Given the shared need to promote a global response to the social impact of the crisis in developing countries, the World Bank is establishing a Rapid Social Response (RSR) Program as part of its overall crisis response framework. The objectives of the RSR Program are to safeguard lives and livelihoods during the global crisis by promoting social protection measures such as social safety nets and maintaining access to basic health, education, and other vital services for communities, especially poor and vulnerable groups, in middle and low-income countries.

### RSR Multi-Donor Trust Fund

The MDTF funds a subset of activities under the broader themes in the RSR Program specifically in low income countries, including: (i) country-level technical assistance and capacity building in IDA countries; (ii) Direct Grants to IDA-eligible countries for piloting promising approaches and innovations, and for scaling up program benefits; and (iii) support knowledge management activities.

### Regional Allocation of Portfolio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Share of Funding</th>
<th>US$ '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>21,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Caribbean</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East and North Africa</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>37,655</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MDTF Portfolio

**Africa**
- Burkina Faso: Strengthening Safety Net Response to Crises
- Cameroon: Strengthening Safety Net Response to Crises
- DRC: Capacity Building of Ministry of Social Affairs to Provide Services for Vulnerable Groups
- Ethiopia: Strengthening the Early Warning System in Ethiopia
- Gambia: Rapid Response Nutrition Security Improvement Project
- Lesotho: Estimating the Impact of Economic Crisis on Education and Skills Development
- Liberia: Development of a Crisis Response Social Protection Strategy and Capacity
- Malawi: Protecting Early Childhood Development in Malawi
- Mali: Piloting effective Early Childhood Development services
- Mozambique: Developing the Building Blocks for Effective Crisis Response: Piloting a Public Works Program
- Rwanda: Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to the Vision 2020 Umurenge Program
- Senegal: Preparing for the Next Crisis and Beyond: Developing a Unified and Effective Safety Net System
- Tanzania: Enhancing Tanzania’s Crisis Response for the Most Vulnerable Children and Poor Elderly
- Togo: Promotion of Innovative Crisis Response Social Protection Measures
- Zimbabwe: Public Works Program

**East Asia and the Pacific**
- Papua New Guinea: Ensuring Effective M&E and Social Accountability for the Urban Youth Employment Project
- Timor-Leste: Innovative Approaches for Developing Effectiveness of Timor-Leste’s Safety Nets

**Europe and Central Asia**
- Tajikistan: Targeting and Payment of Social Assistance to the Poor

**Latin America and the Caribbean**
- Haiti: Household Development Agent Pilot
- Haiti: Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Post Earthquake Haiti
- Nicaragua: A Crisis Module for the Nicaraguan Labor Force Survey
- Regional: Listening to Latin America and the Caribbean

**Middle East and North Africa**
- Yemen: Targeted Delivery of Early Childhood Nutrition Interventions to Poor Households through a CCT Program
- Global: Lessons from Successful Education Administration under Difficult Circumstances

**South Asia**
- Bangladesh: Piloting Conditional Cash Transfers in Urban Municipality
- Maldives: Building a Common Platform for Identification of the Poor in the Maldives
- Sri Lanka: Strengthening Targeting, Monitoring and Evaluation of Safety Nets

**Global**
- Global: Monitoring the Health Outcomes and Financial Vulnerability of the Poorest
- Global: Development of Automated DEC Poverty Tables (ADePT) Crisis Software Platform
- Global: Resilience in the Face of Crisis: Multisectoral Actions to Achieve Nutrition Results
- Global: Public Works Forum: Social Protection South South Learning Forum 2010
**Description of the MDTF-Financed Operations**

**Round 1**

**The Burkina Faso - Strengthening safety net response to crises** aims to support the development of the transfer and public works programs that can be used to support the needs of poor and vulnerable people in Burkina. In particular, the grant will support the design and implementation of a transfer program and the feasibility study for a public works program.

**Cameron - Strengthening safety net response to crises** supports the design of a responsive safety net system and additional instruments, including cash transfers and public works programs.

**Ethiopia - Strengthening the Early Warning System** aims to strengthen the safety nets systems by improving the targeting, coverage and quality of the existing Early Warning System which cannot fully capture the impact of crises, as it does not include a proper mechanism that systematically incorporates nutritional indicators. The project complements the IDA Nutrition Project (2008).

**Gambia - Rapid Response Nutrition Security Improvement Project** supports the National Nutrition Agency in implementing priority programs aimed at mitigating the impact of the global economic crises on the nutrition security of vulnerable populations, in particular children under two and pregnant and lactating women in poor rural and urban areas. A TA project is supporting the project implementation with technical support.

**Kenya - Support for Social Protection** supports the Government in strengthening its response to the crisis through increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of social protection interventions. Two activities are financed under the projects:

**Activity 1: Support to the Government of Kenya for Social Protection Programming** to support the Government in increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of ongoing social protection interventions while working towards improving overall coordination and harmonization of the social protection system. The activity is also supported by the RSRC.

