



GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW 2025

**FULL
REPORT**

ENGLISH
DECEMBER 2024



The Global Humanitarian Overview is an annual assessment of global humanitarian needs and how to respond to them. This document provides an analysis of the drivers of needs and an overview of the resources required to support people targeted for assistance. It also provides an account of the humanitarian system's collective achievements.

Financial response plan figures are as reported to the Financial Tracking Service as of 25 November 2024. All financial data for response plans is continuously updated on fts.unocha.org. Dollar signs denote United States dollars.



This document is an abridged version of the Global Humanitarian Overview 2025. Read the entire report online and explore the interactive content at **humanitarianaction.info**



Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

Since the conflict began in October 2023, people have endured devastating losses: loved ones, homes, schools, entire communities. In April 2024, a UN team visited Khan Younis and reported widespread destruction. Every building visited was damaged, paved roads were reduced to dirt tracks and unexploded ordnance lay in main intersections and schools. The few remaining residents face severe shortages of food, water and health care, with the destruction of Nasser and Al Amal hospitals.
OCHA/Themba Linden.

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Foreword by the Emergency Relief Coordinator

Tom Fletcher

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

I launch this Global Humanitarian Overview for 2025—my first as Emergency Relief Coordinator—with shame, dread and hope.

Shame, because behind every number in this report is a human being. This exercise is not about theory or trends: it is about lives. Lives shattered by conflict, the climate crisis and the disintegration of our systems for international solidarity.

The suffering behind the numbers is all the more unconscionable for being man-made. Wars in Gaza, Sudan and Ukraine are marked by the ferocity and intensity of the killing, the complete disregard for international law, and the deliberate obstruction of our humanitarian movement's effort to save lives. Displacement of people has again reached new highs. Again, the most vulnerable are the worst betrayed: around one in every five children in the world—approximately 400 million—are living in or fleeing from conflict zones. And women and girls are too often the worst hit, amid inadequate health care and an epidemic of gender-based violence.

These staggering numbers matter. They give our humanitarian movement the clearest assessment of the daunting scale of the challenge, and a road map for where we must focus our collective energy and commitment. The data underlines the tough choices we must make as we face an unprecedented level of suffering. This year is set to be the hottest year on record; already vulnerable communities are reaping the consequences, hit by hurricanes, flooding, drought and heatwaves. Crises are lasting longer—10 years on average. And the longer they last, the bleaker the prospects: life expectancy drops, vaccination rates plummet, education suffers, maternal mortality skyrockets, and the spectre of famine grows.

So, it has been a catastrophic year for the people we serve. It has also been a tough year for our humanitarians. We are under-funded, overstretched and under assault. Humanitarian workers, particularly local staff, have faced indiscriminate hostilities, deadly attacks, and incessant obstruction of their work. Despite rigorous efforts to define and prioritize assistance, underfunding has forced us to scale back operations, and make the toughest choices, with real human costs.

But—hence my dread—2025 is set to be no less challenging. The warning signs are all here, and we cannot look away.

So where is the hope? We must draw it from the courage and determination of those we serve and from the extraordinary work being carried out every day by humanitarians. In 2024, despite the challenges, we reached nearly 116 million people worldwide. We increased local leadership in delivery, strategy, and funding. And through the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund, we improved the efficiency and speed of responses. As a community we continued to innovate, including through expansion of the use of cash and vouchers in

**Adré, Chad**

Hundreds of thousands of people fled conflict in Sudan and crossed into Chad. On 28 November 2024, at an informal site, the Emergency Relief Coordinator met with families who lost nearly everything. They told him of their traumatic experiences and of their struggle to keep their children fed, clothed, learning and healthy.
OCHA/Matteo Minasi

emergencies, increasing the autonomy and dignity of people caught in crises. Thank you to everyone in the global humanitarian movement, including our committed donors, all those on the frontlines of our efforts, and those who will join us in 2025.

This Global Humanitarian Overview for 2025 sets a clear path for building on this momentum in the coming year. It must jolt us into seeking a reset of the world's relationship with those in direst need; to raise all the funds needed for our front-line appeals; to find new allies, partnerships, and ways of working; to surge work to put the voices and agency of those we serve at the heart of the effort; and to be ruthless in finding efficiency and innovation.

I know that the humanitarian movement will confront the challenges with energy and commitment. But these efforts must be joined by a renewed groundswell of robust and decisive political action from the international community, to stand unequivocally behind international law and our collective obligations to protect civilians and humanitarian assistance; to genuinely confront conflicts, the climate crisis and inequality; and to win afresh the argument for humanity.

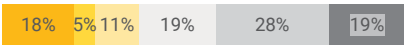
Tom Fletcher

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs
and Emergency Relief Coordinator

At a glance

PEOPLE IN NEED

305.1 million



PEOPLE TARGETED

189.5 million



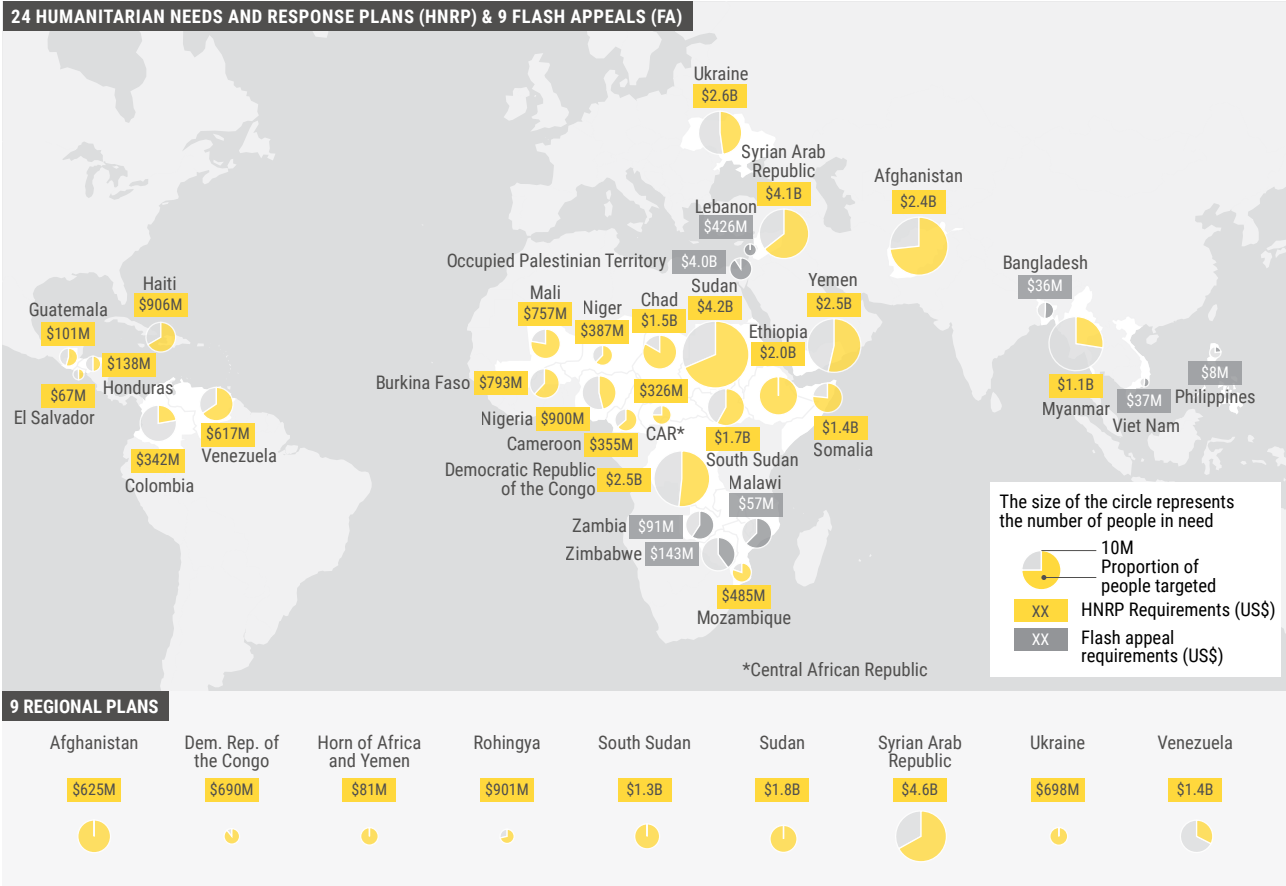
REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$47.4 billion



■ Asia and the Pacific ■ Europe ■ Latin America and the Caribbean ■ Middle East and North Africa ■ Southern and Eastern Africa ■ West and Central Africa

PEOPLE IN NEED, PEOPLE TARGETED AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN 2025

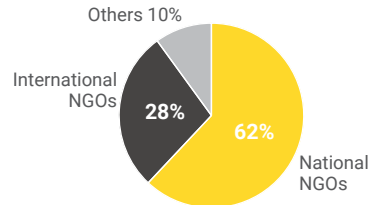


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

OF PARTNERS

More than

2,000



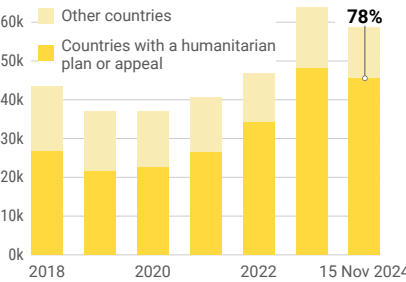
Source: hpc.tools; number of partners participating in the appeal. Data as of 2 Dec 2024

MAIN DRIVERS OF HUMANITARIAN CRISES

Conflict

78% of civilian fatalities in conflict worldwide occurred in countries with a humanitarian plan or appeal.

Number of civilians killed in conflict

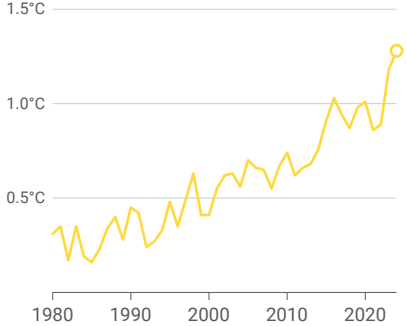


Source: ACLED, data as of 15 Nov 2024

Climate change

The world is perilously close to 1.5°C warming.

Average temperature anomaly



Source: NOAA, data as of 15 Nov 2024

SECTION 1

Trends in crises and needs

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Explore more
humanitarianaction.info



Trends in crises: a world on fire

In 2025, 305 million people around the world will require urgent humanitarian assistance and protection, as multiple crises escalate with devastating consequences for the people affected by them. The Southern and Eastern Africa region hosts the highest number of people in need (85 million), with the catastrophic crisis in Sudan accounting for 35 per cent of the total in the region. This is followed by the Middle East and North Africa, where 59 million people require assistance and protection. While the Syria crisis continues to drive the highest magnitude of needs in the region—with 33 million people requiring assistance and protection inside Syria and in neighbouring countries—the severity of needs is unparalleled in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and rapidly rising in Lebanon.

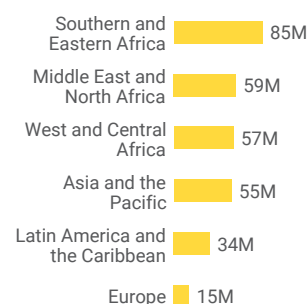
In West and Central Africa, 57 million people are in need, with the highest rise coming in Chad, due to the continued arrival of people fleeing Sudan in desperate need of refuge and support. In Asia and the Pacific, 55 million people are in need, of whom more than half (30 million) are in Afghanistan. The deepening crisis in Myanmar continues to drive increasing needs, with 22 million people now requiring assistance and protection both inside the country and across borders. In Latin America and the Caribbean, 34 million people are in need, including 15 million impacted by the Venezuela crisis. Meanwhile in Europe, 15 million people remain in need due to the ongoing war in Ukraine.



Kyiv, Ukraine: In the morning of 8 July 2024, a wave of deadly air strikes hit several cities across Ukraine, killing and injuring scores of civilians, including children. Strikes in Kyiv damaged residential homes, a private hospital and a children's hospital. *OCHA*

PEOPLE IN NEED

305.1 million



PEOPLE TARGETED

189.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$47.4 billion

There are two main drivers of these needs, both of which are man-made and therefore could be reversed with concerted and collective action:

- **Conflict:** Civilians are bearing the brunt of a record number of armed conflicts marked by blatant disregard for international humanitarian and human rights law, including mass atrocities. 2024 was one of the most brutal years in recent history for civilians caught in conflicts and, should urgent action not be taken, 2025 could be even worse. By mid-2024, nearly 123 million people had been forcibly displaced by conflict and violence, marking the twelfth consecutive annual increase. The global food security crisis is staggering, affecting over 280 million people daily as acute hunger spreads and intensifies. Violence and displacement further prevent food production and block access to vital markets. And around one in every five children in the world—approximately 400 million—are living in or fleeing conflict zones. In 2024, four out of every five civilian fatalities in conflict worldwide occurred in countries with a humanitarian plan or appeal, with lack of respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) continuing to be the single most important challenge for protecting people in armed conflicts, according to the ICRC. Grave violations against children have reached unprecedented levels in multiple conflicts, with Sudan alone witnessing a 480 per cent rise from 2022 to 2023. Over the past year, more women and children were killed in Gaza than the equivalent period of any other conflict over the past two decades, while in Ukraine an average of at least 16 children have been killed or injured every week since Russia's invasion in February 2022. The number of United Nations verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence was 50 per cent higher in 2023 than the year before. Meanwhile, total global military expenditure has surged, reaching US\$2.4 trillion in 2023.
- **The global climate emergency:** The world is perilously close to 1.5°C warming and the climate crisis is increasing the frequency and severity of disasters, with devastating consequences for the lives and livelihoods of millions of people. It is expected that 2024 will be the hottest year on record, marked by floods in the Sahel, East Africa and Europe, drought in Southern Africa and the Americas, and heatwaves across the globe. In 2023, 363 weather-related disasters were recorded, affecting at least 93.1 million people and causing thousands of deaths. In the same year, disasters triggered some 26.4 million internal displacements/movements with over three quarters caused by weather events. Climate change is worsening disasters, making events like the devastating Horn of Africa drought (2020 to 2023) at least 100 times more likely, and increasing the likelihood and destructive power of major hurricanes, such as Hurricane Beryl in 2024, the strongest June hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic. The climate crisis is wreaking havoc on food systems, with droughts causing over 65 per cent of agricultural economic damages in the past 15 years, worsening food insecurity, especially in areas reliant on smallholder farming. Conflict can also contribute directly to climate change, with researchers estimating that emissions from the first 120 days of the conflict in Gaza exceeded the annual emissions of 26 individual countries and territories. Meanwhile, the top 30 oil and gas companies (excluding those based in poorer countries) have recorded a combined of \$400 billion per year in free cash flow since the 2015 Paris agreement.

APPEALS

42

COUNTRIES

72

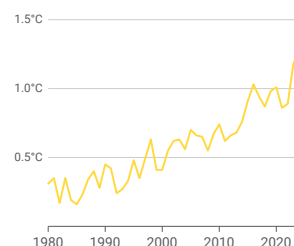
Conflict



4 out of 5

civilian fatalities in conflict worldwide occurred in countries with a humanitarian plan/appeal in 2024

Average temperature anomaly



Source: NASA



2024

will be the hottest year on record

In the absence of meaningful action to end and prevent conflicts and halt global warming, people are facing increasingly prolonged crises. The average duration of a humanitarian plan/appeal is now 10 years, with plans/appeals in Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, OPT, Somalia and Sudan having run consecutively for over 20 years.¹

The longer a humanitarian crisis lasts, the bleaker the prospects become for affected people. Data tracked since 2011 reveals that in a crisis-affected country:²



However, in a small number of countries, the situation has improved. Six countries that were responding to time-limited climate emergencies will conclude their humanitarian response plans/appeals by the end of 2024, and therefore, people in need in these countries are not included in the GH0 2025. This includes Burundi (floods), Grenada (hurricane), Libya (floods), Madagascar (cyclone/drought), Nepal (floods) and St Vincent and the Grenadines (hurricane). In addition, in Central America, whilst vulnerabilities remain high, four years after 2020 Hurricanes Eta and Iota, humanitarian needs have reduced. Throughout 2025, six other countries—Bangladesh, Malawi, the Philippines, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe—will also conclude climate-related plans/appeals. However, significant vulnerabilities remain in each of these countries, underscoring the need for rapid investments in locally led development and climate financing to help the most affected communities adapt to future threats.



10 years

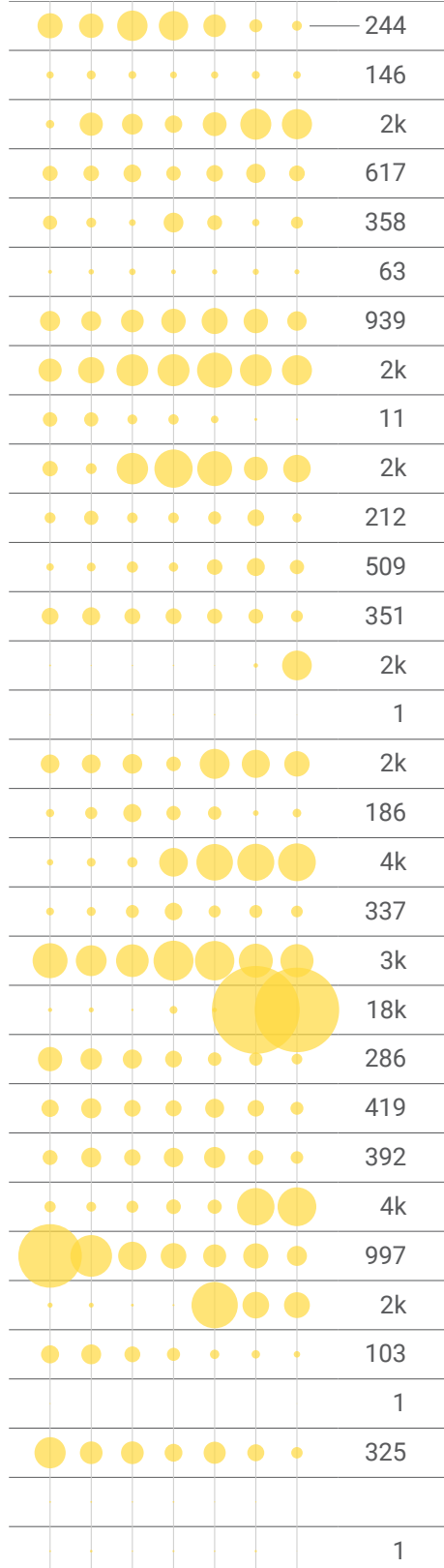
average duration of a humanitarian plan/appeal

¹ Internal OCHA calculations based on the number of country-specific appeals per year, lasting at minimum 6 months.

² These findings are based on a model for a country in need, which looked at all countries that had a country-specific appeal lasting a year or longer since 2011. Using a weighting factor for development indicators based on the ratio of country-specific people in need to total population, an average indicator was produced covering all countries which experienced a crisis in a particular year. Calculations and data can be found in the GH0 master dataset. This exercise is a follow-up to a similar study included in *World Humanitarian Data and Trends*, Figure 8: "A country in need".

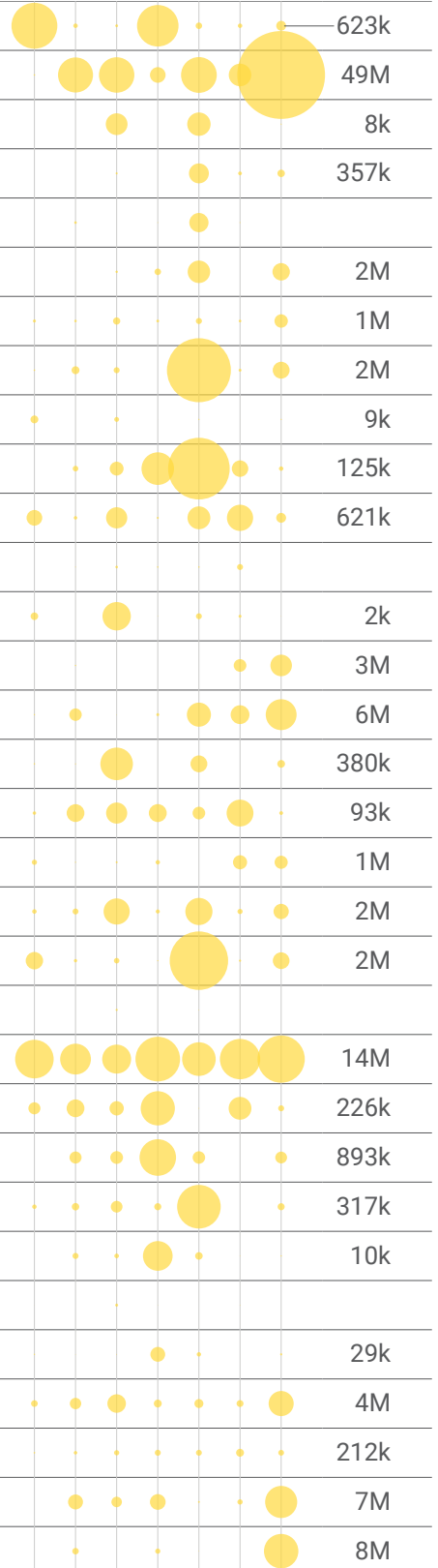
Civilians killed in conflict

2015 2020 2024



People affected by climate-related events

2018 2020 2022 2024



Source ACLED, EM-DAT



Civilians are bearing the brunt of wars around the world

Today's conflicts are more entrenched and severe than at any point in recent history, whether assessed by levels of violence or indicators of peace, the number of State-involved conflicts or civilian casualties.³ In 2023, there were 59 state-based armed conflicts, the highest ever recorded since 1946, when tracking began. In 2023, 220 out of 369 conflicts worldwide—about 60 per cent—were fought violently, up from 216 out of 363 the previous year.⁴ Sub-Saharan Africa continued to experience the highest number of conflicts classified as full-scale wars.

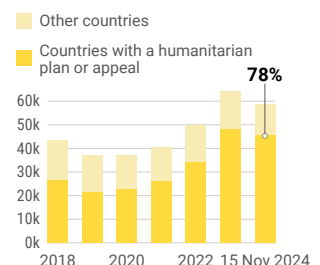
Civilians are bearing the brunt of these conflicts, which are characterized by blatant disregard for international humanitarian and human rights law, including mass atrocities. Over 58,700 civilians have already been killed in conflict in 2024, with civilian fatalities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory



Kisangani, Democratic Republic of the Congo: Rachel and her children, including her daughter Sophie—who was brutally attacked and lost both arms—in Tshopo province, a region plagued by ongoing communal violence. *OCHA/Wassy Kambale*

Number of civilians killed in conflict

78% of civilian fatalities in conflict worldwide occurred in countries with a humanitarian plan or appeal in 2024.



Source: ACLED, 15 Nov 2024

³ Different research outfits use different means to explore the nature, scale, scope and intensity of conflict. For conflict fought violently, see *Conflictbarometer 2023*; for State-involved conflict, *Peace Research Institute Oslo* and *Uppsala Conflict Data Program*; for indicators of peace (i.e., 'peacefulness'), see the *Global Peace Index 2024* and for civilian fatalities, see ACLED data.

⁴ Political conflict is classified according to its intensity into low, medium or high. Low intensity political conflict is non-violent; it includes political disputes and non-violent crises. Medium and high intensity political conflict includes the use of violence. For full definitions on methodology, please see Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research, *Conflict Barometer 2023*.

(OPT) accounting for nearly 31 per cent of the global total, followed by Sudan and Myanmar, according to the [ACLED database](#). Tragically, with conflicts continuing to escalate in places like OPT, Sudan, and Ukraine, 2024 could match or even surpass the devastating death toll in 2023, when over 63,000 civilians were killed in wars. Humanitarians, however, remain on the ground in the most challenging conflicts. Four out of every five civilian fatalities in conflicts worldwide in 2024 have occurred in countries with a humanitarian plan or appeal.⁵

The rising use of explosive weapons in populated areas has had catastrophic consequences for civilians, especially children. On average, civilians make up 90 percent of those harmed by attacks involving [explosive weapons in populated areas](#). In 2023, nearly 30,000 civilians were [killed](#) or injured by explosive weapons in just six conflicts: Myanmar, OPT, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen. Children are uniquely [impacted](#) by explosive weapons, and can be at least seven times more likely to [die](#) from blast injuries than adults. Between 2018 and 2022, explosive weapons were responsible for nearly half of the more than 47,500 instances of [children](#) killed and maimed in more than 24 conflict zones globally, as verified by the United Nations. During the same period, explosive weapons killed or seriously injured almost twice as many children as were killed or injured by gunshots and other firearms.

Explosive weapons also drastically increase damage to civilian infrastructure during war, as seen during Israel's offensive in Gaza, OPT. More than half of [Gaza's](#) homes, 80 per cent of commercial facilities, 87 per cent of school buildings and 68 per cent of cropland have been damaged or destroyed, while health facilities have been systematically attacked. There are worrying indications that these trends are being repeated in [Lebanon](#), where 99,000 housing units and 36 water facilities have been destroyed or damaged, impacting the homes of hundreds of thousands of people and water supply for nearly 402,000 people. The UN Secretary-General continues to urge parties to conflict and States to avoid using explosive weapons in populated areas, relocate conflicts away from urban centers, and refrain from placing military objectives within or

near densely populated areas. He also calls for the signing and implementation of the [Political Declaration on Strengthening the Protection of Civilians from the Humanitarian Consequences Arising from the Use of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas](#).

Grave violations against children have reached unprecedented levels. Around one in every five children in the world—approximately 400 million—are living in or fleeing from [conflict zones](#).

In 2023, the United Nations [verified](#) 32,990 grave violations, affecting over 22,000 children, a 21 per cent increase from 2022. Sudan alone witnessed a 480 per cent rise in grave violations. Children are being killed and maimed in devastating numbers, with more than 5,300 children killed and over 6,300 maimed due to conflict and violence in 2023. Following the horrific attack in Israel on 7 October 2023, which killed almost 1,200 people and saw over 250 people taken hostage, more women and children have been [killed](#) by the Israeli military offensive in Gaza over the past year than the equivalent period of any other conflict over the past two decades, while in [Ukraine](#) an average of at least 16 children have been killed or injured every week since Russia's invasion in February 2022. Gaza, OPT now has the largest cohort of child amputees in recent history, with more than 10 children losing [one or both of their legs](#) each day in the first months of the conflict. Other violations against children included recruitment and use in conflict, sexual violence or abductions. Gender norms influenced the [violations committed against children](#): boys—who constituted 70 per cent of children impacted by grave violations—faced higher risks of recruitment, killing and maiming, while girls were more frequently subjected to sexual violence. Overall, conflict-related sexual violence against children increased by 25 per cent compared to 2022.

Conflict-related sexual violence overall has risen dramatically. In 2023, the UN recorded 3,688 verified cases of [conflict-related sexual violence](#), which was 50 per cent higher than the year before. Women and girls accounted for 95 per cent of the verified cases, while 32 per cent of the victims were children. In 2024, conflict-related sexual violence escalated

⁵ Internal analysis based on ACLED data. Data downloaded 15 November 2024. Based on ACLED definitions, to calculate the number of civilian fatalities in conflict, two dimensions were summed: "violence against civilians" plus "explosions/remote violence", the latter with the filter "civil targeting" enabled. The countries included in the calculation were all countries with a HNRP or equivalent plus Lebanon and OPT, both of which have flash appeals.

in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), with health professionals reporting cases involving survivors as young as three years old. In Sudan, the Rapid Support Forces and its allied militias committed widespread sexual violence, including gang rapes and the abduction and detention of victims in conditions that amount to sexual slavery. In Haiti, there has been a ten-fold surge in sexual violence against children, as armed gangs

continue to terrorize communities amid a growing humanitarian disaster.

Forced displacement due to conflict and violence has skyrocketed, with 20.5 million internal displacements (or movements) recorded across 45 countries and territories in 2023, of which two-thirds were reported in DRC, OPT and Sudan. Sudan is now the world's largest displacement crisis, with 11 million people internally displaced

AID IN ACTION

Conflict continues to drive waves of forced displacement



Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh: A memorial at the site of an airstrike which killed scores of civilians in the small village of Hroza in the Kharkiv region. OCHA/Saviano Abreu

Conflict continues to fuel forced displacement worldwide. By mid-2024 UNHCR estimated that nearly 123 million people had been forcibly displaced due to persecution, conflict, violence and human rights violations—a 5 per cent increase (5.3 million people) compared to 2023. By June 2024, one in 67 people worldwide was forcibly displaced, nearly double the rate of one in 114 people a decade ago.

The number of refugees reached 43.7 million by mid-2024, reflecting a one per cent rise compared to 2023, primarily driven by ongoing conflicts in Sudan and Ukraine. Internal displacement due to conflict and disaster continued to surge, with an estimated 72.1 million people internally displaced by mid-2024, continuing an upward trend since 2016. Conflict and violence remain the leading causes, with new internal displacements in six

countries—DRC, Haiti, Mozambique, Myanmar, Sudan and Ukraine—accounting for 90 per cent of people forced to flee within their own country in 2024.

Sudan is now the world's largest displacement crisis, with 11 million people internally displaced and over 3.1 million having fled across borders since the war began in April 2023. The armed violence and attacks in Aj Jazirah State underscore the brutality of 19 months of conflict in Sudan, with reports of rape, mass killings and widespread looting. In less than one month—between 20 October and mid-November—hostilities in Aj Jazirah drove more than 340,000 people from their homes, the vast majority of whom fled to neighbouring Gedaref and Kassala states.

As in recent years, durable solutions in 2023 remained elusive for most refugees, IDPs and stateless people in need. While over one million refugees and 5.1 million IDPs returned to their countries or places of origin in 2023, these figures represented decreases of 22 per cent and 39 per cent, respectively, compared to 2022. Protection concerns, inadequate basic services and poor economic opportunities in return areas hinder people's ability to safely restore their livelihoods, leaving few paths to recovery. In Syria, for example, the number of IDPs peaked at 7.6 million in 2014 but remained at 7.2 million in 2023.

and over 3.1 million having fled across borders to seek refuge from the war. These refugees are in neighbouring countries, including Chad, Egypt and South Sudan—countries that already host significant numbers of refugees and or internally displaced persons (IDPs). Almost 1 out of every 3 people in Sudan—30 per cent of the country’s population—has been forced to flee their home, and over half of IDPs are children. In DRC, meanwhile, the first six months of 2024 saw over 2.7 million internal displacements due to conflict and violence, the highest figure recorded over a six-month period since monitoring began in 2009. The March 23 non-State armed group caused some 73 per cent of the displacements. Separately, the situation in Lebanon has caused the displacement of 100,000 Syrian refugees internally and created adverse circumstances that caused the return of approximately 570,000 Syrian, Lebanese and third-country nationals to Syria, often in undignified and challenging conditions.

Conflict remains the primary driver of food insecurity, including catastrophic levels of acute hunger and malnutrition (IPC/CH Phase 5). At this stage, people experience an extreme lack of food and have exhausted all coping mechanisms, resulting in a significantly heightened risk of acute malnutrition and death. In 2023, 282 million people in 59 countries and territories faced high levels of acute food insecurity—a rise of 24 million (or nine per cent) since 2022.⁶ The number of people facing, or projected to face, catastrophic levels of acute hunger (IPC/CH Phase 5) more than doubled, rising from 705,000 across five countries/territories in 2023 to 1.9 million across four countries/territories by mid-2024. This surge is largely driven by conflicts in OPT and Sudan. In Sudan, about 755,300 people were projected to face catastrophic levels of acute hunger (IPC Phase 5) during the peak of the lean season (June to September 2024). Famine (IPC Phase 5), reported in July 2024 in Zamzam IDP camp, is highly likely to persist beyond October 2024 while other areas are at risk of famine as long as conflict and limited humanitarian access prevail. In November 2024, the Famine Review Committee alerted that there is a strong likelihood that famine is imminent in northern Gaza, OPT, with 355,900 people projected to face catastrophic levels of acute hunger

(IPC/CH Phase 5) in Gaza. Conflict and insecurity are driving catastrophic hunger in South Sudan, with 31,000 people currently in IPC/CH Phase 5 (December 2024 to March 2025 estimates), among returnees from neighbouring Sudan. The situation is expected to deteriorate further as the lean season approaches and more people arrive from Sudan. In Haiti, over 5,600 people are facing catastrophic levels of acute hunger (IPC/CH 5) among people displaced by expanding violence and armed groups. In Mali’s Menaka region, nearly 2,600 people are facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 5) due to conflict and severe access constraints.

Today, more than 78 million children and young people in war-torn and crisis-stricken areas are out of school. In countries such as Syria, a generation of children has grown-up knowing only war, shattering their education and future opportunities.

People affected by humanitarian emergencies often face severe psychological stress. Loss, trauma and prolonged stress can overwhelm people’s coping capacity. The breakdown of community structures, such as extended family systems and informal networks, exacerbate social and psychological challenges. Conflicts, in particular, have significant mental health impacts. Over one in five people in post-conflict settings experience mental health issues. A January 2024 study found high rates of post-traumatic stress disorder and severe anxiety among Ukrainians, including refugees, following the first year of the Russian invasion. Similarly, the intense conflict in Gaza, OPT has worsened mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) needs. Many people affected by violence in Haiti are experiencing trauma from displacement and fear of epidemics like cholera, worsened by their current living conditions. In Sudan, children grapple with sadness, fear, and hopelessness as the ongoing war exposes them to harrowing violence and devastation. This prolonged exposure to conflict inflicts severe emotional stress, leading to long-term mental health and psychosocial challenges. The IASC Minimum Service Package for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support outlines a set of priority activities and provides a framework to deliver essential support to emergency-affected populations, with

⁶ The increase in the number of acutely food insecure people is due, partly, to extended analytical coverage. The total population analysed has increased each year since 2020.

emphasis on community-based MHPSS approaches to put individuals, communities and social systems at the centre of the response.

Meanwhile, conflict and violence continue to destabilize the global economy, disrupting lives and destroying livelihoods. In 2023, the global economic cost of violence reached \$19.1 trillion—equivalent to 13.5 per cent of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Afghanistan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Ukraine incurred the highest proportional economic impacts in 2023, with costs equivalent to 42, 53 and 67 per cent their respective GDPs.

In the absence of concerted efforts to end wars, global military spending reached a record \$2.4 trillion in 2023. This marked the ninth consecutive year of growth in military expenditure, and the highest year-on-year increase since 2009. The 10 largest spenders in 2023—led by the United States, China and Russia—all increased their military

spending. Some smaller states instituted proportionally enormous increases, with the DRC increasing military spending by 105 per cent, and South Sudan by 78 per cent. With these increases, the world military expenditure is now 50 times the amount of the global humanitarian appeal.

Lack of respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) continues to be the single most important challenge for protecting people in armed conflicts, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). In addition to its direct impact on civilians' protection, the repeated violations of IHL can severely damage the perception of humanitarianism's independence and neutrality, endanger community acceptance and put aid workers at risk. The UN Secretary-General has demanded that governments put pressure on all parties to conflict to protect civilians, halt arms transfers to armies and groups that violate international law, and end impunity, so that perpetrators face justice.

AID IN ACTION

Women's strength and leadership amid conflict



Lviv, Ukraine: Victoria, an aid worker, sorts relief supplies in an emergency shelter. Originally from Bucha near Kyiv, she fled the conflict and began working with Tvoya Opора, a CARE partner, as head of the shelter. Victoria is among the many resilient women rebuilding and strengthening their communities. *CARE/Roman Yeremenko*

Humanitarian narratives that surround women in conflict are often reductive, casting them as either invisible or solely as victims. In reality, women take active, leading roles to support and uplift their communities during wars.

A recent CARE report, Women in War, surveyed over 13,000 women affected by conflict, finding that 91 per cent of them were actively working to protect and strengthen their communities in places like Colombia, OPT, Syria and Yemen. Women were advocates for change, provided refuge for those displaced, and took on primary income-generating roles, with 46 per cent diversifying their incomes to support their families.

Women also built powerful support networks: 71 per cent provided health services, 79 per cent worked to make their communities safer and 60 per cent improved education opportunities. These roles highlight the invaluable contributions of women, whose leadership in times of crisis is essential.



The climate crisis is intensifying, increasing the likelihood of severe disasters

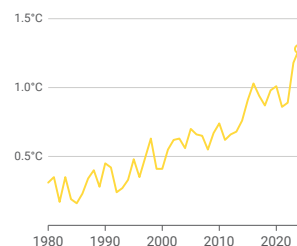
The world is perilously close to 1.5°C warming and the climate crisis is increasing the frequency and severity of disasters, with devastating consequences for the lives and livelihoods of millions of people. In 2023, global temperatures hit a record high and 2024 is expected to be even hotter. This extends a decade-long trend, with 2015 to 2024 now the hottest years recorded. In 2023, rivers worldwide had their driest year in over three decades, and ocean temperatures spiked, with 2024 data showing comparable levels of heating. When water is scarce, polluted or difficult to access, people's food security can be undermined, their livelihoods may be eroded, and conflict can follow. Meanwhile, sea levels hit their highest point in 2023; although they dipped slightly in 2024, the last decade saw sea levels rise at twice the rate of two decades ago. Rising sea levels and increasing tide heights put coastal and island communities at risk of more intense storm surges, coastal erosion and flooding. Glaciers in 2023 recorded the greatest ice loss with water displaced equivalent to five times the Dead Sea's volume. Global humanitarian leadership have stated that keeping the global temperature rise to below 1.5°C is a top humanitarian priority and



Lao Cai province, Viet Nam: Thuy Nga (30) and her husband, Van Duong (30), members of the Giay ethnic group, live in Lam Tien village. In a single night, a flood and landslide destroyed the back wall of their house, allowing mud to inundate their home. All of the family's belongings, including the books of their two children, Tra My (10) and Nhat Minh (5), were soaked and caked in mud, rendering them unusable.

UNICEF/Dang Thai Binh

Average temperature anomaly



Source: NASA



2024

will be the hottest year on record

called for dramatically increased ambition in the new 'nationally determined contributions.'

Climate change is intensifying the severity of weather-related disasters and wreaking havoc on food systems. It has made events like the devastating Horn of Africa drought (2020 to 2023) at least 100 times more likely, and increased the likelihood and destructive power of major hurricanes, such as Hurricane Beryl in 2024, the strongest June hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic. Hotter temperatures, more frequent and severe droughts, floods, storms and rising sea levels are disrupting food and water security, degrading the environment, damaging human health and livelihoods, and displacing millions of people. The climate crisis is wreaking havoc on food systems, with droughts causing over 65 per cent of agricultural economic damages in the past 15 years, worsening food insecurity, especially in areas reliant on smallholder farming. In early 2024, drought was estimated to have reduced corn production in Mexico by 20 to 40 per cent, while drought in southern Africa led to a 42 per cent loss in cereal production in Zambia.

Weather-related disasters are affecting millions of people each year and uprooting many from their homes. In 2023, 363 weather-related disasters were recorded, affecting at least 93.1 million people and causing thousands of deaths. In the same year, disasters triggered 26.4 million internal displacements/movements with over three quarters caused by weather events. Although complete data for 2024 is not yet available, the year has already seen major weather events. Persistent heatwaves affected East Asia, the Mediterranean and Middle East, the United States of America, northern India and the Horn of Africa. In the first half of the year, Afghanistan faced cold waves and flooding, while floods caused major loss of life in East Africa, including Kenya and Tanzania. Lake Victoria's record-high levels contributed to extensive flooding in South Sudan while the rising waters of Lake Tanganyika triggered severe flooding in both Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Heavy rains caused devastating flooding in southern Brazil, forcing more than 400,000 people to leave their homes and leading to billions of dollars in economic losses. The North Atlantic hurricane season started early in 2024, with Hurricane Beryl setting a record as the earliest Atlantic Ocean category 5 storm. Extreme

rainfall affected central Europe, and flooding in the Sahel in September displaced nearly 1.4 million people across Chad, Mali and Nigeria. Typhoon Yagi displaced nearly 1.6 million people across Myanmar, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam in September 2024. Children are especially affected, with roughly one in eight significantly impacted by 10 major weather events in 2024, including the drought in Southern Africa, Typhoon Yagi in south-east Asia and flooding in the Sahel.

The climate crisis also threatens physical and mental health. The disruption of health care due to climatic events hinders effective humanitarian response, as seen in South Sudan, where floods submerged 58 health facilities. In 2024, El Niño intensified these challenges globally. Water-borne diseases like cholera and vector-borne illnesses such as malaria and dengue surged, driven by warmer temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns.

There is also growing evidence that conflict can contribute directly to climate change. Researchers estimate that the emissions from the first 120 days of the conflict in Gaza were greater than the annual emissions of 26 individual countries and territories. The first seven months of Russia's invasion of Ukraine were estimated to cause at least 100 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. While data is poor, estimates suggest that the world's militaries are responsible for 5.5 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, not including emissions from warfighting itself. And vice-versa, climate change may also indirectly contribute to conflict by increasing tensions around food security, water scarcity and resource competition.

Meanwhile, the top 30 oil and gas companies (excluding those based in poorer countries) have recorded a combined average of \$400 billion per year in free cash flow since the Paris agreement was signed in 2015. The UN Secretary-General has called for global production and consumption of all fossil fuels to be cut by at least thirty percent by 2030 and urged every country to ban advertising from fossil fuel companies.

Global humanitarian leadership have called for urgent support for communities on the front-lines of the climate crisis to adapt and respond to its impacts. Yet, climate finance for fragile and conflict-affected countries is critically lacking. These

countries receive far less adaptation finance than other low-income countries, despite their acute vulnerability to climate change. Adaptation must be planned, financed and implemented at a scale and speed that matches the worsening climate crisis. Further, access to climate finance must be significantly increased and directed to the local level in countries experiencing conflict, extreme poverty and humanitarian crises, including least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS). Humanitarian leadership has also called for climate finance processes to be streamlined and made more accessible to multiple actors, including civil societies and community-based organizations.

Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems are crucial to helping communities prepare for, and respond to the climate crisis, and anticipatory action can help humanitarians respond early.

One third of people, mainly in LDCs and SIDS, lack effective early warning systems for climate-related disasters. Urgent new investments are needed to improve and extend early warning, in support of the Secretary General's Early Warnings for All initiative. Early warning systems must cover those most at-risk, particularly in countries and communities affected by conflict, fragility and/or humanitarian crises, and enable enhanced climate risk appraisal

and impact management interventions, particularly scaled-up anticipatory action.

As this year's GHO highlights, without urgent climate action, there are a growing number of countries that face increasingly frequent and severe disasters.

Seven countries began 2025 with humanitarian Flash Appeals that should be on a development trajectory, but risk facing repeated crises without global support to help their communities adapt and prepare. And in some of the world's largest humanitarian crises, people are now faced with rising climate risks: the 2020 to 2023 Horn of Africa drought took a devastating toll on communities previously hit by conflict in Somalia, and flooding in South Sudan has affected about 1.4 million people in 2024, mostly in parts of the country that have endured intense fighting. At least 90 million displaced people are living in countries with high-to-extreme exposure to climate-related hazards, and nearly half out of all forcibly displaced people are bearing the burden of both conflict and the adverse effects of climate change. It is therefore critical that the world acts to support those on the frontlines of the climate crisis, including redirecting climate finance to those who need it most, before it is too late.

AID IN ACTION

Urbanization exacerbates climate vulnerability



Taiz City, Yemen: OCHA/Ahmed Basha

Urbanization both drives and heightens vulnerabilities from climate change. Cities contribute a growing share of global greenhouse gas emissions, rising from about 62 per cent in 2015 to between 67 and 72 per cent in 2020. The concentration of people and activities in urban areas amplifies local warming, intensifies heat extremes and increases precipitation and runoff. At the same time, the climate crisis adversely

affects urban residents' health, livelihoods and essential infrastructure.

Both rapid- and slow-onset climate events disrupt urban transportation, energy, water, food and sanitation systems, leading to economic damages, service interruptions and decreased quality of life, with marginalized groups bearing the greatest burden. As urbanization rises in coastal and low-lying areas, exposure to extreme river flow and sea level rise will increase, with informal and rapidly growing settlements facing the highest risks.

To improve urban resilience, access to disaster risk reduction finance is essential, particularly for economically and socially vulnerable populations, including those in informal settlements.

SECTION 2

Response trends

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Humanitarians' response: an urgent appeal for access and funding

In 2025, the UN and partner organizations are appealing for over \$47 billion to assist nearly 190 million people across 72 countries.¹ With significant increases in funding required to respond to the escalating crises in OPT and Lebanon, the Middle East and North Africa region now requires \$15.9 billion, accounting for 34 per cent of the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO). The escalating crisis in Sudan has increased funding requirements in Eastern and Southern Africa—which now require nearly \$12 billion—while in West and Central Africa, \$7.6 billion is needed, with Chad's appeal growing due to the continued arrival of Sudanese refugees. Asia and the Pacific now require \$5.1 billion, including an increase in Myanmar's appeal, while Europe needs \$3.3 billion, specifically for Ukraine. Across Latin America and the Caribbean, humanitarian partners are calling for \$3.6 billion, including a significant increase in funding required for Haiti, where escalating violence has driven rapidly rising needs.

Humanitarians will aim to target more people in 2025 than at the beginning of 2024, but a significant number of them come under time-limited, disaster-driven appeals. Seven² climate shock-related Flash Appeals/plans will

¹ For the full list of countries, please refer to [HumanitarianAction.info](https://www.humanitarianaction.info).

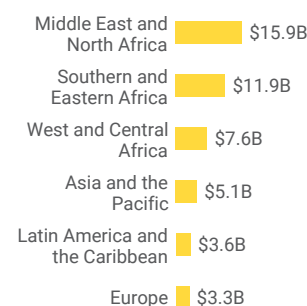
² Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique, Philippines, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



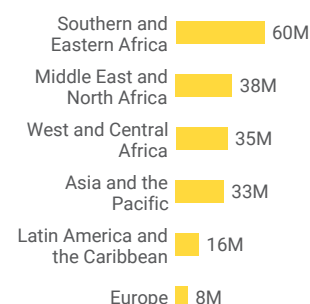
Herat Province, Afghanistan:

A year after the October earthquakes, support from the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund and the Central Emergency Response Fund has helped students get back to learning with tents and educational kits. *OCHA/ Abdullah Zahid*

Requirements (US\$)



People targeted



continue into the first months of 2025, accounting for 16 per cent of people targeted under GH0 2025. Since these appeals/plans span just three to seven months of the year, their costs are lower than those of full-year plans, reducing the overall cost per person of the GH0 2025.

For the second consecutive year, the GH0 reflects intensive work by humanitarian partners to prioritize assistance and protection for the people and places who need it most, guided by a realistic understanding of operational capacity to deliver.

Building on the difficult decisions already taken in 2024, Humanitarian Country Teams engaged in robust dialogues to review their delivery and set clear boundaries for their 2025 responses, concentrating humanitarian assistance on crisis-affected areas with the most severe needs. As a result, 16³ countries have reduced their requirements for 2025, with Humanitarian Needs and Response Plans tightly focused around responding to the most life-threatening needs in the most effective way possible. Three countries in Central America—El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras—have instituted notable proportional decreases, as they strive to focus on communities with the greatest intersectoral humanitarian needs and bolster complementary development action.

Work on setting clear boundaries for humanitarian appeals/plans has been accompanied by efforts to enhance cost efficiency and effectiveness.⁴

Placing power and funding in the hands of local and national actors (L/NAs) remains a top priority, with research showing that they can deliver programming 32 per cent more cost efficiently than international intermediaries. Humanitarian partners have also made significant progress in designing cost-effective cash interventions, and innovations such as anticipatory action⁵ and disaster insurance products. Partners are significantly improving the operational efficiency of humanitarian responses, saving hundreds of millions of dollars while enhancing the ability to meet urgent needs. Innovations in procurement and streamlined processes for assessment, targeting, monitoring, and coordination have

maximized resource use and eliminated duplication. The humanitarian sector is also working to boost investment in cost and expenditure analysis, which can help organizations enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of both programmes as well as core and support costs.

In 2025, humanitarian partners will continue to improve the way they deliver for people in crisis, including by:

- **Respecting and promoting locally led humanitarian action.** L/NAs are at the heart of humanitarian response, leveraging community networks to access affected people, and ensuring more effective, efficient and sustainable action. By the end of 2024, 45 per cent of funding from Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) was channelled to local and national partners, the highest proportion ever, and pooled funds were able to support community-driven approaches, including Emergency Response Rooms in Sudan. L/NAs are also now present in 93 per cent of Humanitarian Country Teams. Despite this, research highlights that many local actors feel excluded from decision-making. More must be done to earn L/NA's trust and ensure that their voices and views shape the future of humanitarian action.
- **Pursuing people-centred and accountable responses.** Enabling people affected by crises to drive humanitarian responses requires major systems shifts. Collective Accountability to Affected People (AAP) plays a critical role in this, establishing a system-wide approach that incorporates community priorities, perceptions and feedback into decision-making processes. In 2024, the Central Emergency Response Fund allocated funds to strengthen collective AAP in 16 humanitarian operations, leading to significant advances. In Afghanistan, for example, community feedback—including women's voices—is now used to adjust the collective humanitarian response and reallocate funds.
- **Expanding cash assistance wherever feasible and appropriate.** Cash assistance empowers individuals—particularly women and marginalized

3 Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen.

4 For the definitions on cost efficiency and effectiveness, see Cost-Efficiency Analysis of Basic Needs Programs: Best Practice Guidance for Humanitarian Agencies.

5 The Food and Agriculture Organization calculates that every dollar invested in anticipatory action could give families seven dollars in benefits and avoided losses. Yet despite research that more than half of humanitarian emergencies are predictable and over 20 per cent are highly foreseeable, in 2023 less than 1 per cent of humanitarian funds were dedicated to such interventions.

groups—by allowing them to address their unique needs directly. After years of growth, the volume of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in humanitarian responses decreased in 2023 for the first time since 2015. Despite this, CVA is increasingly being deployed in complex and volatile emergencies. In Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory, for example, pre-agreed measures by the Cash Working Group enabled cash to be distributed within days of the October 2023 crisis.

However, two key changes are required for humanitarians to effectively deliver in 2025—access and safety for civilians and the aid workers who serve them, and a fully funded GHO.

- **Advocating respect for international humanitarian law, and accountability for violations, is crucial to protecting civilians and aid workers—who face unprecedented attacks—and to ensuring crisis-affected people can access the assistance, protection and services they require.** Flagrant violations of international humanitarian rights law, combined with insecurity and bureaucratic impediments, imperil the lives of people in need of assistance and the aid workers striving to help them. In countries like Afghanistan, Yemen and the Sahel, bureaucratic impediments and counterterrorism and sanctions-related restrictions, further hinder the delivery of critical assistance by exposing humanitarian actors to legal and financial risks. To deliver their mandate, it is imperative that humanitarians engage with all actors to negotiate access and deliver assistance and protection for civilians. This is particularly critical given that 90 per cent of people living in areas controlled by armed groups live in countries with humanitarian response plans.
- **No amount of efficiency measures can replace the need for full and flexible funding of humanitarian responses.** Humanitarian action remains a lifeline for millions of people affected by crises, yet chronic underfunding continues to have devastating consequences. Meanwhile, humanitarian organizations are increasingly burdened by the growing complexity and diversity of donor conditionalities, earmarking, and reporting requirements. These demands take critical time and resources, and ultimately result in inefficiencies, higher administrative costs, and potential delays in aid delivery. Exacting donor

conditionalities also create disproportionate burdens on resource-constrained local and national NGOs. For humanitarians to respond effectively wherever and whenever needed, global solidarity must be stepped up to fully fund the GHO 2025, and donors must streamline their processes and approaches. While \$47 billion is a sizeable amount, it pales in comparison to other global expenditures—it is less than 2 per cent of global military expenditure, around 4 per cent of the global banking industry's profits and just 12 per cent of the fossil fuel industry's average annual free cash flow.

Addressing the global food crisis will be a key response priority going into 2025. The global food security crisis is staggering, affecting over 280 million people daily. Acute hunger has spread and intensified alarmingly over the past five years, as evidenced by the Famine Review Committee being activated five times for a single context in one year—an unprecedented event for the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification initiative. Violence and displacement are wreaking havoc, preventing food production and access to vital markets. While Afghanistan has shown some improvement due to sustained funding, this is a rare exception. The outlook is dire, with acute food insecurity projected to worsen across 16 hunger hotspots from November 2024 to May 2025. Worryingly, warnings of deteriorating food security often fail to translate into increased humanitarian support. Financing for food, cash, and emergency agriculture is misaligned with the escalating needs. If urgent resources are not mobilized, the world risks a catastrophic rise in hunger and malnutrition, exposing millions to preventable diseases and potentially reversing hard-earned development gains. The time to act is now.

Ultimately, people in crisis need political action to end wars, climate action to help them prepare for a shock-filled future and development action to lift them out of crisis, as emphasized in the Pact for the Future. With more State-involved wars today than at any other point since 1946, and the horrifying toll on civilians rising each day, immediate political action is required to end conflicts and uphold the laws of war. Climate action is equally urgent, requiring swift, decisive work to reverse the global climate crisis and ensure that climate financing

reaches those most at-risk of catastrophe. As this year's GHO highlights, a growing number of countries are experiencing more frequent and severe disasters—these are countries that should be on a development trajectory, but risk facing repeated crises without global support to help their communities adapt and prepare. And there is an urgent need for Governments, development actors and

donors—including international financial institutions—to continue providing development funding and financing in fragile and complex settings, to make funding available for locally led development, and to prioritize development investment in the sectors that humanitarians are so frequently called to address, including education, food security, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

AID IN ACTION

Analyzing costs to maximize humanitarian impact



Nairobi, Kenya: A staff member analyzes the cost per output of a program intervention using the Dioptra tool. *International Rescue Committee/Lucian Lee*

Amid declining funding, scalable and cost-effective humanitarian action can greatly enhance the reach and effectiveness of each dollar spent. To this end, a coalition of NGOs¹ is using the 'Dioptra' tool to analyze the cost per output of various programmes. The tool applies a standardized method to assess the cost per person reached with a programme intervention and the unit cost of aid items. By enhancing transparency, Dioptra has improved the understanding of cost-efficiency and effectiveness across humanitarian interventions and contexts.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC), part of the consortium that manages the Dioptra tool, has intensively studied its global programmes to learn how to enhance cost efficiency in humanitarian response. Examples include:

- **Malnutrition:** A simplified protocol for treating wasting proved equally effective and less resource-intensive than the traditional protocol. In Mali, it reduced the cost per child treated by 18 per cent.
- **Early childhood development:** In Lebanon, the Remote Early Learning Programme achieved effective learning outcomes at a cost of \$260 per child for 514 children. With economies of scale, this cost is projected to drop to \$150 per child when serving 1,000 children or more.
- **Cash assistance:** In Nigeria, anticipatory cash distributions boosted household investment in productive assets and reduced negative coping strategies compared to traditional cash responses. These outcomes were achieved at similar delivery cost per dollar of cash transferred, demonstrating greater impact for every dollar spent.

¹ Acción contra el Hambre, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, Mercy Corps and Save the Children.

Overview of 2025 response plans

PEOPLE IN NEED

305.1 million

PEOPLE TARGETED
































189.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$47.4 billion

PLANS

42

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
 Afghanistan	HNRP	22.9M	16.8M	\$2.4B
 Burkina Faso	HNRP	5.9M	3.7M	\$792.6M
 Cameroon	HNRP	3.3M	2.1M	\$355.3M
 Central African Republic	HNRP	2.4M	1.8M	\$326.1M
 Chad	HNRP	7.8M	6.5M	\$1.5B
 Colombia	HNRP	9M	2M	\$342.0M
 Democratic Republic of the Congo	HNRP	21.2M	11M	\$2.5B
 El Salvador	HNRP	818.7K	407.5K	\$66.9M
 Ethiopia	HNRP	TBD	10M	\$2.0B
 Guatemala	HNRP	2.2M	1.2M	\$101.0M
 Haiti	HNRP	6M	4M	\$906.0M
 Honduras	HNRP	1.6M	800K	\$138.0M
 Mali	HNRP	5.9M	4.6M	\$756.8M
 Mozambique	HNRP+FA	2.5M	2M	\$485.0M
 Myanmar	HNRP	19.9M	5.5M	\$1.1B
 Niger	HNRP	2.7M	1.7M	\$386.5M
 Nigeria	HNRP	7.8M	3.6M	\$900.0M
 Somalia	HNRP	5.98M	4.6M	1.43B
 South Sudan	HNRP	9.3M	5.4M	\$1.7B
 Sudan	HNRP	30.4M	20.9M	\$4.2B
 Syrian Arab Republic	HNRP	16.7M	10.8M	\$4.1B
 Ukraine	HNRP	12.7M	6.1M	\$2.6B
 Venezuela	HNRP	7.6M	5M	\$617.0M
 Yemen	HNRP	19.5M	10.5M	\$2.5B
 Bangladesh	FA	1.8M	942.4K	\$35.6M
 Lebanon	FA	1M	1M	\$425.7M
 Malawi	FA	6.1M	3.8M	\$57.5M
 Occupied Palestinian Territory	FA	3.3M	3M	\$4.0B
 Philippines	FA	892.8K	210K	\$8.2M
 Viet Nam	FA	570K	300K	\$37.2M
 Zambia	FA	5.4M	3.2M	\$90.7M
 Zimbabwe	FA	7.6M	3.1M	\$143.1M

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
Afghanistan (RRP)	REG	7.3M <div><div></div></div>	7.3M <div><div></div></div>	\$624.5M <div><div></div></div>
Democratic Republic of the Congo (RRP)	REG	2.1M <div><div></div></div>	2.1M <div><div></div></div>	\$690.2M <div><div></div></div>
Horn of Africa to Yemen and Southern Africa (MRP)	REG	1.4M <div><div></div></div>	991.3K <div><div></div></div>	\$81.0M <div><div></div></div>
Rohingya (JRP)	REG	1.7M <div><div></div></div>	1.5M <div><div></div></div>	\$900.9M <div><div></div></div>
South Sudan (RRP)	REG	4.3M <div><div></div></div>	4.3M <div><div></div></div>	\$1.3B <div><div></div></div>
Sudan (RRP)	REG	5M <div><div></div></div>	5M <div><div></div></div>	\$1.8B <div><div></div></div>
Syrian Arab Republic (3RP)	REG	17.6M <div><div></div></div>	11.8M <div><div></div></div>	\$4.6B <div><div></div></div>
Ukraine (RRP)	REG	2.2M <div><div></div></div>	2.2M <div><div></div></div>	\$698.4M <div><div></div></div>
Venezuela (RMRP)	REG	7.2M <div><div></div></div>	2.3M <div><div></div></div>	\$1.4B <div><div></div></div>

Data is provisional and will be updated on humanitarianaction.info when individual plans are finalized. To avoid overlaps, some numbers are adapted when counting totals.

By region

	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
Asia and the Pacific	55.1M <div><div></div></div>	32.5M <div><div></div></div>	\$5.1B <div><div></div></div>
Europe	14.9M <div><div></div></div>	8.3M <div><div></div></div>	\$3.3B <div><div></div></div>
Latin America and the Caribbean	34.4M <div><div></div></div>	15.7M <div><div></div></div>	\$3.6B <div><div></div></div>
Middle East and North Africa	59.2M <div><div></div></div>	38.1M <div><div></div></div>	\$15.9B <div><div></div></div>
Southern and Eastern Africa	84.5M <div><div></div></div>	59.8M <div><div></div></div>	\$11.9B <div><div></div></div>
West and Central Africa	57.1M <div><div></div></div>	35M <div><div></div></div>	\$7.6B <div><div></div></div>



Attacks and access barriers are imperiling the lives of people in need of assistance

At a time when their work is more vital than ever, humanitarian workers and the services they provide are facing increasing attack, imperiling the lives of people in need of assistance. From the killing and detention of aid workers (particularly national staff) to attacks on health facilities and schools, to access barriers caused by legal and administrative measures, the ability of humanitarian workers to reach those in need—and for people in need to access critical assistance—is under unprecedented threat.

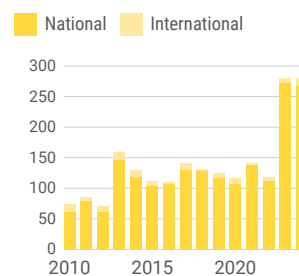
Humanitarians and the services they provide are under attack

Attacks against aid workers, as well as repeated harm against healthcare and educational facilities, are leaving many people without access to assistance and protection. 2024 has been the most dangerous year for aid workers, with 281 humanitarians killed—around 63 per cent in Gaza, OPT—and 525 subjected to major attacks. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) alone reported 226 of its staff killed in a single year of conflict between October 2023 and October 2024.



Zaita, Lebanon: Airstrike in the south of Lebanon. UNICEF

Number of humanitarian workers killed



Source: Aid worker security database, as of 25 Nov 2024

Local aid workers—serving their own communities on the frontlines of conflict—are most exposed to violence. Between 2000 and 2023, 86 per cent of all aid worker victims were national staff from both international and national organizations, while 96 per cent of those killed, injured or kidnapped between January and October 2024 were national or local staff. Palestinian staff in OPT face particular danger: from January to October 2024, 176 Palestinian aid workers had been killed or injured, comprising 42 per cent of the global number of national/local staff who suffered an attack.⁶ In Sudan, more than 50 Emergency Response Room volunteers have reportedly been killed since the war began in April 2023. Since January 2024, at least 30 local Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers have been killed while on duty wearing the organization's insignia, including 17 in OPT and 8 in Sudan.

Attacks on medical personnel and facilities continued in 2024, with new trends emerging that reflect blatant disregard for international humanitarian law. Between January and October 2024, 2,135 conflict-related attacks on health facilities were reported worldwide, leaving 605 of them damaged and 488 health workers dead. Figures this year may well surpass 2023, when over 700 medical workers were killed and thousands more injured, abducted, or arrested in conflict zones like OPT, Sudan and Ukraine. Concerning new trends have emerged in 2024, including 'double-tap' attacks, such as in Ukraine, where first responders and health transport personnel are three times more likely to be harmed in attacks compared to other health-care workers, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). In OPT, there were 1,196 attacks against health care, killing 846 people between 7 October 2023 and 19 September 2024. Every hospital in Gaza was affected, and WHO reports rising attacks against health workers and health facilities in Lebanon. Attacks on health infrastructure are also an example of how conflict can aggravate disease outbreaks: conflicts comprise national and local capacities to maintain the delivery of essential health services and the implementation of critical public health for disease prevention and control. In 2024, there were outbreaks of cholera, measles and malaria across the world—often concurrent—with

the heaviest impact on people living through humanitarian emergencies.

Meanwhile, attacks on education are frequent and widespread, with devastating consequences for children and teachers, from Colombia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to OPT and Ukraine, according to the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack. Military use of schools and attacks on education rose nearly 20 per cent in 2022 and 2023 compared to the previous two years, averaging eight daily incidents. In 2023, there were about 6,000 attacks on students, educators, schools and universities, as well as the use of educational facilities for military purposes. In 2024, attacks have continued, as highlighted by the deaths of four school children and two teachers as the result of an air strike on two schools in Kayah state, eastern Myanmar, in February. And attacks are not limited to physical violence—in Afghanistan, June 2024 marked the grim milestone of 1,000 days since the announcement banning girls from attending secondary school.

One of the most significant trends impacting the safety and security of aid workers is the increase in major armed conflicts involving national militaries, such as those in OPT, Sudan and Ukraine. In 2023, 57 per cent of aid worker fatalities occurred as a result of aerial bombardment, a means of violence almost exclusively used by State actors, according to Humanitarian Outcomes.

Arrests and detentions of aid workers, though less well-documented, are a rapidly growing concern.

In 2024, the Houthi de facto authorities in Yemen detained more than 50 members of UN entities, international and national NGOs, civil society and other organizations supporting humanitarian activities. The detentions directly impeded humanitarian partners' ability to reach the most vulnerable people in Yemen, including the 18.2 million people in need of humanitarian aid and protection.

While humanitarians are facing growing physical threats, they are also encountering increasingly complex challenges from misinformation, disinformation and hate speech (MDH), especially within conflict settings, according to Grand Challenges Canada.

⁶ Aid Worker Security Database, data accessed 25 November 2024. The likelihood of a national aid worker to be a victim of an attack was calculated by looking at the distribution of attacks of international vs national staff between 2000-2023 and calculating the average over that timeframe.

Despite progress, administrative and legislative measures continue to hamper humanitarian operations

In December 2022, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted the landmark Resolution 2664 establishing a default ‘humanitarian exemption’ across all current and future UN sanctions regimes. UNSC Resolution 2664 set a new standard in protecting principled humanitarian action from the unintended consequences of UN asset freeze measures. Several Member States, especially donor countries, have incorporated UNSC Resolution 2664 into their national laws enforcing UN sanctions. In addition, most jurisdictions implementing unilateral sanctions have gone beyond their obligations under the resolution by voluntarily extending humanitarian exemptions to their unilateral asset freeze measures.

However, from Afghanistan and OPT, to Yemen, Syria and the Sahel, counterterrorism and sanctions-related measures (CT/S) continue to hinder humanitarian operations. Where humanitarian exemptions are not in place, all actors involved in humanitarian action—donors, aid organizations, banks and suppliers—are exposed to the risk of violating asset freeze measures and a range of CT and anti-money laundering laws and regulations when transferring resources necessary for routine operations.

This result is an inhibiting effect that can have negative consequences for humanitarian responses. In some cases, banks have refused to transfer funds or imposed long delays and cumbersome information requests. Some donors have declined to fund certain humanitarian activities in areas where sanctioned actors are active, restricted the type of aid grantees can provide, refused to directly fund local organizations or imposed burdensome reporting and due diligence requirements. Host Governments have also used CT/S to justify intimidating humanitarian staff, suspending NGO operations, designating no-go areas, blocking aid convoys, or prohibiting engagement with certain armed groups. Anticipating such restrictions, humanitarian organizations have in some instances self-censored when designing or implementing programmes.

These, however, are not the only measures restricting humanitarians. Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments (BAI) are practices and policies which limit the ability of humanitarian organizations to reach people in need in a timely and unfettered manner. BAI have long been part of the Access Monitoring and Reporting Framework, and in recent years the humanitarian community has strengthened its ability to identify and address these impediments.

CT/S and other restrictive measures can sometimes challenge humanitarian organizations’ ability to provide efficient and impartial assistance, for the following reasons:

Some restrictive measures—including export and sectoral restrictions, anti-terrorism financing laws, anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism regulations, as well as administrative decisions and regulations by host Governments—lack standing humanitarian exemptions and hinder humanitarian operations.

CT/S and other restrictive measures still demand important due diligence, leading to compliance costs and delays. Profit and reputational concerns affect private sector decisions. Consequently, some banks and companies continue to refuse business in high-risk contexts.

Humanitarian exemptions are yet to translate into whole-of-Government policies of increased risk tolerance for principled humanitarian assistance. For example, in several jurisdictions, financial regulation agencies have not amended their internal policies and regulations to reflect humanitarian exemptions. Donors also continue to impose restrictions on some activities and programmes that are covered under applicable exemptions.

The Security Council, Governments and regional organizations should build on the significant progress made towards broadly implementing humanitarian exemptions and extend such exemptions to other restrictive measures, such as counterterrorism legislations or sectoral⁷ and export restrictions. They should continue to promote consistent, whole-of-Government standards, policies and practices that support risk tolerance for impartial humanitarian action.

7 Sectoral measures can mean restrictions placed on the financial, economic or other trade/industry sector.

AID IN ACTION

Reaching people who live under the control of armed groups



Mali: Example of a past sensitization session, conducted by the International Committee of the Red Cross, on international humanitarian law for combatants of the Arab Movement for Azawad (MAA) and the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA). ICRC/S.N.

