The Sahel Alliance
At a glance

Mauritania  Mali  Niger  Chad  Burkina Faso
What is the Sahel Alliance?

The people of the G5 Sahel region (Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad) are faced with multifaceted challenges and threats, including a deteriorating security context, major population displacements, risks relating to food security and the dramatic consequences of climate change.

Although the region offers a wealth of potential in terms of cultural richness, dynamic young people and natural resources, the increasingly intertwined challenges are holding back development. Instability feeds security disorders, which in turn reinforce it.

The Sahel Alliance was set up in 2017 to provide concrete, collective responses to these multiple challenges. Today, it has become a platform for coordinating aid to the Sahel, federating the action of 27 bilateral and multilateral partners. The Sahel Alliance is also a unique forum for dialogue with the G5 Sahel and its member states.

The Sahel Alliance is neither a new organisation nor a forum for financial advocacy. The Sahel Alliance is an operational coordination platform that aims to increase the effectiveness and impact of the funded projects in order to achieve sustainable improvements to living conditions for populations, particularly the most vulnerable.

Who are the members of the Sahel Alliance?

18 FULL MEMBERS

Germany, France, European Union, World Bank, African Development Bank, United Nations (UN), Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, United Kingdom, European Investment Bank (EIB), Norway, Sweden, Canada, United States, West African Development Bank (BOAD)

9 OBSERVER MEMBERS

Japan, Belgium, Switzerland, Finland, International Finance Corporation (IFC), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, Ireland, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)
The governance of the Sahel Alliance is based on 3 bodies:

◊ **General Assembly (AG)**
◊ **Operational Steering Committee (CPO)**
◊ **Coordination Unit (UCA)**

The **General Assembly** meets once a year and sets the major political and strategic guidelines for the Alliance. This body is responsible for maintaining an enhanced, high-level dialogue with the national authorities, the rotating presidency and the G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat.

The **Operational Steering Committee**, which meets two or three times a year, guides the Alliance’s priorities, activities and agenda at the operational level.

The **Coordination Unit** provides the general secretariat for the Alliance, coordinates the activities of its members and implements the decisions of the AG and the CPO.

To ensure that the Alliance can operate at the ground level, a **network of spokespersons** has been implemented in each of the G5 countries, supported by liaison experts from the UCA.
Operation of the Sahel Alliance

Presidency of the G5 Sahel and authorities of the Sahel countries

- Ordinary summit of G5 Sahel heads of state once a year
- Rotating presidency
- G5 Sahel supervisory ministers and national coordinators (CNC)

G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat (ES)

- Based in Nouakchott
- Development and safety pillars

General Assembly (GA)

- Definition of strategic orientations and policies
- With representatives of members and observers
- Chaired by France in 2019 and 2020, by Spain from 2021 to 2023, replaced by Germany from July 2023.
- Meets once a year

Operational Steering Committee (OSC)

- Decides on the actions needed to implement the AG’s guidelines and measures their progress
- Consists of representatives of full members and observers
- Chaired by Germany in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. Chaired since June 2022 by the World Bank (Ousmane Diagana, Vice-President for West and Central Africa)
- Meets 2 to 3 times a year

Coordination unit (UCA)

- Provides the general secretariat and coordinates activities
- Implementation of AG and CPO decisions
- Administrative and financial management by GIZ
- Currently financed by Germany (BMZ), Italy, Canada and France (AFD)
- Based in Brussels, headed by Mr Debroise

5 sector groups

- Agriculture, food security and rural development
  Co-lead: AfDB/FAO/WFP
- Decentralisation and basic services
  Co-lead by: Germany/TBI
- Education and employability of young people
  Co-lead: AFD/World Bank
- Energy
  Leadership: World Bank
- Governance
  Co-lead: AFD/UNDP/EU

4 transversal groups

- Gender
  Lead partners: AFD/AFDB
- Private sector
  Lead partners: AFD/AFDB
- Climate
  Lead partner: World Bank
- Priority areas
  UCA animation

3 referral groups

- Communication
- Focus points
- Monitoring and evaluation

Partnership protocol between the G5 Sahel and the Sahel Alliance on 30/10/2018, under review

SA spokespersons and national authorities

5 liaison experts

1 person per Sahelian country

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A key partnership with the G5 Sahel

Regularly consulted during the construction of the Alliance’s conceptual framework and systematically involved in meetings of the governance bodies, the countries and the G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat regularly share their common priorities and concerns.

The Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel signed a partnership agreement on 30 October 2018 in Niamey to increase the coordination and consistency of Alliance members’ action and the priorities and needs expressed by the G5 Sahel countries. This partnership has resulted in a strong mobilisation of Alliance members to finance the G5 Sahel’s Emergency Development Programme (PDU).

This cooperation framework will be revitalised in 2023, in the context of Mauritania’s presidency of the G5 Sahel.

- 30.10.2018
  The Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel sign a partnership protocol in Niamey to strengthen joint efforts in response to the multidimensional crisis.

- 06.12.2018
  The G5 Priority Investment Plan (PIP) Donors Conference in Nouakchott saw a strong mobilisation of Sahel Alliance members, in particular for the financing of the Emergency Development Programme (PDU) designed by the G5 Sahel.

- 25.02.2020
  First General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance held in Nouakchott as a side event of the G5 Sahel Heads of State Ordinary Summit.

- 15.02.2021
  Second General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance held in N’Djaména on the margins of the G5 Sahel Heads of State Ordinary Summit.

- 24.02.2023
  Revitalising the partnership between the G5 and the Sahel Alliance: a delegation from the Alliance led by the President of the CPO, Ousmane Diagana, met the Mauritanian authorities holding the presidency and the Executive Secretary of the G5 Sahel in Nouakchott.

- 02.2023
  Participation of the Sahel Alliance in the G5 Sahel Heads of State Summit.

- 07.2023
  Update of the partnership protocol.
The actions of the members of the Sahel Alliance are guided by four key principles

- Targeting actions on 5 priority sectors and 3 cross-disciplinary themes (Climate, Private Sector, Gender).
- Mutual accountability between partners on shared objectives.
- New, more innovative and flexible ways of working.
- Fragile and vulnerable areas are the focus of a special commitment.

5 priority sectors

- Agriculture, food security and rural development
- Decentralisation and basic services
- Education and employability of young people
- Governance
- Energy

3 cross-disciplinary themes

- Climate
- Private sector
- Gender
The Sahel Alliance portfolio

The members of the Sahel Alliance are funding almost 1,400 stabilisation and development projects in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad. These projects are supported to a global value of almost 29 billion euros*.

In terms of volume, the main sectors of intervention are:
◊ decentralisation and basic services (32%)
◊ agriculture, rural development and food security (23%)
◊ energy (14%).

This portfolio has grown steadily since the launch of the Alliance and the subsequent commitments.

*31/12/2022

Evolution of the Alliance Sahel portfolio 2017-2022: key figures

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of ongoing projects</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>1122</td>
<td>1327</td>
<td>216%</td>
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<td>Amounts committed in billions €</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>26.47</td>
<td>245%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outstanding amounts in billions €</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>197%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual disbursements in billions €</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursement rates</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>-29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Average commitment per project in millions € | 17.7 | 19.2 | 22.2 | 19.5 | 20.5 | 19.3 |

Distribution among members

- World Bank 47.2%
- France 11.3%
- European Union 10.2%
- Germany 9.5%
- African Development Bank 8.8%
- United States 3.8%
- Canada 2.7%
- European Investment Bank 1.7%
- Luxembourg 1.5%
- Italy 0.7%
- Sweden 0.6%
- United Nations Development Programme 0.5%
- Denmark 0.4%
- United Kingdom 0.4%
- Spain 0.4%
- Norway 0.3%
Distribution by Sector

Decentralisation and basic services 7904 1223
Agriculture, rural development and food security 5974 538
Energy 3839 310
Governance 2366 428
Education and youth employment 1807 346
Multisectoral projects 862 217
Private sector 1006
Climat 652 119
Gender 504 257
Domestic security 332 10
Youth 63 15

Geographical distribution

Niger 480
Regional projects 6619
Burkina Faso 1486
Mali 429
Chad 562
Mauritania 132

Amount in millions €
The Sahel Alliance and its members are working together to fund over 1,400 projects.

Our interactive map (non-exhaustive) gives a picture of the territorial coverage of the projects implemented by the members of the Sahel Alliance. Each point on the map corresponds to a place where an activity of an Alliance Sahel labelled project is being implemented.

Visit the project interactive map HERE

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