

# MULTI-DONOR TRUST FUND OFFICE

Efficiency | Transparency | Accountability

## Quarterly Newsletter

January – March 2010, Issue 5



UNITED NATIONS  
DEVELOPMENT GROUP



### Key Figures

- US\$4.6 billion total commitments
- US\$4.3 billion total deposits
- US\$3.4 billion transferred to Participating Organizations
- 54 Donors/Partners
- 42 Participating Organizations
- Operating in 74 Countries

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### MDTF Office Mission

To provide transparent and accountable fund management services to the United Nations system to enhance its coherence, effectiveness and efficiency.

Log on to the MDTF Office GATEWAY [mdtf.undp.org](http://mdtf.undp.org)  
Share your feedback!

Dear Reader

It is official reporting season at the MDTF Office, although it seems like reporting period all year round. By the end of April, we will receive about 1825 individual 2009 annual financial and progress reports from 37 Participating Organizations. In our Administrative Agent capacity, we are accountable for the synthesis and consolidation of the annual progress reports and to share the results and findings with MDTF stakeholders.

Clearly, there is an increasing call for accountability both within and outside the United Nations, including to the general public. One of the principal ways the MDTF Office aims to improve accountability of United Nations MDTFs is through greater transparency of operations and offering more and timely information to the public.

This is best illustrated with the MDTF Office GATEWAY that we launched in early 2010 in beta version. This web-site provides real-time Administrative Agent financial information direct to the user from our accounting system. It is an open GATEWAY to our financial accounts combined with search functions to help users

find the information they need from the 4000 MDTF related documents in the Document Center.

I think this is transparency at its best, yet I know transparency is in the eye of the beholder. It is all about perception. The other day, I came across an interesting article written by Alexandru Grigorescu at Loyola University in Chicago that defines the transparency of an actor A towards actor B as “the ability of B to receive information from A”. This definition captures an essential aspect of the concept that transparency is the ability of B to access information rather than of A offering it.

We are finalizing testing of the beta version of the GATEWAY. We have received numerous feedbacks. While we appreciate the positive feedback, we are also carefully analyzing your recommended changes which will help us achieve our principle objectives of providing accountable and transparent fund management services. You are B! We are A! Please log on to [mdtf.undp.org](http://mdtf.undp.org) and let us know how we are doing

Bisrat Aklilu, Executive Coordinator,  
MDTF Office, BOM, UNDP

## New Multi-Donor Trust Funds

### One UN Funds

As the interest in the UN Delivering as One (DaO) in support of the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action grows an increasing number of ‘second generation’ self-start DaO countries have proceeded to establish One UN Programmes and

Funds. Compared with 2009 when five new One UN Funds were established, during the first quarter of 2010 three new One UN Funds have already been established. DaO Programmes and Funds are implemented in collaboration with Government stakeholders, aim to support

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strategic national priorities and are designed to accelerate progress toward MDGs. They build on the principles of harmonization and collaboration, and strive for coherence and effectiveness in operations.

The primary funding source for these second generation Funds is the Expanded Funding Window (EFW) (see following article), which on average accounts for 91 percent of the donor contributions received by the One UN Funds. In comparison, the first eight One UN Pilot DaO Countries have a more diverse donor base and the EFW only accounts for on average of 26 percent of total contributions. For additional information on the these Funds, go to the MDTF Office [GATEWAY](#)

During the first quarter 2010, the following new One UN Funds were established:

### **Comoros One UN Fund**

The priorities of the UN in Comoros includes: economic growth and fighting poverty; governance; provision of basic social services (health, education, sanitation); environment/sustainable development. The Fund has received \$9 million from the UN Peacebuilding Fund specifically for peace and national cohesion process and in February 2010 it received \$1.1 million from the EFW.

### **Lesotho One UN Fund**

As a self-starter DaO, the One Un Fund will be implemented in support of the Vision 2020, which aims to improve the quality of life of all Basotho by the year 2020 by striving to achieve a stable, united, democratic and peaceful and prosperous nation, with a healthy and well-developed human resource base, a well-managed environment and relying on well-established technology. The Fund received its first contribution of \$2.9 million from the EFW.

