



WHO has delivered medical supplies and ensured continuity of health services with CFE funding in Gaza (January 2024)

In the last quarter of 2023, **US\$ 19 million** was released from the WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE) enabling WHO to respond to the conflict in Gaza; the refugee crisis in Armenia; the conflict in Sudan; the diphtheria outbreak in Niger; and the earthquake in Nepal.

In December, several donors made generous contributions to the CFE – Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland and the WHO Foundation. This brought total contributions to the CFE for the year to **US\$ 34 million**. The CFE enables an immediate response to crises, reduces the cost of controlling emergencies, mitigates human suffering, and saves lives. This is why donors see the CFE as a sound investment.

The CFE continues to rely on a select group of contributors, and while new donors have joined, it remains critical to bring others on board. We hope to see more – including new – contributors support the CFE in 2024.

2023: Year in review

In 2023, the CFE enabled WHO to respond to 22 emergencies impacting more than 30 countries and territories, including the global cholera response. CFE funding was used in six complex emergencies (US\$ 42 million), seven natural disasters (US\$ 22 million), and nine disease outbreaks (US\$ 15 million). Nearly US\$ 79 million was released from the CFE, while contributions amounted to US\$ 34 million in 2023 from 13 Member States and, for the first time, private sector contributions from the WHO Foundation.

US\$ 79 million
in total allocations

30 countries & territories
including the global
cholera response

22
emergencies

US\$ 34 million
in total contributions

13
Member State
contributors

Allocations

Emergency	Amount (US\$)
Türkiye / Syria earthquakes	16 606 151
occupied Palestinian territory conflict	15 457 538
Ethiopia complex emergency	13 000 000
Cholera outbreak (multi-country)	10 526 392
Sudan conflict	9 223 194
Dem. Rep. of the Congo humanitarian crisis	2 500 000
Libya flooding	2 300 000
Marburg virus outbreak (Equatorial Guinea, Tanzania)	2 252 000
Diphtheria outbreak (Guinea, Niger, Nigeria)	2 064 324
Cyclone Freddy (Malawi, Mozambique)	1 361 786
Armenia refugee response	1 033 175
Haiti humanitarian crisis	1 000 000
Nepal earthquake	550 000
Cyclone Cheneso (Madagascar)	535 000
Cyclone Mocha (Myanmar)	450 000
Morocco earthquake	51 450
Total US\$	78 911 010

Contributions

Contributor	Amount (US\$)
Germany	23 259 276
Norway	4 675 519
Ireland	2 145 923
China	1 000 000
New Zealand	945 763
Canada	733 676
France	701 187
Kuwait	500 000
Austria	164 294
Slovak Republic	108 932
Portugal	106 610
Switzerland	97 104
WHO Foundation	60 428
Philippines	40 000
Total US\$	34 538 712

2023: CFE impact



In 2023, WHO demonstrated the operational and technical capacities it has built in emergency response over time, responding to a broad range of crises – from conflicts and complex humanitarian crises, to natural disasters and disease outbreaks. Thanks to generous donor support, the CFE enabled WHO to deliver as a front-line responder and an essential humanitarian partner.

Complex and protracted crises

In 2023, CFE funding allowed WHO to respond to six complex and protracted crises. In [Sudan](#), CFE funds supported the emergency and surgical capacity of major hospitals in the country and were also used for health assistance to refugees fleeing the conflict into Chad. In the [occupied Palestinian territory](#), the CFE has been critical not only for the immediate replenishment of medical supplies but also for ensuring the continuity of health care services and the ability to respond effectively to the ongoing crisis. In 2023, the Fund also enabled WHO to scale up support in Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and northern Ethiopia. In total, US\$ 42 million was released from the CFE to support the WHO health response in complex emergencies in 2023.

An increasing share of CFE funding is going to WHO's humanitarian health response in complex emergencies. Over the last three years, WHO has allocated more from the CFE to complex emergencies than disease outbreaks and natural disasters combined – demonstrating WHO's role above and beyond responding to disease outbreaks alone.



Natural disasters

In February, when [multiple earthquakes struck Syria and Türkiye](#), CFE funding got medical supplies and mobile clinics to affected communities, enabling WHO and partners to deliver essential health care, including mental health support. Following catastrophic flooding in [Libya](#) in September, the Fund provided WHO with immediate resources to treat the injured, deliver medical supplies, restore health facilities, and prevent the spread of diseases. The CFE also proved pivotal in meeting the health needs of those impacted by cyclones in Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar and Mozambique, and earthquakes in Morocco and Nepal. In all, nearly US\$ 22 million was released from the CFE for seven natural disasters in 2023 to provide life-saving health assistance to affected people.



Disease outbreaks

Resources from the CFE enabled WHO to provide quick technical assistance to the governments of [Tanzania](#) and [Equatorial Guinea](#) to stop separate outbreaks of Marburg Virus Disease. With the global surge of [cholera](#) continuing in 2023, early and fast CFE funding enabled WHO to provide immediate support to the Government of Malawi, helping [contain the cholera outbreak](#) in the country. WHO also used CFE resources to assist the ministries of health in Guinea, Niger and [Nigeria](#) in strengthening key control measures in response to diphtheria outbreaks. Nearly US\$ 15 million was allocated from the CFE to help governments respond to disease outbreaks in 2023.



Beyond the CFE, WHO responds to a broad range of threats and emergencies, reaching 65 in 2023 alone. In January of this year, WHO launched [an appeal for US\\$ 1.5 billion](#) to protect the health of people in 41 emergencies around the globe in 2024. The appeal covers the emergencies that demand the highest level of response from WHO, with the aim to reach 87 million people. With the support of donors, WHO will meet critical health needs of the most vulnerable and help communities emerge from crises with a greater ability to tackle future health threats.