The landscape of armed groups can evolve rapidly, with new conflicts erupting and groups swiftly shifting control over territories. To track these changes, the International Committee of the Red Cross conducts an annual internal survey of armed groups of humanitarian concern,¹ identifying trends and opportunities for improved engagement.

The 2024 survey found that 210 million people are living in areas controlled by armed groups, with 127 million in contested zones and 83 million in areas fully controlled by armed groups. People living in the 31 countries included in the GHO 2025² account for 90 per cent of this total: 190 million people are living in areas controlled by armed groups, with 110 million in contested zones and 80 million in areas fully controlled by armed groups. This is an increase of 16 million in fully controlled areas since 2023. Out of 455 armed groups worldwide (of which more than 130 are classified as non-State armed groups), 313 operate in GHO 2025 countries.

Africa accounts for nearly half of the global population residing in such areas, with 102 million people living in areas controlled by armed groups. Africa also accounts for the largest share in the number of armed groups, with 44 per cent of the global total (195).

The 2024 trend shows growth in both the number of persons living under the full control of armed groups and the share of armed groups that fully control territory. Compared to 2023, 19 million more people (a 9 per cent increase) now live in areas under the full control of armed groups. This is primarily explained by territorial expansions of armed groups in conflicts in Africa and Asia.

Individuals residing within territories controlled by armed groups face complex vulnerabilities and specific risks. These risks encompass their proximity to hostilities, which heightens the likelihood of civilian casualties or injuries; limited or non-existent access to essential infrastructure and services; the threat of blockades, sieges or sanctions that further diminish the availability of life-saving necessities and services; and the absence of government authorities, making it challenging for civilians to obtain essential legal documentation.

The growing number of armed groups has drastically heightened the operational challenges for humanitarian organizations trying to reach populations in their control. Access, dialogue, and engagement on issues like detainee protection, the restoration of family contacts and adherence to international law are crucial to understanding and meeting these populations' humanitarian needs.

¹ In the ICRC's usage, the generic term 'armed group' denotes a group that is not a State but has the capacity to cause violence that is of humanitarian concern. This includes those groups that are classified as non-State armed groups, as they qualify as parties to a non-international armed conflict.

² Countries with a country-specific plan (Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, Flash Appeal or equivalent) at the time of GHO 2025 launch.

BAI reporting to date has, however, predominantly focused on the impact of BAI on humanitarian agencies—through tracking indicators such as number of visas denied or number of project agreements delayed—rather than on the consequences of BAI for people’s access to services and assistance, according to the [International Council for Voluntary Agencies](#).

Overall, humanitarian actors cannot address crises alone: diplomatic and political solutions are necessary to address the root causes of conflict. In 2018, diplomatic and political actors came together to unanimously adopt [UN Security Council Resolution](#)

[2417](#), which directly links hunger with conflict, in an effort to protect food systems and humanitarian access. The resolution condemns starvation as a weapon of war and the unlawful denial of humanitarian aid to civilians. The resolution calls for adherence to IHL, urging parties to conflict to protect civilians, safeguard essential resources, ensure unimpeded humanitarian access and protect infrastructure critical to food systems and aid delivery. Resolutions, however, are not enough without the practical actions to safeguard humanitarian routes and without parties to a conflict meeting their obligations under IHL.

AID IN ACTION

Humanitarian notification system



Aleppo, Syrian Arab Republic: Children run alongside a UN vehicle during an inter-agency advocacy mission in January 2024, led by the Deputy Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis. The mission visited the towns of Jandairis and A’zaz in north-west Syria, in commemoration of the one-year mark of the devastating earthquakes that hit Türkiye and Syria on 6 February 2023. *OCHA/Ali Haj Suleiman*

While international law requires the protection of humanitarian personnel and assets and facilitation of their movement during conflict, the alarming rise in humanitarian deaths this year highlights the severe access and security challenges faced by aid workers. Recent hostilities in Lebanon have underscored these risks, putting hundreds of humanitarian actors and operations in jeopardy. In response, Lebanon became the tenth country where OCHA has launched a humanitarian notification system (HNS),¹ in September 2024. The HNS allows humanitarian organizations to

notify parties to the conflict about the locations of humanitarian sites and movements, enabling these to be factored into military planning. It is one humanitarian tool among several that support access and security.

The HNS aims to improve the likelihood of militaries or non-State groups facilitating access, and ensuring the security of humanitarian workers, assets and operations. In Yemen, the system enabled safe medical evacuations and urgent deep field missions. In Ukraine, it supported the evacuation of civilians from Mariupol. In Syria, it facilitated cross-line access, allowing humanitarian actors traverse frontlines and operate in areas controlled by various parties. This was achieved through a Member State leveraging its contacts and influence with non-State groups to respect humanitarian aid movements.

Use of a HNS is strictly voluntary for both humanitarian organizations and parties to the conflict. While it is one tool to support humanitarian access, security and protection, a HNS is not an accountability mechanism; it is not designed to guarantee access, security or protection and does not change the parties’ obligations under international law.

¹ Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Occupied Palestinian Territory, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen.



Putting people and communities at the centre of humanitarian action: a collective effort, but still too slow

It is widely accepted that an accountable humanitarian system—one that places decision-making power in the hands of people affected by crisis—is central to effective humanitarian action. Yet too often, the way the humanitarian system works—characterized by pre-defined calls for sector-specific project proposals, complex coordination frameworks, language barriers, and a proliferation of single-agency accountability initiatives—undermines its flexibility and limits its ability to collectively engage with and respond to community needs and priorities. Affected communities have voiced frustration over lack of progress, as feedback mechanisms often yield few results.

The past two years have seen some progress in collective Accountability to Affected People (AAP), which addresses these issues by going beyond a single humanitarian entity to align systems and decision-making processes around people's priorities, perceptions and feedback. In 2023 and 2024, the



Livingston, Guatemala:

Amanda (centre) is part of the Community Protection Agents Network, an initiative born from a partnership between UNHCR, UN Women and the Center for Research, Training and Support for Women and Youth. This network empowers women and girls in rural Livingston to understand and exercise their rights. *UNHCR*

Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocated \$8.6 million through its Underfunded Emergencies window to catalyze collective AAP in 16 humanitarian operations. The funding is meant to ensure affected people and the organizations representing them are not simply consulted but are treated as equal partners and included in project design, implementation and evaluation. The grants also emphasize actively including individuals who are marginalized due to identity, disability, ethnicity and other diversities in humanitarian decision-making. CERF funding is already delivering results:

- **In Venezuela, an inter-agency ‘contact line’ makes it possible for people’s feedback to reach humanitarian decision-makers.** The contact line offers five ways⁸ for affected people to share their concerns and request support. After a successful pilot in two municipalities, the Humanitarian Coordinator rallied UN representatives to scale the approach nationally with dedicated human and financial resources. The contact line now includes 11 UN agencies, covers all 23 states and the Capital District, and offers 19 referral and assistance routes connected to the humanitarian architecture. Since the contact line began in 2021, usage has continued to grow with over 43,000 people to date—88 per cent of them women—accessing it to ask about humanitarian programmes and available solutions.
- **In Afghanistan, the Community Voices and Accountability Platform⁹ has enabled humanitarian partners to adjust responses and reallocate funds based on community feedback.** A complementary validation system enables affected people to access and discuss feedback with the humanitarian community, ensuring decision-making is genuinely informed by those impacted by crisis. As a result, the 2025 humanitarian needs and response planning process has been directly shaped by community input, focusing on critical issues such as aid selection

criteria, outreach to women and persons with disabilities, and the balance between addressing immediate needs and providing sustainable support. The Afghanistan Humanitarian Country Team has also reinforced its commitment to safe, inclusive and accountable humanitarian action by establishing and monitoring the Afghanistan Accountability Index.

- **In OPT, the Humanitarian Service Directory consolidates key service information, frequently asked questions, verified communication channels and awareness raising materials for humanitarians to package, amplify and share information with affected people.** It supports helpline operators manage high volumes of inquiries more quickly, and enables more efficient referrals and complaints-handling. The directory has addressed operational challenges such as inconsistent service data, communication gaps, high staff turnover and variations in information across geographical areas. Developed through stakeholder consultations, it has strengthened collective AAP efforts throughout the humanitarian response.¹⁰

However, the humanitarian system has a long way to go in truly placing people at the centre of its responses. This was highlighted in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s (IASC) independent review of humanitarian response to internal displacement, which found that too often the IASC humanitarian system is more focused on internal processes than on meaningfully engaging the people it aims to help. The Emergency Relief Coordinator’s Flagship Initiative was launched in 2023 to redesign humanitarian action from the ground up. One year into its implementation, in the four pilot countries of Colombia, Niger, the Philippines and South Sudan, the initiative is shifting the drivers of humanitarian action, organizing assistance around the priorities of crisis-affected communities rather than those of aid providers.

8 Toll-free phone calls, WhatsApp, SMS, email, and face-to-face interactions.

9 A collective AAP platform, led by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), that brings community feedback and complaints from various channels to a centralized data system to allow humanitarian and development actors and decision makers to course correct the response-based community guidance.

10 A similar project used in refugee situations is the UNCHR.Help website, which provides tailored information for refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people on help and services available to them according to their country of residence.

AID IN ACTION

Strengthening Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) coordination in high-risk humanitarian environments



Countering sexual exploitation and abuse remains an integral priority and responsibility of the humanitarian community. Combatting sexual exploitation and abuse in high-risk humanitarian environments is still a challenge due to insufficient dedicated staff, financial constraints and ineffective in-country coordination.

The Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Capacity Project (PSEACap), an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)-endorsed mechanism, deploys PSEA experts to countries deemed high-risk by the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Risk Overview (SEARO) Index. So far, nine¹ humanitarian operations have benefitted from these sustained two-year deployments, establishing or strengthening

PSEA networks and developing action plans to strengthen survivor support, prevention measures and accountability.

For example, in Somalia, ranked 3rd on the 2024 SEARO Index, multiple factors—prolonged conflict and displacement, underfunding, limited humanitarian access, a patriarchal culture and stigma surrounding sexual exploitation and abuse—have led to significant underreporting. The deployment of the PSEACap coordinator revitalized and transformed the Somalia PSEA Network, decentralizing it and making it representative of all actors involved in the humanitarian response. The sustained support allowed sufficient time to assess in-country sexual exploitation and abuse risks for evidence-based prevention, train 135 focal points, integrate PSEA into the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), and facilitate inter-agency referral procedures for complaints as well as service referrals for survivors.

In 2025, 15 PSEACap Coordinators will be deployed for two-year assignments to high-risk countries.²

1 Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Haiti, Myanmar, Somalia and Sudan.

2 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Yemen.



As local as possible? Progress remains incremental

Localization—a commitment to shift power and funding to local and national actors (L/NAs)—has been high on the humanitarian agenda for many years.

While reforms to put more control in the hands of L/NAs are happening at different levels across the system—for example, through the [Refugee Coordination Model](#) which explicitly calls for the participation of national partners, including refugee-led organizations, in the Refugee Coordination Forum and other working groups—overall progress has been slow and challenging. The humanitarian system has fallen short of its commitments to increase funding, build capacity and foster equitable and meaningful partnerships and participation for local actors, as [recognized by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee \(IASC\)](#).

The value of locally led humanitarian action is clear. As a result of their on-the-ground presence and long-standing relationships with communities, L/NAs are uniquely positioned to lead humanitarian responses that are both context-appropriate and responsive to community preferences and priorities. In many complex emergencies, L/NAs are able to operate in areas that international partners struggle to reach. The first wave of any emergency response comes from the affected communities themselves, exemplified by emergency volunteers



Taiz Governorate, Yemen:

Adel, a displaced person with disability, lives in the Al-Awar IDP site. With support from the Yemen Humanitarian Fund, the local organization Al Aman has been able to provide IDPs, including Adel, with transitional shelters. *OCHA/Hussam Alqoliaa for YPN*

assisting neighbours and community leaders mobilizing support for those in crisis. For example in Sudan, local mutual aid groups are delivering aid to millions of people on the brink of starvation.

Although research shows that L/NAs can deliver programming 32 per cent more cost efficiently than international intermediaries, only a minimal amount of global humanitarian funding goes directly to them. Despite the Grand Bargain commitment—now eight years old— to allocate at least 25 per cent of

humanitarian funding as directly as possible to L/NAs, progress remains underwhelming. In 2023, Grand Bargain signatories only provided 4.4 per cent of their direct and indirect funding to L/NAs, with a mere 0.6 per cent delivered directly, according to independently verifiable data reviewed by Development Initiatives. Women-led organizations (WLOs) face difficulties accessing funding within a humanitarian system created by and for international actors. Donors often set complex bid requirements

AID IN ACTION

Working through local partners to adapt early childhood development in crisis settings



Lebanon: This video illustrates the story of Mohammed, a 6-year-old Syrian refugee child living in Lebanon and how the Remote Early Learning Program supported him to grow and learn. *IRC*

The first five years of a child's life are foundational, shaping lifelong learning, health and productivity. Yet for many children living in conflict settings, these early years are marred by hardship and uncertainty, disrupting their development. Research shows that early childhood development (ECD) programmes can minimize these risks.

In two different parts of the world, Sesame Workshop and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) have worked with local partners to tailor ECD, with impressive results:

- The Ahlan Simsim programme—a partnership between Sesame Workshop IRC, run with and through 100 local partners—provides support to conflict-affected children across Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Syria. After just 11 weeks of remote preschool through the programme, Syrian

refugee children showed literacy and numeracy gains comparable to a full year of in-person preschool. The programme's success was largely due to its collaborative approach: instead of implementing a predefined programme or policy solution, local partners took the lead in identifying needs, existing priorities, and ways Ahlan Simsim could add value by tailoring its offer to the particular context.

- In Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, the Play to Learn programme—a partnership between Sesame Workshop, the IRC, and BRAC—reflects the realities of Rohingya communities. The programme's context-specific multimedia resources and remote and in-person services in homes, schools, and community centres integrate ECD into humanitarian response. A key feature of the programme is its specific engagement with fathers, which resulted in improved parenting and household dynamics.

Ahlan Simsim and Play to Learn have reached 4 million children, caregivers and educators in the Middle East and 800,000 in Bangladesh. Together, they have reached another 31 million children through television broadcasts and early learning videos in 32 countries. The programmes reinforce how a people-centered approach and inclusive partnerships can impact families at scale.

for large funding opportunities, making it difficult for WLOs with smaller operating budgets to meet the required criteria.

Furthermore, while more L/NAs are participating in humanitarian coordination structures, research suggests a growing mistrust of the coordination system among L/NAs and other NGOs. L/NAs participated in a record-high 93 per cent of Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) globally—a 10 per cent increase from 2022—and made up 11 per cent of all HCT membership. Their representation in HCTs grew in several countries, including Burkina Faso, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), Somalia, and Syria-Gaziantep. Meanwhile, there has been a significant increase in the participation of L/NAs in Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups (ICCGs), with 75 per cent of ICCGs having L/NAs present, a 31 per cent increase from 2020.

However, while L/NA leadership in clusters, sectors and Areas of Responsibility rose to 41 per cent overall—up from 38 per cent in 2022—this increase was mainly driven by greater sub-national level leadership, with national-level leadership experiencing a slight decline. Additionally, L/NAs have expressed feeling excluded and unrepresented in Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs), leaving them frustrated and demotivated. Women-led organizations have highlighted the need to create their own networks to amplify their voices, as they pursue agendas that challenge traditional structures, cultures and ways of working to ensure aid reaches the women and girls who need it most.

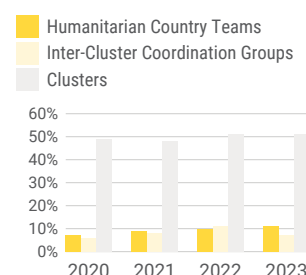
Using Pooled Funds to empower local actors

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) are vital in driving change in humanitarian action, by enabling coherent and timely responses, strengthening humanitarian coordination, and reinforcing the leadership of Humanitarian and Resident Coordinators (RC/HC). By mid-November 2024, the Funds had allocated US\$1.3 billion to assist people most in need.¹¹

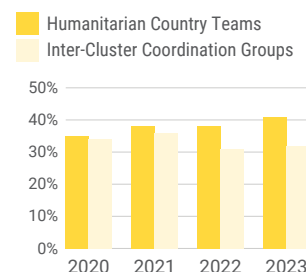
CBPFs are playing a key role in supporting locally led responses, with almost half (45 per cent or \$281 million) of CBPF funding allocated to L/NAs in 2024, a marked rise from 39 per cent in 2023.¹² Country-based pool funds are an effective way to channel resources directly to L/NAs, whilst enhancing efficiency when managing multiple partners, including in risk management. A 2024 study in Ukraine found that local partners who received CBPF funding delivered programmes that were 15.5 per cent more cost-efficient than those managed by international intermediaries. CBPFs also strengthen localization by promoting L/NA's active participation in fund governance and decision-making processes.

While CERF funding is directed only to UN agencies,¹³ it also plays a role in enabling locally led humanitarian action through recipient agencies' sub-grants. Since 2022, CERF allocations through the Underfunded Emergencies (UFE) window, have encouraged HCTs to consult local partners during the

Percentage of members who are L/NAs in HCTs, ICCGs and clusters



Percentage of clusters, sectors, areas of responsibility with L/NAs in leadership roles globally



Source: 2023 Mapping of IASC coordination structures at country level

11 From the \$1.3 billion total, CBPFs allocated \$787 million and CERF allocated \$522 million. For up to date data, please visit [OCHA – Pooled Funds Data Hub - By Country \(unocha.org\)](https://ocha.org/pooled-funds-data-hub-by-country)

12 As of November 18, 2024, this percentage is based on allocated grants totaling \$635 million from the CBPFs. An additional \$114 million in allocations is under the process of approval, and data on local and national partner contributions will be available once these allocations are finalized.

13 As per CERF's Secretary General mandate.

allocation process, and RC/HCs to set ambitious, context-based sub-granting targets for L/NAs. In the first 2024 UFE round, about a quarter of funds were sub-granted to local partners in line with the results of the past two years (2023 and 2022), up from an average of 15 per cent prior to that.¹⁴

Another example of a pooled fund with a specific target group is the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF). The WPHF supports local and grassroots women's civil society leaders and their organizations in conflict and crisis settings and provided an avenue for UN organizations, donors and the private sector to directly support these local

partners. In 2023, 89 per cent of the WPHF partners operated at local and sub-national levels.

Regional Pooled Funds

OCHA's Regional Pooled Funds (RPFs) offer a flexible and cost-effective approach to expanding pooled funding to more countries. In 2024, following the success of the Regional Humanitarian Fund in West and Central Africa, three new RPFs were launched in Eastern and Southern Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2025, the RPFs will continue advancing local humanitarian assistance across these regions.

AID IN ACTION

Country-based pooled fund empowers community-led response in war-torn Sudan



North Kordofan, Sudan: Volunteers from El Obeid communal kitchen distribute iftar meals to local community members impacted by conflict during July 2024. *El Obeid Community Kitchen*

After conflict erupted in Sudan in April 2023, networks of local partners and volunteers mobilized to assist affected communities with essential services, especially in hard-to-reach areas where critical infrastructure had collapsed.

Displaced by conflict from southern Sennar State, Aden* was among thousands who were forced to leave their homes and struggled daily to find food. He found solace with others and relief from his hunger in communal kitchens. "The kitchen was not just a place to eat; it was a place to heal and rebuild. This sense of solidarity and mutual support

was crucial in rebuilding the community's emotional strength," he said.

In 2023, the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF) was one of the first supporters of community-led Emergency Response Rooms (ERRs), which provide protection services, transport options, psychosocial support and community kitchens, amongst other assistance to their communities. In 2024, the SHF provided \$6.5 million to support the ERRs—doubling the amount provided in 2023. A similar allocation is expected at the end of 2024 to ensure a smooth transition into 2025. This funding emphasizes flexibility, allowing ERRs to remain agile in Sudan's ever-changing environment, and includes capacity-building components for community volunteers.

"We have seen what is possible when we come together and support each other," says Ibrahim*, a community volunteer with the ERRs in Sennar State. "With continued support and investment, we can build a future where every displaced person has access to the food, medicine, and opportunities they need to thrive."

*Names altered for security concerns

¹⁴ OCHA has commissioned an external review to assess the successes and challenges of the Pooled Funds' localization efforts. Findings will be available in late 2024 or early 2025.



Cash in humanitarian action: identifying opportunities to overcome stagnation



Nanirora commune, Betroka district, Madagascar:
Distribution of cash by the
World Food Programme.
OCHA/Viviane Rakotoarivony

After years of growth, the total volume of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in humanitarian responses declined in 2023 for the first time since 2015.

In 2022, CVA peaked at US\$10 billion, partly due to the Ukraine crisis, but it decreased to just over \$9 billion in 2023. While this decline mirrors the overall reduction in international humanitarian funding from 2022 to 2023, a larger concern is the stagnation of CVA as a proportion of total humanitarian aid, despite strong evidence of its ability to empower crisis-affected people and deliver a cost-effective response aligned with their preferences and priorities.

CVA globally accounts for around 23 per cent of humanitarian assistance—a proportion that has remained relatively static since 2022. At the same time, the distribution of CVA remains uneven, with over half of global CVA concentrated in just four countries—Bangladesh, Syria, Türkiye and Ukraine. However, within some of these countries, CVA is declining. In Ukraine, for example, a 2024 needs assessment found a strong preference for CVA across areas and households, yet the share of the humanitarian response implemented through CVA dropped from 42 per cent in 2022 to 22 per cent in early 2024.¹⁵

¹⁵ Data for Haiti, OPT, Ukraine and Yemen provided by country teams.

AID IN ACTION

Cash transfers in anticipatory action



Jamuna Basin, Bangladesh: Using an anticipatory cash grant from the World Food Programme, Renubala bought food and put together a raft so she could move between her flooded home and critical services. WFP/Mehedi Rahman

Cash plays a key role in anticipatory action, due to its quick accessibility, flexible use and proven effectiveness. Since July 2020, of the \$104 million CERF disbursed for anticipatory action, 24 per cent (\$25.4 million), has been used for cash assistance, while 14 out of the 15 OCHA-facilitated anticipatory action frameworks¹ have a cash component.

In 2024, cash played a pivotal role in anticipatory action triggered by flood risks in Bangladesh, Nepal and Chad, accounting for 48 per cent (\$7 million) of the total funding disbursed by CERF. On 4 July 2024, following heavy monsoon rainfall in Bangladesh, the Anticipatory Action framework for floods in the Jamuna River basin was triggered at the Bahadurabad monitoring station. Just

16 minutes after the alert, CERF allocated \$6.2 million, enabling the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) to provide life-saving multi-purpose cash assistance, as well as agricultural and reproductive health support to 388,000 people. Within just five days, WFP provided a \$43 cash transfer to families to help them stock up on goods and essential medicines, protect their assets and evacuate ahead of the floods. These type of early interventions are also possible thanks to support for the CERF Climate Action Account, established at COP 28 (December 2023). This account offers donors a quick, efficient and impactful avenue to provide climate-related financing to CERF, helping to scale up anticipatory action and humanitarian responses to climate challenges, as well as climate-smart humanitarian action in conflict-affected and fragile contexts.

¹ Anticipatory action is acting ahead of predicted hazards e.g., a flood, to prevent or reduce acute humanitarian impacts. This can be done through an anticipatory action framework, which combines pre-agreed triggers (i.e. thresholds and decision-making rules based on reliable and timely forecasts), pre-agreed activities and pre-arranged financing to facilitate anticipatory action.

However, despite global stagnation, CVA is increasingly being used in highly complex and volatile emergencies, signifying its adaptability and effectiveness. Following the escalation of the conflict in Haiti in March 2024, 20 actors collaborated to deliver CVA, ensuring timely and effective assistance. By June 2024, cash transfer programmes in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince had reached over 25,500 households across 84 displacement sites, distributing a total of \$6.2 million. In Yemen, significant progress has been made in promoting Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) as a viable, efficient, effective and dignified response option, with the percentage of CVA funding allocated to MPC growing from 19 per cent in 2022 to 32 per cent in 2023, and 95 per cent by October 2024. In Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), preparedness measures taken by the Cash Working Group—such as pre-agreeing the approach and transfer values—enabled cash assistance to be deployed within days of the war’s onset in October 2023. In addition,

mobile money and digital platforms were piloted to address liquidity challenges and group cash transfers¹⁶ were explored as a way to deliver more adaptable humanitarian assistance.

Looking ahead, new guidance on the inclusion of MPC in humanitarian plans provides an important opportunity to prioritize, track and scale CVA, particularly MPC, in the world’s most challenging crises. The guidance—adopted by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) in July 2024—will, for the first time, ensure that all countries with a Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) provide clear figures on the planned target and requirements for MPC, as well as a breakdown of planned sectoral CVA. This data could provide valuable insights into the barriers hindering the broader adoption of cash assistance. It may also help the humanitarian system overcome the 23 per cent plateau in order to meet its collective commitment to use CVA whenever feasible.

16 ‘Group cash transfers’ is an “approach to provide resources in the form of cash for selected groups to implement projects that benefit either a sub-section of the community, or the community at large.” (Source: The CALP Network, Glossary of terms).

SECTION 3

2024 in review

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2024 – humanitarian action in review: delivering under attack



Mykolaiv, Ukraine: Aid organizations deliver urgent humanitarian assistance to affected families following attacks. An estimated 3.7 million people remain internally displaced due to the hostilities, as more people are evacuated from conflict-intense areas. *OCHA/Yakiv Shapovalenko*

PEOPLE IN NEED ⁹	PEOPLE TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS (US\$)
323.4M	197.9M	115.7M
REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	FUNDING (US\$)	% FUNDED
\$49.6B	\$21.2B	43%

By 25 November, the financial requirements for 2024 had grown to \$49.6 billion—up from \$46.4 billion at the beginning of the year—aiming to assist nearly 198 million people in 77 countries. The increase was driven primarily by the intensification of war in both the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and Lebanon, drought in Southern Africa, Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean, and floods in Bangladesh, Nepal and Viet Nam. During the year, humanitarian requirements also increased in several countries, including Chad, Ethiopia, Somalia, Syria,

Venezuela, and Yemen.¹⁷ In Sudan, a Famine Prevention Plan was launched in April 2024, as the humanitarian community called for immediate action and resourcing in an attempt to avert the looming catastrophe.

Yet, despite the enormous efforts made by humanitarians to tightly focus their response plans and appeals, funding did not keep pace with requirements in 2024. Humanitarian organizations prepared by taking difficult decisions about who, and what, to include and exclude from humanitarian appeals around the world. Informed by in-depth needs analyses, targets were narrowed, leading to a \$6 billion reduction in the global appeal compared to 2023 and a drop of over 56 million in the number of people targeted for aid.¹⁸ Despite this, just 43 per cent of the amount required—\$21 billion—had been received against the GHO requirements by 25 November 2024. These shortages have impacted crises worldwide, especially those that are chronically underfunded.

At the same time, humanitarians and the services they provide have come under unprecedented attack. 2024 has been the most dangerous year for aid workers, with 281 humanitarians killed—around 63 per cent in Gaza, OPT—and 525 subjected to major attacks. Local aid workers—serving their own communities on the frontlines of conflict—are most exposed to violence. Between January and November 2024, 96 per cent of all aid workers killed, injured or kidnapped were national/local staff. Attacks on medical personnel and facilities have also continued, with 2,135 conflict-related assaults on health facilities reported globally between January and October 2024—while attacks on education and military use of schools rose nearly 20 per cent in 2022 and 2023 compared to the previous two years. Arrests and detentions of aid workers, though less well-documented, are a rapidly growing concern. Humanitarians are also encountering increasingly complex challenges from misinformation, disinformation and hate speech, especially within conflict settings.

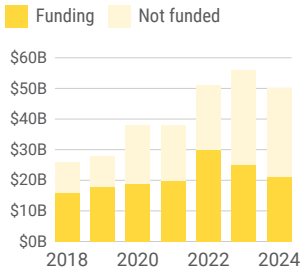
In several contexts, disregard for international humanitarian law and access impediments have prevented humanitarian partners from reaching people in urgent need. In OPT, movement restrictions left the protection cluster unable to meet half its targets, while the closure of the Rafah Crossing caused a 40 per cent drop in emergency medical team deployments. In Niger, unclear regulations on humanitarian movements and mandatory armed escorts for humanitarian work prevented 1.1 million people from receiving aid in the first half of 2024. In Ukraine, escalating hostilities near the front lines forced the relocation of aid operations, leaving many areas inaccessible and vulnerable populations without support.

Extreme weather events have further strained fragile infrastructure, cutting off access to communities in need. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) rains destroyed roads and bridges preventing aid from reaching 1.9 million people, including 1.72 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). In Mozambique, heavy rainfall damaged roads for four months, delaying aid to 21,000 people.

¹⁷ In some cases, the financial requirements changed because at the time of launch of the GHO 2024, figures from 2023 were used in calculations while the 2024 figures were finalized in-country. The figures were updated directly in HumanitarianAction.info upon the release of the relevant plans. In other cases, the plans were revised through the course of the year to adjust for changes in the context with heightened conflict and/or climate shocks, among others.

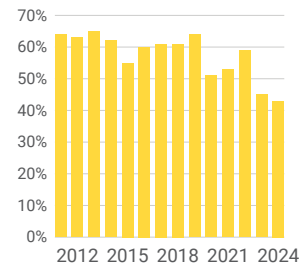
¹⁸ By year-end 2023, the GHO 2023 requested \$56.1 billion to assist 245.2 million targeted people. By end of 2024, the GHO 2024 requested \$49.6 billion to assist 198 million targeted people.

Funding trend (US\$)



As of 25 Nov 2024

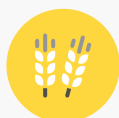
Funding coverage



As of 25 Nov 2024

Despite overwhelming challenges, humanitarian partners—in support of community-led responses—worked tirelessly to deliver life-sustaining and life-saving assistance in crises around the world.

In 2024, the UN and over 2,000 partner organizations—62 per cent of whom were local and national actors—reached nearly 116 million people through country-specific plans.¹⁹ This underscores the monumental efforts of humanitarian organizations, staff, and volunteers—many of whom are displaced or have family members who were killed or injured—to reach and provide life-saving support to people impacted by crises. Despite being under-funded and under attack, humanitarians remained determined and delivered when funded and supported.



What was done in 2024

4.7 million

people received crop production assistance at an average cost of \$150 per household in 2024. This support enabled households to produce \$468 million worth of food, meeting their own needs and sustaining their communities for months.

What could have been done

An additional 25.9 million

people could have produced over \$2.58 billion worth of food in 2024—four times the original funding request if the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) had received full funding for its crop interventions under the GHO 2024.



What was done in 2024

More than 50,000

recently arrived, vulnerable Sudanese refugees received bi-monthly Multi-Purpose Cash (MPC) assistance in Egypt, under the Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan.

What could have been done

An additional 93,800

vulnerable Sudanese refugees on the waiting list could have received this vital support with full funding.

Source: FAO, UNHCR (Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan)

High-level events in 2024



The **High-level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Situation in Ethiopia**, held on 16 April in

Geneva, raised \$610 million for the response. [High-level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Situation in Ethiopia | OCHA](#)



At the **Eighth Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region**, on 27

May, the international community pledged \$5.43 billion in grants and \$2.73 billion in loans for 2024 and beyond.



A **High-level Ministerial Side Event on Sudan and the Region** was held on 25 September during

the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, mobilizing support and funding for Sudan and the region. [UN General Assembly high-level Ministerial event - "The Cost of Inaction: Urgent and collective support to scale up the humanitarian response in Sudan and the region" | OCHA](#)



The **Donor Conference to Support Displaced People and Refugees in the Sahel and Lake Chad**

Region held on 26 October in Jeddah, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, secured \$1.12 billion in humanitarian aid for Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Mali, Niger and Nigeria. [KSrelief](#)

¹⁹ The estimated number of people reached by country plans in 2024 is nearly 116 million as of 25 November 2024. This does not include three country plans that could not report a people reached figure: Lebanon FA, OPT and the Philippines. For the most up-to-date figures see humanitarianaction.info.

AID IN ACTION

Private sector making a difference in disaster recovery and resilience



Viña del Mar, Chile: Neighbors work together in El Olivar neighborhood on 3 February 2024, to clear rubble a day after the wildfire that tore through the region, using debris removal kits provided by Desafío Levantemos Chile, an OCHA/UNDP Connecting Business initiative Member Network. The organization mobilized to provide emergency response support on the ground within 12 hours of the fire. *Desafío Levantemos Chile/Francisco Duran*

In February 2024, wildfires raged through Chile, burning over 9,200 hectares across five areas, claiming 133 lives and destroying homes, schools, and businesses. Within 12 hours, Desafío Levantemos Chile, a private company and member of the OCHA-UNDP Connecting Business initiative (CBI) immediately distributed debris removal kits and conducted needs assessments. The organization's 500 volunteers led response efforts and early recovery projects, including rebuilding schools, providing psycho-emotional support for children, and aiding small businesses. By July, Desafío had raised over \$12 million

through individual donations and 697 company contributions, reaching more than 150,740 individuals.

Elsewhere, the hurricane season in the Caribbean was forecast to be the worst on record. In June 2024, CBI convened 70 representatives from Caribbean regional and national disaster management authorities and chambers of commerce to strengthen public-private partnerships for disaster resilience. Just 48 hours later, Hurricane Beryl struck, affecting over a million people and putting these newly formed alliances to the immediate test to respond to the disaster.

These are just two of 16 emergencies that businesses responded to in 2024, which included floods, tropical cyclones, droughts, wildfires and political instability. Globally, CBI partners have collectively mobilized \$14 million and reached over 2.6 million people through their disaster preparedness, response, and recovery activities.¹

CBI includes 20 Member Networks—national and regional chambers of commerce or business associations—from some of the most disaster-prone areas. With additional partners in the pipeline, this reflects a growing movement of businesses engaged in fostering disaster resilience.

¹ Numbers are self-reported by CBI Member Networks as of 15 November 2024.

AID IN ACTION

On the path towards durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs)



Ngarannam, Nigeria: Pusam, a mother of seven, fled her home after a Boko Haram attack, losing everything and spending eight years in an IDP camp in Maiduguri. With support from the Government and UNDP, she returned home. A grant from the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilization Facility enabled Pusam to open and run a shop in her community, contributing to both her family's livelihood and the local economy. *UNDP*

Internal displacement has risen dramatically since the UN created a framework for international humanitarian assistance in 1992. At that time, there were 24 million internally displaced people (IDPs) worldwide. By mid-2024, this number had almost tripled to 72.1 million. Many IDPs endure years without access to basic services, social protection, livelihoods, land or the ability to fully exercise their rights as citizens.

In response to findings from a March 2024 independent review of the humanitarian system's effectiveness in addressing internal displacement, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) has identified several response areas to close gaps in providing assistance and protection for IDPs and lay the groundwork for durable solutions. The IASC's work to respond to IDP crises is complemented by efforts to generate durable solutions under the Secretary General's

Action Agenda on Internal Displacement

where countries like Colombia, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Somalia have committed to putting 8.5 million IDPs on pathways to solutions. Governments have developed new plans, strategies and budget allocations to support these efforts.

In Nigeria, significant progress has been made in implementing these 'pathways to solutions.' In 2024, assistance for IDPs shifted toward government-led, development-focused approaches. Under the Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator's leadership, collaboration among humanitarian, development and peace actors¹ reframed the narrative on IDPs, recognizing them not just as aid recipients but as displaced citizens whose needs must be addressed holistically. In May 2024, with support from the UN, the Government, launched action plans in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe to assist IDPs, returnees and host communities by fostering durable solutions.

For development actors like the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), this shift involves partnering with the Government to ensure that early recovery and stabilization initiatives pave the way for sustainable solutions. Efforts include investing in initiatives that provide long-term crisis resolution such as the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilization Facility which has helped eight communities impacted by Boko Haram and other extremist groups to improve security, access to justice, infrastructure and local economies through the provision of grants.

¹ African Development Bank, the International Organization for Migration, UNDP, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Bank.

Funding of 2024 response plans

PEOPLE IN NEED

305.1 million

PEOPLE TARGETED


































189.5 million






REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$47.4 billion

PLANS

42

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)	Funding (US\$)	Funded (%)
 Afghanistan	HRP	23.7M	17.3M	\$3.1B	\$1.3B	41%
 Burkina Faso	HRP	6.3M	3.8M	\$934.6M	\$391.0M	42%
 Cameroon	HRP	3.4M	2.3M	\$371.4M	\$146.7M	40%
 Central African Republic	HRP	2.8M	1.9M	\$367.7M	\$208.1M	57%
 Chad	HRP	6M	4.6M	\$1.1B	\$603.0M	54%
 Colombia	HRP	8.3M	1.7M	\$332.0M	\$185.7M	56%
 Democratic Republic of the Congo	HRP	25.4M	8.7M	\$2.6B	\$1.3B	50%
 El Salvador	HRP	1.1M	506.2K	\$86.6M	\$23.5M	27%
 Ethiopia	HRP	21.4M	15.5M	\$3.2B	\$795.3M	25%
 Guatemala	HRP	5.3M	2.5M	\$125.4M	\$64.2M	51%
 Haiti	HRP	5.5M	3.6M	\$673.8M	\$286.3M	42%
 Honduras	HRP	2.8M	1.3M	\$203.2M	\$60.6M	30%
 Mali	HRP	7.1M	4.1M	\$701.6M	\$247.2M	35%
 Mozambique	HRP+FA	2.6M	2M	\$502.4M	\$174.9M	35%
 Myanmar	HRP	18.6M	5.3M	\$993.5M	\$330.8M	33%
 Niger	HRP	4.5M	2.7M	\$662.2M	\$305.4M	46%
 Nigeria	HRP	7.9M	4.4M	\$926.5M	\$519.5M	56%
 Somalia	HRP	6.9M	5.2M	\$1.6B	\$679.8M	43%
 South Sudan	HRP	9M	5.9M	\$1.8B	\$1.1B	63%
 Sudan	HRP	24.8M	14.7M	\$2.7B	\$1.6B	59%
 Syrian Arab Republic	HRP	16.7M	10.8M	\$4.1B	\$1.2B	29%
 Ukraine	HRP	14.6M	8.5M	\$3.1B	\$1.9B	61%
 Venezuela	HRP	7.6M	5.1M	\$617.0M	\$114.1M	18%
 Yemen	HRP	18.2M	11.2M	\$2.7B	\$1.3B	47%
 Bangladesh	FA	2.7M	1.2M	\$98.7M	\$27.2M	28%
 Burundi	FA	614.9K	306K	\$26.0M	\$17.1M	66%
 Grenada	FA	34K	40.6K	\$7.8M	\$2.7M	34%
 Lebanon	FA	1M	1M	\$425.7M	\$255.6M	60%
 Libya	FA	250K	250K	\$33.7M	\$43.8M	130%
 Madagascar	FA	2.3M	1.6M	\$162.2M	\$114.7M	71%
 Malawi	FA	6.1M	3.8M	\$79.0M	\$26.3M	33%
 Nepal	FA	192K	192K	\$17.5M	\$6.9M	39%
 Occupied Palestinian Territory	FA	3.1M	2.9M	\$3.4B	\$2.4B	69%

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)	Funding (US\$)	Funded (%)
 Philippines	FA	892.8K	210K	\$24.7M	\$0.0	0%
 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	FA	25K	16K	\$8.0M	\$1.3M	17%
 Viet Nam	FA	570K	300K	\$31.7M	\$8.5M	27%
 Zambia	FA	6.6M	4.6M	\$228.3M	\$39.8M	17%
 Zimbabwe	FA	7.6M	3.1M	\$286.2M	\$92.4M	32%
Afghanistan (RRP)	REG	7.3M	7.3M	\$620.4M	\$168.9M	27%
Democratic Republic of the Congo (RRP)	REG	1.9M	1.9M	\$668.3M	\$242.3M	36%
Horn of Africa to Yemen and Southern Africa (MRP)	REG	2.2M	1.4M	\$112.2M	\$25.4M	34%
Rohingya (JRP)	REG	1.6M	1.4M	\$852.4M	\$476.8M	56%
South Sudan (RRP)	REG	4.7M	4.7M	\$1.4B	\$297.3M	21%
Sudan (RRP)	REG	3.3M	3.3M	\$1.5B	\$439.2M	29%
Syrian Arab Republic (Influx from Lebanon)	REG	480K	480K	\$135.7M	\$8.0M	6%
Syrian Arab Republic (3RP)	REG	12.9M	12.9M	\$4.9B	\$1.4B	29%
Ukraine (RRP)	REG	2.2M	2.2M	\$1.1B	\$396.8M	37%
Venezuela (RMRP)	REG	8.7M	2.9M	\$1.6B	\$542.4M	34%

Data is provisional and will be updated on humanitarianaction.info when individual plans are finalized. To avoid overlaps, some numbers are adapted when counting totals.

By region

	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
Asia and the Pacific	55.5M	33.2M	\$5.7B
Europe	16.8M	10.7M	\$4.2B
Latin America and the Caribbean	39.3M	17.7M	\$3.6B
Middle East and North Africa	53.3M	40.3M	\$15.9B
Southern and Eastern Africa	95M	63.4M	\$12.5B
West and Central Africa	63.5M	32.7M	\$7.7B



Cost of inaction

When humanitarian partners are unable to respond—whether due to under-funding, access constraints or attacks—there are tragic results for the communities they serve.²⁰ While some form of assistance reached nearly 116 million people in 2024, this represented just 72 per cent of people targeted through country-specific plans.²¹ This trend has been particularly stark in 15 countries that received less funding in 2024 compared to 2023, reflecting a broader pattern of decline. In 2023, whilst 142 million²² people were reached with assistance and protection, this was 15 million fewer than in 2022, coinciding with significant humanitarian funding cuts.

Cuts in food and nutrition assistance have pushed millions toward starvation and left some at risk of death

Underfunding and access constraints have drastically reduced food and nutrition support, leaving millions in need and facing acute hunger. In Afghanistan,

²⁰ Unless otherwise specified, data presented in this article covers the period January – October 2024 (except for UNICEF data, which covers January-June). Data in this article was provided directly by country operations, humanitarian partners/NGOs, clusters and UN agencies. For more country-specific information on cost of inaction/gaps consult the following documents on Afghanistan, Myanmar, Syria, Ukraine, Yemen.

²¹ The estimated number of people reached by country plans in 2024 is nearly 116 million as of 25 November 2024. This does not include three country plans that could not report a people reached figure: Lebanon FA, OPT and the Philippines. For the most up-to-date figures see humanitarianaction.info.

²² As of 25 November 2024, the number of people reached for 2023 is 142 million. The Burundi 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan is yet to report its final people reached figure.



Kargawar village, Ngourti, Diffa Region, Niger: Women collect water from the “Well of Peace,” established through the RECOSOC project to provide safe drinking water. This well has become a lifeline for the community, improving daily access to water and strengthening local resilience in the midst of challenging conditions. *OXFAM/ Halimatou Tankari*



80%

cut to monthly food assistance in Syria

food assistance was scaled down so severely in 2024 that entire districts were left without aid. In Chad, insufficient funding and the steady inflow of refugees, among other drivers, have worsened food insecurity, with the number of people facing crisis-level hunger rising from 3.4 million to 4.6 million in 2024, with figures for 2025 expected to increase. In some instances, Ethiopia's cereal rations were cut by 20 per cent by some partners, while in Haiti, underfunding is likely to push 2 million people to even more critical levels of food insecurity. In Syria, the World Food Programme (WFP) reduced monthly food assistance by 80 per cent, serving only one third of the severely food insecure population. To cope, more families are now selling properties or sending children to work. In Malawi, negligible funding meant that the agricultural sector could reach just four per cent of its target, despite agriculture's potential to mitigate food insecurity. In South Sudan, funding shortfalls meant food assistance reached only 77 per cent of the target, with 90 per cent of people who were reached receiving half rations. In Somalia, programme cuts reduced assistance from 6 months (end of 2023) to just 3 months, resulting in food consumption gaps for three quarters of the year.

Children facing acute malnutrition, whose lives and futures hang in the balance, are at risk due to underfunding and access constraints. In the DRC, more than 220,000 children with life-threatening severe acute malnutrition under age five went untreated by the end of 2024 due to lack of resources. In Nigeria, a lack of resources threatens shutting down nearly one third of the 813 facilities managing acute malnutrition by late 2024. In OPT, despite repeated attempts to scale nutrition programmes, only half of the acutely malnourished children targeted for treatment by 2024 will be reached.

Underfunding of protection has left people at greater risk of violence, including exploitation and gender-based violence (GBV)

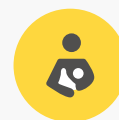
Gender-based violence continues to be one of the most underfunded response sectors globally, with just 27 per cent of the required funding for 2024 received by 24 November. In Venezuela, 80 per cent of girls lacked GBV prevention and response support, while in the DRC, a 70 per cent funding gap in the protection sector left 1.48 million people without protection services. In El Salvador, GBV received no funding in 2024, leaving more than 66,000 women at risk in highly violence-prone communities, and in Guatemala, only 28 per cent of the intended target population was reached. In Mozambique only six per cent of women and girls needing specialized GBV case management received support.

Amidst unprecedented threats to children and the growth of unexploded ordnance due to increased conflict, protection activities, including child protection and mine action, remained under-resourced. In Myanmar, 2.1 million people were unable to access protection services while 1.1 million children faced heightened risks of violence, abuse and neglect. Reduced funding in Yemen curtailed support for mine victims' civil documentation services, and child protection.



90%

of people received food aid in South Sudan only got half rations



One third

of malnutrition treatment facilities will shut down in Nigeria, due to underfunding.



4 out of 5

girls missed essential support to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in Venezuela



2.1 million

people were unable to access protection services in Myanmar

Under-resourcing and attacks against water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure are increasing disease risks

Access to clean water and adequate sanitation and hygiene, which is essential for survival, has been undermined in multiple countries, increasing the risk of death and disease. By mid-2024, more than 100 million targeted people globally (42 per cent) had not received WASH assistance due to underfunding and attacks on infrastructure. In the Central African Republic and Chad, outbreaks of Hepatitis E and other water-borne diseases spread due to inadequate water and sanitation support. In Uganda, only two of the 13 refugee-hosting settlements meet the minimum standard of 20 litres of water per person per day. In Ethiopia, 5.5 million people lacked WASH assistance, leaving them reliant on unsafe water sources. In Tanzania, underfunded settlements hosting DRC refugees have unacceptable water and sanitation conditions; school latrine ratios stand at 1:176—far below the 1:40 minimum standard.

Attacks against critical WASH infrastructure have left millions without access to clean water and basic hygiene. In Ukraine, attacks affecting power supplies and water sources have disrupted critical services, putting children's lives and well-being at risk. In Sudan, conflict over the Golo water reservoir jeopardized access to clean water for an estimated 270,000 people in the city and nearby communities, including 130,000 children. By May 2024, 60 per cent of all WASH facilities in Gaza had been destroyed or severely damaged and, as pools of untreated sewage and heaps of uncollected waste grow, waterborne illnesses are spreading and many children are suffering from skin diseases and rashes. In north-west Syria, airstrikes in October 2024 struck a power station west of Idlib city, disabling two water stations that serve 30,000 people in 17 villages.

Curtailed access to education is depriving children of their futures

Across the globe, education is under siege, leaving millions of children and adolescents without the support they need to thrive. In Sudan, conflict and resource constraints have forced 17 million children out of school, potentially creating a 'lost generation'. A staggering 1.8 million children in Mali are out of school, with over 90 per cent of schools rendered non-functional due to critical funding shortages. By late 2024, 70,000 children in Somalia could lose access to education as 340 learning spaces face imminent closure. Approximately 1.5 million girls and boys in Venezuela were not able to access educational assistance. In Zimbabwe, without any intervention, school dropouts in 2025 could surge to 1.8 million children. In Angola, insufficient resources meant educational programmes could only support half the refugee children they initially aimed to help. In El Salvador, over 56,600 children and adolescents are struggling to address their socio-emotional needs or recover learning losses in the absence of assistance due to underfunding.



33

diarrhoea treatment centres closed in Yemen, during cholera outbreak



2 out of 13

refugee-hosting settlements in Uganda meet the minimum standard of 20 litres of water per person per day



60%

of all WASH facilities in Gaza, OPT are destroyed or damaged



17 million

children are out of school in Sudan—potentially a 'lost generation'

AID IN ACTION

At risk and overlooked: the gendered toll of humanitarian funding gaps



Maiduguri, Nigeria: Flooding caused the collapse of the Alau Dam, displacing around 500,000 people. Of these, 300,000 were relocated to 36 IDP camps. UNFPA mobilized to support displaced women and girls, setting up a flood response tent at Bakasi IDP camp to provide integrated sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence services, including antenatal and postnatal services. *UNFPA/Dawali David Exodus*

"It was a scorching day, and I was carrying a heavy bucket of water when labour started," recalls Sayun, a 35-year-old woman in Yemen's remote Sa'ada governorate. "My family called the local midwife, but hours of excruciating pain yielded no progress, and when the severe bleeding started, we were all shocked and scared." With her baby in breech, Sayun's life—and that of her unborn child—hung in the balance. A harrowing journey brought her to a [United Nations Population Fund \(UNFPA\)](#)-supported health facility where both lives were saved. But for millions of women and girls caught in humanitarian crises, this lifeline is out of reach.

Underfunding is not gender-neutral. When resources are scarce, the essential needs of women and girls are often the first to be compromised. Across Yemen, conflict and economic collapse have devastated the

health-care system and underfunded maternal services mean women face life-threatening complications without obstetric care. In South Sudan, the world's highest maternal mortality rates are set to rise as cuts to midwifery training programmes deprive communities of skilled birth attendants. In Haiti, political instability and recurrent disasters have pushed the health infrastructure to the brink, denying women access to reproductive health services and increasing maternal mortality.

The situation is equally dire in north-west Syria, after 14 years of conflict. Half of the region's 63 active emergency obstetric and newborn care centres now face closure, jeopardizing the health and lives of 1.3 million women. Additionally, 29 women and girls' safe spaces may close by the end of 2024 if funding gaps persist, affecting over 100,000 women who rely on these spaces for protection and vital support.

Climate-driven emergencies in East and West Africa exacerbate these challenges. In Somalia, millions displaced by drought and insecurity live in makeshift camps, where reproductive health services and gender-based violence protections are almost nonexistent. Similar conditions affect the Central African Republic, Chad and Niger where under-resourced health clinics offer only basic services and safe spaces for survivors are scarce.

Humanitarian agencies, constrained by insufficient resources, are forced into impossible choices, often leaving women and girls in a constant state of vulnerability. Gender-responsive funding could change this, ensuring that even in the harshest conditions, women and girls receive the support they need to survive, heal and build a future beyond crisis.

Insecurity and resource shortages have devastated access to health care

Underfunding has decimated humanitarian health services in multiple countries. In Yemen, the cholera response has been critically impacted by the closure of 165 oral rehydration centres and 33 diarrhoea treatment centres, leaving only 14 of the latter expected to remain operational beyond December 2024. In the DRC, emergency sexual and reproductive health services reached less than 30 per cent of women of childbearing age. In Ethiopia, mobile health teams suspended operations in the north-western Tigray region, due to underfunding. In Somalia, 116 health facilities closed in the first half of 2024, depriving hundreds of thousands of people essential health and nutrition services. In Tanzania, over half of the health facilities in the country's largest camp for DRC refugees have closed, and understaffing has resulted in an average of one doctor for every 10,000 refugees. In Syria, half of health facilities across the north-west will be non-operational by December 2024. In Afghanistan, 3.7 million people could not access health services, while 352,000 children under age five and 258,000 pregnant and lactating women were deprived of malnutrition treatment.

The alarming rise in attacks against health care, has forced health providers to drastically reduce or shut down services altogether. In Lebanon, OPT and Sudan, the intensifying conflicts have been associated with increased assaults on health care, while ongoing violence in Haiti, Myanmar and Ukraine further jeopardize access to medical services. In Lebanon, 100 primary health centres and six hospitals have closed due to the escalation of the conflict. In OPT, the health-care system is crippled, with over 84 per cent of health facilities damaged and over 36 pre-existing hospitals non-functional. The Sahel also saw critical risks to health facilities, transport and patient access to health care.

Insufficient resources have left millions without adequate shelter

Across the globe, when conflict or disaster strikes, emergency shelter is essential to human survival, yet it is one of the least-funded humanitarian sectors. Just 28 per cent of the amount required to respond worldwide had been received for Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items as of 25 November. In Syria, winterization efforts remain only ten per cent funded, leaving gaps for 1.4 million people living in more than 1,000 IDP sites. In Cameroon, 1.8 million people will not have access to adequate shelter. In Mali, only 10 per cent of emergency shelter needs for displaced people were covered, leaving nearly 2.4 million people vulnerable, particularly during floods. In Sudan, shelter needs for 4.4 million displaced people remain unmet, forcing many into over-crowded camps and open informal settlements.

Cuts to resources are jeopardizing support for refugees and migrants

Responses for refugees and migrants are desperately under-funded in 2024. In Angola, over 1,000 DRC refugees remain unregistered and potentially deprived of their rights, whereas in the DRC, 3,000 refugees lack access to registration and documentation services. In Burkina Faso, underfunding delayed response packages for nearly 8,000 displaced families, with aid taking over three months to arrive in some places. Under the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Venezuelans, food assistance reached 37 per cent fewer refugees and migrants than in 2023, while health assistance dropped by 17 per cent.



Humanitarians in action: delivering critical aid despite the challenges

In 2024, despite numerous obstacles, over 2,000 humanitarian partners delivered life-sustaining and life-saving assistance²³ to nearly 116 million people through country-specific plans and appeals,²⁴ with local and national actors at the forefront of every response.

Local and national actors played a vital role in the collective response

Local and national NGOs were instrumental to delivering assistance and received 45 per cent of OCHA's Country-Based Pooled Fund allocations, amounting to \$281 million—the highest percentage so far.²⁵ In Chad, local



Mekelle, Tigray Region, Ethiopia: OCHA staff member speaks with a mother with a malnourished baby at an IDP camp. *OCHA/Nitsebiho Asrati*



Ndjoukou, Central African Republic: Roland learned to plait thanks to training he received from a CAR Humanitarian Fund partner, securing a job to support himself. Insecurity limits farming and fishing in the Ndjoukou river. *OCHA/Renzo Grande*

²³ Unless otherwise specified, data presented in this article covers the period January – October 2024 (except for UNICEF data, which covers January-June). Data in this article was provided directly by country operations, humanitarian partners/NGOs, clusters and UN agencies.

²⁴ The estimated number of people reached by country plans in 2024 is nearly 116 million as of 25 November 2024. This does not include three country plans that could not report a people reached figure: Lebanon FA, OPT and the Philippines. For the most up-to-date figures see humanitarianaction.info.

²⁵ As of November 18, 2024, this percentage is based on allocated grants totaling \$635 million from the country-based pooled funds (CBPFs). An additional \$114 million in allocations is under the process of approval, and data on local and national partner contributions will be available once these allocations are finalized.

partners delivered nutritional services to over 80 per cent of people in hard-to-reach areas. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 85 per cent of partners addressing GBV were local. In Ukraine, 70 per cent of the more than 600 organizations involved in the response were national NGOs, while in Ethiopia, 61 per cent of emergency shelter and NFI partners were national NGOs. In Venezuela, local and national partners accounted for 57 per cent of the 158 organizations providing assistance.

Local and national organizations also played an increasing role in humanitarian coordination. In Colombia, the Flagship Initiative helped increase national representation within the Humanitarian Country Team to 52 per cent and through the regional plan for Venezuelan migrants and refugees, refugee- and migrant-led organizations comprised a third of the regional response planning efforts.

Addressing dire food insecurity and malnutrition



Ocatepeque, Honduras: In 2024, approximately 1.9 million Hondurans faced acute food insecurity, with 19 per cent of the population at crisis-level (IPC 3) or higher. To mitigate the effects of droughts and other climate-related challenges, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other partners have implemented anticipatory action programs, providing early support to vulnerable communities. *UNHCR/Lucia Martínez*

By September 2024, global Food Security Cluster partners reached 72 million people with food interventions, including 58 million who received food assistance and 21 million with agriculture and livelihoods support.²⁶ In the Central African Republic, nearly one million people received food aid, Yemen

saw 5.8 million people supported, while in South Sudan, 3.5 million people accessed essential food assistance, livelihood support and cash transfers. In Ethiopia, on average, 5.1 million food-insecure people received monthly distributions of relief food and/or cash assistance.

Partners focused on anticipating crises. In Madagascar, emergency and anticipatory actions reached nearly 1 million people across the country. Food and livelihood support benefited over 900,000 people, while around 31,700 people had access to safe water and 36,700 received hygiene kits. In Somalia, for the first time, the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan integrated anticipatory action for predictable shocks. This allowed partners to pre-position supplies and services in regional hubs to support thousands of people at risk from riverine and flash floods during the Gu season. The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) prioritized early interventions to mitigate human losses and enhance cost-effectiveness, allocating nearly \$45 million for El Niño-related assistance in 2024,²⁷ of which nearly \$33 million was dedicated to early action initiatives.

Nutritional programmes provided critical support to children and women. Globally, 12.2 million children were screened for wasting by UNICEF and partners. Nutritional support was provided to 445,000 women and children in Mozambique, 5.15 million people in Yemen, and 1.3 million children, pregnant and breastfeeding women in South Sudan. In OPT, nutrition services were delivered to 300 supplementary feeding sites. In Venezuela, over 480,000 children received balanced school meals, while in Mozambique, 445,000 women and children benefitted from nutritional aid. In El Salvador, 1,500 pregnant women and children under age 4 affected by climate events received nutritional supplements, vitamins and screenings. Meanwhile in Guatemala, nearly 210,000 indigenous people in remote areas received cash assistance to bolster food security and improve household living conditions.

²⁶ The figures relate to people reached through 26 FSC-monitored coordinated response plans in countries with an active FSC/FSS and includes the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP). Refugee Response Plans are not included (only Rohingya Joint Response Plan is included). Refer to [2024 Achievements of the Food Security Cluster dashboard](#) for a complete overview of the monitored response plans. Figures are based on the 5Ws submitted by partners to the country FSC/FSSs for January to September 2024 except for Mali, Niger and Madagascar where they cover until June 2024 only.

²⁷ Data as of mid-October 2024.

Improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services



Jowhar, Hirshabelle State, Somalia: Two women from Maandheere collect water together, showing resilience and unity amid daily challenges. *IOM/Abdirahman Mahamud*

By mid-2024, nearly 23 million people across 29 countries were assisted to access improved WASH services.²⁸ In Ukraine, repairs to water systems ensured clean water for 5.8 million people in front-line regions. Ten million people in Syria received emergency water services and long-term repairs. In OPT, 6,000 latrines were built for people living in spontaneous sites. In Haiti, millions of liters of water were delivered, streets were cleaned and canals dredged to reduce flooding risks in vulnerable areas. In Ethiopia, humanitarian partners supported 3.3 million people to access water solutions, with 60 per cent receiving access to sustainable sources, decreasing their risks of water-borne diseases. In Somalia, coordinated health and WASH efforts successfully contained cholera outbreaks, improving health outcomes and reducing acute malnutrition prevalence in affected areas. CERF allocated \$10 million, through the Climate Action Account, to deliver innovative, climate-smart humanitarian action, including WASH infrastructure and services designed to function reliably despite climate-shocks, such as solar-powered water systems, flood-proof latrines and water-saving technologies.

Protecting people and communities at a time of rising threats



Eastern Shan, Myanmar: Preschool children draw and color during an early childhood care and development session in a learning hub. *UNICEF/Min Zayar Oo*

In 2024, humanitarian protection services reached at least 16.2 million people across 24 operations. In Lebanon, 40,000 displaced persons accessed legal, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services. Through the Afghanistan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) 60,000 people received counselling on registration, documentation and international protection.

Children affected by conflict received tailored services. Mental health and psychosocial support was provided to children and caregivers, including over 11,700 individuals in Lebanon. Child protection services reached 190,000 children in Burkina Faso and 934,000 in Myanmar.

Global efforts to prevent, address and respond to GBV reached 5 million women, children, and young people. In Myanmar, 205,000 GBV survivors received comprehensive services, while in Burundi, over 38,000 people accessed similar support. By the end of 2024, 800,000 people in Malawi will have received GBV- and sexual exploitation and abuse-related awareness-raising and support.

28 This includes 3.9 million in Afghanistan, 2.7 million in DRC, 8 million in Sudan.

Supporting health care in times of crisis



Mazraat Mchref, Lebanon: At the Mazraat Mchref municipality building, the medical team is mobilized to deliver healthcare services. *AMEL*

Humanitarians worked tirelessly to provide critical health care to millions of people, ensuring access even in hard-to-reach areas. By mid-2024, over 26 million women and children received primary health care, according to UNICEF. In Cameroon, CAR and the DRC, more than 4 million people accessed essential health services. In Syria, partners in the health sector delivered 19.6 million medical procedures and more than 8 million treatment courses across the country.

Sexual and reproductive health services were expanded, with 171,000 women in the DRC receiving skilled birth attendance. Mobile clinics in OPT ensured comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care.

Vaccination campaigns improved health outcomes and helped prevent epidemics, even in some of the world's most complex crises. In Madagascar, nearly 200,000 children were vaccinated. In Nigeria,

500,000 children received oral cholera vaccines, and in Gaza, OPT, 550,000 children were immunized against polio, achieving 92 per cent of the target.

Education support remained a cornerstone of humanitarian efforts



Bana, Cameroon: The transformation of education begins with teachers. Marie, a young teacher at the Anglophone Government Primary School in Bana, fled the violent conflict in the north-west of the country. Driven by her passion for education, she easily integrated into the community and now teaches Grade 3 students while carrying her one-year-old baby on her back. *UNICEF/Salomon Marie Joseph Beguel*

Globally, education partners ensured that 9.7 million children accessed formal or non-formal education, bridging schooling gaps for children in crisis. In Yemen, 1.5 million children received education assistance and in South Sudan, 544,000 children accessed emergency education programmes. In Cameroon, more than 158,000 girls, boys and adolescents accessed formal and non-formal education. In Zimbabwe, school feeding programmes enabled 20 per cent of drop out students to resume their education, illustrating the impact of cross-sectoral interventions.

Providing emergency relief and shelter amidst escalating hostilities and extreme weather



Danlí, Honduras: In 2024, record numbers of migrants and asylum seekers passing through Honduras strained local resources. In response, humanitarian partners, NGOs, and authorities provided essential support. *UNHCR/Lucia Martinez*

Emergency shelter and relief items were provided across multiple crises, particularly during harsh winter months. In Lebanon, over 269,000 relief items—including mattresses, blankets, and sleeping mats—were distributed to displaced families. In Haiti, 100,000 people received emergency shelter kits and essential non-food items. In Syria and Ukraine, more than 1 million people in each country were assisted with winter support, including shelter repairs and cash assistance.

Enabling delivery to hard-to-reach areas and connecting humanitarians and the communities they serve



Camarines Sur, Philippines: UNICEF and partner Plan International Philippines distributed 245 hygiene kits to Barangay Santa Eulalia, one of the communities hardest hit by Severe Tropical Storm Kristine (international name: Trami). A week after the storm made landfall, much of the barangay—comprising hectares of rice fields—remains submerged in floodwaters. *UNICEF/Martin San Diego*

The effectiveness of emergency relief depends on the speed and scale by which it is delivered. In hard-to-reach places, humanitarian air services become essential lifelines. Globally, the Logistics Cluster provided storage for over 200,000 cubic metres of humanitarian supplies and facilitated the dispatch of nearly 30,000 metric tonnes of cargo by air, road, sea and river transport across 16 operations. In Somalia, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 27 boats to and from 10 flood-affected areas. In Sudan, it supported cross-border aid deliveries and set up storage facilities for partners. In OPT, the coordination, collection and transport of humanitarian cargo by the Logistics Cluster at the designated entry points has been the only means for more than 60 humanitarian organizations to deliver relief items. The Logistics Cluster also worked to unblock administrative barriers: in Ethiopia, these efforts resulted in securing tax exemptions and the release of 485 UN and NGO vehicles previously blocked in Djibouti while in Somalia, the time required to obtain tax exemption certificates for humanitarian operations was reduced. Meanwhile, in Burkina Faso, the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) cargo operation transported 520 tonnes of life-saving items to remote areas. The UN Humanitarian Response Depot, through its six strategically located hubs, supported more than 40 partner organizations to dispatch stocks and organize deliveries worldwide.

In emergencies, communication is vital for response efforts and the affected communities themselves. The Emergency Telecommunication Cluster (ETC) coordinated information management and services across eight operations,²⁹ while advancing preparedness activities in the Pacific and Caribbean regions. ETC also helped operationalize service centres in the Sahel offering internet and telephone services for affected communities.

Assisting people on the move, including refugees, migrants and the communities hosting them



Aden, Yemen: Jamal, a migrant receiving mental health and psychosocial support at a community-based care centre, prepares for his journey home. The IOM-supported center provides essential protection services to vulnerable migrants. *IOM/Eva Sibanda*

Humanitarian partners stepped up to assist unprecedented numbers of people who sought safety across borders. More than 849,000 Afghan refugees received assistance in Iran and Pakistan, while in Latin America and the Caribbean, partners reached more than 1.2 million migrants, refugees and their host communities. In Chad, humanitarians delivered critical support to nearly 800,000 people who fled conflict in Sudan while life-saving assistance was provided to approximately 200,000 migrants across the eastern and southern African routes. Under the Syria 3RP, partners provided 1.5 million Syrian refugees with monthly cash transfers, and in Cox's Bazar, educators taught more than 315,000 Rohingya children across 33 refugee camps and schools. In Northern Central America, where migrants converge with host communities and refugees, teams distributed educational kits to children in transit in Guatemala and connected over 6,000 migrant children and adolescents in Honduras

29 Caribbean – Hurricane Beryl, Lebanon, Nigeria, OPT, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen.

to education while on the move. In Bulgaria, inter-agency partners launched campaigns to raise awareness on vaccination for children, enabling over 4,200 Ukrainian refugee children to enroll in schools for the 2024 academic year—a 17 per cent increase from the previous semester.

Delivering cash and empowering people to make their own choices



El Salvador: Vouchers are distributed to families living in shelters, who were impacted by rainstorms. WFP/Versative/Diego Santamaria

Humanitarian partners delivered cash and voucher assistance in highly complex and volatile emergencies, signifying its adaptability and effectiveness.

Globally, UNHCR delivered cash assistance to 2.16 million people in 97 countries. In parallel, the World Food Programme (WFP) transferred \$1.5 billion to 39 million people through cash, vouchers and commodity vouchers between January and September 2024. Following the escalation of the conflict in Haiti in March 2024, 20 actors collaborated to deliver CVA, ensuring timely and effective assistance. In Yemen, the percentage of CVA funding allocated to MPC grew from 19 per cent in 2022 to 32 per cent in 2023, and 95 per cent in 2024 (as of October 2024). In Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory, preparedness measures enabled cash assistance to be deployed within days of the start of the war in October 2023.

A call to action

The bottom line: humanitarians are delivering whilst being under attack and underfunded, but global solidarity is urgently needed. In 2025, it is imperative that the robust and tightly prioritized response plans and appeals prepared by humanitarian partners are fully funded. The lives and livelihoods of millions of people impacted by crises depend on galvanizing these resources. At the same time, urgent action is needed to end impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and attacks against civilians and the aid workers and services that serve them.