### **Montenegro One UN Country Fund**

The Montenegro One UN Programme will have three pillars: Social Inclusion, Democratic Governance, and Environmental Sustainability and Economic Development. In all three areas, the core principles of human rights, gender equality and development of national capacity will be upheld as will the application of socially inclusive strategies. The Fund in

Montenegro received its first contribution of \$1.1 million from the EFW.

## **Updates from HQ**

### **Expanded Funding Window (EFW) Steering Committee makes 2010 allocations to 17 DaO Funds**

The Expanded Delivering as One Funding Window (EFW) Steering Committee met on 18 February 2010 and allocated a total of \$83.7 million to 17 DaO Funds. Allocations were made to all eight One UN Pilot countries: Albania (\$2.2m), Cape Verde (\$1.8m), Mozambique (\$20.8m), Pakistan (\$6.0m), Rwanda (\$9.8m), Tanzania (\$6.6m), Uruguay (\$1.2m) and Viet Nam (\$4.6m); as well as to nine so-called "self-starters": Bhutan (\$0.9m), Comoros (\$1.1m), Kiribati (\$0.5m), Lesotho (\$3.0m), Kyrgyzstan (\$3.6m), Malawi (\$9.4m), Montenegro (\$1.1m), Papua New Guinea (\$1.3m) and Sierra Leone (\$9.7m). The MDTF Office is the Administrative Agent for all 17 DaO Funds.

The EFW was launched by the Chair of the UN Development Group and the Governments of Spain, Norway and the United Kingdom in September 2008 as a multi-donor funding mechanism that provides resources to support nationally-led and owned programming processes to help UN Country Teams to DaO.

The EFW has received total contributions of \$252 million from Spain, Norway, the United Kingdom (DFID) and the Netherlands and has, as of today, allocated the total available funds to 17 DaO countries. The 2010 approved fund allocations were transferred by the MDTF Office that is serving as the Administrative Agent of all the DaO One UN Funds during the first quarter of 2010.

For additional information on the EFW, go to the MDTF Office [GATEWAY](#).

### **UNDG-Donor Meeting on MDTFs**

As part of UNDG efforts to stimulate Donor involvement in MDTFs, the first UNDG Donor meeting on MDTFs was held on 21 January 2010 to take stock of the progress on and experience with UN administered MDTFs. The meeting, chaired by Deborah Landey, Director DOCO and Subhash Gupta, Director UNFPA, also addressed management and



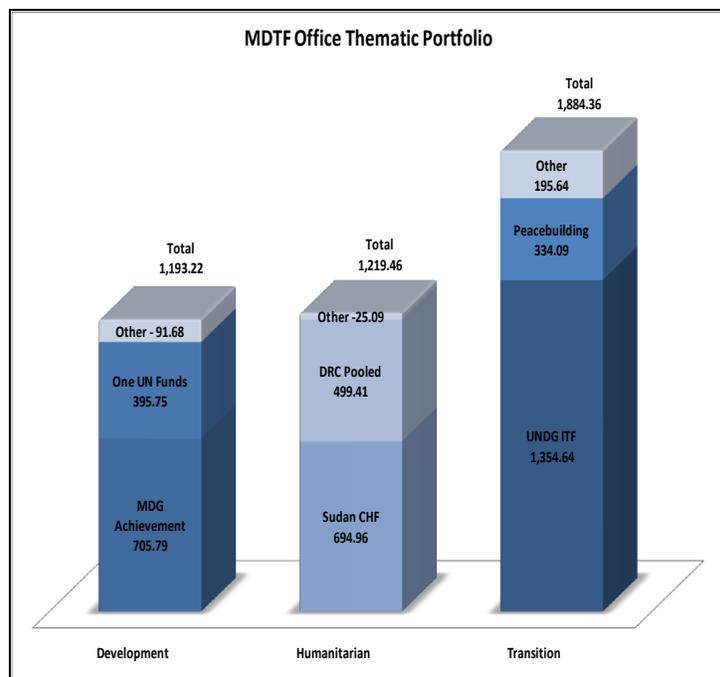
technical issues that could improve the functioning and performance in both crisis/post-conflict and development context, including DaO. Over 50 participants were present representing the major donors to MDTFs as well as many UNDG members. Some of the key issues affecting the MDTF mechanism that were discussed include:

- Need for multi-year un-earmarked contributions;
- Broadening and deepening the base of donors to MDTFs, including encouraging the EC to fund UN MDTFs;
- Ensuring a harmonized approach to reviewing possible changes to the Standard Administrative Arrangements (SAA);
- Threshold for establishing new MDTFs;
- Value for money of MDTFs;
- Need for well-staffed and funded Steering Committee Support Offices / Technical Secretariats;
- Coordination amongst MDTFs.

