



**Fonds au Profit des Victimes**  
**The Trust Fund for Victims**



## **Background Information**

### **The two mandates of the Trust Fund**

The Trust Fund was created under article 79 of the Rome Statute. The Trust Fund's mission is to respond to the harm resulting from the crimes under the ICC's jurisdiction by ensuring the rights of victims and their families through the provision of reparations and assistance. To achieve its mission, the Trust Fund fulfils two unique mandates: 1) providing reparative **assistance** to victims and their families in ICC situations through programmes of psychological rehabilitation, physical rehabilitation, and material support; and 2) implementing judicial **reparations** awards ordered against a convicted person by the Court.

Under its **assistance mandate**, the Trust Fund provides assistance for the benefit of victims and their families in ICC situation countries through programmes of psychological rehabilitation, physical rehabilitation, and material support. Because it is not linked to any particular case before the ICC, the assistance mandate permits the Trust Fund to provide an immediate response, at the individual, family and community level, to the urgent needs of victims who have suffered harm from crimes within the ICC's jurisdiction. It also permits the Trust Fund to assist a wider victim population than only those who have suffered harms connected to specific cases before the Court.

Since 2009, the Trust Fund has supported locally-based implementing partners that work directly with victims under the Trust Fund's supervision in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ("DRC") and northern Uganda.

In total, more than 400,000 victims have benefitted from Trust Fund supported assistance activities in these two countries. Many of these victims were subjected to physical and psychological violence and continue to live with trauma associated with unaddressed mental health conditions. In both the DRC and Uganda, victims include *inter alia* survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, child mothers, former (male and female) child soldiers, girls formerly associated with armed groups, returnee communities, disabled persons and amputees, disfigured and tortured persons, and other vulnerable children and young people, including orphans.

On 16 May 2017, the Trust Fund Board decided to launch a new assistance programme in a third ICC situation country, Côte d'Ivoire, to provide physical, psychological rehabilitation

and material support for the benefit of victims of crimes under the ICC's jurisdiction. The Trust Fund hopes to have ongoing assistance projects in Côte d'Ivoire by 2019 and has obligated 800,000 EUR for this purpose.

After a near decade of focussing on assistance projects, **the Trust Fund's reparations mandate** is now beginning to play a larger role in the Trust Fund's work as criminal proceedings at the ICC conclude. With three cases resulting in orders for reparations,, this represents an exciting and important opportunity for the Trust Fund to develop and strengthen its institutional partnership with the ICC in order to ensure that the reparations regime laid out in the Rome Statute is successful.

Each of the three cases involves different crimes which have resulted in diverse and distinct harms to the victims and their families. In partnership with the Court, the Trust Fund's task is to ensure that the design and implementation of awards for reparations are responsive to the specific harms suffered by victims in each case as found by the respective Trial Chambers, and that, through their efficient and timely implementation, the promise of reparations can become a concrete and meaningful reality for victims, setting them on a path to healing and positive reintegration within their families and communities.

### **Trust Fund for Victims leadership**

The five members of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims at the ICC are elected every three years by the Assembly of States Parties. They come from different regions in the world. They are elected for a mandate of three years and may be re-elected for one second term. Board members function in their personal capacity and on a *pro bono* basis.

The current five members of the current Board (2016-2018) are:

*Motoo Noguchi, Chair (Japan, representing Asian States)*

*Mama Koité Doumbia (Mali, representing African States)*

*Baroness Arminka Helic (United Kingdom, representing Western European and Other States)*

*Alma Taso-Deljkovic (Bosnia Hercegovina, representing Eastern European State)*

*Felipe Michelini (Uruguay, representing Latin American and Caribbean States)*

*Pieter de Baan is the Executive Director of the Trust Fund for Victims, heading the TFV Secretariat.*