



SAHEL

UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED STRATEGY FOR THE SAHEL



THE GRIOT

January - March 2022

E-Newsletter Volume 2, No. 1



CONTENTS

01

Foreword
Abdoulaye Mar Dieye

02

Opinion Piece
Elizabeth Spehar

03

Peacebuilding
The United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office

04

Beyond Security & Military Responses
Climate Opportunities in the Sahel

05

Peace and Transformational Change
The Gender & Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI)

06

Delivering Transformative Results
Supporting Governments in the Sahel

01

FOREWORD

ABDOULAYE MAR DIEYE



“

2022 started with a collective hope. A hope to strengthen our service to Sahelians through our three working pillars which are: governance, resilience, and peace and security, with full awareness that realization would be impaired in conditions where peace is itself still a hope.

Colleagues, the 13th UNISS Steering Committee meeting in N'Djamena held in May of this year discussed three possible accelerators, namely: industrialization, water, and governance, around which we could focus our attention and joint efforts. To achieve this, and outcomes of other equally important activities the issue of building or maintaining peace in the Sahel is a sine qua non without which development can be achieved.

The UN Secretary General's Peacebuilding Fund, in collaboration with AFPs and Sahelian communities, especially women and youth, are building a climate of peace within the communities. This edition showcases in a remarkable way how this is being done in various ways and areas, by creating initiatives around which the communities themselves are involved, such as the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative featured in this issue. To leave no one behind, PBF's work intervenes at levels that include border and cross border areas which are vulnerable and exposed to conflict and where most often, the state is not always present.

To this end, this edition of "the Griot" highlights how peace can be re-established in communities through inter-community and government actions, empowering youth and women and providing support to government.

I express my gratitude to all Partners and colleagues of Agencies, Funds and Programmes (AFPs) in the Sahel for the work done on the ground with PBF and for all those whose lives have improved, continue to improve, and to the Sahelians themselves who continue to be involved for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel.

Your contribution and dedication to our common goal has enabled us to achieve what is highlighted in this document.

Enjoy!

ABDOULAYE MAR DIEYE

United Nations Under Secretary-General,
Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

02

OPINION PIECE

ELIZABETH SPEHAR



“

Achieving and sustaining peace is the foundational goal of the United Nations and central to all our work. It is a task that has grown more challenging as violent conflicts have become fast-changing, protracted and complex, also in the Sahel. The UN Secretary-General has therefore put prevention and peacebuilding at the very heart of the New Agenda for Peace. Prevention saves lives and reduces human suffering in countless ways. There is also a simple business case for it. As the 2018 UN-World Bank Pathways for Peace Report highlighted, a scaled-up system for preventive action would save between US\$5 billion and \$70 billion per year.

Peacebuilding approaches can be particularly effective as they are intended to address the entire peace continuum, tackling root causes before, during and after conflict. Peacebuilding also delivers because it works from the notion that peace, security, human rights and development are all closely interlinked. Such a holistic approach is especially important in the Sahel where nations are simultaneously facing multiple sources of tension and conflict and where many of the risks are interconnected, both within and between countries of the region.

This edition of The Griot newsletter illustrates how the UN Peacebuilding Fund has been able to support UN system efforts in the Sahel to address potentially reoccurring triggers and root causes of conflict, rather than just treating the symptoms. For example, its support for the public hearings held by the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission in The Gambia helped to bring some closure and justice to those who suffered human rights abuses during the 22-year dictatorship, thus contributing to lowering tensions and advancing reconciliation efforts.

You will also read about specific climate-related peace and development challenges in the region from one of the Vice-Chairs of the UN Peacebuilding Commission as well as from IOM. Addressing such challenges requires dedicated support. For example, in border areas of Chad and the Central African Republic, the Peacebuilding Fund assisted in reducing farmer-herder conflicts -- exacerbated by climate phenomena -- by financing data gathering that helped to anticipate movements and prevent tensions around the use of land and water. This approach has been replicated in the Liptako-Gourma region, at the border between Mali and Mauritania, and between Chad and Niger.

In order to strengthen these promising, holistic approaches to prevention and peacebuilding, including in the Sahel, three elements are key:

First and foremost, inclusive national ownership of peacebuilding priorities. The General Assembly and Security Council twin resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace not only stressed that the primary responsibility for sustaining peace rests with national governments and authorities, but that the needs of the whole of society should be taken into account.

Secondly -- and very much linked to national ownership and inclusive efforts -- sustained engagement with local peacebuilders. Local peacebuilding works, especially when participation is broad and women, youth and other civil society actors are actively involved. Women and youth climate activists who joined a meeting of the UN Peacebuilding Commission on the Sahel in March of this year underscored the importance of supporting climate-related efforts at the community level.

The UN Peacebuilding Fund has increased its support for local and inclusive peacebuilding approaches through its Gender and Youth Promotion Initiatives (GYPI). For example, in Burkina Faso, the Fund is helping to mobilize women to promote the values of peace and social cohesion within their communities in the North-Central region.



“

Thirdly, strategic peacebuilding partnerships. Globally, and also in the Sahel, we need to partner with organizations that can deliver the scale, capacity, and regional support that many of the risks and challenges require.

In this respect also, the UN Peacebuilding Commission offers a unique platform for Member States to hold discussions and engage with different stakeholders. Over the years, it has helped to mobilize resources and broker complementary partnerships to support the implementation of the Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) as well as its Support Plan in the 10 UNISS countries, including the G5 Sahel.

Enhanced UN cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations such as the African Union and ECOWAS is a priority. ECOWAS was a key participant in the UN Peacebuilding Commission meeting on the Lake Chad Basin in April of this year, demonstrating its clear support to the Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience of the Boko Haram affected Areas of the Lake Chad Basin Region. The growing relationship between the Peacebuilding Commission and the African Union Peace and Security Council is another example of strategic partnership that needs to be broadened and deepened.

We are also strengthening our partnerships with the World Bank, the IMF and the African Development Bank, among others. The Bank plays a critical role in support of socio-economic development in the region, but also supports climate resilience and transition to a greener future. More strategic and joined up engagement with International Financial Institutions, starting with country-level joint analysis and planning, can contribute to better peacebuilding outcomes. We have seen this, for example, with the World Bank in the Gambia, where good cooperation at the assessment phase led to more peace-relevant eligibility criteria for Bank resources. Alignment of the Peacebuilding Fund's investments with World Bank programmes in Niger and Burkina Faso is also unlocking more support for peacebuilding in-country.

To conclude, holistic but localized approaches to cross-cutting issues, strong national and whole-of-society ownership, and deep partnerships with regional organizations and also International Financial Institutions, are all important for effective peacebuilding in the Sahel region. But solutions are always context-specific. The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs' Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) that I lead, is counting on the know-how and capacities of many colleagues and partners in the field to help us assist our member countries in the shaping and implementation of tailored peacebuilding approaches that work. Ultimately, peacebuilding only truly exists in the impact and results it generates for those affected by conflict and exclusion. We look forward to your continued input and engagement.

ELIZABETH SPEHAR

United Nations Assistant Secretary-General
for Peacebuilding Support

03

PEACEBUILDING

THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEBUILDING SUPPORT OFFICE (PBSO)

THE PEACEBUILDING SUPPORT OFFICE

PHOTO: RSS SECRETARIAT

The United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) is an integral part of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the lead entity that supports the UN's efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts at the global level. PBSO also plays a central role in advancing UN agendas on women peace and security as well as on youth, peace, and security (YPS). [\(Read More\)](#)

Within the same framework of promoting and preserving global peace and security, the [Peacebuilding Commission](#) of the United Nations (PBC) is a flexible intergovernmental advisory body and platform that works closely with the PBSO. It has the mandate to promote national ownership and strengthen coordination and coherence among partners and across the UN system.

Over time, Member States have leveraged and continue to make use of the value proposition of the PBC thereby making the entity become an important Member States Platform for advice. The PBC complements the UN Security Council for example by mobilizing support from the international community for specific peacebuilding challenges. In recent years, the percentage of PBC's cross-cutting and thematic engagements has increased, making up over 40 per cent of its meetings in 2021.

The PBC continues to support regional peacebuilding priorities in the Sahel, including within the framework of UNISS and its support plan. In recognizing that UNISS remains the most complete road map in the set of United Nations responses in the Sahel, the PBC has stressed the importance of an integrated and holistic approach. This encourages Sahel countries and partners to deploy and implement responses that transcend military measures, thus incorporating other aspects of peace building/consolidation as well as security and conflict prevention in their priorities.