Ultimately, people in crisis need political action to end wars, climate action to help them prepare for a shock-filled future and development action to lift them out of crisis, as emphasized in the Pact for the Future. With more State-involved wars today than at any other point since 1946, and the horrifying toll on civilians rising each day, immediate political action is required to end conflicts and uphold the laws of war. Climate action is equally urgent, requiring swift, decisive work to reverse the global climate crisis and ensure that climate financing reaches those most at-risk of catastrophe. As this year's GHO highlights, a growing number of countries are experiencing more frequent and severe disasters—these are countries that should be on a development trajectory, but risk facing repeated crises without global support to help their communities adapt and prepare. And there is an urgent need for Governments, development actors and donors—including international financial institutions—to continue providing development funding and financing in fragile and complex settings, to make funding available for locally led development, and to prioritize development investment in the sectors that humanitarians are so frequently called to address, including education, food security, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

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Asia and the Pacific

Regional overview

Asia and the Pacific is the most disaster-prone region in the world, home to 75 per cent of people affected by disasters globally. The region is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural hazards. From January to October 2024, over 140 disasters struck the Asia Pacific region, affecting over 87 million people and leading to nearly 6,000 deaths¹.

In 2024, the Asia-Pacific region was severely impacted by a range of natural disasters, including floods, cyclones, landslides, heatwaves, and earthquakes. These events caused widespread destruction across multiple countries, leading to significant loss of life and extensive damage to infrastructure, agriculture, and livelihoods. The region experienced record-breaking rainfall, powerful storms, and extreme temperatures, all of which disrupted daily life, displaced millions of people, increased vulnerabilities, strained local economies and threatened resilience and development gains. Last year alone, the disaster in the region caused economic damages estimated at \$85 billion.

As of mid-October 2024, the Asia-Pacific region also remains deeply affected by ongoing conflicts and protracted crises, hosting approximately 7.5 million refugees and asylum seekers, along with 6.9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). In Bangladesh, nearly 1 million Rohingya refugees reside in the Cox's Bazar District, relying entirely on humanitarian assistance for essential services.

¹ EM-DAT - The international disaster database



Southeastern Bangladesh:

The southeastern region faces catastrophic floods, especially in Noakhali, Feni, and Khagrachari, leaving families wading through waist-deep water to find safety. A woman and young girl clasp hands, as rising waters devastate communities and displace thousands. *UNICEF/Mukt*

PEOPLE IN NEED

55.1 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

32.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$5.1 billion

The humanitarian situations in Afghanistan and Myanmar have further deteriorated, with significant impacts on the humanitarian situation in both countries, and the potential for repercussions across the region as civilians continue to flee conflict and instability. Additionally, localized conflicts persist in countries such as Papua New Guinea and the Philippines, resulting in significant humanitarian impacts.






Humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities in the region are increasingly complex, driven by economic downturns and rising living costs that intensify the impacts of climate-induced disasters, ongoing conflicts, and the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2024, requirements for the region's eight response plans reached nearly \$6 billion to assist 33.2 million of 59.5 million people in need across multiple countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines and Viet Nam addressing both familiar and emerging disaster-prone areas². Increasingly focused on climate-induced crises, in 2024, the region faced unprecedented events, such as severe floods in Bangladesh, flash floods in the Philippines and the impact of Typhoon Yagi in Viet Nam. These events highlight the shifting nature and intensity of climate

related disasters and demand adaptive strategies that consider vulnerabilities and capacities among women, men, children, elderly, persons with disabilities and other marginalized communities. The OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) plays a vital role in setting these priorities to ensure an agile, inclusive, and climate-responsive approach.

Currently, the Asia-Pacific region is experiencing significant impacts from the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), with forecasts indicating a transition from El Niño to La Niña conditions in the coming months. This shift is expected to bring extreme weather events, including increased rainfall and flooding in some areas and droughts in others. These conditions may lead to water stress, ocean temperature changes, heightened risks of forest fires, and increased incidences of disease. The compounded effects of these events are likely to erode coping capacities and exacerbate vulnerabilities, such as food insecurity. In 2025, multiple and compound disasters will again affect several countries across the region which will increase pre-existing vulnerabilities of communities and will result in increased need for humanitarian assistance.

Overview of 2025 response plans

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
 Afghanistan	HNRP	22.9M	16.8M	\$2.4B
 Bangladesh	FA	1.8M	942.4K	\$35.6M
 Myanmar	HNRP	19.9M	5.5M	\$1.1B
 Philippines	FA	892.8K	210K	\$8.2M
 Viet Nam	FA	570K	300K	\$37.2M

2 Asia and the Pacific: 2024 Humanitarian Response Overview (as of 9 October 2024) | OCHA

AID IN ACTION

The flagship initiative in the Philippines in 2024



Tiwi, Albay, Philippines: Community members gather to share their stories and perspectives as part of the Flagship Initiative's "Listen, Discover and Enhance" programme rollout. *Rhinadel Canete*

In 2024, building on the Listen, Discover and Enhance (LDE) methodology developed the previous year, two innovative tools were piloted to strengthen community engagement for the flagship initiative: the Resilience-Based Participatory Appraisal (ReBPCA) and the Community Priority Assessment (CPA).

The ReBPCA acts as a listening tool, allowing community members to share unfiltered priorities, perceptions, and aspirations. The

CPA guides communities in a decision-making process based on their abilities and assets. This approach moves beyond the traditional way of asking predefined questions, by using open-ended enquiry to better capture genuine community priorities. These tools were trialled in seven municipalities by local government, NGOs, and UN agencies, revealing key community priorities, such as safeguarding livelihood assets and supporting locally led initiatives through community cash grants.

In 2025, the initiative will focus on supporting humanitarian and development partners integrate these context-specific tools and lessons into regular programming. Where possible, elements of these approaches will be incorporated into existing accountability mechanisms. Additionally, advocacy with government entities will be undertaken to adopt some of the learnings into area-based and community-led planning and response mechanisms, including anticipatory action.

Afghanistan **HNRP**

Crisis overview

The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is marked by deep-seated structural and systemic challenges, including a lack of essential services, a strained economy, and recurring climatic and seasonal shocks, such as floods, harsh winters and droughts. These issues create chronic needs among large population groups with weakened resilience and coping mechanisms, including vulnerable returnees who may be pushed into acute humanitarian need at any time. Additionally, the slow but steady implementation of de facto authority (DfA) laws and regulations continues to heighten protection risks for women, girls and other at-risk groups, complicating –though not yet fully preventing–the provision of humanitarian assistance. In 2025, an estimated 22.9 million people in Afghanistan will require humanitarian assistance.

Seasonal and climate-related shocks further exacerbate humanitarian needs across Afghanistan, intensifying already precarious living conditions. The anticipated La Niña episode through early 2025 could reduce snowfall and rainfall, and increase temperatures, leading to drought-like conditions, especially in Afghanistan’s key agricultural regions of the northeastern, northern, and northwestern regions. This could worsen an already critical water crisis, stemming from years of over-extraction, maladaptive practices and insufficient groundwater recharge, putting further strain on already fragile rural communities. As water resources decline, food insecurity and waterborne disease risks increase, placing additional pressure on limited healthcare systems. Prolonged food insecurity, inadequate water and sanitation and limited healthcare access have significantly increased acute malnutrition rates among children and pregnant women. Projections for 2025 indicate a nearly threefold increase in districts classified at level 4 for malnutrition, rising from 19 in 2024 to 56.

Additionally, potential La Niña-driven flooding in 2025 could destroy houses, interrupt essential services and displace people for the short-term. Harsh winters bring life-threatening conditions, particularly in high-altitude regions, where access becomes difficult, putting vulnerable people at risk without adequate shelter, heating and clothing.

Restrictive policies on women’s rights, movement and participation in humanitarian activities continue to pose significant challenges, increasing exposure to gender-based violence, affecting sectors like education and healthcare. In particular, the promulgation of the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice (MoPVPV) Law in August 2024 will have ramifications for humanitarian operations in 2025, although adaption measures taken by humanitarians aim to preserve women and girls’ access to aid. In addition to restrictive policies, bureaucratic and administrative impediments related to project registration and efforts to influence project design and implementation further complicate the operating environment. Afghanistan remains one of the most heavily contaminated countries, with explosive ordnance covering over 1,200 square metres, causing about 55 casualties per month, mostly among children.

PEOPLE IN NEED

22.9 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

16.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$2.4 billion

Total population

46.0 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2009 – 2025

Political developments in neighboring Iran and Pakistan have heightened the risk of a renewed returnee crisis. The threat of Afghan deportations from Pakistan persists, although the monthly number of returnees crossing into Afghanistan has stabilized at pre-crisis levels. Recent announcements from Iranian authorities regarding the deportation of undocumented Afghans have led to a rise in mostly undocumented returnees crossing monthly, further increasing the need for assistance at border points and in areas of return.

Underlying these acute needs is a fragile economy that perpetuates vulnerability. Afghanistan's economy has significantly contracted since the government transition in 2021. Political estrangement and significantly reduced development funding have isolated the financial system, limiting the DfA's capacity to provide basic services and employment. High unemployment, debt and reduced purchasing power severely restrict access to goods and services. This economic crisis also impacts the humanitarian sector, where gaps in sustainable development—such as underdeveloped infrastructure, limited livelihood opportunities and weak healthcare and education systems—continue to create conditions for recurring humanitarian crises.

Response priorities in 2025

Decades of conflict, disasters, underdevelopment, economic stagnation, food insecurity and protection concerns have generated complex needs across Afghanistan, many of which extend beyond immediate humanitarian relief. While affected communities welcome short-term aid, they consistently emphasize a preference for sustainable, long-term solutions. Structural vulnerabilities can heighten humanitarian needs after a shock, however humanitarian actors in Afghanistan acknowledge that these underlying issues fall outside the humanitarian mandate. Therefore, collaboration with basic human needs partners will be critical to ensure complementarity and to avoid overlap.

Humanitarian actors will focus on delivering life-saving assistance. The 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) for Afghanistan will prioritize the critical needs of 22.9 million people,

addressing deteriorating protection for women and girls, widespread flood damage to housing, a rise in undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan and Iran, climate impacts, and high unemployment and debt—all factors eroding resilience and worsening food insecurity for 14.8 million people targeted for food assistance. Efforts to strengthen healthcare will include maintaining and delivering essential health services while upholding principles of accountability to affected people, disability inclusion, gender, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). Access to education, especially for girls, will remain a priority through continued support for community-based education. Addressing malnutrition is also a priority, with plans to treat acute malnutrition and provide blanket supplementary feeding programmes.

The 2025 HNRP will maintain its shock-based approach³ as the foundation for the risk and needs analysis with assistance provided based on vulnerability criteria. Identification methods will vary, utilizing rapid assessments for sudden onset crises, drought monitoring and cross-border tracking for returnees. The 2025 planning process is based on comprehensive needs analysis, informed by lessons from 2024 response reports on target figures, underreach, funding projections and access or bureaucratic barriers observed in 2024. These analyses prevent duplication and align responses with community feedback, addressing expressed needs and priorities. In 2024, humanitarian efforts were spread across Afghanistan's 401 districts, though only a few received multisectoral support. Acknowledging the importance of intersectoral interventions—such as addressing malnutrition across the nutrition, health, food security, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sectors—the 2025 HNRP prioritizes targeted cross-sectoral collaboration to optimize resources and impact. In 2025, Afghanistan will also implement an anticipatory action framework for drought to mitigate impacts before they occur.

The collective response is tailored to populations affected by anticipated drought in the north-western, northern and north-eastern regions, as well as residual and anticipated needs from flooding in the northern, eastern and central regions. Needs in return areas across provinces such as Helmand,

3 Defined as distinct events causing significant disruption and suffering.

Kabul, Kandahar, Kunduz and Nangarhar were also prioritized, with a focus on high-need districts facing compounded challenges in food security, health, WASH and nutrition.

Afghanistan's operational landscape is expected to remain extremely complex as the DfA continues implementing various directives and procedures. In 2024 alone, the DfA issued 97 directives impacting humanitarian action, including six specifically restricting female participation, forcing humanitarian partners to engage in challenging, time-consuming negotiations. These restrictions risk reducing operational space, delaying projects, and increasing bureaucratic and administrative impediments. Heightened scrutiny and oversight further raise the threat of violence against aid workers, further compounding already considerable obstacles facing humanitarian efforts.

Despite these challenges, humanitarian partners remain committed to delivering critical assistance to Afghanistan's most vulnerable people. This includes ensuring women can access the necessary services and that female Afghan humanitarian workers can engage in the response safely, meaningfully and comprehensively.

Financial requirements

The HNRP for Afghanistan requires a total of US\$2.42 billion for 2025, reflecting a 21 per cent decrease compared to the previous year (\$3.06 billion). This reduction in financial requirements stems largely from lower targets across key sectors, with education, emergency shelter and non-food items (ES/NFI), food security and agriculture (FSAC), health and WASH all seeing notable decreases. For instance, education targets have been reduced by 38 per cent, while health and WASH have decreased by 28 per cent and 35 per cent, respectively.

The 2025 HNRP specifically focuses on providing humanitarian assistance to people experiencing

acute shocks like floods, droughts or displacement. Prioritization is based on vulnerability criteria to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches those most in need. The methods for identifying who requires assistance due to shocks will vary based on the nature of the event (e.g., rapid assessments for those affected by sudden-onset emergencies such as floods, dry spell monitoring for those affected by drought, or cross-border monitoring for returnees). Structural or systemic issues, although they exacerbate vulnerabilities, are outside the boundaries of the humanitarian response unless directly linked to a shock.

The financial requirements use a unit/activity-based costing methodology, where targets for each activity are multiplied by the associated unit costs, and the totals are summed to determine the overall HNRP requirement.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

As of September 2024, humanitarian partners reached 15.3 million people—88 per cent of the planned overall target of 17.3 million. In so doing, partners reached every single district with at least one form of assistance. At the same time, 2.8 million people—37 per cent of the inter-sectoral target of 7.6 million—received three different types of sectoral support throughout the first eight months of the year. Food assistance was the largest sectoral response, reaching 9.5 million people (62 per cent of the 15.3 million reached). Meanwhile, WASH and health, each targeting 10 million people or more, provided support to 42 per cent and 52 per cent of their targets, respectively.



Returnees

Humanitarian partners helped more than 849,000 returnees from Iran and Pakistan in both temporary transit sites and areas of return. Of these, 311,000 in temporary transit sites received ES/NFIs and WASH services, and 538,000 were assisted in their areas of return with ES/NFIs, food and/or protection services. In addition, between April and August, partners reached approximately 120,000 people affected by heavy rain and flash floods across the regions with different forms of humanitarian assistance, including multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA).



Coordination

In 2024, the inter-cluster coordination team improved monitoring and transparency by shifting from provincial to district-level data analysis and introduced a new inter-sectoral reach calculation to better capture multi-sectoral coverage compared to single-instance reach during the year. In addition, the Afghanistan Accountability Index (AAI) was launched to monitor the quality and inclusivity of humanitarian assistance, especially for women, girls, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.



The Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF)

The Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) boosted localized humanitarian response efforts through an area-based approach to strengthen community resilience and service delivery. It also stepped up quality monitoring of system-wide accountability, increased funding to core protection activities—such as mine action, child protection, housing, land, and property, as well as protection from GBV—and scaled up cash-based interventions specifically for MPCA.

Consequences of inaction

As of 7 November, only 37.4 per cent of the required \$3.06 billion for the Afghanistan HNRP has been funded. This shortfall has prevented 3.7 million people from accessing primary and secondary healthcare, left 352,000 children under age five, and 258,000 pregnant and lactating women with moderate acute malnutrition without blanket supplementary feeding, and denied 300,000 people access to emergency latrines and bathing facilities. Insufficient funding has also undermined distribution of teaching and learning materials and left 25,000 earthquake-affected families and 12,700 flood-affected households without longer-term shelter support. Scaled-back food assistance has excluded entire districts from critical food support and limited child protection services, including case management and structured psychosocial support. Supply chains across all clusters are now at imminent risk of disruption.

The situation was compounded by 110 directives from the DfA directly affecting humanitarian operations, including eight related to female participation. In August, the MoPVPV promulgated the Morality Law, reinforcing and expanding discriminatory policies and granting broad discretionary powers to inspectors, increasing bureaucratic and administrative impediments and negatively impacting critical humanitarian assistance delivery.

Amid widespread and recurring humanitarian needs and growing operational complexities, the humanitarian community's ability to continue delivering life-saving assistance will depend on flexible funding, robust financial systems, and assurances for humanitarian worker safety and principled humanitarian response.

AID IN ACTION

Afghanistan Accountability Index (AAI): Safeguarding inclusive humanitarian action



Herat Province, Afghanistan: A year after the October earthquakes, AHF and CERF support has helped students get back to learning with tents and educational kits.
OCHA/Abdullah Zahid

Ongoing and increasing restrictions imposed by the DfA in Afghanistan continue to marginalize Afghan women and vulnerable groups, increasing their protection risks and creating barriers to accessing essential assistance and services. The recent MoPVPV Law issued in August, is the latest example of these tightening constraints, which include active bans on Afghan women working for I/NGOs and, more recently, for the UN—restrictions in place for nearly two years. This increasingly restrictive environment underscores the humanitarian imperative to monitor the delivery of principled, inclusive assistance and gather feedback from affected communities on its adequacy and accessibility.

Building on last year's Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework of Operations and subsequent Monitoring Report (Afghanistan Pulse Check), the AAI was developed in 2024 to track women's participation in the

response, monitor access to vulnerable populations (especially Afghan women, girls and people with disabilities), and assess whether affected communities can meaningfully engage with and access services.

The AAI mid-year report found that partners have successfully secured local authorizations with the DfA to allow Afghan women to work in the humanitarian response and have adopted various strategies to support women's participation. The report also noted increases in communities reporting that assistance meets basic needs, feelings of safety when accessing aid, and awareness of PSEA, suggesting that partners are improving accessibility through measures like localized distribution points and tailored delivery times. However, feedback also called for more longer-term support and clearer, more accessible communication about aid processes, particularly for female-headed households. Physical distance, lack of transportation for people with disabilities, and restrictions on women's movement were also cited as significant barriers.

In response, clusters have reviewed the findings and collectively outlined steps to adjust their programmes. The AAI is therefore more than just a monitoring tool; it is a real-time mechanism for adapting and improving inclusive humanitarian assistance based on the expressed needs and priorities of affected Afghans.

Bangladesh **FA**

Crisis overview

Bangladesh is among the world's most vulnerable countries to climate change, facing critical environmental challenges that pose significant threats to both its population and ecosystems. 2024 will be remembered as one of the worst years in recent history due to an intense cyclone and monsoon season. The increased frequency and severity of these events have further worsened already precarious conditions for millions of people across the country.

Cyclone Remal (May 2024):

Cyclone Remal made landfall in Bangladesh on 26 May 2024, causing severe destruction across 400 square kilometres with storm surges 8-12 feet above normal levels. It displaced 800,000 people and affected 4.6 million, resulting in 18 deaths. Significant impacts included 173,866 homes destroyed or damaged, 434,000 people in urgent need of aid, and \$90.7 million in crop losses. Extensive flooding from tidal surges damaged embankments, cropland, water points, and sanitation facilities. Total damages to assets and infrastructure were estimated at \$600 million. The cyclone also impacted India, triggering flooding and landslides.

North-Eastern Floods (June 2024):

Heavy rains in mid-June triggered floods in six districts of Habiganj, Kishoreganj, Moulvibazar, Netrokona, Sunamganj, and Sylhet, affecting 3.74 million people, with 1.4 million requiring urgent assistance. The floods displaced 723,331 people, severely damaged water points, sanitation facilities, schools and disrupted livelihoods. By early July, 260,000 people remained displaced, with significant needs in WASH, education, and non-agricultural income restoration.

Northern Floods (July 2024):

From 3 July, rising water levels in the Brahmaputra-Jamuna River system triggered floods affecting 5.13 million people in seven districts, namely, Bogura, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, and Sirajganj. Infrastructure and livelihoods were heavily impacted, with large-scale displacement and damage to crops and properties reported.

Eastern Floods (August 2024):

Prolonged monsoon rains in August affected 5.8 million people in 11 districts, with 67 fatalities. Overcrowded shelters and damage to WASH facilities heightened health risks and protection concerns. Schools were converted into shelters, affecting education for 1.75 million students. Losses included \$34 million in livestock and \$121.6 million in fisheries, with 1.8 million people needing food assistance. An inter-agency mission identified urgent needs in WASH, such as food, health, protection, and livelihood restoration.

PEOPLE IN NEED

1.8 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

943,000

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$35.6 million

Total population

174.7 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Response priorities in 2025

The Humanitarian Response Plan for Cyclone and Monsoon Floods in Bangladesh⁴ (June 2024 to March 2025), now covers Cyclone Remal and monsoon floods in various regions of Bangladesh. The cyclone response targets the most affected districts of Bagerhat, Barguna, Barisal, Bhola, Khulna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, and Satkhira in the Barishal and Khulna divisions. The North-Eastern flood response focuses on the districts of Habiganj, Kishoreganj, Moulvibazar, Netrokona, Sunamganj, and Sylhet, while the Northern riverine flood response primarily addresses anticipatory action-related interventions in Bogra, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Kurigram, Madaripur, Shariatpur, and Sirajganj. For the Eastern floods, the response targets the five most affected districts: Cumilla, Feni, Khagrachari, Laxmipur, and Noakhali.

The response plan prioritizes interventions based on vulnerability criteria, including gender, age, and disability, with a focus on the most vulnerable people. These include children aged 0-23 months and 6-59 months with signs of malnutrition, as well as children under age five. Additionally, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) are targeted, along with displaced households whose homes have been destroyed, incomes lost or who lack the ability to return to their places of origin. Households facing severe food insecurity, including those at IPC 3+ and below the poverty line, as well as those in IPC 4, will also receive prioritized support. Vulnerable school-aged children, including out-of-school children and informal learners, are part of the response, alongside disadvantaged farmers who require assistance to resume basic agricultural activities. Furthermore, individuals who have experienced livelihood losses, particularly informal daily wage earners, are included in the response plan to ensure their recovery and well-being.

Financial requirements

The response plan aimed to provide dignified and accessible assistance to the most vulnerable populations, with a particular focus on hard-to-reach areas. The strategic objectives included restoring access to essential services—such as

water, sanitation, healthcare, and education—while supporting livelihoods for early recovery. Addressing immediate protection risks was also a priority, ensuring the safety of women, men, boys, and girls from violence, exploitation, and abuse.

The third revision of the Response Plan for Cyclone and Monsoon Floods in Bangladesh, June 2024 to March 2025, was developed in response to emerging needs resulting from Cyclone Remal, the North-Eastern floods, the Northern riverine floods (Jamuna River), and the Eastern flash floods. Anticipatory action mechanisms supported the response to the Northern riverine floods. A total of \$134 million was required to meet these urgent needs, and as of 25 November, only 28 per cent (\$27.2 million) of the plan had been funded.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

As of 15 November 2024, humanitarian partners reached 1.3 million people or 52 per cent of the planned target of 2.5 million across eight Divisions, 28 districts and 179 Upazilas, with 1,548 planned activities completed. Food assistance was the largest sectoral response, followed by WASH interventions and multi-sector assistance, which provided seven or more services to the same household, including Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance. Physical access to remote locations initially posed significant challenges, compounded by a political transition, nationwide blockades, and curfews that disrupted supply chains and delayed program implementation. These issues also increased safety and security risks for women, girls and marginalized communities. However, access constraints have now been resolved, allowing response efforts to proceed effectively.

To enhance transparency and coordination, an [online interactive dashboard](#) was launched, enabling sectors to report progress in real time and ensuring timely updates on humanitarian activities.

⁴ The Humanitarian Response Plan for Cyclone and Monsoon Floods in Bangladesh (June 2024 to March 2025) is equivalent to a Flash Appeal, rather than a full-fledged Humanitarian Response Plan.

Consequences of inaction

If underfunding persists, critical humanitarian activities will face significant disruptions:



Gender-based violence

Over 200,000 people may not receive GBV risk mitigation and intervention services



Mental health and psychosocial support services

Mental health and psychosocial support services for over 400,000 individuals could be jeopardized



Rental assistance

Rental assistance for 26,000 families could remain unavailable



School

Hygiene and cleaning materials, and support for cleaning school premises may not reach affected schools, leaving 160,000 children without safe learning environments.



Cash food assistance

Cash food assistance for 1.2 million people and livelihood support for 428,000 farmers could be significantly curtailed



Dignity kits

Dignity kits for 42,095 individuals, including women, adolescents, and gender-diverse groups, might not be delivered, compromising their access to essential emergency aid



Cash support

Cash support aimed at preventing child marriage in households with adolescent girls could be halted, and emergency life-saving drugs for 130,000 people in flood-affected areas may not be distributed



Severe acute malnutrition

Treatment for severe acute malnutrition in approximately 2,000 infants could be suspended

Such gaps would disproportionately affect local NGOs, which are vital in delivering frontline assistance.

Crisis overview

Myanmar's humanitarian crisis is driven by widespread conflict, natural disasters, epidemics, explosive ordnance and landmine contamination, and economic collapse. The security situation is deteriorating, protection risks are severe, and people's resilience is stretched to a breaking point. As of mid-2024, Myanmar ranked second globally in conflict intensity and fourth in civilian danger, with 43 per cent of the population exposed to conflict. It is also among the top three countries most impacted by extreme weather, facing severe climate shocks like cyclones and floods. After Cyclone Mocha in 2023, extensive flooding in July and September 2024—driven by Typhoon Yagi remnants and monsoon rains—affected over 1 million people nationwide, worsening conditions for already vulnerable people. Severe underfunding, inflation, access restrictions and service disruptions, have left many needs unmet, with conditions worsening over time. Given the widespread impact of these shocks, the Myanmar Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) chose to maintain a nationwide scope in its analysis.

In 2025, 19.9 million people – a third of Myanmar's population – will require humanitarian aid, including 6.3 million children. Conflict has driven unprecedented displacement, with the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) surging by 72 per cent in one year to reach 3.5 million. Only 15 per cent of IDPs are in formal camps, while many endure harsh conditions living in informal shelters or jungles with severe shortages of food, healthcare, and water. Over 1.1 million refugees are now hosted in neighbouring countries. The conflict's impact extends beyond Myanmar, fuelling human and drug trafficking and disease outbreaks, requiring international support.

Protection concerns are acute, with increasingly brutal violence, movement restrictions, and pervasive threats from explosive ordnance. Civilian casualties, including children, are frequent due to armed clashes involving aerial bombardment and shelling, even in residential areas. Landmines and explosive ordnance have reached critical levels, with children under 18 years old comprising 21 per cent of all reported casualties, underscoring the grave impact on vulnerable groups.

Most households struggle to meet basic needs. Conflict has created significant protection challenges, with households in affected areas facing intense security-related movement restrictions and threats from explosive ordnance. Food insecurity is widespread, with large consumption gaps, particularly among IDPs and non-displaced stateless people. Most children between the ages of 6 to 23 months across all population groups lack the minimum required frequency and diversity of food intake. Conflict has disrupted education, leaving more than half of assessed IDP, returnee and non-displaced stateless children out of formal schooling during the 2023-24 school year, largely due to conflict-induced school closures. The health system is in crisis and support is needed, particularly for non-displaced stateless households with medical needs. Shelter needs are acute, with half of all assessed IDPs lacking adequate shelter. WASH needs are highest among non-displaced stateless people and IDPs, with insufficient water supply and sanitation facilities. Amid these deepening challenges, people, especially IDPs and stateless people, are increasingly resorting to negative coping mechanisms.

PEOPLE IN NEED

19.9 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

5.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.1 billion

Total population

56.9 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2013 – 2025

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, humanitarian partners will work toward the following strategic objectives:

- Protection risks and needs are identified, monitored, mitigated and met for 4 million crisis-affected and stateless people, while the centrality of protection is upheld across the humanitarian response by promoting respect for humanitarian principles, human rights and international humanitarian law.
- Suffering, morbidity, and mortality are prevented or reduced among 4.7 million crisis-affected people through equitable, safe, and dignified access to timely, multisectoral, life-saving assistance, ensuring their well-being and preventing further deterioration of their humanitarian conditions.

The HNRP target has increased modestly from 5.3 million in 2024 to 5.5 million in 2025, covering 28 per cent of the total 19.9 million people in need (PiN). Given the centrality of protection to the crisis, and the extensive flooding in the second half of 2024, the Protection, Shelter/NFI/CCCM and WASH Clusters response planning has primarily driven up the total people targeted for humanitarian assistance. Overall, there is a strong correlation between the intensity of conflict, the impact of natural disasters, the severity of needs, and the resulting targeting decisions under the HNRP.

Given the large number of people in need, the limited funding, and capacity constraints, the HCT prioritized the response based on severity of needs, partners' operational capacity and funding projections, as follows:

- An increased focus will be placed on IDPs, returned/ resettled/ integrated IDPs, and non-displaced stateless people, with reduced attention on the "other crisis-affected people" category.
- Greater focus will be placed on hard-to-reach rural areas and those with the highest needs, while remaining realistic given funding, access and capacity constraints. Inclusion of new areas will be minimal.
- Resilience, disaster risk reduction and most preventative and basic social services-type activities will be removed, as well as any potential overlap with caseloads identified in the UN

Transitional Cooperation Framework. The HNRP will again feature a section on the humanitarian consequences if development actors fail to secure adequate funding.

For 2025, the HCT reinforced its focus on prioritizing life-saving activities. Each cluster defined quantifiable needs severity thresholds at the township level to guide priorities – incorporating people's preferences – while ensuring targets remain realistic and feasible. Despite rising needs, the Myanmar HNRP limited its target to include only 5.5 million people of the most severely affected, a marginal 4 per cent increase over 2024.

Humanitarians are planning for current conditions to persist into 2025, with potential elections as a possible trigger for increased tensions, violence and further access restrictions. While there were some localized access openings in 2024, the overall access environment is expected to remain highly restricted. This necessitates a strong reliance on and risk sharing with local responders, who have become the backbone of the response. Humanitarian operating space is increasingly under threat from ongoing armed conflict, bureaucratic and administrative impediments, movement restrictions through checkpoints and a more repressive climate for aid workers. Continued advocacy will be essential to address the impacts of these constraints on humanitarian operations. Guided by the Joint Operating Standards, humanitarians will continue engaging with all parties in a bid to secure access, uphold principled, needs-based responses, and address civilian protection issues.

Financial requirements

Myanmar's humanitarian funding requirement rose slightly from \$994 million in 2024 to \$1.1 billion. The increase reflects a more ambitious 2025 response target, the rising cost of delivering assistance in hard-to-reach and insecure areas, and the impact of inflation, especially for commodity-heavy clusters, where no in-country alternatives are available and cash assistance is not viable. These financial requirements are based on the activity-based costing methodology, consistently used since 2022.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Humanitarian partners collectively reached at least 3.9 million people by the end of 2024, 72 per cent of those targeted for assistance. Severe underfunding limited the depth and frequency of assistance provided to those reached. However, the broad coverage across much of Myanmar indicates that cluster partners developed substantial delivery capacity and stand ready to scale up further if financial requirements are fully met in 2025.

The following areas highlight cluster-specific achievements:



Education

700,000 people received education in emergencies support.



Food security

2.1 million people received life-saving emergency food assistance, food production and livelihoods assistance.



Health

690,000 people received essential health care services, related health supplies or emergency referral services.



Nutrition

400,000 children and pregnant and lactating women received life-saving nutritional assistance.



Protection

602,000 million people were assisted with general protection services.



Child protection

934,000 million children received child protection support services.



Gender-based violence

205,000 survivors of gender-based violence were assisted with comprehensive services.



Mine action

424,000 people received mine action support.



Shelter and NFI

1.3 million people received shelter and NFI support.



WASH

2.1 million people received WASH services.

Consequences of inaction

Severe underfunding of both the humanitarian and development responses for successive years since the military takeover has left significant gaps and unmet needs that are now cascading into 2025. The underfunding has also meant that the assistance being delivered is not as deep or sustained as planned. In 2024, underfunding of the humanitarian response meant that:



Education

More than 800,000 children missed out on education support, increasing their risk of child marriage, child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as recruitment into armed groups.



Food Security

126,000 people lacked life-saving emergency food production and livelihoods assistance.

383,000 people did not receive critical emergency food aid.



Health

Essential health care services, supplies and emergency referrals did not reach 2 million people, resulting in severe illness or death from preventable disease, maternal and child health complications, and psychological and social distress.



Nutrition

15,000 children under age 5 face heightened risk of illness or death in the absence of life-saving treatment for severe acute malnutrition throughout 2024.

60,000 children under age 5 with moderate acute malnutrition likely deteriorated to severe acute malnutrition, raising their risk of death from preventable causes by up to five times, when compared to normal children.

Micronutrient deficiencies, particularly iron deficiency anaemia, will likely result in 112,000 babies born with low birth weights.

454,000 children under age 5 likely suffered irreversible impacts on their growth and development due to micronutrient deficiencies.



Protection

2.1 million people were denied protection services, further exposing them to risks and more likely to adopt negative coping mechanisms.

1.1 million people missed gender-based violence services, leaving survivors more vulnerable and at greater risk of further violence, exploitation, and abuse.

1.1 million children went without protection, increasing their exposure to violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect, and a lack of essential protection services.

1.6 million people lacked mine action support, heightening their risk of landmine injuries and fatalities with no access to life-saving assistance.



Shelter

235,000 people in hard-to-reach areas went without shelter and NFI assistance, forcing many to risk their lives building makeshift shelters to protect their families from harsh weather conditions, increasing their exposure to health risks.



WASH

260,000 people lacked access to safe drinking water, leaving vulnerable households unable to meet basic water needs and increasing their risk of waterborne diseases.

Philippines **FA**

Crisis overview

The Philippines is facing an exceptionally severe tropical cyclone (TC) season. In less than a month, six typhoons passed through the country, affecting over 12 million people.

The current Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan (HNPP) focuses on the impact of Severe Tropical Storm (STS) Trami (local name Kristine), that made landfall on 24 October and triggered massive flooding and landslides severely affecting Regions 5, 4A and 2. The impact was further exacerbated by Typhoon Kong-rey, and Typhoon Yinxing (local name Marce), which made landfall on 7 November. At the peak of the storm, over 700,000 individuals were displaced, with 160 people killed, 135 injured and 21 missing. Although floodwaters are receding, the humanitarian situation remains dire, with many communities still submerged and typhoons expected to exacerbate existing conditions.

Hundreds of thousands of displaced people are in evacuation centres or make-shift shelters, lacking essential non-food items (NFI) such as sleeping mats and hygiene kits. Safe drinking water is scarce, sanitation facilities need urgent repairs and materials for rebuilding homes are in high demand. The number of displaced families will likely decrease over time, but health risks remain due to poor living conditions.

The agriculture sector has been heavily impacted, with over 136,000 farmers and fisherfolk affected, resulting in damages exceeding \$125 million. This has caused severe food shortages, noting high floodwaters may delay replanting efforts. Coastal areas face continued income instability for fisherfolk.

Water and sanitation facilities have been damaged, leading to a lack of clean drinking water and elevated health risks. Immediate needs include hygiene kits, water containers and sanitation facilities. In some areas, people are resorting to open defecation due to a lack of sanitation.

Health infrastructure is overwhelmed, with a shortage of critical medical supplies and increased respiratory infections and diarrhoea. Mental health support is crucial, as many individuals face psychological trauma from displacement. The education sector has also been severely disrupted, affecting 20 million students and 800,000 teachers. Over 1,300 schools are being used as evacuation centres, with many damaged.

Protection risks are heightened, particularly for women, children, and persons with disabilities. Gender-based violence (GBV) is a concern, and there is an urgent need for dignity kits, privacy partitions and child-friendly spaces.

PEOPLE IN NEED

892,828

PEOPLE TARGETED

210,000

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$8.2 million

Total population

119.1 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

-

Response priorities in 2025

The HNPP is focused on meeting the urgent needs of vulnerable populations in the most affected provinces of the Philippines, especially those in hard-to-reach areas, across three regions and seven provinces. Priority actions include providing:

- essential non-food items such as family kits, sleeping kits, emergency shelter repair kits and hygiene kits
- emergency installation or repair of water points and sanitation facilities
- food security and emergency livelihoods
- GBV and sexual and reproductive services including dignity kits
- population movement and needs tracking through camp coordination and camp management (CCCM).

The response will also address the urgent need for shelter and protection, particularly for vulnerable groups such as women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. Key activities will include the installation of privacy partitions, solar lighting, and emergency shelter kits in evacuation centres and informal sites. Cash-for-work programmes will support the rehabilitation of infrastructure, such as irrigation canals and land preparation. Protection mechanisms will be strengthened, including awareness-raising on child protection and sexual exploitation and abuse risks, while complaints and feedback systems will be set up.

The overall goal is to ensure safety and dignity, while simultaneously reducing vulnerabilities and increasing resilience of affected communities who have been repeatedly impacted by overlapping typhoons. Coordination through the Humanitarian Country Team and Inter-Cluster Coordination

Group will ensure a well-coordinated response, focusing on the most vulnerable groups, including women-headed households, fisherfolk, and other marginalized communities, over the three-month implementation period.

Financial requirements

The plan aims to address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable populations, including women, children, pregnant and lactating women, ethnic minorities, older persons, people with disabilities, and displaced persons. It incorporates key cross-cutting issues such as cash assistance, gender and protection. With a total funding requirement of \$32.9 million (2024-2025), the plan outlines a coordinated response from the UN and NGOs, specifying the financial resources necessary for critical programs. It emphasizes accountability to affected people and inclusion, ensuring a transparent and equitable humanitarian response and empowering communities to take an active role in shaping their recovery and resilience. Additionally, it complements the Philippines Government's response by detailing the support that international organizations will provide, including prioritized sectors and interventions.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

The HNPP was officially launched on 12 November, along with a dedicated monitoring dashboard to track "Who does What Where" (3Ws) across response efforts to ensure transparency, enhance coordination, and bolster accountability.

Consequences of inaction

If underfunded, critical humanitarian interventions for typhoon responses would face severe disruptions.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

WASH services for 136,000 people—including hygiene kits, potable water, and repairs to water and sanitation systems—would not be delivered, heightening the risk of water-borne diseases.



Emergency shelter

Emergency shelter support, including shelter repair kits and essential NFIs for 185,000 people with damaged homes, would be delayed, leaving families in unsafe living conditions and protracted displacement.



Protection

Protection services, such as dignity kits and GBV support for 46,000 women and adolescent girls, would not be available, increasing their vulnerability.



Camp coordination and camp management

Without sufficient funding, CCCM activities for over 77,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) would not be implemented, creating gaps in needs tracking and delaying timely assistance.



Food

Food assistance for 210,000 people and livelihood recovery for those displaced by tropical cyclones would not proceed, deepening food insecurity and prolonging economic instability.



Education

Efforts to restore schools used as evacuation centres and replace lost learning materials for 85,000 students would be stalled, disrupting education and delaying the return to normalcy.



Health

Additionally, damaged health infrastructure would remain unrepaired, leaving 52,000 people without medical services. The lack of essential medical supplies and equipment would exacerbate the spread of water-borne diseases and worsen chronic health conditions.



Localization

National and local NGOs, instrumental in delivering frontline aid, would be disproportionately impacted, undermining their ability to respond effectively to urgent needs.

Viet Nam **FA**

Crisis overview

Typhoon Yagi, Viet Nam's most powerful typhoon in 30 years, struck the northern part of the country on 7 September, bringing with it strong winds and five days of heavy rains that triggered widespread flooding and landslides. The typhoon affected 3.6 million people in nearly half (26) of Viet Nam's 63 provinces, exacerbating vulnerabilities in communities already at risk from climate-related disasters. The typhoon and accompanying floods and landslides claimed 307 lives and left over 1,900 people injured. Nationwide, over 240,599 homes, 1,530 schools, and 570 health facilities were damaged, while an additional 73,248 homes were submerged in floodwaters. An estimated 72,591 people were in need of shelter after their homes were destroyed or severely damaged.

After the storm struck, more than 74,500 households (130,000 people) were relocated to safer areas. Overcrowded and under-resourced evacuation centres posed protection risks, particularly for women and children, who face heightened threats of gender-based violence (GBV) and communicable diseases. Households classified as poor and near poor, even before the successive floods, lacked sufficient resources to repair their homes.

Heavy rainfall caused river and stream levels to rise rapidly, with the Thao, Lo, Thương, Gam, Thai Binh, lower Red, Lục Nam and Hoang Long rivers all surpassing Alarm Level 3, the top and most critical level, triggering widespread flooding. The storm's impact was particularly severe in rural mountainous and coastal areas, where many homes were damaged or destroyed, and agricultural lands inundated or destroyed by landslides. Two of the most affected provinces, Lao Cai and Yen Bai, had suffered from 23 days of rain in August and, with soil already saturated with water, bore the brunt of the impact. Lao Cai experienced large-scale flash floods and landslides, while Yen Bai recorded more than 1,000 landslides, mostly smaller but widely dispersed.

While early warning systems and pre-emptive evacuations helped reduce casualties, Typhoon Yagi significantly impacted livelihoods, displaced thousands and damaged critical infrastructure. The agricultural sector, already vulnerable due to ongoing weather changes, was hard hit, with severe losses reported in rice and vegetable crops, as well as livestock. The Ministry of Planning and Investment estimates material losses at approximately VNĐ50 trillion (\$2 billion).

Response priorities in 2025

The Joint Response Plan will focus on the needs of the 300,000 most vulnerable affected people across the 11 northern provinces, namely, Bac Giang, Bac Kan, Cao Bang, Dien Bien, Ha Giang, Lai Chau, Lang Son, Lao Cai, Thai Nguyen, Tuyen Quang and Yen Bai. The three highest priority provinces are Cao Bang, Lao Cai and Yen Bai, where high poverty rates and pre-existing vulnerabilities have made the impact of the typhoon even more severe.

Of those people targeted for assistance, some 216,031 are men and women, 83,969 are boys and girls, and 24,000 are people with disabilities (PWD). The

PEOPLE IN NEED

570,000

PEOPLE TARGETED

300,000

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$37.2 million

Total population

99.5 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

-

joint response plan will ensure that the acute needs of the most vulnerable households are met, including women-headed households and those with older persons, PWD and children. Under the overall leadership of the Resident Coordinator's Office, the plan was developed by the Inter-sector Coordination Group, sector coordinators and their respective members in consultation with the Government of Viet Nam. It aims to identify those critical response priorities to be covered by UN agencies, NGOs and the Viet Nam Red Cross to augment the wider Government response. The joint response plan will cover a period of nine months (September 2024-June 2025) and will respond to both the immediate humanitarian needs and early recovery activities, which are mainstreamed and integrated through all sector plans. Sectors involved in the plan worked in close coordination with each other to ensure that strategic priority activities have the most significant impact on the lives of the most vulnerable people.

Financial requirements

The plan outlines the coordinated response priorities of the UN and NGOs, articulating the financial resources required to implement critical programs. It provides accountability to the Government by detailing the coordinated support that international organizations will deliver, including prioritized sectors and interventions. Focused on addressing the acute needs of the most vulnerable—such as the poor, near-poor, pregnant and lactating women (PLW), ethnic minorities, children, older persons, PWD, and the displaced—the plan incorporates strategic considerations for cross-cutting issues, including cash, gender, protection, and the environment. To achieve these objectives, the plan requires a total of \$68.9 million, with \$31.7 million allocated for immediate life-saving responses and \$37.3 million for early recovery.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

As of 15 November, Viet Nam does not have a monitoring framework or an active 4Ws.

Consequences of inaction

Underfunding in critical sectors would leave thousands without essential assistance.



Nutrition

14,000 children with acute malnutrition would not receive treatment



Housing

Housing repairs for 3,237 people, including poor and near-poor households and households with PWD, would not be completed.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

A funding gap would also prevent the provision of life-saving water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) supplies for 150,000 people.



Food security and agriculture

Approximately 84,680 vulnerable individuals—PLW, women-headed households, children, older persons, and those with disabilities—would not receive food assistance, and 34,670 farmers would be unable to access agricultural seeds and livestock needed for livelihood recovery.



Education

In education, underfunding would hinder the rebuilding and rehabilitation of schools and delay the provision of life-saving supplies to around 355,200 students, including teaching materials, textbooks, and computers in the most affected provinces. These education activities are considered lifesaving given their critical protective role, offering safety, stability, and access to essential services.



Europe

Ukraine **HNRP**

Crisis overview

The war against Ukraine, ongoing since 2014 and escalating with the full-scale invasion in 2022, continues to inflict widespread devastation and immeasurable suffering on the people of Ukraine. The intensified hostilities and attacks throughout 2024 have sharply increased humanitarian needs, especially near the front line.

In 2025, an estimated 12.7 million people—roughly 36 per cent of Ukraine’s population—will need humanitarian assistance. Civilians across all regions are affected, with the heaviest impact in the east, south and parts of the north. In areas occupied by the Russian Federation, the situation is worsened by extremely limited humanitarian access. Verified civilian casualties between 2022 and the end of September 2024 reached nearly 39,000, including over 12,000 deaths of which more than 2,400 were children. Actual figures may be higher due to access constraints that make it difficult to verify all reports.

Continual damage to civilian infrastructure has created widespread disruption in critical services. Since the start of the invasion, WHO reported 2,065 attacks on healthcare facilities, severely disrupting health services, as hospitals grapple with limited resources and extensive damage to infrastructure.



Kherson region, Ukraine: A local woman from Kyselivka village receives essential winter support from the Southern Development Strategy NGO, funded by the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund. *Southern Development Strategy NGO*

PEOPLE IN NEED

12.7 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

6.1 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$2.6 billion

Total population

35.6 million

Income level

Upper middle income

Consecutive appeals

2014 – 2025

Targeted attacks on energy infrastructure have drastically reduced the country's power-generating capacity, disrupting essential services such as water, gas, and winter heating, impacting homes, collective shelters, schools, and health facilities, adding to the country's hardship.

The war has exacerbated protection risks, displacing millions, destroying livelihoods and depleting coping mechanisms. Civilians on the front-line face harrowing living conditions, which are expected to worsen as winter sets in.

Since the escalation of the war in February 2022, until mid-October 2024, over 6.7 million refugees from Ukraine have been recorded—92 per cent of them in Europe⁵—with few prospects for return. Inside Ukraine, an estimated 3.6 million people remain internally displaced, with over 78,000 of the most vulnerable housed in nearly 1,800 collective sites. More people continue to be evacuated and displaced from and within the east and north. With expanded Government-led evacuation mandates and support of national NGOs and humanitarian partners, some of the most vulnerable people have relocated to safer areas, though some vulnerable groups, including older people and those with disabilities, have remained.

In areas occupied by the Russian Federation, an estimated 1.5 million people are in urgent need without adequate support.

Beyond physical destruction, the prolonged war has exposed millions to trauma and psychological distress due to constant uncertainty, fear of attacks and grave protection risks.

While the number of people in need has decreased from 14.6 million in 2024 to 12.7 million in 2025, humanitarian conditions have worsened along the front line and at the northern border. At the same time, access to services has improved in major urban centers like Kyiv and Lviv. This shift underscores the need to prioritize severe needs in and near front-line areas in 2025.

Although some socioeconomic indicators like incomes have shown improvement, significant challenges remain, including rising inflation, driven by higher taxes and increased winter energy demands.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, the humanitarian community will focus on addressing the most severe humanitarian needs, prioritizing people living in the hardest-hit areas along and near the front line and maintaining operational response capacity to meet needs, potentially into 2026.

Recognizing seasonal needs, especially during winter, and the potential for sudden shifts in the context, the humanitarian response will adopt a flexible approach to tackle “emergencies within the emergency”.

A focused approach to assessment and planning will determine the number of people to be targeted with multisectoral assistance in 2025, thereby optimizing resources. Humanitarian assistance will increasingly seek to complement Ukraine's shock-responsive social protection system, adhering to the “Reinforce, Do Not Replace” principle outlined in the Agenda for Humanity. National humanitarian organizations will remain central to the humanitarian response in Ukraine, while international organizations including the UN will complement these efforts. Two strategic objectives will guide the humanitarian response in 2025, ensuring timely and lifesaving interventions:

Lifesaving Emergency Assistance: Humanitarians will provide principled, multisectoral life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable internally displaced and non-displaced people affected by the war, ensuring their safety and dignity, especially in areas with severe needs.

Access to Prioritized Essential Services: Humanitarian partners will work to enable access to essential services for the most vulnerable internally displaced and non-displaced people affected by the war, in areas with the highest levels of need, prioritizing protection, safety and dignity.

A variety of delivery methods will ensure aid reaches people affected by war, including those displaced in collective sites in the west and central regions.

Protection activities will be central to the response, with a focus on gender-based violence (GBV), child protection, and services to people with disabilities. Protection efforts will prioritize gender-sensitive approaches, including safe spaces and psychosocial

5 [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)

support for survivors of GBV, to ensure dignity and protection for women and girls. Special emphasis will also be placed on integrating mental health and psychosocial support across sectors, given the widespread and increasing trauma inflicted by the continuing war.

Humanitarian access remains a challenge, particularly in areas occupied by the Russian Federation. The humanitarian community will continue to advocate for greater access, to deliver assistance to all people in need, regardless of their location. The humanitarian response will foster linkages with recovery and development strategies, promoting resilience and supporting Ukraine's long-term recovery.

Financial requirements

In 2025, humanitarian organizations will require \$2.63 billion, reflecting a more targeted approach to addressing severe needs in Ukraine's eastern, southern, and northern regions.

In alignment with the Grand Bargain commitments and the ongoing prioritization of cash and voucher assistance across the humanitarian system, humanitarian actors will continue to focus on multipurpose cash support in 2025. They will also provide complementary sector-based cash assistance to address severe vulnerabilities not covered by multipurpose cash, while reducing in-kind programming in Ukraine.

Key sectoral needs include:

- **Care and Maintenance of Collective Sites:** Ensure the safety, dignity, and provision of essential services for internally displaced people (IDPs) in collective sites, with particular attention to winterization and the needs of the most vulnerable.
- **Education:** Critical education-in-emergencies support will reach war-affected children and teachers living in areas with severe needs.
- **Food Security and Livelihoods:** Cash and vouchers will be the preferred form of assistance, with in-kind support reserved for areas where markets are disrupted, and essential goods cannot be supplied.
- **Health:** Efforts will ensure access to essential medical services, including trauma care, mental health, non-communicable disease management, and reproductive health, particularly for survivors of GBV and pregnant women.
- **Protection (overall, including AoRs):** Services will include psychosocial care, legal assistance, GBV survivor support, child protection, and mine awareness.
 - **Child Protection:** This includes mental health and psychosocial support for children and their caregivers, along with case management.
 - **Gender-Based Violence:** Psychosocial support for GBV survivors will be provided through both mobile and static services.

Dnipro, Ukraine: Women who fled the war-torn villages of Donetsk now find refuge at a collective site for older people, with support from humanitarian organizations. *OCHA/Viktoriia Andriievska*



- **Mine Action:** This includes mine clearance and education, addressing the significant threat posed by explosive ordnance, especially in frontline areas.
- **Shelter and Non-Food Items:** Support for emergency repairs to damaged homes, social facilities and collective centres, as well as winterization and NFI to vulnerable households.
- **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene:** Support for repairs and rehabilitation of water, waste water and district heating systems damaged by the war, particularly in frontline areas where access to clean water is critical. This assistance will also include supplying emergency water and hygiene kits.
- **Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA):** Provision of multipurpose cash assistance to offer flexibility for highly vulnerable people to cover their basic needs with dignity.
- **Coordination Common Services:** Coordination services to enable evidence-based, principled humanitarian response and to ensure safe access for the most vulnerable.
- **Emergency Telecommunications:** To extend and maintain secure communications networks and data connectivity services to support coordination among partners, ensuring effective telecommunications for a strong humanitarian response.
- **Logistics:** To ensure common logistics services for delivery of humanitarian assistance.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In 2024, humanitarian organizations achieved significant results, despite limited funding and access constraints. Over 600 organizations—approximately 70 per cent local NGOs—delivered vital multi-sectoral aid across Ukraine, supporting people close to the front lines and those fleeing hostilities.

By the end of the year, an estimated 8.5 million people will have received at least one form of assistance, with over 60 per cent of those reached being women and girls. Key achievements included:



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Provided clean water, sanitation and hygiene support to 5.8 million people, primarily in frontline regions.



Food and livelihood

Nearly 3 million people received food assistance, and 816,477 people livelihood support.



Health

Approximately 2 million people supported with essential health services, medical supplies and emergency medical care.



Education

Almost 600,000 school children, parents, and teachers received education resources, primarily through learning devices distributed in remote locations.



Shelter and NFIs

Shelter repairs, emergency shelter materials, non-food items, and cash for winter energy and insulation delivered to 1.3 million people, to help vulnerable communities cope with Ukraine's harsh winter. About 70,000 vulnerable IDPs living in almost 1000 collective sites also received critical assistance.



Protection

Protection services included psychosocial support and legal aid for almost 1.3 million people; child protection services for almost 1.3 million children; mine action programmes reached 1.2 million people; safe spaces and protection from GBV reached up to 500,000 women and girls.



Cash

Multi-purpose cash assistance totaling \$223.92 million reached 805,552 people, offering flexible support to meet immediate needs and stimulate local economies. This approach enabled families to choose how best to allocate resources and supported market stability in conflict-affected areas.



Logistics

At least 38 inter-agency convoys delivered life-saving supplies—including food, water, medical supplies, and winter items—to over 62,000 people in some hard-to-reach areas, complementing vital efforts by local volunteer groups and NGOs.

Consequences of inaction

Without substantial increases in funding and safe access, millions of Ukrainians remain at risk of inadequate support, particularly in the most conflict-affected regions. The ongoing conflict underscores the urgent need for consistent humanitarian funding and greater protection for aid workers.



Underfunding

Despite notable progress, the humanitarian response in 2024 faced critical limitations due to underfunding and restricted access. As of 25 November, only 61 per cent of the \$3.1 billion requested had been received, limiting the ability to meet rising needs and prepare for winter. Underfunding impacts critical areas, leaving people in areas with limited humanitarian presence vulnerable and without aid. Without prioritizing support for water and sanitation systems, health risks could rise, while delayed rehabilitation of collective sites and gaps in mental health and psychosocial support may persist.



Access constraints/impediments, attacks against aid workers/facilities

Access constraints and attacks on aid workers and facilities also hindered operations. By mid-October, nine aid workers had been killed in the line of duty and 40 injured in 2024, mainly within five kilometres of the front line. Humanitarian facilities and assets were frequently hit, with 64 incidents of damage reported. Since the war's escalation in 2022, at least 23 aid workers have been killed in the line of duty as of end of October) and 80 injured, making Ukraine one of the world's most dangerous places for humanitarian workers. In some instances, hostilities forced aid operations to relocate, further limiting aid access to high-risk areas and some of the most vulnerable communities. As well continuous fighting hindered the provision of comprehensive humanitarian aid near the front line. Restricted access also prevented delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people in need in Russian Federation-occupied territories.



Latin America and the Caribbean

Regional overview

In 2025, 34.4 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean will need humanitarian assistance, a decrease from 38.9 million in 2024. The region continues to face challenges such as climate change, social inequality, and economic instability. Humanitarian partners have identified 15.7 million people for targeted support, requiring \$3.6 billion across six response plans and one regional refugee and migrant response plan. Key priorities include addressing food insecurity, climate-related disasters, displacement, and violence. Although funding coverage improved slightly to 35 percent in 2024, gaps remain, with coverage varying widely between 18 and 56 percent across plans.

Despite decades of poverty reduction, 181 million people—29 per cent of the region's population—still live below the poverty line. Climate events such as El Niño and La Niña are only amplifying regional hardships, especially in the Central American Dry Corridor and across South America and the Caribbean. Unpredictable weather patterns—from severe droughts to intense rainfall—are disrupting agriculture, threatening food supplies and increasing the risks of diseases like dengue. The 2024 Atlantic hurricane season saw 18 named storms by the end of November, marking the ninth consecutive above-average season. Beryl, the earliest Category 4 storm ever recorded, struck Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Jamaica in July. Cuba is still reeling from Hurricane Oscar,



Candelaria de la Frontera, El Salvador: Nora, 56, visits the cacao plantation of Rosario, 48, as part of a local women's group collaborating in the community. Rosario, a group leader, dreams of creating a biofertilizer factory involving local women. With a cooperative now established, they plan to process their own cacao harvest themselves, adding value and boosting income compared to selling unprocessed seeds. *UN Women*

PEOPLE IN NEED

34.4 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

15.7 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$3.6 billion

which affected thousands in the east, only to be followed within weeks by major Hurricane Rafael in the west.

Nearly 41 million people in the region are undernourished, with 5.73 million people in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras alone suffering from moderate to severe food insecurity. El Niño-induced droughts in South America and heavy rainfall in Central America and the Caribbean are expected to continue through 2025, exacerbating food insecurity, especially in the Caribbean, where hunger rates are three times higher than in Latin America. Record-high cases of dengue—more than 11.7 million by late 2024, with 6,650 related deaths, mostly in South America— are further burdening health systems.







Despite reductions in key migration figures due to changes in policy and enforcement, humanitarian needs related to mass population movements persist. Irregular entries into Panama and Honduras have declined significantly in 2024, with numbers falling from 408,972 and 445,175 during the same period in 2023 to 263,296 and 340,848, respectively. However, mixed migration flows continue to strain transit countries and communities with limited resources and high protection needs. Many who cross these countries continue northwards, with the United States reporting 1.5 million encounters

along the southern border with people on the move between January and October 2024 - down from 2.0 million during the same period in 2023.

The region’s homicide rate—around 20 per 100,000 people, almost three times the global average— reflects the pervasive impact of violent crime and armed group activity, with approximately 117,492 murders in 2023. Gender-based violence, particularly femicide, remains critical; in Honduras, for example, femicide rates reach 6.0 per 100,000 women, four times the global average.

In 2025, humanitarian efforts aim to reach 15.7 million people across Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on life-saving assistance and protection services in vulnerable areas. In Central America, response priorities include food insecurity and support to communities affected by high levels of human mobility. Increased violence—from criminal violence in Central America to armed group activity in Haiti and conflict in Colombia—continues to drive displacement, limit access to services, and increase protection risks. In Venezuela, efforts will focus on strengthening basic services, supporting livelihoods and building resilience amid ongoing economic challenges. Together, these tailored responses address the region’s urgent needs, where intersecting crises demand sustained support.

Overview of 2025 response plans

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
 Colombia	HNRP	9M	2M	\$342.0M
 El Salvador	HNRP	818.7K	407.5K	\$66.9M
 Guatemala	HNRP	2.2M	1.2M	\$101.0M
 Haiti	HNRP	6M	4M	\$906.0M
 Honduras	HNRP	1.6M	800K	\$138.0M
 Venezuela	HNRP	7.6M	5M	\$617.0M

Crisis overview

Humanitarian and protection needs have increased in Colombia in the last year, particularly in the Pacific and border regions, due to ongoing armed conflict, climate-related disasters, and the rising influx of refugees and migrants. Despite Colombia's renewed dedication to peace through the Total Peace policy, challenges remain, including mixed progress in negotiation tables with Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs), a complex legal landscape, and the cessation of some ceasefire agreements. Consequently, clashes among NSAGs vying for control over territory and resources continue to drive massive needs, resulting in forced displacement and community confinement.

Colombia currently faces eight non-international armed conflicts.⁶ NSAGs presence has expanded in recent years, and they are now present or controlling in 55 per cent of Colombia's municipalities, affecting at least 9.3 million people (71 per cent of the country's rural population).⁷ NSAGs-imposed social control measures, such as targeted homicides, mobility restrictions, and interference with access to essential services like healthcare, further exacerbate the vulnerabilities of rural communities, and increasingly impact urban communities. Adding to these challenges, climate variability and frequent disasters have worsened conditions, affecting over 1.7 million people in 2024 alone.

The humanitarian landscape is further compounded by increasing internal displacement and mixed movements of both refugees and migrants, which stretch local response capacities to critical limits. Colombia ranks among the top four countries globally for internally displaced persons, with over 6.9 million people affected by conflict-related displacement.⁸ Additionally, nearly 3 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants reside in Colombia, while thousands more attempt the perilous Darién Gap crossing toward Central and North America. The Interagency Group on Mixed Migration Flows (GIFMM, in Spanish) reported a 110 per cent increase in the number of people crossing the Darien in 2023, exacerbating vulnerabilities. During the first half of 2024 this trend continues, with a noticeable decrease beginning in the second half. This region, controlled by NSAGs, exposes migrants and refugees to serious protection risks, such as trafficking and exploitation, underscoring the urgent need for coordinated humanitarian and protection efforts.

In 2025, 13.5 million people (25 per cent of Colombia's total population) are projected to face protection and humanitarian needs, including 9 million people affected by conflict and disasters and 4.5 million refugees and migrants.⁹ Over 13 million people currently face food insecurity,¹⁰ compounded by recurring flood

PEOPLE IN NEED

9.0 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$342.0 million

Total population

52.3 million

Income level

Upper middle income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2020 – 2025

⁶ ICRC Colombia: Humanitarian Report 2024 - Colombia | ReliefWeb

⁷ Results of the Study on the Presence and Humanitarian Impact of Non-State Armed Groups in Colombia 2024. OCHA Colombia

⁸ 2024 Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) | IDMC - Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre and Colombia: Operational Update | Global Focus

⁹ Disaggregation of General PiN (People in Need). PRPC and RPRM Update Colombia 2025, based on HCT and GIFMM's estimations using JIAF 2.0 methodology and RMNA 2024.

¹⁰ Colombia sees a modest improvement in food security but half of the population remains exposed to climatic and economic risks | World Food Programme

and drought events. Vulnerable groups, especially rural populations in conflict-affected areas, are among the hardest hit, bearing the cumulative effects of armed conflict, food insecurity, and inadequate access to healthcare and essential services.

The situation is further complicated by restricted humanitarian access. Over the past two years, NSAGs have intensified pressure on humanitarian actors, including retentions and demands for financial extortion, particularly in remote, hard-to-reach areas where state presence is limited, and access is most critical. These emerging obstacles affect the continuity of life-saving support to communities in need.

Given the multidimensional nature of Colombia's protection and humanitarian crisis, a cohesive, integrated response framework is essential. The priority sectors—protection, food security and nutrition, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)—require coordinated support to provide sustainable, community-driven assistance. Strengthening partnerships between national and international actors, including related to development, will be vital to addressing Colombia's complex needs and building resilience among its most vulnerable communities.

Response priorities in 2025

Colombia's Community Priorities Response Plan (CPRP) serves as a strategic foundation for humanitarian action in 2024 and 2025, driving a cohesive, community-centered approach. Key milestones in 2024 included strengthened collaboration between the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Colombian Government, the expansion of HCT presence to new areas affected by conflict, the establishment of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund, and the successful rollout of integrated multi-agency initiatives under the CERF allocation. By October 2024, these coordinated efforts had reached 967,006 people with humanitarian assistance from a targeted population of 1.7 million.

For 2025, the CPRP builds on the three-tier strategy developed in 2024 but with some adjustments. The response will target two million people in need across 133 municipalities (25 per cent of 3-5 severity areas) classified as having critical severity levels (4 and 5). This response will continue to focus on areas with the highest need with the presence of NSAGs

and in municipalities where state presence and capacity are limited. The response will continue to focus on the most vulnerable populations including children, women and ethnic groups. Within these areas, HCT has adopted three core response pillars:

- **Emergency response in high-risk areas:** The 2025 response will prioritize communities heavily impacted by conflict, disasters, and displacement, with a focus on regions with limited state presence, active NSAG influence, and newly emerging areas of violence. The objective is to provide life-saving aid and mitigate protection risks for highly vulnerable populations, including ethnic groups, women, and children.
- **Proactive prevention and preparedness:** In response to increasing climate variability and recurring natural disasters, the HCT will bolster anticipatory action and preparedness mechanisms, particularly in areas projected to be affected by El Niño or La Niña and other climate events. This includes scaling predictive analysis and integrating these insights into local response plans, empowering communities with resources and knowledge to withstand and recover from future shocks.
- **Transition to sustainable development through humanitarian-development-peace collaboration programming:** To create sustainable impacts, the HCT will enhance coordination between humanitarian, peacebuilding, and development actors. This approach focuses on stabilizing communities by promoting food security, climate resilience, and access to services, aligning response efforts with the Government of Colombia's long-term development goals, including at territorial level.

A key innovation in the 2025 planning framework is the establishment of 16 integrated territorial response plans, collaboratively developed by the HCT, the GIFMM, and the 16 local coordination teams, with enhanced participation and contributions from community representatives and local actors. These plans embody a community-centered, bottom-up approach that prioritizes local needs and builds stronger community ownership and participation. By embedding community priorities into the response strategy, these plans aim to strengthen localized decision-making and deepen community engagement across all sectors.

In addition, the plans have highlighted 36 priority communities where HCT members will coordinate their efforts for maximum impact. The multisectoral response strategy focuses on building community resilience, promoting localized solutions, and fostering durable solutions that pave the way for long-term stability and recovery. This approach reflects a continued commitment from the HCT to align humanitarian efforts with local capacities and priorities, ensuring that assistance is both responsive to and sustainable within each community.

As we look at 2025, significant risks include continued access restrictions, potential escalations in armed conflict, and climate variability impacts. To mitigate these risks, the HCT will focus on flexible response mechanisms, strengthen partnerships with local organizations, and engage with all stakeholders to ensure community safety and sustained humanitarian access. The HCT will also prioritize context-sensitive resource allocation and enhance inter-agency collaboration, essential for maintaining response capacity amid shifting circumstances.

AID IN ACTION

Progress in the Flagship Initiative



Vereda Charras, Colombia: Members of the Nukak indigenous community gather for a participatory resilience assessment, focusing on strengthening community involvement. *OCHA/Andrea Rodríguez*

In its second year of implementing the Flagship Initiative, Colombia has achieved significant progress in enhancing community engagement, area-based coordination, territorial planning, integrated programming, and localization.

A key highlight of 2024 has been the strong focus on community engagement. HCT partners reported that 45 per cent of humanitarian activities involved community consultations prior to implementation. Furthermore, 45 per cent of response efforts were adjusted based on community feedback, and 43 per cent included ongoing consultations during the implementation phase. This level of engagement has not only enhanced the relevance and effectiveness of interventions,

but also strengthened trust and accountability between humanitarian actors and communities. Efforts are underway to ensure these approaches are adopted consistently by all partners.

The 16 local coordination teams in Colombia have reinforced area-based coordination by developing joint territorial response plans. These plans unite the HCT, the Refugee and Migrant Platform, local authorities, community representatives, and local NGOs to identify key response priorities based on community-expressed needs. Further, three innovative prototypes were co-designed and launched in La Guajira, Guaviare, and Buenaventura, focusing on tailored solutions developed collaboratively with local stakeholders.

Additionally, the HCT has reinforced localization efforts by identifying over 240 local organizations, gradually integrating them into humanitarian coordination mechanisms. The newly established Colombia Humanitarian Fund will support these organizations, with 23 qualifying for fund eligibility in the first allocation. This initiative empowers national and community leaders, including those from indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations, ensuring the sustainability of humanitarian assistance.

Financial requirements

The financial planning framework continues to employ a project-based methodology to outline the financial requirements for 2025. Notable changes have been made to enhance the clarity and effectiveness of these requirements. The HCT has introduced differentiated financial needs for multipurpose cash assistance in recognition of the increasing demand for flexible, direct support, enabling vulnerable populations to address their immediate and specific needs.

New criteria have been established for cluster leaders during the project review phase to promote localization and ensure that financial requirements are realistic and aligned with the humanitarian realities in Colombia. Cluster partners are encouraged to formulate projects based on the territorial plans developed by local HCTs, which fosters a more coherent bottom-up approach to humanitarian programming. Additionally, there is a strong emphasis on increasing the participation of local NGOs in project submissions and encouraging the development of multisectoral initiatives as part of localization efforts.

