



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

# Transitional development assistance

**WORLDWIDE**



[bmz.de](https://www.bmz.de)

# TRANSITIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Crises such as violent conflicts, natural disasters and health emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic have drastically increased worldwide. A growing number of people are living in regions hit by protracted, complex and recurring crises.

BMZ's transitional development assistance is a flexible and rapid instrument for crisis management. Its purpose is to sustainably strengthen the resilience of people and local structures that are particularly hard hit, enabling them to manage crises themselves, and decreasing their vulnerability to future crises. Transitional development assistance is implemented in four fields of action:

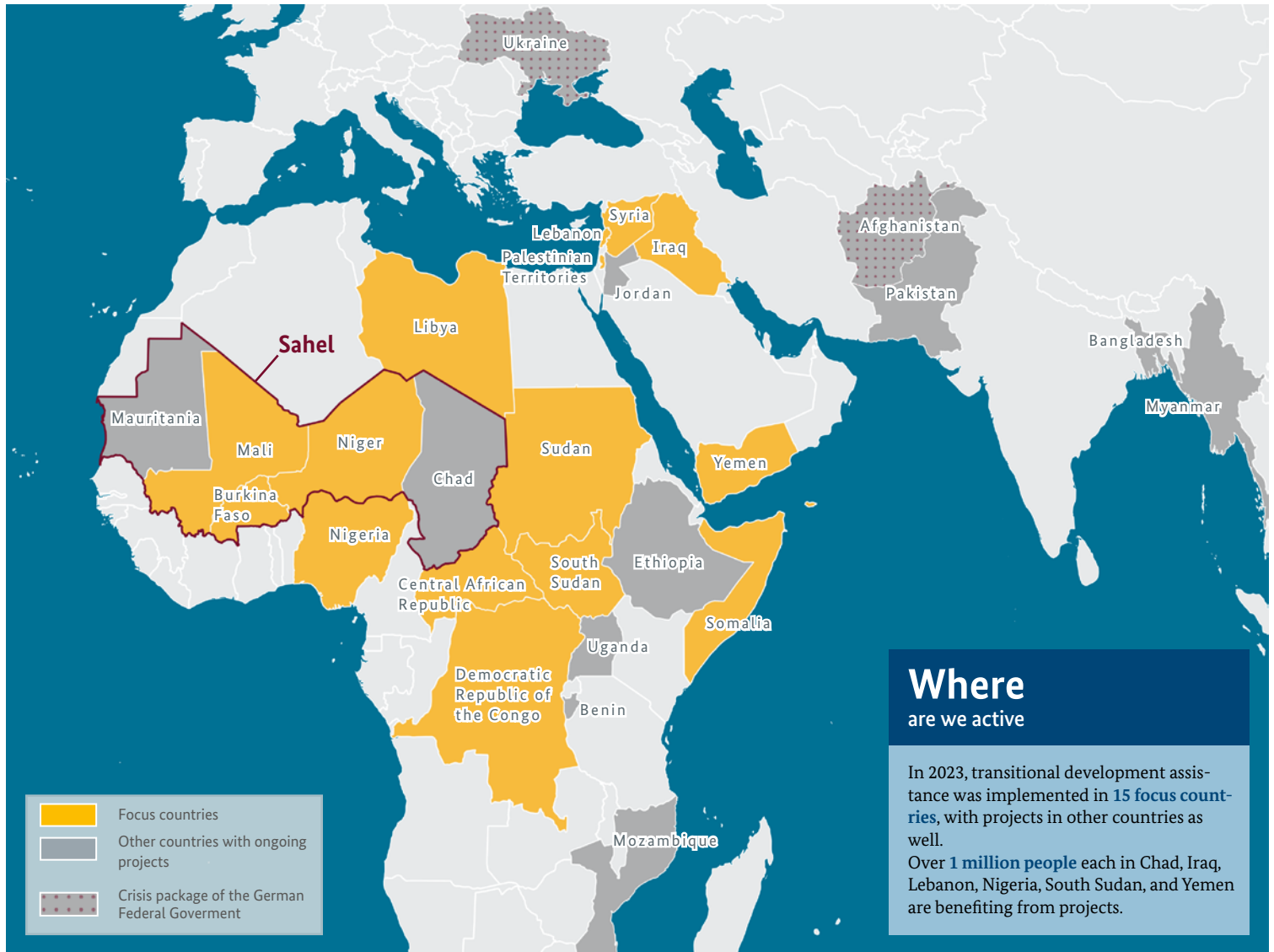
- (1) ensuring food and nutrition security;
- (2) rebuilding basic infrastructure and services;
- (3) disaster risk management; and
- (4) promoting peaceful and inclusive communities.

