

Sahel

ACTIVITY REPORT

2021

AFD's strategy in the Greater Sahel region

AFD focuses on five priorities:

1

Improving governance
by reinforcing community
stakeholders

2

Preventing and containing
violent conflict through a
territorial approach

3

Promoting the empower-
ment of women and girls

4

Capacity building for local
inhabitants, especially young
people

5

Nurturing development potential
through effective land use planning
and support for sustainable econo-
mic activities

The Greater Sahel was once a prosperous region in Africa and home to the largest African empire. It was a space for transit and trade between North Africa and the Gulf of Guinea. The region is clearly defined by its geography and climate. It also has the lowest GDP per capita of the six African regions identified by AFD. Over the past decade, the deterioration of the security situation has profoundly destabilized the Central Sahel, with spillover effects throughout the region and even beyond. The context here is one of severe governance crisis, marginalization, exclusion and inequality among the region's territories and inhabitants. Weakened social cohesion has led to increasingly violent and uncontrolled conflict. Yet these complex and multidimensional challenges should not overshadow the positive trends observed in the region in recent years. Along with East Africa, the Sahel is the fastest-growing region in Africa. The Greater Sahel region's annual HDI has also been improving at a rate nearly three times faster than the rest of the world.

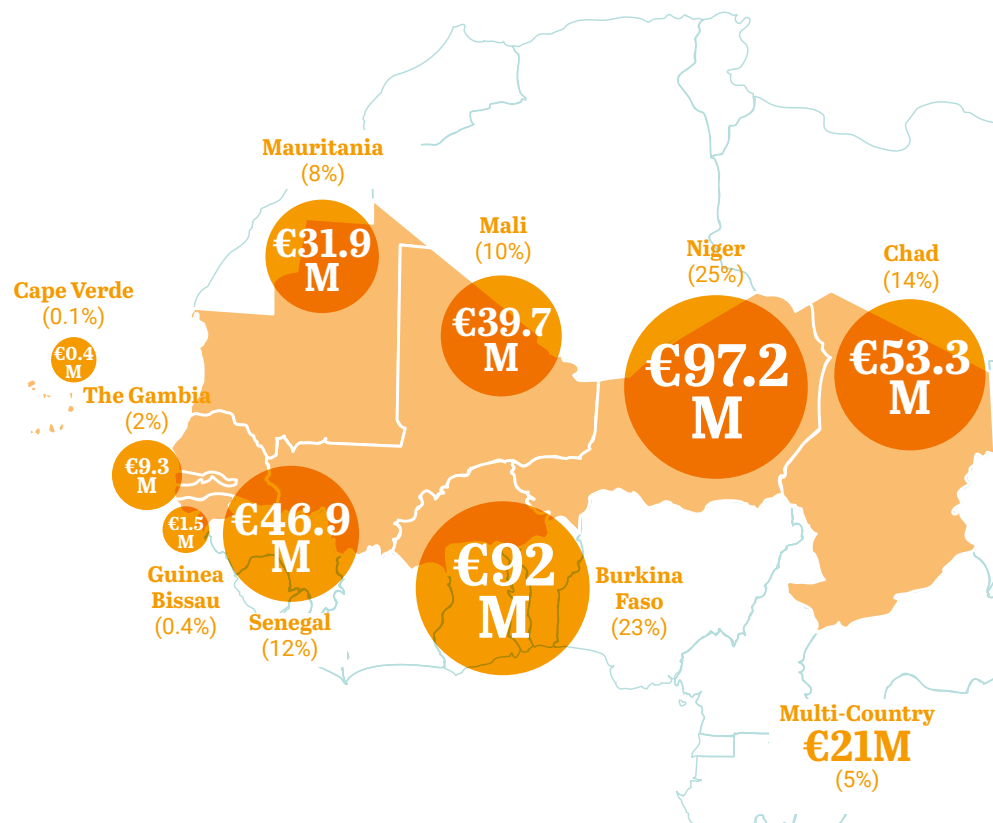
Development in the Greater Sahel region is marked by contrasts. The wide range of issues require a collective and appropriate response that addresses weaknesses and improves fair access to basic services. France is a key player in this region, and AFD has adopted a multidisciplinary approach that is rooted in the territories.

AFD Group's activities in G5 Sahel countries are guided by the framework established by the Coalition for the Sahel, especially with the members of the Sahel Alliance.

AFD Group ensures that each intervention helps strengthen social ties between citizens, in keeping with its 100% social link commitment. It also ensures that each funding initiative contributes to resilient and low-carbon sustainable development, in keeping with its 100% Paris Agreement commitment.