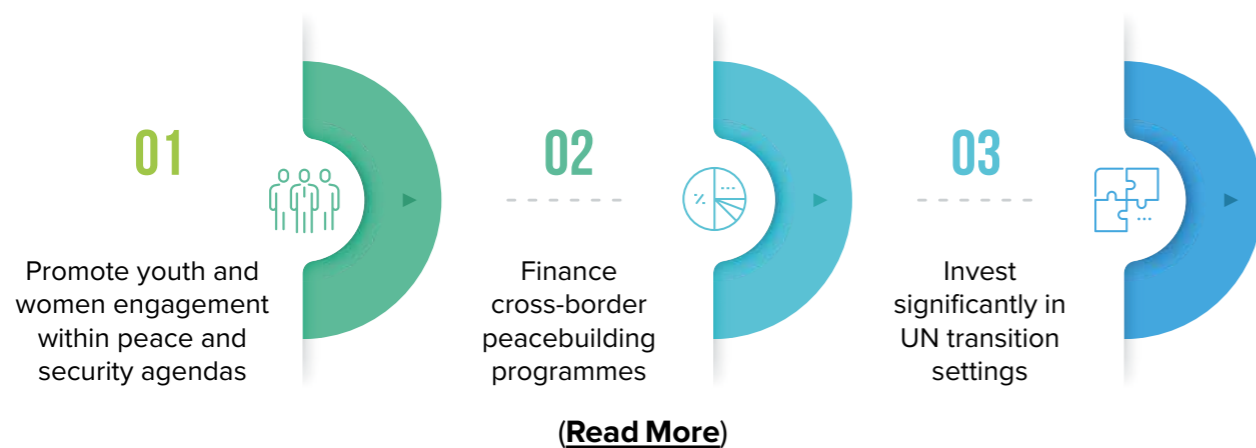
In October 2021, the Chairperson of the PBC virtually attended the opening of the 3rd Governors Forum of the Lake Chad Basin, welcoming the inclusive peacebuilding efforts at the grassroots level in the implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery, and Resilience of the Boko Haram-affected Territories of the Lake Chad Basin. The eight Governors of the Lake Chad Basin articulated the political, technical, and financial support needed for the implementation of the Regional and Territorial Action Plans, which also outline their peacebuilding priorities, including the need for enhanced multilateral coordination, stronger cross-border partnerships and local ownership. A subsequent PBC session focused on gathering concrete support to these peacebuilding priorities, including interventions in agriculture, climate security, youth unemployment, women participation.



THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND

The United Nations Secretary General's **Peacebuilding Fund** is the organization's financial instrument of first resort to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk or affected by violent conflict. From 2006 to 2021, the fund has allocated nearly \$1.67 billion to 65 recipient countries, 64 member states have contributed and 46 have made commitments and pledges for the 2020-2024 strategy. The Fund works across pillars and supports integrated UN responses to fill critical gaps, respond quickly to peacebuilding opportunities and catalyze processes and resources in a risk-tolerant fashion.

The Fund's five-year **strategy** launched in January 2020, sets out a bold vision to meet increasing demand for peacebuilding investments through a broad range of partners. It commits to expanding partnerships with CSOs and exploring new funding avenues for community-based organizations. The Strategy has established priority windows to:

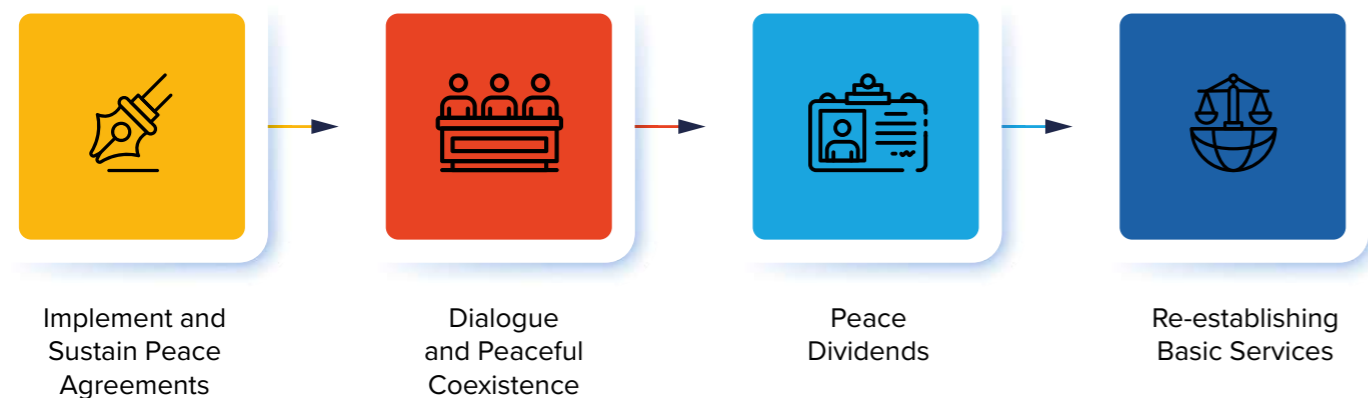


The United Nations Peacebuilding Fund is **a critical vehicle to support resilience and prevention.** Over the past several years, the Fund has shown the tremendous capacity of Governments, the United Nations entities, and partners to deliver results.

António Guterres
United Nations Secretary-General



The financed programmes – implemented mostly by UN funds, agencies and programmes, focus on four key areas:



The achievements of the Fund's partners in 2021 demonstrated the commitment of Member States and the UN system to prioritizing peacebuilding even amid crises. Conflict and political turbulence around the globe illustrated that peacebuilding cannot be put on hold while the world grapples with a pandemic. Despite the repercussions of COVID-19, the human resources challenges for all institutions, the tremendous financial burden and diversion of budgets, and myriad logistical challenges – the Fund experienced its highest year of investment in peacebuilding.

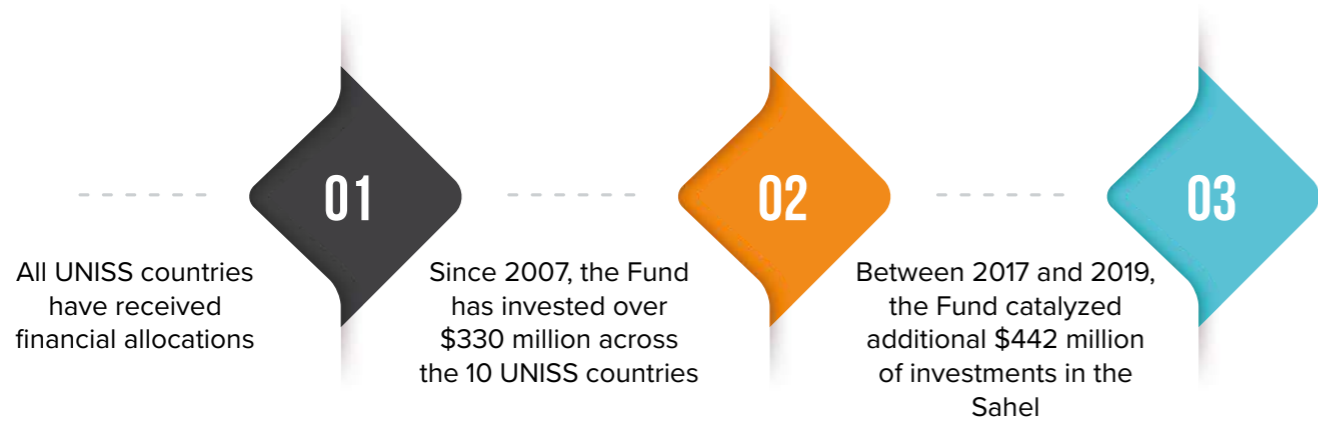
THE PEACEBUILDING FUND IN 2021 - HIGHLIGHTS



