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UN Pooled Funds

Guidance for Country Offices

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This guidance has been prepared by Partnerships and Innovation (PI) to provide WFP country offices and regional bureaux with a catalogue of a range of the pooled funds available. As you navigate this guide, you are encouraged to liaise with the Resident Coordinator Office at the country-level to obtain additional information on pooled funding opportunities in your specific country's context. Although most of the funding opportunities displayed in this guide are field-driven, please keep PI in the loop for technical support and coordination purposes.

Definition

Pooled funds, also referred to as multi-donor trust funds, aggregate funding from multiple donors to maximize impact in a specific geographic or thematic area. While governments are the main donors to pooled funds, private sector actors and foundations are increasingly important contributors.

Pooled funds are funding mechanisms which have the following three characteristics:

- **Fund design and administration:** The fund is designed to support a clearly defined programmatic purpose and results framework through contributions, usually received from more than one contributor, that are co-mingled, are not earmarked to a specific United Nations (UN) entity and are held by a UN fund administrator.
- **Joint Governance/Fund operations:** Decisions on project/programmatic allocations are made by a UN-led governance mechanism, taking into account the programmatic purpose and results framework of the fund.
- **Fund implementation:** Fund implementation is (fully or largely) entrusted to UN entities that assume the programmatic and financial accountability for the resources received.

Some non-UN pooled funds are available to WFP such as the Green Climate Fund. However, most pooled funds available to WFP are administered by the UN and are referred to as UN inter-agency pooled funds.

There are three categories of UN inter-agency funds, defined as follows:

Category A: Funds under the UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) governance mechanism and using the standard UNSDG Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Standard Administrative Agreement (SAA).

- A1: UNSDG **Joint Programmes** administered by various UN organizations (Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office - MPTFO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNWOMEN, ILO, WFP and others).
- A2: UNSDG **Multi Donor Trust Funds** (MDTF) including Delivering as One UN Funds administered by the MPTFO (and a few by other UN organizations).

Category B: Funds not under the UNSDG governance mechanism and administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) with legal agreements aligned to the standard UNSDG MOU and SAA.

- B1: UN Secretary General Funds, such as **Peacebuilding Fund** and **Joint SDG Fund**.
- B2: UN Secretariat established UN MDTFs, such as the **Common Humanitarian Funds**.

Category C: Funds not under the UNSDG governance mechanism and administered by the UN Secretariat through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) with legal agreements that are specific to each fund.

- C1: UN Secretariat administered UN Funds, such as **CERF** and **Country-Based Pooled Funds** (CBPFs).

Benefits and Considerations When Using Pooled Funds

Potential Benefits:

- ***They are an avenue for promoting national ownership in transition settings.*** Pooled funds are often established at the request of the government, in transition settings, and help ensure that development assistance is channelled towards national priorities and are not donor-driven. Pooled funding mechanisms are appreciated both by donors and national governments and are likely to continue to be popular.
- ***They support the One UN approach.*** Pooled funds provide donors with a mechanism for making contributions to system-wide priorities while encouraging coordination and coherence among recipient organizations. Donors rely on these fund management arrangements to allocate resources according to funding priorities and gaps.

Potential Considerations:

- ***There is a risk of competition with agency-specific fund-raising efforts.*** Although pooled funds are intended to complement agency-specific funding, there is a risk that some donors will see them as the sole source of funding and will not provide parallel bilateral funding. It is noteworthy, for example, that the USA, WFP's top donor, does not contribute significantly to pooled funds and is likely to continue to channel its assistance bilaterally.
- ***They may incur increased transaction costs.*** Pooled funds introduce a layer of intermediation, might have cumbersome application processes, and increase the likelihood of higher transaction costs for UN agencies compared to bilateral contributions. WFP Country Offices (CO) must weigh these transaction costs against the benefits of the funding itself. This is notably the case for the Joint SDG Fund and the UN Human Security Trust Fund which have historically incurred quite high transaction costs.
- ***They offer limited possibilities for both UN agency specific and donor visibility.*** A common grievance expressed by donors over pooled funds is the limited donor visibility that they offer, as individual donor contributions are usually not identified in implemented projects. A similar concern exists for UN agencies engaging in joint programmes, as several agencies will be credited for implementation.
- ***Performance of UN Agencies.*** There is a risk (especially with JPs) that performance and attainment of (collective) results is dependent on the performance of other UN partners.
- ***The role of the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) is increased.*** RCs are at the centre of managing pooled funds. This results in a diversity of experiences with, knowledge of and approaches to the management of pooled funds across the network.
- ***Funding may be thematically earmarked.*** Pooled Funds sometimes have thematic earmarking which limit the application and flexibility of the funds.

1. Emergency Response Funds

1.1 The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

Start Date – End Date	2006 - ongoing.
Fund Size	<p>Annual Funding Target: USD 1 billion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average contributions of USD 652 million per year between 2019-2023. • In 2023, CERF received USD 558 million and allocated USD 668 million. • Germany remained CERF's largest donor providing about 19 percent of the total contribution received in 2023. • CERF underfunded emergencies window received the bulk of the contribution nearly 97 percent of the total allocation. • Two thirds of resources are available for Rapid Response window and one third for Underfunded Emergencies (UFE), • Rapid Response: Typically, a maximum of USD 30 million maximum per country per emergency. • Additional loan facility of USD 30 million is available to eligible humanitarian organization at the beginning of the emergency. • Time to use funds: RR - 6 months; UFE – 12 months.
Contributions to WFP (2019 to 2023)	<p>WFP is one of CERF's top 3 recipient organisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: USD 165.9 million • 2022: USD 177.4 million • 2021: USD 124.8 million • 2020: USD 243.5 million • 2019: USD 148.6 million <p>Average: USD 170.1 million</p>
Application	<p>CERF disburses funds through two windows: Rapid Response (RR) and Underfunded Emergencies (UFE). The key difference is that applications for RR funding are field-driven under the leadership of the RC/HC in response to a specific humanitarian event, whereas UFE funding is released through a UN Headquarters-driven process based on a global analysis of humanitarian needs and levels of funding.</p> <p>Rapid Response (RR): Through the RR funding window, CERF can make funds for life-saving assistance available shortly after a disaster. RR grants may be requested following a new emergency or a significant deterioration in an existing situation. Applications are accepted throughout the year. The application process typically lasts a few weeks, though for extremely sudden on-set emergencies funding can be approved within 48 hours. WFP COs can opt for early start dates up to 6 weeks prior to disbursement which must be reflected in the proposal.</p> <p>Underfunded Emergency (UFE): Through the CERF UFE funding window, which occurs once or twice each year, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) typically selects 10 to 12 countries to receive CERF grants for life-saving activities. Countries with significant unmet humanitarian needs are selected through a data-driven and consultative process. The length of the application process is approximately 3 to 4 months.</p>

	RC/HCs oversee the submission of the package of priority sectors and proposals based on assessed needs. UN agencies cannot bypass the RC/HC and submit proposals directly to CERF.
Restrictions and constraints	The ERC decides which humanitarian emergencies will receive funding based on funding requirements and humanitarian needs. All proposed activities must adhere to CERF's life-saving criteria . The ERC also recommends due consideration of four priority areas (gender, education, disability, and protection) when prioritizing lifesaving needs localization as well which is an increasingly important factor in the consideration of proposal.

Overview and Objective of the fund

CERF is a humanitarian fund established by the United Nations General Assembly to enable timelier and more reliable humanitarian assistance to those affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts. The fund is replenished annually through contributions from governments, the private sector, foundations, and individuals, and it constitutes a pool of reserve funding to support humanitarian action.

CERF aims to have a grant facility of USD 1 billion and a loan facility of USD 30 million per year. The CERF grant component has two windows:

Rapid Response (two thirds of CERF funds)	Underfunded Emergencies (one third of CERF funds)
To ensure a rapid response to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudden-onset emergencies. • Rapidly deteriorating conditions in an existing emergency. • Anticipatory action (in selected countries). 	To support humanitarian response activities within an underfunded emergency.

WFP entry point

CERF provides funding to WFP emergency and humanitarian activities. In 2023, CERF continued to be a core partner for WFP, facilitating effective life-saving assistance and response. In 2023, WFP was the top UN agency recipient of funding from CERF, receiving USD 165.9 million. In 2023, CERF allocations were made to 32 countries through 60 grants from both the RR and UFE windows. Most CERF contributions to WFP were allocated towards food security and nutrition activities (82.3 percent) including general food distributions (GFD), cash transfers, blanket feeding, and nutrition. Grants made towards the Logistics Cluster (7.5 percent), the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (3.7 percent) and the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (6.5 percent) were also supported.

As CERF can only provide funding to UN agencies, the CERF proposal should contain a thorough description for how WFP works with NGO partners, where relevant.

Requirements

Proposals must explicitly highlight how CERF funds will contribute to [life-saving](#) activities. This also applies to UNHAS and other common services applications.

The ERC approved the latest [life-saving criteria](#) in October 2020. The main changes include:

- Terminology and references to **IASC (Inter-Agency Standing Committee) policies and agreements or sector-specific standards** and guidance across the CERF life-saving criteria document and the alignment of activities which may qualify for CERF funding accordingly.
- Integration and strengthening of **cross-cutting issues** - the centrality of protection, accountability to affected people, gender (including support for the integration of gender-based violence) and cash programming.
- The criteria also now include **Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)** and **Four priority areas** (gender, education, disability, and protection).
- In countries where a **Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF)** is in place, CERF and CBPF funding should coordinate and complement one another.
- In exceptional circumstances, **ERC can expand the Life-Saving Criteria**.

Application Process

Rapid Response (RR) window:

Rapid Response (RR) grants are requested by the RC/HC to provide seed money for life-saving humanitarian activities in the initial days or weeks when a sudden onset crisis has occurred or after a significant deterioration in an existing emergency (e.g., an increase in caseload). CERF RR funds may be used to respond to time-critical requirements to minimize loss of life and damage to social and economic assets. CERF RR grants are intended to jump-start or expand the immediate humanitarian response while additional resources are mobilised.

The provision of RR grants, which can be approved in as little as 48 hours, is based on a field-driven process that gives the RC/HC overall authority to determine priority activities and submit a consolidated funding request to the ERC. Consultations in country with United Nations Country Team/Humanitarian Country Team (UNCT/HCT) and inter-cluster coordination mechanism, if present, are key to identifying needs and priorities for CERF funding.

The process is as follows:

- i. Under the leadership of the RC/HC, the UNCT/HCT discusses the possibility of requesting CERF funding on the basis of a clearly definable trigger (e.g., sudden onset emergency, or significant deterioration in an existing crisis).
- ii. RC/HC (or the OCHA CO) contact CERF to indicate country-level discussions are underway.
- iii. CERF invites the RC/HC to submit a concept note outlining the overall requirements, the tentative breakdown of a CERF allocation by agency/sector, and a short list of proposed activities.
- iv. Under the leadership of the RC/HC, the UNCT/HCT develops and submits a concept note. It is critical for WFP COs to engage in this process.
- v. CERF reviews the concept note and submits a funding recommendation to the Emergency Relief Coordinator.
- vi. The Emergency Relief Coordinator approves/rejects/modifies the funding recommendation.
- vii. CERF notifies the RC/HC that the UNCT/HCT can now submit a full application package, including project proposals and budgets by each agency.
- viii. The RC/HC submits the package to CERF.
- ix. CERF reviews the package and may request modifications/amendments before submitting the project to the ERC for approval.

Agencies cannot submit proposals directly to the ERC. The application template should still be shared at country-level by OCHA or the RC's office. The migration of the application process

through the One Grant Management System (OneGMS) is underway and planned to start towards the first quarter of 2024.

Underfunded Emergencies (UFE) window:

Through the UFE window the ERC allocates CERF grants for life-saving activities in the least funded and most forgotten humanitarian emergencies. In 2023, the UFE allocated a record of USD 273 million which was critical for boosting underfunded humanitarian operations in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the middle east.

