

# TECHNICAL BRIEF



Great Green Wall Accelerator  
Technical brief - Edition N°1  
September 2021



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## ABOUT THIS TECHNICAL BRIEF :

The Great Green Wall Accelerator unit will release a quarterly technical brief to showcase progresses of the stakeholders in achieving the Great Green Wall Initiative goals.

Want to contribute with an analysis, a story from the frontlines, or become a partner of the Great Green Wall Accelerator? Contact us by email :

[stoumi@unccd.int](mailto:stoumi@unccd.int)

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Thank you in advance for your future contribution.

# ABOUT THE GREAT GREEN WALL ACCELERATOR

## FROM A FINDING...

In September 2020, the Implementation Status report of the Great Green Wall was released. According to the report, nearly :

- 20 million hectares of land have been restored
- More than 350,000 jobs have been created
- Approximately \$90 million was generated between 2007 and 2018 through Great Green Wall activities.
- Expected sequestration of more than 300 million tons of carbon dioxide by 2030.
- To achieve the goal of restoring 100 million hectares of land by 2030, an average of 8.2 million hectares of land per year should be restored with an annual financial investment of \$4.3 billion.

Following the release of the GW Implementation Status report, the Ministers of Environment of the Great Green Wall countries met and called on the international community to better coordinate efforts in order to achieve the Great Green Wall goals by 2030.



## ...TO THE CREATION OF A COALITION

In January 2021, during the One Planet Summit Biodiversity, the Great Green Wall Investment Forum was organized in Paris under the leadership of:

- Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic
- Mr. Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission
- HRH The Prince of Wales

This led to the most ambitious commitments of the international community to support the Great Green Wall initiative :

- 9 international organizations committed to coordinate their efforts with the PAGGW around 5 pillars of action and 1 common vision.
- Total funding of US\$19 billion for the GGW 2020-2025 agenda were pledged.
- The creation of the GGW Accelerator hosted by UNCCD to set up a harmonized monitoring and evaluation system around 5 action pillars and 1 vision, publish an annual progress report and organize an annual follow-up meeting bringing together all stakeholders.
- € 2.5 Billion were also pledged by the Natural Capital Investment Alliance to invest in value chains and participate in land degradation neutrality efforts.

## ACTION-ORIENTED...

The Great Green Wall Coalition of the One planet summit is supported by the Great Green Wall Accelerator, a unit hosted in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Its objectives are :

- Support the efforts of all actors through the harmonization of impact measurement framework;
- Support the Pan African Agency of the Great Green Wall implementation to achieve the GCW initiative through a structured, multi-stakeholder approach based on five pillars;
- Enable a more comprehensive mapping of available funding and projects;
- Connect actors to scale up successful initiatives and promote the Sahel as a land of opportunity;
- Involve the private sector, civil society and research/innovation in GGW efforts.

By facilitating the coordination of all the stakeholders, the Great Green Wall Initiative will realize its ambitious 2030 goals :

**100 Million Hectares restored**  
**10 million Jobs created**  
**250 million tons of carbon sequestered or avoided**

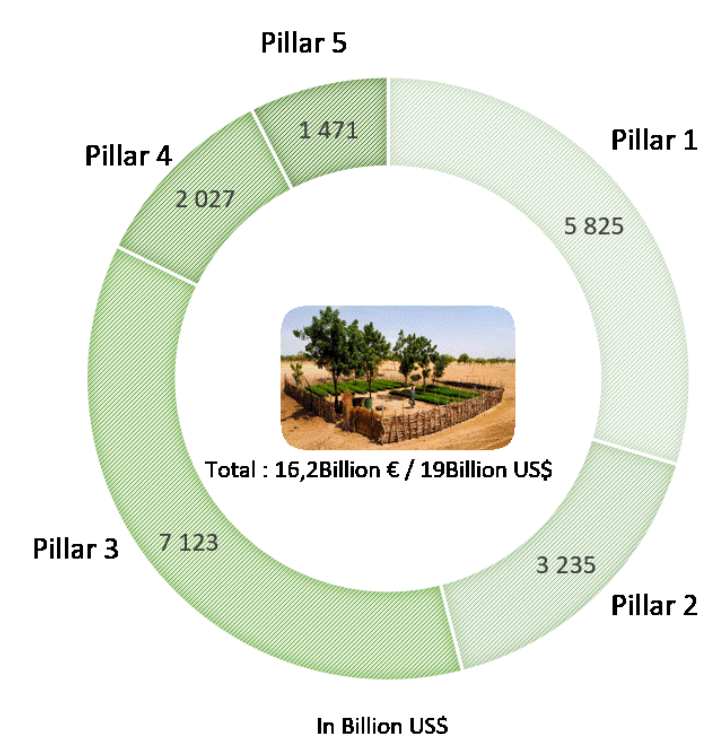
**Pillar 1** - Investment in small and medium enterprises and strengthening of value chains, local markets, organization of exports

**Pillar 2** - Land Restoration and Sustainable Ecosystem Management

**Pillar 3** - Climate resilient infrastructure and access to renewable energy

**Pillar 4** - Favorable economic and institutional framework for effective governance

**Pillar 5** - Capacity Building





# NEWS FROM THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS OF THE GGW ACCELERATOR



## **Press release - January 11th, 2021, Sahel region: the African Development Bank pledges to mobilise \$6.5 Billion in support of the Great Green Wall Initiative**

The Sahel region's Great Green Wall Initiative received a major boost from the African Development Bank on Monday. During a forum hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Bank pledged to assist in mobilising up to \$6.5 billion over five years, to advance the landmark initiative.