**Activity 2: Support to the Kenya Private Sector Alliance** (KEPSA) to build on current efforts to provide safety nets for unemployed youth by providing additional support to the Government to more efficiently implement the IDA Kenya Youth Empowerment Project.

**Lesotho - Estimating the Impact of Economic Crisis on Education and Skills Development** seeks to collect and analyze latest data to assist the government in better targeting its education and labor market policies towards helping youth and vulnerable groups during a time of economic crisis.

**Rwanda - Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to the Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP)** aims to enable the social protection programs to better respond to potential shocks-induced vulnerability to poor households in future, and contribute to building the social protection program capacity to scale-up interventions and absorb more funds in future crises.

**Malawi - Protecting Early Childhood Development** (ECD) supports the Government in the design, implementation, and evaluation of strategies to increase access to and the quality of community-based child care centers.

**Papua New Guinea - Ensuring Effective Monitoring and Evaluation and Social Accountability for the Urban Youth Employment Project** aims to provide the necessary capacity-building and oversight to ensure that the training and public works are targeted to poor applicants and monitored and evaluated rigorously, and that social accountability mechanisms perform effectively. The Grant leverages the IDA project approved in January 2011.

**Tajikistan - Targeting and Payment of Social Assistance to the Poor** helps the Government strengthen its social safety net so that it: (a) targets the poor more accurately; (b) protects the poor in times of crises and beyond; (c) becomes a vehicle through which donors can channel benefits and services to the poor; and (d) introduces incentives to build human capital, particularly of girls. The RSR grant will complement a proposed IDA grant operation and enjoys strong cooperation with the European Union. The RSR grant will support the pilot of reform of social assistance in two districts and begin building capacity of the MLSP for a nation-wide reform.

The objective of the Public Works Learning Forum: Social Protection South South Learning Forum 2010 (also financed by the RSR Catalytic Fund) was to share knowledge and to stimulate cross-country learning on the design and implementation of public works programs as safety net interventions. The Forum was successfully organized and completed in June, 2010 in Arusha, Tanzania. Over 220 delegates from 40 low- and middle-income countries from across the globe participated in this event. (link to the country case studies and presentations can be access at http://go.worldbank.org/W9MSDVUSA0).

**Papua New Guinea - Ensuring Effective Monitoring and Evaluation and Social Accountability for the Urban Youth Employment Project** aims to provide the necessary capacity-building and oversight to ensure that the training and public works are targeted to poor applicants and monitored and evaluated rigorously, and that social accountability mechanisms perform effectively. The Grant leverages the IDA project approved in January 2011.

**Timor-Leste - Innovative Approaches for Developing Effectiveness of Safety Nets** is designed to improve program management of MSS to implement core cash transfer programs in an efficient, reliable and transparent manner through standardizing information management and strengthening program implementation and management capacity. It will use innovative approaches to effectively attend to current needs and respond to future crisis scenarios.

**Haiti - Household Development Agent Pilot** will test and learn lessons from new mechanisms to improve family health and nutrition practices and strengthen the capacity to deliver social services directly to families, particularly pregnant and lactating mothers and children under-two, in the pilot area.

**Listening to LAC (L2L)** seeks to speed-up the information flow on household vulnerability for improved evidence-based policy responses to shocks in Latin America and the Caribbean. Using mobile technology to carry out self-administered surveys monthly, it can support faster and more adequate responses to crises by governments and donors by improving the data collection.

**Bangladesh - Piloting Conditional Cash Transfers for Human Development through Local Governments** aims to protect extreme poor families in urban and rural areas from the negative effects of increases in unemployment and basic food prices. The Grant pilots a conditional cash transfer program in one urban municipality traditionally not served by safety net programs and two rural areas to test the mechanisms for delivering such transfers through local governments to improve their children’s nutrition and education.

**Nepal - Strengthening Safety Nets in Nepal: Piloting Targeted Conditional Cash Transfers** aims to improve the delivery of cash-based safety nets in pilot districts through technical assistance and capacity building to the Ministry of Local Development.
### Description of the MDTF-Financed Operations

**Round 1**

**Sri Lanka - Strengthening Targeting, Monitoring and Evaluation of Safety Nets** finances the scaling up and evaluation of an improved targeting and MIS system that is being developed for the Samurdhi safety net program. The goal of the TA is to improve the overall institutional capacity of Samurdhi to better identify its beneficiaries and monitor and evaluate the program’s performance.

**Monitoring the Health Outcomes and Financial Vulnerability of the Poorest** aims to enhance access to health services and reduce financial vulnerability to health shocks by training of policy-makers and researchers in analysis of financial protection and equity, using ADePT Health, and producing country-specific reports on financial protection, vulnerability & equity in health sector.

**Round 2**

**The Democratic Republic of Congo - Capacity Building of the Ministry of Social Affairs to Provide Services for Vulnerable Groups** aims to improve the government's capacity to protect and provide services for vulnerable groups during the actual crisis and to better prepared for future shocks. The project will target street and other vulnerable children by piloting conditional cash transfer to vulnerable families and schools. The Grant will be associated with the IDA-financed Street Children Project.