Drawing on experiences with MDTFs operating in a variety of country context, presentations were made by Lise Grande, Deputy Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, regarding experiences with operating multiple MDTFs in Southern Sudan and the challenges encountered. The Resident Coordinator overseeing the Tanzania One UN Fund, Alberic Kacou shared the experiences of the UN Country Team with the DaO and One Fund approach. The meeting concluded with an agreement to hold UNDG-donor meetings annually with ad-hoc meetings organized as needed.

### MDTF Office Administers Diverse UN MDTF Portfolio

As interest in MDTFs has grown over the years, the diversity and application of MDTFs has expanded. While the scope of MDTFs covers global pooled funds where contributions are used to finance activities in multiple countries, the majority of MDTFs operate in single countries. The current MDTF portfolio administered by the MDTF Office covers a spectrum of priorities where the largest contributions received from donors has been to transition MDTFs with 43 percent of the overall \$4.4 billion portfolio followed by development MDTFs with 29 percent and humanitarian MDTFs with 28 percent.



The chart above shows that several large MDTFs, such as the UNDG ITF, Peacebuilding Fund, Sudan and DRC MDTFs and MDG Achievement Fund contribute the majority of resources to the overall portfolio, while the 'other group' accounts for many smaller funds including DaO UN Funds, which range from as low as \$1 million to a high of \$95 million.

### Action Against Sexual Violence Fund supports Establishment of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General

The UN Action Against Sexual Violence Fund has approved funding to support to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (OSRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict. This interim funding will be used to help establish the Office for an initial four-month period pending allocation of funding from the regular budget of the UN.

The United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of his Special Representative (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Margot Wallström of Sweden. Ms. Wallström has been a long-time advocate of the rights and needs of women throughout her political ca-



reer as Swedish Minister and later as Environment Commissioner and Vice-President of the European Commission.

She has been actively engaged in promoting the participation of women in peace and security-related issues, drawing attention to most notably the injustice and violence faced by women during armed conflict. Since 2007, she has served as Chair of the Council of Women World Leaders Ministerial Initiative, where she actively promoted the appointment of women to positions of responsibility. Ms. Wallström also played a leadership role in raising awareness about the urgency to implement UN Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009), which address the issue of sexual violence in conflict in an increasingly comprehensive manner.

Resolution 1820 recognized sexual violence as a tactic of war and an impediment to peacebuilding, and resolution 1888 provided the building blocks to operationalise this understanding.

The SRSG will serve as head of the 13-entity network, UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, and Chair of the Steering Committee that provides governance oversight to the network.

## Updates from UN Country Teams

### Kyrgyzstan One Fund Programmed EFW Contribution

The Joint Steering Committee of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund held its first meeting on 9 March during which it fully programmed the EFW allocation of \$3.6 million. The 10 newly approved projects and joint programmes will be implemented by ten Participating UN Organizations namely FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNV, WFP and WHO. These UN Organizations will collaborate in addressing the effects of energy, food insecurity and the global economic crisis on the most vulnerable population.

### Bhutan UN Country Fund Steering Committee allocates EFW-funds

The Joint Steering Committee of the Bhutan UN Country Fund held its second meeting on 31 March and fully programmed the EFW 2010 allocation of \$861,000 to meet the most urgent needs of the five Theme Groups; i.e. Poverty

and MDGs, Health, Education, Good Governance and Environment and Disaster Management. The Theme Groups, jointly chaired by the Royal Government of Bhutan and Participating UN Organizations, prioritized projects and programmes that contribute towards the MDGs and the Government's 10th Five Year Plan, with particular priority given to education this year. Recipients of the EFW allocations include resident agencies FAO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP, and non-resident agencies UNCTAD and UNESCO.

