



# Immediate Response Account and Central Emergency Response Fund

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Presentation during the Financial Seminar  
of the Executive Board Briefing

16 May 2007



## Immediate Response Account

- Internal mechanism established by the Executive Board in 1991
- Maximum balance of \$70 million set by the Executive Board in 2004
- The fund is replenished and revolved with donor contributions

## Central Emergency Response Fund

- Loan mechanism established by the General Assembly in 1991
- Grant mechanism established by the General Assembly in 2005 with an annual grant capacity target of \$500 million
- Replenished annually by voluntary contributions



# Eligibility for Funding

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## Immediate Response Account

- Rapid Response Allocations
  - Food and non food for immediate implementation
- Critical Pipeline Breaks
- Emergency Preparedness
- Delegated Authority
  - Country Director - \$500,000

## Central Emergency Response Fund

- Rapid Response Grants
  - Promote early response to save lives
  - Enhance emergency response based on sector shortfalls
- Underfunded Emergency Grants
  - Strengthen humanitarian response in under-funded crises



# Distinct and Complementary

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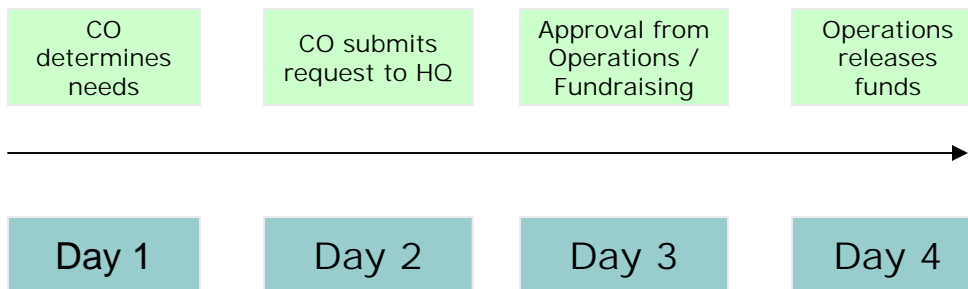
- Timing of Funds
  - Each mechanism plays a distinct role in emergency response, based on the timing of allocations and the intended impact of funding.
- Complementarity of Funds
  - Each mechanism allocates funding to large-scale humanitarian operations, providing UN Country Teams with the flexibility that they require to address humanitarian needs.



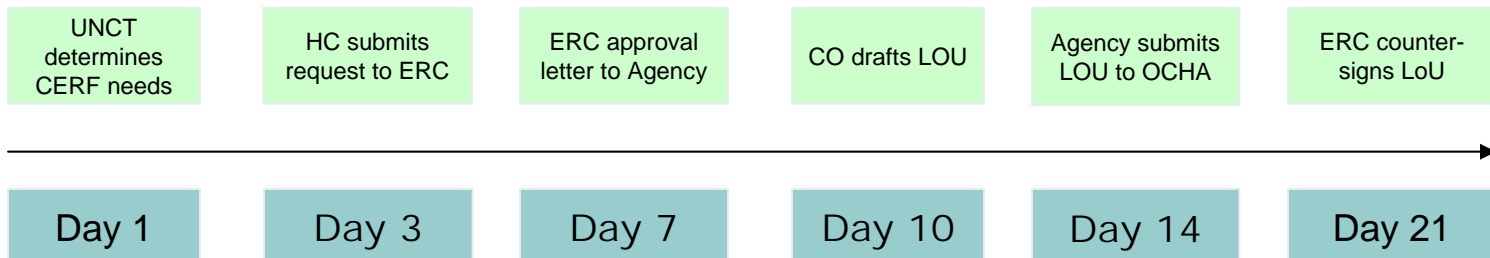
# Timing of Funds

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## Immediate Response Account – 2006 Average