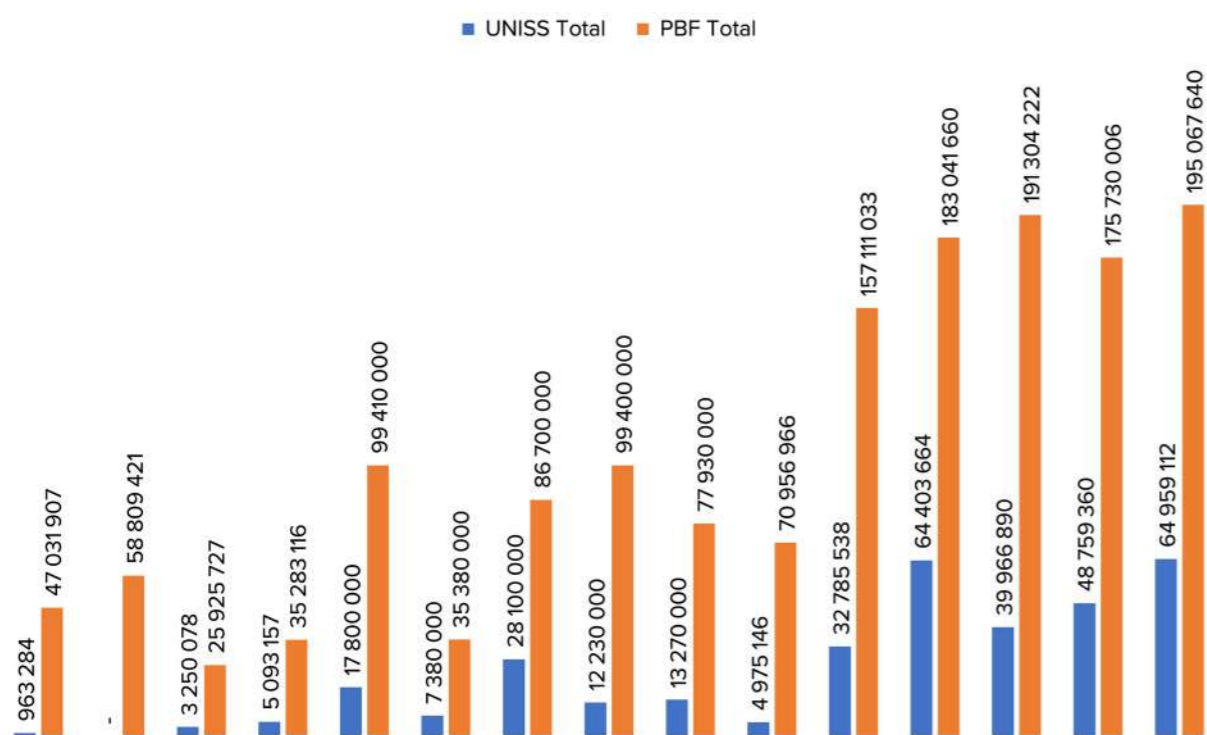
The Fund's approach in the Sahel region is designed to foster UN coherence through its alignment with the UNISS and its Support Plan. The Fund supports partners, mainly UN agencies, funds and programmes, in the operationalization of the three priorities of UNISS: promoting cross-border cooperation, preventing and resolving conflicts and strengthening the capacity of women and young people to promote peace and equitable development, critical elements to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

With funds readily provided for cross-border analysis and joint programmes, the PBF filled a critical gap both financially and strategically in support of the UN's Regional Strategies, notably in the Sahel and Lake Chad regions.





PBF INVESTMENTS IN UNISS COUNTRIES COMPARED TO OVERALL INVESTMENTS, 2007-2021 (\$ MILLION)



PBF INVESTMENTS IN UNISS COUNTRIES 2021 (\$ MILLION)



Source: The Secretary-General's Annual Report on the Peacebuilding Fund 2021



04

BEYOND SECURITY AND MILITARY RESPONSES

CLIMATE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SAHEL



We spend much more money and resources managing conflicts than on preventing them and building peace. **We need to seriously review our priorities and resources across the peace continuum,** strengthening investment in prevention and peacebuilding.

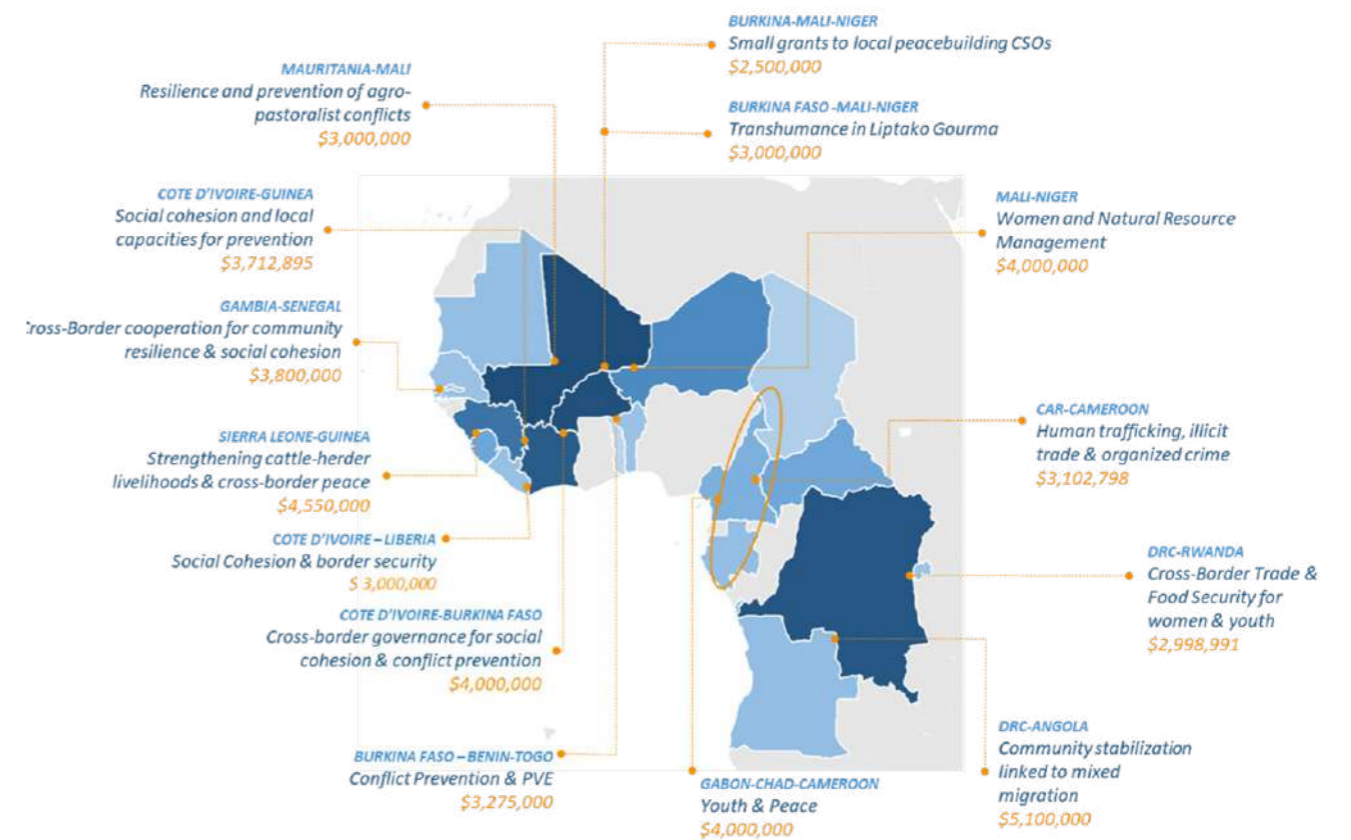
António Guterres
United Nations Secretary-General



In the Sahel, conflict dynamics have become progressively transboundary and regional in nature. The communities in the border areas are often negatively impacted by security and military operations and left behind in fragile states with limited or no state presence, weak institutional capacities and low access to basic services that worsen poverty and gender inequalities. Cross-border spillover of conflict and intercommunal violence remain a concern, particularly in the Sahel.

Crisis-affected cross-border regions such as Liptako-Gourma, Lake Chad and crisis epicenters like Central Mali merit particular attention beyond security and military responses. Reducing violence, improving service delivery, expanding economic opportunities, and building a practice of inclusion and dialogue for populations in these areas can help stabilize communities. The resilience of communities in these Sahelian cross-border regions represents an opportunity for improved investment in locally developed peacebuilding programmes. Therefore, the Fund supports roughly half of all cross-border programming under the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS).

CURRENTLY



Ongoing Cross-Border Investments in Africa as of June 2022

CLIMATE OPPORTUNITY IN THE SAHEL

PHOTO: PBSO

Since 1970, temperatures across the Sahel have increased by almost 1°C, nearly double the global average. The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change expects temperatures in the Sahel to continue increase by 1°C over the next 20 years, 2.1°C by 2065, and 4°C by the end of the twenty-first century. The effects of global warming are further exacerbating conflicts and impacting the root causes of conflicts linked to the access, management and use of natural resources. The Sahel is highly vulnerable to global warming because of its reliance on rainfed agriculture, the decreasing land productivity, low levels of development, largely non-existent social safety nets and high exposure to natural disasters and economic shocks. At the same time, the Sahel is endowed with more potential for renewable energy such as solar and wind than other regions of the world. This presents an immense opportunity in the region.

