



Annual Report of the Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

2024



United
Nations

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The Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, administered by Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC), was created by the Secretary-General in 2016 to strengthen the response and support of victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Cover photo credit: Justin Aleu/CIPAD



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Foreword

It is our wish that acts of sexual exploitation and abuse by some of UN personnel would never take place. In our collective roles, we strive to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, and address the results of those acts. Unfortunately, those acts do occur.

The Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) by UN personnel is a small but meaningful mechanism established by the Secretary-General in 2016 to support the victims of those wrongs. There is much that the Trust Fund has achieved for victims of SEA, from providing medical support to empowering them to start their own businesses and helping them to regain their dignity.

I am pleased to introduce the 2024 annual report of the Trust Fund, which highlights activities conducted in 2024 and contains a financial overview for the same period. With 21 projects funded throughout the world since its establishment, the report also touches on the overall achievements and the impact the Trust Fund has had on the lives of many over the years.

In 2024, the Trust Fund implemented projects in locations suffering political and security instability and environmental disasters such as earthquakes and floods. In addition, following a decision of the Review Committee for the Trust Fund, a new funding modality was introduced. The Trust Fund started to provide small grants for victims' needs on an ad hoc basis, which includes school fees for children born as a result of SEA, and opportunities for courses or higher education. Introducing a grant modality allowed the Trust Fund to reach the victims more efficiently and quickly to address their most pressing and imminent needs and requests. This also provided options beyond group trainings in more non-traditional skills which could be more sustainable for income-generation, careers and growth.

Despite its important achievements, funding remains one of the main challenges for the Trust Fund. Support from 25 Member States has been very welcome and allowed the Trust Fund to accomplish much in these past eight years. However, the need is greater than the available funding.



Credit: UN Photo

This report provides a window into what has been done with the limited funding to date, and I strongly encourage others to contribute to the Trust Fund. We need to stay committed to supporting victims of SEA, and I look forward to continuing our partnership with Member States on this important mechanism.

Catherine Pollard

Under-Secretary-General
for Management Strategy,
Policy and Compliance

Trust Fund and its Origin

The Secretary-General created the Trust Fund in 2016 to strengthen the response and support for victims of SEA. The Fund aims to address gaps in services for victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by providing seed funds to implementing partners, including United Nations Secretariat entities, United Nations agencies,

funds and programs, and non-governmental organizations for projects or smaller grants for direct victims' needs. The Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC) administers the work of the Trust Fund.

