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FOR THE COORDINATION OF
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Credits

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Front and back cover

OCHA staff speak with affected communities in Darfur, Sudan. Credit: OCHA.

Editing and Graphic Design

OCHA

For additional information, please contact:

Donor Relations Section

ocha.donor.relations@un.org

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 917 1690

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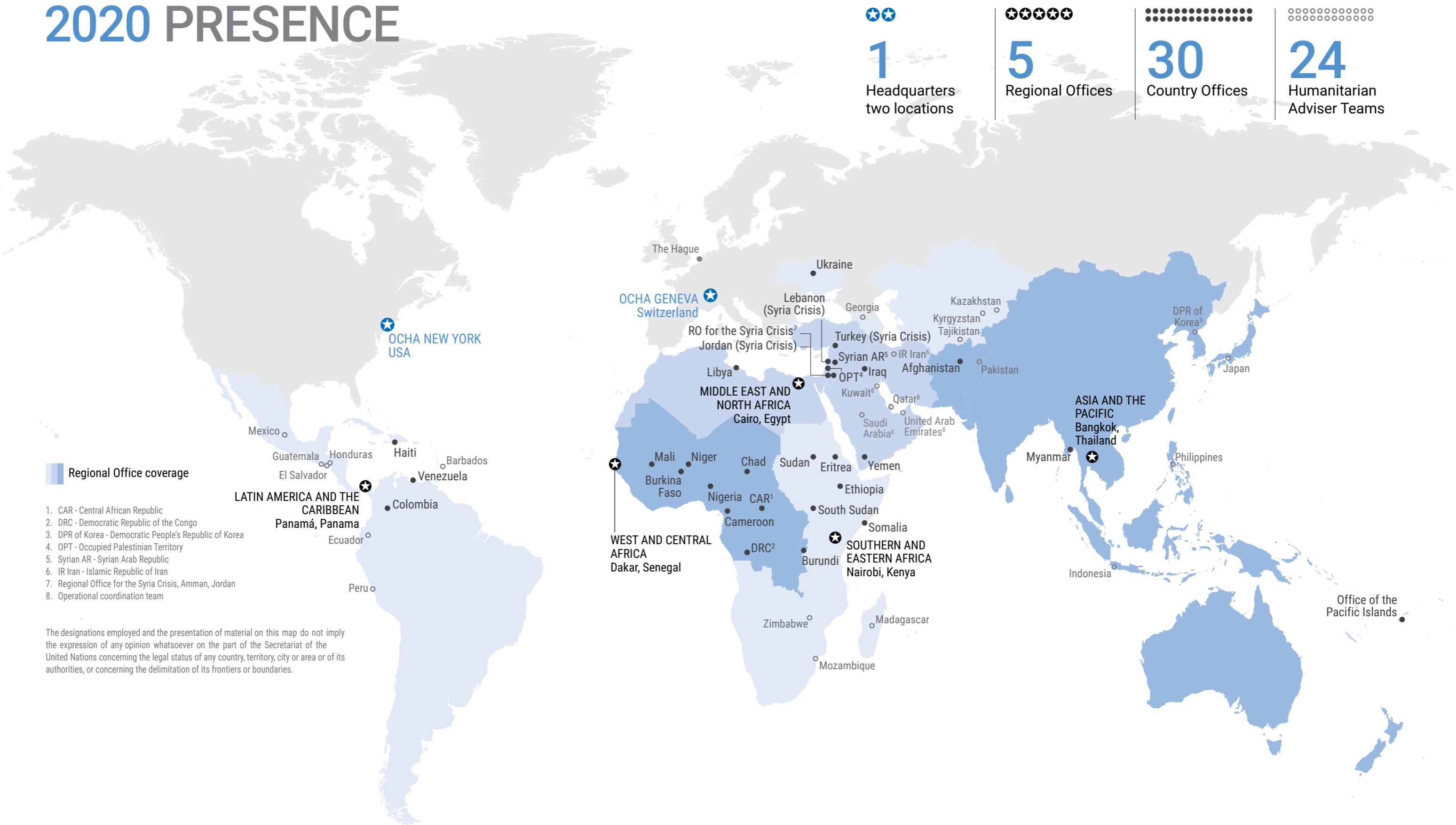
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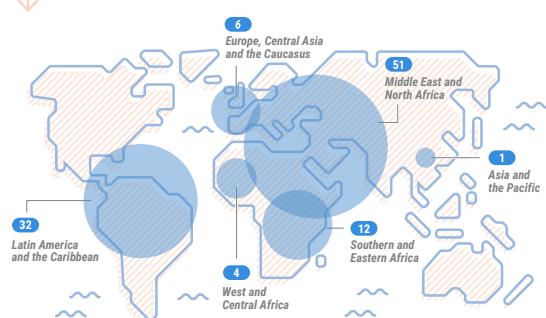
2020 PRESENCE



OCHA 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

WE ASSEMBLE

-  Global Humanitarian Response Plans to help vulnerable people in the fight against COVID-19
-  Partnerships with businesses to strengthen humanitarian response
-  Steps to protect vulnerable groups including older people, women & girls, and people with disabilities
-  Strengthened local response:
Deployments by surge mechanism
 - 30 Deployments from headquarters including 12 Core Team deployments
 - 41 United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination deployments
 - 5 Joint Environment Unit deployments*
 - 25 Deployments from country offices, including 14 from the Country Office Surge Pool
- Deployments by location



*Of these, one mission (Mauritius) was a JEU-only mission, two in conjunction with UNDAC.
Note: The above figures do not reflect all of the deployments that occurred across country and regional offices or remote support.

WE ALERT AND INFORM

-  1.3M monthly users in ReliefWeb
-  56 country operations in Humanitarian Response.info
-  381 maps
-  1,643 infographics 140 MORE THAN IN 2019
-  23 countries and 3 regions used the online Situation Reports IN 7 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

WE ADVOCATE FOR SOLUTIONS

UN Economic and Social Council's Humanitarian Affairs Segment

-  Health challenges in humanitarian contexts
-  Preventing sexual and gender-based violence
-  Durable solutions for internally displaced persons
-  Anticipatory approach to COVID-19 & other crises

Under-Secretary-General advocacy

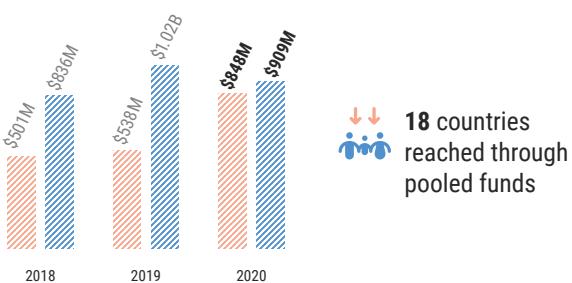
-  Supported pandemic relief & vaccines for the world's poorest countries
-  Highlighted the impact of climate, conflict & the pandemic on food security
-  Sounded the alarm on the impact of locusts
-  Underlined support for people in the Central Sahel
-  Conducted virtual missions to meet affected communities & local NGOs in Burkina Faso & South Sudan
-  Spotlighted gender-related issues/gender-based violence

Assistant Secretary-General advocacy

-  Mission to Afghanistan to highlight pandemic & climate impact on people
-  Data responsibility in humanitarian action
-  Inclusive approach in humanitarian action

WE FUND

 CERF  CBPFs



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In January 2020, the UN humanitarian chief, Mark Lowcock, visited the Zaatri refugee camp in Jordan, home to over 76,000 women, children and men. He met with Syrian families and the aid agencies helping them. Credit: OCHA

Foreword

2020 was a year like no other. New and protracted conflicts and a mounting climate crisis had already generated record-high humanitarian needs. Then came the COVID-19 pandemic. It upended the entire world, but its secondary impacts hit vulnerable countries hardest.

The pandemic closed schools, strained health systems, disrupted food imports, triggered a surge in gender-based violence and triggered a global economic downturn that sharpened inequality. Poverty rates are rising, and decades of progress are at risk.

In response to the pandemic, OCHA and its partners in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee launched the Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19. It called for US\$9.5 billion to boost health, food, protection, livelihoods and education services, and to ensure continued support for existing humanitarian programmes in 63 countries. By the year's end, donors had provided \$3.8 billion.

The Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) and the Central Emergency Response Fund

(CERF) allocated \$490 million to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. This funding enabled the World Food Programme and partners to expand logistics services, including the transportation of supplies and emergency workers.

CERF piloted new ways of working in response to the pandemic. They included providing more flexible funding to UN agencies and more direct funding to NGOs responding on the front lines; earmarking a portion of resources for women-led organizations to respond to gender-based violence; increasing support for cash programming; and allowing for more flexibility to adjust projects in light of so much uncertainty.

Humanitarian organizations adapted their programmes to respect social distancing guidelines. OCHA shifted staff to work remotely wherever possible, and it boosted support to field teams across Central and South America and Southern and Eastern Africa.

The pandemic heightened pre-existing hunger levels, leaving 270 million people facing

starvation by the year's end. At the sharpest end were communities in the Central Sahel, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, north-east Nigeria and Yemen that were just one step away from famine. OCHA raised the alarm in the Security Council of the risk of multiple famines.

The OCHA-coordinated Global Humanitarian Overview for 2020 called for \$38.5 billion, which donors responded to with \$19 billion in funding.

To help humanitarian organizations get ahead of crises, OCHA provided \$140 million from CERF for anticipatory action. This included landmark projects to avert suffering amid imminent food insecurity in Somalia and floods in Bangladesh. In Somalia, for example, anticipatory funding was pivotal to reducing the impact of multiple shocks for over 600,000 Somalis. Importantly, it helped mobilize additional funding to reduce needs amid the triple threat of floods, a locust infestation and COVID-19. Forecasts in October estimated that 2.1 million people would be in crisis by the year's end, but the assistance provided helped reduce that number to 1.6 million.

CERF and CBPFs allocated a record \$1.8 billion to support humanitarian action.

Needs rose in Syria, leaving more than half of the population reliant on emergency assistance. OCHA mobilized resources, negotiated humanitarian access and advocated for civilians to be better protected. Aid through the Humanitarian Response Plan reached 3.9 million people each month.

Yemen remained the world's worst crisis in 2020, with 13 million people unsure where their next meal would come from and 16,000 people starving. Despite these acute needs, donors reduced funding, which meant aid operations had to be downscaled.

The impacts of the climate crisis brought prolonged drought, intense storms and

flooding to many parts of the world, including the Sahel and Horn of Africa regions. The Caribbean experienced its most active hurricane season on record. Millions of people in Central America were affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota, with El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua hardest hit. OCHA deployed search-and-rescue teams and supported needs assessments and coordination efforts.

OCHA mobilized funding for response to storms in the Philippines and Viet Nam. When Cyclone Harold hit Vanuatu, the OCHA-managed Connecting Business initiative collaborated with the Vanuatu Business Resilience Council to support emergency response by the private sector.

On top of the climate crisis, conflict and violence deepened in the Central Sahel, with Burkina Faso becoming the world's fastest growing displacement crisis. OCHA co-hosted a donor conference, raising \$1.7 billion for humanitarian support to Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

In November, violence broke out in Ethiopia's Tigray region. OCHA advocated for the protection of civilians and respect for international humanitarian law so that aid agencies could gain access to protect and assist millions of people in need.

All our efforts were possible only through the generosity and commitment of our donors and partners. Thank you for your contributions to OCHA and to humanitarian action.



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

MAKING LIVES BETTER

OCHA serves the world's most vulnerable people through its staff based in offices around the world.

Humanitarian response in 2020 was like no other year.

In the words of UN Secretary-General António Guterres, the world was confronting the "biggest international challenge since the Second World War."

OCHA helped mobilize \$3.8 billion for response efforts including the Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19, which it coordinated to target more than 260 million people globally.

OCHA teams negotiated on issues such as access, respect for humanitarian principles, and protection of civilians and aid workers to ensure that affected people received life-saving relief on time.

OCHA's pooled funds provided \$1.8 billion to hundreds of UN and national and international non-governmental organizations and facilitated their work.

Responding to the pandemic's impact



2020 was a year like no other. Amid ongoing humanitarian crises largely fuelled by conflict, violence and the effects of climate change, the world battled with a global pandemic. Between March and December, there were more than 82 million COVID-19 cases and nearly 2 million deaths.

To address the pandemic's immediate humanitarian consequences and help vulnerable countries respond, the UN issued the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) for COVID-19 in March 2020. It was a joint Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) effort, coordinated by OCHA and supported by partners.

Thirty per cent of global COVID-19 cases and 39 per cent of deaths were in GHRP countries in 2020. The GHRP initially requested \$2 billion, but as the pandemic evolved and its consequences reverberated in vulnerable settings, it was updated twice to cover 63 countries and the request significantly increased to \$9.5 billion. By 31 December, donors had generously provided \$3.8 billion through the GHRP.

Beyond the pandemic's immediate health impacts, its secondary impacts were particularly grievous in humanitarian settings and reinforced by pandemic-related travel and movement restrictions.

Two girls at Al-Shaab IDP camp in Aden, Yemen. Credit: OCHA/Giles Clarke

Lockdowns, market volatility, supply chain disruptions and labour movement restrictions due to border closures drastically increased food insecurity, plunging more than 270 million people worldwide into acute food insecurity by the year's end.

Gender-based violence (GBV) increased sharply as schools and safe spaces were closed and women and girls were trapped with their aggressors during lockdowns. Some countries recorded a 700 per cent increase in calls to GBV hotlines in the months after the pandemic began.

Essential health services for the most vulnerable people were also disrupted due to the pandemic. By December, 35 GHRP countries (56 per cent) had postponed at least one mass-immunization campaign for a vaccine-preventable disease due to COVID-19.¹

Health service disruptions also led to a 30 per cent reduction in the global coverage of essential nutrition services, leaving nearly 7 million additional children at risk of acute malnutrition. School closures saw the loss of an important early intervention opportunity for protection, mental health and psychosocial support, and nutrition programmes.

Economic contractions worldwide caused the first increase in extreme poverty since 1998. Between 119 million and 124 million people could fall back into extreme poverty due to the pandemic, with an additional increase of between 24 million and 39 million people in 2021. This potentially brings the number of additional people living in extreme poverty to between 143 million and 163 million.²

The plan's impact

Despite mobility restrictions, humanitarian workers quickly adapted and innovated measures to honour the IASC pledge to stay and deliver aid to the most vulnerable people.

In the Central African Republic (CAR), for example, humanitarian organizations reorganized camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs), creating zones to isolate COVID-19 cases and moving families with cases into special zones within camps to provide specific and specialized assistance.

Thanks to funds raised by OCHA, a home delivery eShop was established in Somalia by partner the World Food Programme (WFP), which became a key organization in the pandemic response. With the eShop smartphone app, affected people can redeem their entitlement online, from their homes. The app is now deployed throughout Somalia, with 47,000 users and more than 1,200 retailers.

In Afghanistan, OCHA, WFP and the Cash and Voucher Working Group engaged with the World Bank for a complementary national cash/food assistance programme, which aimed to reach vulnerable people with social safety nets.

Highlights of assistance provided through the GHRP with OCHA-mobilized resources include:

- Eighty-seven per cent of GHRP countries (55 out of 63) received personal protective equipment.
- All GHRP countries received GBV prevention messaging.
- At least 129 million children in 60 GHRP countries benefited from virtual or home-based education.
- Essential health services were provided to 57 million people in 60 GHRP countries.

¹ This is an improvement from June 2020, when 70 per cent of GHRP countries had at least one mass-immunization campaign affected.

² Updated estimates of the impact of COVID-19 on global poverty: Looking back at 2020 and the outlook for 2021 (worldbank.org).

- In 61 GHRP countries, 39.4 million refugees, IDPs and migrants particularly vulnerable to the pandemic received assistance.

Livelihood support was provided through cash-based transfers, skills training and agricultural inputs. Examples include:

- Additional cash and/or food assistance was provided to more than 1 million Palestine refugees across five fields of operation through UNRWA.
- More than 1.2 million people in 47 GHRP countries received livelihood support, including cash-based assistance, through the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) delivered livelihoods support (e.g. cash transfers, agricultural inputs and technical assistance) to over 4 million households, or nearly 24 million people, 46 per cent of whom were women.
- More than 764,000 people received food assistance, more than 559,700 people received cash/voucher assistance and almost 596,890 people received cash assistance in 23 GHRP countries through Care International.

GHRP funding helped establish the Global Common Services to mobilize humanitarian staff and cargo and overcome travel restrictions. This enabled WFP to transport almost 28,000 health and humanitarian personnel, from 426 organizations, between March 2020 and January 2021.

The GHRP covered the period between March and December 2020, with the COVID-19 response integrated into ‘regular’ Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs) and Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) for 2021. Country teams worked to align the humanitarian response with other ongoing or planned pandemic responses, particularly with development partners. This enabled COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 humanitarian responses to be reflected together in the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) for 2021. This integration also signalled the synchronization of COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 funding requirements and reporting under the regular Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC).

Eutur Nafra and her colleague demonstrate COVID-19 safety measures at Abnaa Mhin IDP camp in Syria's northern Idleb Governorate. Eutur was one of several women who raised community awareness of the virus. Credit: OCHA



Real-life heroes honoured in World Humanitarian Day campaign

Front-line humanitarian heroes who save and protect lives despite conflict, insecurity, lack of access and COVID-19 were the focus of the 2020 OCHA-led World Humanitarian Day (WHD) campaign.

Using the hashtag #RealLifeHeroes, the campaign brought many heroes' stories to life. It defined 'hero' to include local aid workers, who embody heroic qualities – strength, resilience, bravery, perseverance and commitment – to help others, despite often being in need themselves. The campaign gave special attention to their dedication and self-sacrifice, and to their ongoing commitment to bring food, shelter, health care, protection and hope to others amid conflict, displacement, disaster and disease.

WHD social media content peaked on Twitter at #18 globally, #6 in the USA, #2 in Sweden and Pakistan, and #1 in Switzerland. There was strong engagement from young people, who expressed support for humanitarian action.

Heads of State (including French President Macron and Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau), Governments, donor agencies, the private sector and influencers also rallied around the campaign, with notable endorsements from UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Goodwill Ambassador Priyanka Chopra, UN Messenger of Peace Michael Douglas, and tennis champion Novak Djokovic.

The WHD platform (worldhumanitarianday.org), stories and visuals were shared in more than 136 countries, and the centrepiece film, titled 'What makes heroes heroes?', was viewed by over 1.3 million people.

The campaign received global traditional media coverage, including from Al Jazeera, Devex and Thomson Reuters, with more than 2,000 articles noting WHD's significance and the importance of front-line humanitarian workers.

OCHA's regional and country offices worked with partners and national media to promote their own #RealLifeHeroes and humanitarian issues in local languages, including through photo exhibits, billboards, news articles, and radio and television broadcasts.

World Humanitarian Day 2020 celebrated front-line humanitarian heroes such as Dr. Amin Qassem, seen here with Hussein Saleh recovering from COVID-19 at Al Jomhoria Hospital in Aden, Yemen. Credit: OCHA/Giles Clarke





Gearing up for COVID-19

The pandemic forced the UN to operate in a different way, including by working remotely. OCHA was already well prepared for this.

From providing remote support to dealing with hurricanes and helping forcibly displaced people, to evacuating aid workers who needed emergency medical care, OCHA staff found ways to keep working to help those who needed it most through the pandemic.

Despite the hurdles, there were also opportunities to work more collaboratively.

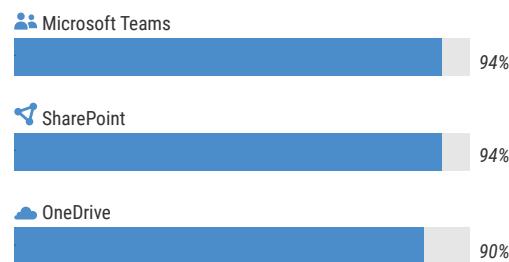
Smooth transition to a remote work environment

OCHA transitioned to a fully remote work environment in 2020, thanks to extensive work already under way since 2018 to modernize communication and collaboration

tools. OCHA was the first UN Secretariat entity to fully deploy the Office 365 suite of internal collaboration and communications tools. Despite logistical difficulties with providing consistent Internet access in many OCHA locations by June, its adoption rate of the core Office 365 tools was almost 100 per cent.

Despite the pandemic, OCHA staff continued to deliver. OCHA Director of Operations Reena Ghelani (third from left) is on her way to listen to displaced people and their host families in Drodro, Djugu Territory, DRC. Credit: OCHA/Ivo Brandau

COVID-19 REMOTE COLLABORATION STAFF USE OF ONLINE TOOLS



Remote surge support

OCHA's Information Management Branch invested considerable effort in providing remote support to field operations due to increased workloads and pandemic-related travel restrictions.

Remote surge was scaled up to support several OCHA country offices (Columbia, Ethiopia, the Philippines, Somalia and Sudan; and Humanitarian Advisory Teams in Azerbaijan, Guatemala and Honduras) and two regional offices that cover Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), and Southern and Eastern Africa (ROSEA). This was in addition to the support provided by standby partners and regional offices and to other offices coping with multiple crises.

OCHA's remote-support model helped field operations carry out essential work under extremely difficult circumstances and often at overstretched capacity. This work included vital tasks such as recruitment, creating infographics, and preparing data entry systems (especially on COVID-19-related activities) and funding analysis tools.

Staff welfare and duty of care

As staff had to work under exceptional circumstances, OCHA strengthened its counselling capacity: four clinical psychologists provided round-the-clock support in different time zones.

The OCHA Staff Welfare team was available at all times to support the mental health care of all staff, to navigate their many personal and professional challenges, and to address the impact of stress and anxiety caused by the pandemic.

UN system-wide medical evacuations

In response to the pandemic, OCHA worked jointly with a UN System-Wide Task Force on Medical Evacuations (MEDEVAC) to provide a much-needed safety net to its personnel and partners so they could stay in their duty

stations and deliver. COVID-19 MEDEVACs, as a last resort, ensure the availability of life-saving airlifts and medical facilities to those who fall seriously ill and require a level of care not available in their location. Over 320 MEDEVAC requests had been made from almost 60 countries by 22 May 2021, which marked one year since the mechanism began. Successful replication of the structure to roll out the Front Line of Defense and UN vaccine deployment mechanisms is testament to the strength of the One UN partnership and its ability to work together in the face of unprecedented circumstances.

West Africa office supports hurricane response

Tropical Storm Eta and Hurricane Iota made landfall on 3 and 16 November, respectively. They hit Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua especially hard, affecting at least 7.3 million people across those countries. Flooding and landslides damaged or destroyed thousands of homes and key infrastructure in nine countries.

A simultaneous multi-country response required ongoing remote centralized coordination between in-country partners and support from regional offices and headquarters.

Surge deployments to Guatemala and Honduras quickly stretched ROLAC's information management (IM) resources. When ROLAC's regional IM Officer was deployed to Guatemala, OCHA's Head of IM in the Regional Office for West Africa (ROWCA) stepped in remotely from Dakar to take up the regional IM coordination tasks. OCHA Dakar provided coherent and effective management of information products and requests throughout the response.



(Left) Roberto Colombo-Llimona, Head of IM at OCHA ROWCA, during a mission to Guinea.
Credit: OCHA

(Below) Brenda Eriksen with colleagues during a mission to Guatemala.
Credit: OCHA

IM work in an emergency is key: from data collection and analysis to reporting, there is a need to ensure 24/7 coverage, and remote surge allowed for that. What normally is a weakness – time difference – with remote support became a strength: the team in Panama could get some rest knowing that the team in Dakar was taking over.”

Roberto Colombo-Llimona, Head of IM, OCHA ROWCA



“In a disaster-prone region... IM work becomes more complex – from supporting individual countries to continuing to provide a regional overview of the impact... while continuing to find new, better ways to inform on the ongoing response. During Hurricanes Eta and Iota, one of our biggest achievements was the roll-out of the 345W platform, which helped improve monitoring of the response by simplifying the reporting of field activities and providing a real-time dashboard for analysis.”

Brenda Eriksen, IM Officer, OCHA ROLAC

Information Management supports COVID-19 data collection and analysis

Since the pandemic began, OCHA's global IM teams collected, analysed and published critical data to track the pandemic's spread and the ongoing response. This was especially critical in countries already battling multiple crises even before the pandemic.

Dedicated IM cell supports field locations

In April 2020, the Global Information Management, Assessment and Analysis Cell (GIMAC) on COVID-19 was established to coordinate, structure, collate, manage and analyse pandemic-related information. The cell also provided technical support and services to prioritized countries and global decision-making.

GIMAC was a multi-stakeholder initiative co-led by OCHA, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Global Health Cluster and IOM. It operated with support from donors and UN and NGO partners.

Practical support to field operations was initiated in May 2020.

Until August 2020, GIMAC supported humanitarian response in Ethiopia and Iraq, focusing on the direct and secondary impacts of COVID-19 combined with ongoing humanitarian shocks and consequences.

In September 2020, GIMAC expanded its field support services and received funding to initiate a multi-country secondary data review project. Through support from the NGO Data Friendly Space and the Danish Refugee Council, GIMAC began working with OCHA in Afghanistan, Cameroon, Niger, Somalia and South Sudan. Priorities included an enhanced assessment registry; secondary data review of country-level assessments, surveys and

situation reports; support to joint analysis; and a review of information gaps for geographical areas, affected groups and sectors.

In November 2020, following the worsening situation in Tigray, Ethiopia, GIMAC supported OCHA Ethiopia with primary data collection and the adoption of methodologies and tools for intersectoral needs assessments.

