

SHF Somalia
Humanitarian
Fund



SOMALIA HUMANITARIAN FUND

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

[Credits](#)

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The latest version of this document is available on the SHF website at <https://www.unocha.org/somalia/about-somalia-humanitarian-fund>.

Full project details, financial updates, real-time allocation data and indicator achievements against targets are available at [CBPF DataHub](#).

Front Cover
June 2023. SHF Baidoa Mission.

Credit: OCHA/Yao Chen

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LETTER FROM THE HC

I am pleased to share with you the 2023 Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF) Annual Report. The report highlights the strategic use of the Fund to address critical humanitarian needs during another immensely challenging year in Somalia and provides an overview of the SHF's robust management and accountability systems.

Throughout the year, the SHF was among the first to respond to the dire humanitarian challenges in Somalia, addressing the impacts of drought, conflict, cholera outbreaks, and severe flooding. The Fund allocated US\$56.6 million, complemented by CERF allocations of \$28 million, resulting in a substantial Pooled Funds response of \$84.6 million that empowered partners to reach the most affected communities.

The SHF continued to champion localization, channeling an impressive 69.4 per cent of funds directly to national NGOs, against a target of 65 per cent. The Fund emphasized support for underserved and hard-to-access areas, coupled with a strong commitment to the centrality of protection and accountability for affected populations, including allocating \$5.27 million to support protection, of which 65 per cent was dedicated to gender-based violence prevention and response. This approach not only facilitated collective prioritization but also enabled the timely allocation of scarce resources for efficient humanitarian assistance.

I want to express my gratitude for the continued trust and support of SHF donors. This was demonstrated by increased contributions, from

\$67 million in 2022 to \$70.6 million in 2023. The number of donors also increased, from 9 to 15. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of our Advisory Board members as well as our partners, the recipients of SHF funding—national and international NGOs and UN agencies, funds, and programmes—and cluster staff for their dedication and tireless response in Somalia.

Looking ahead to 2024, Somalia continues to endure the aftermath of the worst-recorded drought, heavy flooding from the El Niño rainy season, and increased displacement due to climatic shocks and conflict. The SHF will continue to be strategic and flexible, while strengthening its robust accountability system. It will support collective prioritization, to ensure the timely allocation of scarce resources, enable humanitarian interventions, and strengthen humanitarian coordination, leadership, and efficiency of response.

Given the scale of humanitarian needs, I urge our donors to maintain their generous support for the SHF and make commitments as early as possible to allow for timely responses. It will continue to be one of the smartest choices to support humanitarian response, leveraging its unique placement within the humanitarian coordination structure and direct support for local partners.

Sincerely,

George Conway
Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia



“

The SHF is committed to working closely with all stakeholders, to alleviate suffering and restore dignity to the people of Somalia affected by conflict and other humanitarian disasters.


George Conway
Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia


”

2023 IN NUMBERS

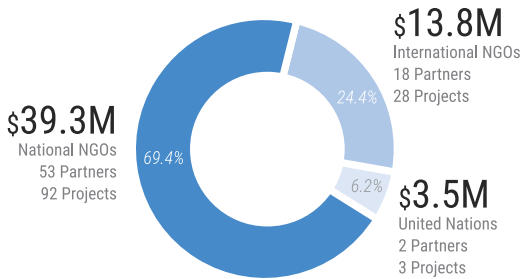
 **\$70.6M**
CONTRIBUTIONS*

 **1.75M**
PEOPLE ASSISTED

 **76k**
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ASSISTED

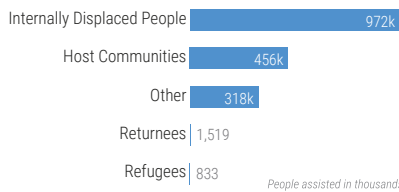
 **1.04M**
WOMEN and GIRLS ASSISTED
60% OF TOTAL PEOPLE ASSISTED

 **73** PARTNERS | **123** PROJECTS




Allocations in US\$ million

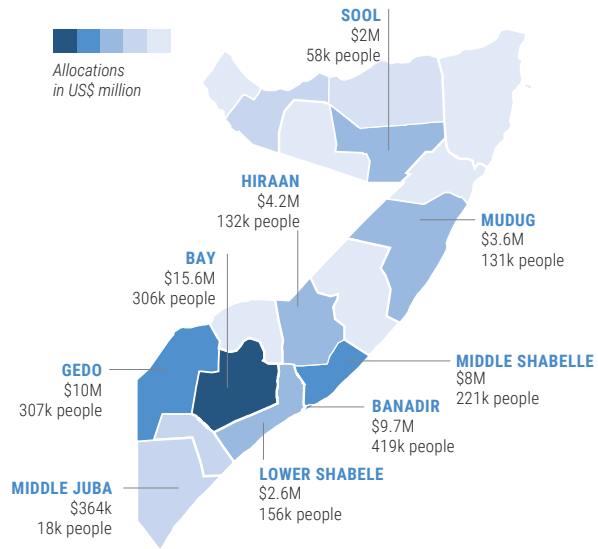
PEOPLE ASSISTED BY TYPE



People assisted in thousands

 **\$56.6M**
ALLOCATIONS

1.75M
PEOPLE ASSISTED

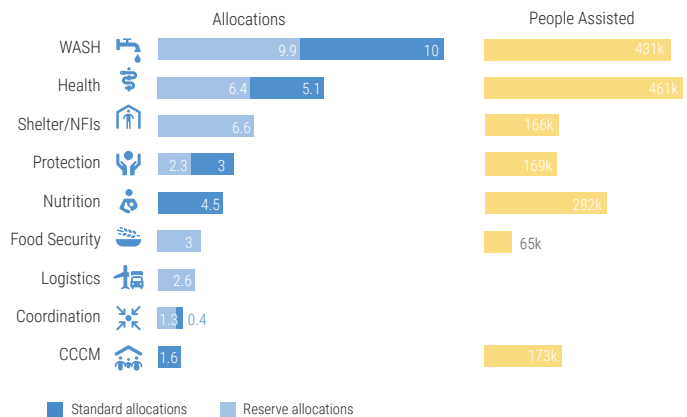


Other regions: Lower Juba (\$334k); Woqooyi Galbeed (\$218k); Sanaag (\$15k); GJagaduud (\$15k); Bakool (\$15k); Togdheer (\$15k); Awdal (\$15k); Bari (\$15k); Nugaal (\$15k).

