

CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

Annual Report October 2018 – October 2019



Save the Children



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Predictable funding saves lives

Whether it is to replace the washing machine the same day it broke down, a health scare that needs urgent attention or provide an income for when we lose our job, setting aside cash for when a crisis hits comes naturally to us. Saving accounts, 3rd pillar funds, additional health insurance, we do it all the time, we tell our children it is a good common-sense practice and warily look down on friends and family who do not share our wisdom.

That is why at Save the Children Switzerland, we apply the same logic when it comes to preparing for crises and disasters affecting children worldwide. As is the case for our private lives, pre-positioning funding for when disaster strikes, works. Therefore, in October 2018, together with C&A Foundation we launched the **Children's Emergency Fund (CEF)**. The CEF is Save the Children Switzerland's emergency response fund, which exists before a disaster happens and is ready to be used immediately after it strikes.

In an emergency, time is crucial. Whether it is an earthquake, floods, a typhoon or people displacement due to armed conflict, the earlier we respond, the more lives we save. As houses, schools, factories, hospitals and shops are destroyed or left behind, people typically have limited resources and coping capacity to respond to such emergencies themselves. Depending on where they are, they quickly need shelter, food, medical support and access to other basic services. Unfortunately, when not provided with basic services, many of the children and their caretakers are at risk of dying within the first few days. Thanks to the pre-positioned funds kept in the CEF, we are able to initiate humanitarian responses within the first **48 hours of a crisis**. This immediately saves lives and alleviates suffering.

I am proud to present the first CEF Annual Report, which covers the period between October 2018 to October 2019. Within the first year of the CEF, we have responded to **15 emergencies in 11 countries** reaching hundreds of thousands of people with life-saving aid, allocating over 1.7 million Swiss francs. This would not be possible without the trust and support of our partners. **Thank you!**