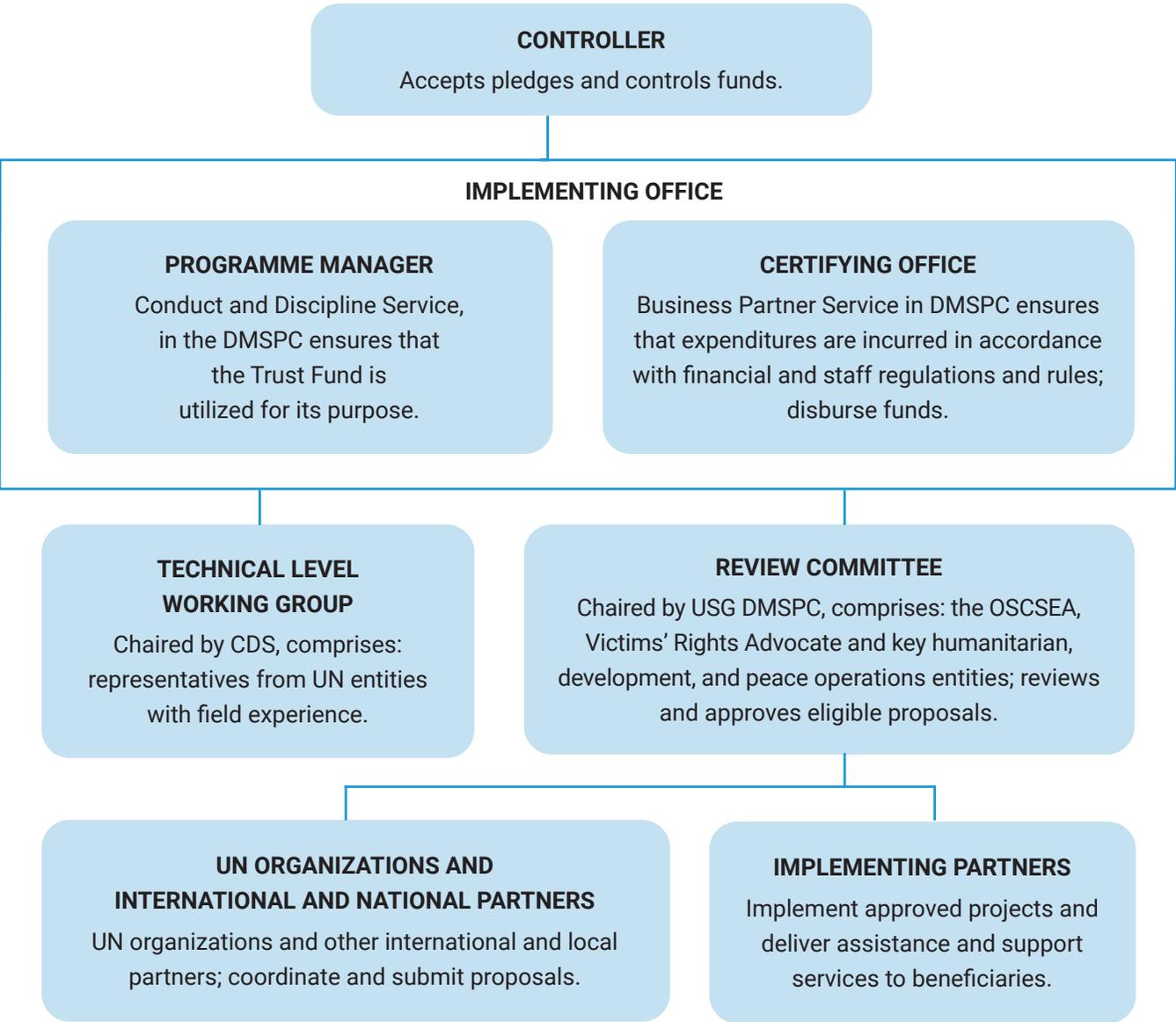


Credit : Justin Aleu/CIPAD

Governance of the Trust Fund

Administration: DMSPC is the Trust Fund Implementing Office (IO). The Trust Fund Programme Manager is the Conduct and Discipline Service (CDS) located in the Administrative Law Division of the Office of Human Resources, DMSPC. It is also the Secretariat of the Trust Fund and its Review Committee. It monitors the status of projects and their performance indicators, ensures that disbursed funds are used in line with project proposals and reviews final expenditures for each project

in line with established procedures. In certain instances, projects do not always go as planned. The Trust Fund Secretariat, in line with its responsibilities to monitor the status of projects also has to take action to terminate projects when the overall goals of the project are not met or it is determined that the project no longer is viable. The Trust Fund Certifying Officer is DMSPC Executive Office/ Business Partner Service.



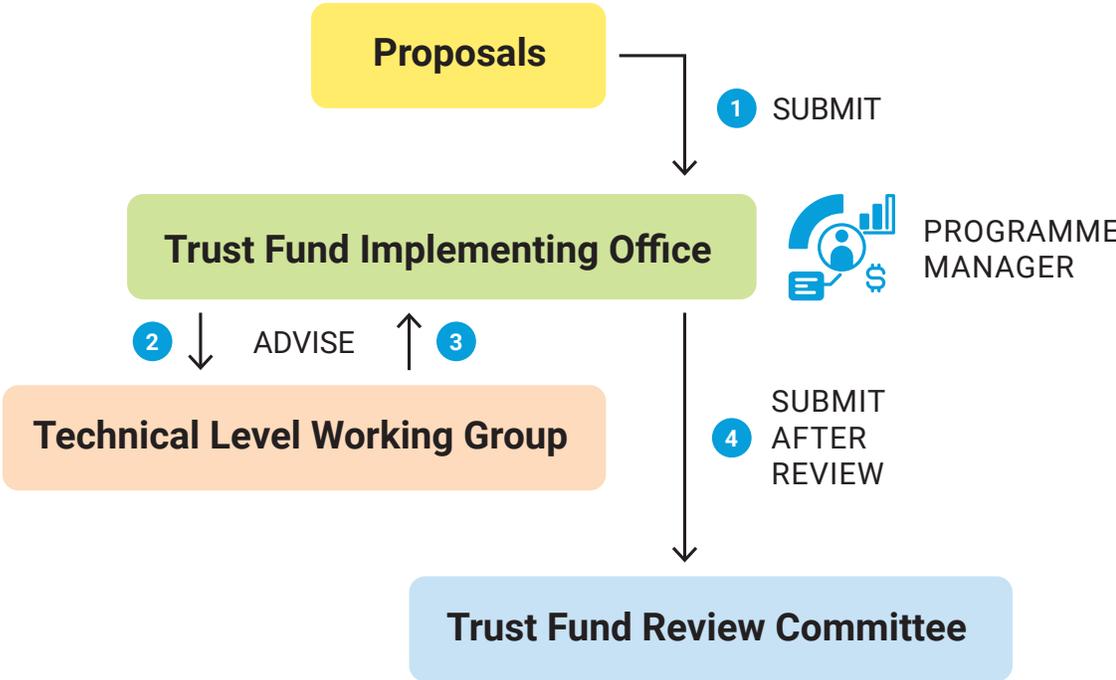
Funding Modality

The Trust Fund funding can be accessed through two types of modalities: a **project proposal** or a **request for a grant**.

Proposals

The Trust Fund proposals are submitted to the Trust Fund Implementing Office for initial review and feedback. The Trust Fund Programme Manager consults with the Victims’ Rights Advocate on eligible proposals. The proposals eligible in accordance with the Trust Fund Terms of Reference and existing regulatory and programme management frameworks, are then submitted to the Trust Fund Review Committee¹ for approval. Members of the Review Committee are from Secretariat Offices, Departments and UN agencies funds and programmes. The Victims’ Rights Advocate is a Review Committee member and a key source of guidance on Trust Fund matters.

In 2023, a Technical Level Working Group was established to support review of the proposals and advise Review Committee members on the proposals’ feasibility in the proposed locations. The Technical Level Working Group consists of a representative of each office represented in the Review Committee.



