

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College
in the University of Toronto presents the

2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Second Interim Compliance Report

27 August 2019 — 3 June 2020

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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Contents

Introduction	3
Research Team	4
Lead Analysts	4
Compliance Analysts	4
Summary	6
The Second Interim Compliance Score	6
Compliance by Member	6
Compliance by Commitment	6
The Compliance Gap Between Members	6
Future Research and Reports	7
Table A: 2019 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment	8
Table B: 2019 G7 Biarritz Second Interim Compliance Scores	10
Table C: 2019 G7 Biarritz Second Interim Compliance Scores by Member	11
Table D: 2019 G7 Biarritz Second Interim Compliance Scores by Commitment	12
1. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure	13
2. Digital Economy: Digital Democracy	27
3. Digital Economy: Artificial Intelligence	49
4. Gender: Gender Equality	74
5. Gender: Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa	96
6. Gender: Women’s Entrepreneurship in Africa	115
7. Gender: STEM Education	142
8. Regional Security: Iran	159
9. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Security and Development	192
10. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Police	217
11. Development: G5 Sahel	234
12. Development: Sustainable Development Goals	256
13. Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa	295
14. Trade: World Trade Organization Reform	310
15. Trade: Tax Policy	321
16. Health: Primary Health Care	340
17. Health: Universal Health Coverage	358
18. Health: Mental Health	423
19. Environment: Biodiversity	440
20. Crime and Corruption: Procurement	472
21. Education: G5 Sahel	482

11. Development: G5 Sahel

“We support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.”

Sahel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.50 (75%)	

Background

The Sahel region has been a focus of the international community throughout the past decade, facing escalating instability catalyzed by challenges to the region’s agriculture and farming industries. “Since the 1970s, the Sahel has experienced drought conditions on a regular basis,”¹⁷¹² which some scientists attribute to climate change.¹⁷¹³ In 2012, an estimated 19 million people became food insecure due to “late, erratic rainfall, high food prices, displacement and chronic poverty.”¹⁷¹⁴ Immediate responses attempted to tackle the most pressing issues: rising food prices and low agricultural production; chronic food insecurity and malnutrition; and rising violence in northern Mali, causing high numbers of internally displaced persons and refugees.¹⁷¹⁵ However, mounting conflict has triggered the need for a stronger and more unified international strategy for tackling the profound, multifaceted issues embedded in the Sahel conflict. Adverse conditions are expected to become increasingly complex and severe as the Sahel’s population is predicted to double by 2040, while inequality rises particularly amongst women and youth, and as climate change continues to present unexpected challenges to the region’s agriculture.¹⁷¹⁶

The international community has since banded together by establishing new platforms to facilitate regional cooperation, cross-sectoral knowledge sharing, and international partnerships between diverse stakeholders with the aim to invest in sustainable development. Countries first took a security approach to establishing long-term peace and development in the region. In 2011, the international community – including all G7 (previously G8) members ¹⁷¹⁷ – established the Global Counterterrorism Forum to discuss, ideate, and promote strategies to counter terrorism and violent

¹⁷¹² Droughts — Case study: the impact of drought in a developing country – the Sahel, BBC. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zt9ncwx/revision/4>.

¹⁷¹³ Analysis: Understanding the Sahel drought, Steff Gaultier, Al Jazeera, 22 June 2012. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/spotlight/saheldrought/2012/06/2012616174721352901.html>.

¹⁷¹⁴ Sahel Crisis — A Call to Action, Food and Agriculture Association of the United Nations, June 2012. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/resources/videos/video-detail/en/c/150327>.

¹⁷¹⁵ Sahel Regional Strategy 2013, United Nations, December 2012. Access date: 17 November 2019. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/SahelStrategy2013_Dec2012.pdf.

¹⁷¹⁶ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communique, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷¹⁷ Members and Partners, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/About-us/Members-and-partners>.

extremism.¹⁷¹⁸ Since the Forum's establishment, it has focused on the Sahel region.¹⁷¹⁹ Its current working group for capacity-building in the West Africa Region directly focuses on identifying solutions to issues in the Sahel, such as "enhancing international police cooperation," "countering terrorist financing," and "border security management."¹⁷²⁰

In 2012, leaders at the Camp David Summit highlighted the need to improve food security and nutrition in collaboration with African partners.¹⁷²¹ By increasing public policy and investment in sustainable agriculture, as well as attracting more private capital, G8 leaders hoped to support the global need for sustainable development through agricultural investment.¹⁷²² This mission led to the launch of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa, through which participating African countries shared their policy commitments and future private investment partners through a "country cooperation framework."¹⁷²³

The 2013 Lough Erne Summit focused on economic strategies as agents of change to drive international prosperity by engaging private finance.¹⁷²⁴ British Prime Minister David Cameron advocated to "unleash the power of the private sector" in order to "support the development of open economies, open governments and open societies" by "advancing trade, ensuring tax compliance, and promoting greater transparency."¹⁷²⁵ Among the summit's commitments include: reducing "global imbalances" through macroeconomic policy; collaborating with the private sector, international financial institutions, and other international partners to facilitate the finance of "bankable trade-related infrastructure projects," particularly in Africa; and enhancing counter-terrorism efforts by tackling recruitment and radicalization, as well as providing support for vulnerable communities.¹⁷²⁶ Prior to the summit, G8 foreign ministers highlighted the Sahel as a focal region in need of support during a meeting to discuss international issues impacting foreign peace and security.¹⁷²⁷

After the unexpected magnitude of the 2014 Ebola crisis, G7 members drafted an agenda "in close cooperation with the African Union and other African regional organisations (EAC [East African Community], ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], IGAD [Intergovernmental Authority on Development])" to strengthen and expand upon pre-existing security frameworks.¹⁷²⁸

¹⁷¹⁸ Background and Mission, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/About-us/Background-and-Mission>.

¹⁷¹⁹ Capacity-building in the West Africa Region, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/Working-Groups/Sahel-Region-Capacity-Building>.

¹⁷²⁰ Capacity-building in the West Africa Region, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/Working-Groups/Sahel-Region-Capacity-Building>.

¹⁷²¹ Camp David Declaration, 19 May 2019. Access date 19 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>.

¹⁷²² Camp David Declaration, 19 May 2019. Access date 19 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>.

¹⁷²³ The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2015. Access date: 24 November 2019. <http://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/en/c/384055/>.

¹⁷²⁴ A G8 Meeting That Goes Back to First Principles, David Cameron, 21 November 2012. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/121121-cameron.html>.

¹⁷²⁵ A G8 Meeting That Goes Back to First Principles, David Cameron, 21 November 2012. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/121121-cameron.html>.

¹⁷²⁶ 2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group, 5 June 2018. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2013compliance-final/2013-g8-compliance-final.pdf>.

¹⁷²⁷ G8 Foreign Ministers' meeting statement, G8 UK United Kingdom 2013, 11 April 2013. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin130411.html>.

