



## UNHCR Allocation of Flexible Funding January-March 2026

Thanks to flexible funding, people forced to flee their homes were able to survive emergencies, protect their dignity, secure legal recognition, return home more safely, and build more stable futures—even in highly volatile and resource-constrained settings. Flexible funding means:



### ***Meeting immediate, life-saving needs in emergencies***

People displaced by sudden crises were supported during the critical first days and weeks with essential relief items and emergency shelter, enabling survival with dignity.



### ***Cash and protection support preserving dignity and safety***

Refugees and displaced people were better able to meet urgent needs, protect themselves, and reduce exposure to protection risks.



### ***Providing registration, documentation and legal identity***

Displaced people gained legal recognition, enabling access to asylum procedures, essential services, and protection.



### ***Supporting safe, dignified and sustainable return***

Refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) returning home were supported to do so more safely, turning moments of vulnerability into opportunities for recovery and stability.



### ***Enabling pathways to self-reliance and inclusion***

Refugees and host communities strengthened livelihoods, education, and social cohesion, contributing to greater resilience and inclusion.

## Where Flexible Funding Made an Impact

The following operations received the highest allocations of flexible funding during the first quarter of 2026. The examples below illustrate how UNHCR delivered protection and assistance across the ten largest recipient operations, made possible through flexible donor contributions. All data refers to January-March 2026 unless otherwise stated.

### Lebanon

**Flexible funding allocation: \$28.9M**

Flexible funding supported the emergency response following the escalation of hostilities across Asia and the Middle East beginning on 28 February 2026.

**Meeting immediate, life-saving needs in emergencies:**

- 230,000 essential relief items distributed in collective shelters, reaching 83,000 displaced people.
- 30,000 essential relief items distributed outside of collective shelters, reaching more than 8,000 displaced refugees and Lebanese IDPs.

**Cash and protection support preserving dignity and safety:**

- 18,000 refugees received recurrent and one-off emergency protection cash assistance.
- More than 7,500 people reached through awareness sessions and psychosocial support.
- Approximately 28,000 people accessed protection services through Community Development Centres nationwide.
- 55,000 people (66% woman) reached through outreach activities; more than 4,000 people identified and referred to specialized services.

### Afghanistan

**Flexible funding allocation: \$24.65M**

Flexible funding was critical to sustaining the response to large-scale returns from Iran and Pakistan, which began prior to 2026 and often occurring under adverse conditions, placing significant pressure on border reception and reintegration services.

**Protection support for the most vulnerable:**

- More than 8,000 vulnerable people identified and referred for protection case management through UNHCR feedback and response systems.

**Supporting safe, dignified and sustainable return:**

- 70,000 refugees received UNHCR assistance upon return to Afghanistan, more than half of whom were women and girls.

### Uganda

**Flexible funding allocation: \$20.82M**

Flexible funding supported essential protection and assistance for new arrivals, as well as nearly two million refugees hosted across settlements.

**Registration and documentation for refugees, securing rights and access to services:**

- 23,000 new refugee arrivals registered and issued identity documents, primarily from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Sudan, and South Sudan.

**Meeting immediate, life-saving needs:**

- All new arrivals received assistance packages combining financial aid and core relief items, including blankets, sleeping mats, kitchen sets, jerry cans, basins, soap, and menstrual hygiene kits.



*Sudanese refugees Shaima Abdelhadi Haroun and Guisma Bachir Abdallah meet at Guisma's home in Gaga refugee settlement, Chad. Over the past few months, Shaima has created a group of 20 women who engage in various livelihood activities, such as soap making, weaving and sewing clothes. Flexible funding enables UNHCR to support such refugee-led initiatives that generate income and promote independence.*

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## Chad

**Flexible funding allocation: \$20.22M**

Flexible funding was critical to prioritizing urgent needs and ensuring operational continuity in one of the world's most complex displacement contexts, hosting 2.2 million refugees, IDPs, and vulnerable host communities.

**Water, sanitation and hygiene services:**

- Over 20 camps benefited from water distribution upgrades, including boreholes repairs and construction, manual and solar pumps, solar-powered systems, and distribution networks.
- More than 850 emergency latrines constructed and more than 1,500 family latrines maintained.
- More than 40,000 people reached through hygiene promotion activities.

- Regular water quality sampling conducted to guide chlorination and risk-mitigation measures.

**Enabling pathways to self-reliance and inclusion:**

- More than 18,000 refugee and host community children supported to attend primary school
- 3,500 teachers, school administrators, and staff received monthly incentives.
- 25,000 school kits distributed
- More than 6,000 hectares of agricultural land secured across six sites through official land tenure agreements.
- More than 4,000 refugees and host community households in eastern Chad each received one hectare of land.

## Burundi

**Flexible funding allocation: \$18.53M**

Flexible funding enabled UNHCR to respond to two concurrent emergencies: the arrival of more than 100,000 refugees from the DRC in December 2025 and the return of Burundian refugee from Tanzania beginning in January 2026.