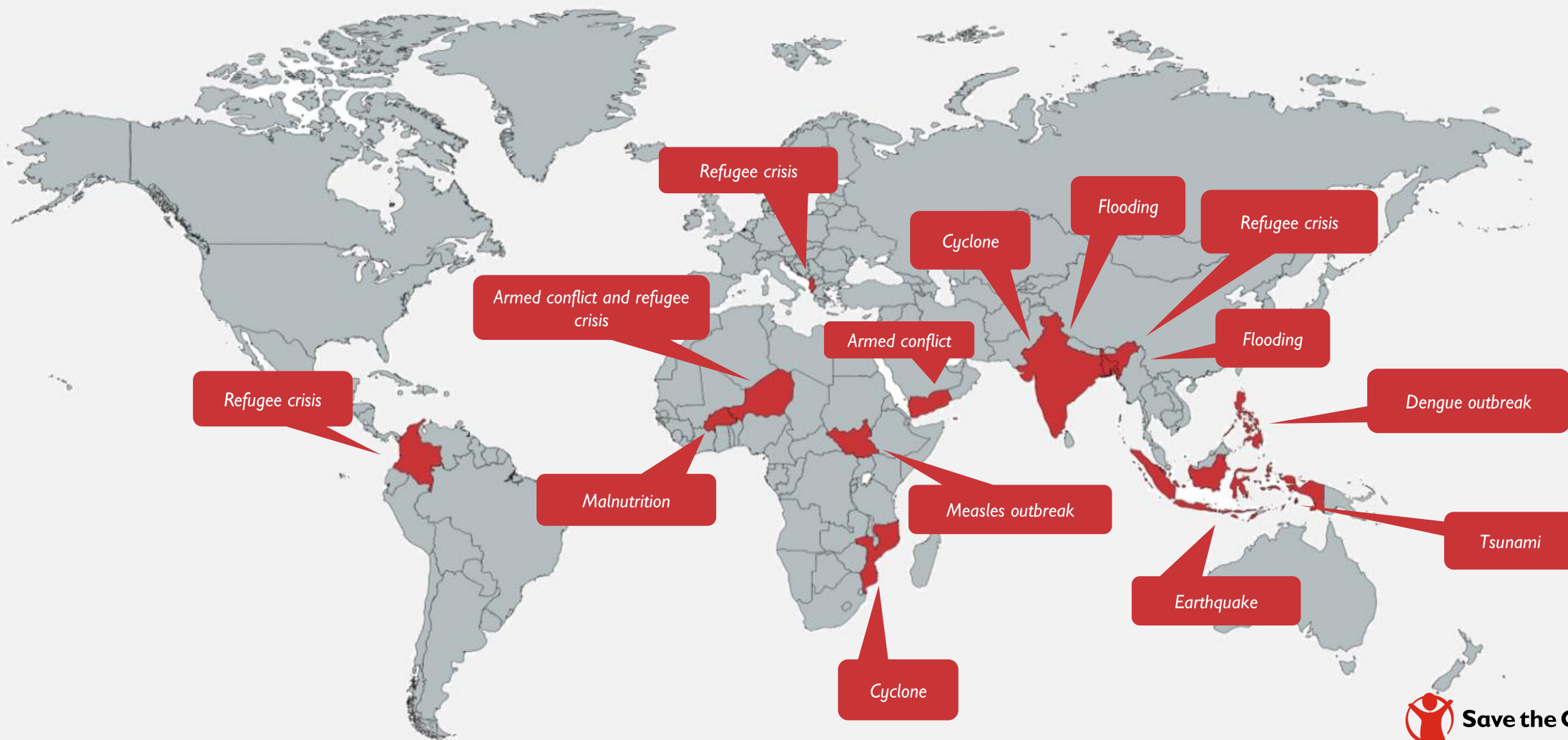


Alex Brans

Global Program Director, Save the Children Switzerland

Geography of CEF

Save the Children is uniquely suited to provide immediate humanitarian relief all over the world. As we are active in more than 120 countries, we do not need to set up whole infrastructure anew, in turn saving crucial time and money. This global presence is harnessed by the Save the Children Switzerland's CEF responses. The map below displays all CEF responses between October 2018 to October 2019. Within this period, Save the Children Switzerland has responded to 15 crises in 11 countries.



Country	Type of emergency	Category	Affected population	Target population*	Beneficiaries reached since the start of response*	CEF response	CEF allocation
Bangladesh	Rohingya refugee crisis	1	1'472'000	300'000	779'747	Monsoon preparation	CHF 26'520
Burkina Faso	Malnutrition crisis	n/a	-	-	-	Nutrition emergency program	CHF 250'000
Colombia	Venezuela refugee crisis	3	935'600	258'300	123'378	Education in emergency	CHF 50'048
Indonesia / Sulawesi	Earthquake and tsunami	2	537'000	250'000	214'324	Disaster relief	CHF 71'650
Indonesia / Sunda Strait	Tsunami	4	26'990	9'203	15'416	Disaster relief	CHF 100'450
South Sudan / Abyei region	Epidemic: measles outbreak	4	73'400	-	-	Reactive vaccination	CHF 19'910
Yemen	Armed conflict	1	24'000'000	2'657'712	7'154'024	Emergency food assistance	CHF 342'704
Mozambique	Cyclones Idai & Kenneth	1	2'013'000	210'000	356'288	Disaster relief	CHF 137'608
India / Odisha	Cyclone Fani	3	10'700'000	141'000	6'031	Disaster relief	CHF 150'000
India / Assam & Bihar	Flooding	4	12'900'000	40'000	360	Disaster relief	CHF 150'000
Bangladesh	Flooding	4	4'762'900	40'000	2'588	Disaster relief	CHF 149'328
Albania	Refugee crisis	4	-	-	-	Child protection	CHF 49'776
Philippines	Epidemic: dengue outbreak	4	208'900	25'000	-	Disease outbreak response	CHF 19'910
India / Patna City	Flooding	4	2'000'000	-	-	Disaster relief	CHF 200'000
Niger / Maradi	Refugee crisis & armed conflict	4	80'000	16'000	3'016	Complex humanitarian response	CHF 60'000
Total	-	-	59'709'790	3'947'215	8'655'172	-	CHF 1'777'904

*Refers to the Save the Children's global response (data as of 5 Nov. 2019)

Categorization

Categorization is the process by which Save the Children defines the humanitarian impact of a particular crisis and determines the overall level of organizational response that needs to be launched.