AID IN ACTION

Best practices and advances in localization



Ciénaga, Magdalena, Colombia: Discussion session in rural Ciénaga with local institutions to assess the humanitarian impact of clashes between non-state armed groups on the Kogui Indigenous community. *OCHA/ Gonzalo Galezo*

In 2024, Colombia's Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) launched its first-ever localization strategy, targeting five key areas to empower local actors and bolster community resilience. The initiative began with a comprehensive mapping of 240 active local and national humanitarian NGOs across the country. To foster collaboration, a national localization working group was established to coordinate activities among partners.

At the local level, national organizations have been integrated into 16 local coordination teams, enriching decision-making and promoting dialogue. In regions like Nariño and Norte de Santander, community-based organization subgroups have been formed to amplify community voices and align humanitarian priorities with community needs. This approach not only addresses

immediate humanitarian challenges but also lays the groundwork for long-term resilience and recovery.

To strengthen local capacities, efforts are underway to forge linkages between local and national NGOs and capacity-building opportunities. The new Colombian Humanitarian Fund now provides direct financial support to national NGOs, ensuring humanitarian responses tailored to community needs.

A standout achievement has been the active participation of women-led community organizations in disaster response. In Sucre, women utilize social media platforms like WhatsApp to disseminate vital information about weather patterns, educational opportunities, and community meetings. Their leadership in forming community risk management committees has markedly improved emergency response strategies.

Moreover, local organizations have partnered with municipal administrations to strengthen disaster risk management, devising strategies to cope with flooding and its impact on agriculture. Supported by the Adaptation Fund, these initiatives underscore the women's essential role in resilience-building, as they promote and market local products such as sugar cane and cocoa, supporting both immediate recovery and long-term economic stability for their communities.

For 2025, the total financial requirement has been set at \$342 million, reflecting a difference of 111 per cent compared to 2024. This increase is driven by the escalating impacts of armed conflict, the rising frequency of climate-related disasters, and the growing displacement of vulnerable populations.

This heightened financial need underscores the critical importance of sustained and flexible funding. Such funding is essential for both immediate life-saving interventions and long-term recovery efforts, in alignment with the Flagship Initiative. Moreover, it highlights the necessity for efficient resource allocation to ensure a responsive humanitarian approach that effectively addresses Colombia's evolving needs in 2025. The newly established Colombia Humanitarian Fund, which seeks to promote local actors as primary responders is a critical instrument to that end.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

As of October 2024, humanitarian assistance reached **967,006 individuals** across **31 departments** and **375 municipalities**, reflecting the HCT's commitment to supporting the most vulnerable populations. HCT has successfully provided complementary assistance to **62 per cent** of humanitarian emergencies, demonstrating a proactive approach to meeting urgent needs.

Dibulla, La Guajira, Colombia: A Wiwa woman participates in a humanitarian response evaluation for her community amid an emergency. *OCHA/Ibeth Pinedo*





Response

The response has primarily focused on the Pacific region and border areas, particularly targeting the needs of women, children, and ethnic communities. A significant portion of the response was directed toward critical sectors, such as food security, health and protection.



CERF

To enhance coordination and the complementarity of actions, the CERF allocation was used to pilot integrated responses among various actors in 28 hard-to-reach communities in conflict affected areas. Valuable lessons learned from these initiatives are now being promoted as a guiding principle for all HCT interventions.



Localization

In our efforts to advance localization, 72 national NGOs have been integrated into the HCT at various levels, expanding total membership to 215—with national NGOs now constituting 52 per cent of this coalition. This collaboration is vital for ensuring that humanitarian responses are not only reflective of local needs but also promote an agenda of efficiency and sustainability.

Consequences of inaction

The humanitarian situation in Colombia continues to be exacerbated by escalating armed conflict and the rising influence of non-state armed groups (NSAGs). The consequences of inaction will manifest in two critical areas:



Underfunding

Insufficient resources significantly hinder essential activities, undermining both immediate humanitarian efforts and the promotion of solutions for vulnerable populations. Funding requirements for 2024 reveal a 44 per cent gap, leaving 51 per cent of the targeted individuals without support, while 73 per cent of the projects outlined in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) were underfunded. Additionally, inadequate funding for 2025 threatens the flagship initiative, aimed at empowering communities and enhancing resilience, which has been ongoing since 2023.

The cost of inaction jeopardizes the immediate well-being of vulnerable populations. Without necessary funding and access initiatives, the humanitarian response will be unable to adequately address the critical needs of those most affected by ongoing crises.



Access constraints

In 2024, 158 municipalities faced significant access challenges, preventing the implementation of 92 humanitarian activities in hard-to-reach areas. If proactive measures are not taken, remote regions under NSAG influence will remain inaccessible. The rising incidence of attacks on aid workers and facilities further complicates these challenges, jeopardizing the effectiveness and safety of humanitarian operations.

El Salvador **HRP**

Crisis overview

El Salvador is grappling with a humanitarian crisis characterized by compounding threats of extreme weather events, human mobility, and persistent food insecurity, worsened by global economic pressures and rising inflation.

The humanitarian analysis focused on the main shocks – climate-induced events and human mobility—and accounts for a reduction in the number of people in need of assistance compared to last year, with 818,700 people identified for the 2025 Humanitarian Programme Cycle.

The country’s vulnerability to climate-driven disruptions remains high. The transition from El Niño to La Niña has led to erratic climate patterns, with a severe drought in 2023 followed by intense rains in 2024, pushing food insecurity rates upward. Currently 0.9 per cent of households face severe food scarcity, with many others moderately food insecure. These environmental shifts not only reduce crop yields but also strain rural communities reliant on agriculture for survival and now burdened by inflation-driven rising living costs.

Human mobility is another major driver of humanitarian needs in El Salvador. As both a country of origin and transit for migrants, El Salvador has seen thousands of people leaving in search of economic stability and better living conditions. From January to August 2024 alone, US border officials encountered over 30,000 Salvadorans at their southern border, many of them families and unaccompanied children. Returns have also surged, with a 35.8 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2023, adding strain to communities already struggling with poverty and limited social services. This high mobility has left an estimated 95,000 children without one or both parents, further fraying a social fabric already weakened by poverty and scarce resources.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, the humanitarian community aims to assist 407,500 of El Salvador’s most vulnerable people—about 49 per cent of those in need—requiring \$66.9 million. The number of people in need has decreased slightly from 2024 due to a prioritized analysis of municipalities and milder-than-expected impacts from the El Niño-induced drought. However, protection services for communities affected by human mobility remain critical.

The Humanitarian Response Plan is based on collectively identified shocks driving humanitarian needs: human mobility and adverse weather conditions. Planned activities will provide an intersectoral response, prioritizing food-insecure people and communities with continued protection needs. Response activities are designed to complement the country’s ongoing development projects and government efforts.

PEOPLE IN NEED

818,700

PEOPLE TARGETED

407,500

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$66.9 million

Total population

6.4 million

Income level

Upper middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2021 – 2025

Financial requirements

With an increased prioritized shock-based geographical focus, the financial requirements stand at \$66.9 million, representing a 26 per cent reduction compared to 2024. The El Salvador HNRP is project-based, with food security and protection accounting for the highest amounts, aligning with the highest humanitarian needs in the country.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In 2024, the humanitarian response, led by international and national NGOs alongside UN agencies, successfully assisted an estimated 86,500 people. This support included about 58,000 women and girls and was delivered in response to emergencies caused by drought, flooding, and human mobility. Key activities included:



Emergency shelter

Emergency shelter for 800 people affected by the rainy season, with construction packages provided to families.



Nutrition

Nutrition supplements, vitamins and screenings provided to 1,500 pregnant women and children under age 4 affected by climate events.



Protection

Protection services for more than 5,000 people in human mobility or at risk of displacement, including case management, training sessions, and cash deliveries.



Food security

Food security assistance for 44,000 vulnerable people facing deteriorated food and nutritional security.



Non-food items

Non-food items provided to over 4,000 people affected by the rainy season through the camp coordination and camp management sector.



Education

School materials and technical support for teachers provided by the Education sector ensured continued education for about 500 students.

Consequences of inaction



Education

The education sector received only 10.8 per cent of its requested budget, creating a \$3.3 million funding gap that left over 56,600 children and adolescents without necessary support for socio-emotional well-being or to address learning losses.



Gender-Based Violence

The Gender-Based Violence (GBV) sub-sector received no funding in 2024, leaving more than 66,000 women at risk of GBV in communities highly vulnerable to climate events and elevated rates of violence against women and girls, particularly among mobile populations.



Livelihood

In the Dry Corridor, over 25,000 El Niño affected families received no livelihood assistance, exacerbating their already precarious situation.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Approximately 30,000 people affected by climate variability and human mobility lacked access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services, increasing their risk of waterborne diseases and inadequate hygiene practices.

Morazán Sur, El Salvador: An anticipatory action project in the Central American Dry Corridor bolstered resilience to drought and food insecurity by equipping local governments, organizations, and communities with soil conservation practices, diversified crops and active environmental monitoring. *Salvadoran Civil Protection*



Crisis overview

Guatemala faces a complex humanitarian crisis driven by food insecurity, climate-induced crop failures, acute malnutrition, and increased human mobility, putting increasing pressure on vulnerable communities. The crisis stems from systemic poverty and is exacerbated by recent environmental and economic shocks, demanding urgent action to prevent further human suffering.

The humanitarian needs analysis targets areas most impacted by climate events and human mobility. This shock-based geographical approach has reduced the estimated number of people in need of assistance from last year, to 2.2 million people.

Guatemala's food insecurity crisis affects millions, primarily due to prolonged droughts and disrupted agricultural cycles, especially in the Dry Corridor. In 2023, El Niño devastated crops—particularly maize, beans and other staples—on 54,000 hectares, impacting 160 municipalities and 9.2 million people. As crop yields decline, families face rising food prices and shortages, worsening malnutrition, especially among young children. By October 2024, reports from the Food Security and Nutrition Secretariat, indicated 25,000 cases of acute malnutrition in children under five—21 percent classified as severe, and 50 associated deaths. The hardest-hit departments are Alta Verapaz, Huehuetenango, and San Marcos.

Currently, an estimated 2.9 million people face crisis (IPC Phase 3) and emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity, with nearly 386,000 people in Phase 4. In Alta Verapaz, nearly 34 per cent of the population experiences food insecurity, while people in other vulnerable regions including Huehuetenango, Quiché, and San Marcos, also struggle. The crisis creates a vicious cycle, as malnutrition increases susceptibility to illness, limits educational and work productivity and deepens poverty.

Between January and September 2024, IOM reported 223,000 people entering Guatemala, often concentrated in transit points like Tecún Umán on the Mexican border and Esquipulas near Honduras. This flow includes women and children, who face heightened risk of exploitation and trafficking. Guatemala's 2023 migration policy states in its first chapters, "in the last decade, Guatemala has gone from being essentially a country of origin of migrants, to being increasingly a territory of transit and return, and to a lesser extent, a place of destination."

This convergence of crises calls for urgent global humanitarian support. Guatemala faces a critical need for food assistance, agricultural aid, and emergency nutrition programmes. Targeted interventions are essential for drought-affected communities, particularly in Alta Verapaz, Huehuetenango, and San Marcos, where food insecurity and malnutrition are acute. Immediate relief in these areas will be crucial to mitigating the risk of widespread health issues and potential malnutrition-related deaths.

There is also urgent need to protect and support the thousands of migrants and displaced people moving through Guatemala, who face severe physical, economic, and psychological hardships. Strengthening migration management,

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.2 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.2 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$101.0 million

Total population

18.4 million

Income level

Upper middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2021 – 2025

establishing safe transit points, and providing legal and social services for vulnerable people are essential to meeting these communities' humanitarian needs.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2024, Guatemala's humanitarian response targeted the dual crises of food insecurity and human mobility, prioritizing immediate assistance to the most vulnerable. The multisectoral approach focused on key regions, including Alta Verapaz, Chiquimula, Escuintla, Huehuetenango, Izabal, Petén, Quiché and Jutiapa, along with strategic migration zones like Esquipulas, Ayutla, Malacatán, Flores, La Libertad, Guatemala City and Puerto Barrios. The response provided essential food aid, health services, and support for displaced and transient populations in these hard-hit areas.

In 2025, the response strategy will target approximately 60 municipalities of the 81 identified critical municipalities. This strategy is guided by two key objectives: delivering a coordinated, multisectoral response to the most affected municipalities, and ensuring cohesive humanitarian assistance. This approach, which avoids disparate efforts, aims to maximize impact for people grappling with food insecurity, malnutrition, and significant levels of human mobility.

The 2025 response plan sets geographic and demographic boundaries based on severity levels across affected regions. Of the 81 municipalities identified with severity level 3 and above, the 60 prioritized for the multisectoral support were chosen for their heightened vulnerability to food insecurity, climate-induced crop failures and substantial pressures from human mobility. Municipalities like Alta Verapaz and Huehuetenango, where malnutrition rates are critically high, remain central to food security interventions. Meanwhile, support for migration and displacement will concentrate on entry and transit municipalities of Ayutla, Esquipulas, and Guatemala City, which bear a substantial share of migrant flows. This targeted prioritization aims to deploy resources more effectively to areas most in need, optimizing limited funding allocations.

Financial requirements

With this prioritized, shock-based geographical focus, financial requirements stand at US\$101 million, a reduction of 21 per cent compared to 2024. The target for this year's HNRP is 1.2 million people, covering 57 per cent of the total people in need.

In Guatemala, the HNRP is project-based. Some sectors have raised their per-person funding costs to accommodate enhanced sector-specific assistance.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Food security

The food security sector is responding with cash transfers, vouchers and food rations in prioritized municipalities. These measures have helped ensure food access for the most vulnerable families and provided economic resources to improve household living conditions. By the end of 2024, 209,871 people in need will be reached—89 per cent of whom live in hard-to-reach areas—with the majority from indigenous communities.



Camp coordination and camp management

Between January to September 2024, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management cluster, through a UNHCR project, coordinated with six implementing partners, provided shelter solutions for 61,240 people across 12 collective shelters in strategic locations, including Esquipulas, Tecún Umán, Guatemala City, Flores, Huehuetenango, and Entre Rios. Shelter assistance was tailored to needs, offering stays from a single night to up to six-months, depending on the specific profile.



Nutrition

In 2024, within mixed migration flows, 1,875 children under 5 received comprehensive nutritional care, including supplementation, deworming, therapeutic zinc, caloric supplementation, and counseling for parents and caregivers.



Protection

Over 340,000 people received protection assistance in at least 189 municipalities in all 22 departments, supporting both Guatemalans and migrants within the country.



Nutrition

Nutrition services reached 13,583 people, including school-age children, adolescents, women of childbearing age—especially pregnant and lactating women—and men.



Education

800 educational kits were distributed to children in transit, while six host communities received scholarships, furniture, equipment, teaching resources and community libraries, benefiting 1,525 children (753 girls and 772 boys).

Consequences of inaction



Protection

As of October 2024, due to funding shortages, the protection sector reached only 230,297 people out of a targeted 810,000, leaving 579,703 people without essential support.



Nutrition

118,125 children under age five missed comprehensive nutrition care in both migration settings and areas of acute malnutrition, delaying identification and treatment of those in need.



Nutrition

A total of 378,705 women of childbearing age were not able to receive comprehensive maternal and child health and nutrition care due to insufficient funding.



Gender-based violence

Planned radio campaigns in four Mayan languages to raise awareness of gender-based violence risks and prevention during emergencies could not be broadcast due to funding shortages.

Crisis overview

Haiti faces intense armed violence that disrupts daily life for millions, taking a severe toll on vulnerable people, particularly women and girls. Armed groups continue to launch indiscriminate attacks on civilians in the Ouest department, including the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince (ZMPP) and the Artibonite department, causing death and widespread displacement. Across the country, nearly 703,000 people are now displaced—54 per cent of them women—an increase of 22 per cent since June. Desperately seeking safety, almost half of the displaced have moved to the Grand Sud, a relatively peaceful area, where host communities are feeling increased strain on social services.

Protection risks have multiplied. In the first half of 2024, OHCHR reported at least 3,661 people killed in Haiti—a sharp rise in violence from previous periods. Between January and July 2024, 4,487 cases of gender-based violence (GBV) were reported, up 40 per cent from the same period in 2023. Much of this violence has concentrated in the West Department (including the ZMPP) and the Artibonite department.

Food insecurity has deteriorated with 48 per cent of people in need of food assistance, up from 44 per cent in 2023. Approximately 6,000 people in the ZMPP face famine-like conditions, a situation not seen since 2022. Escalating violence by armed groups limits food supplies, raises transport costs and disrupts livelihoods, further eroding household purchasing power and access to essentials in some areas.

Access to basic social services has further declined. As of September, nearly 350,000 school-age children were displaced, with 160,000 of them affected by school closures in the Ouest and Artibonite departments. Nearly 1,000 schools have closed since mid-January due to insecurity. Only 24 per cent of health facilities are operational in the ZMPP, with the State University Hospital, Haiti’s largest public hospital, closed since March. Health centres in the Grand Sud struggle to meet increased demand from displaced people.

Forced repatriation of Haitians continues. From January to October, over 150,000 people were expelled from neighbouring countries. A new policy from the Dominican Republic, effective 2 October, now mandates weekly forced repatriation of 10,000 illegal migrants, accelerating this trend.

Response priorities in 2025

Haiti’s deep-rooted vulnerabilities stem from decades of under-investment in social services and chronic political instability, fueling armed violence and the near collapse of basic services. The Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) boundaries were set by assessing acute needs linked to armed violence, forced displacement, epidemics and disasters. Populations targeted have borne the greatest impact of these shocks, and include internally displaced persons (IDPs), host communities, people in areas controlled or influenced by armed

PEOPLE IN NEED

6.0 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

4.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$906.0 million

Total population

11.9 million

Income level

Low middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2010 – 2025

groups, deported migrants, those in cholera and other epidemic hotspots, and those living in regions exposed to natural disasters.

Priority activities include providing food assistance to 3.4 million people, combining emergency and resilience-building efforts to prevent, mitigate and strengthen the capacity of vulnerable populations and offer sustainable solutions to prolonged food insecurity. The nutrition response will engage public and faith-based health institutions, as well as promote localization efforts, with community health workers (ASCP) and national NGOs detecting malnutrition, managing referrals, and promoting good household nutritional practices. Mobile clinics will operate in isolated or difficult-to-access areas, especially where displacement is high.

Support for survivors of sexual violence will include strengthening medical care and clinical management and temporary shelter access. Protection risk monitoring and reporting will continue, and grass-roots community organizations will receive support to strengthen community protection and violence prevention. For children unable to attend school due to displacement or attacks on schools, efforts will prioritize restoring access to education.

The response will be specific to each context and sensitive to social tensions so as not to expose affected people to further risk. Displacement dynamics in ZMPP, where 63 per cent of displaced people live in sites, differ from other departments where most people stay with host families. A multi-sectoral approach will be taken in displacement sites as well as host families to maintain social cohesion and alleviate the burden on host communities.

Financial requirements

Financial requirements stand at US\$906 million, marking a 33 per cent increase from 2023. Every humanitarian indicator has worsened: half a million more people are displaced, the number of food insecure people has surged by 25 per cent, and every region analyzed faces either a Crisis (IPC 3) or Emergency (IPC 4) level situation. In IDP camps, 5 per cent of households are in IPC 5, the highest level of food insecurity. Displacement has sharply increased protection risks for women and children, including rampant GBV and enrolment into armed groups, particularly for children unable to go to school. Host families, increasingly the last resort

option for people fleeing their homes, also need support as they struggle with limited resources and scant basic services.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

From January to July 2024, 1.9 million Haitians—42.5 per cent of the target population—received at least one form of humanitarian assistance.



Food security

Food security actors reached about 1.2 million people—48.4 per cent of the 2.5 million people targeted—through emergency food assistance, or cash transfer.



Shelter and NFIs

Nearly 100,000 people received emergency shelter kits and non-food items in 72 across sites.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

WASH partners provided millions of liters of water to 72,000 people, while cleaning and dredging efforts in Cité Soleil helped prevent flooding.



Health

Mobile clinics regularly visited 33 IDP sites, and humanitarian support to three hospitals in ZMPP increased their operational capacity. A focused cholera response significantly reduced suspected cases during the second quarter.

Consequences of inaction

Chronic underfunding, escalating multisectoral needs and exposure to shocks risk deepening vulnerabilities. Immediate international funding is crucial. Without additional resources:



Food insecurity

Food insecurity affecting 5.5 million people will worsen, pushing 2 million people already struggling to survive into famine.



Protection

Conditions in 117 displacement sites will deteriorate, heightening protection risks—particularly GBV—for women.



Child protection

A generation of out-of-school children risks forced recruitment, particularly the 500,000 living in areas controlled by armed groups.

Port-au-Prince, Haiti: Displaced families seek refuge in the abandoned Rex Medina theater downtown. *Giles Clarke*



Crisis overview

Honduras faced a challenging year in 2024, as multiple humanitarian crises impacted millions across the country. Climate-driven food insecurity, widespread violence, a public health emergency, and significant challenges related to human mobility have stretched resources to their limits. In response, the National Humanitarian Forum has worked closely with the State to address these urgent needs. However, critical funding shortages threaten critical response areas, including services for gender-based violence.

For humanitarian planning, the analysis focused on areas affected by climate events, human mobility, and violence with humanitarian impacts. The shock-based analysis and regional prioritization account for the reduction in the number of people in need of assistance compared to the previous year. For the 2025 Humanitarian Programme Cycle, the partners have identified 1.6 million people in need.

Food and nutrition insecurity

Honduras is grappling with serious food insecurity crisis that threatens people in the most vulnerable regions. While there was a slight improvement from 2023, the food insecurity outlook remains dire due to climate-induced events. The 2024 hurricane season brought above-average rainfall, affecting southern and western Honduras, particularly the areas in the Dry Corridor, which are already suffering from drought and erratic rainfall patterns. Projections indicate that by the end of 2024, the food crisis will deepen, with an additional 474,000 people likely to fall into Crisis or Emergency food insecurity IPC levels. The regions of Choluteca, Valle, and south of Francisco Morazán face particularly high risks, with local populations experiencing severely limited food access.

Human mobility, mixed migration and displacement

Human Mobility, Mixed Migration remain pressing issues in Honduras, a country of origin, transit, and return for many migrants and displaced people. Over 247,000 people have been displaced internally due to violence and poverty. As a transit country, Honduras has seen 325,270 migrants enter through its south-eastern border by October 2024, with a large number of children among them. Many migrants enter through Danlí and Trojes, in the El Paraiso department bordering Nicaragua, creating a massive influx that has severely strained local and national resources. Conditions for migrants are perilous, with reports of increased gender-based violence, human trafficking, and exploitation along the route. The need for humanitarian support is mounting, especially given the high rate of unregistered entries, and the strain on available resources.

Public health crisis

The dengue epidemic, driven by climate shocks, has compounded challenges in Honduras, leading to a national health emergency. With 162,092 cases and 192 deaths as of October 2024, the disease has spread rapidly, particularly in regions with high migrant traffic. In June 2024, the government declared a health emergency to mobilize resources, but the healthcare system remains

PEOPLE IN NEED

1.6 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

0.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$138.0 million

Total population

10.8 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

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under-resourced. The ongoing rainy season has worsened infrastructure challenges and limited the availability of health services in some regions. Additionally, the rising threat of malaria, particularly in areas with high migrant populations, is complicating the response, underscoring the urgent need for healthcare resources and preventive measures.

Escalating violence and displacement

Despite a slight drop in the national homicide rate, violence continues to drive significant humanitarian needs in Honduras. The first half of 2024 recorded over 200 missing persons cases, with June alone reporting a record 30 disappearances. Gender-based violence (GBV) is particularly widespread and is one of the main drivers of forced displacement. Reports indicate an average of two violent deaths of children every 24 hours, while incidents of forced recruitment and exploitation of minors have increased. Services for GBV remain severely under-resourced, with only 1.8 per cent of the minimum requirement funded in 2024. This funding gap has forced geographic prioritization of services, leaving many regions without adequate support.

Prior to publication of the GHO, Honduras was affected by Tropical Storm Sara which brought extensive rain to the northern Atlantic part of the country. Needs assessments are ongoing and might lead to a revision of the needs for 2025.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2024, Honduras's humanitarian response sought to address the crises of food insecurity, violence and human mobility, focusing on immediate assistance to the most vulnerable populations. Through a multisectoral approach, interventions spanned key regions, including areas of entry, transit and exit for people on the move (south-east, central and western zone), such as the Gracias a Dios department (indigenous population in la Mosquitia) in the Dry Corridor (south-west) and the Sula Valley (North Atlantic area). This response provided essential food assistance, health services, and support for displaced and migrants in these hard-hit areas.

The ongoing crises in the country, including human mobility, climate related disasters—droughts and

floods, El Niño phenomenon—and violence, continue to exacerbate the humanitarian needs of almost 16 per cent of the population. This figure results from qualitative and quantitative analyses conducted by humanitarian actors in coordination with state institutions at both national and local levels.

The 2025 response strategy will maintain its focus on identified priority areas, concentrating on approximately 114 municipalities among the 157 initially identified as being affected by at least one of the 3 shocks included in the analysis. This strategy aims to protect and save the lives of people affected by violence, human mobility, and climate-induced disasters. It will provide inter-sectoral humanitarian assistance while integrating protection, age, gender, and diversity approaches to maximize impact and avoid fragmented efforts.

To set boundaries for the 2025 response, geographic and demographic prioritization was implemented based on severity levels across affected regions. Key municipalities were selected where people are facing food insecurity, climate-induced crop failures, violence, and significant pressures from high levels of human mobility. People in selected municipalities in the Dry Corridor and Gracias a Dios (La Mosquitia) will remain at the core of food security interventions. Additionally, people in the municipalities of Santa Bárbara, Cortés, Atlántida and Yoro, facing the dual impact of violence and floods have also been prioritized. Support for migration and displacement will focus on entry, transit and exit municipalities in El Paraíso (Trojes, Danlí, El Paraíso), Francisco Morazán and Ocotepeque (Ocotepeque and Santa Fé), which bear a substantial share of the migrant flow.

This prioritization approach enables a more targeted deployment of resources to the most in need areas, enhancing the efficiency of limited funding allocations.

The implementation of the response strategy requires maximum support and coordination with national authorities to ensure humanitarian access to the most vulnerable populations and to promote an operational environment that facilitates and protects humanitarian actions.

Financial requirements

Due to the prioritized shock-based geographic focus, the financial requirements amount to \$138 million, a 32 per cent reduction compared to 2024. Some sectors have reduced their targets and funding requirements, to focus on the most prioritized needs. The Honduras HNRP is project-based.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Central Emergency Response Fund

As of 30 September, The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) project “Early warning and humanitarian health response for vulnerable populations in border areas and areas of high human mobility” reached 25,238 people in the prioritized municipalities of Choluteca, Danlí, El Paraíso, Trojes, Ocotepeque and Santa Fe. The project has been implemented by PAHO/WHO and partners of the Health Cluster.



Camp coordination and camp management

The camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) cluster supported 21,250 people with shelter, transportation, food and basic needs.



Malnutrition

Management of acute malnutrition, including detection and treatment of malnutrition for 63,000 children under 5 years old, and 6,991 pregnant and lactating women.



Education

Additionally, 12,437 children and adolescents, including 6,228 girls and 6,209 boys, accessed on-site educational experiences based on flexible learning methodologies in safe, friendly learning spaces and educational centres. Among these, 6,001 migrant children and adolescents (3,038 girls and 2,963 boys) used the virtual platform “Passport to Learning” to facilitate the traceability of educational progress while on the migration route.



Returnees

Since their arrival at the returnee reception centre, Centro Belen, 788 adolescents and children have received multisectoral support, including assistance with targeted cases in 5 municipalities in northern Honduras. The assistance focuses on educational reintegration, provision of educational materials, and application of flexible learning modalities for academic levelling.



Protection

The Protection Cluster reached more than 230,000 people through humanitarian assistance and specialized protection services. Priority has been given to case management, assistance to people with specific needs and strengthening of referral pathways for those at risk. In response to the impacts of violence, the context has been continuously analyzed to complement advocacy efforts aimed at promoting preventive measures and care.

Consequences of inaction

Without urgent global intervention and funding, the humanitarian crisis in Honduras will deepen, affecting all levels of society. Insufficient support for gender-based violence (GBV) services leaves thousands vulnerable, and the food insecurity situation is expected to deteriorate further in the coming months. Massive flows of people on the move will continue to overwhelm local infrastructure, while the health emergency will worsen as rainy season exacerbates conditions. Limited resources for the National Humanitarian Forum have affected key implementing areas such as localized response strategies, particularly in conflict-affected or disaster-prone regions.



Gender-based violence

Currently, only 1.8 per cent of the minimum requirement for GBV services has been funded, leading to prioritization of geographical areas such as the south-east and western border. This has reduced GBV services in other areas, including a reduction of essential inputs like post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) kits.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

As of September 2024, only 21.6 per cent of the funding required to provide 560,000 people with water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services has been received, leaving 464,000 people without the necessary support.



Nutrition

Due to lack of funding the nutrition working group has only reached 35 per cent of its target, leaving 143,000 people without nutrition assistance.



Education

Only about 10 per cent of the nearly 73,000 children and adolescents who entered the country between January to August have been reached with learning recovery activities.



Child protection

As of September 2024, only 28,000 boys, girls and adolescents were reached with child protection services, and only 12 per cent of the 245,000 targeted care givers were reached.

Crisis overview

Venezuela faces important humanitarian challenges driven by structural bottlenecks to economic growth, political and social challenges, and recurrent climate-related events. Gaps in basic services—healthcare, water, education, and energy—are among the most critical needs for vulnerable people. Social protection, livelihood support and income-generating opportunities remain scarce, especially for women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, indigenous communities, people on the move, and LGBTQ+ people.

In 2024, Venezuela’s GDP continued to grow, reaching 8.6 percent in the first half of the year, compared with 2023. Projected growth for the year is 6.1 percent, driven by the recovery of both the oil (14.2 percent) and non-oil (4.7 percent) sectors. This follows a nine-year large-scale economic contraction of 75 percent of GDP, ongoing economic sanctions, and limited fiscal space for investing in basic services and social programmes. Despite recent growth, the economy remains 70 percent smaller than its peak in 2013, and the aforementioned recovery has had limited impact on alleviating the needs of the most vulnerable.

Since 2015, limited economic opportunities and access to basic services have driven substantial Venezuelan migration flows. While a large number of Venezuelans have left to neighbouring countries, a mixed migration pattern has emerged. Many continue to leave, resulting in family separations, with numerous children and adolescents separated from their primary caregivers,¹¹ while others return. Factors such as family reunification and difficulties integrating into host countries influence these returns. Sustainable returns depend on improved economic opportunities and access to essential services in Venezuela.

Internally, 7.6 million people need humanitarian assistance, particularly in health, food security, education, water and sanitation systems, nutrition, and protection, including child protection, gender-based violence (GBV), and mental health services. The healthcare system is stretched thin, impacted by shortages of medical supplies and qualified personnel. Feedback provided by communities indicates that the main concern for vulnerable people is insufficient access to food, which could increase malnutrition risks for children, pregnant women, adolescents, and the elderly. A basic food basket for a family of five costs US\$539, beyond reach for most families. The situation is critical for all those whose income depends on the minimum wage (\$3.50 per month) or on government vouchers worth \$130.

The electoral context has created access challenges, including fuel shortages, bureaucratic and administrative impediments, and localized lack of security. Protection risks—such as emotional and psychological distress, new forms of GBV and movement restrictions—have risen. These challenges are expected to persist in 2025 as Venezuela prepares for legislative, regional, and municipal elections. Additionally, new legislation may increase bureaucratic and administrative burdens, potentially undermining the effectiveness of humanitarian

11 According to the Protection Monitoring Tool (PMT) from the Protection Cluster, 45% of key informants reported that children and adolescents have been left behind in their communities in 2024

PEOPLE IN NEED

7.6 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

5.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$617.0 million

Total population

29.4 million

Income level

-

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

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response. The ongoing political crisis, economic sanctions, lack of investment in essential infrastructure—including water, electricity, schools, and hospitals—and the widening gap between high living costs and low wages will continue to negatively affect the humanitarian situation in 2025.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2024, the humanitarian response in Venezuela, coordinated with local authorities, achieved national coverage, reaching 310 out of 335 municipalities across all 24 states. A significant advancement in 2024 was the implementation of a prioritization strategy for the multisectoral humanitarian response, focused on 58 municipalities, which will be adopted in 2025 as well. By monitoring and analysing the response at the municipal level, more informed decision-making is obtained, improving the overall impact of the humanitarian community, and strengthening the humanitarian programming cycle.

Priorities for 2025 include scaling up efforts on critical needs, strengthening basic service delivery, supporting livelihoods and community resilience, and addressing protection risks, including child protection and GBV. Response parameters for 2025 will incorporate lessons from 2024, including a focus on shock-prone populations, particularly in regions with the highest needs.

The response will strengthen collaboration with local and national implementing partners, who play a critical role in last-mile delivery in hard-to-reach areas. However, access constraints remain a challenge, with some regions experiencing blockages and security challenges which limit aid's reach. In 2025, as part of localization efforts and to ensure sustainability, the international humanitarian community will transition some response activities to local actors where possible.

In 2025, the humanitarian community expects to continue targeting 5 million people, which reflects the operational capacity and a realistic assessment of the humanitarian system's scalability. The 2025 response strategy will incorporate a "reality check" based on the operational capacity and reach achieved in 2024, particularly in regions where access and funding constraints limit the response effectiveness. Capacity limitations, especially in

remote areas with limited humanitarian presence, may compromise direct assistance to certain populations.

Financial requirements

Venezuela will require \$617 million in humanitarian funding in 2025, the same as in 2024. With limited funding available globally for humanitarian action, the response in Venezuela prioritizes the most life-saving interventions, delivering a bare-bones approach to address critical needs amid growing challenges. This strategy ensured that limited resources were directed to areas that could generate the greatest impact on saving lives and supporting vulnerable people. However, the absence of development actors and financing in Venezuela hinders efforts address the structural causes behind the lack of basic services and livelihood opportunities.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In 2024, the humanitarian response in Venezuela expanded, with 158 organizations reaching 310 out of 335 municipalities, including remote areas. By September, approximately 2.1 million people (59 percent women) received humanitarian assistance. Key achievements include:



School meals

By September: School meals provided for over 480,000 children and personnel



Safe water access

Safe water access for nearly 200 hospitals and healthcare facilities benefitting 80,000 people



Protection

specialized protection services for over 199,000 people (including child protection specialized services for 80,000 children), and GBV services for 11,000 women and girls



Nutrition

Life-saving nutrition support for 36,000 children and pregnant women.



Education

Learning materials and equipment were provided to over 157,000 students and teachers.



Coordination

Enhanced coordination with national authorities improved response to increasingly frequent disasters.

By December 2024, the response is projected to reach over 2.7 million people (59 percent women), with key interventions including:



School meals

Balanced school meals to over 480,000 children



Safe water access

The repairs to water sanitation and hygiene systems in healthcare facilities, benefitting 100,000 people



Protection

Mental health support for 230,000 girls, boys and adolescents



Disaster risk reduction

Disaster risk reduction help for 25,000 individuals

Due to funding constraints, many recipients of aid did not receive full intended support. On the other hand, over half of the organizations responding to humanitarian needs are local and national (57 percent), emphasizing localization and fostering a sustainable, inclusive approach.

Consequences of inaction

Funding shortages have severely impacted Venezuela's humanitarian response.



Health

1.2 million people will not receive vital life-saving support, including provision of medicine, and quality primary health services. Important training will not be provided to health workers.



Education

1.5 million girls and boys missed out on educational assistance through the Humanitarian Response Plan, impacting the quality of education and exposing them to increased child protection risks.



Gender-based violence

The funding gap has also had dire consequences for women and girls, with 80 percent of them lacking necessary support to prevent and respond to GBV. It further endangers girls and adolescents by limiting access to essential sexual and reproductive health services, including menstrual hygiene.



Basic services and livelihood

The scarcity of basic services and livelihood support has hindered the reintegration of returnees into their communities.

AID IN ACTION

Venezuela Humanitarian Fund: Empowering local actors for a stronger humanitarian response



Guajira municipality, Zulia state, Venezuela: Community members participate in a “New Masculinities” workshop promoting gender equality and preventing GBV. The project is supported by the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund. OCHA/Luis Carlos Sánchez

Three out of five organizations responding in Venezuela are national, with local capacity building central to the humanitarian response and supported by the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund (VHF). In 2024, three-quarters of VHF funding went directly to national organizations, empowering them to lead the response. The VHF not only provides resources, but also ensures national organizations participate

in decision-making, with two women-led organizations and one disability-focused organization on the Advisory Board. In 2023, over 70 hours of training were provided by the VHF, demonstrating its commitment to capacity development, and a sustainable humanitarian response.

Efforts to promote cooperation between national and international actors have also been pivotal. Recent projects in Apure and Zulia states, led by national organizations, address protection, GBV, nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, and food security. These projects mark a shift from traditionally international-led structures, whereby national organizations lead the partnership with international counterparts. The humanitarian community and donors are eager to see more initiatives with this approach: “as national as possible, as international as necessary.”



Middle East and North Africa

Regional overview

The humanitarian landscape in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region remains extremely complex and dynamic, with needs soaring exponentially amid shrinking resources and constrained and highly insecure operational space for aid actors. As of November 2024, nearly 59.2 million people across the region require humanitarian assistance, while 16.2 million are internally displaced, representing 21 per cent of the global internally displaced persons (IDP) population. Beyond the intense conflict in OPT and Lebanon, the region has witnessed an uptick in hostilities and tensions involving multiple stakeholders and fueling fears of a worst-case scenario for the MENA region. Despite intense diplomatic efforts, meaningful lasting de-escalation and ceasefire agreements are yet to be reached while conflicts appear increasingly entrenched and inter-related. This situation increasingly points towards prolonged instability and further fragmentation, exacerbating the impact on civilian populations and worsening humanitarian needs and responses.

Gaza is a war zone marked by immense loss of life and widespread suffering, with thousands killed and tens of thousands injured. Displacement has reached critical levels, and for a substantial portion of the population famine is imminent. In the West Bank, violence and demolitions have severely impacted people's lives, while severe movement restrictions hinder access to basic services.



Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory: Older women flee Khan Younis with scarce possessions, after the Israeli army invaded the city. On the road between Khan Younis and Rafah, women and men were separated, and families that had already faced tremendous devastation faced a perilous journey divided from each other. *OCHA/Ismael Abu Dayyah*

PEOPLE IN NEED

59.2 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

38.1 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$15.9 billion

In Lebanon, widespread airstrikes have caused significant displacement, civilian casualties, and widespread destruction of essential infrastructures, compounding the humanitarian crisis. Hostilities have affected civilians on both sides of the Blue Line.

Meanwhile, Syria’s prolonged conflict continues to devastate the population, with a record number of people needing humanitarian aid and widespread food insecurity, and the recent arrivals from Lebanon further exacerbating existing vulnerabilities. In Yemen, millions—including vast numbers of children—remain in urgent need of assistance as the humanitarian crisis deepens. The region faces a major, multi-faceted protection crisis. Brazen violations of international humanitarian and human rights law continue to rise, leading to disastrous consequences for civilians, in particular women and children, and posing unprecedented challenges to the UN and humanitarian multilateral system, including an erosion of trust between humanitarians and the people we serve. Populations are being forced to see multiple times within and across borders, compounding the already massive displacement numbers that have accumulated over the last decade due to various conflicts.





Widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure has led to a breakdown in availability of and access to humanitarian assistance and essential public services, including water, sanitation, health, and education. Humanitarian workers’ ability to deliver protection and assistance is also severely constrained and unpredictable. This is due to the extreme insecurity in frontline areas within OPT, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Yemen, as well as increased risks of targeting, arbitrary detention, or visas denial. Hundreds of aid and health workers have been killed in Gaza and Lebanon in 2024.

Ongoing hostilities and access constraints have also disrupted vital supply routes across the region, impacting both humanitarian and commercial flow of goods, and ultimately the lives and well-being of the population.

The scarcity of basic goods and other essential commodities has led to price hikes, which are placing immense strain on both vulnerable populations and humanitarian operations. The exacerbated socio-economic pressures, further erode resilience and worsening conditions for communities. Climate change further complicates the regional crisis, as recent disasters underscore the region’s vulnerability. Earthquakes, drought, and goods in countries like Türkiye, Syria, and Libya have highlighted the urgent need for better disaster preparedness. In Iraq, over 130,788 individuals have been displaced due to drought and salinity in critical rivers, while Libya and Tunisia face heightened risks from desertification, earthquakes, and wildfires.

Overall, the MENA region is expected to remain highly volatile through 2025, with increasing interconnected conflicts, continued trend of multiple waves of forced displacement, and socio-political tensions. The growing gap between humanitarian needs and funding poses serious challenges; while nearly \$15.9 billion was required in 2024, severe funding shortfalls—only 29% received for Syria, 47% for Yemen—have constrained critical humanitarian programs. The immense humanitarian and socio-economic burden is stretching already limited humanitarian resources, which are insufficient, highly restricted, and increasingly costly to mobilize. As these crises continue to evolve and deepen, the need for sustained humanitarian interventions continues to grow, while the scope for life-sustaining interventions remains extremely limited.

Overview of 2025 response plans

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
 Lebanon	FA	1M	1M	\$425.7M
 Occupied Palestinian Territory	FA	3.3M	3M	\$4.0B
 Syrian Arab Republic	HNRP	16.7M	10.8M	\$4.1B
 Yemen	HNRP	19.5M	10.5M	\$2.5B

Lebanon FA

	People in Need	People Targeted	Total Lebanon Requirements (US\$)
TOTAL	3.7M	3.1M	3.2B
Flash Appeal	1M	1M	426M
3RP Lebanon (LRP)	3.7M	3.1M	2.8B

The Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) 2025 remains the unified planning and coordination framework in the country and is co-led with the Government. The LRP covers immediate and medium-term needs across all vulnerable population groups, including Lebanese, refugees and migrants, including through support to Lebanese institutions and public services amid the multi-faceted crisis. The Lebanon Flash Appeal is fully complementary to, and supportive of, the LRP. It enables partners to rapidly deliver principled and effective life-saving assistance and protection to one million Lebanese, Syrians, Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and migrants. In the GHO, the 3RP Lebanon Chapter and the Lebanon Flash Appeal constitute the total requirements for Lebanon.

Crisis overview

Lebanon is grappling with its most severe crisis since the 2006 Lebanon War. Escalating violence has caused significant casualties, displacement, and widespread infrastructure damage. Needs assessment, analysis and response planning for 2025 are currently underway. The People in Need (PiN), target population and financial requirements outlined in the GHO are provisional, based on the three-month Flash Appeal launched in October 2024 and the 2024 Lebanon Response Plan/3RP Lebanon chapter.

The \$425.7 million Flash Appeal, coordinated by the humanitarian community and the Lebanese Government, aims to provide life-saving assistance to one million people. It complements the pre-existing Lebanon Response Plan (LRP), an integrated humanitarian and stabilization response plan co-led by the UN and the Government of Lebanon, and targets crisis-affected Lebanese, displaced Syrians, Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and migrants.

As of 25 November 2024, the conflict has killed nearly 3,700 people and injured close to 15,700 according to Lebanon’s Ministry of Public Health. At least 1.3 million people have been displaced, surpassing 2006 figures. This includes nearly 900,000 people displaced internally (52 per cent female and 48 per cent male), according to IOM—with 190,000 of them residing in over 1,100 collective shelters—and more than 460,000 people who have crossed from Lebanon into Syria since 23 September, 2024, according to UNHCR, while others fleeing by air or to other neighbouring countries.

Essential infrastructure, including hospitals, water facilities and schools has been damaged or destroyed, disrupting access to vital services. Many schools now serve as shelters, disrupting the education system. With nearly 90 per cent

PEOPLE IN NEED

3.7 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.1 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$3.2 billion

Total population

5.8 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2020 - 2025

Consecutive years in 3RP

2013-2025

AID IN ACTION

Local humanitarian leadership: A lifeline in Lebanon



Bekaa region, Lebanon: Children participate in outdoor protection activities organized by a Lebanon Humanitarian Fund-supported project, aimed at providing psychosocial support and safeguarding their well-being. *OCHA*

The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) plays a crucial role in empowering local initiatives and fostering community solidarity to sustain response efforts. In 2024, an additional \$12 million LHF reserve allocation focused on localization, contributing to strengthened local leadership of Lebanon's humanitarian response.

On 16 October 2024, 32 families displaced from Nabatieh arrived in Beirut after a grueling 13-hour journey. Airstrikes had reduced their hometown to ruins, and they were forced to flee. Exhausted and traumatized, they found a safe place to rest, warm blankets, and some essential items thanks to the swift response of humanitarian organizations.

"It was late, and we were already stretched thin, but we could not ignore the immediate need for food," explained Dima Zayat, Deputy Country Director at Anera Lebanon. Ready-to-eat parcels, had been rerouted from Nabatieh due to the escalating violence in the south and were quickly distributed. Now, the very aid intended for these families in their hometown was delivered to them in their place of refuge.

The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) enabled partners like Anera to respond swiftly to provide vital aid. This rapid mobilization brought a sense of security and dignity to families who had lost so much. In 2024, the LHF allocated \$36 million to meet the critical needs of vulnerable people in Lebanon. Of this amount, \$10 million was disbursed in August to scale up the emergency response to growing needs caused by hostilities in South Lebanon, and an additional \$12 million was allocated in October to enhance emergency efforts across the country. In an increasingly dire environment, the mobilization of local humanitarian partners, supported by LHF, continues to be a vital lifeline for displaced families in need of safety and compassion.

of Lebanon's population living in densely populated urban areas, mass casualties in urban areas are a grave concern. Older adults, people with disabilities, and others who are unable to flee are at increased risk, especially in areas subjected to frequent bombardment.

Conflict has compounded existing vulnerabilities from years of social, economic and displacement crises, leading to rising needs and further erosion of basic services and stability across Lebanon. Local authorities are stretched to their limits, heightening the risk of escalating tensions.

Lebanon's economic crisis has drastically deteriorated, with the country's GDP plummeting from \$54.9 billion in 2018 to \$17.94 billion in 2023. Soaring prices and decreased incomes have severely eroded purchasing power, leaving many unable to afford basic necessities. Even before the recent escalation of hostilities, food insecurity was worsening, with the Integrated Food Insecurity Phase Classification (IPC) analysis projecting an increase in the number of people who are food insecure, from 19 per cent of the population in March 2024 to 23 per cent by September. Displaced Syrians and Palestinian refugees face particularly acute levels of poverty and food insecurity.

Lebanon hosts approximately 1.5 million displaced Syrians, 180,000 Palestine refugees, 23,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria, and over 11,200 refugees from other countries. Many live in precarious conditions. In 2024, only 20 per cent of displaced Syrians held legal residency, with many living in informal settlements or overcrowded shelters. Reports indicate Syrians and migrants displaced within Lebanon struggle to find safe housing. About 45 per cent of Palestine refugees reside in Lebanon's 12 refugee camps, often in unsafe and dilapidated housing. As of March 2023, 80 per cent of Palestinian refugees lived below the national poverty line. Migrants have been particularly hard-hit, frequently facing exploitation, poor living conditions and limited access to adequate social services.

Response priorities in 2025

The convergence of escalating conflict, a protracted economic and governance crisis, and the ongoing impacts of the Syria crisis has pushed Lebanon to a breaking point. Humanitarian organizations are working urgently to address the immediate needs of affected people and sustain essential public services, but the challenges are immense, and the situation continues to deteriorate. Without substantial international support, the outlook for Lebanon remains dire, with vulnerable populations at increasing risk.

The Flash Appeal for Lebanon launched on 1 October 2024 complements and supports the 2024 Lebanon Response Plan (LRP), which remains the

Majdal Zoun, Lebanon. Hassan Al Durr, a 5-year-old boy, walks through the rubble in Majdal Zoun, Southern Lebanon, following an airstrike. *UNICEF/Diego Ibarra Sánchez*



unified framework for addressing the country's humanitarian and stabilization needs. The LRP aims to provide both immediate and medium-term assistance to vulnerable populations while supporting Lebanon's strained institutions and public services. As the country chapter of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), the LRP responds to the cumulative effects of Lebanon's multiple crises.

LRP partners' interventions focus on four strategic objectives:

- Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable people to meet critical needs.
- Enhance the protection of vulnerable groups.
- Support public service delivery through national systems, including rapid response capacity.
- Support Lebanon's economic, social and environmental stability.

The LRP also prioritizes protection and gender equality. For 2024, it sought \$2.72 billion in funding but had only received 36 per cent by the end of September. Securing adequate funding for both the LRP and the Flash Appeal is critical to addressing Lebanon's worsening humanitarian crisis.

The Flash Appeal focuses on the immediate, life-saving response, with three key strategic objectives:

- Deliver timely multi-sectoral assistance to people affected by the escalation of hostilities.
- Promote the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure—grounded in international humanitarian and human rights law, norms and standards—and place communities at the centre of the response.
- Support the rapid delivery and resumption of essential services in areas affected by the escalation in hostilities.

The Government of Lebanon leads the response, with support from the UN and humanitarian partners. Coordination is managed through the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and sectors/clusters. UN and NGO partners are distributing food, water and essential supplies, including mattresses, hygiene kits, blankets, and sleeping bags, to households and collective shelters. Meals, bread, and dignity kits are also being provided, along with emergency nutrition rations, micronutrient supplements, and malnutrition screenings for children and pregnant or lactating women.

Support for children includes recreational kits, early childhood development activities, and emergency health kits. Technical site assessments are underway to identify repairs to damaged infrastructure.

Financial requirements

The financial requirements for the emergency response for the first three months of 2025 is \$425.7 million, based on the 2024 three-month Flash Appeal. Assessment, analysis and planning are currently underway for 2025 for Lebanon, given the highly fluid situation. The financial requirements for 2025 presented in the GHO represent the projected Flash Appeal requirements for the first months (\$425.7 million) and the 3RP/Lebanon component of \$2.8 billion, with \$3.2 billion total funding required.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights for the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) Appeal (as of September 2024)



Health

Over 1.6 million primary healthcare consultations were provided to vulnerable Lebanese, Syrians, Palestinians and migrants through 150 primary healthcare centers within the Ministry of Public Health network.



Food

1.5 million received regular cash for food assistance by September 2024, to ensure that the most vulnerable people in Lebanon are able to reduce their food gaps, and diversify food intake.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

61 municipalities were able to ensure access to water, ensure essential maintenance work as well as solid waste management through institutional support in the delivery of basic services.



Food

Some 4.9 million meals have been provided to displaced individuals across Lebanon. 223,000 displaced individuals received ready-to-eat kits, 142,000 received food parcels, and over 245,000 bread packs were distributed.

Response highlights for the 5 weeks following the launch of the Flash Appeal (as of 7 November)



Health

The ongoing conflict has heavily impacted Lebanon's healthcare system, with 103 attacks on health facilities, resulting in the deaths of 142 health workers and the closure of 53 primary healthcare centres and eight hospitals. Despite these challenges, humanitarian organizations have provided more than 107,700 health consultations and distributed essential medications to over 76,300 patients, including sexual and reproductive health services to over 10,400 individuals.



Relief items

Over 453,900 relief items, such as mattresses, blankets, and sleeping mats, have been distributed to displaced families in various regions. Repair work has been completed at 71 collective shelters, with ongoing assessments and repairs in others. A significant challenge remains in ensuring the safety and adequacy of shelters, particularly with the approaching winter.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Displaced individuals in 991 collective shelters received 1.5 million litres of bottled water and nearly 82,000 hygiene kits. WASH infrastructure has been upgraded in 81 collective shelters, including the installation of emergency toilets, showers, and water storage facilities. At least 34 water infrastructures have been damaged due to hostilities, impacting the water supply for over 402,000 residents.



Protection

48,500 displaced individuals received legal, child protection, and gender-based violence (GBV) services. 24,193 children and caregivers received psychosocial support, and 2,694 recreational kits were distributed to enhance children's well-being.

Consequences of inaction for the 5 weeks following the launch of the Flash Appeal (as of 7 November)



Funding

As of 25 November 2024, only 60 per cent of the \$425.7 million Flash Appeal had been funded (Lebanon Aid Tracking), severely limiting the ability to meet growing needs across all sectors. While nearly half those targeted have received at least one form of assistance, wide-spread gaps remain unaddressed.



Shelter

With 90 per cent of collective shelters at full capacity, there is a critical shortage of adequate shelter for displaced individuals. Many families are living in abandoned buildings, rented spaces, or open areas, often without basic non-food items like kitchen sets. High turnover in shelters further complicates efforts to fully equip them. With winter approaching, urgent inter-sectoral efforts are needed to relocate IDPs in self-settled sites and ensure access to safe shelters and essential services to protect against harsh weather.



Food

While 80 per cent of displaced people in shelters have received some form of assistance, significant gaps remain in providing hot meals and food parcels, particularly in remote areas. Those living outside shelters are also in need of support.



Education

At least 60 per cent of public schools are being used as shelters, delaying their reopening. There is an urgent need to identify alternative learning spaces, strengthen remote learning platforms, and secure funding for emergency education. This is critical to facilitate children's return to school and provide psychosocial support for displaced students.



Health

Access to essential healthcare services is severely limited, particularly in conflict-affected areas like Baalbek. A confirmed cholera case in Akkar, combined with damaged water infrastructure, increases the risk of disease outbreaks in overcrowded shelters.



Humanitarian worker

The displacement of humanitarian workers due to ongoing hostilities has created a shortage of personnel, hampering the delivery of protection services, particularly in high-risk areas.



Protection

Many shelters lack static and mobile safe spaces for women, girls, and children, leaving them without privacy, adequate protection or psychosocial support. Analysis for the third quarter of 2024 reveals a rise in GBV incidents in "schools," suggesting an increase in GBV within collective shelters, as 70 per cent of them are schools.

Occupied Palestinian Territory **FA**

Crisis overview

Since 7 October 2023, the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) has drastically changed. Access to lifesaving services, already hindered by occupation, conflict, political instability, movement barriers, and lack of adherence to international law, has dramatically decreased and protection concerns have surged.

The speed and scale of the killing and destruction in the Gaza Strip (Gaza) are unlike anything seen in recent history. As of 31 October 2024, a total of 43,061 Palestinians, including at least 7,216 women, 3,447 older persons and 13,319 children, have been killed in Gaza since 7 October 2023. More than one hundred thousand people have been injured, many suffering permanent disability, and some ten thousand people are believed to be under rubble. In the past year, nearly all of Gaza's population has been displaced with nowhere safe to go. The UN estimates 1.9 million people, 90 per cent of the population, are internally displaced, with 40 per cent near flood risk areas. Across Gaza, people lack basic essentials for survival, including food, shelter, safe water and medical care. Over 60 per cent of homes and 65 per cent of roads are damaged, the health and waste management systems are devastated, and safe water is scarce.

Everyone in Gaza feels as if they have been put on death row. If not killed by bombs or bullets, they are slowly suffocating from a lack of the basic means of survival. At the time of writing, people in the besieged area of North Gaza have received virtually no assistance for 52 days. Israeli authorities have only allowed humanitarian access for medical evacuations on an exceptional basis. Food distribution points, kitchens and bakeries in North Gaza, have shut down due to lack of food, flour, fuel and military operations. The risk of famine persists, as conditions deteriorate. On 8 November, the IPC Famine Review Committee stated that starvation, malnutrition, and mortality due to malnutrition and disease are likely rising rapidly in these areas. Famine thresholds may have already been surpassed or could be crossed soon. Throughout Gaza, critical health services have been disrupted, posing long-term risks. Hospitals and medical facilities have been repeatedly hit, and those that remain partially functional do so with only a handful of staff, and without sufficient fuel or critical supplies.

Gaza is also the most dangerous place in the world and the most challenging to deliver humanitarian assistance. Crossing points into Gaza remain restricted or closed, humanitarian law and notification mechanisms not respected, humanitarian staff have been detained and held at gunpoint at checkpoints, and a breakdown of public order and safety inside Gaza have left people reliant on a literal trickle of aid.

As of 5 November, at least 318 humanitarian workers have been killed in Gaza, while medical staff are regularly targeted, detained, or killed while attempting to provide care. Roads are damaged and littered with unexploded ordnance. A targeted campaign to discredit the UN, most recently UNRWA, risks further disruptions in humanitarian operations with potential catalytic regional and

PEOPLE IN NEED

3.3 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.0 million

REQUIREMENTS
(US\$):

\$4.0 billion

Total population

5.5 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

-

Consecutive appeals

2003 – 2025

global implications. Without UNRWA, the delivery of education, food, shelter and health to most of Gaza's population would grind to a halt. The level of humanitarian assistance that has been allowed into Gaza is completely inadequate and not commensurate with the needs of over 2 million people. The result is heightened desperation, rising levels of malnutrition, gender-based violence, morbidity and death. Despite the immense risks and challenges faced, humanitarian agencies remain committed to deliver aid when and where they can.

At the same time, violence in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, has sharply escalated. The use of lethal force by Israeli forces, along with rampant settler violence and house demolitions, have led to a dramatic rise in fatalities, widespread destruction and forced displacement. At least 700 Palestinians have been killed since 7 October 2023—the highest number in more than two decades—and 4,555 displaced. 2024 also saw the longest and largest military operations in the West Bank since the Second Intifada as the construction of new settlements, land grabs, demolitions and settler violence all continue.

Response priorities in 2025

The UN and partners estimate that at least \$6.6 billion is required to address the humanitarian needs of 3.3 million people in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Out of this total, the 2025 OPT Flash Appeal is calling for \$4 billion for UN agencies, INGO, and NGO partners to address some of the most urgent and critical needs for 3 million people based on the assumption that humanitarian actors will continue to face a constrained operating environment in 2025, making it impossible to scale up operations effectively. To operate at scale, the humanitarian community would require predictable supply, safe access and the ability to reach people where they are. None of these requirements are met in the case of Gaza.

The Appeal will target the entire population of Gaza, estimated at 2.1 million people, and 0.9 million people in the West Bank. For the West Bank, this reflects an incremental increase compared to 2024 resulting from rising needs linked to the deteriorating situation.

The magnitude of this response and operational constraints are beyond what has been seen before in OPT and in other contexts. Achieving the vision laid out in this appeal requires critical changes in the operating environment, including:

Humanitarian actors must have safe and sustained access to all people in need across the Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

Humanitarian goods must be allowed to enter Gaza at scale, requiring the opening of additional crossings into Gaza, supply routes within Gaza, and the resumption of commercial sector operations.

The Humanitarian Notification System must be respected.

Entry of critical humanitarian items, including communications equipment and protective gear for humanitarian staff.

Funding must be timely and flexible to allow humanitarian actors to adapt programming to a highly dynamic context.

Visas and permits for UN and INGO staff to support Gaza operations from Jerusalem, and for staff to move within the West Bank.

The main response priority is to scale up operations to address the urgent needs across the OPT. The 2025 Flash Appeal outlines the actions needed to meet lifesaving requirements. Activities will focus on delivering emergency supplies – including food, water, medical supplies, shelter, NFIs, education materials—while providing critical services, including protection, until local services and markets are restored. The Flash Appeal includes activities to address the needs of displaced families, both inside and outside emergency shelters, including those staying with host communities in Gaza and those affected by settler violence, demolitions and military operations in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Early recovery activities are included when they offer the most cost-effective and efficient way of providing humanitarian assistance, or when they are essential to enabling such assistance. Recovery and reconstruction considerations are anticipated to be reflected in subsequent plans when the situation allows.

Protection underpins the overall response with specific focus on the intersectional impacts of the crisis, especially on women and girls. A 'twin-track'

approach ensures protection and diversity is embedded within all cluster programming. With the breakdown of traditional communications channels in Gaza, humanitarian actors have come together to find innovative approaches to drive community awareness and engagement to ensure accountability to affected people and protect against sexual abuse and exploitation.

Financial requirements

The UN and partners estimate that at least US \$6.6 billion is required to address the humanitarian needs of 3.3 million people in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. The 2025 OPT Flash Appeal calls for \$4 billion for UN agencies, INGO, and NGO partners to address some of the most urgent and critical needs for three million people based on the assumption that humanitarian actors will continue to face a constrained operating environment in 2025, making it impossible to scale operations effectively. The ask reflects a 19 per cent increase from the estimated financial requirements for 2024. The increase is driven by the deepening needs and rising costs of operating in OPT, most dramatically in Gaza, where rising security, logistics, demurrage, and staff costs are inversely correlated with operating constraints. Growing needs in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, also contribute to the overall rise.

The Flash Appeal employs a unit-based cost (UBC) methodology in which cluster coordinators estimate the required cost of priority activities for 2025 based on the information available at the time of writing. The Flash appeal may be updated later in the year as the situation continues to evolve.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Gaza remains a war zone with active and ongoing military operations. Evacuation orders continue to be issued, forcing people to constantly move. Humanitarian operations have also been forced to repeatedly move their base of operations and programmes. Asset losses have been high, and the

psychological toll, great. Critical health, water, sanitation, education, housing, and telecommunications infrastructure has been destroyed.

Amidst unprecedented challenges, humanitarian actors have continued to operate. Doing so has required that they constantly adapt, innovate and identify creative solutions to complex problems. Despite facing significant challenges and operating in extreme conditions, notable humanitarian achievements include:



Critical care

Over 87,000 injured in Gaza and 5,000 in the West Bank received critical care, including emergency medical interventions after mass casualty events.



Primary healthcare

Eight field hospitals were established, and medical points and temporary facilities were created to expand primary healthcare.



Emergency obstetric and newborn care

Two clinics for sexual reproductive health were deployed to offer emergency obstetric and newborn care.



Vaccination

Nearly 557,000 children were vaccinated with a second dose of the polio vaccine, reaching 94 per cent of all children under the age of 10 throughout Gaza.



Food assistance

Some 1.8 million people were reached with food assistance, including 6,195,767 hot meals.



Nutrition

Nutrition services were offered at 300 feeding sites, 100 outpatient sites, and four stabilization centers.



Hygiene

120,000 hygiene kits were distributed, achieving 9 per cent of the target.



Sanitation

Faced with a severely inadequate waste management system and a complete absence of proper sanitation infrastructure, 6,000 latrines were built for individuals in spontaneous displacement sites.



Women and girls

Six safe spaces for women and girls were established, aiding 4,788 people.



Menstrual health items

168,285 people were provided with menstrual health items.



Mental health and psychosocial support

Mental health and psychosocial support are ongoing.



Shelter and NFIs

293,000 non-food kits, 73,600 tents, and 81,800 sealing-off kits were distributed.

The OPT is an example of the cost of inaction, notably the absence of sustained and dedicated attention or commitment to driving a political solution to the protracted conflict and occupation.

People's resilience and coping mechanisms are exhausted, the most acutely affected are children, women, older people and people with disabilities. Resilience cannot be measured like calories or litres of water. You only know it is exhausted after it is too late.

Consequences of inaction



Underfunding

Provision of MHPSS services has been reduced to a triage situation, at times meaning that families living side by side at the time of a violent military operation will not receive the same services due to insufficient number of qualified MHPSS personnel.

Persistent shortage of essential medical supplies and funding for mobile clinics in the West Bank.

Water access is limited in Bethlehem and Hebron, due to funding and movement restrictions, exacerbated by Mekorot water supply cuts.

Increased drop-out rates and continued education losses due to inability to provide sufficient educational support services in West Bank and Gaza.



Gaza Strip

There is a strong likelihood that famine is imminent in areas within the northern Gaza Strip. Without immediate action, within days, to avert and alleviate the situation, this scenario can materialize.

Healthcare is crippled, with 84 per cent of facilities damaged and only 55 per cent of bed capacity available, leaving people injured or ill, unable to meet their critical health needs.

Education is undermined. 658,000 children missed a full school year; and risk missing the second year of formal schooling; 57,000 are unable to start first grade. The situation jeopardizes their lives and futures.

Over 1.1 million people lack safe water, and solid waste collection is constrained, posing a risk to public health.



West Bank

Ambulances and healthcare are disrupted; half of primary health facilities operate just two days a week due to the fiscal crisis.

Access to education for 806,000 students is hindered by violence, risking learning losses and increased child labour.

Worsening food insecurity which is addressed through cash assistance, provision of food assistance, and agricultural and livelihoods support.

Failure to restore WASH infrastructure, the destruction of which has been notable during recent military operations, risks leaving communities without reliable water.

Preparedness for service providers and communities against future shocks will incur increase costs and extend response times.



Access constraints, attacks against aid workers/facilities

As of 5 November, at least 318 humanitarian workers have been killed in Gaza.

WHO has verified 516 attacks on health facilities and medical transport in Gaza, resulting in 765 deaths and almost 1000 injuries, between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024.

Humanitarian aid faces severe access restrictions in, out and within Gaza. In October 2024, 43 per cent of all humanitarian movements coordinated with the Israeli authorities to reach people in need were denied, and a further 16 per cent impeded, leaving many without essential aid.

In the West Bank, violence, demolitions, and movement restrictions have led to increased displacement and insecurity. Movement restrictions and denials of visas and permits by Israeli authorities inhibit the ability of humanitarian actors to provide assistance.

Syrian Arab Republic **HNRP**

Crisis overview

The protracted crisis in Syria—driven by ongoing hostilities, economic instability, and prolonged environmental shocks—continues to take a heavy toll, with 16.7 million people identified as needing assistance in 2024. As of 25 November 2024, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is only 29 per cent funded, with just \$1.2 billion raised out of the \$4.07 billion required to deliver essential aid to the 10.8 million people targeted by the HRP. These 2024 figures also serve as projections for 2025, as planning remains underway. The funding gap in the current HRP threatens the delivery of vital services, including protection, food, shelter, and healthcare for Syria’s most vulnerable populations.

Throughout 2024, waves of hostilities, particularly in Syria’s northwestern and northeastern regions, caused civilian casualties and new displacement. Attacks on critical infrastructure—including electricity stations, gas and fuel plants, medical facilities, farmland, and major access routes—continue to disrupt essential services, impacting access to water, electricity, and healthcare. These disruptions are driving further displacement of civilians, particularly along front-lines in Idlib. In Deir-ez-Zor Governorate, especially in areas east of the Euphrates River, access remains particularly challenging due to complex local political and military dynamics.

Regional conflicts have increasingly impacted Syria. Hostilities in Lebanon since September 2024 have displaced approximately 528,000¹² people—65 per cent Syrians and 35 per cent Lebanese or other nationals—forcing them into Syria. This influx, including over 100,000 arrivals in north-east Syria and 7,800¹³ in north-west Syria, has intensified the demands on an already fragile humanitarian situation, straining Syria’s limited resources and placing additional pressure on essential services.

Humanitarian access remains a significant challenge. The Access Severity Overview (March 2024), indicates very high access severity in five sub-districts, affecting 48,000 people in need, (1 per cent of the total). High severity was recorded in 69 sub-districts, impacting 2.1 million people, or 12% of people in need, while moderate access severity affected 129 sub-districts, representing 8.4 million people, or 50% of people in need.

Syria’s economic crisis—characterized by soaring inflation, currency devaluation, and rising commodity prices—continues to drive needs across the country. Minimum wages cover only 20 per cent of a family’s basic food needs and just 10 per cent of essential household expenses, as measured by the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). According to WFP market price monitoring, prices in July 2024 were 80 per cent higher than in July 2023. This economic hardship, combined with limited employment opportunities, is pushing more households into poverty and aid dependency, driving up response costs and complicating humanitarian efforts.