¹⁷²⁸ Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa, G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Lübeck, 15 April 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/150415-G7_Africa_Agenda.pdf.

The Ebola crisis, which instigated “the first UN Mission to tackle a health security challenge,” generated widespread support from nations, non-governmental agencies, international financial institutions, and private sector.¹⁷²⁹ The agenda “[supported] capacity building with governments, regional bodies, civil societies and the private sector on crisis management and crisis communication as well as awareness-raising” for future epidemics.¹⁷³⁰ However, these relationships are necessary to tackle the cross-border, multi-sectoral challenges the Sahel faces beyond health security.

The G5 Sahel Joint Force was established in 2014 as a security strategy in response to the growing instability, threats, and violence in the region.¹⁷³¹ The region’s challenges revolve around porous borders and power vacuums, leading to organized crime and the trafficking of humans, drugs, and arms.¹⁷³² The result is forced displacement, which further perpetuates the cycles of instability and crime. As residents flee and illicit activity rises, terrorist organizations can expand their influence and sources of revenue.¹⁷³³

In a continuation of the security concerns that led to the establishment of the Global Counterterrorism Forum in 2011, the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit committed to advancing nonproliferation by “strengthening the system of multilateral treaties and ... the Arms Trade Treaty.”¹⁷³⁴ Germany partnered with members of the African Union to monitor and control the movement of arms in the Sahel, focusing on small arms and light weapons as well as physical security and stockpile management.¹⁷³⁵

At the 2017 G7 foreign ministers’ meeting, ministers agreed to “enhance cooperation” and “continue to support the efforts of the Sahel and Lake Chad Basin countries to fight terrorism and organized crime,” particularly against Boko Haram.¹⁷³⁶ France, Germany, and the European Union launched the Sahel Alliance to provide an effective response through initiatives simultaneously tackling security and sustainable development.¹⁷³⁷ Partnering countries, international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations collaborate on projects targeting priority fields, implementing new modes of action, and focusing on the most vulnerable regions.¹⁷³⁸

The Sahel Alliance has engaged projects on the principle of mutual accountability to help partners tangibly meet and measure their collective goals.¹⁷³⁹ Among the Alliance’s biggest projects include

¹⁷²⁹ Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa, G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Lübeck, 15 April 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/150415-G7_Africa_Agenda.pdf.

¹⁷³⁰ Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa, G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Lübeck, G7 Research Group, 15 April 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/150415-G7_Africa_Agenda.pdf.

¹⁷³¹ The G5 Sahel Task Force Gains Traction, Africa Centre for Strategic Studies, 9 February 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/g5-sahel-joint-force-gains-traction>.

¹⁷³² The G5 Sahel Task Force Gains Traction, Africa Centre for Strategic Studies, 9 February 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/g5-sahel-joint-force-gains-traction>.

¹⁷³³ G5 Sahel Joint Force, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York, 5 November 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/G5-Sahel-Joint-Force-10433>.

¹⁷³⁴ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit 2015, G7 Research Group, 8 June 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹⁷³⁵ 8. Nonproliferation: Arms Trade — 2015 Schloss Elmau G7 Summit Final Compliance Report, G7 Research Group, 23 May 2016. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2015compliance-final/2015-g7-compliance-final-160523.pdf>.

¹⁷³⁶ 2017 G7 Foreign Ministers’ Commitments, G7 Research Group, 11 April 2017. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/foreign-commitments-2017.html>.

¹⁷³⁷ The Sahel Alliance. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance>.

¹⁷³⁸ The Sahel Alliance. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance>.

¹⁷³⁹ The Sahel Alliance. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance>.

bolstering pastoralism throughout the region.¹⁷⁴⁰ Through private-public partnerships, investment in pastoralism can contribute to the perpetuation of regional sustainable agriculture through increased livestock services, resource management, and entrepreneurship among targeted disadvantaged communities.¹⁷⁴¹ Since its implementation, veterinary services, disease control, and infrastructure have all expanded.¹⁷⁴²

World leaders and international stakeholders met in August 2019 to announce the Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership.¹⁷⁴³ The Partnership establishes multilateral commitments to support development by promoting female entrepreneurship, promoting accessible digital transformation, and fighting corruption in public procurement through partnerships between “governments, businesses and civil society organizations.”¹⁷⁴⁴

On July 4, 2019, members from G7 and G5 Sahel countries released the Joint Paris G7/G5 Sahel Communiqué.¹⁷⁴⁵ Prior to the Biarritz Summit, stakeholder representatives from both groups met to discuss the region’s mounting instability and committed to “strong partnerships and coordinated action.”¹⁷⁴⁶ The Communiqué asserted the G7’s unanimous commitment to the Sahel by announcing “all G7 members are now part of [the Sahel Alliance], as either members or observers.”¹⁷⁴⁷ The Communiqué highlighted the importance for G5 Sahel countries to first “improve governance, domestic resource mobilization, increase budget expenditures and strengthen institutional capacity for the provision of quality basic services to all, without discrimination,” then called for “the international community, to support these efforts with enhanced, coherent and coordinated support.”¹⁷⁴⁸ This document offers a clear blueprint for the 18th commitment for development in G5 Sahel countries made at Biarritz weeks later.

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment is to “support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.” “Facilitating” is understood as “to help bring about.”¹⁷⁴⁹ In this context, facilitating would mean to provide the resources and/or connections through which G5 Sahel countries could access all available public and private finance. The Sahel Alliance’s Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism demonstrates facilitating private-public partnerships. It is a project implemented by the World Bank that works with Sahel Alliance partners to devise and implement development strategies that create opportunities for private financing. The project incorporated professional organizations into the plan and focused on creating new markets to boost market access.

¹⁷⁴⁰ Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism, Sahel Alliance, 30 June 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/projects/regional-sahel-pastoralism-support-project-praps>.

¹⁷⁴¹ Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism, Sahel Alliance, 30 June 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/projects/regional-sahel-pastoralism-support-project-praps>.

¹⁷⁴² Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism, Sahel Alliance, 30 June 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/projects/regional-sahel-pastoralism-support-project-praps>.

¹⁷⁴³ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Research Group, 26 August 2019. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>.

¹⁷⁴⁴ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Research Group, 26 August 2019. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>.

¹⁷⁴⁵ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁶ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁷ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁸ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁹ Facilitate, Merriam-Webster. Access date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/facilitate>.

“Increased access” is understood as further contributing to the efforts of previous G7 commitments to provide G5 countries with “the right to obtain or make use of”¹⁷⁵⁰ public and private finance. In this context, increased access is a reaffirmation of the G7’s commitments to supporting G5 Sahel states by continuing to support productive development initiatives through public and private finance.

“G5 countries” is understood as the group of five countries from the Sahel region formed in 2014, comprising Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad.¹⁷⁵¹

“Public finance” is understood as financial resources and investment from publicly funded institutions, namely governments and government-funded organizations (for example, the International Monetary Fund or World Bank Group). In this context, public finance can be interpreted as financial resources and/or aid potentially accessible and/or available to G5 Sahel countries from G7 governments.

