



Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) Background Summary

The Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) advocates for and assists the most vulnerable victims of the crimes within the International Criminal Court's (ICC) jurisdiction. The TFV works for victims by mobilising people, funding opportunities for the benefit of victims, and implementing court-ordered reparations awards.

The TFV listens to victims of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and amplifies their voices in the international arena. It works with survivors and their communities as fully-fledged partners in designing interventions which are effective and locally-relevant. The TFV helps in this process by supporting sustainable self-help projects designed to rebuild lives, and insure that the victims and their families work side-by-side.

History of the Trust Fund for Victims

At the end of the bloodiest century in human history, the TFV is a monument to the global commitment made under the Rome Statute to support the rehabilitation of victimised individuals their families; and to restore dignity for survivors of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.

The Rome Statute created the Trust Fund for Victims to provide support to victims in the form of reparations¹ and material support² such as rehabilitation. It reflects the international consensus that justice for victims of the gravest crimes cannot be achieved without

TFV Goals

We strive to relieve the suffering of victims, and contribute to ensuring justice by the following goals:

- ✚ Identifying and raising awareness on the situation of victims of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- ✚ Mobilising resources and partners in reaching out to victims and helping them rebuild their lives and the ones of their communities.
- ✚ Advocating for, and facilitate a dignified reconciliation within the affected families, communities, states, striving to prevent the reoccurrence of such crimes in the future.
- ✚ Implementing reparation orders made by the ICC and ensure that they are culturally relevant and effectively administered.

¹ Article 75 (1) of the Rome Statute of the International Court states that the Court shall have the power to order the following types of reparations: (a) restitution; (b) compensation; (c) rehabilitation; (d) satisfaction; and (e) guarantees of non-repetition.

² Regulation 50(a)(i) of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims. ICC-ASP/4/Res.3

Legal Basis

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

Rules of Procedure and Evidence, ICC-ASP/1/3

Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, ICC-ASP/4/Res.3

Reparations

Article 79 (2) Rome Statute

The Court may order money and other property collected through fines or forfeiture to be transferred, by order of the Court, to the Trust Fund

- √ Restitution
- √ Compensation
- √ Rehabilitation

Use of "other resources"

Rule 98 (5) Rules of Procedure and Evidence

Other resources of the Trust Fund may be used for the benefit of victims subject to the provision of article 79.

Regulation 47 Regulations of the Trust Fund

"For the purpose of these regulations, "other resources of the Trust Fund" (...) refers to resources other than those collected from awards for reparations, fines and forfeitures."

- √ Psychological Rehabilitation
 - √ Physical Rehabilitation
 - √ Material Support
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their full participation in the ICC judiciary process; or without their involvement in defining and implementing the most appropriate means of reparations and rehabilitation.

The Rome Statute uniquely establishes a system in which both retributive and restorative justices are combined. Consequently, the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) created the Trust Fund for Victims,³ "for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court, and of the families of such victims."⁴

Mission & Goals

The vision of the Fund is ensuring empowerment, hope and dignity for victims of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity. The TFV helps fulfil an international promise of justice through its mission *to support programs which address the harm resulting from crimes under the jurisdiction of the ICC by assisting victims to return to a dignified and contributory life within their communities.*

What we do

The Trust Fund for Victims advocates for victims and their families by working with local and international community groups, experts, NGO's, governments and UN agencies to develop, implement and fund projects which directly address and respond to victims' physical, material, or psychological needs. Our focus on local leadership empowers victims in the process of rebuilding their lives and helps restore victims' hope for the future.

³ Resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.6, ASP, 9th September 2002, Establishment of a fund for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court, and of the families of such victims, Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, First session New York, 3-10 September 2002

⁴ According to article 79 (3) of the Rome Statute "a Trust Fund shall be established by decision of the Assembly of States Parties for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court, and of the families of such victims".