The multisectoral approach of transitional development assistance combines these different fields to strengthen the resilience of those affected as effectively as possible. This enables people to create more prospects for themselves and prevent them from dependence on external aid. Transitional development assistance is deployed during and after crises – when large numbers of people are affected, or when the government is no

longer able to protect them. Transitional development assistance builds bridges from acute humanitarian aid to long-term development cooperation and combines those with peacebuilding activities.

The portfolio comprises **250 ongoing projects.**

In 2022, the budget for transitional development assistance was around **€1.8 billion.**



## Displacement

**85 million people** worldwide are displaced in their own country and across borders in 2022.

**More than 70% of the displaced people** come from focus countries of transitional development assistance.



UNHCR 2022

## Violence

**149,000 people** died in violent conflicts and (civil) wars in 2022.

**Over one third** of them live in focus countries.



ACLED 2021

## Poverty

**60% of people** in focus countries live in poverty.



**41% of people** live in extreme poverty, surviving on less than 2,15 US-Dollar per day.

World Bank 2022

## Climate crisis

**130 million people** in focus countries have been affected by extreme weather events since 2018, especially by droughts and floodings.



**12 out of 15** focus countries have an **extremely high vulnerability** to the effects of climate change.

EM-DAT CRED Database 2022, INFORM Risk 2023

## Women and Girls

In the focus countries, women and girls experience **widespread discrimination** due to laws, social norms and practices.

**46% of the girls** living in 12 focus countries are married off before they reach the age of 18.



**12% of the girls** are even married off before the age of 15.

OECD 2019, UNICEF 2022

## Hunger

**90 million people** living in 11 focus countries are affected by acute hunger.



Most of them live in **sub-Saharan Africa**.

**57% of these families** do not have a sufficient amount of food reserves for the upcoming three months following the harvest.

WFP 2021

## Who

have we supported since 2018

Transitional development assistance reaches especially vulnerable people, including:

**8.7 m.** children

**4.5 m.** members of host communities

**1.7 m.** refugees

**963,000** infants

**734,000** internally displaced people (IDPs)

**662,000** pregnant women and lactating mothers

**429,000** returnees

\*Individuals can be assigned to more than one target group. For example, a displaced child is included in both - displaced people and children - target groups.



## Who

are our implementing partners

UN World Food Programme (WFP)

**32%**



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

**28%**



**KfW**

Some UN projects are commissioned via KfW Development Bank.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

**11%**

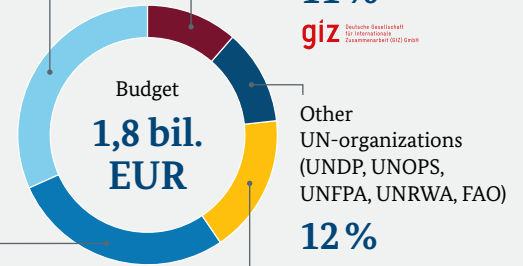


Other UN-organizations (UNDP, UNOPS, UNFPA, UNRWA, FAO)

**12%**

32 non-governmental organizations

**17%**



## What

have we achieved since 2018

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

**450,000** people are working to achieve local conflict management and social cohesion.

**2.9 million** people have better educational opportunities and safe learning conditions.

**1.4 million** people have regained access to essential services and infrastructure.

**360,000** people are better prepared for disasters such as extreme weather events.

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

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

**1.8 million** children are better protected and their rights are strengthened.

**430,000** people have received psychosocial support.

**750,000** people are working to achieve gender equality.

**140,000** people are committed to combating violence against women.



# How do we strengthen the resilience of people in crisis regions

Resilient communities are **better able to withstand crises** such as natural disasters, armed conflicts, health emergencies or prolonged crises such as the impacts of climate change.

