend will continue in 2018, with humanitarians needing to help increasing numbers of internally displaced people.

IDPs can face severe protection risks. These include killings, sexual and gender-based violence, torture, forced recruitment, human trafficking, early and forced marriage, and arbitrary arrest and detention. Attacks on IDPs camps or sites as well as forced returns are also

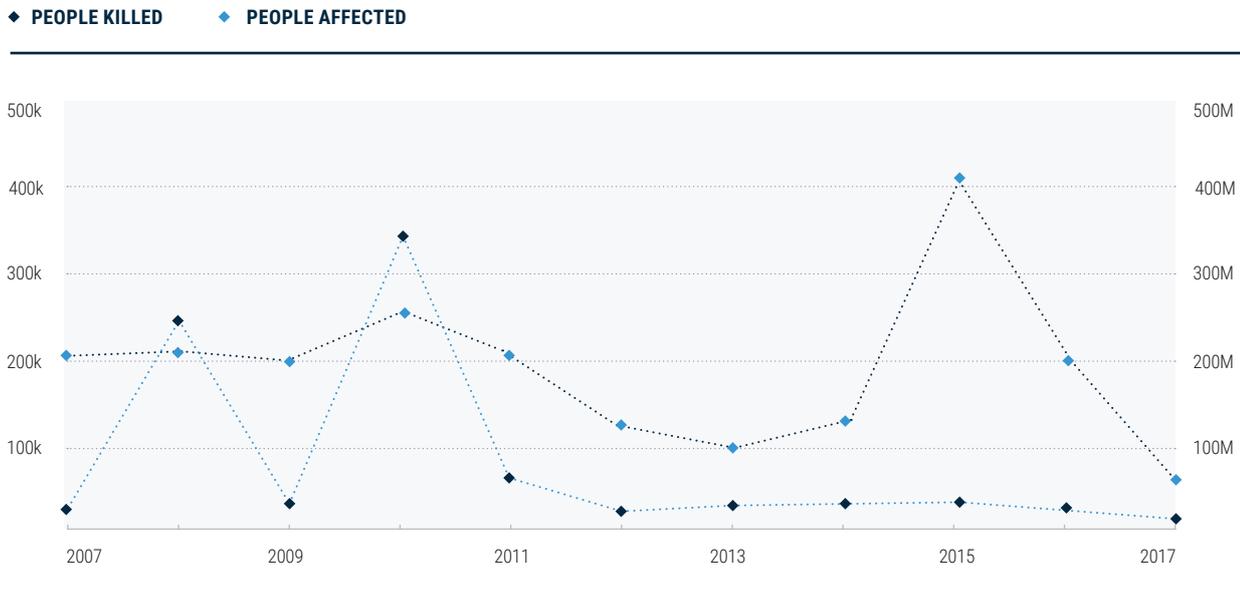
reported. IDPs are often the most vulnerable members of a community, with little or no access to health and education systems, livelihood opportunities, secure housing and basic services. Many IDPs rely on host families and communities for years. Hosting IDPs can severely strain capacities in places that are already desperately poor, and thereby cause local tensions.

Food insecurity is also often a consequence of protracted conflict. In late 2017, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNet) highlighted 12 countries in which at least a half-million people will need emergency food assistance (Yemen, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, DR Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Central African Republic and Niger). Of these, five are rated in the 'emergency' phase of food insecurity, one step short of the worst phase of 'famine'. Four (Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria) are still at risk of famine conditions.

Natural disasters are also likely to create humanitarian needs in 2018. Some scientists have predicted 2018 may have an unusually high occurrence of major earthquakes, related to periodic changes in the Earth's rotational speed.¹ The World Meteorological Organization predicts that there is only a low chance of a weak La Niña developing in the final months of 2017 and very little chance of El Niño developing in 2018.²

Natural disasters are having less of a humanitarian impact, in terms of the numbers of people adversely affected and damage to infrastructure.³ This is because national authorities and communities have a greater awareness of risks, and are doing more to prepare. However, at the same time, an increasing number of countries have become more vulnerable to disasters since 2012. Small countries in particular look to be increasingly vulnerable to hurricanes, typhoons and other weather events which can devastate whole societies and economies.

NATURAL DISASTERS: TREND IN NUMBER OF PEOPLE KILLED AND AFFECTED (2007-2017)



Source: EM-DAT: The Emergency Events Database - Universite catholique de Louvain (UCL) - CRED, D. Guha-Sapir - www.emdat.be, Brussels, Belgium.
 Note: the large spike in number of people affected in 2015 owed to a major drought in India. The spikes in fatalities in 2008 and 2009 owed mostly to Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar and an earthquake in China (2008) and the Haiti earthquake (2010). EM-DAT's method of assessing number of people affected by disaster differs from that used in HRPs.

Countries with risk of continuing severe humanitarian needs

According to the OCHA-managed Index for Risk Management (InfoRM) system, the countries with “very high risk” (near-certainty) of continuing severe humanitarian needs in 2018 are Somalia, South Sudan, Chad, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Yemen, Niger, Congo DR, Sudan, Syria and Iraq. At high risk or likelihood are Myanmar, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Haiti, Nigeria, Cameroon, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Uganda, Kenya, Bangladesh, Burundi, Tanzania, Eritrea, Mauritania, Papua New Guinea, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Ukraine, Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Angola, Congo, Djibouti, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Korea DPR, Liberia, Nepal, Zimbabwe, Guinea, Iran, Madagascar, Rwanda and Turkey.

In the long run, economic growth and development, and conflict prevention and resolution are what will reduce the number and impact of humanitarian crises. The IMF's projection of higher economic growth in 2018 than in 2017, not least in sub-Saharan Africa, is noteworthy in this regard.

Overall, the number of people globally in need of humanitarian assistance in 2018 is projected to be similar to that in 2017, and financing needs likewise remain similar to the record requirements of last year. 136 million people will be in need in 2018, the same as in November 2017. Plans for the year are costed at \$22.5 billion, compared with \$22.22 billion at the start of 2017. There are however important differences in a number of countries when comparing 2017 with what we expect in 2018. The situation is expected to improve slightly in Afghanistan, Chad, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mali and Ukraine, which will lower funding requirements in those countries.

“Protracted conflicts lead to long-term displacement. When people flee their homes in fear, they are more likely to settle somewhere in their own country than try to cross a border into another country. The largest proportion of people displaced are displaced within their own countries.”

Conversely substantial increases in need are projected for Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Libya, Niger, Somalia, Syria, Sudan and Yemen.

Needs in 2018 will be greatest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan (where famine threatens again), Syria and its neighbouring countries, and Yemen. The situation in Yemen is of very grave concern. 22 million people are in need, which is approximately 80% of the population. Many of these people are right on the brink of famine. Humanitarian agencies can only address this urgent and critical need if they are given rapid, safe and unhindered access to the millions of people suffering in Yemen by all parties to the conflict, and commercial goods are allowed to enter the country freely.

Outlook on pledging events in 2018

Current discussions among the countries concerned, donors and aid organizations suggest that pledging or other major international policy and resource mobilization events may be needed to address a range of major crises including in particular:

Yemen – by many measures the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, requiring sustained large scale regional funding and donor engagement as well as improvements in humanitarian access.

Syria and region – the European Union has already announced that it will convene the next Syria crisis pledging conference in early 2018.

Nigeria and Lake Chad Region – where the humanitarian situation has been stabilised but needs remain high and efforts must be sustained in 2018, including through progress on building resilience, recovery and peacebuilding.

Democratic Republic of the Congo – the steep deterioration in the humanitarian crisis, with mass displacement and insecurity in the Kasais, means that it is urgent to reverse the declining funding trend of recent years.

Somalia – where an exceptional humanitarian response has prevented famine in 2017, but rains are projected to be poor into 2018 so that large scale humanitarian, recovery and resilience financing will be essential.

Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh – a situation that grew rapidly in scale in 2017, and will need major funding support again in 2018.

Central African Republic – a rapidly-worsening crisis with severe under-funding in recent years.

¹ www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/18/2018-set-to-be-year-of-big-earthquakes

² www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/wcasp/enso_update_latest.html

³ Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, International Disaster Database / EM-DAT, www.emdat.be/database, downloaded 11/11/2017.

How humanitarian actors determine and analyse people's needs

A country-specific Humanitarian Needs Overview is prepared by humanitarian actors on the ground. It sets out a robust, evidence-based assessment of the scale and type of need in each humanitarian context.

As a first step, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in a country, which is composed of UN agencies and non-governmental aid organizations, will assess what emergency assistance people need. For example, they will assess how many people are suffering acute malnutrition; how many are forced to drink unsafe water; how many lack shelter; how many children are cut off from education; how many cannot obtain enough food; how many are in need of protection. They will draw on existing data sources, but will also launch new surveys and assessments to fill gaps in the data.

Once the information has been gathered, the HCT will analyse the information to produce a comprehensive, prioritised overview of people's emergency needs, with specific figures of scale, severity, locations, and differences among different types of people (for example females and males, old and young, farmers or wage laborers).

This Humanitarian Needs Overview also features an analysis of the root causes and drivers of people's needs, and of people's ability to cope with needs themselves. The needs assessment process helps humanitarians to understand the key drivers and aggravating factors, in which ways the population is affected, and who is in the worst situation, to what extent they are more deprived than they were before the crisis, and what it would take to bring the population up to the minimum standard of living.

2018 Syria HNO process

The analysis informing the 2018 Syria Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) was based on a series of sector-specific assessments complemented by a multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA) that reached over 5,100 communities in Syria. The MSNA was conducted by 31 partners in all populated communities between July and August 2017. Data was collected almost entirely via face-to-face interviews from nearly 140,000 key informants

This year, humanitarian partners further refined sex-, age-, and disability-disaggregated humanitarian planning estimates (population and IDP figures), which represent a snapshot of population trends in Syria as of August 2017. The 2017 MSNA builds on lessons learned from five years of joint, coordinated assessments that have improved geographical coverage and generated more granular data, as well as mature data collection initiatives that provide monthly updates on humanitarian needs. This has also technologically enhanced data collection and analysis. Furthermore, the capabilities of existing data collection partners, particularly of Syrian NGOs, have gained through this exercise.

How Humanitarian Response Plans and funding requirements are formulated

Once the Humanitarian Needs Overview is completed, the Humanitarian Country Team develops the Humanitarian Response Plan. This determines what will be done about the needs that have been identified.

The HCT, in consultation with key partners including the Government, will articulate high-level strategic goals. These goals usually target either improvements in key indicators of basic health and welfare (such as lowering the rate of acute malnutrition) or milestones towards restoring people's stability and self-reliance (such as displaced people returning home or resettling, or aid-dependent people restoring their livelihoods and access to social services).

Once the strategic goals have been agreed, the country team conducts a 'response analysis' that looks at the operational realities of the crisis—in terms of local, national, and international response capacity, humanitarian access and logistics, funding environment, seasonality, timing and the duration of the plan. This analysis then allows the HCT

to determine the target population for humanitarian aid, and methods for that assistance that make the most sense given all the above considerations.

Then the planning moves to the level of specific actions, actors, people and places. This will still be based on the strategic goals, and will still need coordination among agencies and technical groups, because achieving strategic goals goes beyond any one organization or technical sector. For example, reducing the acute malnutrition in children is not just a matter of nutrition therapy and food distribution, but also of vaccination and other health measures, water, sanitation and hygiene, food security and livelihoods, often education, and sometimes child protection. Technical groups or 'clusters' working in specialised areas (nutrition, water, health etc) clarify needs and how HRP's can help meet them. They also make sure they know what needs will be covered by actions planned outside the large circle of aid organizations in the HRP, such as the government and the national Red Cross or Red Crescent society, so that the HRP aligns with their plans and leaves no gaps or duplication.

Amir Khan Sabari talks to Taiza Khan, who left his home near the centre of Janikhel, Paktya, to come to Khost City in eastern Afghanistan. The district of Janikhel has changed hands three times since it was first attacked by members of an armed group in September 2016. Credit: OCHA/Philippe Kropf



“The information is analysed to produce a comprehensive, prioritised overview of people’s emergency needs, with specific figures of scale, severity, locations, and differences among profiles of people (for example females and males, old and young, farmers or wage laborers). This ‘Humanitarian Needs Overview’ also features an analysis of the root causes and drivers of people’s needs, and of people’s ability to cope with needs themselves.”