Provide victims with assistance – physical and psychological rehabilitation and material support

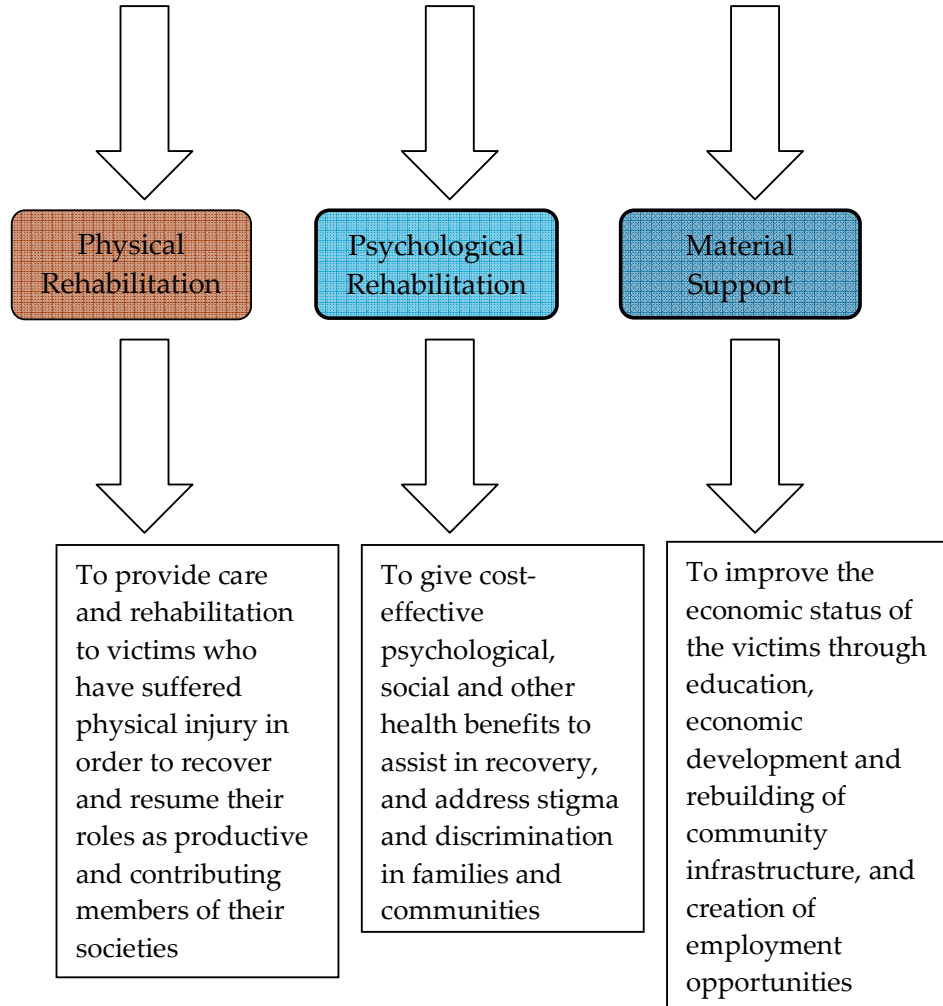
The TFV funds partnerships with victims, their families and communities through intermediaries (grantees) in order to support rehabilitation efforts. The TFV provides financial, technical and material support; and reinforces accountability, local ownership, dignity and the empowerment of the victims through the grants programme.

Funds provided by the TFV are collected through voluntary contributions designated to benefit victims of crimes coming under the jurisdiction of the Court ~ and, where natural persons are concerned, their families, who have suffered physical, psychological and/or material harm as a result of these crimes. Non-governmental voluntary contributions may be earmarked for a particular purpose provided that it benefits victims and is non-discriminatory.

