



# Secretary-General's UN Zika Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund

## BACKGROUND ON THE ZIKA VIRUS

The Zika virus is spreading rapidly. As of 11 May 2016, 58 countries and territories report continuing mosquito-borne transmission of the Zika virus. The recent rise in the spread of the Zika virus in some countries has been accompanied by an unprecedented rise in the number of children being born with unusually small heads — identified as microcephaly. Several countries have also reported an increase in Guillain-Barré syndrome — a neurological disorder that can lead to paralysis and death.

On 1 February 2016, WHO announced that the cluster of cases of microcephaly and other neurological disorders, in particular Guillain-Barré syndrome, constituted a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. There is now scientific consensus that the Zika virus is linked to severe foetal malformations and serious disorders of the central nervous system and is a cause of microcephaly and Guillain-Barré syndrome.



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## OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE FUND

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has established the UN Zika Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) to finance critical unfunded priorities in the response to the Zika outbreak. The trust fund provides a rapid, flexible and accountable platform to support a coordinated response from the UN system and partners.

Urgent funds are required to support the implementation of national response plans and address the broader social and economic challenges that lie ahead. The UN Zika Response MPTF will directly support the Zika Strategic Response Framework, developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in consultation with UN agencies, partners, and international epidemiological experts.

The Zika Strategic Response Framework aims to investigate and respond to the cluster of microcephaly and other neurological complications linked to the Zika virus, increase preventive measures, communicate risks and provide care and support to those affected.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Strategic Objectives of the UN System Response to the Zika virus are as follows:

1. **SURVEILLANCE**
2. **RESPONSE**
3. **RESEARCH**

These objectives are further defined by actions set out in the Response Strategy:

- Provide up-to-date and accurate epidemiological information on Zika virus disease, neurological syndromes and congenital malformations;
- Investigate the reported increase in incidence of microcephaly and neurological syndromes, including their possible association with Zika virus infection syndromes and congenital malformation;
- Fast-track the research and development of new products (e.g. rapid diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutics);
- Engage communities to communicate the risks asso-

ciated with Zika virus disease and promote healthy behaviours, reduce anxiety, address stigma, dispel rumours and resolve cultural misperceptions and engage in response activities;

- Increase efforts to control the spread of the Aedes mosquito as well as provide access to personal protection measures; and
- Provide guidance and mitigate the impact on pregnant women and girls and those considering pregnancy, as well as families with children affected by Zika virus.

## ZIKA Strategic Response Framework

### 1 SURVEILLANCE

*Provide up-to-date and accurate epidemiological information on Zika virus disease, neurological syndromes and congenital malformation*

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Surveillance                 |
| 2 | Laboratories and diagnostics |
| 3 | Rapid response               |

### 2 RESPONSE

*Engage communities to communicate the risks associated with Zika virus disease and promote healthy behaviours, reduce anxiety, address stigma, dispel rumors and resolve cultural misperceptions and engage in response activities*

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|---|----------------------------------|
| 4 | Public health risk communication |
| 5 | Community engagement             |
| 6 | Health care personnel            |

*Increase efforts to Control the spread of the Aedes mosquito as well as provide access to personal protection measures*

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|---|---------------------|
| 7 | Vector control      |
| 8 | Personal protection |

*Provide guidance and mitigate the impact on pregnant women and girls and those considering pregnancy, as well as families with children affected by Zika virus*

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|----|---|
| 9  | Clinical guidance and protocols             |
| 10 | Care for those affected                     |
| 11 | Pre-pregnancy, maternal and post-natal care |

### 3 RESEARCH

*Investigate the reported increase in incidence of microcephaly and neurological syndromes, including their possible association with Zika virus infection*

- |    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 12 | Public Health Research |
|----|------------------------|

*Fast-track the research and development of new products (e.g. rapid diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutics)*

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 13 | Research and product development agenda |
|----|---|

## GOVERNANCE

The Zika Response MPTF is led by the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Climate Change, serving as the Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Fund. The Advisory Committee provides guidance to the Chair in the management of the UN Zika Response MPTF, and serves as a forum for discussing strategic issues and sharing information on funding coverage. The Advisory Committee consists of the following members: Chair, Recipient Organizations (UN Agencies, Funds, Programmes, and IOM), and up to three donors. The MPTF Office will serve as ex-officio member of the Advisory Committee<sup>1</sup>. WHO Health Emergencies Programme supports and advises the Chair of the Advisory Committee on strategic issues for the Fund and technical health issues.

The Chair in consultation with the Advisory Committee will articulate the funding priorities, and approve proposal submissions by Recipient UN Organizations.

The Chair is supported by a Fund Secretariat that provides the administrative support to the Chair of the Advisory Committee and WHO; supports the fund mobilization efforts led by the Chair; organizes calls for and appraisal of proposals; and monitors and reports on Fund's programmatic and operational performance to the Advisory Committee.

The UN Zika Response Trust Fund is administered by the UNDP MPTF Office, acting as the Administrative Agent. The UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office is a UN Facility which administers over 100 UN common funding instruments (<http://mptf.undp.org>). The MPTF Office is responsible for Fund design and set-up, the maintenance of the Fund account, the receipt of donor contributions and the disbursement of funds upon instructions from the Chair and provision of periodic consolidated reports.

<sup>1</sup> See Governance Structure of the UN Zika Response MPTF on page 4

## FUND OPERATION

Proposals to finance the resource requirements of Zika Strategic Response Framework will be supported by the Fund. Operational procedures of the UN Zika Response Trust Fund are streamlined to facilitate rapid fund allocation processes.

## HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Contributions to the UN Zika Trust Fund may be accepted from Member States, regional organizations, inter-governmental organizations, businesses and individuals. In order to contribute to the Fund, the Standard Administrative Arrangement with the MPTF Office needs to be signed (visit <http://mptf.undp.org/zika>). Contributors are encouraged to provide un-earmarked contributions. If due to specific donor preferences the un-earmarked contributions are not feasible, donors may earmark their contributions to a specific affected country, or Strategic Objective of the Fund.

## CONTACTS

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## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE UN ZIKA MPTF

