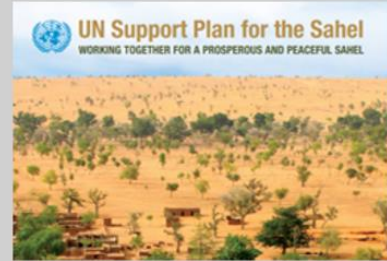


# UN is Calling FOR THE SAHEL



**HPA**  
Water for Peace

**Hydropolitics Association  
of Turkey**





# SAHEL

UN SUPPORT PLAN FOR THE SAHEL

Working Together for a Prosperous and Peaceful Sahel

**If we don't do anything**

**85 million sub-Saharan Africans to be forced to migrate  
mostly to Europe in next three decades**



Climate change causes temperatures in the Sahel to rise 1.5 times faster than the global average. By 2050, more than 85 million sub-Saharan Africans are expected to be forced to migrate because of climate change, insurgency, and other regional challenges

In the entire Sahel region, interdependent factors, such as extreme poverty, climate change, armed conflict and insecurity, drive the staggering levels of structural, chronic and acute vulnerabilities. If these interconnected root causes are not addressed regionally, because of the fluidity of the Sahel context, challenges will grow in depth and numbers. At the regional level, many organizations, coordination frameworks, platforms and initiatives have been established in the Sahel to promote and improve integration, address cross-border threats and challenges, and support collective and coordinated approaches that tackle these risks.

The Sahel<sup>1</sup>, the vast semi-arid region of Africa separating the Sahara Desert to the north and tropical savannas to the south, is as much a land of opportunities as it is of challenges. It is blessed with abundant human, cultural and natural resources, offering tremendous potential for rapid growth. Yet there are deeprooted challenges—environmental, political and security— that may affect the prosperity and peace of the Sahel. The overarching goal of the UN Support Plan for the Sahel, targeting 10 countries namely Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, The Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal, is to scale up efforts to accelerate shared prosperity and lasting peace in the region.

The Support Plan, covering the period 2018-2030, will help implement identified priorities to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063. The Support Plan is not a new strategy; rather it is an instrument to foster coherence and coordination for greater efficiency and results delivery under the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) framework, which is at the centre of the international response in the Sahel and is in accordance with Security Council Resolution 2391 (2017)

It also aims at mobilizing public resources and triggering private investments in the 10 countries in support of ongoing efforts and initiatives by governments, international and regional organizations, and other partners.

The Support Plan therefore aims to improve coordination and strengthen collaboration with all partners in the region, including national and regional institutions, bilateral and multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society organizations, to work towards operationalizing and implementing the Security Council resolutions on the Sahel. The Support Plan is built around the following six priority areas: i. Cross-border cooperation ii. Prevention and sustaining peace iii. Inclusive growth iv. Climate action v. Renewable energy vi. Women and youth empowerment Women, youth and job creation will cut across all priority areas and interventions, aiming at strengthening governance, improving security and building resilience, as well as promoting a more integrated approach to address the humanitarian-security-development nexus as a strategy to accelerate the

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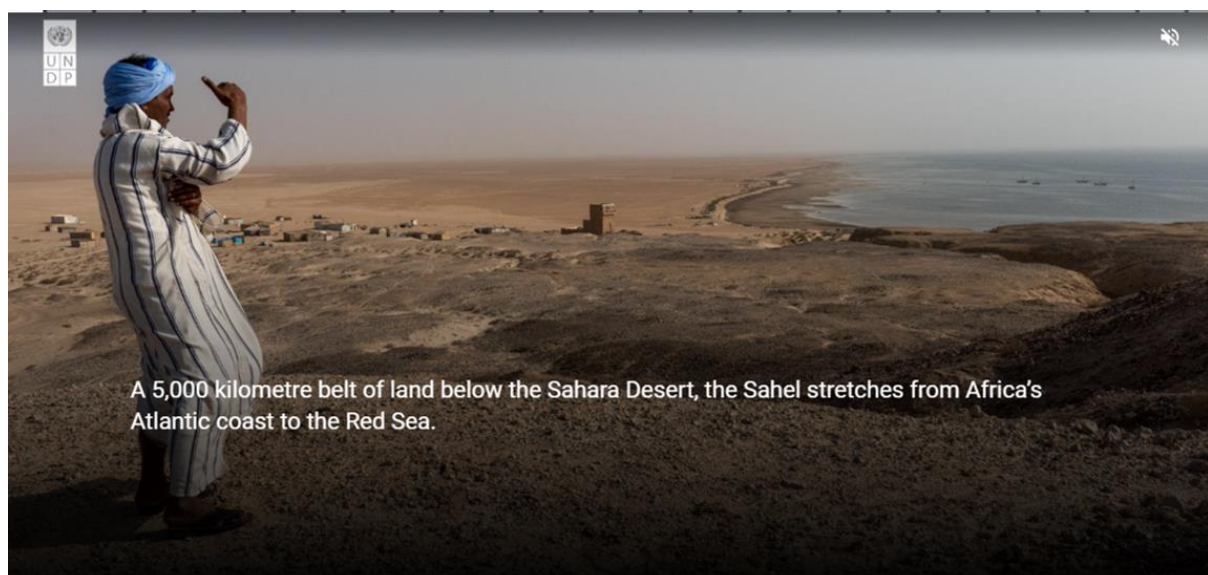
<sup>1</sup> The Sahel, semiarid region of Africa extending from Senegal eastward to The Sudan – or from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea. However, based on common development challenges, the UNISS Sahel Plan is only limited to 10 countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, The Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Chad).