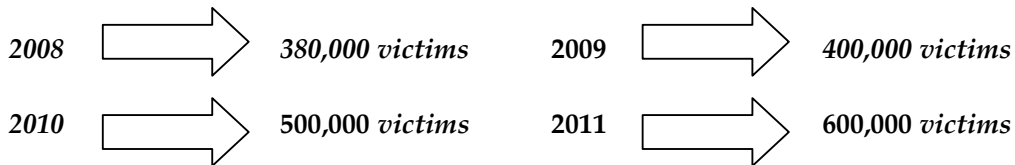
The TFV grant-making process includes both large and small grants depending on the availability of resources. Projects must emphasise: *participation* by victims in programme planning, *sustainability* of community initiatives, *transparent* and *targeted* granting, *accessibility* for applicants that have traditionally lacked access to funding, and addressing the *special vulnerability of girls and women*, *strengthening capacity* of grantees and *co-ordinating* efforts to ensure that the selection and management of grants is strategic and coherent.

Prior to issuing grants, field assessments are carried out to ensure projects directly address the harm caused by the conflict and target the most vulnerable and marginalised victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC) jurisdiction.

Strategic Programme Responses
Assistance using *other resources*



Projected Beneficiaries (direct/indirect)



4-Year Projected Total: 1,880,000 victims



Administer large and small grants

The TFV has primarily accepted unsolicited proposals during the first year of operations. This has helped develop a more efficient granting process.

For projects beginning in 2009, the TFV will manage a grant-making mechanism supported by a locally-based Field Officer in Eastern DRC, northern Uganda, and the Central African Republic with support from a Technical Review Committee and Secretariat staff. Open tenders will be developed through a field-based needs assessment process to include consultations with local stakeholder communities and humanitarian organisations in situations where the court is active. Additional resources will be added to scale-up the current project portfolio – especially for addressing the needs of victims of sexual violence.

Grants will be issued using an open and transparent process through the release of tenders (request for proposals - RFPs) to support locally registered national and international organisations already present in the region. Prospective grantees will draft proposal applications in response to specific programmatic, geographic and budgetary requirements which will be fully described in the RFP. Each proposal application will be evaluated and scored against the selection criteria specified in the request for proposals.

The RFP open review and evaluation process will permit the TFV to allocate resources to grantees in a transparent and effective manner. The Secretariat of the TFV will develop the RFP in accordance with rule 17 of the Regulations of the TFV⁵, to provide “such assistance as necessary for the proper functioning of the Board of Directors in carrying out its tasks.”

It is anticipated that there will be one round of RFPs per country per year for new activities. If the proper approvals have been received by the Board of Directors and the Court, as required by rule 50 of the Regulations of the TFV⁶; the TFV will release one RFP for the CAR, and one related to sexual violence in both northern Uganda and the DRC.

The solicitation focus will be identified prior to the announcement with adequate consultation with local stakeholders; review of existing assessment information, and/or after a rapid assessment has been conducted. The TFV will leverage and complement existing programmes supported by other donors in the region – especially targeting partnerships where implementing partners are able to provide matching resources from other donors.

⁵ ASP ICC-ASP/3/Res.7

⁶ Ibid

Field Officers will ensure RFPs are reviewed by persons with knowledge of local needs, technical competency and other community programmes to ensure proper co-ordination. The number of grants to be offered will be identified during participatory work-planning.

The TFV field programme staff will also conduct project planning meetings with grantees. The local planning process will include grantee orientation, compliance with the grant guidelines and programme best practice. Monitoring and evaluation reporting formats and procedures will also be disseminated.

Each grantee will undergo a capacity needs assessment to determine areas of improvement that may affect project performance. The Secretariat shall put in place procedures to monitor the implementation of grants⁷, as well as, activities to address the service gaps and needs of grantees.

Assist with strengthening local capacity through intermediaries

The Trust Fund for Victims works through intermediaries that have the capacity to administer small grants to grassroots organisations together with support to administer these grants. Through this arrangement, the TFV provides targeted training and mentoring in key focus areas in order to ensure that organisations can manage their funding and contribute to the broader quality and sustainability of support to victims.

The focus of capacity building is two-fold: from an *organisational perspective* and from the perspective of the *local partners/grantee/victims*. The areas to be strengthened will include systems strengthening and *governance, strategic management, programme planning, co-ordination, granting, and monitoring and evaluation*. Supporting grassroots organisations ensures locally sustainable responses based on established good practice in specific technical areas.