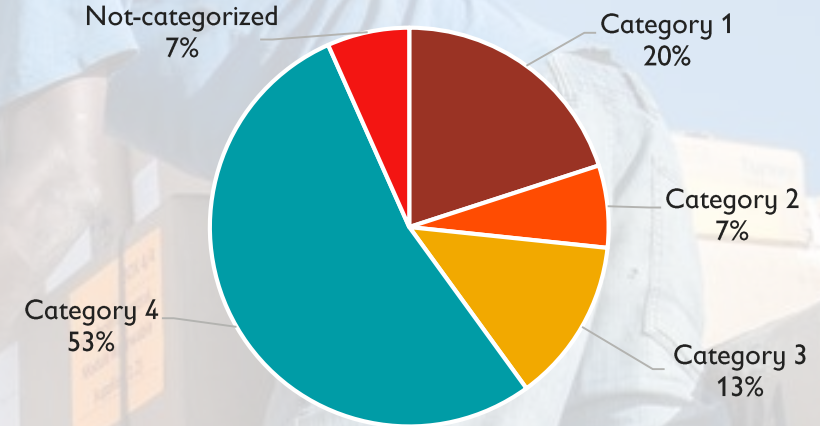
Emergencies are divided into four types of crises: extraordinary (Cat 1), large (Cat 2), medium (Cat 3) and small (Cat 4). By categorizing a crisis, factors such as a scale of the crisis (e.g. size of affected population), impact on basic services (e.g. access to drinking water) or local government capacity to respond, are taken into consideration. Categorization takes no more than 48 hours and the given category of a particular crisis can be escalated or de-escalated as the situation on the ground changes.

Crises categorized as Cat 1 or 2 require humanitarian responses and financial support of a substantial size while at the same time they are usually extensively covered by the media, which often helps attract additional and much needed funding. On the other hand, crises of lesser magnitude – the Cat 3s and especially Cat 4s – struggle to attract attention of donors and often remain significantly underfunded.

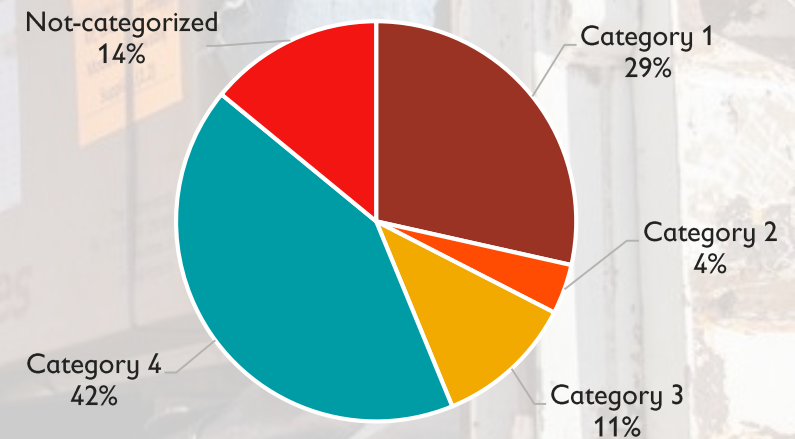
The pre-positioned funding of the CEF allows us to focus on those often ‘forgotten’ crises. In the first year of the fund, over 60% of all CEF responses were crises categorized as Cat 3 and 4.

Furthermore, responding to smaller emergencies often does not require high financial investments, as for example the response to the refugee crisis in Albania illustrated. It also means that the impact of a single intervention is potentially high.