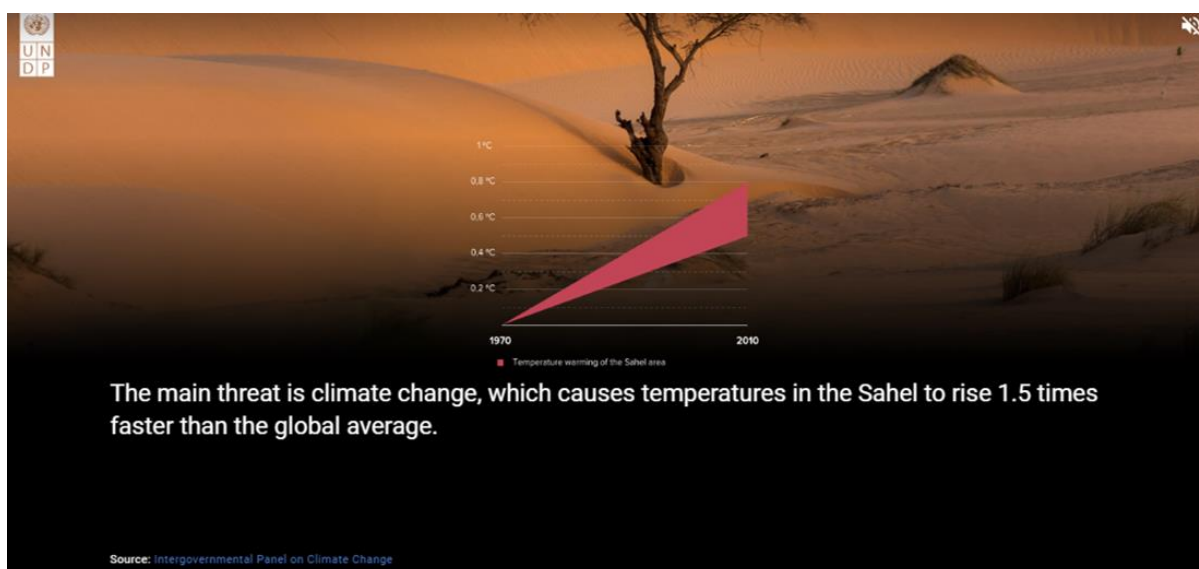
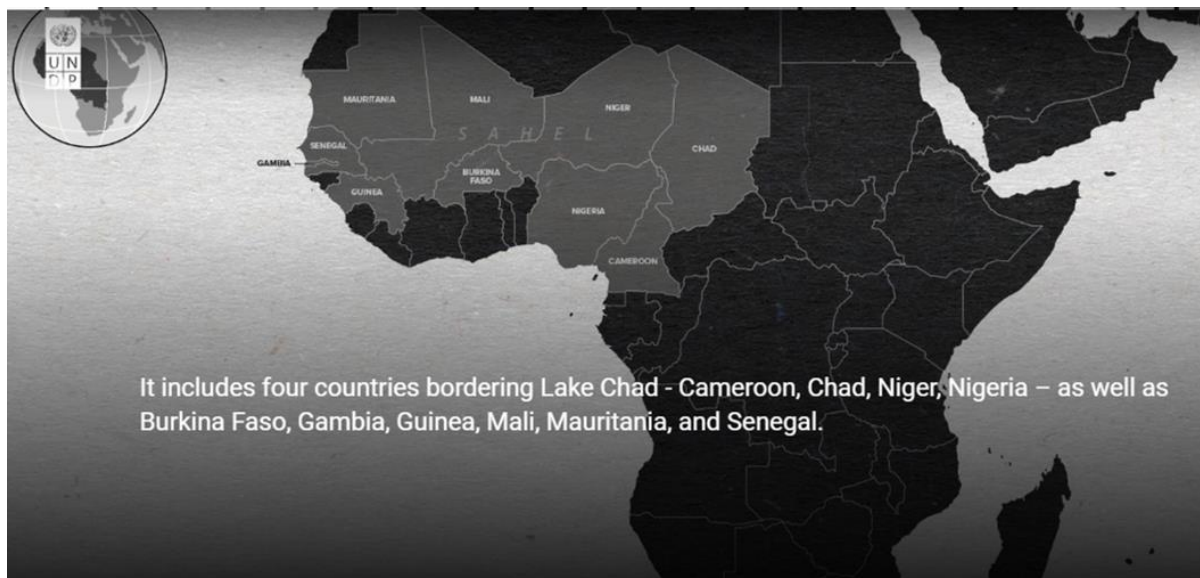
achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Support Plan focuses on cross-border and regional cooperation to promote complementarity and convergence among the 10 countries, as well as synergies of activities, partnerships and innovations, and to mobilize expertise and financial resources

