



ALLIANCE  
SAHEL

# FAQ on the **Sahel Alliance**



# Table of contents

WHAT IS THE SAHEL ALLIANCE?	P.3
HOW DOES THE SAHEL ALLIANCE WORK?	P.3
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SAHEL ALLIANCE AND THE G5 SAHEL?	P.4
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SAHEL ALLIANCE AND THE SAHEL COALITION?	P.5
HOW DOES THE SAHEL ALLIANCE ENSURE COHERENCE OF ITS INTERVENTIONS WITH THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES OF THE G5 SAHEL?	P.5
2 WHAT IS THE INTEGRATED TERRITORIAL APPROACH (ITA)?	P.6
HOW ARE THE PRIORITY AREAS DEFINED?	P.6
WHAT IS THE RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE SAHEL ALLIANCE AND HOW IS IT MONITORED?	P.6
WHAT IS THE PROJECT PORTFOLIO LABELLED «SAHEL ALLIANCE»?	P.7
WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE SAHEL ALLIANCE?	P.7

## What is the Sahel Alliance?

The Sahel Alliance is an international coordination platform launched in July 2017 by a group of bilateral and multilateral development partners. Its aim is to provide a more coordinated, joint, adapted and effective response to the development challenges and concerns of the countries and populations of the G5 Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad). It currently has 14 full members and 11 observer members, thus bringing

together a large number of institutional development aid actors working in the Sahel. The members of the Sahel Alliance have chosen to concentrate their efforts in six priority sectors of intervention, in line with the development priorities established by the G5 Sahel countries: Agriculture, rural development and food security; Decentralisation and basic services; Education and youth employment; Energy; Governance; Domestic security. The priority sectors are reinforced by four

essential themes, which cut across all the actions of the Sahel Alliance: Climate, Gender, Youth and the Private Sector. One of the main objectives of the Alliance is to improve and accelerate the implementation of the projects being financed, especially in vulnerable areas, in order to boost their impact. To achieve this, members base their actions on four key principles:



### Targeting of their interventions

on 6 priority sectors and 4 transversal themes.



### Mutual accountability

between partners, based on shared objectives.



### New modes of action

that are more innovative and flexible.



### Fragile and vulnerable areas

receive particular attention.

## How does the Sahel Alliance work?

In terms of governance, a solid mechanism was put in place in mid-2019 based on a General Assembly (GA), an Operational Steering Committee (OSC) and a Coordination Unit (CU).

- The first General Assembly of the Alliance was held in Nouakchott on 25 February 2020, under the presidency of France, in the person of its Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian. The second General Assembly is being held in N'Djaména on 15 February 2021, under the Presidency of Spain, in the person of its Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, Ms. Arancha González Laya;
- Four meetings of the Operational Steering Committee have been held in the last two years (2019-2021),

chaired by Germany, in the person of the Director for Africa of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Mr. Christoph Rauh

- The Alliance Coordination Unit (ACU) has been based in Brussels since April 2019. Currently headed by Mr. Adrien Haye, the team in charge of running the General Secretariat of the Alliance.

To promote the Alliance on the ground, a network of spokespersons has been set up in each of the G5 countries. They represent the Sahel Alliance internally (vis-à-vis the members represented locally) and externally (vis-à-vis the authorities, partners and third parties). Their mission is to facilitate communication, coordination and implementation of Alliance decisions in the field. To complement and support this mechanism, UCA liaison experts have been deployed in each of the G5 countries.

Thanks to this global system, significant progress has been made: pooling of a portfolio of projects by the members of the Sahel Alliance; definition of indicators for monitoring results and making a commitment with the G5 countries to mutual accountability; joint proposals to change operating methods in order to make aid more effective (setting up dedicated funds/facilities, carrying out and sharing diagnostics in the areas of intervention, setting up databases and mapping tools for the geolocation of activities carried out for better coordination and decision-making support); writing position papers on the main public policy reforms to be conducted/ encouraged in the sectors and transversal areas of intervention of the Alliance; writing reports on the results achieved and the impacts of the projects financed.