Eight countries received GIMAC support services.

GIMAC activities depended on the active participation of OCHA, UNHCR, WHO, the Global Health Cluster, UNICEF, Impact Initiative, MapAction and more than 30 UN Online Volunteers. Its activities were funded by the United States Agency for International Development's Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance and resources from its co-leads and active partners.

Remote support experience

Adnan Mohammed, Head of Administration, OCHA ROSEA

As an Administrative Officer, I support staff wherever they are. My job became even more difficult during the pandemic and put so much pressure on colleagues like me, who were trying to find solutions.

At the regional office level, one of our key priorities was to ensure that all our colleagues had Internet connection for telecommuting, regardless of their location. Within a week this was done, and where power outages would be more likely, such as in Madagascar, we managed to get a solar panel/backup in place so staff would have Internet connection.

Our work today certainly comes with more challenges and requires more patience. For instance, we had to support the travel of four OCHA South Sudan staff members from Juba to Nairobi. As you can imagine, there were many delays and protocols to observe: you



Adnan Mohammed,
OCHA ROSEA

need to link up with authorities on both sides and with Joint Medical Services, and secure flight clearance through Nairobi-based focal points. And then you have last-minute changes and delays! Health protocols, in particular, are not always clear and often change. Therefore, it is more challenging for staff to travel than it used to be.

Two of our staff members were stuck in Zambia and Zimbabwe. They went on surge missions and couldn't come back to Nairobi, their duty station. But they managed to telecommute and regularly join our team meetings. On Fridays, these meetings always became less operational and more social — a way to be with each other.

At a personal level, I was deeply affected. My wife travelled home (Addis), and shortly after they closed the airport in Nairobi. Not only did we miss her, but I was left having to take care of our five children on top of my work. It was quite exhausting.

Standby partners' support

Since its launch 20 years ago, OCHA's Stand-By Partnership Programme (SBPP) has become a key component of OCHA's surge capability, providing much-needed expertise during humanitarian emergencies.

The programme, governed by UN General Assembly resolutions, currently provides gratis personnel from 14 organizations.

On average, 41 SBPP deployments take place each year. In 2020, 60 SBPP experts were deployed, for an average of 5.5 months, to new and escalating humanitarian emergencies, and to situations where specific expertise was required but unavailable within OCHA. Twenty-seven of these experts were deployed, including for the first time to headquarters, to support the whole-of-OCHA response to the

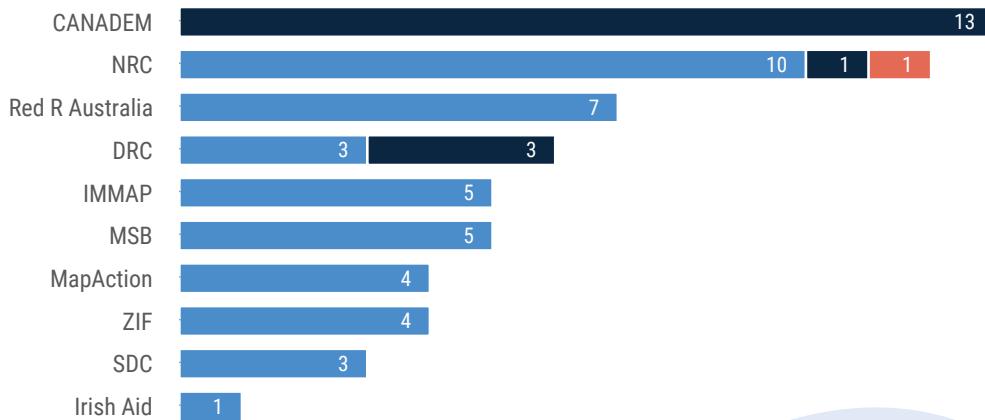
pandemic. The 60 deployments represented an in-kind contribution to OCHA of approximately \$5.3 million.

Information management officers (IMO)s are the most deployed job profile, accounting for nearly half of all deployments. Most IMO's provided remote support during the pandemic response.

Humanitarian affairs officers continued to be in high demand either as generalists or as individuals with specific expertise.

SBP DEPLOYMENT BY PARTNER ORGANIZATION

- UK FCDO funded
- SBP funded
- Jointly funded UK FCDO/NRC



Field offices

WHAT OCHA'S OFFICES DO

-  **Support Governments'** response to a crisis.
-  **Support the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator** in coordinating a response.
-  Develop a common **needs** assessment and common **response plan** for the aid community.
-  Build a common **strategy to respond**.
-  Manage **Country-Based Pooled Funds**.
-  Provide **up-to-date information** on the crisis and the needs of the affected people.
-  Advocate for the needs and protection of affected people and aid workers.
-  Advocate for **access** to affected people.
-  Help mobilize and track **resources** for crisis response.
-  **Track and monitor** crisis response.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa (ROSEA)

Eastern and Southern Africa faced multiple shocks in 2020, including the pandemic, crop-threatening pests, droughts, food insecurity and conflict.

By the year's end, conflict in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado Province had displaced nearly 670,000 people, almost 580,000 of whom were displaced during 2020 alone. At least 29 million people across Eastern Africa were affected by severe food insecurity, with conflict being a major driver. Over 900,000 people in Madagascar and 2.6 million Zimbabweans were severely food insecure.

Severe weather events continued to impact the region. They included Cyclone Herold in March, which affected Madagascar and Mauritius, and Tropical Storm Chalana in December, which affected Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

The pandemic exacerbated existing vulnerabilities including gender-based violence (GBV). Supply chains were also affected resulting in food deficits, price hikes and

disruptions to health systems and services, which compromised critical testing and treatment of chronic diseases and immunization programmes.

ROSEA's top priority remained responding to new or escalating emergencies through surge and expert support missions across the 25 countries under its coverage (and beyond). It provided some 1,100 physical surge days and around 1,800 days of remote support.

ROSEA also played a critical role in galvanizing attention to and funding for major and forgotten humanitarian crises across the region: it supported the roll-out of nearly \$85.9 million from CERF for some of the countries it supports. ROSEA developed 10 emergency appeals, providing remote coordination expertise to multiple countries, and it supported WHO's regional coordination efforts for the pandemic response.

OCHA ROSEA also provided expertise on critical humanitarian issues, including humanitarian access negotiations (Tigray and Cabo Delgado) and civil-military coordination.

ROSEA had 32 staff (18 national, 14 international) along with two Nairobi-based United

"My family is still there. I was the only one to flee. All our belongings were destroyed. I'm in touch with my family, they are suffering but safe. Lots of people died due to heavy gunfire."



An 85-year-old man from Temben (Central Tigray), Ethiopia. Credit: OCHA/Jordi Casafont

Nations Volunteers (UNVs). It had a Humanitarian Advisory Team (HAT) of three staff (two local, one international) in Madagascar, and a field presence in Mozambique with three staff (one national, two international) supported by one national and one international UNV; in Zambia with two national staff; and in Zimbabwe with three national staff and one UNV.

The UN Environment Programme and OCHA's Joint Environment Unit, with support from the International Maritime Organization, deployed an oil-spill expert, who worked with a team deployed from ROSEA to assist the Government in coordinating its response efforts. Support included technical advice, coordinating immediate response and advising on continued longer-term recovery efforts.



Displaced by conflict, people sought refuge on Paquitequete beach, Pemba City, Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique.
Credit: UN/Helvisney Cardoso

Technical support for oil spill in Mauritius

While carrying nearly 4,200 metric tons of fuel, the bulk carrier vessel *MW Wakashio* ran aground on the reef of Point d'Esny in Mauritius in July. When the vessel began leaking oil, the Government of Mauritius requested international assistance.

The deployment of the expert and the wider OCHA team, while slightly delayed due to pandemic-related travel restrictions, provided an impartial technical understanding of the oil spill to all responders including national authorities, fisheries, communities, the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The team organized and facilitated daily technical coordination meetings with de-polluting companies to ensure coherence and efficiency,

advised the police commissioner leading the overall response coordination, and regularly debriefed the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) about the crisis response management.

The expert and the OCHA team also ensured an onsite coordination point for all responders to work together and receive and share information. This had a significant positive impact, as the space allowed response working groups to organize meetings and provide an Internet connection and an information board with maps. The space became the entry point for all international support teams to join the national response.

Burundi

2020 was characterized by increasing needs due to natural disasters and the pandemic's socioeconomic impact, which exacerbated the needs of the most vulnerable people. At least 1.7 million people required humanitarian assistance.

OCHA coordinated the response to flooding in rural Bujumbura and other areas. It set up a hub system in provinces to ensure information sharing during the elections and enhanced coordination of activities. OCHA also played a significant role in coordinating the pandemic response and duty of care measures, including for the wider international NGO community.

In the last quarter of 2020, the deployment of a specialist from the Protection Stand-by Capacity Project and the revision of the HCT Protection Strategy marked increased emphasis on strengthening protection. The specialist's deployment also allowed the HCT to develop a two-year road map to implement the protection strategy.

The year ended with the HRP funded only 45 per cent, but the total humanitarian funding reached an all-time high, with almost \$112 million mobilized.

OCHA Burundi had 14 staff (6 national, 8 international), all based in Bujumbura, including a JPO and a UNV. A staff member from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) deployed for three months to support the IM team for the 2021 HPC process and coordination of the pandemic response.



Eritrea

Eritrea suffered from drought-induced food insecurity, malnutrition and protection challenges, especially due to the pandemic-related lockdown. The initial number of reported COVID-19 cases remained low but then increased towards the end of 2020. The desert locust infestation was a significant concern, as was access to health services, including maternal health in remote areas. Immunization coverage was low, especially in remote areas.

OCHA supported the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and the UN country team (UNCT) to identify humanitarian priorities in the Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework (SPCF 2017–2021).

OCHA facilitated, consolidated and monitored the implementation of the 2019 Basic Services Response Priorities (BSRP) document — an internal UN plan that included humanitarian “basic service” priorities, such as clean water and primary health care, as part of the SPCF.

Children wade through water flooding their village in Bujumbura, Burundi. They are heading to the main road where families are gathered with their belongings, but with nowhere to go.
Credit: OCHA/Lauriane Wolfe

After fighting broke out in Tigray, Iridia and her brother fled on a tractor from Humera to Shiraro. They then walked 90 km to Shire and continued the rest of their journey to Mekelle on a construction truck.

Credit: OCHA/Jordi Casafon



Through the BSRP, OCHA coordinated analysis of the humanitarian situation and prioritized needs and the response. The BSRP required almost \$35 million, and mobilization efforts raised 43 per cent (\$15 million) to assist 959,000 people.

OCHA provided coordination and IM support to the RC/HC, UNCT and donors to track funding and implementation of the BSRP and the SPCF.

OCHA Eritrea had seven staff (five national, two international) and one UNV.

Ethiopia

Slow-onset drought, disease outbreaks, flooding, conflict, intercommunal violence and internal displacement affected Ethiopia. Towards the end of the year, large-scale conflict began in Tigray, creating new humanitarian needs for more than 1.3 million people (as of end 2020). Due to the pandemic and other health outbreaks, conflict, drought,

floods and the desert locust invasion, the number of food-insecure people increased from 8.5 million at the beginning of the year to 11.9 million by midyear.

Conflict, violence, physical challenges and bureaucratic impediments constrained humanitarian access and operations, resulting in a serious protection environment that affected the civilian population and humanitarian workers. About 114 humanitarian partners (62 international NGOs, 28 national NGOs, 11 UN agencies, 10 Government agencies, 3 Red Cross members, 24 donors and media houses) benefited from OCHA's coordination, information, management and advocacy initiatives.

OCHA's advocacy addressed access challenges in different parts of the country throughout the year, including in Tigray at the end of 2020.

Due to increased needs, OCHA revised the 2020 HRP with a requirement of almost

\$1.5 billion to reach some 15 million people. A three-month HRP for northern Ethiopia was developed in November, seeking \$116.5 million.

Humanitarian financing mechanisms also supported the Ethiopia-wide response: the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund provided \$57.5 million to 106 projects, and CERF allocated \$21 million. An Anticipatory Action Framework was finalized to mitigate the drought's impact, with just over \$13 million allocated to the first set of activities.

OCHA's work in Ethiopia was supported by 74 staff (61 national, 13 international), one UNV and three JPOs in the capital, Addis Ababa, and four sub-offices (Bule Hora, Jijiga, Nekmente and Semera).

Somalia

The desert locust upsurge, extensive flooding and the pandemic exacerbated the humanitarian situation, which left more than 5 million Somalis in need of humanitarian assistance. Measures to control the spread of COVID-19 further constrained humanitarian access to people in need.

OCHA coordinated various responses in collaboration with WHO and other stakeholders. This included the response to the pandemic; to flooding that affected almost 1.6 million people; to the protracted displacement of 2.6 million people; and to Cyclone Gati in Puntland State. Overall, OCHA coordinated 363 partners, who provided humanitarian assistance to more than 2 million people.

OCHA managed the Somalia Humanitarian Fund, which allocated just over \$36 million to 73 projects and 47 partners. CERF provided approximately \$7 million for urgent support to flood-affected people and \$15 million for anticipatory action to mitigate the impact of the pandemic, desert locusts and increased flooding.

With 72 staff (53 national, 19 international) and 3 UNVs, OCHA Somalia maintained a country office in Mogadishu; field offices in Baيدoa (South West), Belet Weyne (HirShabelle), Dhusamareeb (Galmudug), Garowe (Puntland), Hargeisa (Somaliland), Kismayo and Doolow (Jubaland) and Mogadishu (Banadir); and an office in Nairobi, Kenya.

South Sudan

Communities were hit hard by internal violence, a second consecutive year of flooding that affected more than 900,000 people, and a pandemic-related economic downturn. Some 1.6 million people remained internally displaced, with more than 2 million living as refugees in the region. Insecurity, lack of basic services and unresolved land property issues prevented people from returning home.

Food insecurity worsened — some communities faced catastrophic needs, and more children were acutely malnourished than at any time in the past three years. OCHA raised the alarm about the risk of famine based on the early warning information, including with the Security Council in September.

OCHA established an innovative deep-field coordination mechanism with partners in more than 20 remote areas with a limited presence of humanitarian partners. These efforts meant that the humanitarian assistance delivered to more than 6 million people by more than 200 partners prevented many people falling into deeper need. However, increased violence against aid workers stopped hundreds of thousands of vulnerable people from predictably accessing aid. OCHA engaged with the UN Mission in South Sudan and organizations working on humanitarian protection to support the response in conflict-affected areas.

OCHA facilitated the disbursal of more than \$94 million from CERF and the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SSHF). National NGOs received 34 per cent of SSHF funding

In January 2020, OCHA South Sudan and partners assessed humanitarian needs in Wau and Jur River counties, Western Bahr el Ghazal, and monitored projects supported by the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund. Credit: OCHA/Anthony Burke



as part of OCHA's commitment to support local organizations.

OCHA's work in South Sudan was supported by 98 staff (56 national, 42 international) in Juba and in seven sub-offices (Bentiu, Bor, Malakal, Torit, Wau, Yambio and Yei).

Sudan

Despite progress on the political transition and peace process, humanitarian needs continued to grow. They were driven by an economic crisis and exacerbated by the pandemic, disease outbreaks, protracted internal displacement, intercommunal conflict,

unprecedented flooding and hosting refugees, including a new influx from Ethiopia.

To support the response, OCHA strengthened its coordination efforts, including expanding its presence in eastern Sudan, and it supported health partners in coordinating the pandemic response. In December, OCHA engaged with the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) and organizations that work on humanitarian protection to support protection activities in the areas from which UNAMID would be withdrawing.

OCHA sought to strengthen accountability to affected people (AAP), including through establishing a dedicated AAP Working Group.

OCHA also maintained a critical role in expanding humanitarian access. This included organizing inter-agency assessment missions to previously inaccessible areas in Darfur's Jebel Marra, where over 600,000 people received assistance for the first time in a decade, and helping to increase assistance in areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile that are outside Government control.

With 92 staff (69 national, 23 international), as well as several surge deployments, OCHA supported the response through a main office in Khartoum and sub-offices in Abyei, Blue Nile, Central Darfur, Kassala, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan and West Darfur.

Nearly 900,000 people were affected in Sudan's worst-ever floods. Thousands of those people lost everything.

Credit: OCHA/Fayez Abu Bakr





"My husband is away from the camp all day, looking for work to bring some meagre income. I stay alone with the children and feel safer in the camp than anywhere else. I am afraid of the coronavirus. The only way for us to protect each other and ourselves is if everyone stays in this room, because the camp is too congested."

Yagana Bulama, 20, is from Mafa, Nigeria. She now lives in Custom House camp, one of the many overcrowded IDP camps in Maiduguri, Nigeria. Credit: OCHA/Eve Sabbagh

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Regional Office for West and Central Africa (ROWCA)

West and Central Africa registered close to a third of global humanitarian needs in 2020. Climate shocks, extreme poverty, insecurity and conflict led to high levels of vulnerability. The pandemic hit some of the world's weakest health systems and the socioeconomic impact created new needs.

In conflict-affected regions in the Sahel and Central Africa, civilians faced an acute protection crisis. Across the region, almost 13 million people had to flee their homes and more than 40 million people faced severe food insecurity.

ROWCA supported regional platforms on the pandemic response and the inclusion of non-HRP countries in the COVID-19 GHRP, and it helped strengthen emergency preparedness in coastal countries.

ROWCA adapted its surge strategy and support tools in 2020, prioritizing remote support to the region's country offices and RC offices. ROWCA staff deployed for 584 days to Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Guinea and the Republic of Congo.

ROWCA was pivotal in the success of the Senior Officials Meeting and Ministerial Round Table on the Central Sahel. OCHA, the Governments of the subregion (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger), donors and humanitarian partners co-organized the event, which raised \$1.7 billion from 24 donor countries and partners.

Burkina Faso

Even before the pandemic began, 2020 was on track to be the most difficult year of the past decade for Burkina Faso. A succession of shocks linked to conflict and insecurity had driven more than 1 million people from their homes since early 2019. Climate varia-

bility and the pandemic led to a 30 per cent increase in the number of people in need in the first half of 2020, from 2.2 million to 2.9 million. And for the first time in 10 years, the country saw the re-emergence of critical food insecurity conditions (IPC Phase 4) in two provinces of the Sahel region.

Between January and December, there was a 75 per cent increase in internal displacement (from 614,000 IDPs to more than 1 million). OCHA-supported efforts to increase humanitarian funding and the response capacity enabled humanitarian partners to reach more than 2.4 million people in 2020, twice the number of people reached in 2019.

OCHA gradually increased its capacity to support collective priorities for humanitarian coordination at the national and regional levels, securing dedicated capacity to provide leadership on humanitarian civil-military coordination, community engagement, AAP, IM and analysis, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

The OCHA office, established in July 2019, comprised 14 staff (9 national, 5 international) based in Dori, Kaya and Ouagadougou.

Cameroon

In 2020, Cameroon continued to be affected by displacement due to continuous violence in the Lake Chad basin and the north-west and south-west regions, and the presence of over 290,000 refugees from CAR in the eastern regions. More refugees had arrived by the year's end due to violence and insecurity during the elections in CAR.

In early 2020 almost 4 million people needed humanitarian assistance, but that number increased to more than 6 million due to the pandemic's impact.

OCHA Cameroon supported the in-country humanitarian system, which comprised up to 172 entities, including 9 UN agencies, 28



Children from Koukouma village in Cameroon's Far North region travel by canoe to a site that serves as a temporary school. Flooding destroyed their original school.

Credit: OCHA/
Bibiane Marie
Mouangue

international NGOs, 111 national NGOs and the donor community.

In the north-west and south-west, OCHA continued to support humanitarian partners in their Government interactions, acting as a focal point for relations at the local level and with the Government-led Humanitarian Coordination Centres. This allowed for a coordinated, principled response and improved access, and established civil-military coordination working groups in the north-west and south-west.

To strengthen the Government's capacity to respond to the pandemic, OCHA recruited and seconded 10 national UNVs, including six epidemiologists, two logisticians, one IMO and one public information officer.

With 34 staff (22 national, 12 international), OCHA maintained a robust field presence with a sub-office in Maroua, a temporary office in Kouroussi (Far North), and sub-offices in Bamenda (north-west) and Buea (south-west).

Central African Republic

The humanitarian crisis in CAR deteriorated in 2020. As well as the pandemic's impact, the conflict dynamics around the national elections compounded the humanitarian situation, displacing over 300,000 people. More than half of the country's population needed humanitarian assistance, includ-

ing almost 2 million people living in a critical situation.

OCHA provided strategic coordination to more than 180 partners operating in an extremely volatile context – 424 incidents affected humanitarian workers compared to 206 incidents in 2019, representing a 39 per cent increase. 2020 became the most dangerous year for humanitarian operations at the global level for humanitarian workers.

Under OCHA's leadership, the humanitarian community interviewed an unprecedented number of households (more than 16,000 – twice as many as in 2019) for a multisector needs-assessment survey. This enabled better targeting of aid assistance to people in need across the country, with a particular focus on the areas most affected by conflict and on vulnerable groups, which improved AAP.

Three additional civil-military coordination cells were set up, and OCHA mobilized and coordinated the deployment of a UN Humanitarian Air Service helicopter to 25 hard-to-reach localities, where rapid assessment teams were deployed and life-saving cargo transported.

OCHA developed an internal tool for tracking allegations of SEA. It also organized an IASC support mission to CAR on PSEA and supported training on PSEA issues for 74 organizations.

OCHA CAR had 89 staff (64 national, 25 international) and 7 CBPFs staff (4 national, 3 international), with a 50 per cent gender parity on international and UNV posts. OCHA was present in 12 locations: Bangui, four sub-offices (Bambari, Bangassou, Bouar and Kaga Bandoro) and seven temporary offices (Alindao, Batangafo, Berberati, Birao, Bocaranga, Bria and Paoua).

Chad

The number of people who needed urgent life-saving aid rose steadily in 2020, with more internal displacements, flooding and pandemic-related effects.

OCHA coordinated the development of the HRP. Initially it aimed to assist 3 million of 5.3 million people in need, but that number increased to 3.8 million in July to include needs related to the pandemic, food insecurity and new displacements.

Insecurity in Lac Province prompted new waves of internal displacements. By year end, there were 336,124 IDPs, an increase of 92.6 per cent compared to 2019. In light of the increased access challenges, particularly in hard-to-reach areas mainly in Lac

Province, OCHA reviewed and revitalized the civil-military coordination forum with relevant partners on the ground.

OCHA planned and facilitated the first HCT retreat for some years. Held in person in February 2020, the retreat enabled a critical review of key issues and processes, including relations with the Government, revisions to the humanitarian coordination structure, enhancing emergency preparedness and response, validating updated advocacy strategies (including on protection) and revising the strategic focus for 2021 for work on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. OCHA strengthened PSEA awareness and initiatives within OCHA and with the humanitarian community.

With 42 staff in place (27 national, 15 international), OCHA supported the Chad response through offices in the capital, N'Djamena, and in the east (Abeché), the west (Baga Sola) and the south (Goré).

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The complex humanitarian crisis in DRC worsened in 2020. The number of people with protection and humanitarian needs



Flood-affected people receive assistance from aid organizations in N'Djamena, Chad. The region experienced record rainfall in 2020.

Credit: OCHA/
Federica Gabellini

increased from 15.6 million at the start of 2020 to 19.6 million at the year's end. DRC hosted the largest number of food insecure people (19.6 million) and the world's second largest IDP population (5.2 million).

Despite a difficult year exacerbated by the pandemic, OCHA tailored its team composition and footprint to closely align with emerging needs. Working with more than 300 humanitarian partners, OCHA coordinated assistance to more than 7.7 million people. It supported the Ebola response by coordinating multisectoral support, and it played a leading role in improving the integration of gender and protection concerns across the response, and in strengthening engagement with affected communities, notably in support of the PSEA strategy.

The DRC Humanitarian Fund allocated \$75 million in 2020, making it the second largest CBPF worldwide. CERF provided \$76.9 million to support underfunded sectors, the post-Ebola response and food security.

With 157 staff (120 national, 37 international), OCHA supported the DRC response through offices in Kinshasa, four major sub-offices (Bukavu, Goma, Kalemie and Kananga)

and seven temporary offices (Beni, Bunia, Kindu, Mbandaka, Shabunda, Tshikapa and Uvira). The office benefited from one surge staff member deployed from OCHA ROWCA and one IM standby partner to support the pandemic response.

Mali

In 2020, the humanitarian situation in Mali remained a serious concern, with the pandemic compounding a fragile situation that deteriorated due to ongoing conflict and violence across the country.

Many people were forced to leave their homes due to violent attacks on villages and military operations in Gao, Kidal, Menaka, Mohti, Segou, Timbuktu and the Mali-Burkina Faso border area. There were 330,000 IDPs by the year's end, which represented a drastic increase since October 2019 (199,385 IDPs).

In 2020, the Protection Cluster registered 4,036 incidents affecting civilians compared to 1,800 in 2019, and floods affected more than 81,000 people compared to 78,000 in 2019.

A group of displaced women in their shared field near Bunia Ituri Province, DRC. The shared field project included four groups of 50 women. Credit: OCHA/Ivo Brandau



The OCHA-supported coordination mechanism enabled humanitarian partners to reach 2.6 million people of the 5.5 million expected to be assisted by 31 December. OCHA helped strengthen humanitarian coordination in Bamako and in the field by appointing a Deputy HC (DHC) to be stationed in Mopti. OCHA strengthened gender and protection issues across the response by working closely with clusters and the DHC to set up an HCT task force focused on gender and developing an IDP protection strategy. Civil-military and access coordination mechanisms were in place to ensure protection of the humanitarian space.

