Principles guiding 2021 allocations

The Somalia Humanitarian Fund’s (SHF) demonstrate its comparative advantages through the un-earmarked nature of the Fund; the established and functioning accountability systems; integration within the existing coordination systems; and flexibility, which also allows for a quick deployment or redeployment of the SHF funds in sudden onset situations.

The SHF Advisory Board has endorsed the following principles to guide the SHF allocations in 2021:

1. **Continued focus on life-saving humanitarian response with focus on, where possible, underserved and hard-to access areas**;
2. **Ensuring the centrality of protection and accountability to affected people** in all SHF-funded interventions;
3. **Prioritization of direct implementation** through international and national non-governmental partners, accounting for at least 80% of available annual SHF funding;
4. Support for **local partners as best-positioned responders** by striving to channel at least 45% of available funding directly through national partners (if, when and where feasible);
5. **Continue supporting integration of response across clusters and complementarity with other funding sources** in support of a stronger collective response;
6. Support funding for **pipelines, enabling programmes** and other **support services** provided by the United Nations or NGOs, up to a maximum of 20% of annually available funds;
7. **Support where possible and feasible limited multi-year projects for targeted interventions and clusters**.

While SHF is guided by support for non-governmental and local partners, the overarching objective remains that funding should be channeled through partners that are best placed to deliver prioritized activities in accordance with humanitarian principles in a timely, effective and impactful manner. Notwithstanding these principles, The Humanitarian Coordinator has the final responsibility to define the strategic focus and amounts of allocations, taking into consideration the advice of the advisory board; and to make final decisions on projects recommended for funding. This responsibility is exclusive to the HC and cannot be delegated.