The resources will be made available through a range of programmes in support of the Great Green Wall by drawing on internal as well as external sources of funding, such as the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), among others. Multilateral development partners joined the Bank in pledging funding for the African-led initiative that aims to rejuvenate life in Africa's current desert landscapes, providing food security, jobs and a reason for millions of Africans from Senegal to Djibouti to stay in the Sahel region. The forum took place in the margins of the One Planet Summit.

According to Bank President Akinwumi Adesina, "As we rebuild from the coronavirus and its impacts on our world, we must recalibrate growth. We must prioritise growth that protects the environment and biodiversity, and we must de-prioritise growth that compromises our common goals."

Addressing the summit virtually from Abidjan, Adesina informed delegates that, "The Great Green Wall is part of Africa's environmental defence system—A shield against the onslaughts of desertification and degradation. The future of the Sahel region depends on the Great Green Wall. Without the Great Green Wall, the Sahel region as we know it may disappear."

Climate change has led to extreme temperatures, fluctuating rainfall and drought in the Sahel, a region that is home to 250 million people living in ten countries. Millions of livelihoods and hard-won development progress are threatened.

The Great Green Wall's plan is to plant an 8,000 km long and 15 km wide mosaic of trees, grasslands, vegetation and plants across the Sahara and Sahel that can restore the degraded lands and help the region's inhabitants produce adequate food, create jobs and promote peace in the region.

"The Great Green Wall is a wall worth building. A wall that brings people together, not one that pulls them apart. A wall that insulates, not one that isolates. A wall that protects our collective existence. A wall for the environment—a wall for the planet," Adesina said. A lack of finance has been the project's major constraint to realising its goal of creating 10 million jobs, sequestering 250 million tonnes of carbon and restoring 100 million hectares of degraded land in the 11 countries of the Sahel-Sahara region.

The Bank has made the Sahel region a top priority for investment and mobilising new sources of finance to advance Africa's climate opportunities. One example is the African Development Bank's Desert-to-Power programme to build the largest solar zone power in the world.

The programme will provide electricity to 250 million people in 11 Sahel countries and help protect the Great Green Wall. Over the next five years, Desert-to-Power aims to make available \$2 billion for identified project opportunities for the Great Green Wall Initiative.

A lack of resources to adapt economies to the consequences of climate change is also one of the main constraints on the Sahel region's development. The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), hosted by the African Development Bank, aims to address this by mobilising resources and brokering solutions that boost progress in adapting to climate change.

"The establishment of GCA Africa marks a critical step in our endeavour to accelerate and strengthen our efforts to address the triple challenge of biodiversity loss, land degradation and climate change adaptation on the continent. We will develop and implement joint programs that will mobilise resources at scale to support the Great Green Wall," said Kevin Kariuki, Bank Vice-President, Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth.

Another Bank initiative key to transforming the Sahel into a land of opportunities and inclusive green growth is Technologies for African Transformation (TAAT). The initiative aims to raise food output in Africa by 100 million tonnes and lift 40 million people out of poverty by 2025 by harnessing high-impact, proven technologies to raise productivity, mitigate risks and promote diversification and processing. TAAT, for example, has provided Sudanese farmers access to heat tolerant maize.

In a major announcement, President Macron named President Adesina a Great Green Wall Champion. Adesina was recognised for his personal commitment to addressing climate change in Africa. The position will see the Bank President play a significant role in mobilising political and economic support for the Initiative.

Pledges from others during the meeting, included EUR 1 billion of new financial and technical support to back sustainable agriculture, clean energy, water, infrastructure and private sector financing in 11 Sahel countries from the European Investment Bank and EUR 600 million from the Agence française de développement (AFD).

### **More information:**

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# NEWS FROM THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS OF THE GGW ACCELERATOR



