



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE



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- Established by GA resolution 36/151 in 1981;
- Has a global outreach (present in 80 countries in 2019);
- Provides direct assistance to torture victims and their families;
- Assistance can take the form of humanitarian, medical, psychological, legal and social aid;
- Gives grants to civil society actors, including NGOs, rehabilitation centres, victim associations and family members, private and public hospitals, legal clinics, public interest law firms and individual lawyers; and
- Grants of averagely USD 45,000 awarded on a competitive basis, and renewed if conditions are met. A call for applications is open in January each year.



Securing redress
through legal
assistance

VICTIMS OF TORTURE INCLUDE			
Human Rights Defenders	Prisoners of conscience	Detainees	Ex-detainees
Undocumented migrants	Internally displaced persons	Victims of sexual violence in conflict	Children
Asylum seekers	Refugees	Journalists	Victims of enforced disappearance
Persons with disabilities	Minorities	Indigenous Peoples	LGBTI



Despite its absolute prohibition under international law, the use of torture is widespread

MISSION STATEMENT

The UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture :

- Promotes a victim-centred approach;
- Has an impartial, universal mandate;
- Is not a substitute for the obligation of States under international law to support victims of torture;
- Responds to new and emergency situations wherever they occur;
- Forms partnerships with both grass-roots initiatives and well-established rehabilitation centres;
- Co-ordinates with other UN torture-related mechanisms;
- Enables the exchange of knowledge in the field of rehabilitation and redress for victims.



Empowering women
victims through group
counselling

Corporación Vinculos - Colombia

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

- The Fund is subject to UN Rules and Regulations;
- It is managed by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the Secretary-General, with the advice of a Board of Trustees;
- The Board of Trustees is composed of five members with experience in human rights, representing the five geographical regions and acting in their personal capacity;
- The Secretary-General reports annually on the Fund to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly.



Assisting torture victims to relieve their suffering and rebuild their lives

WHAT THE FUND WILL DO IN 2019



For 2019, the Board awarded a total of 160 grants under the Fund's regular cycle: **155 are projects for direct assistance (US\$ 7,069,000) and 5 projects for training and capacity building (US\$ 162,000).**



50,000 torture victims and their families will be assisted in **80 countries** in all world regions.



In 2019, an additional **US\$ 800,000** will be awarded to **emergency projects** assisting victims in humanitarian and human rights crises.