Plans are carefully costed. Clusters may enumerate their planned actions and estimate a generic unit cost per action (for example per person receiving food aid or nutritional therapy, or per water source or latrine). The other main method is for each organization to make its own cost estimate for its particular planned actions, bundled as ‘projects,’ taking into account the specific methods and operational costs that may vary in different locations. The costs of actions or projects planned by each cluster, after rigorous review within the cluster and by the HCT, are compiled to form the overall funding requirement for the HRP.

The funding requested in the HRP, and within each of the cost components, reflect what the participating organizations need to do, but within the limits of what they have the capacity to do (assuming full funding).

A key part of the process is to ensure that organizations, clusters, the HCT, the government, and the affected people know whether the organizations are doing what they said they would do, and whether it is having the necessary effect.

In most major humanitarian operations, organizations and their coordination structures are now good at sharing real-time information on actual aid delivered, and pooling that information to see if aid is collectively hitting its targets. Progress is also being made on the more difficult but essential task of measuring the impact on people in need. It’s difficult, for example, to track changes in acute malnutrition across hundreds of thousands of children in chaotic situations, and even more difficult to try to ascribe any changes to particular aid that those children or their families have received. But it is essential to know how the people in need are doing and whether the aid is working (and if not, why not, and what course corrections are needed). This also sets the stage for the next needs overview and subsequent round of strategic planning.

The HRPs therefore serve several key purposes. They coordinate the array of actions necessary when large numbers of people need comprehensive humanitarian aid and a way out of crisis. They ensure that aid agencies are held to account for delivering what they said they would deliver, and whether it is having the necessary effect. And they are the main interface with donors—making clear the overall situation and the strategy to address it, plus detailed guidance on how much funding each participating organization needs for its specific actions, and what the overall price tag will be for comprehensive humanitarian action for all the people who need it and can be reached.

Each HRP summarized below starts with solid, rigorous, transparent information on people’s real needs, how these needs arose and persist, and what people can and cannot do for themselves. And the costs start from specific actions directly stemming from those needs and cross-checked among the relevant actors to ensure no gaps, overlaps or uneconomical methods—eventually aggregated into totals per project or set of actions, per cluster, per HRP, and the global total of all the HRPs.

Any funding shortfall relative to an HRP’s requirements means that specific actions will not be completed, people will lack some or all necessary aid, and lives and well-being will be at risk. A severe shortfall—such as with those HRPs that do not garner even half the required funding—means that the crisis will deepen, aggravating factors will take root, large numbers of people are forced to use ever more desperate measures to survive, and ultimately, lives are lost.

“Each HRP starts with solid, rigorous, transparent information on people’s real needs, how these needs arose and persist, and what people can and cannot do for themselves. And the costs start from specific actions directly stemming from those needs and cross-checked among the relevant actors to ensure no gaps, overlaps or uneconomical methods—eventually aggregated into totals per project or set of actions, per cluster, per HRP, and the global total of all the HRPs.”

Improvements to strengthen appeal processes

The processes through which humanitarians assess needs and plan their response are both being strengthened.

While donors have acknowledged progress in improving the quality and credibility of HNOs and HRPs, the humanitarian community is committed to strengthening the process for assessing needs and developing response plans. Specifically, we must continue improve the quality of the evidence that informs planning, transparency around the way we prioritize response actions and the approach to calculating funding requirements.

In 2018, a priority improvement will be the cross-sectoral and comprehensive assessment of needs to strengthen overall intersectoral analysis—as opposed to just a sector-by-sector compilation of needs. This approach will allow for a more holistic understanding of needs and a better starting point for developing multi-sectoral responses.

Improvements in the way in which we analyse how severe the needs are of population groups and geographical areas are also underway. This is important because it helps humanitarians prioritize and target the response better. It also identifies who needs emergency life-saving assistance from humanitarians; and who would benefit from more long-term development support. This is a key step towards strengthening the humanitarian and development nexus.

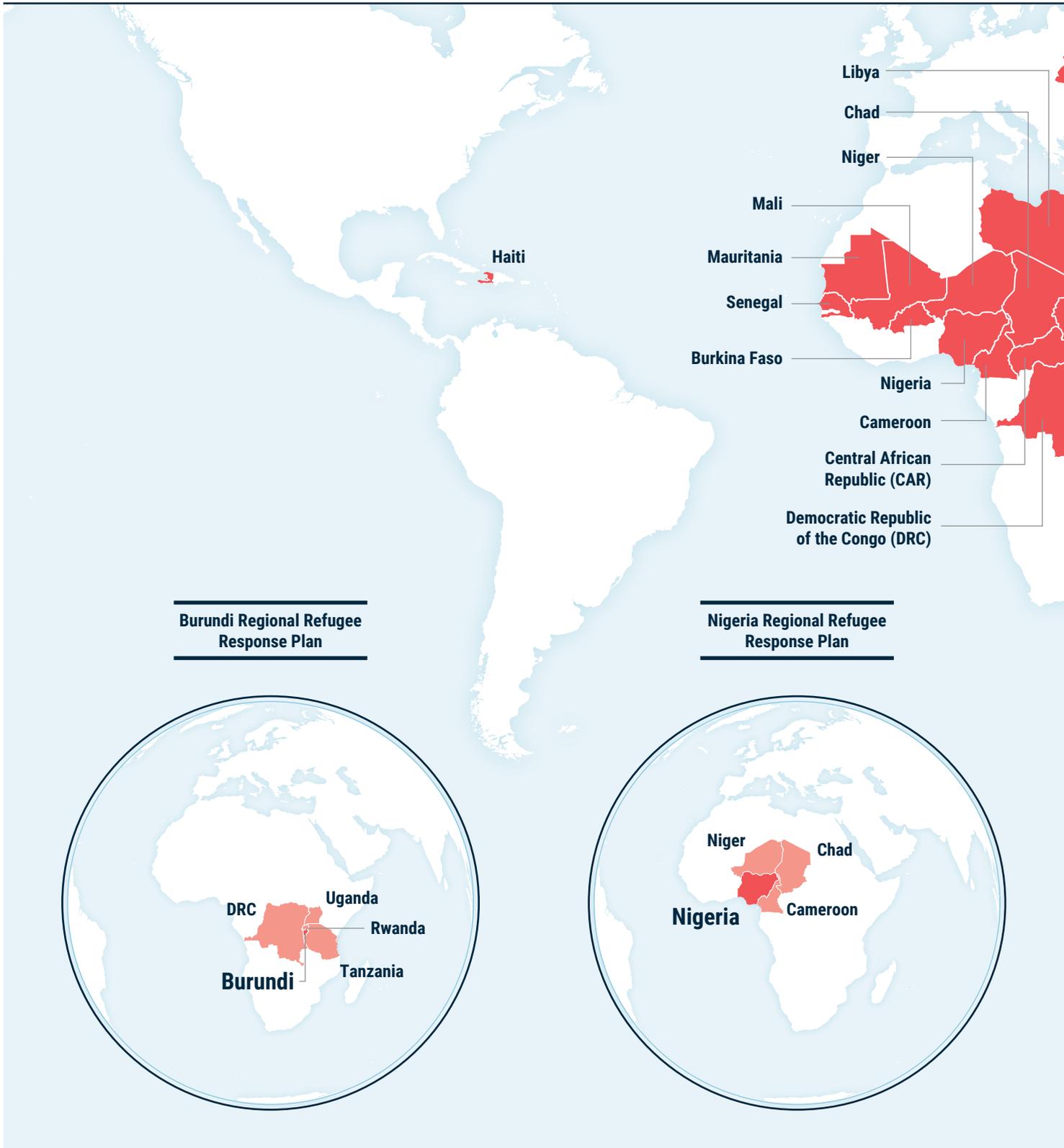
Several improvements in response planning are also under way. Ensuring better-prioritized response plans, in line with Grand Bargain and other commitments, is key. Prioritization means making tough choices about what locations, population groups and/or issues need to be addressed first or where coverage needs to be amplified. This requires a clear understanding of where survival needs are (or will be), the most pressing, and which responses need to be carried out first to prepare the ground for others to succeed.

While HRPs require a realistic scope to begin with, prioritization in HRPs does not in itself mean reducing overall HRPs funding requests. Furthermore, response prioritization in HRPs should not be taken to mean that other aspects of the response are less deserving of funding. The humanitarian response in HRPs is designed to provide a holistic response to people’s multiple and interrelated needs, which typically span the life-saving, livelihood, protection and basic-service dimensions. All activities in the HRPs thus require full funding to prevent non-life-threatening needs from deteriorating into survival conditions a few months later.

Lastly, international organisations (or the IASC) are testing different costing methodologies of the HRPs, in order to better present needs of the affected people.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

21 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLANS



**Burundi Regional Refugee
Response Plan**

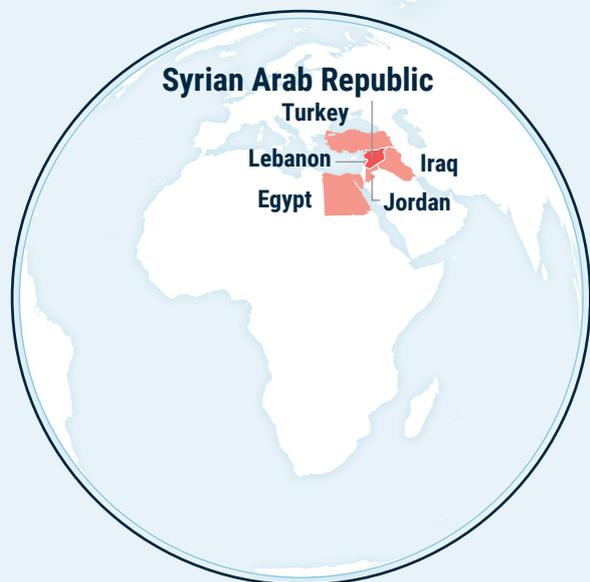
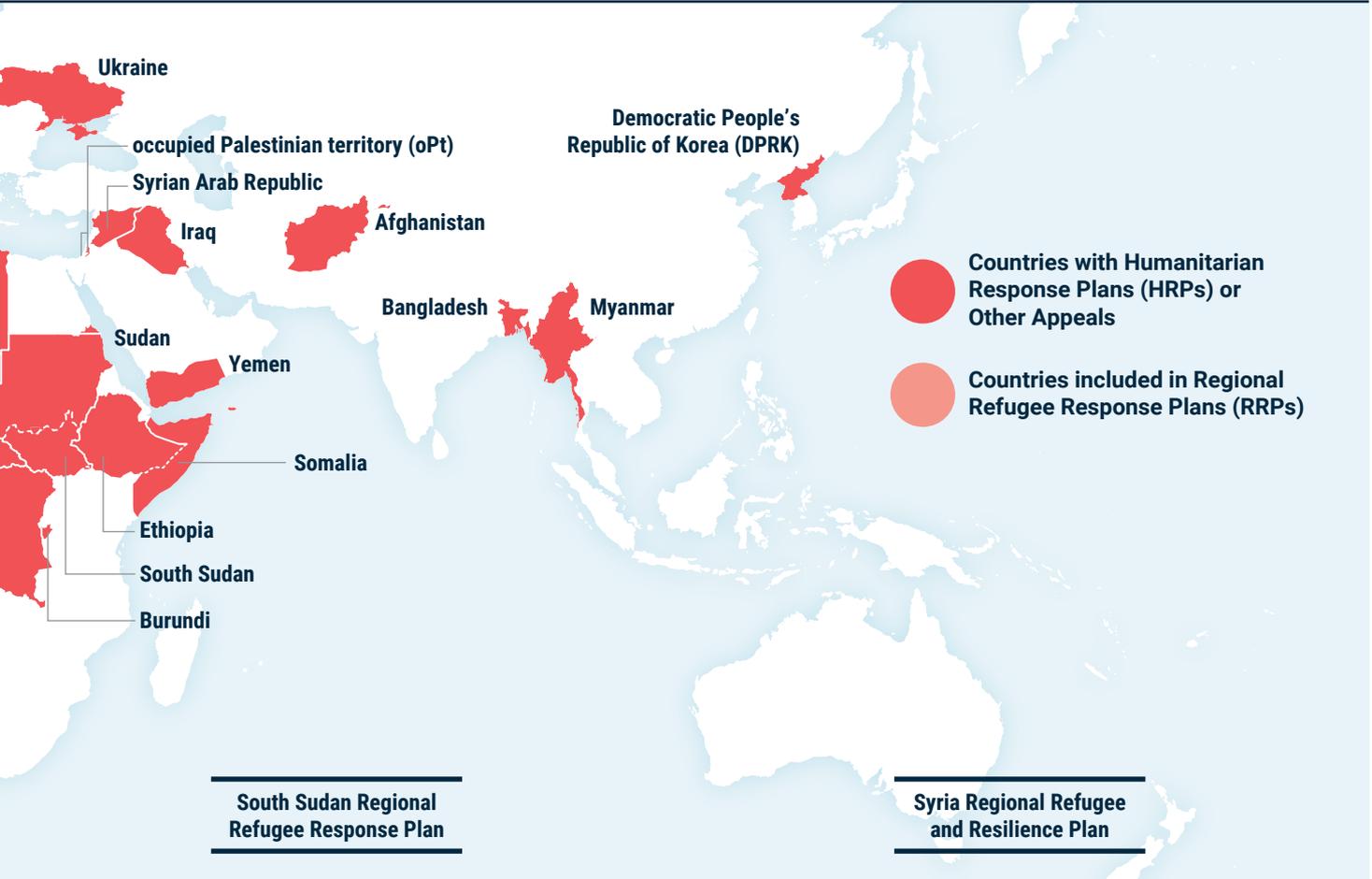
**Nigeria Regional Refugee
Response Plan**