The ERC, in coordination with the headquarters of UN agencies, selects 10 to 12 countries based on several criteria, including:

- A data-driven analysis of needs, risks, vulnerabilities, and funding levels.
- UN agencies' recommendations from consultations with the Emergency Directors Group (EDG) and a voting exercise; and
- Consultations with OCHA and RC/HCs in shortlisted countries.

Countries do not need a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to be eligible, although if available, the HRP will be taken into account when the country-selection decision is made.

The ERC informs the RC/HC in the selected countries about CERF funding levels for their country and then invites the RC/HC to identify and submit funding applications. From there, the application process mirrors the process for applying for Rapid Response funding listed above (steps iii-ix).

Please find [here](#) additional information on applying for a grant. See also see the [CERF Handbook](#).

Anticipatory Action Allocation:

Following several years of piloting, in 2023, OCHA announced that it will be mainstreaming and scaling up the facilitation of AA. In its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, OCHA commits to “support and facilitate a systemic shift to coherent and embedded anticipatory approaches, including anticipatory action. OCHA will use its own financing tools to facilitate, generate evidence for and scale up collective anticipatory action.” OCHA implements this strategy – inter alia – by facilitating coordinated, collective anticipatory action frameworks. Since 2020, CERF has released USD 90 million for the response in 19 countries. Currently, eight pilots are active, amounting up to over USD 72 million of prearranged funding, including the newly approved Fiji Framework that has allocated USD 2.4 million in the response to tropical cyclones in the entire country.

While currently at different stages of the process in each country, the OCHA/CERF pilot projects generally aim to put in place anticipatory action systems composed of three components: 1) a robust forecasting model for the target hazard; 2) prearranged finance, including the crowding in of non-CERF funding; and 3) pre-agreed action plans, coordinated and owned by the HCT, which define when and on what basis action will be triggered for a specific event, how much funding will go to which agency, and which activities the funding will be used for.

COs are encouraged to engage in the country-level discussions as early as possible to ensure WFP's activities are included in the AA framework. This will likely involve engagement with Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) colleagues and Programme (PPGR).

Implementation Timeframes

For grants from the RR window, CERF funds must generally be expended, and activities completed within six months from the disbursement date.

For grants from the UFE window, CERF funds generally must be expended within 9-12 months. In exceptional circumstances, following a request and justification by

Reporting

Field Monitoring Interim Update

The interim update is the main tool used by the RC/HC to monitor the status of the implementation of projects under a CERF allocation. In-country monitoring should be led and overseen by the RC/HC's office with recipient agencies responsible for the interim update template. Typically, it is due halfway through the implementation period. A tailored template will be shared along with the funding allocation approval message from the ERC. A month after this message, the CERF secretariat will send a reminder for the interim report to the RC/HC's office.

Field Narrative Reporting

The RC/HC narrative reports are the RC/HCs' and the Humanitarian or UN Country Team's official reporting tool on the use of CERF funds which are subsequently posted on CERF's website. The in-country reporting process should be managed by the RC/HC's office with inputs from UN agencies. The reports are due within three months after expiration of each grants package. Six weeks prior to the expiration of each grants package, the CERF secretariat will send a reminder to the RC/HC's office and four weeks prior to expiration, the CERF secretariat will send an RC/HC reporting package to the RC/HC's office that will contain a tailored template and guidelines.

Further Guidance can be accessed at [Guidance and Templates | CERF](#).

No Cost Extensions, Reprogramming and Redeployment of Funds

Project extensions are only permitted in exceptional circumstances. A request for a No-Cost Extension must be submitted through the RC/HC a minimum of 10 days prior to the end of the implementation period attaching a No-Cost Extension and/or Reprogramming Form (available to download from the [CERF website](#)) completed by the requesting agency. **Retroactive extensions are not accepted.**

Reprogramming CERF Funds is only permitted on an exceptional basis. In cases where there are important changes in scope of a programme, the RC/HC must submit the request attaching a No-Cost Extension and/or Reprogramming Form (available to download from the [CERF website](#)). Prior approval by the ERC and/or CERF Secretariat must be sought.

A formal request for redeployment of funds must be sent by the agency to the ERC through the RC/HC when the adjustment pertains to a cumulative shift of more than 15 percent between budget categories of the direct project costs or any change to staff costs or programme support costs. Approval of the entire budget change must be requested from the ERC prior to implementation of the change. See the CERF Redeployment of Funds Request – Budget Template (available to download from the [CERF website](#)).

Links

[CERF Website](#)
[CERF Allocation Data](#)

1.2 Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs)

Start date – End date	1995 – Ongoing
Fund Size	<p>Average of USD 1 billion in contributions per year between 2019 and 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USD 1.16 billion contributions received in 2023. • USD 1.04 billion allocated to 19 CBPFs in 2023. • Between 2019-2023, circa 26.8 % of funds went to UN agencies and 73.2% to NGOs. <p>Time to use funds: usually up to 9 months. Occasionally the timeframe is 3 months.</p>
Contributions to WFP	<p>Average: USD 47.84 million per year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: USD 56.4 million • 2022: USD 86.6 million • 2021: USD 32.3 million • 2020: USD 42.5 million • 2019: USD 21.4 million <p>Average grant size: USD 0.03 million to USD 29 million.</p>
Application Process	<p>The application process varies between CBPFs.</p> <p>Standard allocations (also referred to as “call for proposals”) usually occur once a year and are based on the needs identified in the HRP. It’s less time sensitive than the reserve allocations.</p> <p>Reserve allocations (also referred to as “rolling basis”) are intended primarily to respond to rapid onset and unforeseen circumstances and address corresponding needs.</p> <p>Funds are allocated by the HC through an in-country consultative process. The HC, in consultation with the Advisory Board (AB), determines the appropriate use of the modalities given the context and the strategic intent of any given allocation, as well as considering process efficiency and transaction costs.</p>
Restrictions/constraints	<p>The project must take place in a country with an active CBPF. For a country to establish a CBPF, OCHA presence in that country is necessary in addition to other requirements, such as implementing partner capacity.</p> <p>In 2023 there were 19 CBPFs in the following countries: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, CAR, DRC, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Syria Cross Border CBPF, Ukraine, Venezuela and Yemen.</p>

Overview and objective of the fund:

Country-based pooled funds (CBPFs) are multi-donor humanitarian financing instruments established by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC). They are managed by OCHA at the country-level under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC). Donor contributions to each CBPF are un-earmarked and allocated by the HC through an in-country consultative process. CBPFs are intended to allocate funding based on humanitarian priorities.

Allocations go to UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and Red Cross/Red Crescent organizations. Over the last 5 years, 76 percent of CBPF allocations went to national and international NGOs and local partners, 22 percent went to UN agencies and 1 percent went to Red Cross/Crescent Societies. In 2023, 73.9 percent of funding was allocated to national and international NGOs and local partners, 25.6 percent to UN agencies and 0.5 percent to the Red Cross/Crescent Societies.

CBPFs allocate funding based on identified humanitarian needs and priorities at the country level in line with the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC). To avoid duplication and to ensure a complementary use of available CBPF funding, allocations are made taking into account other funding sources, including bilateral contributions. CBPFs must demonstrate complementarity with CERF.

WFP entry point:

Most CBPFs aim to fund immediate life-saving programmes, humanitarian gaps and urgent but underfunded priority projects, in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) where available.

CBPFs have commonly been used to support nutrition interventions and common services (Logistics, UNHAS, emergency telecommunications) rather than general food distribution. This may be because the needs in general food distribution are much greater.

Allocation modalities:

The CBPF application processes vary by country. CBPFs have two modalities to allocate funds. The RC/HC, in consultation with the Advisory Board (AB), determines the appropriate use of the two modalities given the context.

The standard allocation, or “call for proposals”, usually occurs once a year and is based on the needs identified in the HRP. The standard allocation process supports targeted priorities within the HRP. The process is informed by the Advisory Board (AB) and is conducted in close consultation with humanitarian partners. The standard allocation begins with an Allocation paper (see [Annex 5, Allocation Strategy Paper Template](#)). Projects funded through standard allocations should be implemented within a maximum of 12 months. Exceptions can be made by the RC/HC when a longer duration is necessary to meet programmatic requirements. The steps of the standard allocation process are as follows:

1. Allocation strategy development
2. Submission of project proposals
3. Strategic review
4. Preliminary approval by RC/HC
5. Technical and financial review
6. Final approval by RC/HC
7. Disbursement

The reserve allocation, also referred to as “rolling basis” is designed to respond in different emergency scenarios. The reserve allocation process requires a limited strategy/case for funding. The RC/HC activates the reserve allocation to respond to emergency and/or unforeseen needs. If addressing emergency needs, the AB will be consulted, and the decision of the HC will be made within 48 hours. Under exceptional circumstances, the RC/HC can approve reserve allocations and notify the AB post factum. Projects funded through reserve allocations should be implemented within a maximum of 12 months. Exceptions to this timeframe can be made by the RC/HC based on prevailing circumstances. The recommended minimum limit for reserve projects is USD 100,000, with exceptions to be determined by the RC/HC. Steps of the reserve allocation process:

1. Allocation strategy development;
2. Submission of project proposal;
3. Strategic review;
4. Technical and financial review (which may be combined with step 3);

5. Final approval by RC/HC; and
6. Disbursement.

For more detailed information and both allocation workflows please see the [CBPF Handbook](#).

Reporting

Financial Reporting: UN agencies will submit an interim financial statement to reflect expenditure incurred for project activities up to 31 December of each year by the 31 January of the following year. Interim financial statements will be submitted every calendar year until the submission of the final financial statement. Upon completion of the project a final financial statement covering the period between inception and completion of the project will be due no later than 30 June of the following year. Financial statements for UN agencies and NGOs are collected through the Grant Management System (GMS) according to the templates annexed to [the Handbook](#) (see Annex 13, Project Budget and Financial Report Template).

The financial reporting timeframe for CBPFs can be seen in Annex II below in this UN Pooled Fund Guidance.

Financial reporting for CBPFs is centrally managed by WFP HQ Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Team (CFORC). Please contact HQ CFORC for CBPF financial reports related inquiries.

Narrative Reporting: UN agencies will submit a final narrative report within two months of completion of the project. If the duration of the project is between 7-12 months, UN agencies will also submit a progress narrative report to reflect achievements at midpoint of the project implementation. Narrative reports for UN agencies and NGOs will be submitted through the GMS and will follow the templates annexed to [the Handbook](#) (see Annexes 14a and 14b, Progress and Final narrative reporting templates).

Innovative Initiatives:

Regionally hosted Pooled Funds: OCHA is piloting the establishment of a regionally hosted Pooled Fund for Central and West Africa in response to the challenging situation in the Central Sahel region. This builds on the success of the CBPF approach and seeks to offer a way to enhance responses to regional and cross-border emergencies.

Anticipatory Action: Building on pioneering work done by partners over the last years, discussions within OCHA and among humanitarian partners are ongoing to make anticipatory action work at scale for CBPFs. This would allow the humanitarian community to proactively engage in countries and regions where a crisis has been predicted. Available data can help facilitate the decision to release pre-arranged funds for pre-agreed interventions that take place before such crises to mitigate their impact.

Links

[Main Website](#) - including links to the operational handbook, annexes, and other guidance.

[Contribution and allocation data](#)

[Latest annual reports](#) - For information on specific CBPFs.