Our activity in the Greater Sahel region in 2021

○ GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN OF COMMITMENTS

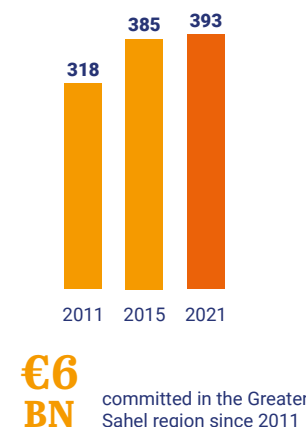


€393.3 M

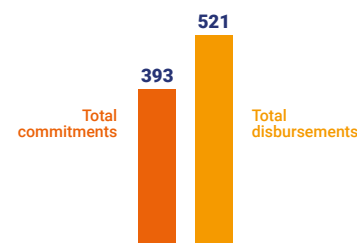
Total commitments

In 2020, significant projects were granted in the three-borders zone, a focal point for the Coalition for the Sahel. 31 projects are therefore underway, representing €84M, including €33M granted in 2021. These projects are aimed at strengthening the countries' governance, improving access to basic services and education, and implementing socio-economic investments promoting access to employment.

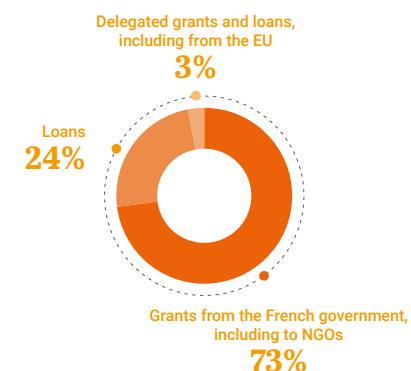
○ TREND IN COMMITMENTS IN €M



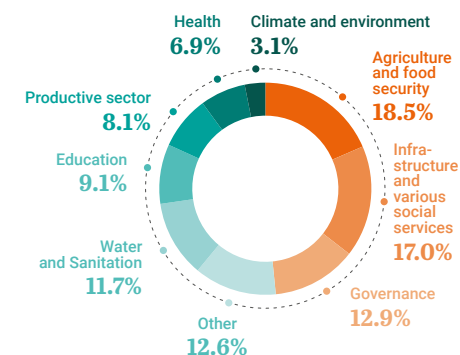
○ COMMITMENTS/DISBURSEMENTS IN 2021 IN €M



○ BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT



○ BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR



Prioritizing gender equality

2021 was an eventful year for gender equality, marked by innovation for AFD:

- €63M for projects with the key objective of reducing inequalities between men and women (DAC 2)
- Creation of the "Sahel Youth" partnership network to support civil society stakeholders in their response to the security crisis based on an innovative "gender and development" approach
- AFD created the special "Woman Ambassador for Peace" award at the 27th Panafrican Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO)
- Launch of EDIFIS, a platform promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the Sahel.

Our activity in Burkina Faso

AFD is a long-term partner of the authorities in Burkina Faso and has been operating in the country since 1958. Burkina Faso is one of the 19 priority countries for French aid. AFD is increasing its interventions in the country's hardest-hit regions in the North and East. It is integrating vulnerability and conflict risk issues into these initiatives through a territorial approach that targets the main determinants of conflicts, integration of social cohesion aspects and local governance, greater reliance on civil society stakeholders, and flexibility in implementing projects to account for changes in the situations.

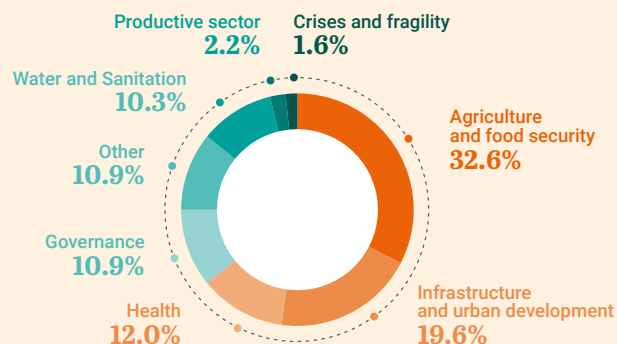
TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



