The Syria Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is a country based pooled fund established in July 2014 to respond to the humanitarian crisis inside Syria.

The HC along with the ERF Advisory Board ensure that the Syria ERF is strategically positioned to respond to the current humanitarian situation affecting the country. Within the programmatic framework of the SRP, the ERF enables the delivery of humanitarian assistance by especially focusing on:

1. Promoting needs-based assistance in accordance with humanitarian principles
2. To rapidly respond to critical life-saving needs, with a particular focus on the most acute needs in the most underserved areas, including besieged and hard to reach areas
3. To improve the relevance and coherence of the humanitarian response by strategically funding assessed humanitarian action, including as identified in the Syria Response Plan process.
4. To strengthen coordination and leadership, primarily through the cluster/sector system and function of the HC.
5. To support and strengthen priority cluster/sectors and subnational priorities in accordance with assessed needs.

In keeping with objective 2 above, in 2015 the ERF will aim to focus 50 per cent of its allocations to respond to humanitarian needs in hard to reach or besieged areas.

This first ERF call for proposals aims to provide respond to the humanitarian needs borne out of the harsh winter inside Syria. As such, it aims to fund projects addressing the winter related needs of the most vulnerable populations.

**BENEFICIARY TARGETING AND SECTOR ENVELOPES**

Projects should aim to fill critical gaps in the winter response in the following sectors:

- NFI/Shelter and logistics support for winter operations: US$ 3 million (for example provision of fuel, winter NFIs, weatherproofing, floor raising, support delivery of items to HTR areas etc.);
- WASH: US$ 1 million (for example, de-watering, onsite drainage etc.)

Winterisation projects should focus on the most underserved and affected areas.

IDPs living in makeshift shelters, tents or unfinished shelters should be prioritized. **P.S: A breakdown to the town village level is mandatory.**

**BUDGET**

Projects should budget up to $750,000.
TIMELINES

To be eligible for this specific ERF call for proposals, projects should be immediately implementable and be completed by mid-April. Ideally selected projects should start delivering results within one week of approval of their submissions by the HC.

CALL FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS

Given the limited amount of funds available, the short time frame and in the interest of limiting the transaction cost related to this call for proposal, the review process envisioned by the ToRs of the Syria ERF review bodies will be simplified as follows:

1. The concerned sector leads to share the call for proposals and project template with their sector members.
2. Interested UN agencies or NGOs to submit the project proposals to the concerned sector leads.
3. Each project will be strategically reviewed using a scorecard. Projects that score the highest up to the allotted envelopes will then be technically reviewed through the Review body.
4. MoUs will the be prepared for projects recommended to and endorsed by the HC

TIMELINE

January 16: circulation of call for proposals to sectors and partners

January 19: receipt of project proposals by sectors

January 21 – 22: Strategic and technical review of projects and recommendation of projects to HC

January 23 onwards: signature of MOUs for approved projects

If you have any questions on the ERF process, please don’t hesitate to contact the ERF Humanitarian Funding Unit team: Thembelike Dube (Dubet@un.org) or Linda Abdul Azis (abdulaziz2@un.org)