How can victims access assistance from the TFV?

Because of the confidential nature of the Trust Fund for Victims assistance, the best way to ensure that the needs of victims who qualify for assistance are met is to contact the local field officer in the designated country. The field officer will assess whether the victim falls within the jurisdiction of the ICC and will provide the proper referrals. Please contact email: Trust.fund@icc-cpi.int for more information.

Current Projects

In 2007/08, there were 42 proposals submitted to the TFV for consideration. Thirty-four of these projects (16 projects – DRC and 18 projects – northern Uganda) were

⁷ In accordance with rule 72 of the Regulations of the TFV

submitted to Chambers at the ICC for approval. These projects will reach at least 380,000 direct and indirect victims, and have incorporated gender-specific interventions to support the special vulnerability of women and girls.

It is important to highlight that the confidentiality and security of the partners administering projects, and the victims receiving the TFV assistance, is of utmost importance. Therefore, the names of the partners have not been disclosed and only general assistance responses and locations are revealed publicly. The TFV partners include international non-governmental organisations, local grassroots organisations, women's associations, faith-based organisations and the private sector.

Examples of projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Provision of psychological support, physical rehabilitation, and material support related to sexual violence for men, women and children – Walungu territory, Fizi, Uvira, Bukavu, South Kivu; Beni, North Kivu; Goma, Bunia, Irumu, Djugu, Mahagi and Ituri province

Psychological support and material support for ex-child soldiers and abducted children – Bunia and Ituri Provinces, Irumu, Djugu, Mahagi

Psychological support for families of murdered victims – Bunia, Nyakunde, Ituri province, Aru, Goma, Masisi Territory, North Kivu province

Examples of projects in northern Uganda

Provision of psychological support and material support for ex-child soldiers and abducted children – Gulu and Lira

Physical rehabilitation and psychological support for mutilated victims – Gulu, Soroti, and Lira

Physical rehabilitation and psychological support for handicapped victims – Gulu, Pader and Lira

Psychological support and material support for victimized villages – Apungi, Adjumani, and Teso and Lango regions

Administering Court-ordered Reparations

In addition to providing assistance, the Trust Fund for Victims is well-placed to implement reparations for large numbers of victims because of the unique nature of its mandate.

The TFV will be able to release donor appeals around Court orders for reparation so that Member States and other donors can provide additional support through the Trust Fund for administering awards for reparations, especially in a context where the individuals convicted might have limited resources.

The TFV can also provide the Court with advice from administering the assistance – especially related to advising on culturally appropriate and relevant means of providing assistance.

The Trust Fund for Victims becomes seized when its Board of Directors considers it necessary to provide physical or psychological rehabilitation or material support for the benefit of victims and their families or when the Court makes an order for reparations against a convicted persons and orders that the award be deposited with or made through the Trust Fund in accordance with rule 98, sub-rules 2 to 4 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. Funding for the TFV will come from voluntary contributions, fines or forfeiture.

When resources collected through fines, forfeiture or member contributions are transferred to the Trust Fund pursuant to article 75, paragraph 2, or article 79, paragraph 2, of the Statute or rule 98, sub-rules 2-4, of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, the Board of Directors shall determine the uses of such resources in accordance with any stipulations or instructions contained in such orders, in particular on the scope of beneficiaries and the nature and amount of the award(s).

Cost-effectiveness of TFV assistance

A decision from the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I on 11 April 2008 approving TFV projects⁸ stated that “before resorting to any other activities or projects, the Board of the Trust Fund, in accordance with its obligations under regulation 56 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund, undertake a study evaluating and anticipating the resources which would be needed to execute in the cases pending before this Court an eventual reparation order pursuant to article 75 of the Statute.”⁹

<p>Cost per victim = less than €5</p>
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It is difficult to predict the outcomes and/or status issues related to the cases pending before the ICC. However, it is possible for the TFV to conduct a cost-benefit analysis to assess the budget breakdown between the ‘other assistance’ and ‘reparations’ mandates. This analysis provides some baseline information for mobilising resources and budgeting for other assistance and reparations.