“Private finance” is understood as financial resources and investment from privately owned and/or operated organizations, namely companies. In this context, private finance can be interpreted as resources and/or investment potentially accessible and/or available to G5 Sahel countries from privately owned entities. Examples of private finance could include private investments in the G5 Sahel’s agriculture industry or developments in the Group’s green energy sector (i.e. solar or wind).

To achieve full compliance and a score of +1, G7 members must: 1. facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public finance, and 2. facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available private finance.

If only one of two thresholds of this commitment is fulfilled, G7 members will be considered in partial compliance and will thus receive a score of 0. For instance, if a G7 member facilitates increased access of G5 Sahel countries to available public funds, but does not facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to available private funds, the country will be considered in partial compliance.

A country will be considered in no compliance if a no demonstrable action is taken to fulfill neither component of this commitment, and will consequently receive a score of -1.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does NOT facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to any available public or private finance.
0	G7 member facilitates increased access of G5 Sahel countries to any available public OR private finance.
+1	G7 member facilitates increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public AND private finance.

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Lead Analyst: Ninar Fawal*

¹⁷⁵⁰ Increased, Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, 27 September 2017. Access date: 13 October 2019; Access, Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, 27 September 2017. Access date: 13 October 2019.

¹⁷⁵¹ Le G5 Sahel, Secretariat permanent du G5 Sahel, 29 September 2015. Access date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel>.

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 December 2019, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), of which Canada is a member, adopted the “Support to the Sahel Region” resolution that focused on better coordinating support to the Sahel region.¹⁷⁵² ECOSOC also called on international financial institutions to provide support to the Sahel region in coordination with the United Nations and other organizations.¹⁷⁵³ ECOSOC also stressed the need to provide opportunities for young people in the Sahel.¹⁷⁵⁴

On 10 February 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to supporting the African Development Bank, and announced that Canada will contribute CAD355.2 million over three years for the 15th replenishment of the African Development Fund.¹⁷⁵⁵ He also announced that Canada will invest CAD4.8 million to ACUMEN, an international non-profit organization, in order to help provide leadership training to 200 youth leaders and support women-led businesses serving conflict-affected communities.¹⁷⁵⁶

On 10 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada will hold the first high-level consultations with the African Union Commission, of which Burkina Faso is a commissioner.¹⁷⁵⁷ The consultations are set to focus on common priorities including trade policy.¹⁷⁵⁸

On 8 May 2020, Canada’s Development Minister Karina Gould stated that the Canadian government is pushing international actors to provide debt relief to Africa in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁷⁵⁹ She stated the government is advocating for this in order to help fight threats of hunger, economic ruin, and terrorism as the pandemic continues, referring specifically to the Sahel

¹⁷⁵² Economic and Social Council Adopts Resolution on Better Coordinating Support to Sahel Region, Fills Positions in Subsidiary Bodies, UN-Women, United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ecosoc7016.doc.htm>.

¹⁷⁵³ Economic and Social Council Adopts Resolution on Better Coordinating Support to Sahel Region, Fills Positions in Subsidiary Bodies, UN-Women, United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ecosoc7016.doc.htm>.

¹⁷⁵⁴ Economic and Social Council Adopts Resolution on Better Coordinating Support to Sahel Region, Fills Positions in Subsidiary Bodies, UN-Women, United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ecosoc7016.doc.htm>.

¹⁷⁵⁵ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁶ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁷ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁸ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁹ Coronavirus: Canada pushing for debt relief to Africa, minister says (Toronto) 8 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6922522/coronavirus-africa-debt-relief/>.

region.¹⁷⁶⁰ She also stated that Canada is looking to do this in response to the United Nations' recent increase in budget aimed at fighting the pandemic globally.¹⁷⁶¹

Through its membership to ECOSOC and its support of multilateral cooperation with international financial institutions to promote development in the Sahel region, Canada has partially complied with the commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ninar Fawal

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 17 September 2019, Proparco, the private services arm of the Agence Française de Développement (AfD),¹⁷⁶² signed a EUR25 million subordinated loan with French multinational bank Société Générale as part of AfD Group's Choose Africa initiative.¹⁷⁶³ The loan will allow the bank's Burkina Faso division to continue its financing of local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).¹⁷⁶⁴ These funds will support approximately 10,000 SMEs through tools and financing to develop their businesses in collaboration with local partners.¹⁷⁶⁵

On 9 and 10 October 2019, AfD hosted the "Energy Access in the G5 Sahel Countries" Conference to promote energy access in the Sahel countries and aim to double the access to energy by 2022.¹⁷⁶⁶ The event was hosted in conjunction with the World Bank, the European Union, and the Coordination Unit of the Sahel Alliance.¹⁷⁶⁷

¹⁷⁶⁰ Coronavirus: Canada pushing for debt relief to Africa, minister says (Toronto) 8 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6922522/coronavirus-africa-debt-relief/>.

¹⁷⁶¹ Coronavirus: Canada pushing for debt relief to Africa, minister says (Toronto) 8 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6922522/coronavirus-africa-debt-relief/>.

¹⁷⁶² A Financial Institution Working for the Private Sector and Sustainable Development, Proparco, Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/financial-institution-working-private-sector-and-sustainable-development>.

¹⁷⁶³ Identity, About us, Société Générale (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.societegenerale.com/en/about-us/identity>.

¹⁷⁶⁴ Proparco signs a loan with Société Générale Burkina Faso to support the country's SMEs, Proparco, Group Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-signs-loan-societe-generale-burkina-faso-support-countrys-smes>.

¹⁷⁶⁵ Proparco signs a loan with Société Générale Burkina Faso to support the country's SMEs, Proparco, Group Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-signs-loan-societe-generale-burkina-faso-support-countrys-smes>.

¹⁷⁶⁶ Access to electricity in Sahel doubled by 2022 – Synthesis of the Conference, Agence Française de développement (Paris) November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/ressources/access-electricity-sahel-doubled-2022-synthesis-conference>.

¹⁷⁶⁷ Access to electricity in Sahel doubled by 2022 – Synthesis of the Conference, Agence Française de développement (Paris) November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/ressources/access-electricity-sahel-doubled-2022-synthesis-conference>.

