



EUTF Monitoring and Learning System SLC

S1 2020 REPORT
COVERING UNTIL 30 JUNE 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the first half-yearly report for 2020 of the Monitoring and Learning System (MLS) for the Sahel and Lake Chad (SLC) window. This report covers all the outputs achieved through EUTF funding in the SLC region from the start of activities until the end of June 2020, with a specific focus on outputs generated between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2020.

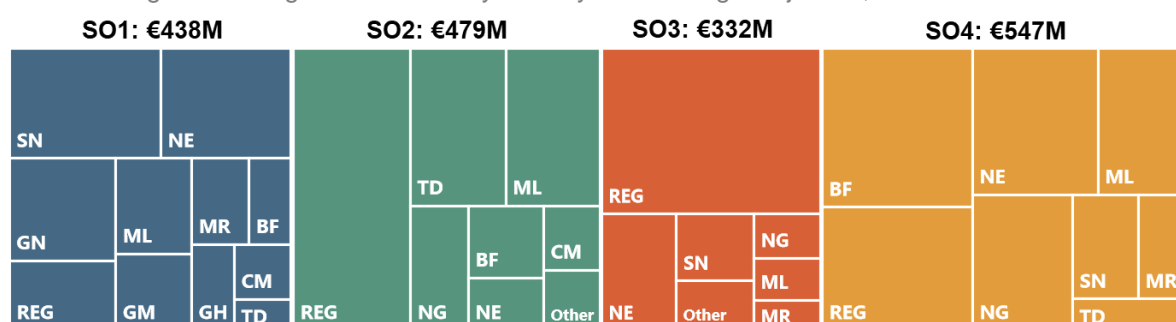
The report includes programmes implemented in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and The Gambia.

Portfolio

As of November 2020, the EUTF had committed €4.8 billion. The Sahel and Lake Chad window is the first in size with €2.12B committed across 113 decisions. Among those decisions, 89% (or €1.89B) have been contracted through 334 projects across the region. Of these 334 signed contracts, 183 are operational and of interest to the MLS. 161 of them – worth €1.62B – have entered their implementation phase, and 143 have data to report. This report includes all 143 contracts, covering a budget of €1.49B.¹

The SLC window's overall budget is relatively evenly split across strategic objectives. Of the total budget contracted by the Fund in the SLC window, **security and governance activities (SO4)** are funded at the highest level at **30%** (€547M). SO4 is the main priority in Burkina Faso and is important as well in Niger and Mali. Regional programmes focusing on SO4 represent €97M. **Resilience building activities (SO2)** represent **27%** of the EUTF funds in the SLC window (€479M) and are particularly important in Chad, Mali and Nigeria. **24%** (€438M) is dedicated to **support economic and employment opportunities (SO1)** activities. These are particularly important in the West African coastal countries of Senegal, Guinea, The Gambia, Ghana, as well as Niger. **Migration management (SO3)** represents another **18%** (€332M) of the total EUTF funding in SLC. SO3 is funded primarily through regional programmes, which represent €195M. Country programmes dedicated to SO3 are mostly prevalent in Niger and Senegal. The remaining 1% of the EUTF budget contracted in SLC finances cross-cutting activities.

Figure 1: Budget breakdown by country and strategic objective, November 2020²



¹ The 143 projects include only operational projects, as defined in the report.

² Share of budget for projects contracted and relevant to the MLS. The four Strategic Objectives (SO) of the EUTF are: SO1 'Greater economic and employment opportunities'; SO2 'Strengthening resilience of communities and in particular the most vulnerable including refugees and other displaced people'; SO3 'Improved migration management in countries of origin, transit and destination' and SO4 'Improved governance and conflict prevention and reduction of forced displacement and irregular migration'. The total displayed in the visual is not showing SO5, which represents €5M.

The Sahel and Lake Chad region in S1 2020¹

The situation in the Sahel and Lake Chad region continued to rapidly deteriorate during the first half of 2020. **Mass displacement and levels of insecurity rose** across the region, due to **terrorist attacks** and **intercommunal violence**, which also started threatening coastal West African countries. Increasing violence caused unprecedented waves of forced displacement across the region. In June 2020, the number of IDPs reached 1,7M in central Sahel, a 46% increase since December 2019, while it remained at around 2.7 million in the Lake Chad Basin. Massive displacement, combined with climate change, endemic poverty and the **COVID-19 pandemic**, which broke out this semester, resulted in a **rising number of people in need**, which reached 23.6 million as of May 2020. Even though the number of COVID-19 contaminations is significantly inferior to other parts of the world, measures taken by governments to limit further spread of the disease had a **severe socio-economic impact** on the population, especially for low and middle classes. These measures also had **devastating effects on food security** across SLC, as restrictions on movements cut farmers away from their lands and stopped them from delivering foodstuffs. Finally, the combined effect of COVID-19 and rising violence put a **significant strain on health services**, especially in parts of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria, where many health centres were either closed or dysfunctional due to terrorist attacks. Furthermore, pandemic-related border closures and travel restrictions resulted in thousands of **migrants and refugees being stranded at borders, ports and in transit camps** across the SLC region. Restrictive measures also impeded humanitarian access to certain areas, resulting in worse conditions for stranded migrants, displaced people and refugees.

Results by Strategic Objective

Despite the operational challenges posed by the outbreak of COVID-19 in the region, EUTF projects continued to deliver significant outputs both in the first and second quarter of 2020 in all key spheres of intervention of the Trust Fund.

Table 1: EUTF common output indicators for all SLC projects, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	16,059	23,180	13,045	52,285
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	4,232	3,427	4,172	11,831
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	75,252	113,323	23,425	211,999
1.4 Number of people benefiting from professional training (TVET)...	32,195	43,940	12,547	88,683
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	18	279	42	339
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	69	137	40	246
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	1,592	2,415	529	4,536
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	404,048	460,322	96,804	961,173
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	559,955	752,077	149,128	1,461,160
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	529,237	687,198	384,446	1,600,881
2.5 Number of institutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	182	239	12	433
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	11,413	93,257	10,289	114,959
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	667,966	1,308,698	14,955,425	16,932,089
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	15,082	34,490	7,279	56,852
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	2,275,885	1,288,675	288,372	3,852,932
3.1 Number of projects and initiatives supported by diaspora members	19	36	30	85
3.2 Number of migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs...	1,867	2,246	1,013	5,126
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	443,515	1,021,071	203,772	1,668,358
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	27,661	19,349	12,015	59,025
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	54,401	23,767	6,058	84,226
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	16,220	20,246	5,098	41,564
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	83	328	54	465
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	729	1,889	270	2,888
3.8 Number of people of concern benefitting from evacuation and resettlement...	2,915	1,395	359	4,669
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	11	326	173	510
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	10,340	4,115	828	15,283
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	22	22	8	52
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	472	1,312	2,853	4,637
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	13,694	11,960	4,993	30,647
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	544,936	387,087	127,375	1,059,398
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	131	734	108	973
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	205	765	434	1,404
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	202	316	157	675
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	153	197	43	393
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	53	68	34	155
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	923,177	923,177
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	571,770	571,770
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	696	696

¹ All references to non-MLS data or sources are presented in the core document

Strategic Objective 1: Greater economic and employment opportunities

Prior to the economic crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, West African GDP was forecast to expand by 4% yearly in 2020, but **the first half of 2020 brought growth to a halt**. Partial to total **lockdowns and mobility restrictions** reduced trade and economic activities. While the exact impact of COVID-19 on West African economies is still unclear, a deceleration in output growth appears inevitable, and will likely be reflected in a **4.3% contraction of per capita income in 2020**, with risks of impoverishment for low and middle classes. Formal labour force participation is also projected to decrease and be partly compensated by the informal sector. Although many West African countries such as Cote d'Ivoire or Burkina Faso quickly acted to support the economy, their efforts were constrained by falling public revenues and limited fiscal space.¹ As mobility and work restrictions began to ease before the summer of 2020, the challenges remained numerous and serious for West African economies. With sanitary uncertainty over a new wave of contaminations, a projected 25% to 40% decrease in foreign direct investment to the continent in 2020, prospects are bleak. In the near future, livelihood, informal, small-scale economic activities, as well as traditional solidarities, are likely to play an even larger role in West African economies.

During the first half of 2020, EUTF-funded programmes have supported 13,045 short and long-term job creations (indicator 1.1), and 4,172 MSMEs were created or supported (indicator 1.2) bringing the respective totals to 52,286 and 11,831. As of June 2020, 211,999 people were assisted to develop income-generating activities (indicator 1.3), including 23,425 during S1 2020. 12,547 beneficiaries of professional training (TVET) and skills development programmes (indicator 1.4) were reported in S1 2020, bringing the total to 88,683. Finally, 42 industrial parks and/or business infrastructure were constructed, expanded, or improved in the first half of 2020 (indicator 1.5), raising the total to 339.

Strategic Objective 2: Strengthening resilience of communities and in particular the most vulnerable including refugees and other displaced people

Due to upsurges in conflicts, frequent climatic hazards, and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the situation deteriorated rapidly in the SLC in the first half of 2020, causing **humanitarian needs to reach unprecedented levels**. As of May 2020, 24 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance in the region, compared to 21 million in 2019, or a 14% increase. Food insecurity rose to unprecedented peaks: while in 2019, 7.2 million people had been food insecure at crisis and emergency levels in the SLC, they were 12.2 million as of May 2020, a 69% increase. Malnutrition also deteriorated rapidly, with 1.6 million children under five suffering from severe acute malnutrition in the region in May 2020, compared to 1.5 million in 2019, a 7% increase. The COVID-19 pandemic further increased the risks of food insecurity, and put further stress on fragile healthcare systems, and weakened local economies.

As the backdrop situation worsened, in the first half of 2020, resilience building activities remained those with the largest numbers of reported beneficiaries. 40 local development plans were supported by EUTF-funded programmes in S1 2020, bringing the total to 246 (indicator 2.1). 529 social infrastructures were built or rehabilitated in S1 2020, bringing the total to 4,536 (indicator 2.1 bis). 96,804 basic social services were delivered by EUTF-funded programmes in SLC during the first six months of 2020 (indicator 2.2), representing 10% of the total achievement reported since the beginning of the EUTF reporting. Overall, 961,173 basic social services have been delivered to beneficiaries in the region so far. Indicator 2.7 (number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience-building practices and basic rights) witnessed an unprecedented increase, mainly due to COVID-19 campaigns, with 14,955,425 new beneficiaries in S1 2020, an eight-fold increase compared to the total reached at the end of 2019. 288,372 people benefitted from access to improved basic services in S1 2020, reaching a

¹ ILO, 'COVID-19 and the world of work, country policy response', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

total of 3,852,932 since the inception of EUTF-funded programmes (indicator 2.9). Indicator 2.4 (number of people receiving food security-related assistance) observed a 32% increase in S1 2020, with 384,446 beneficiaries reported for a total achievement of 1,600,881. Finally, 7,729 staff from local authorities and basic service providers benefitted from capacity building to strengthen service delivery in S1 2020 (indicator 2.8), for a total output of 56,852.

Strategic Objective 3: Improved migration management in countries of origin, transit, and destination

The management of migration flows has become increasingly difficult in the last years. The number of forcibly displaced people has increased in worrying proportions, with 4.5 million people reported being displaced from their home in June 2020, one million more than in 2018. During the first half of 2020, the region has seen a reduction of migration flows. Moreover, because of COVID-19 response measures such as border closures and travel restrictions, an increasing number of **migrants and refugees have been stranded in dangerous conditions**, where they also face a heightened risk of COVID-19 infection.

In the first half of 2020, EUTF-funded programmes have protected and/or assisted 1,013 migrants in transit, refugees and asylum seekers (indicator 3.2) and 203,772 migrants and potential migrants have been reached in S1 2020 by information campaigns on migration and the risks of irregular migration (indicator 3.3). EUTF actions also supported voluntary returns for 12,015 migrants in S1 2020, bringing the total to 59,025 (indicator 3.4). In S1 2020, 6,058 returnees have benefitted from post-arrival assistance (indicator 3.5) and 5,098 from reintegration assistance (indicator 3.5 bis), bringing the totals respectively to 84,226 and 41,564. 270 (a 10% increase) people have been trained on migration management (indicator 3.7) and 54 (a 13% increase) institutions and non-state actors strengthened through capacity building in S1 2020 (indicator 3.6).

Strategic Objective 4: Improved governance and conflict prevention

Conflicts in the Sahel and Lake Chad region have escalated in the first half of 2020 and are at risk of expanding to neighbouring countries. 3,365 security incidents (battles, violence against civilians and explosions) were recorded in the countries covered by the SLC window of the EUTF during this period. **Violence remains mostly concentrated around** the two main areas of **Liptako-Gourma** and the **Lake Chad Basin**. In the Liptako-Gourma region, intensification of fighting between armed forces and militant groups, as well as the end of the alliance between the two main jihadist groups, Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM) and the Islamic State in Greater Sahara (ISGS), have led to a flare up of violence. Over the first half of 2020, tensions and violent clashes between the two groups have reportedly intensified in Mali and Burkina Faso. In the Lake Chad region, Boko Haram and its splinter groups have increased their attacks since the beginning of the year. In March, militants attacked Boma, in Chad, killing 92 Chadian soldiers. This attack, the deadliest blow to Chadian armed forces yet, led to the launch of operation “Anger of Bohoma” in which, according to the army, 1,000 jihadists were killed. Moreover, there was an increase in violence in Nigeria’s Northwest region, where an intra-communal conflict between Fulani herders and Hausa farmers was compounded by an explosion in criminal activity and infiltration of jihadist groups into the region. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing restrictions on cross-border movements and gatherings, overall conflict levels in the region have not decreased. Instead, violent groups have expanded their territories.

The EUTF has continued supporting improved governance and conflict prevention actions during the first half of 2020. Eight infrastructures have been supported, bringing the total to 52 as of June 2020 (indicator 4.1). 2,853 items of equipment have been provided to strengthen governance, which represents 62% of the total contribution to this indicator since the beginning of the EUTF (indicator 4.1 bis). The number of staff from governmental institutions, internal security forces and relevant non-state actors trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights reported in S1 has remained stable

compared to previous reporting periods: 4,993 out of a total of 30,647 (indicator 4.2). A further 127,375 people have participated in conflict prevention and human rights activities, 12% of the 1,059,398 so far (indicator 4.3). Finally, EUTF activities have developed or supported 108 strategies, laws, policies and plans in the first half of 2020 (indicator 4.6), for a total of 974.

COVID-19 response

The Sahel and Lake Chad region was reached by the COVID-19 global pandemic on **27 February**, when a **first case** was recorded in Nigeria. From this date onwards, the pandemic expanded across the region. In March, SLC governments quickly took actions to contain the spread of the disease, including closures of borders and public spaces, curfews, travel bans, lockdowns and mandatory masks. Governments declared states of emergency, granting their executive branches extraordinary powers to manage the sanitary crisis. Overall, as of 30 June 2020, the countries included in the SLC region have recorded a total of 85,608 cases and 1,462 deaths. Although the total number of cases and fatalities in the region remained relatively low compared to other continents, the pandemic put a significant strain on fragile health care systems, social fabric, and economies.

To mitigate the impact of the pandemic on SLC countries, the EUTF reacted by reorienting some of its funding towards a COVID-19 response. In total, 39 projects redirected funds, accounting for €67M, towards the COVID-19 response, with 31 projects having implemented COVID-related activities, accounting for €52M, as of 30 June 2020. Thanks to these actions, 923,177 COVID-related supplies were distributed (indicator 6.1). 571,770 people benefitted from the delivery of COVID-19 emergency responses activities such as medical treatment or equipment, food aid and trainings (indicator 6.2). Capacity building, medical equipment and risk communication were provided to 696 MSMEs, health and training centres and governmental institutions (indicator 6.3).

Cross-cutting indicators

During S1 2020, EUTF projects supported the creation of 434 new multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms (indicator 5.1), 160 planning, monitoring and/or learning tools (indicator 5.2) and the conduct of 43 field studies, surveys and other types of research (indicator 5.3). 34 regional cooperation initiatives were created, launched, or supported (indicator 5.4).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND

The European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced people in Africa (EUTF for Africa or EUTF) was launched in November 2015. It is composed of three geographical ‘windows’: ‘North Africa’ (NoA), ‘Horn of Africa’ (HoA) and ‘Sahel and Lake Chad’ (SLC), which includes 12 countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and The Gambia. Neighbouring countries are also eligible for regional programmes.

This is the sixth report of the Monitoring and Learning System (MLS) for the SLC window, covering all the outputs achieved with EUTF funding in the window since the start of activities until end of June 2020, with a specific focus on outputs generated in the first half of 2020.

This report includes programmes implemented in 14 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal. National projects in Ghana have entered implementation phase but do not have data to report to the MLS yet. Activities and data in Ghana therefore relate to regional programmes only.

1.2. THE EUTF SLC IN S1 2020

As of November 2020, the EUTF had committed €4.8 billion (B).¹ The Sahel and Lake Chad window is the first in size with €2.12B committed across 113 decisions, of which 89% or €1.89B have been contracted to 334 projects across the region. Out of these 334 signed contracts, 183 are operational and of interest to the MLS.² 161 of them – worth €1.62B – have entered their implementation phase, and 143 have data to report. This report includes all 143, covering a budget of €1.49B.³

Since the previous report, ten projects were added to the MLS: one in Burkina Faso, three in Mali, one in Mauritania, one in Niger, one in Nigeria and three regional projects.

Funding and implementation continue to follow the EUTF’s four Strategic Objectives⁴ and the strategic priorities set by the EUTF Strategic Board and ratified in September 2019 i.e., i) returns and reintegration; ii) refugee management; iii) completing progress on the securitisation of documents and civil registry; iv) anti-trafficking measures; v) essential stabilisation efforts; and vi) migration dialogue.

¹ While this report presents output data up to 31 June 2020, portfolio data is presented as of the time of writing (November 2020).

² Projects are considered operational when they deliver outputs to beneficiaries. Administrative projects and non-operational projects (such as projects contracted under the Research and Evidence Facility and the Technical and Cooperation Facility, feasibility studies, third-party evaluations, audits, etc.) are not included in the analysis.

³ This includes 27 completed projects.

⁴ The four Strategic Objectives (SO) of the EUTF are: SO1 ‘Greater economic and employment opportunities’; SO2 ‘Strengthening resilience of communities and in particular the most vulnerable including refugees and other displaced people’; SO3 ‘Improved migration management in countries of origin, transit and destination’ and SO4 ‘Improved governance and conflict prevention and reduction of forced displacement and irregular migration’.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. MLS METHODOLOGY

The MLS uses data produced by projects' internal monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems to inform 38 EUTF common output indicators¹ that are shared by the three EUTF windows. The MLS team works with each implementing partner (IP) to develop a reporting system that allows the MLS to collect the most detailed and granular level of data common to all IPs. To that end, the MLS has developed a reporting template that it uses with most IPs, although the reporting template is tailored to each project through a drafting and feedback process with respective IPs. Given the complexity and diversity of the EUTF portfolio, and the fact that IPs and M&E systems have different resources, limitations and capacities, the MLS tries to offer as much flexibility as possible with regards to the quantity, disaggregation, and format of data collected from IPs.

The MLS then aggregates the collected data using a standardised methodology (and later disaggregates it again along various lines of analysis for reporting). This approach allows the MLS to help IPs map their own activities and outputs against the list of EUTF common output indicators and to have access to a finer level of disaggregation (e.g. by gender, beneficiary type, location, etc.). It also gives the MLS significant flexibility in changing the way data is analysed or presented as needed.

Based on the information received, the MLS team completes output indicator mappings for each project, collects the relevant data from each IP, checks the data for quality and enters it into the MLS database for aggregation, further quality checking and analysis.

Challenges and limitations in the S1 2020 Report

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the temporary suspensions of (or delays in) activity implementation for a number of projects across the EUTF portfolio. Collecting and verifying data within the restrictions imposed by the pandemic has also been challenging for many IPs, contributing to several delays in data collection for this report. However, data was received from all projects for which it was expected, with the exceptions of Kallo Tchidaniwo (NE-09) in Niger, KEY LVIA and Mode Ethique (SAH-REG-07) in Mali, Protection des jeunes – Diakonia (BF-07) and PUS-BF (BF-09) in Burkina Faso, which did not submit data for either Q1 or Q2 2020.

In addition, the project Shimodu (NE-10), implemented by ACTED in Niger, has not been contacted as the IP has suspended its activities after the 9 August 2020 assassination of seven ACTED staff and their guide in the Kouré area.

2.2. METHODOLOGICAL CHANGES

Following a consultative process with implementing partners, EU delegations and the EU headquarters, the EUTF has revised its common output indicators and their respective methodologies to better capture the portfolio's outputs, to ensure methodological coherence and consistency across implementing partners and regions by minimising room for interpretation, and to improve alignment with DEVCO's development indicators. DEVCO's relevant thematic specialists were consulted for all SOs and for all three windows as part of this process. The resultant revisions have been formalised through a set of methodological notes, a simplified version of which can be found in the annexes.

¹ The full list of 38 common output indicators can be found in annex.

As a result of this revision process, some of the original EUTF indicators have been eliminated, modified, clarified or expanded, and a small number of new indicators have been created, such that there are now 38 (down from 41) common output indicators. In some cases, additional categories of disaggregation are now requested to increase the granularity of reported data. Furthermore, three new indicators were added to capture outputs generated by project activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The table below summarises these changes (excluding new disaggregation categories).

Table 2: Summary of methodological changes made to EUTF common output indicators¹

EUTF indicator	Methodological changes
1.1 Jobs created or supported	Data previously mapped under EUTF indicator 1.5 has in most cases been remapped to this indicator.
1.4 TVET and/or skills development	TVET trainers are now also counted under this indicator, under a separate disaggregation category.
1.5 (OLD) Job placements facilitated	This indicator was deleted.
1.5 Business infrastructure	This indicator now includes TVET centres.
1.7 (OLD) Financial volume of new funding instruments for scholarships or self-employment	This indicator was deleted.
1.7 (OLD) Financial volume granted to individual recipients	This indicator was deleted.
2.1 bis Social infrastructure	Roads and airstrips are now counted under this indicator.
2.4 Food security	All household members of the direct beneficiary are now counted under this indicator, except for trainings (in these cases only the person trained is counted).
2.7 Sensitisation campaigns on resilience and basic rights	Mass media campaigns (including radio, TV, social media, billboards and leaflets) are now counted under this indicator, as long as the reach of the campaign can be estimated with sufficient accuracy. Nutrition sensitisation activities are now counted here instead of 2.3.
2.8 Capacity building to strengthen service delivery	Individuals trained on protection and legal topics are now counted under EUTF indicator 4.2.
2.9 Improved access to basic services	Cash transfer beneficiaries are now counted under this indicator (and not under EUTF indicator 2.2), and all household members of the direct beneficiary are now counted.
3.4 Voluntary returns	Post-arrival assistance for voluntary returns is now counted under EUTF indicator 3.5.
3.5 Post-arrival assistance	This indicator now counts only immediate post-arrival assistance.
3.5bis (NEW) Reintegration assistance	This indicator was created to capture longer-term reintegration assistance, which is no longer reported under EUTF indicator 3.5.
3.8 (NEW) Evacuees	This indicator was created to capture the beneficiaries of evacuation and resettlement activities. It replaces the former EUTF indicator 3.8 for refugees and forcibly displaced persons receiving legal assistance to support their reintegration. Data previously reported under the former EUTF indicator 3.8 is now reported under either EUTF indicator 2.2 or EUTF indicator 3.2, depending on the displacement situation of the beneficiary.
3.9 (OLD) Early warning systems on migration flows	This indicator was deleted.
4.1 (NEW) Governance infrastructure	This indicator was created to capture the construction of infrastructure that supports governance actors, including government buildings, town halls, administration offices, security infrastructure and justice infrastructure. It replaces the former EUTF indicator 4.1 which referred only to border stations.

¹ Indicators not represented have not changed.

4.1bis (NEW) Equipment to strengthen governance	This indicator was created to capture any equipment provided to governance actors.
4.2bis (OLD) Capacity building of institutions on security, border management, CVE, etc.	This indicator was deleted.
4.4 (OLD) Number of victims of trafficking assisted	This indicator was deleted. Data previously reported under this indicator is now reported under EUTF indicator 3.2 when appropriate.
4.5 (OLD) Cross-border initiatives created or supported	This indicator was deleted. Data previously reported under this indicator is now reported under EUTF indicator 5.4 when appropriate.
4.7 (OLD) Refugees benefitting from Out-of-Camp policy	This indicator was deleted.
4.8 (OLD) Networks and dialogues	This indicator was deleted. Data previously reported under this indicator is now reported under EUTF indicator 5.4 when appropriate.
5.4 (NEW) Regional cooperation initiatives	This indicator was created to capture regional cooperation initiatives created or supported with EUTF funding.
6.1 (NEW) COVID-19 pandemic-related supplies provided	This indicator was created to capture pandemic-related <u>supplies</u> (such as PPE and hospital equipment) provided to communities, health facilities and government institutions.
6.2 (NEW) Direct beneficiaries of COVID-19 response activities	This indicator was created to capture direct <u>beneficiaries</u> of COVID-19 response activities such as beneficiaries of PPE distributions, cash transfers and medical treatment or support.
6.3 (NEW) Entities benefitting from COVID-19 response activities	This indicator was created to capture <u>entities</u> benefitting from COVID-19 response activities, such as hospitals, schools, government institutions and MSMEs.