### Papua New Guinea allocates EFW-Funds

The UN in Papua New Guinea was allocated \$1.3 million from the EFW, against which 13 funding proposals were submitted amounting to more than \$2.5m. A UN Budget Allocation Committee was established to prepare an overview of all the Requests for Funds and advise the UN Country Team on how to allocate the funds. A two-step approach was designed that firstly, applied a percentage rule to reflect the availability of resources (50 % of the total requested amount), and secondly applied a 'results-ratio'. The Committee reviewed the Requests for Funds and ranked each proposal against allocation criteria divided into three categories: eligibility, performance and priority. The total number of points for each Request for Funds was then translated into a percentage of the maximum points attainable.

The advice of the UN Budget Allocation Committee was adopted by the UN Country Team in April and remaining unallocated funds were used to support two priority initiatives: the MDG Campaign and the work of the UN Communication Committee. The two funded initiatives are being implemented by the following Participating UN Organizations: OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM and WHO.

This second round of allocations generated a number of lessons for the Task Teams, the UN Budget Allocation Committee and the UN Country Team, and recommendations were made for follow-up by each of these teams. By the next allocation round, the format for the Request for Funds will have an expanded Guidance Note. Moreover, the UN Budget Allocation Committee will review the above formula to ensure that ambitious budgeting is not rewarded and allocation criteria focus on performance and priorities.



DELIVERING AS ONE UN

# RWANDA

### Feel free, feel welcome: Care to survivors of violence

*Contributed by the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Rwanda*



The team of psychologists at ISANGE Center

Grace looks comforted to see the familiar faces of the three female doctors of ISANGE One Stop Center when she enters the consultation room. In the past months, the 32 year-old mother of four has come to the Center on a regular basis for medical and psychological treatment, and has established confidence in consulting with its staff.

“The first time Grace came to ISANGE Center she was severely traumatized, could not speak and was crying,” said Dr. Alphonsine. She was referred to ISANGE by the National Police for medical check-up after she had reported physical and psychological abuse. “She had fractures in her arm. The fractures have healed after some weeks but the wounds lay much deeper.” said Dr. Alphonsine.

Grace was forcibly married at 17 and ever since has been abused by her husband. While spending the money his wife earned at bars and nightclubs, he threatened her if she was to leave him and refused her food. After 15 years, Grace

finally took the courage to report the abuse to the police and separate from her husband.

ISANGE means “Feel free, feel welcome” in the local language. The Center, the first of its kind in Rwanda, was opened in July 2009 with financial and technical support of UNFPA, UNICEF and UNIFEM as a joint intervention under the UN Delivering as One.

Located at Kacyiru Police Hospital in Kigali, the pilot centre provides treatment and care for survivors of child, domestic and gender based violence. During the first 6 months the Center received 367 patients. “Most survivors we receive are women and children,” Dr. Oreste recalls, “As a doctor you do your best to help. But it is really frustrating to see how human beings harm each other.”

Gender-based violence is widely spread in Rwanda. Survivors rarely report violations of their rights in fear of stigmatization, revenge, social exclusion and/or economic depression. They rarely receive adequate treatment.

The ISANGE services respond to the long-voiced need to strengthen services to survivors. The opening of the Center is also part of a larger system on prevention and response to gender based violence supported by the UN.

Coordination between different stakeholders remains an issue. “To be a doctor in such a center it is a challenging job. You perform your work at a certain level but beyond that level there are other stakeholders such as the National Police, lawyers, politicians, civil society and others who have to act as well in order to effectively prevent and respond to this crime. You are not alone”, Dr. Oreste continues.

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## Quarterly Newsletter



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Survivors of domestic and gender-based violence receive free and confidential care.

Grace has been able to regain some of her strength but she still struggles, living in constant fear. After spending a couple of days at the Safe Room in ISANGE, she and her children moved to a one room house without water and electricity. “It is still very difficult. I am unable to work at the moment and cannot pay the school fees for my children. My children are also traumatized. When I get home late, they fear that something has happened to me. Years of violence have left its marks.” While being afraid that the children have internalized the bad role model of their father, she puts enormous pressure on herself in bringing up her children as responsible young citizens, respecting the human rights of each individual, whether men or women, boy or girl.

“Words cannot express how the Center and its staff have helped me,” she says and she has a final plea: to upscale this initiative to different provinces and engage more staff so that survivors – both in Kigali as well as in rural areas – will be able to escape the vicious circle of violence.