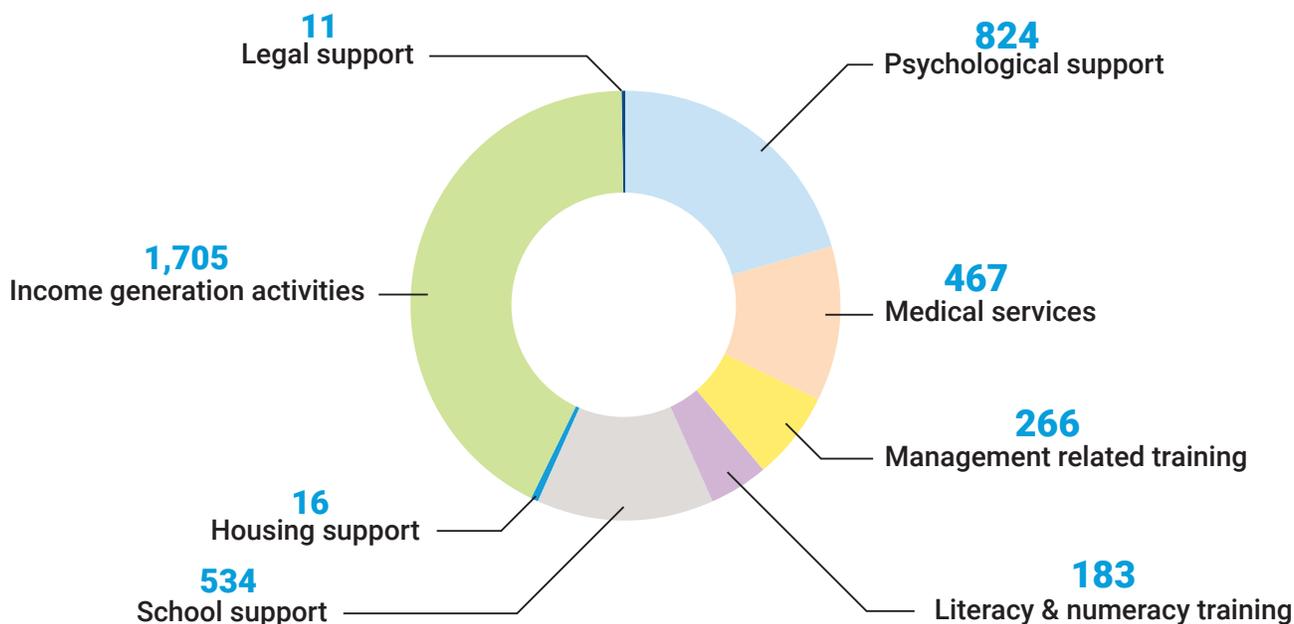
Grants

For urgent and specific needs, requests for small grants can be submitted directly to the Conduct and Discipline Service for review. The Under-Secretary-General of the DMSPC, who also chairs the Review Committee, approves ad hoc requests for grants.

¹ The Review Committee members are the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (USG as Chair), the Special Coordinator on SEA; the Victims’ Rights Advocate, senior managers from OCHA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNWOMEN, UNFPA, IOM, WHO, Development Coordination Office and the Department of Peace Operations.

Impact²

As we assess our interventions and look for the best ways to support victims, we wish to report on the impact from the 21 projects supported so far by the Trust Fund.



Graph 1. Number of individuals receiving various types of support

Psychosocial support

Psychosocial support such as psychological first aid, counselling, and referral to specialized mental health clinics is one of the key services provided to victims of SEA. Trained psychosocial staff provide psychosocial support via group therapy sessions, individual counselling and home visits. Therapy sessions focus on mechanisms to develop and strengthen emotional resilience and positive parenting skills. For the children, sessions encourage self-acceptance, psychologists also work with both children and their parents to create an enabling environment where children can express themselves and build skills in family communication and mutual support.

To enhance mental health and psychological support to victims, when needed, the Trust Fund projects strengthen the capacity of the social workers and psychologists and ensure they have the skills and knowledge required to provide appropriate care.

As part of a project implemented by UNFPA in South Sudan in 2022, specialized psychosocial support was provided to 37 victims of SEA, women and girls at risk of SEA as well as children born as a result of SEA in Upper Nile-Malakal, Unity State-Bentiu and Jonglei State-Pibor.

In Haiti, 13 beneficiaries participated in individual counselling sessions.

² On some occasions victims receive more than one type of support and/or victims participated in more than one project.



824 Individuals received psychological support



80 Community workers trained on psychological first aid



79 Psychosocial staff trained on mental health and psychosocial support

Medical care

Victims of sexual exploitation require both immediate and specialized treatments to address the consequences of SEA. However, providing medical support is often a challenge, considering the limited services available in the area where the victims live. Trust Fund implementing partners that do not have in-house capacity work with the PSEA network or UN partners to identify the right service providers and then refer victims to clinics.

To address immediate needs, victims receive hygiene kits and other sanitary materials. Victims are referred to services such as HIV post-exposure treatment, post-exposure prophylaxis, and reproductive and sexual health care services. If needed, specialized treatments are also provided, including for obstetric-gynecological complications.

Similarly to psychological support, when and if needed, health workers are trained.

In Haiti, due to limited referral options, the project beneficiaries received medical insurance giving them a flexibility of receiving medical support where and when needed. A few beneficiaries were also provided with vision glasses.



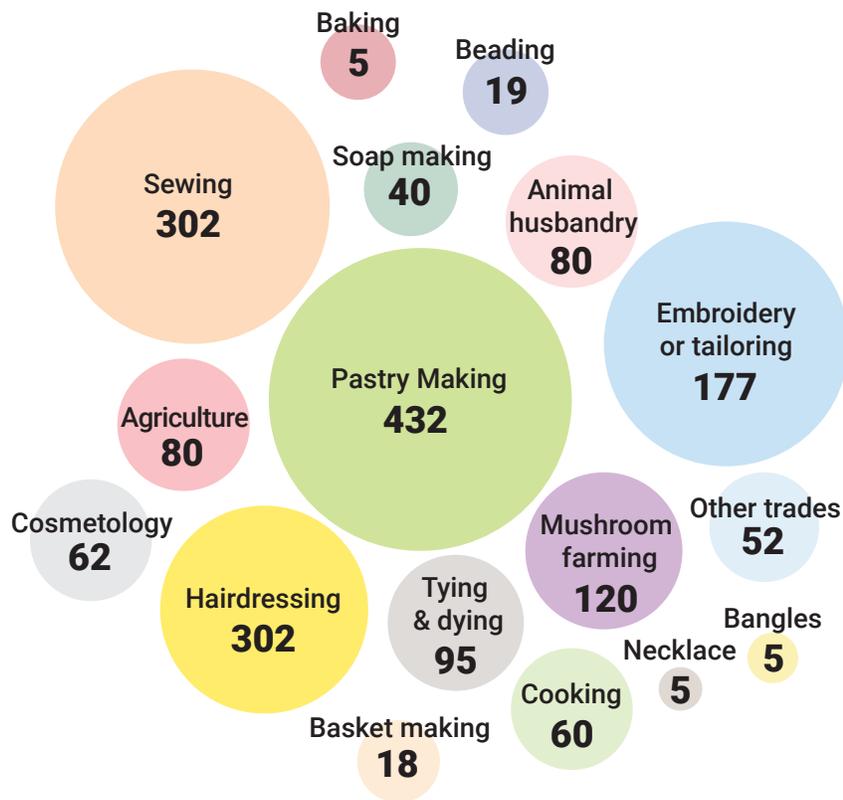
467 Individuals received medical support