The MLS team has sought to implement these changes with minimal inconvenience to implementing partners, relying as much as possible on project documents and automation to implement the changes. This was feasible because the MLS methodology produces sufficiently granular and disaggregated data for most of the work involved to be implemented by the MLS team rather than by IPs. Nevertheless, the process was also highly consultative, and IPs were informed in detail of the impact of any changes made to their data.

For changes that required new data or additional clarification, the MLS team has communicated with all affected IPs, who have in most cases been able to provide retroactive data for newly created EUTF common output indicators as well as additional disaggregation for existing data. However, it must be noted that, as some EUTF-funded projects are either nearing completion or already completed, applying the methodological changes to historical data has not always been feasible. This is especially relevant for the additional disaggregation categories (which are not included in the table above). It is also worth highlighting that as a result of this process, data included in this report and in future reporting will not be fully comparable with previous reports.

The following table provides an indication how the methodological changes have affected the overall values of EUTF MLS output data. As always, data corrections provided by IPs to previously reported data also impact the overall values, and in some cases have a more significant impact than the methodological changes. A detailed breakdown of all changes in reported values compared to past reports (resulting from both the methodological changes and IP data corrections) can be found in the annexes.

Table 3: Impact of methodological changes on EUTF MLS data^{1,2}

EUTF indicator	Total up to Q4 2019 as in Q4 2019 report	Total up to Q4 2019 as in S1 2020 report	Difference	Relevant methodological change (difference not accounted for is due to data and mapping corrections)
1.1 Jobs created	37,190	39,239	+2,049	+2,778 jobs remapped from former EUTF indicator 1.5
1.4 Professional trainings (TVET) and/or skills development	68,095	76,135	+8,040	+131 TVET trainers added under a separate disaggregation category
1.5 Business infrastructures	63	297	+234	+201 TVET centres included as EUTF indicator expanded
2.2 Basic social services delivered	963,204	864,370	-98,835	-97,893 cash transfer beneficiaries remapped to EUTF indicator 2.9
2.3 People receiving nutrition assistance	1,339,423	1,312,032	-27,391	+1,483 beneficiaries remapped from EUTF indicator 2.7 to include nutrition sensitisation
2.4 People receiving food security-related assistance	393,030	1,216,435	+823,406	+797,696 added to reflect the household members of direct beneficiaries
2.5 Institutions adopting local disaster risk reduction strategies	418	421	+3	+12 institutions added as EUTF indicator expanded
2.7 Sensitisation on resilience and basic rights	1,922,281	1,976,664	54,383	-1,483 beneficiaries remapped to EUTF indicator 2.3 to include nutrition sensitisation
2.8 Capacity building to strengthen service delivery	52,228	49,573	-2,655	-1,019 people trained on legal and protection topics remapped to EUTF indicator 4.2
2.9 Improved access to basic services	3,179,195	3,564,560	+385,365	+288,926 cash transfer beneficiaries (with the addition of their household members) remapped from EUTF indicator 2.2
3.2 Migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs protected and/or assisted	7,337	4,113	-3,224	+2,726 beneficiaries remapped from former EUTF indicator 3.8
3.5 Post-arrival assistance	81,353	78,168	-3,185	-1,660 beneficiaries of post-arrival assistance remapped to the new EUTF indicator 3.5 bis
3.5 bis Reintegration assistance	0	36,466	+36,466	+1,660 beneficiaries of post-arrival assistance remapped from the new EUTF indicator 3.5
4.1 Infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	10	44	+34	+34 infrastructures added as EUTF indicator expanded
4.2 Staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	25,985	25,654	-331	+1,109 beneficiaries remapped from EUTF indicator 2.8
5.4 Regional cooperation initiatives	0	121	+121	New EUTF indicator with +49 cross-border initiatives remapped from former EUTF indicator 4.5 and +47 networks and dialogues from former EUTF indicator 4.8

Limitations

Some projects have been unable to provide the additional disaggregation requested, which are noted under the “unspecified” category in the MLS analysis.³ Others may lack data for newly created indicators. Significant cases of this include:

- Due to the methodological changes to the common output indicators explained above, not all GIZ data previously gathered could be transferred to the changed system. Therefore, the GIZ data included in this report is not complete and numbers might differ from earlier reports.
- Changes for the project Shimodu (NE-10) implemented by ACTED in Niger, for which information was not available in project documents, have not been completed as the IP temporarily suspended its activities.
- Some projects have not answered the MLS team concerning the methodological changes. This is the case of Kallo Tchidaniwo (NE-09) and AJUSEN Budget Support (NE-06-01) in Niger, as

¹ For the sake of clarity, only EUTF indicators where the methodological changes affected values reported up to the end of 2019 are included.

² Due to rounding, values may vary +/-1.

³ This is estimated to represent less than 1% of the data already collected.

well as the EU–IOM Joint Initiative projects, Mode Éthique (REG-07, Mali component), Protection des Jeunes Diakonia (BF-07-01), Resilience BF Oxfam (BF-01-02).

- For completed projects where IPs are no longer contactable, the MLS team has applied the methodological changes to the extent permitted by project documents and final evaluations.

3. PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

3.1. BUDGET AND NUMBER OF CONTRACTS BY STATUS

The 183 contracted operational projects include 22 projects in their inception phase, 17 projects in their early implementation phase, with no data to report to the MLS yet, 116 projects in their implementation phase and with data to report, and 27 completed projects.

The current report includes data on 143 projects (equivalent in funding to €1.49B), comprising 27 completed projects, as well as 116 projects in their implementation phase with data to report.

Since the publication of the previous report, the following projects have been added to the MLS database and to this report:

- At the regional level, “*Soutenir les entrepreneurs et les petites PME en Afrique de l’Ouest*” (IPDEV2 - REG-11-01), “*Appui à la Lutte contre la Traite des Personnes dans les pays du Golfe de Guinée*” (TEH Golfe de Guinée - REG-12-01) and “*Médiation agro-pastorale au Sahel*” (G5 HD - REG-18-01);
- In Burkina Faso, “*Projet intégré de Monitoring, de Suivi et de Prévention de la radicalisation de l’Extrémisme violent au Burkina Faso*” (PEV KEOOGO - BF-08-10);
- In Mali, “*Sécurité et Développement au Nord du Mali – Phase 2*” (SDNM 2 - ML-04-01), “*Projet d’appui aux investissements de la diaspora malienne dans les régions d’origine*” (DIASPORA MALI AFD - ML-05-01) and “*Programme Jeunesse et Stabilisation dans les régions centre du Mali*” (PROJES - ML-10-01);
- In Mauritania, “*Programme d’appui budgétaire l’UE pour le nexus sécurité-résilience-développement en Mauritanie*” (Nexus SRD Appui Budgétaire - MR-08-01);
- In Niger, “*Composante ENABEL-UNCDF du programme de création d’emplois et d’opportunités économiques à travers une gestion durable de l’environnement dans les zones de départ et de transit au Niger à Zinder*” (DURAZINDER - NE-11-02);
- In Nigeria, “*EU support to the United Nations’ One UN Response Plan to COVID-19 in Nigeria*” (One UN Response Plan - NG-09-01).

Figure 2: Projects and budget covered by the current MLS report, October 2020

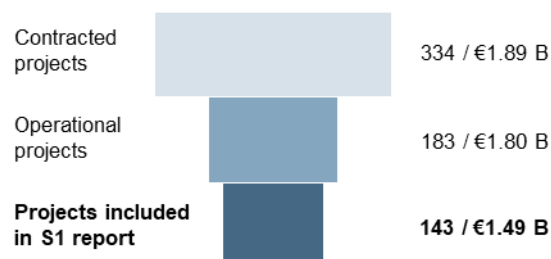
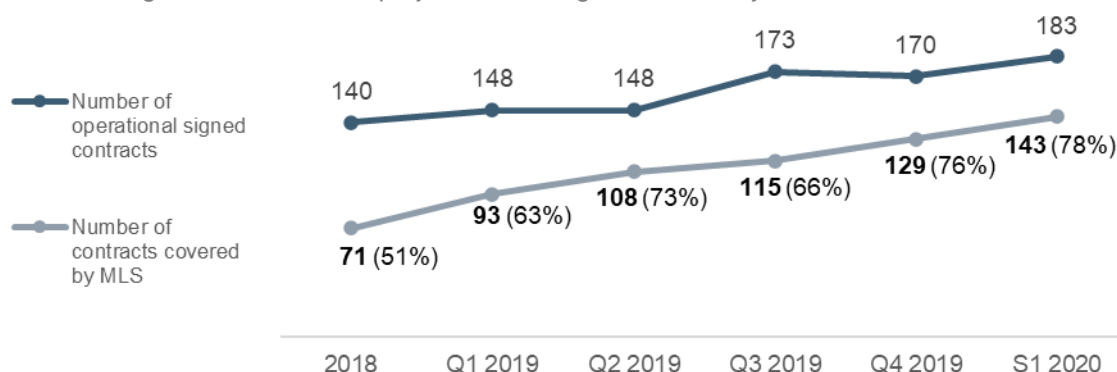
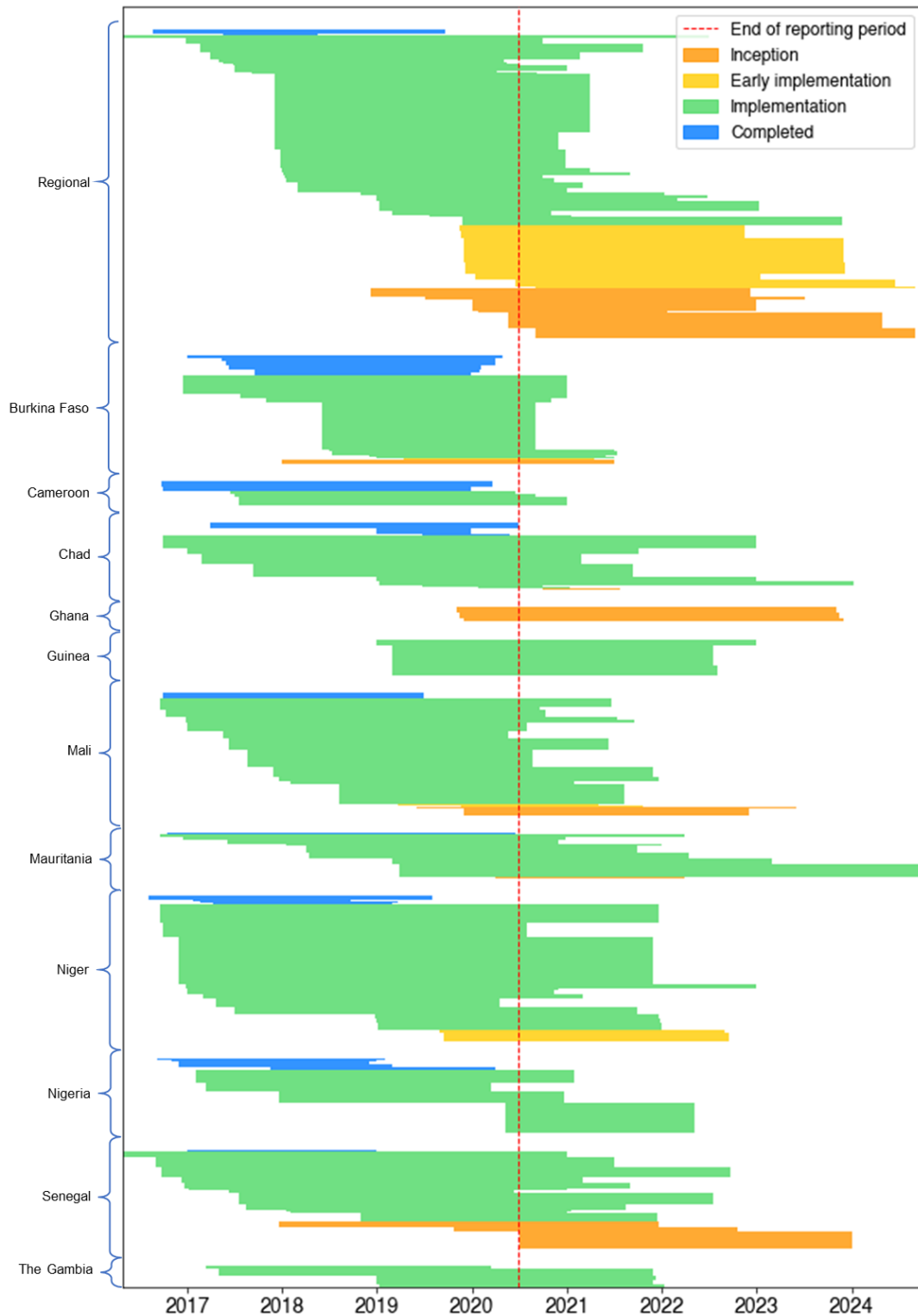


Figure 3: Evolution of projects and budgets covered by the MLS, November 2020



The below graph shows the 183 contracted operational projects by budget (height of bar), lifespan and status of implementation. The graph uses shortened programme names for the sake of clarity. Budgets are solely EUTF contribution. The length of the bars represents the lifespan of the project and the height/width the EUTF budget per project. The colour of the bars shows the status of the project. Dates of completion are considered as per November 2020.

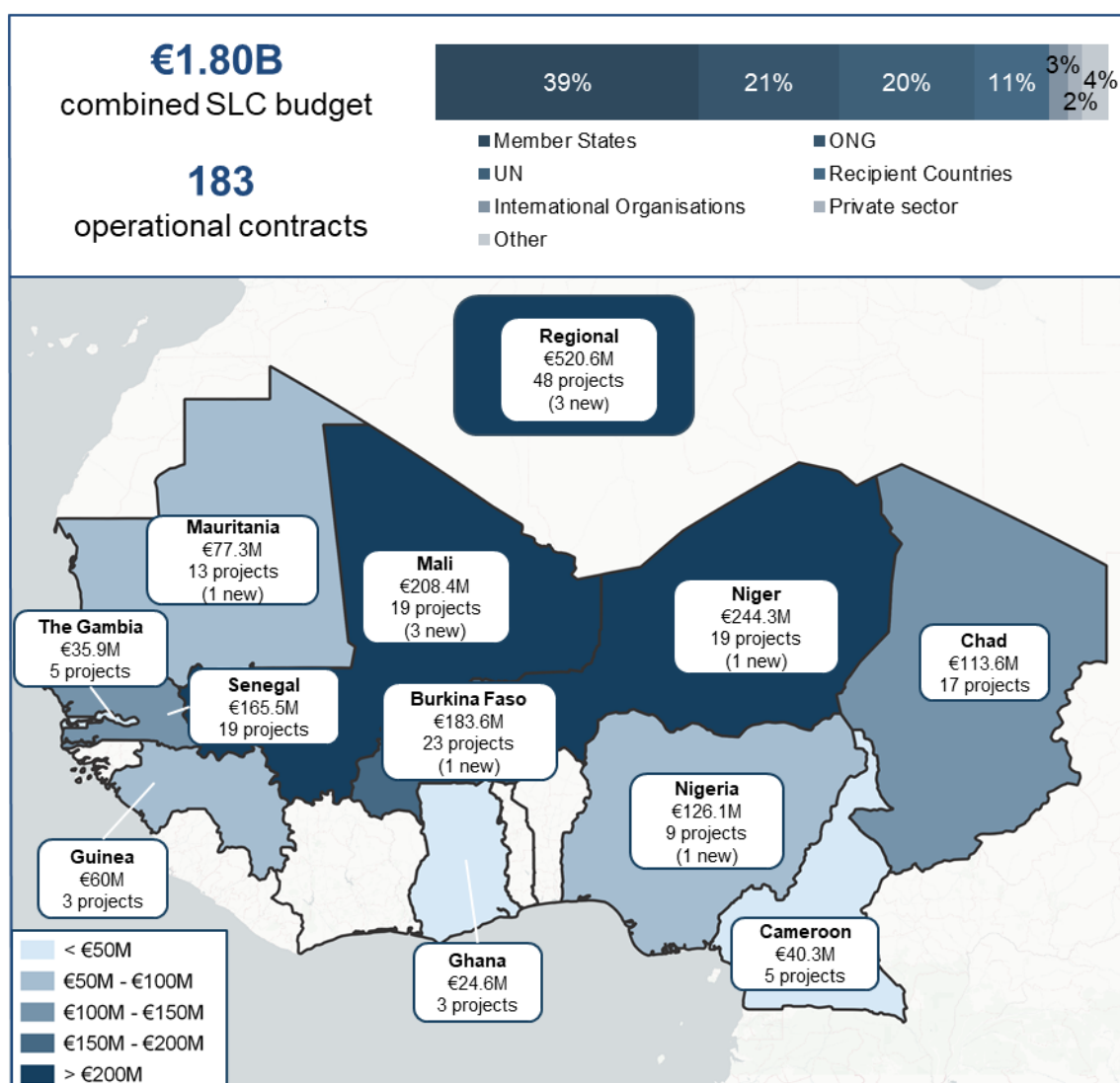
Figure 4: EUTF SLC contracted projects by budget and implementation status, November 2020



3.2. BUDGET DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTRY, IMPLEMENTING PARTNER AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

The below map shows the geographic distribution of the 183 operational contracts of interest to the MLS, in terms of budget, number of projects, and projects which have entered the MLS in the first half of 2020. The largest share, both in terms of budget and total number of projects, goes to regional projects, with 48 projects and €520.6M, or 29% of the total. Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso have the largest portfolios, with respective budgets of €244.3M (14%), €208.4M (12%) and €183.6M (10%).

Figure 5: Budget distribution by country and implementing partner, November 2020¹



The main issues affecting the SLC region are intertwined and often stem from common causes such as poor economic opportunities, lack of access to basic services, poor migration management and governance, deficient rule of law as well as conflict and insecurity. The SLC window's overall budget is relatively evenly split across strategic objectives. The country analysis section, in the next part of this report, offers a more in-depth analysis of how the EUTF's interventions are tailored to address the specific challenges faced by each country.

¹ The map shows the distribution of the combined SLC budget (€1.80B) for the 183 operational projects per country.

Of the total budget contracted by the Fund in the SLC window, security and governance activities (SO4) are funded at the highest level at 30% (€547M). SO4 is the main priority in Burkina Faso, where it accounts for 68% of the budget. In absolute numbers, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali receive the largest amount of funding for SO4, with respectively €125M, €96M, and €72M dedicated to these activities. Regional programmes focusing on SO4 represent €97M.

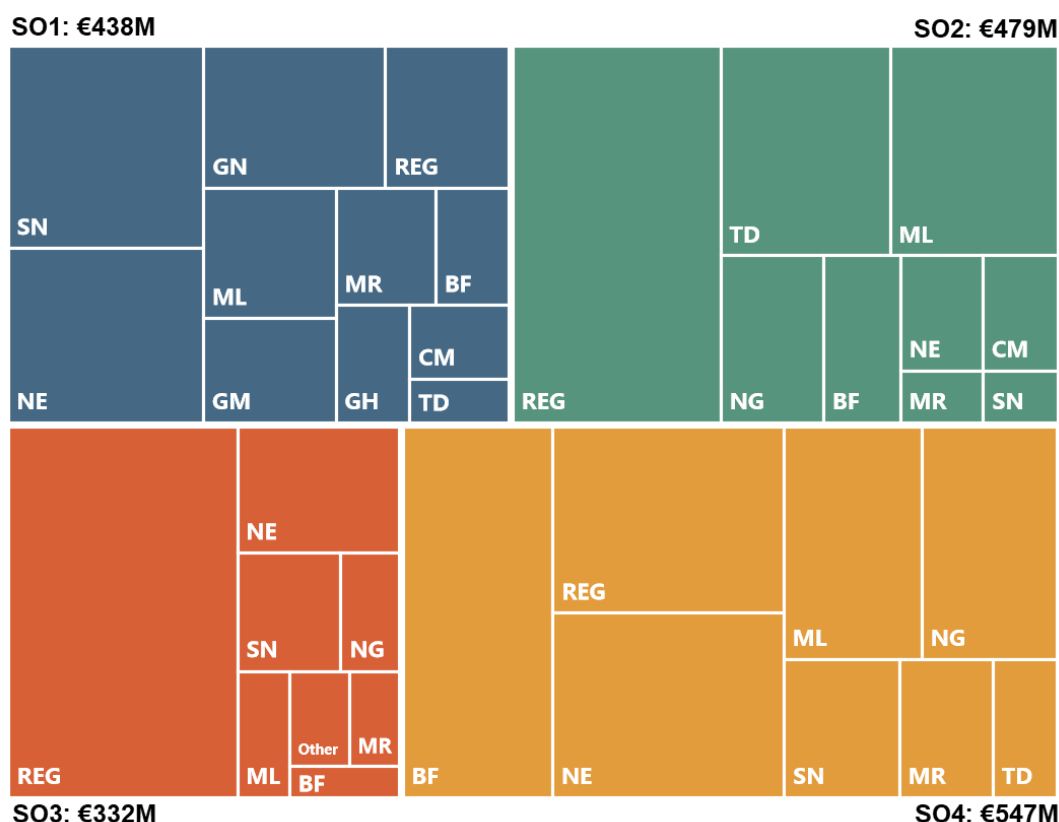
Resilience building activities (SO2) represent 27% of the EUTF funds in the SLC window (€479M) and are particularly important in Chad, Mali, and Nigeria. In absolute numbers, regional projects dedicated to SO2 received €183M; Chad received €83M, followed by Mali (€83M) and Nigeria (€40M).

24% (€438M) is dedicated to support economic and employment opportunities (SO1) activities. These types of activities are particularly important in the West African coastal countries of Guinea (100% of the total for this country), The Gambia (89%), Ghana (80%), and Senegal (56%). In absolute numbers, the countries with the largest amount of funding dedicated to SO1 are Senegal, with €92M, and Niger with €79M (32% of the country's total budget).

Migration management (SO3) represents another 18% (€332M) of the total EUTF funding in SLC. SO3 is funded primarily through regional programmes, which represent €195M. Country programmes dedicated to SO3 are mostly prevalent in Niger (€47M) and Senegal (€28M).

The remaining 1% of the EUTF budget contracted in SLC finances cross-cutting activities.

Figure 6: Budget breakdown by SOs, November 2020¹



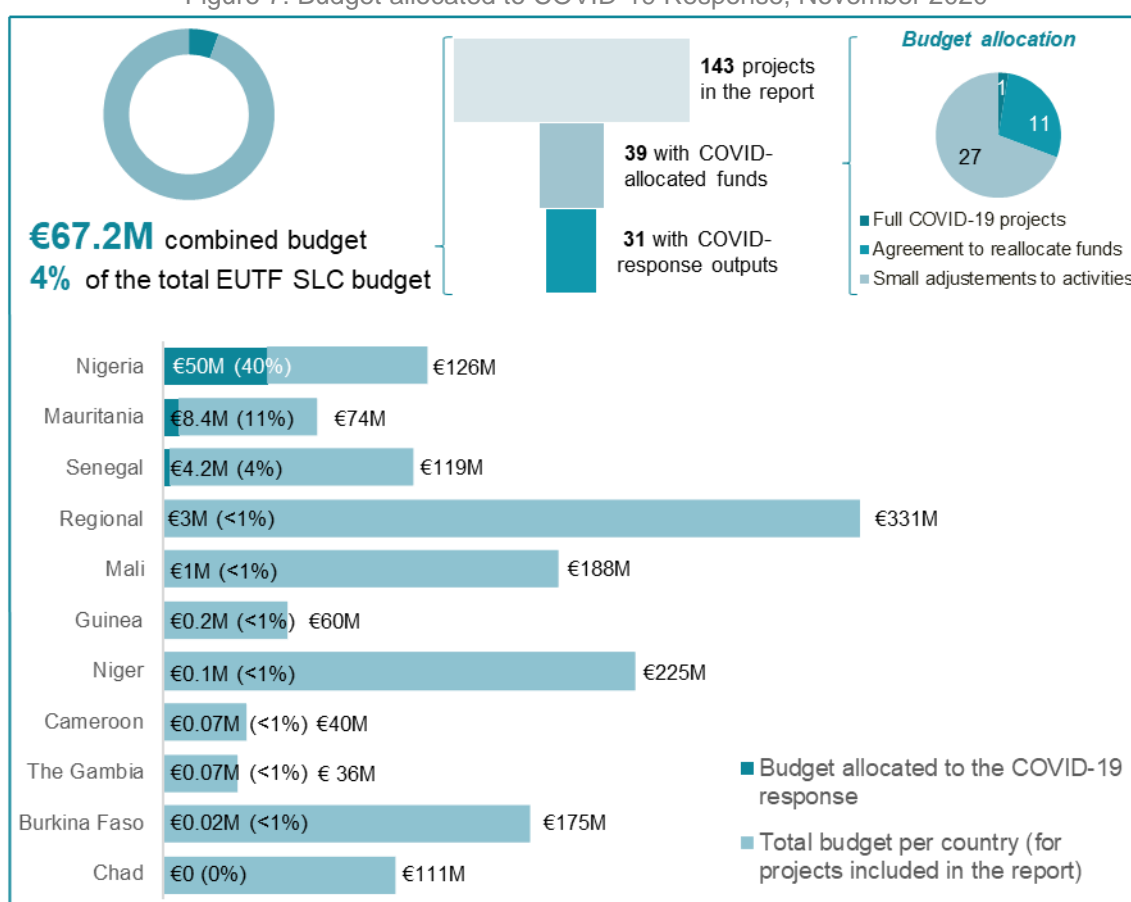
¹ Share of budget for projects contracted and relevant to the MLS. The total displayed in the visual is not showing SO5, which represents €5M.