2. Peace and Transition Funds

2.1 The UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

Start date - End date	2006 – Ongoing
Amount available	<p>PBF plans to invest in around 40 countries between 2020-2024 through its two funding facilities and one special call for proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate Response Facility (IRF) Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) – max USD 2 million per project. <p>The PBF strategy has a target of investing USD 1.5 billion over five years 2020 to 2024 Strategy period. The strategy aims to ramp up to USD 295 million in 2022 to which represents a 50% increase compared to 2021. In 2023 the total PBF approvals reached \$202.48 million with 93 approved projects spread across 36 countries.</p>
Contributions to WFP (2017-2022)	<p>As of the end of 2023, WFP has received a total amount of USD 27 million since 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average per year: USD 4.7 million • 2023: USD 3.8 million • 2022: USD 2.3 million • 2021: USD 4.9 million • 2020: USD 5.5 million • 2019: USD 7.3 million
Application Process	<p>Applications are ongoing. There is no call for proposals for the general PBF portfolio.</p> <p>There is a special annual call under the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) for countries that have been declared eligible to receive PBF Funding by the Secretary-General. The call for 2023 was launched in April and is expected in a similar timeframe in 2024. Countries should establish a dialogue with RC Office to check the status of engagement with PBF and explore potential partnerships with members of UNCT and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).</p> <p>All funding proposals must be submitted by the highest-ranking UN official in the country (Special Representative of the Secretary-General or UNRC). Close cooperation with the Peacebuilding Support Office is encouraged to ensure formal submission to the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support runs smoothly.</p> <p>For support on PBF eligibility process, project design, monitoring and evaluation please feel free to contact your Regional Bureau focal point and Tanaz Khambatta, Peace Lead at tanaz.khambatta@wfp.org.</p>
Restrictions/Constraints	<p>All countries can access the PBF Immediate Response Facility (IRF) for peacebuilding support up to USD 5 million. Beyond USD 5 million and for more substantial and medium-term support, a country must request to be declared eligible to receive PBF funding, which opens the possibility of receiving funding through the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) and the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI). In both cases, prior to developing any project document, COs should engage UN RCs to ensure openness to engage in a PBF process.</p>

Overview and objective of the fund:

The PBF is the UN Secretary-General's Fund to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk or affected by violent conflict. The Fund supports activities aimed at preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation, and recurrence of conflict, addressing root causes, assisting parties to conflict to end hostilities, ensuring national reconciliation, and moving towards recovery, reconstruction, and development. In January 2021, a PBF replenishment conference resulted in USD 440 million in pledges for the period 2020-2024. In this period, the PBF plans to invest in about 40 countries at any given time.

By participating in PBF processes, COs have an opportunity to become part of peacebuilding conversations at different levels, and it can place food security and climate induced conflicts over natural resources as more prominent in the peacebuilding agendas. PBF support could also help operationalise the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus and ensure that a link between food security and peace is considered amongst HDP communities at country level, including with other donors. Participating in PBF processes can also help COs consider a stronger 'peace' narrative in WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP) processes. Supporting transitions, cross-border peacebuilding initiatives, and gender equality and youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes are a priority for the PBF in 2020-2024.

The Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) approves projects and programmes, and monitors implementation. The MPTF Office, housed within UNDP, administers the funds. WFP Regional Peace and Conflict Advisors and focal points are ready to engage with COs to look for options for technical support in WFP's strategic positioning in PBF processes as well as in the design, monitoring and evaluation of PBF projects.

The PBF provides funding through two funding facilities and one special call for proposals:

<i>Immediate Response Facility (IRF) Short-Term support (24 month project max.)</i>	<i>Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) Medium to Longer-Term support (3 year project max.)</i>	<i>Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) Special call for proposals (24 month project max.)</i>
<p>The IRF is designed to jumpstart immediate peacebuilding and recovery needs. It is a flexible and fast funding tool for single or multiple projects.</p> <p>Projects are submitted by the most Senior UN Representative.</p> <p>Funding is disbursed to Recipient UN Organizations who implement projects together with national or locally based Implementing Partners.</p> <p>PBSO approves all projects.</p>	<p>The PRF is designed to support a more structured peacebuilding process, driven by national actors based on a joint conflict analysis (which identifies conflict factors, causes and drivers that the projects will aim at addressing and transforming). Only countries that have been declared eligible to receive PBF funding can access funding under the PRF facility. PBSO approves all projects.</p>	<p>The GYPI is a special annual call for proposals in countries that have been declared eligible to receive PBF funding by the Secretary-General, that supports the empowerment of women and the advancement of gender equality and recognizes the important and positive role young people play in peacebuilding.</p> <p>PBSO approves all projects.</p>

The PBF Strategy 2020-2024 supports the following areas of potential relevance to WFP:

1. Inclusive political processes and solutions for the effective implementation of peace agreements.
2. Local-level and community-based processes to complement high-level mediation efforts.

3. National capacities with the peaceful and inclusive management of critical reform and transition processes.
4. Durable solutions for displaced and host populations by complementing humanitarian efforts with investments in conflict management and dialogue.
5. Build capacities that help communities better cope with shocks that can exacerbate conflict risks, such as insecurity, climate, and economic shocks in both urban and rural settings.
6. Jump-start new partnerships and encourage engagement in neglected or higher risk geographies, for instance on livelihoods, food security and peacebuilding in remote rural or border regions.
7. Facilitate a shift away from short-term job projects to incentivize economic inclusion, especially of youth.
8. Increase engagement with the private sector, for example by encouraging SME to invest and employ in higher risk areas.
9. Enable the UN and others to accompany governments in strengthening their capacities, especially at the local level, and extending their ability to provide services for citizens, combined with a strong emphasis on state-citizen engagement.

The [Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund Strategy 2020-2024](#) provides more detail on the goals, ambitions and context of the PBF.

Eligibility and Requirements

All countries can access the PBF Immediate Response Facility (IRF) for peacebuilding support of up to USD 5 million. Beyond this and for more substantial and medium-term support, a country must request to be [declared eligible](#) to receive PBF funding, which opens the possibility of receiving funding through the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF) and the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI).

In order to attain eligibility, COs should first consult with the RC once interest in requesting eligibility is confirmed. The RC leads a process bringing together the UNCT and the government to prepare a [request for eligibility](#) (which includes a conflict analysis, strategic peacebuilding priorities and concept notes for project proposals).

Projects can be implemented by a single UN agency (although single agency proposals are discouraged by the PBF), by several agencies jointly (up to a maximum of 3), and by UN Agencies and NGOs. The key actors to engage with the PBF are the national authorities, UN leadership, national and international Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)/Community Based Organizations (CBOs), international development partners, and UN agencies.

A PBF project contains the following key components:

1. [Conflict Analysis](#) – examines the factors of conflict and builds on sufficiently current and granular evidence. A conflict analysis underpins the proposal. This could include:
 - a. Root/structural causes such as historical, systemic, or foundational factors,
 - b. Drivers of conflict such as events and trends,
 - c. Triggers of outbreaks of tension and violence,
 - d. Actors/stakeholders, and
 - e. Dynamics and evolutions of the conflict.
2. [Peacebuilding Outcomes](#) – identify the peacebuilding changes those interventions are expected to make at individual, institutional/structural and cultural levels. The outcomes must be specific and measurable deliverables.

3. Theories of Change (TOC) – Why and how an activity will create a specific result, if we do X (action) then we will produce Y (movement towards peace). TOCs should consider local and global evidence, using mapping that identifies programs that take similar approaches and draw out key lessons learned that validate and strengthen the proposed TOC.
4. Peacebuilding Outcome Indicators – Locally drawn qualitative and quantitative outcome indicators should focus on what changes are expected and how they are anticipated to come about, through brainstorming with stakeholders or communities.
5. Project Monitoring – understand progress towards the desired changes (outcomes) and test the validity of the TOC, monitor changes to the environment of the project, determine whether revisions to project design are required, document mid-term results and contribute to internal corporate learning.

Application process:

COs are encouraged to work closely with RCs so that WFPs value added is clear from early stages of the process by ensuring that causes of conflict linked to food insecurity, climate driven conflicts, and others, are clearly assessed in the conflict analysis and project outcomes.

Country Offices are strongly encouraged to use the WFP Peace and Conflict Team's Guidance: [How to access, design and implement UN Peacebuilding Fund \(PBF\) projects](#). See also the [PBF guidelines](#) before applying. Proposals should be submitted using the specific, relevant templates provided on the [PBSO/PBF website](#).

The key steps when engaging in the development of project proposals are as follows:

1. A Concept Note is required as a first step in the project approval process (PRF or IRF), so that all stakeholders have a common understanding of what they would like to achieve through the project.
2. Once PBSO has endorsed a Concept Note, the process of full project development can begin. Concept Notes endorsed by PBSO are valid for a maximum of six months, although projects are expected to be submitted within three months of endorsement.
3. Draft project documents are sent to PBSO for review and comments, prior to formal submission. This can be a lengthy process with several iterations before PBSO is satisfied with a proposal, including that key component such as conflict analysis, peacebuilding outcomes and theories of change, are clearly addressed and defined.
4. A full project document needs to be formally endorsed by Government line ministries, recipient organizations and the RC, before it is formally submitted by the RC for PBSO's approval. In the case of PRF projects, prior to formal submission to PBSO, the PBF Joint Steering Committee, where it exists, needs to have reviewed and endorsed the project proposal.
5. Once the project document is formally submitted by the RC, it is reviewed and approved (or not) by PBSO.
6. Project approval or rejection is communicated by PBSO within three weeks from the formal submission. It is also possible that PBSO approves the project with conditions, requiring adjustments to the project proposal.
7. Only after PBSO approves the project, is funding disbursed by MPTF-O.

Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI):

Each year (quarter two) the PBF launches a special call for proposals for the GYPI. The GYPI accepts three types of proposals:

1. Joint UN proposals (up to a maximum of 3 UN organisations),
2. Joint UN-Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) proposals (maximum of 2 UN organisations and 1 CSO) and
3. Only CSOs.

The application process for GPI and YPI is typically structured in two stages:

1. The first stage includes the **launch of the call**, PBSO led webinar on introducing GPI and YPI, Question and Answer session, and the opening of the online application portal <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/gypi-en>, for twenty days -period, to submit project concept notes. Those concept notes that are successfully reviewed by PBSO will be invited to submit full project proposals.
2. The second stage involves the **submission of full project proposals** to PBSO, their review by a project appraisal committee and the final decision on which projects are approved, and funds disbursed. The entire process, from the launch of the GYPI call until the disbursement of funding for approved projects, takes approximately 9 months.

The [Gender and Youth Promotion Initiatives Call for Proposals](#) can be found [here](#).

WFP entry points:

WFP has a unique territorial presence and long-term engagement with communities which are valuable in carrying out the objectives of the peacebuilding fund. WFP has a strong understanding of patterns of vulnerability and mitigation mechanisms which are key for conflict analysis and can offer targeted peacebuilding outcomes that reflect concrete expected changes in territories and communities. WFP's ground-level access ensures interventions effectively reach beneficiaries, particularly where others have limited access or no presence.

Many WFP proposals were formerly rejected by the PBF because country offices would submit "classic" WFP projects. While WFP's recent awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize is the recognition of the important link between conflict and hunger and the critical role that food assistance plays in supporting the first step towards peace and stability, asserting that food security contributes to peacebuilding is not sufficient; Cos will need to develop a project with peacebuilding at its core.

Some strategic entry points for WFP to explore include the following:

- UN Transition is still a focus for PBF in areas like Sudan, South Sudan, and DRC.
- Cross Border Projects are still a priority for PBF though getting proposals is involving as it often means securing interest on both sides of the border, multiple agencies, and the development of a sound regional strategy. Areas in the Sahel, Dry Corridor, Eastern Africa are all possibilities that WFP can explore.
- Climate security and peacebuilding is another area WFP would have comparative advantage. A thematic review has been recently published which may open up some opportunities for WFP.