OCHA Mali had 51 staff (34 national, 17 international) in Bamako, Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu.

Nigeria

Aissata Ongoiba, a volunteer teacher, with a pupil at the camp for displaced people from Mondoro, Gao, Mali. Credit: OCHA/
Michele Cattani

The humanitarian response in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) States in north-east Nigeria faced major challenges in 2020. This was largely due to the pandemic, which increased the number of people in need to an unprecedented 10.6 million from nearly 8 million in early 2020.

Escalating insecurity triggered mass displacements of civilians, and arbitrary road closures impeded humanitarian access to several locations, leaving hundreds of thousands of affected people without critical assistance and services. Civilians, including aid workers, came under increased direct and indirect attacks, including abductions by non-State armed groups (NSAGs), particularly along major supply routes in the BAY States. Despite these challenges, OCHA mobilized and coordinated the humanitarian community, reaching about 5 million people with multisectoral response across the BAY States in 2020 (72 per cent of the people in need).

OCHA had a leading role in advocating for the centrality of protection, integrating gender and protection concerns across the response and strengthening engagement with affected communities.

OCHA supported the HCT in engaging with Borno State authorities on their plans to close all camps in the State capital by May 2021 and return IDPs to locations that international aid workers cannot reach due to insecurity. This engagement was ongoing at the end of 2020.



With 72 staff (50 national, 22 international), OCHA supported the north-east Nigeria response through a robust field presence, with a head office in Abuja and sub-offices in the BAY States. Through missions, it also supported deep-field coordination in hard-to-reach areas hosting large numbers of affected people.

Niger

The situation in Niger remained precarious, and its people continued to bear the brunt of climate change, chronic food and nutrition insecurity, conflicts and epidemics, including COVID-19.

OCHA coordinated the development of the 2020 HRP and its review, which enabled the increased number of people in need (from 2.9 million in January to 3.7 million in July) to reflect additional needs.

The number of IDPs almost doubled in 2020, reaching 298,000. Some 2 million people became severely food insecure — an increase of over 65 per cent compared to 2019 — and floods affected over 632,000 people.

Humanitarian access continued to be restricted in some areas due to armed entities' activities. OCHA's advocacy efforts led to the creation in August of a high-level committee on humanitarian access, co-chaired by the Prime Minister and the HC, following the release of the Government's note verbale requiring armed escorts for international organizations' movements in certain localities. Through the civil-military coordination mechanism, OCHA facilitated access to 173 humanitarian organizations, including 12 UN agencies, 154 NGOs and 7 Red Cross organizations.

With 49 staff (37 national, 12 international), OCHA supported the humanitarian response through offices in the capital, Niamey; sub-offices in Diffa, Maradi, Tahoua and Tillabéri; and a temporary office in Ouallam (Tillabéri region).



The UN RC/HC in Nigeria, Edward Kallon (right), met with farmers and villagers in Zabarmari rural community in Borno State, where several civilians were killed in a violent NSAG attack on 28 November 2020.
Credit: OCHA/Eve Sabbagh



IDP families in Dand, Afghanistan. They are receiving assistance including food, water and medicine from the UN and humanitarian partners. Credit: OCHA/Fariba Housaini



The Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ramesh Rajasingham, with IDPs in Dand, Afghanistan. Conflict displaced these people from southern Afghanistan in October 2020. Credit: OCHA/Fariba Housaini

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP)

Humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities grew across Asia and the Pacific in 2020, mainly due to the pandemic. The need to maintain response readiness and support local and national humanitarian action remained critical, as Asia-Pacific was the world's most disaster-prone region and home to 65 per cent of all people affected by disasters globally.

Disasters affected 63 million people in 2020, with nearly 5,700 fatalities. Asia-Pacific endured several protracted crises, with 3.2 million refugees across the region and the world's largest refugee settlement in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

ROAP supported humanitarian partners to develop coordinated response plans in 28 countries in Asia-Pacific in 2020. These plans requested almost \$4 billion to meet the needs of 97 million people. ROAP also provided technical support to country teams in areas such as field coordination, IM, public information, civil-military coordination and communication with affected communities.

At the regional level, ROAP maintained a leadership role in pandemic response, including by establishing and chairing the regional COVID-19 Working Group, under the IASC Regional Network, and supporting multiple sub-working groups.

Despite pandemic-related travel restrictions, ROAP deployed 11 staff on 30 surge missions for 357 days in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Sudan and Turkey (for Syria). Twenty-one ROAP staff members remotely provided over 1,500 staff days of support in 21 countries including Cambodia, Fiji, the Philippines, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, and to the COVID-19 emergency at country and regional levels.

ROAP had 22 staff in Bangkok (7 national, 15 international) and 6 staff based in HATs in Indonesia and Japan. ROAP provided dedicated support to the RC and the UNCT in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Afghanistan

Recurrent natural disasters, chronic poverty, the pandemic and 40 years of war continued to create deadly conditions for people in Afghanistan. Peace talks commenced in 2020, creating hopes for a conflict resolution, but

they did not lead to an improved security environment. OCHA coordinated 165 humanitarian partners to deliver assistance to almost 12 million people in Afghanistan's 401 districts. By the year's end, 18.4 million people, almost half the population, needed humanitarian assistance.

Following the 2019 Peer-2-Peer mission recommendations, OCHA continued to facilitate enhancements to the response. This included implementing a Mutual Accountability Framework between Kabul and the field; developing a Data Accountability Protocol; revising the HCT Protection Strategy; improving the IDP Standard Operating Procedures agreed with the Government in 2019; scaling up cash capacity and safe cash use; increasing the focus on AAP and PSEA; and rolling out the Joint Operating Procedures through the Humanitarian Access Group.

In December, OCHA's Acting Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ramesh Rajasingham, visited Afghanistan to raise awareness of the crisis and strengthen Government support of humanitarian action by the UN and NGOs.

CERF and the OCHA-managed Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund allocated a combined \$104.9 million to 54 partners targeting 5.5 million people.

With 93 staff (72 national, 21 international), 1 JPO and 1 SBP, OCHA Afghanistan operated through its Kabul country office, with sub-offices in Hirat, Jalalabad, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunduz and Mazar-e-Sharif; and antenna offices in Faizabad and Maimana.

Pakistan

With the deactivation of clusters at the end of 2019, humanitarian operations in Pakistan focused on emergency preparedness in 2020. However, there was a re-engagement on response efforts due to several extreme weather events, a desert locust infestation

and the pandemic. The increased need for coordination and response support deferred the planned transition of the OCHA country office into a HAT from early 2020 to January 2021.

In 2020, OCHA supported the Government and the humanitarian community on several international initiatives to address the consequences of the pandemic and other humanitarian needs, including the development of the Pakistan HRP for COVID-19. The plan, which targeted 5.6 million people, required \$146 million and received 61 per cent funding. Following the decision of the IASC Emergency Directors Group in September 2020 to include Pakistan in the 2021 GHO due to increased needs, OCHA facilitated the country team in developing needs and response plans in collaboration with the Government.

CERF and the Pakistan Humanitarian Pooled Fund (PHPF) disbursed a combined \$22 million to aid 1.3 million people. The PHPF, which was scheduled to close in 2020, was extended into 2021 following a record-high performance with \$10 million in disbursements, 70 per cent of which was channelled to national NGOs.

OCHA Pakistan had 21 staff (18 national, 1 international, 2 consultants) based in Islamabad, with sub-offices in Balochistan, Peshawar, Punjab and Sindh.

Myanmar

Myanmar continued to grapple with deeply rooted humanitarian challenges, with 1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance by the year's end, including more than 336,000 displaced people. Conflict continued to be an acute driver of displacement and humanitarian need in northern Shan State but also in Rakhine and southern Chin, with intense, frequent fighting during the first half of the year. Severe movement restric-

tions remained for an estimated 600,000 Rohingya in Rakhine State.

The pandemic's impact further complicated the lives of people in humanitarian settings. Flooding remained a risk during the monsoon season, and OCHA supported Government-led response efforts.

OCHA coordination was critical in responding to displaced communities' needs. Humanitarian access remained challenging and central to OCHA's work. It continued to advocate with State- and Union-level officials for access to all those in need, and as displacement escalated it supported the rapid scale-up of a robust multi-cluster response.

The Myanmar Humanitarian Fund supported 41 projects with more than \$16 million, which helped 803,400 people. More than 40 per cent of the funding was allocated to national partners, which benefited mostly women and girls across the country.

With 56 staff (45 national, 11 international), OCHA supported the Government and the humanitarian community through its main office in Yangon; sub-offices in Lashio (covering northern Shan State), Myitkyina

(covering Kachin State) and Sittwe (covering Rakhine and Chin States); and a liaison unit in Nay Pyi Taw.

Philippines

The Philippines remained one of the world's most natural-hazard-prone countries, with an average of 25 typhoons per year, 21 active volcanoes and regular earthquake threats. In 2020, areas with extreme poverty and instability remained in Mindanao, combined with the continued activity of extremist NSAGs. Conflict-induced displacement in Mindanao was typically protracted and repetitive, pointing to persistent and recurring challenges around housing, land and property rights. According to the Protection Cluster, over 270,000 people remained displaced in Mindanao at the year's end due to conflicts or natural disasters.

To improve response readiness ahead of the 2020 typhoon season, OCHA worked with humanitarian partners to review operational plans and HCT protocols, taking into account the new context created by the pandemic. These plans and protocols were put to the test many times during the typhoon season in the second half of the year.

Gustavo Gonzalez, the UN RC/HC in the Philippines (second from left), listens to Tiwi Municipality Mayor Jaime Villanueva (right) on 8 November 2020 during a visit to Albay Province, the Philippines, a week after it was battered by Super Typhoon Goni. Credit: OCHA/Martin San Diego



In November, OCHA supported the HCT in formulating and launching the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan, calling for \$52.6 million for 280,000 people affected by Super Typhoon Goni and Typhoon Vamco. CERF allocated \$3.1 million, which allowed the HCT to kick-start response activities and catalysed funding from other donors.

With 17 staff (15 national, 2 international) and a presence in Manila and Cotabato City in Mindanao, OCHA was well positioned to provide humanitarian coordination, IM, access, communication and donor liaison services.

Office of the Pacific (OoP)

From a health perspective, the pandemic was largely kept under control in the Pacific. However, the socioeconomic impact was severe and wide ranging, as countries in the region imposed lockdowns, states of emergency and travel restrictions, which increased overall vulnerability to new shocks.

OCHA OoP adjusted due to the pandemic and provided mainly remote support to five priority countries: Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. Its support focused on

coordinating emergency response, including for Tropical Cyclone Harold in April 2020, operational readiness (preparedness), and strategic and operational partnerships with national, regional and international entities.

OoP continued to support national disaster management offices in coordination, IM, preparedness and response. OCHA served as the secretariat for the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT), which includes the PHT Principals, chaired by two RCs, and the PHT inter-cluster coordination forum, chaired by OCHA. The PHT was the main vehicle for international humanitarian partners to respond collectively to disasters.

As OoP was unable to physically deploy staff to emergencies due to the pandemic, it provided dedicated coordination support remotely following the impact of Tropical Cyclone Harold in April. OoP's efforts were augmented by support from OCHA ROAP.

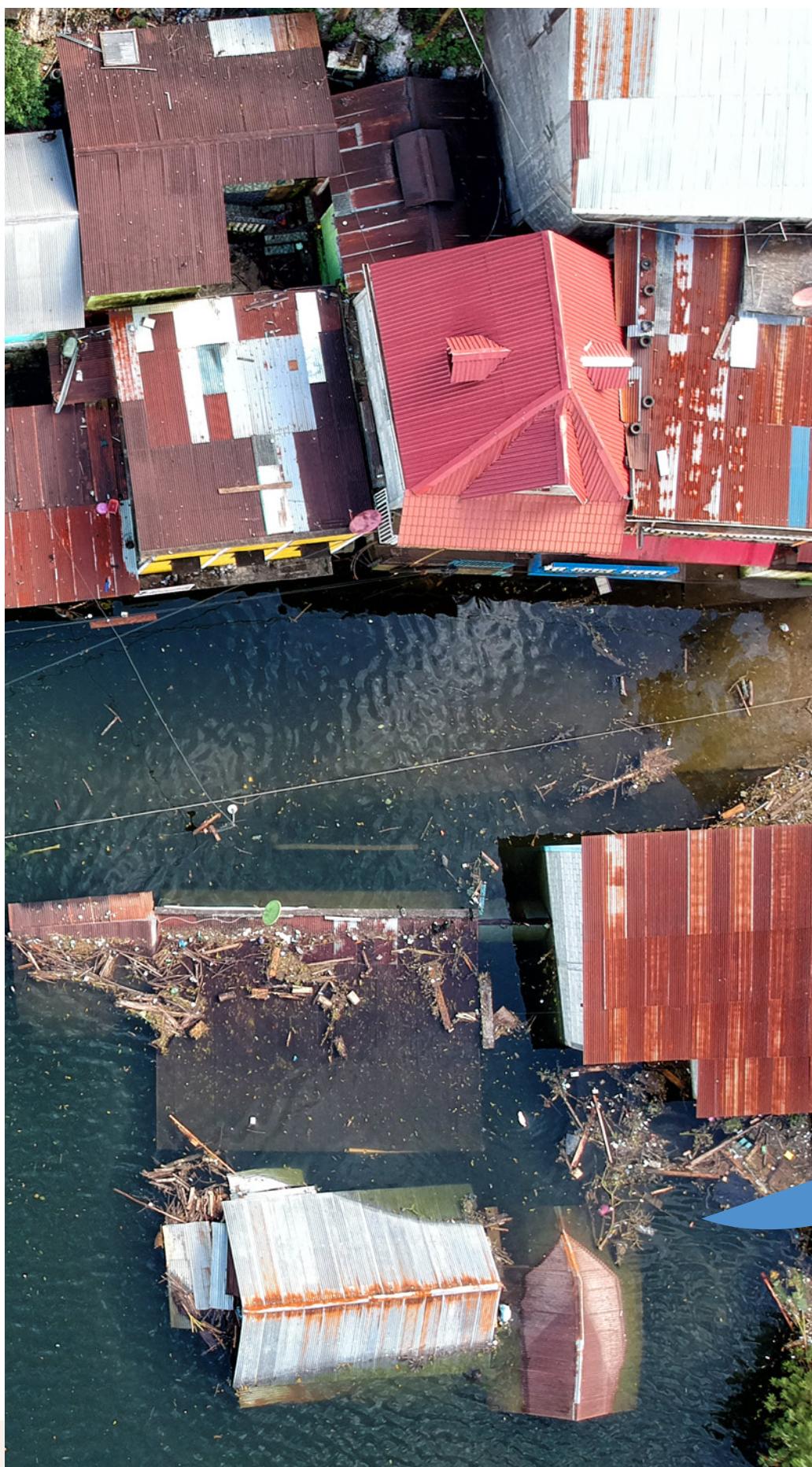
At the end of 2020, OoP comprised six staff (four national, two international); one international UNV and two national UNVs in Suva, Fiji; and one international and one national staff in Apia, Samoa.

Reconstruction
after Cyclone Harold
battered Vanuatu in
April 2020. Credit:
OCHA/Chris Bartlett



An aerial view of the flooding and devastation left by Hurricane Eta in Campur, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala.

Credit: OCHA/Luis Echeverria



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC)

In 2020, the pandemic and pre-existing social, economic and humanitarian vulnerabilities were compounded by the most active hurricane season in recorded history, resulting in unprecedented humanitarian needs across the region. More than 41.8 million people were targeted for humanitarian assistance. By year end, the region's cumulative COVID-19 caseload accounted for more than a fifth of the known global tally, despite the region accounting for under a tenth of the world's population.

The collective response to humanitarian needs during 2020 pushed financing requirements past \$4 billion, an amount nearly four times the support required for 2019 and more than six times the support required for 2018.

ROLAC strengthened emergency preparedness in the region, coordinated the response to Hurricanes Eta and Iota in Central America, which included the deployment of three United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) missions, and improved coordination with regional stakeholders, including Member States, UN agencies and NGOs. It also collaborated with partners across LAC to boost the visibility of humanitarian situations in countries without an HRP, including migration, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and food insecurity, all affected by the pandemic. A key milestone was ROLAC's development of an IM tool that tracks the operational presence and activities of humanitarian partners in LAC.

ROLAC staff deployed to 14 countries for 47 missions (19 surge, 12 internal, 9 technical support, 7 preparedness), including 319 days of surge deployment (184 in Honduras, 107 in Guatemala, 28 in Argentina).

While downsizing the HAT in Bolivia to a regional roving presence, ROLAC opened a HAT in Barbados, thereby strengthening partnerships and preparedness activities in the Caribbean.

ROLAC had 39 staff (27 national, 12 international), including 13 staff based in RC offices in Barbados, Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru.

Deployments to hurricane-hit Central America

Following the landfall of Hurricanes Eta and Iota in November 2020, devastating floods hit vast parts of Central America. An estimated 9.2 million people (including 3.5 million children) were affected by heavy rainfall and life-threatening flash floods and landslides in Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

Leticia embraces her father, Gaspar Cal, in front of their home in the buried village of Queja, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. Their home was damaged by a mudslide caused by heavy rains during Hurricane Eta. Credit: OCHA/Luis Echeverria



Following requests from the Governments of Guatemala and Honduras, UNDAC teams deployed to support the flood response, which was led by the national and local disaster management authorities in areas such as coordination, assessments, IM and environ-

ment. The teams received crucial logistics and administrative support from operational support partners including the Americas Support Team and Atlas Logistique, and analytical and remote support from MapAction, the Pacific Disaster Center, and the Operational Satellite Applications Programme of the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNOSAT).

Venezuela

The humanitarian situation in Venezuela was the result of seven consecutive years of economic contraction, periods of hyperinflation, political polarization and institutional challenges. The pandemic deepened the needs of more than 7 million people due to the impact on essential services such as health care, water, gas and electricity. The food insecurity situation was also aggravated.

Between January and November, OCHA coordinated assistance to more than 4.5 million people across the country, mostly to provide health, water, sanitation, hygiene, protection and education services. The HCT's endorsement of an access strategy in September was an important milestone

in the efforts to expand and maintain humanitarian operational space.

OCHA played a leading role in integrating cross-cutting issues in the response, such as gender and protection, and in strengthening AAP and PSEA. The HCT adopted the Collective AAP Framework and the protocol that defines procedures for submitting SEA complaints.

The Venezuela Humanitarian Fund was established in September, and CERF provided \$4.3 million to the pandemic response.

In 2020, OCHA consolidated its operational and analytical capacity and strengthened its presence in the country. OCHA had 24 staff members in Caracas and 29 in the field in 18 of 24 states.

Colombia

Multiple factors, including the pandemic, converged to aggravate the humanitarian situation in 2020 and stretch national response capacities in Colombia. Humanitarian needs worsened, generated by armed conflict, natural disasters and mixed popula-

John Carvajal and his family returned to Venezuela after he lost his job as a mechanic in Colombia. The family live in dire conditions in Tachira State. Aid organizations are providing returnees with humanitarian support. Credit: OCHA/Gema Cortes



tion movements from Venezuela. Indigenous communities were particularly affected.

Nationally, one in two people suffered from food insecurity, including 3.5 million people who were severely food insecure. The security situation deteriorated as NSAGs took advantage of the pandemic to pursue territorial expansion, leading to a fourth successive year-on-year increase in violence. Eighty-nine massacres were reported, often leading to mass displacements. Increasing cases of forced confinement and mobility restrictions imposed by armed groups were also reported.

Natural disasters affected 600,000 people, which is double the number of people affected in 2019.

In response, OCHA and WHO led the development of the COVID-19 response plan. OCHA also monitored mass displacements and confinements across the country and coordinated response efforts, including in areas where humanitarian workers had

not been present, such as the Amazonas department and the islands of San Andres and Providencia.

With OCHA's support, the HCT scaled up its response and reached 1.6 million people in 2020, despite the HRP being only 12.8 per cent funded. The \$5 million CERF allocation was critical and prioritized heavily affected regions where the State's capacities were low.

Haiti

In 2020, Haiti continued to suffer recurring sociopolitical tensions and a deteriorating economic situation, compounded by the pandemic. An upsurge in gang violence displaced hundreds of families, mainly in Port-au-Prince, and Tropical Storm Laura caused flooding in several departments in August, impacting thousands of people. Food insecurity, health, education, and access to water and protection were the most affected sectors due to unfavourable climatic, economic and political conditions and pandemic-related access constraints.

Humanitarian aid provided by the Connecting Business initiative to people affected by Cyclone Harold in Vanuatu. Credit: OCHA/Chris Bartlett



OCHA's role in ensuring effective humanitarian coordination among all organizations at the strategic and operational levels increased due to the pandemic. OCHA was crucial in supporting the coordination of preparedness and response efforts led by the Ministry of Health and WHO.

OCHA supported the revision of the HCT Terms of Reference and composition to strengthen the membership of NGOs, including those working on gender and disability issues. It also facilitated three CERF allocations in 2020, including a special allocation to NGOs for the pandemic response in collaboration with IOM. With its total contribution of \$19.2 million, CERF remained the third largest donor to the 2020 HRP.

OCHA operated from Port-au-Prince with several field visits. At the year's end, the office comprised 14 staff (11 national, 3 international).

Businesses partner to strengthen humanitarian responses

The Connecting Business initiative (CBI), supported by OCHA and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is a multi-stakeholder initiative that transforms the way business networks engage before, during and after humanitarian crises. It focuses on ways to create more resilient communities, increase local capacity and alleviate human suffering.

CBI supported 17 private sector networks in 2020, of which 11 are official CBI member networks: Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Pacific (regional), Philippines, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Vanuatu.

CBI worked with four prospective networks in the Caribbean, Indonesia, Viet Nam and Yemen, and it provided support to Ecuador and Lebanon. In 2020, all networks responded to

COVID-19 and 10 also responded to 21 crises, ranging from flooding, earthquakes, tropical storms and volcanic eruptions, to fire, conflicts and displacement.

The local member networks demonstrated their value as first responders and stakeholders in crisis management while working closely with Governments and the humanitarian community. As local response mechanisms, they were essential in situations such as pandemic-related border restrictions.

For example, Vanuatu was the first country to respond to a natural disaster (Tropical Cyclone Harold) while its borders were closed. The CBI local network, the Vanuatu Business Resilience Council (VBRC), provided a coordination mechanism for the private sector to engage with the Government and partners to address the double emergencies of the pandemic and a tropical cyclone in April 2020.

This was critical, as many of the usual humanitarian responders were not present in the country and unable to enter due to COVID-19 restrictions. VBRC undertook detailed technical damage assessments in 14 of the worst-hit villages on West Coast Santo. Working with private sector partners, and in collaboration with NGOs and the UN and in support of the Government, VBRC helped supply more than 1,000 remote coastal households with 35 tons of food and non-food items.

For more information on CBI, visit: connectingbusiness.org

EUROPE**Ukraine**

The pandemic exacerbated humanitarian needs caused by almost seven years of armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, leaving some 3.4 million people in need of assistance. Pandemic-related restrictions were imposed on the movement of people across the “contact line,” causing a 97 per cent drop in the number of people crossing. The closure of the crossing points prevented most people from reaching administrative and medical services or accessing pensions and cash in Government-controlled areas (GCA).

The ceasefire that came into effect in July 2020 led to a 14 per cent reduction in civilian casualties, but no political solution to the conflict is apparent.

Humanitarian access remained a significant challenge in the non-Government-controlled areas (NGCA). OCHA continued to advocate for civilians' increased freedom of movement during the extended closures caused by pandemic-related restrictions. OCHA also advanced many key protection issues with the Government, such as supporting digitalization via phone apps to allow IDPs to virtually verify their residency despite movement restrictions.

OCHA continued to manage the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund, allocating \$10.8 million to 30 projects to support the pandemic response and winterization. From January to September, OCHA coordinated the efforts of 56 humanitarian partners to assist more than 1 million people on both sides of the contact line.

OCHA Ukraine had 43 staff (35 national, 8 international), 1 national UNV and 1 SBP. It maintained a national office in Kyiv and sub-national offices in Kramatorsk and Sievierodonetsk (GCA) and Donetsk and Luhansk (NGCA).

Humanitarian Partnerships Week

The sixth Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 3 to 7 February 2020.

HNPW is the flagship event of the Leading Edge Programme, a year-round collaborative platform for humanitarian networks and partnerships that aims to develop sustainable solutions to recurring cross-cutting issues in emergency preparedness and response.

Organized by OCHA and hosted by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, HNPW was attended by about 2,300 participants from 100 Member States and some 450 organizations including the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the private sector and academia. With 37 networks and partnerships involved, more than 260 sessions took place throughout the week.

More than 1,500 people participated in Inter-Network Day during the event. It featured joint interactive sessions to collaborate on specific challenges and ideas regarding humanitarian coordination and localization, anticipatory action, nexus environments, AAP and the climate crisis.



The International Search and Rescue Advisory Group deployed 11 urban search-and-rescue teams from 9 countries following the port explosions in Beirut, Lebanon, in August 2020.

Credit: OCHA/Farid Assaf

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA)

Armed conflicts and political instability continued to afflict the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. As the pandemic's impact aggravated the situation in the region, ROMENA staff provided extensive support to various offices.