3.3. BUDGET ALLOCATED TO THE COVID-19 RESPONSE

As of November 2020, €67.2M combined budget was allocated to the COVID-19 response, which represents 4% of the total EUTF budget for the SLC window. Most of this budget (69%) was used by IPs to make small adjustments to their activities, while 28% was based on agreements to reallocate funds. In addition, one project (around 3% of the budget) fully focused on the COVID-19 response: the 'One UN Response Plan' project implemented in Nigeria.

Of the 143 projects included in this report, 39 had COVID-allocated funds and 31 provided data on COVID-response outputs. In terms of regional repartition, most of the COVID-19 budget was allocated to Nigeria, with €50M which represents 40% of the country's EUTF budget, followed by Mauritania (€8.4M – 11%) and Senegal (€4.2M – 4%). In the other countries, €1M or less was allocated to COVID, which represents around 1-2% of their national EUTF budget.

Figure 7: Budget allocated to COVID-19 Response, November 2020



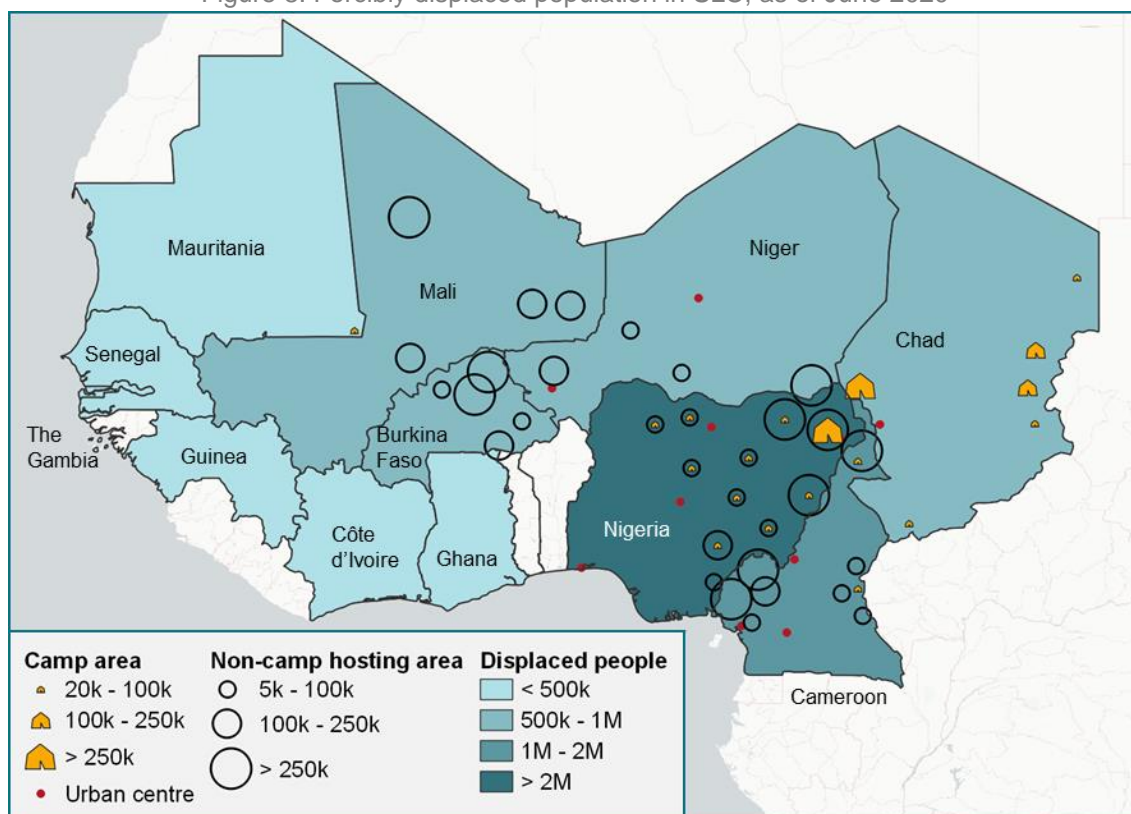
4. SITUATION AND RESULTS OVERVIEW

4.1. THE SAHEL AND LAKE CHAD REGION IN S1 2020

The situation in the Sahel and Lake Chad region continued to rapidly deteriorate during the first half of 2020. Mass displacement and levels of insecurity rose across the region, due to terrorist attacks and intercommunal violence which also started threatening coastal West African countries.¹ In the Liptako-Gourma area (the tri-border area between Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso), the number of fatalities reported reached 1,100 in March 2020 alone,² while violence against civilians by state forces was also on the rise, causing 250 fatalities between January and April 2020 in the area.³ In the Lake Chad Basin (LCB), Boko Haram and the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) remained a major threat in North-East Nigeria and in countries surrounding the LCB. Violence reached a peak in Nigeria with 1,400 reported fatalities due to conflict in May 2020 alone, most of them located in the Borno region.⁴

Increasing violence caused unprecedented waves of forced displacement across the region. In June 2020, the number of IDPs reached 1.7M in central Sahel,⁵ a 46% increase since December 2019, while it remained at around 2.7 million in the Lake Chad Basin.⁶ Massive displacement, combined with climate change, endemic poverty, and the COVID-19 pandemic, which broke out this semester resulted in a rising number of people in need, which reached 23.6 million as of May 2020.⁷

Figure 8: Forcibly displaced population in SLC, as of June 2020



¹ Security Council Report, 'West Africa and the Sahel', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

² ACLED, 'Armed Conflict Location and Event data project dashboard', 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ UNHCR Data portal, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

⁶ DTM, 'Regional displacement tracking matrix (DTM) - Monthly Dashboard', June 2020

⁷ OCHA, 'Overview of humanitarian needs and requirements', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

As of June 2020, 85,608 COVID-19 contaminations had been recorded in the whole SLC region, much less than in other parts of the world. However, measures taken by the governments to limit further spread of the disease had a severe socio-economic impact on the population. Lockdowns, travel bans, the prohibition of mass gatherings and the closure of markets disrupted trade and limited livelihood opportunities. Low and middle classes were the hardest hit by the economic crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.¹ These measures also had devastating effects on food security across SLC, as restrictions on movement cut farmers away from their lands and stopped them from delivering foodstuffs. Countries like Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger also suffered from the lack of access to their neighbours' ports – mainly Senegal, Guinea, Cameroon, Libya, Sudan and Nigeria – on which they heavily rely to access essential goods.² Finally, the combined effect of COVID-19 and rising violence put a significant strain on health services, especially in parts of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria where health centres were either closed or dysfunctional due to terrorist attacks.³

The pandemic particularly hit migrants and refugees, who were stranded in transit hubs due to increased border controls. Limited working opportunities and financial resources affected their physical and mental health (due to, for example, hunger, malaria, stress and anxiety), but also left migrants vulnerable to pursuing dangerous or risky sources of income.

¹ Ibid.

² IOM, 'COVID-19 in the Sahel and Lake Chad Basin Background Brief', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

³ Ibid.

4.2. THE EUTF RESPONSE – OVERVIEW OF RESULTS

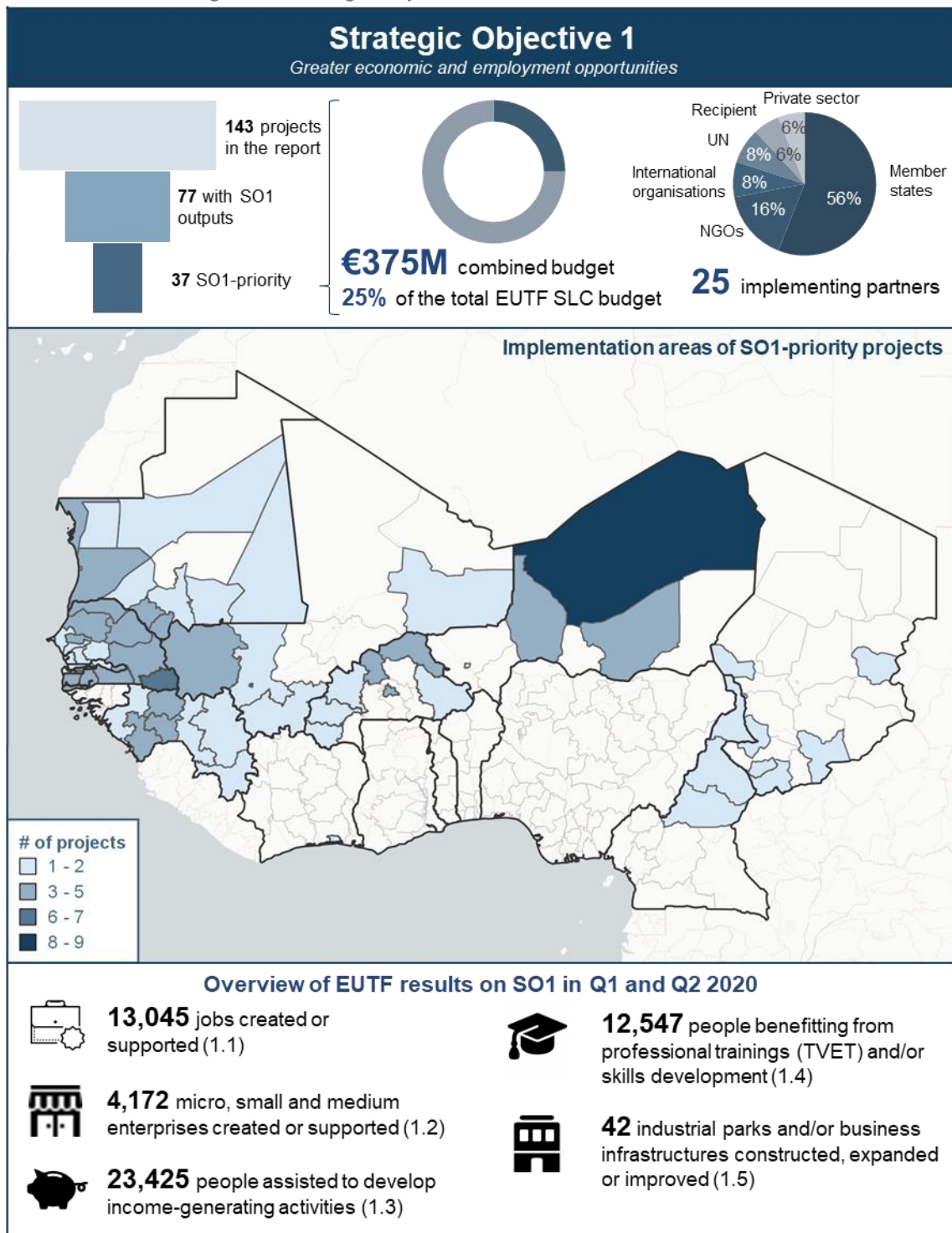
4.2.1. OVERVIEW OF EUTF INDICATORS OUTPUTS

Table 4: EUTF common output indicators for all SLC projects, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	16,059	23,180	13,045	52,285
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	4,232	3,427	4,172	11,831
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	75,252	113,323	23,425	211,999
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	32,195	43,940	12,547	88,683
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	18	279	42	339
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	69	137	40	246
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	1,592	2,415	529	4,536
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	404,048	460,322	96,804	961,173
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	559,955	752,077	149,128	1,461,160
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	529,237	687,198	384,446	1,600,881
2.5 Number of insitutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	182	239	12	433
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	11,413	93,257	10,289	114,959
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	667,966	1,308,698	14,955,425	16,932,089
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	15,082	34,490	7,279	56,852
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	2,275,885	1,288,675	288,372	3,852,932
3.1 Number of projects and initiatives supported by diaspora members	19	36	30	85
3.2 Number of migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs...	1,867	2,246	1,013	5,126
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	443,515	1,021,071	203,772	1,668,358
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	27,661	19,349	12,015	59,025
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	54,401	23,767	6,058	84,226
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	16,220	20,246	5,098	41,564
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	83	328	54	465
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	729	1,889	270	2,888
3.8 Number of people of concern benefitting from evacuation and resettlement...	2,915	1,395	359	4,669
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	11	326	173	510
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	10,340	4,115	828	15,283
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	22	22	8	52
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	472	1,312	2,853	4,637
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	13,694	11,960	4,993	30,647
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	544,936	387,087	127,375	1,059,398
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	131	734	108	973
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	205	765	434	1,404
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	202	316	157	675
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	153	197	43	393
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	53	68	34	155
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	923,177	923,177
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	571,770	571,770
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	696	696

4.2.2. GREATER ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Figure 9: Strategic Objective 1 Dashboard, SLC, June 2020



Prior to the economic crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, West African GDP was forecast to expand by 4% yearly in 2020¹, but the first half of 2020 brought growth to a halt. Partial to total lockdowns and mobility restrictions reduced trade and economic activities, especially in the second quarter of 2020. While the exact impact of COVID-19 on West African economies is still unclear, a deceleration in output growth appears inevitable, and will likely be reflected in a 4.3% contraction of per capita income in 2020, with risks of impoverishment for low and middle classes.² Formal labour force participation is also planned to decrease and be compensated by the informal sector.

Although West African authorities quickly acted to support the economy, these efforts were constrained by falling public revenues and limited fiscal space. Plummeting oil and metal prices affected resource-intensive countries in particular – such as Chad or Nigeria.³ As a response, some countries relaxed their monetary and prudential policies in order to inject liquidity in their banking systems and support economies, especially countries outside the two monetary blocks – West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (EMCCA) – with additional flexibility such as The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea or Nigeria.⁴

As mobility and work restrictions began to ease before the summer of 2020, the challenges remain numerous and serious for West African economies. With sanitary uncertainty over a new wave of contaminations, a projected 25% to 40% decrease in foreign direct investment to the continent in 2020,⁵ prospects are bleak. In the near futures, livelihood, informal, small-scale economic activities, as well as traditional forms of solidarity, are likely to play an ever-larger role in West African economies.⁶

Creating jobs to enhance economic perspectives, especially for the youth

In the SLC region, job creation, the quality of jobs created, and economic opportunities remain the primary concern for Sahelian countries, which continue to lag among the world's poorest nations.⁷ Non-inclusive economic growths and insufficient job creation have dramatic socio-economic consequences. Youth is one of the most impacted groups.⁸ While the COVID-19 crisis has shed light on the vulnerabilities of youths worldwide, in West Africa, contextual fragilities are piling up on top of existing structural economic weaknesses for the youths. Indeed, West African youngsters are facing socio-economic, geographical, political, and cultural obstacles. The transition from school to the labour market and working life is particularly difficult, due to a lack of formal employment and private sector as well as important skill gaps and mismatches, among others. Professional insertion becomes even more delicate in the cases of school dropouts. Economic independence is made more difficult in a context of insecurity, fragile education systems, weakening family structures in some cases, inadequate preparedness for the job market, and insufficient job offer.⁹

Against this backdrop, the EUTF has strived to accelerate formal and informal job creation across the SLC, and this with a special focus on youth.

In the first half of 2020, 13,045 jobs were created. Programmes that made the biggest contribution to job creation were Pôles Ruraux in Niger (NE-03, with 3,542 jobs created or supported in the first half of 2020), PARERBA in Senegal (SN-08, 1,912), Emploi Burkina Faso (BF-05, 1,502), *Développer l'Emploi au Sénégal* (SN-04, 1,342), and INTEGRA in Guinea (GN-01, 1,111). Youth (under 35) represented 24% of the beneficiaries in S1 2020, non-youth 8%, while the rest of beneficiaries were unspecified adults over 18. Pôles Ruraux created two types of jobs during S1 2020: casual, daily jobs revolving

¹ AfDB, 'West Africa Economic Outlook 2020', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Ibid.

³ IMF, 'Regional Economic Outlook – Sub-Saharan Africa', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ At the world level, the UNCTAD estimates that foreign direct investments will decrease by 40% in 2020. UNCTAD, 'World Investment Report', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ AfDB, 'West Africa Economic Outlook 2020', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ IMF, 'IMF Data Mapper – GDP per capita, current prices', October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ AfDB, 'Chapitre 5 – La jeunesse africaine sur le marché du travail', 2015. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ Ibid.

around soil preparation and soil development for agriculture in the regions of Agadez and Tahoua, and full-time jobs in farm families supported by the project. Overall, most jobs created in the first half of 2020 were related to agriculture, fishery and livestock production or processing (48% over the period). This is consistent with the importance of the agricultural sector in West-African economies: employment in agriculture represented 76% of total employment in Chad,¹ 62% in Mali,² and 51% in Mauritania³ in 2020. Many jobs created by the EUTF in the first half of 2020 dealt with construction (9%) and the building or renovation of basic infrastructure. Cash-for-work and daily jobs represented 35% of the total number of jobs created in this period, against 23% for self-employment, 21% for short-term jobs,⁴ and 21% for permanent, long-term wage employment. Cash-for-work and daily jobs were proportionally more important during this period than before, as they only represented 24% of the total jobs created as of 31 December 2019. This increase can partly be explained by Pôles Ruraux's contribution, which had many cash-for-work jobs over the semester. Despite EUTF's attention to gender balance, men benefitted more from job creation than women this half: 53% vs 34%, while 13% were unspecified.

Fostering Technical and Vocational Education and Training

In West Africa and in the Sahel especially, school systems are caught between paltry public funding and consequent educational needs, with high numbers of school-age children and high fertility rates.⁵ The COVID-19 pandemic added pressure to already extremely fragile educational systems. Prior to the pandemic, in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, some 4,000 schools were closed or not functioning normally, due to insecurity, poor infrastructures and insufficient personnel.⁶ Over eight million children aged 6 to 14 were out of school in these countries, more than half of all the children in this age group. An additional 1,000 schools were closed in the Lake Chad region.⁷ Beyond the immediate negative effects (loss of knowledge acquisition, loss of one meal a day, loss of social activities), school closures became even more problematic over time, with many youngsters reaching working age unprepared and disadvantaged. This could lead to fewer young people having a job, formal or not, and more people resorting to alternative activities, and in the worst cases, illegal or criminal ones.

In this context, the EUTF has deployed a strategy to achieve short-term results in bringing out-of-school youngsters back towards education – mostly practical education – and employment. This strategy is both justified by social imperatives, to create opportunities for the youth, and by labour market considerations. In order to reduce the mismatch between people's qualification – especially young, unemployed people – and the job market, the EUTF continued to support Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET),⁸ as well as job placements and other ways to facilitate professional insertion in the first half of 2020. Indeed, TVET appears as a relevant and efficient way to help beneficiaries find a job, especially in times of economic turbulences linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several types of TVET were provided by the EUTF. On one hand, quick, practical, hands-on trainings were delivered, in various fields such as agriculture, crafts, or logistics, where there is job offer and potential for further job creation. On the other hand, trainings dealing with general knowledge and basic skills, including literacy skills, were provided. In the first half of 2020, and despite lockdowns that impacted TVET activities for many countries or programmes after March 2020, the EUTF continued to implement the TVET component of its strategy as intended.

In S1 2020, 12,547 people benefitted from TVET funded by the EUTF, representing 14% of the total number of people benefitting from TVET since the inception of the EUTF. The TVET provided between

¹ WB, 'World Bank Data – Chad', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² WB, 'World Bank Data – Mali', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ WB, 'World Bank Data – Mauritania', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Short-term jobs refer to all non-cash-for-work or non-daily jobs that are short term.

⁵ WB, 'World Bank Data – Sub-Saharan Africa', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ OCHA, 'Overview of Humanitarian Needs and Requirements Sahel Crisis', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ According to ILO, TVET is "a primary instrument used to meet labour market needs that emerge from rapid technological changes, economic growth, and unfolding labour market dynamics.". ILO, Compilation of assessment studies on technical vocational education and training. Retrieved [here](#).

January and June 2020 was mostly technical (49%), followed by dual education – TVET and skills development – (31%), entrepreneurship trainings (8%) and financial trainings (6%). The three most important programmes in terms of number of TVET beneficiaries this period were PAFAM in Mali (ML-02, 2,418), Emploi Burkina Faso (BF-05, 1,647) and EJOM in Mali (ML-09, 1,482). The PAFAM programme dealt with the cashew sector in Mali. Beneficiaries were trained on agricultural practices – fertilising, harvesting, collecting, filtering, drying, environmental protection and sustainable management of the lands –, product transformation practices – for the cooperatives of women who run the plants created by the programme for the transformation of nuts and almonds –, and commercialisation practices. The action took place in the south of Mali (Sikasso, Koulikoro, Kayes) where rainfalls are favourable to such crops. In Mali too, the EJOM programme provided TVET in the fields of waste management, horticulture, agri-business and crafts.

Some programmes were more impacted by the overall context and COVID-19 restrictions and could not conduct TVET with the same pace as usual. This was the case of Bab-al-Amal (TD-03) in Chad, where a strict lockdown was imposed and TVET centres closed (Bab-al-Amal trained 579 people through TVET in Q1 2020, before having to close in Q2 2020). In Burkina Faso, programmes with TVET activities also had to slow down their activities in the second quarter of 2020 to cope with the government's measures. As a result, Emploi Burkina Faso (BF-05) trained 1,416 people in Q1 2020 and 231 in Q2, PEV (BF-08)¹ 878 and 65 respectively, and Mode Éthique (REG-07) in Burkina Faso 37 and 7 respectively.

Beyond numbers of people reached, TVET-related efforts must be gender sensitive. Indeed, TVET is a tool that allows to reduce the gender gap for professional insertion and create opportunities for women who are more often excluded from employment than men, or more exposed to informal employment (95% of active women in Sub-Saharan Africa excluding Southern Africa are working in the informal sector, vs 89% of men).² EUTF-funded TVET aims to help fill the gap to maximise women's professional insertion and create job opportunities. Overall, women represented 39% of the beneficiaries over the first half of 2020, men 52%, and the remaining 9% were unspecified. While men represented the majority of beneficiaries, the gap was slightly reduced in comparison with the balance achieved as of 31 December 2019: 31% women, 54% men, 15% unspecified.

Supporting income-generating activities

In Africa, traditional, informal livelihood activities remain indispensable for people, especially in the agricultural sector.³ Sub-Saharan African countries have higher shares of on-farm income and lower shares on non-agricultural wage income, which make them very dependent on agricultural activities, and agro-climatic conditions. Beyond agricultural activities, the share of the informal sector in West African economies is enormous: for instance, informal employment represents 82% of non-agriculture employment in a country like Cameroon,⁴ and 73% in Niger.⁵

Consequently, the EUTF has elaborated a multi-pronged strategy to support income-generating activities (IGAs) and livelihood activities in various economic sectors. While economic diversification is necessary in the long term, to help mitigate these countries' vulnerabilities to climatic events or agricultural commodity price fluctuations, in the short term, support to agricultural IGAs remains key, as agriculture represents the bulk of employment. Support to agricultural activities included facilitating access to land and natural resources, improving logistics, and enhancing transformation of agricultural products into higher value-added products.

¹ Rebâtir une cohésion sociale au Nord du Burkina à travers un meilleur suivi de la radicalisation, la promotion du dialogue et la valorisation de l'économie pastoraliste.

² ILO, 'Women and men in the informal economy, a statistical brief', 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

³ WB, 'Income Diversification Patterns in Rural Sub-Saharan Africa', 2014. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ WB, 'World Bank Data' – Cameroon. Retrieved [here](#).