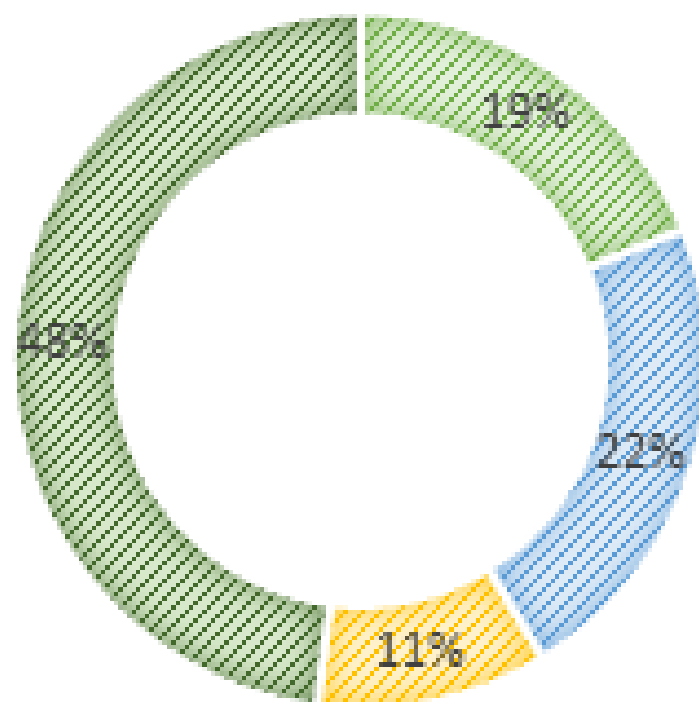
European  
Investment  
Bank

## European Investment Bank

During the 2021 One Planet Summit, The EIB pledged up to EUR 1 billion of new EIB financing in support of the GGW initiative over the next five years.

### EIB'S CONTRIBUTION FOR THE GGW IN 2020

■ Pillar 1 ■ Pillar 2 ■ Pillar 3 ■ Pillar 4



EIB is supporting Governments, Private sector, Private funds and Financial and Microfinance Institutions to be part of the Great Green Wall efforts. Among the focus of interest are activities strengthening agricultural value chains; enhancing the sustainable use of water supplies and rehabilitation of eroded land; construction of solar photovoltaic plants and the digital transformation.

#### Criteria of eligibility to propose a project:

The EIB finances projects in most sectors. To be eligible projects must contribute to EU economic policy objectives.  
<https://www.eib.org/en/about/priorities/index.htm>

For projects where the total cost is under EUR 25 million, the EIB provides intermediated loans (credit lines) to local, regional and national banks.  
<https://www.eib.org/en/products/loans/sme-mid-caps.htm>

The lending decision for EIB loans via credit lines remains with the financial intermediary. Promoters interested in EIB financing for projects under EUR 25 million should contact the banks and other intermediaries involved directly with a detailed description of their capital investment together with the prospective financing arrangements. The EIB also provides direct loans for midcap companies (with up to 3000 employees) where the loan volume requested is between EUR 7.5m and EUR 25m.

The EIB adheres to strict environmental and procurement policies. Potential promoters should ensure that their project adheres to these conditions. Further information can be found at:  
Environmental Sustainability: including both climate action and investment in the urban and natural environment: Climate and environmental sustainability (eib.org)

Procurement: Procurement for EIB-financed projects

#### More information

<https://www.eib.org/en/products/index.htm>



# NEWS FROM THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS OF THE GGW ACCELERATOR

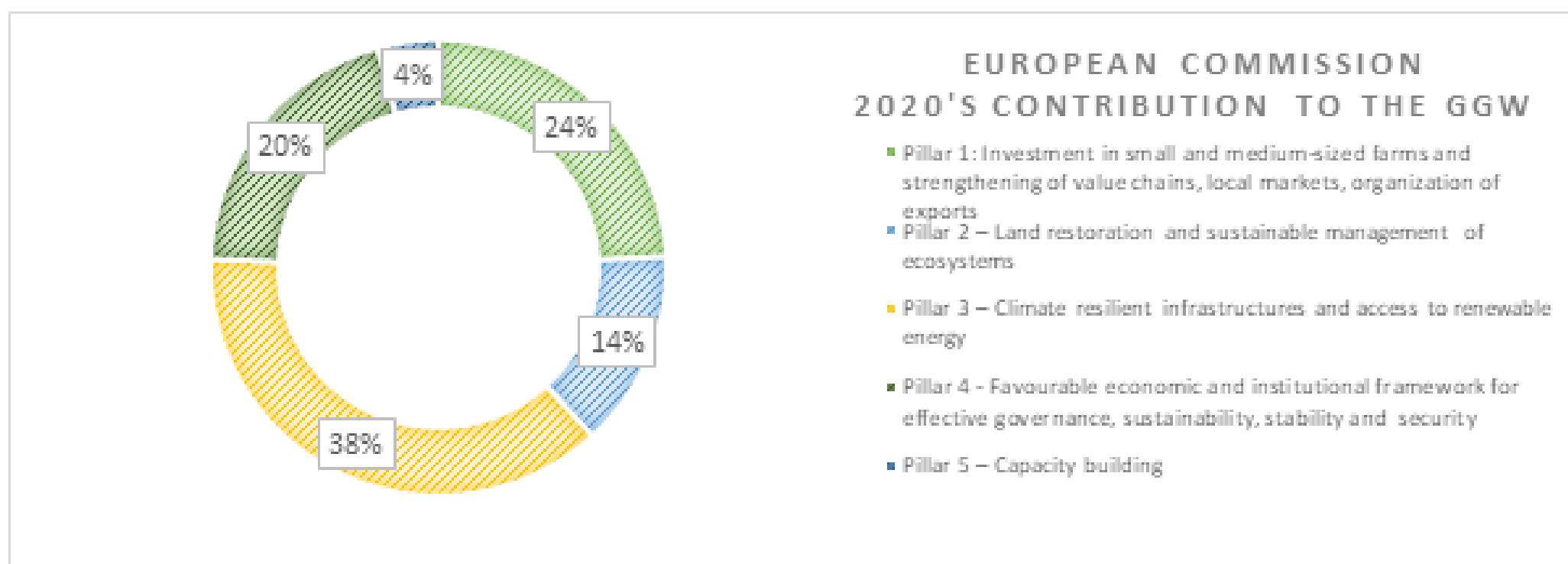


EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

## The European Commission

The Commission is a long-standing supporter of the GGW, since its inception. Through its geographic and thematic support to environment, climate change and sustainable agriculture, it has contributed to a few dedicated projects and global communication campaigns, as well as to the integration of GGW objectives in its policies and country cooperation programmes on agriculture, food security, climate change, research, etc. It has supported its evolution into a mosaic of green and productive land-use systems anchored in local communities.

