

REGREENING THE SAHEL — TAKING A CROSS-CONTINENTAL AND LOCAL APPROACH



THE PROBLEM

Spreading instability across Africa's drylands, fueled by poverty and conflict, which:

- Threatens the livelihoods of millions
- Forces massive migration across the region and to Europe
- Tests states' survival and viability

IMPEDIMENTS AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- Grassroots work challenged by conflict
- Over-commitment and under-delivery on climate finance and building resilience
- Scientism around:
 - The Great Green Wall and its ability to deliver locally tailored solutions
 - The territorial development focus approach is compatible with national agricultural strategies in several countries
 - The Sahelian governments ability to develop a decentralized approach that widely recognizes the benefits of spreading economic benefits and opportunities

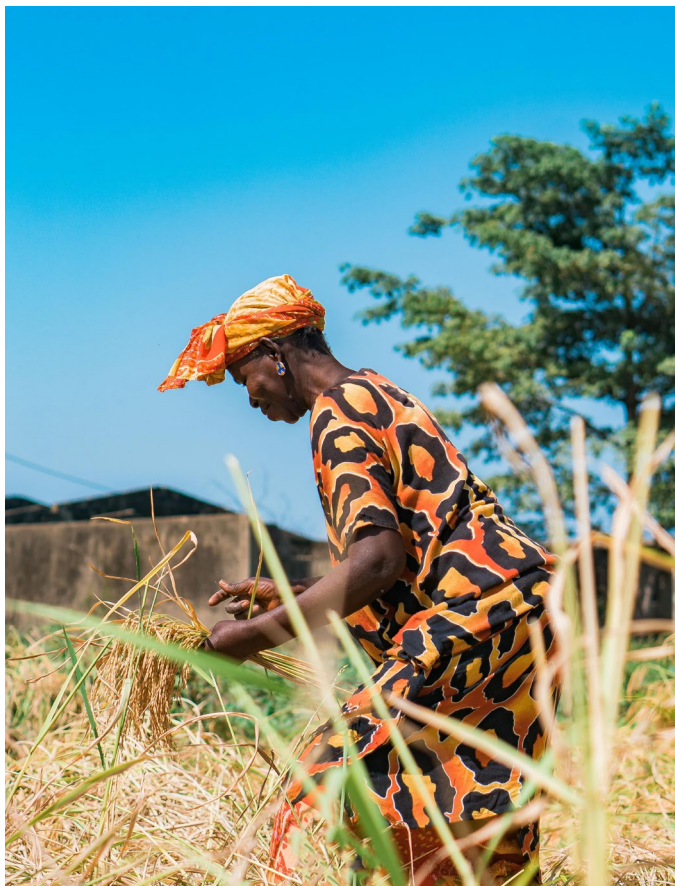
WHAT CAN BE DONE

Restore the viability of landscapes and livelihoods for farmers, herders and the local population, so they can prosper and thrive, through strong, local institutions and positive urban-rural connections.



IN FOCUS: THE GREAT GREEN WALL ACCELERATOR

- 80% of the Sahelian population relies on rain-fed agriculture, but 65% of land is degraded
- Aims to restore the degraded landscapes of the Sahel – 100 million hectares and 10 million jobs by 2030
- When completed will stretch 8,000 km
- Has gained high-level political buy-in and €14bn in funding, but its success requires:
 - Trust between stakeholders at all levels
 - Technical Assistance
 - Identification and mapping of bankable projects
 - Effective channeling of climate finance



CONCRETELY, INVESTMENT NEEDED IN

- Re-building landscapes and livelihoods
- Creating more resilient local production systems
- Establishing effective governance systems
- Delivering basic services such as health and education

MILESTONES

The time leading up to the Africa-EU Summit in early 2022, when the French and Senegalese governments hold the Presidencies of their respective continental unions:

- Senegal feels at risk to conflict and terrorism.
- France has a strong interest in finding long-term solutions for the Sahel's development

ACTIONS NEEDED

1 Establish “Living Labs” to regenerate landscapes and livelihoods across the Sahel, linked to roll-out of the Great Green Wall, and a multi-country/regional platform to bring together experience and lessons learned.

2 Scale-up existing Decentralized Climate Finance (DCF) models to ensure well-governed delivery of funding for building local resilient, sustainable and inclusive agri-food systems.

3 Strengthen links for learning and exchange with parallel EU-wide program of “Living Labs” to build effective local adaptation actions.

4 Ensure Call to Action for ‘Sahel Renaissance’ receives credible, high-level support for policy impact, technical and investment support, and advocacy at both European and Sahelian country level.