In this regard, as priority five of the UNISS Support Plan for the Sahel indicates, promoting access to renewable energy represents one of the opportunities to

increase access to reliable, affordable and sustainable clean energy and boost socio-economic growth in the Sahel through innovative livelihood opportunities. Encouraging the growth of rural economies and increasing the resilience of the populations against climate change is critical for the stability of the region. There is also a need to harness the abundant natural resources available in the Sahel – such as oil, natural gas, gold, phosphates, diamonds, copper, iron ore, bauxite, biological diversity or precious woods – in ways that ensure the profits are managed transparently and in the best interests of communities' development.

Since 2017, the Fund has invested more than \$60 million towards climate security-sensitive peacebuilding initiatives, the majority of which are implemented in Africa. Within its climate security portfolio in the Sahel, the Fund supports diverse initiatives directed at preventing and resolving violent conflicts driven or exacerbated by impacts of climate change and environmental degradation at the country, cross-border and regional levels.





Given that bolder solutions are needed to counter the intensifying climate insecurity and environmental risks, the Fund has commissioned a Thematic Review of climate security and peacebuilding challenges, in collaboration with relevant United Nations partners and with generous support from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Competition for natural resources compounded by climate change and coupled with exclusion have been major drivers of violent intercommunal conflicts. In the border area between Mali and Niger, the Fund together with UNDP and UN Women, enables the participation and inclusion of women in community decision-making and management of natural resources.



Mali



Mauritania

In Mali, the Fund supports UNIDO and UNCDF for the management of risks related to environmental degradation through adaptation measures in areas at risk of inter-community conflicts.

In Mauritania, the Fund's support is centered on improving relations among host communities and Malian refugees where desertification has increased the pressure on scarce natural resources and fueled tension between communities. Fund-supported projects implemented with host communities and refugee camp residents helped foster the collaborative approach to natural resource management, improved agricultural livelihoods and resulted in the co-design of local economic development plans. New investments will be focused on preventing violent extremism, as well as reducing intercommunity and intracommunity tensions and conflicts related to transhumance and natural resources.



05

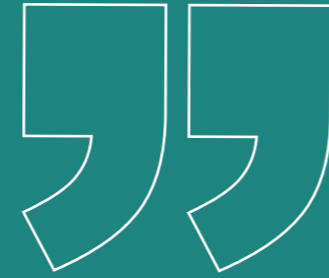
PEACE AND TRANSFORMATION

THE GENDER AND YOUTH PROMOTION INITIATIVE (GYPI)



Investing in youth is not only good for economies and climate smart, but it is **a down payment for a stable, peaceful and most promising future.**

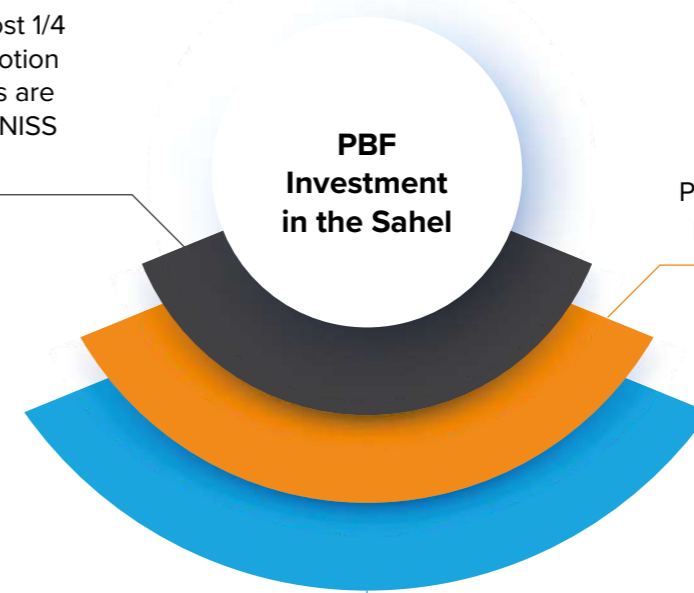
Abdoulaye Mar Dieye
UN Special Coordinator for
Development in the Sahel



Women and youth have faced unprecedented challenges in the past two years owing to multiple crises: the coronavirus disease, climate change, violence and armed conflict, and their compounded effects. However, the mobilization of young people for peace, social justice, climate action and equality remained unfaltering and critical to the peaceful development of societies.

The **Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI)** is an expression of the Fund’s commitment to inclusive peacebuilding. It supports the empowerment of women and the advancement of gender equality and recognizes the important and positive role youth play in peacebuilding. Youth engagement and participation in political, peacebuilding and socio-economic life are critical to reversing patterns of exclusion and preventing risks of radicalization and migration. The PBF’s Youth Promotion Initiative is the largest dedicated funding window in support of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda.

Currently, almost 1/4 of Youth Promotion Initiative funds are allocated to UNISS countries



In 2021 PBF approved \$51.5 million for the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative for 38 projects in 23 countries

In 2021, Civil society organizations were direct recipients in 17 GYPI projects, the most direct funding to non-UN entities PBF has ever approved

(Read More)



Ms. Fatchima Koini is a dynamic, young member of the NGO Waraka, established in 2013 in Diffa region of Niger to raise awareness on child protection, environmental protection, local governance, peaceful cooperation and women empowerment. In charge of providing business skills training to women and youth, she helps ensure a better implementation of the NGO's work in rural and peri-urban areas by reaching out to and personally coaching women and youth. She is also an ICT ambassador in Niger.



It is important to know that the scarcity of natural resources due to climate change and the conflicts related to their access have always been the causes of the deterioration of the security situation, hindering the development of the Sahel countries

Fatchima Koini
Member of Waraka and Niger ICT
Ambassador



Building back better: The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated development, humanitarian and security challenges and reversed progress in gender equality and the fight against poverty in the Sahel. It further undermined peace and security in the region through the erosion of trust in public institutions, exacerbating inequality, and further weakening the social fabric. Despite these immense challenges, new opportunities and innovations emerged in the region. For example, detailed socio-economic impact analyses are helping Governments in the Sahel in reorienting public policies and national budgets to reverse the impacts of the pandemic.



Guinea

In Guinea, through an intergenerational approach jointly implemented by FAO, OHCHR and WFP, women community leaders, locally called “Zowo and healers”, have been trained and engaged in activities to raise awareness on Ebola and COVID-19. This was done by encouraging people to hold dialogues and share information with each other in their daily lives, around activities in the fields, in commercial events and during traditional rituals. Through these dialogues, the women community leaders helped facilitate peace and prevent conflicts that may have arisen due to the reluctance of the people to combat the spread of Ebola and Covid-19 in the forest region.



Mauritania

In Mauritania, since the COVID, 125 recreational kits were distributed to encourage social and recreational activities and early learning for young children in the Mbera refugee camp located on the border with Mali. 1,864 out-of-school children (931 at camp level and 933 at host community level) benefited from literacy classes and vocational training. The Fund’s flexibility enabled implementing agencies to adapt and integrate remote learning tools in refugee camps and host communities, providing adequate alternative care arrangements and psychosocial support. This initiative encouraged greater collaboration among the communities affected by the pandemic.



PHOTO: PBSO

Partnerships: The complexity of today’s conflicts requires comprehensive and coordinated approaches that should involve the entire United Nations system and strong partnerships with a range of actors, including regional organizations, international financial institutions, development finance institutions, multilateral development banks, civil society and the private sector. Comprehensive, complementary and coherent approaches among partners working across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus are required to tackle the multi-risk, multi-dimensional challenges in conflict-affected settings. Strong partnerships and collaboration with organizations such as the G5, LGA, ECOWAS, ECCAS, Lake Chad Basin Commission and national Governments need to be fostered to strengthen regional support and mutually address cross-border threats and issues pertaining to farmer-herders conflicts and effects of climate change.

PBSO established the Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding and Partnership Facility (HDP Partnership Facility) in 2019 to support greater alignment and coherence with the International Financial Institutions in prevention and transition settings through small grants to UN entities. This includes a “main track” for funding up to \$400,000 over 18 months and a “fast track” for up to \$50,000. The Fund’s support to the HDP Partnership Facility is helping the UN and World Bank work together to support national authorities achieve milestones linked to increasing development assistance resources. In 2021, the Facility invested \$1.46 million to foster such collaboration in over 13 country settings.