* The Annual Report uses the number of people targeted as a proxy for the number of people reached and henceforth the term people assisted will be used. This approach allows for more timely global reporting as the final data on people reached only becomes available over a year after the allocation of CBPF funds. The reported outcomes will be available on the <https://cbpf.data.unocha.org/> the CBPFs will continuously monitor if targets are reached.


** Figures for people assisted may include double counting as individuals often receive assistance from multiple cluster/sectors. The maximum methodology was applied by the Somalia Humanitarian Fund to estimate the number of people assisted in 2023. The total number of people assisted is thus the sum of the maximum number of targeted beneficiaries by gender and age per cluster/sectors and location at admin level 2.

ALLOCATIONS AND PEOPLE ASSISTED BY CLUSTER



Allocations in US\$ million, people assisted in thousands

 **552K**
people provided with access to basic water supply for potable and domestic use.

 **65K**
children below 5 years and women of child-bearing age vaccinated against Vaccine Preventable Diseases

 **227k**
crisis-affected people provided with shelter support and NFIs including plastic sheets, blankets, kitchen sets etc.

 **9k**
GBV survivors provided with access to case management services for GBV

Donor contributions



“In 2023, the Netherlands contributed EUR 20 million to SHF because we believe that the Fund plays a crucial role in reaching people in remote areas by funding local and national NGOs capable of operating in difficult contexts. I greatly appreciate the constant strategic engagement with SHF management and OCHA, ensuring that the allocations have the greatest impact and added value.”

Rineke van Dam, Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Horn of Africa, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

In 2023, donors continued to demonstrate trust and confidence in the SHF, with contributions reaching \$71 million—a six per cent increase from 2022. This inflow of funds coupled with a drop in the overall HRP funding received translated to a 6 per cent increase of the Fund’s share of total humanitarian funding from 3.2 per cent in the previous year.

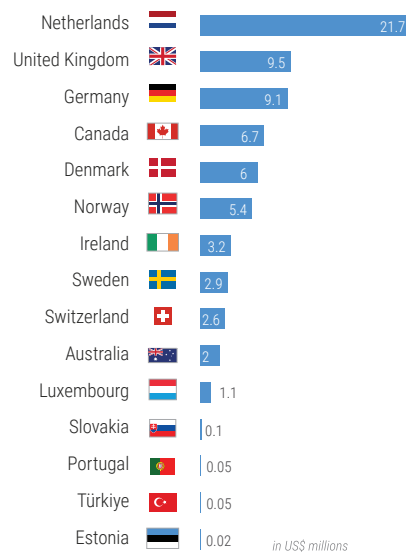
Key contributors, such as Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, significantly increased their support. Notably, the Netherlands emerged as the top donor, amplifying its contribution to \$21.7 million, marking its highest contribution yet. Moreover, the number of SHF donors expanded from 9 to 15, with the Fund welcoming returning donor Australia and new contributors—Estonia, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovakia, and Türkiye.

By the end of the second quarter, nearly 85 per cent (\$60.5 million) of the deposits were available, a substantial improvement from 50 per cent in 2022. This came on top of end-of-year 2022 contributions of \$13 million from Denmark, Ireland, and Norway, which were critical for early 2023 response.

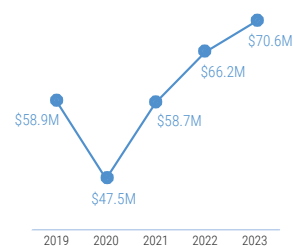
The increased contributions in 2023 demonstrate the Fund’s accountability and underline its pivotal role in Somalia’s humanitarian response, emphasizing the urgency of and potential for expanded support in 2024.



\$70.6M
CONTRIBUTIONS



CONTRIBUTION TREND 2018-2023 *in US\$ million*



Humanitarian Context and Allocations

In 2023, Somalia grappled with extreme climatic events, which included the worst drought since 1981 that nearly pushed the country into famine. This was compounded by intense flooding, exacerbated by El Niño and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD). More than 2.5 million people were affected, including 1.7 million displaced and 1.5 million hectares of farmland flooded. Conflict-induced displacement added to humanitarian challenges, with 653,000 affected and nearly 1,300 civilian casualties reported, causing access constraints, and impacting civilian infrastructure. All of this has increased the cost of humanitarian operations at a time of reduced funding. The [2023 Humanitarian Response Plan](#) secured only 43.5 per cent of required funds. The [2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan](#), in an effort to be more practical, intentionally focuses and targets \$1.6 billion—40 per cent less than 2023. Moving into 2024, 6.9 million Somalis, or two in five, will require humanitarian assistance. Although this represents a slight improvement from 2022, it must be noted that nearly 4.3 million people are still faced with severe food insecurity, violence and climate shocks.

