



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

# “Strengthening Human Security and Community Resilience in the Sahel” Year I & II (2017-2018)



*Figure 1: Drinking Water Pump installed in Bengougou, Tillabéry region/Niger*

**UNDP Sahel Programme -**



# Executive Summary

## Background & Context

Peace and stability are fundamental prerequisites for socio-economic development and building strong communities. The complex development context of the Sahel region and the interconnected nature of the challenges facing its people are compounded by institutional weakness to address them. “Strengthening Human Security and Community Resilience in the Sahel” is part of UNDP’s wider effort to operationalize the UN integrated strategy for the Sahel in a coherent manner that tackles regional issues through targeted community-level interventions.

Empowering individuals and communities is of paramount importance for people to be able to face the recurrent crises that affect the region, including those stemming from climate change, conflict, resource competition or food shortages. The Luxembourg funding meant to capitalize on key achievements under the Japan funded project on “Strengthening Human Security, to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities. and Community Resilience in the Sahel” and to continue strengthening formal and informal mechanisms.

## Objectives of the project

**Outcome 1:** Enhanced capacities of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community security and social cohesion. Outcome activities will foster stronger local governance structures through proactive multi-stakeholder engagements for peace consolidation and social cohesion, and efficient local administrations in various localities of the Sahel region.

**Outcome 2:** Improved economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce inequalities and foster stability. Outcome activities will



include interventions at the community level that improve people's ability to achieve their basic needs and improve community resilience to recurrent crises through improved access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

## **Intervention Framework**

### **United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel**

The UNDP Sahel Programme aims to support the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) adopted in 2013 by the UN Security Council, to reduce the socio-economic vulnerability of populations in the Sahel countries. The UNISS is built around three broad areas of support formulated as strategic goals: Resilience, Security, and Governance to support and strengthen a UN coordinated response to the Sahel crisis. This includes the integration of humanitarian and development interventions, ensuring that lifesaving activities meet immediate needs while building the resilience of people and communities as part of a long-term development agenda.



# Snapshot of Achievements – Year 1 (2017)

UNDP-Luxembourg Partnership: project “**Strengthening Human Security & Community Resilience in the Sahel**”

## Strategic Initiatives (at the Regional level)

G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat	G5 Sahel Ministerial Coordination Platform	UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical expertise for the organization of the Round Table/PIP	<input type="checkbox"/> Office equipment - to support the Chad Presidency (laptops, printers, internet, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Review of the UNISS & Elaboration of the Support Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the regional Consultations for WCA Youth for Peace & Security (UNSC-R2250)	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization of the Ministerial Conference	<input type="checkbox"/>



Figure 2: Ceremony of remittance of Office equipment to the Ministerial Coordination Platform of the G5 Sahel - N'Djamena, Chad



## BURKINA FASO

*At the national level UNDP and the local authorities focused on Improving economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce inequalities and foster stability.*



### Conflict Prevention

**10** (8 men + 2 women from the Observatory of Religious Facts/ONAFAR trained)



### Training of religious leaders

**18** (13 men + 5 women) trained



### Value Chicken Farming

**500** beneficiaires  
430 women + 70 men

## MAURITANIA

*In consultation with the national parties, activities were conducted to enhance the capacities of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community security and social cohesion*



### Violent Extremism

- **420** (252 women + 168 men) participated in sensitization campaigns in border communities on the danger of terrorism & proliferation of small arms, mines



### Training of Border Agents

- **80** agents
- **3** integrated border management committees established in Hodh Charghi, Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba
- **8500** flyers &
- **35000** people reached



### Demining of Sebkhha Fogra

- **1,000,000** square meters cleaned
- **35** anti-mine vehicles destroyed
- **93** antipersonnel mines destroyed



## NIGER

*At the national level UNDP and the local authorities focused on Improving economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce inequalities and foster stability.*