**Liberia - Development of a Crisis Response Social Protection Strategy and Capacity** supports the development of the Government's capacity to respond to crises and build a scalable, sustainable and equitable social protection strategy.

The objective of the **Mali - Piloting Effective Early Childhood Development Services** is to support the government respond to crises by developing cost-effective early childhood development services for vulnerable children in rural areas.

**The Democratic Republic of Congo - Capacity Building of the Ministry of Social Affairs to Provide Services for Vulnerable Groups** aims to improve the government's capacity to protect and provide services for vulnerable groups during the actual crisis and to better prepared for future shocks. The project will target street and other vulnerable children by piloting conditional cash transfer to vulnerable families and schools. The Grant will be associated with the IDA-financed Street Children Project.

**Liberia - Development of a Crisis Response Social Protection Strategy and Capacity** supports the development of the Government's capacity to respond to crises and build a scalable, sustainable and equitable social protection strategy.

The objective of the **Mali - Piloting Effective Early Childhood Development Services** is to support the government respond to crises by developing cost-effective early childhood development services for vulnerable children in rural areas.

**Mozambique - Developing the Building Blocks for Effective Crisis Response: Piloting a Public Works Program** is designed to enhance the government's capacity to address the impact of the current economic slowdown and building blocks to be prepared for inevitable future shocks.

**Senegal - Preparing for the Next Crisis and Beyond: Developing a Unified and Effective Safety Net System** together with the RSR Catalyst Trust Fund supports the development of a comprehensive SP system that could be used by key government institutions and their development partners to design and deliver interventions during crisis in a rapid and effective way to reach those who need it most with the right interventions in a fiscally sustainable manner.

**Enhancing Tanzania’s Crisis Response for Most Vulnerable Children and Poor Elderly** aims to enhance the design and impact of the pilot community-based conditional cash transfers for poor and vulnerable households, one of the main crisis response mechanisms, by improving and expanding service provision to engender sustainable livelihoods and graduation out of the Community-Based Conditional Cash Transfer.

**Togo - Promotion of Innovative Crisis Response Social Protection Measures** supports the Government in preparing a national social protection/social safety nets system capable of supporting vulnerable households during and after systemic and recurrent crises.

**Zimbabwe - Public Works Program** is designed to help the Ministry of Labor and Social Services redesign its current public works program to make it more responsive to the needs of the poor in times of crisis. This pilot program will also help improve the livelihoods, enhance coping capacities and access to services for poor and vulnerable households in selected rural communities.

The **Gender-Based Violence in Post-Earthquake Haiti** aims to contribute to preserving the safety of women and girls in Haiti and addressing the extreme increases in Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in post-earthquake Haiti through support for proven community-based interventions.

The objective of the **Crisis Module for the Nicaraguan Labor Force Survey** is to develop a crisis module in the permanent labor force survey to provide frequent indicators of shocks to households in Nicaragua. This project encourages the Government's current efforts to collect data on its labor force, while also taking advantage of its coverage of both rural and urban populations and its ongoing frequency to collect information on household shocks and crises.

**Yemen - Targeted Delivery of Early Childhood Nutrition Interventions to Poor Households** through a conditional cash transfer program in Yemen, aims to smooth the food consumption gap and deliver essential early childhood nutrition interventions to targeted poor households affected by the food crisis in Yemen, while evaluating a pilot conditional cash transfer program that will be part of an existing large-scale cash transfer program. The RSR grant leverages the IDA-financed Social Welfare Fund Institutional Support Project by supporting the second component which is the Designing and Delivery of Beneficiary Development Program (BDP).

The **Lessons from Successful Education Administration under Difficult Circumstances** aims at capturing the lessons from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees's success in providing education to Palestinian students in the Middle East. A common data tool will be developed, and used, to provide lessons for managing schools for displaced and refugees across the globe.

The objectives of the **Impact of Financial Crises on Children and Youth: Protecting Human Capital of Future Generations** are to understand how systemic shocks affect the acquisition and utilization of human capital among children and youth, and identify effective evidence-based crisis-response interventions to protect children’s and young people’s well-being during systemic shocks, thereby minimizing the adverse impacts in the long term.

The **Development of the ADePT Crisis Module** (software platform for economic analysis) aims to support the development of the software platform for crisis diagnostics and the design of policies for crisis prevention.

The objective of the **Resilience in the Face of Crisis: Multisectoral Actions to Achieve Nutrition Results** is to improve the capacity of Bank and country staff across several sectors to plan and implement programs to protect and improve nutrition outcomes for the poorest and most vulnerable, by buffer at-risk populations in these countries against future shocks in times of crisis.

**The Maldives - Building a Common Platform for Identification of the Poor** (also supported by RSRC) aims to assist the government in designing and implementing a common platform for identification of the poor.