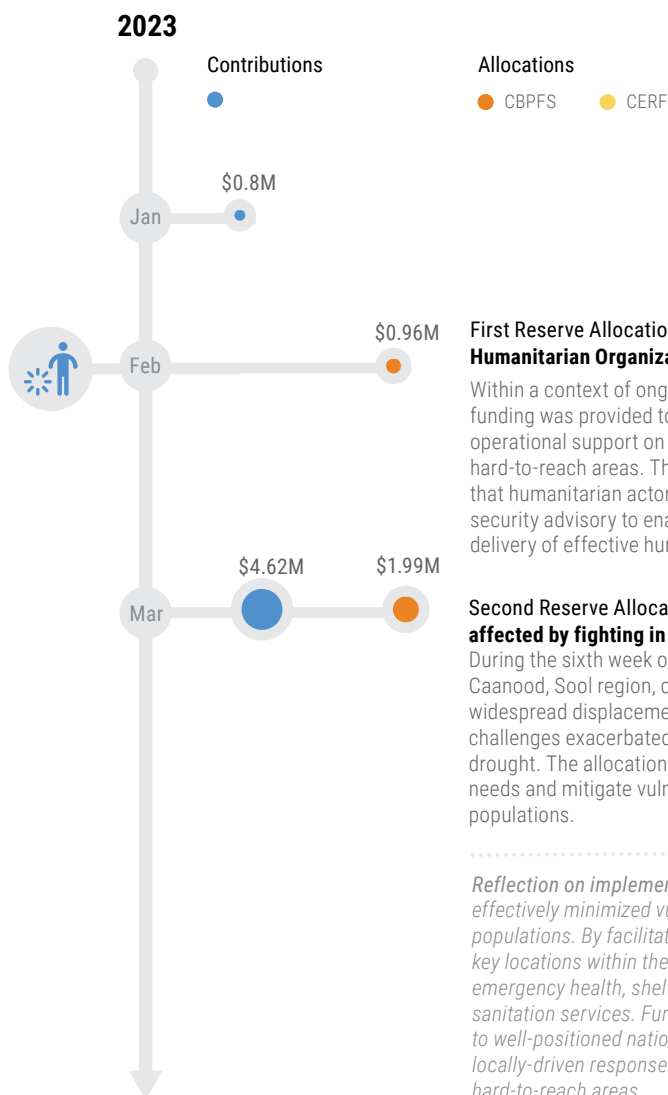
Security and access constraints

On 6 February, fighting erupted in Laas Caanood town, Sool region, between Somaliland army and armed militia groups. This led to the displacement of an estimated 154,000 - 203,000 people to neighboring districts. Others have fled to Bari, Nugaal, Murdug and Sanaag and across the border into the Somali Region of Ethiopia.

While humanitarian agencies scaled-up operations and efforts were in place to access hard-to-reach priority areas, the practical implementation remained complex and continued to demand more security resources.

In 2023, **376** access incidents were recorded affecting humanitarian partners and/or operations.

[Somalia Access Report 2023](#)



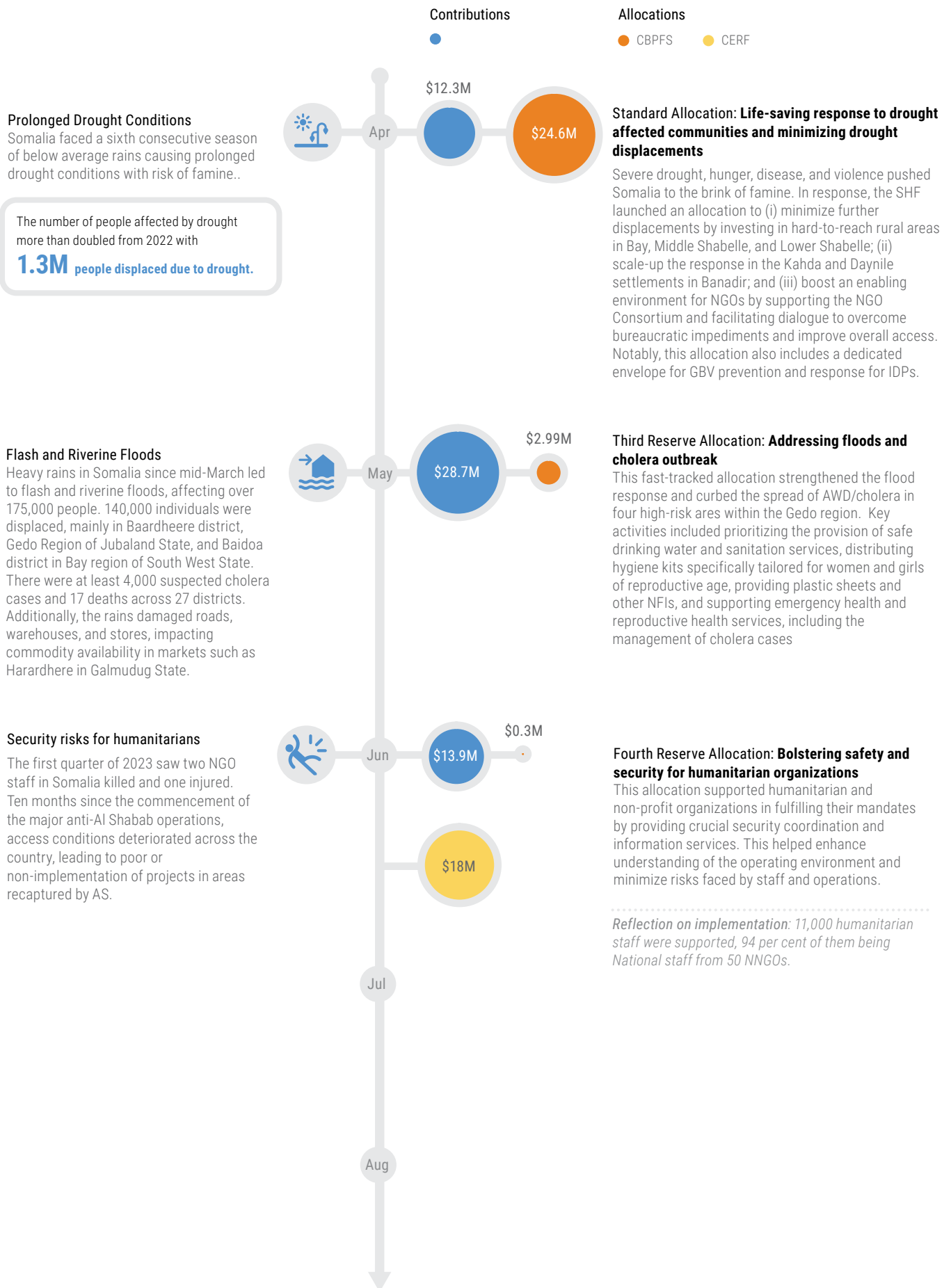
First Reserve Allocation: Safety and Security for Humanitarian Organizations