Examples of peacebuilding projects involving WFP include:

Year	Country	Amount
2023	Honduras	USD 1.3 million
The project has three main programmatic approaches. Firstly, it aims to enhance the institutional capacities of the State and civil society to prevent and address social conflicts, particularly those related to land, territory, and the environment. This involves creating and strengthening multi-actor spaces and alternative mechanisms. Secondly, the project seeks to		

boost the participation and impact capacity of communities and civil society organizations, with a focus on women and youth. This is to be achieved by strengthening livelihoods, ensuring the right to food, and improving food security and nutrition. Thirdly, the project aims to create a conducive environment for the defense of human rights concerning land and territory, including media strengthening to reduce stigmatization and risks associated with defending these issues. The project also emphasizes the incorporation of a gender perspective throughout all intervention phases to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.		
2023	Kenya	USD 1.5 million
The project aims to address complex challenges in Mandera, Wajir, and Garissa counties, characterized by socio-economic issues, clan conflicts, and security challenges, compounded by long-term marginalization. Previous efforts by the government and development partners have had limited success, partly due to insufficient community involvement. The "Promoting Peace and Inclusive Development in Borderlands Counties in North" project proposes a collaborative and inclusive model involving national and county governments, civil society, communities, and other stakeholders. It seeks to address the root causes of conflicts by focusing on inclusive governance, strengthening local social accountability, building trust between communities and security forces, and implementing strategic livelihood micro-projects. Additionally, the project aims to enhance collaboration, coordination, and inclusivity among actors working on projects under the larger North and Northeastern Development Initiative.		
2023	Liberia	USD 1 million
The project's primary objective is to empower women in land governance by creating an environment that provides them with systems, tools, voice, and mechanisms to counter ongoing marginalization. This initiative aims to enhance community social cohesion and address specific challenges and conflicts in concession areas. Aligned with the "agenda of business and human rights" and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the project seeks to increase the commitment and accountability of companies through heightened human rights due diligence. It also advocates for the implementation of Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) to guide businesses, including concessions, in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. The project will educate and build the capacity of communities and local authorities, strengthen existing early warning and conflict resolution mechanisms, promote social cohesion by investing in livelihood opportunities, especially for women, young people, and marginalized groups. Additionally, the project aims to improve engagements between concession companies and local communities.		
2022	Chad	USD 0.88 million
The project aims to maintain the functioning of the secretariat of the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund in Chad in order to ensure the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of PBF projects, as well as the communication and visibility of peacebuilding programs peace in Chad. It also aims to strengthen the governance and strategic coordination framework of the PBF portfolio through the proper functioning of the PBF steering committee, to ensure the complementarity of interventions financed by the PBF and to provide technical support to beneficiary entities in order to maximize the impact of PBF projects in Chad. This project will also support the request for re-eligibility to the PBF to follow up on the extension of eligibility for 2017-2023 and will strengthen the catalytic effect of peacebuilding projects by further mobilizing other state and non-state technical and financial partners -States (PTF) likely to contribute to priorities not covered by the PBF.		
2022	Guatemala	USD 0.32 million
The project aim to strengthen the knowledge, tools and skills of public institutions, local actors and indigenous and peasant communities to improve the prevention and management of agrarian conflict, as well as promote food and nutritional security for the most vulnerable groups. To facilitate their participation in the processes of prevention and management of agrarian conflicts. As such, this project strengthens the significant participation of indigenous		

and peasant communities in food and nutrition commissions at the local and municipal level, facilitating their participation in decision making processes about their own food and nutrition security. These processes that bring together communities and state authorities and are part of the Guatemalan institutional setting for development, becomes then an entry point for WFP's contributions to peace, helping to include voices that had not been heard before.		
2022	Libya	USD 1 million
While there has been a decline in violent conflict and related humanitarian needs since the signing of the UN-facilitated Ceasefire Agreement in October 2020, political uncertainty, instability, criminality, weak governance structures, lack of social cohesion, limited economic opportunities and localized conflicts have continued to challenge sustained peace in southern Libya. This joint programme would provide a pragmatic roadmap for advancing stabilization and recovery programming in the South of Libya. The programme also aims to be catalytic for the expansion of UN programming and presence in the South of Libya thus facilitating the implementation of the recently approved UNSDCF in an important region of the country.		
2021	Guinea and Sierra Leone	USD 3 million
By applying innovative and inclusive approaches to conflict mediation and cross-border communication this project aims to strengthen the relationship between Guinea and Sierra Leone through addressing recurring cross border conflicts that occur between cattle herders and farmers. This WFP and International Organization for Migration (IOM) project will also strengthen social cohesion between the Falaba district and the Faranah prefecture by supporting climate-smart livelihoods and overall herder and farmer cooperation.		
2021	Chad	USD 0.78 million
The WFP, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) project aims to strengthen the resilience of communities specifically in the face of farmer-herder conflicts for social cohesion, by integrating a human rights-based approach. Guaranteeing equity in access to natural resources is an important lever for consolidating social ties between farmers and herders.		
2020-21	Gambia	USD 0.7 million
The conflicts in the Gambia are triggered by rising sea levels caused by the encroachment of the coastline/river boundaries, significantly reducing the size of arable land and soil fertility. The joint project between WFP, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and International Trade Centre (ITC) aims to mitigate and address growing conflict and tensions over declining natural resources through a context specific multi-pronged approach. Communities and implementing partners identified needs and delivered training in post-harvest loss management, climate change and advocacy, and dialogue and mediation, provided cash-for-work programs, distributed seed and implements to support horticulture gardens and constructed rice drying floors that bring together conflicting communities to work together towards common livelihood outcomes.		
2020	Mali	USD 1.2 million
Insecurity in central Mali has increased violent intra- and inter-communal conflicts, exacerbating existing tensions over access to natural resources. The WFP, FAO and IOM joint project aims at reducing violence and promoting the return of displaced persons and refugees, through intra- and inter-community dialogues, while using community resilience projects, among others, to create socio-economic links to help promote reconciliation and to build a common future.		
2020	Rwanda/DRC	USD 0.7 million
Local food and economic insecurity is a primary factor and cause of conflict and instability in the cross-border communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda. This WFP, FAO and UNDP joint project aims to strengthen peace-building efforts and social cohesion by improving economic integration through the development of cross-border trade, promoting mutual understanding and dialogue between border communities, and strengthening food security, livelihoods, and sources of income, especially for women and young people.		

2018-20	Chad	USD 0.6 million
Transhumance, causing destruction to fields, has been a conflict trigger in the region of the Chad-Niger border. FAO and WFP implemented project has contributed to reducing transhumance-related conflicts by more than 50 percent through a comprehensive approach to disputes over management of natural resources. Anchored in a Fund-supported social pact governing the joint management of pastoral water points by local communities and herders in the region, the Fund's approach has also delivered economic opportunities for more than 3,600 vulnerable households and recovered 134 hectares of land that now supports cultivation and grazing and has fostered dialogue among more than 2,000 residents.		
2018-20	El Salvador	USD 0.4 million
Economic and food insecurity from adverse climate conditions have caused displacement and emigration in El Salvador. In recent years legal reforms have resulted in the return of Salvadorans, many settling in marginalized communities where gang presence poses a risk. WFP, UNDP, and IOM implemented this project to assist migrant returnees and break the vicious cycle between food insecurity, violence, and migration. The project aims to promote productive livelihood incentives for vulnerable youth, victims of gang violence and deported migrants. Participants acquire skills in professional cooking, gain hands-on practice in restaurants and an education at a university, with the aim of gaining formal employment.		
2015-17/2018-19	Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan	USD 1 million
Water stress is a major driver of conflict in Kyrgyzstan and among the communities in the disputed territories between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan where there are no functioning governance structures to deal with natural resource management. Water infrastructure has deteriorated resulting in water losses and tensions among communities. WFP, FAO, UNDP, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and UN Women worked on a project aimed to increase cooperation and trust between communities. WFP implemented Food Assistance for Assets to rehabilitate irrigation canals and water pipelines.		

Reporting:Narrative reporting

The following narrative reports are required by PBSO from recipient organizations:

Type of report	Due when	Submitted by
Bi-annual project progress report	15 June	Convening agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/quality assured by PBF Secretariats, where they exist.
Annual project progress report	15 November	Convening agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/quality assured by PBF Secretariats, where they exist.
End of project report covering entire project duration	Within three months from the operational project closure (may be submitted instead of a bi-annual or annual report if timing coincides)	Convening agency on behalf of all implementing organizations and in consultation with/quality assured by PBF Secretariats, where they exist.
For PRF allocations only: Annual Joint Steering Committee (JSC) strategic peacebuilding progress	1 December	PBF Secretariat on behalf of the PBF Steering Committee, where it exists or Head of UN Country Team where it does not.

report. Annual report should include any requests for additional PBF allocations, including Concept Notes.		
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Financial reporting

All financial reporting, except for tranche requests, is submitted electronically for all projects, through the MPTF Office. MPTF-O compiles quarterly and annual financial reporting on the Fund, in accordance with the IATI (International Aid Transparency Initiative) standards. UN recipient organization financial reporting timeline:

Timeline	Event
March – April	Annual reporting – Report Q4 expenses (Jan. to Dec. of previous year)
<i>Certified final financial report to be provided by 30 June of the calendar year after project closure.</i>	

The United Nations Expenditure system (UNEX) also opens for voluntary financial reporting for UN recipient organizations the following dates:

31 July	Voluntary Q2 expenses (January to June)
31 October	Voluntary Q3 expenses (January to September)

Links

[Main website](#)

[How to access, design and implement UN Peacebuilding Fund \(PBF\) projects](#) & [Ten Minutes to learn about the PBF](#) & [GYPI: A short guidance for WFP](#) – WFP Peace and Conflict team guidance.

[MPTFO PBF website](#)

[Application guidelines](#)

[Peacebuilding Fund | WFPgo](#)

[Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund Strategy \(2020 – 2024\)](#)

For programmatic/technical support please contact hq.epr.support@wfp.org and the Peace Lead, in the Emergencies and Transitions Service, Tanaz.Khambatta@wfp.org

2.2 The UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS)

Start date – End date	1999 – Ongoing
Fund Size	Up to USD 2 million per project with total project costs at least USD 5 million (including co-funding) over 2-3 years. Average project: 2-3 years.
Contributions to WFP (2017-2023)	<p>As of the end of 2023, UNTFHS has only contributed USD 539,252 to WFP in Armenia, Iraq, Guinea, Liberia and Libya.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: USD 195,000 • 2022: USD 167,800 • 2021: USD 175,776 • 2018: USD 171,628 <p>Country Offices that accessed the UNTFHS before 2016 include Bhutan, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Myanmar, Paraguay, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Uganda.</p> <p>Average grant size: USD 179,751</p>
Application Process	<p>The Human Security Unit sends the call for proposal to RCs. Please check with RC Office and on the UNTFHS website.</p> <p>In 2023 the UNTFHS call for proposals was circulated in August and the deadline for submission was 12 December 2022.</p> <p>Concept notes should be submitted with a cover letter signed by the RC. Initial feedback is received within one month of the concept note submission.</p>
Restrictions/constraints	Co-funding with sources outside the UNTFHS is required.

Overview and objective of the fund:

The UNTFHS supports activities carried out by UN organizations that demonstrate integrated and targeted responses that cut across sectors, are grounded in local realities, address the root causes of vulnerabilities, build resilience, and adopt multi-stakeholder partnerships to fully realise the transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda. Since its establishment in 1999, the UNTFHS has assisted over 220 programmes in more than 90 countries, including regional initiatives.

The UNTFHS supports two distinct types of programmes: 1) those that mainstream and advance the operational impact of the human security approach and 2) those that extend the global awareness of the human security approach and its usage.

The UNTFHS does not have thematic priorities, however, programmes should aim to support implementation of key global agendas at the local and national level through the application of the human security approach.

Key funding criteria from the [UNTFHS Guidelines](#):

- Advancing the integration and mainstreaming of the human security approach across the work of the United Nations, in particular, at the local and national level.
- Building partnerships with local, national, and international stakeholders to expand the reach of programme activities and to promote greater support and replication of the human security approach beyond the current programme.

- Having a catalytic nature that can be replicated in other countries and regions through other sources of funding.
- Providing concrete and sustainable benefits to vulnerable people and communities threatened in their survival, livelihood, and dignity.
- Advancing multi-sectorial and integrated responses that take into account the people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented aspects of the human security approach.
- Implementing the “protection and empowerment” framework by comprehensively including both top-down protection and bottom-up empowerment measures based on the four principles of the human security approach (people-centred, multi-sectoral, comprehensive, country-specific).
- Promoting partnerships with civil society groups, NGOs, and other local entities, and encouraging implementation by these entities.
- Promoting inter-agency cooperation based on the comparative advantage of the applying organizations to advance the operational impact of the programme.
- Concentrating on those areas of human insecurity that are currently neglected and avoiding duplication with existing programmes and activities.
- Including a component designated specifically for the promotion of the human security approach, especially at the local, national, and regional levels.
- Paying special attention to the needs of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of programmes.