HDP PARTNERSHIP FACILITY IN THE SAHEL



- **Burkina Faso:** Provided additional UN capacities in support of the government’s Prevention and Peacebuilding Assessment, to reorient short and medium-term national priorities and resources towards addressing root causes of fragility and instability.
- **Cameroon:** Deployed a HDP nexus advisor in the Resident Coordinator’s Office to operationalize the nexus approach in areas of convergence and through this, explore greater analytical and operational synergies with the World Bank.
- **Chad:** Support Chadian authorities to develop and implement a nexus approach through strengthened capacities in data and analytics and incorporation of nexus priorities to the upcoming national development plan.
- **The Gambia:** Supporting the design and implementation of joint United Nations-World Bank-government mechanism to support national priorities related to governance, transitional justice and natural resource management, including joint analytics.
- **Niger:** Supporting the government with an evidence-based data and analysis prevention platform, which will contribute to an enhanced coordinated approach addressing Niger’s prevention and resilience objectives.

06

DELIVERING TRANSFORMATIVE RESULTS

SUPPORTING GOVERNMENTS IN THE SAHEL



SUPPORTING GOVERNMENTS IN THE SAHEL

To Prevent Conflict, Violent Extremism, Promote Reconciliation and Access to Justice

The Sahel Region is a land of incredible opportunities, blessed with a rich culture, historical heritage, and abundant natural resources. Unfortunately, these opportunities remain too often overshadowed by complex and multidimensional peacebuilding challenges. Weak enforcement of the rule of law, gender inequalities, and violent extremism are among the issues truncating development gains and posing a threat to a prosperous and peaceful Sahel.

The Peacebuilding Fund supports Governments and partners in the region to address these threats and promote an environment in which the people of the Sahel can benefit from peace dividends. [\(Read More\)](#)

In Mauritania, where terrorist ‘sleepers cells continue to be dismantled’, as stated by the President, Mohamed Ould Ghazouani, women-led peacebuilding initiatives were launched in partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Women and Children and the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Education. These initiatives promoted a positive change in communities on sensitive issues, such as radicalization and religion and the role of women in prevention.

UNODC and UNESCO worked alongside the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Education, the National Antenna for the Fight Against Radicalization of the G5 Sahel, and the Association of Women Heads of Families, to establish a network of ‘Mourchidates’, Mauritanian women religious guides and community leaders. This network empowered women by enhancing their skills to address radicalization and violent extremism and is now officially recognized by the Ministry.

“Mourchidates have an important role to play in guiding women on the understanding of Islam and in preventing their radicalization. In the Mauritanian culture, they play an important role in the education of children and can easily detect the first signs of radicalization. Empowering them is key to addressing violent extremism in the long term” - Secretary General of the Ministry of Social Affairs of Mauritania



Fadi Bint Touré found a new path in life with the help of this network. For some ten years, she had worked as a substitute teacher in Boutilimitt, located close to the border area with Senegal. Frustrated by the non-regularization of her contract and a sense of marginalization, she started to express hateful rhetoric on social media and in her community. Worried about the sudden shift in her behavior, Fadi's family contacted the Mourchidates network. The network quickly responded to the family's appeal and came to Fadi's rescue through productive dialogues and using arguments based on Islam to deconstruct her radical rhetoric. Her story continues to inspire other families in seeking the support of the network and promoting social cohesion.

The Fund's initiative also continues to make an effort for an institutional change towards a more gender-equal justice system in Mauritania. In a national campaign organized by the First Lady, 43 Mauritanian women with leadership roles in the justice, security and defense professions, came together to inspire younger generations and future leaders as role models. In addition, the Government is currently implementing 41 recommendations issued in 2021 by stakeholders of this initiative, to ensure that women's rights are respected in detention centers across the country.



TESTIMONIES OF MAURITANIAN WOMEN IN THE JUSTICE, SECURITY, AND DEFENSE FIELDS



After graduating from high school and law school, I took the clerk's exam. Working in the field of justice is a source of pride for women. They represent half of society and contribute effectively to reducing crime because they play a central role in the education of youth. They are able to easily identify social imbalances that could be a threat to our country. Through this profession, I contribute to the stability of my society while fulfilling my family role perfectly. I chose this job for myself, and I am proud of it.

Aichetou Ahd Mahmoud
Clerk, Tribunal Moughataa Tevrah Zeina



The work of clerks is a noble job; it is the backbone of the judicial system and plays a central role in the courts and justice services. The presence of women in the justice sector is much needed and gives credibility to the judicial structure and encourages others to enter this important sector. It also encourages women who suffer violence and injustice to use the justice system to have their rights recognized.

Dilitt Zeine
Clerk, Supreme Court





Penitentiary institutions in Mauritania have long been purely male institutions, with very few women in office. I chose to break down these barriers - traditional and cultural - to demonstrate that women have the same potential as men. I also contribute to serving the country by working in the justice system. Of course, I have encountered many obstacles as a woman, especially in the prisons. I faced the patriarchal view of society and a predominantly male work environment. And I succeeded. Women have the right to join judicial institutions.

Mariem Tewal Amrou
Clerk, Head of Division Direction
of the Penitentiary Administration



During my experience, I have been confronted with several situations that demonstrate the importance of women's participation in the security industry. To give you an example, I had to deal with a rape case where the victim had refused to share her story because she had been received by a policeman. When I was informed of the situation, I approached the victim who shared the facts with me because she felt reassured and understood.

Aichetou Diallo
Special Commissioner of the General
Renseignement of Nouakchott West





I chose this profession with the belief that women can contribute to building the nation. My advice to women who want to join the police force is to have confidence. When I wanted to join this sector, I was confronted with the refusal of my family environment, except for my father who encouraged me a lot. In order not to prove the conservative family, from which I come, right, I made sure to work without compromising my social, moral and religious values. I know that many people want their daughters to have the chance to join the police force and be like me.

Mounine Vall mint Hedya
Head of Division at the Air and
Border Police Direction

[Read More Testimonies](#)



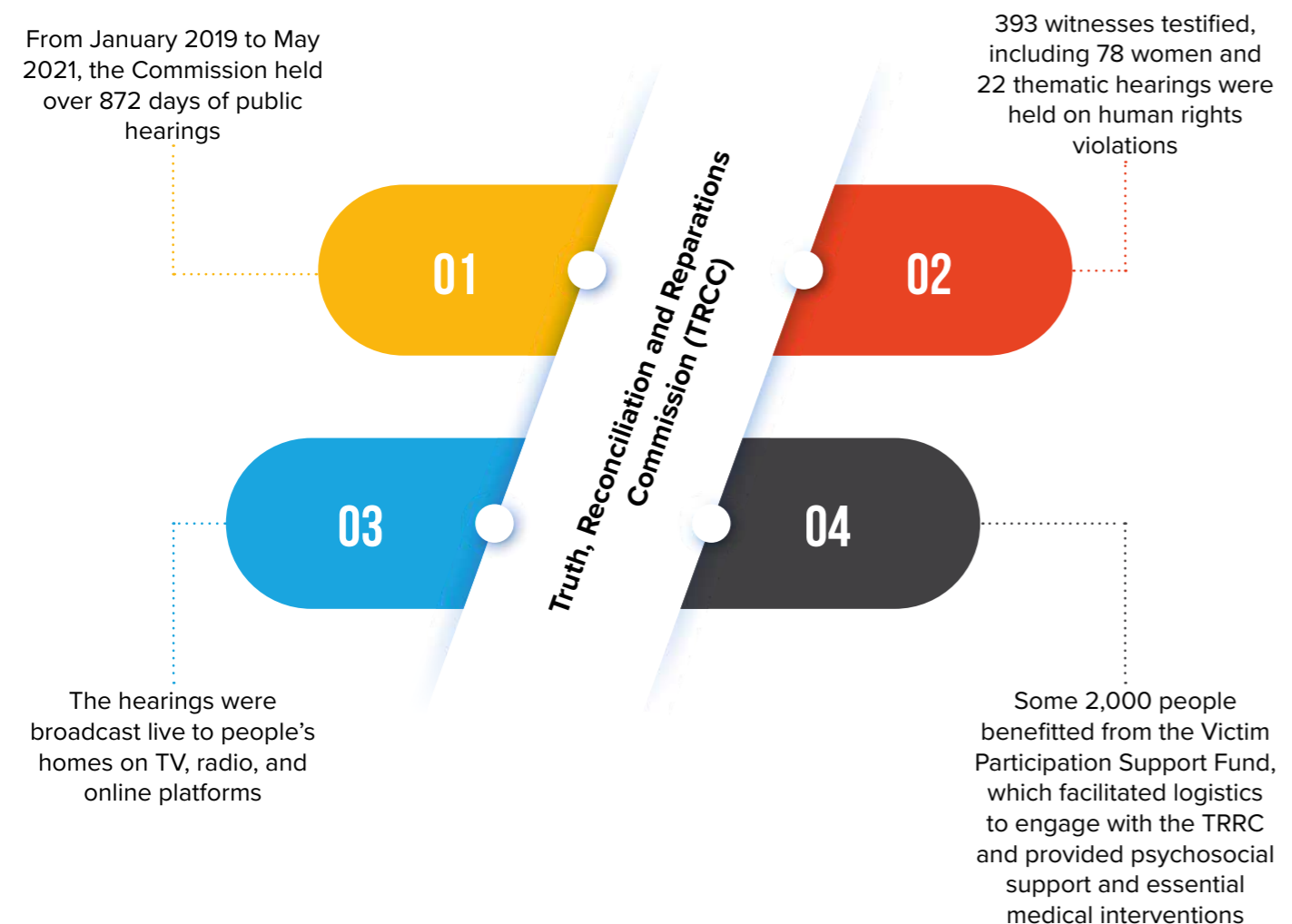
In The Gambia, following the historic democratic transition in 2016, the United Nations accompanied the Government on a new reform agenda to help establish credible transitional justice processes and mechanisms promoting reconciliation and sustainable peace. UNDP and OHCHR supported the Government to address the truth about the large-scale human rights violations and abuses that occurred during former president Jammeh's 22-year regime and restore the confidence and trust of the people in state institutions.