¹² UNHCR (UNHCR Syria Short Brief: Response to Displacement from Lebanon to Syria - Reporting period: 24 September - 2 November 2024 - Syrian Arab Republic | ReliefWeb)

¹³ *ibid.*

PEOPLE IN NEED

16.7 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

10.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$4.1 billion

Total population

24.3 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2012 – 2025

AID IN ACTION

Shattered by war and earthquake: Alia's story of survival



Aleppo, Syrian Arab Republic: Alia, a 40-year-old caregiver, has endured years of hardship, worsened by the February 2023 earthquake that devastated her home. Living in a single, safe room with her mother and mentally disabled brother, she struggles to make ends meet. Oxfam's cash distribution program became a lifeline, enabling Alia to provide food and medicine for her family. *Oxfam/Islam Mardini*

"Oxfam's cash assistance helped us secure food, medicine, and materials for a few months."

Alia, a 40-year-old caregiver, faced unimaginable challenges, struggling to make ends meet without a steady income. The February 2023 earthquake devastated her home, leaving her family with little more than insufficient meals of tomato paste and bread. Dinner

became a rarity, and hunger took a toll on her mother's health.

Years of war had already weakened their ageing house, but the earthquake caused it to crumble further. Alia, her mother, and her mentally disabled brother were squeezed into a single room, the only space still safe to use. "We use this room for everything: cooking, eating, sleeping, and washing," she explained.

Alia and her family relied on her deceased father's pension, but the earthquake intensified their hardship, piling new struggles and misery onto years of conflict. "We thought nothing could be worse than before, but now we miss those days."

In their darkest hours, Oxfam's cash distribution program provided a lifeline. The funds allowed Alia to prioritize essentials like food and medicine over home restoration. This critical support not only provided immediate relief but underscored the importance of people-centered support that addresses people's immediate needs while helping them build resilience in the face of ongoing crises.

Syria's vulnerability to climate-induced shocks is heightened by the long-lasting impacts of conflict and compounded water scarcity. The average Syrian has access to only 355 m³ of clean water per year. A 15 per cent rainfall deficit in 2023 further restricted water access for 8.5 million people, including 1.8 million already severely affected. Increasingly frequent climate anomalies—such as prolonged, extreme heatwaves and unpredictable cycles of drought and flooding—exacerbate Syria's water scarcity and pose serious risks to human, animal, and plant health. As these cascading climate events widen communal resilience gaps, Syrians are finding it increasingly difficult to cope with additional shocks.

Response priorities in 2025

The humanitarian community is developing the 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), focusing on persistent drivers of need, including ongoing conflict, protection risks, socio-economic decline, environmental shocks, and the regional conflicts affecting Syria. The 2025 response will prioritize the most vulnerable populations, addressing urgent needs through expanded early recovery, livelihood support, and improved access to basic services, including investments in essential civilian infrastructure. However, anticipated funding shortages for 2025 risk worsening humanitarian conditions for millions. Ongoing hostilities are fueling a surge in displacement, impacting civilians and damaging critical infrastructure, thereby complicating the reach and effectiveness of humanitarian efforts.

Humanitarian partners will continue to implement lifesaving interventions addressing critical areas such as injuries and displacements due to hostilities, food insecurity, malnutrition, public health crises, trauma, climate-related risks, including water scarcity and the impact of extreme weather, as well as the recent acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera outbreak. The response also prioritizes protection risks exacerbated by conflict, such as gender-based violence (GBV), child marriage, forced labor, family separation, and the extensive presence of explosive ordnance. From January to June 2024, partners reached an average of 4. million people monthly, just 41 per cent of the target population, underscoring the gap between needs and capacity.

To maximize impact with limited resources, the 2025 response will adopt a boundary-setting approach based on several key criteria. First, each sector will focus on essential interventions, defined as the most critical activities. Second, geographic severity will be considered, targeting populations in the highest-severity areas, particularly those classified as JIAF severity levels 4 and 5, and sub-districts at risk of escalation. Third, response reach will be analyzed in collaboration with implementing partners to identify underserved areas, response gaps, and sector capacity trends. Additionally, vulnerability criteria will be applied to focus on the most at-risk population groups, and seasonality of funding requirements will be considered for timely responses. Guided by Syria's Strategic Steering Group, the 2025 approach will build upon and refine last year's boundary-setting, with the HRP scheduled for government consultation in February.

Financial requirements

In 2024, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Syria required \$4.07 billion to assist 10.8 million of the 16.7 million people identified as in need. Planning for 2025 is underway, with similar figures expected. To enhance planning and response efficiency, the humanitarian community adopted a 'hybrid costing' methodology starting with the 2024 HRP, which directly links the number of people targeted to the financial requirements, followed by project registration. This methodology will be continued for 2025.

Resource limitations mean that many lifesaving programs may be scaled back or unable to fully meet the escalating needs, with significant consequences for protection and access to basic services. Of the 10.8 million individuals targeted in the 2024 HRP, 9.2 million were identified as "critical targets" in need of urgent, life-saving support. A similar number of critical targets is expected for 2025.

A declining global humanitarian budget, coupled with Syria's diminishing visibility amidst other crises, compounds the challenge. The ongoing hostilities, regional spillover on Syria, economic pressures, and impacts of climate change are intensifying the crisis, demanding urgent financial attention to avert worsening conditions. Limited funds are not only affecting the reach of assistance but are also restricting humanitarian partners' flexibility.

Additionally, funding shortfalls have meant humanitarian partners are now forced to reprogram or reallocate resources to meet emerging urgent humanitarian needs, leaving significant gaps elsewhere. Limited funding have hindered preparedness efforts for predictable emergencies including prepositioning essential emergency supplies.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Humanitarian partners reached an average of 4.2 million people monthly across Syria.



Protection

As of August, nearly 2 million displaced people and members of host communities received protection services, including legal aid for 168,000 people.



Child protection

Over 824,000 children and caregivers received community-based child protection, psychosocial support, and parenting services, including child protection services for more than 36,000 children at risk of or exposed to violence.



Mine action

Over 4,400 mine action risk education sessions were held, benefiting over 400,000 people. Over 540 physical rehabilitation sessions were provided for victims.



Gender-based violence

Over 780,000 people were reached with gender-based violence services and 207,000 survivors and at-risk women and girls received support. Partners also distributed over 91,000 dignity kits.



Camp coordination and camp management

Camp coordination and camp management activities benefitted over 341,000 people.



Livelihood

Over 146,000 people gained access to livelihood and job opportunities, indirectly benefiting at least an additional 370,000 people.



Education

Education partners assisted over 795,000 children, teachers and education officials.



Food security

By August, some 926,000 people were reached with regular food assistance, representing only 12 percent of the target due to funding shortfalls. Around 217,000 households were reached with livelihood interventions.



Nutrition

Nutrition partners provided services for 1.1 million children under 5 and 1.1 million pregnant or lactating women.



Health

Health sector partners administered 19.6 million medical procedures and over 8 million medical treatment courses.



Shelter and NFI

Shelter and NFI partners reached over 605,000 people with essential shelter and 266,000 with core non-food items, while over 1.2 million received winter assistance.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

11 million people were reached with water, sanitation and hygiene interventions—5.2 million with life-saving emergency services, and 4.8 million benefiting from water system repairs.



Cash assistance

Multi-purpose cash assistance reached over 1.3 million people with \$65 million.

Consequences of inaction

Due to underfunding, more than 2 million fewer people were reached monthly compared to 2023.



Protection

Underfunding has forced additional prioritization of the protection response, with at-risk populations in hard-to-reach areas going without assistance. Reduced funding for housing, land and property has limited the ability to respond to eviction threats, documentation issues, and land disputes.



Case management

Children needing case management and mental health services remain underserved, raising risks of school dropout and child labour. Family separations are increasing as families seek safer environments.



Education

Inadequate funding will push more children out of school, when already 2.45 million do not attend.



Gender-based violence

Reduced funding for GBV programs has left more women and girls without essential support, including access to safe spaces for women and girls.



Mine action

Inadequate funding for mine action leaves millions at risk from explosive ordnance, risking children, farmers, and displaced individuals, while limiting safety, recovery, and access to infrastructure.



Shelter

Some 730,000 IDPs in north-west Syria continue living in inadequate tents. Only 10 per cent of the winterization budget has been secured, creating a critical gap to address the needs of 1.4 million people in 1,152 IDP sites.



Livelihood

Access and resource constraints prevented early recovery and livelihoods partners from reaching many communities, limiting services, livelihood and social cohesion support.



Food assistance

Food assistance is being provided to only one third of the most severely food insecure, while 12.9 million people, over 60 per cent of the population remains food insecure.



Health

Underfunding has forced more health facilities to close or scale back, with 24 per cent of primary healthcare facilities and 32 per cent of hospitals now non-functional. Without additional funds, half of all health facilities across north-west Syria will be non-operational by December 2024.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Funding gaps have left 800,000 people without essential water, sanitation and hygiene items, and nearly 1 million without needed sanitation improvements.



Cash assistance

An estimated 2.4 million people lack multi-purpose cash assistance, driving up negative coping mechanisms.

AID IN ACTION

Voices of resilience: Fatima's fight for dignified shelter in north-west Syria



North-west Syria, Syrian Arab Republic: 60-year-old grandmother Fatima with her granddaughter, beside her old tent in IDP site in north-west Syria. OCHA/Yuosef Aljumaa

Fatima, a 60-year-old grandmother, was forced to flee her home in Ma'arrat al-Nu'man in Idlib due to ongoing conflict. She and her grandchildren found refuge in the IDP site in north-west Syria but faced daily challenges with few resources. Fatima had particular concerns about their inadequate shelter which offered little protection against harsh weather—a sentiment echoed by nearly 70 per cent of the

4,000 complaints received by the interagency hotline, SafeLine.

To address these issues, SafeLine provided a platform for Fatima and others to voice their experiences. At a community-led validation session, Fatima and other residents were able to engage directly with the Shelter Cluster Coordinator and explain their challenges. For many, this was their first opportunity to participate in decisions which directly impacted their lives.

As a result, the Dignified Shelter Guidance was tailored to meet Fatima's specific needs. Her new shelter, constructed with durable materials, provides better insulation and protection from the elements. The participatory approach not only enhanced living conditions but also empowered community members. By fostering trust and collaboration between humanitarian actors and affected people, it delivered meaningful and sustainable solutions.

Crisis overview

In 2025, an estimated 19.54 million people in Yemen will require humanitarian assistance and protection.

Now in its tenth year of conflict, Yemen faces a severe protection and humanitarian crisis exacerbated by recurring economic shocks, weakened basic services, climate hazards, regional conflict, and chronic underfunding. Living conditions for most Yemenis will remain dire in 2025. Limited livelihood opportunities and declining purchasing power are expected to deepen socio-economic instability. The country’s gross domestic product has shrunk by over 50 per cent since 2015 and is projected to contract further in 2024.¹⁴ In Government of Yemen (GoY)-controlled areas, the Yemeni Rial continues to hit record lows, as oil and gas exports remain obstructed. Access to basic services—healthcare, schools and water supply systems—continues to deteriorate. Disease outbreaks are expected to surge, while 3.2 million school-aged children (6-17 years old) remain out of school.

Humanitarian needs in 2025 are expected to mirror those of 2024, barring significant new shocks. However, fragility and severity levels vary across the country due to multiple shocks. Notably, one-third of Yemen’s districts experienced improvement in humanitarian conditions due to sustained assistance and reduced conflict. These changes opened roads and improved commercial access along frontlines, while decreasing displacement. In contrast, several areas have experienced worsening conditions, falling into severity level 4, due to halted or disrupted assistance in critical sectors such as food security, shelter and camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), largely driven by underfunding. Other areas have worsened to severity level 3, highlighting the need for sustainable development to prevent further decline.

Protection remains central to Yemen’s humanitarian response, with more than 16 million people in need of protection assistance. Vulnerable groups—including IDPs, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, persons with disabilities, and the marginalized Muhamasheen—face heightened risks. Nearly 4.8 million people, primarily women and children, remain displaced, with repeated displacement locking families into cycles of aid dependency. Economic hardships and entrenched gender inequalities force many into harmful coping mechanisms. Gender-based violence surged in 2024, intensifying risks for women and girls, while overstretched prevention and response services struggle to meet growing needs.

Food insecurity and malnutrition will remain consistently high in 2025. An estimated 17 million people (49 per cent of the population) will face severe food insecurity, with 5 million enduring emergency-level conditions.¹⁵ Acute malnutri-

PEOPLE IN NEED

19.5 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

10.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$2.5 billion

Total population

34.9 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

INFORM Risk Index

8 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2008 – 2025

14 World Bank, Yemen Economic Monitor, Fall 2024.

15 Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) People in Need Analysis and severity classification. Methodology.

tion will affect about 3.5 million people, including over 500,000 suffering from severe acute malnutrition.¹⁶

Yemen's health system is severely strained, leaving millions without adequate care amidst multiple disease outbreaks.¹⁷ Limited access to basic WASH services—a major driver of Yemen's cholera outbreak—further exacerbates these challenges. Vaccination coverage is low as local beliefs and misinformation challenge vaccination campaigns. Women and girls lack sufficient maternal care and reproductive healthcare. Landmines and explosive remnants of war continue to endanger civilians and restrict movement.

Yemen ranks as the world's third most vulnerable country to climate change¹⁸ and lacks capacity to mitigate or adapt to its effects. In 2024, nearly all (93 per cent) of those supported through the Rapid Response Mechanism, were severely affected or displaced by climate-related crises.¹⁹ Climate-related shocks impacted over 1.3 million people in 2024—a 68 per cent increase from 2023—while harsh winters expose thousands to freezing temperatures.²⁰

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, humanitarian efforts will focus on improving targeting and response interventions to address evolving needs, the operational environment, and reduced capacities.

The response will be guided by the three Humanitarian Country Team position papers aimed to: 1) establish a more structured and measurable approach to humanitarian action; 2) transform the response to become more effective, relevant and locally driven, while supporting a responsible transition to sustainable durable solutions; and 3) reduce operational costs of the humanitarian response.

Partners will ensure the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups in both the design and delivery of assistance, while mainstreaming protection across all activities.

Area-based consultations will guide prioritization of assistance and promote a people-centred approach to humanitarian response efforts. In this deteriorating environment, integrating protection across sectors remains essential to safeguard the dignity and well-being of Yemen's affected populations. Priorities for 2025 include strengthening accountability mechanisms, promoting localisation, and enhancing coordination on key protection issues, including accountability to affected people, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, gender-based violence, and cash-based interventions.

Humanitarian actors will focus on integrating responses in areas with the most severe needs, while maintaining flexibility for contingencies. Efforts will also focus on strengthening ties with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), extended through 2025, and fostering programmatic discussions with development actors, as much as the current operational environment allows.

Financial requirements

The 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan prioritizes life-saving and life-sustaining activities in Yemen, underpinned by strong prioritization and boundary setting. It remains complementary to the UNSCDF.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

The humanitarian operating environment remains fraught with challenges, including significant risks to the safety of humanitarian workers, cumbersome bureaucratic impediments and interference in programming and activities. Despite these difficulties, 177 humanitarian organizations delivered aid to 5.9 million people between January and September 2024,²¹ with the response reaching internally

16 World Bank. Yemen Overview

17 Including polio cVDPV2, acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera, measles, diphtheria, pertussis, malaria and dengue fever.

18 INFORM Climate Change Results and Data

19 Rapid Response Mechanism Cumulative Snapshot. Between January and October 2024.

20 OCHA Flood Preparedness and response dashboard.

21 From January – September 2024, 5.9 million people received at least one form of assistance.

displaced persons, returnees, women and girls, marginalized groups, vulnerable host communities and other people in need across the country.

In 2024, the humanitarian community made significant strides in improving response quality while addressing both new and existing needs. For example, a large-scale cholera epidemic was successfully mitigated with the response reaching over 2 million people, limiting the outbreak's scale and impact. Food security partners, navigating a difficult funding and operational environment, implemented a comprehensive mitigation plan that delivered emergency food distributions and livelihoods support across Yemen, helping curb the spread of food and nutrition insecurity. On the west coast, a multi-sector response plan is being implemented to address unprecedented levels of malnutrition. WASH partners championed sustainable water management solutions, responding to the expressed needs of communities, providing clean water to thousands in host communities and IDP sites through solarized water supply systems. Cash programming expanded significantly with over \$80 million in multipurpose cash assistance provided to over 580,000 people. The Yemen Humanitarian Fund exceeded its target for local involvement, channelling over 60 per cent of its funding through local organizations. Over 504,000 people received emergency support following conflict or climate-induced displacement, amidst the worst flood season in years.

Consequences of inaction



Food security

Acute funding shortages for the food security and agriculture cluster forced the suspension of humanitarian food assistance for 6.5 million people in areas controlled by the Houthi de facto authorities since November 2023. In GoY-controlled areas, food packages for 3.6 million people were reduced.



Livelihoods

Agriculture and livelihood support scaled back significantly. Three months after the pause in humanitarian food assistance, food consumption patterns among surveyed former beneficiaries had worsened. The proportion of households experiencing severe food deprivation increased by 61 per cent, with vulnerable households reportedly resorting to desperate coping measures.²² Needs are particularly pronounced in Hajjah Governorate, which saw a 168 per cent increase in poor food consumption among those who no longer were receiving assistance.²³



Protection

Underfunding led to the reduction of critical protection services in six governorates, affecting mine victim assistance, civil documentation, housing, land and property support, child protection case management, including tracing and reunification, and the availability of safe spaces for women and girls. Mental health and psychosocial support interventions were also reduced in six governorates, particularly affecting vulnerable children and caregivers.



Health

Funding shortages resulted in 196 health facilities losing support affecting 83 districts in 17 governorates as of November 2024, affecting access to quality service provision for the most vulnerable population groups.

22 WFP. *Assessing the Impact of the General Food Assistance Pause in Northern Yemen*, April 2024

23 Ibid.



Treatment centre

As of November 2024, 33 diarrhoea treatment centres (DTCs) and 165 oral rehydration centres were closed in the midst of a cholera outbreak, with 80 per cent of DTCs anticipated to close by December 2024 based on available funding levels. Only 14 (32 per cent) of DTCs are expected to continue beyond December 2024.



Camp coordination and camp management

CCCM was among the least funded clusters in Yemen in 2024. Between January and September, at least 286 IDP sites lost multi-sectoral support, severely impacting living conditions and access to basic services such as clean water, healthcare, education, protection and psychosocial support. Funding shortfalls also delayed infrastructural improvements, with 348 sites having to go without critical flood mitigation measures.

Additional information found [here](#).

AID IN ACTION

Building trust to save lives



Hajjah, Yemen: The Al-Shara initiative is part of a broader UNICEF-led effort to improve health access across Yemen. *UNICEF/Hay@2024*

In the remote village of Al-Shara in Hajjah, long-standing mistrust of the healthcare system had long deterred families, especially those from marginalized communities, from accessing critical health services like vaccination. To address this, community volunteers were deployed to engage directly with families and listen to their concerns.

Through repeated home visits and discussions at community gatherings, the volunteers slowly built trust. Their persistent efforts paid off: vaccination rates in Al-Shara nearly doubled within weeks, with over 150 previously hesitant families choosing to immunize their children and seek health services. These changes not only improved health outcomes but also opened doors for further support and strengthened community trust in healthcare.

The Al-Shara initiative is part of a broader UNICEF-led effort to improve health access across Yemen. Similar community engagement campaigns helped over 14,200 families complete their children's vaccination schedules and access additional health services. This success underscores the power of community-driven approaches in overcoming barriers and delivering critical care in challenging contexts.



Southern and East Africa

Regional overview

Climate change, conflict, political instability, disease, and economic shocks are driving humanitarian needs in Southern and Eastern Africa. In 2025, more than 84.5 million people are projected to need humanitarian assistance, accounting for 28 per cent of the global humanitarian caseload. This number is expected to rise further in 2025 due to ongoing conflicts in Sudan and Ethiopia, a deteriorating economic and security situation in South Sudan, protracted and predicted climate hazards, and escalating food insecurity and disease outbreaks throughout the region. Nearly \$12 billion is required to meet the needs of nearly 60 million people targeted for assistance in 2025.

Conflict

Following 20 months of relentless conflict, Sudan has become one of the world's largest and most severe humanitarian crises with nearly two-thirds of the population in desperate need of assistance. Sudan is one of the world's worst hunger crises with nearly 26 million people facing acute hunger and famine, with famine confirmed in ZamZam IDP Camp, in North Darfur. With nearly 11 million internally displaced persons and another 3 million people having fled into neighbouring countries, Sudan is now the world's largest displacement crisis. In Ethiopia, the lingering effects of the Tigray conflict, coupled with ongoing insecurity in the Amhara and Oromia regions, have led to widespread displacement exposing people to hunger, diseases, and protection concerns. In Somalia the security situation remains fragile, with the flare-up of hostilities between the Somali



Kori Woreda, Afar Region, Ethiopia: Four fifth-grade girls stand in their classroom, determined to learn despite significant challenges. They lack essential school supplies such as exercise books, pens, paper, and their town frequently faces food and water shortages. *OCHA/Nitsebiho Asrat*

PEOPLE IN NEED

84.5 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

59.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$11.9 billion

security forces and Al-Shabaab, while in Mozambique, the ongoing conflict has continued to impact and displace communities in the northern province of Cabo Delgado. In the Horn of Africa, political alliances shifted in 2024. Strategic interests, especially the quest for access to the Red Sea, the control of the Nile waters, and access to minerals and resources, are fuelling the geopolitical contest in the Horn of Africa. As a result, conflicts have increased and become more fragmented, driven by transactional and economic interests of both regional and international players. As conflict escalates in the region, and borders are becoming militarized, more people are displaced, with limited freedom of movements and access to essential services and protection, Ethiopia has the second biggest displacement in the region with 3.3 million displaced people, while Uganda is home to Africa's highest number of refugees and the fifth largest globally, with a total of 1.8 million refugees. Clan-violence, inter-communal disputes and armed groups continue to affect millions of people across the region in places such as Mozambique, Somalia and Kenya.

Climate

Countries in the region continue to be adversely affected by the impact of climate change with three of the ten most impacted countries in the world (Eritrea, Sudan, and Somalia) located in Eastern Africa. In 2024, southern Africa experienced the worst drought in 100 years. Six countries – Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe - declared a state of disaster due to the impact of El Niño-induced drought while Mauritius reported the driest July in 120 years. The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) estimates that more than 60 million are food insecure with over 26 million of these are expected to face hunger (IPC 3+) in Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe until March 2025. At the same time, eastern Africa experienced severe flooding. In South Sudan, floods rendered over 60 percent of key supply routes impassable while in Somalia floods during the Gu rainy season destroyed key infrastructure and disrupted water and sanitation services leading to a surge in cholera cases.

In 2025, countries across the region will continue to face the impacts of climate change. A projected transition to a La Niña phase may cause dry weather

conditions and worsen food insecurity in parts of Eastern Africa, while wetter-than-normal conditions and possible flooding are projected in some parts of Southern Africa. A Tropical Cyclone Seasonal 2024-25 Outlook by MétéoFrance indicates a 70 per cent probability of normal to above-average Tropical Cyclone season with 9 to 13 named systems. The projection shows a likelihood of 4 to 7 systems reaching tropical cyclone intensity. In Madagascar, partners are projecting an active cyclone season for 2024-2025 with 2 to 5 weather events likely to affect 1.18 million people across 11 regions.









Disease

The region continues to grapple with major diseases including cholera, malaria and measles. At least two-thirds of Sudan's 18 states are facing multiple disease outbreaks like cholera, malaria, and measles and others amid a collapsed public healthcare system and this is exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. The lack of access to healthcare services across the country means that 5 million people, including children under the age of five and pregnant women, will face a heightened threat of death.

In addition, climate-induced disasters including droughts and floods have reduced access to clean and safe drinking water which has led to significant cholera outbreaks in countries such as Burundi, Malawi, Somalia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. In Somalia, the Gu 2024 rain-induced flooding disrupted water and sanitation services which led to a surge in cholera and acute watery diarrhoea cases. In Malawi, after a two-year cholera outbreak was declared over in June, a new outbreak, affecting four districts, was declared in September 2024. 96 cases and 7 deaths were confirmed between 26 August and 03 November. After declaring the end of an 18-month cholera outbreak in August 2024, Zimbabwe also confirmed a new outbreak in Kariba district, where 21 cases and one death had been confirmed as of 13 November. Burundi has also declared outbreaks of cholera, malaria and measles in addition to m-pox. Ethiopia's outbreak is the longest in decades, raging unabated since August 2022.

Burundi accounts for the highest m-pox caseload in the region with a total of 1,579 people affected, including 721 active cases as of 30 October 2024. The Marburg outbreak declared in neighbouring Rwanda is an additional public health risk to Burundi.

Overview of 2025 response plans

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
 Ethiopia	HNRP	-	10M	\$2.0B
 Malawi	FA	6.1M	3.8M	\$57.5M
 Mozambique	HRNP + FA	2.5M	2.01M	485M
 Somalia	HNRP	6M	4.6M	\$1.4B
 South Sudan	HNRP	9.3M	5.4M	\$1.7B
 Sudan	HNRP	30.4M	20.9M	\$4.2B
 Zambia	FA	5.4M	3.2M	\$90.7M
 Zimbabwe	FA	7.6M	3.1M	\$143.1M

Gedaref State, Sudan: Al-Sayed, 70, was forced to flee armed violence in Aj Jazirah State in October 2024. Unable to walk, his children carried him on their shoulders for 40 hours to reach safety in Gedaref State. Now at the El Salamabi reception centre, they are receiving emergency aid.
OCHA/Yao Chen



Crisis overview

The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners work in close partnership to address many humanitarian challenges, ranging from recurrent climatic shocks—such as droughts, floods, and landslides—alongside conflict, displacement, and outbreaks of infectious diseases like cholera and measles, including in areas still recovering from the lasting impacts of previous climatic or conflict-driven crises. At the same time, there has been significant progress in the roll out of the Government’s resilience agenda, including the Green Legacy Initiative.

Final details regarding the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance are being generated through ongoing seasonal assessments and sectoral needs analysis exercises. The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners are already planning that in 2025, approximately 5.3 million people will be targeted with assistance to address acute food insecurity, some of whom have other sector-specific needs, as do a further 4.7 million people requiring non-food assistance and services. The total preliminary multisectoral target of people to be assisted is 10 million. The expected funding requirements are \$2 billion.

Erratic rains, driven by La Niña are expected to be a key driver of food insecurity and malnutrition in the southern and southeastern lowland areas of Ethiopia through at least early 2025. These areas, still recovering from the impact of the 2020-2023 drought, have been the focus of coordinated and data-driven anticipatory actions – led by the Government of Ethiopia and supported by humanitarian partners – since October 2024. La Niña may also cause erratic rainfall patterns, damaging crops and increasing the likelihood of flooding in other parts of the country.

Conflict and climate shocks across various regions have led to new displacement, while many protracted internally displaced persons (IDPs) remain dependent on humanitarian assistance; Ethiopia is also hosting over one million refugees, further straining its resources. The challenging security, protection and access situation—particularly in parts of the Amhara and Oromia regions—continues to hinder people’s access to essential services and lifesaving aid, while complicating humanitarian response and increasing security risks for humanitarian operations in some areas. Conflict has caused widespread damage and continues to be a significant driver of humanitarian needs, particularly in relation to protection concerns, including gender-based violence (GBV).

Ethiopia’s health system faces enduring disease outbreaks. A cholera outbreak, spread across multiple sub-Saharan countries, and ongoing in Ethiopia since August 2022 affects many regions, while malaria remains endemic in Oromia, Amhara, Southwest, and Southern Ethiopia. Measles outbreaks also pose severe risks, especially for children.

In 2025, in addition to carrying out a well-prioritized humanitarian response, and in recognition of potential funding constraints, the humanitarian community will increase its engagement with the Government of Ethiopia and development partners to secure sustainable support for groups who face chronic, protracted or predictably recurrent humanitarian needs. This will include advocacy for

PEOPLE IN NEED

TBD

PEOPLE TARGETED

10.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$2.0 billion

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2017 – 2025

durable solutions for displaced persons, facilitating recovery from major shocks including the northern Ethiopia conflict and the 2020-2023 drought in lowland areas, advancing disaster risk reduction for predictable and recurring climate shocks, and enhancing basic service provision. The humanitarian community will also prioritize the safety, dignity, and rights of vulnerable people affected by crises by mainstreaming protection and GBV prevention into the humanitarian response.

Response priorities in 2025

As of 25 November, the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) had received approximately \$796 million in contributions from international donors, covering nearly 22 per cent of the required funding. In addition, humanitarian food actors started the year with \$585 million in carry-over resources from 2023, largely due to the pause in food aid. Moreover, the Government of Ethiopia allocated \$265 million of its own resources for food response towards the HRP, which was in addition to contributions made by regional states and affected communities. This funding has enabled humanitarian partners to carry out approximately half of the planned response under the 2024 HRP, reaching the most affected people with essential assistance. In total, approximately 12.8 million people received at least one type of humanitarian assistance in 2024, including, on average, 4.6 million people receiving monthly food distributions.

Despite significant gaps, humanitarian partners conclude that the response has been generally well managed and targeted, with careful and regular data-driven prioritization. A strong humanitarian response has addressed the El-Niño-driven drought that impacted the late 2023 harvest in many highland areas, becoming the primary driver of food insecurity through the first nine months of 2024. The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners also responded to sudden-onset disasters, including floods and one of the most devastating landslides in the country's modern history in Gofa, South Ethiopia Region. Life-sustaining response has been provided

to IDPs throughout the country, while essential humanitarian assistance and protection services have been provided to people affected by conflicts, insecurity, and disease outbreaks, including cholera and measles.

Throughout the year, the Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission and the Humanitarian Country Team directed resources towards evolving priorities and critical funding gaps in a dynamic manner. CERF funding and allocations by the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund were aligned with these dynamic priorities.

In 2025, the humanitarian response will continue to prioritize communities facing the most urgent, life-threatening conditions. The response strategy will focus on the following main objectives:

Support and complement national response efforts to the La Niña-induced food insecurity and health emergencies. This includes anticipatory actions aligned with the national framework to mitigate the impact of climate induced shocks in southern and southeastern parts of the country.

Anticipate, prepare for, and respond to sudden-onset natural disasters, including by deploying rapid response resources to guarantee timely assistance in emerging crises.

Protect people affected by conflict and violence, with a principled and integrated response to new displacement or returns.

Ensure agile support to basic service provision in hard-to-reach areas.

Ensure critical assistance to protracted displaced communities still recovering from past climate and conflict shocks, while promoting durable solutions and a sustainable exit.

Local partners will play a key role in delivering services, especially in hard-to-reach areas, while ensuring community ownership. Collaboration and coordination with government and development partners will be essential to avoid duplication of services and achieve sustainable results.

Financial requirements

The anticipated financial requirements for the 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) have decreased from \$3.2 billion in 2024 to approximately \$2 billion in 2025.

The reduction in funding requirements for 2025 primarily reflects the climate-driven evolving needs, with improved rainfall and productivity in areas impacted in the previous year. The immense food security, malnutrition, health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) response in the first nine months of 2024 largely targeted densely populated highland areas.

The 2025 HRP will employ an activity- and unit-based costing methodology, established by clusters and informed by the actual costs incurred by humanitarian partners to deliver services and activities. This approach ensures that funding is channeled toward high-impact areas, maximizing the effectiveness of the humanitarian response.

Although financial requirements for the 2025 response have been streamlined, sustained donor support remains essential to protect the most vulnerable populations and maintain continuity in critical assistance, ensuring that no urgent needs go unmet.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Food security

On average more than 5 million food-insecure people received monthly distributions of relief food/cash assistance.



Agriculture

4.8 million farmers were supported with a comprehensive package of crop seeds, fertilizer, tools, small livestock as well as livestock vaccinations, supplementary feed and multi-purpose cash.

Benishangul Gumuz Region, Ethiopia: Health workers going above and beyond to reduce home delivery, providing integrated care from pregnancy to childbirth and beyond.
UNICEF/Demissew Bizuwerk





Health

Essential health services were provided to 5 million people, thanks to the critical involvement of local organizations in reaching populations in conflict-affected parts of the country.



Access to water

3.3 million people received durable and emergency water solutions, with 60 per cent gaining long-term access to sustainable water sources, decreasing their risks of waterborne diseases.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

1.3 million people received water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) non-food items, providing them with essential support to maintain proper hygiene practices.



Protection

1.7 million people received protection services, and child-specific protection services were implemented in 8 out of 14 regions in the country. Around 450,000 GBV survivors have received medical, psychological, and legal support, and another 750,000 people were reached through various awareness-raising activities aimed at preventing GBV. Over 77,000 people benefited from mine action activities, including 2,359 mine-incidents survivors.



Shelter

609,327 individuals across ten regions, including 21 per cent in hard-to-reach areas, received essential shelter and non-food items.



Localization

In line with its localization strategy, the Emergency Shelter/NFI Cluster has increased national partnerships by 3 per cent since 2023. In 2024, 61 per cent of the 49 implementing partners are national NGOs.



Cholera

Partners are actively working together on cholera prevention and control. The number of affected districts has decreased from 218 at the beginning of the year to 169 by the end of September 2024.



Education

Nearly 1 million children were reached with key education in emergencies activities to create enabling environments for learning.

Consequences of inaction

Despite reaching millions of people in 2024, humanitarian partners faced resource constraints that necessitated difficult compromises.



Food assistance

Beginning in July 2024, one of the major food operators reduced its cereal ration by 20 per cent (from 15 kg to 12 kg) for a significant part of their caseload. Another key food operator primarily distributed grain, with only small quantities of cooking oil and corn soya blend available, reflecting the limited availability on the local market.



Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

The WASH Cluster adopted lower-cost interventions to improve cost efficiency, but at times this compromised quality. For instance, water treatment chemicals were distributed instead of more expensive methods such as water trucking. Underfunding prevented the cluster from reaching an additional 5.5 million people reliant on unsafe water sources, increasing their exposure to preventable health issues and limiting hygiene practices.



Shelter and Non-food items (NFIs)

Gaps in Shelter and NFI assistance negatively impacted the health, safety, and socio-economic well-being of affected individuals. Inadequate shelter exposed displaced persons to life-threatening risks, including extreme weather, infectious diseases, and poor sanitation. Insufficient shelter also heightened the risk of gender-based violence, exploitation, and other protection issues, with communal shelters posing particular dangers for women, children, and the elderly.



Mobile health services

Mobile health teams were forced to suspend their activities in northwestern Tigray due to lack of funding, despite the high number of internally displaced people. In conflict-affected districts of Amhara and Oromia, access constraints have contributed to a surge in malaria cases.



Child protection services

Limited funding left over 500,000 children without access to essential protection services.



Unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance

The inability to conduct land marking and UXO clearance is hindering the safe return of displaced persons, limiting access to agricultural land and preventing safe access to education for 6.2 million students in conflict-affected areas.



Education and protection risks

Nearly 8 million children remain out of school, with many lacking access to education and acceptable learning environments. This increases their exposure to protection risks, including hazardous labour. Girls, in particular, face heightened risks of early marriage and adolescent pregnancy, as evidence shows that staying in school significantly reduces these risks.

Crisis overview

On 23 March 2024, Malawi’s President Chakwera declared a state of disaster affecting 9 million people, across 23 of the country’s 28 districts, due to an El Niño-induced drought. The UN Humanitarian Country Team identified 6.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, with 3.8 million targeted through the Malawi Drought Flash Appeal’s inter-sectoral response.

Floods, below-normal rainfall, and prolonged dry spells significantly reduced maize harvests. According to the second Agricultural Production Estimates Survey, maize production fell from 3.5 million metric tons (MT) in 2022/23 to 2.9 MT in 2023/24, well below the five-year average of 3.8 MT. This sharp decline has worsened food insecurity, impacting multiple sectors, including protection, education, and health.

The July 2024 IPC assessment reported that 20 per cent of the population—approximately 4.2 million people—were in IPC Phase 3 or above between July and September 2024. This number is projected to increase to 5.7 million (28 per cent of the population) with 416,000 people in IPC Phase 4, between October 2024 and March 2025.

Since August, the situation has been compounded by outbreaks of cholera and measles. As of 31 September, WHO Malawi confirmed 51 cholera cases across four districts, with Chitipa and Karonga being the most affected. Limited access to adequate WASH facilities is expected to drive further spread of cholera through late 2024 and into early 2025.

The crisis has also heightened protection concerns. Child-headed households are on the rise as parents have been forced to migrate in search of income to support their families. Negative coping mechanisms, including school dropouts, and child-marriages, are also increasing.

Recent forecasts indicate that Malawi will experience normal to above-normal rains during the next rainy season due to La Niña. While this may improve harvest yields in certain areas, the delayed onset of the rains is expected to extend the lean season by one month, exacerbating food insecurity. Additionally, above-average rainfall could lead to flooding in certain parts of the country increasing the total number of people in need. Food insecurity and related protection, health, education and WASH concerns are therefore expected to persist into 2025.

Response priorities in 2025

The effects of the drought are expected to continue to impact over 6 million people between January and April 2025, with approximately 5.7 million people experiencing IPC Phase 3 or above between October 2024 and March 2025.

PEOPLE IN NEED

6.1 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$57.5 million

Total population

21.5 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

All sectors²⁴ will continue to implement the activities outlined in the Flash Appeal between January and April 2025. The Government, WFP and partners will continue food distributions while the agriculture sector will implement multi-purpose cash transfer and cash-for-work programmes in affected districts to rebuild community structures damaged by disasters and promote climate-resilient farming practices. Starting in January 2025, with CERF support, UNICEF will implement an education and nutrition response for children, while the health sector will respond to and mitigate the spread of cholera while delivering other life-saving interventions in affected communities.

However, funding restraints are likely to have an impact on the number of people reached in 2025.

Financial requirements

The total amount required under the drought response Flash Appeal is \$136.5 million from July 2024 to April 2025, targeting the most vulnerable people in need of humanitarian assistance. This amount is a fraction of the total amount requested under the National Flash Appeal which also covers early recovery, resilience and development projects. Sector leads in Malawi selected and budgeted the most appropriate projects to include in the UN Flash Appeal.

The 2024 requirement was \$79 million and as of 25 November, only \$22.8 million (or 33 per cent) was funded, with certain sectors either not funded (early recovery) or severely underfunded (agriculture at 6.1% funded). Education and WASH both received more than 100 per cent of their total ask for 2024.

To support the response, Malawi received a \$2 million rapid response allocation from CERF in May 2024 and an additional \$4 million from the CERF during the second round of allocations for underfunded emergencies in September 2024.

The 2025 requirement is \$57.5 million. The current Flash Appeal runs until April 2025 and there are no plans to revise the funding request during this period.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Between July and September 2024, 1.1 people were reached out of 3.8 million targeted, including 30,916 people with disabilities and 19,465 elderly people.

24 Except shelter whose projects have terminated as people targeted have returned to their homes

Malawi: Flooding of rivers have caused road closures, leading to a sharp rise in maize prices. Maize is available in small quantities, resulting in food shortages in camps. *UNICEF*





Gender-based violence

Over 363,000 people have already received gender-based violence (GBV), and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) support, with a total of 800,000 people projected to be reached by the end of 2024.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Over 415,000 people were reached with critical WASH/ hygiene supplies.



Food security

Significant needs which have not been met. As of October 2024, the food security sector had reached less than 4% of the people targeted while the agriculture sector had reached less than 1% of the people targeted. This is concerning given the increasing food insecurity rates in Malawi with the latest MVAC report indicating that there will be at least 416,000 people in IPC Phase 4, between October 2024 and March 2025.

Consequences of inaction

The Malawi Flash Appeal is significantly underfunded.



Food security

The Food Security Sector has a gap of 67.3 per cent for 2024 which means that only 86,000 out of 2.4 million people targeted have been reached with critical food distributions.



Agriculture

At the same time, the agriculture sector remains critically underfunded and as a result has reached only 86,000 of the 2.2 million people targeted. Rebuilding communal agriculture infrastructure and equipping farmers with climate appropriate supplies is paramount in Malawi where 80 per cent of households rely on agriculture as their main source of income.



Malnutrition

In August 2024, a 43 per cent increase in children with severe wasting and an 82 per cent increase in children with moderate wasting was registered compared to the same month in 2023. As the food security crisis continues into the lean season, malnutrition rates are likely to rise.



Refugee

The refugee response is also limited by underfunding, with a gap of 60 per cent for 2024 and requiring an additional \$1.1 million in 2025.



Access

There were no major access problems faced by partners responding to the drought, however future extreme flooding or cyclones may limit access as they did during the 2023 Cyclone Freddy Response.

Mozambique **HNRP**

Crisis overview

The compound effects of armed conflict in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province, and vulnerability to natural hazards countrywide continue to drive humanitarian needs.

In 2024, renewed conflict in Cabo Delgado increased vulnerabilities across Mozambique. Grave violations of children's rights quadrupled in the first half of the year, food insecurity affected one in three people, and reports of child soldier recruitment by non-State armed groups (NSAGs) and attacks on schools escalated. Nearly 200,000 people were internally displaced in the first five months alone – more than in the previous three years combined. An estimated 580,000 people remain displaced, predominantly women and children, with the highest concentrations in Pemba, Metuge, and Macomia. Some 610,000 returnees are in conflict-affected district capitals and remain vulnerable without access to basic services or stable livelihoods.

As displacement becomes more protracted, many internally displaced persons (IDPs) intend to stay and integrate locally, but conditions in host communities are challenging, and returning remains aspirational. Displaced people who intend to return are partially driven to do so by the lack of opportunities and unfavourable conditions in the place of displacement. Virtually all returnees, despite difficult conditions, plan to remain in the absence of further attacks.

The NSAGs are demonstrating increased capacity for coordinated attacks including use of military-grade-weapons including use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). Incidents in Chiúre and Macomia have caused widespread displacement and damage to infrastructure, including humanitarian supplies, and prolonged school closures. Complicating matters, In July, Mozambique's defense forces, with support from Rwanda, launched operations to reclaim NSAG-controlled areas, resulting in civilian deaths and displacements.

Funding shortfalls have hampered humanitarian aid, limiting food distribution to every other month at only 39 per cent of required caloric intake. The insufficiency is deepening hunger and malnutrition levels, with tensions among communities rising over targeting and assistance. By August 2024, humanitarian partners reached an estimated 1.28 million people, including 669,000 women and over 733,000 children, prioritizing (IDPs), returnees and host communities, but aid remains sporadic and insufficient.

Climate shocks compound the crisis. Mozambique, highly vulnerable to extreme weather, faced a severe El Niño-induced drought in 2024, leaving 1.8 million people in IPC3+ (including 510,000 in IPC4) levels. A drought appeal was launched in 2024 and it runs until August 2025, to reach 1.4 million people in the most affected districts. The looming threat of La Niña in November 2024-January 2025, brings anticipated heavy rains and potential flooding to already drought-affected areas. The National Institute for Disaster Management estimates that at least 2.2 million people will be at risk of urban floods, drought, cyclones and strong winds during the coming rainy season.

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.5 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$485.0 million

Total population

34.9 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2019 – 2025

Both conflict and climate-related crises are exposing women and girls to enhanced risks of gender-based violence (GBV), harmful practices, negative coping strategies, with limited access to essential health, nutrition, protection and sanitation services.

The 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan requires \$485 million to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs: \$326 million for conflict, \$17 million for readiness to respond to disasters, \$7.5 million is for anticipatory action, and \$1.9 million for public health emergency preparedness, as well as \$133 million for the drought response. Humanitarian partners aim to adopt a more proactive, risk-informed approach to expand anticipatory action across areas at risk of hazards, including cyclones, floods and cholera.

Response priorities in 2025

By the end of August 2024, 1.28 million people were reached with some form of assistance across the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa, including 669,000 women and 733,000 children. The response in Cabo Delgado and Nampula was multisectoral, while in Niassa, only education, and food security and livelihoods clusters responded.

The response focuses on Cabo Delgado, where people are most impacted by conflict, including displacement levels, and the severity and the driver of needs (conflict versus underdevelopment). Solutions are also being pursued for IDPs in Niassa and Nampula.

The multisectoral needs analysis and sector-specific indicators formed the basis of the joint intersectoral analysis. The information was used to assess the severity of needs, complemented by an analysis of development interventions, including solutions investments and district profiles. Despite significant infrastructure rehabilitation, many services remain non-functional particularly in return areas where conflict renders people extremely vulnerable.

In 2025, the humanitarian partners will target 1.1 million of the 1.3 million people in need. Priority will be given to vulnerable groups, especially children, women and girls and people with disabilities in districts most affected by conflict: Macomia, Mocimboa da Praia, Nangade and Quissanga. Intersectional factors will be considered to ensure

assistance is gender-responsive, inclusive and age-appropriate. Meanwhile, support for voluntary integration of IDPs, with around 250,000 living in IDP sites, will continue. Given the potential for new needs arising from conflict or natural hazards, rapid response mechanisms will be strengthened to allow immediate lifesaving assistance.

To enhance response efforts, a common pipeline has been established to address both conflict and disasters, in case of large-scale events. Minimum preparedness and response actions have also been developed for each sector.

Financial requirements

The 2025 HNRP and FA combined seek \$485 million to respond to the most urgent needs, marking a 15 per cent reduction from last year as a result of rigorous prioritization. The 2025 HNRP takes a hybrid approach and includes costed activities as well as projects. The funding will also bolster local capacities and complement the Government of Mozambique's efforts to address the pressing needs of the most vulnerable populations.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

By August 2024, some 1.28 million people were reached, including 669,000 women and 733,000 children. People reached included IDPs, returnees, and host communities.



Food security

In Cabo Delgado, between January and July 2024, food security and livelihoods (FSL) partners reached 547,353 unique beneficiaries across 14 districts of Cabo Delgado (Ancuabe, Balama, Chiure, Ibo, Macomia, Mecufi, Metuge, Mocimboa da Praia, Montepuez, Mueda, Muidumbe, Namuno, Nangade and Pemba), accounting for only 12.83 per cent of the food needs of the targeted people.



Nutrition

445,000 women and children received nutrition services.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

345,000 people received clean and safe water.



Shelter and NFIs

180,000 people received shelter and NFIs assistance.



Education

143,000 people received non-formal learning opportunities and access to formal education services in Cabo Delgado Niassa and Nampula.



Food security

In 2024, food shortages during the lean season drove prices to their peak, making it increasingly difficult for impoverished families to access food from markets. An estimated 73.4 per cent of Mozambique's population lives in poverty. Women and girls face disproportionate challenges, including risks related to food security, nutrition, health, protection and WASH. Limited access to water and food, increase the burden of unpaid care work. Vulnerable groups such as children, elderly, and people with disabilities were unable to meet basic needs, leaving them at heightened risk of severe humanitarian crises.



Organizations

Of the 72 humanitarian organizations coordinating assistance through the HNRP, 25 per cent are national non-governmental organizations (NNGOs). Despite their significant presence, NNGOs received less than one percent of the humanitarian funding, primarily through sub-grants from UN agencies. This highlights a critical gap in direct funding to local organizations that are often at the forefront of response efforts.

Consequences of inaction

Due to underfunding:



Food security and livelihood

Due to funding constraints, the FSL response in Cabo Delgado remained largely inadequate with less than 15 per cent of needs being met during the first six months of 2024.



Nutrition

More than 107,900 people, including 53,982 children under five and 26,991 pregnant and lactating women, did not receive nutritional support.



Protection

400,000 IDPs and returnees did not receive essential protection assistance (including GBV and child protection) services. Only 6 per cent of women and girls in need received specialized GBV case management.



Food

Food aid was severely reduced and less than 15 per cent of needs met.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

WASH assistance in Ibo was halted.



Mental health services

Most affected people cannot access mental health services due to funding shortages forcing adults, women and children to resort to harmful coping mechanisms with a potential risk for longer term effects.



Civil documentation

41 per cent of affected people are unable to access basic services due to the lack of civil documentation.

Due to access restrictions and impediments:



Humanitarian assistance

76,000 people did not receive assistance due to the suspension of humanitarian activities in Macomia.



Road

Road access constraints because of rains delayed delivery of assistance to 21,000 people in Meluco by 4 months.



School

Due to conflict, 24 schools were damaged impacting over 2,500 school children.



Health and education

Three health facilities and one school were used for military purposes, impacting access to health and education services.



Civilian casualties

IED incidents on main supply roads, near IDP sites, schools, and in farms resulted in civilian casualties. 61 per cent of civilian casualties were children and 87 per cent were civilians.



Humanitarian workers

Humanitarian workers were directly affected by conflict.

Crisis overview

Somalia’s humanitarian crisis is among the world’s most complex, marked by cycles of internal conflict and climate shocks, that drive displacement and undermine development efforts. Climate change exacerbates Somalia’s vulnerability, with altered rainfall patterns leading to both droughts and floods; Somalia’s population is still recovering from the effects of the devastating 2020-2023 drought and the 2023 Deyr (October to January) floods that resulted in US\$176.1 million in damages across the 16 districts assessed in the rapid post-disaster needs assessment.

Rain-induced flooding during the Gu (April to June) 2024 season destroyed shelters, agricultural land, and schools, and disrupted water and sanitation services, leading to surges in cholera and acute watery diarrhoea. At the same time, the early cessation of rainfall in May 2024 negatively impacted national crop production levels. With a 70 per cent likelihood of La Niña conditions from the last quarter of 2024 through February 2025, southern and central regions and Puntland anticipate hotter and drier conditions. The outlook for 2025 is bleak if these conditions persist. Anticipated below-average Deyr rains in 2024, critical for crop production, will aggravate food insecurity and exacerbate drinking water scarcity for approximately 300,000 people across 10 districts in central and southern states. Approximately 1.6 million children under the age of five are expected to experience acute malnutrition between August 2024 and July 2025, with more than 400,000 facing severe acute malnutrition.²⁵

The situation is compounded by widespread conflict and insecurity that affects some 4.5 million people in 20 districts and poses significant challenges to humanitarian access. Ongoing military offensives by government forces against Al-Shabaab, as well as an escalation of clan violence since June 2024 routinely trigger population movements; over seventy clan clashes were recorded in 2024. Between January and October 2024, close to 395,000 people were forcibly displaced, and often moved towards urban centers such as Baidoa, Kismayo and Banadir. Conflict is one of the key drivers of displacement. More than 11,000 protection incidents linked to displacement were recorded between January and October 2024.

The cumulative effect of both violence and climate shocks continues to drive displacement, destroy livelihoods, leaving millions of people in urgent need of assistance. The living conditions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) are extremely difficult. In addition to limited services and other challenges in displacement sites, between January and September 2024, over 150,000 IDPs were forcibly evicted due to ambiguous land ownership and a lack of legal protection, a figure projected to exceed 200,000 by the end of 2024.

Children face severe impacts from various shocks and make up more than 60 per cent of displaced in Somalia. There are 4.5 million out-of-school children in Somalia (56 per cent), with enrollment rates particularly low among displaced

PEOPLE IN NEED

5.98 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

4.6 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.4 billion

Total population

19.3 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

1998 – 2025

25 Somalia: IPC Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition Analysis (July - December 2024) Published on September 23, 2024 - Somalia | ReliefWeb

children. Children face significant risks, including recruitment by armed groups, killing, maiming, and abduction. By August 2024, 10,000 unaccompanied and separated children and 1,940 grave child rights violations were recorded. These included 370 children recruited by parties to the conflict, marking a 20 per cent increase from the same period in 2023.

Women remain extremely vulnerable, facing persistent discrimination and exclusion from assistance, especially those from minority clans. Rising costs of basic goods and economic disruptions are pushing families—especially women-headed households—toward negative coping mechanisms such as child marriage and transactional sex. Funding shortfalls have restricted access to specialized protection services in 2024.

In 2025, 5.98 million people will require humanitarian assistance in Somalia, down 13 per cent from 6.9 million in 2024. This reduction largely reflects a stricter scope-setting approach, identifying 9.2 million people, or 48 per cent of the population, affected by multiple shocks, allowing for a more focused analysis. In addition, Deyr 2023 and Gu 2024 rainfall helped replenish groundwater sources which, coupled with investments in sustainable water supply systems, contributed to a decrease of humanitarian needs. However, these gains are at risk, as funding shortages have led to reduced and suspended assistance.

Only the Education and Food Security Clusters²⁶ report rising needs. For education, this is due to an increased rate of out-of-school children in 2024 compared to 2023, and the inclusion of children aged 5 in the 2025 analysis. For food security, the increase reflects worsening food security linked to forecasted La Niña conditions for the Deyr 2024, essential for crop production in 2025.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, 4.6 million people will be targeted for humanitarian assistance, an 11 per cent decrease from 5.2 million people in 2024. This reduction is in line with the reduced People in Need and follows similar boundary setting parameters as the previous year.²⁷ The expected funding environment for 2025 was mapped against operational capacity and current response levels to inform boundary setting. Funding shortages and significant access constraints hindered the 2024 response, with humanitarians projecting to meet less than half of the 2024 HNRP target by year-end. This underscores the importance of realistic targets to provide lifesaving and life-sustaining assistance to people in need.

Severity of needs is one of the main parameters for targeting. The Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) Area of Responsibility (AoR) target increased

26 Explosive Hazards AoR also reported an increased PiN (overall Protection PiN decreased), which can be traced back to the use of explosives in military offensives between Somalia Security Forces and Al-Shabaab, including in newly accessible areas.

27 Humanitarian actors will target populations in severity 4 (none in 5) and 30% of severity 3 (excluding FSC), applying an 80% PiN target cap.

Mogadishu, Banadir, Somalia: Farxiya and her one-year-old son Abdirahman at Banadir Hospital. The child, treated for cholera, has shown marked improvement. *UNICEF*



considerably from 616,000 in 2024 to 918,819 in 2025. Persistent, multiple shocks exacerbated HLP needs, with forced evictions severely undermining humanitarian efforts, through the destruction of critical infrastructure, including schools, water points, protection sites and health centers. By August, forced evictions were estimated to have impacted over US\$3.5 million worth of humanitarian investments. The 2025 focus will pivot towards scaling up eviction-prevention strategies to address these far-reaching risks.

In 2025, humanitarians will expand on the Integrated Response Framework and area-based coordination mechanisms, that decentralize coordination and bring the response closer to affected people. This approach will strengthen the timely provision of an integrated, first-line response for newly displaced people and newly accessible areas, addressing long-standing and systemic issues of a supply-driven, fragmented response. Integrating nutrition with health, WASH, and protection initiatives, for instance, will improve overall health outcomes for vulnerable populations.

Some clusters set additional parameters to ensure the targeting of people in need in hard-to-reach districts, reinforcing the humanitarian community's commitment to address severe access constraints and deliver a frontline response. Aside from the sobering funding outlook, rigorous prioritization contributed to reductions in target numbers. The Protection Cluster for instance, will focus its interventions strictly on conflict affected areas such as Jubaland, Puntland and Galmudug States.

The transition from the African Union Transition Mission to the African Union Support and Stabilisation Mission in 2025 has the potential to shift current security dynamics, requiring close monitoring, flexible access strategies, and concerted efforts to maintain and extend humanitarian access.

The humanitarian response in Somalia is informed by risks, including drought and conflict. As a La Niña event risks a relapse into drought-like conditions, the humanitarian response will need to anticipate needs, invest in anticipatory action. Strategic partnerships and humanitarian-development collaboration will be pivotal in preventing future skyrocketing of humanitarian needs.

Financial requirements

In 2025, financial requirements have decreased by 10 per cent from last year, from \$1.6 billion to \$1.43 billion, reflecting reductions in the people in need and target numbers. Integrated response provision planning further contributed to reducing the financial requirements.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Flood

The 2024 Somalia HNRP integrated anticipatory action for predictable shocks into the response planning for the first time.

This allowed partners to have the necessary resources ready when needed, and to pre-position supplies and services in regional supply hubs to successfully support thousands of people at risk from both riverine and flash floods during the Gu season. The Logistics Cluster played a key role in supporting humanitarian partners by facilitating the transport of 27 boats to and from 10 flood-affected areas. The WASH Cluster supported thousands of displaced communities from nine pre-positioned supply hubs.



Coordination

Moreover, coordination at district level was further strengthened and was pivotal in responding to displacement due to clan fighting in Luuq. An area-based approach in Banadir and Baidoa saw a shift from site-level to catchment-level management and a progressive shift of the camp management response to the most highly populated IDP sites, optimizing service delivery.



Acute watery diarrhoea and cholera

Acute watery diarrhoea and cholera soared in 2024. The humanitarian response was able to contain these in most areas due to effective inter-cluster coordination efforts—especially between the health and WASH sectors and the Ministry of Health (MoH)—and donor support. This was a critical factor in the overall reduction of acute malnutrition prevalence, as well as in lowering morbidity and mortality rates in Somalia, particularly among children under five years of age.



Humanitarian assistance

Despite significant challenges, the Shelter Cluster supported close to 940,000 people with kits; however, 76 per cent of people received only partial assistance, often only one of the seven kit items. Despite funding constraints, an estimated 2.3 million people were assisted with emergency humanitarian food and livelihoods assistance in 2024. Reducing the response from 12 to 3 months due to limited funds led to food consumption gaps for the remaining nine months. An estimated 245,000 children received education in emergencies assistance.

Consequences of inaction

Low levels of funding and challenging humanitarian access have led to significant reductions of assistance and services.



Health facilities and learning spaces closure

In the first half of 2024, 116 health facilities closed due to funding shortages, depriving hundreds of thousands of people of essential health and nutrition services. In addition, 70,000 children risk losing access to education as 340 learning spaces face closure by the end of the year.



Protection

This highlights how vulnerable groups often bear the brunt of assistance scale-downs and suspensions, which increase protection risks and have far-reaching, multisectoral implications. For instance, the irregular presence of site management teams led to unreported urgent and critical needs in WASH, health and nutrition. Inadequate shelter response forced prolonged use of makeshift shelters, raising risks of gender-based violence (GBV), while roughly 825,000 vulnerable women and girls lost access to specialized GBV services and the protection desk response reduced by 95 per cent. An additional 1.4 million people missed emergency shelter and NFIs and 2.1 million people did not receive multi-purpose cash assistance, likely impairing their ability to meet their critical needs and build resilience.



Humanitarian access

Poor funding and access challenges often interplay. Insecurity and poor road conditions forced humanitarians to rely on air transport for aid delivery, limiting cargo volumes and driving up costs. Extreme access challenges in multiple districts across Lower and Middle Shabelle and in Middle Juba regions hindered emergency food and livelihood assistance. Unless funding gaps and access barriers are addressed, the lives of 1.6 million children under age five who are projected to face acute malnutrition in 2025 will be at grave risk.

South Sudan **HNRP**

Crisis overview

In 2025, the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) will target 5.4 million people—40 per cent of South Sudan’s population of 13.4 million—with humanitarian assistance. While the overall population in need has increased compared to last year, the 2025 target is lower than in 2024. This reflects the Humanitarian Country Team’s (HCT) decision to prioritize the most acute humanitarian needs driven by shocks over areas affected by chronic issues, which require other planning frameworks. These shocks include armed clashes and intercommunal violence, climatic events such as floods and droughts, disease outbreaks and the effects of the conflict in Sudan.

By the end of October 2024, nearly 850,000 people had fled Sudan to seek refuge in South Sudan following the outbreak of conflict in April 2023. Between July and September 2024, approximately 940 people crossed the border daily. Among the arrivals, one quarter are Sudanese citizens seeking asylum, and the rest are South Sudanese returnees, many who lived in Sudan for decades. Many of these arrivals face extreme risks, including malnutrition, gender-based violence (GBV) and severe deprivation. Returnees and refugees need transport, shelter and sustained humanitarian assistance. With continued conflict in Sudan, South Sudan is expected to receive another 400,000 arrivals in 2025. These influxes may escalate tensions as resources and services are stretched thin.

Flooding is another significant crisis with effects likely to persist into 2025. As of 31 October 2024, floods had displaced 350,000 people and affected 1.4 million. The disaster devastated farms and livestock, disrupted access to essential services like water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health services and education, and heightened protection concerns, particularly for women and girls.

The aftermath of the 2024 floods will worsen food insecurity, helping to push the number of food-insecure people from 7.1 to 7.7 million. Tight domestic food supplies, sharp currency depreciation and disruption of trade with Sudan will continue to drive up food prices, with cost of a household minimum expenditure basket soaring by 250 per cent between January and September 2024.

Malnutrition remains critically high. In 2025, an estimated 2.1 million children under age 5 will face acute malnutrition, and 1.1 million pregnant and lactating women will require treatment for acute malnutrition. The economic crisis is exacerbating this issue, with a projected 33 per cent increase in children experiencing severe acute malnutrition in 2025.

South Sudan’s economic problems have deepened due to the conflict-related rupture of a major oil pipeline passing through Sudan in February 2024, which slashed government oil revenues. As a result, public sector workers have been unpaid for up to 11 months, worsening economic vulnerabilities.

Delays in public sector pay could further destabilize the country. Transitional governance under the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan has been extended until 2026, potentially fueling social and political uncertainty.

PEOPLE IN NEED

9.3 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

5.4 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.7 billion

Total population

13.4 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2010 – 2025

Meanwhile, the outlook for humanitarian funding remains grim. Needs are growing in other regions, and major donors have announced funding cuts. The political situation complicates efforts by International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and bilateral development agencies to plan.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, the HCT will continue implementing its two-year vision for humanitarian action in South Sudan adopted in 2024. This vision focuses on three strategic objectives;

- Reduce morbidity and mortality among vulnerable crisis-affected people by providing equitable, safe and dignified access to life-saving assistance.
- Mitigate protection risks for vulnerable crisis-affected people by upholding the commitment to the centrality of protection in humanitarian action, guided by community priorities.
- Strengthen vulnerable people's capacity to withstand shocks and optimize linkages between humanitarian, development and peace actors for longer-term resilience.

In 2024, humanitarian partners delivered timely, life-saving, multisectoral assistance, improving

survival rates and reducing morbidity among the most vulnerable populations, especially new arrivals from Sudan. By the end of 2024, 5 million people - 83 per cent of the targeted 6 million - are projected to have received life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection services. The Sudan crisis response provided assistance to new arrivals at border reception centres, onward transportation to destination counties, and emergency aid for dignified reintegration. Food security partners delivered emergency food to 2.3 million people, meeting 65 per cent of the target and addressing critical needs, including those of arrivals from Sudan.

For 2025, the HCT has provided strategic guidance to the HNRP process, emphasizing acute humanitarian needs caused by shocks. The response will prioritize counties classified as priority levels 1 and 2, where needs are most severe and where inter-sectoral shock-driven needs converge. This is based on the Joint Inter-sectoral Analysis Framework severity classification, along with additional information on shock intensity, expert inputs and partner perspectives. Clusters will coordinate to deliver integrated response activities wherever possible.

Counties classified as priority level 3 will be included in the response plan for six months, allowing targeting seasonal peaks of acute need. The Needs Analysis Working Group will monitor all counties and

Upper Nile State, South Sudan: Musa, a 26-year-old Sudanese refugee, boards a truck from the Renk transit site to the Maban refugee camp. The Government and humanitarian partners are providing transportation to refugee camps and final destinations, easing overcrowding at transit centres. However, efforts are hindered by insecurity and poor road conditions. *OCHA/Liz Loh-Taylor*



adjust priorities as conditions evolve. In lower-priority counties (priority levels 3 to 5), the HCT will establish a monitoring framework to continuously analyze humanitarian needs. A contingency mechanism will ensure rapid response if new crises emerge, or conditions worsen.

To address the root causes of recurring needs in lower-priority counties and protect communities from worsening conditions, the Humanitarian Coordinator and the HCT will lead a coordinated, multi-stakeholder engagement process. This approach seeks to foster collaboration among government entities, IFIs, development actors, the private sector, and other stakeholders. The goal is to create sustainable, long-term solutions that build resilience, promote stability, and help transition communities from emergency relief to sustainable recovery.

The HCT will also prioritize quality and inclusive programming by collectively mitigating protection risks, establishing referral systems, enhancing risk management to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and scaling up community engagement to promote accountability to affected people. Revitalized synergies between the Communications and Community Engagement Working Group and the protection from sexual exploitation and abuse task force, as well as other cross-cutting thematic groups will enhance feedback mechanisms and improve responsiveness to community needs.

Financial requirements

In 2025, the humanitarian community in South Sudan will target 5.4 million people at a cost of US\$1.7 billion. This is a reduction from 2024 requirements due to the prioritization and stricter definitions set for the response (priority 1 and 2 counties for the full year and priority 3 counties for six months). The cost per person for most clusters has increased due to inflation and higher operating costs in the country. Unit-based costing was used to calculate the financial requirements for the 2025 HNRP.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

By 31 December 2024, 5 million women, girls, boys, and men across South Sudan –83 per cent of the 6 million targeted under the 2024 HNRP—are projected to have received humanitarian assistance and protection services, including 2.75 million females and 2.25 million males.

Key achievements for 2024 include:



Food security and livelihood

Over 3.5 million people received food assistance, livelihood support, or cash transfers.



Health

More than 1.8 million people accessed health care.



Protection

Approximately 1.4 million people benefited from protection services.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

About 1.1 million people accessed safe water.



Nutrition

Nearly 1.3 million children and pregnant and lactating women received emergency nutritional assistance.



Shelter

An estimated 555,400 people received essential household items and emergency shelter.



Camp coordination and management

Nearly 940,700 people were supported through camp coordination and management services.



Education

Over 544,000 children accessed emergency education support.

Consequences of inaction

Funding shortfalls between January and May 2024 meant only 65 per cent of the food assistance target was reached, with 90 per cent receiving only half rations. This exacerbated food insecurity and malnutrition. Livelihoods support reached just 21 per cent of the target, undermining emergency food production which could have been achieved through seeds and tools distribution, likely worsening food insecurity in 2025.

In August, a supply pipeline break in the WASH Cluster left partners without critical supplies. This led to a 14 per cent increase in water-related illnesses compared to the same period in 2023, and a rise in malnutrition. Insufficient WASH interventions contributed to a nationwide spike in clinic visits for diseases linked to poor water quality and sanitation.

Humanitarian operations in South Sudan faced severe access constraints in 2024:



Humanitarian access

Attacks on aid workers and facilities increased, alongside over 120 checkpoints on main supply routes, causing delays, searches and demands for irregular payments which restricted humanitarian actors' ability to pre-position supplies.



Physical access

Flooding rendered over 60 per cent of key supply routes impassable at times, particularly in Upper Nile.



Bureaucratic impediment

Local authorities imposed arbitrary taxes, fees, and burdensome registration requirements, increasing costs and causing delays.



Attacks

Attacks on humanitarian convoys, such as those in Jonglei State, resulted in staff endangerment and looting of essential supplies.



Insecurity

Abductions of humanitarian staff in July further strained operations.

AID IN ACTION

Listening and empowering communities to shape their own futures.



Bor, Jonglei State, South Sudan: A group of displaced people now have access to land to grow their own crops. Their first harvest has been a bumper one and they look forward to food self-sufficiency after years of handouts. *Norwegian Refugee Council/Kuot Bona*

The Flagship Initiative, launched in 2023, aims to reshape humanitarian action by prioritizing the needs and aspirations of crisis-affected communities. South Sudan is one of the pilot countries for this initiative.

In Taragok, Jonglei State, humanitarian agencies met with displaced people to hear their concerns. The message was clear: they didn't want food aid. After three years of living on handouts and being uprooted from home, they yearned to return to farming and provide for themselves.

The agencies listened and took the feedback seriously. Some received seeds and tools from aid agencies and were able to harvest a good crop. Humanitarian agencies had successfully

lobbied local government and community leaders to allocate land to displaced people. With land secured, the community took charge of the rest.

A year later, in October 2024, humanitarian workers revisited Taragok to hear how things had progressed from the same group of people. The message this time was strikingly different: "The harvest was good, and we have food for our families. We have also assisted our neighbours who did not participate in our first farming season," said Mary Achol. Evidence of a bumper harvest, mainly of sorghum, was everywhere. "From 2020 to 2023, we relied on humanitarian assistance, including food aid, with no obvious impact on our well-being," Achol reflected.

