



AT A GLANCE

The Humanitarian Thematic Fund

Investing in UNFPA's Humanitarian Thematic Fund ensures guaranteed, life-saving support for women and girls in crisis settings.

This dedicated emergency financing mechanism provides rapid, flexible, and high-quality funding to sustain sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence response services when and where they are needed most. It enables UNFPA's humanitarian operations to respond swiftly to urgent needs and to close critical gaps in underfunded and neglected crises. Contributions to the HTF improve cost-efficiency by reducing transaction costs, while its flexible, pooled funding strengthens UNFPA's preparedness and enables faster, more effective responses in emergencies and underfunded crises.



Rukia Yaroow Ali, 38, was displaced with her nine children by the worst drought that Somalia – and the whole of the Horn of Africa – has seen in 40 years. Here she holds her youngest child outside their shelter at Hagadera refugee camp in Daadab, Garissa county, Kenya. © UNFPA/Luis Tato

The challenge

Every day, 712 women die from preventable pregnancy and childbirth complications, a toll that escalates in crisis settings caused by conflict or natural disasters. An estimated 64 per cent of preventable maternal deaths, and 45 per cent of neonatal deaths occur in fragile settings marked by conflict, displacement and disasters. The risk of gender-based violence also surges, with 92 million people projected to need treatment for and protection from gender-based violence in 2025. Despite these soaring needs, fewer than half of humanitarian response plans prioritize these services.

Key issues

- In 2024, conflicts, climate-driven disasters and other crises have **displaced a record 122.6 million people** – half of them women and girls.
- In 2025, an estimated **92 million people** in crisis-affected areas will require protection from gender based violence.
- In 2025, **11 million pregnant women are expected to require humanitarian aid.**

The solution

The Humanitarian Thematic Fund is designed to overcome these challenges. Once a country office requests support for a crisis, funds can be allocated within 24 to 72 hours. The flexible funding model ensures that resources are granted dynamically throughout the year, adapting to shifting needs. The HTF also streamlines reporting, easing the administrative burden on donors while maintaining accountability through a consolidated annual report. With a lower indirect cost rate of 7 per cent, the HTF maximizes the impact of every dollar invested, and is supported by a robust quality assurance system that ensures every intervention is efficiently designed, technically sound, and effectively monitored.

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Results



In 2024, the HTF allocated more than US\$46 million, **enabling life-saving interventions across 37 countries.**



On average the HTF reaches **1 million people** with sexual and reproductive health services annually.



On average the HTF annually reaches **500,000 people with gender-based violence prevention, risk mitigation, and response.**



Every contribution to the Humanitarian Thematic Fund directly addressed the urgent needs of women and girls.



On average **over 80 per cent** of HTF funds disbursed to partners are channelled to local and national organizations, strengthening community-led responses.



WHY INVEST

Investing in the Humanitarian Thematic Fund is a direct commitment to protecting the lives, health, and rights of women and girls caught in crises. Fully dedicated to meeting their urgent needs, the HTF delivers fast, flexible support to ensure that essential services reach them where they are – before it's too late.



www.unfpa.org/humanitarian-thematic-fund