80 Healthcare workers trained

Income generation and business management training

The Trust Fund aims to empower and provide victims with skills which enable them to be independent and self-sufficient. Through the provision of vocational training and training related to business and finance management, victims can gain skills that enable them to start their businesses, sell their products, and generate income. Victims, who are often stigmatized by their families and community members and may be abandoned without support, are able to provide for themselves and their families, to break out of stigma, and rebuild their self-esteem.



Graph 2. Number of individuals participating in different type of income generation activities

Over the years, the Trust Fund projects offered training on trades ranging from sewing, pastry making, baking, embroidery, animal husbandry, hairdressing, soap making, agriculture, beading and jewellery-making, to basket making, tailoring, tie and dye, cooking, cosmetology and mushroom farming. The training offered by the projects varies, depending on victims’ preferences but also the viability of the business in each project location.

The training usually takes a few months and is provided with support from professionals. At the end of the training, beneficiaries are provided with starter kits that increase their chances of opening their businesses e.g. coffee shops. For example, beneficiaries of income generation projects in Democratic Republic of Congo or the Central African Republic receive sawing machines, muslins for clothes, and products such as milk, soda, sugar and flour that allow them to prepare baked goods. Beneficiaries involved in animal husbandry receive livestock.

As part of the income generation stream, victims often also participate in business and finance management training. For example, beneficiaries of the recently implemented project in South Sudan, learned how to develop their business plan, price the products, keep records of sales, promote their products, grow their businesses, and use their earnings as an investment.



1705 Individuals participated in income generation activities



214 Individuals received business management training

Literacy and numeracy

Many of the victims do not have an opportunity to attend any school due to pregnancy as a result of SEA and are forced to drop their education. Illiteracy makes them even more vulnerable. The Trust Fund provides literacy and numeracy training, e.g. in Liberia, victims learned how to read and write as well as obtained skills in basic accounting.



183 Individuals trained in literacy and numeracy

Legal support

One of the more complex but very needed forms of support is legal assistance. Pro bono lawyers can support victims in understanding the nuances of the law, especially if alleged perpetrators are not nationals or permanent residents of the host country and multiple jurisdictions are involved. Lawyers can represent victims in courts and ensure victims' rights are properly represented during proceedings. As part of legal support, some projects cover the administrative costs of legal proceedings. In paternity and child support claims, lawyers can support the facilitation of the process of receiving child support and applying for citizenship for the child born as a result of SEA.

Finding legal support with the ability to understand the complexity of the investigation process and the jurisdiction of both the victim and the perpetrator is challenging but not impossible. For example, in Haiti, legal fee support was provided to one beneficiary's pro bono lawyer to cover fees incurred for an ongoing paternity and child support claim in Benin.



214 Individuals received legal support

School support (including for children born as a result of SEA)

The Trust Fund also supports children born as a result of SEA by covering their school fees and/or providing them with school kits. Children attend public or private schools, depending on the availability of public schools, the quality of education, and the security situation. If needed, the Trust Fund supports individual education, e.g., in Haiti, the fund covered the cost of private tutors due to closing of schools, while in the Central African Republic, the cost of a university for a woman who had to drop out after becoming pregnant as a result of SEA, and training in mechanics. Funds have also been used to cover the costs of books, stationery, and school uniforms. On one occasion, the Trust Fund provided a school with 128 desks, bringing back to life, the only school in an area where there were also children born as a result of SEA.



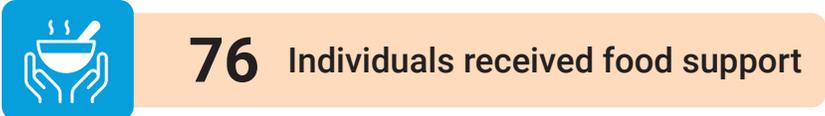
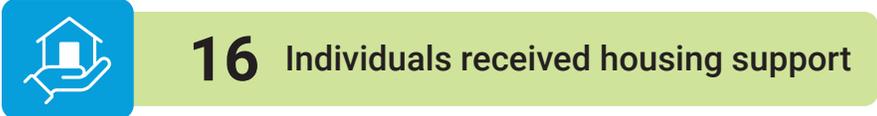
534 Individuals received school support



363 Individuals received school kits

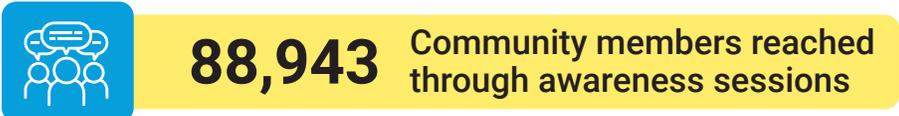
Emergency support (housing and food)

Victims of SEA often live in challenging places with fragile security and the risk of natural disasters. On several occasions, victims of SEA received emergency support. For example, in 2021, in response to an earthquake in Haiti, victims received temporary housing support.