The analysis used information from the TFV approved projects under ‘other assistance’ in northern Uganda and the DRC allowing for a generalisable and

⁸ Under the “Decision on the Notification of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims in accordance with Regulation 50 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund”

⁹ ICC-01/04-492 11-04-2008

representative sampling. Community-level assessments were conducted and project plans completed in order to ensure beneficiaries (victims) were targeted based on the ICC jurisdiction.

Total TFV resources currently available in 2008: €3,050,000

**Total beneficiaries (victims) from approved
34 projects (direct and indirect) = 380,000**

Delivering Assistance

Amount of TFV funding obligated for 34 projects approved by ICC Chambers and Board (DRC & Uganda) for 2008 = approximately €1, 400,000

Intermediary matching resources (resources provided in addition to TFV contributions) from the 34 projects approved by Chambers and Board (DRC & Uganda) for 2008 = approximately €250,000

TFV project value for 34 projects approved by Chambers and Board (DRC & Uganda) for 2008 = approximately €1,650,000

Allocation for Central African Republic (CAR) and other activities in 2009 = approximately €650,000¹⁰

The TFV expects to reach an additional 130,000 beneficiaries (victims) in the CAR and elsewhere.

According to the total budget and number of direct and indirect victims reached – the total costs per victim is €4.4.

Delivering Reparations

The current TFV reparations Reserve = €1,000,000

Depending on how the ICC defines reparations (individual or collective) – it would be possible to reach 200,000 beneficiaries (victims) with the current reserve if the same modalities for delivering the TFV assistance are applied.

Board of Directors

The Trust Fund for Victims benefits from the leadership and guidance of a five – member Board of Directors elected by the ASP for a three year term. The five seats

¹⁰ New projects will need to be submitted to the Board and Chamber for approvals

are distributed according to the five major world regions. Each member serves in an individual capacity on a *pro bono* basis.

- ❖ **Madame Minister Simone Veil**, Chair (France, representing Western European)
- ❖ **His Grace Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu** (South Africa, representing African States)
- ❖ **His Excellency Tadeusz Mazowiecki** (Poland, representing Eastern European States)
- ❖ **His Excellency Arthur N. R. Robinson** (Trinidad and Tobago, representing the Americas and Caribbean)
- ❖ **His Excellency Ambassador Bulгаа Altangerel** (Mongolia, representing Asian States)

A Call to Action

The challenge of rebuilding societies after conflict is much more complex and difficult than the task of putting an end to fighting. Solutions cannot be imported; peace has to be built by the people themselves. But they must have the resources and tools necessary. This is where the Trust Fund for Victims places support.

“The international community can and must help them to consolidate peace, ensure justice and overcome the legacies of war. If this does not happen, local conflicts will resume, again and again, threatening to destabilise larger regions, undermining development and devaluing hope for the future,”

André Laperrière, Executive Director, Trust Fund for Victims.



This challenge is therefore not a marginal issue of interest only to the countries affected and agencies specifically concerned. It is an issue that affects us all and should concern us all. If we do not get it right through justice, reparations and rehabilitation, we will not be able to secure peace, security and development for future generations.

The survivors of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity have unique vulnerability and are often forgotten. Victims include adults and children who saw their loved ones being killed, tortured, raped and mutilated. Children have been forced into militias or military service. Women and girls have been victims of sexual

violence. Other people have seen their property and livelihoods¹¹ destroyed. Victims often feel stripped of their dignity and may be shunned from their communities. Conflict also tears apart the social fabric of communities, disrupting family roles, gender relations and other social structures.

Conflict affects all lives and livelihoods, but it continues for victims who face stigma, vulnerability, and marginalisation. It is impossible to fully undo the harm caused by these most serious crimes. However, it is possible to help survivors recover their dignity, rebuild their families and communities, and regain their place as contributing members of their societies. By giving survivors a voice, support and the tools they need, the Trust Fund for Victims helps to give these communities renewed hope for the future by ensuring their most fundamental guiding principle ~ the principle of humanity.