The National Strategy on Transitional Justice, prepared collaboratively with the government authorities and CSOs and validated by the population, effectively reflected the Gambians' national priorities for justice. Responding to these priorities, together with UNDP and OHCHR, the Fund's support laid the foundation for establishing two major institutions in the Gambia: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), operational since December 2019, and the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) that commenced its work in January 2019.

The NHRC monitors and addresses human rights status and violations, assists victims of human rights violations and contributes to national policies on human rights. The TRRC helped foster national reconciliation through a participatory and accessible process with the participation of victims and their families, witnesses, and perpetrators in public hearings and investigations.

"The TRRC is very important. I have seen how it has helped people empathize with us, knowing that we were deliberately and wrongfully accused," said Pa Demba Bojang, a victim of the witch hunt campaign.

"People now aspire to live in peace in this country. Victims' lives have become better thanks to the help they got from the project. The project has brought back hope in The Gambia," said another victim.



The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund enabled the United Nations to become engaged very quickly on **key transition reform issues following the end of a 22-year long dictatorship.** The Fund's support came at the right time and paved the way for participatory reform processes.

Seraphine Wakana
UN Resident Coordinator
The Gambia





The Peacebuilding Fund enabled the Commission's office to open, provided key equipment, technical support to the Commissioners and the staff, helped ensure victims access to the proceedings, provided inputs to the strategies and policies. **It enabled the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission to provide access to victims to the proceedings,** reach out to the remotest areas, and enable the functioning of the Women's Affairs Unit, reconciliation unit, and Investigations Unit.

Adelaide Sosseh
Deputy Chairperson, Truth,
Reconciliation and Reparations
Commission



SUPPORTING GOVERNMENTS IN THE SAHEL

To Empower Women and Youth

PHOTO: PBSO

Women and youth of the Sahel are key custodians of peace and artisans of a more prosperous future. However, bottlenecks such as weak representation in leadership and decision-making positions, limited access to natural resources and inadequate socio-economic opportunities place significant barriers on young men and women in attaining their full potential.

In Chad, due to the absence of vocational training and a slow job market, some young people in the northern part of the country are forced to relocate in search of better opportunities. 23-year-old Hamid, dropped out of school at age 16 and decided to follow some of his friends to Libya. After four futile and perilous attempts to reach Libya, he gave up and decided to look for opportunities within his home country. However, he could no longer go back to school because he was considered 'too old' and was faced with an uncertain future.



The United Nations supported the Government to increase skills training and job opportunities, especially for young men and women in Chad. IOM and WFP, in partnership with the Ministries for Youth and Education, helped establish a vocational training center in Faya, in Northern Chad. For Hamid and other young people, this vocational center presented an opportunity to gain a skillset that would significantly increase their odds at finding a well-paying job. In Faya, Hamid decided to study electrical engineering, through a vocational training programme funded by the PBF.

3254

Young people sensitized on risks associated with irregular migration, including increased vulnerability to recruitment by non-state armed groups in Northern Chad and Libya

Combined with vocational training, the project created an enabling environment for dialogue and fostered collaboration among the youth and local authorities.



Cameroon

With Peacebuilding Fund support, WHO, IOM and the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions of the Department of Peace Operations developed a project targeting youth at risk of recruitment by Boko Haram in the far north, by providing alternative livelihoods in the health sector.

Young Lamissa found new hope after tragic events impacted her community. Lamissa was only 19 when armed fighters attacked her village, Makoulaye, an attack claimed by the terrorist group Boko Haram. The memories of the tragedy are still vivid in her mind: “It happened one evening during a wedding celebration in the village. Armed men came and asked everyone to lie down. They took our cattle, motorcycles and some young people in the village, including a cousin of mine,” Lamissa recalled.

After the incident, all inhabitants of the village, including Lamissa’s parents and her eight siblings, sought refuge in the town of Mora. “For my family and I, it was as if the sky had fallen. When we fled, we could not take anything with us, and left everything behind. To survive, we had to work as servants in people’s houses,” said Lamissa.

While coming to terms with her new life as a displaced person, Lamissa was identified by a local organization, a partner of UNFPA, IOM and FAO, as a participant in a recent initiative, with 783 other youth. She received 3 months of sewing training and was given a sewing machine. Now, she plans to open her own sewing workshop in Mora, her host town.

“We lost everything. This machine allowed me to enroll in the Probatoire exam (a high school entrance exam transitioning students from the lower 6th to upper 6th class); it allows me to support my family. I am sewing a neighbour’s dress. I have just finished revising my lessons. I am preparing for the Probatoire exam that I have not been able to take since the Boko Haram chased us out of the village. And this is with money saved through the PBF project” Lamissa Péré, 22-years-old.

Lamissa visualizes a better future for herself and her family. “I plan to go to college after graduation, and work in social services or the UN. This is the best way to express my gratitude,” she said happily.



Cameroon is currently faced with three concurrent crises: Boko Haram attacks in the Far North, a Refugee crisis in the East region and a socio-political challenge in the North-West and South-West regions. Over the last two years, with its local governance structure comprising of representatives from the Government, the UN and partners, **the Peacebuilding Fund has been a powerful tool to pilot innovative ideas.** These ideas aim at identifying pathways to long-term conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace consolidation in Cameroon and neighboring countries through cross border initiatives.

Matthias Z. Naab
UN Resident and Humanitarian
Coordinator in Cameroon



With growing insecurity in Burkina Faso, women are increasingly promoting the importance of peace and cohesiveness in communities by imparting traditional and religious values in the North-Central region.

In partnership with the Center for International Studies and Cooperation and Citizen and Community Action for Resilience and Development, 1,260 women and youth acquired knowledge in traditional practices and values for peace and social cohesion, women's rights and land ownership issues. In Sanrgho, "Tond Tenga" focused on raising awareness of land laws and promoting women's non-agricultural activities. This reduced land scarcity tensions in the community. "What am I looking for if not peace and cohesion in the village? This is what the project has reinforced, so I am very happy" - Doulgou Yarcé Village Chief.

Women-led Community Action Committees facilitated reconciliation in Sanrgho and Nienega-Foulbé villages after over a year of conflict. 100 women were also supported from host and displaced communities in Koulogo to pursue peace and social cohesion through traditional and cultural mechanisms.

In central Mali, following an initiative of FAO, UNDP and UN-Women to support more youth-responsive local development plans, 83% of youth in six communities reported satisfaction with their improved socioeconomic conditions. A national youth policy was also drafted and validated at a national youth conference through a partnership between the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Civic Education and Citizenry Construction, UNICEF and Search for Common Ground. It is aimed at fostering trust among national and local leaders, authorities and young people through a broader institutionalized approach.