CEF responses per category



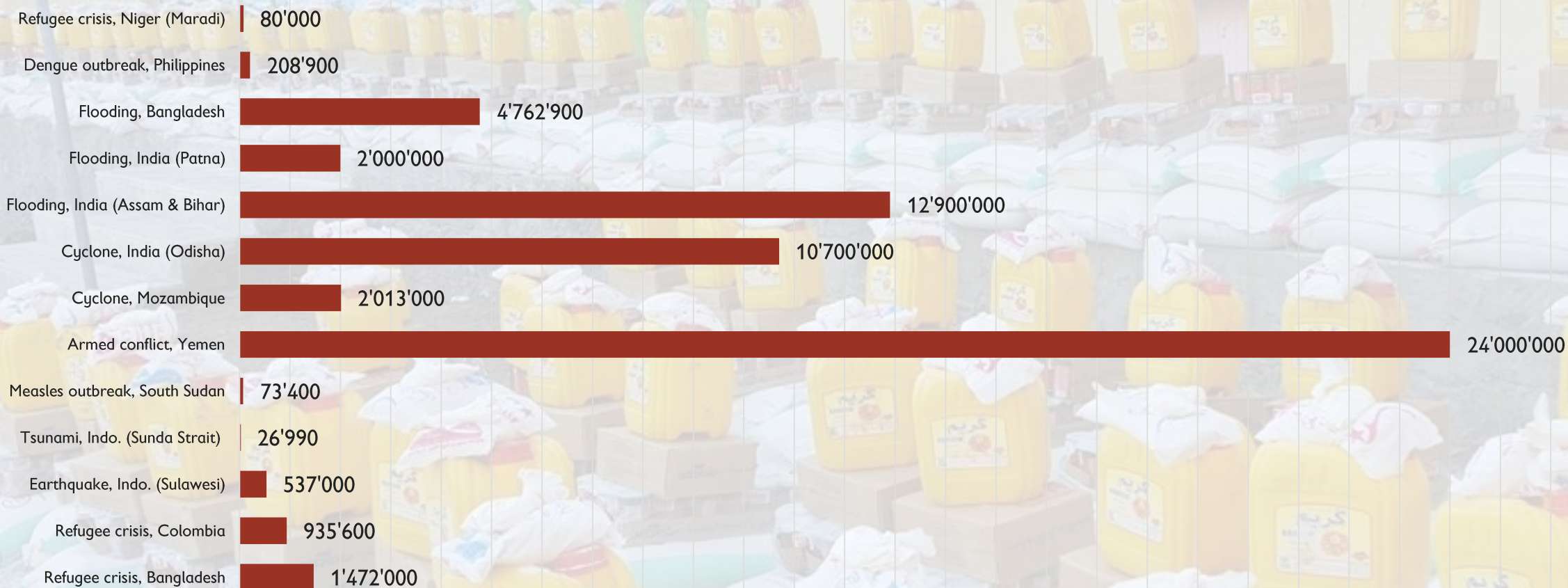
CEF funds allocated per category



Affected population

The graph below presents the estimated numbers of affected population per crisis. The scale of humanitarian catastrophe of Yemen, where two thirds of the country's population are in need of humanitarian assistance, dwarfs all other emergencies. However, the data should not be misinterpreted, as even the smaller-scale crises take a significant toll on local populations. Moreover, it is important to note, that the CEF responses usually do not address the entire population affected by a particular crisis, but rather focus on a certain target group (e.g. malnourished children), geographic area (e.g. Taiz governorate in Yemen), and/or specific activity, like chartering a plane with humanitarian supplies for the earthquake-stricken Sulawesi island in Indonesia.

Affected population





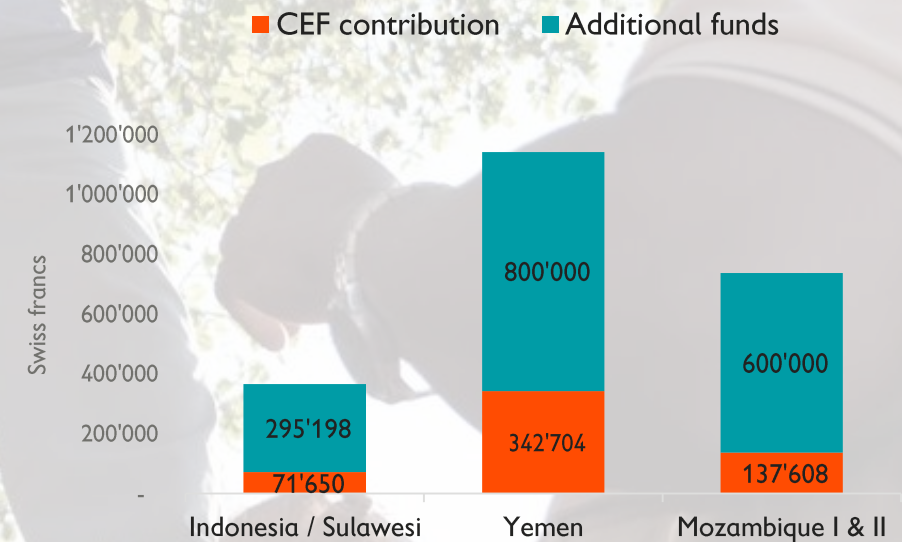
Leverage

One of the key features of the CEF is its ability to generate more funding for a particular response. Before committing their support, many institutional donors require either an initial investment from the implementing organisation or so-called financial match.

Because the CEF is usually one of the first financial investments to fund a humanitarian response, Save the Children has been able to build on this evidence base to illustrate our commitment and ability to respond to such crises, which in turn allows us to gain additional funds from other donors.

During the inception year of the CEF, we were able to raise an additional amount of almost CHF 1.7 million for our humanitarian responses to the natural disasters in Indonesia and Mozambique, as well as to the war in Yemen.

These large-scale crises are humanitarian catastrophes of substantial magnitude and demand significant funding. Hence, the ability of the CEF to leverage more support is key. Additionally, because Save the Children is able to raise additional funding for the huge crises such as war in Yemen, we can keep more funds for smaller crises, which may not attract similar attention by donors.