The following six priority areas have been identified:

- i. Promoting cross-border and regional cooperation for stability and development;
- ii. . Preventing and resolving conflicts; violent extremism and crime; and promoting access to justice and human rights;
- iii. i Promoting inclusive and equitable growth and increasing quality access to basic services;
- iv. Building resilience to climate change, improving management of natural resource, and decreasing malnutrition and food insecurity;
- v. Promoting access to renewable energy; and
- vi. Empowering women and youth for peace and development in the Sahel.



A 5,000 kilometre belt of land below the Sahara Desert, the Sahel stretches from Africa's Atlantic coast to the Red Sea.



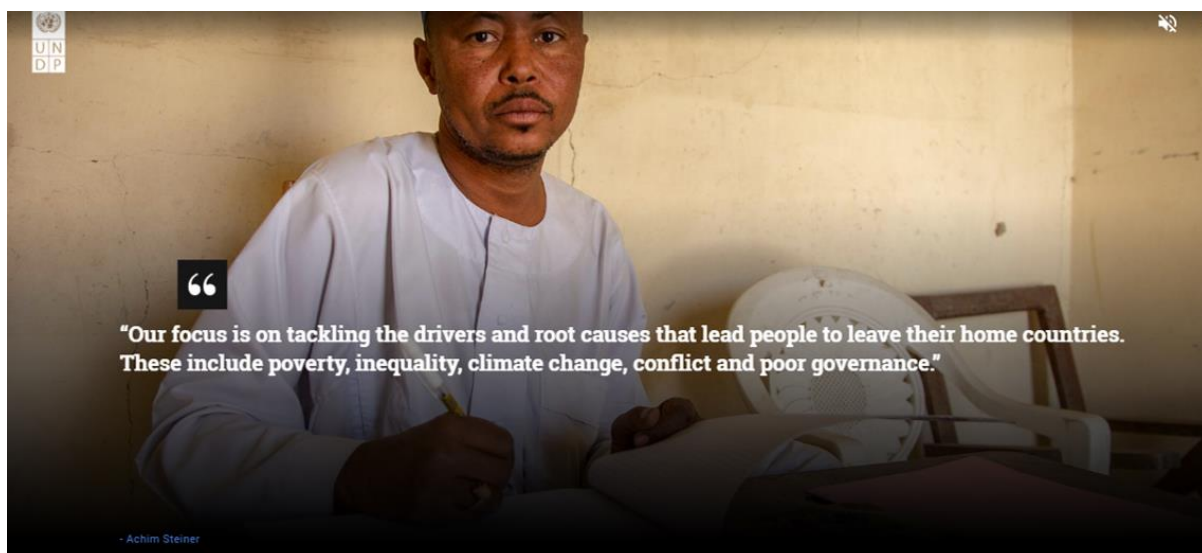




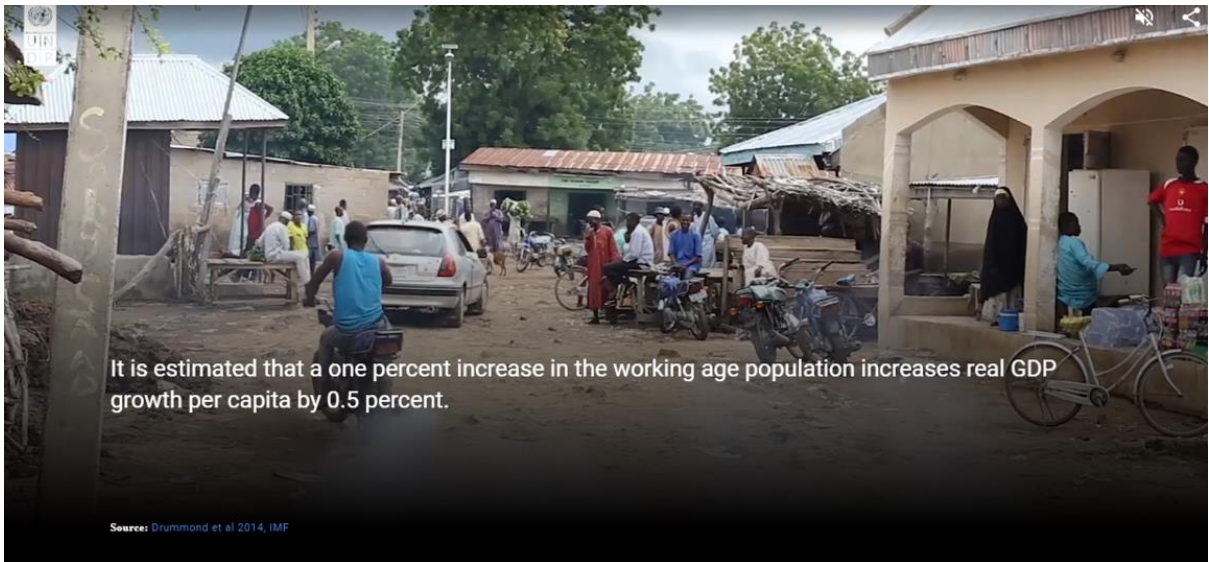












It is estimated that a one percent increase in the working age population increases real GDP growth per capita by 0.5 percent.

Sources: Drummond et al 2014, IMF











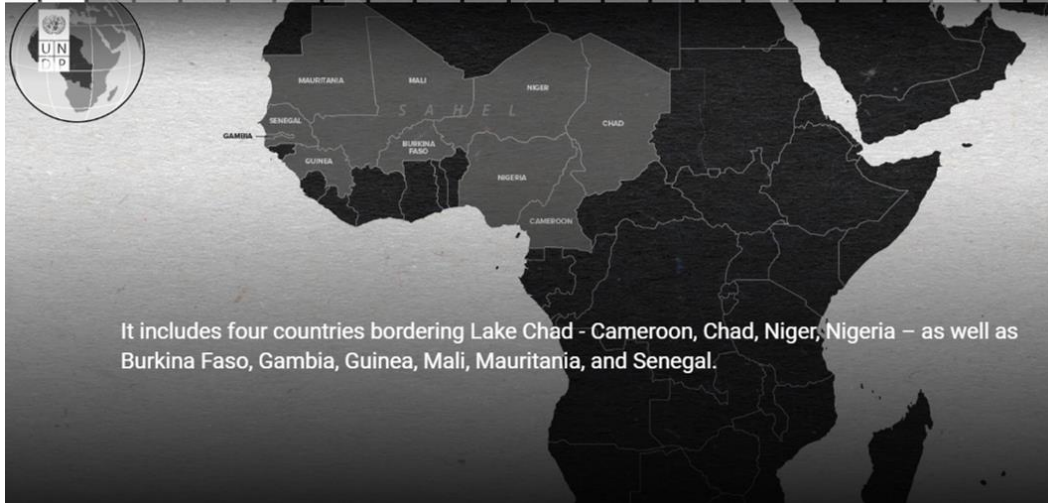












The overarching goal of the UN Support Plan for the Sahel is to **scale up efforts** to **accelerate shared prosperity and lasting peace** in the Sahel countries and the region at-large by **implementing priorities to achieve the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development** and the **African Union Agenda 2063**



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