"Young people are very important for peacebuilding, and therefore it is important that they are equal implementing actors, and not just beneficiaries." - Implementing partner, Burkina Faso



SUPPORTING GOVERNMENTS IN THE SAHEL

To Promote Cross-Border and Regional Cooperation for Stability and Development

The Fund's investments in the Sahel have a strong focus on cross-border programming, to address transhumance conflict factors that transcend national boundaries and enhance social cohesion and participation of cross-border communities in peacebuilding and development efforts.

In the Liptako Gourma region, cattle raising provides livelihoods for many families across the borders between Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. However, cross-border cattle migration often becomes a source of tension and conflict among communities.

IOM and FAO promoted peaceful transhumance through building institutional cross-border dialogue and conflict management capacity, developing a transhumance tracking tool, rehabilitating community infrastructure and providing

livelihood support. They brought together key government and civil society partners representing pastoralists in the three countries to revive existing frameworks for cross-border cattle migration. A surveillance system that tracks transhumance movement was put in place relying on IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) infrastructure. The system involved 90 community focal points in villages along the borders between Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. The surveillance system was able to generate alerts when unusual large cattle movements occurred, which have the potential to trigger conflict.

The project's intervention has helped strengthen community cohesion in the pastoral environment, a key element in the stabilization of the Sahelian space." - Mayor of the municipality of Tessit.

PHOTO: PBSO





“

Despite the institutional and political framework that governs it, **transhumance remains a source of controversy**, especially in the host areas, whether internal or external, because it is often poorly understood by the populations in the host areas or poorly managed by the practitioners when they arrive in these areas.

Saidou Oua

Executive Secretary of the Liptako
Gourma Authority

”



In 2021, consultation frameworks and the development of transhumance tracking tools successfully resolved roughly 50 per cent of some 331 conflicts that were referred to local authorities and community mechanism. 13 new water points and other infrastructure would further help reduce conflicts over shared resources. Community focal points also raised alerts about intercommunal tensions or natural disasters, which had an impact on the transhumance system and migration patterns. This system issued 280 alerts, including 66 alerts related to communal conflict.



Mauritania-Mali



Niger-Chad

On the Mauritanian-Malian border, another transhumance tracking tool generates information on cross-border dynamics and includes an early-warning mechanism to reduce farmer-herder conflicts.

Along the Niger-Chad border, a WFP and FAO project contributed to reducing transhumance-related conflicts by more than 50 per cent. The project supported the marking of more than 100 km of transhumance corridors to reduce the destruction of fields by livestock, a key conflict trigger.

Mercy Corps, a non-governmental organization (NGO) works with local peacebuilders to enhance prevention and resolution of local conflicts in the Liptako Gourma region. A funding facility has been established that allocates small grants of between \$2,500 and \$20,000 to grassroots peacebuilding organisations. This pilot initiative is based on a mapping exercise by the INGO PeaceDirect that identified almost 300 grassroots organizations in Liptako-Gourma as potential grant recipients. By strengthening its partnership with smaller, local organizations, the Fund aims to support initiatives that, through stronger grounding in localized conflict analyses, effectively address and reduce local tensions exacerbating political and cross-border conflict dynamics in the Sahel.

The people of Burkina Faso, Benin and Togo share common borders with very similar socio-cultural and economic characteristics. The localities of the border areas, geographically distant from decision-making centers with often very limited accessibility, are tested by harsh socioeconomic realities where the feeling of abandonment is strongly rooted in the collective consciousness. The weak presence of the State and the porous borders pose major challenges in a context of growing insecurity and the rise of radicalism and violent extremism, as well as an upsurge in conflicts in communities residing in the border areas.

UNDP and IOM worked with local authorities to help reinforce community-level early warning capacities to prevent recruitment into violent extremist groups by working with young people and religious leaders. The emphasis was placed, on the one hand, on actions to strengthen the economic resilience of youth and women and, on the other hand, on improving access to civil status services. According to a member of a participating community, thanks to this initiative ‘people from diverse ethnic and religious background are now meeting to discuss common objectives and issues, and this strengthens social cohesion’.

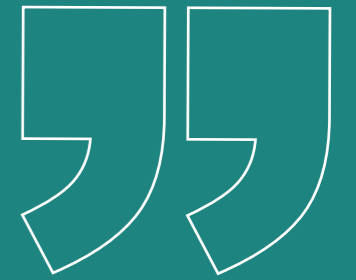
“I believe that this training will allow me to change my situation and to become a model for other young people in my community.” - Young participant of the training in Cobyly (Benin).





In the border areas within the Sahel region, **tensions between farmers and herders are exacerbated by the adverse impacts of climate change**, at times, triggering forced population displacement. These are communities already facing governance deficits and lack of access to basic services. Local grievances and marginalization are amplified by the new conditions.

Elizabeth Spehar
United Nations Assistant Secretary-
General for Peacebuilding Support



Cross Interview

Featuring Ambassador José A. Blanco Conde, Vice-Chair Peacebuilding Commission and Aissata Kane, IOM Senior Regional Adviser on Sub-Saharan Africa

On 22 March 2022, the PBC Vice-Chair, PR/Dominican Republic Amb. José A. Blanco Conde chaired a meeting on the Sahel with the participation of the UN Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel Abdoulaye Mar Dieye, alongside the FAO, IOM, UNOWAS, the G5 Sahel Executive-Secretary, EU Special Representative to the Sahel, AU Permanent Observer, and representatives of the African Development Bank and civil society from Mali and Niger. The meeting drew attention to climate-related peace and development challenges and underscored the need for effective mechanisms governing access to natural resources across the region. The Commission recognized ongoing UN efforts under UNISS and its support plan, including integrating climate change risk analysis into national sustainable development cooperation frameworks and conducting regional climate security risk assessments with ECOWAS and ECCAS. Participants called for strengthened partnerships in support of climate change mitigation and adaptation and increased financing for women and youth-led initiatives to address climate-related security.

To further understand the challenges of climate change risks on peacebuilding and how to mitigate them, the Griot spoke with PBC Vice-Chair Amb. José A. Blanco Conde and IOM's Senior Regional Adviser on Sub-Saharan Africa, Aissata Kane.



Q: Ambassador, you have been elected as Vice-Chair of the 16th session of the PBC for 2022 and the first substantive meeting of the PBC this year was organized on the issue of climate-related peace and development challenges in the Sahel. Could you elaborate on why?

Amb. José A. Blanco Conde: Peacebuilding efforts within the UN are becoming more challenging as the effects of climate change are affecting key areas of our mandates. Similarly, climate change is amplifying existing social and political instability across the world that could counteract progress made by countries, humanitarian agencies, and development organizations. In response, the DPPA and the PBC have been focusing on creating climate-sensitive holistic approaches to the development, humanitarian, security, and human rights nexus that address the root causes of insecurity. The PBC's Program of Work for 2022 draws a lot from the Secretary General's Our Common Agenda, which stresses the need to address the disastrous effects of climate change that threaten our existence and negatively affect global security. Member States within the PBC have expressed priorities in addressing humanitarian, development, and economic hardships caused by climate change, which has now been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Sahel region is among the most climate-vulnerable regions in the world, particularly the G5 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger) which have been experiencing mounting climate-related security threats and a dire humanitarian crisis.



Cross Interview

Featuring Ambassador José A. Blanco Conde, Vice-Chair Peacebuilding Commission and Aissata Kane, IOM Senior Regional Adviser on Sub-Saharan Africa



Q: Mrs. Aissata Kane, why did IOM choose to associate with this endeavour? Is climate security in Africa among the top priority of IOM?

Aissata Kane: The IOM recognizes the necessity to step up efforts to address human mobility in the context of disasters, climate change and environmental degradation. Upon request by member states the IOM, in 2015, became the first international organization to establish an institutional unit fully devoted to climate change. Just before COP26, IOM launched its Institutional Strategy on Migration, Environment and Climate Change for the next decade in response to policy discussions and increasingly available evidence and knowledge. In its operations globally, IOM is witnessing the increasing importance to prioritize human mobility in the context of climate change, whether on a humanitarian basis, or through developing preparedness, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development projects. Our action aims to strengthen communities' resilience by developing durable solutions through a Humanitarian, Peace, and Development Nexus approach.