On 10 and 11 October 2019, the Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, affirmed France's commitment to make further investments in human development and stabilization efforts in the Sahel.¹⁷⁶⁸

On 20 November 2019, the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Nicolas de Rivière, announced France was allocating EUR522 million in funding for the G5 Sahel Priority Investment Programme for 2019 and 2020.¹⁷⁶⁹ The funding was done in conjunction with assurance of increased French security presence in the Sahel region.¹⁷⁷⁰

On 11 December 2019, Proparco partnered with Attijari bank Mauritania to provide EUR5.5 million in loans for Mauritanian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).¹⁷⁷¹ The financing consisted of two types of loans: ARIZ-guaranteed loans¹⁷⁷² between EUR10,000 to EUR300,000, totalling EUR3 million, and EURIZ-guaranteed loans¹⁷⁷³ to societally important sectors ranging from EUR 5,000 to EUR 100,000, totalling in EUR2.5 million.¹⁷⁷⁴ About 140 Mauritanian SMEs are expected to benefit from the loans.¹⁷⁷⁵

On 6 April 2020, Proparco granted ACEP Niger, Niger's second largest microfinance institution, a XOF1.5 billion loan to support entrepreneurs.¹⁷⁷⁶ The loan was distributed with the hopes of helping over 35,000 entrepreneurs.¹⁷⁷⁷

On 8 April 2020, the AFD announced the "COVID-19 – Health in Common" initiative, which will consist of deploying EUR1.2 billion in bilateral resources and funds to support African countries

¹⁷⁶⁸ OECD/Development Assistance Committee – Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne attending the Tidewater meeting of development ministers, France Diplomatie (Lyon) 10-11 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/news-2019/article/oeecd-development-assistance-committee-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-attending-the>.

¹⁷⁶⁹ Statement by Mr. Nicolas de Rivière, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Permanent Mission of France (New York) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>.

¹⁷⁷⁰ Statement by Mr. Nicolas de Rivière, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Permanent Mission of France (New York) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>.

¹⁷⁷¹ Proparco and Attijari Bank Mauritania facilitate access to finance for Mauritanian SMEs, Proparco, Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-attijari-bank-mauritania-facilitate-access-finance-mauritanian-smes>.

¹⁷⁷² Guarantees: an instrument to mobilize local instruments, Agence Française de Développement (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/guarantees-instrument-mobilize-local-instruments>.

¹⁷⁷³ Launch of the EURIZ guarantee - €181 million to facilitate MSMEs' access to credit in Africa and the Caribbean, Proparco, Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/launch-euriz-guarantee-eu181-million-facilitate-msmes-access-credit-africa-and-caribbean>.

¹⁷⁷⁴ Proparco and Attijari Bank Mauritania facilitate access to finance for Mauritanian SMEs, Proparco, Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-attijari-bank-mauritania-facilitate-access-finance-mauritanian-smes>.

¹⁷⁷⁵ Proparco and Attijari Bank Mauritania facilitate access to finance for Mauritanian SMEs, Proparco, Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-attijari-bank-mauritania-facilitate-access-finance-mauritanian-smes>.

¹⁷⁷⁶ Proparco and ACEP Niger support entrepreneurs in Niger, Proparco Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 06 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-acep-niger-support-entrepreneurs-niger>.

¹⁷⁷⁷ Proparco and ACEP Niger support entrepreneurs in Niger, Proparco Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 06 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-acep-niger-support-entrepreneurs-niger>.

during the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁷⁷⁸ The plan includes EUR150 million in donations, and EUR1 billion in loans to assist partner countries and development banks.¹⁷⁷⁹

On 17 April 2020, Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne took part in the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.¹⁷⁸⁰ The meeting reviewed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in developing countries and discussed the USD14 billion plan adopted by the World Bank to fund almost 100 projects globally, a third of which are in sub-Saharan Africa.¹⁷⁸¹ Moreover, the meeting reviewed a plan to put together a USD160 billion package focusing on macro-economic support, and discussed the possibility of a moratorium on debt service for the poorest countries during the pandemic.¹⁷⁸²

By making public funds available through Afd initiatives, and collaborating with industry leaders to support the development of local private industries in the Sahel region, France has fully complied with the commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Geoffrey Burrows

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 October 2019, Germany increased its pledge to the Global Fund to EUR1 billion.¹⁷⁸³ The Global Fund aims to battle HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria with the ultimate goal of “[enhancing] the quality of life for people living with the diseases and [strengthening] national health and community systems.”¹⁷⁸⁴

¹⁷⁷⁸ France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020) (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>.

¹⁷⁷⁹ France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020) (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>.

¹⁷⁸⁰ World Bank / IMF - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne taking part in the Development Committee meeting (17 Apr. 2020) (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/world-bank-imf-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-taking-part-in-the-development-committee>.

¹⁷⁸¹ World Bank / IMF - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne taking part in the Development Committee meeting (17 Apr. 2020) (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/world-bank-imf-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-taking-part-in-the-development-committee>.

¹⁷⁸² World Bank / IMF - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne taking part in the Development Committee meeting (17 Apr. 2020) (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/world-bank-imf-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-taking-part-in-the-development-committee>.

¹⁷⁸³ Global Fund raises US\$14.02 billion to end epidemics, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://health.bmz.de/events/Events_2019/global_fund_raises_14_billion_end_epidemics/index.html.

¹⁷⁸⁴ Global Fund raises US\$14.02 billion to end epidemics, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://health.bmz.de/events/Events_2019/global_fund_raises_14_billion_end_epidemics/index.html.

On 12 November 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel met in Berlin with the G20 Compact with Africa countries, including Burkina Faso, “to discuss opportunities to enhance the business environment and increase investment in African countries.”¹⁷⁸⁵ Chancellor Merkel took this opportunity to highlight Germany’s new investment fund in Africa, which will foster private European investment in Africa, support German companies navigating the legal and economic frameworks of African countries, and facilitate funding for small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa.¹⁷⁸⁶

On 12 November 2019, at the World Population Summit in Nairobi, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) announced Germany would increase its family planning initiatives and establish new maternity centres in Niger.¹⁷⁸⁷

On 19 November 2019, Development Minister Gerd Müller reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to supporting African businesses with the goal to create “a better enabling environment for investment in our reform partner countries.”¹⁷⁸⁸ Minister Müller pointed to the implementation of the new investment fund, through which Germany has made a total of EUR1 billion available to private European and African companies to foster increased cooperation and investment between both continents.¹⁷⁸⁹

Between 20 and 22 November 2019, Germany, as head of the Sahel Alliance’s decentralization group, co-organized a “regional workshop on decentralisation and governance as a vector of peace and stability in Sahel” in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme.¹⁷⁹⁰ The meeting concluded with the commitment to focus on “improving public finance management with a view to increased mobilisation of domestic resources and their better use.”¹⁷⁹¹

On 12 December 2019, an emergency project for border stabilization led by Germany’s development agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH,¹⁷⁹² received a

¹⁷⁸⁵ Compact with Africa High-Level Conference, G20 Compact with Africa. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/events/CompactwithAfricaHigh-LevelConference.html>.

¹⁷⁸⁶ Compact with Africa High-Level Conference, G20 Compact with Africa. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/events/CompactwithAfricaHigh-LevelConference.html>.

¹⁷⁸⁷ Germany steps up its international efforts for family planning, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191112_pm_064_Germany-steps-up-its-international-efforts-for-family-planning/index.html.

¹⁷⁸⁸ Minister Müller on the G20 Africa summit: Our offer for the private sector stands, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191119_pm_067_Minister-Mueller-on-the-G20-Africa-summit-Our-offer-for-the-private-sector-stands/index.html.