CEF Responses

October 2018 – October 2019



Bangladesh / Cox's Bazar

October 2018

- Rohingya refugee crisis
- Category 1
- CEF response: Monsoon preparation
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 26'520

Since August 2017, hundreds of thousands Rohingya refugees have crossed into Bangladesh fleeing large-scale violence and human rights abuses in Northern Rakhine state in Myanmar. Refugees have settled in the area of Cox's Bazar in spontaneous settlements and makeshift camps. The main camp, Kutapalong, is the largest refugee settlement in the world.

The cyclone-monsoon season, which in Bangladesh usually starts in April and ends in November, posed various risks to the Rohingya community in Cox's Bazar. Before the start of the monsoon season, we had estimated that over 100'000 people could be directly affected by the landslides and floodings, and thousands should be relocated to safer areas. Settlements located on the hills were at risk of being destroyed by the landslides, whereas those in low-lying areas were prone to be flooded. Heavy rains and cyclone winds were expected to cause widespread damage to already fragile infrastructure of the camps.

The risk of the diseases outbreaks, like cholera or malaria, was also much higher during the monsoon season. The situation was exacerbated by inadequate sanitation, limited access to drinkable water and generally poor hygiene conditions in the camps.

During and immediately before the cyclone-monsoon season, Save the Children's global response focused on improving critical infrastructure and preparing shelters and other facilities for the heavy storms. Save the Children has built additional wells and latrines, retrofit drains and bridges, and provided families with extra tarps, ropes, bamboo and wires to improve their shelters. In October 2018, Save the Children Switzerland decided to support these efforts, with the CEF contribution.

The monsoon preparation was the first CEF response. It helped us to set up the fund and test its various elements, like accounting and reporting. Beyond the CEF contributions, Save the Children Switzerland has also been actively supporting Rohingya refugees since the start of the crisis in 2017. However, those projects were not supported through the CEF.



Burkina Faso / Séno province

October 2018

- Malnutrition crisis
- Category: not categorized
- CEF response: Nutrition emergency program
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 250'000

The poor harvest season of 2017-2018, which was linked mostly to a drought, resulted in serious food shortages in Burkina Faso. The situation was worsened by the armed conflict, which in turn led to an increase in malnutrition, especially among the most vulnerable – children and women.

The Séno province is one of the most affected regions with an alarming rate of acute malnutrition, which exceeded the alert thresholds of the WHO standards. To combat malnutrition, the government has put a national strategy in place to address this, but the program has faced many challenges. The main problems were: 1) High costs of transportation to health centres, which dissuaded parents from bringing their children to the centres; 2) Lack of support to mothers and other caretakers during the malnutrition treatment of the child in the health centre (hospitals and health centres do not provide parents with any food, although treatments can take up to 8 days and the parents may not have any additional resources to feed themselves); 3) Critical gaps in the health workers' trainings.

In October 2018, Save the Children Switzerland initiated a nutrition emergency program via the CEF mechanism. The project did not provide

medical care (already ensured by the government and other organisations), but instead focused on filling the gaps in the ongoing interventions. During the CEF response, we provided one meal per day to the parents (mostly mothers) of malnourished children admitted to the health centre, distributed cash vouchers to cover transportation costs, and trained the community health workers. Additionally, to boost prevention of malnutrition, we organized trainings for young women in breastfeeding practices, complementary feeding, water hygiene and practical skills in food preparation (e.g. education about available products rich in iron and vitamin A).

In total, we have reached 3'000 children under five years of age, 1'120 parents with food and cash support, over 180 health workers and 9'000 young women through different trainings.



Indonesia / Sulawesi island

October 2018

- Earthquake and tsunami
- Category: 2
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 71'650
- Additionally raised: CHF 295'198

On 28 September 2018, an earthquake struck Palu City, a provincial capital of the Sulawesi island, causing significant damage and triggering a 6-meter high tsunami. Following the main earthquake hundreds aftershocks were reported, further destabilizing situation. The scale of the crisis was significant with more than 4'000 people killed and over 10'000 injured. In total, more than half a million people were affected.

The CEF response was activated almost immediately after receiving early reports from Indonesia. Allocated funds were used to cover the costs of the first plane of the Save the Children's global response and the truck that shipped much needed humanitarian aid to the affected area. The plane (pictured on the next page) landed in Sulawesi on 4 October 2018, just few days after the main earthquake hit the island.

Additional funds received via a Swiss Solidarity (or *Glückskette*) grant, were also used to set up Child Friendly Spaces in the Palu area. Child Friendly Spaces are one of Save the Children's key interventions to protect children from physical harm and psychological distress, both during and immediately after an emergency.

