



THE EU'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SAHEL

On 23 February 2018, the European Commission hosted the [International High Level Conference on the Sahel](#) in Brussels to strengthen international support for the Sahel as part of its longstanding partnership with the region.

On 6 December 2018, the EU is further stepping up its already significant support to the G5 Sahel by committing an additional €125 million to support the priority areas identified by the G5 Sahel in its "Programme d'Investissements Prioritaire" – a strategy for the development and security of the G5 Sahel countries, which puts a particular emphasis on the resilience and social cohesion of the most vulnerable populations living in cross-border regions, where the challenges are the greatest. This €125 million package of EU support will enable development projects in border areas. The projects will have an immediate impact on the lives of the population in those areas. This additional funding complements the EU's broad engagement with the region, which also addresses the G5 Sahel's priorities.



Source: European Commission
Group photo at the High Level Conference on the Sahel held in Brussels in February 2018

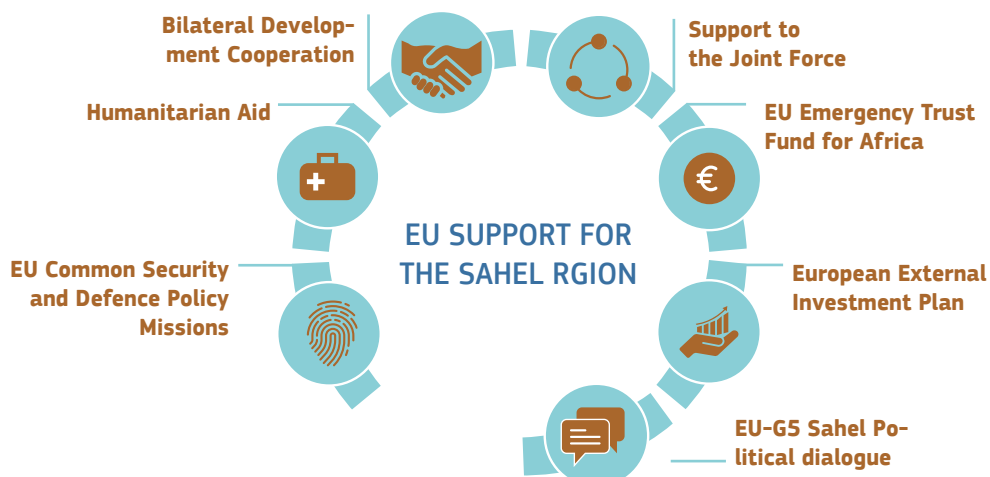
Overall figures of EU support to the Sahel:

€8 billion in development assistance to the region for the period 2014-2020 (EU Commission and EU Member States)

€955.6 million committed through the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa for G5 Sahel countries

€100 million initial contribution to the Joint Force of the G5 Sahel

EU ACTION FOR A STRONGER SAHEL REGION: THE EU'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SAHEL



THE EU AND THE G5 SAHEL: POLITICAL PARTNERS

The EU is a strong political partner of the G5 Sahel countries. The EU has supported the G5 Sahel since it was set up in 2014 to foster close cooperation in the region enhancing the security/development nexus.

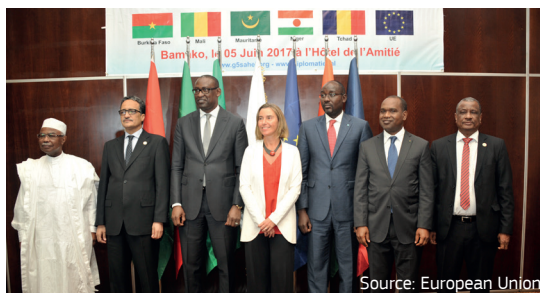
INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

With €8 billion over 2014-2020, the EU makes concrete investments in people in the Sahel to forge a better life. Our projects focus on reducing poverty, improving food security, promoting sound and transparent public finances and strengthening infrastructure.

In addition to long standing cooperation, the [EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#) has also stepped up the EU support to the Sahel region, with its aim to tackle the root causes of instability, forced displacements and irregular migration and create opportunities for youth.

Currently **62 projects** are being carried out in the region with the support of this instrument. Trust Fund projects support the return of the State, promote governance and social and economic development and prevent radicalisation and violent extremism.

Furthermore, the External Investment Plan puts job creation at the heart of the EU's action, by fostering private sustainable investments through blending operations (17 ongoing infrastructure projects in the 5 countries) and guarantee mechanisms (5 guarantee mechanisms will help boosting investments in micro, small and medium sized enterprises, sustainable cities and access to renewable energy in the Sahel region).



Source: European Union



High Representative/Vice President Federica Mogherini has hosted G5 Foreign Ministers in Brussels and attended respective meetings in Mali and Chad.