¹⁷⁸⁹ Minister Müller on the G20 Africa summit: Our offer for the private sector stands, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191119_pm_067_Minister-Mueller-on-the-G20-Africa-summit-Our-offer-for-the-private-sector-stands/index.html.

¹⁷⁹⁰ Sahel: collective intelligence serving decentralising and governance, Sahel Alliance, 13 January 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://medium.com/@sahelalliance/sahel-collective-intelligence-serving-decentralising-and-governance-1abfe82f70fc>.

¹⁷⁹¹ Sahel: collective intelligence serving decentralising and governance, Sahel Alliance, 13 January 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://medium.com/@sahelalliance/sahel-collective-intelligence-serving-decentralising-and-governance-1abfe82f70fc>.

¹⁷⁹² Programme d’urgence pour la stabilisation des espaces frontaliers du G5 Sahel (PDU), European Commission (Brussels). Access Date: 29 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/region/sahel-lake-chad/regional/programme-durgence-pour-la-stabilisation-des-espaces-frontaliers-du-g5_en.

further EUR45.23 million.¹⁷⁹³ Following an increase in armed attacks in the region between Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, the funds will be directed to improving living conditions, such as access to water and sanitation, food security, and general social cohesion.¹⁷⁹⁴

In late 2019, GIZ continued its commitment to sustainable economic cooperation with African countries by continuing its AFRIKA KOMMT! program for a 2020-2022 cycle.¹⁷⁹⁵ The program, implemented on behalf of the private sector, trains young professionals and managers from sub-Saharan Africa in Germany.¹⁷⁹⁶ This program enables German companies to increase their cooperation and investment in African industries, learn from diverse perspectives, and support organizations looking to expand in the sub-Saharan markets.¹⁷⁹⁷

On 3 February 2020, Minister Müller announced Germany was working toward a new strategy to stabilize the region, and strengthen their missions in the Sahel and surrounding region.¹⁷⁹⁸ “The focus is on modernising agricultural methods, improving water supply and creating jobs and training opportunities. Only if people can see a future for themselves will we be able to effectively curb radicalisation, terrorism, forced displacement and people trafficking.”¹⁷⁹⁹

Other German-led projects currently targeting G5 Sahel countries include: promotion of productive agriculture¹⁸⁰⁰; vocational training for start-ups in Niger (ProEMPLOI)¹⁸⁰¹; promotion of national decentralisation and good governance¹⁸⁰²; green innovation centres for the agriculture and food sector¹⁸⁰³; more fish and income from sustainable fisheries and aquaculture¹⁸⁰⁴; and promotion of employment and occupational integration in rural areas.¹⁸⁰⁵

¹⁷⁹³ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁷⁹⁴ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁷⁹⁵ AFRIKA KOMMT! An Initiative of German Industry for Future Leaders from Africa, AFRIKA KOMMT! (Düsseldorf).

Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://afrika-kommt.de>.

¹⁷⁹⁶ AFRIKA KOMMT! (Africa is coming!) – a training programme for young managers, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (Düsseldorf) November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/9611.html>.

¹⁷⁹⁷ AFRIKA KOMMT! (Africa is coming!) – a training programme for young managers, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (Düsseldorf) November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/9611.html>

¹⁷⁹⁸ Development Minister Gerd Müller on the eve of his tour of Nigeria, Sudan and Egypt, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/februar/200203_Development-Minister-Gerd-Mueller-on-the-eve-of-his-tour-of-Nigeria-Sudan-and-Egypt/index.html.

¹⁷⁹⁹ Development Minister Gerd Müller on the eve of his tour of Nigeria, Sudan and Egypt, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/februar/200203_Development-Minister-Gerd-Mueller-on-the-eve-of-his-tour-of-Nigeria-Sudan-and-Egypt/index.html.

¹⁸⁰⁰ Promotion of productive agriculture, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/23343.html>.

¹⁸⁰¹ Improving employment and income opportunities, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/57419.html>.

¹⁸⁰² Promotion of national decentralisation and good governance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/23276.html>.

¹⁸⁰³ Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector (GIC), Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/32209.html>.

By financing programs that foster increased collaboration and investment between Germany and African countries, as well as investing in projects to improve quality of life in the Sahel region, Germany has fully complied with the commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Philip Schwarz

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 November 2019, the Italian Development Bank Cassa Depositi e Prestiti signed a EUR30 million financial guarantee agreement with the European Commission and the African Development Bank.¹⁸⁰⁶ This guarantee, called “Archipelagos One4A – One Platform for Africa” will generate 50,000 jobs and support 1,500 small African businesses by enabling financing partners to divide the risk of investments.¹⁸⁰⁷ Along with the FMO Ventures Programme, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the agreements “will help to boost access o finance for small businesses, notably in the tech sector – and create up to 175,000 jobs directly and indirectly.”¹⁸⁰⁸

Italy has taken some action toward facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Philip Schwarz

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

Between 28 and 30 August 2019, Japan held the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) in Yokohama aimed at improving political, economic, and cultural relations between Japan and African states.¹⁸⁰⁹ The Special Conference of Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region took place on the first day and addressed several key areas, including development assistance,

¹⁸⁰⁴ More fish and income from sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/78737.html>.

¹⁸⁰⁵ Promotion of employment and occupational integration in rural areas, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/62597.html>.

¹⁸⁰⁶ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁰⁷ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁰⁸ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁰⁹ A New Stage in Japan-Africa Partnership, Les Echos (Paris) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.lesechos.fr/idees-debats/cercle/vers-une-nouvelle-etape-du-partenariat-japon-afrique-1126885>.

global cooperation, and assistance for refugees and internally displaced persons.¹⁸¹⁰ During this conference, Japan “shared the importance of effective support from donor countries and international organizations” to support development efforts in such areas as health, education, and infrastructure.¹⁸¹¹ Japan also renewed its commitments to contributing to the Sahel Partnership Action Plan, and “strengthening the coordination of their efforts” to enhance peace and stability in the Sahel region.¹⁸¹²

On 28 August 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with Mauritanian Prime Minister Ismail Ould Bedda Ould Cheikh Sidiya. During the exchange, Prime Minister Abe commented on “his intention to support countermeasures against terrorism and illegal immigrants as well as improving food security in Mauritania, with the aim of assisting the G5 Sahel’s efforts.”¹⁸¹³ He reaffirmed his commitment to investment in the Mauritanian fisheries industry,¹⁸¹⁴ mentioning a grant aid both countries signed in February 2019.¹⁸¹⁵ Furthermore, Prime Minister Sidiya noted his expectations for Japan’s contributions toward creating an improved environment for business and investment in Mauritania.¹⁸¹⁶

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe met with the President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, whereby Japan pledged to support the West Africa “Growth Ring” network through better road infrastructure to improve connectivity between West African states including the G5 Sahel.¹⁸¹⁷

On 29 August 2019, Foreign Minister Taro Kono and Minister of Economy and Development Planning Issa Doubragne of Chad, held a meeting where Japan expressed its intention to promote private Japanese companies’ investment in Chad to strengthen economic relations between the two nations.¹⁸¹⁸

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe held a summit meeting with Nigerien President Issoufou Mahamadou, where Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to support counter-terrorism as well

¹⁸¹⁰ Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹¹ Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹² Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹³ Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹⁴ Japan-Mauritania Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/mr/page3e_001076.html

¹⁸¹⁵ Signing of Grant Agreement with Mauritania: Contributing to enhancing capacity of sanitary inspection and analysis of fishery and aquaculture product through the construction of a sanitary inspection and analysis laboratory and the provision of equipment, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190228_01.html.

