# World Health Organization Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE) Quarterly Update | October 2023



Children in Nigeria display their vaccination cards. CFE funding is supporting the response to the diphtheria outbreak in the country.

In the third quarter of 2023, WHO released **US\$9.5** million from the Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE) to provide health assistance to refugees from the conflict in Sudan; to respond to escalating emergency health needs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; to support government response efforts in tackling the diphtheria outbreaks in Nigeria and Guinea; and to provide life-saving medical care to flood victims in Libya.

Ten Member States and the WHO Foundation have committed or contributed US\$21 million to the CFE this year.



## New contributions & commitments through Q3 2023

Germany	10.7M*
Norway	4.7M
Ireland	2.1M
China	1.0M
New Zealand	946K
Canada	734K
Kuwait	500K
Slovak Republic	109K
Portugal	107K
WHO Foundation	55K
Philippines	40K
Total US\$	21.0M



# **Emergencies in Q3 2023**

Sudan crisis (regional response)	2.5M
DR Congo humanitarian crisis	2.5M
Libya floods	2.3M
Nigeria diphtheria outbreak	1.3M
Chad humanitarian crisis	500K
Guinea diphtheria outbreak	380K
Total US\$	9.5M



28.2<sub>M</sub>

Fund balance

(27 September 2023 | US\$)

### IN FOCUS: Nigeria



After an unusual increase in diphtheria cases across several Nigerian states in July-August 2023, US\$ 1.3 million was swiftly released from the CFE to boost the ongoing response to a highly contagious vaccine-preventable disease.

This has enabled WHO to strengthen critical operations in support of the government-led response, including surveillance; timely investigation of alerts; transportation of specimens to designated laboratories for testing; risk communication and community engagement using religious and traditional leaders' channels; and effective management of cases. WHO has also provided supplies of life-saving diphtheria antitoxin (DAT).

With the outbreak continuing in Nigeria and threatening neighboring countries, WHO urges the international community to immediately scale up support to stop the outbreak and save lives.

For more information: <a href="https://www.who.int/cfe">https://www.who.int/cfe</a> Follow us on Facebook and Twitter



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### IN FOCUS: Libya

On Sunday 10 September 2023, <u>Storm Daniel violently hit</u> the eastern coast of Libya, triggering possibly the worst flooding that the country has witnessed in the last century. The storm destroyed thousands of homes and public facilities, cutting off roads in 10 eastern coast towns – home to more than 1.5 million people. Two dams collapsed near the city of Derna, the worst affected area, wiping out entire residential neighbourhoods.

According to recent reports, some 4,000 people were killed and 9,000 remain missing. Severely damaged, or nonexistent, roads hamper access to people in need. Electricity cuts threaten continuity of care, and the health facilities that are still operating are overwhelmed – with a health system already compromised prior to this disaster.

To address the immediate health needs resulting from such severe flooding, in September 2023 WHO released US\$ 2.3 million from the CFE. These funds allowed WHO to kick-start a life-saving response to treat the injured, provide medical supplies, restore the functionality of health facilities, and prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

The Ministry of Health urgently requested items such as body bags, surgical kits, anesthetics, ICU equipment, and medicines to treat noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) – e.g. diabetes and hypertension. In response, WHO airlifted 34 metric tons of medical supplies from its logistics hub in Dubai. Other immediate actions included a rapid assessment of the health situation, and the deployment of emergency medical teams (EMTs) and mobile clinics to reach tens of thousands of people displaced by flooding.

Working closely with local health authorities and other partners, as of 3 October WHO had assessed 85% of public health facilities (201 out of 235); distributed inter-agency health kits and NCD kits to 15 health centres; deployed eight field officers to boost operations; and traced 22 TB patients, who received medicine to ensure continuity of life-saving treatment.

WHO continues to focus efforts on scaling up essential health assistance. The Organization encourages donors to make dedicated contributions against the <u>Libya Flash Appeal</u>, launched with UN OCHA and other humanitarian partners. Health is a priority and US\$ 18.3 million is needed to reach 250,000 people with vital care.