PLANS AROUND THE GLOBE

4 REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE PLANS

5 OTHER APPEALS



Humanitarian Response Plans

Humanitarian Response Plans are the product of a collaborative effort among most aid organizations working in a major crisis. They are based on shared information and analysis of affected people’s needs, and embody a strategic and prioritized approach to meeting those needs and helping people out of crisis. Furthermore, they entail operational planning, division of labour, and detailed costs for each part of the humanitarian response—thus also forming an appeal. Increasingly, for protracted crises, they take a multi-year view and involve development actors.

Afghanistan



PEOPLE IN NEED

3.3M

PEOPLE TARGETED¹

2.8M



REQUIREMENTS

\$430M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↓ 22%

¹ Response plans typically target a subset (usually the large majority) of people in need, because affected country governments and other actors target a portion, and/or because of capacity constraints among organizations participating in the response plan.

The conflict has escalated, with more conflict-related incidents than at any time in the past decade. Many Afghans have been forced to abandon their homes as the contest for military control continues. Over 170 partners continue to deliver humanitarian aid in spite of hostile conditions and increasing attacks on aid workers.

3.3 million people need humanitarian aid and a further 8.7 million face chronic and recurring needs. Progress is needed on peace talks, but until they bear fruit, ensuring humanitarian agencies are well funded is the best way to save lives.

Two-thirds of civilian casualties in 2017 were women and children. Better trauma response capacity and aftercare for amputees are required. Also, humanitarian agencies need more funding if they are to expand operations into more conflict areas and support the people worst affected by the conflict in a timely manner.

This is an acute malnutrition crisis requiring sustained action by a greater number of actors. One million malnourished children, 15% residing in two provinces and 20% in a single province, require emergency nutrition.

Over 318,000 people were displaced in 30 of the 34 provinces of Afghanistan over the first nine months of 2017, and 1.2 million people have been displaced in the longer term. With displacement likely to continue at a similar pace in 2018, funding to better identify, assess and assist people living in displacement is urgently required. Addressing the humanitarian needs of Afghan returnees from Pakistan (refugees and undocumented returnees) will require resources to ensure they do not become displaced again.

For the first time, the HNO distinguishes clearly between the 3.3 million people with acute humanitarian needs as the result of specific crises and a further 8.7 million people with chronic needs, which are the norm in a country with such a large development deficit.

Note: 2017 HRPs that are discontinued for 2018 are Djibouti and Republic of Congo. The 2018 appeals for Mauritania, Burkina Faso and Senegal are no longer HRPs. Pakistan’s Humanitarian Strategic Plan 2017 is not recurring for 2018.

The figures for people in need, people targeted and funding requirements are a snapshot as of 15 November. In the case of some HRPs, these figures may evolve between this publication and each HRP’s official publication.

Burundi



PEOPLE IN NEED

3.5M

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.3M



REQUIREMENTS

\$95M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 28%

Since 2015, political and socio-economic developments in Burundi have worsened the humanitarian situation. The number of people in need of humanitarian aid almost tripled from 1 million in 2016 to 3 million in 2017, including over 188,000 internally displaced people. One out of four Burundians (2.6 million) face severe food insecurity, with an estimated 62,500 children under 5 requiring treatment for severe acute malnutrition and 1 in 6 children under the age of 5 suffering from chronic malnutrition. Moreover, Burundi remains at high risk of epidemics, particularly as one out of four Burundians has no easy access to water. There are multiple cholera outbreaks as a consequence of an increasing shortage of water supply whilst a malaria epidemic is severely impacting the country with over 6.6 million cases and some 2,875 deaths this year.

The suspension of external financial support from different donors has resulted in massive budget cuts in several areas, including in education (30%), health (54%) and water and sanitation (72%) making people's access to essential

services extremely difficult. This adds to the economic and social reality of a population who was already in deep poverty; Burundi ranks 184 out of 188 countries in the Human Development Index (2016). A further deterioration is currently being observed—particularly given political uncertainty and socio-economic decline—and a mid-year revision (September 2017) of the needs and response have indicated that there could soon be 6 million people who need assistance throughout the country. Meanwhile, some 423,000 Burundians continue to be refugees in neighbouring countries.

Despite increasing needs, humanitarian funding is declining with the humanitarian response plan having received only 50% of its \$73.7 million requirements. The humanitarian country team has the capacity to deliver aid but its work is hindered by limited funding. This means that 30% of people targeted this year have been unable to receive aid support. Without sufficient resources, thousands of Burundians, including the most vulnerable, will be left without much-needed assistance.

Children living in Maslakh informal settlement in western Afghanistan play in the afternoon sun. Most of the around 20,000 people living in Maslakh have no intention of returning to their home province and aim to be integrated locally and accepted as citizens of Herat. Credit: UNHCR/Jim Huylebroek



Cameroon



PEOPLE IN NEED
3.3M

PEOPLE TARGETED
1.3M



REQUIREMENTS
\$306M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 28%

Cameroon is facing a triple humanitarian crisis caused by the escalation of the conflict in the Central African Republic, Boko Haram attacks in the Lake Chad Basin and high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition due to poverty, under-development and chronic vulnerability. Humanitarian needs in Cameroon will continue to grow in 2018: about 3.3 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection, an increase of 14% compared to 2017. The food insecurity situation will continue to affect over 2.6 million people and nearly 177,000 children under five will face severe malnutrition.

Large-scale displacement has generated urgent humanitarian needs and affected host communities, putting pressure on already scarce resources. In the Far North Region, an estimated 329,000 people have been driven into displacement due to ongoing attacks from Boko Haram, military operations and natural disasters. Only 24% of the IDPs intend to return back to their area of origin because of persistent fear, destroyed housing and lack of basic services and livelihood opportunities. In addition, some 237,000 Central African refugees have sought refuge in the East, Adamawa and North

regions. Given continuing insecurity in the Central African Republic and the Lake Chad Basin, it is unlikely that people who have fled to neighbouring countries will return there in the short term.

Despite complex humanitarian challenges, characterized by new emergencies and ongoing protracted humanitarian needs, hundreds of thousands of people have been reached with humanitarian aid during 2017. For example, more than 48,000 children under 5 have been admitted to programs for integrated management of acute severe malnutrition and almost 88,000 conflict-affected children have been reached with psycho-social support.

In spite of a deteriorating humanitarian situation, Cameroon remains largely overlooked by donors. For example, in 2017, food rations had to be cut by 50% for CAR and Nigerian refugees over several months due to insufficient financing. Without adequate resources in 2018, food assistance to thousands of people might be at risk and children will be facing heightened risk of morbidity or death due to malnutrition.

Central African Republic



PEOPLE IN NEED
2.5M

PEOPLE TARGETED
1.9M



REQUIREMENTS
\$516M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 29%

The situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) has deteriorated sharply since January 2017. Armed conflict is now engulfing territories that had previously been relatively stable and nearly 70% of the country is de facto controlled by armed groups.

There has been a 50% spike in internal displacement, with internally displaced people now totalling over 600,000. The number of refugees has also increased to 512,000 bringing the total number of people displaced to over 1.1 million people—the highest number ever recorded in CAR. The situation is likely to further deteriorate, with armed groups attempting to expand their control to new areas rich in resources, as well as with the end of the rainy season and additional clashes on key routes.

Only 35% of the \$497.3 million required by the revised 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan—updated in August 2017 to reflect increased needs (the initial requirement for 2017 was \$399.5 million)—was received. In several regions where resilience is still too fragile, aid workers have had to reduce or stop their operations due to underfunding or insecurity. Food rations that ensure the survival of the most vulnerable families have been halved, leaving families without compensation to purchase the needed food. Moreover, the humanitarian air service, which is often the only way to provide help in areas rendered inaccessible by armed conflict and insecurity, has insufficient funds to cover its operations. Without sufficient resources, tens of thousands of the most vulnerable people in the CAR will be deprived of much-needed aid.

Chad



PEOPLE IN NEED

4.4M

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.9M

REQUIREMENTS

\$558M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↓ 5%

Chad is facing multiple humanitarian crises due to under-development and conflicts in neighbouring countries. Some 4.4 million people need humanitarian aid in 2018—almost one-third of the population. Large-scale displacement has impacted host communities, putting pressure on already-scarce resources and vulnerable communities, who often do not receive sufficient assistance. Over 650,000 people have been displaced, either as refugees, IDPs or returnees. Chad is among the countries in Africa hosting the largest number of refugees (405,674). Some 3.5 million people are food-insecure in central Chad. Meanwhile, new assessments show an alarming and deteriorating nutrition situation, and a nutritional emergency has been declared in 12 regions (mostly in the Sahel belt). Global acute malnutrition stands at 13.9% (a two-point increase compared to 2016) nationally, with rates exceeding the 15% emergency threshold in 12 out of 23 regions. The severe acute malnutrition rate is at 3.9% for the whole country (compared to 2.6% in 2016), which is also above the 2% emergency threshold. Urgent assistance is required to save lives and reverse this trend.

The low level of funding in 2017, which did not reach 40% of the funding requirement, translated into limited humanitarian coverage. For example, as of August 2017, only half of the targeted children 6-59 months of age with severe acute malnutrition and needing therapeutic care had been reached. Of the 600,000 conflict-affected people in need of access to potable water, only 184,219 had received support.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian community has made significant progress in humanitarian-development collaboration and in aligning the humanitarian response plan with relevant development plans and frameworks.

In 2018, increased funding for the humanitarian response in Chad is essential. Chad has historically been severely underfunded, making it difficult to fulfil the most basic needs of the population. As a result, large segments of the population remain highly vulnerable to natural hazards and other shocks, and at risk of requiring emergency assistance in 2018.

Democratic Republic of the Congo



PEOPLE IN NEED

13.1M

PEOPLE TARGETED

10.5M

REQUIREMENTS

\$1.69B

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 125%

The crisis in the DRC has deepened and spread, affecting people in areas previously considered stable and stretching the coping mechanisms of people in areas already impacted. A surge in violent conflict and intercommunal tensions forced more than 1.7 million people to flee their homes in 2017, bringing the total number of IDPs to 4.1 million—the highest number of any country on the African continent. The situation is likely to be further complicated in 2018 by political uncertainty and economic decline.