1 Germany, France, European Union, World Bank, African Development Bank, UNDP, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, United Kingdom, EIB, Norway

2 United States, Canada, Japan, Belgium, Switzerland, Finland, Ireland, IFC, Gates Foundation, Tony Blair Institute, OIF

## What is the difference between the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel?

The G5 Sahel, whose Executive Secretariat is located in Nouakchott, Mauritania, is an intergovernmental cooperation framework created, under the impetus of the Mauritanian presidency of the African Union, at a summit organised from 15 to 17 February 2014 by five Sahel States: Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad. The aim of the G5 Sahel organisation is to both fight against insecurity and carry out development actions:

- The close link between economic development and security, as the governments are convinced of the interdependence of the challenges of security, peace and development;
- To involve Sahelian states directly threatened by the various jihadist organisations operating in the region.

For its part, the Sahel Alliance is a coordination platform, possessing neither legal nor moral personality. It was created in 2017 to improve the effectiveness of development aid from donors working in the G5 Sahel countries and to be the latter's privileged interlocutor on development issues, in a spirit of mutual accountability. While the G5 Sahel and the Sahel Alliance share common development objectives, their functioning and prerogatives are different and do not so much overlap as complement each other.



## What is the difference between the Sahel Alliance and the Sahel Coalition?



The Sahel Alliance works with the G5 Sahel as co-actors of Pillar 4 (development aid) of the Sahel Coalition. This global initiative was announced at the Pau Summit on 13 January 2020 by the Heads of State of France, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad, in the presence of the United Nations Secretary-General, the

President of the European Council and the High Representative of the European Union, the President of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the International Organization of La Francophonie. The Coalition for the Sahel wants to give a more collective response to the challenges of the Sahel region, by bringing together the actions led by the

G5 Sahel States and their international partners. The objective is to make it a coherent regional action that encompasses all the actors involved in the Sahel, whether they are involved in security, political or development issues. This initiative proposes a new framework for international action, through four complementary pillars, each of which has its own steering.

1

**FIGHT AGAINST  
ARMED TERRORIST  
GROUPS**

2

**STRENGTHENING THE  
CAPACITIES OF THE  
ARMED FORCES OF  
THE REGION'S STATES**

3

**SUPPORT THE  
RETURN OF  
THE STATE AND  
ADMINISTRATIONS TO  
THE TERRITORY**

4

**SUPPORTING  
DEVELOPMENT**  
COORDINATION BY THE G5  
SAHEL AND THE SAHEL  
ALLIANCE

## How does the Sahel Alliance ensure coherence of its interventions with the national and regional priorities and strategies of the G5 Sahel?

Regularly consulted throughout the construction of the conceptual framework of the Alliance, the five countries and the Executive Secretariat of the G5 Sahel have continuously shared their common priorities and concerns. In order to strengthen their ties, the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel signed a partnership agreement on 30 October 2018 in Niamey to increase coordination and coherence between the resources made available by the donors and the priorities and needs expressed by the G5 countries, and to

strengthen joint efforts in response to a multidimensional crisis. This agreement was a key step in the dialogue between the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel. The G5 Priority Investment Plan (PIP) Donors' Conference, held on 6 December 2018 in Nouakchott, was another important step in the partnership established and sent a strong signal on the rise of development actions in the Sahel. The members of the Sahel Alliance contribute €1.8 billion to the PIP, including €266 million for the Emergency Development Programme (EDP). Through their contribution to the EDP, the members

of the Alliance have demonstrated their capacity to engage in the implementation of emergency projects in border areas of great fragility, and thus respond to a strong demand from the Heads of State of the G5 Sahel. The partnership takes the form of regular consultations, the participation of G5 Sahel bodies in meetings of the Alliance's governing bodies, the association of G5 development experts with Alliance thematic groups, the working links between line ministers, G5 national focal points and Alliance representatives in the field

## What is the integrated territorial approach (ITA)?

The commitments made at the first General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance held on 25 February 2020 in Nouakchott confirmed the need for better coordination, coherence and effectiveness of members' actions in vulnerable areas. It was decided that in these areas there should be promotion of the Integrated Territorial Approach (ITA), which is multi-sectoral and multi-actor, differentiated according to territories and their characteristics, encourages local and decentralised development, and is based on common analyses and flexible and adapted financing and implementation procedures. This approach aims to articulate a coordinated response of the

different actors intervening in these areas, led by the G5 authorities and consistent with the reality on the ground, the needs of the populations and the local, regional and/or national strategies, in order to create the conditions for a sustainable way out of the crisis in the Sahel. Its implementation is structured around 5 main stages, which must be carried out in close collaboration with the authorities:

- Identification of priority areas;
- Carrying out of joint diagnostics by zone, in order to understand the issues at stake, identify the determinants of the crises and define an appropriate response;
- Reinforced dialogue with local, national and regional authorities;
- Coordination of development activities within each zone, through the definition of a coherent operational strategy and planning of activities with all the actors present;
- Establishment of a strengthened performance monitoring framework.