Within a context of ongoing insecurity, this targeted funding was provided to UNDSS to increase operational support on ground especially in hard-to-reach areas. This allocation aimed to ensure that humanitarian actors are provided with timely security advisory to enable planning and safe delivery of effective humanitarian assistance.

Second Reserve Allocation: Support to people affected by fighting in Laas Caanood

During the sixth week of fighting in the disputed Laas Caanood, Sool region, civilian casualties, injuries, and widespread displacement occurred, intensifying challenges exacerbated by Somalia's worst-recorded drought. The allocation aimed to address immediate needs and mitigate vulnerabilities among affected populations.

Reflection on implementation: The allocation effectively minimized vulnerabilities among affected populations. By facilitating an integrated response in key locations within the Sool region, encompassing emergency health, shelter/NFI, and water and sanitation services. Funding was strategically directed to well-positioned national NGO partners, ensuring a locally-driven response that extended to even the hard-to-reach areas.



Inaccessibility due to floods

El Niño rains and flooding along the Juba and Shabelle rivers that resulted in loss of lives, destruction of infrastructure and crops, and massive population displacement

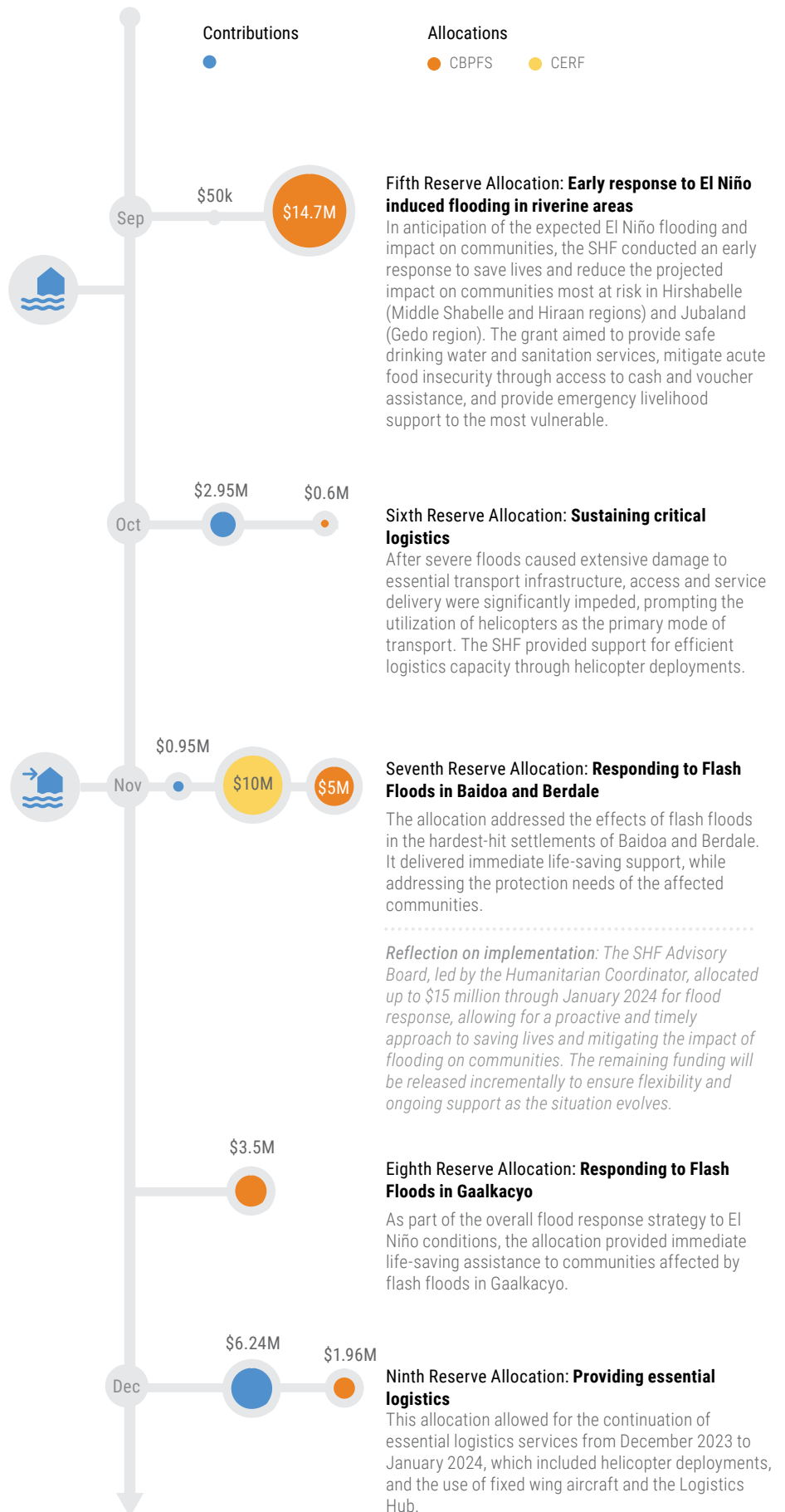
Flash Floods in Baidoa and Galkacyo

On 5 November, heavy showers lasting over six hours hit parts of South West State, with Baidoa experiencing the brunt of the downpour. Numerous water points and latrines were damaged, severely limiting access to safe water and sanitation. The exposure of sewage and contamination of water points heightened the risk of diseases like acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera and other health hazards.