€92M

€84.8M disbursed

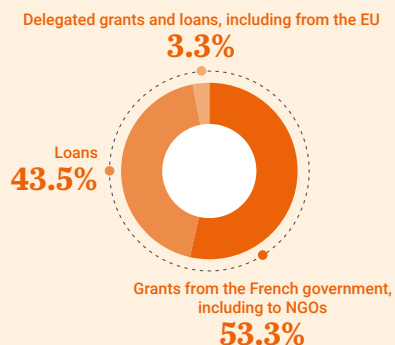
BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT IN 2021



Our activity in Mali

Mali suffers from significant structural weaknesses (arid climate, economy based on a small number of commodities, weak public governance). It has also been plagued by a security crisis in the north and center of the country since 2012-2013, and a severe governance crisis leading to coups d'état in 2020-2021. Despite this instability, AFD has stood with the people of Mali, working with the other members of the Sahel Alliance to finance the country's development needs.

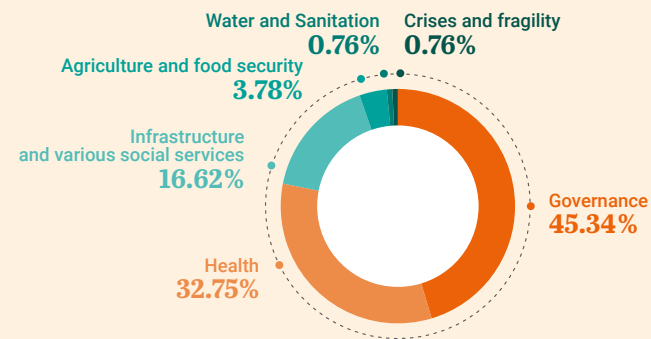
TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



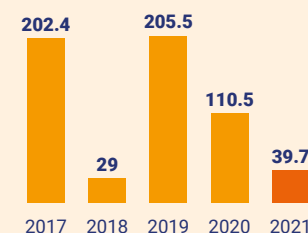
€39.7M

€72.4M disbursed

BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



TREND IN COMMITMENTS



Our activity in Mauritania

Mauritania acts as a link between the Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa and is home to a wealth of cultural and ethnic diversity. The country has recorded sustained growth in recent years. AFD is seeking to strengthen social cohesion and support sustainable and shared growth through its intervention in Mauritania, which was hit hard in 2020 by the Covid-19 pandemic.

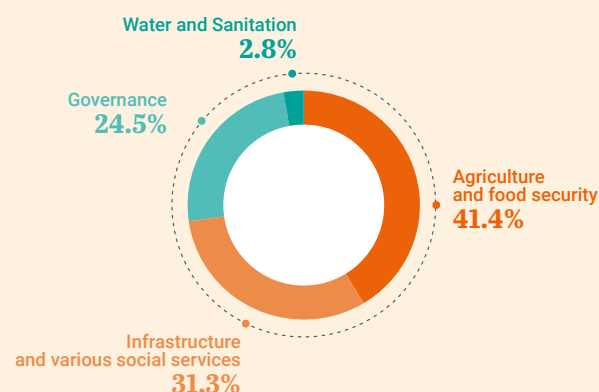
TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



€31.9M

€11.6M disbursed

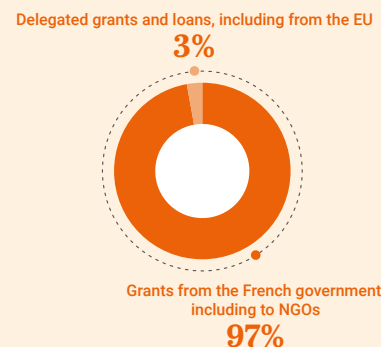
BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT IN 2021



Our activity in Niger

Niger is the least developed country in terms of human development and has the world's highest population growth (3.8% per year). The country must accelerate its development in the midst of a challenging context caused by the security crisis in the Sahel (Tillabéri and Diffa) and the impacts of climate change. However, the country does have assets, including national cohesion, which remains intact, strong agricultural potential, and an international community mobilized to offer support.

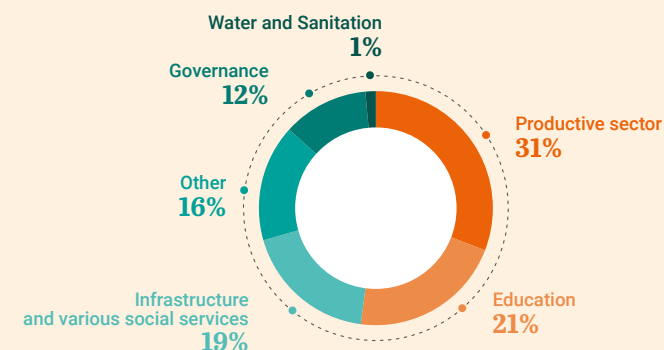
TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



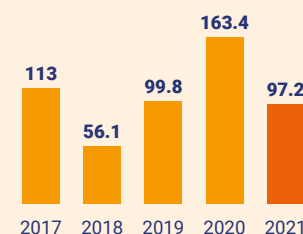
€97.2M

€122.2M disbursed

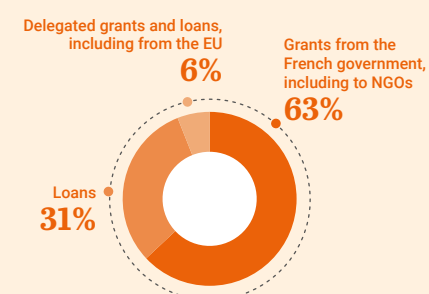
BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT IN 2021



Our activity in Senegal

Senegal is an area of stability in West Africa and the Sahel in particular, with dynamic economic growth despite continuing weaknesses. AFD Group is funding projects and programs that are in line with the priorities established by the Senegalese government (Emerging Senegal Plan). For the 2019-2023 period, it has therefore prioritized action contributing to the emergence of an inclusive and sustainable society in Senegal.

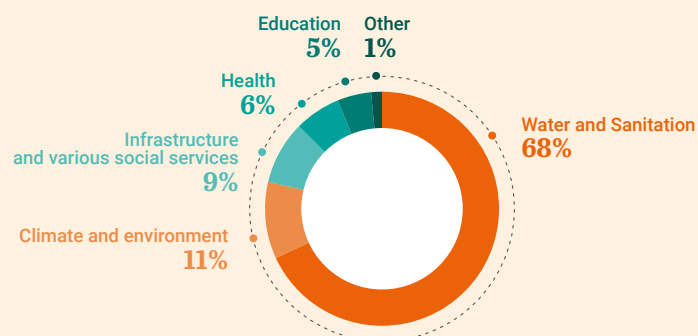
TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



€46.9M

€132.6M disbursed

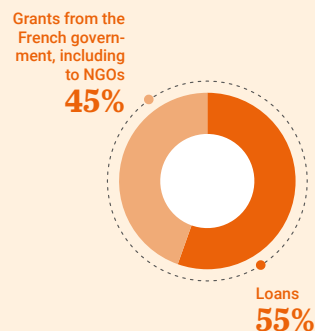
BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT IN 2021



Our activity in Chad

Chad is a landlocked country in Central Africa and suffers from vulnerable economic structures despite its many assets. AFD is acting to support and develop an economy that benefits everyone. AFD's funding focuses on four sectors: access to basic services in urban settings; rural development (with long-standing and significant action to support long-term migratory livestock farming), maternal, child and reproductive health, and improvement of the educational system.

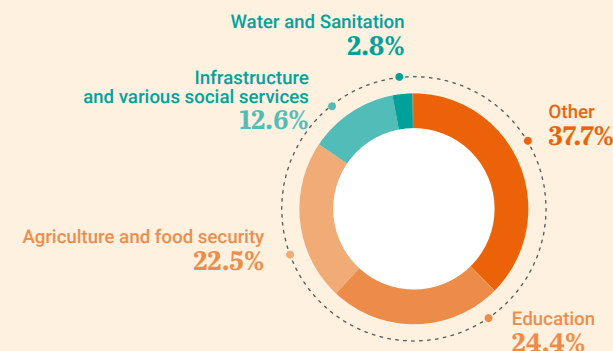
TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021



€53.3M

€49.9M disbursed

BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT IN 2021



Our activity in the Gambia

The reopening of France's diplomatic mission in the Gambia and the country's classification as a "priority country" at the most recent meeting of the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development have opened up new opportunities for intervention in the country. AFD has responded to priorities in the Gambia by providing a grant aimed at implementing an irrigation project and developing the rice value chain.