Community outreach

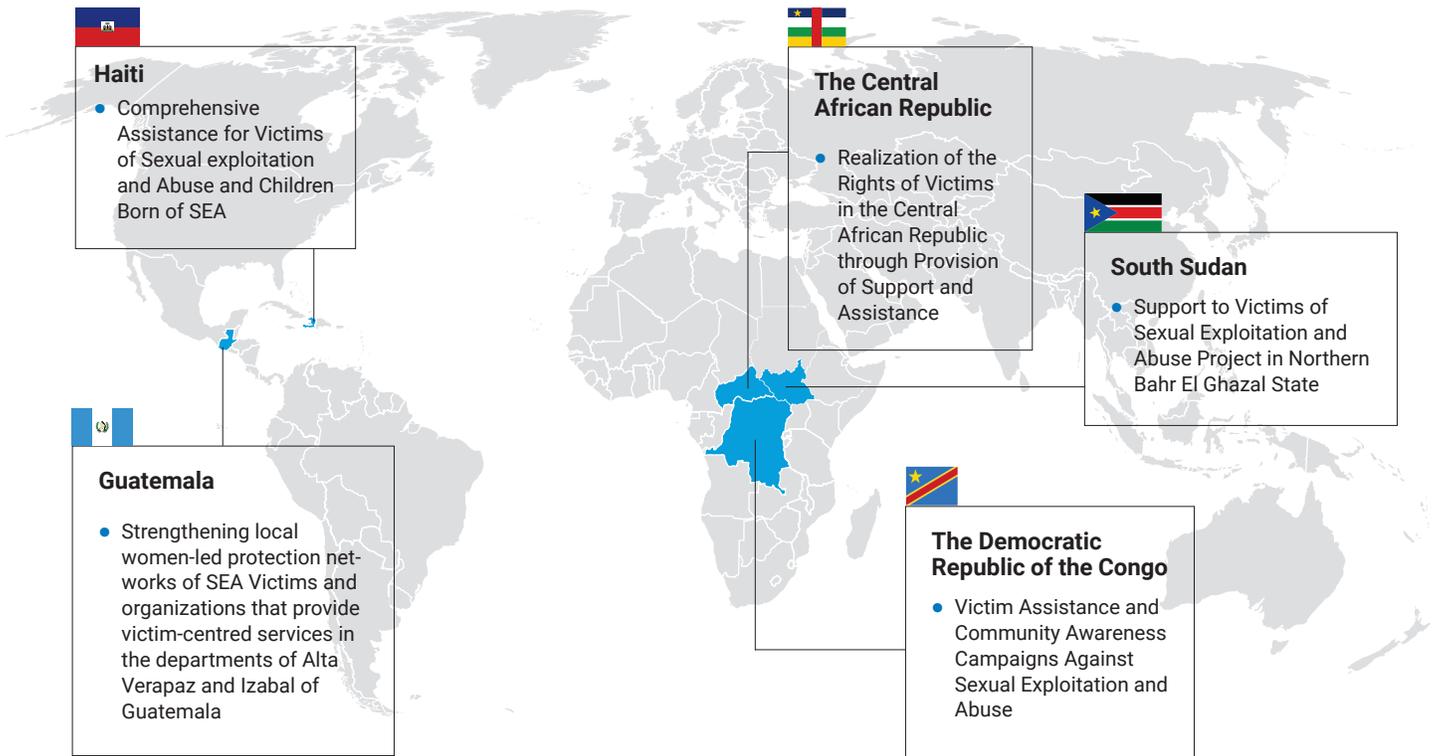
Having a trusted and knowledgeable village member who can guide a victim on what to do and where to ask for support is important. As part of prevention efforts, many Trust Fund projects focused on reaching out to local communities and increasing their knowledge on SEA and ways to report it.



Other support

Support provided by the projects varies and depends on the needs of victims and local communities. In South Sudan, the Trust Fund supported the refurbishment and establishment of Women and Girls Friendly Spaces or the construction of toilets and water stations.

2024 in Review: Trust Fund Projects



Note: Project budgets and timelines are subject to change given the evolving situations where projects are being implemented and based on the identified needs e.g., the security situation in a country can lead to additional funds being disbursed.

During 2024, the Trust Fund implemented the following projects:

 **Country:**
The Central African Republic

Project Name: **Realization of the Rights of Victims in the Central African Republic through Provision of Support and Assistance.**

Project budget: 258,168.52 USD

Funds Disbursed: 258,168.52 USD

Status: **Completed**

In 2022, the Review Committee approved a new project to support victims of SEA and children born as a result

of SEA in the Central African Republic. MINUSCA, with support from an implementing partner NGUERRE TI BATANGO YE SO A NGÔRO E (NBY), implemented the project in three areas: Alindao, Mobaye and Pombolo.

Main Expected Outputs (as per proposal):

- Train 120 victims of SEA and at risk of SEA in Alindao and 100 victims of SEA and those at risk in Mobaye and Pombolo in soap making, pastry, sewing, hair-dressing, agriculture, and animal husbandry.
- Provide educational support to 34 children born of SEA.
- Rehabilitate a school in Pombolo.
- Increase capacity of the Local Community Prevention and Response Network (LCPRN) on prevention and response to SEA.

Project Outputs:

- 220 beneficiaries received vocational training (20 in soap making, 40 in sewing, 20 in pastry making, 20 in hairdressing, 40 in soap making and 80 in agriculture).



Credit: Trust Fund Secretariat

- 9 children received educational support. The children also received uniforms, shoes and other school supplies.
- 128 school desks were provided to the Pombolo primary school.

The inaccessibility of the project locations due to bad roads posed a significant challenge for project staff, movement and delivery of project materials. Efforts to procure some of the project materials from the local market were also thwarted by a lack of availability. Consequently, most logistical items were purchased in Bangui, causing significant delays in the delivery of materials to project beneficiaries. Despite challenges, the project was completed in August 2024.