This rapid deterioration, observed mainly in the Kasais, and South Kivu and Tanganyika provinces, is taking place against the backdrop of one of the world's largest and most complex humanitarian crises. Across the DRC, at least 13.1 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection—an increase of 79% from the start of 2017. This includes 7.7 million severely food-insecure people and close to 2 million severely malnourished children. Epidemics and outbreaks of communicable diseases, including cholera, affect tens of

thousands of people every year. Millions of Congolese bear the brunt, which is characterized by worsening inter-ethnic tensions and conflict and where widespread human rights abuses, including sexual violence, are a defining feature.

Aid organizations in the DRC operate in an exceptionally complex and challenging environment, where insecurity, limited logistical infrastructure, challenging administrative environment and severe underfunding require innovative approaches to deliver. Despite challenges, humanitarian partners reached more than 2.7 million people in 2017.

The DRC HRP is an innovative, multi-year approach covering 2017-2019 which is designed to improve the quality, speed and accountability of the response while linking to key development and peace plans to maximize impact. In 2018, the HRP calls for \$1.69 billion to scale up in areas of new need while continuing to deliver lifesaving assistance in areas of existing needs.



A group of young Yazidi children inside an unfinished school building in Sharya, 20 minutes south of Dahuk in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The building, now a displacement site, hosts some 70 Yazidi Kurd families from the Sinjar region. Credit: OCHA/Philippe Kropf

Ethiopia



PEOPLE IN NEED

7.0M

PEOPLE TARGETED

7.0M



REQUIREMENTS

\$895M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↓ 37%

Ethiopia has experienced two years of exceptional drought emergency. In 2017 severe drought conditions continued in lowland, mostly pastoral areas, rendering hundreds of thousands destitute and displaced. The current southern autumn rains are again expected to under-perform, meaning that levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition in the lowlands are likely to remain high.

The well-managed, government-led, life-saving response will need to be sustained across southern and eastern parts of the country through much of 2018. Across highland areas a strong Meher harvest is anticipated, with some pockets of poor performance. Disease outbreaks are expected to continue in 2018.

Additional humanitarian needs have arisen due to conflict, with several hundred thousand Ethiopians displaced; community reconciliation efforts are underway. Many of those displaced over the course of 2017 are likely to require continuing relief assistance and recovery support in 2018.

As the GHO is launched, a multi-agency, government-led assessment is underway to confirm the full scale of humanitarian needs for the first part of 2018. The humanitarian response in 2017 was well-supported with both donor and government resources: over \$1 billion was mobilized to routinely assist 8.5 million people. Similar levels of financial support will be required early in 2018, both to address immediate, priority humanitarian needs, and to protect development gains.

Government, humanitarian and development partners are in the process of developing a multi-year response framework, to outline how predictable needs will be progressively addressed through more predictable means. The final outline of anticipated humanitarian needs and requirements for 2018 will be a 'pillar' of this longer-term framework, along with proposed recovery and resilience-building initiatives.

Haiti



PEOPLE IN NEED
1.9M

PEOPLE TARGETED
1.5M



REQUIREMENTS
\$291M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 51%

Haiti remains affected by a convergence of humanitarian crises exacerbated by the impact of Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and to a lesser extent Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017. Humanitarian priorities for 2018 are to address food insecurity, malnutrition, and cholera.

The impact of Hurricane Matthew in 2016 is still felt. Humanitarian needs persist and people remain vulnerable to food insecurity and in some cases still live in temporary shelters. The island remains at high risk from natural disasters. The Government estimates that 595,000 people are highly vulnerable to climatic hazards, particularly hurricanes and floods. Approximately 2.8 million people living in 58 municipalities are at high risk from flooding.

Concerted humanitarian efforts have reduced cholera cases. From January to October 2017, 11,906 suspected cases were recorded, a decrease of 66% compared to the same period in 2016. Continued funding for cholera prevention and response is required to sustain this positive trend in 2018 and to avoid regression. Some 2.35 million people are facing severe acute food insecurity. Hurricane Matthew severely disrupted food production in the south of Haiti, impacting overall food security.

Due to Haiti's vulnerability to natural disasters, continued investment in preparedness and disaster risk reduction is required, building on coordinated efforts of the Government, donors, humanitarian and development actors and laying the groundwork for transition from relief to development.

Iraq



PEOPLE IN NEED
8.7M

PEOPLE TARGETED
3.4M



REQUIREMENTS¹
\$550M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↓ 44%

¹ Figures are tentative, to be revised with the launch of the 2018 HRP.

Iraq's humanitarian crisis is one of the most volatile in the world. Although large-scale military operations against ISIL are expected to conclude by the end of 2017, the humanitarian crisis will continue through 2018, if not longer, putting millions of Iraqi civilians at risk.

In the months ahead, protection problems are expected to impact millions of people as families and communities grapple with post-conflict realities. New sources of instability are likely to emerge, linked to delays in reconciliation and political tensions, including in disputed areas.

Displaced families living in camps and substandard accommodation remain highly vulnerable and will require substantial assistance to meet their basic needs. Hundreds of thousands of people, including women and children, have been brutalized by the conflict. They are likely to require specialized support and care for years.

As many as two million displaced Iraqis, possibly more, are likely to return to their homes during 2018. Conditions in retaken areas vary; damage to public infrastructure is extensive and some areas are heavily contaminated by mines and unexploded ordnance. Although the Government's social protection floor is being re-established in retaken areas, many destitute families are not yet receiving the assistance they need to restart their lives.

Mosul remains one of the single largest and most difficult operations in the Middle East. Although one million civilians were evacuated during the fighting last year in the largest managed evacuations from a combat zone in modern history, 600,000 Muslawis are still outside their homes, half of whom are living in emergency sites and camps.

Humanitarian partners estimate that 8.7 million Iraqis will need some form of humanitarian aid in 2018. The Government of Iraq and Kurdistan Regional Government, supported by national organizations and religious endowments, are committed to providing the bulk of humanitarian aid, but continue to rely on humanitarian partners to support displaced and highly vulnerable families.

Humanitarian partners remain committed to doing everything possible to ensure that 3.4 million vulnerable and at-risk civilians receive the protection and support they require and to which they are entitled under international humanitarian law. In support of the national effort, partners will assist through the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan 1.5 million displaced people in camps and informal settlements, 250,000 vulnerable people who need assistance to return home, 1.25 million highly vulnerable people not adequately covered by social protection systems, and 400,000 people who are newly displaced or face secondary displacement.

Libya



PEOPLE IN NEED
1.1M

PEOPLE TARGETED ¹
900k



REQUIREMENTS ¹
\$250M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 66%

¹ Figures are tentative, to be revised with the launch of the 2018 HRP.

Ongoing conflict directly affected an estimated 1.6 million people in Libya in 2017, with escalations in flashpoint areas exacerbating the situation of civilians on the ground. This includes the tightened military encirclement of Derna, which continues in late 2017, affecting some 100,000 people. Some 217,000 people remain internally displaced, while another 278,000 people have returned to their home areas. Rival polities, fragmented national and local institutions, insecurity, presence of armed groups, weak rule of law, and a fast-deteriorating economy all deepen vulnerabilities. Basic goods are less available and affordable, while public service provision declines. 18% of hospitals and 20% of primary health facilities are not operational; only 6% of health facilities provide delivery services.

Libya remains the main point of departure for the Mediterranean crossing to Europe. In 2017 to date, 2,954 people have died or gone missing in the attempt. Arrivals

report exploitation, abuse and torture in Libya, where they cannot access services and live in fear of capture and arbitrary detention, often under inhumane conditions, suffering diseases, lack of food and safe drinking water. Alarming levels of rape and abuse, including in official detention centres, have been documented.

In 2017, constrained by underfunding and limited access, humanitarians assisted 500,000 people as of September. In 2018, some 1.1 million people, including 378,000 children, require life-saving assistance and protection. The 2018 HRP targets 900,000 people, with focus on protection in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law, and on access to basic services for the most vulnerable. It draws on a strengthened evidence base and cross-sectoral analysis, reflecting the humanitarian community's commitment towards a principled, conflict-sensitive, coordinated and more effective humanitarian response in Libya.

Mali



PEOPLE IN NEED
3.8M

PEOPLE TARGETED
1.6M



REQUIREMENTS
\$256M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↓ 16%

With limited progress in the implementation of the Malian Peace Agreement, insecurity and conflict has spread from the north to the centre of Mali. The conflict has exacerbated needs mostly linked to under-development and absence of basic services in the northern regions. In this situation, humanitarian actors provide an essential lifeline for vulnerable communities.

In 2018, 3.8 million people will need life-saving help. Nearly 20% of the Malian population face food insecurity, including 600,000 people requiring immediate food assistance. In addition, 750,000 children under age five will be malnourished, of whom 165,000 will suffer severe acute malnutrition; 1.9 million people will require water, sanitation and hygiene assistance; and 1.8 million people will require urgent healthcare. Though most IDPs have returned to their communities since 2013, people are still displaced due to insecurity—over 30,000 people were newly displaced in 2017, bringing the total number of IDPs to 58,590—and the 142,000 refugees in neighbouring countries are unlikely to return due to current conditions.

In 2017, despite the volatile operating environment, humanitarian partners reached vulnerable populations with critical assistance. Almost 315,000 people received seasonal food aid; nearly 75,000 children under five were treated for severe acute malnutrition; over 195,000 crisis-affected children got access to education; and 108,700 children benefited from school meal programmes.

Despite these achievements, low funding has seriously curtailed the actions of humanitarian organizations. The 2017 HRP was less than 40% funded. Failure to provide life-saving aid and support resilience could perpetuate inter-community violence, further destabilizing Mali. Millions of Malians will continue to suffer from food insecurity, malnutrition and epidemics. With nearly half of its inhabitants now under age 18 and a population expected to double within two decades, failure to meet humanitarian needs now will worsen the crisis' impact in Mali and the region, fuelling migration towards Europe and exposing youth to higher risk of recruitment by non-State armed actors and criminal groups.

Myanmar



PEOPLE IN NEED

850 k

PEOPLE TARGETED

800 k

REQUIREMENTS

\$163 M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 8%

Myanmar faces significant humanitarian challenges resulting from armed conflict, protracted displacement, inter-communal tensions, statelessness, discrimination, food insecurity and vulnerability to natural disasters. The humanitarian situation in Rakhine took a significant turn for the worse in 2017 following a series of armed attacks on police posts and subsequent security operations by Government forces that resulted in over 600,000 people—mostly Rohingya Muslims—seeking refuge across the border in Bangladesh. Across the country, some 230,000 displaced people remain in camps or camp-like situations. This includes some 102,000 people in Kachin and Shan displaced by the armed conflict that resumed in 2011 and over 128,000 people in Rakhine who have been in camps since violence erupted there in 2012. Stateless Muslims in Rakhine, including both displaced and non-displaced people, remain subject to discriminatory policies and practices including restrictions to their freedom of movement that limit their access to livelihoods and essential services. In addition, people in Myanmar remain highly vulnerable to natural disasters.

In 2017, humanitarian organizations delivered food and/or cash assistance to more than 306,000 people, supported over 158,000 people with primary health care services, and assisted over 321,000 people with access to sufficient safe drinking water. In addition, some 245,000 people were given access to protection services. Nevertheless, humanitarian organizations in Myanmar have faced increased access constraints across all operations, affecting their ability to respond to people's needs.

The 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan sets out the framework within which the United Nations and its partners will respond to the large-scale humanitarian assistance and protection needs of crisis-affected people. The strategic objectives are to meet the needs of displaced people and support efforts to achieve durable solutions (including support for the voluntary, safe and dignified return of refugees and internally displaced people), to ensure that vulnerable crisis-affected people have equitable access to essential services and livelihoods opportunities, to ensure the protection of civilians, and to strengthen national capacities and the resilience of communities.

Niger



PEOPLE IN NEED

2.3 M

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.8 M

REQUIREMENTS

\$338 M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 18%

The humanitarian crisis in Niger is worsening, with the number of people in need of assistance reaching 2.3 million in 2018—an increase of 400,000 people compared to 2017. A scale-up of humanitarian aid is urgently required, as indicators across multiple sectors are deteriorating. The nutrition sector is the hardest hit, with 1.7 million people requiring nutrition support, an increase of 250,000 people from last year. Chronic vulnerabilities related to food insecurity, malnutrition, epidemics and floods are being compounded by growing insecurity in the regions bordering Mali and in the Diffa region. Further, overcrowding in camps and displacements sites have worsened the living conditions of the displaced population and exacerbated the protection risks faced particularly by children and women.