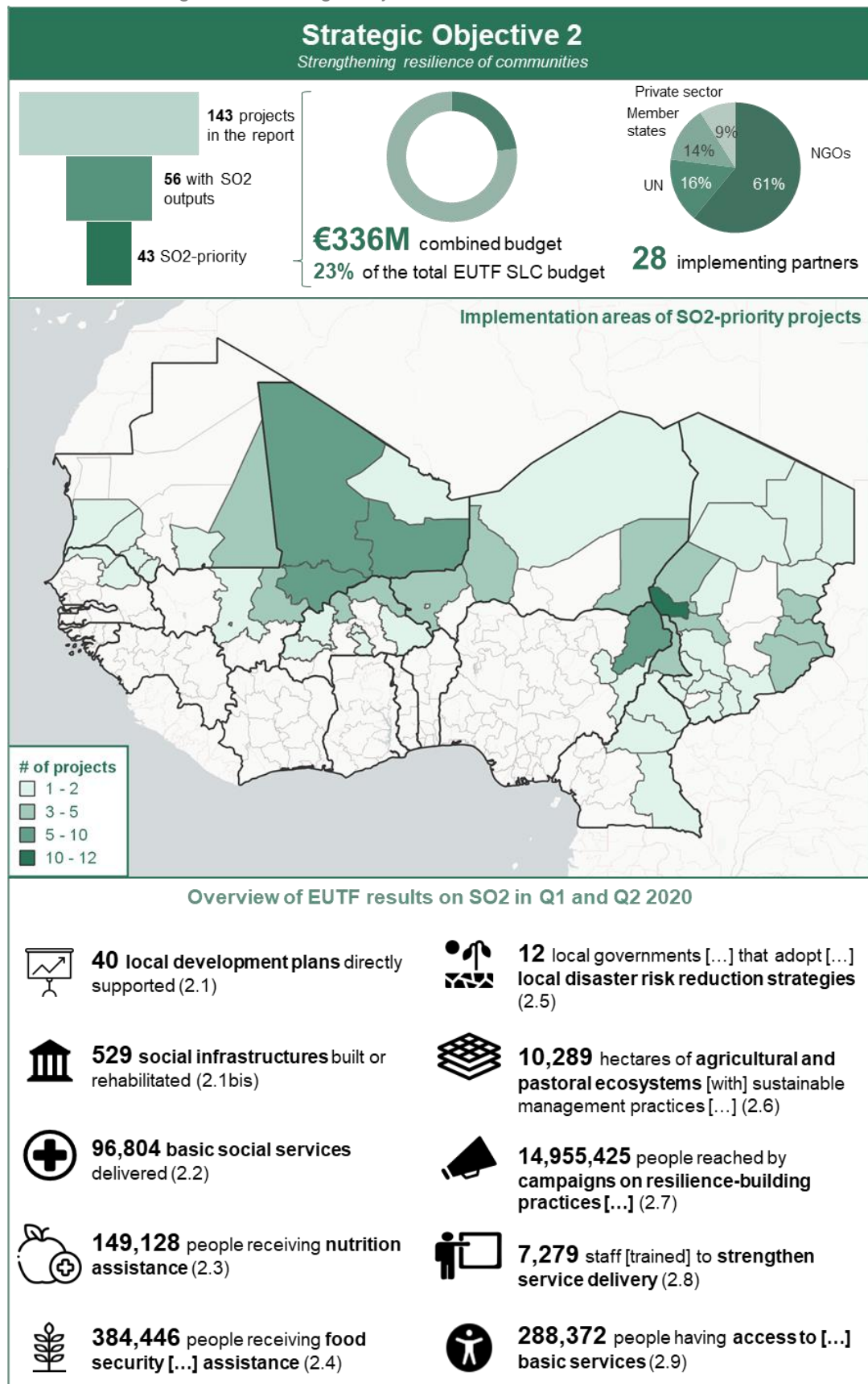
⁵ WB, 'World Bank Data' – Niger. Retrieved [here](#).

In the first half of 2020, the EUTF supported a total of 23,425 people to develop IGAs across SLC. Programmes that supported the most IGAs were Résilience Septentrion (CM-01) in Cameroon (8,422 IGAs supported in the first half of 2020, or 61% of the total IGAs supported by the programme since its activities started in May 2018), Stabilisation Séno (BF-02) in Burkina Faso (2,045), RESTE (TD-01) in Chad (1,990), and RESILAC (REG-05) in the four countries of the Lake Chad Basin (1,889). Host communities represented 43% of the beneficiaries in S1 2020, vulnerable people/potential migrants 28%, refugees and asylum seekers 7%, and IDPs 5%.¹ The most common types of support provided in the first half of 2020 were support to Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) members (33%), IGAs training (31%), material support and initial equipment (17%), and group establishment (13%). Female represented 59% of beneficiaries, men 31%, and the remaining 10% was unspecified, demonstrating the EUTF's engagement to promote women's entrepreneurship and IGAs, as well as women's salient role in day-to-day economic life across SLC.

¹ The rest of the beneficiaries were returnees or belonging to an unspecified group.

4.2.3. STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE OF COMMUNITIES

Figure 10: Strategic Objective 2 Dashboard, SLC, June 2020



Due to upsurges in conflicts, frequent climatic hazards,¹ and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic,² the situation deteriorated rapidly in the SLC in the first half of 2020, causing humanitarian needs to reach unprecedented levels.³ As of May 2020, 24 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance in the region,⁴ a 14% increase from 21 million in 2019.⁵

Food insecurity rose to unprecedented peaks. While in 2019 7.2 million people were food insecure at Crisis and Emergency levels in the SLC,⁶ the number rose by 69% to 12.2 million as of May 2020.⁷ Malnutrition in the region also deteriorated rapidly, with 1.6 million children under five suffering from severe acute malnutrition, compared to 1.5 million in 2019, a 7% increase.⁸ The COVID-19 pandemic further increased the risk of food insecurity,⁹ as well as put further stress on fragile healthcare systems,¹⁰ and weakened local economies.

The EUTF's response in this regard has been multifaceted. To mitigate the impact of external shocks and strengthen resilience, the EUTF intervened to a large extent through the Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD) approach, which consists of bridging the gap between humanitarian and development operations. LRRD programmes can provide immediate assistance to the most vulnerable by delivering direct food and nutrition supplies. They can also provide farming inputs, livestock distribution and agricultural IGAs to strengthen the resilience of farmers and herders. In the long run, they can additionally build the capacities of local authorities to better anticipate and respond to disaster risks, as well as rehabilitate agricultural land and social infrastructures to increase food security and healthcare, education, housing, and access to water.

Providing food security-related assistance to mitigate the impact of conflict and climate change

Agricultural and pastoral outputs in the SLC region are increasingly affected by the combined effect of rising insecurity and subsequent mass displacements. Continuous attacks against civilians, coupled with looting and banditry, have deeply affected the functioning of markets and limited populations' access to fields and agricultural inputs.¹¹ Thousands of people have been forced out of their homes, resulting in loss of livelihoods and productive assets as well as the development of harmful survival strategies such as reducing the number of daily meals.

To mitigate such vulnerability, EUTF-funded programmes have provided food security-related assistance to 253,877 people in Q1 2020 and 130,569 people in Q2 (indicator 2.4). In the first quarter of 2020, 92,628 beneficiaries received farming inputs. 78% of them were reached through the Résilience Burkina Faso programme (BF-01), which distributed food aid in the form of food vouchers to vulnerable people in the North and Sahel regions of Burkina Faso. In the second quarter, 78,338 beneficiaries received farming inputs. 94% of them were assisted by the RRR programme (NG-07)¹² in Nigeria. To reinforce crop production and diversification, RRR provided vulnerable households with quality agricultural inputs in the conflict-ridden state of Borno.

Climate change is a significant aggravating factor to food insecurity. It has affected rainfall patterns across the region, increased the frequency and scale of shocks such as droughts and floods, and

¹ OCHA, 'Overview of Humanitarian needs and requirements – Sahel Crisis', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² UNHCR, 'COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE – West & Central Africa', 1 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ UNHCR 'External Operational Update – UNHCR Sahel Response', 30 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ OCHA - Sahel Crisis. Op. Cit.

⁵ OCHA, '2019 SAHEL DASHBOARD: Humanitarian overview', September 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ OCHA, 'Overview of Humanitarian needs and requirements – Sahel Crisis', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ OCHA. 2019 Sahel Dashboard. Op. Cit.

⁹ UNHCR, 'West & Central Africa Update', May-June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹⁰ UNHCR External Update. Op. Cit.

¹¹ FAO, 'Sahel region, FAO in emergencies', accessed in April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹² 'Restoring and promoting sustainable agriculture-based livelihoods for food security and nutrition improvement in Borno state.' (RRR) is an EUTF-funded programme implemented by FAO, WFP and UNW in Nigeria

accelerated environmental degradation.¹ In late June 2020, heavy rainfall caused floods in parts of Niger and Mali. The most impacted areas were the regions of Maradi and Tahoua in Niger, with respectively 13,667 and 4,173 people affected, and the Mopti region in Mali, with 7,648 people affected, including 5,406 IDPs.² Additionally, due to desertification, vast swaths of pastoral and agro-pastoral lands are suffering severe pasture and water deficits, and it is estimated that 80% of the agricultural land is degraded in the SLC.³ The consequences on food security are disastrous, affecting local food production and availability, increasing food prices and fuelling intercommunal competition over scarce resources.⁴ The EUTF has strived to reinforce the resilience of communities against external shocks. In S1 2020, 96,094 beneficiaries gained access to irrigation (indicator 2.4), including 89,699 in Q1 2020 alone. In this quarter, 89% of them were pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in the Timbuktu, Kidal, Gao, and Mopti regions of Mali and were assisted by SDNM2 programme (ML-04)⁵ which supported the construction of dedicated infrastructures. About one third of food security-related assistance beneficiaries (27%) benefitted from land rehabilitation, almost entirely in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso through the development of sylvo-pastoral arrangements and water points for agro-pastoralists by the Stabilisation Séno programme (BF-02).

Improving access to and delivery of basic social services in volatile areas

The SLC region has a high rate of mortality under five years old and access to primary health care is very limited.⁶ Additionally, rising insecurity has forced health centres to close by the hundreds,⁷ especially in conflict-hit Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, where a total of 241 health centres were closed or non-operational due to insecurity.⁸ The provision of health services in Cameroon, Chad, Nigeria and the Diffa region of eastern Niger was disrupted as well, as armed groups directly target health workers, and NGOs such as Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) have had to suspend their medical activities twice: once in Nigeria's Borno state in 2018 and once in Niger's Diffa region the following year.⁹

One of the EUTF's commitments is to improve access to basic social services for conflict-hit populations. As such, 82,578 basic social services were delivered in the first quarter of 2020, and 14,226 in the second (indicator 2.2). Overall, health care featured prominently, as 95% of services were physical and/or mental health related as of June 2020. In the first half of 2020, Nigeria and Cameroon were the top recipients of health care assistance. In the violence-torn Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states of Nigeria, 326 health facilities were fully damaged as of 16 June 2020, compromising access to health services for millions.¹⁰ In Nigeria, the PSS programme (NG-06)¹¹, strived, until its completion in March 2020, to strengthen the resilience of conflict-affected children, by reinforcing delivery of and access to community-based children protection services as well as mental health and psycho-social support services. In Q1, they provided psycho-social support to 56,847 beneficiaries in Borno, accounting for 69% of all basic social services delivered during this period. The situation is also tense in Cameroon, where 2.9 million people needed health assistance in 2020.¹² In Far North Region, incidents with armed groups have greatly limited access to humanitarian and development assistance.¹³ 24% and 72% of all basic social services delivered, respectively, in Q1 and Q2 were delivered in Far

¹ WFP, 'Scaling up for resilient individuals, communities and systems in the Sahel. Operational Reference Note', 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

² FloodList, 'West Africa – 9 Dead, Thousands of Homes Destroyed After Floods in Niger and Mali', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ OCHA, 'Overview of Humanitarian needs and requirements – Sahel Crisis', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ 'Sécurité et Développement au Nord du Mali – phase 2 (SDNM 2)'.

⁶ Alliance Sahel, 'Decentralization and basic services', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ OCHA, 'Overview of Humanitarian needs and requirements – Sahel Crisis', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ Policy Center for the New South, 'impact of COVID-19 in central Sahel: Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso', August 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ MSF, 'LAKE CHAD CRISIS: Over 10M people heavily dependent on aid for survival', February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹⁰ OCHA, 'BAY states, Nigeria: Humanitarian Snapshot', 16 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ 'Strengthening Psychosocial Support, Mental Health, Reintegration and Protection Services for children in Borno, including children associated with Boko Haram.' is an EUTF-funded programme implemented by UNICEF in Nigeria

¹² OCHA, 'Cameroon: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN AT A GLANCE', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹³ UNHCR, 'Cameroon MCO Factsheet', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

North, through the Résilience Septentrion programme (CM-01), which aims to reinforce the availability of health services in the region. The programme's services consisted in vaccinations and support to successful childbirths for host communities.

Besides providing access to basic services, the EUTF also acts on a structural level, by building the capacities of local authorities and service providers to strengthen service delivery. In Q1 2020, 3,538 people benefitted from capacity building, and 3,742 in Q2 (indicator 2.8). The sharpest increase occurred in Cameroon (+34% in Q2 2020), mainly through Résilience Septentrion, which provided nutrition trainings to community volunteers in the Adamawa and Far North regions. In Q2, 3,383 community relays were trained to the Sustainable Nutrition for All approach, which consists of awareness-raising campaigns and demonstrations on the status of stunting in young children, combined with an evaluation of agricultural practices, with an aim to identify and train community relays to sustain the campaigns. This type of action is particularly needed as Cameroon harboured about 585,000 severely malnourished people in 2020.¹

Providing nutrition assistance to vulnerable children and women

In June 2020, about 2 million children under five were severely malnourished in the SLC.² Additionally, within a context combining insecurity, the disruption of basic social services and a global pandemic, the closure of schools means many children no longer had access to feeding programmes.³

The EUTF worked to mitigate this situation following a two-pronged approach. On one hand, it delivered nutrition assistance to 120,776 beneficiaries in Q1 2020, and 28,352 in Q2 (indicator 2.3). The main recipient country in Q1 was Senegal, with 49% of the beneficiaries (58,856), all through Yellitaare (SN-01). The programme offered nutritious food, home visits, screening, and treatment for acute malnutrition to vulnerable children in the Saint-Louis and Matam regions. In Senegal, malnutrition stood at 8.2% in 2020, with chronic malnutrition affecting 19% of children aged 6 to 59 months⁴ and 17% being moderately to severely stunted.⁵ Cameroon was the main recipient in Q2, with 9,422 beneficiaries reached through Résilience Septentrion (CM-01), 33% of the total reached during this period. In the country, 585,000 people were in urgent need of nutrition assistance in 2020.⁶ In the Far North region, prices for staple foods have remained atypically high since April for commodities such as rice and oil, limiting access to food for poor households.⁷ In Q2, Résilience Septentrion provided curative consultations, including screening, referral, and payment of costs, as well as treatment against Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) to host community children under five in Far North. Finally, although accounting for 15% of beneficiaries in Q2, Mauritania witnessed the largest increase in nutrition assistance (+134% in Q2). Through the SAFIRE programme (MR-07), which aims to strengthen the resilience of rural communities in Mauritania, 4,141 vulnerable women in Hodh ech Chargui were screened for malnutrition in Q2.

Beyond these aspects, the EUTF has also launched wide sensitisation campaigns on nutrition and dietary intake. 115,474 people were reached by sensitisation campaigns on nutrition and food security in Q1 2020, and 92,857 in Q2 (indicator 2.7). There was a significant 10% increase in people reached by nutrition-related sensitisation campaigns in Q1, and a 7% increase in Q2. In Mauritania, during the first half of 2020, SAFIRE reached 67,049 vulnerable people, mostly youth, with awareness-raising actions for the promotion of infant and young child nutrition and essential family practices in Nouakchott and Hodh ech Chargui. In Mauritania, sensitising the youth to child-feeding practices is especially relevant, as about 37% of women aged 20 to 24 were married before 18 and 18% before 15,⁸ and

¹ OCHA, 'Cameroon: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN AT A GLANCE', accessed October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² OCHA, 'SAHEL DASHBOARD: Humanitarian overview', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ OCHA, 'Overview of Humanitarian needs and requirements – Sahel Crisis', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ WFP Senegal, 'Country Brief', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ UNDP, 'Human Development Data (1990-2018)', Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ OCHA, "Cameroon: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN AT A GLANCE", accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ FEWS Net, 'Cameroun : Mise à jour sur la sécurité alimentaire', August 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ UNPFA, 'Child Marriage in West and Central Africa at a Glance', September 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

mothers' mean age at first childbirth is 22.¹ In Senegal, through Yellitaare, which aims to strengthen resilience in the northern Matam and Saint-Louis regions, 41,556 vulnerable women were sensitised to good dietary and nutritional practices, as well as trained on accessible local products that are rich in micronutrients. Improving women's nutritional practices is particularly important in Senegal, for poor maternal nutrition, which is highly prevalent especially amongst adolescent girls, is associated with an intergenerational cycle of malnutrition and poverty.² In Chad, 27,431 vulnerable people, mostly women, were sensitised to good hygiene and nutritional practices in the Lac, Kanem and Bahr al Ghazal regions. Targeting women is especially relevant, as 48% of Chadian women of reproductive age have anaemia³ due to overall low levels of consumption of foods of animal origin and of fruits and vegetables.⁴

¹ NationMaster, "Mother's mean age at first birth: Countries Compared", accessed October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

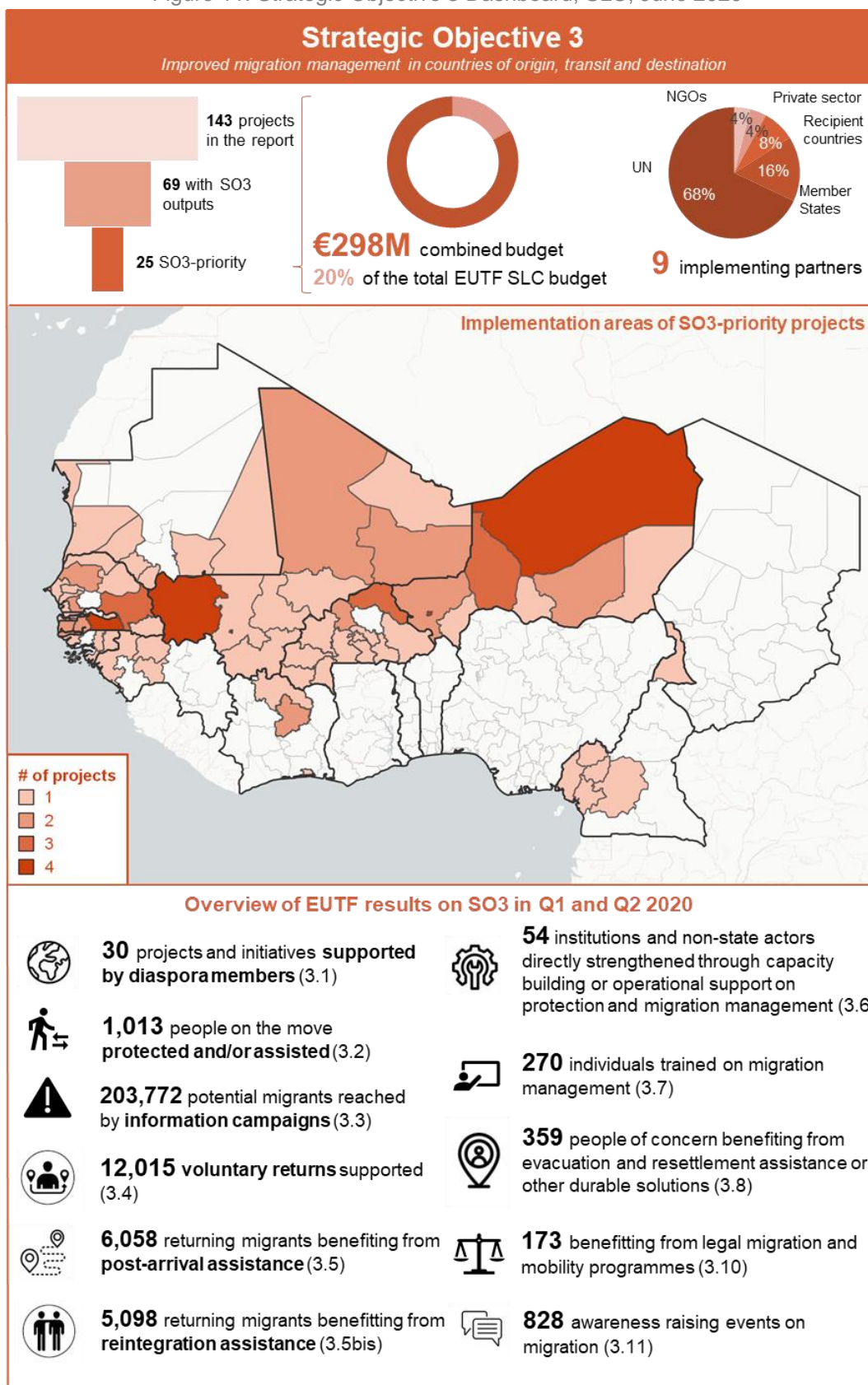
² USAID, 'Senegal: Nutrition Profile', February 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

³ Global Nutrition Report, 'Chad Nutrition Profile', 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ FAO, 'Nutrition Country Profiles: Republic of Chad – SUMMARY', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

4.2.4. IMPROVED MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

Figure 11: Strategic Objective 3 Dashboard, SLC, June 2020



The management of migration flows in the Sahel and Lake Chad region has become increasingly difficult in the last years. The number of forcibly displaced has increased worryingly, with 4.5 million people reportedly displaced from their homes in June 2020,¹ one million more than in 2018.² Beyond the rise of the population in need, the unpredictable nature of the factors leading to displacement also poses serious challenges. The area has also seen an increase in security attacks and civilian deaths in the first half of 2020, especially in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.³

In this context, the EUTF aims to strengthen institutions and non-state actors through capacity building or operational support on protection and migration management. Strengthening the protection response is particularly important as migrants' protection needs and vulnerabilities have significantly increased in recent years,⁴ partly due to a greater focus on border management in migration-related programming which has led people on the move to use more dangerous routes.⁵ Return, evacuation and resettlement have also gained prominence in a context of growing insecurity for the forcibly displaced, with the upsurge of conflict in Libya and the numerous attacks on refugees camps in Burkina Faso at the beginning of the year.⁶

Strengthening the capacity of institutions and non-state actors on protection and migration management

Countries in the Sahel and Lake Chad region are characterised by weak governmental institutions which often lack the capacity and resources to deal with migration management. These institutions have been increasingly challenged by the rise of insecurity in the region as well as the increased effects of climate change on lands and communities, notably leading to widespread food insecurity.⁷ More recently, institutions were shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic which led several governments in the region to impose curfews and closures of borders.⁸ In this context, support to institutions and non-state actors mandated to manage migration is key to ensure proper assistance to and protection of migrants. In this regard, EUTF notably aims to increase and improve the capacities of the different actors involved in migration management, through a combination of training, technical support and/or operational support.

During the first half of 2020, 54 institutions and non-state organisations (53 in Q1 2020 and one in Q2 2020) were directly strengthened in protection and migration management, mainly through training (80%) and technical assistance (18%) (indicator 3.6). The main types of structures receiving this support were national civilian institutions (85%), followed by NGOs and CSOs (15%), which are also key actors in the protection and assistance of migrants. In addition, 270 people were trained on migration management (138 in Q1 2020 and 132 in Q2 2020), including 22% of women⁹ (indicator 3.7).

Human trafficking is both an internal and external phenomenon in the SLC region.¹⁰ The *Traite des Êtres Humains* (TEH - REG-12) programme implemented by Expertise France since 2019 in the Gulf of Guinea¹¹ aims to contribute to the fight against human trafficking in the region. One of the key aspects of this programme is to strengthen the capacity of the different types of actors involved in this fight, notably to improve the implementation of the legislative and normative frameworks developed at the national level. Among other actors, the programme aims to sustainably strengthen the leadership, legitimacy and operational capacities of inter-ministerial committees and organise training cycles for the

¹ OCHA, 'Humanitarian needs rise in the Sahel amid COVID-19', 18 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² OCHA - Sahel Crisis. Op. Cit.

³ RFI, '*G5 Sahel: un 6e sommet des chefs d'État dans un contexte de multiplication des attaques*', 24 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ MMC/ UNHCR, 'On this journey, no one cares if you live or die', 29 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ Clingendael, 'Multilateral Damage – The impact of EU migration policies on central Saharan routes', September 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ UNHCR, 'Insecurity in Burkina Faso forces thousands of Malian refugees to leave camp', 3 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ OCHA - Sahel Crisis. Op. Cit.

⁸ Alain Antil, Katia Djellat, '*Le COVID-19 au Sahel: pandémie lente mais impact multiples*', 13 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ In 25% of the case the gender was not specified.