Eight staff members deployed for a total of 484 days to support emergency response efforts in ongoing crises. This included 281 days for support to Syria, 88 days for Lebanon, 75 days for Pakistan and 19 for Libya. Due to pandemic-related travel restrictions, ROMENA provided extensive remote support to regional crises, including Lebanon (330 days), Syria (270 days), Jordan (237 days), Iran (196 days), Iraq (128 days) and Libya (109 days).

ROMENA supported the HPC in Iraq, Lebanon, Libya and Syria through dedicated support to assessment and planning processes, including for the Beirut Port explosions. ROMENA, UN Women and CARE co-chaired the regional Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group to provide regional advocacy, information sharing, best practice dissemination and analysis support on gender-related issues across the region.

ROMENA introduced the 'IASC Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP) Approach in COVID-19' guidance in Algeria, Egypt, Iran and Morocco. It also organized an ERP briefing for the Morocco UNCT and supported the Egypt RC/UNCT on updating the ERP process. This included reviewing the rankings of identified risks, minimum preparedness actions and technical support on discussions on Iran.

In addition to dedicated IM country support (surge and remote) to Iran, Lebanon, Libya, Syria and Turkey, the IM Unit developed tools and products to monitor pandemic-related regional travel and movement restrictions, and a regional dashboard to track the pandemic situation in all MENA countries.

ROMENA had 28 staff (20 national, 8 international) in Amman and Cairo.

Yemen

In 2020, Yemen remained the world's worst humanitarian crisis. In October, food security data confirmed that 13.5 million people faced acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or higher). Famine-like conditions returned for the first time in two years, with 16,500 people essentially starving.

Despite growing needs, donors cut funding in 2020, which forced aid agencies to scale back more than 30 key programmes. As a result, the aid operation shrank from reaching nearly 14 million people per month in January to just over 10.3 million people per month by November.

Agencies continued to face serious obstacles in providing assistance. By November, donors and agencies agreed there was progress on key priorities, including assessments, project approvals and the start of a biometric registration pilot, but more was needed.

Throughout the year, OCHA maintained strong levels of support for the aid operation, working with 203 humanitarian national and international partners and facilitating coordination forums, including the Inter-Cluster Coordination Mechanism, the HCT, and working groups on access, IM and public information. CERF allocated \$65 million and the Yemen Humanitarian Fund \$98.6 million to support the response.

By the year's end, OCHA Yemen had 120 staff (83 national, 37 international) across six main hubs in Aden, Al Mukalla, Hudaydah, Ibb, Sa'ada and Sana'a; two sub-hubs in Al Mokha and Al Turba; and a support office in Amman, Jordan. A small Riyadh-based team continued to oversee the humanitarian notification system.

Two-month-old Abdullah is held by nurse Fazal in Al Sadaqah hospital, Aden, Yemen, before being weighed and measured. He suffers from severe acute malnutrition and is the youngest of nine children.

Credit: OCHA/Giles Clarke



Regional Office for the Syria Crisis (ROSC)

The humanitarian crisis in Syria continued to affect more than half the population, with 11.1 million people in need of assistance and protection, including 9.3 million who were food insecure. At least 6.7 million people were internally displaced, many facing protracted displacement and being forced to relocate multiple times. Despite a reduction in active conflict in 2020, needs increased throughout the year due to the combination of economic decay, vanishing livelihoods and the pandemic.

ROSC continued to provide support in policy, planning, operational coordination and administrative services to humanitarian organizations across the response. In support of the Regional HC for Syria, ROSC brought together humanitarian organizations working from within and outside Syria to develop a shared analysis, common objectives and a collective focus on results. ROSC focused on enhancing its engagement and coordination with key regional stakeholders in the response, namely UN Regional Directors, international NGOs, Member States and donors. It also supported regular strategic and operational coordination forums, including a Strategic Steering Group that brings together national and international humanitarian organizations to provide overall direction to the operation. ROSC maintained a leadership role in ensuring a

common needs analysis, a single response plan and appeal, regular prioritization of critical funding gaps, and a common approach to critical challenges facing the response, including PSEA.

ROSC had 31 staff (20 national, 11 international) based in Amman, Jordan.

Syria

Humanitarian organizations operating from within Syria continued scaling up their response in 2020 to address rising needs. The Damascus-based operation reached an average of at least 3.9 million people each month, including 3.4 million people who received food, 1.4 million people who received nutrition support and 3.4 million children who benefited from education assistance.

OCHA was pivotal in negotiating access to people in need on behalf of the humanitarian community. It also coordinated targeted assistance plans suited to the unique circumstances of different parts of the country, including for Al Hol camp in the north-east and Rukban in the south. Despite challenges posed by the pandemic, OCHA carried out numerous inter-agency assessments throughout the year, generating a clearer picture of the differentiated needs of women, girls, boys and men. It also continued advocating with all stakeholders for protection

Mahasen, a psychosocial aid worker with Maram Foundation, with children in the Atma IDP camp in north-west Syria. Credit: OCHA





and assistance for the most vulnerable people where they are, based strictly on need.

OCHA allocated \$66.1 million for humanitarian programming through the Syria Humanitarian Fund in 2020, including allocations to address new humanitarian needs generated by the worsening socioeconomic situation. OCHA supported the country team in risk management and due diligence efforts to enhance transparency and contribute to confidence-building related to the response.

OCHA had 67 staff (51 national, 16 international) based in its office in Damascus, and three sub-offices in Aleppo, Homs and Qamishly.

Syria OCHA Operation in Turkey

An estimated 2.8 million people in the north-west required humanitarian assistance in 2020. Renewed military escalations displaced almost a million people in the area in late 2019 and early 2020. Despite a March ceasefire agreement, hostilities continued to claim civilian lives throughout the year, while explosive hazards and clashes between armed groups heightened the security challenges facing civilians, including humanitarian workers.

OCHA continued to coordinate the cross-border response into north-west Syria from Turkey. With different parts of Syria controlled by various parties to the conflict, the United Nations cross-border response was authorized to deliver aid to people in need by Security Council resolution 2165 (2014) and subsequent resolutions.

Despite challenges posed by renewed hostilities and operational uncertainty around the extension of the authorization for United Nations cross-border assistance in July, the OCHA-coordinated cross-border response delivered life-saving aid to an average of 2.8 million people per month in north-west Syria in 2020. The Syria Cross-Border Humanitarian Fund (SCHF) was OCHA's largest CBPF in 2020, supporting 204 projects with allocations totalling \$185 million. The SCHF funded part of the rehabilitation of the road between Bab al-Hawa and northern Aleppo to mitigate the risk of interruptions to UN trans-shipments due to poor road conditions, flooding or winter conditions.

OCHA had 30 staff (19 national, 11 international) in Gaziantep, Turkey, with a liaison office in Ankara supporting close engagement with Turkish authorities.

A young girl at the Khair Al-Sham IDP camp in Idleb Governorate, west of Sarmada, Syria.
Credit: OCHA/Mahmoud Al Basha

Jordan

A decade since the Syria crisis began, over 1 million Syrians remain in Jordan, comprising nearly 10 per cent of the population.

In 2020, OCHA helped ensure that the ongoing humanitarian response in Jordan continued to address long-standing and emerging needs. Within the UNHCR-led refugee response and the Whole of Syria structure, OCHA supported the RC/HC in meeting global humanitarian accountabilities. Priorities included strengthening humanitarian coordination structures and advocacy, progressing humanitarian-development collaboration, and bringing the humanitarian community together to address the scourge of SEA in the aid sector.

The pandemic exacerbated hardships among refugees and vulnerable Jordanians alike. OCHA supported a contingency planning exercise that analysed projected needs, including in health, protection and livelihoods, and it encouraged a stronger interface between humanitarian and development action. OCHA also liaised and advocated with the Government of Jordan, the Jordanian military, International Coalition Forces and UN partners to support IDPs in the Rukban area, on the Syria-Jordan border. It also provided support to the Jordan, Israel and Palestine project, an initiative to bolster disaster preparedness and response.

The Jordan Humanitarian Fund (JHF) directed funding to UN, NGO and Red Cross partners for urgent priorities, allocating \$8.3 million to 29 projects in 2020. Following a drop in funding in 2019, JHF reached its annual \$10 million target through focused resource mobilization. JHF staff provided remote and in-person surge to Syria, Turkey and Yemen, with mission support totalling over eight months.

OCHA Jordan had 12 staff (8 national, 4 international) based in Amman.

Iraq

The humanitarian landscape in 2020 was characterized by a post-conflict environment witnessing slow returns and underaddressed stabilization, development and reconstruction needs.

The most vulnerable people in Iraq continued to be those directly affected by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the military operations to defeat it from 2014 to 2017. Of the 6 million people displaced during this period, approximately 1.3 million remained internally displaced, most for more than three years.

Four of five displaced people lived in out-of-camp settings and faced complex barriers to finding a durable solution. During 2020, the Government of Iraq announced the closure of IDP camps by year end. This prompted thousands of people to rapidly return to their home districts or secondarily displace. By December, 28 camps were still open, 25 in areas administered by the Kurdistan regional government, and not expected to close imminently. The pandemic compounded the existing humanitarian crisis. Humanitarian organizations supported relevant Government authorities and camp management entities to prevent or limit virus transmission in IDP camps.

During 2020, OCHA Iraq coordinated humanitarian assistance to 1.4 million people, or 81 per cent of the 1.8 million people expected to receive support. The OCHA-managed Iraq Humanitarian Fund allocated \$26.5 million through 24 contracting partners and 64 partners to implement humanitarian projects.

With 79 staff (51 national, 28 international), OCHA maintained an agile and strategic footprint in Iraq.



Siham Pekyan, a store owner, was hurt in the Beirut Port explosions.
Credit: OCHA/Farid Assaf

"I want to thank the Lebanese people and all the people, whether Europeans or Arabs, who stood by us. All the young and old people who helped us, all the students that came with food and brooms to help us clean our streets and houses."

Lebanon

The Beirut Port explosions and the pandemic were two shocks that compounded a crippling socioeconomic crisis affecting Lebanese and non-Lebanese communities across the country.

From March 2020, OCHA assisted the RC/HC and HCT to ensure effective support to the national pandemic response effort. In May, the RC/HC a.i. and humanitarian partners launched the Lebanon Emergency Appeal, which aligned activities to help vulnerable people absorb the pandemic's direct and indirect impacts. An updated appeal was later incorporated into the GHRP.

On 4 August, the Beirut Port explosions flattened surrounding neighbourhoods, killing hundreds of people and injuring thousands more. Within hours, national and international search-and-rescue teams, an UNDAC team and surge staff were dispatched. In parallel, OCHA led a UN-coordinated Flash Appeal to mobilize the necessary resources. OCHA worked with the UN and partners in subsequent months to ensure the emergency response adapted to changing needs.

In 2020, the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund launched four multisectoral allocations, with a total allocation of \$16.2 million.

Besides monitoring activities, OCHA also led a Secondary Data Review exercise to assess the humanitarian impact of the multifaceted crisis, which found a severe deterioration in the conditions of the most vulnerable people. The findings continue to inform strategic discussion and contingency planning exercises.

OCHA had 20 staff (14 national, 6 international) in its office in Beirut.

Support for Beirut

Following the Beirut Port explosions on 4 August 2020, a 19-member UNDAC team and 13 international Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams deployed immediately following the Lebanese Government's request.

USAR teams fall under the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG), and the first team arrived 24 hours after the explosions. The teams supported local authorities with search-and-rescue activities, assessing the structural damage and integrity of affected buildings, and detecting hazardous materials.

The UNDAC team, fully integrated with the OCHA country office and OCHA surge staff, provided expertise and support to the HCT, the Government and humanitarian partners, such as the Lebanese Red Cross.

The response highlighted that joint preparedness efforts between Member States, humanitarian partners and response networks are vital for enabling the international community to respond quickly and effectively to requests for assistance.

Operationally, COVID-19 preparedness measures helped in the swift deployment of emergency response teams, including UNDAC and INSARAG teams. The capacities of the UNDAC team, operational support partners, OCHA surge staff and the OCHA country office were integrated instantly, which provided critical support for the HC to assume a central leadership role in the crisis.

An inter-agency Emergency Operations Cell was also established immediately. It provided a coordination platform for inter-sector coordination, assessments, humanitarian financing, situational analysis, gender mainstreaming, community engagement, liaison with local response authorities and the military, environmental management and USAR. This was only possible due to partners' common knowledge and capacities.

The pandemic environment highlighted the need for dedicated capacity to ensure the safety and security not only of responders, but also of local communities.

Within the first three days, the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund allocated \$8.1 million for multisectoral life-saving assistance. This was complemented by an additional \$6 million CERF allocation on 7 August.

Occupied Palestinian Territory

A protracted protection crisis continued in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), leaving many Palestinians struggling to live a life with dignity due to Israel's occupation, including the blockade on the Gaza Strip, insufficient respect for international law, continuing internal Palestinian divisions, and recurrent escalations of hostilities between Israel and Palestinian armed groups.

Needs severely increased due to the pandemic and the Palestinian Authority's worsening fiscal situation, and nearly half the population of 5.2 million people needed assistance. Vulnerable families struggled to cope with poverty, food insecurity, unemployment and inadequate access to essential services (health care, water, sanitation and education).

Humanitarian partners faced significant constraints due to record-low funding, movement restrictions, political considerations and unsubstantiated claims that delegitimize humanitarian action.

The OCHA-managed Humanitarian Fund allocated over \$34 million to support life-sustaining activities, including through emergency food assistance, shelter rehabilitation and the pandemic response.

OCHA supported the HC to mobilize an immediate system-wide response to the pandemic. Quick action was taken to save lives and mitigate suffering, including through the delivery of over 100,000 tests and advanced laboratory equipment along-

side more than 5.5 million items to prevent and control infection. Following the Palestinian Authority's freeze of coordination with Israel from May to November, OCHA supported the HC in establishing interim measures to facilitate WFP's movement of humanitarian goods and WHO's transfer of patients from Gaza.

These activities were carried out by 56 staff (46 national, 10 international) based in East Jerusalem and sub-offices in Gaza, Hebron, Nablus and Ramallah.

Libya

The year began in conflict, particularly in and around Tripoli. Fighting had subsided by June, a ceasefire was agreed in October and reengagement in the political process began in earnest.

As the conflict diminished, the pandemic's impact increased exponentially. It brought the health system to the point of collapse, and shortages of health workers, medical supplies and personal protective equipment resulted in further closures of health facilities and significant socioeconomic repercussions.

Despite the resumption of oil production due to the ceasefire, the economy dwindled. This resulted in the official devaluation of the Libyan dinar by some 70 per cent as the year ended. The ceasefire allowed people to start returning home, but returns were inhibited due to the lack of basic services as a result of the conflict and widespread explosive hazard contamination. The conditions for migrants and refugees remained precarious, with thousands arbitrarily detained in inhumane conditions and many more attempting the Mediterranean Sea crossing, often at the cost of their lives.

Despite insecurity and pandemic-related restrictions, OCHA Libya maintained critical staff capacity in the country throughout 2020 to continue to support humanitarian

Distribution of relief supplies at UNHCR's Serraj Centre in Tripoli, where more than 170 refugees and asylum seekers received aid after being released from detention. Credit: OCHA/Jennifer Bose Ratka



operations. Working with about 54 humanitarian partners, OCHA coordinated assistance reaching over 463,000 people, more than the initial target as the year began.

With 32 staff (18 national, 14 international), OCHA supported the Libya response by maintaining a field-based presence through its head office; coordination capacity for the west in Tripoli; an expanded presence in Benghazi in the east; and a national staff member in Sebha in the south.

Peers provide virtual support

The IASC's Peer-2-Peer project is an independent and impartial senior inter-agency advisory service that provides support through country missions and learning leadership dialogues in support of HCs and HCTs. It uses knowledge gathered from missions to inform global policy discussions to address common humanitarian trends.

As humanitarian needs continue to increase in scale and complexity, the project has continued to evolve to better support humanitarian response in field operations. In 2020, the

project successfully transitioned to a new operating model, with the project now drawing from a pool of highly respected senior humanitarians to lead the missions.

The first mission conducted under the new operating model was requested by the HC in Libya to help mount an evidence-based humanitarian response and establish the most appropriate humanitarian footprint in the country. The mission was led by a former HC, together with a senior group of UN and NGO representatives of the IASC's Emergency Directors Group.

The six-week mission was carried out virtually due to pandemic-related travel restrictions. It resulted in the development of a well-prioritized HCT Action Plan, with concrete steps to address the most critical operational challenges. In addition, the project supported learning on best practice in critical response areas. This ranged from the humanitarian-development nexus to duty of care and supply chain challenges during the pandemic response, to PSEA by aid workers.



Promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls

A woman in Caracas, Venezuela, reads COVID-19 prevention messages from WHO on her phone.
Credit: OCHA/Gema Cortes

The pandemic exacerbated the socioeconomic impact on displaced women and girls in emergency settings. As a result, the spotlight on the lack of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the emergency response was even more pronounced during 2020.

As such, OCHA mobilized a collective response to emphasize the protection and empowerment of women and girls through the COVID-19 GHRP, and it supported UN Women's gender-responsive humanitarian response to the pandemic programme and appeal.

In addition, the IASC Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action (co-chaired by OCHA and Oxfam), together with UN and international NGO partners, produced the Gender Alert on COVID-19 — a series of briefs that offered multilingual guidance to humanitarians on integrating gender concerns during the pandemic response.

Gender and Humanitarian Action working groups were established at regional and country levels to support the pandemic response, including in Afghanistan and the Middle East.

More specifically, OCHA stepped up advocacy for increased prioritization of GBV responses in humanitarian settings. This was in line with its commitments to the Call to Action on Protection from GBV in Emergencies, and with the commitments made in Oslo in 2019 at the conference on Ending Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Crises. This entailed ensuring that humanitarian pooled funding increased the prioritization of and funding for GBV initiatives and the role of women-led organizations in the pandemic response. An example of this prioritization is CERF's \$25 million allocation to UN Women and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), 30 per cent of which aimed to support women-led organizations.

There has also been progress in developing a more comprehensive overview of financial requirements for GBV in the GHO, including changes in the HPC tools to make GBV more visible.

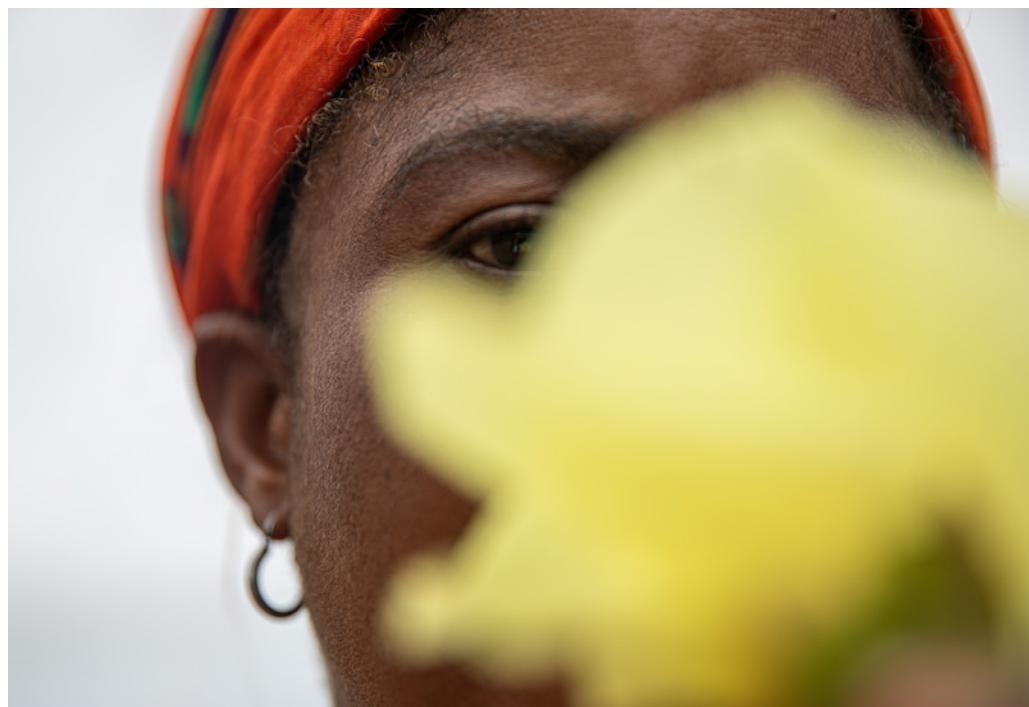
In 2020, for the first time, CERF earmarked a portion of its Underfunded Emergencies resources for GBV response activities. The

initial provision of \$5.5 million from the overall envelope of \$100 million had a catalytic effect: across 10 countries, almost \$22 million was allocated to projects that contribute specifically to GBV prevention and mitigation, an important strategy to advance gender equality.

In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC)/Under-Secretary-General asked all HCs to prioritize gender equality and address GBV by ensuring ongoing robust gender analysis; meaningful engagement of women and women's organizations in humanitarian decision-making; increased allocations of funding and other resources to GBV and gender equality programming and women-led organizations; and the inclusion of GBV issues in coordinated humanitarian plans.

OCHA also supported the deployments of gender capacity advisers to assist HCTs in 15 countries to integrate gender, and it promoted the use of important tools and guidance, including the Gender with Age Marker (GAM) — a tool for designing and monitoring humanitarian interventions. By

A survivor of sexual violence holds a flower to her face in a camp for displaced persons in DRC. She was attacked on her way to fetch water, some 10 km away from the camp. Many survivors do not speak up about their experiences, fearing reprisal and stigma. NGO Transcultural Psychosocial Organization offers psychological support to help survivors recover from trauma. Credit: OCHA/Alioune Ndiyaye



the year's end, the GAM had been used in 1,400 humanitarian interventions to help design more gender-responsive activities. The Gender Handbook, the GBV Guidelines and the GBV Accountability Framework are some of the tools being promoted throughout the HPC.

Women's participation and leadership in decision-making are key to gender equality, as confirmed by the findings of the first Inter-agency Humanitarian Evaluation on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls, conducted in 2020. In partnership with UN Women and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, OCHA promoted women's leadership through a series of dialogues to amplify its commitments, and to ensure women's rights and empowerment are rooted at all levels of humanitarian planning, coordination and decision-making in crisis-affected countries. This builds on initiatives such as the Grand Bargain and the World Humanitarian Summit. The series connected regional and global stakeholders with local women leaders in crisis-affected areas, increased their visibility and amplified their voices in humanitarian action.

Supporting protection & gender equality

OCHA manages the inter-agency Protection Standby Capacity (ProCap) and Gender Standby Capacity (GenCap) projects in a long-standing partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council. The projects aim to strengthen leadership, programmes and localization strategies on protection and gender equality by providing direct support to field operations. This is chiefly done by deploying senior advisers who work closely with RC/HCs, HCTs, and other coordination mechanisms and stakeholders, including national partners. The projects also support global policy and advocacy around protection, gender equality and women's empowerment in close collaboration with partners.

As part of reforms in 2020, the projects strengthened their focus on field impact, the sustainability of results and the prioritization of support to align with system-wide response priorities. These reforms, the pandemic's impact, and the projects' roll-out in the humanitarian community created an uptick in demand that increased individual deployments, from 29 in 2019 to more than 50 in 2020.

GenCap deployed to 16 contexts, up from 14 in 2019, while ProCap deployed to 20 contexts, up from 15 in 2019. Combined, the projects supported 18 of 25 country operations with HRPs in 2020.

GenCap and ProCap work with humanitarian operations through a road map process. In collaboration with field leadership, senior advisers establish baselines to help identify collectively defined priority areas, activities, expected outcomes and responsible organizations to ensure sustainability.

The projects match senior advisers' skills with field needs, working towards milestones that the operations set in their road maps, with a maximum timeline of sustained ProCap and/or GenCap support for two to three years.

GenCap continued to support the roll-out of the GAM, seeking to increase attention to gender and age in humanitarian projects and programmes. The GAM is now well established in more than 30 countries, up from 15 in 2019. As of 1 December 2020, more than 11,000 projects had applied the GAM globally.

Information management, a critical OCHA function

IM is key to OCHA's work and mandate. Partners have consistently lauded OCHA for its IM function, both at headquarters and in the field.

During a crisis, timely, comprehensive and objective products, such as situation reports, maps and data-driven dashboards, keep partners, donors and decision makers informed on context, needs and progress, and response gaps.

The Information Management Branch (IMB) supports OCHA's field operations, helping IMOs to consolidate, analyse and publish information across the entire spectrum of humanitarian response to provide an overview of protracted and acute emergencies. IMB is the steward of several humanitarian tools and services including ReliefWeb, humanitarianresponse.info and Humanitarian Data Exchange. These tools and services help our partners make better-informed decisions and ensure a more predictable approach to preparedness, early recovery and response.

IMB set up the Global Information Management Functional Team (GIFT), which enables staff from across functions to combine their expertise to help enrich, improve and strengthen IM practices across OCHA.

In 2020, GIFT achievements included:

- Crafting new, more nuanced job profiles for OCHA's IMOs to better reflect the breadth of their work. It also made the profiles more appealing to a wider range of applicants, which will help improve gender and diversity within the IM community.
- Developing IM standards, especially in software management and procurement, contacts management (by developing ready-to-use templates for managing contacts in different crises, such as sudden-onset disasters) and hosting innovation (by creating Amazon Web Services accounts for field offices who want to experiment and test in a safe digital space).
- Mapping existing field practices around situational awareness, analysis and approaches in operational environments to improve understanding of each setting and anticipate for a more effective response.