In 2017, the humanitarian response made a major difference in the lives of the most vulnerable. Food assistance reached over 720,000 people. Further, over 237,162 children were treated for severe acute malnutrition and 243,602 for moderate acute malnutrition, while over 106,000 pregnant women received nutritional supplements (as of September). Some 112,000 people were reached with protection activities, and a network of community-level protection mechanisms was also established.

Military operations against Boko Haram in the Diffa region and terrorist groups in regions bordering Mali continue. Moreover, the population growth rate of 3.9% puts pressure on natural resources and leads to significant land degradation. In 2018, increased funding is required to respond to the growing needs in almost all sectors.

Nigeria



PEOPLE IN NEED
14.5M

PEOPLE TARGETED
6.1M



REQUIREMENTS
\$1.1B

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 4%

Nigeria is bearing the brunt of the Lake Chad Basin crisis. Some 7.7 million people will need humanitarian aid in the three most-affected states in the north-east in 2018, including 1.7 million internally displaced people. Meanwhile, 1.3 million people have begun to return home, many of whom are returning to places where infrastructure and services are not yet restored. New displacement and arrivals from areas that are inaccessible for humanitarian partners plus returns of some of the 200,000 Nigerian refugees from neighbouring countries are all projected in 2018.

Since the beginning of the conflict between the Nigerian military and non-state armed groups, the north-east is witnessing a severe protection crisis in which sexual violence is prevalent: six out of ten women have experienced some form of gender-based violence. While the risk of famine has been averted in the north-east thanks to a

massive mobilization of humanitarian aid, the majority of affected people, particularly in Borno State, remain dependent on food assistance, since continued insecurity and restrictions of movement imposed by military activities have largely prevented the resumption of livelihoods.

In 2017, humanitarian response was significantly scaled up to meet redoubled needs, and helped avert a famine. Some 4.9 million people were reached with humanitarian aid, including food assistance to three million people. However, the gains are fragile, and more funding will be required in 2018 in support of the Government's own response. Lack of access to education will expose children to risks of abduction, abuse and recruitment into armed groups. Insufficient funding will also place the lives of one million girls and boys suffering from acute malnutrition at risk.

occupied Palestinian territory



PEOPLE IN NEED
2.5M

PEOPLE TARGETED
1.9M



REQUIREMENTS
\$540M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↓ 1%

The unique humanitarian context of the oPt is intimately linked to the impact of the Israeli military occupation, which marked its 50th year in June 2017, and a stalled political process. As a result, over 2.5 million Palestinians need humanitarian assistance and protection. Of these, some 1.9 million are at risk of conflict, violence and/or displacement, among other protection threats. The most vulnerable currently have restricted access to essential services such as water and health care, while recurrent shocks—mostly manmade—have eroded their resilience to cope. These dynamics are magnified in Gaza by a blockade, imposed by Israel (citing security concerns following Hamas's violent takeover in 2007); three major escalations of hostilities between Hamas/other armed groups in Gaza and Israel in the last ten years; and the impact of 10 years of political and administrative division between the West Bank and Gaza. Combined, these factors have devastated public infrastructure, disrupted basic services delivery and profoundly undermined living conditions. In 2017, Gaza's population of two million had to cope with only 4-6 hours of

electricity most days, with a major knock-on effect on health and WASH services, while critical facilities relied heavily on a large-scale UN-coordinated emergency fuel operation.

In 2018, the humanitarian team will launch its first three-year humanitarian strategic plan, based on a needs analysis that explicitly considered linkages to vulnerability analyses by development actors and identified common drivers of vulnerability. Beyond delivering aid where needed, the new HRP aims to also strengthen linkages with non-humanitarian actors (such as the development community and Palestinian Authority), reduce needs and caseloads over the three years of the plan and make scarce resources go further, including by greater national NGO implementation. For the most vulnerable Palestinians, interventions will strive to protect and promote their rights under occupation, in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law; provide access to basic services and resources where denied; and bolster vulnerable households' capacities to overcome such a protracted crisis.



Mothers wait with their children during a malnutrition screening at an outpatient clinic in Baidoa, Somalia. Credit: OCHA

Somalia



PEOPLE IN NEED

6.2M

PEOPLE TARGETED

5.4M



REQUIREMENTS

\$1.5B

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 74%

In 2017, humanitarian aid was scaled up massively in Somalia in view of the deteriorating humanitarian situation. While so far partners have successfully averted a famine, the extended drought has aggravated the crisis and needs remain high due to a combination of poor rain performance for four consecutive seasons, displacement, lack of access to basic services and continuing conflict. Despite the challenging operating environment, humanitarian partners continue to reach more than three million people every month, and expect to be able to keep famine at bay also in 2018, provided that there are no major disruptions to the ongoing response efforts.

More than 6.2 million people, or half the population of Somalia, need humanitarian aid. This includes 800,000 people in emergency—up tenfold from 83,000 people in early 2017. Over one million people have been displaced in 2017, mainly from rural to urban areas, further exposing the most vulnerable to serious protection concerns. Malnutrition rates are also on the rise.

Based on assessed needs and projections, in 2018 the core of the humanitarian response will focus on providing life-saving assistance and protection, with an emphasis on integrated, localized, multi-sector service provision. Maintaining high levels of efficiency, including through extensive use of cash-based programming is central to the response strategy. Humanitarians will also take further steps to place communities at the center of humanitarian action and decision-making through stronger feedback mechanisms. Complemented by urgently required investments in resilience and recovery by development partners and other relevant actors, humanitarians will work towards collective outcomes to help ensure that droughts do not turn into famines.

In 2018 humanitarian partners in Somalia require an estimated \$1.5 billion to assist 5.4 million people, prioritizing saving lives, protection of the most vulnerable, strengthening resilience, provision of basic services and enabling durable solutions for the displaced.

South Sudan



PEOPLE IN NEED

7.0M

PEOPLE TARGETED¹

6.0M



REQUIREMENTS

\$1.7 B

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 5%

¹ Refugee outflow and population growth have been considered in the calculation of the number of people in need and targeted in 2018.

As the conflict in South Sudan enters its fifth year, the humanitarian crisis continues to intensify. The compounding effects of widespread conflict, sustained economic decline and increasing insecurity have diminished people's capacity to face threats to their health, safety and livelihoods, while curtailing basic services. Civilians are exposed to repeated attacks and other violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. Some 4 million people have fled their homes since December 2013, of whom more than 2 million to neighbouring countries. Some 7 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2018; 5.1 million people will be severely food-insecure during the first quarter and many more during the lean season. In the worst-case scenario, the lean season will reignite famine conditions in multiple locations across the country.

Despite a dangerous and logistically challenging operating environment, humanitarians reached more than 4.9 million

people in 2017. Coordinated multisector responses enabled partners to stem localized famine and to contain the country's longest-ever cholera outbreak. Successful humanitarian negotiations enabled partners to reach tens of thousands of people for the first time in nearly a year in Western Bahr el-Ghazal and Central Equatoria. Food security and livelihoods, and health sectors reached more than three quarters of their target populations with life-saving help.

In 2018, the humanitarian community will continue to strictly prioritize the response and work tirelessly to reach those cut off from assistance and protection. If the humanitarian operation does not receive funding early in 2018, however, partners will not be able to procure and pre-position sufficient supplies before the rainy season which begins in May. Insufficient funding will increase the number of severely food-insecure people and the likelihood of famine conditions across the country.

Sudan



PEOPLE IN NEED

5.8M

PEOPLE TARGETED

4.3M



REQUIREMENTS

\$1.0 B

CHANGE FROM 2017

↑ 25%

Some 5.8 million people require assistance in Sudan. According to a recent update from the Government of Sudan, the number of IDPs across the country has reduced from 2.3 million to 1.997 million. Based on revised estimates, there are about 386,000 returnees. The UN and partners will continue to work with the Government to further verify the returnees. Some 4.8 million people face crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity. Food insecurity needs have risen over the past year, driven by food price increases. Some 2.3 million children are acutely malnourished. Refugees and asylum seekers continue to arrive, seeking protection and humanitarian aid, including over 185,000 refugees from South Sudan during 2017. Natural hazards including floods and droughts also harm food security and livelihoods.

During 2017, humanitarian partners reached some 3.3 million people with food assistance. Over 1.9 million people were reached with water, sanitation and hygiene assistance; and over 1.3 million benefitted from health services. Some 150,000 children under five received treatment for acute

malnutrition and close to 238,000 children received emergency education supplies. However, funding shortfalls continue to impair operations, particularly for NGOs. During 2017, for example, 49 health facilities had to close due to lack of funding, leaving 637,000 people without proper medical care.

In 2018, humanitarian partners will continue to prioritize life-saving humanitarian aid, including to newly accessible areas in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile. In line with the strategic outcomes of the Multi-Year Humanitarian Strategy, partners will continue to pursue a sustainable approach to addressing protracted humanitarian needs. Operations will contribute to the longer-term recovery of affected people and communities, identifying locations with protracted displacement, malnutrition and food insecurity where complementary development programming can be scaled up to boost resilience. The humanitarian strategy also takes a results-based approach, with more rigorous planning, monitoring, and accountability, and to facilitate collaboration across sectors and with development partners.

Syria



PEOPLE IN NEED
13.1M

PEOPLE TARGETED
11.2M



REQUIREMENTS
\$3.5B

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 3%

Seven years into the conflict, civilians in many parts of Syria continue to endure unprecedented violence, suffering, and protection threats. Amid continuing fighting in many parts of the country, high levels of civilian casualties continue to be reported and point to violations and abuses of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including indiscriminate, disproportionate and unrestrained attacks.

Some 13.1 million people require humanitarian aid, including nearly three million people trapped in UN-declared besieged and hard-to-reach areas across conflict lines. An estimated 6.1 million people are internally displaced—many multiple times—while another 5.5 million Syrians are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries and beyond, amounting to one of the world's largest displacement crises.

Despite the highly insecure and restrictive operating environment and limited resources, humanitarian partners from inside Syria and from the neighbouring countries—under the Whole of Syria approach—have sought to reach people in need via all possible means of delivery and through the most direct routes. Over the past year, this combination of regular

programmes, cross-line deliveries and cross-border operations enabled an average of 7.5 million people in need—half of the overall number of people in need—to be reached with some form of humanitarian aid on a monthly basis. Reaching those in most dire need, particularly those in UN-declared besieged and hard-to-reach areas, with sustained assistance remained challenging due to access constraints.

In the absence of a political solution and amid ongoing hostilities in parts of the country, the humanitarian needs in Syria are expected to remain broadly similar in scope and severity in 2018 as compared to 2017. Millions of Syrians will likely be unable to return home in safety and will require life-saving assistance, protection, and improved access to basic services and livelihoods, both inside Syria and across the region. As the needs for humanitarian aid and protection of civilians have been assessed as immense, the UN-coordinated appeals for the overall response in Syria and the region in the coming year are set to remain the highest worldwide for a single crisis.

Ukraine



PEOPLE IN NEED
3.4M

PEOPLE TARGETED
2.3M



REQUIREMENTS
\$187M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↓ 13%

The human toll of the conflict in eastern Ukraine is great with 4.4 million people affected, of whom 3.4 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection, a slight decrease compared to 2017. Food insecurity doubled in 2017, whilst the shelling of urban areas and civilian infrastructure continues unabated. There are more than one million crossings per month along the 'contact line'. The situation is aggravated by the harsh Ukrainian winters, the severe restrictions on humanitarian access and extremely low levels of funding. As hopes of a political solution have waned, so have people's savings and ability to cope. Four years into the crisis, millions of people, including over one million IDPs, with depleting resources are forced to make impossible choices between food, medicine, shelter, heating or their children's education. While access has improved in some places, it remains heavily curtailed in non-government-controlled areas. Despite this, UN agencies and NGOs

deliver life-saving assistance and protection in hard-to-reach locations, including in non-government-controlled areas. However, extremely low levels of support to the 2017 HRP have generated delays, interruptions and even discontinuation of critical activities, such as the provision of mobile clinics in areas where needs are highest.