The UNTFHS will not consider:

- Stand-alone programmes which do not indicate concrete plans to mainstream the human security approach and do not apply the approach beyond the duration of the programme.
- Requesting funds to fill a resource gap for existing initiatives which do not apply the human security approach.
- Requesting funds for stand-alone research and data collection.
- Requesting funds for emergency assistance that does not ensure self-sustainability at the community-level.
- Where a substantial part of the budget covers official/UN staff travel and/or conference services.
- Where a substantial part of the budget covers institutional recurrent costs and/or personnel costs.
- Requesting funds to cover costs of large-scale infrastructure programmes (construction of small infrastructure may be funded if the people being targeted carry out the construction work and the expenses for construction work should not exceed 30 percent of the total budget).
- For funding of large-scale micro-credit and/or grant schemes.
- For programmes that are carried out by non-UN organization(s) without substantive involvement of the applying UN organization(s).
- Submitted by individuals and non-UN organizations.
- For dissemination programmes that are planned without the direct involvement of the Human Security Unit (HSU).

WFP entry point :

Successful past WFP proposals include:

Liberia, 2022 (WFP, FAO, ILO, UN Women, and UNDP): The joint programme aims to build Resilience of Youth, Women, and Vulnerable Groups through Social Protection Floor in Liberia using ICT. It further addresses the complex multi-sectorial and inter-connected challenges of human insecurities particularly food, social, and economic issues for the most vulnerable and neglected populations of the North-Central region of Liberia at the community level.

Libya, 2021 (WFP): The programme employed local engagement and empowerment through Human Security Approach to Help Address the Impact of the Protracted Conflict and COVID-19 in Libya

Guinea, 2020-2025 (WFP): The programme seeks to advance sustainable development for nine local communities in the region of Labé by enhancing the humanitarian-development nexus through the human security approach.

[Armenia, 2018 \(UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, IOM, FAO, UNIDO\)](#): By addressing the root causes of human insecurities for vulnerable people and communities in Shirak, Lori, and Tavush regions, the programme aimed to address the complex interlinkages between sustainable development, community resilience, disaster risk reduction, and the prevention of human trafficking to advance Armenia's efforts in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The programme aimed to build resilience, strengthen social protection, and improve economic and food security through the creation of sustainable economic opportunities in three northern provinces.

[Tanzania, 2005 \(UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, UNIDO, WFP\)](#): The programme was a multi-sectoral, coordinated response aimed at stabilizing fragile communities in north-western Tanzania by simultaneously addressing the security, health, economic and environmental challenges faced by refugee and host communities. Six UN agencies developed a coordinated response aimed at restoring the human security of people and communities in north-western Tanzania. Specifically, the project focused on (i) reducing the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons; (ii) preventing armed conflicts and sexual and gender-based violence; (iii) improving post-harvest yields among poor farmer households; (iv) providing basic education, including HIV/AIDS education, to out-of-school youth; and (iv) reducing threats to environmental health by protecting environmental assets, improving water-supply and enhancing sanitation services.

Additional examples are available on the [UNTFHS website](#).

Budget:

For operational programmes where the resources of the UNTFHS are designed to provide seed-money for catalytic and innovative programmes that mainstream and advance the operational impact of the human security approach:

- Co-funding by sources outside the UNTFHS that support the implementation of the UNTFHS-funded programme and the achievement of its objectives is required.
- While there is no explicit lower budget limit for operational programmes funded under the UNTFHS, the total programme budget should be sufficient to meet all key funding criteria highlighted above.
- For these programmes, the seed-money provided by the UNTFHS will not be more than approximately USD 2 million per programme and the applying organization(s) must provide

indications of co-funding as part of the concept note, and evidence of confirmed co-funding as part of the full programme proposal. Based on past experience, human security programmes should not be less than USD 5 million for a period of 2 to 3 years.

Application process:

The UNTFHS issues an annual call for Proposals. The 2023 UNTFHS [call for proposals](#) was focused on programmes to extend awareness of the human security approach and its usage at all levels (window II). The deadline for submission was 15 December 2023.

Who can apply?

Only UN organizations are eligible to apply for funding under the UNTFHS. However, the UNTFHS promotes programmes that engage a broad range of relevant partners, including national and local stakeholders, civil society, and the private sector.

Application procedures

The programme development process is broken down into two phases: (i) concept note and (ii) full programme proposal:

- UN organization(s) should submit a concept note through the RC to the HSU for initial assessment (the concept note format is in [Annex 1 of the Guidelines](#)). The concept note should clearly demonstrate the relevance of the proposed programme to the objectives of the UNTFHS (Section II of the Guidelines) and the Key Funding Criteria (Section IV of the Guidelines).
- The HSU will inform the applying organization(s) of the outcome of its review and if positive will encourage the applying organization(s) to formulate a full programme proposal.
- Proposals that satisfy the review process will be submitted to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General for further review and approval.
- Upon approval from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the Controller of the United Nations will authorize expenditures in accordance with the UN Financial Regulations and Rules.

Where to apply?

Concept notes and programme proposals should be submitted electronically to the HSU (humansecurity@un.org) with a cover letter signed by the relevant RC.

Programme revisions

If applying organization(s) wish to make any changes to the originally approved programme, they must submit their written requests to the HSU for approval.

Reporting:

All implementing organizations are required to submit full and complete reports (annually and a final report) on the way funds are spent and the progress made in accomplishing the results of the project. The report should provide an analysis on the overall strategic impact of the project in advancing the human security concept. The narrative report should cover all activities implemented in the project, including those funded by the UNTFHS and those funded by other donors. Specifically:

- The lead agency for multi-agency projects should submit one consolidated narrative annual progress report. This report should include inputs from all the organizations involved.
- Each implementing organization shall furnish certified financial reports, as appropriate for the period.

- Copies of all evaluation reports should be submitted to the HSU.
- Annual narrative progress reports for the final year of the projects are not required as long as the final reports describe clearly and adequately the activities and achievements of the final year of the project.

Links

[Main Trust Fund for Human Security website](#)

[FAQS – The Human Security Unit](#) - links to Guidelines, Handbook and Templates are linked under Key Resources.

3. Development Funds

3.1 Joint Sustainable Development Fund (Joint SDG)

Start date – End date	June 2019 – December 2030
Fund Size	<p><u>Target:</u> USD 290 million per annum.</p> <p><u>Average per programme:</u> USD 3 million (including matching funds) split between 2-4 UN agencies.</p> <p><u>Time to use funds:</u> 1 year (average) per country.</p> <p>The Joint SDG Fund activated its Development Emergency Modality in June 2022, upon guidance of the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General and the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance. The modality is open to countries and territories most exposed to the global knock-on effects of the conflict in Ukraine, supporting an immediate and cohesive UN response at country level.</p> <p>65. Going forward, the Joint SDG aims to launch six thematic windows: Food systems, Climate Action and Energy, Digital Transformation, Social Protection, Internal Displacement and Localization. The Food Systems Window was launched during the 2023 UN Food Systems Stocktaking Moment, between 24-26 July 2023 at FAO in Rome, with projected funding of USD 30 million, which has not yet been secured. The Localization and Digital Transformation windows are also expected to be launched soon.</p>
Contributions to WFP	<p>Total of USD 16.78 million to WFP overall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: USD 0 • 2022: USD 7.3 million • 2021: USD 0.087 million • 2020: USD 6.5 million • 2019: USD 2.9 million
Application Process	<p>Calls for proposals are issued by the RCs to the UNCT and will be circulated internally. The exact date for the next call for proposals is pending and will be decided after the Operational Steering Committee (OSC) meeting. COs should keep tuned in to RCs.</p> <p>The application process consists of two steps: the first step involves the submission of a Concept Note; and the second step includes the development of full proposals in the form of a Joint Programme document based on the Concept Notes that were successful in the first step.</p>
Restrictions/constraints	<p>It must be a joint programme with 3+ UN agencies per project. The Joint SDG Fund encourages leveraging additional resources from other sources for project implementation.</p> <p>Success factors include a strong theory of change, potential scale up, addressing SDGs and cross-cutting issues (gender).</p>

Overview and objective of the fund:

The Joint SDG Fund is an inter-agency, pooled mechanism for strategic financing and integrated policy support. The Fund supports programmes that work across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and cross-cutting areas so programme countries can accelerate progress towards attaining the SDGs and [2030 Agenda](#).

The Fund aspires to demonstrate that integrated and coherent UN support can lead to:

- unblocking bottlenecks for national SDG achievement through integrated and coherent policies across the SDGs;
- governments establishing national budget provisions for scaling up integrated and coherent policy and sustainable national SDG partnerships and platforms; and
- the development of financing vehicles which unlock sustainable SDG investments co-created with and financed by national and international partners.

The Joint SDG Fund will perform the following functions:

- a) **Identify and activate SDG “accelerators”**: The Joint SDG Fund will identify policy levers, through an integrated and cross-sectoral approach, that unleash rapid progress across different goals and targets, based on data, assessments and analysis carried out by national and international partners.
- b) **Reinforce the SDG financing architecture and ecosystem**: The Joint SDG Fund will support the development of financing strategies for SDG investment. This work will include: i) convening and creating networks with partners, including the Government, development banks, institutional investors, and the private sector; ii) strengthening the capacities of the national and sub-national SDG financing architecture; and iii) the production of multi-stakeholder financing strategies with the aim of dramatically increasing the scale and improving the focus of SDG investments.
- c) **Catalyse strategic programming and investments**: The Joint SDG Fund will invest in key initiatives that emerge from (1) and (2), and that leverage public and private financing in order to advance the SDGs. These initiatives will provide a demonstration of concept and will be scalable both in country and elsewhere.

In 2022, the Joint SDG Fund focused on finalising and ensuring the sustainability and scale-up of the Fund’s inaugural set of 35 joint programmes in Integrated Social Protection and Leaving No One Behind (LNOB). The Fund also launched new major programmatic initiatives in building resilience in the SIDS and supporting the UN’s collective response against the global cost-of-living crisis brought on by the war in Ukraine.

In 2021, the Joint SDG fund issued a call for proposals with a geographic focus on **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** call – on integrated policy and financing SDGs. The total funding envelope was USD 30 million and there are [38 SIDS countries](#) that were eligible, of which WFP has COs in Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Barbados (+ other areas of Caribbean), Timor Leste and Fiji (+ other areas of Pacific).

To date the Joint SDG Fund has funded 230 joint programmes focused on integrated social protection or SDG finance, it has stimulated over 1,000+ partnerships working together alongside the UN to support the SDGs and it has tested over 300 innovative solutions to accelerate the 2030 Agenda.

WFP entry point

WFP’s natural entry point is through the food security and nutrition priority sectorial area and social protection programmes, although proposals through the inclusive economic growth for poverty eradication area are also possible. Some COs are also funding innovative aspects of their programmes and WFP HQ has been co-chairing the advisory group for food security where the UN and private sector are linking up on how the UN can make itself more attractive to private sector investments.

The Localization and Digital Transformation windows are also expected to be launched soon. The Localization window has secured USD 4 million and about USD 8 million more is expected to be confirmed. Funding is yet to be confirmed for the Digital Transformation window. These windows all present opportunities to be explored by WFP.