Country: The Democratic Republic of the Congo

Project Name: **Victim Assistance and
Community Awareness Campaigns Against
Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**

Project budget: **285,677 USD**

Funds disbursed: **142,838.58 USD**

Status: **Terminated**

The project was initiated in August 2023 by Jeunes Solutions (JS) with the aim to increase the capacity of victims of SEA and those exposed, as well as children



Credit : Rachel Kiese Mbanguni/Radio Okapi Bukavu

born as a result of SEA and ensure their reintegration into the community.

Main Expected Outputs (as per proposal):³

- Provide vocational training for 160 individuals in Uvira, Fizi and Kabare.
- Provide school support for 30 children.
- Train 60 Community-based Complaint Networks (CBCNs) on prevention of SEA.

The project provided school support to 45 children. The remainder activities were not implemented as the project was terminated due to various issues, including capacity and administrative gaps.

Country: Guatemala

Project Name: Strengthening local women-led protection networks of SEA Victims and organizations that provide victim-centred services in the departments of Alta Verapaz and Izabal of Guatemala

Project budget: 150,055.73 USD

Funds Disbursed: 75,028 USD

Status: Ongoing

Following close cooperation with the Resident Coordinator’s office, in Nov 2023 the Trust Fund initiated its first project in Guatemala. UN Women, as the leading agency, along

³ Numbers of project beneficiaries mentioned under project objective sections are based on the approved project proposal. Those numbers might change (decrease/increase) during the implementation phase of a project. Final number of project beneficiaries supported are reported once a project is completed.

with UNFPA, implements the project to strengthen the Guatemalan Community Based Complaint Mechanism (CBCM) for victims of SEA and improve the availability of and access to victims' assistance in Alta Verapaz and Izabal. This project is also an example of good collaboration on a project by the UN Country Team and PSEA network.

Main Expected Outputs (as per proposal):

- Train and raise awareness of 20 women-led SEA community-based protection networks.
- Conduct community outreach activities on SEA with the women-led protection networks (at least one activity in each of the 20 communities) and design and disseminate SEA awareness-raising communication materials in print, social media and community radio.
- Conduct a mapping and capacity assessment of civil society organizations providing services to victims of SEA.
- Provide 100 members of the communities affected or at risk of SEA with access to information, psycho-social, legal services, and medical support.

Project progress:

- 20 women-headed community protection networks identified and trained on SEA.
- Conducted mapping and capacity assessment focused on measuring the protection networks' knowledge, experience and organization capacities to address the issue, including existing channels to manage SEA cases and preferred communication and information channels.
- Initiated creation of awareness materials.



Country: Haiti

Project Name: Comprehensive Assistance for Victims of Sexual exploitation and Abuse and Children Born of SEA.

Project budget: 340,000 USD

Funds Disbursed: 340,000 USD

Status: Completed

In August 2023, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) launched Haiti's first Trust Fund project.

Despite continued political instability and unstable security situations, the one-year project aimed to provide comprehensive assistance to victims of SEA in Haiti.

Main Expected Outputs (as per proposal):

- Provide services and support to meet some of the basic needs (medical, psychological, nutritional, educational, housing, lifesaving) of 40 victims of SEA. The support includes:
 - Monthly non-monetary contributions of food.
 - Annual contribution to mothers/caregivers to enable 48 children to attend school during 2023/24.
 - Provision of lifesaving support, including housing support and rental subsidies, housing evaluation and transportation to the house.
- Provide vocational training to 40 beneficiaries in income-generating activities (IGA) and financial management in the form of in-kind contributions for starting their businesses.

Project Outputs:

The project supported:

- 41 children (20 girls and 21 boys) by covering their school fees and school-related expenses such as schoolbooks, backpacks, and tutor funding.
- 35 women and 41 children received a monthly stipend for food assistance.
- 13 beneficiaries received individual counselling sessions every two weeks.
- 76 project beneficiaries received DASH health insurance for one year.
- Three female beneficiaries were provided with eyeglasses.
- 34 women completed a two-week customized training course on entrepreneurship from two vocational schools.

One of the main challenges in implementing the project was the security situation. With a limited number of personnel authorized to conduct life-saving activities and missions in the field, many of the work was implemented remotely. The project was successfully completed in August 2024.



Country: South Sudan

Project Name: **Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Project in Northern Bahr El Ghazal State.**

Project budget: 254,154 USD

Funds Disbursed: 254,154 USD

Status: Completed

In July 2023, the Community Initiative for Partnership and Development (CIPAD) launched a new Trust Fund project in South Sudan. The project was implemented in Northern Bahr El Ghazal State.

Main Expected Outputs (as per proposal):

- Provide livelihood support to 58 victims of SEA in order to increase their income sources and strengthen their livelihood capacity.
- Provide awareness raising to 360 community members and victims of SEA of their rights and reporting mechanisms.
- Provide psychosocial services to 58 victims of SEA.
- Referral to services of 58 victims of SEA.
- Establish at least 12 volunteer community psychosocial support groups and train them to provide free psychosocial support services to the victims of SEA in the communities.

Project Outputs:

Throughout the project, the following activities took place:

- Eight community outreach meetings with 240 participants (118 females and 122 males) were conducted in Malek-Alel Boma of Nyoc-Awany Payam and Wath-Muok Boma of Wath-Muok Payam in Aweil South County.
- 12 community engagement meetings were organized to establish community volunteer psychosocial support groups at different locations of Northern Bahr el Ghazal state to enhance psychosocial support services for the victims of SEA.