¹⁸¹⁶ Japan-Mauritania Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/mr/page3e_001076.html.

¹⁸¹⁷ Japan-Burkina Faso Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000323.html.

¹⁸¹⁸ Meeting between Foreign Minister Kono and Doubragne, Minister of Economy and Development Planning of the Republic of Chad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/td/page3e_001090.html.

as irrigation agriculture and food security through humanitarian and development assistance within the context of G5 Sahel aid.¹⁸¹⁹

On 30 August 2019, at the conclusion of the TICAD7, the Yokohama Declaration was put forward.¹⁸²⁰ This encouraged the promotion of sustainable and inclusive trade within the newly established African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), an agreement that includes all 55 member states of the African Union.¹⁸²¹ Highlights of the declaration include promoting advocacy platforms that improve the visibility of the AfCFTA internationally and within the private sector, as well as accelerating economic growth and improving the business environment through innovation and private sector engagement.¹⁸²²

On 30 August 2019, following the Yokohama Declaration, a plan of action was created that outlined three key pillars of sustainable development across the continent including the Sahel, the first being “accelerating economic transformation and improving business environment through innovation and private sector engagement.”¹⁸²³ The document highlights several recommended initiatives undertaken by both Japan as well as in partnership with organizations such as the World Bank and United Nations Development Programme.¹⁸²⁴ Such initiatives are intended to foster greater market access in crucial areas of development including infrastructure, education, and healthcare through the provision of both monetary funds and resources.¹⁸²⁵ A key initiative recommends the creation of the Japan Business Council for Africa to encourage cooperation between the Japanese private sector and the government in development projects.¹⁸²⁶

On 20 October 2019, a summit meeting between Prime Minister Abe and Nigerien President Issoufou Mahamadou took place. An exchange of notes was signed for an aid grant worth approximately JPY1.3 billion to improve irrigation farming as well as a package for JPY300 million toward food assistance.¹⁸²⁷

On 21 October 2019, Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Motegi Toshimitsu met with his counterpart from Burkina Faso, Alpha Barry, yielding an exchange of notes for grant aid to develop road infrastructure and food assistance.¹⁸²⁸ A memorandum of understanding on cooperation and

¹⁸¹⁹ Japan-Niger Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ne/page3e_001087.html.

¹⁸²⁰ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

¹⁸²¹ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

¹⁸²² Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

¹⁸²³ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁴ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁵ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁶ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁷ Japan-Niger Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 20 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ne/page4e_001113.html.

¹⁸²⁸ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 21 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html.

promotion of private sector investment in Burkina Faso between the Japan External Trade Organization and the Promotion Agency of Burkina Faso was also signed.¹⁸²⁹

On 12 February 2020, a United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change report noted that the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Japanese government's official institution pertaining to overseas development assistance, was the second largest source of revenue for the African Development Bank.¹⁸³⁰

On 10 March 2020, Japan extended Emergency Grant Aid to Chad, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali, totalling USD23.7 million.¹⁸³¹ The funds have been targeted toward refugees and internally displaced persons in the Sahel region, through the provision of tents, shelter, food, sanitation services, as well as the implementation of educational programs and long-term employment opportunities for citizens.¹⁸³²

On 11 March 2020, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations Kimihiro Ishikane affirmed that “inclusive development remains essential” with respect to the Sahel region, and that “for its part, Japan has placed African-led capacity-building at the core of its engagement, particularly in the security and justice sectors.”¹⁸³³

On 9 April 2020, the Government of Japan announced a total of USD11.7 million in funding through the World Food Programme to provide food assistance to populations in the Sahel made vulnerable by armed conflict and climate change.¹⁸³⁴ The aid is intended to be distributed among Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, and is aimed at refugees, internally displaced persons, children, and pregnant women.¹⁸³⁵

On 13 April 2020, the International Monetary Fund announced that Japan contributed USD100 million as debt service relief to the countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Niger in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸³⁶

Through its direct partnerships with G5 Sahel countries, collaboration with international organizations, investment in G5 Sahel industry, and action to accelerate growth and development through private engagement, Japan has fully complied with the commitment.

¹⁸²⁹ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 21 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html.

¹⁸³⁰ African Development Bank-Finance instruments for North African countries, United Nations Framework on Climate Change (Cairo) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NBFArabStates_Session4_Phillips.pdf.

¹⁸³¹ Emergency Grant Aid in Response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

¹⁸³² Emergency Grant Aid in Response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

¹⁸³³ Security Council Issues Presidential Statement Calling for Greater Efforts to Help Africa Fight Terrorism, as Delegates Denounce 'Insufficient' Current Approaches, United Nations Security Council (New York) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sc14140.doc.htm>.

¹⁸³⁴ Japan contributes US\$11.7 million to assist the most vulnerable populations in central Sahel, World Food Programme (Yokohama) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-contributes-us117-million-assist-most-vulnerable-populations-central-sahel>.

¹⁸³⁵ Japan contributes US\$11.7 million to assist the most vulnerable populations in central Sahel, World Food Programme (Yokohama) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-contributes-us117-million-assist-most-vulnerable-populations-central-sahel>.

¹⁸³⁶ IMF Executive Board Approves Immediate Debt Relief for 25 Countries (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/04/13/pr20151-imf-executive-board-approves-immediate-debt-relief-for-25-countries>.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Malbaar Mobarir

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 27 September 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma announced GBP90 million in aid funds to Africa intended to generate over GBP500 million of private investment in financial markets,” as well as plans for a UK-Africa Investment Summit in early 2020.¹⁸³⁷

On 30 September 2019, the Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters project which included investment from the United Kingdom terminated.¹⁸³⁸ These projects were implemented to improve adaptability and resiliency in the face of climate change in developing countries across the world, including the G5 Sahel member states.¹⁸³⁹ The United Kingdom spent approximately GBP134 million through the Department for International Development, as well as donating grants to civil society organizations to implement innovative technological practices in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴⁰

On 14 October 2019, Trade Commissioner for Africa Emma Wade-Smith announced that the United Kingdom was currently re-evaluating trading and aid relationships with African states in light of Britain’s impending departure from the European Union.¹⁸⁴¹ Commisisoner Wade-Smith noted that the United Kingdom “sees opportunities in infrastructure and clean energy, and wants to form stronger, long-term partnerships in the region.”¹⁸⁴²

On 4 November 2019, it was announced that EUR15 million were provided for the Archipelago programme, a cross-border initiative aimed at improving the employability of youth in small and medium enterprises around the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴³ A call for proposals was announced by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) whereby EUR400,000-500,000 would be provided in funding for projects to be implemented in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴⁴

¹⁸³⁷ The Private Sector Can Unlock Africa’s Promise, City A.M. (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.cityam.com/the-private-sector-can-unlock-africas-promise/>.