Successful WFP projects in 2020 include:

Year	Country	UN Agency Partners	Activity	Amount
2020	Armenia		Capacity Strengthening	\$223,650
This Joint Programme (JP) is designed to (i) help the Government create clear links between policies, planning and budgeting processes; and to (ii) deploy innovative and evidence-driven mechanisms to leverage partnerships and multiple sources of finance towards three priority areas in Armenia - climate change, food security and human capital.				
2020	Congo	UNICEF, WHO	Social Protection	\$2,249,966
The JP will contribute to Government efforts to improve the living conditions and access to social protection of indigenous peoples in the Lekoumou region, a peripheral zone with lagging social indicators, home to approximately 25% of the indigenous population of Congo.				
2020	Djibouti	UNDP, UNICEF	Resilience/COVID19	\$119,438
Based on the on-going process to mainstream SDG acceleration in the 'National Solidarity Pact' for the COVID19 response and the National Development Plan, the initiative will cost social sector priorities for acceleration and will analyze fiscal space within the public sector budget for financing the priority SDGs. It will analyze the financing gap and public finance management practices with a view to improving the allocation and quality of spending and to develop and implement an integrated SDG financing strategy.				
2020	Ecuador	UNDP, UNICEF	Nutrition	\$116,248
Within the Secretary-General's Financing Strategy and of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), and in accordance with a national context of severe fiscal policy restraint, this program proposes developing an enabling environment to improve the financing architecture of sustainable development in Ecuador while, at the same time, capitalizing on public and private resources for the SDGs. As a key aspect of this intervention, the strengthened financing architecture will be applied to one of the country's main health problems - chronic child malnutrition (CCM) - to provide support to improving its related indicators.				
2020	Nigeria	UNICEF, ILO, UNDP, WHO	Social Protection	\$350,000
The JP will strengthen the rights-based approach to social protection by supporting the institutionalization and legislation of the social protection system in Nigeria. The JP will support the identification and facilitate the adoption of financial strategies to effectively implement the National Social Protection Policy.				
2020	Palestine	UNICEF, ILO	Social Protection	\$140,500
This JP aims to support national efforts to address gaps which can be taken to scale by the authorities and in doing so accelerating poverty reduction (SDG 1), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), and increasing food security (SDG 2), with the intent of giving special attention to women. The programme will pilot integrated solutions in Hebron governorate, which is one of the most vulnerable areas in the West Bank, taking geopolitical developments into consideration.				
2020	Tanzania	UNICEF, UNWOMEN, ILO, FAO	Social Protection	\$406,600
The JP focuses on strengthening relevant building blocks of Tanzania's social protection system to ensure two things. First, that social protection coverage is financially sustainable, by establishing a progressive, gender-responsive social protection financing framework. This contributes to the reduction of reliance on external grants and loans for social assistance programmes such as the Productive Social Safety Net.				

Eligibility and requirements:

Funding may be provided to any country or thematic area.

- Two or more UN agencies must implement the programme, in collaboration with other stakeholders;

- While not a requirement, the Fund encourages matching fund approaches that mobilize additional resources from other sources for project implementation;
- Reflects the integrated nature of the SDGs;
- Results are part of the UNSDCF and aligned with national SDG priorities;
- The proposal is based on country level consultations, and endorsed by the government (the letter of endorsement); and
- The Concept Note must include a Theory of Change demonstrating contribution to SDG acceleration, results-oriented partnerships, “Quick wins” and substantive outcome-level results, and initial risk assessment and mitigation measures.

Application process:

The Joint SDG Fund operates at country level through Joint Programmes implemented by UN Agencies in collaboration with national counterparts. UNCTs, under the leadership of the RC, will be invited to apply for funding from the Joint SDG Fund. The application process will consist of two steps: the first step will involve the submission of a Concept Note; and the second step will include the development of full proposals in the form of a Joint Programme document based on the Concept Notes that were successful in the first step. If programme funding is equal to or lower than USD 1 million, submissions via a simplified template will be considered and mentioned in the call for proposals.

1. Preparation and Approval of Concept Notes
 - RCs will be invited to prepare and submit proposals;
 - The Technical Review of the concept notes will be conducted by experts from UN agencies and external experts;
 - The Fund Secretariat will propose options to the Operational Steering Committee (OSC) following the technical review; and
 - The OSC will make preliminary funding decisions.
2. Development and approval of Joint Programmes
 - RCs will be invited to develop a full Joint Programmes
 - Joint Programmes documents will be quality assured by the Fund Secretariat and experts from UN agencies represented in the OSC;
 - The Fund Secretariat will make recommendations to the OSC as to whether the quality criteria have been met; and
 - The OSC make the final funding decisions;
3. Implementation of Joint Programmes

Reporting:

The RC will report to the Secretary-General and send reports to the national Government on the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, including the joint results achieved through the Joint Programmes.

Narrative Reporting

Each Participating UN Organization will provide the Convening/Lead Agent with the following narrative reports prepared in accordance with the reporting procedures applicable to the Participating UN Organization concerned, as set forth in the Joint Programme Document, as agreed by the global governance structure:

- Annual narrative progress reports, to be provided no later than three months (31 March) after the end of the calendar year; and
- Final narrative reports, after the completion of the activities in the Joint Programme Document, including the final year of the activities in the Joint Programme Document, to be provided no

later than four months (30 April) after the end of the calendar year in which the operational closure of the activities in the Joint Programme Document occurs.

Financial Reporting

The Participating Organisations shall provide the Administrative Agent with the following statements and reports prepared in accordance with its accounting and reporting procedures:

- Annual financial reports as of 31st December each year with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the Joint SDG Fund Account, to be provided no later than four months after the end of the applicable reporting period; and
- A final financial report, after the completion of the activities financed by the Joint SDG Fund and including the final year of the activities, to be provided no later than 30 April of the year following the operational closing of the project activities.

New Developments:

In 2022, a development emergency window was triggered to address the socio-economic secondary impacts of the Ukraine crisis. The objective is for UNCT's in the most impacted countries to use (what will be a limited amount of funds) to develop some analytical work to identify, or review policy options in support of a government response. No humanitarian response is envisaged.

Further, the Fund is also currently considering the establishment of other windows such as a Social Protection Window; Food Systems Window; and Data/digital transformation Window. All these windows are upstream policy work and may provide an opportunity for collaboration in areas where WFP did not previously engage in.

Links

[Joint SDG Fund main website](#)

[MPTF SDG Fund Fact Sheet](#)

[Joint SDG Fund Terms of Reference](#)

[Joint SDG Fund Operational Guidance](#)

3.2 Start-up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Migration MPTF)

Start Date – End Date	May 2019 – 2024
Fund Size	The Steering Committee of the Migration MPTF has set an ambitious fundraising target for 2022 at USD 70 million, through the “Pledging campaign” ahead of the first 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). So far, the fund has transferred to participating organizations over USD 28 million since its inception.
Contributions to WFP	WFP experience with this fund is currently nascent. Some COs have applied and have not been successful. The WFP/IOM/UNFPA joint programme was approved in El Salvador. The proposal looks at protection and humanitarian assistance; sustainable financial reintegration; and psycho-social assistance in different stages of migration cycle. <u>So far this is the only approved programme.</u> A UNFPA, ILO, IOM, UN Women, WFP Concept note in Kyrgyz Republic has been included in the pipeline. The proposal looks at strengthening national capacity to collect, process, analyze and use migration data and statistics for evidence-based policy development
Application	Proposals can be submitted anytime. The Steering Committee meets twice a year for which concept notes are to be submitted 3 months prior.
Restrictions/Constraints	At least 2 UN agencies and no more than 5 can participate in each joint programme. The project must not exceed three years duration. The minimum total budget of any joint programme must be at least USD 500,000 times the number of participating UN organizations (PUNOs), with each PUNO expected to receive at least USD 100,000. For instance, if three organizations participate, the budget of the joint programme needs to be at least USD 1.5 million, while one organization can receive as little as USD 100,000, if the other two receive a combined total of at least USD 1.4 million.

Overview and objective of the fund

Migration MPTF's primary purpose is to support Member States in implementing the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) and in delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SDG 10, target 10.7: “orderly, safe and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”.

The Migration MPTF will be both an initial and complementary source of support, open to a multitude of partners to provide contributions. The Fund will seek synergies and collaborate with bilateral funding instruments, as well as other pooled funding mechanisms such as those supporting the implementation of the country-based UN “Sustainable” Development “Cooperation” Framework (UNSDCF).

The Migration MPTF will incorporate the following key critical points in its design:

1. National ownership – Member States tailored policies and plans.

2. Alignment with ongoing United Nations Development System reform – through the RC and a pooled funding modality.
3. Partnership – amongst and between UN system, governments, and stakeholders.
4. Coherence – fostering joint programming.
5. Innovation – first comprehensive approach to migration governance.
6. Collaboration with other pooled funding instruments – synergies with other inter-agency funds.
7. Transparency – on planning, implementation, and delivery.
8. Comprehensive and targeted approach – clustering Global Compact objectives into smaller thematic areas.
9. Risk Management – through pooled funding approach.
10. Funding for results – design and use of a dedicated result-based matrix.
11. Facility for cross-border and sub-regional initiatives – regional and global level endeavors.
12. Reduced transaction costs – through the UNSDG harmonized cost recovery structure.

For more detailed information, see the [Operational Manual](#)

Eligibility:

Every country must be endorsed by their national government. Each request for funding would also require joint programming calling on the capacities and expertise of at least two UN entities, as well as partnership with local authorities and other non-UN stakeholders, including migrants and migrant organizations directly, where appropriate.

Projects must be clearly linked to one thematic area of the Migration MPTF, to the specific [Global Compact for Migration \(GCM\)](#) objective(s) under the thematic area selected and to relevant SDG targets. The themes are as follows:

- Promoting fact-based and data-driven migration discourse, policy and planning;
- Protecting the human rights, safety and well-being of migrants, including through addressing drivers and mitigating situations of vulnerability and migration;
- Addressing irregular migration including through managing borders and combatting transnational crime;
- Facilitating regular migration, decent work and enhancing the positive development effects of human mobility; and
- Improving the social inclusion and integration of migrants;
- Submissions related to climate change adaptation and resilience strengthening will be given particular consideration in future priority selection processes.

Application:

- **Step 1: Development and approval of Investment Plans** - developed by the Fund Management Unit and endorsed by the Steering Committee.
- **Step 2: Submission of Concept Notes** - submitted by UN organizations to the Management Unit before set deadlines. Projects must be designed as joint programmes and the concept notes must include an explanation of consultations held in the design of the proposed project, alongside the key expected results and indicators aligned with the strategic objectives of the Migration MPTF, proposed activities, indicative budgets and a risk analysis. The concept note should not exceed 3 to 4 pages and will follow a template provided by the Fund Management Unit (as an annex to the [Operations Manual](#)). In line with UNSDG guidance, no more than five UN agencies should participate in a joint programme.

- **Step 3: Concept Note Screening** - the Fund Management Unit, supported by the Network Secretariat, conducts an initial screening and assessment of the concept notes. If accepted, the Fund Management Unit requests a fully-fledged project document for further review. However, requests for fully-fledged project documents do not ensure their approval.
- **Step 4: Submission of Project Proposal** – UN organizations, with civil society and government partners prepare a fully developed project proposal, using the project proposal format provided by the Fund Management Unit (as an annex to the [Operations Manual](#)). To ensure full alignment with national priorities/strategies and effective strengthening of the coherence of United Nations programming, the project proposal is submitted by the RC, where applicable, and, as a prerequisite, endorsed (signed) by the National Government.
- **Step 5: Assessment of Proposal** - a systematic, comprehensive technical assessment of the full project proposals is conducted, supported as necessary by the Network Secretariat. To allow for proper review by the Steering Committee, the projects reviewed by the Secretariat and the summary of the technical review are shared with the Steering Committee at least 10 working days ahead of the scheduled meeting.
- **Step 6: Allocation Decision** - the allocation decision is made by the Steering Committee, taking into consideration the recommendations of the technical review and the Migration MPTF Investment Plan for the period in question.
- **Step 7: Transfer to Participating Organizations** – the Fund Management Unit will prepare a fund transfer request for fund allocation approved by the Steering Committee and signed by the Chair of the Steering Committee.