This means that **people are better equipped to deal with these kinds of crises and can manage the political, economic and social impacts**. If, for example, harvests are destroyed due to armed conflict or people are forced to leave their homes, **resilient people can better adapt** to new living conditions and establish alternative livelihoods. Resilient people are better prepared for the negative effects of future crises.

The context and the kind of crisis defines which economic, political, social or material capacities people need to increase their resilience. Strong resilience empowers people and communities. They form the basis to address the root causes of crises and lead to **more resilient, equal and inclusive societies** in the long-term.

**Transitional development assistance supports** communities and population groups especially affected by crises to become **more resilient and to be able to manage future crises on their own**. These include women, children, young as well as displaced people.



## Securing food provision despite drought and conflicts

The five countries in the **Sahel region** – Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad – are all affected by high levels of food insecurity and political instability. The situation is exacerbated by violent extremism, conflicts, and environmental and climate changes such as worsening droughts.

Example: The **World Food Programme (WFP)**'s Sahel Resilience Initiative sustainably improves the food and nutrition security of the population in the Sahel countries.

The program supports people working in the agricultural sector by ensuring that they receive drought resistant seeds for crops and by training them to boost their yields. Women and children are particularly hard hit by poverty and hunger.

For this reason, mothers are trained on how they and their families can maintain a nutritious diet in order to stay healthy. The programme works with people to rehabilitate farmland, which offers young people job opportunities. Operating complementary with WFP, UNICEF supports children and young people in education, food security, child protection, water supply and sanitation. This cooperation boosts the sustainability of the measures. Furthermore, BMZ also responds flexibly to crises: **WFP** and **UNICEF** are strengthening social protection systems in Mali, Mauritania and Niger in a joint transitional development assistance programme. In return for working to improve local services the people receive money that is quickly available in order to mitigate the social and economic burdens of the COVID-19 pandemic. GIZ also supports small farmers in Niger by working with communities to expand disaster risk management. Dialogue processes on non-violent conflict resolution strengthen social cohesion of the communities.

**Non-governmental organisations** specifically support young people working in agriculture, so that they can secure their food situation and increase their income.





## More resilient to disasters

**South Sudan's** independence in 2011 did not bring peace to the world's youngest nation. Different groups are still struggling for political power and economic resources. The violent conflicts are exacerbated by extreme weather events.

Transitional development assistance enables people affected by the devastating flood of 2021 to rebuild their income and prepare for future floods and droughts.

Example: The NGO **Welthungerhilfe** promotes savings groups in which women support each other. This provides them with financial means and allows them to acquire skills to restore their livelihoods. **UNICEF** is rebuilding schools and their water supply, supporting displaced people and host communities and promoting the education of children. Because many children, mostly girls, cannot attend school for financial reasons, the families receive tuition money. Education protects girls in the long run. They are no longer married off at such a young age, and when they are older, they can earn their own income.

To meet the demand for skilled workers and to improve incomes, **GIZ** also promotes vocational training for young women and men, who are trained to repair sanitation facilities. Hygiene training also improves people's health.



## Building for peace

The outbreak of the crisis in Syria and the rise of the so-called 'Islamic State' led to large-scale movements of displaced people to **Northern Iraq**. The infrastructure in this region is overstretched and very few basic services are available, such as hospitals, water infrastructure, bridges and roads.

Example: The **GIZ** supports the reconstruction of infrastructure and services in Nineveh, a region of Northern Iraq. This restores people's access to health care. In training courses, people learn conflict-resolution strategies that they can apply in their communities. This enables communities to resolve conflicts themselves that are emerging, such as violence or resource conflicts, and promote long-lasting peaceful communities. Two new hospitals were built in Baghdad in 2020 and local authorities received infection control support as an immediate response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the same region, **non-governmental organisations** are restoring sanitation and hygiene facilities and in so doing are improving access to drinking water. They are also rehabilitating farmland and are training the population to cultivate the land more effectively.

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