OCHA's role in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee

The IASC is the global humanitarian coordination forum that brings together the Heads of UN, NGO, and Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement entities. It is chaired by the Head of OCHA, the ERC.

IASC Response to COVID-19

The IASC significantly scaled up its activity in 2020 to coordinate system-wide efforts to prepare for and respond to the pandemic, and to ensure the continued delivery of life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection. The following are highlights of the IASC's response:

- **Scale up:** It adapted Scale-up Protocols to support a joined-up and systematic response to the pandemic. This was the first ever system-wide, global emergency activation, and it enabled a coordinated approach in scaling-up preparedness and response efforts, including through joint analysis, surge support, resource mobilization, and supply chain and logistical support.
- **GHRP:** Just two weeks after WHO's official declaration of a global pandemic, the IASC mobilized its members and partners and launched the first GHRP to address the pandemic's immediate humanitarian consequences. This was carried out in coordination with OCHA.
- **Global logistics:** Under WFP's leadership, the IASC staged one of the largest global logistics operations to support Global Common Services for the humanitarian system, including passenger and cargo services and medical evacuations. By the end of 2020, WFP had provided air services to more than 28,000 humanitarian passengers on behalf of 426 organizations (including 45 per cent from NGOs and 45 per cent from UN agencies) and carried out over 40 medical evacuations.
- **Operational guidance:** Critical operational guidance was developed to sustain humanitarian operations and help organizations prepare and respond effectively. For example, the IASC's Guidance on Public Health and Social Measures for COVID-19 Preparedness and Response

Standing in painted circles for social distancing, displaced Yemeni men and women wait to receive aid at an IOM Rapid Response distribution centre in Marib City. Credit: OCHA/Giles Clarke

Operations in Low Capacity and Humanitarian Settings outlines ways to adapt to sustain essential health and social services in the response. Other critical guidance and resources include Gender Alert, key protection advocacy messages, and guidance on disability inclusion and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).

- **COVAX:** The IASC advocated with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance to establish the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) humanitarian ‘buffer’. This was to ensure that up to 5 per cent of vaccine doses procured through COVAX will serve as contingency stock for at-risk vulnerable populations in humanitarian settings.
- **Expedited funding:** The IASC mobilized efforts to ensure that front-line workers, especially NGOs and local organizations, receive funds quickly and at scale. Many IASC organizations took concrete steps towards this. For example, UNHCR minimized administrative hurdles and expedited funding disbursements to NGOs. In 2020, it disbursed approximately \$940 million to partners.
- **Support to NGOs:** OCHA directed \$25 million to 24 front-line NGOs through CERF. National NGOs received one third of the allocation to help implement 26 projects targeting 1.38 million people in

An OCHA staff member with a blind resident of Western Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan. The resident received training to walk independently using a cane from the NGO Sudan Evangelical Mission, with support from the South Sudan Humanitarian Fund. He no longer relies on his daughter, who can now attend school. Credit: OCHA/Anthony Burke

six countries. In 2020, CBPFs allocated \$236 million (39 per cent of total CBPF funding) to local and national NGOs.

- **Localization:** The pandemic heightened the need to implement commitments to localize humanitarian response through meaningful engagement, capacity transfer, and quality funding of local and national NGOs.

The IASC promoted the inclusion and participation of local and national NGOs in coordination structures based on the Principles of Partnership: quality, transparency, results-oriented approach, responsibility and complementarity.

The IASC Interim Guidance on Localization and the COVID-19 response focuses on promoting responsible partnership practices, based on equality, risk-sharing, local leadership and meaningful participation. Lessons learned on implementing this guidance suggest that as well as increasing the participation of local organizations in coordination systems, the humanitarian system should also increase the quality of its participation and ensure a two-way capacity strengthening approach.

The IASC supported other critical operational and advocacy work, including on issues





Alimatou Maiga, with the Intimate Partner Violence and/or Sexual Assault one-stop centre, assisting a woman survivor of GBV in Gao, Mali, in October 2020.

Credit: OCHA/
Michele Cattani

affecting women and girls, especially GBV, by addressing funding and visibility gaps in the 2021 GHO. The IASC continues advocating to address the bureaucratic impediments faced largely by NGOs, and the monitoring of emerging crises and risks, such as flooding and the locust situation in East Africa.

It also highlighted the famine risks affecting many conflict-affected countries, and it provided countries with practical support for effective humanitarian response through the IASC Peer-to-Peer project.

The IASC committed to improving the response to racism and racial discrimination in the humanitarian sector. It issued a statement signed by 18 Principals in September 2020, and a compilation of best practices was shared with IASC organizations to inform them of their initiatives. Likewise, the IASC minimum standards on duty of care in the context of COVID-19 were published in November, informing IASC members' respective policies and practices.

Collaboration between humanitarian and development organizations and their links to peace is a key strategic priority of the IASC. With the UN Joint Steering Committee to

Advance Humanitarian and Development Collaboration, it published the UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes, which provides a common understanding of analysis, funding and financial strategies, and coordination initiatives to support collective outcomes. It also published Exploring peace within the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, which offers guidance on strengthening the articulation of peace in the nexus, specifically on the conditions under which the triple collaboration approach is relevant.

Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse

The IASC promotes organizational cultures that allow for open, respectful dialogue so that people receiving assistance and people working in the humanitarian sector feel safe and empowered to speak up and take action. Conflict, public health and other emergencies exacerbate pre-existing inequalities, vulnerabilities and risks of SEA.

In March 2020, the IASC issued an interim technical note on PSEA during COVID-19,³ developed with the UN Victims' Rights Advocate. An associated checklist was issued

³ See the Inter-Agency Standing Committee interim technical note on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse during COVID-19.

in June to help field staff verify that prevention/response systems remain functional and address risk.⁴ HCs were reminded of heightened risks of misconduct during the pandemic and the importance of implementing risk-mitigation measures.

The IASC also equipped partners with awareness and skills to define, detect and respond to sexual misconduct. A harmonized tool to assess partner capacity, the UN Protocol on Allegations of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Involving Implementing Partners, was adopted, in addition to the interactive learning package in multiple languages that provides a victim-centred perspective. The IASC deployed a PSEA mission to DRC to review existing structures, services and preventive measures, and to recommend actions to strengthen the response. Priorities included ensuring technical capacity to support PSEA in high-risk contexts, and to strengthen capacity and collaboration for fact-finding and investigations.

Accountability to Affected Populations

For the first time under the accountability umbrella, the IASC gathered experts from all IASC cross-cutting issues to design and roll out key deliverables, such as the IASC Accountability and Inclusion Portal, launched in 2020.

The portal is a key resource for practitioners and leaders who strive to implement people-centred approaches to AAP, PSEA and sexual harassment, age and gender, persons with disabilities and other diversities. It provides tools, guidance, policies and standards, including a help desk that provides expert support at national, regional or global levels.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

The IASC promoted the provision and use of MHPSS services for vulnerable people at greater risk during the pandemic. As the demand for mental health support increased, the pandemic disrupted or halted critical mental health services in 93 per cent of countries. A survey of 130 countries carried out between June and August 2020 provided the first global data showing the pandemic's devastating impact on access to mental health services. Approximately 70 per cent of these services for children and adolescents or older adults were disrupted.

The IASC contributed to MHPSS analysis and response options in the GHRP and supported humanitarian operations through coordination and specific COVID-19 guidance. For example, for the first time, a publication aimed at children in the pandemic was distributed. Governments and other partners translated this into multiple local languages and adaptations for various audiences, including accessible formats. Thanks to a newly established surge mechanism, carried out with a Dutch standby partner, 15 countries received specific MHPSS surge support, sometimes remotely. The number of inter-agency cross-sectoral country MHPSS technical working groups in humanitarian contexts increased from 23 pre-pandemic to 50 in late 2020.

Despite support from several Member States, MHPSS is still a neglected area in many humanitarian settings, with insufficient visibility, recognition and funding. In December 2020, the ERC and several Principals launched a Joint Inter-Agency Call for Action, in which they committed to collectively increase efforts to provide MHPSS across all sectors. They called on partners to scale up investment in interventions, which are essential to mitigate the effects of war, natural disasters, displacement and pandemics.

⁴ See [summary record of Inter-Agency Standing Committee Principals Meeting on the COVID-19 response](#).



With a grant from the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund, local civil-society organization Greencode delivers water to IDPs in an informal settlement about one hour outside the Borno State capital, Maiduguri. Before the project started, this community had no access to water. Credit: OCHA/Eve Sabbagh

Humanitarian financing

In 2020, OCHA helped mobilize and target resources in new ways to assist the most vulnerable people affected by the pandemic, ongoing emergencies and crises worldwide.

The pandemic increased humanitarian needs and changed the humanitarian operating environment. This raised the demand for OCHA's core services, including the mobilization of financial resources through global response planning, CERF and CBPFs. Partners needed new analysis and data products to underpin funding decisions, flexible and virtual engagement mechanisms, and opportunities to provide more innovative and flexible financing to respond to changing needs.

OCHA helped mobilize over \$22.7 billion for response efforts in 2020 through the GHO (\$18.9 billion) and the COVID-19 GHRP (\$3.8 billion).

Fundraising for crisis response

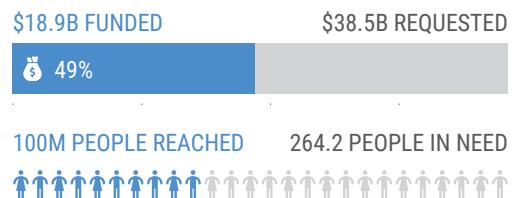
OCHA mobilizes funding through coordinated HRP s in crisis-affected countries, and for regional and global crises. It supports partners to assess needs and build common strategies to respond to specific humanitarian crises, including the pandemic.

Each year, OCHA publishes the GHO, an overview of humanitarian funding requirements based on evidence and comprehensive assessments. In 2020, the GHO ran in parallel to the COVID-19 GHRP. The 2020 GHO presented cost plans for a coordinated response in countries with HRPs. It helped the world understand that \$38.5 billion was required to assist 264.2 million people in need globally.

By the year's end, the GHO was about 49 per cent funded and had raised more than \$18.9 billion for the collective UN and NGO humanitarian appeals — more than the 2019 amount of \$17.7 billion. These funds enabled partners to reach nearly 100 million people with life-saving support.

Following the official pandemic declaration, the IASC launched the COVID-19 GHRP, first published on 28 March and coordinated by OCHA to address the pandemic's immediate humanitarian consequences. Following revisions in May and July, 63 countries were included with a total request of \$9.5 billion. The GHRP ran parallel to the GHO between March and December (pandemic response activities are integrated into 'regular' humanitarian programming for 2021).

GHO 2020: PEOPLE IN NEED AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS



COVID-19 GHRP: FUNDING REQUIREMENTS



By 31 December, the GHRP was 39.7 per cent funded and had raised more than \$3.8 billion. This enabled partners to address the immediate pandemic-related humanitarian consequences, including food insecurity and reduced education access caused by market failures and lockdowns.

Noting substantial overall funding to the GHO and GHRP of nearly 49 and 40 per cent respectively, funding to country-level plans varied. Only 7 of the 62 appeals (11 per cent) were funded at 75 per cent or more in 2020.

To mobilize resources for both plans and raise awareness around rapidly evolving global needs, OCHA hosted eight high-level pledging events in 2020:

- The High-Level Round Table for Sudan (January), held in London, which committed to multi-year and flexible support.
- The COVID-19 GHRP, launched in March by the UN Secretary-General and IASC members. After two further events, donors had contributed nearly \$3.8 billion by the end of 2020.
- The virtual High-Level Pledging Event for Yemen (June), where donors pledged \$1.35 billion.
- The virtual Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region event (June), where pledges totalled \$5.5 billion for 2020 and \$2.2 billion for 2021 and beyond.
- The virtual Ministerial Round Table for Central Sahel (October), which announced \$1.74 billion for 2020 and beyond to scale up life-saving humanitarian aid to millions of people in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.
- CERF's virtual High-Level Pledging Event in December 2020, at which donors pledged over \$371 million for 2021.

OCHA continued to support Member States and the humanitarian system as technical

adviser and secretariat for the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (June, virtual).

OCHA led advocacy to emphasize the importance of supporting countries that had limited ability to respond to the pandemic and its humanitarian impact. This included driving a Call to Action in Support of Humanitarian Assistance in the fight against the pandemic, and supporting a Special Session of the General Assembly and various Security Council discussions, as well as General Assembly and pandemic-related resolutions.

These intergovernmental processes highlighted humanitarian action, the value of the GHRP and the important role of CERF and CBPFs in the response. They also reinforced the norms for humanitarian action and helped ensure that humanitarian response was coherent and complemented by other forms of support.

Transparency and funding for OCHA

By 31 December 2020, donor income for OCHA's programme and its pooled funds reached nearly \$1.8 billion, just under the 2019 record income of \$2 billion. The number of donors remained stable: 67 Member States contributed to OCHA last year, in addition to other entities.

Over half of OCHA's extrabudgetary (XB) income is in fully flexible, unearmarked funding that allows OCHA to allocate resources based on operational priorities (52 per cent, a significant increase from 45 per cent in 2019). OCHA received \$267.2 million for its XB programme requirements, covering 96.9 per cent of its XB requirements.⁵

The timeliness of payments also improved, with 60 per cent of funding received in the first six months versus just over half in 2019. How-

⁵ This figure is provisional, as additional funding may still be recorded for 2020.

ever, donor income to OCHA's XB programme remains concentrated with a small number of donors. The top three donors contributed 44 per cent of income; the top 10 contributed 78 per cent.

This is consistent with the donor mix of other humanitarian partners. Still, diversification remains a priority.

OCHA made significant improvements in aid transparency. Transparency is critical to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian action. OCHA scored 74 per cent in the 2020 Aid Transparency Index as part of Publish What You Fund's biennium assessment on transparency, placing OCHA in the "good" category. This was a significant improvement from the 2018 Index. OCHA also maintained a high score on the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) dashboard for CERF, CBPFs and programme. OCHA's programme is one of the top-three ranking organizations publishing to the IATI registry.

Supporting the humanitarian system to reduce needs, risks and vulnerability

As part of OCHA's analytical and policy support to the humanitarian system, the Humanitarian Financing Strategy and Analysis Unit undertook research and analysis to inform strategic decision-making. OCHA published background papers on rewriting the global financial rulebook to reduce the pandemic's secondary impacts. The goal was to highlight the price of inaction.

OCHA also developed several indices to support operational decision-making, including the INFORM COVID-19 Risk Index (in partnership with the European Commission) and the Compound Risk Monitor (in partnership with the World Bank, the Peacebuilding Support Office and the Centre for Disaster Protection).

OCHA identified early-action measures that can reduce overall need and thus pressure

on increasingly limited financial resources. With partners, OCHA launched Anticipatory Action frameworks in Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Somalia, and developed frameworks in Chad and Malawi. CERF's support to these pilots (see the CERF section below) was critical to innovation and new ways of working.

OCHA-MANAGED POOLED FUNDS

OCHA's pooled funds provide life-saving assistance and offer donors the easiest and most effective way to support humanitarian action. Through the complementary added value of CBPFs and CERF, OCHA raises funds before crises escalate, allowing donors to pool their contributions to support the highest priority humanitarian actions when they are needed most.

In 2020, pooled funds channelled more than \$1.75 billion – some \$848 million from CERF and \$908 million from CBPFs – to deliver support to people in 59 countries. The pooled funds prioritized women and girls, people with disabilities, education in crises and other protection services.

The pooled funds were at the forefront of the global humanitarian response to the pandemic, supporting local and early action. Twenty-seven per cent of CERF allocations supported pandemic response, including to secondary effects.

Central Emergency Response Fund

CERF in 2020

CERF's comparative advantage and distinct added value reside in its worldwide reach and agility in adding to country-level resources quickly and at scale when needed. CERF immediately releases funds for life-saving aid whenever and wherever new crises emerge or existing emergencies escalate. It also ensures that critically underfunded operations can keep going. During

emergencies, humanitarian organizations on the ground jointly assess and prioritize needs and apply for CERF grants.

CERF's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other humanitarian crises in 2020 was possible thanks to the unprecedented levels of donors' generosity in 2019 and their sustained support in 2020. The record-high income received in 2019 – a large portion of it in December 2019 and carried over to 2020 – allowed flexible and innovative CERF allocations to be disbursed with pace and agility at the start of the year. As a result, CERF was able to deliver unprecedented results, demonstrating that with an increase in resources, so much more can be achieved.

CERF introduced new and innovative approaches to meet the unique challenges of the global pandemic, including block grants to UN agencies of a total value of \$95 million, allowing the agencies flexibility to direct resources to where they were needed the most; CERF's first-ever direct allocation to NGOs, channelling \$25 million through IOM to 24 NGOs in six countries; a tailored allocation of \$25 million to allow UN Women and UNFPA to respond to an increase in GBV incidents; and an \$80 million allocation for cash programming to address rising food insecurity in six countries in Africa and the Middle East.

CERF innovates in response to pandemic-related needs⁶

- **Global UN block grants.** In February 2020, CERF made global block-grant allocations of \$95 million directly to UN agencies globally (rather than country specific). This maxi-

mized flexibility to prioritize critical country programmes aligned with the GHRP.

- **Funding to NGOs for the front-line response.** In June 2020, CERF piloted an approach to provide NGOs with more direct access to CERF funding: it channelled \$25 million via IOM to 24 front-line NGOs for pandemic response in six countries. One third of recipients were national NGOs.
- **Funding to support GBV programming.** CERF earmarked a portion of resources from its Underfunded Emergencies window specifically for GBV response activities. The initial provision of \$5.5 million from the overall envelope of \$100 million had a catalytic effect: across 10 countries, almost \$22 million was allocated to dedicated GBV projects and health projects that contribute to GBV prevention and mitigation.
- **Support to cash programming in response to rising food insecurity.** In November 2020, the ERC allocated \$80 million for cash programmes in six countries with severe levels of food insecurity exacerbated by the pandemic. Cash programming is one of the most cost-effective modalities to address humanitarian needs.

Overall, CERF grants helped humanitarian partners deliver critical health care (including pandemic-related information campaigns) to 41.7 million people, food security assistance to 16.2 million people, water and sanitation to 12 million people, protection to 8.6 million people, nutrition programmes for 3.7 million people and shelter to 1.2 million people. It also supported early action, emergency education, cash programmes and camp management for millions of people in need.

In addition to the pandemic response, CERF continued to respond to global hu-

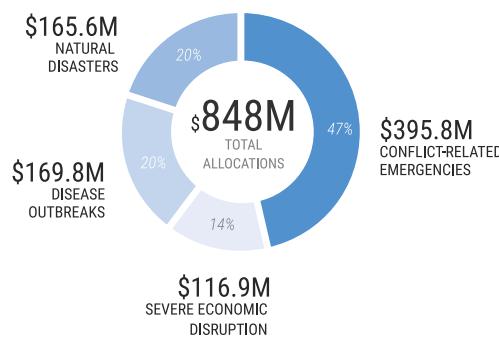
⁶ Of the \$105 million CERF allocated to address the pandemic's secondary impacts on food insecurity (\$80 million) or GBV (\$20 million), \$54 million was disbursed in 2021. Further details on CERF's pandemic-related support can be found in the Progress Reports to the GHRP.

manitarian needs and provided life-saving assistance to people affected by conflict, natural disasters and disease outbreaks, such as Ebola and cholera.

CERF quickly released \$30 million to immediately scale up shelter and other critical assistance to thousands of civilians in north-west Syria after air strikes and shelling forced an estimated 586,000 people to flee their homes. Shortly after, CERF allocated \$10 million for early response to the devastating desert locust outbreak in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. The timely allocation supported an immediate scale-up of efforts to control the infestation and mitigate its impact.

During 2020, CERF also provided a record-high \$225 million to 20 underfunded and neglected crises across the globe.

CERF ALLOCATIONS BY EMERGENCY TYPE



OCHA helps roll out anticipatory action

Getting ahead of crises by taking anticipatory action can make a vast, positive difference in

alleviating suffering. OCHA helped humanitarian organizations achieve this during 2020.

CERF committed up to \$140 million to scale up collective anticipatory action through pilot programmes for various hazards. OCHA allocated \$31 million to prevent suffering ahead of droughts in Ethiopia and Somalia (\$13.2 million⁷ to Ethiopia; \$15 million to Somalia) and monsoon floods in Bangladesh (\$2.8 million⁸).

By the year's end, IASC members had rolled out anticipatory action projects in more than 60 countries.

As an example, on 4 July 2020 severe floods were forecast for Bangladesh from 18 July onward. Within four hours of the scientific trigger, CERF released financing to agencies, making it the Fund's fastest-ever allocation. By the time the water reached life-threatening levels, more than 220,000 people had already received assistance through the UN and its partners, including the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, 10 local NGOs and the Government of Bangladesh.

Independent impact evaluations demonstrate how this anticipatory approach led to a faster, more efficient (cost effective) and more dignified provision of aid.

OCHA's engagement demonstrated that collective anticipatory humanitarian action at scale is possible. Its success depends on building on experience, country-based systems and expertise; focusing on desired impacts and actions enabled by forecasts and triggers; and ensuring that coordination is effective.

OCHA's work in 2020 proves that scaled-up, collective anticipatory action is:

- **Faster than regular rapid response.** In Bangladesh, the fastest-ever CERF alloca-

⁷ To manage risk, the Ethiopia drought pilot was activated in two tranches: \$13.2 million in December 2020 and up to \$6.8 million in February 2021, contingent on forecasts.

⁸ The \$2.4 million allocation came out of the Anticipatory Action envelope and was later reprogrammed for regular rapid response.

tion enabled agencies to provide assistance before peak flooding struck the most vulnerable people.

- **Cost-effective and more efficient than comparative rapid response.** For instance, IOM found that rehabilitating and upgrading boreholes ahead of drought impacts in Somalia improved household finances, increased people's mental health, improved livestock health, reduced water-related disputes and mitigated drought-related migration. In Bangladesh, compared to previous traditional rapid responses, more people were reached at half the cost compared to previous years, and funding helped reduce the price of goods and the cost of logistics. As a result, FAO was able to distribute animal feed to 10 per cent more livestock owners, and UNFPA reduced its response cost by 12 per cent.
- **More dignified.** By receiving support before a crisis, affected communities are empowered to prepare for and face crises on their own terms. An independent impact evaluation by Oxford University and the Centre for Disaster Protection showed that recipients were more likely to evacuate and lose fewer assets; less likely to borrow; and start to recover more quickly. Children and adults had higher food-consumption scores, more than 90 per cent of all assisted populations reported significant improvements in their quality of life, and the positive impact of relatively small, one-off humanitarian assistance continued several months after the intervention. Monitoring and evaluation reports from Bangladesh and Somalia showed high satisfaction rates from assisted people of the quality and timing of the interventions, significant quality of life improvements, better mental health and reduced financial stress.
- **Improves the quality of programming.** Advanced planning leads to better collaboration between UN agencies and their implementing partners during the programme design phase. Moreover, the type of intervention is better and the targeting more precise.

For example, UNFPA Bangladesh specifically designed dignity kits for the transgender community in Bangladesh, as it knew the target population's profiles in advance.



Country-Based Pooled Funds

CBPFs in 2020

CBPFs direct resources to the front lines of the world's most severe emergencies. Their comparative advantage and distinct added value reside in their predictability for HCs and ability to fund a variety of humanitarian needs, working directly with a wide range of organizations, including local and international NGOs. CBPFs help them to prioritize the most urgent assistance and ensure that funding reaches the most critical emergency operations.

CBPFs allow donors to pool their contributions into single, unearmarked funds to support national humanitarian efforts for a specific country. The target funding level for CBPFs is set at 15 per cent of the funding received by corresponding HRPs, which amounted to \$1.7 billion in 2020.

Globally, CBPFs received \$863 million in contributions in 2020 and allocated \$915 million. Local and national NGOs received \$328.6 million (36 per cent of total CBPFs

Humanitarian organizations were able to provide aid to host communities and returnees with support from the Humanitarian Fund for the Central African Republic.
Credit: OCHA/Virginie Bero

funding). The average number of working days to process CBPFs disbursements in 2020 was 7.5 days — a record low and well within the 10-day target.

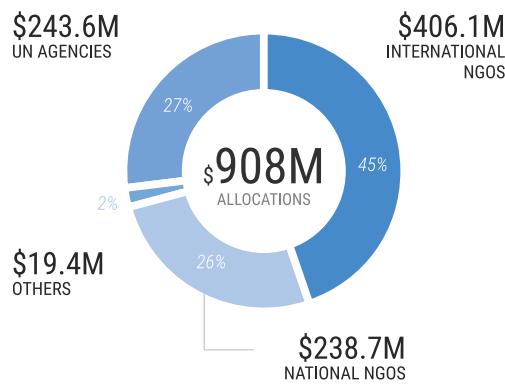
Access to CBPFs allows organizations to respond to emerging crises more nimbly. CBPFs are the largest source of direct funding for national organizations, according to Development Initiatives. One example in 2020 was the Syria Cross-Border Humanitarian Fund, which provided \$137 million to local and national NGOs and the Turkish Red Crescent, accounting for 74 per cent of the \$165 million allocated that year.

The CBPFs in CAR, DRC, South Sudan and Sudan transferred UNDP's management responsibilities to OCHA in 2020. OCHA and UNDP worked together to ensure this transition. The consolidation improved efficiency, flexibility and accountability through a dynamic risk management approach. OCHA invested in staffing and training at headquarters and in country offices to manage the transition and take on the Managing Agent responsibilities.