In essence, Child Friendly Spaces are safe areas – it could be a tent or an open ground under the shade of trees – where children can play and learn and receive psychological support in a protected environment. The added value of the Child Friendly Spaces is that parents also have time to collect food and water, rebuild homes or seek employment, while their children spend a day in the safe environment.



TRI-

PALU WITH LOVE



Reunited
Carstens Pyramid

GW



Colombia / La Guajira and Arauca

November 2018

- Venezuela refugee crisis
- Category: 3 (as of Nov 2018, later upgraded to cat. 2)
- CEF response: Education in emergency
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 50'048

The deteriorating situation in Venezuela has contributed to extreme hyperinflation, the collapse of the national health care system, and critical food and medical supply shortages. This has triggered large-scale population displacement as Venezuelans flee to neighbouring countries in search of food, health care, employment opportunities, and other basic services. In June 2019, the number of Venezuelans fleeing their country has reached 4 million.

Colombia remains the country most affected by the exodus of Venezuelans, hosting more than 1.4 million Venezuelans. The real number however is likely higher due to the prolific use of informal border crossings. Most Venezuelan families that have fled to Colombia live in deteriorating conditions. Many sleep in streets, abandoned buildings or in unsanitary informal camps. Our recent assessment found that families had little or no access to health care, water and sanitation, and limited food. Many children were malnourished or ill.

Moreover, it is estimated that half of Venezuelan children in Colombia are not enrolled in school. This is especially detrimental, because the longer children are out of school, the more likely it is that they will not return, and in turn more likely that they will experience poverty, violence, and exploitation within their lifetime. (Some reports already show, that armed

groups are forcefully recruiting children along the Colombian-Venezuelan border).

As such we prioritize education in our response by providing quality education through temporary learning centres, catch-up classes and Child Friendly Spaces. We also organize additional trainings for teachers and provide teaching material, and improve the schools' infrastructure by conducting necessary construction and maintenance work.



Indonesia / Sunda Strait

December 2018

- Tsunami
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 100'450

On late Saturday evening, 22 December 2018, a tsunami struck the areas along Indonesia's Sunda Strait, killing over 400 people and injuring 14'000.

Save the Children Switzerland responded immediately, allocating over CHF 100'000 from the CEF. The funds were used to ensure clean water supply and to build temporary sanitation facilities. Additionally, so-called Non-Food Items such as tarpaulins, tents, jerry cans, blankets and hygiene kits were distributed and Child Friendly Spaces were established (see page on the Sulawesi response for more information about Child Friendly Spaces).



South Sudan / Abyei Area

January 2019

- Epidemic: Measles outbreak
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Reactive vaccination
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 19'910

In January, an epidemic of measles broke out in the Abyei region of this war-torn country, affecting over 80'000 people and threatened to spread further.

With CEF allocation we supported a large-scale vaccination campaign as a response effort to control the outbreak. During the intervention, 33 vaccination teams were deployed reaching over 13'000 children between 6-59 months old. By the end of March 2019, there was a 78% drop in new infections.



Yemen / Taiz governorate

March 2019

- Armed conflict
- Category: 1
- CEF response: Emergency food assistance
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 342'704
- Additionally raised: CHF 800'000

The humanitarian situation in Yemen is one of the worst in the world. The ongoing conflict, collapsed economy and crippled social services put 24 million people in the need of humanitarian assistance. Reports from last year estimated that already 85,000 children under five have died from the extreme hunger or disease.

Armed conflict remains the major driver of food insecurity in Yemen. Since its escalation in 2015, food security across Yemen has deteriorated at an alarming rate as livelihoods are destroyed, income opportunities are limited, and household purchasing power has been drastically reduced. Save the Children Switzerland decided to intervene in Alma'afer district in the Taiz Governorate, providing unconditional cash transfers to the local population.

The district had been selected because of its significant food insecurity. It is estimated that over 40% of the district's population is in need of emergency food assistance. There is high prevalence of acute malnutrition and only few other organisations are active in the Taiz governorate. The main aim of the response is to improve access to food for 1'272 vulnerable households.

Unconditional provision of cash has been selected instead of, for example, direct food distribution, because of its cost effectiveness and providing full responsibility to beneficiaries to choose based on their needs, but also because the food markets in the target areas still function and are relatively well-stocked. However, in case the local food market collapses, Save the Children is ready to distribute food directly instead of cash transfers (Save the Children has been distributing food in other regions in Yemen already. The picture above presents a food collection point in the Hodeidah Governorate).

Save the Children Switzerland has allocated to the Yemen response almost CHF 350'000 from the CEF and additional CHF 800'000 raised as the CEF leverage.