Get involved

The Trust Fund for Victims represents a global promise of help, hope, and dignity for survivors of the most serious crimes. Here are some ways you can get involved in keeping this promise.



Children attend classes under a tree in a village near Yei, Southern Sudan.

Credit: Manoocher Deghati, IRIN

Apply for support from the Trust Fund for Victims

We support innovative activities which assist victims and survivors in rebuilding their lives and regaining hope and dignity. We fund such projects on the basis of the following criteria:

¹¹ The idea of 'livelihood' as described embodies three fundamental attributes: the possession of human capabilities (such as education, skills, health, psychological orientation); access to tangible and intangible assets; and the existence of economic activities. The interaction between these attributes defines how the TFV prioritizes support so that victims can cope with and recover from the stress and shocks of victimization.

- The project should directly address the harm (whether physical, psychological, economic or social) caused by the conflict and target the most vulnerable and marginalised survivors.
- The selection of project beneficiaries and the implementation must not result in discrimination based on a social status.
- We favour reparations activities which are directed to groups, based on similarities in their claims or situations.
- The project must avoid duplication with other interested institutions and promote complementary approaches.
- Victims and survivors should be active participants in the implementation of the project.
- The project should include an outreach component to ensure that it is understood by the beneficiaries and their communities.
- It should be designed to be sustainable, beyond the life-span of the funding from the Trust Fund for Victims.
- The project organisers must be able to show that the intended target group benefits from the project and the resources allocated are used efficiently and effectively.

If your project fits these criteria, you can submit an application for support for your project. While not all proposed projects can be funded due to limited resources, your application will be carefully considered. If you are a group working directly in your community to help victims, and you need help turning your idea into a project that meets our criteria, we can help you to develop your project.

Please [contact](#) the Trust Fund for Victims for more information.

Make a donation to the Trust Fund for Victims

The survivors of the most grave human rights crimes need your help. We welcome financial contributions from private individuals, foundations, corporations, and other entities, and we will use these voluntary contributions to fund projects to the benefit of victims. If you would like to make a donation, please contact the Trust Fund for Victims at +31 70 515 9000.

We also welcome in-kind donations, in the form of expertise, materials, or offers of partnership. Our partners can be non-profit organisations, like members of the United Nations common system, international or national non-governmental organisations, or sections of national or local governments, or (in exceptional cases) for-profit organisations. We are keenly interested in exploring consortium efforts to implement activities for the benefit of victims.

Work for us

Your skills and expertise could make all the difference for victims of the most serious crimes. The Trust Fund for Victims relies on a combination of full-time staff, consultants, visiting experts, and interns to carry out our work.

To find out about posts currently open at the Trust Fund for Victims, visit [Current vacancies](#) on the recruitment section.

We are looking for short-term consultants in the following fields:

- Project management
- Communications and external relations
- Fundraising
- Translation

If you have experience in these fields and are interested in the mission of the Trust Fund for Victims, please mail or fax us a cover letter and CV outlining your relevant skills.

Trust Fund for Victims / Fonds au profit des victimes
International Criminal Court / Cour Pénale Internationale
Maanweg 174,
2516 AB The Hague
The Netherlands
Tel. +31 70 515 9000
Fax. +31 70 515 9898

You can also join the team at the Trust Fund for Victims through the Visiting Professionals and Internships programme of the ICC.

Visit [The Internships and Visiting Professionals Programme](#) for more information. Be sure to specify in your application that you want to work at the Trust Fund for Victims.

Contact us

For more information about the work of the Victims Trust Fund please contact us at:

Trust Fund for Victims / Fonds au profit des victimes
International Criminal Court / Cour Pénale Internationale
Maanweg 174,
2516 AB The Hague
The Netherlands
Tel. +31 70 515 9000
Fax. +31 70 515 9898

Email: Trust.fund@icc-cpi.int

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