Distribution of cooked food in Venezuela's Colinas de Maisanta neighbourhood, as part of the increased response to COVID-19. Credit: OCHA/Gema Cortes



CBPF ALLOCATIONS BY PARTNER TYPE



M=Million

Venezuela Humanitarian Fund & Regional Pooled Fund for Central and West Africa established

In 2020 OCHA established two new funds to respond to emerging and increasing needs.

The Venezuela Humanitarian Fund: Following the establishment of a CBPF in Venezuela at the end of September, OCHA established a dedicated in-country focal point. The Fund received \$5 million in 2020 from Canada, Ireland, RO Korea, Spain, Switzerland and the UK.

Regionally hosted Pooled Fund for Central and West Africa: In December, the ERC approved a Regionally hosted Pooled Fund for Central and West Africa, focusing on the Sahel. The Fund will establish country-specific envelopes to allow for incremental roll out and learning. The Regional Humanitarian Financing Unit and OCHA's regional offices ensure coordination, synergies and programmatic alignment among country envelopes and disseminate regional analysis to country-level leadership.

Addressing chronically underfunded areas

For the second consecutive year, OCHA's pooled funds leveraged specific funding to support four strategic areas that are chronically underfunded: support for women and girls, including tackling GBV; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and general protection.

- **In 2020, CBPFs allocated \$581 million – around 64.5 per cent of total allocations – to projects that contribute to gender equality, including across age groups.** This is in line with the IASC GAM assessment. According to the preliminary data, of the 50 million people targeted by CBPFs' partners, 26.5 million were women and girls (53 per cent). CBPFs allocated \$36.2 million to projects that included GBV programming. Examples include local NGO Nile Hope creating safe houses for GBV survivors in Wau, South Sudan, and the NGO Caritas Liban providing shelter and emergency assistance to GBV survivors in Syria. CBPFs actively promoted women's participation in governance arrangements; across the 18 funds, women represent international NGOs in 12 advisory boards and national NGOs in 11 advisory boards. CERF increased its support to GBV programming in 2020, disbursing \$65 million.⁹ It earmarked \$5.5 million to help women and girls in underfunded emergencies to access health, psychosocial, legal and shelter support.
- **In emergencies, people with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable.** In 2019, CERF and CBPFs started systematically tracking activities targeting people with disabilities. In 2020, CERF saw an increase in the proportion of CERF projects that included people with disabilities in their target popu-

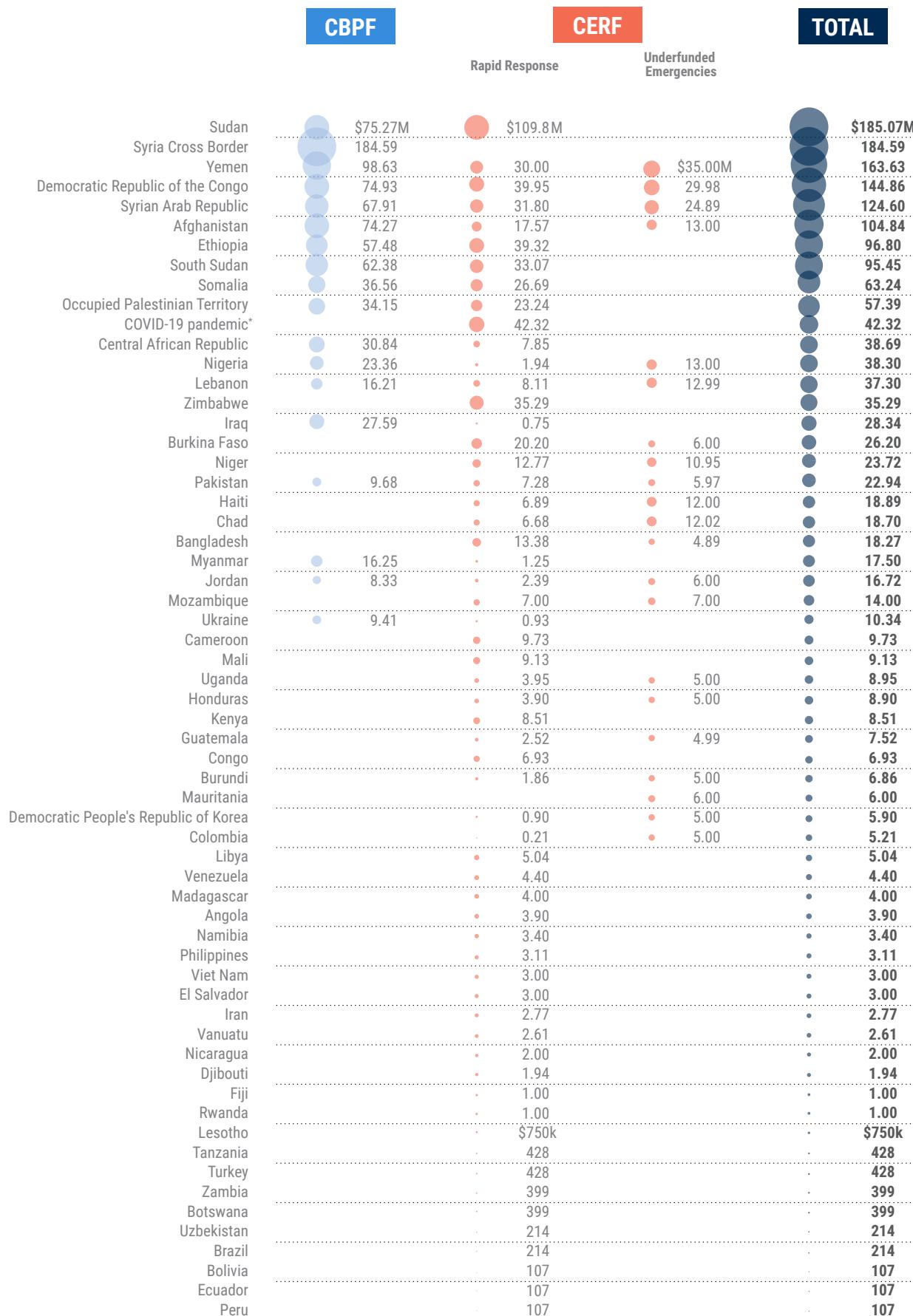
lations, up from 50 per cent in 2019 to 79 per cent of all CERF projects in 2020. Data from project proposals indicates that at least 8.1 million people with disabilities were targeted under CERF grants. Similarly, according to the preliminary data, CBPFs' partners have supported 6.4 million people with disabilities (around 6 per cent of all people targeted).

- **Education is often neglected in protracted emergencies, and children miss multiple years of schooling that are difficult to make up.** In 2020, CERF allocated more than \$29 million to emergency education projects, supporting an estimated 2.4 million children. Through CBPFs, the Education Cluster received \$32 million in 2020 (over 3 per cent of all allocations), targeting around 1 million children.
- **The Protection Cluster received \$82.4 million from CERF, which is the highest-ever amount in a single year and 10 per cent of overall CERF funding.** The cluster's projects targeted 8.6 million¹⁰ people with CERF-funded life-saving protection assistance in 2020. CBPFs allocated \$95.2 million to protection activities (10 per cent of total allocations), targeting nearly 6 million people in need. CBPFs provided \$14.5 million to support child protection activities.

⁹ Includes \$25.1 million disbursed to the GBV sector, as well as the GBV allocation.

¹⁰ This number only includes activities in the Protection Cluster. It does not capture protection activities implemented with CERF funds across other clusters.

ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTRY AND FUNDING MECHANISM



*Global logistical services as part of CERF's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Note: Regional and global allocations are disaggregated by country.

TRANSFORMING HUMANITARIAN ACTION

As humanitarian action evolves, OCHA has continued to contribute to the process with rigorous monitoring, evaluations and policy development.

Building humanitarian leadership

The leadership of UN RCs and HCs is crucial in saving and transforming lives in crises worldwide. On behalf of the IASC, OCHA continued to strengthen humanitarian leadership in the field. Through targeted talent scouting and talent management, the cadre of HCs is recognized for high performance and has become increasingly diverse. During 2020 the humanitarian system saw significant progress in diversity, particularly geographical diversity. Of the 16 newly designated HCs in 2020, eight (50 per cent) were women and nine (55 per cent) were from non-WEOG (Western European and other group) countries that were historically underrepresented. This brought the percentage of HCs from non-WEOG regions up from 41 per cent in early 2020 to 48 per cent by the year's end. The percentage of women rose from 37 to 42 per cent during 2020.

A year after being affected by Cyclone Idai, Hortencia Abreu sheltered in a tent after rains destroyed her own tent in Mozambique in 2020. Her small crop production was also affected. Hortencia still depends on humanitarian aid to survive. Credit:

OCHA/Saviano
Abreu

Building on the IASC's investments in strengthening leadership over the past

decade, OCHA worked with the UN Development Coordination Office and the wider Secretariat to ensure greater coherence and strengthen leadership across the RC system. Improvements were made in RC selection processes, performance management and leadership development, and a new RC/HC Talent Pipeline is expected to transform the ability of the UN Sustainable Development Group and the IASC to ensure that strong humanitarian leadership is in place when and where needed.

The pandemic underscored the need for all 129 RCs to meet the required competencies and skills, including on humanitarian issues, allowing them to effectively coordinate international response to support Governments' efforts.

Evaluating response

OCHA's Evaluation and Oversight Section coordinated the completion of two major





Aid workers creating GBV awareness among displaced communities in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado Province.
Credit: UN/Helvisney Cardoso

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluations (IAHEs) in 2020. The evaluations provide IASC partners and other stakeholders with critical insight and recommendations for improving the IASC's collective performance during major emergencies, and for advancing the integration of gender equality and the empowerment of women into humanitarian action.

Response to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique

The IAHE of Cyclone Idai in Mozambique was the first assessment of the Scale-Up activation mechanism. The IASC adopted this mechanism in 2018 to ensure the rapid and effective mobilization of system-wide capacities in response to major emergencies.

The evaluation found that immediate humanitarian needs were anticipated correctly and contributed to the successful response. This positive outcome was due to the Scale-Up activation, joint preparedness, strong collaboration with the Government and timely joint aerial assessments.

As intended, the Scale-Up activation helped to increase in-country capacities and mo-

bilize human and financial resources in the early stages of the response. It also helped strengthen collective accountability to the affected people by ensuring their participation in rapid assessments and providing an inter-agency feedback-and-complaint mechanism.

A survey showed that the majority of affected people felt that humanitarian responders treated them with respect, and most people stated that the assistance was in line with their needs.

The IAHE also identifies opportunities to improve future collective responses in similar contexts. These include better use of anticipatory action triggers and cash-based interventions; greater engagement with local civil-society organizations and the private sector; and more coordinated management of monitoring and assessment data.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls

The first evaluation to assess the progress of the IASC agenda on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (GEEWG)

since 2017 was the first thematic evaluation undertaken by the IAHE Steering Group, led by OCHA.

The independent evaluation team found that the IASC has made notable progress since 2017 in integrating GEEWG into its humanitarian responses, especially in protracted crises.

Several factors contributed to the inclusion of GEEWG into humanitarian responses. These included developing the IASC Gender Accountability Framework; cluster-level and agency-specific guidance on gender mainstreaming; greater availability of gender advisers through the Gender Standby Capacity Project and cluster-lead agency surge mechanisms; and increasing the application of the GAM.

Investments in the guidance, training and availability of GEEWG expertise helped humanitarian organizations to more systematically consult affected women and girls and increase the collection and reporting of sex- and age-disaggregated data.

The IAHE also captured best practices and provided recommendations to further mainstream GEEWG into humanitarian action.

The evaluation identified opportunities to improve future collective responses, such as more rapid deployments of gender experts in sudden-onset emergencies, more predictable gender capacities at the cluster and HCT levels, increasing funding for GEEWG programming, and improving coordination and accountability for mainstreaming GEEWG at the country and global levels.

Full reports can be accessed at unocha.org/themes/evaluations-and-reviews/reports

Better analysis to inform response

The enhanced HPC approach is the culmination of two years' work by OCHA and partners to ensure the HPC evolves and matures.

The HPC is a series of actions to analyse needs, and to prioritize, plan and coordinate response delivery during a crisis.

It focuses on how humanitarian crises impact people's lives, livelihoods and coping capacities by analysing the combined effects of shocks, stresses, vulnerabilities and capacities. The new approach pays specific attention to priorities identified by affected people themselves, and to particular vulnerabilities and diversities such as those linked to gender, age and disability.

The new intersectoral analysis method — the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) — also captures chronic and structural causes and emerging risks to better define immediate acute needs versus longer-term needs.

The IASC endorsed a first version of the JIAF in 2020, and the first formal application took place in the 2021 HNOs. Libya's 2021 HNO is a good example of the depth of analysis that can be achieved using the JIAF, even when working with limited data and constrained access environments compounded by COVID-19. The analysis of humanitarian needs and their severity was differentiated between five population groups with distinct needs. This analysis allowed the HRP to be formulated with more specific and prioritized strategic objectives directly linked to the HNO findings, which is a key objective of the enhanced approach to the HPC.

In Afghanistan, the OCHA country office and its partners carried out a robust analysis to identify potential risks and influences on the needs facing populations of concern throughout 2021. Plans in 2019 reflected the assumption that people would recover and move out of humanitarian need. How-

ever, a midyear review indicated this was unlikely, and subsequent planning focused on analysing the drivers of need, along with risks and opportunities, to define the most likely scenario. Humanitarians also engaged with development organizations to create a common needs analysis that puts humanitarian needs in the wider context of ‘social assistance’ needs in the country.

Decentralization

Decentralization is part of the Secretary-General’s vision for reforming the UN, with the aim of making it a more agile, flexible and accountable organization that better serves people who rely on its activities worldwide.

For OCHA, this has been an opportunity to continue improving the quality of support that its headquarters functions provide to the field, strengthen capacity to manage its delegated authorities, and ensure that the organization remains financially sustainable.

The pandemic affected anticipated time frames for the decentralization process in 2020, but OCHA progressed with relocating specific activities from New York and Geneva to The Hague, Istanbul and regional offices.

Sixty-six posts, or around 16 per cent of all HQ-based posts, have been or are in the process of being relocated from Geneva and New York to The Hague, Istanbul and regional offices. During 2020 relocation to The Hague was effectively completed, and a host-country agreement with Turkey for presence in Istanbul was finalized by the year’s end, enabling the completion of decentralization during 2021.

OCHA will continue to identify relocation opportunities within other functions where this will improve service to field operations, but it will maintain a strong footprint in Geneva, where OCHA’s humanitarian leadership has been strengthened.

Learning from the pandemic

Participants at OCHA’s annual Global Humanitarian Policy Forum discussed the political, socioeconomic and security implications of the pandemic and how they might transform humanitarian action.

Held in December 2020, the virtual two-day forum focused on the theme ‘A Case for Transformation? The Longer-term Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic’. This was OCHA’s ninth annual policy event, convened with the United Nations Foundation.

To enable broad participation, the forum’s opening event was live-streamed on Twitter. It hosted over 1,000 participants from humanitarian and development communities, Governments, the private sector, non-profits, civil society and academia in more than 80 countries.

The forum concluded with these policy-related lessons learned from the pandemic:

- The humanitarian system cannot afford to repeat the collective failure in preparedness. Efforts to scale up preparedness must go hand-in-hand with building affected communities’ resilience.
- It is time to invest in local front-line leadership, honour long-standing commitments to empower local organizations, and reframe humanitarian partnerships around responsibilities and comparative advantages.
- “Leading with equity” means taking a rights-based approach to humanitarian action, linking response to long-term programmes for vulnerable groups, and combating structural racism and discrimination in the humanitarian system.
- Technology can help to enable earlier, faster and potentially more effective humanitarian action. But these advantages come with complex challenges and risks, including unequal access to technology and connectivity, inadequate data protection and privacy, and the spread of



A returnee Venezuelan boy washes his hands during COVID-19 confinement in a temporary shelter in Venezuela. Credit: OCHA/Gema Cortes

misinformation and disinformation. Realizing the ‘digital promise’ requires using technologies in a way that is responsible, sustainable and inclusive, and protects human life and dignity.

- Building coalitions for success requires long-sighted, diplomatic efforts before a crisis, and agility, solidarity and co-ordination after it strikes. Cross-sector collaboration is not a choice — it is an indispensable building block.

FUNDING

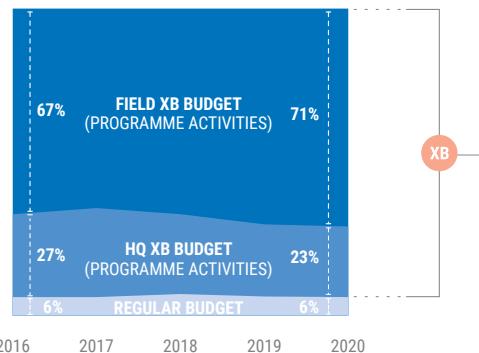
Only a small percentage of OCHA's annual programme budget is funded from the UN Regular Budget. CERF and CBPFs are entirely funded by donor contributions. OCHA remains reliant on voluntary contributions to implement its mandate.

PROGRAMME BUDGET

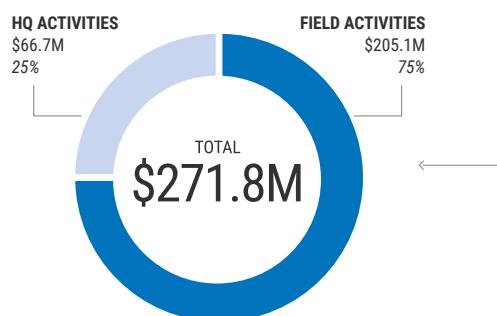
In 2020, 94 per cent of OCHA's programme activities were funded by voluntary contributions. The remaining 6 per cent came from the UN Regular Budget, which is paid from assessed contributions from UN Member States.

OCHA's extrabudgetary (XB) programme budget was \$262.7 million at the start of 2020. The budget increased by about only 3 per cent during the year, closing the year at \$271.8 million. Most of the budget increase (79 per cent) was in the field, to meet increased coordination requirements in Yemen and several African countries. The biggest budget increases in Africa were in some of OCHA's largest field operations: DRC, Somalia and South Sudan. OCHA was able to respond to the pandemic through strategic reprioritization of activities. At the year's end, the budget for field operations represented 75 per cent of total XB requirements. The budget for headquarters activities represented 25 per cent.

FIELD PROPORTION OF OCHA'S PROGRAMME BUDGET TREND



EXTRABUDGETARY BUDGET: FIELD VS. HQ BUDGET (US\$)



PROGRAMME & POOLED FUNDS INCOME

Donor income for the three strands of OCHA activities (programme, CERF and CBPFs) reached \$1.77 billion in 2020, less than the record income in 2019 of \$2 billion, which was a year of exceptional contributions to CERF and CBPFs. The decrease as compared to 2019 was due to the one-off income received in 2019 from one donor for CERF (\$834.6 million in 2019 compared to \$639 million in 2020) and CBPFs (\$948 million in 2019, with \$861.7 million in 2020). Income in 2020 was therefore the same level as in 2018, with an income of \$1.8 billion. More information on pooled funds can be found on page 66, and in the funds' respective annual reports, available on the OCHA website.

2020 was extraordinary by all measures. Multilateralism was put to the test, and generosity and solidarity were exceptional.

Donors reiterated their trust in OCHA and its capacity to bring together humanitarian entities to achieve common goals. Despite pressure on national budgets, many donor parliaments enacted supplemental budgets to tackle COVID-19.

Income for OCHA's XB programme budget reached \$267.3 million in 2020, covering 97 per cent of XB programme requirements. The stability in donor contributions to OCHA's activities during an exceptional year demonstrated continued confidence in OCHA's capacity to implement its mandate and maintain operational performance, even under challenging circumstances.

In addition to income to the programme budget, \$9.8 million was received for OCHA-managed activities implemented in partnership with other organizations, such as national UNDAC mission accounts held

with OCHA, the ProCap and GenCap Project rosters, CBi and the Humanitarian Data Centre in The Hague. As these are pass-through contributions and not included in OCHA's XB programme budget, income to these activities is counted separately.

To cover its administrative costs, OCHA charges programme support costs of 7 per cent on its XB programme activities, 3 per cent for other pass-through grants, and 2 per cent on CERF and CBPFs.

OCHA measures the quality of its income in terms of predictability, flexibility, timeliness and diversity, with positive trends shown against all criteria in 2020.

Predictability

OCHA benefited from a predictable and stable income of \$111.8 million from multi-year agreements with 17 donors. Most of this income (\$93.6 million) is fully unearmarked. New multi-year agreements were signed in 2020 with Canada, Denmark, Germany, Iceland and Switzerland. CBPFs benefited from multi-year agreements with Australia, Canada, Germany, Switzerland and the UK, with an income value of \$222.6 million in 2020. CERF had multi-year agreements with Australia, Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, Sweden and the UK, for an annual value of \$401.6 million. OCHA's strong and long-standing relationships with OCHA Donor Support Group (ODSG) members also ensure consistent income year on year.

Flexibility

In 2020, donors gave a record amount (\$138.4 million) as fully unearmarked contributions, representing 51.7 per cent of total programme income. This is higher than the \$121 million received in 2019 in fully unearmarked funds. Donors also gave an additional \$23.7 million as softly earmarked contributions (for a geographic region or

regional crisis). See pages 84 and 85 on the use of flexible funding in 2020.

Timeliness

Timely payments are an important element for effective cash management to cover XB activities. Timeliness of payments in 2020 continued along a pattern similar to 2019, with about a third of contributions (30 per cent) received in the first quarter, and well over half (60 per cent) received in the first half of the year, up from 52 per cent in 2019. OCHA thus benefited from a stable cash-and-liquidity situation throughout the year.

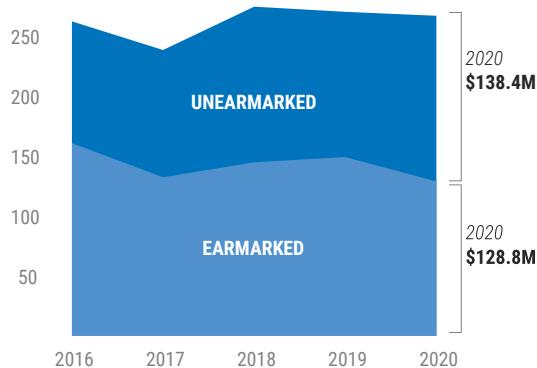
Diversity

In 2020, OCHA received contributions for its programme, CERF and CBPFs from 68 Member States and the European Commission, the same number as in 2019. Fifty-eight Member States contributed to CERF, 35 Member States contributed to CBPFs, and 40 Member States and the European Commission contributed to the programme budget. OCHA also received contributions from the private sector (United Parcel Service Foundation), regional and municipal authorities, and individuals. OCHA has consistency in the overall number of donors, but it continues to rely on a small group of donors for the bulk of its funding. The top three donors to OCHA's programme contributed 44 per cent of all income, and the top 10 donors contributed 78 per cent of all income. In line with its 2018-2021 Corporate Resource Mobilization Strategy, OCHA continues to seek to broaden the donor base for its programme and pooled funds, targeting high- and middle-income countries through direct outreach, as well as generally strengthening public communication and demonstrating results and added value.

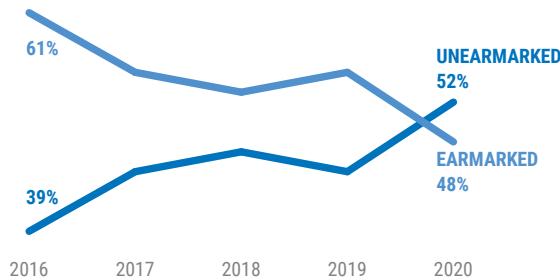
OCHA PROGRAMME

M= Million

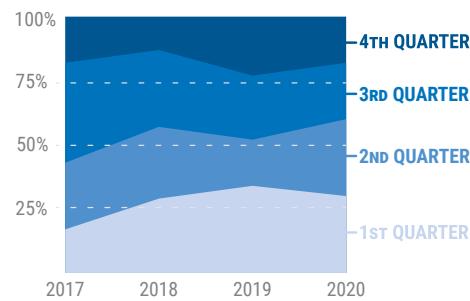
EARMARKING TRENDS – TOTAL (US\$)



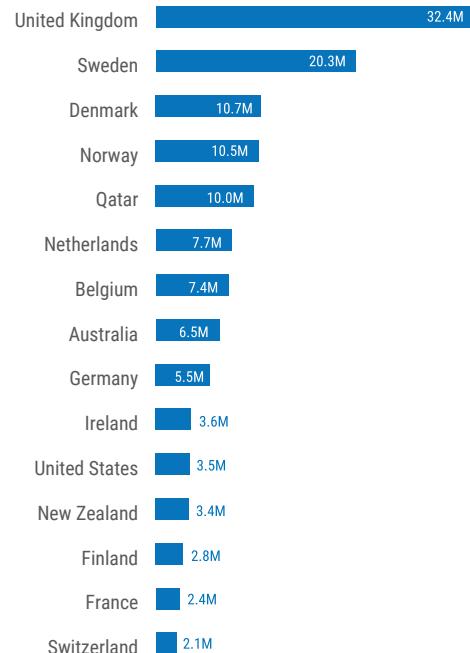
EARMARKING TRENDS – PERCENTAGES



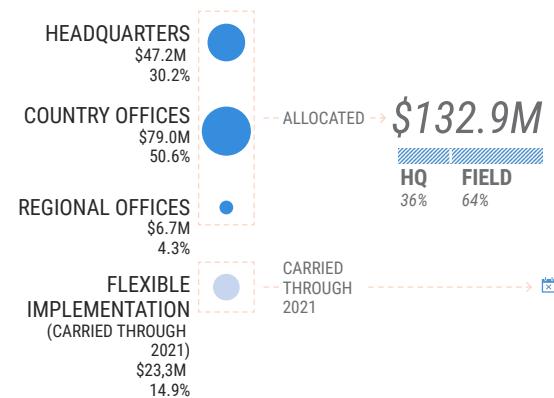
TIMELINESS OF DISBURSEMENT



TOP DONORS – UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS (US\$)



FINAL DISTRIBUTION OF UNEARMARKED FUNDING (US\$)

TOTAL
\$156.2M

Note: The difference of \$17.8M, between unearmarked income of 2020 (\$138.4M) and unearmarked cash that was available for 2020 (\$156.2M) is due to: 1) exchange loss (between pledged amount and cash received amount), 2) donor pledged but not paid yet, 3) 2019 pledge but cash received in 2020 and 4) carry over from 2019.