The 2018 HRP focuses on emergency activities and the protection of civilians in areas where needs are most concentrated, aiming to assist 2.3 million people. It also seeks to strengthen humanitarian and development collaboration.

If the HRP which requests \$187 million is not properly funded, already-stressed food distribution, healthcare, water and sanitation, and other actions would decline further, thereby denying the most vulnerable the assistance they so desperately need.

Yemen



PEOPLE IN NEED
22.2 M

PEOPLE TARGETED
10.8 M



REQUIREMENTS
\$2.5 B

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 7%

After two and a half years of armed conflict, a stalled peace process and a severe economic decline that has accelerated the collapse of essential basic services and institutions, Yemen is in the grip of a protracted political, humanitarian and developmental crisis. Violence against civilians and their assets is causing unspeakable suffering. Health facilities have reported 8,673 conflict-related deaths and over 58,600 injuries. Yemen is facing the world's largest food security crisis and an unprecedented cholera crisis. Some 22.2 million people, including 2 million internally displaced people, require humanitarian aid or protection assistance. Currently, 17.8 million people are food-insecure or malnourished, of whom 8.4 million acutely so—24% more than in 2017, and including 2.9 million children and pregnant or lactating women. With only 45% of health centres functional due to the conflict, and limited availability of medicine, the capacity of the health system to respond to disease and injuries is dangerously compromised, which led to one of the largest cholera outbreaks in April 2017. The resilience of the Yemeni people has been remarkable, but people have

now exhausted their coping mechanisms. The blockade instituted in November 2017 further evinced the volatility of the situation: prices soared and put food, fuel and other essential items out of reach of vulnerable people overnight.

The 2018 response plan will prioritize 10.8 million people in acute need across all sectors. Food and agricultural assistance will be critical to saving lives and livelihoods across Yemen. The majority of programmes will comprise immediate lifesaving actions—emergency food assistance, health care, drinking water, sanitation, emergency shelter and non-food items, education and early recovery. Protection will remain central to the response plan; gender and accountability to affected people will be key cross-cutting issues. The 2018 YHRP further links with 'Humanitarian Plus' activities, addressing the structural issues that are driving the crisis, to ensure these activities support the most vulnerable. Some 96 humanitarian organizations are working in Yemen in five operational hubs.

Khairy Hassain and her daughter Fawzia look out over Sana'a, the capital of Yemen, from the roof of their new home. Twenty-three IDP families, all of whom fled fighting in the north of the country, now call this dilapidated building home. A mother of three, Khairy has just given birth to a baby boy. She is unable to breastfeed him because she is undernourished and nor does she have enough formula milk with which to feed him. Credit: OCHA/Gilles Clarke



Regional Refugee Response Plans

Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan



PEOPLE IN NEED

434k

PEOPLE TARGETED

434k

REQUIREMENTS

\$388M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↓ **10%**

The political crisis that began in April 2015, and related security and humanitarian conditions in Burundi, have led to the outflow of more than 400,000 refugees to Tanzania, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Uganda.

With the political situation predicted to remain at status quo, ongoing pressure to demonstrate loyalty to the ruling party, and the socio-economic situation of the country projected to continue its decline, the outflow of Burundian refugees is expected to continue in 2018, albeit at a lower level than in previous years. At the same time, some 60,000 assisted and self-organized returns to Burundi are anticipated. UNHCR is not encouraging or promoting refugee returns to Burundi in the current context, but will assist those refugees who indicate they have made a free and informed choice to return voluntarily to do so in safety and dignity.

Chronic underfunding of the Burundi situation has prevented the response from reaching acceptable protection and assistance standards throughout the region. Impacts of underfunding can be found in all sectors, including dilapidated shelters, overcrowded classrooms and oversubscribed health services. Returns to Burundi have been in part prompted by cuts to food assistance in Tanzania.

The 2018 Burundi Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) includes 27 response partners and aims to meet minimum standards for an expected 434,000 refugees while increasing the focus on promoting livelihoods and socio-economic inclusion with host communities. This will serve to advance comprehensive solutions and avert Burundian refugees from resorting to negative coping mechanisms including secondary movement.

Nigeria Regional Refugee Response Plan



PEOPLE IN NEED

218k

PEOPLE TARGETED

218k

REQUIREMENTS

\$157M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↓ **35%**

The 2018 Nigeria Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) aims to address the needs of 218,000 Nigerian refugees hosted in and outside of camps in Cameroon, Chad and Niger as well as 75,000 impacted host community members.

The Boko Haram conflict affecting north-eastern Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin is entering its fifth year in 2018. While in 2017 regional military forces continued to regain access to affected populations in local government areas (LGAs) in Nigeria, the insurgents responded with deadly attacks, causing high casualties among the civilian population and further displacement. The security situation in all Boko Haram affected countries remains highly volatile, and has further limited the protection space.

In 2018 RRP partners will continue to provide lifesaving humanitarian aid to refugees and concentrate on strengthening the resilience of refugees and host populations by increasing livelihood activities. Achievements made in the protection sector as agreed upon in the Abuja Action Statement in 2016 will be reinforced. Given the deteriorating security situation partners will also continue to focus on maintaining access to asylum, strengthening child protection, and enhancing protection monitoring and response. In view of high food insecurity exacerbated by the conflict and rising levels of malnutrition, activities in the health, nutrition, food security and water and sanitation sectors will be prioritized. Furthermore, partners will continue to assist SGBV survivors, enhance access to education, provide shelter and non-food items and assist refugees wishing to return home, once conditions are conducive for return in safety and dignity.

South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan



PEOPLE IN NEED
3.1M

PEOPLE TARGETED
3.1M



REQUIREMENTS
\$1.5B

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 9%

Regional efforts to implement the 2015 Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan remain stalled, diminishing prospects for a sustainable ceasefire. In 2017, violence against civilians in South Sudan further escalated to unprecedented levels, internally displaced 1.9 million people and rendered 7.6 million in dire need of humanitarian aid.

By the end of 2016, South Sudan had become the source of the fastest-growing refugee population in the world. There are now more than 2.5 million South Sudanese refugees, overwhelmingly women and children, who have had to seek safety in Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. Uganda alone now hosts more than one million South Sudanese refugees. All six countries are upholding exemplary asylum policies but are increasingly strained by the relentless pace of the influx. Refugee-hosting areas are ranked among

the poorest by the UN Human Development Index. A lack of commensurate international solidarity to share the responsibility with host countries is hampering the regional response. While refugee food-assistance needs have doubled, drastic ration cuts are forced by funding shortfalls. Access to land, water and basic services is becoming scarcer sparking tensions with host communities.

The 2018 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan anticipates a further 571,000 refugees arriving in the six asylum countries during the year. The RRP involves 72 partners and aims to address the needs of 3.1 million South Sudanese refugees by the end of 2018. The plan identifies vulnerabilities and formulates protection-centred strategies aimed at providing life-saving assistance, enhancing refugee resilience and promoting peaceful coexistence between refugees and their hosts.

Syria Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan



PEOPLE IN NEED
5.2M

PEOPLE TARGETED
5.2M



REQUIREMENTS
\$4.2B

CHANGE FROM 2017
↓ 10%

There are over 5.3 million registered Syrian refugees in the region. Since the beginning of the crisis, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt have shouldered the primary responsibility. In 2017, there have been no large-scale new arrivals, although 455,500 Syrian refugees were registered in 2017, primarily people who were already in Turkey. Across the region, borders remain managed, constraining many individuals from seeking the protection they need.

In 2018, a similar number of refugees will continue to need access to territory, international protection and humanitarian support in countries of asylum. In this increasingly protracted situation, refugees also need access to durable solutions so that they can look to the future with hope and with dignity. Support to host governments and communities remains a key component of the 3RP's resilience-based approach, with partners directly supporting national and local systems in areas such as health, education, protection and social safety nets, and livelihoods and economic opportunities.

With generous donor funding in 2017, partners have reached 2.5 million people with food assistance; 1.9 million people benefited from cash assistance; 1.2 million people benefited from improved water systems; 680,000 people participated in community-led protection initiatives; and almost 250,000 were assisted with shelter. Over 1 million children have been enrolled in formal or non-formal education, 2.1 million primary healthcare consultations provided, and almost 95,000 people directly benefited from livelihoods activities.

Notwithstanding, the needs remain great. Funding shortfalls in 2017 have meant fewer families can receive cash assistance, less support can be provided to schools and students, and urgent medical needs have gone untreated. Without increased funding in 2018, there will be further cuts to the support to refugees and the communities that have been generously hosting them for over six years.

Other Appeals

Bangladesh

PEOPLE IN NEED¹**1.2M**

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.2M

REQUIREMENTS

\$434M

CHANGE FROM 2017

-

¹ These figures are valid through February 2018 only. Planning figures in the new appeal (to be released in February) will likely remain roughly in the same range, but humanitarian partners in Bangladesh expect to expand the types of interventions and increase targets based on a robust needs overview.

As of mid-November 2017, nearly 620,000 Rohingya refugees have arrived in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, since 25 August, fleeing violence, intimidation and persecution in Myanmar. Refugees have arrived exhausted, destitute, traumatized and in urgent need of assistance and protection. This is the largest refugee movement in the region in decades and the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis. New arrivals have joined refugees from previous waves of violence, bringing the total Rohingya population in Bangladesh to well over 800,000 people and straining host communities' limited resources.

Partners and the authorities are racing to provide immediate relief and protection. In October 2017, the revised Rohingya Refugee Crisis Response Plan was released, seeking \$434.1 million to assist 1.2 million people—including new arrivals, previous refugees and host communities. This plan covers operations in key sectors through February 2018. Working through the plan, partners have already reached almost 678,000 people with emergency food assistance, more than 665,000 people with health care services and more than 170,000 families—or 850,000 people—with emergency shelter, among other activities.

Despite these achievements, this emergency remains firmly in the onset phase and faces enormous gaps. Greater support is urgently required to prevent rapid deterioration. In the immediate term, a "perfect storm" could see rapid, significant increases in morbidity and mortality due to immense water-sanitation-hygiene needs and challenges, skyrocketing malnutrition rates, gaps in vaccination coverage, inadequate health care—including maternal and new-born health—and overcrowding in sites without adequate facilities. These and other gaps compound people's vulnerability and could quickly create a large-scale outbreak of preventable water- and vector-borne diseases. They are further exacerbated by the very real possibility of a cyclone. At the same time, these gaps raise serious protection risks—including gender-based violence—particularly for the most vulnerable refugees.

Operational gaps are primarily due to a lack of funding, shortage of land to house refugees and essential services, and an insufficient number of NGOs with clearances to operate in Cox's Bazar. Partners will update the current joint response plan in February 2018, laying out a strategy that will provide life-saving assistance and protection for the Rohingya refugees, and increase support for host communities and environmental protection.

Burkina Faso



PEOPLE IN NEED

871k

PEOPLE TARGETED

620k

REQUIREMENTS

\$59M

CHANGE FROM 2017

↓ 4%

In 2018, Burkina Faso will continue to face the consequences of food insecurity, violence, epidemics and natural disaster, with an estimated 870,625 people needing assistance. As one of the world's poorest countries, Burkina Faso is afflicted by low crop and livestock productivity and has chronically high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition. In addition to being highly vulnerable to drought, the country also suffers from severe flooding during the rainy season, with over 30,000 people affected in 2017.

Recurrent attacks by extremists in the northern region have displaced people internally and limited access to basic services including education, with around 500 schools affected. As a further threat, over 9,000 suspected cases of dengue fever have been reported in 2017, including 18 deaths. Burkina Faso continues to host almost 25,000 refugees who fled neighbouring Mali following the 2012 crisis. In responding to these diverse and complex challenges, humanitarian and development actors in Burkina Faso have strengthened collaboration through a three-year plan (2018-2020) to provide assistance.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea



PEOPLE IN NEED
18.0M

PEOPLE TARGETED
13.0M



REQUIREMENTS
\$114M

CHANGE FROM 2017
0%

An estimated 18 million people (70% of the population) in DPRK are vulnerable to food insecurity, and 10.5 million people (41% of the population) are undernourished. Some 28% of children under age five are stunted and one child dies every hour of a preventable disease. An estimated 20% of the population does not have access to clean water and adequate sanitation. Over the past few years, significant progress has been made both in humanitarian response and gaining access to people in need.