Source: European Commission

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica, on a visit to N'Djamena, Chad




DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE G5 SAHEL - EXAMPLES

Emergency program for the stabilisation of border areas in the G5 Sahel			
	Countries	G5 Sahel region : Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Burkina Faso, Chad	<p>This programme addresses specifically the G5 priorities established in the Priority Investment Programme and more particularly in the “Regional Emergency Programme for the development of local infrastructure in fragile cross-border areas of the G5”.</p> <p>It aims to improve the supply and quality of basic services, in particular access to water and sanitation, to strengthen the resilience of the population living from agriculture to food insecurity, and to prevent conflict. This programme will be strengthened and implemented by several partners of the Sahel Alliance.</p>
	Funding amount	€70 million	
	Partner	Sahel Alliance	




Youth and Stabilisation Programme - PROJES

	Country	Mali	Aims to promote stabilisation and socioeconomic recovery by strengthening the supply and access to basic services. PROJES will also complement notably PARSEC - “Programme d’Appui au Renforcement de la Sécurité dans les Régions de Mopti et Gao et à la gestion des zones frontalières”, which aims at supporting the Malian government in its efforts to redeploy internal security forces and restore the rule of law in unstable areas in line with the recently adopted Integrated Security plan for the Central Regions.
	Funding amount	€30 million	
	Partner	GIZ - Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	




Hybrid Solar Centre

	Country	Niger	This project will construct a hybrid solar centre in Agadez to provide better access to renewable energy and energy services, improving the socioeconomic conditions and creating jobs for people in Niger. It will support the Nigerien Ministry of Energy and the national electricity company Nigelec.
	Funding amount	€16 million	
	Partner	Agence Française de Développement	




Renforcement des Investissements Productifs et Energétiques en Mauritanie pour le Développement Durable des zones rurales

	Country	Mauritania	To reinforce the resilience of the populations exposed to food and nutritional insecurity in Mauritania in the context of climate change. It specifically aims at improving the access of these populations to basic and productive services and infrastructure.
	Funding amount	€35 million and €1.8 million of co-financing by Agence Française de Développement	
	Partner	Agence Belge de Développement and Agence Française de Développement	

Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development - Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to food and nutrition insecurity in the northern regions of Burkina Faso

	Country	Burkina Faso	This programme intends to answer to most immediate needs of the populations located in the northern border area of Burkina Faso (Boucle du Mouhoun, Sahel, Nord), strongly affected by the instability of the region. It will sustainably improve food production and access to basic services such as water and sanitation, thus improving their living conditions.
	Funding amount	€ 30 million	
	Partners	Action Contre la Faim, LVIA, Terre des hommes, Humanity & Inclusion, Oxford Committee for Famine Relief	

Resilience and employment in the Lake Chad (RESTE)

	Country	Chad	This programme will particularly focus its intervention in the Kanem, Lac and Bahr el Gazel regions, abutting the Nigerien border. It aims at improving the social and economic stability of the communities living there. To do so, it will develop economic opportunities to improve their revenues; improve food and nutritional security; support local institutions to better ensure social cohesion; and enhance accessibility to water infrastructures.
	Funding amount	€ 27 million	
	Partner	Oxfam	

THE ALLIANCE FOR THE SAHEL

Set up in July 2017, the EU is a member of this new initiative to enhance the stability and development of the region through improved coordination and faster delivery of projects and assistance. The Alliance for the Sahel focusses on six priority areas:



youth employment



rural development, agriculture and food security



climate, notably energy access, green energy and water



governance



support for return of basic services throughout the territory, including through decentralization



security

SUPPORTING SECURITY AND FIGHTING TERRORISM: THE G5 SAHEL JOINT FORCE

To step up action on security, particularly in border areas in the Sahel countries which face terrorist and security threats, the G5 Sahel countries have set up their own regional security force. The EU has fully supported this African led initiative from the very beginning and has already provided a contribution of €100 million to help set it up. This funding is provided through the African Peace Facility and is aimed at the provision of non-lethal equipment, services and infrastructure, the establishment of a compliance framework for the respect of human rights and international humanitarian law in the operations of the Force and support to the governance structures of the G5 Sahel in the field of defence and security. The EU also provides professional military advice and expertise through its CSDP missions on the ground. First results can already been seen: the Joint Force reached its Initial Operational Capability on 17 October 2017 and first operations have been conducted.

Building on the EU's defence planning capacity and expertise, the EU has set up a one of a kind **Coordination Hub** to gather together the many offers of international support to the G5 Joint Force. The Hub is already up and running and enables donors to channel much needed assistance. In practice it works by matching the offers of donors to a Recognised List of Needs provided and determined by the Joint Force.

THE EU'S CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MISSIONS IN THE REGION

The EU's 3 active Common Security and Defence Policy missions in the region (EUCAP Sahel Niger, EUCAP Sahel Mali, EUTM Mali) provide additional support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force through advice and expertise. These missions focus on providing training and advice to local security forces to strengthen their capacities to address security threats and challenges and enhance stability in the region.



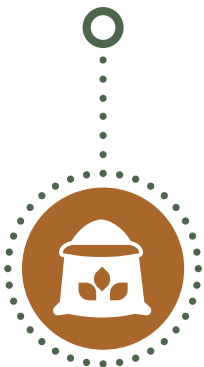
EU military and civilian missions and operations:

- in the Sahel countries
- other EU missions in Sub-Saharan Africa

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

The EU provides lifesaving humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable across the Sahel region. In 2018, the European Commission allocated €271.3 million in humanitarian assistance for:

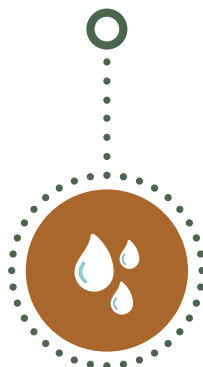
food assistance nutrition



healthcare



water



hygiene, shelter and protection



disaster risk reduction

