

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR HUMAN SECURITY

A Fund for our times and tomorrow's challenges

The international system is undergoing a period of profound transformation. Climate disruption, health shocks, food insecurity, technological change, and governance pressures are no longer isolated risks. They are **interconnected, increasingly interdependent, and frequently capable of triggering instability within and across borders.**

Traditional policy tools, designed for sector-by-sector responses, are struggling to keep pace with this reality. Governments are therefore seeking **integrated, preventive, and scalable** approaches that can reduce risks before crises escalate and undermine social cohesion, particularly in periods of rapid change and uncertainty.

Human security responds directly to this need. It complements state-centred approaches by focusing on the conditions that underpin long-term stability, including **effective governance, institutional capacity, socio-economic opportunity, and trust between people and the institutions that serve them.** By addressing how global risks manifest locally, and how vulnerabilities overlap, human security provides governments with a **practical framework for prioritization, coordination, and anticipatory action.**

From framework to operational impact

The **United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS)** is the UN's principal mechanism for translating the human security approach into action.

Through cross-pillar collaboration and country-driven programming, the Fund enables governments, UN Country Teams, and partners to address emerging risks early, before they become humanitarian or security crises. UNTFHS programmes are designed not only to respond to immediate challenges, but to:

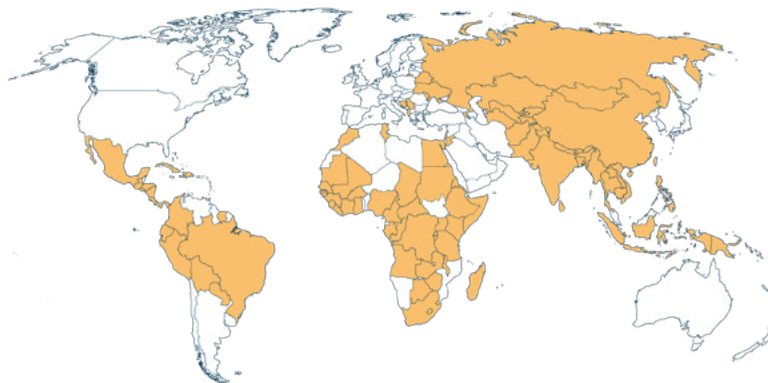
- generate evidence-based solutions,
- pilot innovative approaches in complex settings, and
- support their integration into national systems and policies.

In doing so, the Fund **maximizes the impact of public investment, reduces duplication, and strengthens the coherence of UN support at the country level.**

The UNTFHS
has supported nearly

325

regional and national
programmes involving more
than 110 countries.



FROM IMPACT TO SCALE IN DIVERSE CONTEXTS

Global reach. Local solutions. Proven results.

Since its establishment, the UNTFHS has supported **325 programmes in over 110 countries**, reaching more than **108 million people**, excluding regional and global initiatives.

Its portfolio spans fragile and conflict-affected settings, climate-vulnerable regions, urban and rural contexts, and countries navigating rapid social and economic transition. Across these diverse environments, the evidence is consistent: **integrated human security programming delivers results where siloed approaches fall short.**

Each programme represents:

- national ownership and multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- strengthened local and institutional capacity; and
- tested solutions that can be adapted and scaled.

This operational experience is increasingly critical as new risks emerge, from technological disruption reshaping energy, water, and employment security, to AI-enabled disinformation and widening digital divides.

The world needs a funding mechanism that is both agile and credible — capable of responding to emerging risks while grounded in proven delivery and local solutions.

Integrated responses for real world challenges

Today's risks reinforce one another. Climate stress compounds food insecurity; economic shocks deepen social tensions; and technological change creates both opportunity and exclusion.

The UNTFHS supports programmes that reflect how people actually experience insecurity — **as overlapping and interrelated threats** to their safety, livelihoods, and dignity. This integrated approach is not only more realistic; **it consistently proves more effective**, particularly in complex and rapidly changing environments.



TURNING PREVENTION INTO LASTING CHANGE

From innovation to durable solutions

The Fund places strong emphasis on **sustainability, replication, scale, and long-term impact**.

By fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships and shared accountability, UNTFHS programmes help embed successful approaches within **national frameworks and UN programming**. This ensures that innovation does not remain at the pilot stage, but is translated into **durable solutions** that strengthen institutions, enhance resilience, and contribute to peace and prosperity.

The most effective
crisis response
is the one
we never need.

WINDOW II

- Smaller-scale initiatives bringing together risk-informed HS analyses into priority policies and action.
- Promote multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- Establish data-driven evidence for larger investments.

WINDOW I

- Larger operational programmes based on integrated, cross-sectoral action.
- Leverage UNTFHS seed funding to pool resources for broader impact.
- Accelerate the SDGs and galvanize action.

SCALE-UP

- Unlock larger, more sustainable sources of funding towards greater replication.
- Maximize integration across levels of governance and sectors.
- Drive inclusive progress.
- Enhance data-driven monitoring and planning.

MODEL FOR SCALE

A tool for prevention, resilience, and coherence

In an era of uncertainty, the UNTFHS enables **proactive investment in stability**.

By empowering UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, the Fund helps identify and address vulnerabilities early, particularly in contexts where protracted or emerging risks may otherwise be overlooked. This preventive approach supports governments in aligning development investments with broader peace, resilience, and social cohesion objectives, **reducing the likelihood of far more costly interventions later on**.

UNTFHS programmes are **anchored in national and local priorities**, while also facilitating regional cooperation and cross-border learning. This strengthens policy coherence, encourages information sharing, and builds shared capacity to manage risks **closest to where they arise**.

Human Security
for a changing
world



A SMART INVESTMENT IN PEACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A hybrid funding model that multiplies impact

The UNTFHS operates through a hybrid financing model that combines **targeted seed funding with pooled resources**.

Strategic multilateral contributions act as a catalyst, enabling programmes to mobilize additional bilateral, national, and institutional funding. To date, this approach has **leveraged an additional USD 116 million** for human security initiatives in programme countries.

This model allows donors to:

- reduce fragmentation,
- increase value for money,
- support innovation without assuming undue risk, and
- achieve scale through partnership rather than parallel funding streams.

FROM SEED TO SCALE

How UNTFHS Financing Powers Sustainable Change



\$1 Million
UNTFHS Seed Funding



Pooled Funding

National governments
Bilateral Development Cooperation Partners
Private Sector Partners

\$6 Million

An invitation to partner

The scale and complexity of today's risks demand more than additional resources; they require a different way of investing in stability and resilience.

The UNTFHS offers partners a means to act earlier, work across silos, and test solutions in real-world settings before crises escalate. By investing through the Fund, governments help shape approaches that **anticipate risk, deliver measurable change, and can be adapted and scaled across contexts**.

We invite partners to engage with the UNTFHS as a strategic platform for governments to collaborate and invest with greater foresight, coherence, and lasting impact.



United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security