This shift from passive recipients of food aid to active participants in their own recovery, has transformed the lives of over 400 families. Those who were once dependent on food aid are now providers for themselves and even others.

This is just the beginning in Taragok. In the coming season, 200 more families will join the journey toward self-sufficiency, clearing land and planting vegetables, ground nuts, maize and of course, even more sorghum.

Crisis overview

After more than 20 months of relentless conflict, Sudan has become one of the world's largest humanitarian crises. Ongoing armed conflict and attacks against civilians, displacement, hunger, malnutrition, disease outbreaks, and climate shocks have left nearly two-thirds of the population in desperate need of humanitarian assistance and protection services.

The conflict has triggered massive displacement, with some 11.5 million people having fled their homes since the fighting began in April 2023, many of whom were already living in situations of displacement. In total, roughly 11 million people are currently estimated to remain internally displaced within the country's borders, making Sudan the largest internal displacement crisis in the world. A further 3 million people have crossed into neighbouring countries. Children make up well over half of the displaced population.

Sudan is also experiencing an unprecedented hunger crisis, with close to 26 million people suffering from acute food insecurity as of late September. The situation is particularly dire for those trapped in conflict zones, including in Aj Jazirah, North Darfur and Khartoum states, and in the Kordofan region. In late July, famine conditions were confirmed in Zamzam camp in North Darfur, with similar conditions likely in other displacement sites in the area, and many other locations at imminent risk.

Recent nutrition surveys reveal a worsening situation, with a global acute malnutrition rate of 13.6 per cent in surveyed areas, placing Sudan among the four countries with the highest rates. The 2025 outlook suggests further deterioration, especially as conflict intensifies in parts of the country as of October 2024.

In addition to the spreading conflict, climate shocks—including unusually heavy rains and flooding—and disease outbreaks like cholera, malaria, and measles, are exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. The conflict has placed 24 million children at severe risk, with over 17 million out of school, creating a true generational catastrophe. School-aged girls face additional threats including child marriage, female genital mutilation, and sexual exploitation and abuse.

Civilians continue to bear the brunt of the violence. The fighting has caused mass displacement, and shocking patterns of sexual violence against women and girls, indiscriminate bombardment of civilian areas, widespread damage and destruction of civilian infrastructure, attacks on health care facilities and ethnically motivated killings. Children continue to be killed and maimed, subjected to sexual violence, recruited by armed actors and denied essential services and humanitarian assistance. Women and girls face increased risk of conflict-related sexual violence, with an estimated 12.1 million people in need of gender-based violence (GBV) services. Most conflict-affected areas are now heavily contaminated by large-scale explosive hazards.

Access to essential services has sharply declined due to the conflict. In the worst-hit areas, less than 25 per cent of health facilities remain functional, and national vaccination coverage has plummeted from 85 per cent before the war,

PEOPLE IN NEED

30.4 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

20.9 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$4.2 billion

Total population

47.5 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

1993 – 2025

to around 50 per cent. In active conflict zones the rates are averaging at 30 per cent.

The levels of need are staggering. While assistance is reaching many areas, with local communities and networks playing a critical role, humanitarian access challenges severely limit the ability of humanitarian organizations to scale up, especially in high-conflict zones where needs are generally most acute.

Response priorities in 2025

As Sudan's humanitarian crisis enters its third year of conflict in early 2025, the new Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) aims to address rapidly escalating needs in a constantly changing and highly complex operational environment. With millions of people facing extreme deprivation, displacement, and violence, the humanitarian response focuses on alleviating suffering and preventing further deterioration, carefully balancing urgent priorities with the many constraints imposed by ongoing conflict.

The 2025 HNRP seeks to support 20.9 million people with urgent life-saving support and services, requiring US\$4.16 billion in funding. The planning process has taken into account the severity of needs in conflict-affected regions, including Darfur, Kordofan, and the greater Khartoum area, and the urgent need to secure unhindered access for humanitarian workers and supplies. The HNRP's boundaries are determined by balancing these needs with the realities of humanitarian access constraints, operational capacity, and ensuring the safety of humanitarian staff in an unpredictable and often dangerous context.

Protection remains central to the response, with a focus on conflict-sensitive assistance to address the dire protection needs, including emerging risks, such as GBV which has disproportionately affected women, children, and ethnic minorities, and other child protection issues. Expanded protection services will promote accountability for human rights violations and compliance with international humanitarian norms, particularly in the hardest-hit conflict zones.

At the same time, the plan aims to provide safe, dignified, and equitable access to critical basic services and livelihood opportunities for the most vulnerable, aiming to preserve their coping abilities. Securing access through ongoing negotiations with all parties to the conflict will be essential to ensuring aid reaches those in need. The fluidity of the conflict means humanitarian actors will need to regularly reassess the situation, adjusting their operations and priorities to meet evolving needs and changes on the ground.

Given the continuing constraints in access and operational capacity, the 2025 HNRP emphasizes strengthening local partnerships and localization to ensure effective and appropriate delivery of health, education, and protection services in areas where international access remains limited. Increased direct funding to local responders will continue to be promoted.

The \$4.16 billion funding requirement reflects both the immense scale of the crisis and the need for flexible funding mechanisms that allow humanitarian actors to respond swiftly to the most urgent needs, whether in relation to food security, health, nutrition, WASH or protection. Flexibility will also enable scaling up in regions where access improves, to prevent further deterioration of the situation.

The response, however, anticipates continued access challenges in 2025, particularly in conflict-affected areas. Ensuring sustainable operational capacity, especially regarding the safety and security of humanitarian workers, will remain a significant hurdle.

In conclusion, the 2025 HNRP for Sudan seeks to expand life-saving assistance, strengthen centrality of protection efforts across the operation, and adapt to the complex realities of the ongoing conflict. By focusing on protection, building local partnerships, and ensuring additional and flexible funding, the humanitarian community aims to prevent further deterioration of the situation and meet the urgent lifesaving needs of Sudan's most vulnerable populations. Without these measures, millions more will remain at risk of hunger, displacement, and violence.

Financial requirements

The 2025 HNRP requires \$4.16 billion to meet the needs of 20.9 million people using an activity-based costing methodology.

Several key factors drive the cost of humanitarian operations in Sudan:

- **Scale of the crisis:** In one of the largest and most acute crises in the world, 30.4 million people require assistance. This represents a 23 per cent increase from last year, demanding substantial resources to provide necessities.
- **Complexity and volatility:** The multifaceted nature of the crisis, with numerous underlying causes, complicates the delivery of effective and efficient humanitarian assistance. The unpredictable security situation further hampers operations, often requiring additional resources to mitigate risks for humanitarian workers.
- **Logistical challenges:** Poor infrastructure and limited access to many areas significantly raise the costs of transporting supplies and personnel to where they are most needed.
- **Inflation:** The high cost of basic goods and services in Sudan, driven by inflation, further increases the overall operational expenses.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In response to the severity of the situation, the humanitarian strategy and operational priorities were revised in 2024. In April, a Famine Prevention Plan was launched to mobilize resources and sharpen the focus on key priorities, while an International Conference for Sudan and neighbouring countries, held in Paris raised over \$2 billion for Sudan and the region. The Sudan Operations Coordination Center was established in Port Sudan in July, integrating with the existing IASC structure. Humanitarian hubs were set up to decentralize coordination and bring aid closer to affected communities. Humanitarian actors promoted cash and voucher assistance programmes, increased partner presence, and extended support to community-based responders and grassroots organizations. Collaborating with

women-led organizations, humanitarian delivered a multisectoral response. Advocacy and engagement with relevant parties also improved humanitarian access. The reopening of the Adre border crossing between Chad and Sudan facilitated the flow of essential relief supplies to severely affected areas.

Despite access challenges and funding gaps, about 159 humanitarian partners in Sudan reached about 12 million of the 14.7 million people targeted for assistance with some form of humanitarian assistance at least once between January 2024 and the end of October, according to the latest Sudan Humanitarian Response Dashboard. Key achievements include providing



Food and livelihood
support to 11 million people



WASH
assistance to 9 million people



Health
services to 2 million people



Nutrition
support to 1 million people.

However, many received aid just once, with significant gaps in essential services, and some of the most critical areas remain effectively cut off from external aid for much of the year.

Consequences of inaction



Food insecurity

If the humanitarian operations fail, tens of millions of people will continue to suffer from acute food insecurity, with a risk that famine conditions will spread into more areas of the country, causing death and disease and further waves of displacement.



Gender-based violence

About 6 million women and girls bearing the brunt of the conflict will not be able to access services to prevent and mitigate the disproportionate risk of GBV. Eighty per cent of them will struggle to access safe drinking water, with 84 per cent unable to access a minimum acceptable diet.



Health

About 5 million people, including children under the age of five and pregnant women, will face heightened threat of death due to a lack of access healthcare services. At least two-thirds of Sudan's 18 states are already facing multiple disease outbreaks, including cholera, malaria and measles amid a collapsed public healthcare system.



Education

Sudan is facing the worst learning crisis in the world. Over 17 million children are out of school and might never continue with education, risking a lost generation.



Malnutrition

About 5 million children and pregnant and lactating women are already at elevated risk of death due to preventable diseases and malnutrition-related causes. This includes 730,000 children suffering severe acute malnutrition.



Shelter and NFI

Failure to meet shelter and non-food item needs for 4.4 million displaced people in overcrowded camp and camp-like settings including open informal settlements will heighten protection risks for vulnerable groups, including GBV and discrimination.



Livelihood

About 9 million people will be unable to reverse acute hunger and restore livelihoods without urgent and timely provision of seeds and other agricultural support.

Crisis overview

Prolonged droughts, economic instability and public health challenges have affected over 9.8 million people across 84 districts in need, as outlined in the [Zambian government’s Response Plan \(March 2024 - May 2025\)](#). The UN-led appeal identified 6.6 million people requiring immediate humanitarian assistance due to crop failures, rising food prices, malnutrition, and depleted food stocks. The crisis is compounded by the energy crisis and the broader impacts of economic and climate factors on livelihoods, income and food security.

On May 7, the UN and partners launched an appeal for \$228 million to assist 4.6 million people from June to December 2024. However, as of November 2024, only 17 per cent (\$39.8 million) of the appeal was funded. In response to persistent needs, the Zambia Flash Appeal was extended through June 2025, with a revised plan identifying 5.4 million people still in need, targeting 3.2 million for assistance at a cost of \$91 million. The updated appeal increased the number of targeted districts from 82 to 89 in 2025.

One of Zambia’s worst droughts in recent years, driven by El Niño, has severely disrupted rainfall patterns across the southern, western and parts of eastern provinces. Consecutive poor harvests have devastated subsistence farmers, cutting off food and income sources and triggering widespread hunger and malnutrition. Limited access to safe water sources has worsened conditions, leading to sanitation issues and increasing disease risks, including cholera outbreaks in some affected areas.

Zambia’s economic struggles have deepened vulnerabilities. Inflation has surged, driving up the cost of essentials like food and fuel, worsening poverty and limited families’ access to healthcare, education, and adequate nutrition. Many families face difficult decisions, such as reducing meals or forgoing medical care due to financial constraints.

Between October 2024 and March 2025, an estimated 5.8 million people are expected to face heightened hunger. According to IPC projections, 5.6 million people will be in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and 236,000 in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). Seven districts are anticipated to shift from IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) to Phase 3, bringing the total number of hotspot districts to 89. Despite the severity of the crisis, the food security sector remains severely underfunded in 2024 at just 14 per cent, and agriculture sector funding, crucial for addressing food insecurity in 2025, is at a mere 2 per cent.

Malnutrition is a critical concern, especially among children. The 2024 SMART survey²⁸ found that Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates ranged from very low (1.7 per cent) in Eastern Province to medium (6.2 per cent) in other areas. Stunting remains high nationwide, with Eastern Province showing very high levels (34.6 per cent) and significant malnutrition in Lusaka Urban, Northwestern,

²⁸ The 2024 SMART surveys were, however, conducted in the harvest season (May 2024) compared to the lean season (November/December) when the previous surveys had been conducted hence the comparison of the findings needs to be done cautiously.

PEOPLE IN NEED

5.4 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.2 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$90.7 million

Total population

21.1 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

-

Consecutive appeals

2024 – 2025

Central, Western, and Southern provinces, where stunting rates exceed WHO threshold of 30 per cent. As food insecurity worsens, malnutrition rates are expected to rise, increasing the need for targeted nutritional support to address the growing numbers of stunted and underweight children.

Disease outbreaks, such as cholera and malaria, are widespread in drought-affected areas with limited access to clean water and sanitation. There is also a rising risk of mpox and a potential large-scale cholera outbreak, further threatens the strained healthcare system. As of late 2024, the health sector under the Flash Appeal remains completely underfunded, making enhanced healthcare support essential to prevent mortality among vulnerable populations.

The convergence of drought, economic instability and potential health crises means Zambia's humanitarian situation remains dire. Sustained international support is vital to meet immediate needs, including food security, malnutrition and disease outbreaks,

while building resilience to mitigate the long-term impacts. Additional funding is urgently required to reduce suffering, strengthen resilience and support its communities through these ongoing challenges.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2024, the response prioritized the most vulnerable households in the drought-affected Southern, Western and Eastern Provinces, where food insecurity was severe due to poor harvests. By September 2024, food assistance had reached only 375,000 people—just 14 per cent of the target for the year. Health and nutrition interventions prioritized regions facing malnutrition and disease outbreaks, while WASH efforts aimed to improve access to clean water, in cholera-affected areas. Livelihood programmes provided agricultural inputs and drought-resistant seeds to help rural households sustain their income.

Southern province, Zambia: A child is weighed as part of a malnutrition screening at Manungu Urban Clinic in Monze. The clinic offers a retinue of services, including reproductive health care, family planning and counselling, and child health and nutrition checkups. *UNICEF/Terence Sampa*



Despite these efforts, operational challenges such as underfunding and resource constraints limited the response. By the end of 2024, only 2 million of the 4.6 million targeted people will receive some form of assistance. Protection services covered only 23 per cent of those targeted, while critical sectors like health and education served less than 1 per cent of their respective people targeted. Nutrition services reached 69 per cent of their target, but WASH initiatives covered only 17 per cent. Food security interventions reached just 14 per cent, and agricultural support a mere 2 per cent, underscoring significant funding gaps that need to be addressed in 2025.

Looking ahead, the revised Drought Response Appeal targets 3.2 million people and requires \$91 million to support essential needs from January to June 2025. The response will focus on food security, nutrition, agriculture, WASH and protection, with an emphasis on households in the most affected regions. The food security sector aims to assist 1.77 million people across 38 vulnerable districts and requires \$47 million. Nutrition programs will expand to address urgent needs among children under five and pregnant women, targeting 1 million people with \$6 million. Due to limited resources, assistance will focus on the most severely affected households, leaving others at risk of hunger.

WASH initiatives will play a critical role in controlling disease spread and supporting public health. Efforts will prioritize communities with severe water scarcity and high disease risk, providing safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene education. WASH services target 1.6 million people in 2025 with a \$4.8 million requirement, but funding shortfalls may leave moderately impacted communities vulnerable to health risks.

Agricultural and livelihood support in 2025 will focus on rural households impacted by drought, providing essential resources for food production and income stability. The agriculture sector aims to reach 1.3 million people with a \$22 million budget.

Protection services will address drought-related issues like child labour, child marriage, and GBV, targeting 1.2 million people across 68 districts, with a \$1.7 million budget. Health interventions will focus on basic healthcare and disease control, particularly in areas with high levels of malnutrition or cholera

and malaria outbreaks. Collaborating with national health systems, the health sector aims to assist 800,000 people, requiring \$2 million. By September 2024, the sector had reached only 2,700 people – less than 1 per cent of its target for the year.

The drought's impact on education will also be addressed through the Ministry of Education's response plan, prioritizing school feeding programmes to improve attendance in affected districts. This initiative, targeting 1.8 million learners, requires \$7.2 million.

In 2025, Zambia's response will focus on communities with the most urgent needs to maximize limited resources. This approach will leave some moderately affected areas without support, risking further deterioration in food security, health and nutrition.

Financial requirements

As of November 2024, only \$39.8 million, or 17 per cent, of the \$228 million required for the Flash Appeal was received. Overall, 3.3 million people will be targeted for 2025 with the \$90.6 million needed for January to June 2025 programming. This is based on the revised Flash Appeal which incorporates the new assessment and operational capacity.

From the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), \$5.5 million has been allocated to four UN agencies—WFP, FAO, UNICEF and UNHCR. These agencies, in collaboration with cluster partners, will address food security (both agriculture and food assistance), WASH, nutrition and protection. This support targets 560,000 people, including 50,000 refugees affected by the drought.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In 2024, Zambia's humanitarian response made critical progress in addressing urgent needs despite significant challenges. However, due to funding constraints, partners are only expected to reach 2 million people, –43 per cent of the 4.6 million targeted. This limited reach has severe consequences.



Food

By the end of September 2024, over 1.4 million of the 1.7 million people targeted for food assistance remained unreached. Meanwhile, 98 per cent of those targeted for agriculture assistance did not receive support, which could have mitigated food insecurity in 2025. Persistent high rates of food insecurity have triggered ripple effects, including worsening nutrition, health and protection conditions, with affected families increasingly turning to negative coping mechanisms. In some areas, food insecurity has driven an increase in human-wildlife conflict with people turning to hunting wild animals for food.



Nutrition

Nutrition has had the highest reach, assisting 69 per cent of its target population. However, the high prevalence of food insecurity continues to sharply increase malnutrition risks, especially among children and pregnant women, likely driving up the number of people in need.

Consequences of inaction



Basic needs

Failure to act decisively risks exacerbating food insecurity and other critical issues. Underfunding has already forced the response to operate at a bare minimum, with vulnerable populations receiving just 50 kilograms of maize or a cash transfer of K400 (equivalent to \$15), far below the minimum requirement to meet basic needs.



Health

Delayed responses to public health crises, such as cholera outbreaks, could lead to rapid disease spread. Without adequate humanitarian support for medical supplies, including vaccines, the overall public health situation will likely deteriorate further.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Gaps in WASH services continue to heighten the risk of disease outbreaks, while limited access to education and healthcare deepens poverty and vulnerability. Without a significant scale-up in 2025, these crises will intensify, pushing already at-risk populations further into hardship.



Education

By September 2024, the education sector had reached less than 1 per cent of its targeted population. Reduced school feeding programmes have already led to rising school dropouts and associated risks, including increased GBV, teenage pregnancies and HIV infections. These trends are expected to worsen in 2025 if funding remains constrained.



Access

Partners have also faced access challenges in remote districts such as Shangombo, where poor road conditions impeded aid delivery. During the rainy season, heavy rainfall and flooding are likely to worsen these constraints, further restricting humanitarian operations in some districts.

Zimbabwe **FA**

Crisis overview

In 2024, Zimbabwe experienced a severe El Niño-induced drought that caused widespread crop failure and water shortages. Above-average temperatures and below-average rainfall further strained vegetation and surface water availability, damaging the livestock sector and exacerbating food insecurity.

In April 2024, the Government of Zimbabwe declared an emergency, identifying 7.1 million people at risk of food insecurity. A Drought Response Flash Appeal was launched targeting 3.1 million people. By October 2024, humanitarian sectors had reached 821,834 people. Priorities for early 2025 will focus on addressing the remaining gaps for 3.1 million people at risk of food insecurity and preparing for floods during the 2024/20225 season. Rising food insecurity has triggered a surge in needs across multiple sectors including nutrition, protection, child protection, education, health and WASH. These challenges are expected to continue into 2025.

Public health threats such as cholera and acute watery diarrhoea pose significant risks, particularly in overcrowded urban areas where poor sanitation and limited access to clean water exacerbate outbreaks.

Response priorities in 2025

The effects of the El Niño continue into the current rainy season, leaving more than 7 million people at risk of food insecurity. The humanitarian community plans to target 3.1 million of the 7.6 million people in need with various sectoral interventions.

The education sector aims to support 351,000 learners by prioritizing the provision of education support. Efforts will involve collaboration with sectors such as WASH, health, nutrition and child protection to provide necessary supplies, deliver skills training and promote disaster risk reduction for a resilient education sector.

The health sector will prioritize mitigating health risks affecting 1.6 million people, worsened by El Niño and anticipated flooding. Key priorities include strengthening surveillance, building capacity, and improving access to services including reproductive health and gender-based violence (GBV) response.

The food security and livelihoods sector plans to provide basic food assistance to 1.7 million people, addressing urgent food and nutrition needs in rural and urban communities. The number of people in need has risen from six to nine million across districts affected by El Niño.

The nutrition sector will target 700,000 children and nursing mothers, emphasizing diet diversity through initiatives such as community and household nutrition gardens and micronutrient powders for children. The response includes providing treatment for severe wasting, ensuring consistent supplies of essential nutrition commodities, conducting repeated surveillance during periods of

PEOPLE IN NEED

7.6 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.1 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$143.0 million

Total population

17.0 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2024 – 2025

increased malnutrition (between June 2024 and 2025), and supporting assessments and surveys.

The protection sector will address the needs of 1.4 million people at risk of GBV and child abuse as both a stand-alone and cross cutting issue. A gender-sensitive approach will be taken across all sectors to meet the needs of women and girls in drought-affected communities, in line with the IASC Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action. The sector will also ensure 700,000 children receive child-protection services. Welfare, justice and security-related services will also be available for vulnerable women, children and adolescents.

Shelter and camp management sectors will prioritize the safety, dignity and well-being of crisis-affected people, especially women and girls, in line with the GBV in Emergencies Guiding Frameworks Principles. Gender-sensitive shelters and NFIs will be provided with special considerations for children to ensure privacy and dignity. Assistance will be tailored to the unique challenges faced by each community.

The 16,000 refugees in the settlement will require special attention, as the El Niño-induced drought has adversely affected their livelihoods. Refugees, who rely on agriculture to supplement the monthly UNHCR assistance are now facing dramatically reduced support due to funding short-falls. Rising food prices have further eroded their purchasing power.

The WASH sector will focus on providing climate-resilient, safe water services to communities, health facilities and schools facing water insecurity. About 2.6 million people in affected districts will benefit from rehabilitated water systems and new solar-powered, multi-use water systems designed to integrate livelihood and domestic water needs, helping to build resilient communities.

Sectoral coordination will be strengthened to ensure that the 3.1 million people targeted are reached efficiently. National and international organizations will collaborate to monitor response efforts, enhance the impact of humanitarian actions, avoid duplication and address critical gaps in the response at a sectoral level.

Two out of three seasonal forecasts—European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and International Research Institute

(IRI)—indicate a high probability of a below-average rainy season. A third forecast projects normal to below-normal rainfall between December and January. Based on these projections, 52 districts have been identified as priority areas, targeting 3.1 million people and requiring \$143.1 million in funding. This approach aims to maximize the impact of collective humanitarian action by ensuring that the areas with greatest need are reached first.

While resilience-building efforts across the region have made important progress, communities continue to face increasingly frequent and severe droughts, leaving families with little time to recover between shocks.

Financial requirements

The overall funding requirement for the drought response from May 2024 to April 2025 is \$429.3 million. Of this, \$143.1 is urgently needed to sustain operations from January to April 2025, targeting the critical needs of approximately 3.1 million people.

These funds will enable partners to provide essential, life-saving assistance while supporting ongoing Government-led response efforts and strengthening national relief measures. This collaboration ensures a coordinated, efficient response that maximizes impact for those in urgent need.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Food assistance and livelihood support

A total of 133,219 people received food assistance and livelihood support interventions, 14,825 benefited from direct distribution of survival stockfeed, construction of 50 live-stock watering troughs, and the dissemination of drought advisory and GBV awareness messages.



Health

The health sector reached 182,536 people with cholera treatment as of October 2024. The unmet WASH needs in 2024, combined with those in 2025, will expose more lives to increased suffering and put them at risk of a cholera outbreak.



Nutrition

Nutrition interventions benefited a total of 141,932 adults and children in Chipinge, Buhera, Bikita, Chiredzi and Beitbridge districts, scaling up actions for prevention of wasting due to drought impact and succeeding in maintaining proxy-GAM and proxy-SAM below 2 per cent. In 2024, nutrition needs were found in only 5 out of 29 districts. However, they are likely to increase by the end of 2024. Hence, action during the response period will be necessary to minimize malnutrition admissions and treatment in 2025.



Hygiene

A total of 236,107 people were reached with key hygiene messages on diarrhoeal prevention and management, handwashing with soap and water treatment. Additionally, 889,000 people were reached with hygiene messaging and safe access to water, out of a target of 2.2 million, leaving more than 50 per cent of affected people at risk due to insufficient information on diarrhoeal prevention and management.



Safe water

Between January and August 2024, 20,921 people in drought-prone and cholera-affected areas gained access to safe water through rehabilitation of 71 boreholes and the upgrading of 15 solar-piped water schemes across five districts. However, 15 additional critically affected districts still lack adequate access to safe drinking water. Hygiene kits were distributed to 93,252 people, over 2.1 million others in need did not receive them.



Gender-based violence

A total of 38,155 survivors received quality GBV service support through strengthened community-based mechanisms for GBV risk mitigation and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. Of these, over 26,000 people have also accessed additional services, including legal support. However, reduced funding and limited access to services continue to place survivors at risk of further harm.

Consequences of inaction

The limited funding for the El Niño Drought Response Flash Appeal—only \$92.4 million of the \$429million required—has severely constrained UN partners' ability to respond to the growing needs caused by the 2024 drought.



Malnutrition

Although malnutrition is one of the best-funded sectors at 38 per cent of its target, cases of malnutrition continue to rise. If this trend persists, an additional 7,852 children will require nutrition assistance by February 2025.



Life-saving intervention

By October 2024, only 7 per cent of the target population had been reached, leaving 1,766,781 people without critical life-saving interventions. Livestock deaths are rising, with over 650 deaths recorded in a 10-day span in September 2024, further reducing farming families' access to vital food supplies.



Education and child protection

Education and child protection sectors have not reached any of the children targeted under the Flash Appeal due to funding restraints. Key interventions, such as school feeding programmes and alternative foster care for children left behind by migrating parents, remain unimplemented. As a result, 721,000 boys and girls have missed out on protection support while 351,000 boys and girls have missed educational support. Over 9,000 school children have already dropped out, with the number expected to rise to 11,619 by December 2024.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

During drought emergencies, access to safe drinking water is vital to prevent water borne diseases such as cholera. The cholera outbreak which ended in July 2024 was exacerbated by a lack of WASH infrastructure. As of October 2024, WASH partners under the Flash Appeal, had reached only 20,921 people, far short of the 1.1 million targeted for safe drinking water and the 2.6 million people targeted for hygiene behaviour change messaging. The lack of clean, safe drinking water continues to exacerbate protection concerns, increase disease risks and contribute to poor harvests and livestock deaths.



Essential support

By November 2024, no funding had been received for the refugee response, leaving 16,000 people without essential support such as cash grants, nutrition supplements and shelter.

In 2025, continued lack of funding will force humanitarian partners to scale back support, further threatening their chances of recovery, increasing their vulnerability. This will lead to:



Food insecurity

Six million at risk of food insecurity.



Nutrition

An estimated 7,852 children facing wasting and lack access to ready-to-use therapeutic feeds, worsening malnutrition rates.



Livestock

1.4 million livestock at risk of death, further destabilizing affected communities.



Education

Projected school dropouts to rise to 1.8 million in 2025, exposing children to heightened protection risks and long-term harm.

Zimbabwe mostly experiences bureaucratic impediments as partners navigate provisions related to Private Voluntary Organizations bill. These challenges occur sporadically.



West and Central Africa

Regional overview

West and Central Africa faces a complex web of interlinked crises, leaving 57.1 million people across the region in need urgent need of lifesaving humanitarian aid and protection.

Across the region, protection remains the most pressing need for vulnerable people, as violence and conflict exacerbate instability and put lives and livelihoods of innocent civilians at risk. These people are attacked by non-state armed groups, caught in the crossfire of warring parties, and victims of intercommunal violence. Children are particularly at risk of forced recruitment by armed groups, and gender-based violence, including rape, is widespread, with severe consequences for survivors' physical and mental health.

In 2024, an estimated 52.4 million people across West and Central Africa faced food insecurity, and millions struggled to access basic services including health and education due to violence, floods, and other crises. These crises forcibly displaced 17.8 million people in the region, including 14.7 million internally and 3.1 million across international borders. Stripped of their homes, possessions and livelihoods, millions now rely on humanitarian aid for their survival.

The effects of the climate crisis have exacerbated these vulnerabilities. In 2024, more than 7 million people were affected by major flooding in the region, claiming over 1,500 lives and devastating homes, livelihoods, and access to basic services. The effects of the climate crisis are also felt through drought, increased temperatures, desertification and the degradation of agricultural land.



Lac Vert, Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo:

Thousands of people are fleeing ongoing armed clashes in Masisi territory, driving massive population displacement toward the city. Armed conflict remains the primary driver of displacement and humanitarian needs across the DRC. The influx of displaced persons further strains limited resources, highlighting the urgent need for humanitarian assistance and protection in the region.
OCHA/Francis Mweze

PEOPLE IN NEED

57.1 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

35.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$)

\$7.6 billion

The region also continues to face the risk of disease outbreaks, including cholera, measles and Mpox. Flooding, which destroys health and sanitation facilities and limits access to clean water, heightens these risks.

The crises across the region are noteworthy not only for their scale, but also for their interlinked and cross-border nature, particularly in the two crisis epicentres in the Sahel – the Central Sahel region and the Lake Chad Basin. Chad has also been significantly affected by the conflict in Sudan, while the spillover of the crisis in the Central Sahel is increasingly affecting the Gulf of Guinea coastal countries (Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana and Togo) and Mauritania.

































Humanitarian access remains a major challenge across parts of the region, which humanitarian actors must navigate with skill and sensitivity, while

acceptance of humanitarian aid workers and their mandate is also increasingly contested in certain areas. In some cases, this has even led to attacks against humanitarians—as of 25 November, 27 humanitarians in the region had been killed so far in 2024, with a further 19 wounded and 30 kidnapped.

Most critically, and despite donors’ generous funding, the region’s major funding gap—humanitarian response plans were less than 50 per cent funded as of 18 November 2024—means that millions of vulnerable people across the region have not received the life-saving support they urgently need.

West and Central Africa has not made global headlines in the past year in the way other crises have, but the scale of humanitarian need across the region remains vast—it must not be forgotten.

Overview of 2025 response plans

Plan	Plan type	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
 Burkina Faso	HNRP	5.9M 	3.7M 	\$792.6M 
 Cameroon	HNRP	3.3M 	2.1M 	\$355.3M 
 Central African Republic	HNRP	2.4M 	1.8M 	326.1M 
 Chad	HNRP	7.8M 	6.5M 	\$1.5B 
 Democratic Republic of the Congo	HNRP	21.2M 	11M 	\$2.5B 
 Mali	HNRP	5.9M 	4.6M 	\$756.8M 
 Niger	HNRP	2.7M 	1.7M 	\$386.5M 
 Nigeria	HNRP	7.8M 	3.6M 	\$900.0M 

AID N ACTION



Kaya, Burkina Faso: At the Bolé site, projects funded by the Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa (RHFwCA) provide essential support to people affected by the crisis. The Association Bon Samaritain pour l'Epanouissement de la Jeunesse du Centre-Nord (ABSEJ) conducted 1,600 awareness sessions with displaced women and host communities on various forms of gender-based violence and the available support services. Latrines and a classroom were also constructed to improve living conditions and access to education. *OCHA/Alassane Sarr*

Localization is central to the approach taken in the Central Sahel by the Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa (RHFwCA). In 2023, the Fund allocated 40 percent of funding to local and national NGOs, including 27 percent as direct funding, and 13 as indirect funding through partnerships with international INGOs.

Beyond funding, the RHFwCA has involved local and national NGOs in the governance structures of its active country envelopes (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger). For 27 per

cent of local and NGO representatives, this marked their first involvement in such decision-making. In addition, local and national NGOs have been involved in identification and prioritization of needs, project reviews, implementation follow-up but also final completion assessments.

The Fund also requested international NGOs to partner with at least one local/national NGO and develop a capacity-building plan as part of RHFwCA-funded projects. This contributed to the long-term capacity of local and national NGOs—71 per cent reported improved financial management, while 67 per cent saw strengthened programme management. International NGOs also benefited with 100 per cent affirming that the involvement of local partners strengthened community involvement and 79 per cent reporting enhanced humanitarian access and acceptance.

To further support local partners, the Fund's team conducted training for local and national NGOs, covering essential areas of the Fund process such as project submission, narrative and financial reporting, programmatic and financial monitoring, the prevention of fraud and misuse of funds, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and humanitarian communications.

Burkina Faso **HNRP**

Crisis overview

The humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso continues to heavily impact civilians. More than 2 million people—approximately 10 per cent of the population—are internally displaced, and over one in four Burkinabe require humanitarian assistance. The protracted security crisis marked by armed violence and military operations, along with climate shocks like drought, flooding, and violent winds, has heightened vulnerabilities, especially those in hard-to-reach areas. In these regions, insecurity restricts movements, forcing communities to rely on irregular and costly resupply convoys and air operations. An estimated 1.1 million people live in these hard-to-reach areas, with some enduring these conditions for over two years.

Protection of Civilians (PoC) is more concerning than ever. Rising attacks against civilians led to nearly 2,000 civilian deaths between January and September 2024. In February alone, about 570 people were killed in 44 attacks, marking the highest monthly toll of civilian casualties. Violence against women and girls has also intensified with an average of 20 women kidnapped per month in 2024. Women and girls face high risk of protection incidents while searching for water, food, and firewood, underscoring how the lack of access to life-saving assistance and basic social services exacerbates protection risks for vulnerable people. Between January and June 2024, 146 incidents of improvised explosive devices were recorded, a 44 per cent increase compared with the same period last year. The number of civilian casualties has risen steadily over the last five years, from 50 to 63 percent of the total number of people killed, with 733 civilians killed over these five years. In 2024, 185 (32% women and 35% children) of the 293 victims, or 63 percent, were civilians, while in 2020, 50 percent of those killed were civilians, an increase of 13 percent.

For 2025, the humanitarian community estimates that 5.9 million people will need assistance, down from 6.3 million people the previous year. This reduction does not reflect an improvement in humanitarian conditions, rather a stricter application of the Joint and Inter-Sectoral Analysis framework 2.0 and tighter criteria for determining humanitarian needs. While previous analysis included all 13 regions, the 2025 approach focuses on humanitarian needs stemming from shocks rather than structural development challenges. For people affected by structural development challenges, humanitarian partners will advocate for humanitarian-development-peace collaboration programming.

Throughout 2024, Burkinabe authorities reported returns of displaced populations to their places of origin, while details on their locations and needs remain pending. The humanitarian community will update the needs analysis for returnees once more information becomes available in 2025, to deliver principled, needs-based assistance.

PEOPLE IN NEED

5.9 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.7 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$792.6 million

Total population

23.8 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2013 – 2025

Response priorities in 2025

For 2025, humanitarian partners plan to target 3.7 million people with emergency assistance and protection services—a 4.5 per cent reduction from the target in 2024. Given capacity constraints and limited funding, a boundary-setting exercise was conducted to sharpen response targeting. The Inter-Cluster Coordination Group identified 165 priority communes (out of 351) where the needs are most severe. This approach enables a focused response in areas directly impacted by shocks—such as displacement, food insecurity, and limited access to basic social services such as water, health services and education—thereby targeting the most vulnerable populations among those in need across the country.

This coordinated approach also allows clusters to deliver multi-sectoral responses to affected

populations in the same locations. Notably, 55 per cent of the targeted population in Burkina Faso are children, with needs spanning multiple sectors, such as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in nutrition, safe schools, protection and education. An integrated, people-centered response is essential, especially in the context of an ongoing protection crisis. Each cluster integrates protection risk mitigation into their programming to ensure protection remains central to the response.

The Burkinabe Government's Humanitarian Response Plan for 2025 targets 6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, aligning closely with the humanitarian partners' needs analysis and response objectives for 2025. The complementarity between the two plans enhances the impact of humanitarian assistance by the Government and humanitarian partners, leveraging the strengths of

Fada, Burkina Faso: Displaced children access education through radio-based learning, funded by the Regional Humanitarian Fund, offering an alternative path to schooling. *OCHA/Alassane Sarr*



each. Those not included in humanitarian partners' HNRP as a result of boundary-setting, are covered under the Government's response plan, supported through bilateral assistance, development actors and the private sector.

A strategic approach to humanitarian access is essential in hard-to-reach areas, where insecurity limits overland access and air transport or escorted convoys are often required. Localization remains key as local partners are critical for implementing humanitarian activities in these areas, given the restricted physical presence and access of international actors. Local partners also work closely with local communities, as well as government partners who are indispensable for the effective delivery of aid in these areas. To sustain life-saving assistance, scaling up air operations remains a priority, alongside efforts to advocate for overland access and strengthen civil-military coordination and route risk assessments. Adapting to these challenging contexts will also require a focus on improving the resilience and self-sufficiency among residents.

In 2025, the humanitarian community is strengthening anticipatory actions to mitigate impacts and ensure effective and timely responses. A new anticipatory action framework for floods will be developed ahead of the rainy season in May, building on the existing drought framework, which has been active for the past two years.

Financial requirements

For 2025, humanitarian partners are requesting \$793 million to support Burkina Faso's humanitarian response. Strict prioritization was applied to establish a feasible funding requirement, focusing solely on crisis-affected people with acute vulnerabilities. Meeting all identified humanitarian needs would likely require double this amount.

In recent years, the HRP in Burkina Faso has received less than 50 per cent of requested funds, highlighting chronic funding shortfalls. In August 2024, the Humanitarian Country Team endorsed a collective advocacy strategy to boost resource mobilization through 2025. Since the 2024 HNRP is strictly focused on the most vulnerable populations, underfunding this plan will result in a high cost of inaction, jeopardizing lives in areas of critical need.

Funding requirements were calculated using unit-based costing. Clusters such as food security, health, nutrition and WASH, factored in the high costs of air transport for delivering life-saving items to hard-to-reach areas—12 to 50 times more costly than overland transportation—significantly driving up operational costs.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

From January to September 2024, humanitarian organizations reached about 1.3 million people, representing 34 per cent of the target population. This includes people living in areas with significant access constraints where humanitarian partners rely on air operations to deliver assistance.

Key achievements included:



Food

Food assistance to 1.2 million people,



Protection

Protection services to 600,000



Mental health and psychosocial support

Mental health and psychosocial support to 190,000 children



Logistics

Thanks to donor contributions, UNHAS cargo operation transported 520 tons of life-saving supplies to hard-to-reach areas during this period

Consequences of inaction

Funding constraints significantly limit response capacity. As of 25 November, the Burkina Faso HRP is only 42 per cent funded, leaving approximately 66 per cent of targeted populations without assistance. Even those who received aid often saw less support, limited to certain sectors or reduced in quantity. In some hard-to-reach areas, like Diapaga in the Est region, access challenges and funding shortfalls resulted in only one or two rounds of food distribution during the first 9 months of the year.

In the third quarter of 2024, approximately 7,865 families received no immediate assistance, and access delays stretched response times. In some

areas, it can take more than three months to deliver first-line minimum rapid response packages to displaced communities. Many affected populations remain in open spaces without any assistance, at high risk of protection risks.

Humanitarian partners in Burkina Faso face impossible daily choices daily—forced to prioritize limited resources—deciding, for example, whether to provide shelters to those displaced by security shocks or those affected by floods, or whether to use expensive air operations to deliver medicines or nutritional supplies. Affected communities also face impossible choices, sharing already overstretched resources.

AID IN ACTION

Supporting humanitarians to reach the most isolated communities in need



Sollé, Burkina Faso: Urgently needed health supplies arrive during an OCHA-coordinated evaluation mission, addressing critical health needs in the area. *GRAD-A Association/Antoine Simporé*

Humanitarian operations in Burkina Faso heavily depend on air transport to deliver life-saving items to hard-to-reach areas where, due to insecurity, overland access is significantly limited. These areas are largely cut off from the rest of the country with limited market supplies. Helicopter cargo operations are

indispensable for delivering aid and sustaining humanitarian workers on the ground. The notion of Stay and Deliver, underscored by the commitment of frontline local staff members, remains crucial in ensuring aid reaches the most isolated communities.

But air operations cost between 12 to 50 times more than overland transport, challenging national organizations' access to these costly essential services. However, the Airbus Foundation's in-kind support enabled 52 hours of free air cargo flights in 2024 for national and international partners, transporting essential food, medicines, nutritional supplies, and other cargo for staff working in remote areas in the East region. The support boosted the effectiveness of humanitarian operations.

Cameroon **HRP**

Crisis overview

3.3 million people in Cameroon are in need of humanitarian assistance. Armed conflict and violence, climatic shocks, disease outbreaks, and the influx of Central African Republic (CAR) refugees, are affecting populations in the Far North, the North-West, South-West (NWSW), and the eastern regions. Humanitarian needs are compounded by structural development weaknesses and chronic vulnerabilities. There are more than 1 million internally displaced people (IDPs), nearly 700,000 returnees,²⁹ and almost 440,000 refugees and asylum seekers in the country.³⁰

2.5 million people in crisis-affected regions are facing acute food insecurity, a 9 per cent increase compared to 2024. **More than 255,000 children are at risk of acute malnutrition.**³¹ Floods have impacted over **85,000 hectares of farmland,** further jeopardizing access to food and livelihood.

Civilians continue to face significant protection risks. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV), while men and boys are at high risk of arbitrary arrest, detention, death, and injury. Since January 2024, **over 54,000 GBV cases** were reported in the far north, north-west and south-west regions.³² Mental health and psychosocial needs are extensive, made worse by limited access to services. **Destruction of property is** depriving many people their right to housing.³³

In the far north, **476,000 IDPs reside,** a 5 per cent increase compared to 2024. **Over 95 per cent of them fled due to armed conflict and insecurity.** In addition to insecurity, **floods have affected nearly 460,000 people and deprived almost 150,000 people of access to safe drinking water.**³⁴ The region also hosts **120,287 Nigerian refugees.** The Minawao refugee camp is saturated. Critical needs in food security, nutrition, protection, health, shelter/NFI, WASH and education.

Less than 50 per cent of assessed IDPs have access to safe drinking water.³⁵ **Hundreds of thousands of children face school dropouts and child marriage and risks** of family separation, forced recruitment by non-state armed groups, and arbitrary arrest and detention. Women and girls are exposed to **significant sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and forced marriage threats.**

More than 334,000 people in the NWSW are still displaced due to insecurity. Local populations **continue to suffer from the consequences of ongoing armed violence,** including targeted attacks, killings, abductions, and inter-communal clashes.³⁶ **There are acute needs** in protection, health, education, access to potable water and food. Since the beginning of the year, **43 schools and 14**

29 MSNA 2024 data.

30 UNHCR data, October 2024.

31 Nutrition sector, 2024 HNO data.

32 GBV/IMS, October 2024.

33 Shelter/NFI sector data.

34 WASH sector data, as per September 2024.

35 MSNA 2024 data, WASH sector.

36 MSNA data 2024, North-West and South-West regions.

PEOPLE IN NEED

3.3 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.1 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$355.3 million

Total population

29.4 million

Income level

Lower middle income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2014 – 2025

health centers have been targeted.³⁷ Sexual violence is on the rise.³⁸ At least 23 incidents involving humanitarian workers have been reported, including the abduction of 41 staff.³⁹ Regular lock-downs and roadblocks continued to restrict civilians' movements and humanitarian access.

The country hosts **more than 281,000 refugees from CAR**, mainly in the eastern regions of North, Adamawa and East, who have very limited access to basic services and livelihoods.

Overall, **humanitarian needs in 2025 are expected to persist in crisis-affected regions**. Violence, coupled with recurrent climatic shocks and disease outbreaks, will continue to exacerbate affected peoples' vulnerabilities. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has decided to maintain **strategic continuity with the 2024 needs analysis scope and prioritization**, focusing on **shock-affected regions** and population groups affected by the crisis: IDPs, returnees, refugees, host communities, and 'those left behind'.

37 NWSW access working group, January to June 2024 data.

38 GBV/IMS data.

39 NWSW Access working group, January to June 2024 data.

Far North region, Cameroon: A woman and her two daughters in the Palia-Pouss IDP site, displaced by flooding. *OCHA/Bibiane Mouangue*



Response priorities in 2025

As of 30 September 2024, more than **1.5 million individuals have received humanitarian assistance**, including 519,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), 157,000 refugees, and 184,000 returnees.

Over 823,000 women and girls were reached with humanitarian assistance and protection services as well as **902,000 children** and over 237,000 **people with disabilities**. **The Far North region accounted for 59 per cent of the humanitarian response**, the NWSW for **36 per cent** and **CAR refugees' response, 5 per cent**.

The 2025 response will build on the 2024 strategic prioritization decisions, including its geographical scope, as analysis shows key drivers and aggravating factors are unlikely to significantly change.

However, ongoing displacement and persistent insecurity in certain areas are likely to heighten the vulnerability of affected populations, exacerbating the severity of inter-sectoral needs in some areas. The **2025 response plan targets 2.1 million** people in the Far North, NWSW, and eastern regions.

A principled, effective and inclusive humanitarian response will **prioritize people in divisions reporting the highest levels of inter-sectoral needs severity**, including in hard-to-reach areas. The response will be developed as closely as possible with affected people, listening to their concerns and priorities. Interventions will be adapted to the distinct protection and assistance needs of women, girls, men, boys, older people and people with disabilities.

The response will focus on providing life-saving assistance, enhancing protection, and strengthening local communities' resilience to new shocks.

Drawing on climate shocks and risk-informed analysis, including lessons learned and best practices from 2024, the humanitarian community will work on enhancing emergency preparedness and promoting anticipatory action initiatives. This will aim at strengthening the collective capacity to mitigate the humanitarian impacts of climate-related shocks, such as floods and droughts, and to effectively respond to disease outbreaks.

In continuity with 2024 HCT engagements, the response strategy will continue to promote and contribute to finding durable solutions for protracted

displacement in collaboration with national and local authorities and development actors.

Through the 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan, sectors and humanitarian actors have reaffirmed their collective commitment to effectively mainstream protection, accountability to affected populations, gender, inclusion and disability as well as prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse as key strategic and operational priorities to keep people at the centre throughout all stages of the humanitarian program cycle. Multipurpose cash interventions will be promoted thanks to strengthened inter-agency coordination and capacity building. In the Far North region, partners will build on 2024 accomplishments to enhance effective coordination through the nexus approach and synergies with the regional development plans. The humanitarian community will pursue its localization agenda to strengthen national partners' role in coordination and response, partnerships and funding opportunities.

Financial requirements

The humanitarian response in Cameroon will require an estimated \$355 million to provide rapid, principled, inclusive and accountable life-saving assistance to 2.1 million targeted people, focusing on the most vulnerable groups.

The HRP budget requirements are based on the project-costing methodology. The projects included in the 2025 HRP are developed based on assessed needs and validated by sector coordinators in alignment with the HRP objectives, and their respective sectoral strategies, targets and frameworks.

The 2025 HRP budget represents a decrease of approximately \$15 million compared to the 2024 HRP, a reduction of approximately 4 per cent. This decrease is due to several factors, including the reduction of the target caseload as a result of the needs assessment and response prioritization, and the focus on crisis-affected areas in the Far North, North-West, South-West and Eastern regions.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In 2024, some 3.4 million people living in Cameroon needed humanitarian assistance and protection. As of 30 September, humanitarian partners have reached more than 1.5 million people in crises-affected areas.



Education

More than 158,000 people were provided with access to formal and non-formal education including girls, boys and adolescents.



Food security

A total of 362,000 people received food, agriculture, and livelihood support, including through cash transfers.



Health

Over 726,000 people received essential health-care, including in hard-to-reach areas through mobile clinics.



Nutrition

Partners reached more than 218,000 people including children with nutrition services and life-saving treatment for severe and acute malnutrition.



Protection

Partners provided protection services to 85,000 people, including 40,000 people with gender-based violence services, 65,000 people with child protection services, and 37,000 people with legal assistance and counselling on housing, land and property.



Shelter/non-food items (NFI)

More than 103,000 people received emergency shelter items and NFI assistance.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Nearly 1 million benefited from sustainable access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation and hygiene services.

Consequences of inaction

Without immediate intervention, Cameroon's humanitarian crisis will worsen, intensifying the suffering of millions, particularly vulnerable groups such as women, children, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.



Protection

Without immediate action, the protection environment will further deteriorate, increasing **protection risks, including grave human rights violations.**



Child protection

Without response, children's protective environment will be threatened, and vulnerabilities will increase, including grave violation of children's rights, leading to death, long-term trauma for children and their communities, and forcing children and caregivers to adopt negative coping mechanisms such as child labour and sexual exploitation.



Health and nutrition

Limited funding, ongoing violence and the impacts of climate change will further restrict **access to healthcare, resulting in increased mortality rates in crisis-affected areas**. Without access to water, the spread of preventable diseases such as cholera and measles, along with waterborne illnesses will increase, leading to an increase in malnutrition. Increased **malnutrition may lead to more deaths** and long-term developmental issues for children. In 2025, 230,000 children under five are suffering from severe and moderate malnutrition.



Food security

People most vulnerable to food insecurity may have to resort to negative coping mechanisms to meet their food needs. With insufficient funds, rations will be reduced, and some beneficiaries will receive no aid at all.



Education

Ongoing violence against educational institutions and a lack of funding for alternative learning options **could leave generations without formal education**. More than **1.3 million** children will need urgent support to access education.



Refugee

The presence of nearly half a million refugees is straining already limited natural resources, igniting intercommunity tensions. Without urgent assistance, **almost 550,000 refugees will remain without support**.



Gender-based violence

By 2025, **more than 1 million individuals will need GBV support**. Without immediate assistance, survivors will struggle to access critical medical and psychological care, perpetuating trauma and vulnerability.



Shelter

Without immediate action, **1.8 million people will be denied adequate shelter**. Insufficient shelter will limit access to food storage and safe cooking spaces, increasing food insecurity. Poor shelter conditions and lack of NFI would increase population vulnerability to illnesses and would compromise the safety and security of people.



Security

In 2024, **at least 23 incidents involving humanitarian workers were reported**, including the abduction of at least 41 staff, along with regular lockdowns, roadblocks and movements restrictions. Persistent security threats and physical access constraints severely hamper delivery of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable. Without adequate funding and resources for access, humanitarian partners will lack the capacity to provide timely, quality, and principled response.

Central African Republic **HNRP**

Crisis overview

For over a decade, CAR has been affected by conflict, with the ongoing presence of armed groups. Violence against civilians and frequent disasters, like flooding, continue to drive new displacements. Limited access to basic socio-economic infrastructure and opportunities forces displaced people and host communities to adopt negative coping mechanisms, increasing their vulnerability to exploitation and gender-based violence (GBV), which disproportionately affects women and girls. Between January and August 2024, 15,000 GBV cases were registered, of which 96 per cent of the victims were female and 22 per cent children. Rape accounted for 34 per cent (5,040) of GBV incidents, including 8 per cent (427 cases) that were related to conflict.

The protracted crisis in CAR brought four new major humanitarian challenges in 2024: 1) shifting security dynamics in the south-east, undermining social cohesion, heightening insecurity and protection risks, and constraining humanitarian access; 2) rising violence and protection needs in the north-east and north-west due to an influx of refugees and returnees fleeing conflict in Sudan (29,621 people) and Chad (12,780 people); 3) flooding impacting over 29,000 people in high-need areas, leading to temporary displacement and spontaneous settlements, especially in urban areas; 4) outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases including hepatitis E, Mpox, and rabies, exacerbated by climate change, in already critical hotspots.

Despite the ongoing humanitarian crisis, security has improved in some areas, reducing shocks and allowing over 221,587 IDPs to be locally integrated or returned to their areas of origin. Based on the shocks analysis (115 shocks affecting 241,447 people from 49,756 households) and their impact on the affected populations, the scope of analysis covered 66 out of 85 sub-prefectures - those that recorded shocks in 2024 and/or where IDPs make up at least 25 per cent of the total population. This led to a 13 per cent reduction in PIN compared to 2024, when the scope of analysis covered the entire country.

Response priorities in 2025

For 2025, the humanitarian community in CAR will focus on providing multi-sectoral and people-centred assistance to respond to the critical humanitarian needs of Central African people affected by recent shocks. This will be done by ensuring that their views and preferences can influence humanitarian programming, piloting more community-led collective feedback mechanisms, as well strengthening the participation of local and national NGOs in coordination structures. The focus will be on the people and communities with most severe levels of food insecurity, those affected by or at risk of GBV, and the IDP, refugee and returnee communities.

The emphasis will shift toward interventions addressing new shocks and emergencies, moving away from compensating for gaps in basic social services. Prioritization will reflect the priorities identified by affected communities during

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.4 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$326.1 million

Total population

6.4 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2003 – 2025

13 regional workshops. To prevent a decline in living conditions where humanitarians phase out, development actors must immediately scale up investments in socio-economic infrastructures and services, in collaboration with the government and aligned with the National Development Plan.

Financial requirements

The CAR 2025 HNRP financial requirement stands at US\$326.1 million, representing a 11 per cent decrease in the funding requested in 2024. Using activity-based costing, this reduction stems largely from narrowing the scope of analysis to only include areas affected by shocks within the last 12 months. This approach has allowed the 2025 CAR HNRP to focus on the most vulnerable populations groups in areas recently affected by humanitarian shocks and resulted in reducing the number of people targeted for a humanitarian response in 2025.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Between January and June 2024, 1.5 million people—787,000 women and 716,000 men—received humanitarian assistance in at least one sector. The operating context over this period faced access challenges and insecurity in hotspots, although overall improved security enabled returns in some areas. Key assistance included health care services for 652,000 vulnerable people, protection services to 751,000 people, and cash and in-kind food support to 929,000 food-insecure individuals.

Consequences of inaction



Reduced funding

Reduced funding forced humanitarian organizations to drastically cut operations and critical services in 2024. Though 1.5 million people (77 per cent of people targeted) received assistance in at least one sector, most critical needs remain unmet or only partially met. Given the physical and administrative access challenges, a reduction funding cuts disrupted emergency airfreight, closed storage facilities, and further isolated already vulnerable populations, severely limiting emergency assistance capacity.



Protection

Without a holistic and inclusive protection response, prevention activities, alert mechanisms, and protection incident response and referrals, 1.9 million conflict-affected people remain exposed to risks, including child protection and GBV. Additionally, 366,000 children and adolescents who are either displaced on sites or in host families, returnees, or part of the host communities will be deprived of their right to education. Children's poor access to inclusive and quality education will increase their vulnerability, negatively impacting their future and exposing them to protection risks.



Lack of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and health services

The lack of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and health services threatens the survival and well-being of 500,000 people, raising risks of water-borne diseases, worsening malnutrition, and increasing protection concerns, especially for women and children. Areas like Birao, impacted by Hepatitis E and other epidemics in 2024, are particularly affected.

AID IN ACTION

Focusing on local actors for delivering effective humanitarian aid



Sibut, Central African Republic: A patient traveled 35 kilometers to receive care at the Galafondo village hospital, supported by a Humanitarian Fund partner. *OCHA/Renzo Grande*

In 2022, the humanitarian community established a Localization Task Force that brings together platforms and forums representing national and local actors, and international organizations committed to localization.

“By participating in strategic guidance structures of the humanitarian response, such as the Humanitarian Country Team and the Advisory Committee of the Humanitarian Fund for CAR, we ensure that accountability to affected people is considered, and that national capacities are integrated as much as possible in the humanitarian response,” explains Anita Bissa, Coordinator and Founder

of the women’s NGO Wali Ti Kodro and member of the Advisory Committee of the Humanitarian Fund (HF) for CAR.

The strategy of the Localization Task Force aims to strengthen the representation, participation, and leadership of national NGOs in humanitarian coordination structures, as well as their involvement in humanitarian response through capacity building and funding support. This has contributed to the CAR HF’s growing proportion of direct funding to national NGOs (from 7 per cent in 2022 to 20 percent in 2023, to 30 per cent in 2024) as well as building the financial and protection capacities of 61 partner NGOs.

By valuing and empowering local actors, the humanitarian community aims to deliver a more effective, sustainable, and accountable response tailored to the needs of Central African populations.

Localization also complements the efforts of the government and specialized actors in development and peacebuilding, enhancing synergies between humanitarian and sustainable development initiatives.

Crisis overview

Chad is facing a prolonged humanitarian crisis, with nearly 40 per cent of its population in need of humanitarian assistance. Key drivers include climatic hazards, health emergencies and conflicts. Since the armed conflict in neighbouring Sudan erupted in April 2023, eastern Chad has faced an influx of 708,000 Sudanese refugees and 222,000 Chadian returnees as of November 2024, with more arrivals expected as violence persists. In 2025, an estimated 7.8 million people in Chad will need humanitarian assistance, up from 6 million in 2024. This increase reflects flood-related impacts on food security and livelihoods, along with rising risk of epidemics and disease outbreaks that have strained coping capacities.

Southern Chad is also affected by armed violence from intercommunal conflicts and the security situation in neighbouring Central African Republic, with nearly 30,000 internally displaced persons. Growing intercommunal violence in this region may increase the number of people displaced in 2025. In Chad's Lake region, non-state armed groups (NSAGs) like Boko Haram continue attacks, prompting further displacements. In July 2024, IOM recorded 221,000 internally displaced persons and 41,500 Chadians returnees in this region. Between February and September 2024, 898 protection incidents were reported, representing a significant increase compared to 2023. Boko Haram's increased activity may worsen displacement and protection issues in 2025.

Chad is also significantly impacted by climatic hazards, with floods and droughts heightening food and nutritional insecurity. As of August 2024, an estimated 3.4 million people in Chad were in crisis phase of food insecurity (Phase 3+), with 16 per cent in the emergency phase (Phase 4)—an increase of 1,300,000 people from July 2023. By October 2024, floodings had resulted in 600 deaths and impacted nearly two million people across 23 provinces, half of whom lost their homes. Health facilities, schools and livelihoods were severely impacted, leaving an estimated 432,200 hectares of fields and crops destroyed. The eight southern provinces alone accounted for more than 60 per cent of those affected by the floods, severely impacted the agricultural and fishing capacities, likely increasing assistance needs in 2025.

Chad's already fragile health system faces unprecedented pressure from the growing refugee population and epidemic threats. In 2024, the country battled dengue, Hepatitis E, cholera and measles outbreaks. The risk of these epidemics spreading is particularly high in the eastern, southern and Lake regions, exacerbated by conflicts in neighbouring Sudan, Central African Republic and Nigeria, potentially affecting more people in 2025.

The 2024 humanitarian response plan for Chad, which required US\$1.125 billion, was only 49 per cent funded by October 2024. Projections for 2025 suggest further deterioration of Chad's humanitarian situation, underscoring the urgent need for strengthened interventions for Chad's most vulnerable. Increased advocacy with development partners to make substantial investments in social

PEOPLE IN NEED

7.8 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

6.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.5 billion

Total population

18.8 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2004 – 2025

and productive sectors, are crucial to address both immediate humanitarian needs and long-term development challenges.

Response priorities in 2025

By the first half of 2024, Chad's humanitarian response reached 2.2 million people—nearly half of the targeted population—demonstrating improved response capacity over 2023. However, assessments indicate that without humanitarian aid, affected communities resort to harmful survival strategies, and assistance levels remain insufficient with significant gaps across many sectors. Insecurity from intercommunal conflicts in the south hindered humanitarian efforts, while in the east, the response to the crisis, exacerbated by the influx of Sudanese refugees and Chadian returnees, remains critically underfunded. In the Lake province, inadequate assistance forced some communities to move to Niger. Worsening food and nutritional insecurity led the Chadian government to declare a state of emergency and appeal for international assistance to address the escalating crisis.

In 2025, Chad's humanitarian response will be guided by three strategic priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team:

- strengthening vulnerability-based assistance,
- enhancing localization efforts,
- implementing joint planning between humanitarian and development actors and interventions based on each actor's added value (i.e., the humanitarian-development-peace nexus).

Operationally, humanitarian aid will focus on:

- providing emergency survival assistance, ensuring cross-cutting protection measures,
- improving living conditions by reinforcing community resilience.

In 2025, partners plan to target 6.5 million people of the 7.8 million people provisionally estimated to need humanitarian assistance. This represents a 22 per cent increase in the target population from last year, due to the rising number of people needing humanitarian aid following intensified shocks in 2024. Geographical targeting focuses on the four eastern provinces, where 44 per cent of the total targeted population is located, including 708,000

refugees, 222,000 Chadian returnees, and 1.5 million people affected by critical food insecurity, malnutrition, epidemics and floods. Seven southern provinces represent 28 per cent of the target (1.5 million people). The Lac province represents 10 per cent of the target population (539,000 people) affected by violence, food insecurity, malnutrition and epidemics.

The response will continue to prioritize the three strategic objectives set by the Humanitarian Country Team, aligned with national development plans and the 2024-2046 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Key focuses include protection, gender equality, localization, accountability to affected people, and preparedness for sudden-onset crises, particularly floods and epidemics.

As the humanitarian situation worsens, and response capacity remains limited, some communities will inevitably be excluded from assistance, increasing vulnerability and unmet needs. To more comprehensively address this gap, a new Emergency Development Response approach will be adopted in November 2024 for the eastern provinces, in close collaboration with the Chadian government. This approach aims to introduce sustainable development initiatives alongside humanitarian efforts to support structural and social changes necessary for a transition to long-term development. Key elements include flexible funding, programmes targeting underlying vulnerabilities, and an expanded focus on community development.

Financial requirements

For 2025, the financial requirements for the humanitarian response in Chad total USD\$1.478 billion, a 31 per cent increase from the \$1.124 billion required in 2024 due to rising needs in key sectors. Notably, food security requirements have nearly doubled (from \$145.9 million to \$285.8 million), while water, hygiene, and sanitation needs have risen by 40 per cent (from \$34.1 million to \$47.7 million). The Multi-sectoral Response for Refugees, the largest portion of the budget, increased by 27 per cent (from \$631.6 million to \$800 million). Additionally, support for non-refugee populations—including IDPs, returnees, and host and local communities—has risen by 34 per cent. These increases reflect both growing

humanitarian needs and stronger response capacities across clusters.

A hybrid methodology combining project-based and activity/unit-based approaches was used, to estimate these financial requirements, allowing for more flexibility and accuracy by accounting for fluctuations in market costs, geographical considerations and population dynamics.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In the first half of 2024, humanitarian actors worked diligently to provide food, healthcare, and nutrition services for affected people, including those in remote areas, reaching over 2.2 million people across sectors. Nutrition was a key focus, with 849,537 people receiving vital nutritional programs, largely provided by local NGOs who reached over 80 per cent of people in hard-to-reach areas. Health services reached 610,800 people ensuring continuous access to basic medical care and helping to prevent further spread of diseases. Food security remained a priority, with 568,047 people receiving food aid, reducing malnutrition and supporting families in crisis.

Refugee support was substantial as well, with 760,858 people aided in refugee camps, where coordination and camp management ensured safe and dignified living conditions. These achievements illustrate the strong commitment of international humanitarian actors and local and national NGOs to meet the urgent needs of affected populations.

Consequences of inaction



Underfunding

Insufficient funding for humanitarian activities will leave millions of people in precarious conditions, compromising their lives and dignity. Inadequate funding of the humanitarian response plan could mean millions go without essential food assistance. For example, in 2023 escalated violence in the Lake region triggered multiple displacements, but the lack of funds prevented an effective response.

As of August 2024, 3.4 million people were already in a food crisis (IPC Phase 3+), with limited assistance contributing to an increase to 4.6 million people in Phase 4. Without adequate interventions, this figure could rise, further worsening malnutrition and mortality.

Rising risks of epidemics and outbreaks of waterborne diseases, particularly Hepatitis E and cholera, make funding critical. Without it, establishing potable water and sanitation systems will not be possible, exposing 1.9 million people to preventable diseases.

The 2024 floods have already destroyed many health and water infrastructures, and without sufficient resources, life-saving efforts in several localities in provinces in the south, Lac and the east, will falter, driving up mortality rates.



Access constraints/impediments, attacks against aid workers/facilities

Access constraints, marked by escalating hostilities between NSAGs and Chadian armed forces, along with administrative obstacles for international NGOs, complicate aid delivery. In September 2024 alone, 898 protection incidents were reported. Without improved access in 2025, vulnerable people, especially women and children, will face heightened risks violence.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

HNRP

Crisis overview

The security situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo is dominated by ongoing armed conflict in the eastern provinces, where the DRC’s armed forces confront numerous non-state armed groups (NSAGs). This conflict drives widespread displacement and fuels a protection crisis. While attention often centers on the M23 armed group, numerous other NSAGs—including the Mai-Mai groups, the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), and the Cooperative for Development of the Congo (CODECO)—continue to escalate attacks on civilians, employing indiscriminate violence and terrorizing the population. The provinces of Ituri, Nord-Kivu, and Sud-Kivu are the most affected, but specific areas in the neighboring provinces of Maniema and Tanganyika also experience confrontations involving various NSAGs.

From January to August 2024, the conflict—predominantly in the east—has caused the displacement of 2.47 million people, bringing the total number of displaced persons in the country to 6.3 million as of August 2024. This makes the DRC the second country in Africa with the highest number of internally displaced persons (IDP). The IDP camps and collective IDP sites around Goma now host nearly 600,000 displaced individuals—a record high. The confirmed expansion of NSAGs into new areas in 2024 continues to cause suffering, population displacement, exacerbating socio-economic tensions and security issues, including blatant violations of international humanitarian law such as attacks on humanitarian organizations and displacement sites. The conflict has also significantly reduced civilians’ access to essential services. In the western part of the country, the inter-communal conflict in the Grand Bandundu region, ongoing for more than two years, has displaced over 220,000 people, most of whom are living with host families.

The country is also confronted with the effects of climate change, which have aggravated the impact of recurrent floods in many provinces of the DRC. In 2023, floods impacted a record 4.1 million people. From January to September 2024, over 1.1 million people were affected. The country is also exposed to significant epidemics that increase the vulnerability of the population and put additional pressure on the already precarious health system. As of October 2024, suspected cholera cases have reached 27,000, while measles cases stand at 87,000. Both figures represent a significant decrease compared to 2023. However, Mpox cases have surged alarmingly, with 38,000 suspected cases and 1,000 deaths reported between January and October 2024, a substantial increase from the 14,626 cases identified throughout 2023.

While the conflict in the east is the primary driver of multisectoral humanitarian needs, the DRC has the world’s highest number of people facing acute food shortages with 25.5 million severely food insecure according to the latest IPC report from September 2024. More than 1.39 million children between the ages of 6 to 59 months suffer from severe acute malnutrition, and one in every two children under five suffers from chronic malnutrition. These vulnerabilities are

PEOPLE IN NEED

21.2 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

11.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$2.5 billion

Total population

118 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

1999 – 2025

largely the result of chronic developmental failures in the country, such as weak agricultural production, inadequate transport infrastructure, market dysfunction, underemployment, and reduced purchasing power. These factors reflect the widespread poverty affecting over 60 per cent of the population, who survive on less than \$2.10 per day.

In 2024, the humanitarian community in the DRC agreed to focus on conflict, natural hazards, and infectious disease outbreaks as the primary shocks defining the geographical scope of the humanitarian needs analysis. Consequently, only 64 per cent of the country's health zones —those experiencing at least one of these three shocks— were considered in the analysis for assessing the severity of needs and estimating the PiN. This explains the smaller PiN

compared to last year, as it reflects humanitarian needs attributable to specific shocks.