However, although the international humanitarian response in DPRK has been instrumental in saving lives, the response remains critically underfunded. UN agencies and partners are seeing programmes seriously challenged by the decline in donor funding. Continued underfunding will significantly compromise humanitarian operations, particularly in the areas of health and food security, and will contribute to increased vulnerability of the people of DPRK.

Mauritania



PEOPLE IN NEED
829k

PEOPLE TARGETED
641k



REQUIREMENTS
\$104M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 4%

Some 829,000 people in Mauritania will need humanitarian aid in 2018. An estimated 1.2 million people will be food-insecure. In eight of the country's 13 regions, global and severe acute malnutrition rates surpass the emergency threshold, as does the national prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (2.3%). Some 165,000 children and pregnant or lactating women will require nutritional assistance.

Estimates indicate food insecurity and malnutrition levels comparable to the 2011-12 food and nutrition crisis. The most vulnerable population groups are particularly susceptible to human rights violations. People needing help include 52,000

Malian refugees, 13% more than in 2016. They have little prospect of return in 2018, and live in a region with limited livelihoods, sharing meagre water supplies, pasture, land and basic services with the host populations.

Inadequate medical staff and services limit the response to acute needs and emergencies. Vaccination coverage is well below target, raising serious concerns about the health of mothers and children. Recognizing the chronic nature of needs, humanitarian action in Mauritania is being planned and will operate in close collaboration with longer-term development objectives.

Senegal



PEOPLE IN NEED
960k

PEOPLE TARGETED
460k



REQUIREMENTS
\$16.8M

CHANGE FROM 2017
↑ 6%

The 2017 agro-pastoral season in Senegal's north and north-eastern regions suffered delayed rainfall and long intervals, causing worrying biomass deficits. The affected communities are facing an early lean season with increasing humanitarian needs. The situation will be particularly difficult for the poorest and most vulnerable people.

Almost one million people will need humanitarian aid in 2018 across the country. An estimated 550,000 people will be food-insecure, and 960,000 children and pregnant and lactating women will need nutritional assistance. Matam, Louga, Saint

Louis and Tambacounda regions will be the most affected: global acute malnutrition rates often exceed the alert threshold in these regions.

While Senegal is subject to chronic vulnerabilities and seasonal risks, the humanitarian outlook for 2018 is particularly concerning and will require a fast and strong response to emergency needs. Humanitarian and development partners are working together to support Government efforts and are planning together towards collective outcomes.

Details on improving needs assessment, humanitarian action planning and costing

Supporting HRPs means supporting direct and tangible impact in affected communities worldwide. While funding to HRPs remains strong, response planning will continue to improve to ensure fully-funded appeals.

Assessing, planning, and costing

How a humanitarian country team produces a Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) – the necessary precursor to a response plan and appeal

Establishing an appeal at country level is one of the most significant efforts of a humanitarian coordination team. The first step entails a Humanitarian Needs Overview—a systematic update of information from all sources on the humanitarian context and the needs which people face in different locations, and a joint analysis across aid organizations and sectors which yields a convincing narrative of people’s needs and associated factors, disaggregated by geographical areas and other relevant characteristics such as displacement status, gender, and livelihood.

Initial steps include inter-agency agreement on key questions, preliminary population groups and areas of focus, and a conceptual model to guide the analysis. Secondary data is collected and analysed to identify information gaps. Where information is insufficient, joint or harmonized needs assessments may be done in affected areas, and shared with partners (as appropriate) to inform the inter-sectoral analysis. When assessment data is collected with coordinated consistency, specific sectoral information such as for malnutrition may be analysed collectively across all sectors, to identify relationships with other needs or intervention areas (e.g. water and sanitation, education, food security) to allow a more holistic understanding of needs. The cornerstone of inter-sectoral analysis is a people-centred approach, so that needs are anchored on people rather than sectors. The 2018 HNO for Libya adopted a people-centred approach, starting with who was most vulnerable and why, rather than categorizing people by type of need such as food, shelter or protection.

At the core of every HNO is the commitment to understanding the factors aggravating needs in the first place. In Afghanistan in 2017, a causal analysis was conducted as the first step of the needs assessment to separate drivers of humanitarian need from chronic development needs and therefore map out which needs had their place in the HRP and which in a longer-term development plan. In Syria, to make an initial and important distinction among the needs of different demographic groups, a socio-economic survey of internally displaced people across all 14 Syrian governorates generated disaggregated data on diverse and interconnected needs of 5.9 million individuals. In Yemen, a population movement report covering 17,923 locations hosting IDPs was composed of information provided by over 20,000 key informants concerning 98.2% of the 333 districts throughout the 22 governorates of Yemen.

Assessments are most useful when coordinated—conducted either jointly or in harmony by several agencies (international and national)—so that they consolidate information and facilitate agreement on affected people’s needs while precluding duplication of data collection efforts, gaps in knowledge and inconsistencies in programming decisions.

Each HNO is constructed from multi-sectoral needs assessments. The reason for this can be illustrated through the example of children missing out on school. One might at first assume their lack of school attendance was due to a shortage of emergency schools or teachers. But with a multi-sectoral lens, it becomes apparent that an adolescent might skip school because she or he is hungry and hasn’t the energy to travel to school or attend class, making this a nutrition problem; the family may not have the means to buy paper, pens or books, perhaps indicating a loss of livelihood by the older generation. In this example inter-sectoral analysis reveals that emergency school enrolment may ring the alarm that an education deficit in a humanitarian crisis has underlying factors prompted by other types of need, all of which should be addressed. The need to unravel sometimes complex webs of needs is an important part of every inter-sectoral needs analysis.



Clearing debris from roads in Dominica to restore access and deliver critical aid. Credit: OCHA/Sheldon Casimir

For purposes of transparency, HNOs publish the figures gathered during assessments and explain which humanitarian indicators are applied in which combination. One such publication is the IOM Displacement and Tracking Index being used in Iraq and Nigeria among other crises.

Formulating a response plan to address the priority needs

As a second step, once needs have been analysed, and in order to arrive at the number of people in need and the number who might be reached through an HRP, the country team begins to sift through what the humanitarian system can and should provide through a humanitarian response plan. In the occupied Palestinian territory for example, the HNO incorporated the UN Development Assistance Framework and Common Country Assessments in its analysis, to help determine the meeting point and boundary between humanitarian and development needs. The coordination leads in country¹ collectively analyse what the HRP absolutely needs to cover, for what duration, and what coordinated response approaches are required to address critical issues of common concern.

“Assessments are most useful when coordinated so that they consolidate information and facilitate agreement on affected people’s needs while precluding duplication of data collection efforts, gaps in knowledge and inconsistencies in programming decisions.”



A girl looks out from her family's partially destroyed home at the destruction in Shejaiya neighbourhood of Gaza City. The house was hit during an air strike a year ago. This girl is one of a family of 60 children and 20 adults living together in the house. Credit: UNICEF

“HRPs are implemented based on well-established approaches to coordination and information management, enabling regular and public reporting on response progress to humanitarian partners, decision-makers and the wider public, plus decision-making based on sound real-time information.”

In ‘response analysis’ the country team looks at the operational realities of the crisis—in terms of local, national, and international response capacity, humanitarian access and logistics, funding environment, seasonality, timing and the duration of the plan. This produces a target population for humanitarian aid, and methods for that assistance which make the most sense given all the above considerations. During response analysis partners also agree on what is outside the scope of the HRP, for example areas where needs are less severe, people who receive aid by development or government actors, and/or reconstruction activities that are beyond the humanitarian remit.

Once these overall humanitarian response parameters are agreed, sectoral working groups (often called ‘clusters’) develop detailed sector plans and response projects which flesh out how the operation will deliver towards agreed strategic results and targets—for example a reduction of the global acute malnutrition rate from 15% to under 5% in two years. The final HRP serves two purposes: it is both a strategic response management tool by the HCT and a public appeal for funding by all humanitarian organizations—local and international—participating in the HRP.

“Most HRP actions provide tangible and direct impact in affected communities, typically through life-saving inputs, protection assistance and improving access to basic services and livelihoods.”

Most inter-agency appeals follow this planning logic and are consolidated in this document. In some cases, they have a slightly different focus, for example on preparedness or post-disaster reconstruction, or they might also reflect funding requirements of governments involved in the planning process. These latter plans still reflect important humanitarian needs which require funding but are not counted as HRPs in the 2018 GH0.

Improvements underway to strengthen appeal processes

While donors have acknowledged progress in improving the quality and credibility of HNOs and HRPs, in some contexts questions still arise around the degree to which evidence informs planning, the prioritization of response activities and the calculation of funding requirements.

The Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) provides the evidence base for each HRP. Each year since its inception it has enabled significant improvements in methodological rigor, data transparency and analysis of the needs of crisis-affected populations. In 2018, a priority improvement will be the cross-sectoral and comprehensive assessment of needs to strengthen overall analysis—as opposed to just a sector-by-sector compilation of needs. This approach will allow a more holistic understanding of needs and a better starting point for developing multi-sectoral responses. Severity analysis by population groups and geographical areas also continues to improve, which will better support the prioritisation of response options and targeting, and more effectively demarcate the humanitarian-development nexus.

Several improvements in response planning are also under way. A key one is to ensure better-prioritized response plans, in line with Grand Bargain and other commitments. Several HCTs have focused on this

end during the 2018 planning process. More prioritization within the agreed scope of the HRP is not easy and requires strong leadership. As emphasized in the previous section, prioritization means making tough choices, with the welfare and even survival of affected people at stake. A solid HNO is therefore essential to well-judged prioritization.

Lastly, experiments with new ways of costing funding requirements of HRPs, such as unit-based costing, offer a new angle to reinforce the credibility of funding requirements. The aim is for costing to become more transparent and better linked to response target considerations.

Advantages of funding coordinated humanitarian appeals

There are at least four compelling arguments to fully fund HRPs. First, HRPs rely on inclusive joint analysis and planning processes which bring together different partners of the humanitarian ecosystem, including affected governments themselves, to UN agencies, international NGOs and an ever-increasing number of local NGOs and civil society partners. Few assistance frameworks feature that level of inclusion and partnership. Second, most HRP actions provide tangible and direct impact in affected communities, typically through life-saving inputs, protection assistance and improving access to basic services and livelihoods. Third, HRPs are implemented based on well-established approaches to coordination and information management, enabling regular and public reporting on response progress (through monthly humanitarian bulletins, dashboards and periodic monitoring reports) to humanitarian partners, decision-makers and the wider public, plus decision-making based on sound real-time information.

“Quality, comprehensiveness and speed of reporting on funding also play a role. The Financial Tracking Service (FTS) remains a voluntary mechanism relying on partner capacity and willingness to report; FTS data is only as good as the reporting it gets.”

They thus allow measurement and public reporting on whether the humanitarian actors are collectively doing as planned and succeeding in getting the desired result for people in need. Fourth, HRP reflects comparatively cost-effective assistance approaches: in 2017, HRPs have aimed to deliver aid to 105 million people, at a cost of \$24.1 billion. This equates to only \$232 per person to deliver what is in most cases comprehensive, year-long, multi-sectoral humanitarian aid.

A displaced South Sudanese woman stands in front of hundreds of shelters in the Protection of Civilians site adjacent to the UNMISS base in Wau, Western Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan. Credit: UNICEF/Hatcher-Moore



“Prioritization means making tough choices about what locations, population groups and/or issues need to be addressed first or where coverage needs to be amplified; this requires a solid understanding of where survival needs are (or will be), the most pressing, and which responses need to be carried out first to prepare the ground for others to succeed.”