OCHA Donor Support Group

Created by Member States in 1998 as a “group of friends,” originally with seven members, the ODSG included 30 members in 2020. It is a sounding board on a range of issues related to policy, programme and finance. The membership criteria include the commitment to provide continued financial support to OCHA, and the willingness to provide political support to implement General Assembly resolution 46/182.

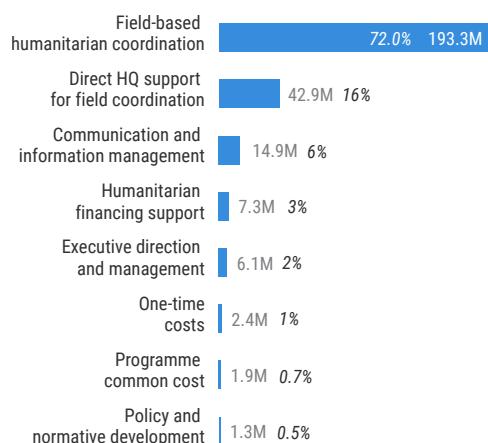
OCHA’s implementation rate in 2020 was 99 per cent under the XB programme budget, continuing the trend from previous years for OCHA to operate at nearly full capacity.

CASH OPERATING BALANCE

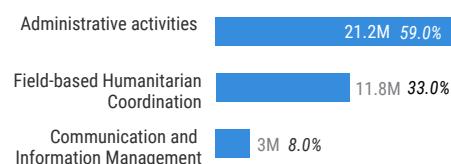
OCHA ended 2020 with a sound programme closing balance of \$203 million, including \$144.3 million kept as operational cash balance (up from \$130.4 million for the previous year); \$22.3 million already allocated for programming; \$32.4 million in balances (of which \$27.3 million is in paid contributions and \$5.1 million in unpaid pledges) from earmarked and unearmarked projects to be implemented in 2021; and \$4 million kept as contingency funds to cover sudden-onset emergencies.

OCHA needs an operating cash balance of at least \$114 million at the beginning of each year to advance about \$63 million to field offices and headquarters in anticipation of cash to be received from donors during the year. OCHA also needs to advance \$51 million to UNDP every year to cover national staff and UNV salaries liability for the entire year.

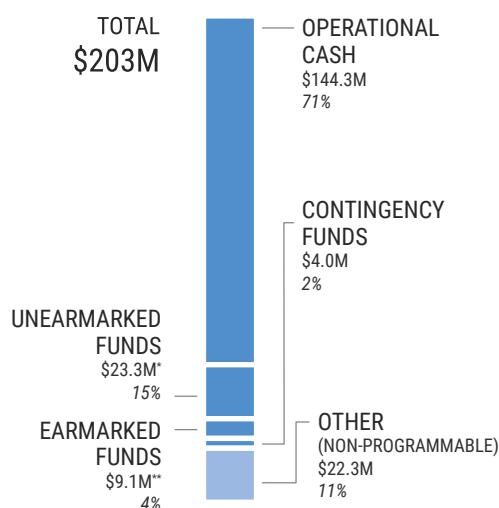
DIRECT EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES (US\$)



DIRECT EXPENDITURE BY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES (US\$)



CLOSING BALANCE BREAKDOWN (US\$)



*Including unpaid pledge \$0.30M

**Including unpaid pledge \$4.76M

FLEXIBLE INCOME IN 2020

Flexible funding received in 2020

Flexible income consists of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions, which give OCHA full or partial flexibility to use funds based on operational requirements. Funds are considered unearmarked when they are for OCHA's overall activities, with no limitation for use in any specific office or project. Donors typically restrict softly earmarked contributions for use in a geographic region or regional crisis. Flexible funding allows OCHA to plan more strategically across its operations and to scale up its presence during a disaster, or to deploy staff in anticipation of a disaster, without having to wait for donors to provide the resources.

OCHA has historically received a substantial portion of its income as unearmarked. In 2020, OCHA received a record \$138.4 million in unearmarked funding and \$23.7 million in softly earmarked funding. Twenty-nine donors contributed unearmarked funding and twelve donors contributed softly earmarked funding.

Thanks to its flexible nature, unearmarked funding can be used several times during a budget cycle, thus achieving a "multiplier effect." For example, if unearmarked funding is allocated to kick-start a response to a sudden-onset disaster, any unused portion can be moved once earmarked funding is received for the response, to address funding gaps in other operations.

Unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions play a unique role in OCHA's cash-flow management, and they reduce transaction costs associated with having to deal with overlapping and/or cumulative restrictions on the use of funds. OCHA's administrative efficiency is thus enhanced.

Use of flexible funding

During 2020, flexible funding was used to cover the full range of OCHA's coordination tools and services worldwide, with funding used to kick-start responses to new emergencies (including the pandemic response); scale up operations in deteriorating crises; fill temporary funding gaps to avoid interruptions in critical operations in protracted, lower-profile crises; and ensure the delivery of essential field support from global programmes. Flexible funding can serve more than one of these purposes, as it can be moved from one cost plan to another throughout the year, to where it is most needed.

When all income, including earmarked income, was received at the end of 2020, 64 per cent of unearmarked funding remained directly allocated to field operations and only 36 per cent to global headquarters programmes. All regional and country offices depended on unearmarked funding allocations to fully cover their operational requirements in 2020, even high-profile and traditionally well-funded crises, such as Syria and Yemen.

Ethiopia is an example of the important gap-filling function of unearmarked funding. Conflict, displacement, natural disasters and locust invasions in that country caused a worsening of the crisis and increased humanitarian needs. At the end of 2020, OCHA Ethiopia was well funded from donor earmarked contributions, with 89 per cent of its cost plan covered. However, until May 2020 only around \$2 million in earmarked contributions had been received, which was insufficient to cover costs. Unearmarked funding was critical to cover this gap and ensure OCHA could provide uninterrupted services until earmarked funding was received.

Unearmarked funding is critical to ensure the continuation of OCHA's operations in prolonged – and often forgotten – crises such as the Sahel and Horn of Africa regions, where conflict, insecurity and the impact of

climate change affect several million people. OCHA offices in Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Mali, Niger and Nigeria used \$20.7 million in unearmarked funds, while offices in Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia used an additional \$7.3 million. Together these regions accounted for over a fifth of all unearmarked funding allocated in 2020.

OCHA's five regional offices needed \$6.7 million in unearmarked funding (5 per cent of total allocated funding) for their responses to disasters including Tropical Storm Eta and Hurricane Iota in Central America, supported by surge staff from ROLAC. Regional offices provided surge staff deployments to support emergency response in many countries including those with an OCHA office, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, DRC, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines and Turkey (for the Syria crisis), among others. This would not have been possible without allocations of unearmarked funding.

In 2020, centrally managed programmes at headquarters received a third of all unearmarked funding. Essential programmes that were enabled by unearmarked funding include standby response tools; IM services, including the scale-up of remote surge support to the field; HPC expertise; coordinating IASC partners in preparing and launching the GHRP for COVID-19; civil-military capability; policy; and advocacy. Their achievements, along with many other global programmes described in this report, were possible only thanks to unearmarked funding.

The Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator in Venezuela, Samir Elhawary, engages with a Venezuelan returnee at a temporary shelter for people who have recently returned from Colombia.

Credit: OCHA/Naomi Frerotte

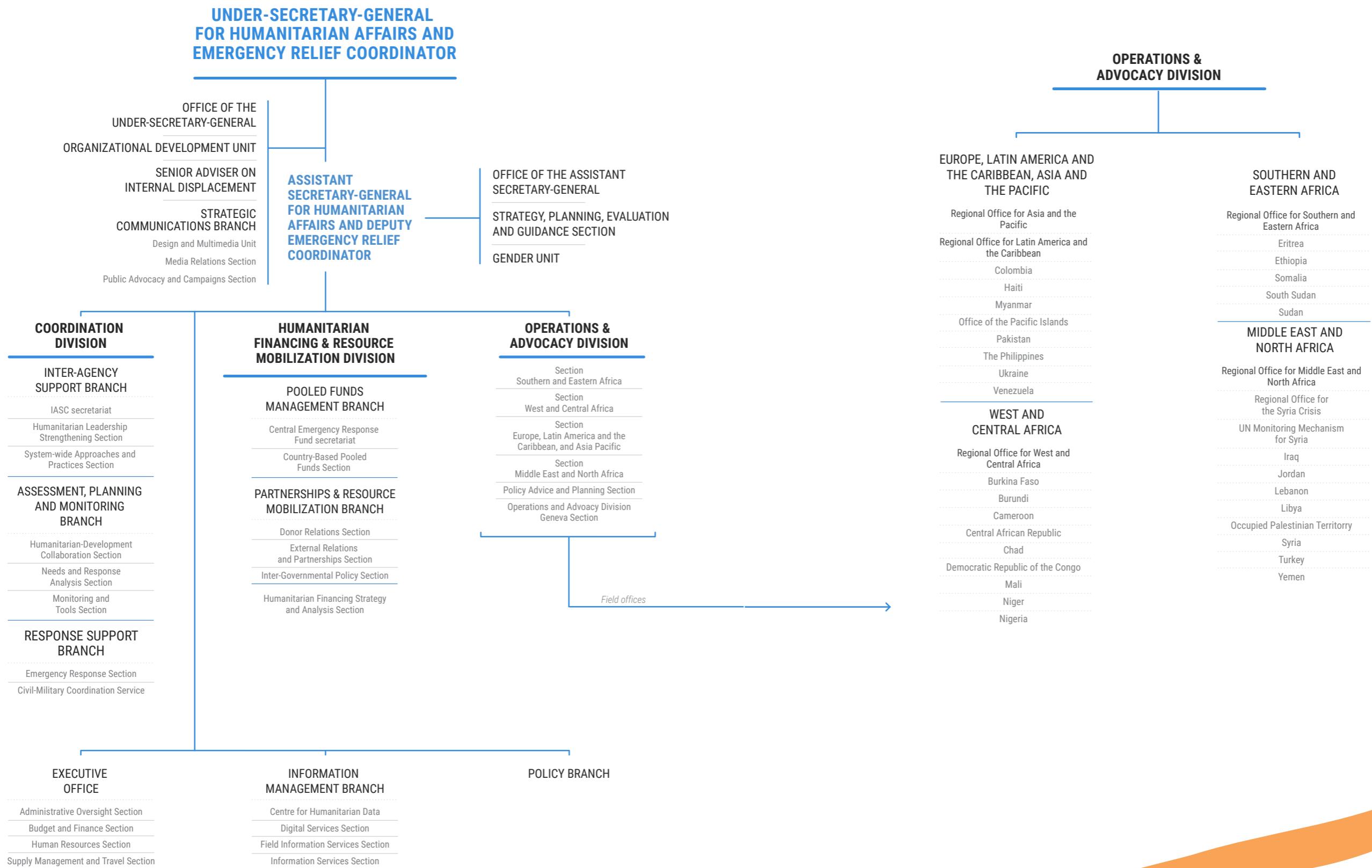


ANNEXES

Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to affected people	ROSC	Regional Office for the Syria Crisis
CAR	Central African Republic	ROSEA	Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa
CBi	Connecting Business initiative	ROWCA	Regional Office for West and Central Africa
CBPFs	Country-Based Pooled Funds	SEA	Sexual exploitation and abuse
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund	SGBV	Sexual and gender-based violence
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo	UNCT	UN Country Team
ERC	Emergency Relief Coordinator	UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
GAM	Gender with Age Marker	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
GBV	Gender-based violence	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
GENCAP	Gender Standby Capacity Project	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
GHRP	Global Humanitarian Response Plan	UNV	United Nations Volunteer
HAT	Humanitarian Advisory Team	WFP	World Food Programme
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator	WHO	World Health Organization
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team	XB	Extrabudgetary
HPC	Humanitarian Programme Cycle		
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan		
IAHE	Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation		
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee		
IDP	Internally displaced person		
IM	Information Management		
IMO	Information Management Officer		
INSARAG	International Search and Rescue Advisory Group		
IOM	International Organization for Migration		
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification		
JPO	Junior Professional Officer		
MHPSS	Mental health and psychosocial support		
NGO	Non-governmental organization		
NSAG	Non-State armed group		
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs		
ODSG	OCHA Donor Support Group		
PROCAP	Protection Standby Capacity Project		
PSEA	Preventing sexual exploitation and abuse		
RC	Resident Coordinator		
ROAP	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific		
ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean		
ROMENA	Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa		

OCHA Organization Chart



Financial tables

DONOR INCOME OVERVIEW - PAID + PLEDGED

DONORS RANKED BY TOTAL FUNDING IN 2020 (US\$ MILLION)

2018			2019			2020									
	OCHA programme	CBPFs	CERF	Total	OCHA programme	CBPFs	CERF	Total	OCHA programme	CBPFs	CERF	Total			
Germany	14.55	175.66	110.20	300.41	16.85%	18.35	167.18	106.00	291.53	14.20%	24.82	223.02	125.33	373.16	21.1%
United Kingdom	35.07	252.97	114.57	402.61	22.58%	30.88	320.23	386.10	737.22	35.90%	35.57	182.83	87.38	305.78	17.3%
Sweden	37.18	93.67	88.20	219.05	12.28%	34.67	89.85	88.94	213.46	10.39%	31.69	69.03	88.83	189.55	10.7%
Netherlands	5.68	81.24	67.90	154.82	8.68%	7.66	62.67	62.50	132.83	6.47%	7.66	75.40	98.79	181.85	10.3%
Norway	15.10	45.79	54.45	115.34	6.47%	14.68	44.62	54.71	114.02	5.55%	14.73	42.69	56.91	114.33	6.5%
Belgium	4.52	45.11	13.57	63.20	3.54%	6.61	48.16	18.95	73.72	3.59%	7.36	52.25	24.28	83.88	4.7%
Denmark	4.97	40.54	21.62	67.13	3.76%	4.57	46.04	25.81	76.43	3.72%	10.68	33.99	30.79	75.46	4.3%
Canada	9.44	14.77	22.53	46.74	2.62%	10.06	19.94	22.53	52.53	2.56%	10.52	36.73	22.53	69.79	4.0%
United States *	51.21	34.00	-	85.21	4.78%	54.99	31.25	-	86.24	4.20%	50.20	10.00	-	60.20	3.4%
Switzerland	6.68	20.80	6.24	33.72	1.89%	6.92	23.67	6.91	37.51	1.83%	7.88	28.16	24.04	60.08	3.4%
Ireland	3.81	46.85	14.25	64.91	3.64%	3.72	35.47	11.39	50.58	2.46%	4.28	35.23	11.42	50.93	2.9%
Australia	8.24	16.25	8.18	32.67	1.83%	7.22	15.24	8.21	30.67	1.49%	7.22	13.78	8.18	29.18	1.7%
Finland	3.79	-	8.64	12.43	0.70%	2.81	-	8.98	11.78	0.57%	2.81	1.17	15.46	19.44	1.1%
Korea, Republic of	1.70	5.30	4.00	11.00	0.62%	1.70	7.80	5.00	14.50	0.71%	2.20	11.05	5.82	19.07	1.1%
France	1.21	6.60	-	7.81	0.44%	3.36	11.48	-	14.84	0.72%	3.53	12.94	1.14	17.61	1.0%
European Commission	16.74	-	-	16.74	0.94%	14.63	-	-	14.63	0.71%	12.84	4.40	-	17.24	1.0%
Qatar	10.00	3.47	1.00	14.47	0.81%	10.00	3.50	1.00	14.50	0.71%	10.36	5.20	1.00	16.56	0.9%
Italy **	0.59	2.88	2.96	6.42	0.36%	1.10	5.54	3.93	10.57	0.51%	0.75	9.10	5.50	15.34	0.9%
New Zealand	3.46	0.67	2.20	6.33	0.35%	3.42	2.34	2.04	7.80	0.38%	3.42	3.49	8.34	15.24	0.9%
Luxembourg	1.01	2.96	4.94	8.91	0.50%	0.98	3.57	5.47	10.02	0.49%	0.99	4.15	5.47	10.60	0.6%
Spain	2.72	2.54	3.49	8.74	0.49%	3.58	3.18	3.41	10.17	0.50%	4.15	2.87	3.41	10.43	0.6%
United Arab Emirates	4.62	25.00	1.50	31.12	1.75%	1.75	-	5.00	6.75	0.33%	2.00	-	5.00	7.00	0.4%
Japan	6.07	-	1.36	7.43	0.42%	5.82	0.40	0.68	6.90	0.34%	5.65	-	0.26	5.92	0.3%
Austria	0.67	-	-	0.67	0.04%	1.20	-	-	1.20	0.06%	1.32	-	1.22	2.54	0.1%
Russian Federation	1.00	-	1.50	2.50	0.14%	0.97	-	1.50	2.47	0.12%	1.00	-	1.50	2.50	0.1%
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	0.21	0.41	0.47	1.09	0.05%	0.50	0.96	0.71	2.17	0.1%
Poland	0.52	-	-	0.52	0.03%	0.51	0.50	-	1.01	0.05%	0.75	-	0.25	1.00	0.1%
Turkey	0.50	-	0.40	0.90	0.05%	0.50	-	0.40	0.90	0.04%	0.50	-	0.45	0.95	0.1%
Estonia	0.63	-	0.12	0.75	0.04%	0.58	0.06	0.11	0.75	0.04%	0.58	0.24	0.11	0.93	0.1%
Saudi Arabia	21.60	25.00	0.15	46.75	2.62%	15.97	-	0.15	16.12	0.78%	0.50	-	0.15	0.65	0.0%
Non ODSG	1.60	7.55	4.60	13.74	0.77%	0.97	5.54	4.44	10.95	0.53%	0.81	3.02	4.78	8.61	0.5%
GRAND TOTAL	274.86	949.62	558.58	1,783.05	100%	270.38	948.66	834.64	2,053.68	100%	267.3	861.70	639.0	1,768.0	100%

Totals include paid and pledged contributions.

Note: CBPF MPTF; source is GMS based on actual cash received while CBPF OCHA, source is OCT based on pledge value.

*Figures different from those published in previous annual reports, due to cancellation of 2018 pledge (\$127,651) and 2019 pledge (\$123,980) in 2020.

**Including the transfer of \$137,459 from Italy's pre-positioned fund to OCHA Mali office.

PROGRAMME INCOME

2020 OCHA PROGRAMME DONOR INCOME (US\$)

Donor	Earmarked	Softly Earmarked	Unearmarked	Total
United States	42,299,651	4,400,000	3,500,000	50,199,651
United Kingdom	3,184,027	-	32,386,889	35,570,916
Sweden	10,632,780	726,141	20,329,553	31,688,474
Germany	13,699,888	5,599,104	5,518,764	24,817,756
Norway	3,692,344	584,966	10,456,297	14,733,608
European Commission	11,662,981	1,177,856	-	12,840,838
Denmark	-	-	10,682,130	10,682,130
Canada	3,173,418	5,826,969	1,524,390	10,524,777
Qatar	357,995	-	10,000,000	10,357,995
Switzerland	5,753,817	-	2,125,399	7,879,215
Netherlands	-	-	7,658,643	7,658,643
Belgium	-	-	7,355,243	7,355,243
Australia	-	721,501	6,493,506	7,215,007
Japan	3,880,833	909,090	861,818	5,651,741
Ireland	639,817	-	3,638,570	4,278,387
Spain	643,275	3,508,772	-	4,152,047
France	1,103,753	-	2,428,256	3,532,009
New Zealand	-	-	3,415,301	3,415,301
Finland	-	-	2,805,836	2,805,836
Korea, Republic of	200,000	-	2,000,000	2,200,000
United Arab Emirates	500,000	-	1,500,000	2,000,000
Austria	1,216,545	-	107,059	1,323,604
Russian Federation	-	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Luxembourg	113,636	-	873,680	987,316
Poland	748,390	-	-	748,390
Italy *	745,731	-	-	745,731
Estonia	303,532	110,375	165,563	579,470
Iceland	-	-	500,000	500,000
Saudi Arabia	-	-	500,000	500,000
Turkey	-	-	500,000	500,000
Romania	303,398	-	-	303,398
Greece	220,751	-	-	220,751
Portugal	46,948	-	-	46,948
Monaco	-	-	33,076	33,076
China	-	-	30,000	30,000
Malta	-	27,594	-	27,594
Latvia	-	23,895	-	23,895
Singapore	-	-	20,000	20,000
Malaysia	15,000	-	-	15,000
Kazakhstan	10,000	-	-	10,000
Subtotal	105,148,510	23,616,263	138,409,972	267,174,746
Private Donations**	78,637	-	-	78,637
Subtotal	78,637	-	-	78,637
TOTAL 2020	105,227,147	23,616,263	138,409,972	267,253,383

Totals include paid and pledged contributions.

* Including the transfer of \$137,459 from Italy's pre-positioned fund to OCHA Mali office

** Funding received from UPS Foundation and Mainichi Shimbun

TOP 20 DONORS

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS – BREAKDOWN OF TOP 20 DONOR EARMARKING IN 2020 (US\$)

Office	United States	United Kingdom	Sweden	Germany	Norway	European Commission	Denmark	Canada	Qatar
UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS									
	3,500,000	32,386,889	20,329,553	5,518,764	10,456,297	-	10,682,130	1,524,390	10,000,000
EARMARKED AND SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS									
HEADQUARTER	46,699,651	3,184,027	11,358,921	19,298,992	4,277,310	12,840,838	-	9,000,387	357,995
FIELD	35,069,651	3,184,027	11,358,921	12,546,190	3,535,101	12,840,838	-	8,554,242	-
REGIONAL OFFICES									
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	1,000,000	-	726,141	-	-	-	-	1,018,182	-
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	1,500,000	-	103,734	-	-	-	-	581,818	-
Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa	1,000,000	-	207,469	555,556	-	327,511	-	1,018,182	-
Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa	1,000,000	-	207,469	-	-	-	-	363,636	-
Regional Office for West and Central Africa	1,000,000	-	414,938	-	-	-	-	945,455	-
	5,500,000	-	1,659,751	555,556	-	327,511	-	3,927,273	-
COUNTRY OFFICES	29,569,651	3,184,027	9,699,170	11,990,634	-	12,513,327	-	4,626,969	-
Africa	Burkina Faso	700,000	-	-	584,795	-	111,857	-	109,091
	Burundi	-	-	207,469	555,556	-	282,805	-	-
	Cameroon	750,000	-	518,672	555,556	-	709,067	-	109,091
	Central African Republic	2,000,000	-	829,876	586,854	189,251	549,451	-	218,182
	Chad	-	-	414,938	-	-	791,855	-	-
	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,000,000	-	311,203	1,123,737	713,793	1,103,753	-	727,273
	Ethiopia	1,200,000	2,574,271	103,734	568,828	-	-	-	72,727
	Mali	700,000	-	518,672	568,182	104,635	-	-	145,455
	Niger	750,000	-	518,672	584,795	104,635	434,311	-	-
	Nigeria	1,500,000	-	518,672	1,155,726	473,126	545,852	-	181,818
	Somalia	1,500,000	609,756	726,141	568,182	189,251	551,876	-	109,091
	South Sudan	3,734,020	-	829,876	568,182	473,126	814,332	-	181,818
	Sudan	2,900,000	-	259,336	586,854	-	1,085,776	-	145,455
	Africa Total	16,734,020	3,184,027	5,757,261	8,007,248	2,247,818	6,980,934	-	2,000,000
Asia and the Pacific	Myanmar	400,000	-	207,469	-	-	327,511	-	145,455
	Office for the Pacific Islands	-	-	103,734	-	-	-	-	-
	Asia and the Pacific Total	400,000	-	311,203	-	-	327,511	-	145,455
Central Asia, Pakistan and Afghanistan	Afghanistan	1,100,000	-	829,876	-	97,494	1,760,176	-	145,455
	Central Asia, Pakistan and Afghanistan Total	1,100,000	-	829,876	-	97,494	1,760,176	-	145,455
Europe	Ukraine	968,631	-	103,734	-	189,251	167,973	-	72,727
	Europe Total	968,631	-	103,734	-	189,251	167,973	-	72,727
Latin America and the Caribbean	Colombia	767,000	-	207,469	-	-	339,367	-	-
	Haiti	300,000	-	-	-	-	65,646	-	-
	Venezuela support	-	-	207,469	-	-	220,022	-	-
	Latin America and the Caribbean Total	1,067,000	-	414,938	-	-	625,034	-	-
Middle East, Northern & Central Asia	Iraq	1,300,000	-	311,203	568,182	-	549,451	-	1,405,775
	Libya	500,000	-	311,203	-	-	272,926	-	-
	OPT	-	-	311,203	1,103,753	-	651,466	-	363,636
	Syria *	4,000,000	-	726,141	1,175,088	584,966	1,177,856	-	493,921
	United Arab Emirates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Yemen	3,500,000	-	622,407	1,136,364	415,572	-	-	-
	Middle East, Northern & Central Asia Total	9,300,000	-	2,282,158	3,983,386	1,000,538	2,651,698	-	2,263,332
GRAND TOTAL	50,199,651	35,570,916	31,688,474	24,817,756	14,733,608	12,840,838	10,682,130	10,524,777	10,357,995

*Total for Syria includes funding to the following offices: Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, as well as funding to the Syria RHC.