Mozambique / Provinces of Manica and Cabo Delgado

March 2019

- Cyclones Idai & Kenneth
- Category: 1
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 137'608
- Additionally raised: CHF 600'000

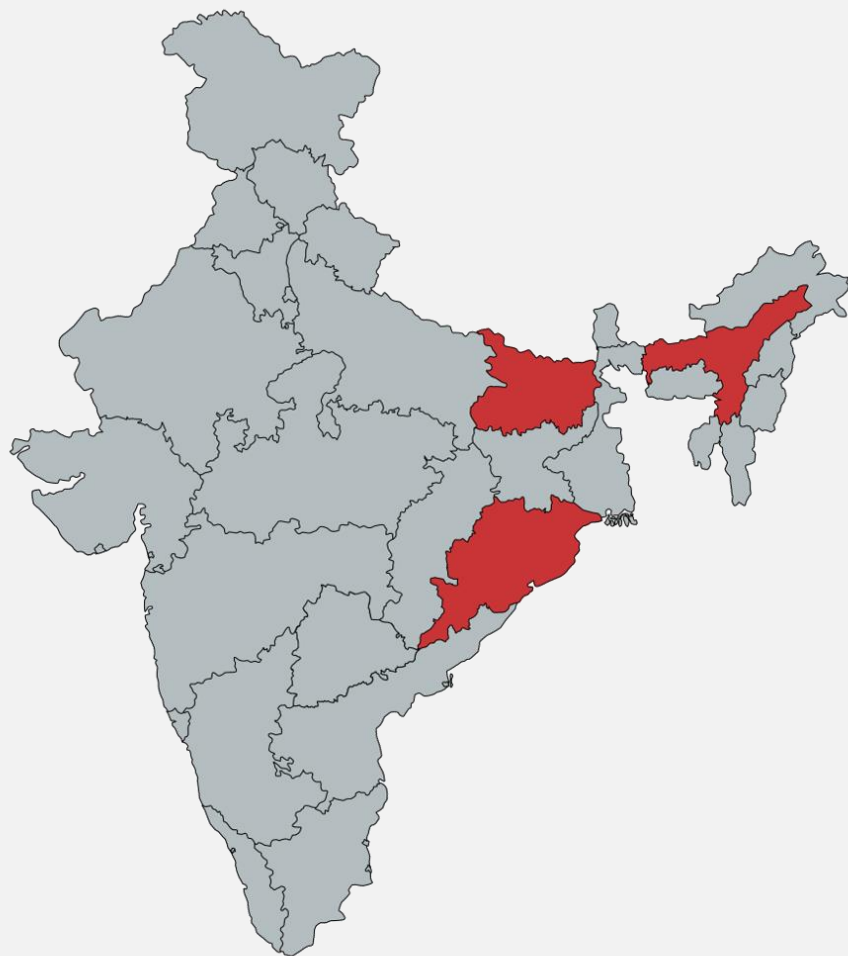
On 14 March 2019, tropical cyclone Idai made landfall, striking Mozambique's coast and causing enormous damage. Over 2 million people have been affected by the cyclone. The official death toll stands at 603 people, with 1,642 injured, and nearly 240,000 houses damaged. About a month later, Mozambique has been struck again, this time by cyclone Kenneth that devastated the southern part of the country.

The picture above was drawn by ten-year-old Faizal, who took part in an activity at a Child Friendly Space set up by Save the Children in a temporary camp in Mozambique. Faizal and other children drew their homes before and after cyclone Idai hit their communities. The activity was part of the recovery process from the trauma caused by the cyclone.

Recognizing how urgent the need of proper shelter and housing is, Save the Children Switzerland decided to use the CEF and additionally raised funds to provide early recovery and shelter assistance to the affected families in the Manica province.

The province was heavily impacted by the cyclone and the subsequent flooding, with reported 17,660 houses totally destroyed and another 9,274 houses partially destroyed.

The CEF response aimed to help approx. 220 families to recover from the impact of the cyclone and rebuild their homes. The funds contributed to the construction of semi-permanent safe shelters for the most vulnerable families.



Map of India

India / Patna City

October 2019

- Flooding
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 200'000

India / Assam & Bihar

July 2019

- Flooding
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 150'000

India / Odisha

May 2019

- Cyclone Fani
- Category: 3
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 150'000



Bangladesh / North & North-Eastern region

July 2019

- Flooding
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Disaster relief
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 149'328

In July 2019, heavy monsoon rains caused severe flooding in low lying areas of the North and North-Eastern region of Bangladesh, affecting 4,7 million people. Road transportation routes in different parts of the country have collapsed and in many cases the crops left on the fields were damaged too.

