



منسق الأمم المتحدة الإقليمي للشؤون الإنسانية

UN Regional Humanitarian Coordinator

28. May. 2012

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to inform you that we have established an Emergency Response Fund (ERF) for Syria.

Drawing on OCHA experience in other crisis countries, the purpose of the fund is to provide initial funding to United Nations and NGO humanitarian organization at the outbreak of an emergency so they can respond to a crisis without delay. The mechanism is meant to enable a rapid and flexible first response and meet acute, immediate and short-term emergency needs. The Fund was established particularly with NGOs in mind as they do not have the ability to draw directly from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) administered by OCHA headquarters in New York.

The fund is for rapid response to unforeseen emergencies, immediate life-saving needs and urgent priority projects that are underfunded.

The fund is chaired by myself, and administered by OCHA Syria with the support of the Advisory Board composed of the RC/HC's in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, joined by the UNHCR Regional Refugees Coordinator, the Review Board members, ERF donor representatives and donor observers. The fund is currently funded by generous contributions of the UK, Denmark, Estonia, Luxembourg and Poland.

Once you have indentified urgent humanitarian projects that need to be funded, you are invited to submit proposals for funding through OCHA Syria.

Please find attached the guidelines and the templates for accessing the fund. For further information or regarding the application process, please contact Ms. Amani Salah, ERF manager at email [salah1@un.org](mailto:salah1@un.org).

With best regards,

Radhouane Nouicer  
Un Regional Humanitarian Coordinator  
Syrian Arab Republic

A handwritten signature in purple ink, written over the typed name and title of the coordinator.