## Other Features

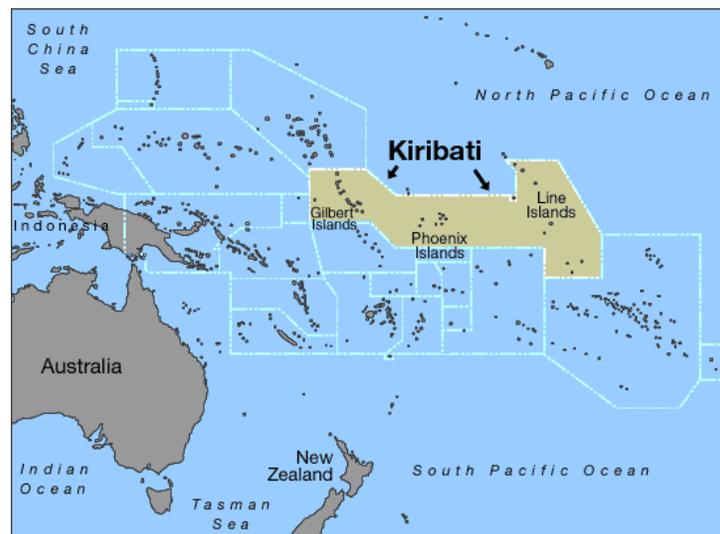
### Kiribati One UN Fund

Contributed by the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Fiji

Kiribati is the first country in the Pacific (Papua New Guinea was the second) where the UN, with assistance from its regional development partners, has established a One UN

Fund. The Kiribati One UN Fund allows development partners to provide multi-year financing to United Nations organizations at the programme level to ensure that the UN organizations will upscale their efforts to achieve concrete development results as envisaged in the new Kiribati Development Plan (2008-2011).

In 2008, the UNCT in Fiji set up the necessary UNDAF Implementation Plan that forms the foundation of the Kiribati One UN Fund. The Kiribati One UN Fund arrangements take specific note of the remoteness, difficult operating environment and UN Joint Presence in Kiribati, which is led by UNICEF, on behalf of UNDP and UNFPA. Working closely with the MDTF Office (the Administrative Agent of the Kiribati One UN Fund), the RC Office based in Fiji and the UNCT developed the necessary arrangements. After receiving clearance by the Joint Strategy Meeting with the Government of Kiribati and development partners’ in-country in October 2008, the Terms of Reference for the Kiribati One UN Fund, along with all other documentation, was finalized in February 2009 paving the way for raising resources from donors and development partners.



The Kiribati One UN Fund was formally established in July 2009 when ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM and WHO signed the MOU. Shortly thereafter, in August 2009, it received an allocation of \$500,000 from the Expanded DaO EFW and, based on the Kiribati UNDAF Imple-



mentation Plan, the seven eligible Participating UN Organizations submitted proposals for funding. The proposals were carefully reviewed by the RC Office and the Government of Kiribati, and were approved and endorsed in late-September 2009. In February 2010, an additional allocation of \$500,000 was approved by the EFW for the Kiribati One UN Fund, and the UNCT has chosen a joint programme approach for allocations this time.

### UN-REDD approves US\$14.7 million for three countries

During its fourth meeting in Nairobi, Kenya 18-19 March 2010, the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board approved US\$14.7 million in funding bringing the



total amount of funding for UN-REDD national programmes to-date to US\$48.3 million. The Policy Board approved US\$4.7 million for Bolivia, US\$5.5 million for DRC and US\$4.5 million for Zambia.

The meeting was attended by over 100 participants from more than 25 countries, including representatives from the Programme's nine pilot countries and 13 new countries, eight of which joined the program in January 2010 (Costa Rica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Republic of Congo, Solomon Islands, and Sudan). Representatives from the Programme's three donor countries—Norway, Denmark and Spain— were in attendance as well as permanent observers from the World Bank managed Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, three Indigenous Peoples representative and three civil society organization representatives. Guest observers included representatives from Finland, pan, Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale, Congo Basin Forest Fund, International Union for conservation of Nature, and UN Forum on Forests Secretariat.