¹⁸³⁸ Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters, Development Tracker 17 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202921>.

¹⁸³⁹ Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters, Development Tracker 17 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202921>.

¹⁸⁴⁰ Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters, Development Tracker 17 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202921>.

¹⁸⁴¹ U.K. Seeks to Be Largest G-7 Investor in Africa, Bloomberg (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-14/u-k-seeks-to-be-largest-g-7-investor-in-africa>.

¹⁸⁴² U.K. Seeks to Be Largest G-7 Investor in Africa, Bloomberg (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-14/u-k-seeks-to-be-largest-g-7-investor-in-africa>.

U.K. Seeks to Be Largest G-7 Investor in Africa, Bloomberg (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-14/u-k-seeks-to-be-largest-g-7-investor-in-africa>.

¹⁸⁴³ Archipealgo-2nd call for proposals launched!, EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa 4 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/archipelago-2eme-appel-propositions-lance_en.

¹⁸⁴⁴ Archipealgo-2nd call for proposals launched!, EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa 4 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/archipelago-2eme-appel-propositions-lance_en

On 20 November 2019, a United Nations Security Council Meeting was held in response to increased armed group attacks in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴⁵ President of the Security Council for the month of November and Deputy Permanent Representative of the UK Mission to the UN Jonathan Guy Allen noted the contribution of the UK toward the security issues at hand, but emphasized that the “leading role must be played by the countries involved.”¹⁸⁴⁶ He further noted that the UK has provided development aid as well as resources to improve security, both bilaterally with the G5 Sahel nations in addition to through the European Union.¹⁸⁴⁷

As of 20 November 2019, 12 programmes in Burkina Faso were implemented through funding by the EUTF and local organizations aimed at preserving social cohesion and facilitating dialogue between various ethnic and religious groups.¹⁸⁴⁸

On 16 December 2019, Ambassador James Roscoe presented a briefing on peace and security in Africa at the United Nations Security Council.¹⁸⁴⁹ The Ambassador highlighted the contributions of the United Kingdom, in particular USD6.6 million in bilateral funding to support the operations of the Multinational Joint Task Force, as well as USD2.4 million to the G5 Sahel Joint Force.¹⁸⁵⁰ Additionally, the Ambassador highlighted that the UK was one of the biggest supporters to the Peacebuilding Fund, in particular focusing on Mali, with approximately USD43 million in aid provided to the organization in 2018.¹⁸⁵¹

On 8 January 2020, Ambassador James Roscoe delivered a speech acknowledging the security and humanitarian concerns that continue to affect the Sahel region.¹⁸⁵² He reaffirmed the United Kingdom’s release of GBP20 million in humanitarian aid in addition to the GBP50 million already given to address such concerns.¹⁸⁵³

¹⁸⁴⁵ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations Security Council 20 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>

¹⁸⁴⁶ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations Security Council 20 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>

¹⁸⁴⁷ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations Security Council 20 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>

¹⁸⁴⁸ In Burkina Faso, preserving peace and social cohesion is a priority for the FFU, EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa 22 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019

¹⁸⁴⁹ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on peace and security in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/identifying-underlying-drivers-of-the-conflict-in-africa>

¹⁸⁵⁰ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on peace and security in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/identifying-underlying-drivers-of-the-conflict-in-africa>

¹⁸⁵¹ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on peace and security in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/identifying-underlying-drivers-of-the-conflict-in-africa>

¹⁸⁵² Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

¹⁸⁵³ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

On 20 January 2020, the United Kingdom hosted the UK-Africa Investment Summit, with representation from 21 African nations including Mauritania.¹⁸⁵⁴ Over GBP2 billion were pledged from the Commonwealth Development Corporation to support African businesses over the next two years.¹⁸⁵⁵ Furthermore, the UK reaffirmed its commitment toward funding the AfCFTA and the African Development Bank, as well as GBP397 million to fund new programmes across the continent.¹⁸⁵⁶

On 20 January 2020, Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani spoke at the UK-Africa Investment Summit and reaffirmed the importance of key economic sectors such as mining, fisheries, and agriculture.¹⁸⁵⁷ He also highlighted the steps Mauritania had taken to promote a more sustainable investment environment, namely: improving security nationwide, infrastructure modernization, and encouragement of greater private-sector investment.¹⁸⁵⁸

On 1 March 2020, Minister for Africa James Duddridge met with G5 Sahel countries' leaders at the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and Sixth Summit of the Leaders of the G5.¹⁸⁵⁹ Topics of discussion predominantly involved the use of funding for girls' education programs in the G5 countries.¹⁸⁶⁰ He also stated that the United Kingdom was in close collaboration with the World Bank to finance development projects in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁶¹

On 7 April 2020, Ambassador James Roscoe delivered a speech concerning the stability of Mali following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸⁶² He outlined the United Kingdom's pledge of USD6 million through the United Nations to strengthen the government of Mali's response to the pandemic.¹⁸⁶³

¹⁸⁵⁴ All the news from the UK-Africa Investment Summit, Devex International Development (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.devex.com/news/all-the-news-from-the-uk-africa-investment-summit-96394>.

¹⁸⁵⁵ UK Government Statement, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

¹⁸⁵⁶ UK Government Statement, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

¹⁸⁵⁷ Address by President Mohammed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, Department for International Development (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vz43FAea7W0>.

¹⁸⁵⁸ Address by President Mohammed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, Department for International Development (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vz43FAea7W0>.

¹⁸⁵⁹ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

¹⁸⁶⁰ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

¹⁸⁶¹ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

¹⁸⁶² Commitment from all parties is necessary for sustainable peace in Mali, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>.

¹⁸⁶³ Commitment from all parties is necessary for sustainable peace in Mali, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>.

On 13 April 2020, the International Monetary Fund announced that the United Kingdom contributed USD185 million as debt service relief to the countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Niger in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸⁶⁴

Through its foreign aid contributions and its investments in the African private sector, the United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Malhaar Mobarir

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 12 November 2019, the United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and the African Development Bank Group signed an agreement to “mobilize private capital in support of development in Africa.”¹⁸⁶⁵ The agreement aims to invest a combined USD2 billion alongside an additional USD3 billion from the private sector.¹⁸⁶⁶ The DFC and the African Development Bank Group aim to prioritize critical infrastructure, power and energy, financial services, and agriculture through this agreement.¹⁸⁶⁷

On 16 December 2019, the representative of the United States at the United Nations Security Council meeting called on countries to step up their assistance to countries in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁶⁸ The representative also stated that the United States has built the capacity of young people in the region and provides support for livelihoods.¹⁸⁶⁹ She continued to affirm that all pressing issues in the

¹⁸⁶⁴ IMF Executive Board Approves Immediate Debt Relief for 25 Countries (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/04/13/pr20151-imf-executive-board-approves-immediate-debt-relief-for-25-countries>.