A rapid needs assessment conducted by OCHA and partners on 6-7 November 2023 in North Gaalkacyo revealed that

30,000 households (180,000 individuals) displaced by the flooding.

The floods severely affected and disrupted most health facilities, including the public hospital (MRCH), Gaalkacyo TB center, and six other health centers.



Promoting Localization



To bolster the localization agenda in Somalia, the SHF pool fund plays a crucial role by facilitating direct access of humanitarian funds to capable local and national NGOs. This, in turn, enhances the accessibility of humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities particularly those in hard to reach areas.”

Nimo Hassan, Somalia NGO Consortium

69.4%
OF FUNDING DIRECTLY PROVIDED TO SOMALI PARTNERS

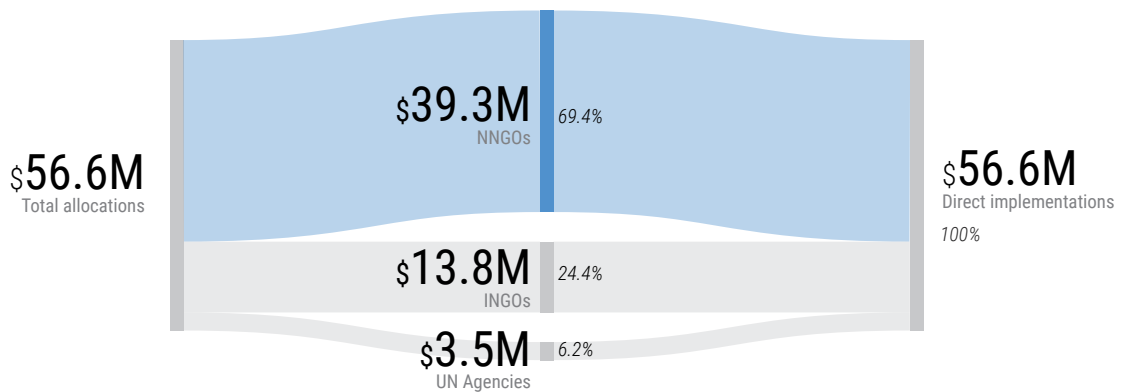
15%
OF WHICH WERE WOMEN-LED/ WOMEN-RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS

Globally, Country-Based Pooled funds (CBPFs) are committed to reaching and surpassing the 2016 Grand Bargain Benchmark of 25 per cent to local NGOs as directly as possible. Since 2016, the SHF has consistently surpassed this benchmark. In 2023, the SHF exceeded the Advisory Board’s (AB) target of 65 percent by channeling \$28.9 million, or 69 percent of funding, through local and national partners. Direct allocation of funding allowed partners to receive the maximum seven percent overhead costs at the project level, enhancing financial stability, reducing administrative burden and improving budget management by providing

direct control over funds. This approach facilitated a prompt and effective response, particularly in hard-to-access areas, while also fostering community-led initiatives and project ownership. Furthermore, much of the famine prevention and flood response efforts were led by local partners, which bolstered their capacity to implement emergency projects.

The SHF maintains its commitment to facilitating funding access for women’s organizations, minority-led groups, and organizations supporting people with disabilities. Notably, funding for

ALLOCATION FLOW BY PARTNER TYPE *in US\$ million*





12
TRAININGS



123
NNGOS TRAINED



632
TOTAL PEOPLE
TRAINED FROM
NNGOS



14
WOMEN-LED/
WOMEN RIGHTS
ORGANIZATION
TRAINED

minority rights organizations has seen a steady increase from \$800,000 in 2021 to \$2.7 million in 2023, demonstrating the Fund's strong support for minority groups and their rights. Similarly, funding for women-led organizations has risen from \$10.8 million in 2022 to \$12.7 million in 2023, representing 22 percent of total funding, and highlighting a steadfast commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women in humanitarian efforts.

The SHF continues to maintain a strong representation of nationally eligible partners, with 123 out of 169 eligible partners being national NGOs. This approach has not only improved access to life-saving services in hard-to-reach areas but has also strengthened efforts to prevent droughts, famines, and respond to flooding. To better understand priority needs and ongoing response efforts, the SHF also actively engaged local focal points, such as national cluster representatives. This ensures better targeting, reduces duplication, and contributes to a focused response.

In 2023 the SHF Advisory Board aligned its membership with the Global Guidelines and included three NNGO representatives on the Advisory Board

in addition to three international NGOs, three UN, and three donor representatives. As part of the Standard Allocation process, NNGOs are members of the Strategic Review Committees (SRCs) that review the proposals and they constitute one-third of the members of the committee.

The SHF continues to strengthen its capacity building both directly and indirectly. The SHF staff provides training and one-to-one sessions with partners to build their capacity in project and financial management, use of GMS, follow-up on monitoring and audit findings, and communications. The SHF staff provides feedback through all these processes to ensure that partners have improvement plans in place. In 2023 the SHF also invited subject matter experts to provide training to SHF partners on Accountability to Affected Populations, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and Data Protection. In 2024 the SHF will continue to develop training options for partners.

In 2023 the SHF scaled up its communication efforts in [social media](#), communications training for our partners, and the production of [SHF quarterly reports](#) that highlights the work of our partners.

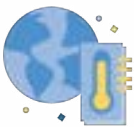
June 2023. Baidoa Mission.

SHF team visited the New Ways' flood response project in Baidoa, addressing urgent needs through initiatives like safe water, latrine construction, hygiene kits distribution, awareness campaigns, well rehabilitation, WASH committees, and cholera prevention.