Switzerland	Netherlands	Belgium	Australia	Japan	Ireland	Spain	France	New Zealand	Finland	Korea, Republic of	Others**	GRAND TOTAL
2,125,399	7,658,643	7,355,243	6,493,506	861,818	3,638,570	-	2,428,256	3,415,301	2,805,836	2,000,000	5,229,378	138,409,972
5,753,817	-	-	721,501	4,789,923	639,817	4,152,047	1,103,753	-	-	200,000	4,464,432	128,843,410
2,053,919	-	-	-	-	113,636	-	-	-	-	-	75,000	22,171,709
3,699,897	-	-	721,501	4,789,923	526,180	4,152,047	1,103,753	-	-	200,000	4,389,432	106,671,702
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	577,201	320,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,641,523
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,185,553
-	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,948	3,205,666
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	1,581,105
-	-	-	577,201	370,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,948	12,974,239
3,699,897	-	-	144,300	4,419,923	526,180	4,152,047	1,103,753	-	-	200,000	4,332,484	93,697,463
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,505,743
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,045,830
513,875	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,156,260
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,075,367
-	-	-	-	701,754	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,206,793
-	-	-	400,000	-	701,754	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,081,514
513,875	-	-	-	305,430	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,338,865
-	-	-	-	-	59,090	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,139,524
-	-	-	144,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	248,035
-	-	-	144,300	59,090	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,387,559

ALLOCATION OF UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

ALLOCATION OF UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2020 (US\$)	
HEADQUARTER	47,173,614
FIELD	85,709,209
REGIONAL OFFICE	
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	1,562,079
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	1,215,791
Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa	1,491,749
Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa	1,083,914
Regional Office for West and Central Africa	1,331,609
AFRICA	
Burkina Faso	52,160
Burundi	742,793
Cameroon	1,414,492
Central African Republic	6,018,009
Chad	4,228,135
Democratic Republic of Congo	12,906,995
Eritrea	860,713
Ethiopia	669,778
Mali	3,609,087
Niger	2,076,880
Nigeria	3,323,965
Somalia	5,776,001
South Sudan	5,643,230
Sudan	3,297,222
ALL FIELD	
Field surge	472,079
Investigating allegations of SEA involving implementing partners	36,549
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	
Myanmar	3,412,300
Office for the Pacific Islands	1,103,965
Pakistan	337,139
Philippines	1,400,668
Yemen	499,121
Central Asia, Pakistan and Afghanistan	7,173,701
Afghanistan	6,684,599
Pakistan	55,996
EUROPE	
Ukraine	370,821
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	
Haiti	929,545
Venezuela support	1,967,766
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	
Iraq	2,568,412
Libya	2,775,644
Occupied Palestinian Territory	3,612,714
Syria	1,015,314
Syria OCHA Operation in Jordan	565,568
Syria OCHA Operation in Lebanon	231,939
United Arab Emirates	175,123
Syria, Regional Office for the Syria Crisis (ROSC)	245,339
Total allocated in 2020	132,882,823
With flexible implementation carried through 2021	23,318,008
GRAND TOTAL	156,200,832

Note: The difference of \$17.8M, between unearmarked income of 2020 (\$138.4M) and unearmarked cash that was available for 2020 (\$156.2M) is due to: 1) exchange loss (between pledged amount and cash received amount), 2) donor pledged but not paid yet, 3) 2019 pledge but cash received in 2020 and 4) carry over from 2019.

FINANCIAL STATUS

OCHA FINANCIAL STATUS AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2020 (US\$)

OCHA-Mandated Programme and Administrative Activities	Programme Activities (a.)	CBPF Humanitarian Financing Units (b.)	Total	Trust fund excluding CBPF grants-out (a+b)	Administrative Activities	Regular Budget
Opening Balance - 1 Jan 2020	182,899,123	5,458,942	188,358,065	-	-	-
2020 Donor Contributions for Programme Activities ¹	267,253,383	15,503,636	282,757,018	-	-	-
2020 Income for Administrative Activities (Transfer of Programme Support Charges) ²	-	-	-	35,569,896	-	-
2020 Allocation for Regular Budget	-	-	-	-	18,063,100	18,063,100
Available Funds	450,152,505	20,962,577	471,115,083	35,569,896	18,063,100	18,063,100
Transfer of Programme Support Charges (PSC)	-17,205,108	-1,477,065	-18,682,173	-	-	-
Direct Expenditure ³	-254,575,683	-21,074,547	-275,650,230	-34,382,153	-17,000,708	-17,000,708
Total Expenditure Charged against ⁴	-271,780,791	-22,551,612	-294,332,403	-34,382,153	-17,000,708	-17,000,708
Net Available Funds before Other Income, adjustments, transfers, refunds	178,371,714	-1,589,034	176,782,680	1,187,743	1,062,392	1,062,392
Other income, adjustments, transfers, refunds	12,867,009	13,312,737	26,179,746	-	-	-
Closing Balance ⁵	191,238,723	11,723,702	202,962,426	-	-	-
Increase / (Decrease) in opening balance	8,339,601	6,264,761	14,604,361	-	-	-
AVAILABLE BALANCE FOR SPENDING	191,238,723	11,723,702	202,962,426	-	-	-

¹ For programme activities, includes paid contributions and unpaid pledges \$5.06M.

² Transfer of PSC for Administrative Activities, includes PSC levied from programme activities, CBPFs, and Specially Designated Contributions as well.

³ Includes disbursements and unliquidated obligations as at 31 December 2020.

⁴ For programme activities, expenditure charged against budget is the direct programme expenditure plus programme support transfers. For administrative and regular budget activities, it is the direct expenditure only.

⁵ As of June 2015, PSC balances have been consolidated under one single PSC account for all Volume 1 entities under the Central Control of the UN Controller.

Note: CERF PSC is not included since 2019 CERF PSC opening balance is not yet confirmed by UNHQ.

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS (US\$)

Entity	Description	US\$
UNHCR	Technical assistance/expert services	109,650
FAO	Technical assistance/expert services	112,365
WFP	Technical assistance/expert services	84,102
German Academic Exchange Service	Technical assistance/expert services	32,886
Government, International Humanitarian City Dubai - UAE	Office Space	44,486 ⁶
ADRC, Kobe, Japan	Office Space	45,506
Government - Almaty, Kazakhstan	Office Space	9,000
Government - Tbilisi, Georgia	Office Space	15,000
IOM - Mosul, Iraq	Office Space	1,800
Government - Dushanbe, Tajikistan	Office Space	11,000
Government - Beirut, Lebanon	Office Space	165,301 ⁷
Government - Mishref, Kuwait	Office Space	21,300

⁶ Currency = AED

⁷ UN Habitat: \$94,350 & UNDP: \$70,951

BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

OCHA BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE IN 2020 (US\$)	Mandated Programme Activities				Extrabudgetary Administrative Activities			
	Original	Final	Expenditure	Expend. Rate	Original	Final	Expenditure	Expend. Rate
REGULAR BUDGET ACTIVITIES	17,280,400	16,777,654	17,000,708	101%	-	-	-	-
EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES								
HEADQUARTERS								
OFFICE OF USG	610,627	574,996	333,890	58%	-	-	-	-
OFFICE OF ASG	687,206	691,188	680,948	99%	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL COSTS	1,920,313	2,032,207	1,988,583	98%	9,206,440	8,488,037	8,473,580	100%
COORDINATION	21,715,886	24,344,059	24,145,168	99%	-	-	-	-
EXECUTIVE OFFICE	-	-	-	0%	10,489,099	11,280,174	11,097,321	98%
GENDER	420,888	415,538	392,341	94%	-	-	-	-
HUMANITARIAN FINANCING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION DIVISION	7,668,607	7,329,212	7,200,636	98%	11,467,120	11,774,671	11,768,395	100%
IDP	3,652,964	2,478,004	2,342,244	95%	-	-	-	-
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	9,097,057	9,360,205	9,240,258	99%	3,545,736	3,165,512	3,044,444	96%
OPERATIONS AND ADVOCACY	11,044,401	11,572,668	11,524,550	100%	-	-	-	-
ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	650,000	555,472	554,145	100%	-	-	-	-
POLICY	1,026,276	996,348	641,566	64%	-	-	-	-
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS	4,464,718	4,765,979	4,731,598	99%	-	-	-	-
STRATEGY, PLANNING AND EVALUATION	1,813,075	1,553,315	1,418,065	91%	-	-	-	-
HEADQUARTERS Total	64,772,017	66,669,191	65,193,989	98%	34,708,395	34,708,394	34,383,740	99%
FIELD								
REGIONAL OFFICES								
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	25,169,967	19,832,918	19,784,049	100%	-	-	-	-
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	5,923,987	5,267,135	5,257,940	100%	-	-	-	-
Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa	4,554,965	3,420,420	3,401,043	99%	-	-	-	-
Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa	5,494,000	4,697,792	4,691,353	100%	-	-	-	-
Regional Office for West and Central Africa	3,758,016	2,666,857	2,654,689	100%	-	-	-	-
COUNTRY OFFICES	172,758,909	185,259,858	184,385,428	100%	-	-	-	-
AFRICA	95,090,535	102,453,894	102,284,883	100%	-	-	-	-
Burkina Faso	1,300,000	1,796,984	1,788,223	100%	-	-	-	-
Burundi	1,808,000	1,772,321	1,763,420	99%	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	3,925,552	4,457,692	4,447,051	100%	-	-	-	-
Central African Republic	10,500,647	11,060,779	11,059,037	100%	-	-	-	-
Chad	5,011,006	5,303,872	5,298,635	100%	-	-	-	-
Democratic Republic of the Congo	16,631,554	18,758,491	18,744,813	100%	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	895,000	866,440	860,263	99%	-	-	-	-
Ethiopia	5,926,000	6,006,111	6,005,558	100%	-	-	-	-
Mali	5,767,000	6,214,715	6,208,008	100%	-	-	-	-
Niger	4,498,463	4,479,176	4,466,078	100%	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	8,518,911	8,184,415	8,160,648	100%	-	-	-	-
Somalia	9,086,057	11,001,598	10,944,826	99%	-	-	-	-
South Sudan	11,892,345	13,504,395	13,468,347	100%	-	-	-	-
Sudan	9,330,000	9,046,905	9,069,977	100%	-	-	-	-
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	6,688,121	7,273,654	7,233,767	99%	-	-	-	-
Myanmar	4,307,110	4,491,322	4,487,775	100%	-	-	-	-
Office for the Pacific Islands	1,381,000	1,367,724	1,347,591	99%	-	-	-	-
Philippines	1,000,010	1,414,608	1,398,402	99%	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL ASIA, PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN	10,511,576	12,322,963	12,244,168	99%	-	-	-	-
Afghanistan	9,949,691	11,204,883	11,152,002	100%	-	-	-	-
Pakistan	561,885	1,118,080	1,092,166	98%	-	-	-	-
EUROPE	3,725,457	3,273,768	3,260,049	100%	-	-	-	-
Ukraine	3,725,457	3,273,768	3,260,049	100%	-	-	-	-
LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN	5,404,944	5,257,790	5,218,712	99%	-	-	-	-
Colombia	1,366,000	1,194,054	1,176,588	99%	-	-	-	-
Haiti	1,089,447	1,404,484	1,396,252	99%	-	-	-	-
Venezuela support	2,949,497	2,659,252	2,645,872	99%	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	50,986,349	54,206,885	53,673,384	99%	-	-	-	-
Iraq	7,481,000	7,250,246	7,240,381	100%	-	-	-	-
Libya	4,792,006	3,829,965	3,810,756	99%	-	-	-	-
Occupied Palestinian Territory	6,645,000	7,184,044	7,177,115	100%	-	-	-	-
Syria	6,724,781	6,113,552	6,109,108	100%	-	-	-	-
Syria OCHA Operation in Jordan	1,794,000	1,434,139	1,426,730	99%	-	-	-	-
Syria OCHA Operation in Lebanon	2,116,000	2,186,627	2,184,977	100%	-	-	-	-
Syria OCHA Operation in Turkey	3,229,288	3,202,376	3,195,664	100%	-	-	-	-
Syria, Regional Office for the Syria Crisis (ROSC)	3,609,023	3,436,285	3,357,329	98%	-	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	915,250	677,535	677,474	100%	-	-	-	-
Yemen	13,680,000	18,892,116	18,493,850	98%	-	-	-	-
OAD FRONT OFFICE	351,926	470,904	470,465	100%	-	-	-	-
Field surge	351,926	470,904	470,465	100%	-	-	-	-
FIELD Total	185,943,373	194,689,750	193,020,725	99%	-	-	-	-

EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES	262,700,893	271,761,967	269,363,466	99%	34,708,395	34,708,394	34,383,740	99%
CBPF MANAGEMENT UNITS	29,723,280	30,920,226	22,551,612	73%	-	-	-	-
Afghanistan - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	2,241,928	2,386,319	2,009,507	84%	-	-	-	-
Central African Republic - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	1,649,867	1,649,867	1,635,694	99%	-	-	-	-
Colombia - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	-	-	586	0%	-	-	-	-
DRC - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	4,301,931	4,719,744	2,566,579	54%	-	-	-	-
Ethiopia - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	1,302,408	1,356,765	1,106,531	82%	-	-	-	-
Iraq - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	1,365,500	1,387,454	1,173,167	85%	-	-	-	-
Jordan - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	492,417	498,641	430,262	86%	-	-	-	-
Lebanon - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	535,878	545,314	459,535	84%	-	-	-	-
Myanmar - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	572,792	581,020	355,549	61%	-	-	-	-
Nigeria - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	1,884,304	1,823,633	1,105,145	61%	-	-	-	-
OPT - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	498,711	512,005	480,657	94%	-	-	-	-
Pakistan - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	228,174	228,174	165,272	72%	-	-	-	-
Somalia - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	2,009,638	2,043,642	1,778,486	87%	-	-	-	-
South Sudan - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	2,387,200	2,421,483	2,130,379	88%	-	-	-	-
Sudan - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	2,257,040	2,282,534	1,215,003	53%	-	-	-	-
Syria - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	1,450,288	1,474,026	580,200	39%	-	-	-	-
Turkey - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	2,414,523	3,173,769	1,949,758	61%	-	-	-	-
Ukraine - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	527,696	521,035	407,231	78%	-	-	-	-
Venezuela - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	-	192,248	29,083	15%	-	-	-	-
Yemen - CBPF Humanitarian Financing Unit	3,602,984	3,122,553	2,972,990	95%	-	-	-	-
ONE-OFF DECENTRALIZATION COSTS	4,152,497	4,152,497	2,516,704	61%	-	-	-	0%
DORMANT ACCOUNTS AND OTHERS	-	-	-99,380	0%	-	-	-1,587	0%
EXTRABUDGETARY ACTIVITIES INCLUDING CBPF, ONE-OFF DECENTRALIZATION, DORMANT AND OTHERS TOTAL	296,576,670	306,834,690	294,332,403	96%	34,708,395	34,708,394	34,382,153	99%
TOTAL OCHA ACTIVITIES (REGULAR BUDGET AND EXTRABUDGETARY)	313,857,070	323,612,344	311,333,111	96%	34,708,395	34,708,394	34,382,153	99%

DONOR RANKING SORTED BY (TOTAL)

DONOR RANKING FOR PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES

Donor	OCHA Programme	Pass-through contributions	Total
MEMBER STATES			
United States	50,199,651	2,566,287	52,765,938
United Kingdom	35,570,915	184,275	35,755,190
Sweden	31,688,472	622,406	32,310,878
Germany	24,817,754	1,411,765	26,229,519
Norway	14,733,608	1,462,416	16,196,024
European Commission	12,840,836	-	12,840,836
Denmark	10,682,130	73,779	10,755,909
Canada	10,524,778	75,988	10,600,766
Qatar	10,357,995	-	10,357,995
Netherlands	7,658,643	1,310,000	8,968,643
Switzerland	7,879,218	531,350	8,410,568
Belgium	7,355,243	117,371	7,472,614
Australia	7,215,007	-	7,215,007
Japan	5,651,741	11,837	5,663,578
Ireland	4,278,388	-	4,278,388
Spain	4,152,045	-	4,152,045
France	3,532,009	-	3,532,009
New Zealand	3,415,301	-	3,415,301
Finland	2,805,836	-	2,805,836
Korea, Republic of	2,200,000	-	2,200,000
United Arab Emirates	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
Austria	1,323,604	-	1,323,604
Russian Federation	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Luxembourg	987,316	-	987,316
Poland	748,390	-	748,390
Italy ¹	745,732	-	745,732
Estonia	579,471	22,222	601,693
Iceland	500,000	-	500,000
Saudi Arabia	500,000	-	500,000
Turkey	500,000	-	500,000
Romania	303,399	-	303,399
Greece	220,751	-	220,751
China	30,000	50,000	80,000
Portugal	46,948	-	46,948
Monaco	33,076	-	33,076
Brazil	-	27,699	27,699
Malta	27,594	-	27,594
Latvia	23,894	-	23,894
Singapore	20,000	-	20,000
Malaysia	15,000	-	15,000
Kazakhstan	10,000	-	10,000
OTHERS			
City of The Hague	-	493,949	493,949
FAO	-	75,000	75,000
IMC Worldwide Limited	-	38,610	38,610
Institute of Development Studies	-	19,404	19,404
Mainichi Shimbun, Japan	3,637	-	3,637
The Rockefeller Foundation	-	500,000	500,000
UNICEF	-	250,000	250,000
UPS Foundation	75,000	-	75,000
TOTAL	267,253,382	9,844,358	277,097,740

¹Including the transfers from Italy's pre-positioned fund.

CERF CONTRIBUTIONS

2020 DONOR INCOME TO CERF (US\$)

DONOR	AMOUNT
Germany	125,326,699
Netherlands	98,788,057
Sweden	88,826,881
United Kingdom	87,376,696
Norway	56,910,952
Denmark	30,787,345
Belgium	24,282,561
Switzerland	24,038,748
Canada	22,528,736
Finland	15,460,252
Ireland	11,415,525
New Zealand	8,338,312
Australia	8,184,524
Korea, Republic of	5,823,817
Italy	5,500,550
Luxembourg	5,470,460
United Arab Emirates	5,000,000
Spain	3,409,091
Russian Federation	1,500,000
Austria	1,216,545
France	1,137,656
Kuwait	1,000,000
Qatar	1,000,000
Iceland	708,324
China	500,000
Turkey	450,000
Japan	263,636
Poland	254,453
Indonesia	220,000
Liechtenstein	200,200
Portugal	192,519
Saudi Arabia	150,000
Estonia	111,111
Monaco	111,111
Turkmenistan	100,000
South Africa	85,305
Morocco	50,000
Philippines	50,000
Singapore	50,000
Andorra	41,347
Slovenia	35,253
Bangladesh	20,000
Cambodia	20,000
Thailand	20,000
Cyprus	16,502
Iran, Islamic Republic of	10,000
Mongolia	10,000
Myanmar	10,000
Pakistan	10,000
Sri Lanka	10,000
Viet Nam	10,000
Armenia	5,000
Montenegro	3,282
Guyana	3,000
Peru	2,936
Bhutan	1,500
Subtotal	637,048,884
Regional and local authorities	1,902,543
Others	96,653
Subtotal	1,999,197
GRAND TOTAL	639,048,081

CBPFs CONTRIBUTIONS

COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUNDS: CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR AND FUND IN 2020 (US\$)											OCHA-managed Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office managed											
Recipient Donor ↓	Afghanistan	CAR ¹	DRC ²	Ethiopia	Iraq	Jordan	Lebanon	Myanmar	Nigeria	OPT ³	Pakistan	Somalia	South Sudan	Sudan	Syria Cross-border	Syria	Ukraine	Venezuela	Yemen	TOTAL		
Germany	5,038,556	11,340,949	13,067,142	19,244,116	9,496,688	3,348,023	6,829,323	1,645,687	12,289,431	13,821,818	3,438,718	16,149,152	16,442,218	12,619,020	44,493,846	2,805,135	4,479,147	-	26,470,588	223,019,555		
United Kingdom	29,010,900	7,426,800	4,025,700	15,151,515	4,675,902	2,484,472	-	1,930,502	-	-	5,663,135	4,644,600	8,962,450	37,386,680	33,638,848	12,670,227	-	2,403,204	12,755,102	182,830,037		
Netherlands	4,311,804	1,847,735	10,256,650	-	-	-	-	-	5,090,498	-	-	6,050,849	11,210,196	4,311,804	13,138,563	3,846,154	-	-	15,340,582	75,404,834		
Sweden	5,905,470	1,527,277	9,942,376	4,870,971	1,036,377	1,554,565	1,554,565	829,101	2,074,689	3,185,596	-	3,563,646	5,040,013	5,600,015	9,487,958	4,145,507	518,188	-	8,195,021	69,031,335		
Belgium	-	-	10,031,471	-	4,343,105	-	5,109,273	-	5,428,882	4,343,105	-	-	2,360,346	-	7,600,434	7,600,434	-	-	5,428,882	52,245,932		
Norway	1,613,062	-	1,076,724	1,038,929	-	-	-	-	2,890,467	946,253	-	4,718,937	6,438,317	2,105,048	8,348,693	7,507,068	790,990	-	5,215,264	42,689,752		
Canada	2,743,089	1,445,083	4,575,744	2,878,524	744,816	729,927	-	1,522,574	646,088	-	717,875	2,507,032	1,444,227	1,731,531	2,644,539	5,229,117	1,003,586	1,078,582	5,090,909	36,733,242		
Ireland	531,776	3,230,376	3,190,776	4,379,315	1,102,536	-	2,592,890	-	1,091,703	448,497	-	3,204,276	2,136,176	3,190,776	2,828,054	-	-	597,372	6,707,422	35,231,945		
Denmark	-	-	-	3,209,758	-	-	2,254,622	-	-	-	-	2,979,554	4,462,703	2,172,064	8,850,841	4,441,812	-	-	5,617,076	33,988,430		
Switzerland	2,099,900	1,911,854	-	1,595,735	1,062,699	-	1,003,009	1,605,825	2,129,687	3,134,028	-	2,052,510	1,049,316	2,157,064	3,155,948	2,125,399	-	489,130	2,585,315	28,157,419		
Australia	5,864,837	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,089,791	-	-	1,306,309	2,522,591	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,783,527		
France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,941,712	-	-	-	-	12,941,712		
Korea, Republic of	2,500,000	200,000	500,000	200,000	-	-	-	300,000	500,000	300,000	-	300,000	500,000	550,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	400,000	800,000	2,000,000	11,050,000		
United States	-	-	-	8,000,000	-	-	-	2,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000,000		
Italy	-	579,345	-	613,497	597,372	880,282	1,184,834	-	-	586,854	-	-	579,345	2,275,313	1,184,834	613,497	-	-	-	-	9,095,172	
Qatar	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	350,877	-	-	-	-	3,000,000	-	-	-	-	5,200,000		
European Commission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,301,500	-	-	-	1,100,110	-	-	4,401,610		
Luxembourg	414,333	414,333	414,333	-	414,692	-	-	414,692	414,692	414,333	-	-	414,333	-	414,692	414,692	-	-	4,145,483			
New Zealand	-	-	-	1,134,890	-	-	-	1,134,890	-	701,754	-	-	-	-	1,219,512	-	-	-	-	3,489,292		
Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	350,877	1,169,591	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,169,591		
Finland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	170,242	-	-	-	-	205,829	-	-	-	-	962,422		
Iceland	235,183	-	-	-	-	-	351,167	-	-	-	-	-	181,391	-	-	55,188	-	-	-	236,579		
Estonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	117,647		
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	-	-	117,647	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114,815		
Lithuania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114,815		
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,289	-	54,585	-	108,874		
Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000		
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	12,500	12,500	-	-	24,447	-	-	-	-	12,500	-	-	27,594	-	89,541		
Kazakhstan	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000		
Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,253		
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,113	-	33,113		
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000		
Philippines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000		
Jersey	-	373,014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	261,780	-	-	327,225	962,019		
Private Donations ³	3,091	3,333	20,814	9,156	9,648	98	312	39,452	6,898	3,461	9	23,135	17,899	2,913	180	23,974	254	-	212,888	377,513		
UN, NGOs and other entities ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000		
GRAND TOTAL (US\$)	60,322,001	30,300,096	57,101,728	62,326,407	23,483,834	10,009,867	22,010,143	16,512,514	33,113,910	28,835,647	9,819,737	47,499,999	66,302,284	72,587,650	154,624,443	55,228,848	9,429,941	5,426,768	96,761,324	861,697,139		

COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUNDS: CONTRIBUTIONS BY DONOR AND FUND IN 2020 (US\$)											OCHA-managed Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office managed	
Recipient Donor ↓	Afghanistan	CAR¹	DRC²	Ethiopia	Iraq	Jordan	Lebanon</					







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