Credit : Justin Aleu/CIPAD

- 58 beneficiaries received livestock (five goats each), bags of maize flour, cartons of soaps, bedsheets, beads, and goats, all of which enhanced their social and economic resilience capacity.
- 58 beneficiaries participated in vocational training focusing on increasing beneficiaries' skills in embroidery. The two-month training programme focused on growing beneficiaries' knowledge and skills in knitting and decorating bedsheets, tablecloths and pillowcases.
- 58 beneficiaries trained on basic business management and financial literacy. Following the training, the project team provided mentorship and guidance to beneficiaries.
- 58 beneficiaries trained in animal husbandry skills. This training covered essential skills such as animal care, health management and enabling beneficiaries to generate income through livestock farming.

The project beneficiaries expressed interest in engaging in trades such as baking, pastry making, grocery, embroidery, or opening restaurants. Following the initiation of the project and feedback on planned activities, the project

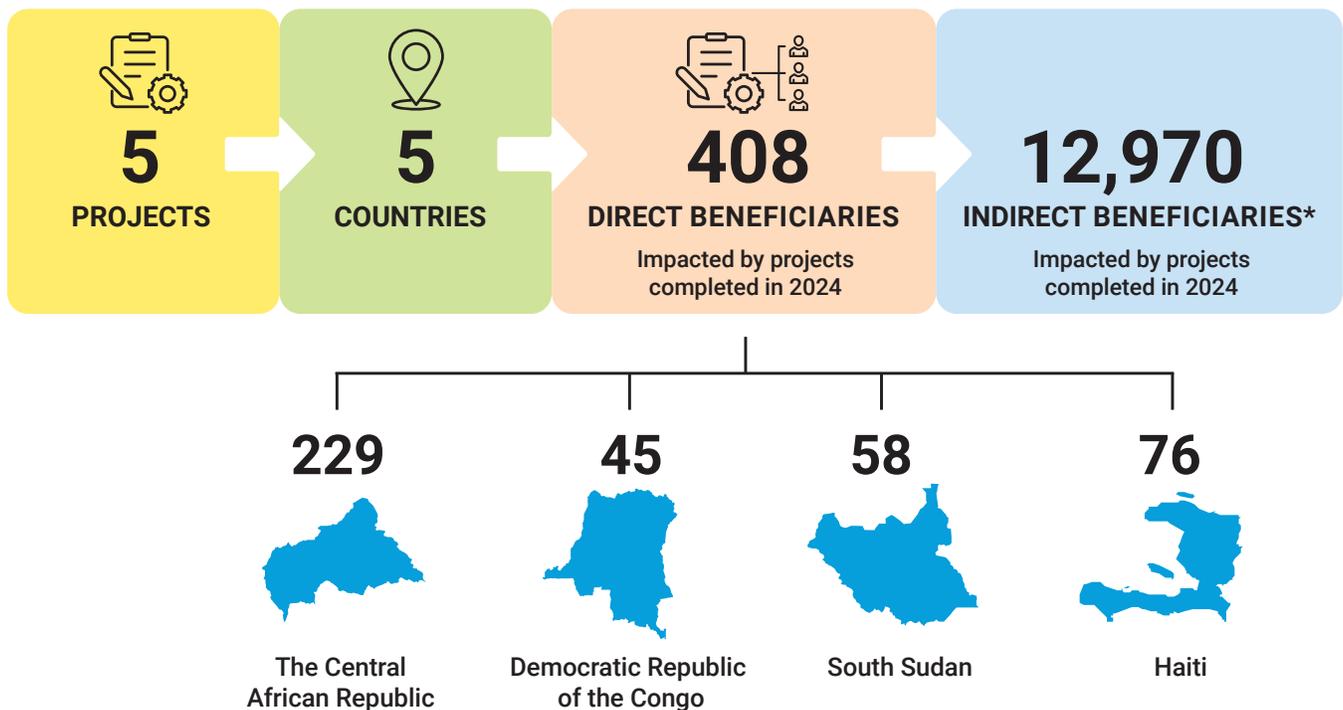
scope was adjusted. To ensure the long-term impact of the support provided, the implementing partner was requested to organize vocational training focusing on the income generation trades. As a result, with the aim for the project to be delivered on budget, the number of community awareness sessions was reduced from 12 to eight. The change to the project scope and offering of additional capacity-building activities was a welcome development, and the project was successfully completed in July 2024.

Grant support in Haiti and in the Central African Republic

In 2024, the Trust Fund provided small grants to two missions: BINUH and MINUSCA. The funds aim to support victims and children born as a result of SEA and cover their educational support. The grants are used to provide direct, specific support to victims, e.g. those wishing to finish their university degree or finalize their training as a mechanic.



Credit : Justin Aleu/CIPAD



*An indirect beneficiary is someone who is not directly connected with a project but will still benefit from it, for example, community members who have benefited from awareness raising activities

Financial Information

List of the 25 Member States that provided contributions to the Trust Fund and payments withheld from troops and police-contributing countries as a result of substantiated allegations (from March 2016 to January 2025). It is to be noted that these are all contributions received, and much has been disbursed or committed as per the table below:

Country	Received	Country	Received
 Albania	\$2,000	 Nepal	\$15,000
 Australia	\$153,374	 Nigeria	\$100,000
 Bangladesh	\$148,182	 Norway	\$393,377
 Bhutan	\$10,000	 Pakistan	\$10,000
 Canada	\$240,964	 The Philippines	\$25,000
 Cyprus	\$18,067	 Portugal	\$82,383
 Ecuador	\$1,000	 Slovakia	\$46,333
 Finland	\$59,242	 Sri Lanka	\$10,000
 Germany	\$120,000	 Switzerland	\$92,000
 India	\$100,000	 Uganda	\$10,000
 Italy	\$581,818	 United Kingdom	\$1,117,318
 Japan	\$200,000	 United States of America	\$620,000
 Luxembourg	\$50,000		
TOTAL			\$4,206,058
Withheld payments to troop and police contributors as a result of substantiated allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse⁴			\$982,597
OVERALL TOTAL			\$5,188,655

⁴ The amount also includes funds withheld from UN personnel.