6

## How are the priority areas defined?

The definition of the so-called «priority» areas is part of the implementation of the Integrated Territorial Approach (ITA). To ensure that Alliance members focus their efforts in an integrated manner, it was decided to coordinate, in a first step, project

activities in 1 to 3 zones per country. The choice of these zones was made on the basis of the 28 priority intervention zones of the CAPI (Integrated Priority Action Framework of the G5 Sahel) and was discussed among the members of the Sahel Alliance and with the authorities

of the G5 countries. The areas identified reflect a dual focus on conflict zones and prevention zones. While this approach aims to put a stronger emphasis on priority areas, it should not be perceived as being to the detriment of interventions in other areas/regions.

## What is the results framework of the Sahel Alliance and how is it monitored?

With a view to strengthening their coordination, the members have defined common objectives per intervention sector as well as indicators to measure the achievement of these objectives. This results framework includes 25 national and 15 project indicators.

With regard to the monitoring of national indicators, the Coordination Unit of the Sahel Alliance (CU) is in charge of the annual update of publicly available data with the support of the different sectoral groups. As far as project indicators are concerned, they require specific collection and aggregation work on the projects included in the Alliance

portfolio. This work was carried out by the CU in 2020 and enabled the production of a results report (results report of the 3 years of the Sahel Alliance) in collaboration with the Sahel Chair of the FERDI (Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development).

## What is the project portfolio labelled «Sahel Alliance»?

In order to ensure effective coordination of members in the various sectors of activity, and in a spirit of mutual accountability, the sharing of data and information is essential. It was therefore decided to set up a database listing the projects implemented by Alliance members within the priority sectors and transversal themes selected. This database constitutes the portfolio of projects labelled Alliance Sahel. It concerns full members only.

Each member includes in the Alliance's project portfolio the projects meeting the following criteria:

- Projects implemented in at least one of the G5 Sahel countries;
- Projects under implementation with an outstanding balance to be paid on 01/01/2017 or projects under appraisal (in preparation);

- Projects falling within one of the priority and/or transversal sectors of the Alliance.

These projects are then labelled «Alliance Sahel». The project portfolio database is updated once a year.

## Who can I contact if I have a question about the Sahel Alliance?

In Brussels, you can contact the team of the Coordination Unit of the Sahel Alliance (CU), through the communication officer: [aude.rossignol@giz.de](mailto:aude.rossignol@giz.de)

In each of the G5 Sahel countries, you can contact the liaison experts of the CU, whose contact details are as follows:

### Burkina Faso

**ARMEL HIEN**

TEL : +226 62417464  
[ARMEL.HIEN@GIZ.DE](mailto:ARMEL.HIEN@GIZ.DE)

### Mali

**KARIM GUINDO**

TEL : +223 92045540  
[KARIM.GUINDO@GIZ.DE](mailto:KARIM.GUINDO@GIZ.DE)

### Mauritania

**ELISABETH KRUMM**

TEL : +222 42414043  
[ELISABETH.KRUMM@GIZ.DE](mailto:ELISABETH.KRUMM@GIZ.DE)

### Niger

**MAMAN SANI OUSSEINI  
AMADOU**

TEL : +227 94573981  
[SANI.OUESSINI@GIZ.DE](mailto:SANI.OUESSINI@GIZ.DE)

### Chad

**AZÉDDINE MOUSSA MAHAMAT  
SALEH**

TEL : +235 65673037  
[AZEDDINE.MOUSSA@GIZ.DE](mailto:AZEDDINE.MOUSSA@GIZ.DE)

GENERAL INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE ALLIANCE SAHEL WEBSITE:

[www.alliance-sahel.org](http://www.alliance-sahel.org)

© ALLIANCE SAHEL 2021

Informations : [www.alliance-Sahel.org](http://www.alliance-Sahel.org) / Twitter : @AllianceSahel

---

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union and Germany.  
The Sahel Alliance is solely responsible for its content.  
Printed on recycled paper.



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development



Graphic Design - layout : *Spade*  
spade.be