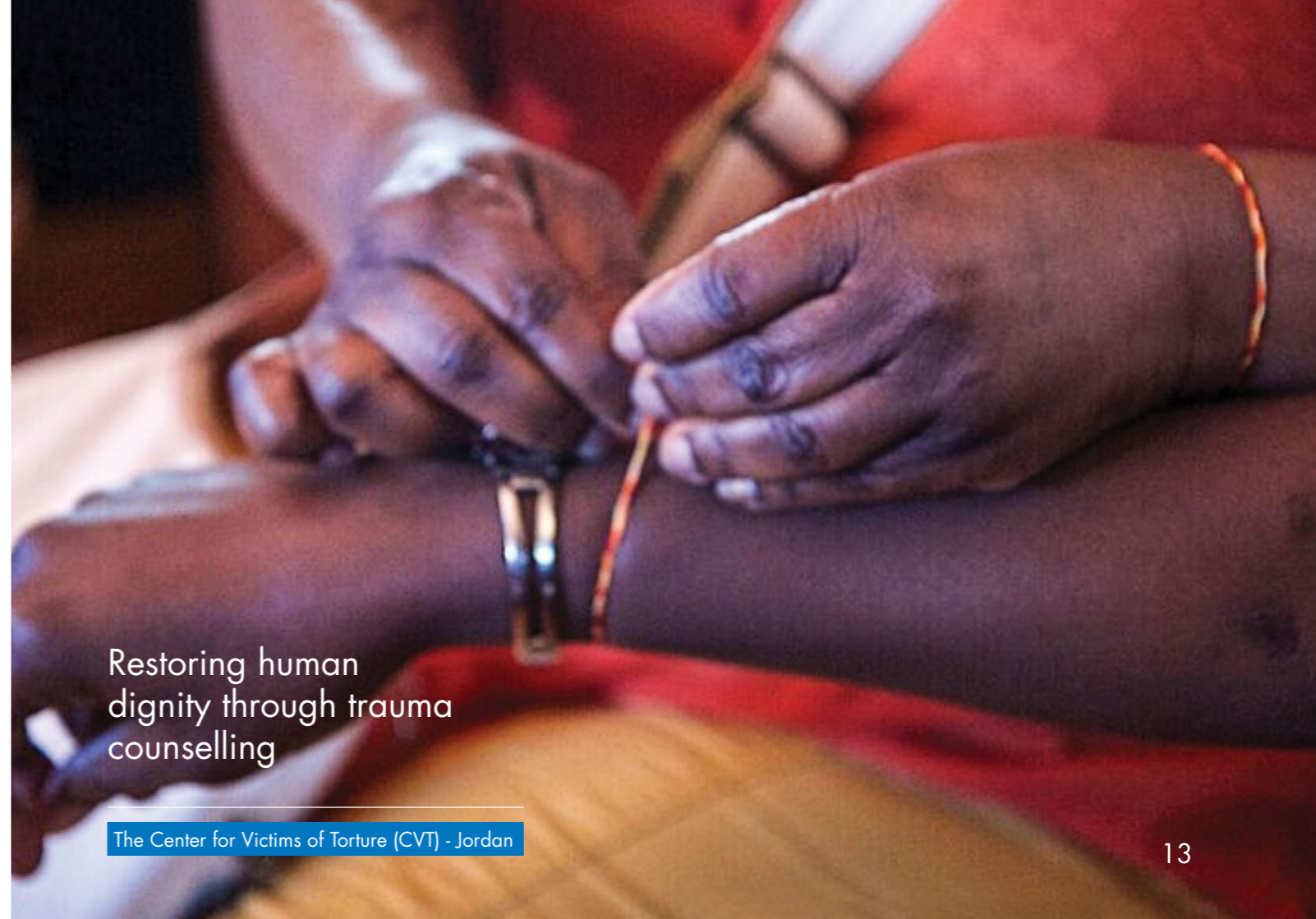
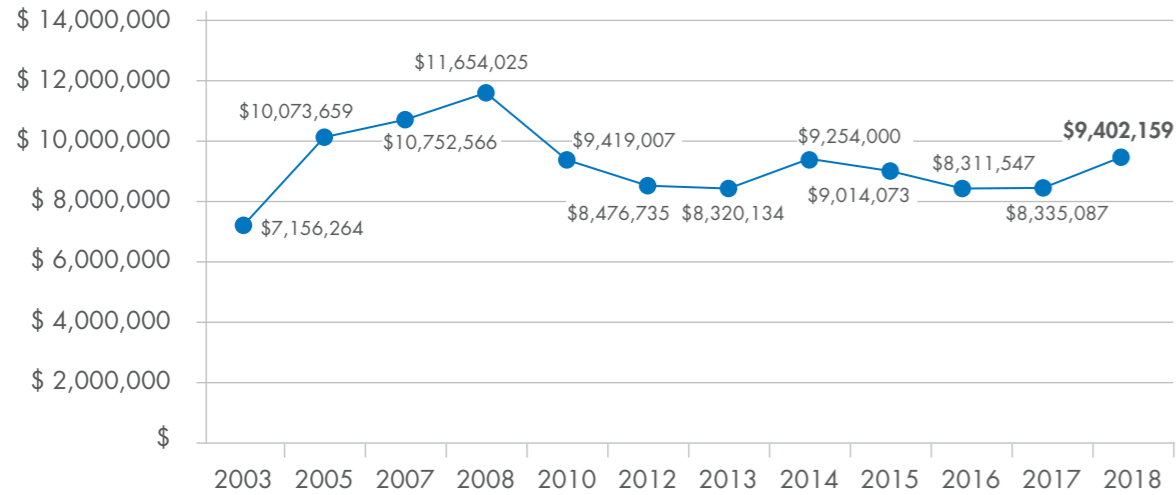


Rebuilding lives
through
alternative therapies

Room to Heal - United Kingdom

YEARLY INCOME

Voluntary contributions received by the Fund from 2003 to 2018



Restoring human
dignity through trauma
counselling

The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) - Jordan

APPEAL FOR FUNDING

- The UN Fund requires yearly a minimum of **US\$ 12 million** in voluntary contributions to fulfil its mandate;
- Like all UN Trust Funds, it can only receive earmarked contributions;
- ANY DONATION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

CONTACT

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<https://donatenow.ohchr.org/torture.aspx>

Website: www.ohchr.org/torturefund





Artwork by a victim of torture supported by the UN Torture Fund (Atelier peinture de Claire Harel, association Mana, France)