¹⁸⁶⁵ Africa Investment Forum 2019: African Development Bank U.S. International Development Finance Corporation team up to mobilise private capital for Africa’s development, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-african-development-bank-us-international-development-finance-corporation-team-mobilise-private-capital-africas-development-32625>.

¹⁸⁶⁶ Africa Investment Forum 2019: African Development Bank U.S. International Development Finance Corporation team up to mobilise private capital for Africa’s development, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-african-development-bank-us-international-development-finance-corporation-team-mobilise-private-capital-africas-development-32625>.

¹⁸⁶⁷ Africa Investment Forum 2019: African Development Bank U.S. International Development Finance Corporation team up to mobilise private capital for Africa’s development, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-african-development-bank-us-international-development-finance-corporation-team-mobilise-private-capital-africas-development-32625>.

¹⁸⁶⁸ Special Representative Stresses Urgent Need to Address Causes of Conflict between Farmers, Herders, as Security Council Considers West Africa, United Nations (New York) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14050.doc.htm>.

¹⁸⁶⁹ Special Representative Stresses Urgent Need to Address Causes of Conflict between Farmers, Herders, as Security Council Considers West Africa, United Nations (New York) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14050.doc.htm>.

region can be confronted if governments work alongside their international partners, regional organizations, and the Security Council.¹⁸⁷⁰

On 22 January 2020, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. African Development Foundation announced that they will be awarding USD400,000 in grant funding, with support from Citi Foundation, to 42 young African social entrepreneurs across 22 sub-Saharan African countries.¹⁸⁷¹ Each winner will receive at least USD10,000 in seed capital to support the growth of their businesses.¹⁸⁷²

On 16 April 2020, USAID launched its Yalwa activity, aimed at increasing the resilience of agricultural, livestock, and food market systems in Niger.¹⁸⁷³ The activity is meant to strengthen the capacity of farmers, producer organizations, agribusinesses, and rural households in the country.¹⁸⁷⁴ Over the span of five years, USD29 million will be distributed in order to increase sales and incomes of 105,000 farmers and 160 small and medium-sized enterprises.¹⁸⁷⁵

On 16 April 2020, USAID launched the Yidgiri activity aimed at increasing resilience of agricultural and livestock market systems in Burkina Faso.¹⁸⁷⁶ Over the span of five years, the activity will facilitate commercial relationships among farmers, producer organizations, and agribusinesses in the country to ensure the population's uninterrupted access to sufficient food.¹⁸⁷⁷ Through coordinating with private and public sector actors, the activity aims to provide greater capacity to markets in Burkina Faso.¹⁸⁷⁸

¹⁸⁷⁰ Special Representative Stresses Urgent Need to Address Causes of Conflict between Farmers, Herders, as Security Council Considers West Africa, United Nations (New York) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14050.doc.htm>.

¹⁸⁷¹ USAID, USADF, and Citi Foundation Team Up to Invest in Young African Social Entrepreneurs, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jan-22-2020-usaid-usadf-citi-foundation-team-invest-young-african-social-entrepreneurs>.

¹⁸⁷² USAID, USADF, and Citi Foundation Team Up to Invest in Young African Social Entrepreneurs, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jan-22-2020-usaid-usadf-citi-foundation-team-invest-young-african-social-entrepreneurs>.

¹⁸⁷³ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Agricultural Sector in Niger (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and>.

¹⁸⁷⁴ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Agricultural Sector in Niger (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and>.

¹⁸⁷⁵ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Agricultural Sector in Niger (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and>.

¹⁸⁷⁶ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Burkina Faso's Most Vulnerable (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and-protect-vulnerable>.

¹⁸⁷⁷ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Burkina Faso's Most Vulnerable (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and-protect-vulnerable>.

¹⁸⁷⁸ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Burkina Faso's Most Vulnerable (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and-protect-vulnerable>.

On 19 May 2020, the United States announced a USD5 million investment contribution to Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, and Chad in order to strengthen their response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸⁷⁹

By collaborating with government agencies to provide funding toward relief and investment in the Sahel region, the United States partially complies with the commitment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ninar Fawal

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 November 2019, the European Commission launched the FMO Ventures Programme in partnership with the Dutch development bank Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO).¹⁸⁸⁰ The programme is a EUR40 million financial guarantee agreement that targets Sub-Saharan African start-up companies, specifically ones led by youth, that use technological solutions to lower costs of products and services that were previously unaffordable to the public.¹⁸⁸¹ It will support up to 125,000 new jobs directly and indirectly.¹⁸⁸²

On 10 November 2019, the European Commission signed a EUR30 million financial guarantee agreement with the Italian Development Bank Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and the African Development Bank.¹⁸⁸³ This guarantee, called “Archipelagos One4A – One Platform for Africa” will generate 50,000 jobs and support 1,500 small African businesses by enabling financing partners to divide the risk of investments.¹⁸⁸⁴ Along with the FMO Ventures Programme, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the agreements “will help to boost access o finance for small businesses, notably in the tech sector – and create up to 175,000 jobs directly and indirectly.”¹⁸⁸⁵

On 12 December 2019, the European Commission “adopted additional funding worth €70.23 million from the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to improve resilience, stability and migration

¹⁸⁷⁹ Update: The United States is Continuing to Lead the Humanitarian and Health Assistance Response to COVID-19, 19 May 2020 20 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/update-united-states-continuing-lead-humanitarian-and-health-assistance-response-1>.

¹⁸⁸⁰ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸¹ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸² Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸³ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸⁴ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸⁵ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

management in countries of the Sahel and Lake Chad region.”¹⁸⁸⁶ The majority of the funds will be directed to stabilizing the border areas between Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger through the Emergency Programme for the Stabilisation of G5 Sahel Border Areas.¹⁸⁸⁷ The remaining funds will go toward protecting and assisting refugees across the region, facilitating resettlement, and managing reintegration.¹⁸⁸⁸

On 28 February 2020, the European Commission announced that the European Trust Fund for Africa’s investment in Niger, through the European Union-financed ProGEM program, is facilitating resident and migrant communities’ access basic services and infrastructure while strengthening social cohesion.¹⁸⁸⁹

On 28 April 2020, the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, co-chaired a video conference with the President in office of the G5 Sahel, the heads of state of the G5 Sahel, the President of the European Commission, and the High Representative of the EU.¹⁸⁹⁰ During the meeting, which was held to address the consequences of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis on G5 Sahel countries, “the President of the European Council reiterated that the European Union will do its utmost to help countries and communities ... strengthen the sustainability of global integrated value and supply chains in order to adapt them to demand.”¹⁸⁹¹

Through its collaboration with various member countries and development banks to provide aid via public financing, the European Union has partially complied with the commitment.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Philip Schwarz and Nicole Shi

¹⁸⁸⁶ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁸⁸⁷ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

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