



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

# Transitional development assistance



SAHEL



Many countries around the world are affected by persistent or recurring crises. The transitional development assistance provided by BMZ strengthens the resilience of the hardest-hit people and local structures. As an instrument of crisis management,

it bridges the gap between humanitarian assistance, long-term development cooperation and peacebuilding. Transitional development assistance supports people and institutions to manage and prevent crises on their own.

# TRANSITIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN THE SAHEL

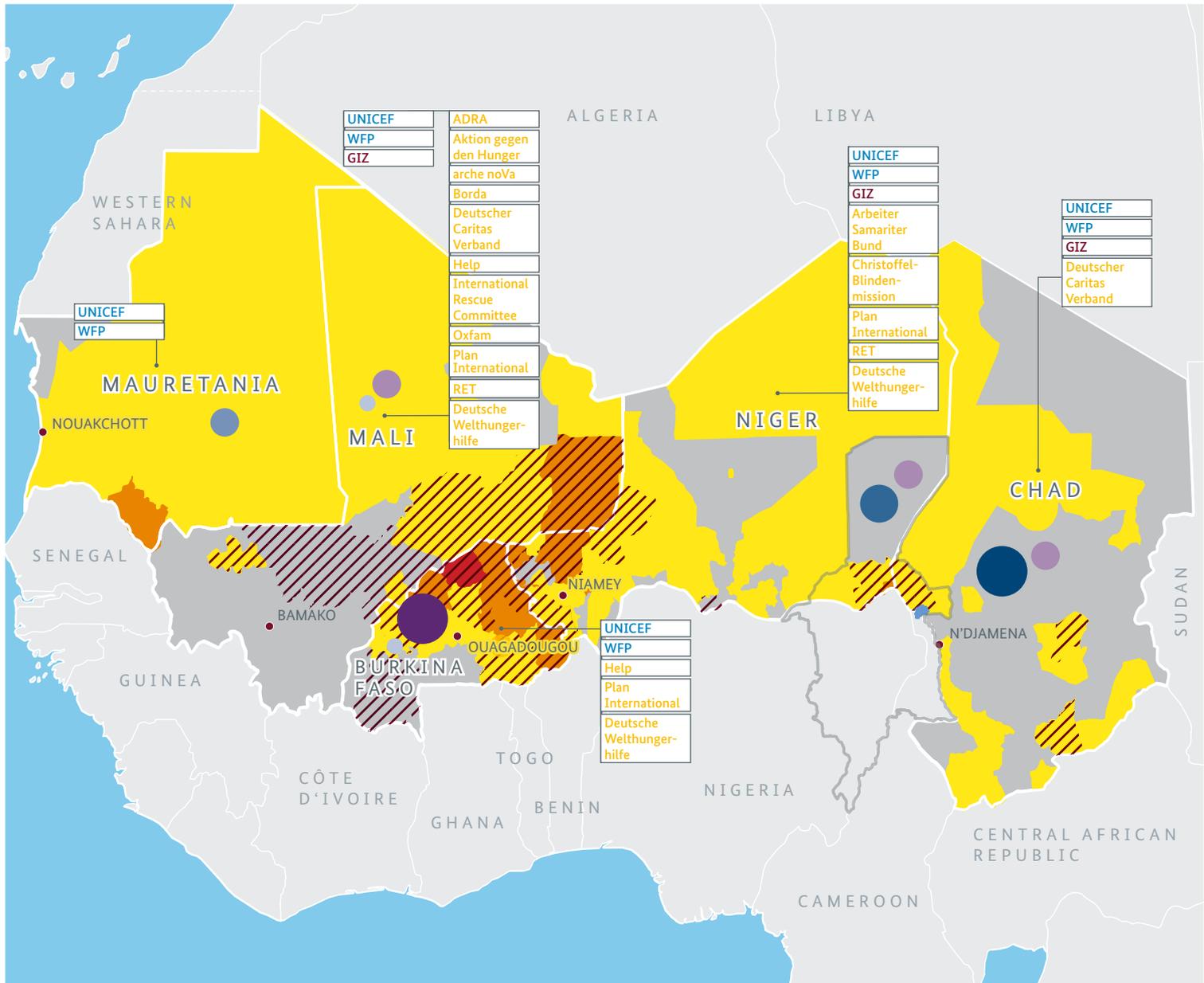
The five countries in the Sahel region Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad are affected by hunger, poverty and political instability. The situation is exacerbated by violent extremism, high population growth and the effects of climate change such as droughts and floods. As a result, the security situation is increasingly deteriorating and many people are displaced internally and across borders. Engagement in the Sahel has been a regional focus of transitional development assistance since 2018.

This instrument for crisis management strengthens the resilience of people and local structures that have been particularly hard hit. They are supported in the sectors of food security, the development of essential infrastructure as well as water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education, social protection and the strengthening of social cohesion through local conflict management. Particular support is provided to children, women, refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) as well as their host communities.