Credit: OCHA/Yao Chen



Programming Highlights



93%
OF FUNDING IN
RESPONSE TO CLIMATE-
RELATED DISASTERS

Mitigating climate shocks with Early Action

The majority of the allocations were in response to floods exacerbated by El Niño and Indian Ocean Dipole. Recognizing the interconnectedness of climate-induced disasters and their compounding effects on vulnerable communities, the SHF not only delivered immediate relief but also prioritized early action to mitigate loss of life, livelihoods, and infrastructure.

The proactive early action and response strategy of dedicating \$15 million facilitated an area-based integrated response¹ to prevent disease outbreaks and reduce the impact of the floods. Additionally, the SHF implemented cash transfers, communication programs on flood and protection risks, and mobile support, such as through mobile health clinics or distribution centers, to reach rural communities in remote or challenging locations. The SHF also prepositioned essential items to enhance the effectiveness of their response efforts.

As a way forward, building on the achievements and lessons learned from 2023 allocations and aligning with the 2024 HNRP, the SHF may explore supporting anticipatory action interventions ahead of floods in collaboration with CERF.



89%
OF ALLOCATIONS
PROVIDED INTEGRATED
RESPONSE

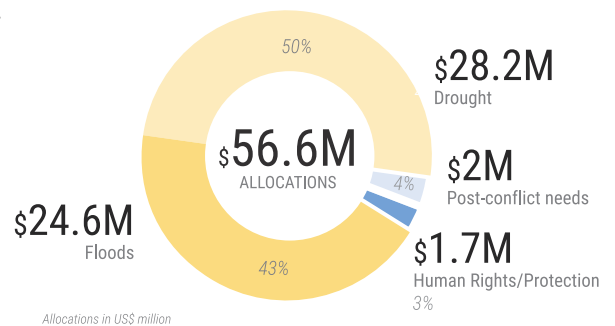
Promoting integrated response

The SHF continued to promote integrated response² to maximize efficiency, minimize duplication, and enhance humanitarian impact of interventions. Five allocations worth \$50.5 million or 89 per cent of total funds allocated, prioritized integrated response.

¹ An area-based integrated response is a strategy used in humanitarian efforts to address the needs of a specific geographical area affected by a crisis or emergency. Instead of focusing on individual sectors or issues in isolation, an area-based approach considers the interrelated needs of the entire community or region.

² An integrated response in humanitarian efforts refers to a coordinated approach that addresses various interconnected needs of affected populations during emergencies or crises.

ALLOCATIONS BY EMERGENCY CATEGORIES



Following finalization of the allocation process, the Humanitarian Financing Unit (HFU) conducted a series of kick-off meetings at the national and regional levels to establish a shared understanding on the type of integration required, promote collaboration and ensure the effective implementation of integrated response. This enabled cluster coordinators, with support from sub-national cluster focal points and in consultation with selected SHF partners, to take the lead in ensuring convergence at prioritized locations. The aim was to enable the same household to be provided with a comprehensive response. While this integrated approach significantly improved area-based coordination, communication, and collaboration among clusters and partners, ensuring a comprehensive response to needs, it encountered challenges that occasionally impeded its effectiveness.

Challenges included resistance to change from some partners, differing organizational cultures, lack of willingness to conduct joint community mobilization and targeting and navigating the complexity of balancing the specific needs of each cluster while working towards an integrated response was time consuming. Addressing these challenges required commitment from all stakeholders and ongoing dialogue through several follow-up meetings conducted by the HFU.

July 2023. Galkayo
Credit: OCHA/Yao Chen



\$5.7M
PROVIDED FOR GBV
PREVENTION AND
RESPONSE ACROSS
SECTORS

Responding to and preventing Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

The SHF dedicated \$5.7 million to GBV prevention and response, with \$4 million specifically allocated to projects where GBV is the main objective. These projects, positioned in the most vulnerable regions, worked towards reinforcing access to lifesaving GBV services, strengthening protection environments for communities affected by drought and floods, and providing emergency interventions for vulnerable populations.

The success of the GBV projects in Somalia is attributed to community engagement. All stakeholders, including local authorities, the elderly, women's groups, religious leaders, and youth, actively participated. The use of the community's own dialect during awareness campaigns facilitated successful engagement, ensuring clear communication. To guarantee the sustainability of the project, empowerment initiatives equipped local communities and duty bearers with the knowledge and skills necessary to independently continue providing services and responding to safeguarding needs for children, girls, and women.

After project closure, the trained community-based structures and voluntary workers will continue preventing and responding to all child protection and GBV. Awareness programs have not only fostered improved relationships between host communities and IDPs but will also extend their positive impact to future projects. This comprehensive approach is making a significant contribution to mitigating GBV concerns and delivering essential services for women, girls, and other vulnerable groups across Somalia.

Overall, the lessons learned underscore the importance of tailored, community-based approaches in effectively addressing GBV concerns. It was also recognized that projects requiring behavioral changes and similar initiatives should be approached as multi-year projects. Finally, identified best practices include the establishment of community-based working groups, fostering collaborative efforts, and incorporating specific provisions within allocation strategies to ensure sustained support for GBV-related initiatives.

Collaborating with CERF and other funding mechanisms

With limited resources, coordination with other funding mechanism is paramount to optimize the humanitarian response. In this context, SHF en-



sured complementarity with CERF in the response to El Niño floods in riverine hot-spot areas. The Pooled Funds maximized the humanitarian response by mostly targeting the same flood hot spot locations and supporting different recipient organizations to best address the overall humanitarian situation. CERF was also used to target an additional cholera hot-spot location to maximize coverage.

