

# One UN Impact Fund for I. R. Iran

**Annual report for programme implementation in 2025**

## Introduction

On 28 January 2023, a 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck Khoy County in West Azerbaijan Province of the Islamic Republic of Iran, following earlier seismic events in October 2022 and January 2023. The earthquakes caused extensive damage to homes, schools, health facilities, and community infrastructure, affecting thousands of people and creating urgent humanitarian and early recovery needs across the region. In response to a request from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Nations system, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator and in coordination with national authorities, launched a multi-agency response through the One UN Impact Fund (OUIF), the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and bilateral agency resources.

The “One UN Response to Khoy Earthquake” programme brought together five United Nations agencies — UNESCO, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and IOM — to deliver coordinated interventions in the areas of health, education, livelihoods, protection, disaster preparedness, and social resilience. Implemented between 2023 and 2024, the programme contributed to restoring essential services, strengthening institutional capacities, and supporting affected communities during the recovery phase. Key achievements included rehabilitation of schools and health facilities, provision of medical equipment and mobile health services, vocational and entrepreneurship training for youth and women, multi-purpose cash assistance for vulnerable households, and strengthened disaster risk reduction capacities.

All earthquake recovery projects under the programme had been successfully completed by 2024. The interventions collectively reached more than 122,000 affected people and demonstrated the added value of coordinated UN action and pooled funding mechanisms in responding to humanitarian and recovery challenges in Iran.

While the sectoral recovery projects concluded, from January – June 2025 support to the Secretariat of the One UN Impact Fund continued through a dedicated initiative implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO) in support of the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO). This project focused on strengthening the operational management and coordination capacity of the OUIF Secretariat to support implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023–2027.

This annual report presents some key highlights, lessons learned, and support provided to the One UN Impact Fund Secretariat during the 2025 reporting period.

Project / Programme Title	Lead Agency	Project Duration	Total Budget (USD)	Status by 2025
Increasing self-reliance through TVET upskilling among the	UNESCO	June 2023 – April 2024	110,000	Completed

Project / Programme Title	Lead Agency	Project Duration	Total Budget (USD)	Status by 2025
earthquake affected youth and adolescents in Khoy county				
Enhancing the availability of medical equipment in the earthquake affected area of Khoy	WHO	May 2023 – April 2024	65,000	Completed
Supporting the access of earthquake affected populations to safe and inclusive education and health services during the recovery phase	UNICEF	May 2023 – April 2024	220,000	Completed
Building women’s and girls’ resilience to shocks by focusing on health and well-being	UNFPA	June 2023 – August 2024 (extended)	295,000	Completed
Emergency assistance to vulnerable people affected by the earthquake in Khoy	IOM	May 2023 – December 2024	220,000	Completed
Support to Management of the One UN Impact Fund in the Islamic Republic of Iran	WHO / RCO	January 2024 – June 2025	Secretariat Support Project	Ongoing during 2025; completed June 2025

### Highlights for 2025

Following the closure of the sectoral recovery projects, the only active initiative under the One UN Impact Fund (OUIF) in 2025 was the project “Support to Management of the One UN Impact Fund in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” implemented by WHO in support of the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (RCO).

The project focused on strengthening the operational and coordination capacity of the OUIF Secretariat and supporting the effective implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023–2027.

During the reporting period, a dedicated national consultant continued to provide technical, managerial, and administrative support to the OUIF Secretariat, contributing to stronger coordination, reporting, and joint programming processes across the UN system in Iran.

Key achievements from January – June 2025 focussed on technical, coordination, communication, and resource mobilization support. The initiative contributed to improved inter-agency collaboration, strengthened joint programming processes, enhanced reporting and visibility of the Fund, and supported the launch of the OUIF development window appeal in March 2025.

In a challenging and complex resource mobilization landscape, the secretariat support showcased that small-scale catalytic funding contributes to strengthened coordination and appeal initiatives across the UN system.

### **Way forward**

Looking ahead, the One UN Impact Fund remains an important mechanism for coordinated UN support to humanitarian and development priorities in the country.

In light of the recent military escalation, the UN in Iran is considering the possible re-opening of the Emergency Response Window of the One UN Impact Fund to support humanitarian response and early recovery efforts.

At the same time, the UN system is exploring the relaunch of the OUIF Development Window Appeal to mobilize resources for longer-term development priorities aligned with the UNSDCF 2023–2027 and national development objectives.

The experience of the Khoy earthquake response highlighted the continued relevance and added value of pooled funding mechanisms and coordinated UN action in addressing complex humanitarian and development challenges in Iran.

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