The Commission is committed to support this landmark pan African initiative in the future, including under the next multi-annual financial framework. As stated by the President Ursula von der Leyen at the One Planet Summit in January this year, the European Commission aims to mobilize even more than the 700 million EUR per year already raised for the GGW project. In line with the subsidiarity principle for future programming, Great Green Wall related objectives will mainly be addressed under our national multi-annual cooperation programmes with partner countries in the region, in the context of integrated socio-economic development initiatives, rooted in local communities, governments and plans and linked to the five pillars of the GGW accelerator.



### Criteria of eligibility to propose a project:

Depending on the country and local contexts, supported projects may include activities related to agro-ecology, green value chains, forestry, biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, sustainable energy, climate resilient infrastructure, governance, capacity building, etc., in line with the five pillars of the GGW Accelerator.

All EU-funded projects would be part of agreed multiannual cooperation programmes between the EU and partner countries, hence beneficiaries and implementers will be chosen in agreement with partner countries through regular cooperation channels, and on the basis of an annual action programme.

On a lower level, once an investment fund or specific project is put in place, for example, specific eligibility criteria will be defined by these programmes.



# NEWS FROM THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS OF THE GGW ACCELERATOR



## The French Development Agency

The Agence Française de Développement Group funds, supports, and accelerates the transition to a fairer and more sustainable world.

During the last One Planet Summit (January 2020), the Agence Française de Développement pledged €600 million over the 2021-2025 period for the Climate Resilient Rural Africa Initiative to accelerate the implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGW).

AFD commitments will aim to strengthen the resilience of rural populations and land-based economic activities to climate change and to improve food security. The demand-driven AFD-funded projects will promote agroecology, support sustainable and productive agricultural and livestock value chains and contribute to sustainable management and governance of natural resources (forest, land and water).

AFD promote holistic approach to foster the impact of the projects in African rural territories by taking into consideration development, climate change and biodiversity challenges, as well as natural resources conflict prevention, gender equality and social inclusion.

### 2020 AFD Contribution to the GGW efforts - total 114,58M€

- Burkina Faso
- Chad
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- Sudan



#### Criteria of eligibility to propose a project:

AFD strategy rests on a vision of "world in common" and five foundational commitments that underpin all actions: 100% Paris Agreement, 100% social link, 3D development thinking, non-sovereign first and partnership design.

Please refer to AFD website to access detailed information concerning accessing AFD funding and contact one of the 85 AFD offices.



**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

## **The GEF**

# **Global Environment Facility**

The Global Environment Facility has played a leading role in influencing a shift from the initial vision of a tree planting venture, to one that was focused on integrated management of natural resources for improving livelihoods and landscapes. In response to demands of countries in the region, the GEF has invested over US\$800 million in grants and catalyzed an additional US\$6 billion from national governments, development partners, and other multi-lateral for projects in the Sahel region. This financing has helped the GGWI member countries to increasingly promote innovative practices for improving crop and livestock productivity and restoring degraded parklands and strengthening resilience and adapting to climate change through a range of strategies.

The link below refers to an informative brochure presenting GEF supported projects on the GGWI from GEF-4 through GEF 6 cycles.

[https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/gef\\_great\\_green\\_wall\\_initiative\\_august\\_2019\\_EN\\_0.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/gef_great_green_wall_initiative_august_2019_EN_0.pdf)

- TerrAfrica and the GEF4 Strategic Investment Program (SIP);
- The GEF-5 Sahel and West Africa Program to Support the GGWI (SAWAP/BRICKS);
- The GEF-6 IAP on Food Security (RFS);
- The GEF-7 Food Systems, Land-Use and Restoration Impact Program (FOLUR);
- And the GEF7 Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Impact Program (DSL IP).

### GEF's role in the revitalization of the Great Green Wall Initiative

Over the years, the Great Green Wall Initiative has evolved into a comprehensive integrated ecosystem management approach that aims to restore 100 Mha of currently degraded land, sequester 250 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> and create 10 million green jobs, contributing to the implementation of the Rio Conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

During UNCCD-COP14, a High-Level consultation was held to engage Ministers from member countries and key stakeholders on re-energizing the GGWI. The consultation identified the need for financial leverage and mechanisms to scale up the best practices across the region. The idea of the GGWI as a partnership platform emerged to support millions of people and communities working towards sustainable management and use of forests, rangelands and other resources. The consultation also called for mobilization of more resources from a range of sources domestically and internationally, including Multilateral Development Banks, special financing mechanisms such as the GEF and the World bank, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), as well as bilateral partners, CSOs, and private sector.

