

ACT Alliance Appeal – GRRF26

Global Rapid Response Fund 2026

Total Appeal Fund: USD 5,000,000

Requested Amount: USD 4,230,430

Geneva, 2 March 2026

Dear ACT Alliance Members,

The Global Rapid Response Fund (GRRF) is an annual funding appeal administered by the ACT Alliance secretariat. The fund prioritises ACT local and national members in line with our commitment to locally led response and in recognition of the distinct advantage these members have in providing timely, high quality, emergency response interventions. Funds for the RRF are provided by ACT Alliance members and non-members.

ACT Alliance through its national members has been at the forefront of supporting local responses, often in contexts that may not always attract the attention of the media and donors. In such contexts, the impact of disasters at community level can be profound, and it is in such instances where the relevance and effectiveness of local and national actors and faith-based organisations, as well as the reach of ACT Alliance, is clearly demonstrated.

The members of ACT Alliance committed to strengthen and expand the Rapid Response Fund in the last General Assembly by approving our [public statement](#) on locally led response. In the next two years, the goal is to expand the fund to at least USD\$10 million. This includes adding Anticipatory Action as one modality where local members can access the fund.

ACT members at the local and national levels are rooted within communities, familiar with their needs and positioned to respond rapidly in times of crisis. Dignity, community empowerment and capacity-strengthening are cornerstones of our local and national responses. As a network of local, national, and international actors working in partnership, international and global members of ACT Alliance are uniquely placed to support local and national ACT members to deliver high quality locally led emergency response programmes. ACT Alliance with over 90 local and national members has the potential to be a leading actor globally in promoting high quality locally led emergency response programmes.

The Rapid Response Fund Appeal is issued in line with the reforms introduced in the revised ACT Humanitarian Policy, whereby appeals are primarily designed for large-scale and major emergencies. The RRF mechanism is for small to medium-scale emergency responses implemented by local and national members exclusively¹. As such, this appeal is issued with a particular intention of encouraging other modes of fundraising with members (including a projectized approach to access possible back donor funding).

¹ With limited exceptions as per the revised ACT Humanitarian Policy

GRRF26 FUND REQUEST

Description	GRRF26 Appeal Budget (USD\$)
Rapid Response Fund	5,000,000
Carryover balance from GRRF25	769,569
Balance Requested (in USD)	4,230,430

We are requesting USD 4,230,430 to replenish the fund for 2026 with the intention that the 2026 GRRF appeal will reflect the start of the fund expansion. This appeal will aid communities impacted by humanitarian crises in responding to the needs of the communities affected by a crisis. The budget has been established based on historical data and forecast activity with a noticeable increase in RRF request in January and February 2026.

GRRF proposals are assessed by a member-composed Panel Review based on the ACT Scale up criteria which includes a requirement for requesting members to include a needs assessment and updated emergency and preparedness and response plan (EPRP) as part of their application for funding. RRF funding projects are normally between a minimum two and maximum six-month duration

RRF Expansion

In November 2024, the ACT Alliance General Assembly approved our public statement on locally led response. Our pledge of commitments is designed to strengthen the humanitarian mechanism for locally led response which includes raising the RRF to USD10 million by 2027.

In November 2025, the EPHR Reference Group met in Amman and has endorsed the RRF expansion plan submitted by the newly recruited RRF Manager (seconded by Norwegian Church Aid).

New processes launched in 2026

RRF approval process:

As requested by funding members, including the main contributors to the RRF, now members constitute a Review Panel for RRF alerts and proposal. Assessment tools were developed to clarify eligibility criteria.

RRF Expansion:

Two pilots will be introduced this year: a **capacity sharing fund** will be created within the RRF to manage the capacity sharing efforts of local member organizations (approx. 15% of the total fund) in quarter 3, and an **anticipatory action fund** will be created for local and national members to access funding if they are already part of an existing mechanism in quarter 4 (10% of the total fund).

Visibility for future fundraising:

Starting in January 2026, each fund activation is now supported by a short 1-minute video which will be uploaded on ACT website. The use of a percentage of the total RRF fund envelope to develop a pro-active communication strategy, is under active consideration. In addition, a monthly summary of the fund activities is now available and shared with members.

GRRF25 REPORT

A preliminary GRRF25 report will be circulated to funding members in March 2026. Of the 17 emergency responses approved in 2025, there was a disproportionately high number of activations in the latter half of the year and only 7 have been fully implemented at this point. The final report will be shared in August 2026, once all projects have been completed.

Summary 2025	
Income received in 2025	1,697,236
Secretariat and Management costs (SMC) at 2%	33,613
Net income	1,663,623
Balance carried forward from 2024	678,193
Unspent project funds returned	5,648
Total funds available	2,347,464
Total payments	1,577,895
Fund balance, end of 2025	769,569

NB: Unspent funds refer to projects where expenditure was lower than the approved grant amount. The difference between the planned budget and the actual expenditure is returned to the fund.

REPORTING SCHEDULE

THE GRRF26 preliminary report will be issued at the end of February 2027. Cut-off date for income and disbursements will be 31 December 2026. Individual projects within GRRF26 with a reporting deadline after 15 February 2026 will be included in an updated appeal report by 30 August 2027 with the project summaries in an Annex.

Kindly send your contributions to GRRF26 to the following ACT bank accounts:

Account Number: 240-432629.60A (USD)
 IBAN No: CH46 0024 0240 4326 2960A
 Swift Code: UBSWCHZH80A

Account Name: ACT Alliance
 Bank Name and Address: UBS SA, P.O. Box 2600, Geneva 2, SWITZERLAND

Please inform Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Niall O'Rourke (niall.orourke@actalliance.org) with a copy to humanitarianfinance@actalliance.org of all pledges/contributions and transfers. Please also be sure to inform us at the time of your pledge of any back donor or other special requirements relevant to the contribution.

In line with Grand Bargain commitments to reduce the earmarking of humanitarian funding, if you have an earmarking request in relation to your pledge, please email Claire Finas (claire.finas@actalliance.org) to discuss this request or any request for an updated Rapid Response Fund funding levels and copy of the GRRF annual reports.

We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

ACT Website: <http://www.actalliance.org>

Niall O'Rourke
 Head of Humanitarian Affairs
 ACT Alliance Secretariat

Claire Finas
 Rapid Response Fund Manager
 ACT Alliance Secretariat