Reporting:

The Administrative Agent will prepare a consolidated narrative and financial report submitted to each of the Fund's contributors and to the Steering Committee as per the schedule established in the Standard Administrative Agreement (SAA). This will be based on the:

- Annual financial statements and reports to 31 December, regarding released resources by the Fund to them; these shall be provided no more than four months (30 April) after the end of the calendar year; and,
- Final certified financial statements and financial reports after the completion of activities contained in the programme-related approved document, including the final year of such activities, to be submitted no more than six months (31 May) in the following year after the financial closure of the Fund.

Link

[Migration Multi-Partner \(MPTF\) Light Guidance](#)

Please contact Silvia.Pontillo@wfp.org for more information.

4. Climate Funds

On climate-related multilateral funds, COs should contact their climate/resilience advisor in their RB who keeps track of the pipelines for the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The Climate and Resilience Service unit in HQ (PPGR) manages WFP's AF and GCF portfolios and provides support and guidance to WFP COs. It also acts as interlocutor with the funds through their secretariats and reviews all proposals, reports, evaluations and audits with support from other WFP divisions. PPGR contacts: micol.mulon@wfp.org and chiara.pili@wfp.org.

4.1 UNFCCC Adaptation Fund

Start date – End date	2007-Ongoing
Amount available	USD 1 billion has been allocated to climate adaptation activities since 2010. Funding per project is capped at USD 14 million for regional projects and USD 10 million for country projects. COs can decide, based on their project design, how long the project duration is (usually 4 to 5 years).
Contributions to WFP (2011-2020)	Thirteen WFP Projects were approved by the AF Board for funding for a total of USD 133 million: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: USD 36 million • 2022: USD 0.080 million • 2021: USD 13.2 million • 2020: USD 30.0 million • 2019: USD 20.0 million • 2018: USD 12.4 million • 2017: USD 1.6 million • 2016: USD 0.1 million • 2015: USD 9.5 million • 2012: USD 22.7 million • 2011: USD 7.5 million
Application Process	WFP Climate Team Guidance for Adaptation Fund Projects¹ Project proposals can be submitted on a rolling basis for review of the AFB Secretariat. The Secretariat presents technically cleared project proposals to the AF Board for approval twice per year, during AF Board meetings in March and October. A proposal must first be included in the WFP pipeline. COs must reach out to the Climate and Resilience Service unit in HQ (PPGR) and to the relevant RB before embarking in proposal development to assess whether the project idea meets the requirements to be inserted in WFP's pipeline and whether the CO has the adequate resources and capacities to embark in this complex endeavour. RB and HQ can support, upon request.
Restrictions/Constraints	Countries must be signatories to the Kyoto Protocol . Currently the AF limits the amount of resources that each country can receive through the single-country project window at USD 20 million. PPGR keeps an updated list of funds available per country.

Overview and objective of the fund:

¹ Please note that the Guidance is in the process of being updated.

Since 2010, the AF has committed USD 1 billion to climate change adaptation and resilience activities, including supporting over 127 concrete adaptation projects. Proposals must have a clear climate rationale and must be in line with national adaptation priorities.

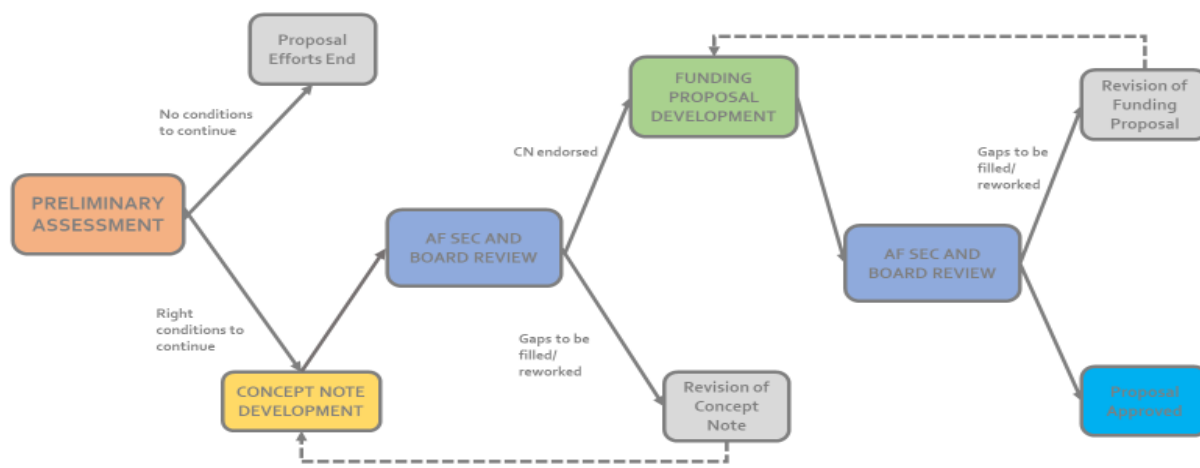
WFP is accredited as a Multilateral Implementing Entity (MIE), which means that WFP acts as fund custodian and bears the full responsibility for overall project management functions, including fund management, oversight, and reporting (annual reporting, mid- and final evaluation, and audit, as well as project backstopping). Implementation of project activities is usually done by an “Executing Entity” (a national government agency or other partner), under the supervision and overall responsibility of WFP.

WFP has thirteen approved projects worth a total of USD 133.08 million and several other projects are in the pipeline. These projects aim to reduce vulnerability and increase the adaptive capacity of target communities and beneficiaries through concrete climate change adaptation activities, capacity building, and livelihood diversification, amongst others. The Adaptation Fund is particularly interested in funding concrete adaptation activities that produce visible and tangible results on the ground, at community level.

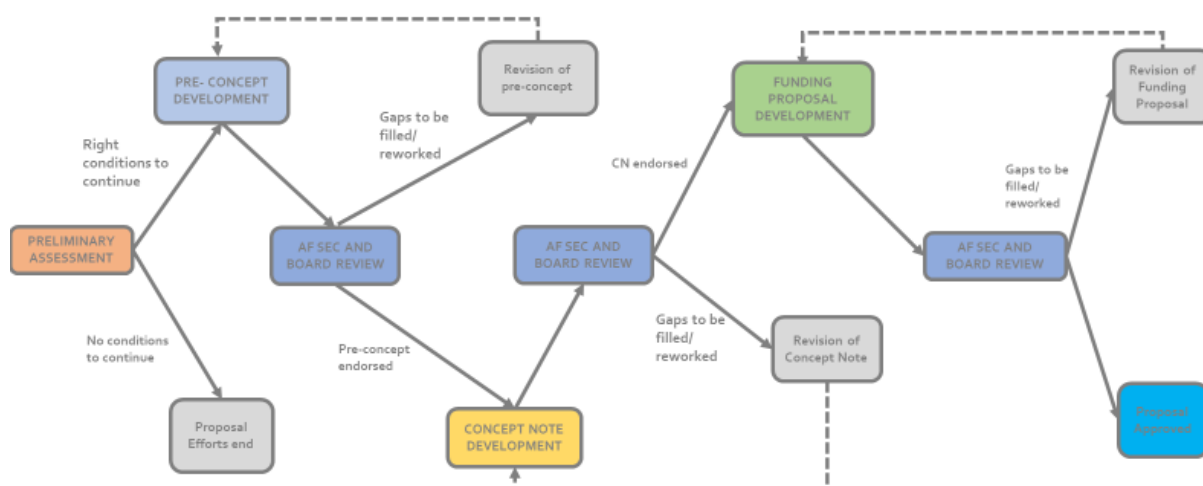
Application Process:

The process for **single-country projects** is as follows:

1. The preliminary assessment checks fund availability for the country, CO capacity to engage in the development and implementation of an AF project, interest of the Designated Authority and relevant stakeholders in engaging in an AF project with WFP, other climate investments in the country, assessment of the climate problem that will be addressed and identification of the project idea to make sure it would be eligible for the Adaptation Fund. A pipeline request form should be submitted for RB and PPGR assessment before a proposal idea can officially enter the WFP pipeline.
2. The concept note must follow a particular template provided by the AF and contain specific annexes. It must be submitted to the AF Secretariat accompanied by an endorsement letter and record of endorsement by the Designated Authority and a certification issued by the CO; the latter is usually signed by the Country Director. Preparing a concept note takes 6 to 8 months.
3. The Secretariat reviews the concept note and forwards its technical review to the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC), who prepares recommendations for the AF Board (AFB). The AFB decides whether to endorse the concept note. If the concept note is not approved, the AFB may provide feedback and resubmissions will be considered.
4. The funding proposal takes about 8-12 months to be fully developed. It is submitted to the AF Secretariat and includes a more detailed description of project activities, implementation arrangements and budget.
5. The Secretariat reviews the proposal and forwards its technical review to the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC), who prepare recommendations for the AF Board (AFB). The AFB decides whether to approve or not the proposal. If the proposal is not approved, the AFB may provide feedback and resubmissions will be considered.



For **regional projects**, the process is similar with an additional step. A pre-concept note needs to be prepared and submitted for Secretariat review and Board endorsement before starting the preparation of a concept note.



Criteria:

In assessing project and programme proposals, the Adaptation Fund Board shall give particular attention to:

- Consistency with national climate strategies, including, where appropriate, national development plans, national communications and national adaptation programmes of action and other relevant instruments, where they exist.
- Economic, social and environmental benefits from the projects;
- Meeting national technical standards, where applicable;
- Cost-effectiveness of projects and programmes.
- Arrangements for management, including for financial and risk management.
- Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation and impact assessment; and
- Avoiding duplication with other funding sources for adaptation for the same project activity.
- Build synergies with other climate projects/programmes.

Reporting:

The key reporting requirement for MIEs is to submit an **Annual Project Performance Report** (PPR) to the AF secretariat. The PPR should be submitted on a rolling basis, one year after the start of project implementation. It includes a narrative part, a financial part (following AF budget and templates), an M&E part and a section on compliance with the funds' Environmental & Social policy and Gender policy. In addition, MIEs must submit a mid-term review, a final evaluation, a completion report, and an audited financial statement of the project account at the end of the project.

MIEs must work with the executing entity (the government) through the Project Management Unit (PMU) to create **quarterly progress reports** and **financial statements** which allow adequate supervision of project implementation and will then be used as the basis for the PPR.

Contacts: micol.mulon@wfp.org, gernot.laganda@wfp.org

Links:

[WFP Guidance for Adaptation Fund²](#)

[WFP Climate Finance Page](#)

[Website of the AF](#)

² In the process of being updated

4.2 Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Start date – End date	2010 – Ongoing
Amount available	USD 13.5 billion committed, with USD 11.3 billion being implemented. WFP is accredited for 'medium-scale' projects of up to USD 250 million and for the environmental and social risks category B (medium).
Contributions to WFP	2023: 9.8 million 2021: 28.9 million 2020: 21.2 million
Application Process	See here: WFP guidance for GCF proposal development³ . WFP can submit proposals for climate action that need to have a clear climate rationale and must be in line with national adaptation priorities. Projects need to be transformative. Proposals can be submitted anytime. The GCF Board generally meets three times a year to consider the proposals. The board can choose to: 1. Approve the funding, 2. Approve the funding with conditions and recommendations of modifications, or 3. Reject the funding proposal. Resubmissions are considered. A proposal must first be included in the WFP pipeline. COs must reach out to the the Climate and Resilience Service unit in HQ (PPGR) and to the relevant RB before embarking in proposal development to assess whether the project idea meets the requirements to be inserted in WFP's pipeline and whether the CO has the adequate resources and capacities to embark in this complex endeavour. RB and HQ can support, upon request.
Restrictions/Constraints (e.g., partnership requirements)	The GCF supports climate change adaptation and/or mitigation projects, programmes, policies and activities in all countries party to the UNFCCC .