On margins of the Seventeenth African Ministerial Conference (AMCEN 17) held in Durban 11-16 November 2019, Ministers, and heads of delegation of the GGWI countries met to renew the momentum about the GGWI. The event further confirmed commitment by member countries to continue working with the GEF and engage other key partners and private sector towards developing a new GGWI program.

Advancing this vision will require an approach that is underpinned by holistic and systems thinking, which will ensure integration of environmental and development priorities to maximize potential for harnessing synergies at scale. The GEF experience with the integrated approach programs provides an excellent opportunity for designing such a program, at the time when countries are demonstrating strong political will through commitments under the major multi-lateral agreements, particularly for the environment and climate change.

In GEF-7, a \$ 2 million project is being implemented with the support of UNEP. The project includes the following components:

- Component 1: Strengthening the institutional framework for GGWI coordination and partnership.
- Component 2 - Identifying and prioritizing investment opportunities to transform key economic systems in the Sahel Region
- Component 3: Stakeholder's consultation to launch shared vision for the GGWI and the Sahel region:

The proposed project will provide an opportunity to engage with all GGWI stakeholders to foster meaningful dialogue with countries, flesh out a longer-term vision and serve as the vehicle to design a program with potential to mobilize larger investments in GEF-8. It's important to clarify that GEF-8 resources to support the GGWI will be determined upon completion of the replenishment process and discussion with beneficiary countries on the use of their STAR allocations.

Finally, through the GEF, the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) for climate change adaptation also presents an invaluable opportunity for GGWI member countries. The LDCF has already contributed immensely to Sahel countries, with the region accounting for over 50% of the portfolio. There are significant opportunities for countries to leverage LDCF resources in the context of promoting systems transformation for sustainable and climate resilient growth. LDCF further provides opportunity for countries to meet their UNFCCC climate goals outlined under NAPs and NDCs.



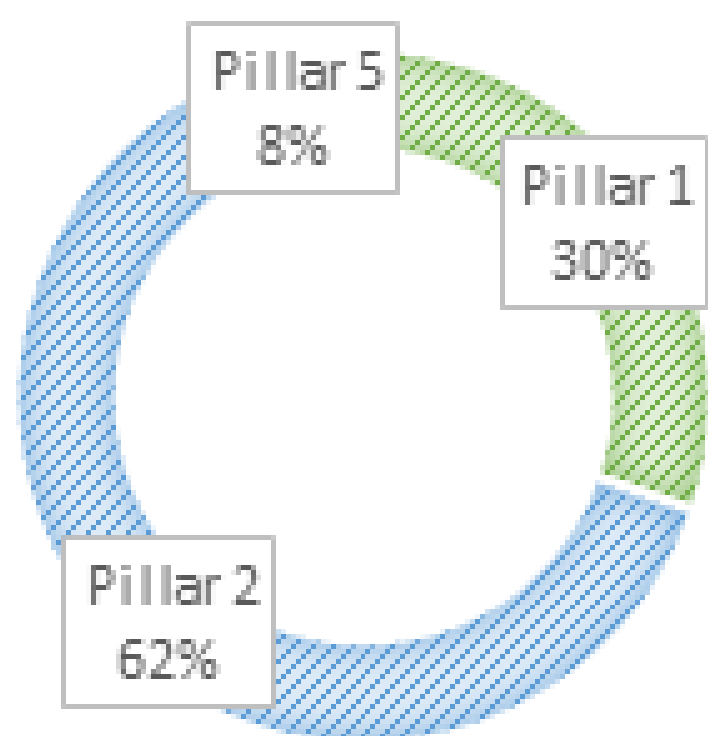


# The Green Climate Fund

The Green Climate Fund accredited entities will submit projects and programmes to the GCF Board, which together will aim to leverage up to a total of \$1 billion in multi-partner resources for the GGW in 2021 and 2022. These funds leverage considerable private and public co-finance and parallel finance which are not included in the figures below. Projects that are already approved will be brought under the Regional Support Program for sharing best-practice, upscaling investments and coherence. A full analysis will be available later in the year (including information from the current and planned pipeline)

## GCF 2020 CONTRIBUTION FOR THE GGW

■ Pillar 1 ■ Pillar 2 ■ Pillar 5



In 2020, the Green Climate Fund committed a total of 294 401 362 US\$ into projects relative to 3 pillars of the GGW Accelerator over 7 countries. This is an estimate of the portfolio based on key GGW projects but doesn't take into account the readiness and projects approved before 2020 which are contributing.

This represents approximately 29% of the total amount the GGW is working, demonstrating the Green Climate Fund strong commitment to support the Great Green Wall.

GCF is also preparing a Regional Support Program for the Great Green Wall to facilitate access to funding for National Designated Authorities; share best practice and promote coherence and complementarities.

### Criteria of eligibility to propose a project:

In order to propose/submit a funding proposal to the GCF, an applicant should acquire the appropriate accreditation status with the GCF. Also, such a funding proposal should be endorsed by the National Designated Authority of the given country through receiving a non-objection letter prior to the submission to the GCF. Please refer to <https://www.greenclimate.fund/projects/process> to access detailed information concerning accessing GCF funding. A clear and solid climate rationale is instrumental backed up by innovative interventions to overcome the climate problem described and supported by a strategic finance model in the project for medium to long term transformation.

More information

<https://www.greenclimate.fund/>

Juan Pablo Hoffmaister - [jhoffmaister@gcfund.org](mailto:jhoffmaister@gcfund.org)





# The Green Climate Fund

## Annex: Approved GCF Projects contributing to the GGW Pillars

Note some historical projects will also be included as contributing in terms of lessons-learned, future pipeline development, and increased financing. These are not yet included in this list.

### **Burkina Faso**

- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)
- FP092 [Programme for integrated development and adaptation to climate change in the Niger Basin \(PIDACC/NB\)](#)
- FP151 [Global Subnational Climate Fund \(SnCF Global\) – Technical Assistance \(TA\) Facility](#)
- FP162 [The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall \(GGW\)](#)

### **Chad**

- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)
- FP092 [Programme for integrated development and adaptation to climate change in the Niger Basin \(PIDACC/NB\)](#)
- FP162 [The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall \(GGW\)](#)

### **Djibouti**

- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Eritrea**

- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Ethiopia**

- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Mali**

- FP092 [Programme for integrated development and adaptation to climate change in the Niger Basin \(PIDACC/NB\)](#)
- FP151 [Global Subnational Climate Fund \(SnCF Global\) – Technical Assistance \(TA\) Facility](#)
- FP162 [The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall \(GGW\)](#)
- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Mauritania**

- FP151 [Global Subnational Climate Fund \(SnCF Global\) – Technical Assistance \(TA\) Facility](#)
- FP162 [The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall \(GGW\)](#)
- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Niger**

- FP092 [Programme for integrated development and adaptation to climate change in the Niger Basin \(PIDACC/NB\)](#)
- FP162 [The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall \(GGW\)](#)

### **Nigeria**

- FP092 [Programme for integrated development and adaptation to climate change in the Niger Basin \(PIDACC/NB\)](#)
- FP151 [Global Subnational Climate Fund \(SnCF Global\) – Technical Assistance \(TA\) Facility](#)
- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Senegal:**

- FP003 [Increasing the resilience of ecosystems and communities through the restoration of the productive bases of salinized lands](#)
- FP049 [Building the climate resilience of food insecure smallholder farmers through integrated management of climate risk \(R4\)](#)
- FP151 [Global Subnational Climate Fund \(SnCF Global\) – Technical Assistance \(TA\) Facility](#)
- FP162 [The Africa Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme: Building the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change impacts in 7 Sahelian Countries of the Great Green Wall \(GGW\)](#)
- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)

### **Sudan**

- FP139 [Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan](#)
- SAP012 [Inclusive Green Financing for Climate Resilient and Low Emission Smallholder Agriculture](#)



# International Fund Agriculture Development

ifAD is committed to continue working closely with all relevant partners to ensure that the GGW is a legacy that we collectively leave to future generations. During the design of the GCF GGW UP, IFAD led a consultation process which has involved all the GGW countries and entities, such as the GGW national and regional focal points, the GGW Agency and the African Union, UNCCD, France, WB, FAO, CILL, OSS as well as all the GCF NDAs, WEF, representative from the private sector and NGOs. IFAD is committed to ensure the best possible articulation and coordination between the GCF GGW UP and the Accelerator, to make the best of this multistakeholder approach. IFAD is also participating to the UN efforts to increase the overall impact of the UN system on the GGW countries, linked to the UN Decade of ecosystem restoration; as well as to the ongoing process led by Sahelian countries to change the narrative in the Sahel.

### Criteria of eligibility to propose a project:

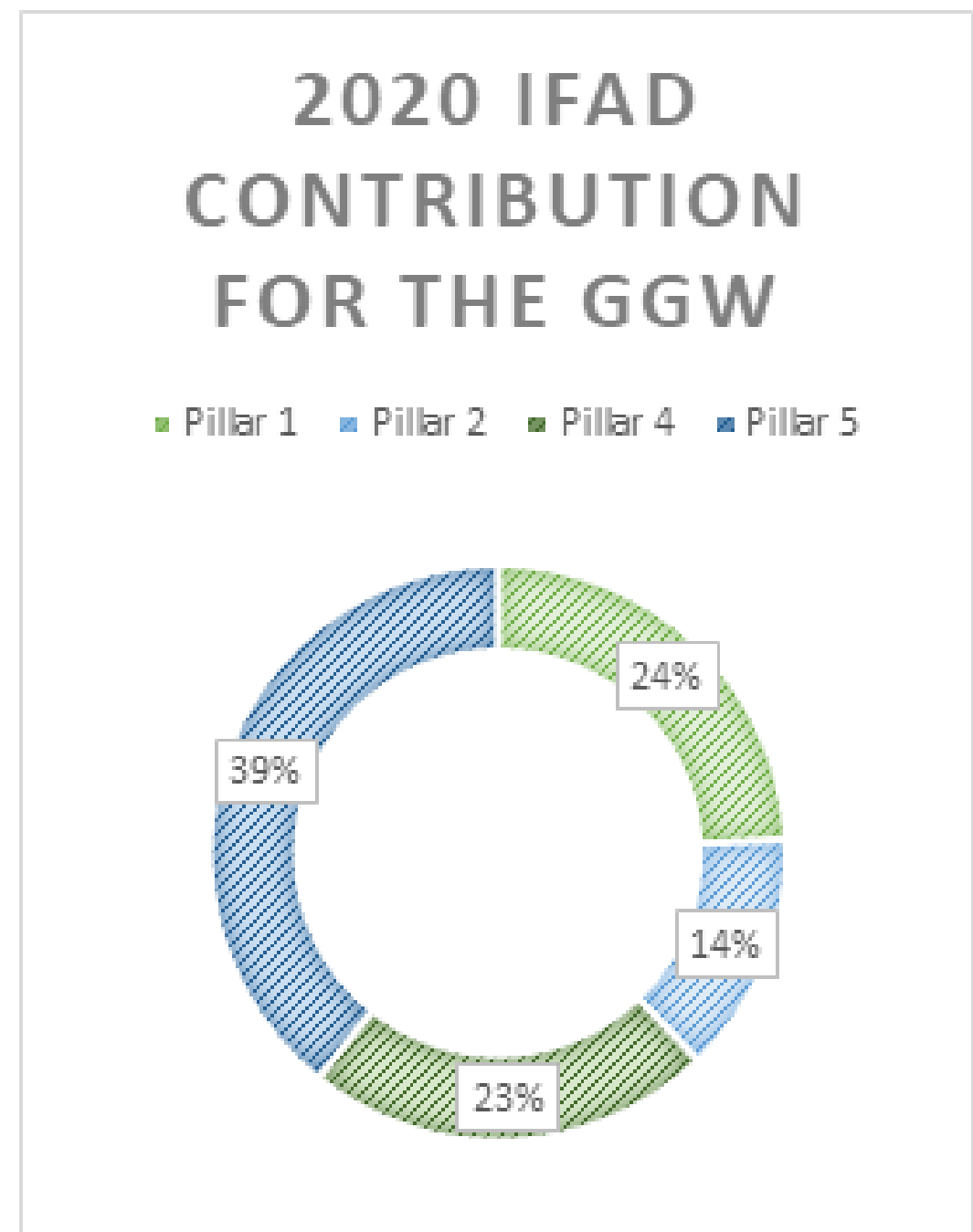
IFAD works in close collaboration with its member countries to co-design its projects. Proposals closely follow priorities established under IFAD Country Strategic Opportunity Programmes that take into consideration country needs and how IFAD's engagement can be most beneficial.

Beyond country specific needs, in all IFAD projects it is essential that the projects be in alignment with IFAD's strategic objectives:

- SO1:** Increase poor rural people's productive capacities
- SO2:** Increase poor rural people's benefits from market participation
- SO3:** Strengthen the environmental sustainability and climate resilience of poor rural people's economic activities

In addition, it is essential that each proposal be in alignment with IFAD's five principles of engagement: (i) targeting, (ii) empowerment, (iii) gender equality, (iv) innovative learning and scaling up and (v) partnerships.

For more information on these criteria, please refer to IFAD's Strategic Framework: 2016-2025 (<https://www.ifad.org/en/web/knowledge/-/ifad-strategic-framework-2016-20-1>)





# THE WORLD BANK

## The World Bank

The World Bank announced its plan to invest more than \$5 billion between 2020 and 2025 across 10 countries of the Sahel, Lake Chad and Horn of Africa regions stretching from Senegal to Djibouti during the One Planet Summit Biodiversity.

The funding will be used to restore degraded landscapes, improve agriculture productivity, increase climate-resilient infrastructure and boost livelihoods and jobs. Through our support, we expect to build corridors of growth and transform the lives of millions of people.

In 2012, the World Bank launched the Sahel and West Africa Program in Support of the Great Green Wall (SAWAP). The Great Green Wall is a Pan-African initiative that aims to restore 100 million hectares of land and create 10 million green jobs by 2030. Financed by over \$1 billion from the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility, SAWAP has brought 1.7 million hectares under sustainable land management and reached over 19 million people.

Going forward, we will focus our efforts on projects we know will boost livelihoods and resilience. Through our experiences in the Sahel, we have learned a few lessons on how to maximize results.

We need to scale up agroforestry practices to improve soil fertility, provide fodder for livestock and improve micro-climates. In Niger, farmer-managed activities to naturally regenerate trees and other native plants resulted in farms with high tree densities and bigger grain production, providing families more food and surplus for sale.