¹⁰ UNODC, 'Prevention of human trafficking'. Accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ It covers Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria as well as Togo and Benin. These two last countries are covered by the co-financing fund of the French Ministry of Europe and International Affairs.

members of these national committees. As a result, 17 people were trained in Q1 2020 in Guinea, including five women (29%). In addition, 21 people were trained in Q2 2020, including 12 women (57%). Among them, 11 people were trained in Ghana and 10 people in Côte d'Ivoire (indicator 3.7). Beyond the members of these committees, TEH also aims to increase the capacity of staff working in centres dedicated to victims of trafficking, notably to ensure that appropriate care and support are provided to these particularly vulnerable people. In Q2 2020, 32 people were trained in Ghana on this objective, including 21 women (66%). As the identification and indictment of traffickers are key, trainings were also provided to local judicial staff in Côte d'Ivoire – 25 beneficiaries, including five women (20%).

Beyond human trafficking, the EUTF's support to strengthening actors' capacity also focuses on specific population groups such as children with the AFIA programme (MR-02),¹ implemented by Save the Children in Mauritania from the end of 2016 to June 2020. This programme notably aimed to strengthen capacities to protect child migrants against exploitation and trafficking: different types of institutions were trained on the protection of child migrants, including the police, the Direction for the Judicial Protection of Children, Social Insertion and Protection Centre², CSOs and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Youth and Family. In Q1 2020, 43 institutions' staff received training in the wilayahs³ of Trarza, Nouakchott, Hodh El Gharbi, Guidimaka, Gorgol, Dakhlet Nouâdhibou and Brakna (indicator 3.6).

Supporting diasporas' contribution to local social and economic development in their countries of origin

The role of diasporas in their countries of origin and their potential contribution to local development is increasingly recognised by international actors.⁴ Beyond strong social and cultural ties, diasporas are key economic actors in their country of origin. Funds sent to sub-Saharan Africa by diasporas have been multiplied by ten in the last twenty years, going from €4.1B in 2000 to €41B in 2018.⁵ These transfers represent more than 3% of the GDP in several countries in the region, and reach 16% in The Gambia.⁶ Studies show that remittances alleviate poverty in lower and middle income countries, improve nutritional outcomes, are associated with higher spending on education, and reduce child labour in disadvantaged households.⁷ However, it is estimated that the current pandemic will lead to a 23% decrease in remittances in sub-Saharan Africa, largely due to a fall in the wages and employment of migrant workers as they tend to be more vulnerable to loss of employment and wages during economic crises in host countries.⁸

In this context, EUTF's support to mobilising diasporas to contribute to local social and economic development in their country of origin is particularly strategic. In the SLC window, this support is mainly provided through Diaspora Mali (ML-05)⁹ and *Programme d'Appui aux Initiatives de Solidarité et de Développement* (PAISD) (SN-06-02) in Senegal¹⁰. They both integrate components which focus on diasporas and are implemented by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). At the beginning of 2020, they contributed to 30 projects being supported by diasporas (11 in Q1 2020 and 19 in Q2 2020) through co-financing (indicator 3.1). These projects target areas of high departure in Senegal and Mali, such as Kayes (where 80% of all Malians in France come from, for example).¹¹

¹ 'Renforcement des capacités pour une meilleure gestion de la migration afin de protéger l'enfance migrante contre l'exploitation et la traite'

² Centre de Protection et d'Insertion Sociale

³ Wilayah: regional administrative division

⁴ IOM, 'World Migration Report 2018', 2017. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ Samik Adhikari, 'COVID-19 et baisse des envois de fond nationaux en Afrique: quelles conséquences pour les ménages pauvres?', 09 June 2020. Blog World Bank. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ World Bank Data, 'Personal remittances, received (% of GDP) – The Gambia', accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ World Bank Press Release, 'World Bank Predicts Sharpest Decline of Remittances in Recent History', 22 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ 'Projet d'appui aux investissements de la diaspora malienne dans les régions d'origine'

¹⁰ 'Renforcement de la gestion et de la gouvernance des migrations, retour et réintégration durable au Sénégal et accompagnement des investissements de la diaspora sénégalaise'

¹¹ REACH, 'Destined to migrate – Exploring a culture of migration in a world of migration restrictions', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

Diaspora Mali focuses on diasporas located in the main destination countries for Malian migrants (France, Spain and Côte d'Ivoire)¹ and aims to leverage Mali's particularly active and well organised diaspora: 650 associations of Malian nationals or activists in France alone, and a Ministry of Malian abroad and African Integration created in 2004 which is responsible for the implementation of "measures to ensure the full involvement of Malians living abroad in national life and the realisation of co-development actions". In addition, 80% of transfers in Mali are dedicated to household spending, but 20% are directed towards social or economic investments.² The 21 projects supported by Diaspora Mali (11 in Q1 2020 and 10 in Q2 2020) and co-financed by diaspora associations dealt with basic services.

PAISD focuses on the Senegalese diaspora established in Europe and more particularly in Belgium, Spain, France and Italy, as these countries host the highest proportions of Senegalese migrants.³ The projects supported by this diaspora aim to rehabilitate, construct and/or equip social infrastructures such as schools, health centres and water systems in the diaspora's areas of origin, as well as to support entrepreneurs from the diaspora. In Q2 2020, nine projects on social infrastructures were supported through co-financing.

Supporting the returns of migrants and refugees to their country of origin in a context of global pandemic and deteriorating security situation

When the conditions allow, return is generally the preferred option for people who have been forcibly displaced.⁴ When they find themselves stranded and/ or in an irregular situation for a long period of time, migrants can also sometimes be willing to return to their countries of origin. Return has gained prominence in the past few years in the migration policies developed by international actors including the EU.⁵

In the SLC window, EUTF assistance to voluntary return is mainly provided through two main programmes. The EU – IOM Joint Initiative for migrant protection and reintegration (EU – IOM JI)⁶ started in May 2017 and covers 13 countries in the region.⁷ The return assistance is provided as part of IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) initiative, which consists of "administrative, logistical or financial support, including reintegration assistance, to migrants unable or unwilling to remain in the host country or country of transit and who decide to return to their country of origin."⁸ The second programme is Refugees' Resilience (REG-06), implemented by UNHCR in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Mauritania, which aims to strengthen the resilience of populations displaced due to instability in northern Mali.

In the first half of 2020, the activities of these two programmes were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Several countries in the region closed their borders for several weeks which led to the suspension of refugee settlement⁹, while voluntary returns operations were partially suspended. Despite this significant constraint, an important number of voluntary returns were still organised in Q1 and Q2 2020: 12,015 in total (9,825 in Q1 and 2,190 in Q2), which represents 20% of the total returns organised since the beginning (indicator 3.4). Among these, 7,896 were conducted as part of the EU – IOM JI, mainly from Niger (5,911) and Burkina Faso (1,594), with migrants mostly from Mali (1,832), Guinea (1,570) and Niger (1,519). The returns of stranded, vulnerable migrants organized from Burkina Faso in Q2 2020 (1,504) and part of the returns organised from Niger (440) and Mauritania (12) in the

¹ ICMPPD, FIAPP, 'Guide on the use of migration data in Mali', 2017. Retrieved [here](#).

² EUTF-SAH-ML-05 Action Fiche

³ WATHI, 'Présentation de la diaspora *sénégalaise*', 03 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ UNHCR, 'Global trends – Forced Displacement in 2019', 10 September 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ European Commission, 'Towards an effective return policy', accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ BF-04, CM-04, GM-02, ML-07, MR-03, NE-01, NE-07, NG-04, REG-04, REG-08, SN-06.

⁷ The 13 countries are: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and The Gambia.

⁸ IOM, 'Glossary on Migration', 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ IOM, UNHCR, 'L'OIM et le HCR annoncent la suspension temporaire des voyages de réinstallation de réfugiés', 17 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

same period were possible thanks to the organization of humanitarian corridors during the temporary closure of borders. These returns and the necessary health care and quarantine measures were organized through a 2 million COVID-19 fund created under the EU-IOM Joint Initiative. Additional humanitarian corridors were organized from Niger in Q3 and will be reported in S2 report.

In Burkina Faso, Refugees' Resilience supported the voluntary return of 4,119 Malian refugees to their country during the first half of 2020, including 2,145 women (52%); this represents a significant proportion (63%) of the total returns organised by the programme since its start. This rise in returns is mainly due to the deterioration of the security situation in Burkina Faso and several recent attacks against refugee camps.¹ UNHCR notably indicated in April 2020 that all 9,000 refugees in Goudoubo camp had left due to repetitive attacks and ultimatums by armed groups.² Most returned to Mali feeling they had no other alternative, while 2,500 joined numerous displaced Burkinabes in the town of Dori, where they live in very challenging conditions. Another attack in Mentao refugee camp in May 2020 further increased the climate of fear among Malian refugees as well as their willingness to return.³ However, the volatile security situation in Mali does not allow many of them to go back to their places of origin.

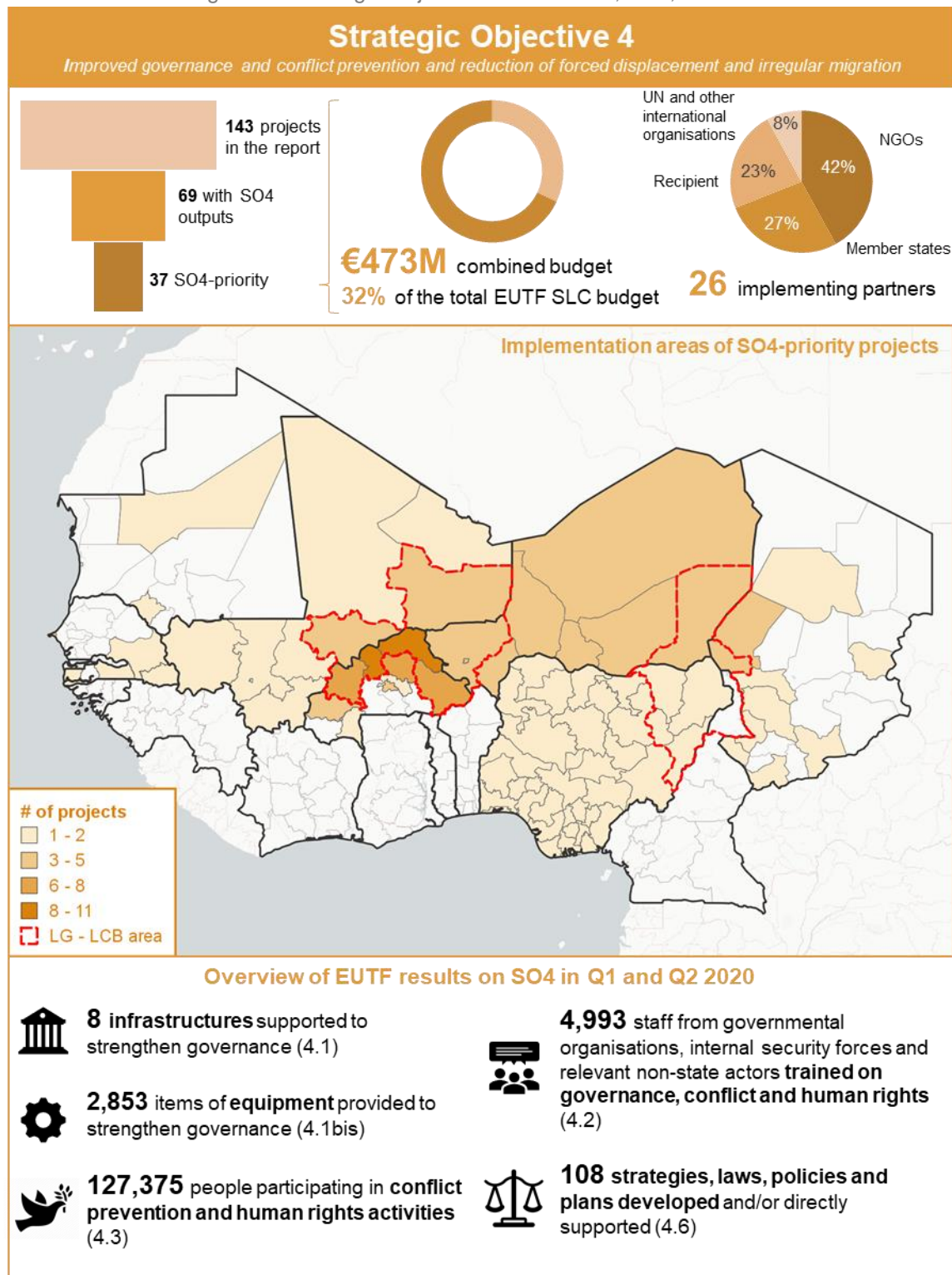
¹ The New Humanitarian, 'Des milliers de réfugiés maliens fuient les camps du Burkina Faso à la suite d'attaques', 29 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² UNHCR, 'Insecurity in Burkina Faso forces thousands of Malian refugees to leave camp', 3 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ UNHCR, 'Burkina Faso: Le HCR condamne les violences à l'encontre de réfugiés maliens', 4 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

4.2.5. IMPROVING GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Figure 12: Strategic Objective 4 Dashboard, SLC, June 2020



Conflicts in the Sahel and Lake Chad region have escalated in the first half of 2020 and are at risk of expanding to neighbouring countries. 3,365 security incidents (armed clashes, violence against civilians and explosions) were recorded in the countries covered by the SLC window of the EUTF during the period.¹ Violence remains mostly concentrated around the two main areas of the Liptako-Gourma and the Lake Chad Basin.

In the Liptako-Gourma region, intensification of fighting between armed forces and militant groups, as well as the end of the alliance between the two main jihadist groups, Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM) and the Islamic State in Greater Sahara (ISGS), have led to a flare up of violence in the first half of 2020. Since the emergence of the ISGS in 2015, the coexistence between the JNIM (affiliated to Al-Qaïda) and the ISGS has often been described as the ‘Sahelian exception’: ties between high ranking members of both groups often allowed issues to be resolved without violence until July 2019. However, over the first half of 2020, tensions and violent clashes between the two groups have reportedly intensified in Mali and Burkina Faso. Ideological divides, further cemented by the formal integration last year of ISGS into the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP, a splinter group of Boko Haram, which operates in the Lake Chad Basin) are thought to have been the main drivers towards conflict between them.² Following the intensification of terrorist attacks in the second half of 2019, the countries of the G5 Sahel gathered in Pau (France) in January 2020 to devise a roadmap for future cooperation through the concentration of efforts on the tri-border areas.³ Following this summit, as local and foreign forces stepped up their operations, violence against civilians by state forces also increased in all three countries of the Liptako-Gourma region.⁴ As of June 2020, the number of fatalities in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso for 2020 (4,357) was already 90% of the total for all of 2019 (4,823).⁵

In the Lake Chad region, Boko Haram and its splinter groups have also increased their attacks since the beginning of the year. In March, militants attacked Boma, in Chad, killing 92 Chadian soldiers. This attack, the deadliest blow to Chadian armed forces yet, led to the launch of operation “Anger of Bohoma” in which, according to the army, 1,000 jihadists were killed.⁶

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing restrictions on cross-border movements and gatherings, overall conflict levels in the region have not decreased. Instead, violent groups have expanded their territories.⁷ Nigeria has recorded an increase in violence in Northwest Region, where an intra-communal conflict between Fulani herders and Hausa farmers was compounded by an explosion in criminal activity and infiltration of jihadist groups into the region.⁸

Providing training and material support to security forces

At the Pau summit, G5 Sahel countries devised a roadmap for future cooperation and launched the Coalition for the Sahel which met for the first time in Niamey in June 2020.^{9,10} Thirteen countries (ten EU member states, the UK, Niger and Mali) have also launched the Takuba task force, which is composed of European special forces and will complement other actions on the ground.¹¹ Following this, local and foreign security forces have intensified their operations to regain momentum against non-state armed groups in the Sahel. EUTF-funded programmes have continued to support local and

¹ ACLED, ‘Armed Conflict Location and Event data project dashboard’, 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² CTC Sentinel, ‘The end of the Sahelian anomaly: how the global conflict between the Islamic State and Al-Qaïda finally came to West Africa’, July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ BBC Afrique, ‘*Sommet de Pau : bientôt une coalition pour le Sahel*’, January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ ACLED, ‘State atrocities in the Sahel: the impetus for counterinsurgency results is fueling government attacks on civilians’, 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ ACLED. Op. Cit.

⁶ Le Point. ‘Bassin du Lac Tchad : Idriss Déby Itno se retire des opérations anti-djihadistes’, January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ Mail&Guardian. ‘The pandemic has shifted patterns of conflict in Africa’, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ ICG, ‘Violence in Nigeria’s North West: Rolling back the mayhem’, May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ BBC Afrique. Op. Cit.

¹⁰ Reuters, ‘France launches Sahel coalition to fight rising jihadi violence’, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ DW, ‘Mali : la force Takuba sera-t-elle efficace contre les djihadistes ?’, April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

national security forces through training, the provision of equipment and the construction of infrastructures for security forces.

As of June 2020, 30,647 people have been trained on conflict prevention, security and human rights (indicator 4.2). Local and national security forces account for 22% of all those trained since the beginning of activities, and 20% and 9% of trainees in Q1 and Q2 2020, respectively. In the Liptako-Gourma area, security forces were all trained on security topics, mostly by the *Groupes d'intervention rapides – Surveillance et intervention* (GAR-SI, REG-04) programme (60% of security actors trained in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso in the first half of 2020). An additional 207 members of national security forces were trained in Q1 2020 by the SECUTCHAD programme (TD-05) in Chad. In Chad, where the army is fighting ISWAP and Boko Haram around the islands of Lake Chad and on the rivers of Logone and Chari, the programme has trained 13 pilots and 13 skippers to engage non-state armed groups in Q1 2020. In addition, that same quarter, 119 members of national security forces were trained on intervention in hostile areas in Chari-Baguirmi Province, at the border with Cameroon.

In Q1 2020, the West African Police Information System (WAPIS, REG-03) has trained ten members of security forces in Côte d'Ivoire, the first to be trained in security and conflict prevention in the country since the beginning of activities. The situation in the central countries of the Sahel presents a high risk on conflicts spilling over into neighbouring coastal countries. In June 2020, Côte d'Ivoire reported the first jihadi militant attack on its soil since the Grand Bassam 2016 shooting, when militants believed to be members of JNIM attacked a border post in the North, killing 14 soldiers.¹ The inclusion of both central and coastal countries in information sharing activities as is done in WAPIS could eventually support the prevention and reaction of these countries to attacks.

In addition to providing training, EUTF-funded programmes have built infrastructures for security forces. As of June 2020, 52 infrastructures to strengthen governance have been built, including 33 security infrastructures (indicator 4.1). The construction of security infrastructures allows to support national forces in their operations: the PARSEC programme (ML-06) in Mali has built seven barracks and offices for armed forces, including a mobile camp for security forces in Mopti, allowing better mobility of armed forces in the region. The AJUSEN programme (NE-06) in Niger has supported the government through budget support for the construction of eight border stations, ensuring a better control and surveillance of borders in the country.

Engaging in conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities

Despite wide engagement by national and foreign security forces and resources in the fight against terrorism, violent extremist groups seem to be increasingly resilient as demonstrated by the persistence of attacks and expansion of territories. To address this situation, EUTF-funded programmes have supported conflict prevention and resolution activities, which look at addressing tensions, lack of cohesion and grievances between communities, which tend to fuel non-state armed groups.

As of June 2020, 1,058,398 people have participated in conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities (indicator 4.3), including 77,814 and 49,560 beneficiaries in Q1 and Q2 2020, respectively.

A major part of conflict prevention activities in Q1 2020 were aimed at the prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism. In Mauritania, which accounted for 42% of Q1 beneficiaries, the CORIM programme (MR-06) has reached 31,647 people considered at risk of radicalisation through an alternative discourse to the violent narrative spreading in the region. While Mauritania has seen no attacks since 2011, its proximity to Mali and Algeria makes it vulnerable to a resurgence of extremist activities.

In Q2 2020, 91% of the beneficiaries of peacebuilding activities (44,900 people) were reached through conflict prevention activities. 32% of them, or 14,417 people, were reached through the MCN

¹ Koaci, 'Côte d'Ivoire: Attaque de Kafolo, la Nation rend hommage aux 14 militaires tués', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

programme (NG-03) in Nigeria which aims to support conflict resolution mechanisms in the North-East of Nigeria, where the Boko Haram insurgency has weakened community-based conflict management institutions (local and traditional courts or religious institutions).

Most of the beneficiaries reached in Q2 were in Burkina Faso (31,417 people), all of them by the *Prevention de l'extrémisme violent* (PEV, BF-08) programme. Among them, 3,231 were reached by activities involving religious leaders, youth and vulnerable populations to improve their resilience to violent extremism. Indeed, Burkina Faso has seen a dramatic increase in inter-community violence and radicalisation in the last year. The remaining 28,186 beneficiaries reported in Q2 2020 in Burkina Faso were sensitised through community dialogue on conflict prevention.

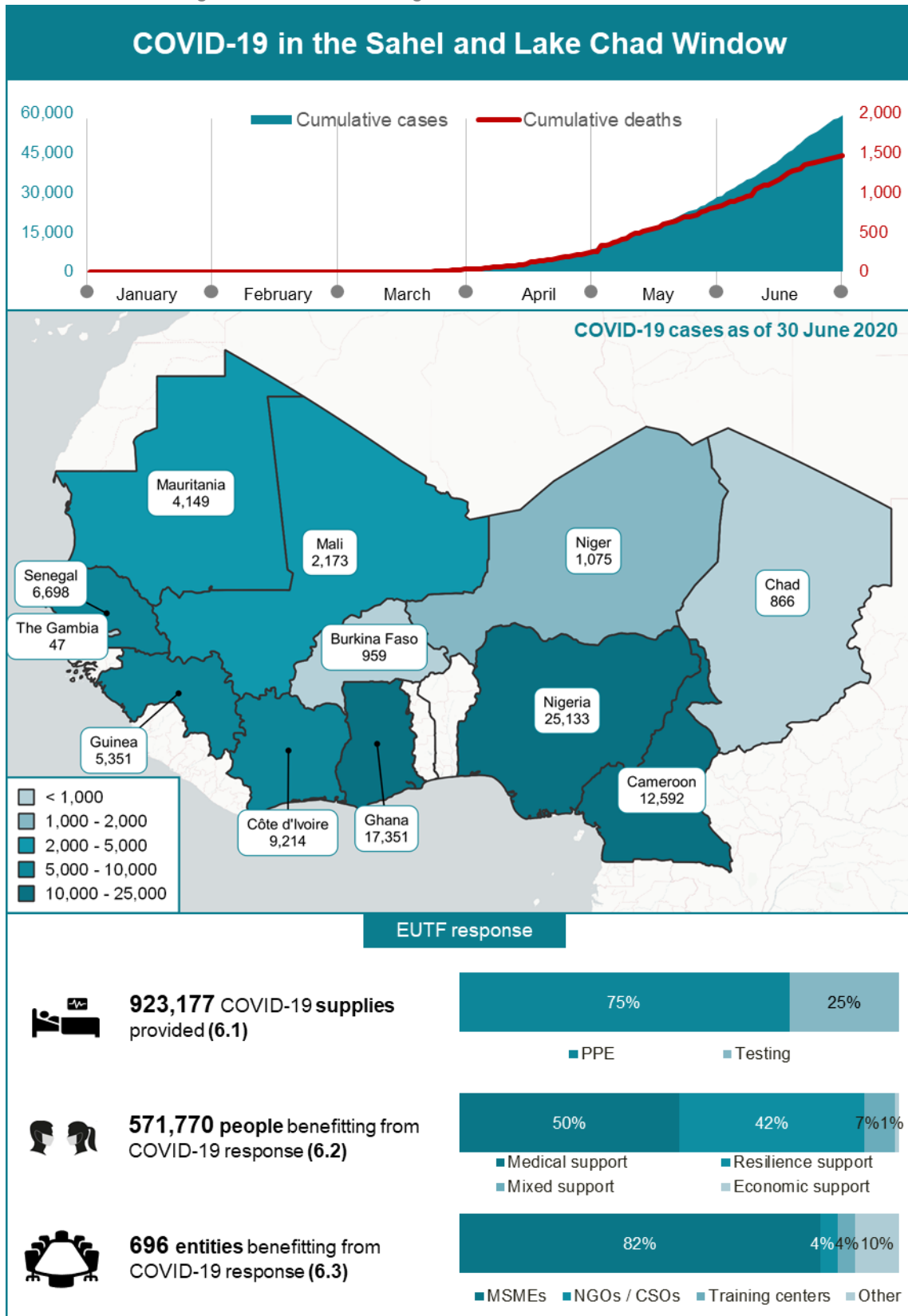
A major part of conflict prevention also concerns access to natural resources and the farmer-herders conflict. Analyses of conflict dynamics show that insecurity is deeply rooted into contexts where the State is not present or not trusted, and where ethnical tensions are easily reignited. The crisis has exacerbated land conflicts and tensions between farmer and herder communities. In this context, training community representatives is paramount to improve conflict resolution mechanisms. In Q2 2020, 48% of the people trained in conflict prevention and governance were community representatives (indicator 4.2), amounting to 1,059 people. The programme *Programme d'urgence pour la stabilisation des espaces frontaliers du G5 Sahel* (PDU, REG-18), for example, has established networks of trained mediators to support peaceful resolution of conflict among communities in the countries of the G5 Sahel. Out of a total of 1,059 community representatives trained in Q2 2020, 571 were mediators trained by this programme. The RESILAC programme (REG-05) trained 457 community leaders on democratic governance, to support endogenous conflict resolution mechanisms on access to natural resources.

