



CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND
Guidance Note: First Underfunded Round of 2009, 17 December 2008

Planning Figures:

- At the CERF high level conference on 4 December, donors made commitments to the CERF totalling US\$ 380 million at current exchange rates. This figure may change as currencies may fluctuate between now and when the pledges are paid.
- Based on the uncertainty about the actual amount of funds that will be available for 2009, the projected size of the underfunded window for 2009 is US\$ 120 million.

Allocation Schedule:

- January-February round (~60%): US\$ 70 million
 - The CERF Secretariat proposes less frontloading of the underfunded window in 2009, due to the uncertainty about the amount of funding due to currency fluctuations.
- July-August round (~40%): US\$ 50 million

Country Selection:

- Many protracted crises and countries affected by the food crisis have already received large allocations from the rapid response window this year. Therefore, if possible, particular attention should be paid to countries that did not receive significant CERF funds late in 2008, bearing in mind that allocations should be based on need.
- It is recommended that countries be selected only for one round of funding from the underfunded window, unless exceptionally justified.
- It is currently foreseen to select a total of 10 to 12 countries (CAP and non-CAP) for the first round.

For non-CAP countries:

- The CERF Secretariat has found joint recommendations – a single shortlist developed by all agencies and submitted for consideration by the ERC – to be the most useful.
- Recommendations should follow the Non-CAP Recommendations Form.

Proposed timeline for the Seventh UFE round:

25 November	<u>Interagency (IA) meeting</u>
12 December	<u>Teleconference -Agency Focal Points:</u> on non-CAP recommendations lead agency, criteria and procedures, surge capacity
17 December	<u>IA meeting:</u> Guidance Note finalized.
8 January	<u>IA participants:</u> Deadline to recommend a consolidated list of non-CAP countries for funding (along with necessary background information)
16 January:	<u>Teleconference: Agency Focal Points</u> (9.30 NYC time), brief on the initial short-list of countries
21 January	<u>CERF Secretariat to send to the IA:</u> List of recommended countries as well as 2008 FTS funding analysis of CAP and other countries
22 January	<u>IA meeting:</u> discuss list of recommended countries (CAP and non-CAP), financial analysis and possible surge missions
30 January	<u>CERF Secretariat to send to the IA:</u> Proposed apportionment of selected countries to be sent to the IA
3 February	<u>IA meeting:</u> discuss apportionment and surge
6 February	<u>ERC announces the allocation</u>
9 – 27 February	Surge/training missions
9 March	Deadline for submission of packages by HC/RCs to the ERC (for CAP countries)
16 March	Deadline for submission of packages by HC/RCs to the ERC (for non-CAP countries)

Key documents available:

- *CERF Procedures for Grant Allocations to Under-Funded Emergencies:* constitutes the policy basis for appropriate and timely allocations of funding to under-funded crises.