

Introduction

This paper sets out the Humanitarian Coordinator's vision about the value add of the Fund and how it is shaping the humanitarian response. It makes the case for the added value of the Pooled Funding as compared to bilateral funding. It highlights key principles of inclusive programming and selected programming areas of contextualization which the Fund will champion. The objectives and expected results laid out in this paper will also be used to assess the fund's performance. The paper is dated 15 June 2022 and will be updated annually by the Humanitarian Coordinator in consultation with the Advisory Board to update figures and changing contexts.

Sudan is prone to political unrest, intercommunal violence, climate and disease outbreaks, and a generally feeble economy with high inflation. This results in large, protracted displacements, high levels of food insecurity, curtailed livelihood prospects and weak basic services which all are disproportionately affecting vulnerable residents, IDPs and refugees. Sudan also hosts refugees from South Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad and other surrounding countries. It is the second largest host of refugees in Africa.

Humanitarian partners estimate that about 14.3 million people – a third of the population – need humanitarian assistance in 2022 in Sudan. Of the 14.3 million people, 9.1 million, will need emergency assistance for life-threatening needs related to critical physical and mental well-being.

Vision Statement

Sudan's exposure to successive and diverse emergency shocks requires an SHF that is pro-active, timely, and flexible. Its emergency rapid response mechanism (ERRM) and strategic use of the reserve will allow timely and flexible response to new or deteriorating emergencies with large area-based, multi-sectoral and multi-partner projects. It's strength lays with SHF partners. With 60 partners, SHF is assured to have a specialized first responder at any given location and time in Sudan.

The Standard Allocation will target the most affected areas in Sudan with the most needed interventions and strategically prioritizes specialized protection interventions. Both standard and reserve allocations will prioritize national NGO's. SHF's allocation method, with strong inputs from the field, will strengthen the sector coordination system at state level and considerably improve the quality of SHF's humanitarian response.

Effective programming

I. Enhancing Localization

The SHF will advance localization by increasing funding and promoting partnerships with local and national partners. To this end, it aims to allocate 25 per cent of the funding (Grand Bargain minimum target) to local and national partners, with 30 per cent in its Standard Allocation. Furthermore, the SHF will allocate funding to community-based organisations through grants managed by an SHF partner. It will also seek to foster long-term partnerships between national and international NGO's outside grants. Finally, SHF will seek opportunities to provide supplementary capacity opportunities to national NGO's to enhance their likelihood of receiving allocations. Investment in localization will support in-country responders and contribute to the resilience-building of local communities.

II. Key Principles for Inclusive Programming

a. Promoting the Centrality of Protection

SHF will promote the centrality of protection as a priority in humanitarian assistance by including concrete guidance in allocation strategies on protection priorities, which will assist the selection for funding projects with specific protection components, or standalone protection projects. SHF prioritizes allocations to specialized protection interventions in its allocations to reduce exposure to risks of violation. SHF's ambition is to allocate at least 20% of its funding to protection interventions, including responses to Gender Based Violence (GBV) and child protection.

b. Strengthening Accountability to Affected People (AAP)

SHF will promote involvement of crisis-affected people in all phases of the project cycle (including planning, implementation and monitoring) and respond to feedback by promoting collective mechanisms to listen, engage and act upon the voices and expressed priorities of affected people across gender, age, and disability groups and other diversity factors to ensure appropriate response to affected people. To this end, SHF will, in coordination with relevant working groups in Sudan and in line with the IASC Principals (November 2017) on Commitments on AAP, identify best practices among SHF partners and set minimum standards to be included in SHF proposals.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

SHF will assess implementing partners PSEA systems through an enhanced capacity assessment. SHF will provide guidance to implementing partners in understanding their obligations and responsibilities through HFU conducted trainings, sharing CBPFs PSEA Guidance Note, and suggesting training options for implementing partners including *UNICEF Training Module*. SHF will also ensure that implementing partners, beneficiaries and communities are aware of the reporting mechanisms available to report SEA including *OIOS Hotline* (oios.un.org/content/contact-us). To this end, SHF will collect best practices from partners and set minimum standard practices through a consultative approach with its partners, to be included in SHF proposals. SHF's monitoring visits will include assessing the implementation of PSEA policies. By the end of 2022, all partners will be required to have a PSEA policy in place to avoid having their risk level lowered to 'high risk'.

III. Programming Areas for Contextualization

a. Focusing on robust, multi-sector emergency response programmed by an empowered field-based humanitarian coordination system

SHF's added value to the humanitarian response is its ability to allocate funding to its 60 SHF partners, that can be quickly mobilized to respond to new emergencies in any location across Sudan with specialized interventions. SHF's emergency response instruments - Emergency Rapid Response Mechanism (ERRM), Reserve for Emergency projects allow for a flexible and tailored response. As such, SHF is one of the main resources of funding to respond to sudden onset emergencies.

SHF aims to allocate over the year around two thirds of its allocations to respond to such emergencies. The ERRM contingency lines are replenished when falling below minimum thresholds. Finally, SHF aims to maintain a reserve of \$10 million to allow the SHF to respond to any unforeseen and sudden emergency shocks.

SHF allocates its funding through a consultative bottom-up approach. Reserve for Emergency allocations are programmed through consultations between sector focal points in the Area Inter-Sector Coordination Groups (A-ISCG) and OCHA sub-offices, both at state level and the SHF and reviewed by sector coordinators. This results in an area-based, multi-sectoral and multi-partner response reaching the people in greatest need. Furthermore, the targeting of localities in the Standard Allocation is reviewed at state level. This approach not only improves the quality of SHF's response but empowers all field-based coordination systems and enhances their ownership over the humanitarian interventions.

b. Focusing on added value, efficiency and effectiveness

SHF prioritizes NGO's for its allocations, and only considers agencies when there is a clear added value to an agency being an implementing partner. While donors can easily fund agencies directly, contributions to the SHF allow donors to reach a wide range of national and international NGO's already operational in the targeted area or sector.

IV. Funding target

The Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity calls on donors to contribute 15 per cent of the HRP funding level of the previous year through country based pooled funds, in support of increasing the impact and coverage of principled, coordinated, and needs driven financing for humanitarian action. For 2022, the SHF strives to have contributions of US\$76 million, or 15% of the funded amount of the 2021 HRP (excluding funding for food interventions).

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