To prevent land conflicts, EUTF-funded programmes have also supported the development of local land sharing plans. In this regard, in Q1 2020, the PEV programme (BF-08) in Burkina Faso has supported the development of 13 protocols on usage of land in the Seno district (indicator 4.6).

Finally, EUTF-funded programmes have supported activities aiming to repair the relationship between the state and civilians. In Chad, which represents 41% of Q1 2020 beneficiaries of peacebuilding activities (indicator 4.3), 31,164 people were reached through the SECUTCHAD programme (TD-05), which organised cultural and sportive events with civil society and security actors with the aim of repairing the relationship between the two.

4.3. COVID-19 IN THE SLC AND THE EUTF RESPONSE

Figure 13: COVID-19 Regional Dashboard, SLC, June 2020



The Sahel and Lake Chad region was reached by the COVID-19 global pandemic on 27 February, when a first case was recorded in Nigeria.¹ From this date onwards, the pandemic swiftly expanded. In March, SLC governments quickly took actions to contain the spread of the coronavirus, including closures of borders and public spaces, curfews, travel bans, lockdowns and mandatory masks.² Chad, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and The Gambia declared a state of emergency, granting their executive branches extraordinary powers to manage the sanitary crisis.³ Whilst social discontent and a fear of economic recession prompted most governments to relax restrictions in May,⁴ some measures were extended past June.

Whilst only 38,822 contaminations had been recorded in the region as of 1 June, 85,608 cases were recorded in the SLC (and 1,640 deaths) as of 30 June, a 45% increase in two weeks.⁵ Overall, Nigeria recorded the highest number of confirmed cases (25,133), followed by Ghana (17,351), Cameroon (12,592) and Côte d'Ivoire (9,214).⁶ It is worth noting that the real number of cases is surely underreported because of the limited testing carried out (269,815 tests performed as of 30 June).⁷

Despite swift responses, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic had a dire impact on the region's population. Although the total number of cases and fatalities in the SLC region has remained relatively low compared to other regions, the pandemic has put significant strain on fragile health care systems, social fabric, and economies.⁸ To mitigate the impact of the pandemic on SLC countries, the EUTF reacted by reorienting some of its funding towards the COVID-19 response. In total, 38 projects redirected €65M towards the COVID-19 response and, as of 30 June, 31 projects accounting for €52M had implemented COVID-related activities. In addition, the EUTF SLC contracted one programme solely on COVID-19, the €50M One UN Response Plan programme (NG-09). Funded by the EUTF and implemented by UNDP, it was specifically designed to contain further spread of the outbreak by increasing the availability, accessibility, and affordability of COVID-19 response services in Nigeria.

COVID-19-related activities implemented throughout the region included the distribution of 923,177 COVID-related supplies such as gels, masks or face shields, washbasins, safety boxes, oropharyngeal airways, goggles, biohazard bags, and testing kits (indicator 6.1). 571,770 people also benefitted from the delivery of COVID-19 emergency responses activities such as medical treatment or equipment, food aid and trainings (indicator 6.2). Capacity building, medical equipment and risk communication

¹ La Croix, 'Nigeria : un cas de coronavirus recensé à Lagos, le premier en Afrique subsaharienne', 28 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Ouest France, 'Coronavirus. Le Burkina Faso, pays le plus touché en Afrique de l'Ouest', 22 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). CRTV, '13 Measures to fight COVID-19 in Cameroon', 17 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). French.china.org.cn, '(COVID-19) Tchad : toutes les écoles fermées dès ce vendredi à cause de la pandémie', 20 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Guinée News, 'Urgent-COVID-19 en Guinée : un couvre-feu instauré, mouvements des personnes de Conakry vers l'intérieur interdits (décret)', 30 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). French.china.org.cn, '(COVID-19) Le Mali enregistre 13 nouveaux cas de coronavirus, portant le nombre total à 87', 11 April, 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Le Monde, 'La Mauritanie, championne de la lutte contre le COVID-19 ?', 24 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Ici Niger, 'Niger : message à la Nation du Président Issoufou Mahamadou sur la situation de la pandémie du coronavirus (COVID-19)', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). IRIS, 'Nigéria : un pays à l'épreuve du COVID-19 et de la désorganisation des échanges agroalimentaires', 3 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Financial Afrik, 'Sénégal : Macky Sall décrète l'État d'urgence et annonce un fonds de 1000 milliards de FCFA', 23 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). China.org.cn, 'The Gambia declares state of emergency to contain COVID-19', 28 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ French.China.org.cn, 'Tchad : état d'urgence sanitaire décrété face à la pandémie du coronavirus', 26 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#). APA News, 'L'état d'urgence décrété en Guinée contre le COVID-19', 26 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). French.China.org.cn, '(COVID-19) Le Mali enregistre 13 nouveaux cas de coronavirus, portant le nombre total à 87', 11 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#). RFI, 'Coronavirus au Niger : le pouvoir annonce un couvre-feu à Niamey et de nombreuses remises de peine', 28 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Financial Afrik, 'Sénégal : Macky Sall décrète l'État d'urgence et annonce un fonds de 1000 milliards de FCFA', 23 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). China.org.cn, 'The Gambia declares state of emergency to contain COVID-19', 28 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ BBC, 'COVID-19: le Burkina assouplit le confinement', 5 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Cameroon Tribune, 'Lutte contre le coronavirus : Paul Biya offre 2 millions de masques', 18 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). French.people.cn, '(COVID-19) Guinée : reprise des cours dans certaines écoles', 30 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Le Point, 'Mali : le COVID-19 en étau entre pouvoir civil et pouvoir religieux', 13 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). The Arab Weekly, 'Mauritania almost free of COVID-19, relaxes lockdown', 11 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). La Croix, 'Au Niger, réouverture des lieux de culte et levée du couvre-feu', 14 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). RFI, 'Coronavirus au Nigeria : déconfinement progressif et partiel à Lagos et Abuja', 4 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). France Info, 'Sénégal : Macky Sall annonce la réouverture partielle des marchés, écoles et lieux de cultes', 12 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ OWID, 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and deaths'. Retrieved in July 2020, [here](#).

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ This number only encompasses countries for which OWID has data on how many tests were performed. | Ibid.

⁸ UNHCR, 'COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE – West & Central Africa', 1 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

were also provided to 696 MSMEs, health and training centres and governmental institutions (indicator 6.3). Finally, the launch of sensitisation campaigns on COVID-19 mitigation measures such as social distancing and handwashing reached 14,562,418 people (indicator 2.7).

The pandemic spread at a worrying pace in Nigeria, a country that was already affected by conflicts and lack of access to basic social services. An additional 2.7 million people were estimated to rely on humanitarian assistance because of the pandemic.¹ The country was the top recipient of COVID-related funds and accordingly most outputs (supplies, emergency response activities for people and sensitisation campaigns) were reported there (indicators 6.1, 6.2 and 2.7). In this context, 823,550 COVID-related supplies were distributed in Q2 2020, 86% of which came from the One UN Response Plan. 263,454 vulnerable people in the conflict-ridden Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states received medical support, all of them through the MCN programme (NG-03). Finally, 95% of all people reached by COVID-related sensitisation campaigns were in Nigeria, reached through MCN and the One UN Response Plan, both of which launched mass media awareness-raising campaigns on preventive measures.

One pressing issue was to support MSMEs. Jobs – especially in the informal sector – were severely threatened by lockdowns, social distancing, transport and trade restrictions as well as factory and market closures. Lockdowns had a particularly damaging effect, as a very small minority of small companies and households have bank savings or access to credit to allow them to stay indoors for extended periods.² Overall, 82% of the entities who received COVID-19 emergency response support were MSMEs. The top recipient was Senegal, with 534 MSMEs supported. In Senegal, the private sector has been deeply affected by the pandemic, with high expected slowdowns in the tourism and transport sectors.³ Through the *Développer l'emploi au Sénégal* programme (SN-04), MSMEs received technical assistance and subsidies,⁴ working capital support and training courses to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. 252,506 Senegalese also benefitted from COVID-19 emergency response activities, 96% of them through PARERBA programme (SN-08), which aims to strengthen resilience in rural parts of Senegal and provided both resilience and economic support to vulnerable communities and economic actors in central regions.

Another major priority was to assist migrants and refugees. Border closures and travel restrictions due to the pandemic resulted in thousands of migrants and refugees being stranded in dangerous conditions at borders, ports and in transit camps across the region.⁵ Restrictive measures also impeded humanitarian access to certain areas, worsening conditions for stranded migrants and refugees. On 25 March, at Yendéré border point in Burkina Faso, 600 people were prevented from crossing the border into Côte d'Ivoire⁶ and as of May 2020, it was estimated that about 1,800 Nigerien workers were stuck in remote goldmining areas of Burkina Faso.⁷ Although UNHCR and IOM had to temporarily scale down refugee resettlement and voluntary return programmes, 1,504 migrants stranded in Burkina Faso were assisted with voluntary returns to Niger in Q2 2020 by the EU – IOM Joint Initiative programme, as well as 440 from Niger to Benin, Burkina Faso and Guinea, and 12 from Mauritania to Senegal, thanks to the organisation of humanitarian corridors. They received pre-departure services, including assistance to acquire identity papers and travel documents.

¹ OCHA, 'BAY states, Nigeria: Humanitarian Snapshot', 16 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² UNHCR, 'COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE – West & Central Africa', 1 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ The African Development Bank Group, 'Senegal: Macroeconomic Outlook', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ *Développer l'emploi au Sénégal* programme's response to COVID-19 encompassed subsidising MSMEs from 70% to 100%.

⁵ The Guardian, 'Coronavirus border closures strand tens of thousands of people across Africa', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

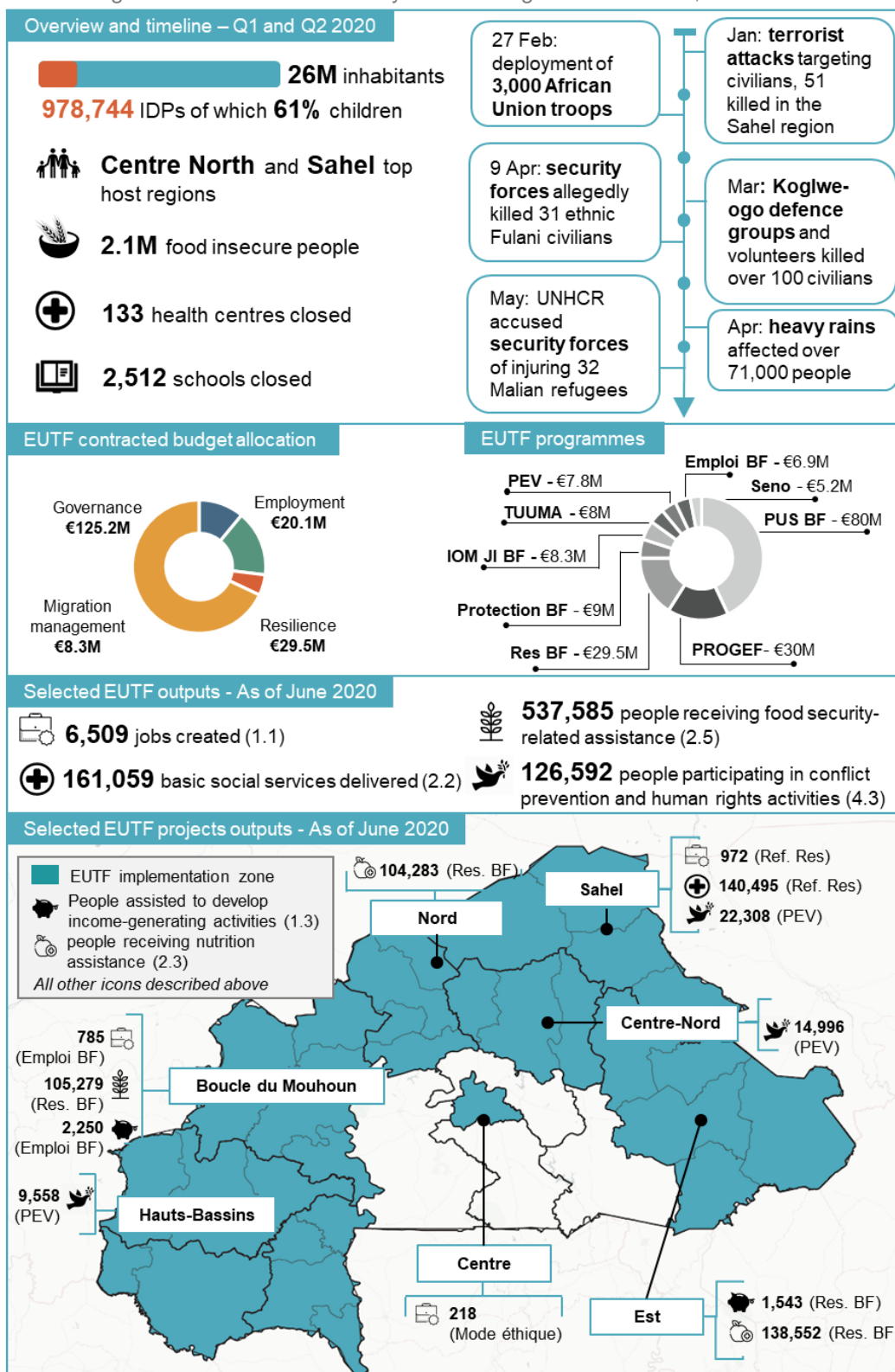
⁶ ACAPs, 'Burkina Faso', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ The Guardian. Op. Cit.

5. ANALYSIS BY COUNTRY

5.1. BURKINA FASO

Figure 14: Burkina Faso – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.1.1. BURKINA FASO AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

In the first half of 2020, the security situation in Burkina Faso deteriorated significantly, especially in the Sahel, Centre-Nord, Nord, Est, and Boucle du Mouhoun regions.¹ Since 2019, the government started adopting a strong security response to counter terrorism across the country, which sometimes led to human rights violations and extra judicial killings. Perpetrators were either the self-defence militias (Koglweogo) or security forces themselves.² These exactions mostly targeted Fulani, who are often associated to terrorist groups, and sometimes refugees, 32 of whom were injured in May 2020 in Mentao Camp by security forces suspecting them of complicity with jihadists.³

This rise of violence increased humanitarian needs, especially for forcibly displaced people. The number of IDPs reached 978,744 as of June 2020, a nearly two-fold increase compared to the end of 2019.⁴ In addition, assailants continued to target basic service infrastructure, leading to 3,891 schools and 193 health centres remaining non-functional.⁵ Increasing security added to unprecedented levels of displacement also led to a deterioration of food security, especially in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions.⁶

Reinforcing social cohesion to prevent the expansion of terrorism

Violence intensified in the two first quarters of 2020 in Burkina Faso, causing 756 civilian fatalities across the country. Some EUTF implementing partners had to suspend their activities, especially those operating in the Sahel and Nord regions. The PEV programme (BF-08) cancelled some of their awareness raising caravans⁷ operating in the Sahel during Q1, while Refugee's Resilience (SAH-REG-06) stopped going to Goudebou Camp in the Seno province in March 2020.⁸ Despite this challenging operating environment, the number of people participating in conflict prevention and human rights activities increased by 33% in Q2 2020, reaching 126,592 people at the end of June 2020 (indicator 4.3). All beneficiaries were reached by PEV in Q2, a programme comprised of 10 projects, most of which are implemented by national NGOs and associations which have a good local footprint and access to volatile areas.⁹ A new project also started operating in 2020, KEEOGO (BF-08-10), which reached 3,840 beneficiaries in the first two quarters (indicator 4.3). Its objective is to reinforce monitoring, follow-up and prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism.¹⁰

As of June 2020, 83% of beneficiaries participating in conflict prevention activities (indicator 4.3) were reached through large scale sensitisation activities such as awareness raising caravans, theatres or fora. The remaining 18% participated to community dialogues, through listening groups including women and youth or debates on topics related to peacebuilding and CVE including leaders from different villages. These more in depth and targeted activities are crucial to strengthening social cohesion in a region where jihadist groups often mobilise local tensions to strengthen their legitimacy. Though most of the beneficiaries as of June 2020 were located in the Nord (51%) and Sahel (24%) regions, the largest increase was seen in Hauts-Bassins, where the number went from 845 by December 2019 to 10,403 by June 2020. Focusing on these types of regions, which are more stable yet close to unstable areas, allows an effective implementation of social activities thanks to a safer operating environment, while also limiting the expansion of terrorism in the country.

¹ ACAPS, 'Burkina Faso', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Human Rights Watch, 'Burkina Faso executions prompt broad call for inquiry', Retrieved [here](#).

³ Crisis watch Database, Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ UNHCR Data portal, Burkina Faso, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ OCHA, 'Burkina Faso, Mali and Western Niger, Humanitarian Snapshot', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

⁶ ACAPS. Op. Cit.

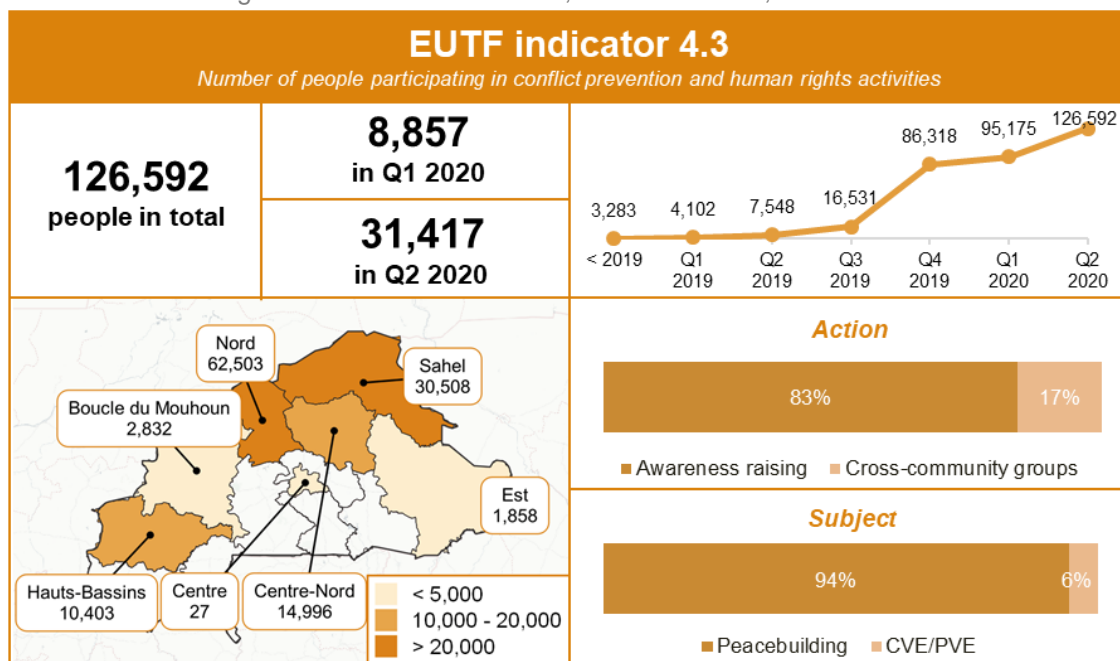
⁷ Regional caravan with moderate-voiced leaders and communicators from the Sahel region, which was to crisscross communes in the region that are now inaccessible.

⁸ UNHCR provided support in Ouagadougou, Bobo Dialasso and Dori, where refugees had relocated.

⁹ Interview with key informant from the EU.

¹⁰ Description of Action KEEOGO programme.

Figure 15: EUTF indicator 4.3, in Burkina Faso, June 2020¹



Strengthening communities' food resilience through land restoration and irrigation

Rising violence triggered massive population displacements and increased humanitarian needs across the country. As of June 2020, the country counted 978,744 IDPs² and 2.1 million food insecure people, compared to 1.2 million at the end of 2019.³ The COVID-19 pandemic also affected households' resilience, limiting employment opportunities and access to markets, disrupting agricultural activities and reducing revenues.⁴

To limit the impact of these external shocks, EUTF-funded programmes provide direct food assistance in volatile areas, but also work on strengthening communities' resilience to ensure long term food security. As of June 2020, 537,585 individuals received food security related assistance, with a 46% increase in S1 2020. During this period, 57% of the 169,579 beneficiaries were given support to improve water systems and restore agricultural lands, compared to only 7% in 2019. More than half of the beneficiaries (57%) in S1 were attributed to Stabilisation Seno (BF-02). The programme reached 96,323 individuals during this period, a six-fold increase compared to 2019 alone, mainly through the valorisation of 332 ha of degraded land and 200 ha of sylvo-pastoral developments. All beneficiaries were located in the Sahel region, an area where massive displacement, but also climate related events, put pressure on water and land resources, and heavily impacted food production.⁵ For example, it was estimated that the country's overall agricultural production would decrease by 6% to 15% in Q1 2020 due to insufficient rainfalls in 2019.⁶

¹ The map colour code presents data from the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 3,465

² UNHCR Burkina Faso, data portal, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

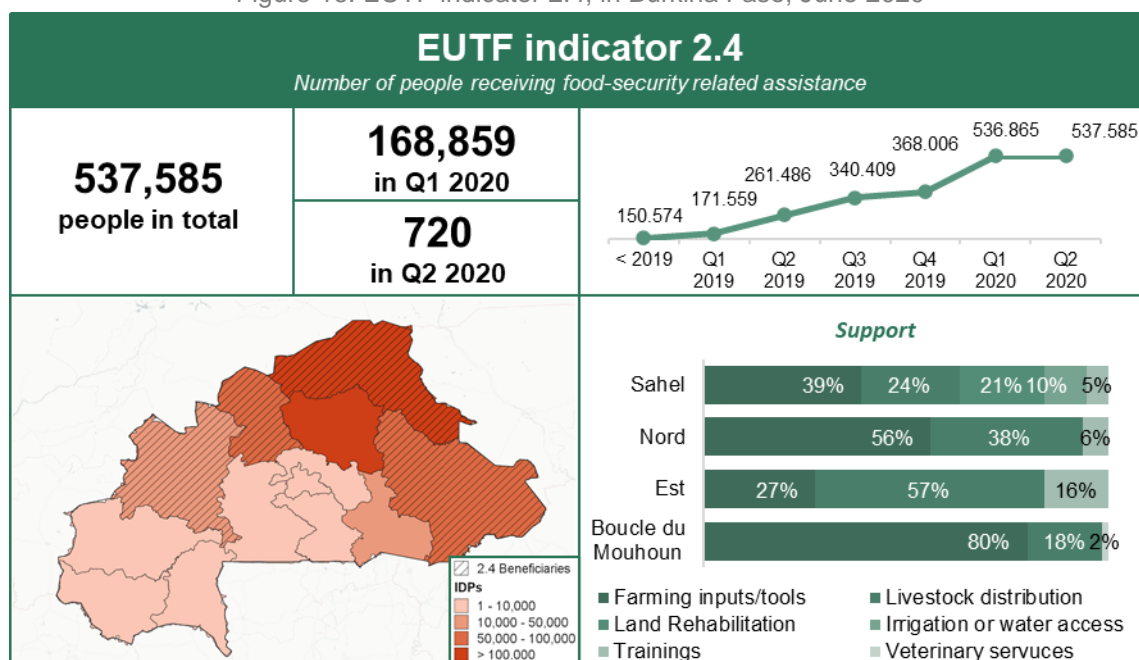
³ OCHA, 'Burkina Faso, Humanitarian snapshot', December 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ FAO emergencies, 'Burkina Faso', February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

Figure 16: EUTF indicator 2.4, in Burkina Faso, June 2020



EUTF-funded programmes also provided direct food security assistance through the provision of farming inputs to beneficiaries in conflict-affected areas. 258,826 people have benefitted from this type of assistance as of June 2020, with a 38% increase in S1 2020. During this semester, all 72,000 individuals (12,000 households) were reached through Resilience Burkina Faso (BF-01), 66% of them in the Sahel region, 44% in the Nord region. They benefitted from food coupon distributions in order to cover households' needs when food stocks are depleted during the lean season or due to external shocks such as COVID-19 or insecurity. This prevents households from contracting debt or resorting to negative coping strategies like selling their productive assets.¹

Increase job opportunities for women and youth to stabilise remote rural areas

Remote and rural areas in the north of Burkina Faso are characterised by social inequality and uneven access to economic opportunities and basic services compared to the south. Terrorists can exploit these frustrations, especially among isolated youth, by offering a sense of purpose and wages or access to basic services.² EUTF employment programmes aim to contribute to the stabilisation of these areas by providing income and livelihood opportunities to young people. As of June 2020, 6,509 jobs have been created, with a 22% increase in Q2 2020. Out of the 1,175 beneficiaries reached during Q2, nearly all through Emploi BF (BF-05), 80% were young, compared to 21% in 2019. They mostly got jobs through the creation of MSMEs (47%) or following access to TVET (50%). In Q1 alone, 1,416 people – 86% of them under 35 – benefitted from professional trainings through Emploi BF. The trainings last three months to a year. To ensure longer term impact, all the activities of the programme were implemented by 33 local CSOs in the Sahel, Boucle du Mouhoun and Nord regions, and trainings were designed in partnership with the Ministry of youth in order to be certified.