**3** multi-functional platforms installed; **6000** beneficiaries with access to energy



**220** (121 women & 99 men) participated in labor intensive activities

**50** (23 women & 27 men) benefitted of funding for IGA



**5** vulnerability Monitoring Observatories established



**10** local community alert systems for early & emergency response established



**50** (23 women & 26 men- Vocational training (sewing, mechanics))



# Snapshot of Achievements – Year 2 (2018)

## Some Key Achievements

### BURKINA FASO

In Burkina Faso, the Luxembourg funded project supported an existing Mediation Platform to assess the impact of the dialogue between the Burkinabè civil society and the government, to enhance the national peace and reconciliation process, and to ensure greater synergy

between the two parties. It highlighted the need for symbiosis between CSOs and the State for sustainable inclusive development. The presence of the then Prime Minister (His excellency, Mr. Paul Kaba Tièba) and the President of the Republic at these events demonstrates the importance of such funding which helped in bringing different parties for national reconciliation and social cohesion.

The funding also helped to create a website for the National Office of Religious Facts (ONAFAR): [www.onafar.org](http://www.onafar.org) & [www.onafar.bf](http://www.onafar.bf).



Figure 3: 2nd Session of the concertation & dialogue framework between the Government & CSOs - under the leadership of the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister of Burkina Faso- attended by the UN RC in Burkina Faso



The “Organisation Nationale des Faits Religieux” or ONAFAR is a new state body created in 2015. Its purpose is to monitor religious media content, to prevent extremist speeches with a view to preserving peaceful coexistence between the different religious groups in Burkina Faso. ONAFAR is not intended to punish, but especially to study the files submitted to it, on facts and religious messages, while also complying with regulation on cultural practices in Burkina Faso.



### Session ordinaire de l'Observatoire National des Faits Religieux (ONAFAR)

### Thème : « Rôle de l'ONAFAR dans la pratique de la liberté religieuse »

Kombissiri, Hôtel Mitibkieta  
17 - 21 Juin 2018



BANDEROLE  
ONAFAR2.pdf

### Insertion of young entrepreneurs in a lucrative value chain chicken farming

Five hundred (500 of which 430 are young women) young promoters from the Boucle du Mouhoun (mid-West) and North regions were trained (in poultry habitat, poultry feeding, health monitoring), and equipped with local poultry farming skills and inputs. This income stream allows them to improve their livelihoods, and subsequently, the local economy.



Figure 4: A group of trainees receiving their training certificates in poultry farming





## MAURITANIA

In Mauritania, the project focused on three main activities within the border areas of Mauritania with Mali and Senegal (Fassala, Bassikounou, Gougui, Goueye, Kaédi, Rosso, Diama, and Ndiago).

- A workshop on the prevention of violent extremism in the border areas and sensitization in partnership with the justice department, youth, women's groups, oulémas/religious leaders, and local authorities in the border regions with Mali.
- Sensitization campaigns were held with local security committees on Small Arms and Light Weapons, (SALW) their dangers and effects in seven border checkpoints along the area separating Mali and Mauritania.
- Enforcement of the national integrated border management strategy and fighting against extremism through the National Commission on Mediation and Independent Local Observatories.
- 420 people young people, 60% of whom are women and 40% men were sensitized in the border areas about the dangers of terrorism and violent extremism and the proliferation of small arms in the communities of Fassala, Basseknou, Gougui, Goueye, Rosso, Diama and Ndiago;
- 80 border agents in the border areas along Mali were trained on the issues of countering violent extremism and border security in the access points of the wilayas of Hodh Charghi, Hodh El Gharbi and Assaba
- The establishment of 3 Integrated Border Management Committees in Hodh Echarghi and Hodh El Gharbi



- The demining of 1,000,000 square meters in Sebkhia Fogra<sup>1</sup>. This area posed a threat to nomadic populations and several fatal accidents occurred on this site;
- Destruction of 35 anti-mines vehicle;
- The controlled destruction of 93 antipersonnel mines;
- The realization of an awareness campaign along the Mauritanian northern border in order to encourage a change of behavior among the populations in these dangerous zones. More than 8500 posters have been distributed to nomadic populations (35000 people reached during this campaign)

