PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project “Youth and Peace: A Cross-Border Approach between Mali and Burkina Faso” is a pilot project of the United Nations System and aims to promote the engagement and participation of young people in the peace-building and security consolidation process through a participatory governance approach, involving young people as peace and development agents in local conflict prevention and management mechanisms.

The project provides support to the governments of Mali and Burkina Faso in the framework of the implementation of the G5 Sahel’s Integrated Youth Strategy for the Construction of Peace and Security. The project is also part of the G5 Sahel Emergency Development Programme (PDU) and contributes to pillars 2 and 3:

1. Strengthening agricultural and pastoral populations’ livelihoods by building resilience to food and nutrition insecurity in a sustainable and structural manner;
2. Supporting local communities and institutions in preventing conflicts and reinforcing social cohesion by strengthening the local socio-economic fabric.
PROJECT PROGRESS

The project started off with a delay of 5 months due to lengthy recruitment processes. At an inter-agency operational planning workshop in Bamako on 13-14 June 2019, the following achievements were made:

- A Common Implementation Approach was approved;
- The 2019 Road Map was adopted;
- Experiences from complementary projects carried out in the area and financed by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) were shared;
- A Joint Technical Monitoring Committee was established.

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recruitment of an NGO for the implementation of project components
- Mapping of conflict prevention and management structures
- Perception surveys on the degree of inclusion of young people
- The National Consultation Framework for the project was set up
- A micro-evaluation of the project partners was carried out
- Town halls were furnished
- The first dissemination activity of the G5 Sahel Youth Strategy was organised. A meeting was held with the G5 Permanent Secretariat on October 7, 2019

What is the Emergency Development Programme?

In 2018, the Heads of State of the G5 Sahel asked the Executive Secretariat of the G5 Sahel (SEG5 Sahel) to launch quick-impact emergency projects. Consequently, the Emergency Development Programme (PDU) came into life in order to stabilise fragile border areas identified by the G5.

In response to the G5 Sahel’s request to finance the PDU, the Sahel Alliance’s members collectively mobilised 199 million Euro dedicated to 21 projects and programmes in total. These projects meet the following 3 criteria:

I. The project is located in sensitive cross-border areas as identified by the G5
II. The project responds to specific thematic or sectoral issues
III. Actual achievements are visible by the end of 2018 / beginning of 2019