Overview and objective of the fund:

The Green Climate Fund is not a UN Fund, but a global multilateral fund created under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It was established with the purpose of making a significant and ambitious contribution to the global efforts to promote a climate-resilient development pathway by supporting developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

It represents the new architecture of climate finance with over USD 20 billion in pledges in their first two replenishment processes which makes the GCF the largest climate change fund operating under the UNFCCC. It has committed USD 13.5 billion in 243 climate change mitigation and/or adaptation projects so far. The GCF supports projects, programmes, policies, and other activities in all developing country parties to the UNFCCC. The GCF finances activities to both enable and support climate change adaptation, mitigation, technology development and transfer, capacity-building, and the preparation of national climate reports. Countries will also be supported in the pursuit of project-based and programmatic approaches in accordance with national climate strategies and plans.

³ Please note that the Guidance is in the process of being updated.

WFP entry point:

The GCF channels its funding to implement projects globally through Accredited Entities (AEs), such as WFP. AEs carry out a range of activities that include a) the development of funding proposals, b) the management of funds, and c) the monitoring of projects and programme implementation. Countries may access GCF resources through multiple entities and various projects/programmes. Executing Entities (EEs) implement the activities supported by the GCF financing under the oversight of AEs. EEs can also be AEs themselves, as well as sharing the execution of the project with others.

The GCF is one of the main sources of funding for climate change projects globally and represents an opportunity for the most poor and vulnerable communities and the governments that WFP supports to fulfil their climate adaptation objectives in the context of food and nutrition security. Accessing GCF funds is also strategically important for WFP for the following reasons:

- **Innovative programming:** The GCF provides funding for projects that promote innovative, participatory approaches within WFP, allowing the organization to fund integrated activities for climate change adaptation from just one funding source. Participatory processes at national, sub-national and community levels are also a pre-condition for developing GCF proposals.
- **Multi-year funding and alignment with Country Strategic Plan (CSP) rationale:** the GCF provides a predictable, multi-year fund stream that allows COs to reach more longer term, sustainable impacts. The long-term nature of GCF funding makes it suitable to CSPs' objectives to ensure fund and impact continuity over a four to five-year timeline.
- **Developing partnerships and leveraging funds on climate change adaptation:** accessing GCF funds is an opportunity for WFP to be recognized as an important player at national and global scale on adaptation programming, to develop partnerships with governments, private sector, NGOs, and other UN agencies, and to be able to leverage co-financing. WFP can also act as "Executing Entity" to other Accredited Entities, such as IFAD and UNDP.

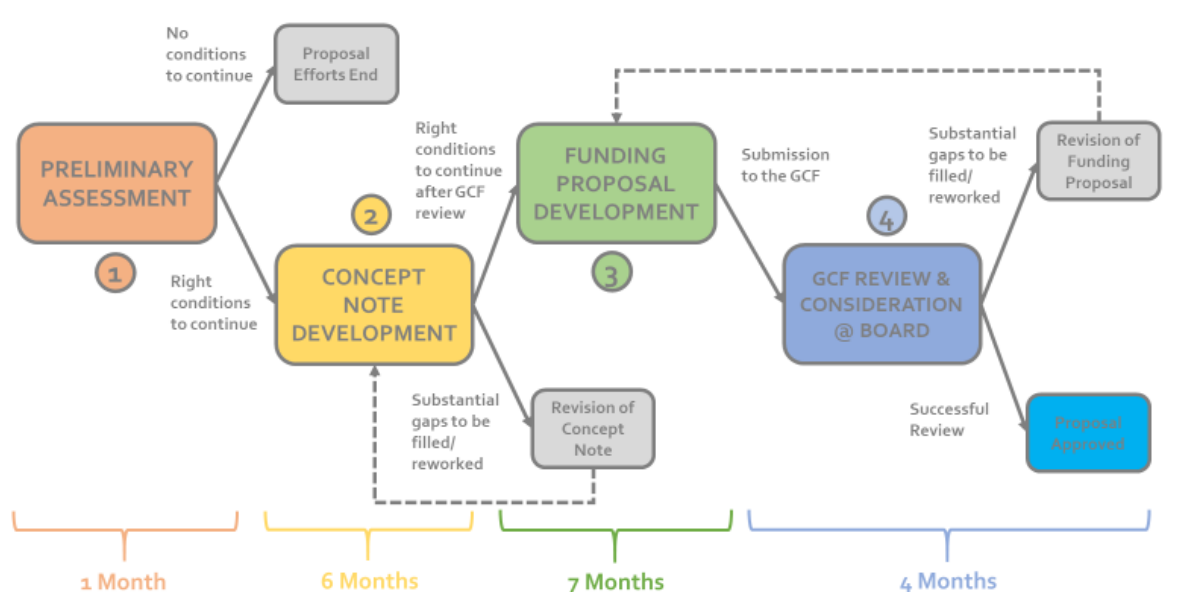
A Trust Fund has been set at corporate level to receive funds from the GCF and regularly push them to CPBs. PPGR support COs in the process.

Application Process:

The whole process can be long and cumbersome. At least 18 to 24 months need to be envisioned from preliminary assessment to Funding Proposal review by the GCF Secretariat. Appropriate human and financial resources would need to be invested from the CO side for the process to be successful.

1. **Preliminary assessment:** This is a preparatory phase to gauge the interest of the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the development of a GCF proposal, as well as to obtain its guidance and approval for the project. It is a very important moment to assess the broad climate challenges relevant for food security, the possible activities that will become part of the proposal, the top line division of roles and funding between the Government, WFP, and possibly other partners, and its geographical scope. Also important at this stage is to develop a clear timeline of activities until proposal submission and to assess CO capacity to engage in the development and implementation of a GCF project. A pipeline request form should be submitted for RB and PPGR assessment before a proposal idea can officially enter the WFP pipeline.

2. **Concept Note Development:** Following the assessment, a Concept Note (CN) for the project will be developed, incorporating a Theory of Change. This will be submitted to the GCF Secretariat for the first level of review and comments and to obtain the GCF's green light to proceed with the next stage.
3. **Funding Proposal Development:** The third stage consists of expanding the Concept Note with additional technical and organizational details, considering the comments made by the GCF Secretariat during the review of the CN. Several Annexes that are part of the Funding Proposal (FP) will also need to be developed during this stage. Once the FP and all the Annexes are finalized, the proposal is submitted to the GCF.
4. **GCF Proposal Review and Approval:** After FP submission, the GCF Secretariat starts a thorough review of the document, followed by a second review by the Independent Technical Assessment Panel (ITAP), as well as a final review by the GCF Board Members. Only after these three stages of review can the FP be presented to the Board and eventually be approved for funding.



Funded Activity Agreement Effectiveness: Once the Funding Proposal has been approved, additional steps will be needed before the actual disbursement of funds, including establishing Subsidiary Agreements with relevant Executing Entities. This process can take up to 6-12 months to be finalized, depending on local contexts and needs.

Links:

[WFP Guidance for GCF](#)
[WFP Climate Finance Page](#)
[Website of the GCF](#)

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ANNEX I – Pooled Fund Application Timelines

Pooled Fund	Is there a call for proposal?	When can we apply?	How can COs receive the application information?
CERF	RR: No. UFE: Yes.	RR: Anytime. UFE: The first round 2024 has finalized and second window expected later in December 2024	RC/HC and OCHA coordinate in the field. <u>RR</u> funding is field-driven under the leadership of the RC/HC in response to a specific humanitarian event. <u>UFE</u> funding is released through a UNHQ-driven process based on a global analysis of humanitarian needs and levels of funding.
CBPFs (in 20 countries)	Yes for standard allocations. The timing varies between countries. CO will need to approach the RC/HC for information.	1. Standard allocations (also referred to as “call for proposals”) – usually once a year and based on the needs identified in the HRP. This varies between countries. 2. Reserve allocations (also referred to as “rolling basis”) - designed to respond in different emergency scenarios.	RC/HC and OCHA coordinate in the field.
Peacebuilding Fund	There is no call for the general PBF portfolio. There is a special annual call under the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) – only for countries that have been declared eligible to receive PBF Funding by the Secretary-General – In 2024, this call was launched in April and the disbursement was	Open – Reach out to RC Office to check status of engagement with PBF (if any).	For support on PBF eligibility process, project design, monitoring and evaluation feel free to contact your Regional Bureau focal point and the Peace Lead, in the Emergencies and Transitions Service, Tanaz.Khambatta@wfp.org

Pooled Fund	Is there a call for proposal?	When can we apply?	How can COs receive the application information?
	conducted in December 2023/January 2024.		
The UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS)	Yes.	In 2023 the call for proposal was circulated in July and the deadline for submission was 15 December 2023.	The Human Security Unit sends the call for proposal to RCs. Please check with RC Office and on the UNTFHS website .
Joint SDG Fund	Yes, the decision is pending when the next call will be.	Only when the call for proposals are issued.	Call for proposals should be shared by RCs. Calls will additionally be shared internally.
COVID-19 MPTF	Yes, the decision is pending when the next call will be.	Only when call for proposals are issued.	Call for proposals should be shared by RCs. Calls will additionally be shared internally.
Migration MPTF	No.	Steering Committee meets in April, October, December – concept notes to be submitted 3 months before.	Contact silvia.pontillo@wfp.org mailto: at the Geneva Global Office.
Adaptation Fund	No.	January or August each year (for the AF Board meetings of March and October respectively). A proposal needs to be included in the WFP pipeline first.	Contact the climate/resilience focal point in your RB or the Climate and Resilience Service unit in HQ (PRGR), micol.mulon@wfp.org or gernot.laganda@wfp.org
Green Climate Fund	No.	Anytime (although proposals are approved three times a year by the GCF Board). A proposal needs to be included in the WFP pipeline first.	Contact the climate/resilience focal point in your RB or the Climate and Resilience Service unit in HQ (PRGR) in HQ, micol.mulon@wfp.org or gernot.laganda@wfp.org

ANNEX II – Reporting Timelines

Fund	Frequency	Cutoff date	Reporting Deadline
CERF	Semi-Annual	30 Jun/31 Dec	15 Feb/15 Aug
	Final Annual	31 Dec	30 June
CBPF	Annual	31 Dec	15 Feb
UNTFHS	Annual	31 Dec	15 Feb

GLOSSARY

AA - Administrative Agent
AAAA - Addis Ababa Action Agenda
AB - Advisory Board
AE - Accredited Entities
AF - Adaptation Fund
AFB - Adaptation Fund Board
CBPF - Country-Based Pooled Funds
CCM - Chronic Child Malnutrition
CERF - Central Emergency Response Fund
CN - Concept Note
CPB - Country Portfolio Budget
CSO - Civil Society Organization
EE - Executing Entities
ERC - Emergency Relief Coordinator
CFORC - Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (WFP Unit)
FP - Funding Proposal
GCF - Green Climate Fund
GCM - Global Compact for Migration
GFD - General Food Distribution
GMS - Grant Management System
GYPI - Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative
HCT - Humanitarian Country Team
HNO - Humanitarian Needs Overview
HPC - Humanitarian Programme Cycle
HRP - Humanitarian Response Plan
HSU - Human Security Unit
IASC - Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IATI - International Aid Transparency Initiative
IRF - Immediate Response Facility
ITAP - Independent Technical Assessment Panel
ITC - International Trade Centre
JP - Joint Programme
JSC - Joint Steering Committee
MDTF - Multi-Donor Trust Fund
MIE - Multilateral Implementing Entity
MOU - Memorandum of Understanding
MPTF - Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MPTFO - Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
NDA - National Designated Authority
OCHA - Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OSC - Operational Steering Committee
GPC - Global Partner Countries Division
PBF - Peacebuilding Fund

PBSO - Peacebuilding Support Office
PMU – Project Management Unit
PPR – Project Performance Report
PI – Partnerships and Innovation Department
PPRC – Project and Programme Review Committee
PRF - Peace and Recovery Facility
PPGR – The Climate and Resilience Service unit
PSEA - Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PUNO - Participating UN Organization
RC - Resident Coordinator
RC/HC - Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator
RR - Rapid Response Window
SAA - Standard Administrative Agreement
TOC - Theory of Change
UFE - Underfunded Emergency Window
UNCT - UN Country Team
UNFCCC - UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHAS – United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNIDO - United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNSDG - UN Sustainable Development Group
UNTFHS - UN Trust Fund for Human Security
VAM – Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping