



UNITED NATIONS

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
occupied Palestinian territory

A photograph of a tent in a desert setting, with a person sitting inside and another person standing outside. The tent is made of light-colored fabric and has a dark mesh screen. The background shows a sandy landscape under a cloudy sky.

OPT AGRICULTURE SECTOR GUIDELINES FOR NGOS APPLYING FOR HRF FUNDING

This leaflet has been prepared by FAO and OCHA and is intended as a supplement, not a substitute, for the detailed OCHA HRF guidelines. These can be viewed at www.ochaopt.org/hrf.aspx

WHAT IS HRF?

- The Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF) provides funding of \$50,000 - \$250,000 to meet short-term emergency needs of vulnerable communities. It is managed by UN OCHA on behalf of the Humanitarian Coordinator, and funding decisions are guided by a review board consisting of representatives of the United Nations, and Palestinian and international NGOs and the donors.
- HRF can also be used to fill gaps in humanitarian funding, but the main purpose is to support rapid responses needed at the onset of emergencies before mainstream responses come on line. Normally these responses would seek to provide life saving interventions and/or prevent further erosion of livelihood assets and coping mechanisms of the affected communities.
- HRF funding can be accessed very quickly – money could be in an NGO’s bank account within two weeks of submitting a proposal.
- Projects should normally last for 2 – 5 months, and at least 80% of the budget should be spent on direct project inputs like fodder or vaccines. Overhead costs should not exceed 7% of the total budget.
- All UN agencies and registered national and international NGOs are eligible to apply. Proposals and budgets should be completed according to a standard format, and submitted to OCHA along with a logical framework. The form can be accessed on the HRF website www.ochaopt.org/hrf.aspx

IS YOUR PROJECT ELIGIBLE?

	✓	✗
Situation	Unforeseen emergencies such as those caused by severe weather (flood, drought, storm etc.), natural disasters (earthquake, tsunami etc.), disease, fire, conflict, prolonged power cuts or market volatility	Chronic problems such as those caused by the occupation, blockade, movement restrictions, unemployment, , gradual water quality deterioration etc.
Time-scale	Project addresses immediate short-term needs	Project focuses on long-term development needs
Seriousness	Project will prevent or reverse major deterioration of livelihoods or assets	
Planning and Capacity	Project is based on credible needs assessment; NGO has experience of similar interventions	
Exit	Project alone remedies situation caused by emergency, or fills a gap until other responses become available	Project would need to be repeated <i>ad infinitum</i> and there is no prospect of alternative funding

TIPS AND ADVICE

- Be **thorough**. The HRF application form has guidance in grey text for each section. Make sure you deal with all the points to avoid OCHA having to come back with questions (which will delay the process).
- Be **candid**. For example, if there are no female beneficiaries, just explain why – don't change the figures.
- Be **realistic**, especially in the budget. Several NGOs have lost money by using funds for purposes which were not agreed to be covered. Double check that the budget matches the narrative of the proposal.
- Be **simple** and straightforward. There is no need to provide lengthy historical background.
- Proposals written in poor **language** will not inspire confidence that your organization can manage an emergency project.
- Pay attention to the **exit strategy**. The project is unlikely to be approved if the problem which it addresses will still need attention when the project finishes. The project should either 'allow a situation to return to normal, or else to allow more long term programming to come on line'.
- **Hurry!** One of the strengths of the HRF is that it is a very rapid funding mechanism. Projects can be approved within a week of a proposal being received. While it important to take the time to conduct an accurate needs



assessment, do not wait for six months after the storm / flood / outbreak to submit a proposal.

- Discuss your project with the Agriculture cluster Lead (**FAO**) before submitting it. OCHA will anyway share your project with FAO for technical advice. Discussing it with FAO beforehand will allow FAO to assist you in meeting the criteria, and will also demonstrate to the HRF Review Board that the project has been coordinated with sector stakeholders.

PREVIOUSLY-FUNDED AGRICULTURE SECTOR HRF PROJECTS IN WBGS

Project	Implementing Agency	Location
Emergency provision of drinking water for animals and humans in Yatta	Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC)	Hebron, West Bank
Repairing fishing boats damaged or destroyed during the Gaza War	AEDS	Gaza City and North Gaza
Emergency rehabilitation of agricultural lands in Gaza for destitute farmers affected by incursions, blockade	Relief International	Rafah and Khan Younis, Gaza
Emergency support for livestock herders in the Al Bathan and Alaqrabaneyeh communities	Near East Foundation	North Jordan Valley, West Bank
Securing the livelihoods of agricultural households who suffered the loss of grazing and crop lands due to fire	ACTED	North Jordan valley, West Bank
Emergency control of new tomato pest (<i>Tuta absoluta</i>) through pheromone trapping	FAO	Gaza Strip
Control of tomato pest through emergency greenhouse repair	ESDC	Rafah, Gaza Strip
Control of tomato pest through emergency greenhouse repair	UAWC	Southern and middle Gaza Strip
Emergency support for breeders threatened by Chlamydia infection in Massafer Yatta, Road 317 and Bedouin areas	Oxfam Italia	Hebron, West Bank
Emergency interventions to mitigate the effect on breeders of drought conditions and high fodder prices	Oxfam Italia	Hebron, West Bank
Emergency support to vulnerable livestock herders in the southern the West Bank	ACF	Hebron, West Bank