Across Africa, floods and storms are visibly fuelling disaster displacement. In 2020 alone, 4.3 million people were internally displaced by disasters across Sub Saharan Africa. Land degradation, water scarcity and rising sea levels continue to exude strong impacts on human mobility. Our window of opportunity to prevent the worst climate impacts is rapidly closing, including on migration. No region is immune. Despite being the least contributor of Green House Gas emissions, Africa continues to be the most impacted by the effects of climate change. The frequency and severity of the weather events have intensified displacement and migration. Mobility is a crucial element in the African context, as it relates to its development, economic and political integration. Africa is already leading the way to address these dynamics. The AU and its Member States have committed to structurally transforming Africa into an economically integrated and prosperous continent, in line with the continent's Agenda 2063. African countries have also shown commitment in the effort to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change and deal with climate change-induced mobility, including being signatories of the Paris Agreement and endorsing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

Aissata Kane is the IOM Senior Regional Adviser on Sub-Saharan Africa. Previously, she served as the Deputy Permanent Observer of the Permanent Delegation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to the United Nations in Geneva. Aissata Kane has also served as Acting Permanent Observer at the OIC Mission to the European Union in Brussels and the OIC Permanent Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva.

Aissata Kane holds a Masters Degree in Conflictology and Conflict Management from the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya in Spain.



Q: The PBC and the IOM have been strategic partners in addressing climate change and peacebuilding in the Sahel, including the creation of the UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) and the cross-border Transhumance Tracking Tool. What is the genesis of this collaboration? How did it start and what have been the benefits of the collaboration so far?



Amb. José A. Blanco Conde: Within the 2022 Programme of Work, the PBC is prioritizing more coherent and impactful support to conflict-affected countries through creating and enhancing effective partnerships, including with agencies engaged on the ground, regional organizations, and international financial institutions. Part of this was drawn from past consultative meetings that called for a more harmonised and aligned approach, particularly on issues relating to climate change. To enhance and complement our efforts and ensure maximum impact, we collaborated with the IOM, which has been at the forefront of operational, research, policy, and advocacy efforts against climate change. Together we are building on the IOM/FAO cross-border initiative on transhumance in the Sahel, which has been successfully implemented in part with PBF support and is linked to UNISS. The PBC has been supporting the UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) and its Support Plan (2018-2030) which focuses on governance, resilience, and security in facilitating development and economic transformation in the region. UN Country Teams have been systematically integrating climate change risk analysis into sustainable development cooperation frameworks to determine how best to support national governments in their efforts to prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and build peace. The March 22 high-level meeting further enhanced these efforts in generating additional political, technical, and financial support for specific climate change initiatives in the region, where tensions between farmers and herders are exacerbated by the adverse impacts of climate change – and at times the cause of forced population displacement.

Aissata Kane: IOM and FAO have been discussing the development of a joint project since 2018 to address the negative impacts of climate change in the Sahel and prevent violent conflicts resulting from the increase in tensions between farmers and herders. With the support of the UN Peacebuilding Fund, the concept of the Transhumance Tracking Tool (real-time alerts) – developed by IOM previously - was scaled up in late 2019 through a joint project in the Liptako Gourma. After over two years of programmatic experience and productive collaboration with ECOWAS, national and local authorities as well as the Reseau Billital Maroube, both agencies felt that there were enough good practices to share which could be of interest to Member States grappling with similar issues in Central and Eastern Africa. The project-based funding for this innovative project in the Sahel also calls for more sustainable, adequate, and predictable financing from donors, international financial institutions, and States in the region to bring it to scale. We felt that the PBC was the perfect forum to share these experiences and make this plea.

Ambassador José A. Blanco Conde is the Vice-Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission. Before this role, he served as Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations. He also was the Coordinator of the Technical Unit that promoted his country's candidacy as a non-permanent member of the Security Council and served as Acting Vice Minister for Bilateral Foreign Policy between 2017 and 2019.

José A. Blanco Conde holds an undergraduate degree in business administration from the Universidad Iberoamericana, and completed graduate studies at Strayer University and Georgetown University in the United States.

Cross Interview

Featuring Ambassador José A. Blanco Conde, Vice-Chair Peacebuilding Commission and Aissata Kane, IOM Senior Regional Adviser on Sub-Saharan Africa



Q: Women and youth are among the most vulnerable populations in the Sahel. What sustainable approaches can be taken in ensuring their inclusion and empowerment against climate change?

Aissata Kane: A recent IOM study on Migration Environment and Climate Change in Niger, showed that migration is not only directly linked to climate change, but also that women’s mobility patterns are particularly impacted by climate change. Women have increased responsibilities with the migration of women being perceived as one of the most emblematic changes of climate change and environmental degradation. However, solutions exist, already developed by the communities themselves. As such, it is necessary to inform and design action-based policies with the perceptions of the communities. It is also essential to promote a gender-based approach to identify the most relevant actions for women, youth, and other vulnerable groups, directing them towards the removal of barriers to their social and economic participation. This can be achieved by developing rural localities and living conditions, encouraging the emergence of sustainable empowerment dynamics among women and youth, promoting income-generating activities with a focus on natural resources preservation, and supporting women in viable and ecologically sustainable economic projects.



What are the next steps for the PBC and IOM collaboration in the Sahel in mitigating climate change risks for peacebuilding?



Amb. José A. Blanco Conde: The PBC’s priority is to continue to deliver effective and impactful support to the increasing number of countries that request our engagement. Participants in the March 22 PBC meeting on the Sahel were pleased to hear lessons learned from the Transhumance Initiative on conflict prevention. FAO and IOM are considering expanding this joint initiative in other contexts that are supported by either the PBC or the PBF (East Africa: Horn of Africa) which offers an opportunity for continuing collaboration with IOM.

Aissata Kane: It is of paramount importance to have an integrated approach, based on knowledge production, policy-work and community and nature-based solutions. Collaboration remains key to any strategy for peace and stability in the region. The UNISS framework ensures complementarities between the UN Agencies and promotes a collaborative approach between the local, national, and regional actors. A representative of a pastoral organization once said, “the crisis in the Sahel” is not a Security crisis, but a development crisis.” Strengthening the governing bodies at all scales (from local to regional), ensuring the inclusion of all socio-professional groups, to organize the access to natural resources in a transparent and accountable way prevents one group to take advantage of a situation of monopoly.





WHAT'S NEW

ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- COP27 to the UNFCCC, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 7-18 November 2022
- African Union Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification, Niamey, Niger 20-25 November 2022



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- OSCDS signs MoU with the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise on 19 May 2022
- OSCDS signs MoU with the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) on 10 May 2022
- OSCDS signs MoU with Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) on 23 September 2022
- Deep Dive Sessions by AFPs and UNCTs on Identified Accelerators for the Implementation of UNISS



PARTNERS

GOVERNMENT, REGIONAL, SUB-REGIONAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS

PARTNERS

Government Partners



Financial Institutions



Regional and Sub-Regional Partners



UNITED NATIONS IN THE SAHEL

OSCDS

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

UNOWAS

United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel

UNDP

United Nations Development Programme

UN Women

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNESCO

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFPA

United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF

United Nations Children's Emergency Fund

WFP

World Food Programme

FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

ILO

International Labour Organization

IOM

International Organization for Migration

IFAD

International Fund for Agricultural Development

UNCDF

United Nations Capital Development Fund

OCHA

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OHCHR

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

WHO

World Health Organization

UNECA

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

UNEP

United Nations Environment Programme

UNCCD

United Nations Convention to Combat Dessertification

UNIC

United Nations Information Centre

MINUSMA

United Nations Mission in Mali

UN-PBF

United Nations Peacebuilding Fund

UNV

United Nations Volunteers

ITC

International Trade Centre

UNAIDS

United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

SPECIAL THANKS

CONTRIBUTORS

Focal Points of Agencies, Funds and Programmes in UNISS Countries
Focal Points of UN Peacebuilding Fund in UNISS Countries

Special Mention

United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)
United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)

Regional Directors
Resident Coordinators
United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs)

PRODUCTION AND EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor-in-Chief

Nwanneakolam Vwede-Obahor

Director and Team Leader, UNISS Implementation Support Unit
Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

Editors

Dominique Kabeya

Program Coordinator, UNISS Implementation Support Unit
Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

Ashu Hailshamy

Program Officer, UNISS Implementation Support Unit
Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

Mounina Ba

Program Associate, UNISS Implementation Support Unit
Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

Elodie Atsou

Information and Documentation Management Assistant, UNISS Implementation Support Unit
Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel

Graphics and Layout

Ugochukwu Kingsley Ahuchaogu

Regional Communications Analyst
United Nations Development Programme Sub-Regional Hub for West and Central Africa (UNDP WACA)



UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED STRATEGY FOR THE SAHEL

Working Together for a Prosperous and Peaceful Sahel

Connect with us on