While the planning demonstrated foresight, operational challenges impeded the intended result. This included delays in disbursements as well as the exclusion of UN sub-Implementing Partners from the planning stage. As a key takeaway, future joint interventions between CERF and SHF should prioritize the inclusion of relevant stakeholders, especially local partners from the beginning to ensure a consultative process. Putting in place measures to reduce logistical bottlenecks will also be necessary.

Furthermore, SHF remains committed to seeking complementarity with other funding sources, including the [Somalia Joint Fund](#) and the [Somalia Peacebuilding Fund](#). This will allow funding to go beyond immediate humanitarian response and contribute to long-term stability and sustainability. Representatives from these funds are included in the SHF Advisory Board signifying ongoing efforts to foster collaboration and enhance collective impact.



\$84.6M
PROVIDED BY THE
POOLED FUNDS IN
COMPLEMENTARITY



115
FEEDBACK/
COMPLAINTS
ADDRESSED DIRECTLY
BY SHF

Strengthening Accountability to Affected People

The SHF ensured the integration of a comprehensive feedback and complaints mechanism into each project, emphasizing a mandatory focus on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) within project log-frames. All field monitoring visits incorporated consultations with affected people to assess community engagement in project implementation, ensuring projects were accountable and responsive to the needs of affected populations.

SHF partners established community-centered Complaints Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs) within IDP sites, prioritizing accessibility for persons with disabilities. Various channels, including hot-line systems, roving community mobilizers, and partners’ help desks, were employed to facilitate the recording and immediate response to complaints. Moreover, community spaces were effectively utilized to foster gatherings, promoting community engagement.

The efficacy of SHF’s initiatives is evident in the data from remote call monitoring services in 2023, which received 115 calls. These calls not only provided a channel for capturing feedback from affected people in inaccessible and hard-to-reach areas but also served as a valuable tool for monitoring implementation and service delivery. Among the instances reported, 51 were expressions of appreciation, while others highlighted issues such as inadequate information sharing and diverse needs like food, cash, health services, shelter, and water. Underlining a commitment to accountability and responsiveness, each feedback

and complaint received a dedicated response from SHF staff, irrespective of its relevance or the need for direct action.

Stakeholders can bring forth any issues through established channels, including reaching out to the SHF Manager, OCHA Somalia senior management, or through the anonymous email shf-feedback@ochasomalia.org.

FEEDBACK/COMPLAINTS IN 2023

Description of feedback/complaint	Female	Male	Total
Appreciation	17	34	51
Inadequate information sharing	7	10	17
Need food and cash	3	4	7
Need for cash	4	-	4
Need for health services	1	1	2
Need for shelter	4	5	9
Need for water	3	13	16
Slow implementation	1	8	9
Total	40	75	115



June 2023.
Female community mobilizers pictured in Baidoa IDP site.

Credit: OCHA/Yao Chen

Group awareness campaign at Garasley IDP site. IEC materials also put up in the site after the sessions. Credit: NoFYL



FROM DISASTER TO HOPE IN BARDHEERE

In the wake of unprecedented floods that devastated communities in Bardheere, Aisha shared a story of resilience, empowerment, and transformation - a story that emerged from the heart of disaster and bloomed into a symbol of hope. Through awareness and information sharing on GBV, and child protection, Aisha learned many things:

“The awareness campaigns on GBV and Child protection was very important to us during the floods because women and children face risks during the disasters. They informed us about the type of risks and how to report it. We had few cases of GBV and we were able to report them, thanks to NoFYL for sharing the important information.”

Nasra Ali, a participant of the awareness campaign from Horyal Camp said: *“I didn’t realize that some things happening around me were wrong. NoFYL team explained what GBV is, and now I know how to identify it and how to support survivors to get help.”* It’s statements like this that highlight the transformative power of awareness campaigns.

The awareness sessions were also conducted at the women and girls’ safe spaces and child friendly spaces. The facilitators, trained and sensitive to the nuances of GBV and child protection concerns, created an environment where survivors felt heard and supported. The stories shared were not just about victimhood; they became narratives of strength, resilience, and the will to rebuild lives. The success was evident not just in the knowledge gained but in the tangible changes it brought about.

“Women in our community began to speak up against GBV, reporting incidents and seeking support without fear of stigma. Families were equipped with tools to create safe environments for their children, fostering a culture of protection that extended beyond the confines of the safe spaces,” said Sulekha, a women leader from Habal Adey site in Bardheere.

For Halima*, who is a survivor of rape, the awareness campaign was a lifeline to her. Initially, kept silent about the rape, as the potential stigma was too much to bear. Stigma related to sexual assault can lead survivors to keep their experiences hidden, fearing judgment, rejection, or marginalization from the very community that should ideally provide support. Some days later, Halima* chanced upon a weekly awareness and information session by NoFYL whose mobile teams work across Gadudey site to spread awareness of sexual and gender-based violence. She was relieved to learn she could seek medical treatment at the One-Stop Centre located inside Bardheere General Hospital. The GBV One-Stop center improve access to service for survivors of GBV.

“Because of the awareness campaigns, I was able to understand what I was going through and how to report it and get help. NoFYL should extend these awareness campaigns to reach more women and girls so that they can come forward and seek assistance like me. I am grateful to NoFYL for the awareness campaigns and for the GBV support services.”

As the camps are often vulnerable to natural disasters, flood risks and mitigation strategies were also covered in the sessions. *“We were unaware of the potential risks until the mobile teams showed us how to prepare and protect ourselves in case of floods,”* says Hassan, a father of four from Iftin Camp.

Child protection is another crucial aspect of the awareness campaigns. Mariama, a grandmother raising her grandchildren at Albaraka camp, emphasizes the impact of the information shared: *“I learned how to identify signs of child abuse and how important it is to report it. Now, we all know our role in protecting the little ones.”*

[Read more impact stories on StoryHub.](#)

Risk Management



Risk management of projects

In 2023, the SHF monitored 99 per cent of all projects that were required under the risk-based operation modalities across all three monitoring mechanisms (field monitoring visits, third party monitoring and call monitoring). 90 per cent of financial spot-checks and 82 per cent of audits that were required were completed on time. Additionally, 96 per cent of final narrative reports and 98 per cent of final financial reports were submitted and approved on time.