Save the Children's humanitarian response has focused on the most affected areas of Moulvibazar, Sylhet, Sirajgonj and Kurigram districts. WASH (water – sanitation – hygiene) intervention and food security assistance were prioritized. Hygiene kits, containing basic materials like soaps, sanitary napkins or water purification tablets, were distributed among the affected families. Additionally, 800 of most vulnerable households have received unconditional cash support.



Albania / Gjirokaštër municipality

July 2019

- Refugee crisis
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Child protection
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 49'776

Albania has been receiving migrants passing through the north west Balkans migration route since 2015. The beginning of 2019 showed a rapid increase in the numbers of people who were entering or passing through the country, causing transitory reception centres to pass their maximum capacity.

The current reception capacity has so far been sufficient to accommodate the previous influx, but needed to be upgraded to absorb the increase of arrivals of asylum seekers. With the CEF response, we aimed to create appropriate physical space for children and their caregivers (especially women) to feel safe and comfortable during their time at the transitory centres in Gerhot.

Gerhot is a suburban area in the north of the city of Gjirokaštër, near the southern border with Greece. Similar to the other western Balkans countries, Albania is perceived as a transit country. It is part of the

migration corridor which goes from Greece, through Albania, Montenegro, reaching Bosnia and Herzegovina from where refugees and migrants try to cross the border to Croatia and continue their journey towards western European countries.

The CEF funds were used for setting up Child Friendly Space at the centre and also for development and distribution of informative materials on asylum procedure and migrant and refugee rights in both English and Arabic versions.

Philippines / Northern Mindanao

September 2019

- Epidemic: Dengue outbreak
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Disease outbreak response
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 19'910

In August, the Philippines' Ministry of Health declared a national dengue epidemic. As of October, dengue has claimed over 1'300 lives, including 527 children.

The CEF contributed to Save the Children's response in the northern Mindanao, which has one of the highest number of morbidity and mortality cases. The funds were used to support local authorities in vector control management by providing, among others, misting machines that are used to kill dengue mosquitoes.

Dengue is a mosquito-borne disease caused by the dengue virus. The infection causes a severe flu-like illness that often develops into a lethal complication. The disease is endemic across Asia and Latin America, being a leading cause of hospitalization and death in these regions.

Niger / Maradi region

October 2019

- Refugee crisis and armed conflict
- Category: 4
- CEF response: Complex humanitarian response
- CEF allocated funds: CHF 60'000

The sudden increase in violence in northern Nigeria has led to a new emergency in the Maradi region of Niger. Thousands of people, majority of whom are children and women, have crossed the border fleeing extreme violence.

The growing number of refugees has put enormous pressure on host communities, already facing a lack of basic resources and services. Given the limited capacity of these communities, refugees remain dependent on humanitarian assistance, particularly in terms of food and shelter.

Save the Children's response is focusing especially on child protection and protection against sexual and gender based violence. The CEF funds support distribution of dignity kits for girls and women (which include among other things, sanitary napkins) and warm clothes for children. Additionally, the funds will help establish Child Friendly Spaces and cover costs of medical and psychosocial care provided to affected population.

Thank you!

When an emergency strikes, whether it is an outbreak of a deadly disease, flooding or a violent conflict, we know that we need to respond as soon as possible to save lives.

That is why, in October 2018, we launched Children's Emergency Fund. Thanks to ready-to-use funding, we can respond immediately wherever the need is greatest, whether a crisis is making headlines or largely unknown. The CEF allows us to work faster and provide life-saving aid more efficiently.

This would not be possible without the generous support of C&A Foundation, which helped to set up the fund, and other donors that contributed to the CEF throughout the year. Together, in the first year of the CEF, we were able to respond to 15 crises in 11 countries, helping hundreds of thousands of people.

Our work, however, does not end here. We look forward to year two of the CEF with hope and anticipation, getting prepared for new challenges. Thankful for your commitment and trust in the first year, we count on your continuous support in the future.



Save the Children





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Save the Children

Sihlquai 253, 8005 Zürich

info@savethechildren.ch | +41 44 267 74 70

www.savethechildren.ch

PC: 1100-1291.817 | IBAN: CH14 0070 0110 0012 9181 7

Photographers:

Junaedi Uko (cover photo), Thomas Gustafian, Sacha Myers, Guy Hubbard, Jonathan Hyams, Clement Tardif, Junaedi Uko, Kyle DeGraw, Aisha Emerald, Sacha Myers, Ibrahim Alshami, Hanna Adcock .