

Sahel Regional Fund

A regional humanitarian fund governed by NGOs and hosted by DRC as fund manager



1. Key objectives (to support the implementation of more efficient response models by a blend of different actors)

Localisation	Quality funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase funding directly accessible to N/LNGO ✓ Capacity sharing with N/LNGO through mutualization of efforts of SRF partners & FMU ✓ Localisation strategy co-design with national actors/national platforms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Predictable, flexible, and multi-year funding ✓ Simplified reporting requirements



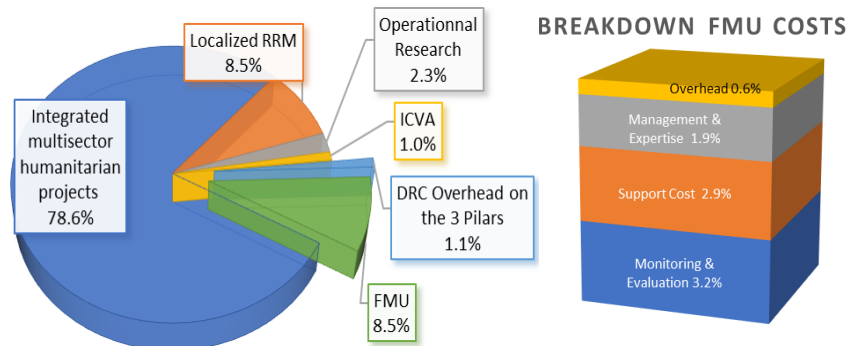
2. SRF Strategic ambition

- ✓ Putting **people and protection** at the centre through its integrated multisector approach and increased accountability toward affected population
- ✓ Scaling up **humanitarian operation in cost effective way & supporting program adaptation**
- ✓ Adapting response to **climate change** and environmental degradation
- ✓ Designed to support and reinforce **principled humanitarian action**
- ✓ Striving for humanitarian access in **Hard-to-reach areas**
- ✓ Supporting **Action research & Advocacy**
- ✓ **Coordination**: engage with local stakeholders, first responders, endogenous system & other development and peacebuilding actors at **area level = nexus**



3. Key Figures

- ✓ A **33.000.000 GBP** grant from FCDO of which **98%** has already been allocated through signed agreements.
- ✓ More than **90%** of the funds will go directly to implementing partners. **27%** of those funds will go to national partners.



4. SRF Added Value

Funding Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Multi-year & quality funding ✓ Regional governance strengthening synergies with national coordination ✓ Alignment with humanitarian needs and priorities identified in country response plan (HRP) ✓ Equitable & strategic partnerships with fair distribution of overheads to N/LNGO ✓ Co-design/co-development at the core of the strategic partnership with N/LNGOs ✓ Investment in operational research projects
Governance System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Greater say of NGOs ✓ Inclusive governance ✓ Use of both English and French in reporting and guidelines documents
Programmatic Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support blend of different NGO actors ✓ Regional approach to respond to the regional humanitarian crisis ✓ Innovation and testing of new approaches ✓ Capacity in place to document the impacts on programme efficiency and effectiveness to support collective learning ✓ Learning has the potential to influence practices, policy and humanitarian system



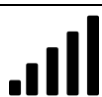
5. Allocation Strategy

Developing phase (2024-2027)

Pillar	SRF Theory of Change	Envisioned modalities	Funding allocation (USD)				
			Up to 0,5M	Up to 1M	Up to 3M	Up to 12M	Up to 60M
1	Integrated multisector & multi country consortia	Call for proposals led by INGOs in partnership with NNGOs					
2	NNGO Consortia	1. Co- development localisation strategy with NNGO 2. Simplified call for proposal to NNGOs followed by project co-design phase					
3	Catalytic window	1. Operational research 2. Strengthening coordination synergy at national/regional level between NGOs					

Key messages from the SRF national partners/platforms:

- ✓ N/LNGO have different capacity, willingness to professionalize their organisations & stressed their concerns to be exposed to losses due to complex donor requirements and complex operational reality they are facing.
- ✓ Some N/LNGO will prefer to continue to work under INGO led consortia or with INGO as sub grantee.
- ✓ Amount allocated to the various funding window must be tied to risks & performance = SRF board decision



6. Expectations on additional fundings

- ✓ **Unearmarked donor contribution on multi-year basis**
 - To ensure timely funding to partners
 - To ensure delivery of SRF program outputs on need basis
 - Proportion of funding directly accessible by N/LNGO based on assigned risk level (DDA) & performance
- ✓ **Simplified requirements**
 - One SRF Manual of operations for all donors
 - Contribute to DRC/SRF functioning costs
- ✓ **Donor participation**
 - Technical experts for the Evaluation Committee and field visits
 - Promote knowledge sharing between donors and the Fund Manager
 - Engage in risk sharing discussion*



7. Accountability to donors

- ✓ **Donor participation**
 - One permanent seat in the SRF board for each donor
 - Increasing funding cascaded to N/LNGOs
 - Access to monitoring reports & collective learning brief
 - Increase donor visibility of unearmarked contribution.
- ✓ **SRF accountability**
 - Effective and proactive risk management
 - Annual reporting on fund management & collective programmatic achievement
 - Access to DDA and audit reports
 - Performance based system to track progress & identify red flags
 - Transparent Code of Conduct reporting mechanism
- ✓ **Transparency**
 - Introduction of grant management system for real time analysis & support adequate scale up of the SRF capacity
 - Assurance of quality programming with documented evidence
 - SRF data on IATI platform

* Risk management approach in the aid sector should not focus on identifying risk to single organisations, but rather considering risk to the humanitarian response as a whole