Increasing support to appeals

Overall HRP requirements have significantly increased in the last ten years, from \$5 billion in 2007 to over \$24 billion in 2017. In absolute terms, donor funding to HRPs has moved massively upwards too, although not at the same pace as HRP requirements, from \$3.7 billion in 2007 to over \$12 billion in 2017 to date. Overall, the average funding coverage of HRPs has remained rather stable, within a 55-65% range since 2010. In the last decade, funding to HRPs has consistently constituted about half of all reported global humanitarian funding—and the large majority of funding to crises where HRPs exist. Much of the non-HRP funding to a crisis with an HRP is to a few organizations that report their requirements and funding as outside against the HRPs due to internal policies, although the HRP strategy and detailed work-planning account for their planned actions.

Quality, comprehensiveness and speed of reporting on funding also play a role. The Financial Tracking Service (FTS) remains a voluntary mechanism relying on partner capacity and willingness to report; FTS data is only as good as the reporting it gets. Hence the call in the Grand Bargain and WHS for donors and partners to improve the timeliness and accuracy of reporting. Finally, the nature of an emergency itself, the type of aid provided, and donor funding preferences all affect funding patterns for appeals. Natural disasters or complex emergencies in high-profile settings might generate a significant portion of bilateral aid, logistics, and in-kind support. At the same time, HRPs in many protracted and forgotten crises remain continuously underfunded; yet this should not necessarily be interpreted as a lack of quality or confidence in the HNO/HRP processes in these contexts.

Solid donor support is required to ensure early-in-the-year funding of HRPs to maximize predictability and to provide 100% funding for the appeals. Prioritization of one appeal over another, whether by donors or aid organizations, can be unwarranted when HRPs already focus on life-saving and life-preserving actions. The limited global resource pool for humanitarian action is the real problem in that it forces unsupportable choices. Expanding the resource pool is therefore essential, and this mainly means convincing parliaments to continue and accelerate the observed flexible growth of humanitarian aid budgets, plus better use of development resources to avert and mitigate humanitarian crises. The time is increasingly ripe for humanitarians to engage parliaments more: for example in 2017, the Inter-Parliamentary Union adopted emergency resolutions on humanitarian issues in both of its two semi-annual Assemblies.

HRPs and the Grand Bargain, CERF and pooled funds

As the funding gap to respond to humanitarian needs is growing and because of this, millions of people will suffer by not receiving the needed help, every dollar must go farther than before. The Grand Bargain addresses the financial efficiency of the international humanitarian system (especially the effects of the characteristics of its funding) and the effectiveness of humanitarian action.

How the Grand Bargain is contributing to better appeals

The “Grand Bargain” stems from one of the key recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing in 2016, and has spread from an initial core group of top donors and implementing organizations to 55 signatories to date.

In order to improve planning and action, one of the Grand Bargain’s transformative commitments is the implementation of comprehensive, cross-sectoral and impartial needs assessments. This calls for a pragmatic approach grounded on the reality of the crisis context, including the stage of the crisis (beginning, ongoing and protracted, or evolving towards a resolution), its nature (conflict or natural disaster), and the capacities of those on the ground responsible to collect data and analyse affected people’s needs. (See previous section for the latest developments in needs assessment.)

The Grand Bargain aspires to better links between humanitarian and development partners to work more closely together to bring tangible improvements in people’s lives. Multi-year financing complementing multi-year plans will enhance the necessary link between humanitarian and development action: it could enable early and rapid response, and efficiency and effectiveness gains in humanitarian operations, particularly in the context of protracted crises. However, according to a recent study,¹ further investment and enabling conditions are required at the organisational and systemic levels for multi-year funding to live up to its

potential. Funding flexibility is a key factor for success of multi-year approaches, enabling funding recipients to redirect resources and response efforts based on changing scenarios and needs.

The multilateral system is improving accuracy of data for joint plans and appeals. FTS’ recent introduction of an enriched data structure and website will allow greater transparency and accountability, and will build a more complete and accurate picture of financial flows at different levels of the system. Thanks to recent advances such as the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX), when emergency strikes, governments, non-governmental organizations, aid workers and the general public can share and access information from the site of the emergency on a single platform. Gone are the days of sifting through multiple sources for open, recent, and accurate humanitarian data. HDX covers about 250 locations around the globe.

The scale-up of cash programming in humanitarian aid requires predictable coordination among diverse operational actors. UN partners continue to hone coordination mechanisms to enable humanitarian actors to jointly plan, implement and monitor cash-based interventions. With a strengthened multilateral humanitarian system adopting all these measures and greater donor confidence, people at risk of disaster or conflict have a greater chance of survival, recovery and continued well-being in 2018.



A CERF mobile team in Somalia examines patients and hands out nutrition supplies, including iron tablets, to drought-affected families in Marodijex region, Somaliland. Credit: IOM/Mary-Sanyu Osire

“Multi-year financing could enable early and rapid response, and efficiency and effectiveness gains in humanitarian operations, particularly in the context of protracted crises.”

Mutual reinforcement between HRP and the Central Emergency Response Fund

Established as a ‘fund for all and by all’, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is the UN’s global fund for emergency response providing urgent aid to people most in need—whenever and wherever crises strike.

Since its establishment in 2005, the fund has allocated more than \$5 billion worth of life-saving assistance thanks to voluntary contributions of 126 Member States and Observers and other non-state donors. For 2017, 46 donors have contributed a total of \$447.2 million to CERF, with an additional \$8.7 million remaining in pledges.

Each year on average, CERF grants enable partners to provide critical health care to 20 million people, food assistance to 9 million people, water and sanitation to 13 million people, livelihood support to 5 million people, protection to 5 million people, and shelter to 1 million. In 2017, CERF was one of the first responders to warning signs of famine in north-east Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia and Yemen, releasing \$128 million to support the most critical early action and life-saving activities prioritized by the humanitarian team on the ground.

CERF has been fast to respond, allocating emergency funding in a matter of days following Hurricane Irma and Maria hit the Caribbean region in September 2017.

Most recently, CERF allocated \$7 million on 7 September and a further \$12 million on 3 October to support the Rohingya refugee response in Bangladesh to urgently help people fleeing violence in Myanmar.

CERF is also a lifeline for the world's most neglected, underfunded and protracted crises that fail to attract adequate resources. The HRP systems of prioritization and tracking of funding are pivotal for CERF in identifying under-funded crises and targeting grants to the highest-priority unfunded actions therein. This year, CERF released \$145 million to such crises, including \$45 million in August to support one million people in four ongoing conflict and displacement crises in Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Chad and Sudan.

CERF reinforces collective humanitarian planning by making its decisions in tandem with the Humanitarian Country Team and following the strategy and priorities of the Humanitarian Response Plan. CERF embodies many of the aspirations set out in the Grand Bargain: it is flexible and un-earmarked; it facilitates a collective and strategic humanitarian response by country-level actors.

Recognizing the significant achievements of CERF in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people, the UN General Assembly endorsed the Secretary-General's call to expand CERF's annual funding target to \$1 billion.

HRPs and country-based pooled funds

Country-based pooled funds (CBPFs) are an effective way to support life-saving action for people affected by crisis. They allow donors to pool contributions for maximum impact, ensuring that funding goes to the best-placed responders to meet the most critical needs in the world's most severe and complex humanitarian crises.

CBPFs empower humanitarian leadership and encourage collective ownership of the emergency response. Humanitarian Coordinators, in consultation with the humanitarian community, use the funds to directly support the highest-priority projects in HRPs.

The funds improve the quality and accuracy of the response by incentivizing collaboration and leverage the comparative advantages of a wide range of relief partners, including local and national NGOs. Especially in insecure and hard-to-reach areas, local knowledge helps shape the response and leads to innovative solutions to complex problems. For example, at the request of local partners, CBPFs supported the construction of underground "bunkerized" hospitals in besieged areas in Syria to protect patients and medical staff from airstrikes and shelling.

By mid-November 2017, CBPFs in 18 countries (Afghanistan, CAR, Colombia, DRC, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Myanmar, Nigeria, oPt, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Turkey and Yemen) allocated US\$510 million (with another \$105 million under approval) to projects implemented by UN organizations (31%), international (46%) and national (22%) NGOs, and the Red Cross/Red Crescent movement (1%).

Donors continue to rely on CBPFs to ensure efficient use and value for money of their humanitarian investments and to deliver the ambitions of the Agenda for Humanity and the Grand Bargain at the local level. For example: CBPFs are fully flexible in-country, are the largest source of direct funding for local responders, improve accountability, promote cash programming and help to minimize transaction costs. Following three years of record contributions, donors have already contributed \$674 million to the funds in 2017.²

The UN Secretary-General has called on donors to increase the proportion HRP funding channelled through CBPFs to 15% by 2018. At current levels, that would translate to more than \$2 billion per year.

¹The Humanitarian Country Team and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group

²Inter-Agency Standing Committee, www.reliefweb.int/node/2319274

³Data as of 21 November

GET INVOLVED IN 2018



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Country-based pooled funds (CBPFs) allow governments and private donors to pool financial contributions to finance response to a specific emergency. They channel funds rapidly for scaling up humanitarian operations, filling critical gaps, and strengthening partnerships with aid organizations, including local and international NGOs. In 2016 the UN Secretary-General set a target for 15% of HRP funding to be channelled through CBPFs in the coming years.

Visit www.unocha.org/our-work/humanitarian-financing/country-based-pooled-funds-cbpf/how-support-country-based-pooled

Donate to organizations in the Humanitarian Response Plans

To contribute towards relief activities of aid agencies participating in the Humanitarian Response Plans, please visit this link for information on giving to individual plans and for a list of contacts visit:

www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations and data2.unhcr.org/en/situations

Donate through the Central Emergency Response Fund

The UN's Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) provides immediate funding for life-saving humanitarian action at the onset of emergencies and for crises that fail to attract adequate resources, wherever they are. CERF-funded interventions focus on the most urgent and life-saving priorities set collectively by humanitarian partners on the ground. In recognition of CERF's impressive track record in enabling effective assistance to crisis-affected people, the UN General Assembly has endorsed an expanded funding target for CERF to \$1 billion a year, and called on all stakeholders to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the fund.

Visit www.unocha.org/cerf/donate



ENGAGE IN INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS, PUBLIC SUPPORT AND JOINT ADVOCACY

Consult the GHO interactive site

The site features real-time updates on incoming contributions, funding gaps and a complete list of all HRPs and RRP. Visit:

www.unocha.org/globalhumanitarianoverview

Partner with the United Nations

to undertake joint advocacy and work alongside humanitarian responders to identify and share innovative solutions.

Contact pss@un.org or visit www.unocha.org/themes/partnerships-private-sector

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and respond to disasters and conflict.

Offer your support

to employees, families and communities affected by disasters and conflict.



PRIVATE SECTOR DONORS CAN DONATE IN-KIND RESOURCES AND SERVICES

The UN Secretary-General encourages companies to coordinate their response efforts with the United Nations in order to ensure coherence with priorities and to minimize gaps and duplication. To make an in-kind donation of goods or services visit www.business.un.org or write to pss@un.org with specific information about the contribution, including the timeframe for delivery and any conditions. (Contributions must comply with the *Guidelines on Cooperation between the UN and the Business Sector*.)

The United Nations enters into *pro bono* agreements with companies which will provide direct assets or services during emergencies. Partnerships work best if established before a disaster occurs. Contact pss@un.org to discuss the ways in which your company might partner with the UN. (As with in-kind contributions, business sector partnerships must comply with the *Guidelines on Cooperation between the UN and the Business Sector*.)



DONORS ARE ASKED TO REPORT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OCHA FINANCIAL TRACKING SERVICE (FTS)

Please report your contributions to fts@un.org or complete the online form at fts.unocha.org

“The UN acted extraordinarily quickly. I was in New York for the 72nd UN General Assembly. As soon as we received news of the 19 September earthquake we established immediate and in-person contact with the Secretary-General and his team, so that within hours they would support us with the deployment of international assistance to Mexico. Thanks to their support, we knew what kind of assistance we could request from the countries offering help. We were accompanied by the UN in the complex coordination required when you have teams from 24 countries, speaking different languages, with different protocols and cultures, working side by side, sometimes on the same site littered with rubble. It was a moment of profound pain for Mexico. But it was also a brilliant moment in which we saw the value of our membership in the UN and the multilateral system.”

Excerpt from a speech given by the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chancellor Luis Vedegaray, at a ministerial event in Mexico City organized to mark the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the United Nations



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