Summary of all funds disbursed between 2017 and February 2025

Contributions received since 2016	\$4,206,058
Payments withheld from troop and police contributing countries as a result of substantiated allegations	\$982,597
Total	\$5,188,655
Disbursed/committed funds, including advances to IPs	\$4,382,141
Projected balance	\$806,514

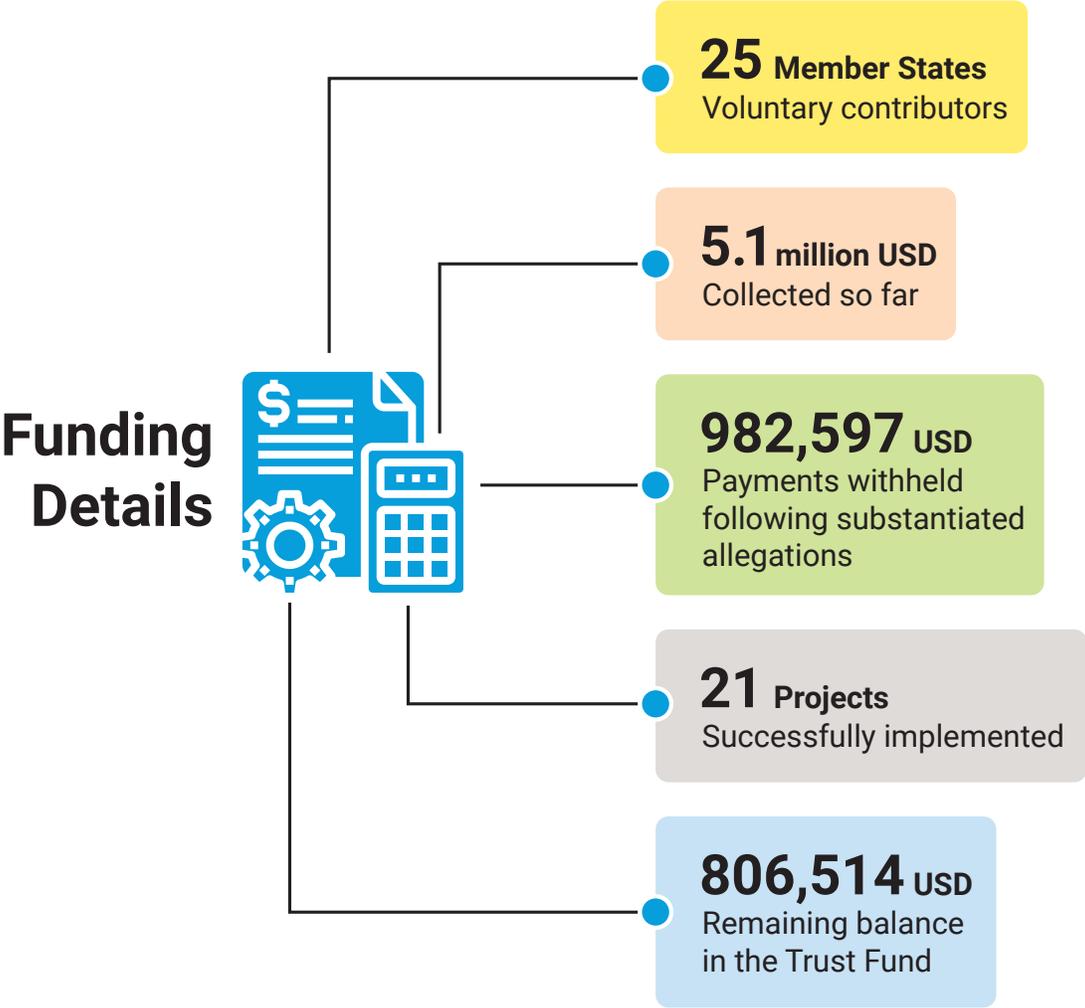
Funding

The Trust Fund portfolio, since its establishment, includes voluntary contributions from **25 Member States** (contributors are listed in the Financial Information section on page 16) in the amount of over **5.1 million USD**, including 982,597 USD representing payments withheld following substantiated allegations of SEA by United Nations personnel.

Contributions to the Trust Fund can be made by governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, private institutions, or individuals.

Following the successful implementation and launch of **21 projects**, the Trust Fund has a **remaining balance of 806,514 USD**.

To contribute to the Trust Fund, visit <https://www.un.org/preventing-sexualexploitation-and-abuse/content/donate-trust-fund> or contact us on trustfundsea@un.org



Way Forward

Much has been done over the last few years, with **21 projects** implemented and hundreds of victims supported through various activities. However, gaps in services still need to be addressed, and several victims' needs remain unattended.

Funding is at the front of the priorities to allow the Trust Fund to continue implementing projects where most needed. As the Trust Fund aims to support victims of the entire UN system and is the only mechanism for the system, the capacity and resources to implement new projects across various locations are even more critical to implement a victims-centered and rights-based approach.

The priorities for 2025 include:

- **Continue fundraising efforts** to ensure Trust Fund's ability to address gaps in services for victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.
- **Conduct regular project monitoring visits**, subject to availability of funding.
- **Continue collaboration with the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate and Senior Victims' Rights Officers** on reviewing gaps in services and specialized projects and in improving and implementing methodologies to engage victims on needs and seek feedback from beneficiaries,
- **Continue efforts to explore and fund** smaller-scale projects and provide small grants that directly impact affected victims.
- **Disseminate information on the impact of the Trust Fund** and voices of beneficiaries through the Trust Fund website, social media campaigns and various United Nations and Member States events.



Credit : Myriam Asmani/MONUSCO



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