Women contribute to social cohesion at the community level, hence the importance of supporting their livelihood and empowerment, and of recognizing their knowledge of local dynamics and priorities.³ Stabilisation Seno (BF-02) supports this strategy, and aims to increase job and livelihood opportunities for women and youth in the Sahel region. It provided IGA support to 2,045 beneficiaries in Q1 2020,

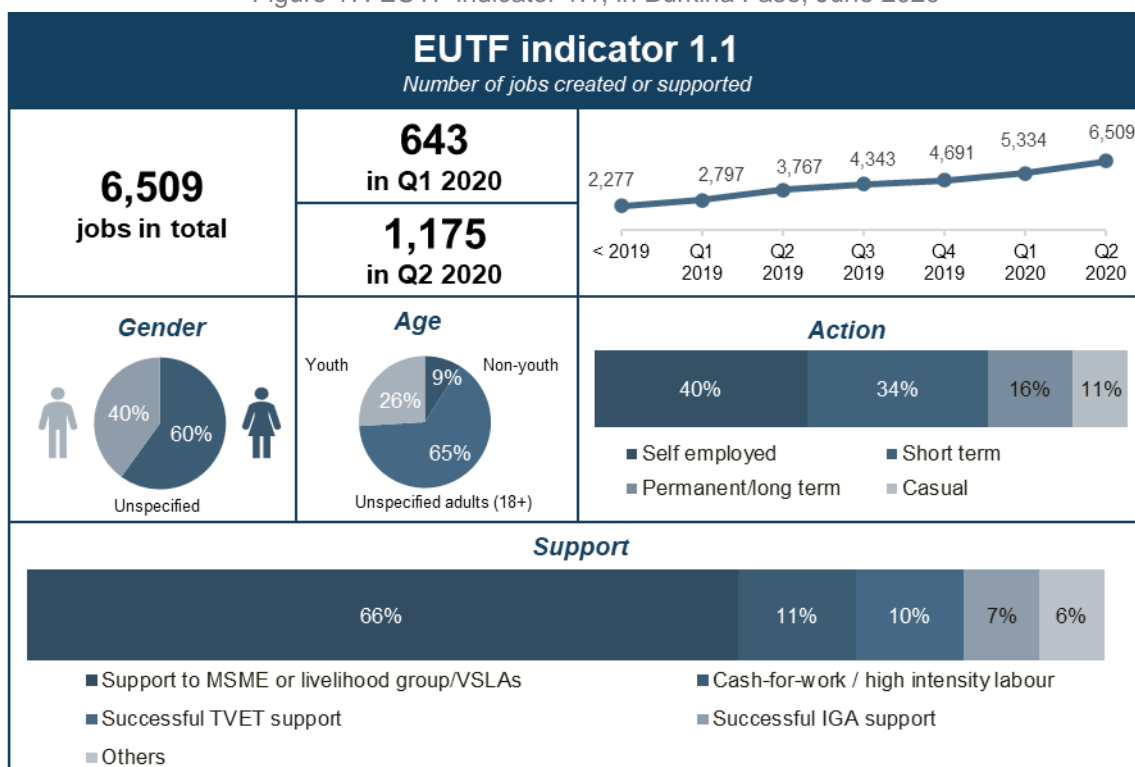
¹ FAO 'The cash approach in the Sahel', 2017. Retrieved [here](#).

² Loada and Romaniuk, 'Preventing violent extremism in Burkina Faso', June 2014. Retrieved [here](#)

³ SIPRI, 'Hand in hand: a study of insecurity and gender in Mali', December 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

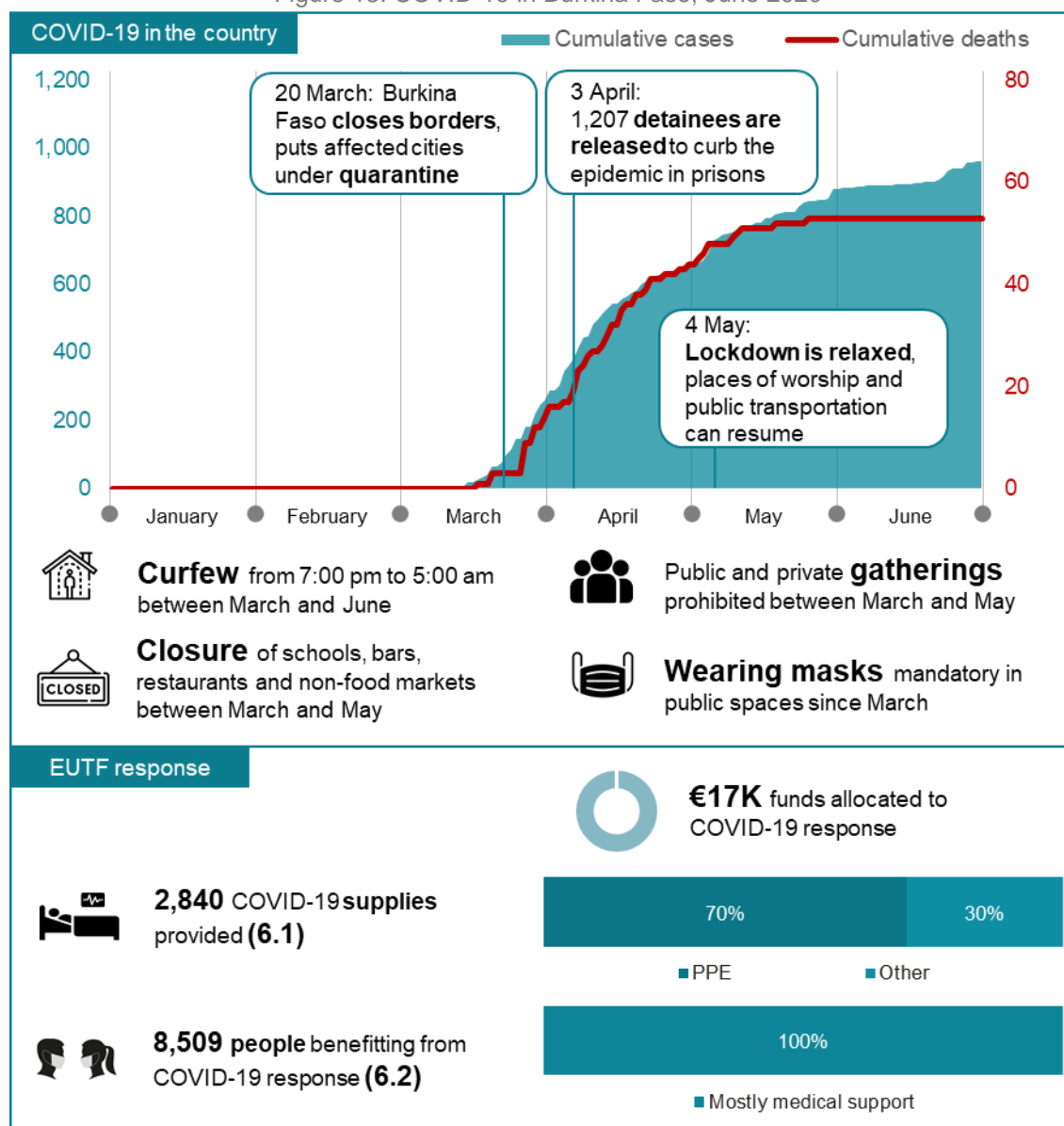
79% of whom were women, increasing the overall number of female beneficiaries of IGA support by 35% compared to the end of 2019.

Figure 17: EUTF indicator 1.1, in Burkina Faso, June 2020



COVID-19 pandemic in Burkina Faso

Figure 18: COVID-19 in Burkina Faso, June 2020



The COVID-19 pandemic was officially declared by the Government on 10 March 2020 in Burkina Faso. By June 2020, the country had 959 cases and 53 deaths, in 9 regions out of 13.¹ The government took restrictive measures to contain the spread of the virus such as closing borders on 21 March, schools on 16 March, and imposing a curfew from 7pm to 5am which was lifted on 3 June. These measures had a negative impact on economic and food insecurity, which were both already increasing in the country due to mounting violence, climate shocks and endemic poverty. The total number of food insecure people rose from 1.2 million in December 2019 to 2.1 million in May 2020,² whilst many reported to have lost their source of income.

Moreover, travel restrictions due to the pandemic impeded humanitarian access to certain areas and provided services. UNHCR and IOM had to temporarily delay refugee resettlement activities from Niger and Rwanda, but voluntary return programmes continued, with 5,713 migrants returning to

¹UNICEF, 'Burkina Faso situation reports', August 2020 (Centre, Hauts-Bassins, Centre-Nord, Boucle du Mouhoun, Plateau-Central, Cascades, Centre-Sud, Sud-Ouest and Sahel). Retrieved [here](#).

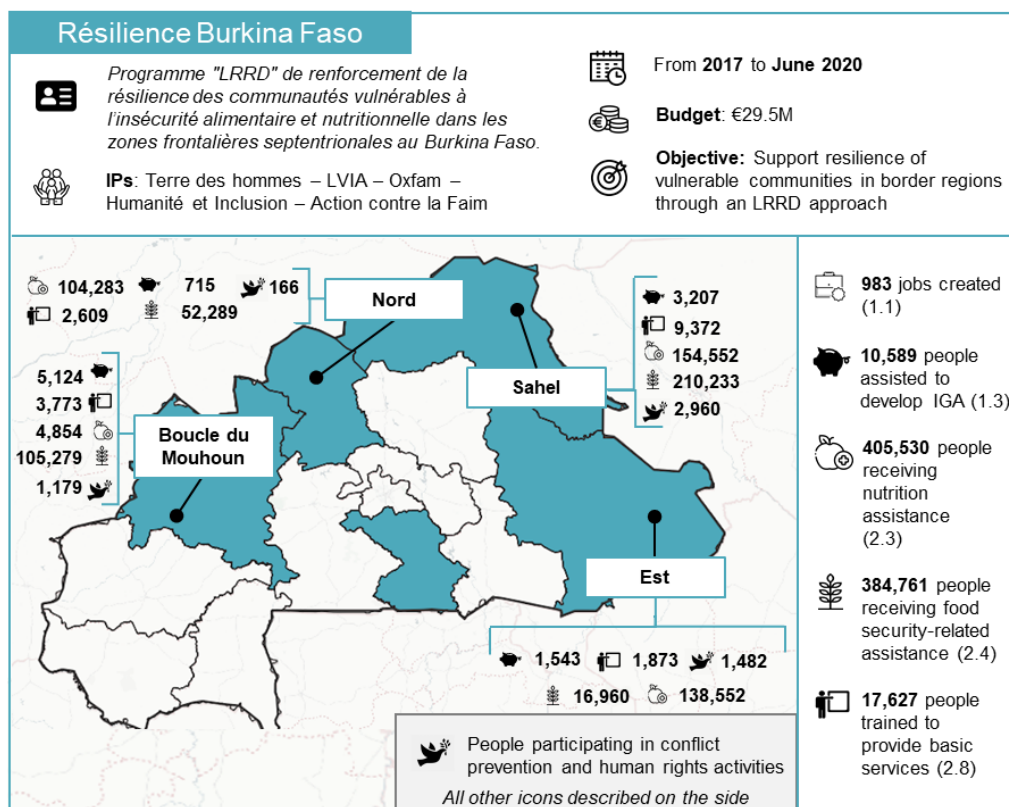
²ACAPS, 'Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, Vulnerability to COVID-19 Containment Measures', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

Burkina Faso during S1 2020. On the security front, there were concerns that armed groups would also be able to take advantage of the situation, as travel restrictions disrupted the functioning of peacekeeping and international ‘counter-terrorism’ operations such as the G5 Sahel.¹ The government put in place temporary protection measures to mitigate the security and socio-economic impact of COVID-19. These measures included free treatment for COVID-19 patients, financial support for businesses affected by containment measures, subsidies for water and electricity and price controls.²

Three EUTF-funded programmes specifically adapted their activities to help address the pandemic. Voix des Jeunes II (SAH-REG-19) re-orientated €22,000 towards awareness raising (AR) activities, and reached 135,000 people (indicator 2.7) in the country, through five radio broadcasts hosted by young community leaders who were trained by the project. They allowed communities to better understand what the disease was, its symptoms, means of prevention as well as the measures taken by government.³ The PEV programme (BF-08) used €17,000 to implement AR activities and distribute 2,831 masks (indicator 6.1) in the Sahel region, while Mode Éthique (BF-07) was allocated an additional €18,000 by the EUTF to distribute masks in the Centre, Nord, Sahel and Hauts-Bassins regions.

5.1.2. PROGRAMMES COMPLETED IN S1 2020

Figure 19: Résilience Burkina Faso (programme, BF-01)

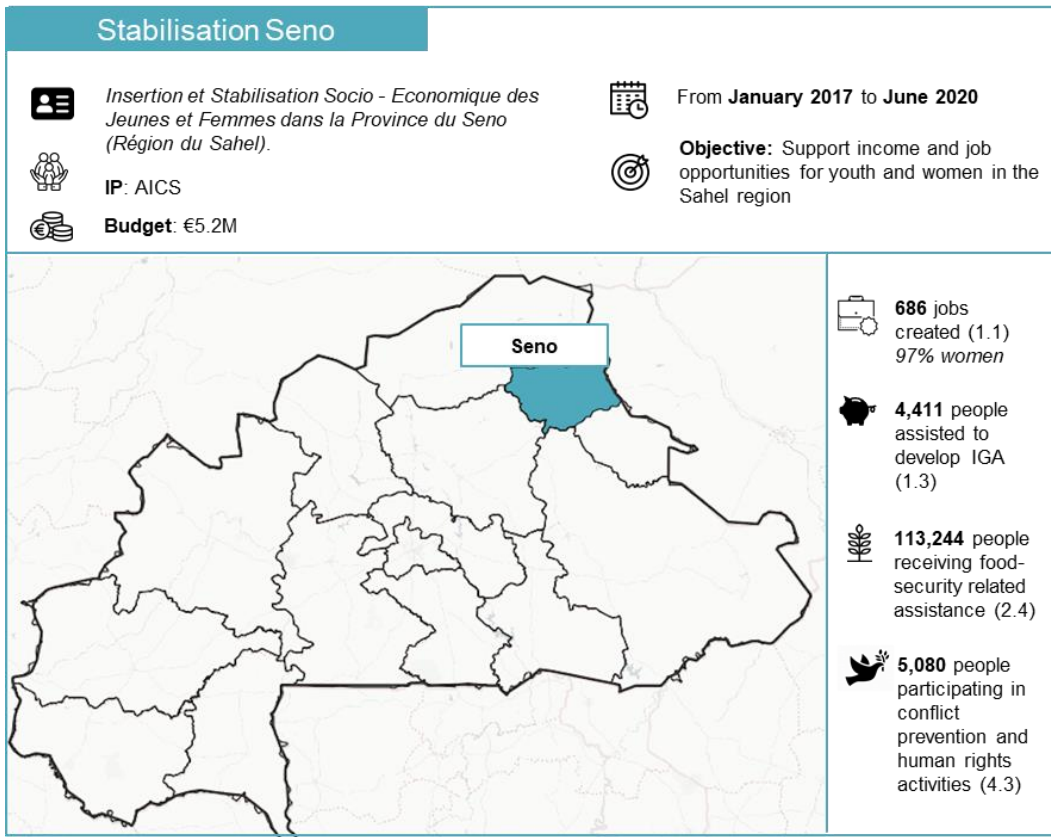


¹ ACAPS, 'Burkina Faso', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

² Ibid.

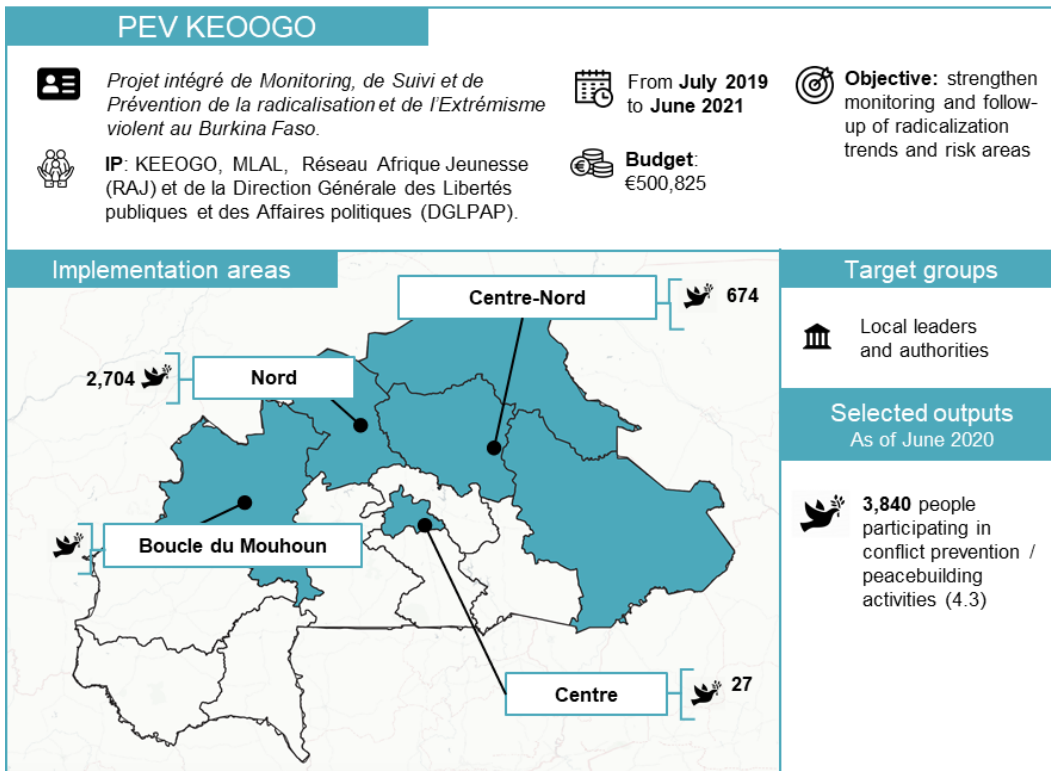
³ EUTF website, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

Figure 20: Stabilisation Seno (programme, BF-02)



5.1.3. PROJECT NEWLY INCLUDED IN THE MLS

Figure 21: PEV KEOOGO (project, BF-08-10)



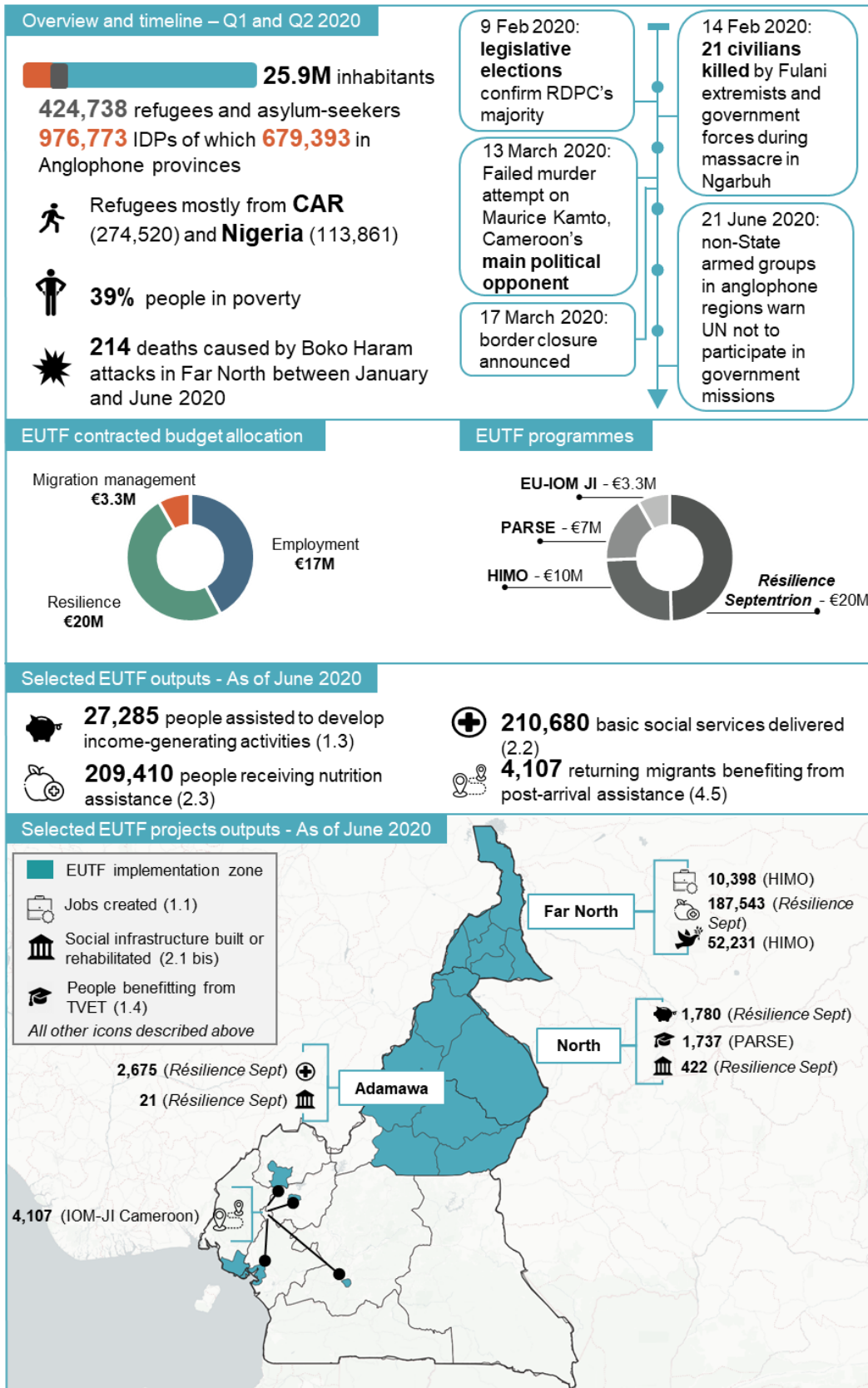
5.1.4. BURKINA FASO AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 5: EUTF common output indicators for Burkina Faso, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	2,277	2,414	1,818	6,509
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	55	200	949	1,204
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	4,475	12,644	4,256	21,375
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	956	5,747	2,644	9,347
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	3	14	12	29
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	0	33	12	45
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	522	1,181	61	1,764
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	98,553	58,101	4,405	161,059
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	282,181	100,124	23,225	405,530
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	150,574	217,432	169,579	537,585
2.5 Number of insitutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	23	71	4	98
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	1,402	1,003	528	2,932
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	341,434	524,022	137,592	1,003,048
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	7,354	11,856	2,153	21,363
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	244,862	285,554	43,752	574,168
3.2 Number of migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs...	0	99	0	99
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	9,018	27,040	13,155	49,213
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	1,781	1,259	5,713	8,753
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	1,566	823	301	2,690
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	875	782	138	1,795
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	0	1	0	1
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	0	25	0	25
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	2	23	6	31
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	20	68	1	89
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	3	0	0	3
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	0	9	602	611
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	994	1,517	368	2,879
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	3,283	83,035	40,274	126,592
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	7	141	20	168
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	91	429	244	764
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	70	184	111	365
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	13	45	2	60
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	10	2	9	21
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	2,840	2,840
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	8,509	8,509

5.2. CAMEROON

Figure 22: Cameroon – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.2.1. CAMEROON AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

Cameroon experienced many difficulties during the first half of 2020. Legislative and municipal elections took place on 9 February 2020 without major trouble; yet, estimated turnout was low, 25% to 30%,^{1,2} partly due to an announced boycott by the Mouvement pour la Renaissance du Cameroun (MRC), Cameroon's main opposition party, and partly due to intimidation and the fear of potential retaliation against voters in English-speaking provinces. On 14 February, soldiers from the national security forces massacred citizens and Fulani extremists in Ngarbuh, in the North-West region, further undermining its citizens' trust in the national institutions.³ The political climate further deteriorated, with a failed murder attempt on Maurice Kamto, leader of the MRC, in Garoua, on 13 March.⁴ In an audio message released via social media on 21 June, non-state armed groups linked to the conflict in the anglophone regions warned the UN not to participate in reconstruction efforts led by the central government, or they would face attacks.⁵

Poverty remained high, with 6.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, most of them located in the Far North, North-West, and South-West regions.⁶ This number represents an additional 2.3 million people in need in comparison to the situation pre-COVID-19.⁷ Growing insecurity continued to force people into displacement, with 321,886 IDPs in the Far North⁸ and 679,393 in the North-West and South-West,⁹ due to armed conflicts, terrorist actions – mostly linked to Boko Haram – and the political conflict in English-speaking provinces.

