In the first quarter of 2023, WHO issued more than **US$ 33 million** from the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE), enabling the Organization to respond to the earthquakes in the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye; multiple cholera outbreaks; the complex emergencies in northern Ethiopia and the Occupied Palestinian Territory; Marburg Virus Disease outbreaks in Equatorial Guinea and Tanzania; and cyclones in southeastern Africa.

So far in 2023, several donors have committed funding or have contributed to the CFE, including a first-time contribution from the Slovak Republic.

### New contributions in Q1 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>10.7M*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>950K*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovak Republic</td>
<td>109K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>107K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>40K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total US$</strong></td>
<td><strong>11.9M</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Commitments

### Fund balance

- **46.0M**
  - (11 April 2023 | US$)

### Emergencies in Q1 2023

- **Syrian Arab Republic & Türkiye earthquakes**: 16.6M
- **Cholera outbreaks (Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique + multi-regional)**: 7.5M
- **Northern Ethiopia emergency**: 5.0M
- **Marburg Virus Disease outbreaks (Equatorial Guinea, Tanzania)**: 2.2M
- **Cyclones (Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique)**: 1.9M
- **oPt complex emergency**: 500K
- **Total US$**: **33.7M**

### IN FOCUS: Equatorial Guinea and Tanzania

In response to the first-ever outbreak of Marburg Virus Disease in **Equatorial Guinea** (February) and **Tanzania** (March), US$ 2.2 million was released from the CFE to help national authorities mount a rapid emergency response to a **highly infectious disease**.

This enabled WHO to mobilize supplies and expertise in the affected countries, with a focus on testing; transporting samples; training health workers in surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing; and scaling up risk communication to amplify prevention messages and address misinformation—a vital step when communities are faced with an unknown disease.

For more information: [https://www.who.int/cfe](https://www.who.int/cfe)

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IN FOCUS: Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye

On 6 February 2023, a series of massive earthquakes struck southern Türkiye and northern Syria, followed by hundreds of aftershocks. In Türkiye, more than 4000 buildings collapsed and at least 15 hospitals suffered partial or heavy damage. In Syria, the disaster compounded 12 years of war, economic collapse, the COVID-19 pandemic and an ongoing cholera outbreak. In both countries, tens of thousands of lives were lost.

To support emergency health operations in both Syria and Türkiye, WHO released more than US$ 16 million from the CFE, including US$ 3 million within hours of the disaster.

In Syria, CFE funding enabled WHO to mount a rapid response in the most affected governorates of Aleppo, Hama, Latakia and Tartous. WHO deployed 32 mobile medical teams to affected communities to deliver essential health services. More than 600 000 people have received mental health and psychosocial support. Outbreak prevention, detection and control activities were scaled up, with WHO deploying 41 rapid response teams and providing training on case detection and reporting to nearly 200 health care workers. CFE funds were also used to deliver 107 metric tonnes of medicines and supplies.

In northwest Syria, under UN Security Council Resolution 2672 (2023), WHO distributed nearly 500 metric tons of medicines to more than 200 health facilities using CFE funds, enough for more than four million treatments and 10 500 trauma interventions. WHO has supported both front line health workers engaged in the response and those affected by the disaster with mental health services. WHO has also set up an inpatient cholera treatment center in Afrin district to ensure rapid access to cholera treatment and isolation for patients from affected areas.

In Türkiye, timely funding from the CFE enabled WHO to deploy surge staff to provide critical support to the Government in areas including emergency health operations, coordination, disease surveillance and mental health. WHO procured lab equipment and medicines, undertook health needs assessments in affected areas, and established an Emergency Medical Team Coordination Cell (EMTCC). Mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) have included providing care to staff of the Ministry of Family and Social Services and leading MHPSS stakeholder meetings.

Emergency health needs in both Syria and Türkiye continue to be significant. WHO’s flash appeal, launched shortly after the disaster and outlining priority health requirements, is only 30 per cent funded.