**Supporting safe, dignified and sustainable return:**

- 62,000 Burundian refugee returnees from Tanzania provided reintegration support.

**Registration and documentation for refugees securing rights and access to services:**

- 65,000 Congolese refugees relocated from border areas to Busuma refugee site.
- 65,000 Congolese refugees registered at Busuma refugee site.

## Syrian Arab Republic

**Flexible funding allocation: \$17.63M**

Flexible funding enabled UNHCR and partners to rapidly support returnees, address immediate protection and assistance needs, and strengthen reintegration responses amid rapidly evolving conditions.

**Meeting immediate, life-saving needs:**

- 25,000 individuals received emergency relief items.
- 8,000 individuals received targeted winter support.
- Almost 300 families in north-east Syria supported with family tents and more than 3,500 families provided with tarpaulins for emergency shelter.
- 1,000 houses assessed for shelter repair, to benefit 5,000 people.

**Supporting safe, dignified and sustainable return:**

- 6,000 refugee returnee families received a one-off return and reintegration grant.
- 6,000 spontaneous returnees received transportation and logistical support at border points; 1,000 refugee returned through organized convoys from Jordan and Lebanon.
- More than 5,000 returnee families shared contact details with authorities and UNHCR, enabling follow up support.
- 1,000 IDP returnees received assistance.
- Reception facilities at border crossings were upgraded with generators, solar systems, ICT equipment, and prefabricated structures.

## Iraq

**Flexible funding allocation: \$15.84M**

Flexible funding supported continued assistance to 350,000 refugees and asylum-seekers—mostly Syrians living in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq—as well as over 100,000 IDPs residing in 18 camps.

**Registration and documentation for refugees securing rights and access to services:**

- UNHCR supported school infrastructure and provided technical advice on laws to promote refugees inclusion in the education system.
- 90,000 Syrian refugees continued to access education, health care, and water, sanitation and hygiene services.

**Legal guidance and solutions:**

- 104 refugees with urgent protection needs resettled to third countries.
- Continued support provided to the Government of Iraq in developing a new refugee law aligned with international standards, safeguarding rights.

## Yemen

**Flexible funding allocation: \$14.99M**

In Yemen—where UNHCR supports nearly 64,000 refugees and asylum-seekers and 5.2 million IDPs—flexible funding helped sustain life-saving protection, health, and assistance services, particularly for highly vulnerable groups.

**Cash and protection support preserving dignity and safety:**

- 250 refugees and asylum-seekers received psychosocial support, including psychological first aid.
- 46 persons with disabilities and more than 100 older refugees received tailored assistance.
- Over 100 highly vulnerable refugees received monthly cash assistance, and 78 received cash-for-protection support with case management.
- Nearly 700 children received psychosocial first aid and support, including child protection case management and Best Interest Assessments.

**Health services saving lives:**

- 11,000 refugees and asylum-seekers received primary health care in three upgraded health facilities.
- 8,000 people participated in reproductive health awareness activities; 81 births attended by skilled staff; more than 250 children under five and pregnant or lactating women received supplementary feeding support.

## Niger

**Flexible funding allocation: \$14.05M**

Flexible funding enabled UNHCR in Niger to continue monitoring the protection needs of refugees and asylum seekers in a highly unstable security environment.

**Registration and protection activities, securing rights and access to services:**

- 54,000 people reached through protection monitoring; more than 13,000 refugees and asylum-seekers identified within mixed movements nationwide.
- More than 400 asylum-seekers registered in Madaoua; more than 9,000 asylum-seekers from Burkina Faso pre-registered in Tillabéri

**Water, sanitation and hygiene services:**

- 32,000 refugees in the Diffa region provided with safe water; 5,000 people reached through hygiene promotion.
- Water, sanitation and hygiene services maintained in Agadez reception facilities, benefiting 1,000 people.

**Enabling pathways to self-reliance and inclusion:**

- Over 1,000 refugees supported through livelihoods initiatives, including agriculture , vocational training, and driver's licence support.

## Ethiopia

**Flexible funding allocation: \$11.17M**

Flexible funding enabled UNHCR in Ethiopia to respond simultaneously to new and protracted emergencies, including the Sudan emergency and new arrivals from South Sudan into Gambella.

**Registration and documentation for refugees securing rights and access to services:**

- Refugee registration and documentation fully transitioned to Ethiopian Government leadership, marking a major milestone for inclusion in the national ID system.
- 327,000 people verified; 118,000 refugees provided issued national ID numbers.

**Meeting immediate, life-saving needs:**

- 29,000 newly arrived refugees received emergency relief items, including menstrual hygiene kits, soap, clothing, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, blankets, and jerrycans.

**Legal guidance improving the lives of refugees and asylum seekers:**

- UNHCR provided legal guidance to the Government on asylum access, entry procedures, and work and business licensing for refugees and returnees, supporting self-reliance and integration.