Looking ahead to 2025, the security situation in the east is expected to remain highly precarious despite the August 2024 ceasefire established with the main armed group. Insecurity will continue to challenge humanitarian access, particularly in the territories of Nord-Kivu and Ituri provinces. Further displacement and growing humanitarian needs are anticipated in the eastern regions if a sustained ceasefire involving the majority of other NSAGs is not achieved. Additionally, the country is expected to continue facing natural hazards such as flooding, exacerbated by climate change. These events are likely to recur in 2025, affecting vulnerable populations and adding pressure to humanitarian response efforts.

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo: Congo River floods severely impacted Kinshasa neighborhoods, with rising waters linked to climate change. Humanitarian concerns include potential epidemics. *OCHA/Wassy Kambale*



Response priorities in 2025

Despite operational and access challenges, humanitarian partners expect to provide assistance to approximately 7.1 million people by the end of 2024—an increase of 3 per cent compared to the 6.9 million people reached in 2023. This achievement was made possible, among other factors, by a better-funded humanitarian response plan compared to the previous year, both in relative and absolute terms. As of 25 November 2024, the humanitarian community in the DRC has secured \$1.3 billion, or 50 per cent of the funding requested in the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan.

In 2025, the efforts of the humanitarian community will primarily focus on saving lives and alleviating the suffering of people affected by recurrent shocks linked to conflicts, natural hazards, and epidemics. This will be achieved through safe, equitable, and inclusive multisectoral life-saving interventions guided by humanitarian principles, which account for at least 60 per cent of the response plan budget. Additionally, humanitarian actors focus on improving safe, equitable, and dignified access to quality basic services for those affected by recurrent shocks, in line with fundamental rights and standards, to safeguard their well-being and prevent further erosion of their coping capacities.

Health zones with an intersectoral severity score of 3 and above will be prioritized for the response, based on a needs analysis conducted using the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) 2 methodology, which was adopted in the DRC. This includes all the health zones of Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Tanganyika provinces in the east of the country, which will constitute the focus of the response in the DRC, as in previous years. Furthermore, certain zones in other provinces—such as those comprising the Grand Bandundu region in the west—and other areas affected by climatic or health shocks where the combination of needs yields intersectoral severity levels at or above the established threshold will also be targeted by specific clusters.

Multisectoral responses will focus on IDPs, along with recent returnees and host communities. Those not displaced by conflict will also be targeted, and assistance will be provided when humanitarian

access—currently the main operational constraint in some eastern areas— becomes possible.

Efforts will be intensified to secure humanitarian access, especially in areas fully controlled by NSAGs, ensuring that assistance is provided in accordance with the humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality and independence. Particular attention will be given to the progressive disengagement of MONUSCO from Ituri and North Kivu provinces and its consequences for humanitarian operations, including lessons learned from its disengagement from South Kivu in 2024.

Recognizing the different nature of crises in targeted areas—such as the differences between the east of the country versus the Grand Bandundu region— efforts will focus on implementing tailored solutions and humanitarian programming to better address people's vulnerabilities and their underlying causes. In 2025, humanitarian actors will pre-position resources to respond to potential needs from natural hazards like floods, and will explore anticipatory actions for timely response. Coordination with development actors will also aim to strengthen prevention efforts and foster long-term solutions.

In 2025, humanitarians will expand the use of multi-purpose cash transfers (MPC) across operations, aligning with the vulnerable populations' preferences and meeting basic needs. Like sectoral cash transfers, MPC implementation will be guided by the feasibility of context-specific cash-based responses. Rapid response mechanisms will also be strengthened and unified to improve responsiveness to sudden displacements caused by conflict and natural disasters.

Collaboration with peace and development actors will be prioritized in all conducive areas—especially zones of return or areas of intercommunal conflict—to ensure complementarity. Given the serious issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in the DRC, including within humanitarian action, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) will focus on preventing, identifying, mitigating, and responding to this issue diligently. Enhanced accountability and community engagement will also be promoted to ensure a response that better aligns with people's needs and expectations.

Financial requirements

In 2025, the humanitarian community in the DRC will require \$2.54 billion to assist 11 million people. Although financial requirements are nearly unchanged from 2024, the number of people targeted has grown significantly, reflecting a more focused 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan that prioritizes needs arising directly from shocks—such as conflicts, natural hazards, and epidemics—while emphasizing the root causes of the crisis for advocacy.

With the adoption of Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework 2.0, the severity of needs analysis is more interoperable, allowing for better prioritization of interventions.

Despite the DRC's response cost being among the highest globally, humanitarian actors have worked to optimize the 2025 budget, allowing for a higher number of people targeted while keeping costs below the 2024 level. This demonstrates a commitment to maximizing resources and ensuring assistance reaches those most in need.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Water, sanitation and hygiene

By the end of August 2024, at least 2.7 million people in hard-to-reach areas affected by humanitarian crises benefited from water, hygiene, and sanitation services.



Nutrition

A total of 1 million acutely malnourished children (aged 6–59 months) and 400,000 pregnant and lactating women are expected to be reached by the end of 2024.



Shelter and NFIs

From January to September 2024, 528,000 people received shelter assistance, and 1,032,000 received essential household items. Among them, 145,000 women and adolescent girls of reproductive age benefited from additional menstrual hygiene kits.



Education

Education sector partners assisted 440,000 children, 50.5 per cent of whom were girls, and 10,000 teachers in areas affected by emergencies, achieving 69 per cent of the sector's target.



Child protection

Over 5,800 children released from armed groups received support from service providers, and 780,000 children received mental health and psychosocial support services.



Health

Between January and August 2024, health cluster partners assisted 3,180,000 people affected by crises—around 40 per cent of the target for the year. This includes 2,750,000 people who had free access to primary health care, 155,000 to secondary health care, and 171,000 to sexual and reproductive health services (births assisted by qualified personnel).



Protection

By August 2024, 3.33 million people received protection services across all protection Areas of Responsibility (AoRs), which is 55 per cent of the target.



Gender-based violence

In the first half of 2024, 61,300 survivors of GBV (89 per cent women and girls) received comprehensive care services tailored to their needs. Local organizations, accounting for 85 per cent of GBV AoR members, received capacity-building support, improving accountability to affected communities and contributing to sustainability.



Protection

A 70 per cent funding gap in the protection sector left 1.48 million people without access to protection activities across all AoRs.



Health

Around 3 million crisis-affected individuals lack access to integrated emergency health care. Emergency sexual and reproductive health services reached less than 30 per cent of women of childbearing age and adolescents.

Access constraints:



Humanitarian access

Humanitarian access has been restricted in some areas during active fighting but typically recover once hostilities subside. However, attacks on humanitarian convoys and intimidation of humanitarian personnel continue to hamper access, jeopardizing aid delivery and access to basic services. Additionally, due to the risk posed by weapons in IDP sites, humanitarian actors have reduced their presence and time spent there, which has negatively impacted the delivery of protection services.



Physical access

Overall, 1.9 million people, including 1.72 million IDPs, could not be assisted due to lack of physical access including inaccessible roads and bridges destroyed by rain.

Consequences of inaction

Underfunding:



Nutrition

By year's end, limited funding will prevent over 220,000 children under five with severe acute malnutrition from receiving essential nutritional treatment



Camp coordination and camp management

Although the camp coordination and camp management cluster achieved substantial coverage in sites, critical humanitarian sectors—notably health, food security, shelter, and WASH—remain largely underserved, due to insufficient resources for site closures and durable solutions.

Crisis overview

Mali continues to grapple with a multifaceted humanitarian crisis mainly driven by persistent conflict-related violence and climate shocks. In 2024, the crisis was exacerbated by unprecedented extreme heat and floods. With over one-third of the population in need of humanitarian assistance, declining funding has forced humanitarian partners to reduce the amount of aid, prioritizing continued support to the most vulnerable, particularly those in remote areas. As of 25 November 2024, the HNRP 2024, which targets 4.1 million people for humanitarian assistance, was 35 per cent funded.

In 2024, as Malian Armed Forces (FAMA) and their partners intensified operations against armed actors, these actors staged an increased number of blockades on villages, retaliatory and deliberate attacks against FAMA and civilians, and imposed heavy road taxes and restrictions on commercial transport. At the same time, security and defense forces from neighboring Niger and Burkina Faso also increased their operations against these armed groups. As a result, the operational environment for humanitarians has become increasingly complex, with organizations and civilians notably exposed to risks of being caught in crossfire, falling victim to improvised explosive devices, car jackings, abductions, and temporary detention. The insecure context has led to significant internal and cross-border displacements and has restricted access to basic services for the most vulnerable populations.

As of 30 September, some 378,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were recorded and nearly 123,000 refugees were settled in central Mali—an 84 per cent increase compared to December 2023. Women and children account for over 50 per cent of the displaced people in Mali and face chronic nutrition, protection, shelter and education needs. In March 2024, the results of the “Cadre harmonisé” recorded 1.3 million people (6 per cent of the population) facing hunger, especially in Gao and Menaka regions. Mali was the only country in West Africa with populations at catastrophic hunger levels, with 2,575 people in IPC 5 in the Menaka region. As of 30 October, 5.1 million people were considered in need of nutrition assistance, with 2.8 million in the emergency phase. The 5.1 million figure marked a 6 per cent increase from last year. Nutrition projections indicate further deterioration in 2025 with more areas expected to shift into the “alert” and “critical” categories.

The protection environment has also deteriorated with over 22,000 human rights violations documented from January to July 2024, including conflict-related sexual violence, violations of children’s rights and violations to the right to life, physical and/or mental integrity. Nearly 1.8 million children, between the ages of 6 and 17, are currently deprived of their right to education. School disruptions caused by conflict, climate change and displacement expose children to increased risks of abuse, violence and exploitation while also hindering their development.

PEOPLE IN NEED

5.9 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

4.6 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$756.8 million

Total population

24.0 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2012 – 2025

This year, climate change became a key driver of vulnerability in Mali. Between July 2024 and the end of October, unprecedented flooding hit all regions of the country, resulting in 92 deaths, 154 people injured and nearly 380,000 affected. The floods also destroyed close to 43,400 houses and buildings, hundreds of water points and some 86,000 acres of crops, raising serious concerns over increases in shelter, WASH, health, food and nutritional needs across the country in 2025.

Humanitarian needs across sectors are expected to grow in 2025 while the operational environment for humanitarian partners in Mali will remain complex. Despite this, humanitarian agencies remain able to deliver assistance in most areas, relying heavily on community engagement and coordination to support ongoing access.

Response priorities in 2025

While over a third of Malians require some form of humanitarian assistance and protection, the HNRP 2024 targeted 4.1 million people (including 23 per cent women and 54 per cent children) for emergency multisectoral assistance to ensure their survival and alleviate their suffering.

In 2025, the humanitarian response in Mali will focus on the most vulnerable populations heavily impacted by core humanitarian concerns, including displacements, conflict-related violence, food insecurity, malnutrition, epidemics and climate shocks, including the unprecedented floods recorded during the second semester of 2024. Humanitarian partners will focus on areas where these challenges intersect most severely while maintaining advocacy for development actors to intensify their support in areas where populations face structural challenges. The number of people in need is therefore expected to reach 5.9 million, a decrease of 21 per cent compared to 2024.

AID IN ACTION

Leading on women's empowerment



Otogenea, Bandiagara Region, Mali: Mariam, leader of the Kana Women's Association, empowers both displaced and host community women by providing gardening kits, seeds, organic fertilizer, and training. Together, these women cultivate crops and produce peanut oil, creating sustainable income and promoting self-reliance. *OCHA/Amadou Kane*

Forced to flee due to insecurity four years ago, Mariam Guindo founded the Kana Women's Association, bringing together 60 members, including 15 internally displaced women.

Thanks to income-generating activities, the group became self-sufficient. With support from the Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa, Mariam empowered women in her community by providing gardening kits, seeds, organic fertilizer tools, and training. Under her leadership, the women expanded their activities to include peanut oil production from groundnuts, helping contribute to their household's expenses. Beyond the economic impact, Mariam led awareness sessions, identified cases of GBV for follow-up, and helped survivors reintegrate. "Awareness and education are key elements for social change and the promotion of women's rights. This kind of initiative promotes the development of entire communities beyond subsistence," she said.

AID IN ACTION

Harvesting hope



Socoura, Mopti Region, Mali: Aly tends his garden in Socoura, cultivating essential food supplies not only for his family but also to support displaced neighbors, embodying resilience and community solidarity. *OCHA/Amadou Kane*

As of 30 September, 378,000 people were internally displaced in Mali, 86 per cent of whom were women and children fleeing conflict and violence. At a time when few welcome strangers, 65-year-old Aly Guindo opened his home to displaced families in Socoura, Mali's Bandiagara region. His support went further, sharing his land to help them earn a living and rekindle hope for the future.

"We traveled 50 km to find shelter in Socoura," recalled Binta Togo, a displaced woman hosted by Guindo. "We had nothing when we arrived. He welcomed us into his home and our source of income became the sale of produce from the garden."

Guindo hosted eight displaced families through the Jigi Tugu (Building Hope) project, which provided hosts like him and vulnerable people the tools and training to engage in sustainable agriculture. Funded by OCHA's Regional Humanitarian Fund for West and Central Africa and implemented by the NGOs CARE Mali and YA-G-TU, the project empowered displaced people with income-generating activities.

A farmer by trade, Guindo was trained in gardening techniques adapted to Mali's varying climate. He also received seeds, tools and organic fertilizer through the project. The project changed families' lives for the better, allowing them to live with dignity through this community-based initiative.

Financial requirements

An estimated \$756.8 million is required to meet life-saving needs and deteriorating living conditions of 4.6 million people. This represents an 8 per cent increase in funding requirements compared to 2024.

As in 2024, the Humanitarian Country Team in Mali used a streamlined methodology, merging the HNO and HRP while applying the Joint and Cross-Sectoral Analysis Framework for an improved analysis of intersectoral humanitarian needs against major shocks including conflict, floods, and epidemics. Considering capacity constraints and the declining global funding landscape, the number of people

targeted and estimated costs remain strictly focused on humanitarian caseloads. The main innovation for 2025 is the use of a hybrid costing methodology based on both activities and projects to improve transparency and governance. The HNRP 2025 will be driven by two strategic objectives:

- Save lives and alleviate suffering for people affected by recurrent shocks through safe, equitable, inclusive multisectoral assistance based on humanitarian principles.
- Improve inclusive, timely and appropriate access to quality basic services for people affected by recurrent shocks in line with fundamental rights and standards.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Between January and June 2024, despite chronic underfunding and increased logistical constraints, humanitarian partners in Mali provided assistance to nearly 750,000 people, nearly 20 per cent of 4.1 million people targeted as part of the HNRP 2024. This overall figure includes:



Protection

200,700 people who received holistic protection services



Education

147,200 who received educational support.



Food security and nutrition

Food security and nutrition partners provided lifesaving assistance to nearly 742,000 people countrywide during this period.

During the first half of the year:



Protection

200,700 people from host and displaced communities benefited from essential protection services



Education

323,000 children accessed quality education in adequate environments

Bla, Ségou Region, Mali: Standing among the rubble of his destroyed home, Bekaye reflects on the hardships of displacement. "We couldn't take anything with us," he shares. Like many flood survivors, Bekaye and his community have sought shelter in schools or temporary facilities, clinging to the hope of rebuilding their lives. *OCHA/Ramatoulaye Moussa Mazou*





Water, hygiene, and sanitation

Water, hygiene, and sanitation partners reached 212,500 people



Health

153,800 people received health assistance.



Shelter and NFIs

62,000 people received shelters and non-food items



Refugee response

The refugee response reached 43,100 people.

By the end of 2024, humanitarian partners project they will have assisted 1.5 million people nationwide.

Consequences of inaction

Underfunding



Food security

As of late October, only 25 per cent of the funding needed for food assistance has been received, leaving 1.3 million people in acute hunger, including 700,000 in food crisis and 2.9 million in food stress. Children under five and pregnant women suffer from acute malnutrition, particularly in IDP sites in the Mopti, Gao and Ménaka regions, where prevalence rates exceed 15 per cent.



Nutrition

In 2024, 1.4 million children under the age of five suffered from acute malnutrition, including 300,000 in severe stages, while over 88,000 pregnant women were also acutely malnourished. Lack of funding has forced humanitarian actors to scale back their operations, resulting in deteriorating conditions for vulnerable groups, particularly in remote areas.



Shelter

Between January and October 2024, insufficient resources meant only 10 per cent of emergency shelter needs for displaced people were covered. As a result, 2.37 million people remained without adequate shelter, exposing them to new risks, particularly during the recent floods in Ménaka, Gao and Timbuktu.



Education

The education sector received only 5 per cent of the funds required as of late October, leaving 1.8 million children out of school. The lack of resources has kept over 90 per cent of schools non-functional, affecting 540,000 pupils and 11,000 teachers, particularly in the Kidal and Ménaka regions.



Health

With only 30 per cent of required funding, health services remain extremely limited. Refugees and IDPs face increased risks of measles, dengue fever and other diseases with epidemic potential, increasing health vulnerabilities in affected regions.

Crisis overview

Niger faces a multidimensional crisis stemming from extreme climate events, growing insecurity, rapid population growth, and chronic poverty. With low resilience to shocks, the county remains highly vulnerable. By 30 September 2024, Niger registered 507,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), marking a 12 per cent increase from the previous year. The Tillabéri and Diffa regions are hardest hit, hosting nearly 78 per cent of all IDPs, while the previously unaffected Dosso region has recently registered around 5,000 IDPs new displacements as of 30 September.

In addition to the deteriorating security situation, severe flooding has further intensified the crisis, impacting over 1.4 million people nationwide. The regions of Maradi (314,000 people), Zinder (264,000 people) and Tillaberi (248,000 people), make up 51 per cent of those impacted. These floods have exacerbated the already challenging humanitarian situation, causing widespread displacement, damaging infrastructure, and worsening food security.

The education sector has also been hit hard by shocks. Although in 2024 the number of school closures decreased from 2023, 779 schools remain closed due to insecurity, affecting about 66,650 students, including 34,500 girls. Recent flooding damaged 5,520 classrooms while 1,969 classrooms are now occupied by displaced families. Consequently, Niger postponed the start of the school year by one month, impacting the education of an estimated 330,000 children on top of those already affected by insecurity.

Beyond education, health and food security are also under severe strain. Over 436,000 children under the age of 5 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition. According to the November 2023 ‘Cadre Harmonisé’, 3.2 million people are severely food insecure (IPC 3 crisis phase and above). Flooding has exacerbated this situation, destroying an estimated 23,000 hectares of crops and jeopardizing food security.

Niger also reported 1,002 Cholera cases with 21 deaths across 13 of its 72 health districts. These compounding crises have significantly reduced the purchasing power of vulnerable communities, who consistently identify food assistance as their primary need during community consultations.

Response priorities in 2025

For 2025, a boundary-setting process was undertaken to focus on the most vulnerable people in departments affected by humanitarian shocks. This approach identified 2.7 million people in need across 31 of the country’s 65 departments. As part of scaling up the flagship initiative, the Niger Humanitarian Country Team has adopted a hybrid planning approach that consists of developing its response plan based on needs expressed by the most affected communities through direct local consultations.

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.7 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.7 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$386.5 million

Total population

28.2 million

Income level

Low income

INFORM Severity Index

4 / High

Consecutive appeals

2011 – 2025

The estimated number of people in need (PiN) for 2025 shows a significant 41.2 per cent decrease compared to the previous year. This reduction is primarily due to a refined scope of analysis, which now includes five humanitarian regions (Diffa, Tahoua, Maradi, Tillabéri and Dosso) concerning the 31 most affected departments. In line with the Joint Inter-Sectoral Analysis Framework 2.0 methodology, refugees have been excluded from IASC cluster PiN estimates to prevent duplication and are now counted solely within the refugee response plan figures. Additionally, returnees who were previously classified as internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been also reclassified as part

of host communities based on official statistics. These methodological changes have contributed to the overall reduction in the PiN estimate which now targets 1.68 million people for humanitarian assistance in 2025.

Financial requirements

For 2025, Niger's humanitarian response plan has been carefully calibrated to address the needs of the most vulnerable. The total financial requirements to cover the target population are estimated at \$386.5 million, representing a significant 41.6 per

Diffa Region, Niger: Young children in N'Guigmi, Diffa benefit from Niger's Flagship Initiative. As part of the Flagship Initiative, community consultations were held to better understand and address the needs of local communities affected by displacement and insecurity. These consultations are a crucial step toward strengthening community resilience and ensuring that humanitarian aid is aligned with local priorities. *OCHA/Temur Sharopov*



cent decrease compared to the previous year. This reduction is primarily due to a 41 per cent decrease in the target population, reflecting a more focused approach in the HNRP, which now covers only five humanitarian regions. Financial requirements were estimated using a unit-based approach, deriving a unit cost per person by averaging the financial requirements per person targeted over the past four years in Niger. This average cost is then applied to the current target population to determine the total financial needs. This methodology ensures a more precise estimate of financial requirements, closely aligned with the expressed needs of the most affected people.⁴⁰

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

As of 30 September 2024, humanitarian partners in Niger have reached 3 million people across at least one sector, representing 79 per cent of the 2024 HNRP target. This achievement is notable, especially considering that only 45% of the required funding has been reported. This discrepancy between the high number of people assisted and the relatively low funding level could be attributed to two main factors. First, the clusters may have included non-HNRP projects in their reported estimates, potentially inflating the number of people reached. Secondly, there might be underreporting of funded projects in the UN Financial Tracking System, leading to an inaccurate representation of the actual funding received. These factors highlight the need for more accurate reporting and tracking mechanisms to ensure a clear understanding of the humanitarian response's reach and funding status.

Consequences of inaction

- In the aftermath of the July 2023 coup d'état, Niger's new authorities implemented measures that restrict the movement of humanitarian actors within the country. These administrative constraints have delayed or prevented the delivery of essential services, exacerbating the suffering and vulnerability of affected communities. Additionally, these restrictions have driven up the cost of humanitarian operations, as humanitarian organizations are forced to adopt adaptive measures such as using fixed instead of mobile teams capable of serving multiple sites.
- To ensure the safety of humanitarian workers, the government has imposed armed escorts in all areas of military operations. This requirement affects the entire Tillabéri region and parts of Tahoua, Diffa and Maradi, and more recently, the entire Dosso region. In certain regions, Governors now require the presence of a representative of the prefecture during field missions carried out by humanitarian organizations. The costs associated with their presence, along with those of armed escorts, are drawn from the limited funding available. This significantly impacts the funds available for direct assistance to people in need of lifesaving assistance, but also contravenes humanitarian principles. The situation is further complicated by the verbal transmission of government decisions and impositions, creating confusion among humanitarian workers.
- These constraints have severely impacted humanitarian reach to people in need and hindered vulnerable communities' ability to obtain basic essential services for their survival. Consequently, from 1 January to 31 July 2024, at least 1,112,546 people in need did not receive or faced delays in receiving critical life-saving humanitarian assistance, including more than 600,000 in the food security sector. Moreover, over 80,000 malnourished children have been left without necessary care.⁴¹

40 The budget is based on a unit-based approach. At the end of community consultations analysis, the final budget will be based on activities that respond to the humanitarian needs expressed by the communities, with consideration of other emergency activities to respond to possible shocks that could affect the humanitarian context during the year.

41 Data from the document "Compiled file of the consequences of inaction" as of July 31, 2024.

Crisis overview

Nigeria faces extensive humanitarian challenges, with an estimated 33 million people experiencing food insecurity. Additionally, 1.8 million children in six north-eastern and northwestern states are at risk of severe acute malnutrition— among the highest global levels according to the IPC. Weak rule of law institutions and ongoing conflict involving Boko Haram have led to an acute protection crisis, displacing millions, destroying critical infrastructure, disrupting livelihoods and restricting humanitarian assistance.

Climate change, rapid population growth—projected to reach 400 million by 2050 according to the World Bank—mismanaged dams and poor urban planning have made Nigeria one of Africa’s most flood-prone countries. Recent floods affected 34 out of 36 states, with Borno being the most severely impacted. Flooding claimed 320 lives, affected 1.4 million people, displaced 730,000 individuals, destroyed 120,000 houses. About 260,000 hectares of farmland were destroyed resulting in harvest loss equivalent to food for 13 million people. These floods also disrupted agricultural production, worsened food insecurity, and caused waterborne disease, including cholera.

Nigeria’s humanitarian situation is further impacted by a severe economic crisis marked by soaring inflation and currency devaluation. Inflation is projected to peak at 35 per cent in 2025, with a 30 per cent surge in prices reported in September 2024 alone. Many families cannot afford basic food items due to rising costs, compounded by floods and agricultural output. The naira’s cumulative 70 per cent devaluation against the US dollar between 2023-2024 has also driven up the cost of food imports food and agricultural inputs. Persistently high inflation and a weakened currency will likely maintain elevated food prices throughout 2025, intensifying vulnerabilities among millions.

A severe nationwide cholera outbreak is intensifying humanitarian needs, especially in the northern states of Borno, Adamawa, Jigawa, Yobe, and Kano. By mid-October, over 14,000 suspected cases and 378 deaths were reported. Recent floods and inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure have exacerbated the rapid spread of disease. The combination of natural disasters and public health emergencies strains already limited healthcare resources, escalating the urgency for humanitarian assistance.

Violence continues in the BAY states (Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe) after 15 years of conflict. The nature of conflict has evolved in recent years, shifting from large-scale attacks on military or government facilities to predatory attacks targeting civilians. Whilst military casualties have decreased, civilian casualties have been steadily increasing, with over 4,000 civilians killed in the BAY states last year. Displacement and disrupted livelihoods require sustained support, as ongoing instability continues to hinder access to basic services.

The 2025 People in Need (PiN) estimate reflects contextual changes, with slight decrease from from 7.9 million people in 2024 to 7.8 million in 2025. However, the nutrition sector has seen a 27 per cent increase in PiN, driven by food insecurity, and inadequate access to health, water and sanitation. Economic hardships

PEOPLE IN NEED

7.8 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

3.6 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$900.0 million

Total population

229.2 million

Income level

Low middle income

INFORM Severity Index

5 / Very high

Consecutive appeals

2014 – 2025

have contributed to worsening food security, with one in four children under five experiencing acute malnutrition in some areas. Shelter needs has also increased by 11 per cent, likely due to displacement from floods and conflict. Meanwhile, PiN for education and health decreased by 13 per cent and 8 per cent, respectively, possibly due to improvements or shifts in the focus of interventions. These changes underscore the evolving humanitarian landscape in the BAY states and the need for adaptive strategies to address emerging challenges in 2025 and beyond.

Severity analysis reveals that most local government areas (LGAs) in the BAY states are at severity level 3, indicating severe conditions. A total of 17 LGAs in Yobe, 15 in Adamawa, and 13 in Borno are determined to be at severity level 3. Nine LGAs are at severity level 4, requiring immediate life-saving interventions—8 in Borno and 1 in Adamawa. Ten LGAs, split between Adamawa and Borno, are at severity level 2 with strained basic services. Only one LGA in Borno is at severity level 1. No area or LGA is at severity level 5. These Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework results underscore areas of greatest needs and where interventions should be prioritized.

AID IN ACTION

Saving Jamila: A story of local support in north-east Nigeria



Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria: Hadiza, 26, and her 18-month-old daughter, Jamila, at an outpatient therapeutic programme managed by Life at Best Development Initiative. *OCHA/Princewill Chukwuebuka James*

Earlier this year, Hadiza Abubakar's 18-month-old daughter, Jamila, began rejecting food and losing weight. Hadiza, 26, thought it was only a minor illness and treated her with traditional remedies.

But when Jamila began vomiting after every meal and continued losing weight, Hadiza

grew desperate. "The stress of watching my daughter's health deteriorate made me lose my own appetite," Hadiza shared. "My husband was worried and seeking help everywhere. I stopped eating because I was so scared my baby would die."

Fortunately, volunteers from Life at Best Development Initiative (LABDI), a local non-governmental organization supported by the OCHA-managed Nigeria Humanitarian Fund, visited Hadiza's community to raise awareness about malnutrition. During this visit Hadiza learned about LABDI's outpatient therapeutic programme, and immediately took Jamila. Doctors diagnosed Jamila with moderate acute malnutrition and malaria. She was treated for malaria and given ready-to-use therapeutic food, a peanut-based paste, to aid her recovery.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2024, despite numerous challenges, significant progress was made in reaching people in need. The food security, health and protection sectors reached 60 per cent, 72 per cent, and 100 per cent of their target populations, respectively. Notably, 57 per cent of those assisted (3.2 million) were women and girls, many of whom received support for gender-based violence (GBV). These achievements were facilitated by relatively good funding levels of the HRP (56 percent as of November 2024) and proactive planning, targeting and dynamic prioritization, such as the lean season plan. However, the impact of flooding and cholera outbreaks stretched resources, and diverted resources away from planned interventions. This underscores the need to increase emphasis on anticipatory action and improved targeting through preparedness planning.

For 2025, the humanitarian response will continue the two-year strategy adopted in the 2024 HRP, focusing on three main objectives: providing life-saving assistance, protecting rights, and promoting transformation of the operation and empowerment of affected people and local partners. Underpinning these strategic objectives is an emphasis on improving the efficiency and impact of aid delivery, working more closely with government and development partners to address the underlying causes of vulnerability, enhancing the role of local partners, reducing transaction costs and finding more efficient modalities of delivery, while improving accountability to affected people. Efforts will also be made to find alternative resources, including through the Government. The HCT in Nigeria has committed to 10 per cent of the operation being channeled through local partners. A changing context, funding environment, and other factors necessitate a smarter, more agile response approach to effectively address people's needs and optimize resource allocation in certain parts of the BAY states.

Due to operational challenges including funding and capacity constraints, the number of people targeted for assistance in 2025 has been adjusted

to align with realistic capacities. Current resources are expected to reach approximately 2.8 million people, down from 3.6 million targeted in 2024. This reduction reflects careful boundary-setting and prioritization.

Prioritizing and targeting of people in need has been determined based on the multi-sector severity scale, with the subsequent priorities outlined below.

Priority 1 focuses on areas with severity level 4 (extreme), requiring immediate life-saving interventions in parts of Borno and Adamawa states, costing \$485 million to reach 2 million people.

Priority 2 targets severity level 3 (severe) areas, concentrating on vulnerable groups and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps with unmet basic needs, aiming to provide essential services and support durable solutions with \$320 million to assist 1.3 million people. **Priority 3** focuses on anticipatory action and proactive approaches to address cyclical humanitarian events like flooding and disease outbreaks, aiming to shift from reactive measures to a proactive cycle that reduces suffering and enhances efficiency. This collaborative effort requires \$45 million to meet the needs of 300,000 people by ensuring preparedness and swift action through coordination among the government, development partners, humanitarian actors, and affected communities.

Nigeria has some of world's highest levels of humanitarian needs. While the HCT recognizes that many needs exist elsewhere in the country, they do not believe that they are best addressed through the HNRP. Crisis level malnutrition in the north-west of Nigeria and large-scale displacement will therefore seek a different model where humanitarian and development actors act in tandem to address these issues. Emphasis will be on the leadership of government and their allocation of resources. Equal focus will be given to a localized approach, aimed at building or strengthening local institutions. This strategy seeks to ensure that humanitarian interventions remain limited in scope and duration, prioritizing efforts to address the root causes of vulnerability.

Financial requirements

In 2025, the humanitarian community in the north-east and northwest requires \$900 million to provide life-saving and life-sustaining assistance to 3.6 million people. The funding requirement reflects improved prioritization, targeting as well as boundary setting. It is envisaged that efficiency gains can be made through reducing transaction costs, modes of delivery and what is being delivered. While the funding requirement has decreased from \$1.3 billion in 2023, to \$926.5 million in 2024 and to \$900 million in 2025, the number of people in need has remained relatively stable. The HCT has adopted an activity-based costing methodology, with light project formulation from sector partners to gauge capacity in high-risk operational contexts.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

In 2024, 3.2 million people received aid, including over 2 million in hard-to-reach areas. Notably, 57 per cent of those assisted were women and girls, many of whom received support for GBV. The food security, health, and protection sectors reached 60 per cent, 72 per cent, and 100 per cent of their target populations, respectively.

A swift response was implemented for the Maiduguri flash floods that affected half a million people, including an effective cholera response. By prioritizing the lean season with a multi-sector plan, clear prioritization and sequencing of activities were implemented, including anticipatory action.

As part of the flood response, protection sector partners reached 1,280 individuals through sessions on child protection, GBV prevention, human rights, healthcare access, mental health, and psychosocial support. Efforts to support vulnerable populations included providing mental health and psychosocial support to 1,200 flood-affected individuals and offering psychosocial first aid to 1,700 people. Partners managed 63 cases of GBV, provided PeP kits to 163 survivors, and referred 124 individuals for specialized services like medical assistance and family reunification. Awareness-raising activities

reached 8,695 people, focusing on cholera prevention and hygiene. Additionally, 500,000 children under one-year-old received oral cholera vaccinations, improving health outcomes in affected communities.

Consequences of inaction

Underfunding and limited resources are posing severe threats to humanitarian efforts. Without additional funding, the following consequences are imminent:



Collapse of critical pipelines

Many of the interventions in the HNRP are time-sensitive. Delays in funding could lead to the collapse of key pipelines such as nutrition programs, with dire consequences for vulnerable children.



Suspension of malnutrition facilities

Nearly one-third of the 813 facilities managing acute malnutrition across the BAY states may suspend operations in the fourth quarter.



Reversal of food security gains

Reduced assistance means that hard-won progress in mitigating food insecurity is at risk. Without an extended lean season response, more individuals may fall into worse food security classifications.



Rising malnutrition rates

Without sustained nutrition assistance, the number of acutely malnourished cases in hotspot LGAs could rise to 1 in 3. This spike is due to cholera outbreaks, flash flooding, food shortages, price hikes, deteriorating infant feeding practices, and poor hygiene conditions.

Funding constraints have also led to reduced transfer values, deteriorating access to food for already vulnerable households. Recent floods and high inflation rates are compounding these issues, especially for those who rely entirely on emergency assistance. If funding falls short of targets, reduced access to nutritious food will further increase morbidity and mortality rates, particularly among children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and people with disabilities. Malnutrition will intensify, leading to higher susceptibility to diseases and potentially fatal outcomes.

Moreover, food insecurity is heightening protection risks. Many IDPs in camps and return areas are not engaged in meaningful livelihood activities and depend heavily on overstretched food assistance. This situation is forcing many to adopt negative coping mechanisms. Reports indicate that women and girls are resorting to transactional sex, while children are turning to begging or engaging in child labor to survive. Insufficient funding could exacerbate these risks, leading to increased exploitation, abuse, and long-term social consequences.

AID IN ACTION

Strengthening local actors' participation in humanitarian responses in north-east Nigeria



Nigeria OCHA

Local organizations are critical first responders during humanitarian crises, mobilizing resources and delivering aid quickly. Their understanding of their communities allows them to quickly identify and assist the most vulnerable people ensuring that help is directed where it is needed most.

Local organizations have a unique understanding of the cultural dynamics, local context and the specific needs of affected people, which enables them to deliver assistance effectively and sensitively.

“As national organizations, we are closer to the community than most international organizations because we speak the same the language and most of them are our brothers and sisters,” said Abubakar Askira, from the Hallmark Leadership Initiative Nigeria.

Recognizing the vital role that local civil society organizations (CSOs) play, OCHA in Nigeria is providing training, resources, and support to strengthen their operational capabilities.

Since early 2024, OCHA Nigeria has conducted two capacity-strengthening workshops for 48 CSO participants in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states. Participants, selected by CSO networks, include women-and youth-led organizations and groups focused on disability.

By investing in local organizations, OCHA aims to build more resilient humanitarian response, empowering these groups to continue their work long after international agencies have left the scene.



Regional Refugee Response Plans

In 2025, UNHCR will continue working with a wide range of partners to implement five Regional Refugee Response Plans (RRPs) that support host governments to protect and assist refugees as well as the communities receiving them. These will include Regional Plans for refugees from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Sudan and Ukraine. In addition, UNHCR and UNDP will continue to co-lead the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan in response to the Syria crisis (3RP). In total, these regional plans cover 32 countries.

The 2025 Regional Response Plans (RRPs) are inter-agency planning, coordination, and fundraising tools developed under the leadership or co-leadership of UNHCR to assist host governments in protecting and supporting refugees, returnees, and host communities. Aligned with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), these structured yet flexible frameworks deliver effective responses for both emergency and protracted situations. The RRP adopt a “whole-of-society” approach, fostering inclusive partnerships with diverse actors, including NGOs, local and national organizations, faith-based organizations, UN agencies, development actors and the private sector.

Localization is an even stronger priority in the 2025 RRP, which are increasingly including, engaging and providing visibility for engagement with local and national actors, including those led by forcibly displaced and stateless people.



Ouaddaï, Chad: Crowds of women gather at the Madjigilta site near the Sudan border, waiting for relief kits to be distributed to newly arrived Sudanese refugees, offering vital support to families in need. *UNHCR/Colin Delfosse*

RRPs remain guided by an age, gender, and diversity (AGD) lens, where meaningful participation is pursued to ensure that refugees, returnees, asylum-seekers, and host communities themselves are actively involved in every phase of the response cycle. In addition, accountability to affected populations is fundamental to each RRP, with a particular focus on amplifying the voices of women and girls in shaping decisions and programmes that impact them.

Cash-based assistance is preferred where appropriate, while in-kind support continues where necessary, enhancing refugees' choice in meeting their own needs.

At the core of the 2025 RRP is also a commitment to enhancing resilience and social cohesion systematically, embedding longer-term interventions that promote refugee inclusion and self-reliance from the outset. Where feasible, investing in sustainable responses is being adopted through RRP aiming to integrate objectives on inclusion and solutions into national development plans and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, where present, and increasing engagement with development and peace actors early in the response to

enable a shift from emergency assistance to contributing to solutions.

The RRP will adjust as national systems are reinforced, ensuring that protection and essential services remain accessible, and that responses stay coherent with evolving needs.

The 2025 RRP will also address the socioeconomic challenges exacerbated by conflict, climate change, and rising costs of living, particularly in regions where vulnerabilities are high. Climate resilience activities will be enhanced in recognition of climate change's impact on displacement. The plans mainstream protection across all interventions, prioritizing safe environments and minimizing risks for refugees and host communities. Protecting from and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and sexual harassment is a cross-cutting priority in line with interagency commitments.

Through strengthened partnerships, RRP equip governments to meet urgent needs, pursue long-term solutions, and address root causes. RRP promote stability and shared well-being across communities, providing a predictable, coordinated response that respects the unique needs of both refugees and their host communities.

Jordan: Noor, a 23-year-old poet from Dara'a, Syria, has lived in Zaatari camp for nine years since seeking asylum in 2015 after outbreak of conflict in her home country. She channels her experiences into poetry, using her writing as a powerful means of expression and reflection.
UNHCR/Shawkat Alharfoush



Afghanistan RRP

Crisis overview

In 2024, Afghanistan's humanitarian and human rights situation continued to deteriorate. Since 2021, over 1.6 million Afghans have sought safety and protection in Iran and Pakistan, which now host over 8 million Afghans. This year, Afghans became the world's largest refugee population, surpassing Syrians.

The "non-return" advisory UNHCR issued in August 2021 remains in effect, and was reaffirmed in February 2023 with an updated [Guidance Note on International Protection Needs of People Fleeing Afghanistan](#). The guidance note urges States to grant access to Afghan nationals and, in cases where asylum systems are overwhelmed, to establish temporary protection or stay arrangements with safeguards for Afghan nationals. These arrangements should remain until Afghanistan's security, humanitarian, rule of law, and human rights conditions have improved enough to enable safe, dignified voluntary repatriation.

Nevertheless, over 156,000 Afghans returned from Pakistan in the first half of the year. In the areas of return, essential needs include documentation and protection services for children and women, housing, financial assistance and food aid. Sustainable return also depends on economic opportunities for refugees and host communities through investments in entrepreneurship, improved access to markets and Sharia-compliant microfinance.

Conditions for Afghan women and girls have worsened over recent years due to increasingly restrictive measures imposed by the de facto authorities. Due to their particularly precarious protection situation, women and girls face heightened risk of gender-based violence (GBV), exploitation, abuse and trafficking, which exacerbate the dangers for those fleeing for safety. Afghans without documentation also face heightened risks of exploitation and human trafficking, worsened by unclear, opaque and unfair asylum procedures, which contribute to heightened irregular border crossings and onward movements.

The situation for Afghans in neighbouring host countries has also become increasingly challenging. Economic fragility limits livelihoods opportunities, the cost of living is rising sharply, xenophobia is on the rise. The 1.6 million Afghans who have sought refuge in Iran and Pakistan since 2021 are straining resources in both countries. Iran and Pakistan, now hosting nearly 8 million Afghans combined, along with other countries hosting Afghan refugees, require ongoing and increased support, in line with the [Global Compact on Refugees](#) (GCR) and the [Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees \(SSAR\)](#) to continue providing essential aid.

As of June 2024, the Islamic Republic of Iran is the world's largest refugee-hosting country, with at least 3.8 million refugees and persons in need of international protection, including more than 1 million who have arrived since 2021. Despite economic challenges, Iran has maintained inclusive health and education policies to all 4.5 million Afghans residing there. The Government is also issuing smart ID cards to undocumented Afghans who participated in a national headcount exercise, helping to regularize their documentation and improve access to services. However, the worsening economy is contributing to

PEOPLE IN NEED

7.3 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

7.3 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$624.5 million

Countries covered:

Pakistan, Iran

Refugees and returnees

4.8 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

2.8 million

tensions over perceived job competition between refugees and host communities; up to 418,000 Afghans have returned to Afghanistan, with an estimated 30 per cent subsequently re-entering Iran.

Pakistan is currently home to about 1.3 million Afghan refugees (as of June 2024) and over 1.5 million Afghans of other status. Pakistan's long-standing and commendable tradition of welcoming asylum-seekers faced challenges in 2023 with the Government's Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan (IFRP), which aimed to repatriate over one million foreign nationals without valid documents to their countries of origin. By October 2024, about 755,000 Afghans, mostly undocumented, returned to Afghanistan due to pressure and fear of arrest. However, returns decreased significantly in 2024, following a pause in the IFRP roll-out.

Refugee Response Plan (RRP) partners remain concerned about the risk of involuntary returns from Pakistan and Iran. Women and girls, journalists, musicians, artists, and ethnic minorities, are especially at risk due to the human rights situation in Afghanistan. In Iran, efforts are focused on ensuring access to territory, asylum and social protection. RRP partners will work with the Government to reduce barriers to documentation and legal status, while complementary support will target the most vulnerable groups, including improved child protection and safety for women and girls. In addition, partners will support the extension of inclusive state education and health care services for Afghan refugees to safeguard equitable access.

In Pakistan, the RRP will support the Government in helping Afghan refugees and those of other legal status realize their rights in line with international protection standards. This includes documentation, humanitarian protection, GBV mitigation and response, and child protection services. Alongside access to inter-sectoral essential services, the plan prioritizes investments in human capital, recognizing the challenges of maintaining basic living conditions for both Afghans and host communities.

Response priorities in 2025

The 2024-2025 RRP recognizes the significant contributions of host countries and reaffirms a regional, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral approach.

As the refugee situation becomes more protracted, in addition to required protection services and life-saving assistance, this approach will increasingly focus on strengthening resilience efforts and catalyzing development investments to support host countries.

In 2025, the RRP will follow four regional strategic objectives, prioritizing community-based interventions and cross-border collaboration to:

Coordinate efforts towards solutions aligned with the SSAR.

Adopt a humanitarian-development nexus approach to build resilient communities, anchored in government systems wherever possible. This will reinforce the local and national systems of host countries that have supported Afghans for decades, in the spirit of international responsibility-sharing and in line with the GCR. Priorities include reinforcing national education and healthcare infrastructure and supporting livelihoods for both Afghans and host communities.

Support host governments in ensuring access to territory, asylum and protection in accordance with international standards. This includes respect for the principle of non-refoulement, as well as ensuring admission, reception, individual registration and documentation.

Respond to the basic needs of the most at risk, including via sustained support to government-led emergency preparedness and a multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral response to newly displaced individuals due to conflict, disaster and other crises, as well as to those affected by rising living costs.

Regional cross-cutting priorities also include mainstreaming age, gender, and diversity approaches, with a particular focus on disability inclusion and youth. Mental health and psychosocial support will address challenges such as displacement, poverty, limited livelihood opportunities, traditional gender roles, social cohesion challenges that affect Afghan mental health and well-being across the region. Additional priorities include accountability to affected people, GBV risk mitigation, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and localization, with a substantial portion of RRP activities implemented by local organizations.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Regional | Education

89,200 children (Afghan refugees and of other statuses, and members of the host community) accessed primary (66,800) & secondary (22,400) education.

30 Jun 2024



Regional | Health

287,400 Afghans supported with health-care services.

30 Jun 2024



Regional | Protection

60,000 individuals provided with counselling on registration, documentation & international protection.

30 Jun 2024



Regional | Water, sanitation and hygiene

102,400 individuals received hygienic supplies.

30 Jun 2024



Iran | Education

17,000 children (Afghan refugees and of other statuses, and members of the host community) accessed primary (12,600) & secondary (4,400) education.

30 Jun 2024



Iran | Health

70,200 Afghans supported through Universal Public Health Insurance (UPHI).

7 health facilities supported with equipment, medicines and medical supplies or staff salaries.

30 Jun 2024



Iran | Protection

60,000 individuals provided with counselling on registration, documentation & international protection. 4,200 people received legal support.

30 Jun 2024



Iran | Water, sanitation and hygiene

53,800 individuals received hygienic supplies. 1,700 people reached through installation or rehabilitation of the water supply.

30 Jun 2024



Pakistan | Education

54,100 children (Afghan refugees and of other statuses, and members of the host community) accessed primary education.

30 Jun 2024



Pakistan | Health

210,400 Afghans accessed primary healthcare services. 40,000 children (aged 6-59 months) provided with multiple micronutrient powder.

30 Jun 2024



Pakistan | Protection

170 newly identified children at heightened risk supported by a Best Interests Procedure.

72,400 or 51 per cent of women and girls accessed friendly spaces.

35,800 or 45 per cent of individuals received legal assistance.

30 Jun 2024



Pakistan | Water, sanitation and hygiene

38,500 individuals benefitted from the installation or rehabilitation of the sanitation and solid waste management system.

30 Jun 2024

Key support areas—contingent on this funding—include retention and transition to formal education through remedial catch-up classes and school readiness programmes, education support for refugee children with disabilities, cash and in-kind assistance for students, construction and improvement of facilities, and access to tertiary and higher education. Failing to address these needs could greatly strain the national education system and significantly raise the number of children who are out of school. Additionally, limited capacity leaves more Afghan families unable to enroll their children, increasing child protection risks.



Pakistan | Health and nutrition

\$22 million is needed to meet the nutritional needs of 2.8 million people. Only 10 per cent of this population has been reached with current funding of \$6 million. Due to limited funds, critical nutrition sites have closed, directly impacting refugees and host communities. Key underfunded areas include treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), provision of micronutrient supplements, and support for maternal, infant, young child, and adolescent nutrition, including infant and young child feeding practices and key family care practices. Treating SAM in inpatient care and addressing moderate acute malnutrition through targeted supplementary feeding programmes has been extremely challenging, with funding at only 3 per cent. This funding gap threatens the operation of dedicated health facilities and the availability of skilled nutrition staff in refugee settlements, which provide integrated support including nutrition services.

Consequences of inaction



Iran | Education

RRP partners have prioritized support to inclusive education services. Iran hosts a large youth refugee population, many of whom are Afghan girls and women excluded from secondary education in Afghanistan. An additional \$48 million is needed to support 220,000 school-aged children.

Democratic Republic of the Congo **RRP**

Crisis overview

The humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is among the world’s most complex, marked by protracted displacement both within the country and across borders. Ongoing violence, including clashes between armed groups, human rights abuses, and gender-based violence (GBV), has intensified protection and life-saving needs, forcing many to seek asylum in neighbouring countries. This violence is especially severe in eastern provinces bordering Rwanda and Uganda. In the first half of 2024 alone, over 940,000 people were displaced due to escalating hostilities. Pre-existing vulnerabilities worsen the situation, with displaced people facing high risks from limited livelihood opportunities, and inadequate shelter and sanitation facilities.

In April 2024, the IASC Principals (representing 20 NGOs and UN agencies) issued an urgent warning about record levels of sexual violence, forced displacement, and hunger. This crisis is expected to persist and possibly worsen in 2025 amid ongoing instability. A responsible transition of the MONUSCO mission in North Kivu and Ituri is necessary to prevent further destabilization.

As of September 2024, an estimated 8.4 million people have been displaced due to the crisis in the DRC. Of those, 7.3 million are internally displaced and over 1 million have sought refuge in neighboring countries, including Angola, Burundi, the Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. The number of refugees from the DRC seeking international protection rose by approximately 36,500 in the first nine months of 2024.

With limited prospects for voluntary return and third-country solutions, the DRC refugee population is expected to grow in 2025. This will increase pressure on host countries, which are already managing challenges like high population growth, food insecurity, worsening socio-economic conditions and the adverse effects of climate change.

For three decades, host governments and communities have generously provided safety to refugees from the DRC and continue to welcome new arrivals. However, refugee policies and legislation vary widely across the region. Some countries have progressive policies aligned with the Global Compact on Refugees, which enhance refugee protection and promote inclusion and solutions. Others, however, enforce restrictive policies that risk trapping refugees in cycles of deprivation, perpetuating dependency on external aid. For example, continued encampment policies confine refugees to overcrowded settlements, increasing vulnerability to diseases like measles, cholera and malaria and exacerbating food insecurity that can force families to resort to harmful coping strategies.

Given these challenges, refugee needs are likely to remain extensive in 2025 and beyond. This underscores the need to work with host governments to promote refugee self-reliance and resilience. Key actions include ensuring refugees’ right to work and access to national services such as healthcare, education and banking.

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.1 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.1 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$690.2 million

Countries covered

Angola, Burundi, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

Refugees and returnees

1.1 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

1.0 million

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, partners will continue to implement the priorities outlined in the two-year DRC Regional RRP, launched in 2024. The expanded scope of the RRP reflects both the need for lifesaving emergency assistance and the need to address the protracted nature of the crisis. With many DRC refugees displaced for decades, the plan focuses on building resilience and self-reliance within communities to move towards lasting solutions.

In 2025, the DRC RRP seeks \$690.2 million to protect and assist 2.1 million refugees and host communities, guided by the following regional strategic objectives:

1. Enhance the protection environment

Building on the progress from 2024, partners will work with governments to safeguard unhindered access to asylum and international protection, and promote refugees' rights. A key focus will be collaborating with host governments to adopt and implement progressive refugee policies that support solutions. Partners will maintain a needs-based approach with age, gender and diversity integrated across all programmes. Responses will also include risk mitigation measures and maintain a strong commitment to accountability to affected people.

2. Support dignified lives and access to basic services

Partners will expand needs-based approaches to provide timely, targeted assistance through community-driven programmes. These programmes will offer in-kind and cash-based assistance and tailored services for vulnerable refugees. To bolster social cohesion and follow a "do no harm" approach, partners will address needs in host communities living alongside refugees. Where possible, interventions will be temporary, focusing on preventing further deterioration among the most vulnerable

refugees and addressing the underlying causes of their vulnerability.

3. Promote access to and inclusion into national systems:

Following host government pledges made at the Global Refugee Forum, partners will work with national agencies to expand refugees' access to inclusive national systems. This includes promoting access to education, healthcare, employment and social services, while also strengthening public institutions to ensure that policies benefit both refugees and host communities.

4. Promote self-reliance and pursue durable solutions:

To address the root causes of vulnerability, partners will promote self-reliance and seek solutions wherever possible. At the local level, this involves creating sustainable livelihood opportunities and financial independence. For vulnerable refugees, including those with specific needs or medical conditions, resettlement and complementary pathways will remain key when local solutions are unavailable. Partners will also continue supporting voluntary returns for those who choose to repatriate.

Localization will remain central, ensuring a more community-based, sustainable response. This involves ongoing collaboration with host governments and local authorities to implement inclusive policies aligned with national development frameworks. Partners will commit to capacity-sharing with local organizations, engaging them throughout the RRP programming cycle to ensure the response is accountable, cost-effective and timely. Additionally, partners uphold a zero-tolerance approach to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). All organizations involved in the RRP will mainstream measures to prevent and mitigate SEA risks through their programming.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Regional | Food security

RRP partners have provided regular food assistance, both in-kind and cash-based, to thousands of refugees each month. In Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Burundi and Angola—hosting about 90 per cent of DRC refugees targeted under the RRP—partners reached 627,470 refugees between January and September 2024.

Jan - Sep 2024



Zambia | Basic needs/cash assistance

1,689 refugee households (over 8,000 individuals) with specific needs—facing barriers to accessing services or assistance—received cash assistance while 1,622 DRC refugee households (nearly 7,800 people) received cash assistance to aid recovery from the ongoing drought.

30 June 2024



Burundi | Energy/NFI

Approximately 80 per cent of refugee households (about 14,000) received clean and energy-efficient cooking technologies, such as environmentally friendly briquets.

30 June 2024



Rwanda | Education

Refugees from DRC have access to government education services and partners have helped them overcome financial barriers to learning. 609 refugees accessed higher education, including through the DAFI (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) programme.

30 June 2024



Tanzania | Public health and nutrition

Partners supported primary health facilities to provide over 127,000 consultations for refugees from the DRC and host community members in the first nine months of the year.

30 June 2024



Uganda | Livelihoods and economic inclusion

RRP partners, working alongside the Government, assisted 39 per cent of DRC refugee households to access land for agricultural activities.

Over 17,000 refugees received training in agricultural practices and climate-smart technologies, while 19,811 were trained in entrepreneurship, financial literacy, business management, and group dynamics.

30 June 2024

Consequences of inaction



Health

Across the region, funding shortfalls have significantly affected the availability and quality of healthcare for DRC refugees. In Uganda, a 15 per cent funding reduction has caused a shortage of 735 healthcare professionals in refugee-supporting facilities. In Tanzania's overcrowded camps, similar funding gaps mean there is an average of one doctor for every 10,000 refugees. Additionally, more than half of the health facilities in Nyarugusu camp, the largest camp for DRC refugees in Tanzania, have closed. Referral services, which provide access to secondary and tertiary healthcare for refugees, have also been affected, with UNHCR in Rwanda limiting referrals to emergency cases only. Underfunded refugee health programmes not only delay and reduce the quality of health-care delivered to refugees, but also jeopardize long-term health outcomes by precluding early or preventative treatments that could reduce the need for specialized and costly care.



Education

Funding shortages have sharply limited educational opportunities for young DRC refugees, disrupting families' efforts to rebuild their lives and provide for their children's future. In Tanzanian refugee camps, underfunding has left classrooms in a state of disrepair and worsened overcrowding, with a teacher-student ratio of one to 297. In Angola, resources are so limited that educational activities reach only 50 per cent or 1,874, of targeted children. In Rwanda, many young refugees face barriers to education, with 266 unable to afford boarding fees for designated 'schools of excellence'.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

Funding cuts have severely impacted water and sanitation services for DRC refugees. In Uganda, with increased arrivals and aging infrastructure, only two of 13 refugee settlements meet the minimum water standard of 20 litres per person daily. Without significant investment, up to 736,000 refugees and host community members in Uganda may have inadequate water access (less than 10 litres per day) and poor sanitation facilities, raising the risk of water-borne diseases like cholera. A similar crisis is unfolding in Angola's Lovua settlement, where underfunding has left damaged boreholes unrepaired, resulting in water shortages and heightened tensions between refugees and host communities. In Tanzania, strained water sanitation infrastructure leaves latrine coverage far below minimum standards, with a ratio of one latrine for every 176 students in settlements—far from the minimum standard of 1:40.



Protection

Underinvestment has also disrupted registration and documentation services for DRC refugees, hampering access to protection, assistance and basic services. In Angola, limited resources and civil registry capacity have left over 1,000 refugees from the Lovua settlement unregistered, potentially depriving them of essential rights. Similarly, in the Republic of the Congo, about 3,000 refugees risk exclusion due to lack of registration and documentation services. In the long term, this lack of documentation may perpetuate vulnerability, limiting access to basic services or employment opportunities.

AID IN ACTION

Navigating teen pregnancy in a refugee camp

Having fled the Democratic Republic of the Congo at age six, Anne* was eager to pursue her education in Mahama camp. But when she became pregnant at age 15, her world changed. With her parents' support, she navigated the challenges of teenage motherhood, returning to school six months after giving birth.

Thanks to Save the Children's daycare programme, Anne could focus on her studies, knowing her daughter, Jane, was in good care. Now in Senior 3, she is passionate about mathematics, physics, and geography, and dreams of learning to drive one day.

Anne's journey reflects resilience, but her story also shines a light on a broader issue—the prevalence of teenage pregnancy in refugee camps. Her advice to other teens is simple yet profound: "Stay in school, because school

saves you from bad behaviors. The school also helps you deal with financial troubles by helping you find a job in the future."

Looking ahead, Anne hopes for greater access to reproductive health education within the camp. UNHCR and its partners recognize the importance of empowering teenagers with the knowledge and resources they need to make informed choices about their bodies and futures. UNHCR with Save the Children International, Plan International Rwanda and ALIGHT are implementing programmes focused on child protection and gender-based violence prevention. Through awareness-raising campaigns, door-to-door outreach, one-on-one sessions, and different sports and recreational activities, these initiatives aim to support and uplift the refugee community.

* Name changed for protection purposes

AID IN ACTION

Refugees in Angola build self-reliance through agriculture



Angola: A refugee farmer nurtures his crops as part of a livelihood and agriculture project aimed at fostering self-reliance and food security. *UNHCR/Camila Geraldo*

In Lunda Norte, Angola, RRP partners are empowering refugee communities beyond basic agriculture. Projects in rice, maize, and vegetable farming not only improve food security but also promote self-reliance and socioeconomic inclusion. Over 600 families, including host community families, benefit by

consuming or selling their produce, generating income and contributing to the province's food supply.

A key figure in this effort is Nkoyo Antoinette, or "Maman Antho," a former civil servant from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She manages work in the rice fields and is a symbol of female leadership in Louva settlement. Her journey from food aid recipient to agricultural leader reflects refugees' desire to support themselves.

Maman Antho emphasizes the importance of working the land, teaching children to take pride in their labor. Similarly, DRC refugee Jean Bafolo, a father of three, sees farming as a path to restore dignity and provide for his family. These efforts highlight refugee resilience and the importance of durable solutions.

South Sudan **RRP**

Crisis overview

The crisis in South Sudan continues to drive widespread forced displacement across the continent. As of 2024, approximately 2 million people remain internally displaced and 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees live in neighbouring countries, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda.

South Sudan's elections, originally scheduled for December 2024, have been postponed by two years. This delay, coupled with ongoing political tensions and the lingering effects of the civil war—such as inadequate infrastructure, poor services, and a fragile legal system—suggest high displacement levels will continue into 2025. Currently, four in ten South Sudanese people are internally displaced, and three in four require humanitarian aid. Between 2023 and 2024, the humanitarian situation deteriorated, partly due to the crisis in Sudan, which has forced over 600,000 South Sudanese refugees to return in adverse circumstances. This influx has further strained the humanitarian response, worsening food insecurity, malnutrition, and health issues. The conflict in Sudan has also disrupted cross-border trade, halted oil production and blocked humanitarian corridors, driving up food and commodity prices and crippling the economy. Additionally, the fifth consecutive year of flooding in 2024 has further heightened food insecurity and hampered aid efforts.

In the DRC, the situation for South Sudanese refugees remained stable, but without opportunities for improved protection or self-reliance. In Ethiopia, partners in the Gambella and Benishangul-Gumuz regions focused on strengthening education, water, sanitation and health services under government leadership. Kenya's [Shirika Plan](#) helped refugees in the Kakuma and Kalobyei settlements better integrate into national systems, improving access to health-care and education—a priority that will continue into 2025. Uganda's progressive refugee policies, which allow access to land and basic services, will also continue, strengthening access to national systems and enhancing self-reliance.

In Sudan, conflict since April 2023 has worsened conditions in White Nile State, where large populations of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) from Khartoum, Al Jazira, and Sennar States have arrived. Services in refugee camps are under immense pressure, and expanding services will be a priority for 2025.

Food assistance remained limited across the region, with rations reduced to as low as 60 per cent in 2024 (except in Sudan). Strengthening food security and promoting self-reliance will be the focus in 2025. With over 60 per cent of South Sudanese refugees being children and youth under the age of 25, expanding access to quality education in national systems will also remain critical.

UNHCR estimates that 242,000 South Sudanese refugees, primarily from Ethiopia and Uganda, will need resettlement in 2025. Additional and complementary pathways to [third countries](#) will play a vital role in sharing international responsibility for refugee protection and reuniting families. While labour mobility and higher education opportunities in third countries remain limited, expanding these pathways for qualified and eligible South Sudanese refugees will promote

PEOPLE IN NEED

4.3 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

4.3 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.4 billion

Countries covered

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda

Refugees and returnees

2.4 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

1.8 million

self-reliance and dignity. UNHCR also aims to increase the proportion of South Sudanese refugees prioritized for resettlement to address protection needs.

Together with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the East African Community, partners are working to integrate refugees into national systems and explore regional solutions, including local solutions for protracted displacement.

A lack of adequate funding remained the largest impediment to the response through 2024. In addition, the conflict in Sudan, a country closely linked to South Sudan politically, culturally and economically, has deeply impacted assistance efforts for South Sudanese refugees and has broader implications for regional cooperation and security. The displacement of South Sudanese across the region is likely to remain protracted, leading to extended humanitarian needs in 2025.

Response priorities in 2025

For 2025, South Sudan Regional RRP partners are seeking \$1.35 billion to protect and assist close to 4.3 million refugees and host community members. The strategic objectives of the 2024 South Sudan RRP are extended to 2025, and add food security to meet the needs of refugees and their host communities:

Maintain asylum space and enhance protection and the realization of refugee and asylum-seeker rights.

Provide quality, efficient and timely protection and lifesaving multi-sectoral assistance to refugees, asylum-seekers and host communities, including prevention and response to GBV and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, child protection, birth registration, and enhancing accountability to affected people.

Promote inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers into national systems including for child protection, legal and physical protection, social protection, education, health, and livelihoods and resilience through strategic engagement with governments, the private sector, regional bodies and development actors.

Enhance sustainable and durable solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers including opportunities for resettlement and complementary pathways for admission to third countries.

Advocate for measures allowing refugees to exercise greater self-reliance and resilience, including food security, economic mobility, and more international support to the South Sudan situation, leveraging pledges made at the 2023 Global Refugee Forum.

In 2025, refugee-hosting countries will prioritize strengthening support for South Sudanese refugees and expanding their integration into national systems to promote self-reliance, by leveraging national, regional and global frameworks. Coordinated efforts among host countries, humanitarian organizations, development partners and the private sector will be essential to address refugees' immediate needs and build lasting solutions.

The plan also emphasizes protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and accountability to affected people, and promotes age, gender equality and diversity inclusion. Localization will be a core component of the South Sudan RRP, prioritizing collaboration with national NGOs, local authorities, and local communities, including refugees. Partners are committed to mitigating climate shocks across the response.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Ethiopia | Protection

1,717 South Sudanese received identification documents containing Fayda ID numbers and QR codes. The Fayda ID number enables refugees to access digital based services, such as education, health care, social and banking services. It also facilitates acquisition of business licenses, freedom of movement and financial inclusion. 30 Sep 2024



Ethiopia | Gender-based violence

All survivors reporting GBV received psycho-social and health support. 26,785 women and girls and 18,374 men and boys were engaged in GBV mass information sessions including Engaging Men and Boys in Accountable Practices (EMAP training) and individualized protection responses.

30 Sep 2024



Ethiopia | Health and nutrition

198,150 medical consultations were provided, including 2 per cent for host community members, and 943 individuals received mental health services. Nutrition programmes reached 12,386 undernourished children (6-59 months) with acute malnutrition treatment services.

30 Sep 2024



Ethiopia | Livelihoods

4,806 refugees received livelihood agricultural support which facilitated the increase of their agricultural income. An additional 1,489 refugees were supported to engage in different business schemes to enhance self-reliance.

30 Sep 2024



Ethiopia | Water, sanitation and hygiene

2,387 household latrines were constructed with community participation.

30 Sep 2024



DRC | Livelihoods and economic inclusion

406 households, representing 1,971 people, received livelihood assistance, comprising seeds, farming tools, technical support, training, and semi-mechanization.

Jan - Nov 2024



DRC | Environment

As part of environmental protection efforts, 26,102 seedlings of Acacia mangium were planted on over 130 hectares of land in the three refugee communities of Meri, Biringi, and Bele.

Jan - Nov 2024



DRC | Education

33,879 school-age children including 19,321 girls and 1,374 boys received school kits and tuition support.

Jan - Nov 2024



DRC | Cash-based interventions

A total of 33,879 refugees (19,321 females and 1,374 males) received cash-based interventions.

Jan - Nov 2024



DRC | Gender-based violence

Psychological support was provided to 92 per cent of the survivors, 19 per cent received medical assistance, and 5 per cent of the survivors were referred to the justice system.

Jan - Nov 2024



DRC | Health

29,604 refugees received medical assistance, including child vaccination, delivery care, secondary and tertiary care.

Jan - Nov 2024



Sudan | Water, sanitation and hygiene

Partners provided clean water to 418,463 South Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers in White Nile, Blue Nile, Kordofans, and Kassala. On average, 12 litres of water per person per day were supplied.

Jan - Nov 2024



Sudan | Education

In White Nile, over 35,000 refugee children, or 22 per cent of the school-age population (ages 6-17 years old), were enrolled in schools. The White Nile State Ministry of Education administered Grade 6 exams to over 1,600 South Sudanese refugee children, enabling them to transition to intermediate education when schools reopen.

Jan - 30 Sep



Uganda | Health and nutrition

95 per cent of health facilities approved by the National authorities. Outpatient facilities provided 695,557 consultations with each clinician averaging 44 consultations per day.

Sep 2024



Uganda | Protection

All South Sudanese refugees in Uganda were registered and issued documentation.

Sep 2024



Uganda | Child Protection

46,899 children participated in recreational activities and psychosocial interventions in child-friendly spaces. Of these, 4,887 unaccompanied or separated children were placed in kinship and foster care arrangements. An additional 14,204 adolescents received skills development support.

Sep 2024

Consequences of inaction



Ethiopia | Child protection

While 16,693 children (9,145 boys and 7,548 girls) with specific needs benefited from case management, due to funding shortages, the child-to-case worker ratio was 243:1 below the standard of 25:1, compromising the identification and care of children-at-risk.



Ethiopia | Gender-based violence

In the Benishangul Gumuz region, 80 per cent of the GBV incentive workers (27 individuals) resigned due to low wages. New teams had to be recruited and retrained.



Ethiopia | Education

Three secondary schools in Gambella were closed from December 2023 to March 2024, impacting 6,377 children, when RRP partners could not meet the cost of teacher salaries and scholastic materials.



Ethiopia | Health and nutrition

Only critical emergency patients were referred from refugee camps to secondary and tertiary health facilities. Other patients, unable to access tertiary care, struggled with health issues. In the Gambella and Benishangul Gumuz camps, only critical emergency patients were referred to secondary and tertiary health facilities. Other patients, unable to access tertiary care, struggled with health issues. Nearly 58,817 refugee children between 24 and 59 months old were not able to receive super cereal porridge.



Ethiopia | Shelter

85 per cent of households in the camps in the Benishangul Gumuz region and 43 per cent in the Gambella region lack proper housing.