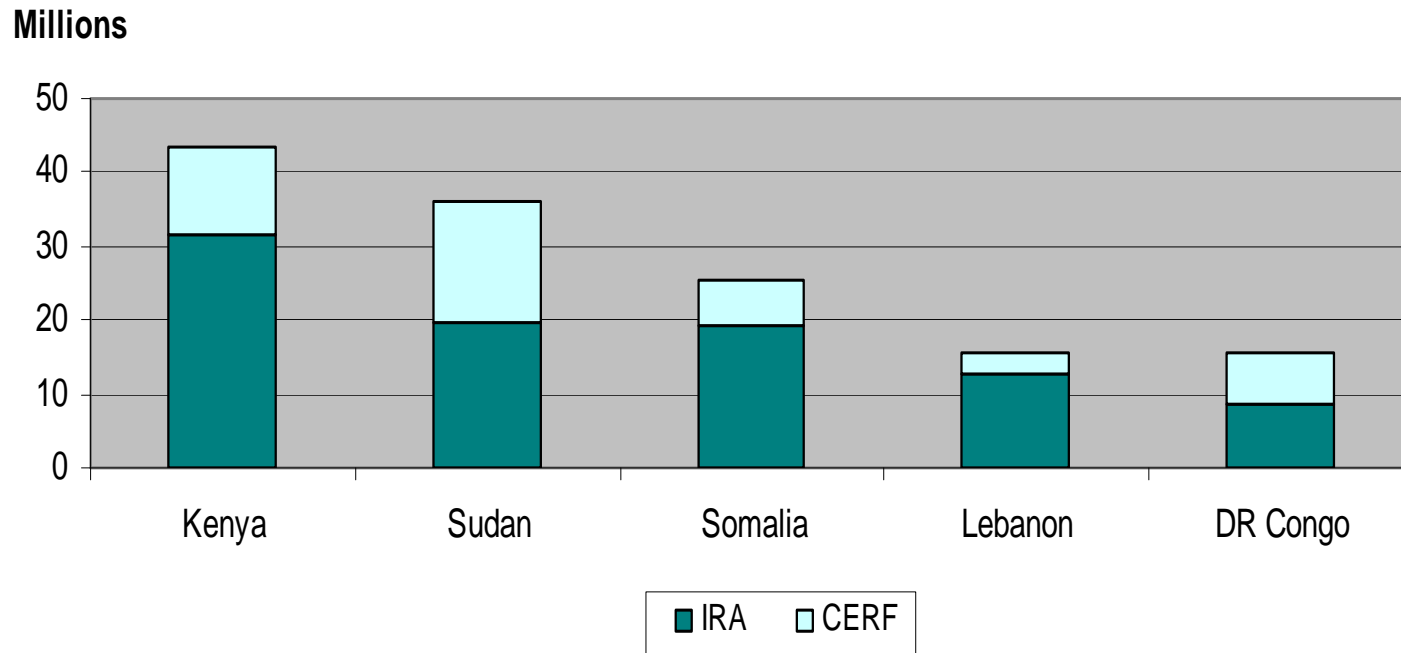


## Central Emergency Response Fund – 2006 Average

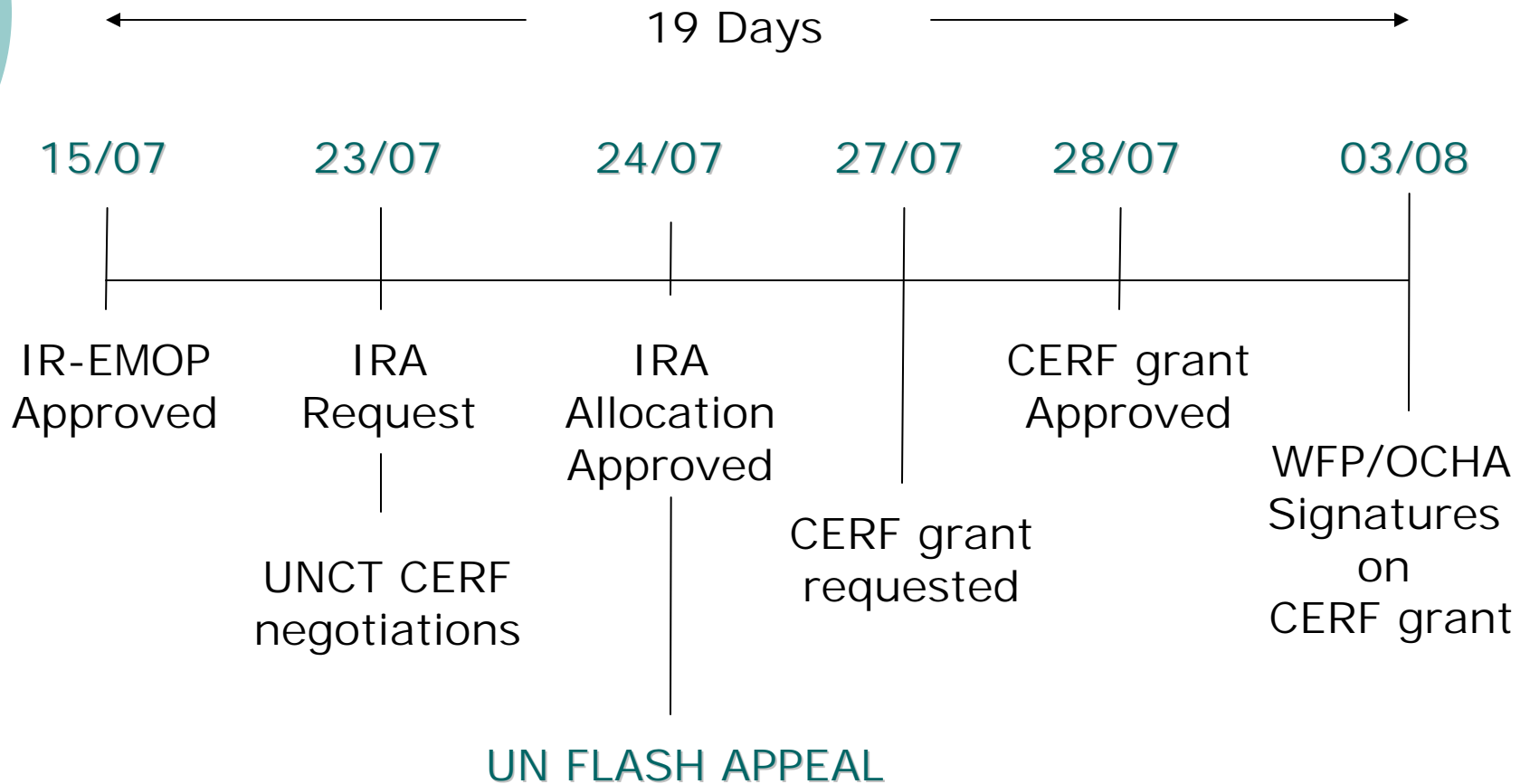


# Complementarity of Funds

TOP 5 IRARECIPIENT COUNTRIES



# Example – Lebanon



# Example – Kenya

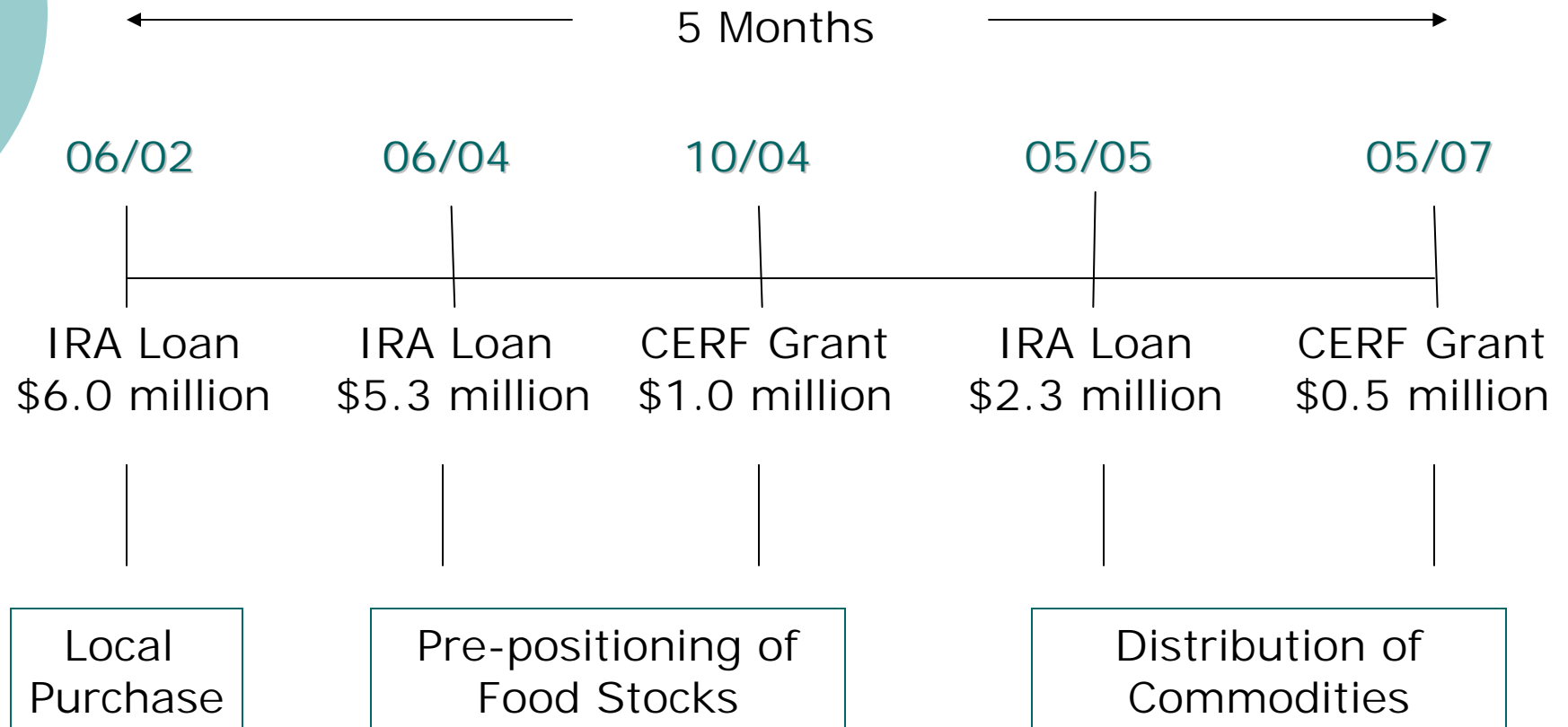
- **Central Emergency Response Fund**
  - Maximum total allocation of \$30 million among six agencies.
- **Immediate Response Account**
  - Capacity to completely fill gaps in food “pipeline.”

IRA Funded Project	Amount
Kenya – EMOP	25 100 000
Kenya – PRRO	6 300 000
<b>TOTAL IRA TO KENYA</b>	<b>31 400 000</b>

CERF Funded Agency	Amount
FAO	2 598 586
UNFPA	100 000
UNHCR	5 605 780
UNICEF	5 730 547
<b>WFP</b>	<b>12 151 726</b>
WHO	1 349 530
<b>TOTAL CERF TO KENYA</b>	<b>27 536 169</b>



# Example – Somalia





# Challenges and Opportunities

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## Immediate Response Account

- Donor support for replenishment and revolvment
- Immediate impact of contribution
- IRA cap of \$70 million

## Central Emergency Response Fund

- Cap of \$30 million per emergency
- Goal of reaching \$500 million in annual allocations
- Streamlining Process
- Reporting
  - Financial and narrative reporting



# Quotes from the Secretary-General

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- Report of the Secretary General to the General Assembly, October 2005

Agency emergency funds, like the Immediate Response Account “provide an important source of liquidity and have enabled the agencies to improve their own rapid response performance on numerous occasions. In this context, it is recommended that donors continue to channel contributions to reimburse those accounts.”

- Report of the Secretary General to the General Assembly, September 2006

“The success of the CERF also depends on its ability to work in tandem with existing funding mechanisms. For this reason, it is important that CERF funds are additional to support to existing emergency funds.”



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## Discussion