From left: Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd, Nobel Laureate Professor Wangari Maathai, Mr. Vincent Seya Makonga Kasulu

Highlights of the meeting include opening remarks from Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary General and UNEP Executive Director, during which he highlighted the importance of “learning by doing” and encouraged countries and stakeholders to “focus on recognizing and mitigating risk” when developing REDD+ strategies. There were also calls from the member countries that moving forward, the UN and the World Bank systems should further coordinate delivery mechanisms to REDD+ countries.

The UN-REDD Programme presented an overview of global and national programme progress since the last Policy Board meeting in October 2009, and received valuable feedback on its evolving strategy document.

In addition to the budget allocations, highlights included the approval of an additional US\$3.8 million for global programme activities which would fund measurement, reporting and verification activities, and support indigenous people/civil society organizations engagement on REDD+.

The Policy Board was honoured to have Nobel Laureate Professor Wangari Maathai deliver the closing remarks, during which she expressed that she was happy to see the UN and the World Bank working together, and emphasized the need for resources from REDD+ to “benefit the people for whom they are intended.” She concluded by stating, “We really need to emphasis the need to manage these REDD+ resources with a responsible and transparent approach.

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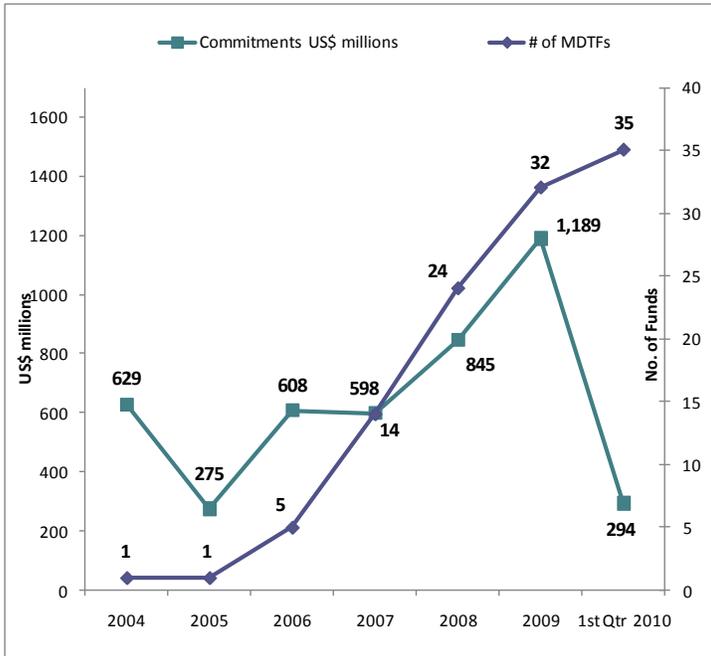


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### Portfolio at a Glance via the MDTF Office GATEWAY

Annual Donor Commitments to MDTFs, (31/3/2010)



MDTF Office Portfolio by Fund and Year

- UNDG Iraq Trust Fund
- Sudan Common Humanitarian Fund
- Peacebuilding Fund
- Lebanon Recovery Fund
- Democratic Republic of the Congo Pooled Fund
- Viet Nam One Plan Fund
- Uruguay One UN Coherence Fund
- MDG Achievement Fund
- United Nations Peace Fund for Nepal
- United Nations Central Fund for Influenza Action
- Tanzania One UN Fund
- Rwanda One UN Fund
- Darfur Community Peace and Stability Fund
- Albania One UN Coherence Fund
- Viet Nam One Plan Fund-II
- UN-REDD Programme
- UN Trust Fund for Human Security (JPs)
- UN Action Against Sexual Violence Fund
- Sudan Recovery Fund — Southern Sudan
- Pakistan One Fund
- Mozambique One UN Fund
- Malawi One UN Fund
- Central African Republic CHF
- Cape Verde Transition Fund
- Bhutan UN Country Fund
- Kiribati One UN Fund
- Papua New Guinea UN Country Fund
- Sierra Leone MDTF
- Community Based Adaptation Fund
- DRC Stabilization & Recovery Fund
- UNIFEM-End Violence Agst Women Trust Fund
- Kyrgyzstan One Fund
- Comoros One UN Fund
- Montenegro One UN Country Fund
- Lesotho One UN Fund



Annual Donor Commitments to JPs, (31/3/2010)