Ethiopia | Water, sanitation and hygiene

Refugees in Gambella and Benishangul Gumuz received an average of 13.6 litres of water per person per day in camps, below the 20-litre standard, and only 1 per cent of refugee households received adequate soap for hygiene, against a 70 per cent minimum standard. Only 33 per cent of households had access to household latrines, far below the target of 85 per cent for protracted situations, increasing hygiene and disease risks.



Kenya | Health and nutrition

Clinicians in refugee-attended health facilities handled 75-90 consultations daily, exceeding the WHO standard of 50 consultations per clinician per day.



Kenya | Education

In Kakuma, El Nino rains and flash floods damaged 17 schools, including 12 classrooms including sanitation facilities which disrupted learning for 29,244 students.



Kenya | Water, sanitation and hygiene

In Kakuma, only 68.5 per cent of the refugee population had household latrines, and refugees received an average of 15.4 litres per person per day, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases. The shortage of water impacted over 8,869 people engaged in agriculture.



Kenya | Child Protection

1488 unaccompanied or separated refugee children in the reception centres were reunified with their families in the community.

Jan - Jun 2024



Kenya | Education

To support the El Nino-affected refugees, 37,000 school learners received scholastic material. 64 families made up of 335 individuals were provided complete transitional shelters or materials.

Jan - Jun 2024

Sudan **RRP**

Crisis overview

The conflict in Sudan has become one of the largest and most devastating displacement, humanitarian and protection crises in the world today. Since 15 April 2023, clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have displaced nearly 11.4 million people inside Sudan and into the Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan and Uganda. As of October 2024, almost 3 million people fled Sudan since the outbreak of the conflict. This includes nearly 2.3 million refugees and asylum-seekers. Sudan was also a large refugee-hosting country and close to 655,000 refugees residing there have been compelled to return mainly to South Sudan, but also Central African Republic and Ethiopia, in adverse conditions. By end of August 2024, Chad had received 163,654 refugee and migrant returnees from Sudan. Another estimated 260,000 refugees in Sudan who were largely self-reliant prior to the conflict were forced to self-relocate within Sudan to relatively safer areas, putting a strain on already limited resources, infrastructure and social services.

Sudan is also facing the worst levels of food insecurity in its history, with a staggering 26 million people suffering from acute hunger. Famine conditions were confirmed in August 2024, and the situation was particularly critical for people trapped in the conflict-affected areas of Aj Jazirah, Darfur, Khartoum and Kordofan. Concurrently, Sudan is also struggling with diseases and flooding, exacerbating the suffering of the population.

Most refugees from Sudan arrive in asylum countries in dire conditions, with little or no assets or resources. Many encountered violence during flight, and in particular, women and girls faced gender-based violence (GBV) risks while in transit, in temporary shelters, and at the borders. Family separation is a concern, with the impact mainly on children. Refugees exhibit high levels of mental distress, and reports of intimate partner violence in CAR, Chad, and South Sudan, account for 79, 66 and 52 per cent of disclosed GBV incidents occurring in the camps⁴² respectively. At the same time, a relatively large proportion of the Sudanese refugee population in some countries are urban and educated, with professional skills. To meet the needs of the displaced, asylum countries will need to expand and strengthen tailored protection and assistance programmes for refugee populations.

The asylum countries are affected by climate disasters annually, impacting the humanitarian response. In Chad, in 2024, more than 32,000 refugees were affected by floods in the four provinces of Ouaddaï, Wadi-Fira, Sila and Enndi Est, with thousands of refugees and host communities displaced, as their shelters, water and sanitation facilities were destroyed.⁴³ In South Sudan, heavy rainfall and flooding caused widespread disruption to service delivery in Jamjang and Maban, where new arrivals were hosted. In Jamjang, over 500 metric tonnes of food remained undelivered for several months, affecting planned refugee

PEOPLE IN NEED

5.0 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

5.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.8 billion

Countries covered

Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, Uganda

Refugees and returnees

4.1 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

883,196

42 GBV: Sudan Situation June 2024: <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/111029>

43 External Update 76 <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/110914>

relocations from Renk, via Malakal, to Ajuong Thok and Pamir camps.⁴⁴ Humanitarian partners will need to institute emergency measures as well as climate resilience programming to be able to respond to the needs of the displaced in 2025.

Humanitarian programmes across refugee-hosting countries need sustained international support to respond, but throughout 2024, they were underfunded with severe consequences. The food basket in most hosting countries only partially met the recommended dietary needs of refugees, leading to food insecurity and exacerbating harmful coping mechanisms. Protection services, including critical GBV services in transit centres, were scaled back due to limited funding such as in Ethiopia. Registration and access to documentation are also affected by long waiting periods for asylum-seekers, particularly in Egypt, where the Government estimates that 1.2 million Sudanese fled to Egypt since the start of the conflict in mid-April 2023. These services are

all critical to refugee well-being and will need to be strengthened in 2025.

Despite attempts at various ceasefires and peace agreements, restoration of peace has been unsuccessful. If the conflict continues in 2025, refugees, returnees, and third country nationals will likely continue to flee out of the country, with an estimated 4 million in need in neighbouring and nearby countries by the end of the year. Land travel will remain the most widely used mode of transportation despite remote entry points to neighbouring countries. In 2024, partners in the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) scaled up and established themselves in these remote locations, but these areas had difficult conditions that required extensive and costly logistical arrangements. Partners will need to continue providing life-saving assistance and onward transportation for new arrivals to camps or settlements for refugees and other destinations for returnees and third country nationals.

44 Ibid

Upper Nile State, South Sudan: A UNHCR staff member registers a refugee who fled the conflict in Khartoum, Sudan, at the registration centre in Renk Transit Centre 2. *UNHCR/Samuel Otieno*



Response priorities in 2025

With the possibility of protracted displacement, it is imperative for RRP partners to strengthen the focus on addressing development and resilience needs to foster greater stability and self-sufficiency alongside the humanitarian response.

Greater efforts will be invested in 2025 in the seven main refugee-hosting countries to include refugees in national social services, particularly health and education, as well as financial and economic inclusion. The concerted efforts at engaging development partners since the start of the crisis, will be further stepped up in 2025, building on engagements with the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the EU's Directorate-General for International Partnerships and other development actors. Partners will invest in integrated settlements, extending and expanding service delivery and creating economic opportunities in areas impacted by displacement.

In 2025, country operations will improve their localization engagement by including and/or expanding the presence of national NGOs in the response and supporting them to better tailor interventions to field realities. This will include engaging with country-level NGO forums on localization strategies, as well as working with community-based protection structures to increase the number of refugee-led organizations (RLOs) and local NGOs across all sectors and sub-sectors working groups involved in the refugee response. Engaging refugees to increase their meaningful participation in the planning and implementation of community responses, ensuring that interventions are more inclusive and better suited to local realities, will also be key areas to expand in 2025.

The plan also prioritizes cross-cutting efforts to enhance protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and accountability to affected populations, and promotes age, gender equality and diversity inclusion. Partners are also committed to mitigating climate shocks across the response.

For 2025, RRP partners require \$1.78 billion to protect and assist close to 5 million refugees, returnees, host community members and others. The regional strategic objectives guiding the response for 2025 are to:

Support host countries in ensuring access to territory and asylum for all individuals in need of international protection, in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement and other regional and international obligations, including maintaining the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum.

Support host countries to provide timely, effective and inclusive life-saving protection and humanitarian assistance for those fleeing Sudan, with a specific focus on identifying protection risks and supporting those at heightened risk and in need of specialized protection interventions including family reunification, resettlement and complementary pathways.

Support host countries to strengthen institutional and local capacity to include refugees in national systems and services, particularly in health, education, child protection and the economy, and ensure that refugees can live in integrated settlements with their host communities.

Support neighbouring countries to ensure access to their territory for third country nationals fleeing Sudan, and assist, in close coordination with embassies and consulates, immigration procedures and the option to enable them to return home to their respective countries of origin.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Protection

117,000 individuals received protection services.

Includes Child Protection services and GBV responses.

Jan - Aug 2024



Food

984,000 individuals provided with food assistance.

Jan - Aug 2024



Shelter

223,000 individuals supported with shelter or housing assistance.

Jan - Aug 2024



Cash

167,000 individuals relocated or supported with transportation cash allowance.

Jan - Aug 2024



Non-food items

229,000 individuals received non-food items.

Jan - Aug 2024



Health

326,000 individuals provided with primary healthcare consultations.

Jan - Aug 2024

Consequences of inaction

Access constraints affected the timely response to refugees seeking asylum, specifically insecurity in the Vakaga prefecture of Central African Republic, where refugees are hosted, in the Amhara region of Ethiopia where two settlements were closed down, and in Libya where access constraints have limited the response.



Ethiopia | Food

The food basket provided to refugees could only meet 60 per cent of the recommended dietary needs.



Ethiopia | Sanitation

In the transit centres and settlements hosting new arrivals, an average of 94 individuals are sharing a latrine compared to the standard of fewer than 50, contributing to the risk of diseases and reduced dignity.



South Sudan | Camp coordination and camp management

The Renk Transit Centre remains overcrowded, without the proper infrastructure, such as access roads, drainage systems, and sanitation facilities.



South Sudan | Non-food items

New arrivals lack essential non-food items, such as kitchen sets, mosquito nets, soap and blankets, necessary for basic living conditions.



Uganda | Gender-based violence

In 2024, there was a 67 per cent reduction in GBV caseworkers from 2023 across the operation, and most collection points and transit centres do not have dedicated GBV caseworkers.



Uganda | Water, sanitation and hygiene

Due to the large influx of Sudanese refugees, the water system of Kiryandongo settlement is in a critical situation. Access to safe water has severely degraded, from 17 litres per person per day in January 2024 to less than 10 litres per person per day in September 2024.



Central African Republic | Lack of funding and access

The lack of funding, along with access challenges to some of the areas where Sudanese refugees are arriving, has left 29,415 refugees with limited access to protection, shelter, WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), health-care, education, and food.



Central African Republic | Water supply

In Korsi refugee settlement, the water supply is only 7.5 litres per person per day, far below the post-emergency standard of 20 litres per person per day. Conflicts over water points put women and children at particular risk of harm, as well as heatstroke due to high temperatures.



Chad | Health

There is only one doctor for every 25,000 people, more than twice the standard ratio, and a limited supply of essential drugs.



Chad | Protection

Protection case managers cover 3 to 4 times the standard number of cases, that is, 1 case manager for every 66 child protection cases, 1 case manager for 84 GBV cases and 1 case manager for 84 mental health and psychosocial support cases.



Egypt | Education

54 per cent of all school-aged children (238,000) arriving from Sudan are out of school as of September 2024.



Egypt | Host community

With Egypt's resources already stretched, reduced funding is likely to exacerbate tensions between refugees and host communities. Rising unemployment and poverty for refugees in Egypt will increase the burden on the host community and give rise to negative sentiments towards refugees.



Libya | Child protection

The ongoing underfunding of child protection services (4 per cent funded) exacerbates the suffering of children, leading to an inability to provide service continuity, especially affecting those on the move.



Libya | Education

Education is only 8 per cent funded, leaving Sudanese children out of school and exposed to major risks of child labour, domestic violence, child and early marriage and the risk of smuggling and trafficking.

Syrian Arab Republic (3RP) **RRP**

Crisis overview⁴⁵

The Middle East faces escalating challenges, with Lebanon's situation deteriorating rapidly since late September 2024, leading to widespread internal displacement and cross-border movements into Syria and neighboring countries. As of beginning of November, Lebanon had 878,497 internally displaced people (IDPs)⁴⁶ while approximately 510,000⁴⁷ had crossed into Syria (71 per cent Syrians, and 29 per cent Lebanese and other nationalities). These developments further strain overstretched resources and services, intensifying the already volatile regional landscape, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis, undermining development gains, and deepening the vulnerabilities of both refugees and host communities.⁴⁸

Now in its fourteenth year, the Syria crisis has displaced more than 5 million Syrians who continue to seek refuge in neighboring countries covered by the Syria Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP): Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt. In 2025, Iraq will transition out of the 3RP by promoting refugee inclusion into public services and shifting the remaining humanitarian programmes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2025-2029. The prolonged displacement has severely strained host countries' infrastructure, economies, and public services, especially in employment, housing, healthcare, education, and waste management.

In 2024, socio-economic conditions in 3RP countries deteriorated further, due to rising living costs, limited job opportunities and fuel shortages, which increased vulnerabilities across populations. In Lebanon, even before the recent escalations between Israel and Hezbollah, severe economic instability and inflation had pushed many refugee households to adopt harmful coping mechanisms, like child labor and early marriage. Host communities are also impacted, with 73 per cent of Lebanese living in multi-dimensional poverty.⁴⁹ In Jordan, poverty levels among refugees have risen sharply, with many resorting to borrowing money and cutting essential services like healthcare and education.⁵⁰

⁴⁵ The Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) 2024 remains the primary planning framework in the country and is co-led with the Government. The LRP covers immediate and medium-term needs across all vulnerable population groups, including Lebanese, refugees and migrants, including through support to Lebanese institutions and public services amid the multi-faceted crisis. The Lebanon Flash Appeal is fully complementary to, and supportive of, the LRP. It enables partners to rapidly deliver principled and effective life-saving assistance and protection to one million Lebanese, Syrians, Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Palestinian refugees from Syria, and migrants. In the GHO, the 3RP Lebanon Chapter and the Lebanon Flash Appeal constitute the total requirements for Lebanon. Syria (influx from Lebanon) numbers are persons, crossing into Syria from Lebanon through border crossing points, due to the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as outlined in the Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal (October 2024 to March 2025), and requirements linked to the response. At the launch of GHO 2025, the 3RP includes planning figures from the Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal for the Influx from Lebanon to Syria, which was launched in October 2024 and runs until March 2025. The humanitarian components of this emergency appeal will be absorbed into the 2025 Humanitarian Response Plan for Syria. These figures will therefore be superseded by the 2025 HRP, once completed, and all GHO data will then be updated accordingly.

⁴⁶ IOM Mobility Snapshot - Round 61, 11 November 2024

⁴⁷ SARC Emergency Response for the influx from Lebanon to Syria; 5 November 2024

⁴⁸ Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal for the Influx from Lebanon to Syria, October 2024 to March 2025, 7 October 2024; Appeal: Lebanon, October - December 2024 (October 2024), 1 October 2024.

⁴⁹ VASyR 2023: Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 10 June 2024; Lebanon Poverty and Equity Assessment 2024, 23 May 2024.

⁵⁰ JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Camps, 3 June 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, 3 June 2024.

PEOPLE IN NEED

17.6 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

11.8 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$4.6 billion

Countries covered

Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Türkiye

Refugees and returnees

6.1 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

5.8 million

AID IN ACTION

Lebanon-Syria cross-border displacement amid escalations



Syrian Arab Republic: The Al-Arida border point with Lebanon was hit twice by Israeli airstrikes, causing extensive damage to UNHCR-supported facilities, including a health border point operated with SARC and the Department of Health. UNHCR's rub-hall also suffered shrapnel damage. *UNHCR/Al-Batoul*

Since 23 September 2024, the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon has driven around **510,000 people**¹ to cross into Syria, with an estimated 71 per cent of these arrivals being Syrians and 29 per cent Lebanese refugees and other nationals. Most new arrivals have crossed into Syria through border points including Joussieh and Dabbousieh in Homs, Jdaidet Yabous near Rural Damascus, and Jesr Al Kamar near Wadi Khaled, with significant populations (over 100k) moving on towards north-east Syria and a smaller number (around 8k) towards north-west Syria.

These populations have distinct protection issues and vulnerabilities. They are mobile, exposed to protection risks, including crossing lines and borders within the region, and beyond. For Syrian refugees returning to Syria in adverse circumstances, their protection needs are heightened having fled conflict and violence in Lebanon to return to a country

devastated by years of conflict and an uncertain safety and security environment.

The response to this new emergency is outlined in an [Inter-Agency Emergency Appeal](#) (October 2024 to March 2025). Partners are providing critical services - shelter, food, health, and protection - to address the multi-sectoral needs of those displaced, both at the border crossing points as well as in the destination communities. However, the scale of the emergency has already grown beyond the initial planning figures and these cross-border movements have intensified existing pressures on Syria's already strained resources adding further complexity to the broader humanitarian response across Syria. With needs that will likely stretch beyond March 2025, ensuring sustained support throughout 2025 is essential to bolster both immediate relief and long-term resilience for displaced populations and their host communities.

In addition to 3RP requirements, in 2025, **US\$ 189** million is urgently needed for the ongoing response to assist the new arrivals fleeing the conflict in Lebanon. As of mid-November, the appeal remains severely underfunded.

¹ SARC Emergency Response for the influx from Lebanon to Syria; 5 November 2024

Similarly, Egypt's deteriorating economic situation requires resilience-focused interventions to help both refugees and host communities manage higher costs and access basic services.

These regional fragilities are compounded by ongoing conflicts, such as in Sudan and Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), recent escalations in Lebanon, and disasters. The overlapping emergencies place immense pressure on host countries' already overstretched systems. For example, in Türkiye, recovery efforts following the February 2023 earthquakes continue to burden local systems. Protection concerns, including child labor and domestic violence among refugees, are also rising, worsening the hardships faced by vulnerable populations⁵¹.

Looking to 2025, 3RP countries face considerable challenges that require a coordinated, multisectoral approach to address the compounded impacts of rising poverty and shrinking protection space. Alongside these socio-economic pressures, Lebanon and Jordan are increasingly vulnerable to climate shocks, placing large segments of their refugee populations at high risk. This underscores the urgent need for climate adaptation and resilience-building strategies across the region.⁵²

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025, the 3RP will continue its integrated humanitarian and resilience-based development approach, focusing on the protection and socio-economic inclusion of Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities. With over 17.1 million people in need, including 6.29 million refugees, the strategic objectives of the 2025 response will center on four key areas:

1. Protecting people:

Protection is central to the 3RP response. Partners will continue safeguarding refugees and vulnerable host community members from exploitation, abuse, violence, and psychosocial distress, while supporting survivors. Partners will ensure access to legal aid and documentation, helping refugees

lead dignified lives and access basic services. In addition, strengthening gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, mitigation, and response, increasing the scale and scope of specialized child protection services, and expanding community protection and refugee-host community cohesion will remain priorities. Recent reports highlight the urgent need for targeted protection interventions, particularly to address the rising incidents of child labor and early marriages in Lebanon and Jordan, as well as protection challenges for women and children in Türkiye and Egypt.⁵³

2. Promoting durable solutions:

Aligned with international standards and frameworks, the 3RP works towards achieving durable solutions. It emphasizes expanding complementary pathways, resettlement opportunities, and supporting voluntary, safe, and dignified returns, ensuring that refugees can make informed and voluntary decisions. 3RP partners also commit to enhancing the inclusion of refugees in third-country development planning and programming. In 2025, maintaining and expanding resettlement quotas and complementary pathways—such as family reunification, labor mobility schemes and high education scholarships—will be crucial. Ensuring refugees have access to reliable information to make independent, informed decisions on return will also remain a priority.

3. Contributing to dignified lives:

3RP partners are committed to assisting refugees and host communities access essential services like healthcare and education, ensuring food security, and providing sustainable, decent livelihood opportunities to promote self-reliance. The response also aims to enhance housing standards for the most affected communities, boost learning and employability skills, and advocate for their inclusion in national social protection initiatives. Recent assessments show a sharp decline in food security, especially in Jordan's refugee camps, underscoring the need for additional support. Similarly, expanded employment programmes for refugees and vulnerable host communities, along with targeted support for women's economic participation will be needed

51 IAPNA Round 8, 01 November 2024.

52 JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Camps, 3 June 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, 3 June 2024; VASyR 2023: Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 10 June 2024.

53 JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Camps, 3 June 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, 3 June 2024; VASyR 2023: Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 10 June 2024; IAPNA Round 8, 01 November 2024.

given the high unemployment rates across 3RP countries.⁵⁴

4. Enhancing local and national capacities:

Enhancing access to sustainable services for refugees and vulnerable host community members, while strengthening social cohesion, requires robust support for national and local capacities. In line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the SDGs, 3RP partners will advance localization by empowering local and national authorities, fostering community ownership, supporting local entities such as civil society organizations, and strengthening partnerships with the private sector. Addressing the ongoing socio-economic challenges in 3RP countries will also demand closer collaboration with development actors to support local authorities and community groups, ensuring refugees and host communities can access basic services and economic opportunities.⁵⁵

With about 250 partners across 3RP countries supporting government-led efforts to assist refugees and vulnerable host community members, the 3RP's long-term, solutions-oriented response is guided by the One Refugee approach, the GCR and the 2030 Agenda. Notably, Iraq has transitioned out of the 3RP by promoting refugee inclusion into public services and shifting towards resilience-strengthening programmes. This transition is coordinated under the UNSDCF, aiming to advance refugee inclusion through the Leave No One Behind agenda and fully operationalize the humanitarian-development nexus within the refugee response.

Cross-cutting issues:

Disability, inclusion, accountability to affected people, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, remain crucial elements of the 3RP response. Guided by the principles of Leave No One Behind and Resilience for All, the 3RP continues to target the most vulnerable, while addressing intersecting inequalities that limit access to services and opportunities and strengthening institutions to

provide quality responses. Recent reports highlight growing disparities among refugee populations, especially among women, children, and people with disabilities, who face heightened protection risks, including gender-based violence, child labor, and exploitation.⁵⁶

The outlook for 2025 remains deeply concerning given the high uncertainties surrounding a peaceful solution to the Syria crisis, the growing number of conflicts in the region, limited multi-year funding, and declining humanitarian and resilience support for the Syria situation. Underfunding poses significant risks for refugee-hosting countries like Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt, where rising needs and worsening socio-economic conditions threaten to overwhelm public services and heighten social tensions. To prevent these outcomes, increased multi-year funding and sustained international support are essential to ensure to maintain essential services—healthcare, education, food assistance, livelihoods support, and shelter—for those most in need.⁵⁷

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights

Data covers 01 January up to 30 June 2024



Expanding efforts to nurture community protection and refugee-host community cohesion

517,577 individuals engaged in, or benefited from the services through community outreach mechanisms, or community-led initiatives

54 JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Camps, 3 June 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, 3 June 2024.

55 2024 3RP Egypt Country Chapter; 3RP Türkiye Country Chapter 2023 - 2025, July 2024; VASyR 2023: Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 10 June 2024.

56 JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Camps, 3 June 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, 3 June 2024; VASyR 2023: Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 10 June 2024; IAPNA Round 8, 01 November 2024.

57 3RP Türkiye Country Chapter 2023 - 2025, July 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Camps, 3 June 2024; JORDAN: 2024 VAF Socio-Economic Survey on Refugees in Host Communities, 3 June 2024; VASyR 2023: Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon, 10 June 2024; 2024 3RP Egypt Country Chapter.



GBV is prevented and the risk of its occurrence mitigated

39,451 individuals received Gender-Based Violence (GBV) response services



Access to quality health care services for refugees and host communities has been enhanced

1,108,521 consultations provided through primary health care services



Maximizing resettlement opportunities for those most in need

10,605 refugees benefitted from resettlement from a range of states (Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Türkiye)



Response capacities of national public institutions strengthened

5,962 staff of national public institutions, including front line workers such as nurses and teachers were trained



Türkiye | Cash-based interventions

Basic needs supported through the delivery of monthly cash assistance to 1.5 million refugees (over 327,000 households) by the Ministry of Family and Social Services and Turkish Red Crescent outside of the 3RP appeal. 12,866 individuals received shelter support.



Jordan | Legal support & protection

Legal support was provided to nearly 47,000 refugees, and over 22,000 survivors of GBV received counseling and support.



Lebanon | Health

over 1.6 million primary healthcare consultations provided to vulnerable Lebanese, Syrians, Palestinians and migrants through 150 primary healthcare centers within the Ministry of Public Health network. 200,000 consultations provided through mobile medical units in hard-to-reach areas and collective shelters housing IDPs who have been affected by escalating hostilities in Lebanon.



Egypt | Child protection

37,856 children and caregivers received Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services through child-friendly spaces and family clubs across eight governorates.

Consequences of inaction

Türkiye

Underfunding, registration challenges and the aftermath of the 2023 earthquakes, along with ongoing global and local economic challenges, have limited vulnerable refugees' and host communities' access to basic services, leaving hundreds of thousands unable to cover their basic needs without cash assistance, and thousands without essential protection services.

Jordan

With diminishing humanitarian support, essential services like healthcare, food, and cash assistance are being scaled back, forcing refugees to adopt harmful coping strategies.

Lebanon

The recent escalating hostilities and mass internal displacement have compounded the impact of the economic crisis and Syria situation on Lebanon. Many will be left without safe housing, face rising food insecurity, and have limited access to essential health services.

Egypt

In 2024, over 800,000 refugees were registered, with projections indicating this could exceed 1.6 million by 2025. Regulatory changes complicate refugees' legal status, restricting their access to essential services like healthcare and education.

AID IN ACTION

Refugees from Lebanon arriving in Iraq

UNHCR is coordinating the response for some 35,000 refugees from Lebanon who have arrived in Iraq since the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon through various points, including the Al-Qaim border crossing and airports in Baghdad and Najaf. A total of 418 households have also contacted UNHCR online, identifying themselves as Syrian refugees who have arrived in Iraq after fleeing Lebanon and requesting to be registered. Most refugees from Lebanon are hosted in Karbala and Najaf, while the remaining are spread across different governorates in central and southern Iraq, including Baghdad and Diyala.

In response to the urgent protection needs of refugees from Lebanon, UNHCR, in collaboration with existing partners in Federal Iraq, is providing child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) support, and mental health and psychosocial services (MHPSS) to individuals seeking assistance at community centers. UNHCR also continues to provide information to refugees from Lebanon on how they can access national services such as education and healthcare. Through its partners, the Legal Clinics Network (LCN), Terre des Hommes (TdH), and Intersos, UNHCR is also present in Najaf, Karbala, Baghdad, Ninewa, Babil, and other governorates, maintaining contact with local authorities to gather information on the arrival of refugees from Lebanon in these areas.

Ukraine RRP

Crisis overview

The war in Ukraine has precipitated one of the largest refugee crises in the world. Since its escalation in February 2022, almost 6.8 million refugees from Ukraine⁵⁸ have been recorded globally, with 92 per cent in Europe. Partners across the region have come together through three consecutive coordinated and comprehensive Regional Refugee Response Plans (RRPs) to protect and assist refugees from Ukraine hosted in 11 countries. Governments have been in the lead of this response since the beginning, and the RRP supports them to address the evolving, yet persisting, humanitarian needs.

Based on population movement trends since the start of the conflict,⁵⁹ it is expected that refugee movements to and from Ukraine will remain largely stable in 2025, barring any unforeseen significant developments inside the country. Refugees from Ukraine continue to face challenges, particularly among vulnerable groups like women, children, older people, and those with disabilities. Family separation heightens risks of gender-based violence (GBV) and trafficking. Economic inclusion remains a struggle, with many refugees limited to informal, lower-wage work due to language barriers, skill recognition issues, and limited training opportunities.

Access to healthcare is a pressing concern, with refugees facing high costs, long wait times, and language barriers, especially for those with chronic illnesses. Mental health needs are significant but largely unmet, and gaps in education leave half of school-aged children unenrolled, posing long-term risks to their development. Coordinated efforts are needed to reinforce protection, healthcare, education, and economic support to ensure refugees' stability and prospects amid ongoing displacement.

The response will therefore ensure effective access to legal status, rights and services as well as address refugees' needs and vulnerabilities in the host countries and communities, with targeted multisectoral support as necessary in the areas of protection, health, mental health, education, socio-economic inclusion, basic needs, and social cohesion.

Response priorities in 2025

For 2025, the Ukraine RRP seeks \$698.4 million to protect and assist more than 2.1 million refugees and 41,500 affected host community members in Moldova. The RRP targets refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine. Included in the response plan are also other refugees living in the same communities as refugees from Ukraine, people who are stateless or at risk of statelessness.

As the refugee situation becomes more protracted, and the coordinated response enters its fourth year, the focus is shifting from addressing urgent

⁵⁸ As of 15 October 2024.

⁵⁹ With people still fleeing the war and hostilities across Ukraine, some refugees undertaking pendular movements and short-visits to Ukraine and host communities, and other refugees have returned to Ukraine on a more permanent basis.

PEOPLE IN NEED

2.2 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.2 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$698.4 million

Countries covered

Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia; Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia

Refugees and returnees

2.1 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

41,500

humanitarian needs to ensuring refugees have effective access to legal status, protection and rights and are included in their host countries' societies and national services. This requires sustainable, long-term responses that empower refugees to rebuild their lives with dignity while making meaningful contributions to the societies that have welcomed them. To help make progress against these longer-term goals, partners have developed a two-year plan aligning the response more closely with government plans.

Partners will focus on ensuring the sustainability of the response, by promoting effective inclusion

in national systems and services, refugee empowerment and self-reliance in support of host governments, local authorities, and national and local civil society. This may also include consolidating or transitioning service delivery as well as coordination systems to the Government, where feasible and appropriate. Efforts to strengthen the capacity of national systems and institutions benefit refugees and host communities alike.

Emphasis will also be placed on strengthening localization by continuing the engagement with national and local civil society organizations, municipalities, and refugee-led organizations in order to support

AID IN ACTION

Working with local partners to improve refugee response



Sofia, Bulgaria: Refugee children engage in recreational activities at the Ukrainian Hive center, run by RRP partner Aid for Ukraine, creating a safe and supportive space for healing and joy. *Aid for Ukraine/Tatyana Cherkshenko*

An important element of the Ukraine RRP is to work with and through local partners, supporting them to tailor their programmes to better meet refugees' needs while also strengthening their capacity to navigate international financing. In Poland, in 2025, RRP partners will participate in the Social Behavior Change Communication Strategy initiative. This strategy seeks to better understand the factors influencing refugee behavior, in order to improve communication. The strategy will focus on social and economic inclusion, social cohesion, skills development, language learning and collective shelter environments, among others. In Moldova, the Refugee Coordination Forum will bring together 40 civil society representatives and local authorities

in the last quarter of 2024, to strengthen their capacity to protect refugee rights and undertake institutional development. Through six learning modules, participants gain valuable skills in areas like non-profit management, organizational development, financial sustainability, project management, external relations and advocacy. In Bulgaria, inter-agency partners joined forces to enhance information dissemination on vaccination for children, a key requirement for school enrolment. With support from RRP partners, the Ministry of Health conducted vaccination campaigns and information sessions reaching refugee parents and caregivers ahead of the 2024-2025 academic year. As a result, more than 4,200 refugee children have been enrolled in Bulgarian schools, representing a 17 per cent increase compared to the previous school semester. In Romania, to strengthen local fundraising, RRP partners in the refugee coordination forum have initiated a peer learning program on fundraising and a mapping of funding opportunities. Further, in October, RRP partners participated in a "Donor Meet-Up" with representatives from 14 donor countries and 26 private-sector entities. This market-place-style event facilitated networking and partnership-building.

and strengthen local capacity and consolidate the response across the country, including in rural areas or urban centers other than capital cities. These actors play a central role in this Plan, ensuring that the response is tailored to the specific needs of communities.⁶⁰

Nevertheless, support may still be needed to enable governments to identify evolving refugee needs and expand services to address those needs. Supporting host government preparedness measures and efforts will also remain important, focusing on the possibility of increased numbers of arrivals during the winter months if attacks on critical infrastructure continue and the energy situation in Ukraine does not improve.

The Ukraine 2025-26 RRP is guided by the four following regional strategic objectives:

Support host countries to ensure that refugees have continued access to legal status, protection, and rights, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups and including age, gender and diversity considerations.

Support host countries in their efforts to include refugees in national systems—decent work, social protection, health, education, child protection services—with a particular focus on outreach and inclusion of vulnerable groups and including, age, gender and disability considerations.

Strengthen social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugee communities and their hosts.

Advance localization of the response, by supporting national and local civil society, municipalities and local authorities, as well as coordination structures, sharing and building capacities and supporting sustainable programming.

The Plan supports government leadership and will remain closely aligned with national strategies and is underpinned by the principles of partnership, equality, and transparency. Mainstreamed across these four strategic objectives are several cross-cutting response priorities, including government ownership, sustainability, one-refugee-approach, accountability to affected people, age, gender and diversity, and the protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

60 In the case of Moldova partners will provide targeted support to vulnerable, individual members of the host community.

Suceava, Romania: Ukrainian refugees participate in Romanian language courses organized by Suceava Youth Centre (National Youth Foundation) building skills for integration and connection. *National Youth Foundation/Radu Andonie*



2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Protection

960,000 individuals accessed protection services. 30 Sep 2024



Child protection

8,065 participants trained on child protection and children's rights. 30 Sep 2024



Education personnel

21,000 education personnel trained or received support to better respond to the needs of refugee learners. 30 Sep 2024



Education

113,000 children participated in non-formal education programmes in the host countries. 30 Sep 2024

Consequences of inaction



Moldova | Refugee inclusion

Underfunding at this critical juncture risks undermining the country's progress in refugee inclusion, potentially setting back two years of reforms that support over 100,000 refugees—4 per cent of the population, including 81 per cent women and children.



Bulgaria | Community space

For smaller community-based and refugee-led organizations, underfunding affects their capacity to maintain community spaces for refugees that offer protection services and bring together refugees and the local community.



Bulgaria | Mental health and psychosocial support

Out of the targeted 42,000 individuals in need of mental health and psychosocial support services and activities, partners have reached 19 per cent during the year. Funding gaps affect the ability to retain specialized professionals—such as doctors, occupational therapists, child psychologists, and skilled teachers—to address the diverse needs of children with autism, development disabilities, and other specific needs.



Romania | Vocational support

With limited resources, partners cannot sustain language classes, job placement, or vocational training, essential for refugees' economic independence. Over 7,800 individuals, including 3,000 needing vocational support and 4,800 awaiting entrepreneurship guidance, are directly impacted.



Romania | Education

Of the 45,000 refugee students enrolled during the 2023/2024 school year, only 30 per cent attended schools regularly. Education hubs that assist 9,000 students in transitioning to Romanian schools are also at risk of closure.



Other Plans

In 2025, IOM and UNHCR will continue to co-lead critical humanitarian responses through the Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis (JRP) and the regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (RMRP). At the same time, IOM will continue to lead the Migrant Response Plan for the Horn of Africa to Yemen and Southern Africa (MRP). These comprehensive plans span across 24 countries, addressing urgent needs and fostering resilience in some of the world's most vulnerable regions.

Bangladesh has generously provided safety to Rohingyas fleeing Myanmar for decades, especially following the events of August 2017 in Myanmar. As the crisis moves into its ninth year, the Government of Bangladesh, supported by 117 JRP partners, will continue delivering essential protection and assistance to 1.477 million Rohingya refugees and vulnerable host communities. Despite mounting resource constraints, the humanitarian community remains committed to ensuring the safety, dignity, and well-being of Rohingya refugees and vulnerable host communities.

Despite progress made by host governments, supported by the R4V platform over six years, significant challenges persist for migrants and refugees from Venezuela and other populations in transit in the 17 countries of the RMRP. According to the 2024 Refugee and Migrant Needs Analysis, 2.2 million people remain undocumented or in irregular situations due to high costs and complex legal processes. Protection is a major concern. Many refugees, migrants and people in transit are at risk of human trafficking, smuggling, and gender-based



Bangladesh: At 67, Hamida finds hope sewing in a temporary shelter after losing everything to a fire, as she awaits the arrival of humanitarian aid. *IRC/Jennifer De Perise*

violence. Other key needs include access to formal employment for better integration, adequate shelter to prevent overcrowding and homelessness, and protection from discrimination and xenophobia. Nearly half of the refugees and migrants face food insecurity, forcing them to prioritize basic needs over long-term stability, limiting access to education and healthcare. In 2025, 230 RMRP partners, including civil society and migrant- and refugee-led organizations, will continue working with host governments to address the needs of 2.32 million migrants, refugees, and host communities (in addition to hundreds of thousands ‘on the move’), combining humanitarian assistance with long-term support to promote resilience, socioeconomic integration, and protection for affected populations and host communities.

The MRP will continue to prioritize life-saving assistance and protection for migrants and vulnerable host communities along the Eastern and Southern African migration routes. In addition to addressing immediate humanitarian needs, MRP partners will focus on the root causes of migration, safe returns, and promoting social cohesion between migrants and local populations. In 2025, the 48 MRP partners,

in support of governmental efforts throughout the region, will respond to the needs of 991,295 migrants and vulnerable host community members in the 6 countries included in the plan. As such, the MRP provides a strategic framework that ensures a whole-of-society approach, especially in areas affected by crises, which are exacerbating migration pressures and threatening the ability of communities to support migrants.

In 2025, the JRP, RMRP, and MRP will prioritize people-centered responses by integrating cross-cutting themes such as age, gender, and diversity, ensuring the needs of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, are met. Environmental sustainability and strategies to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) will also be key. The plans will emphasize community empowerment and accountability to affected populations (AAP), involving local communities in decision-making. By focusing on localization, these efforts will strengthen the capacities of local actors, ensuring tailored, effective and more sustainable responses. This approach will deliver both immediate aid and long-term support to build resilient communities.

Overview of 2025 response plans

Plan	People in need	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
Horn of Africa to Yemen and Southern Africa (MRP)	1.4M	991.3K	\$81M
Rohingya (JRP)	1.7M	1.5M	\$900.9M
Venezuela (RMRP)	7.2M	2.3M	\$1.4B

Horn of Africa to Yemen and Southern Africa **MRP**

Crisis overview

The Horn of Africa is a major migration hub, with thousands of migrants—many in irregular situations—departing, transiting, or returning each year along the Eastern and Southern Routes. Economic hardship, persistent poverty, scarce job opportunities and limited access to essential services drive these flows, exposing migrants to significant risks. **The Eastern Route, the region's busiest and most dangerous**, accounted for nearly half of the over half a million movements tracked by August 2024.

Economic challenges, environmental instability, and political tensions, especially in Ethiopia, are driving this trend. Ethiopia's agrarian economy, where approximately 95 per cent of the population relies on agriculture and subsistence farming, is highly vulnerable to environmental shifts. Despite rapid economic growth over the past decade, the country struggles to modernize and create quality jobs for its growing youth population.⁶¹ In regions like Amhara, Oromia, and the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples, widespread economic difficulties drive many to seek better opportunities abroad.

Ethiopia faces a complex mix of economic, environmental, and political challenges. With much of the population relying on agriculture, the economy remains highly vulnerable to environmental changes. Despite a decade of strong economic growth, opportunities for job creation and sector modernization are crucial to meet the needs of a growing youth population. In regions like Amhara, Oromia, and the Southern Nations, economic pressures drive migration, often influenced by political factors. Ethiopia's diverse ethnic landscape also poses challenges in ensuring equitable power and resource distribution, contributing to perceptions of inequality and tension. Somali migrants face similar challenges in their country of origin, including economic hardship and vulnerability to climate change, but with added burdens from long-standing conflict, political instability, and generalized violence.

Migrants along the Eastern and Southern Routes face grueling conditions and limited access to essential goods and services, including food, water and medical care. These harsh journeys often lead to exploitation by smugglers and traffickers, with many migrants detained by authorities. Data from migrant response centres in Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Somalia reveal that over 57 per cent of registered migrants urgently need basic services, highlighting critical gaps in humanitarian assistance. A recent study in Somalia found that a staggering 93 per cent of migrants in Bosaso required immediate support, underscoring their precarious situation. Protection risks are severe: over a third of migrants passing through response centres report incidents of physical violence or psychological abuse, with 84 per cent of women and 82 per cent of men enduring physical violence during their journeys.

⁶¹ As of 2021, youth unemployment reached 23 per cent in urban areas and 12 per cent in rural areas. Additionally, over 60 per cent of Ethiopians live in poverty, with 40 per cent facing severe poverty, earning less than \$1.90 per day.

PEOPLE IN NEED

1.4 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.0 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$81.0 million

Countries covered

Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen

Document type

Migrant Response Plan (MRP)

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

41,500

The Eastern Route, one of the busiest and most dangerous migration routes, is predominantly used by Ethiopian migrants, with smaller numbers from Somalia. Migrants travel through Djibouti and Somalia, cross the Gulf of Aden to Yemen, and continue to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states. As of August 2024, over 150,000 migrants had left Ethiopia via this route. Although most migrants on this route are men, women and children account for 31 per cent, with 25 per cent of these children traveling alone. Djibouti remains the main transit country, recording over 134,000 entries by August, compared to nearly 15,000 entering Somalia.

In Yemen, migrant arrivals have dropped significantly, with only about 13,000 recorded between January and August 2024, down from over 90,000 arrivals during the same period in 2023. This decline stems largely from an anti-irregular migration campaign in the Bab-al-Mandab region, which has forced migrants to use alternative routes, suggesting actual arrivals may be far higher than reported. Migration along the Eastern Route is bidirectional, with both outward movements and

returns. By August 2024, nearly 8,500 migrants had spontaneously returned from Yemen to Djibouti and Somalia. Additionally, non-voluntary returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have resulted in over 84,000 migrants being sent back to Ethiopia and Somalia. Tragically, 2024 has also seen a significant rise in migrant fatalities along the Gulf of Aden, with 48 deaths and 75 missing in October 2024 alone – making it the deadliest year on this route since tracking began in 2014.

The Southern Route, extending through Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania, and other Southern African countries toward South Africa, also carries serious risks. Migrants face exploitation, abuse, human trafficking, and detention. In Kenya, migrants frequently report being exposed to robbery (54 per cent), bribery and extortion (52 per cent) and risk of detention (56 per cent). Although migrants within the United Republic of Tanzania have historically faced detention, a 2024 policy change now allows returns through brokers, inadvertently fostering informal broker networks that may increase protection risks for migrants.

Bossaso, Somalia: A young migrant awaits reception of services at Migration Response Centre.
IOM/Ismail Osman



Response priorities in 2025

By June 2024, MRP partners provided essential support to over 360,000 people, including migrants and host community members, across Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Yemen. Migrants made up 67 per cent of those reached, with the remainder consisting of host community members. This assistance aligns with MRP's strategic framework, focused on four objectives: life-saving assistance; quality, timely and inclusive protection support; access to safe and voluntary return, reintegration and community stabilization; and bolstered evidence, partnerships and coordination for effective humanitarian response and migration management along the Eastern and Southern routes. However, only 17 per cent of the financial requirements for 2024 were met, limiting the response to critical needs.

Looking at 2025, MRP will continue to scale up essential life-saving and protection assistance along the Eastern and Southern Routes. This includes providing food, non-food items, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene support, and medical assistance. Protection assistance will include mental health and psychosocial support as well as tailored assistance for victims of trafficking, gender-based violence, and human rights violations.

The response will prioritize the most vulnerable, particularly migrants in transit in Djibouti and Somalia, ensuring migrant-focused facilities remain operational to address immediate needs. Voluntary return assistance remains central to MRP's approach, given the high number of stranded migrants in Djibouti, Somalia, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Yemen. Tailored protection assistance will support victims of trafficking, survivors of gender-based violence, and unaccompanied and separated children.

MRP will further strengthen capacity-building for government authorities and front-line actors to improve the protection response and migration management. This comprehensive strategy addresses urgent needs and promotes sustainable solutions for both migrants and host communities, fostering resilience and stability across the region.

In 2025, MRP will target 991,295 migrants and host community members, requiring an estimated US\$81 million. This target focuses on those most in need,

reflecting reduced humanitarian funding. Although the overall target is lower, migrant vulnerability continues to rise, especially with increasing transit migration.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

MRP Response highlights/achievements



Life-saving assistance

171,176 people (104,581 men, 32,769 women, 17,199 boys, 11,059 girls, and 5,768 host community members) received life-saving assistance from January to June 2024.



Food

39,761 people (26,895 men, 6,378 women, 4,405 boys, 2,080 girls, and three host community members) received food and/or nutrition assistance from January to June 2024.



Non-Food Items (NFI)

41,285 people (24,483 men, 7,437 women, 4,275 boys, 2,339 girls, and 2,751 host community members) received non-food items (NFIs) from January to June 2024.



Health

18,384 people (9,803 men, 3,866 women, 1,801 boys, 1,565 girls, and 1,349 host community members) received or were referred for primary health care from January to June 2024.



Shelter

20,348 people (12,534 men, 4,382 women, 2,067 boys, and 1,365 girls) received safe and dignified accommodation from January to June 2024.



Protection

77,684 people (57,248 men, 4,637 women, 5,084 boys, 1,712 girls, and 9,003 host community members) received quality, timely, and inclusive protection assistance and services from January to June 2024.

43,800 people (39,755 men, 2,098 women, 1,323 boys, and 624 girls) received mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS services) from January to June 2024

1,690 victims of trafficking (1,119 men, 272 women, 248 boys, and 51 girls) received assistance and specialized protection and GBV services from January to June 2024.

Consequences of inaction

The consequences of inaction are immense due to critical underfunding of the 2024 MRP and the unmet needs of migrants and host communities along the Eastern and Southern Routes. By September 2024, the MRP was only 17 per cent funded—an all-time low—leaving over one million migrants and host community members without life-saving aid, tailored protection assistance, or voluntary return support.



Migrants

Since the start of 2024, Somalia has recorded over 30,000 transit movements, with more than 4,000 migrants entering Hargeisa and Bossaso each month. Yet, limited resources mean only five per cent receive any form of assistance, leaving thousands at risk of exploitation, malnutrition, and dehydration.



Returnees

Returns face similar shortfalls. By the end of 2024, over 300 spontaneous returnees and nearly 2,000 non-voluntary returnees from Saudi Arabia will require immediate post-arrival support. Spontaneous returnees are migrants who choose to return voluntarily, while non-voluntary returns are those forcibly returned to their country of origin by immigration authorities. Current funding, however, covers only 13 per cent of these cases, leaving most without essential protection, onward transportation assistance, and reintegration services, heightening their risk of repeated cycles irregular migration and displacement.



Safety

In Djibouti, underfunding jeopardizes the safety of approximately 3,000 migrants, who may remain stranded in transit or forced to take perilous journeys through Yemen or the desert in 2025. Additionally, an estimated 2,450 migrants will remain stranded in Yemen without voluntary return assistance, leaving them vulnerable to violence, exploitation and extreme hardship.

Crisis overview

Bangladesh has a strong tradition of generously providing refuge and lifesaving assistance to Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. Since 2017, with the support of the international community, host communities – especially in Cox’s Bazar – have hosted around one million refugees, despite having some of the lowest development indicators in the country. Most Rohingya refugees, approximately 967,000 people, live in 33 government-designated camps in Cox’s Bazar with another 36,000 residing on the island of Bhasan Char. Additionally, about 568,000 Bangladeshis live in the Ukhiya and Teknaf areas where these camps are located.

Since late 2023, renewed conflict in Myanmar, particularly in Northern Rakhine State near the border, has forced tens of thousands of people to flee the country. This has led to a new wave of Rohingya refugees arriving in Bangladesh. While they began receiving basic emergency assistance in October 2024, their registration is still pending, leaving them vulnerable and putting more pressure on already strained resources in the camps. The security situation has also worsened, with escalating violence from organized groups endangering both refugees and humanitarian workers, despite efforts by Bangladeshi law enforcement.

Refugees face multiple security and protection risks including abductions, killings, extortion, trafficking, forced recruitment (including of children and youth), and other violence. Restricted movement, and limited economic, livelihood and education opportunities compound these dangers. Over 75 per cent of refugees are women and children, who are particularly vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, and gender-based violence (GBV), especially in the deteriorating security environment. Aging infrastructure and slope degradation add further challenges. Tensions with the host community are rising, as they also face mounting social and economic challenges. In Bhasan Char, while security concerns are less severe, there are significant gaps in mental health and psychosocial support, and maternal and reproductive care.

Climate change has worsened the situation, and extreme weather events in the monsoon and cyclone seasons are devastating camp infrastructure, causing landslides, flooding, waterlogging, displacement and tragic fatalities. Sudden, severe fires in the camps during the dry season threaten lives and destroy humanitarian infrastructure, heightening stress and vulnerability among refugees. Host communities living on the Bay of Bengal, including Cox’s Bazar, are similarly affected by natural hazards.

Voluntary, dignified and sustainable return to Myanmar remains the primary solution to the crisis, a priority of the Government of Bangladesh, as reflected in the Joint Response Plan. Rohingya refugees express a desire to return home in safety and dignity, but current conditions in Myanmar are not conducive to sustainable repatriation.

PEOPLE IN NEED

1.7 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

1.5 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$900.9 million

Countries covered

Bangladesh

Refugees

1.1 million

Host communities (directly and indirectly) targeted

392,000

Until then, consistent and predictable support to the Rohingya response in Bangladesh remains essential to mitigate the protection and humanitarian crisis, restore dignity and strengthen refugee resilience.

Response priorities in 2025

For over seven years, the Government of Bangladesh, with the support of the humanitarian community, has provided essential assistance to Rohingya refugees and vulnerable host communities. The focus of this support is to ensure access to protection and life-saving services.

In 2024, key priorities in Cox's Bazar included improving food access and addressing rising malnutrition. Critical efforts were made to register and document refugees, and provide essential health services. Education has also been a focus,

with the Myanmar Curriculum being followed and grade 11 added for the 2024-2025 school year to support higher secondary education. Maintaining water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities is critical for livability in the camps, although these services remain concerningly underfunded. Shelter, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (Shelter-CCCM) activities aim to maintain dignified living conditions for refugees, and support the community before, during and after frequent disasters. Skills development programmes continued based on the government-endorsed framework and opportunities available in Myanmar. In 2024, efforts to verify the number of persons with disabilities in the camps were renewed, aiming to enhance access to services for this group for 2025.

Humanitarian needs will remain high and urgent until refugees can safely and voluntarily return to

Bangladesh: Despite losing both arms in an accident, 14-year-old Ehsan takes his year-end exam in a Rohingya refugee camp, writing with his right foot. *UNICEF/Rashad Wajahat Lateef*



Myanmar. To continue providing lifesaving protection and assistance, the Government of Bangladesh and humanitarian organizations seek \$900.9 million through the 2025 Joint Response Plan (JRP). This funding aims to assist nearly 1.1 million Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char, along with around 392,000 vulnerable members of the host community in Cox's Bazar. The 2025 JRP will be guided by five strategic objectives:

Support sustainable and voluntary repatriation of Rohingya refugees to Myanmar.

Strengthen the protection and resilience of Rohingya refugee women, men, girls, and boys.

Deliver life-saving assistance to populations in need, including access to critical services, and safe and dignified camp living conditions.

Foster the well-being of host communities to promote peaceful coexistence through access to quality services, public service infrastructure and livelihoods activities.

Strengthen disaster risk management and address the impacts of climate change.

A new sector objective under the Protection Sector will promote peace and security by strengthening the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum of the camps and enhancing social cohesion.

Recent political changes in Bangladesh offer opportunities to make the response more sustainable, including expanding livelihood and skills-building programmes, piloting fire- and weather-resistant shelters, and aligning plans with development strategies and funding opportunities. Cross-cutting priorities like gender, diversity, disability inclusion, accountability to affected populations, protection against sexual exploitation, environmental concerns, and youth programming will continue to be mainstreamed through the response.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

The worsening security and protection environment, combined with an increasing refugee population and limited access to livelihoods, places a significant strain on protection services, including child

protection, and GBV prevention, mitigation and response initiatives. The scale of these protection challenges requires further investment in protection systems to meet rising needs and requires policy and programmatic interventions to address the root causes of vulnerability and increase refugee resilience.

Efforts to improve efficiency and coordination have made service delivery in the camps more harmonized and cost-effective, but funding shortages remain a serious limitation. Although food rations were restored in August 2024 after reductions in March and June 2023, the number of people needing treatment for severe or moderate malnutrition has risen sharply. Six out of 15 key WASH indicators have declined since 2022, with reduced soap rations increasing the risk of cholera, which surged in 2024 along with Hepatitis C. Health facilities face ongoing shortages of specialized medical equipment, medicine, doctors and nurses, increasing maternal and critical case mortality.

Reduced funding has jeopardized Shelter-CCCM partners' ability to prepare for and respond to emergencies, leading to worsening shelter conditions, with heightened risks to life and safety. The reach of livelihoods activities was reduced, limiting vocational training and income-generating opportunities for refugee households.

Gaps in site management and shelter/non-food items, protection, health and nutrition in Bhasan Char compromise access to essential services for vulnerable groups, especially pregnant women and children. Any further increase in refugee relocation to the island will require additional funds across all sectors.

Achievements

Cox's Bazar response (January 2024 – June 2024)



Education

315,556 children, representing 69 per cent of people targeted in 2024, were enrolled in 5,994 learning facilities across 33 refugee camps and in 293 schools in the host communities.



Food security

921,042 refugees, 99 per cent of the total refugee PiN for the sector, received lifesaving food assistance, while resilience activities such as crop agricultural support (homestead gardening) reached 120,774 refugee households and 8,248 host community households.



Health

64,306 individuals were assisted as first-time users of family planning methods (54,380 refugees and 9,926 host community members).



Livelihoods and skills development

Following accelerated adult learning, technical, life-skills, and vocational training, 2,082 trained refugees were referred to Sectors to engage in volunteer activities.



Nutrition

In the camps, blanket supplementary feeding reached 96,476 pregnant and breastfeeding women, and children aged 6-23 months, to prevent malnutrition. An additional 225,114 adolescent girls (156,843 refugees, 68,271 host community members) received folic acid and iron supplements.



Protection

Protection programming included continuous registration and documentation of all 931,574 refugees targeted, while 955,574 people (refugees and host community members) were reached with awareness raising activities, key protection messaging and mitigation measures on non-violence.



Child protection

To prevent child protection risks, 407,904 children and adults were reached through awareness raising on risks and social norms, community engagement and behavior change communication. 7,476 children received specialized child protection services through case management (6,519 refugees and 958 host community members). Group-based, structured psychosocial support reached 20,489 children and adolescents (18,120 refugees and 2,369 host community members).



Gender-based violence

63,192 individuals (46,957 refugees and 16,235 from host communities) were engaged in structured GBV prevention activities to transform social norms.



Shelter-CCCM

Shelter reinforcement assistance was provided to 40,509 households, liquid petroleum gas assistance to 173,690 households, emergency shelter assistance to 6,495 households, and non-food items distributed to 26,406 households.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

47,583 latrine facilities were regularly used and maintained, serving all refugees across the 33 refugee camps.

Bhasan Char response (January 2024 – June 2024)



Food security

33,655 individuals (7,853 households) received food assistance through regular rations, hot meals, and the E-voucher program, covering all 64 occupied clusters, with 100 per cent implementation of the E-voucher system.



Health and nutrition

7,309 people representing 21 per cent of the population received psychosocial support through group activities conducted by community psychosocial volunteers.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

A total of 33,763 refugees received WASH services, including soap and water purifying tablets, and 9,975 women and girls received menstrual hygiene kits, representing 100 per cent of reproductive-age women and girls.



Shelter and NFIs

831 communal kitchens using biogas as an alternative fuel source were made operational, benefiting 1,662 families and representing 55 per cent of the kitchens in the 64 occupied clusters.



Protection

Three post-relocation surveys were conducted to assess voluntary movement and refer refugees with protection and legal needs for assistance.

Through continuous registration, population data and biometrics were updated for 6,528 individuals, and 3,803 documents issued.



Education

302 girls were newly enrolled in primary and secondary school during the first quarter of 2024, strengthening educational access for female students.



Livelihoods and skills development

250 youths participated in pre-vocational training. 258 women received skills training in tailoring, weaving, and other crafts, promoting gender empowerment and economic sustainability.



Common services and logistics

303 tons of food and other essential commodities were transported to Bhasan Char in 42 cargo shipments.

Venezuela **RMRP**

Crisis overview

Millions of refugees and migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean are in a severely vulnerable situation.⁶² Some 7.9 million Venezuelans⁶³ have left, fleeing instability, violence, and economic hardship. They are joined by hundreds of thousands of migrants and refugees from other nationalities who engage in onward and transit movements across the region to seek safety and viable opportunities. Among them are the more than 260,000 refugees and migrants, predominantly Venezuelans, who crossed the Darien jungle between Colombia and Panama in the first nine months of 2024. This perilous northward journey reflects the desperation of those unable to secure livelihoods, regular status or refugee recognition in host countries.

While host governments have made notable efforts to help integrate and stabilize migrants and refugees, recent political changes—like the disputed presidential elections in Venezuela, new administrations in Mexico, Panama, and the Dominican Republic, and the presidential elections in the United States of America—have added uncertainty. These changes have left many feeling anxious about their future.

As more people leave Venezuela than return, largely due to the unclear political situation, others from countries like Ecuador, Haiti, Cuba, and Colombia, as well as migrants and refugees from other parts of the world, are also seeking safety and a better life. This high level of movement, including northwards, is expected to continue through 2025.

The 2024 Refugee and Migrant Needs Analysis (RMNA) estimates that over 62 per cent of Venezuelans in-destination across the region are in need of assistance, with the most urgent needs relating to integration, protection, and shelter. Among refugees and migrants of other nationalities in-transit, these needs are even higher, with up to 90 per cent lacking basic services including food, protection, and shelter.

Protection is a major concern. Many Venezuelans, especially those in irregular situations, as well as migrants and refugees from other countries who are in-transit, are at risk of human trafficking, smuggling, and gender-based violence (GBV). For those in-destination, about 4.5 million Venezuelans have been able to obtain regular migratory status or refugee recognition, including documentation enabling them to pursue their education, access necessary healthcare and contribute to their host economies. About 2.2 million, however, remain in irregular situations. This is often due to complex visa processes, high fees, and limited access to regularization and asylum. The 2024 elections in Venezuela, and the subsequent diplomatic fallout, severely impacts the situation of refugees

PEOPLE IN NEED

7.2 million

PEOPLE TARGETED

2.3 million

REQUIREMENTS (US\$):

\$1.4 billion

Countries covered

Argentina, Aruba Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay

62 This corresponds to refugees and migrants from Venezuela in-destination (PiN: 5.70M / target: 1.79M), pendulars (PiN: 1.33M / target: 311.1K), Colombian returnees (PiN: 9.9K / target: 3.0K), and affected host communities (PiN: 1.45M / target: 243.0K). In addition, assistance will be provided to refugees and migrants in-transit. For additional country-levels information concerning RMRP PiNs and targets for refugees and migrants in-transit (for which no regional totals can be provided), please see the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP), available at: <https://r4v.info>.

63 Some 7.9 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants left the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela as of August 2024, of whom 85 per cent, or 6.7 million, are in the Americas.

and migrants from Venezuela in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay, where the suspension of consular services impairs their ability to renew documents, further complicating their access to regularization processes and legal protection.⁶⁴

Structural barriers make it hard for migrants and refugees to find stable jobs in the formal labour market and become self-reliant, pushing many into informal and precarious work. Moreover, rising xenophobia and discrimination against refugees and migrants in several host countries, make it even harder for them to integrate and access job opportunities, and contribute to a shrinking protection space, thereby limiting access to asylum and regularization, as well as access to social services.

The 2024 RMRP has improved the situation of 1.2 million people, including refugees and migrants from Venezuela, other nationals engaging in onward and transit movements and affected host communities across 17 countries.⁶⁵ Nevertheless, chronic funding shortfalls have severely hampered partners' efforts, with only 34.2 per cent of the total financial requirements met as of 25 November 2024.⁶⁶ This has created critical response gaps in providing basic assistance, particularly food, health, and shelter, and has limited the availability of integration opportunities.

Response priorities in 2025

In 2025-2026, the RMRP will focus on addressing the most pressing needs of refugees, migrants, and affected host communities, taking into account projected moderate outflows and significant onward and transit movements.

The strategic objectives of The Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V) are:

- Strengthen access to legal protection and documentation.

- Improve access to basic services like healthcare and education.
- Enhance socio-economic integration to promote long-term stability and avoid dangerous onward movements.

The response will prioritize those in the most vulnerable situations, particularly those facing severe risks and struggling to integrate due to irregular status and economic instability.

The RMRP aims to support 2.32 million refugees, migrants,⁶⁷ and host community members in 2025, and 1.96 million in 2026. The estimated funding needed is \$1.4 billion for the first year and \$1.29 billion for the second year. This maintains the target level of the 2024 response, reflecting the growing complexity of mixed movements dynamics, the increasing levels of vulnerabilities exacerbated by socio-economic challenges and environmental factors such as climate-induced displacement, and the expanded scope of the R4V response, which now also assists other nationals in-transit in 12 countries.⁶⁸

In line with the regional planning scenario, challenges anticipated in 2025 include ongoing funding constraints and limited operational capacity, which in 2024 led to re-prioritizing of the response to support only the most vulnerable. Additionally, political uncertainty and rising xenophobia in many host countries may further complicate access to services for refugees and migrants. Climate-induced displacement—such as the 2024 floods in Brazil that displaced over 400,000 people, including more than 40,000 migrants and refugees—poses additional risks to human mobility in the region. This highlights the importance of a timely and robust response from R4V partners to mitigate risks and respond to refugees' and migrants' needs.

64 R4V, Special Situation Report: Impact of the Elections in Venezuela on Refugees and Migrants, 5 August 2024, <https://www.r4v.info/en/sitrep-electionsvzla>.

65 R4V, Monitoring Overview, accessed 8 October 2024, <https://www.r4v.info/en/monitoring>.

66 R4V, Funding Dashboard, accessed 22 October, <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>

67 See here to the clarifications under footnote 1.

68 The approach to assist refugees and migrants engaging in onward and transit movements, irrespective of nationality in the RMRP 2025-2026 applies in all countries covered by the R4V response except Aruba, Curacao, the Dominican Republic, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

To ensure an inclusive, safe, and sustainable response throughout the various stages of the RMRP cycle, cross-cutting issues will continue to be mainstreamed, including gender, diversity and disability inclusion, accountability to affected people, protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, environment and climate change, and youth programming.

2024 in review: Response highlights and consequences of inaction

Response highlights



Education

R4V partners reached 75,300 refugees, migrants, and affected host community members with education support, assisting both children in-transit and at their destinations.

30 Sep 2024



Food security

Food assistance reached 664,300 refugees, migrants, and affected host community members. While in-kind support remained the primary form of aid, 38 per cent of all food assistance was provided through cash and voucher assistance, aligning with the sector's goal to expand this kind of flexible aid in 2024.

30 Sep 2024



Health

296,600 migrants, refugees and affected host community members received some form of health assistance, mainly access to primary healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support, and sexual and reproductive health services.

30 Sep 2024



Integration

Integration support benefited about 143,600 refugees, migrants, and affected host community members, including direct support, vocational training and entrepreneurship aid, as well as through social cohesion events.

30 Sep 2024



Nutrition

Nutrition Sector partners provided support to 30,300 migrant and refugee children under five, and pregnant and lactating women, with services like nutrition counseling and the distribution of nutritional supplements.

30 Sep 2024



Protection

About 471,300 refugees, migrants, and affected host community members received protection services, including legal counseling and case management and guidance on asylum procedures and regularization efforts.

30 Sep 2024



Child protection

Child Protection partners assisted about 47,200 migrant and refugee children, families and caregivers, offering specialized child protection services as well as community-based mental health and psychosocial support.

30 Sep 2024



Gender-based violence

R4V partners delivered GBV protection services to about 74,700 refugees, migrants, and affected host community members to prevent, mitigate, and respond to GBV.

30 Sep 2024



Human trafficking and smuggling

16,400 migrants and refugees received direct assistance such as legal aid and psychosocial services for victims of human trafficking and at-risk individuals.

30 Sep 2024



Shelter

Shelter partners provided temporary and long-term accommodation to about 121,300 refugees and migrants, prioritizing the most vulnerable.

30 Sep 2024



Water, sanitation and hygiene

WASH partners assisted 107,700 refugees, migrants, and affected host community members with access to potable water, hygiene supplies, and sanitation and waste management services.

30 Sep 2024



Multipurpose cash assistance

A total of 134,800 people received multipurpose cash assistance, reaching 28 per cent of the sector's target for 2024.

30 Sep 2024

Consequences of inaction

As of 25 November, only 34.2 per cent of the funding for the RMRP 2024 has been received ⁶⁹, severely limiting access for migrants, refugees and affected host communities to basic needs and services, protection, and integration support. Despite reaching over 1.32 million people with some form of assistance⁷⁰, R4V partner organizations reached 540,000 fewer people⁷¹ than in the previous year due to the significant funding shortfalls. Refugees, migrants, and affected host communities reached with food assistance decreased by 37 per cent compared to 2023, and 17 per cent fewer people received some form of health assistance. In addition to limiting the reach of support, the low funding levels have also forced partners to reprioritize activities - impacting longer-term interventions, building of resilience and strengthening integration - and required some partners to close operations entirely.

69 R4V, Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2024, Funding, 2024, <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>.

70 People reached as of 30 September 2024: <https://www.r4v.info/en/monitoring>.

71 By 1 September, RMRP partners had reached over 1.5 million people in 2023.

How to contribute

Directly support partners participating in coordinated response plans

The response plans are developed in-country and regional level, based on solid analysis of response contexts and engagement with national and international humanitarian partners. Direct financial contributions to reputable aid agencies are one of the most valuable and effective forms of response in emergencies.

Donors can contribute directly to aid organizations participating in the plans presented in this Global Humanitarian Overview. For more information on a Humanitarian Needs and Response Plans, regional response plans or other monitoring reports or, please visit: <https://humanitarianaction.info>

Support coordinated humanitarian response in specific countries

The multi-donor country-based pooled funds (CBPF) ensure timely allocation and disbursement of donor resources to address the most urgent humanitarian needs and assist the most vulnerable people. The CBPFs enable timely, coordinated, and effective humanitarian response and are distinguished by their focus and flexibility. The CBPFs are prioritized locally; they help save lives and strengthen humanitarian coordination. The CBPF grants are received by local, national, and international NGOs, but also UN agencies and other partners.

- Governments wishing to contribute to a CBPF can contact ocha.donor.relations@un.org
- Corporations and foundations wishing to contribute to a CBPF should contact ochaprivatesector@un.org.

Individuals can contribute to the CBPFs at <https://crisisrelief.un.org/donate>

For more information about OCHA's country-based pooled funds, see <https://www.unocha.org/country-based-pooled-funds>

Support coordinated humanitarian response world-wide

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is a fast and effective way to support rapid humanitarian response globally. CERF provides immediate funding for lifesaving humanitarian action at the onset of emergencies and for crises that have not attracted sufficient funding. Contributions are welcome year-round, from governments, private companies, foundations, charities, and individuals. To ensure that CERF can continue to support humanitarian operations in 2024, donors are encouraged to make their contributions as early as possible.

- Governments wishing to contribute to the CERF can contact ocha.donor.relations@un.org
- Corporations and foundations wishing to contribute to the CERF can contact ochaprivatesector@un.org.
- Individuals can contribute to CERF at <https://crisisrelief.un.org/cerf>

For more information about CERF, visit <https://www.unocha.org/cerf>

In-kind relief aid

The United Nations urges donors to make cash rather than in-kind donations, for maximum speed and flexibility, and to ensure the aid materials that are most needed are the ones delivered. If you can make only in-kind contributions in response to disasters and emergencies, please send an email with relevant information concerning your contribution to: ochaprivatesector@un.org

Registering and recognizing your contributions

OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) to emergencies. Its purpose is to give credit and visibility to donors for their generosity and to show the total amount of funding and expose gaps in humanitarian plans. Please report yours to FTS, either by email to fts@un.org or through the online contribution report form at: <http://fts.unocha.org>

**“We demand an end to attacks on
humanitarians and on all civilians.
We demand that governments put pressure on
all parties to conflict to protect civilians.
We demand an end to arms transfers to armies
and groups that violate international law.
We demand an end to impunity, so that
perpetrators face justice.
Celebrating humanitarians is not enough.
We must all do more to protect and safeguard
our common humanity.”**

António Guterres

United Nations Secretary-General

World Humanitarian Day remarks, 2024



Explore more:
humanitarianaction.info