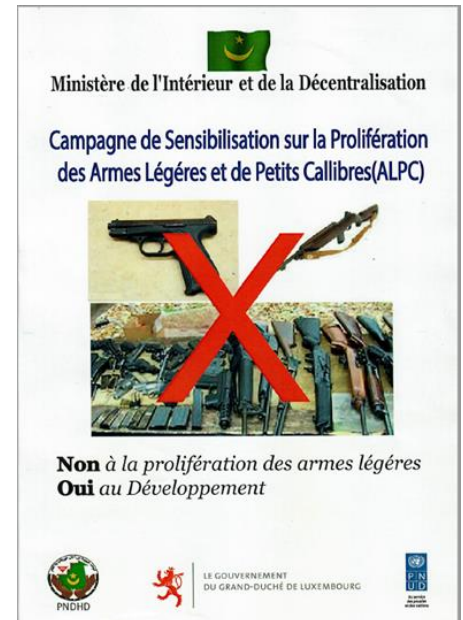


Figure 5: Meeting of border management committees in Aioun, Mauritania

Some pictures on Facebook:

- <https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMauritanie/photos/pcb.746127418922581/746127265589263/?type=3&theater;>
- <https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMauritanie/photos/pcb.746127418922581/746127325589257/?type=3&theater;>
- <https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMauritanie/photos/pcb.746127418922581/746127318922591/?type=3&theater>

<sup>1</sup> Article 5- Compliance Report (page 3) – Mine Action Review –  
[http://www.mineactionreview.org/assets/downloads/Mauritania\\_Clearing\\_the\\_Mines\\_2017.pdf](http://www.mineactionreview.org/assets/downloads/Mauritania_Clearing_the_Mines_2017.pdf)



the project has raised awareness of citizens in the public (national institutions and their local branches, local elected representatives) and private sectors (young women, livestock breeders, farmers, traders, etc.) about the need to manage borders in a concerted way by ensuring the two important dimensions of security and development as part of an appropriate national border management strategy.



## NIGER

The Niger component was implemented to achieve outcome 2 of the project *"Economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihoods is improved"*. The beneficiary communes were Abalak (Tahoua region, North-West), Diagourou and Téra (Tillabery region, Liptako-Gourma).



Figure 6: young girls & women beneficiaries of the project trained in sewing-- Abalak, Niger

- Vocational training of 50 young people (24 young women and 26 young men) identified in Abalak in sewing, and mechanics.
- 50 young people (23 young women and 27 young men) received financial support to conduct income-generating activities (IGAs) such as small businesses, bazars, netting, retail and animal rearing.
- 220 young people (121 women and 99 men) benefitted from labor-intensive activities related to the installation of the Multifunctional Platforms.
- Increased access to energy for at least 6,000 inhabitants in rural areas through the establishment of three multifunctional platforms (initially only two were planned) which alleviate the domestic work of women.



- Awareness-raising and social support of young people against violent extremism and the dangers of the use of drugs.
- The activity related to the establishment and equipment of the 5 Vulnerability Monitoring Observatories (VSOs) and 10 Community Early Warning and Response Systems (SCAP/RU) is being discussed with the government counterparts for full execution.



Figure 7: Ms. Balkissa Sanda, mother of 5 being interviewed by the project team

*Success story: Balki Elh Sanda is a mother of five children in the city of Abalak (pictured above). Ms. Sanda did not have a job or any revenue. She benefitted from seed grant from the project to start up a business. She decided to buy material and saw to make bed sheets and comforters to sell. She was able in a four-months period to sell all her items and*

*renewed her stock. With the interests earned, she bought sheeps to fatten them and sell. She can now take care of her five children. She proposed to teach other women in the area so they can provide for themselves and their families. Her plan for the future is to open her own center with sewing machines to grow her business and where she could train other women. There are many other stories like Ms. Sanda's which changed lives in the community thanks to the project.*



*Figure 8: Woman beneficiary of AGR- Small Animals fattening- Abalack, Niger*



*Image 1 : High Intensity Labor activities in Abalak Region involving Half-moons to fertilize the soil for farming and/or grazing*



*Image 2 Ismail is a Beneficiary of Income Generating Activity who opened up his own shop thanks to the Project*