Risk management of partners

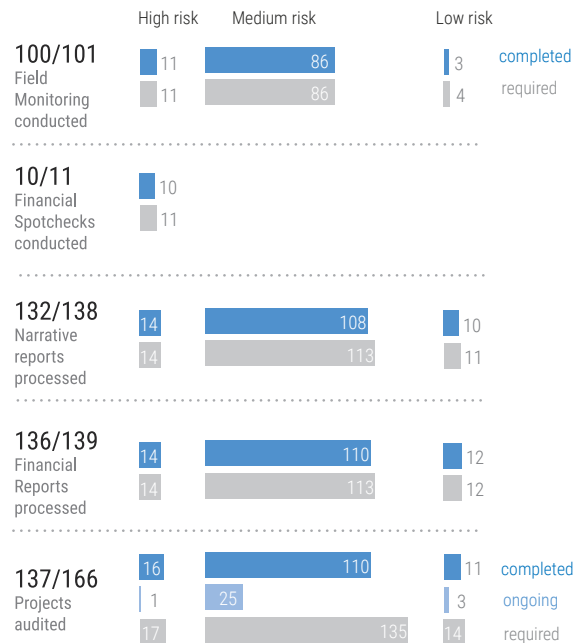
The SHF prioritized funding to the best-positioned partners in 2023, while considering the risks associated with the modalities selected and the targeted locations. The Fund strengthened the Partners Performance Index (PPI) system to update partner risk level on a real-time basis. Partners who performed well had their risk level adjusted accordingly.

The Fund will continue to regularly update the partners' performance index to ensure that their risk levels match the realities on the ground and the quality of delivery.

Risk management of funding

The SHF established an accountability framework in 2013 to mitigate and manage risks, and over the last decade, it has continued to strengthen it. The SHF has a dedicated in-country accountability team with the primary objective of conducting rigorous project and report monitoring and financial spot checks. Their work is complemented by external third-party monitoring, remote call monitoring, and auditing. This approach reinforces the triangulation of information and facilitates a more robust and thorough assessment of project implementation and financial accountability, which play a vital role in the early detection of non-compliance.

PROGRESS ON RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



The [SHF Operational Manual](#) was revised in April 2023 to align with the [2022 Global Guidelines](#) for Country Based Pooled Funds and includes an overview of the global, fund, and partner risk management measures and oversight mechanisms that inform fund strategies and allocation decisions. Section 5 of the manual provides clear guidelines for partners on due diligence, budget preparation, reporting, capacity assessments, and monitoring. It includes measures such as beneficiary contact submission for remote call monitoring and other assurance measures. High-risk partners receive smaller tranches with close monitoring, reducing the risk of fund diversion and misappropriation.

Additionally, the SHF continues to sensitize partners on the prevention, detection, and management of fraud and compliance through training



1
REPORTED
INCIDENTS



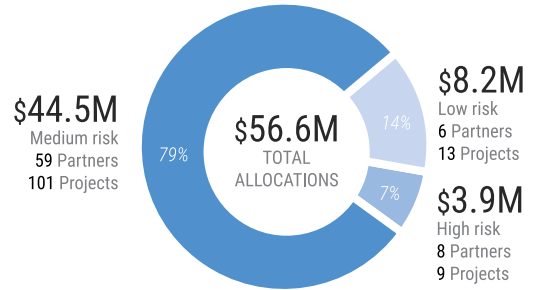
14
ONGOING
CASES

and partner meetings. The SHF will continue to adapt its processes based on lessons learned to prevent all potential diversion or fraud instances.

The SHF collaborates closely with the UN Somalia Risk Management Unit (RMU) in the Integrated Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident, and Humanitarian Coordinator. The RMU facilitates the UN Risk Management and Quality Assurance Working Group (RMAQA), which promotes inter-agency discussion and information sharing regarding risk-related issues, risk management practices, challenges, gaps, best practices, and lessons learned. The SHF has been an active member of the RMAQA since its inception in 2014.

The SHF remains transparent with its donors, overviews of fraud, and non-compliance cases were shared with donors semi-annually at the country level in 2023.

IMPLEMENTATION BY PARTNER RISK LEVEL TYPE



UPDATED RISK LEVEL BASED ON PERFORMANCE INDEX



December 2023.
SHF Donor Mission to Baidoa
Credit: OCHA/Yao Chen

Annexes

Annexes list		Annexes title
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17	ANNEX B	COMMON PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

ANNEX A

2023 SHF ADVISORY BOARD

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANIZATION
Chairperson	Humanitarian Coordinator
INGO	Action Against Hunger (ACF)
INGO	Plan International
INGO	Somalia NGO Consortium
NNGO	Candlelight
NNGO	Juba Foundation
NNGO	Nagaad Foundation
UN	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
UN	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
UN	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Donor	Denmark
Donor	Germany
Donor	Netherlands
Observer	Somalia Joint Fund
Observer	Somalia Peacebuilding Fund
SHF/OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

ANNEX B

COMMON PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

The SHF measures its performance against a management tool that provides a set of indicators to assess how well a Fund performs in relation to the policy objectives and operational standards set out in the CBPF Global Guidelines. This common methodology enables management and stakeholders involved in the governance of the Funds to identify, analyze and address challenges in reaching and maintaining a well-performing CBPF.

CBPFs embody the fundamental humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, and function according to a set of specific principles: Inclusiveness, Flexibility, Timeliness, Efficiency, Accountability and Risk Management



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