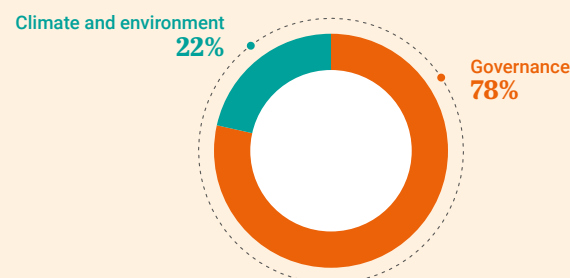


TOTAL COMMITMENTS IN 2021

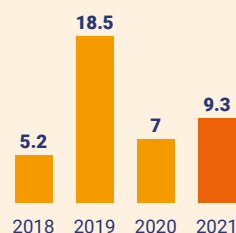
€9.3M

€0.025M disbursed

BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR IN 2021



TREND IN COMMITMENTS (IN €M)



BREAKDOWN BY INSTRUMENT IN 2021



Results

The projects undertaken by AFD Group in the Sahel in 2021 will contribute to:



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- 9,150 family farms supported
- 106,000 hectares benefit from programs to restore / protect biodiversity



ENERGY

- 938,000 people have gained access to electrical services



WATER AND SANITATION

- 874,000 people have access to safe drinking water



URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- 800,000 people have better access to a sustainable urban transport system



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- 5,000 people benefit from vocational and technological training



HEALTH

- 1,341,000 people have better access to healthcare



EDUCATION

- 275,671 children enrolled in elementary and middle school, 48% are girls



ALLIANCE SAHEL

The Sahel Alliance, a platform for Sahel donors, was launched by President Macron and Chancellor Merkel in 2017. It now brings together 26 members and 9 observers, who together support over 1,000 projects, both pending and completed, for a total amount of €22 billion.

In addition to the significant amounts committed and under appraisal, the Alliance members are united by a common vision and concepts: the Integrated Territorial Approach adopted by the Alliance members' Operational Steering Committees at the Pau Summit in 2020. This approach establishes AFD's intervention methods for the coming years in vulnerable areas. AFD and its partners are currently working to operationalize this approach in ten pilot areas, with the project leadership for each area distributed between the donors.

AFD is the leader for donors investing in Ménaka in Mali, Hodh Ech Chargui in Mauritania, Tillabéri in Niger, Kanem and Bahr el Gazel in Chad, and Dori in Burkina Faso.

Alliance members also share tools designed to favor joint planning efforts and decision support. For example, AFD's expertise in project mapping, and its management of the analysis and learning platform in the Sahel, will be transferred to the Alliance's Coordination Unit for everyone's benefit.

Application of the Integrated Territorial Approach in Hodh El Chargui

In Mauritania, the Integrated Territorial Approach is being implemented in Hodh El Chargui by national devolved (wilayas and moughataas) and decentralized administrative authorities (regions and municipalities), and by members of the Sahel Alliance.

On 27 November 2021, during the Néma Round Table chaired by the prime minister of Mauritania, Sahel Alliance members committed to contribute \$118M to the road map for development funding for this region bordering Mali, in keeping with the regional strategy for 2022-2025.

As the leader for the Sahel Alliance in this region, AFD funded an initial project to support the territorial development of Amourj, Bougadoum and Adel Bagrou.

The project (€1M) aims to provide solutions to address weaknesses in the territories of the Hodh El Chargui region and contribute to preventing conflict and promoting citizen participation by bolstering State services, improving local public services, and supporting economic development in the region.

The project will eventually be expanded to include the entire wilaya of Hodh Ech Chargui.

MINKA PEACE AND RESILIENCE FUND



The Minka Peace and Resilience Fund Sahel and Lake Chad Initiatives, launched in 2017, represent AFD's response to the crises and violent conflicts threatening countries in the Sahel. They help finance development projects with shorter implementation deadlines and evident results for the population within six months, all for the goal of peace-building.

These projects focused on infrastructure renovation, hydro-agricultural development, highly labor-intensive work projects, and social mediation and peace-building efforts. The projects benefit the most vulnerable individuals (marginalized groups, displaced persons and guest populations).

Minka projects also support activities to benefit youth and promote gender equality.

Minka Sahel

€104M

in grants in 2021

Minka Lake Chad

€31M

in grants in 2021

Towards a world in common

Agence Française de Développement (AFD) implements France's international development and solidarity policy. Through funding for the public sector and NGOs, research and publications (Éditions AFD), training on sustainable development (Campus AFD) and efforts to raise awareness in France, it finances, supports and accelerates transitions towards a fairer and more resilient world.

We work alongside our partners to develop shared solutions with and for communities in developing countries. Our teams are involved in more than 4,000 projects on the ground, in France's overseas territories and 115 countries, including areas in crisis. We strive to protect the common good—promoting peace, biodiversity and a stable climate, as well as gender equality, health and education. In this way, we contribute to the commitment of France and French people to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Towards a world in common.



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