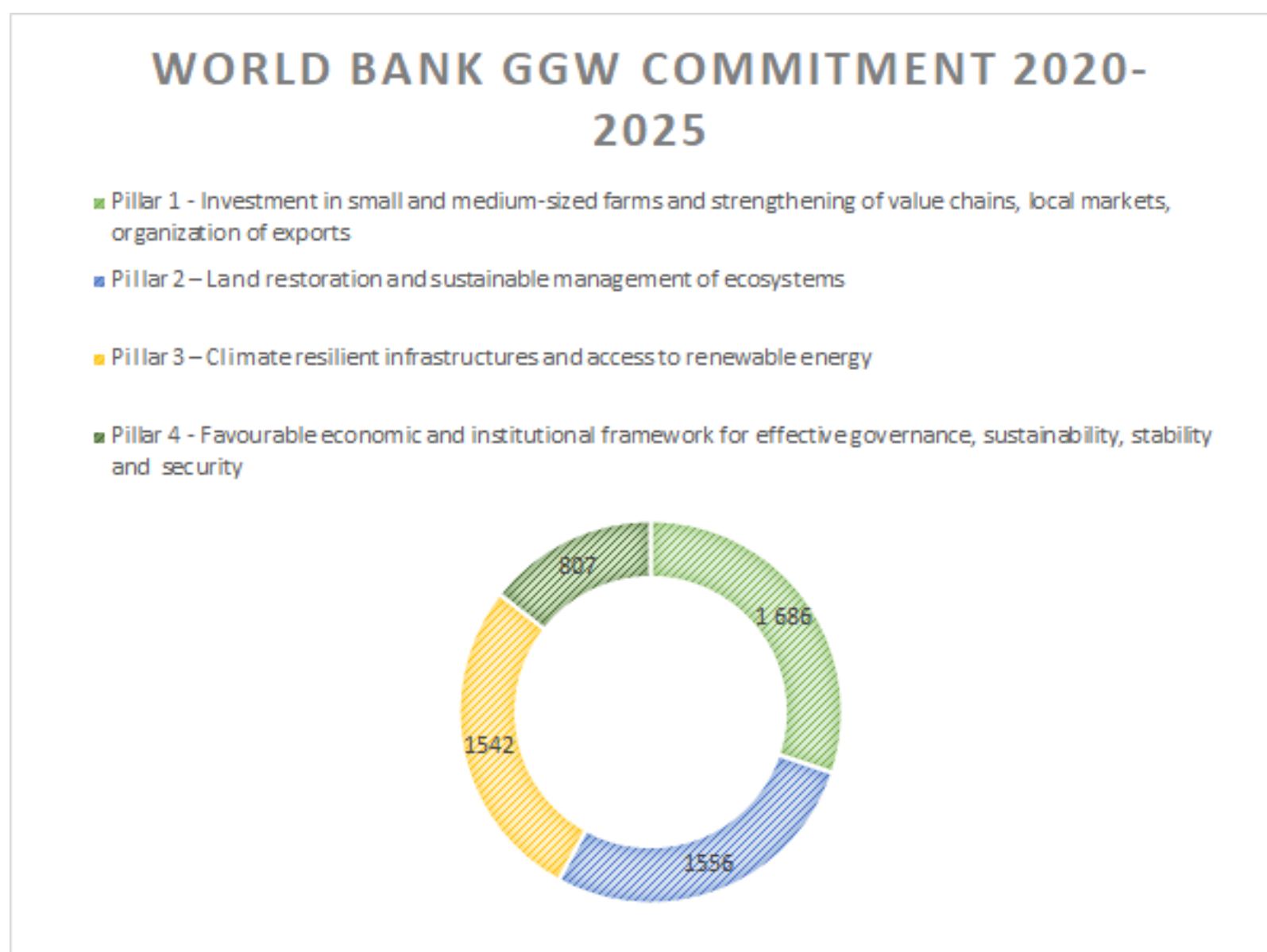
We need to protect and replenish water to collect and concentrate runoff on cultivated areas. In Burkina Faso, for example, efforts to recharge groundwater levels allow farmers to create vegetable gardens, improving food security and even enabling them to sell any surplus.

We must fight erosion and prepare for natural disasters, which are increasingly common as climate change affects weather patterns. In Nigeria, about 2.6 million people are benefiting from the \$900 million Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Project (NEWMAP), which is strengthening the country's preparedness to respond to natural hazards and climate risks and fight erosion. As a result, 16 states have improved erosion risk maps and prepared better-quality catchment management plans, 75 hydromet stations have been installed to provide data for integrated catchment planning and vast areas of eroded gullies have been restored.

We need to strengthen land tenure security, a necessary condition to encourage land-users to sustainably manage their lands. In Ethiopia, in addition to large-scale land restoration, land certificates have been issued to more than 360,200 households, many headed by women. This includes some 10,000 landless youth who received certificates in exchange for restoring degraded communal lands, thereby encouraging young people to invest in making land more productive and conserving soil and water.

With the more than \$5bn we plan to invest to 2025, we will implement over 60 projects using a multi-pronged approach to help strengthen community climate action in Burkina Faso; youth skills development in Chad; women entrepreneurship in Djibouti; agriculture and livestock in Mauritania; water security in Niger; electricity access in Ethiopia; and land tenure in Senegal, to name a few.

Restoring landscapes and livelihoods across the drylands of Africa is about building hope, and we will join forces with communities, countries and partners to make it a reality



### Criteria of eligibility to propose a project:

Agreement between the World Bank Group and the Government as indicated in the Country Partnership Framework.

### More information

World Bank Website : <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/01/11/world-bank-plans-to-invest-over-usd-5-billion-in-drylands-in-africa>



Contact:  
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Email - [ggw@unccd.int](mailto:ggw@unccd.int)  
website - [www.greatgreenwall.org](http://www.greatgreenwall.org)