The BMZ's portfolio of transitional development assistance in the Sahel comprises **35 ongoing projects** with a total budget of around **880 million euros**.

These include a number of regional United Nations programmes implemented with several partners.

**8 million people** have been reached in the Sahel since 2018.



**Blue text** UN organisations

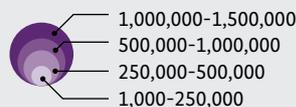
**Red text** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

**Yellow text** Non-governmental organisations

**●** CAPITAL CITY

**Refuge and displacement within the country and across borders**

**Internally displaced people** UNHCR 2022



**Refugees** UNHCR 2022



**□** Lake Chad region **■** Lake Chad

**▨** Acts of political violence ACLED 2022

**Extent of undernutrition and hunger**



The designations and cartographic representations used do not take a position on the status of territories or borders under international or constitutional law.

FAO 2022

## Hunger

**6.5 million people**

are affected by acute hunger or famine.

Of those, **40 %** are located in Burkina Faso and 30 % in Niger.



**Every fifth child**

under 5 years old is undernourished.

FAO 2022, WHO/World Bank 2020

## Violence

**3,800 people**

have been victims of political violence in 2022.



Since 2021 the number of victims has hence **doubled.**



ACLED 2022

## Women

**60 % of girls and women**

have faced circumcision or even genital mutilation.



UNFPA 2022

## Climate crisis

**30 million people**

have been affected by extreme weather events since 2018:

**One third** of the population.



**87 % of those** were affected by droughts.

CRED-EMDAT 2022

## Education

**30 % of children** in primary school age do not attend school.

**Nearly half** of the population does not know how to read or write.



UNESCO 2021, 2022

## Who

are our implementing partners

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

**7 %** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

13 Non-governmental organisations

**7 %**



United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)\*

**57 %**



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)\*

**29 %**



\* Some projects are commissioned via KfW Development Bank.



## Who and what

have we reached since 2018

Transitional development assistance strengthens the resilience of

**8 million people,**

including:

**3.8 m.** children **360,000** infants

**580,000** youths **150,000** pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers



**3.2 million** people have access to better health care.



**2.3 million** people are eating nourishing meals more often.

**62,000** smallholder farmers sustainably produce higher-yielding and nutritious crops.



**1.4 million** people have improved access to clean water and sanitation and have developed more thorough hygiene practices (WASH).



**0.7 million women** receive specific support, thus enabling projects to contribute to gender equality.



**76,000** people are committed to local conflict management and social cohesion.



**44,000** people have received psychosocial support.



**43,000** people are better prepared for disasters such as extreme weather events.



**25,000** people are contributing to the reconstruction of essential infrastructure and services.



# Examples of our work in the Sahel

## Strengthening resilience in the Sahel

The **World Food Programme's (WFP)** Sahel Resilience Initiative sustainably improves the food security and livelihoods of the populations in the five Sahel countries. The program has been running since 2018 and includes a variety of measures, such as providing meals to school canteens, creating job opportunities for young people, and improving the nutrition and health of pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and their children. In addition, land is rehabilitated for agriculture and crop production is adapted to droughts.

The **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, in cooperation with **WFP**, is working with families, children and young people in the Sahel since 2019. People are supported in the areas of education, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and child protection in **Mali, Mauritania and Niger**. Three million people are already benefiting from the programmes of the **UN organisations**.

The Sahel Resilience Initiative is also complemented by a **GIZ** Project in **Niger**.

Movie: [Managing crises - Strengthening Resilience in the Sahel](#)



## Peaceful coexistence for children and youth

In **Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger**, the non-governmental organisation **Plan International** is strengthening the resilience of displaced people and their host communities. To this end, the programme combines various measures such as educational opportunities, information campaigns on balanced nutrition and training for local and government agencies in the field of child protection. Smallholder farmers are supported in adapting their agricultural production to the effects of climate change. The projects increase children's safety and intend to prevent young people from being recruited by armed groups.

The **BMZ** combines its transitional development assistance with humanitarian aid provided by the **Federal Foreign Office**. Thus, different groups are supported to cooperate in finding solutions to conflicts for a more peaceful coexistence. Along the **Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus**, populations in the three countries are benefiting.



## Enhancing the reproductive health of mothers

**UNICEF** is supporting the reduction of health risks for mothers and children in **Chad**. They gain better access to health facilities and support, even in remote areas. Women are getting information on family planning and pregnant women receive medical pre- and post-natal examinations and their births are professionally attended. Obstetricians such as midwives or doctors are trained for this purpose. In addition, the population is informed about HIV/AIDS and is increasingly given the opportunity to be tested. Newborns are often infected with the virus and therefore need to be protected as a precaution. In addition, undernutrition of mothers and their children is prevented and treated accordingly, access to clean drinking water and sanitation facilities is improved, and the population improves their hygiene practices.



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