Curbing the spread of food insecurity and promoting innovative nutrition practices

In the north of Cameroon and in English-speaking provinces in particular, a fragile economy combined with deteriorating security conditions and increased forced displacement led to a rise in food insecurity. Consequently, undernourishment and malnutrition have also been on the rise: 2.1 million people faced food insecurity in Cameroon, including 254,371 severely food insecure, in June 2020.^{10,11} In addition, 31% of children aged 6 to 59 months were in a situation of chronic malnutrition. Hence, EUTF-funded programmes strived to reduce food insecurity, providing food security-related assistance to the most vulnerable populations, but also promoted innovative nutrition practices and rehabilitated hectares of agricultural land.

In S1 2020, the EUTF provided nutrition assistance to 21,141 people (indicator 2.3), representing 10% of the total nutrition assistance beneficiaries since the inception of the EUTF in Cameroon. From the beginning, all beneficiaries were reached through the Résilience Septentrion programme (CM-01). This semester, all beneficiaries were located in the Far North region. Most were children below five, benefitting from preventive medical consultations (15,966, or 75% of beneficiaries over the first half of 2020), treated for severe acute malnutrition (2,017, 10%), as well as general populations sensitised on general nutrition practices (3,158, or 15% of beneficiaries over the same period).

¹ Jeune Afrique, 'Les premières leçons d'un scrutin boudé par les citoyens', 11 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Le Monde, 'Au Cameroun, des législatives et des municipales " dans le calme " faute de votants', 10 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ HRW News, 'Cameroon: massacre findings made public', 24 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ RFI, 'Cameroun : le gouvernement réfute la tentative d'assassinat contre Maurice Kamto', 15 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ UNHCR, 'Multi country operation, Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome & Principe', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ OCHA, 'Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ Ibid.

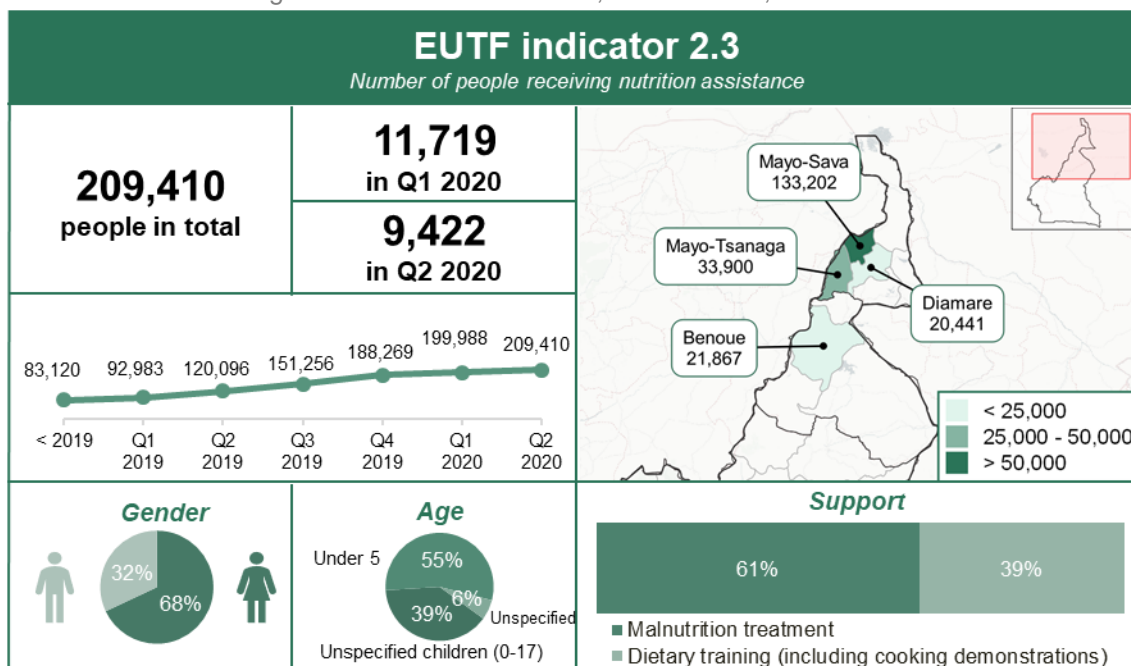
⁸ UNHCR, Cameroon country data, accessed October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ WFP, 'Cameroon country brief', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ Cadre Harmonisé, March 2020.

Figure 23: EUTF indicator 2.3, in Cameroon, June 2020



In addition, EUTF-funded programmes delivered food security-related assistance to 8,549 people in S1 2020 (indicator 2.4), or 10% of the total beneficiaries since the start of EUTF activities. Résilience Septentrion (CM-01) was the only programme with food security-related activities. While people from the regions of Adamawa and North were reached in previous quarters, all beneficiaries in S1 2020 were in Far North. Various types of support were provided, including agricultural inputs and tools (673 farmers or about 4,038 final beneficiaries over the first half of 2020),¹ land rehabilitation (3,150 beneficiaries), trainings on agricultural practices (1,003 farmers trained), and livestock distribution (358 herders). Trainings on agricultural practices dealt with the promotion of resistant varieties for farming such as potato, okra, yam, onion, as well as introducing technical itineraries and improving farming practices. Livestock distribution allowed small herders to reconstitute their cattle and mitigate cattle theft, which has become a common practice in northern Cameroon, especially for the purpose of ransoming or re-selling.²

Promoting small-scale economic activities

In the northern regions of Cameroon, the socio-economic situation remained grim in the first half of 2020. The country was faced with an economic crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, which is expected to reduce annual economic growth to between 5% and 6% in 2020,³ and freeze or postpone foreign direct investments.⁴

In this context, the EUTF supported small-scale economic activities in the north of the country, principally revolving around agriculture, in line with the main livelihood activities of the region. In the first half of 2020, the EUTF supported 9,271 people to develop income-generating activities (IGAs) in Cameroon (34% of total IGA beneficiaries since the inception of EUTF-funded programmes), including 7,350 in the Q2 2020, the highest quarterly amount achieved since the beginning. Most were VSLA members trained (80% of the period's beneficiaries), while other types of supports provided included

¹ In accordance with common methodological rules, the number of final beneficiaries for several types of food security-related assistance was obtained multiplying by six the number of individual beneficiaries – farmers, herders –. The objective was to better reflect on the overall number of beneficiaries within all households reached.

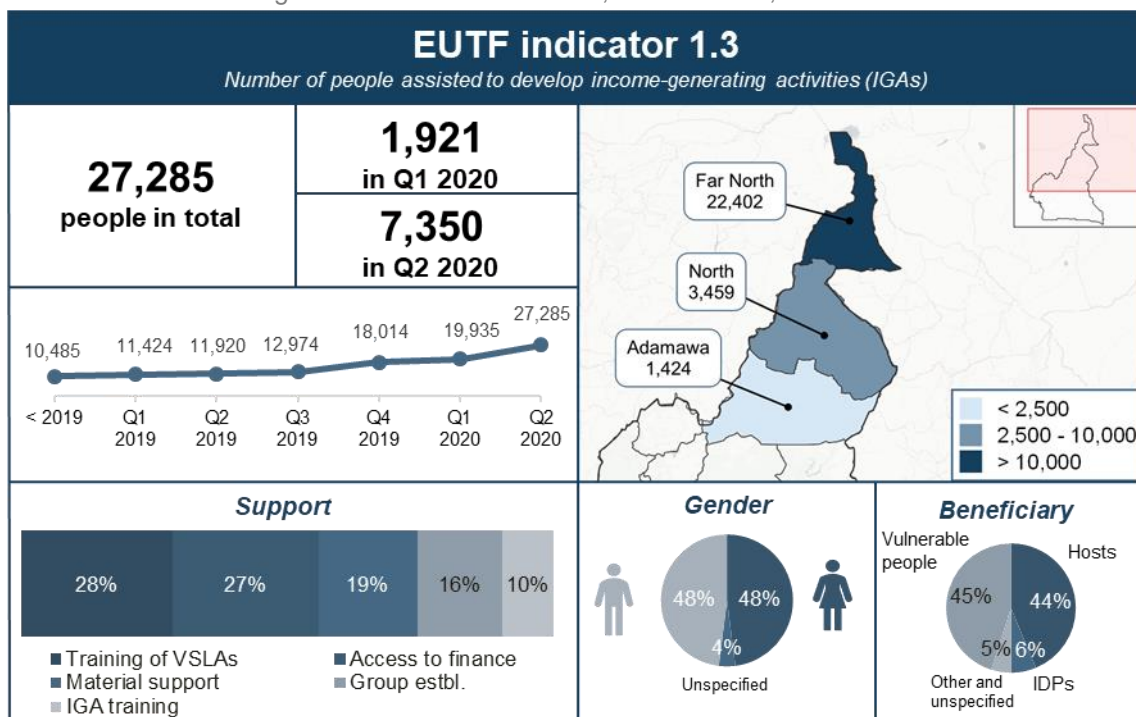
² France 24, 'Cameroon's Adamawa region plagued by cattle theft and kidnappings', 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

³ AfDB, 'African Economic Outlook 2020 – Supplement Amid COVID-19', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Ibid.

IGA training, support to agricultural cooperative members, and operational support for farmers working in rainfed exploitations. Beneficiaries were in the Far North (81%) and North (19%) regions.

Figure 24: EUTF indicator 1.3, in Cameroon, June 2020



Basic infrastructure and enhanced basic social services

In Cameroon’s remote areas, access to basic services, and basic infrastructures such as roads, wells and boreholes, latrines, schools, hospitals remained very insufficient in 2020. The Far North has the worst social indicators and levels of access to basic services of the country’s ten regions.¹ Roads are scarce in the North, and in poor condition, hindering the movements of people and goods and consequently socio-economic development.

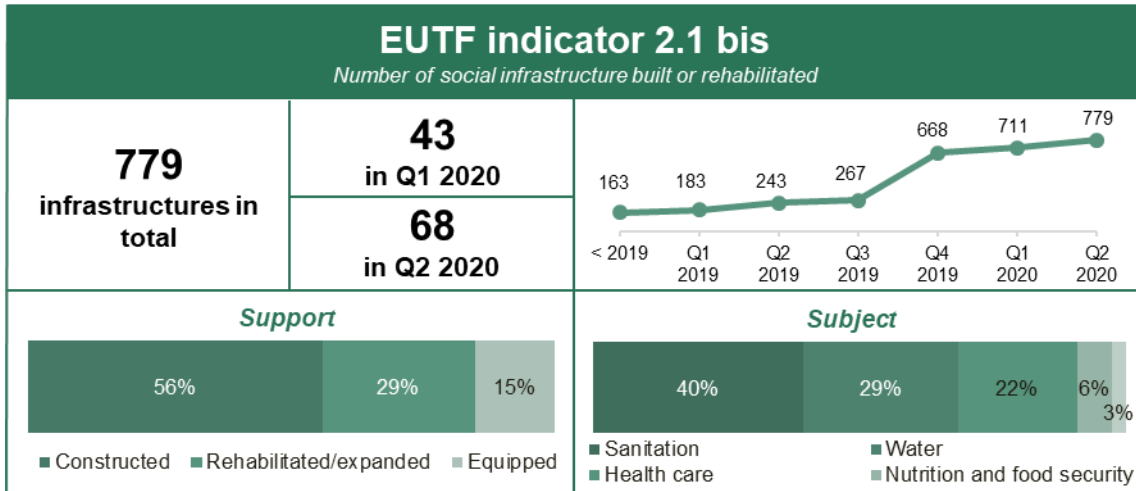
To create infrastructure and improve access to basic services for the populations of northern Cameroon, the EUTF contributed to enhance infrastructure coverage, as well as promote the sustainable management of basic infrastructure. In S1 2020, it supported the construction or rehabilitation of 111 social infrastructures (indicator 2.1 bis), raising the total to 779 since the start of activities. 110 of the 111 social infrastructures built or rehabilitated in S1 2020 were by Résilience Septentrion (CM-01). The programme worked on several types of infrastructure, including health centres and infrastructures (80), waste pits and waste management systems (eight), drilling systems (eight), waterholes (eight), and community latrines (six). For its part, the HIMO programme (CM-03)² rehabilitated a road in the district of Diamaré during the first half of 2020. Since its inception, the programme which ended in March 2020, rehabilitated 11 roads in the districts of Diamaré, Mayo-Danay, Mayo-Kani, Mayo-Sava, and Mayo-Tsanaga, all in Far North. It has also rehabilitated a total of nine water ponds and boreholes to support agricultural projects. All the rehabilitation of infrastructures was undertaken with local workforce, therefore supporting the creation of jobs – 1,857 full-time equivalent jobs³ created through cash-for-work activities by the HIMO programme (CM-03) over the lifetime of the project.

¹ OCHA, ‘Cameroon Humanitarian Response Plan’, April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² *Projet d’investissement en appui au développement économique local dans l’Extrême Nord, favorisant l’emploi et l’insertion des jeunes (approche HIMO)*.

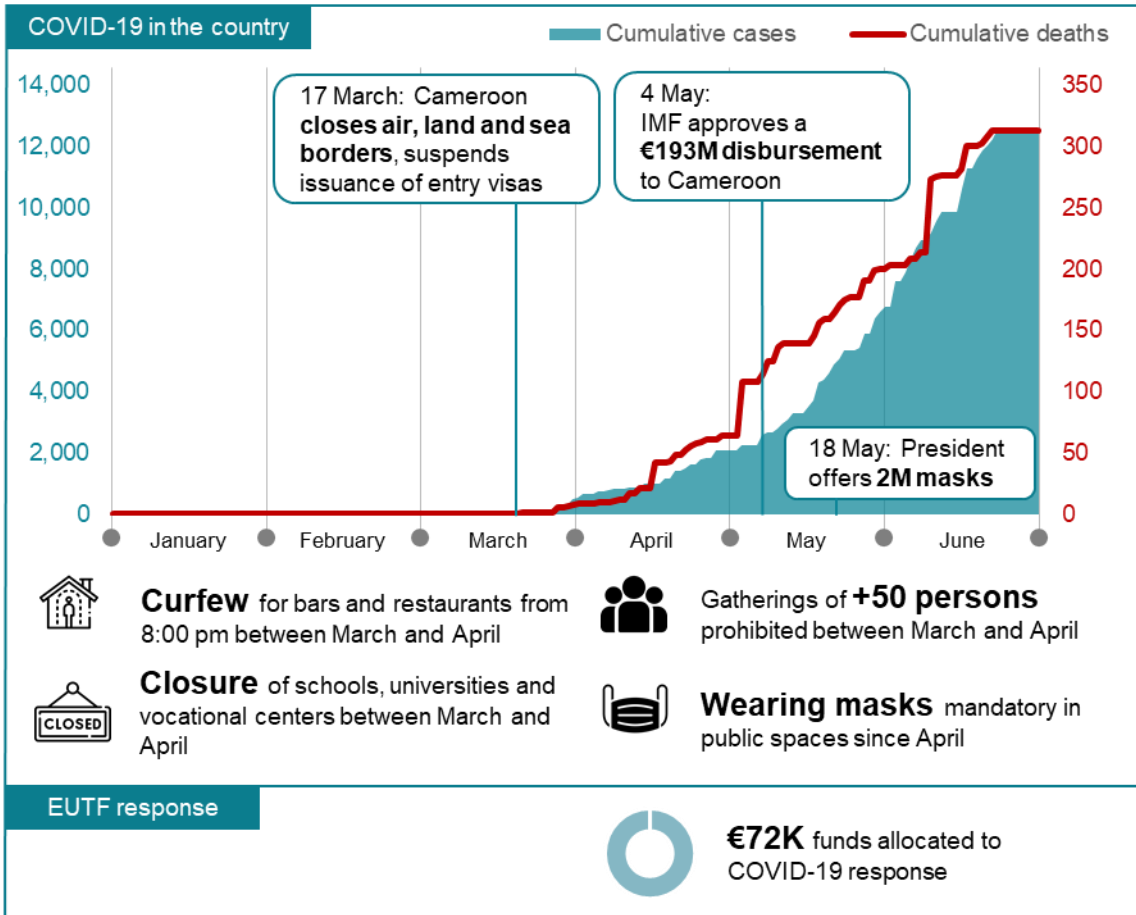
³ Full-time equivalent jobs were obtained by applying a multiplier for all days worked in cash-for-work activities. One full-time equivalent job equals 230 days worked over the year.

Figure 25: EUTF indicator 2.1 bis, in Cameroon, June 2020



COVID-19 pandemic in Cameroon

Figure 26: COVID-19 in Cameroon, June 2020



On 6 March 2020, Cameroon officially recorded its first COVID-19 case. On 17 March, the country closed its borders. By the end of June 2020, the country had 12,592 officially active cases and 313 deaths,¹ making it one of the most impacted countries in West Africa. The World Health Organisation

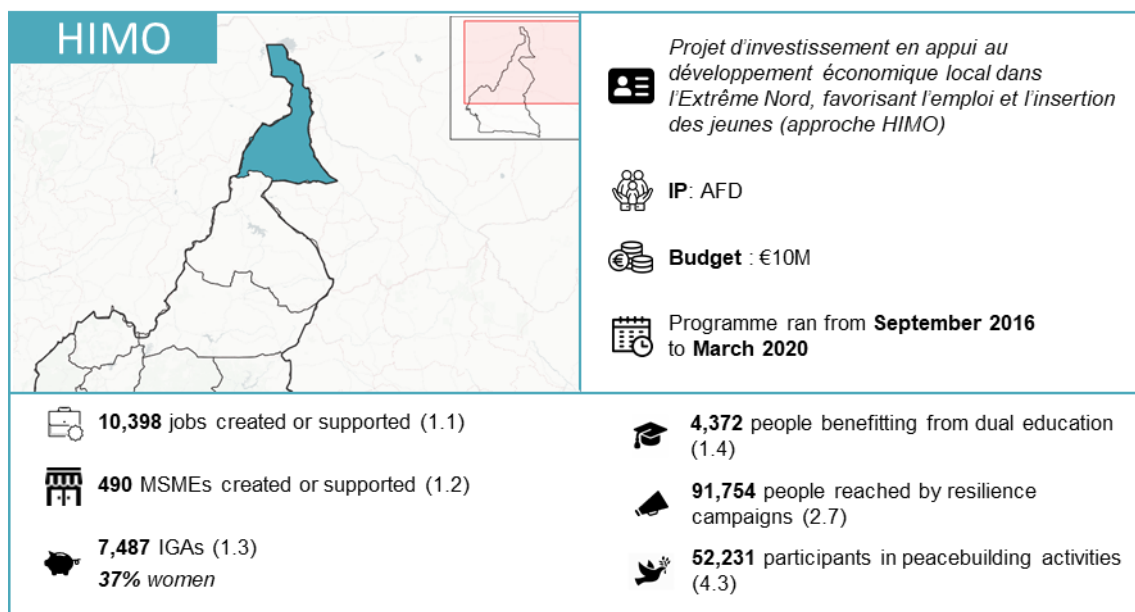
¹ OWID, 'Coronavirus', accessed September 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

and the Jack Ma Foundation provided the country with material, including 183 oxygen concentrators,¹ to face the pandemic and reinforce the health system. Cameroon also put in place a whole set of measures to curb the pandemic, such as massive testing - 80,000 tests were run by 24 June² –, and strengthen the capacities of its hospital system.

The EU – IOM JI was the only EUTF-funded project to redirect funds to COVID-19-specific activities in Cameroon. In times of pandemic, the IOM support through the JI was crucial, as it assisted the voluntary return of migrants who were stranded and suffering from the closure of international borders.³

5.2.2. PROGRAMME COMPLETED IN S1 2020

Figure 27: HIMO (programme and project, CM-03)



¹ Good Governance Africa, 'Cameroon adopts 3T strategy but emergency fund remains cloudy', 24 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Ibid.

³ IOM, 'IOM, EU Bolster Response to Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Returning Migrants Across West and Central Africa', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

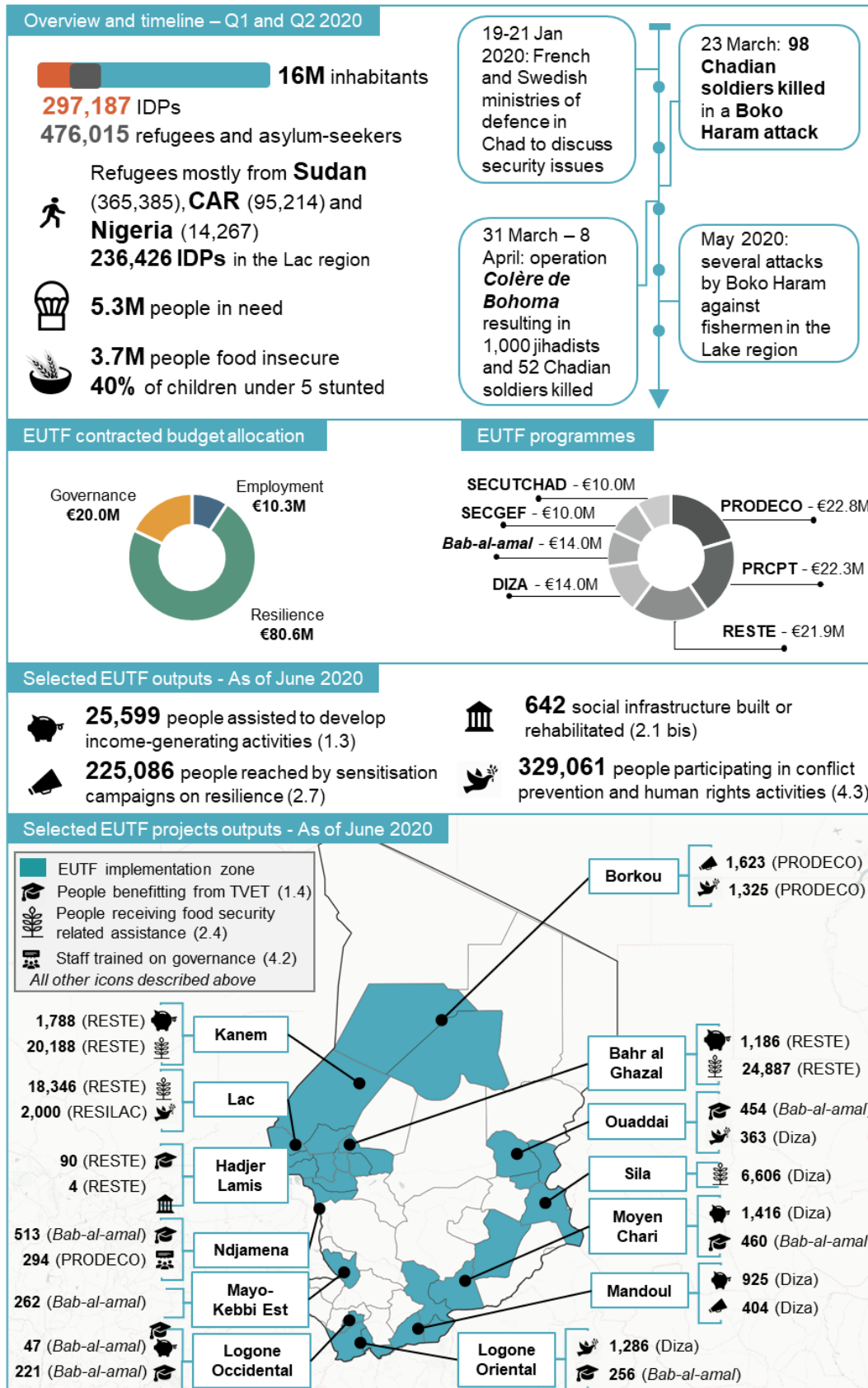
5.2.3. CAMEROON AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 6: EUTF common output indicators for Cameroon, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	2,600	8,199	0	10,799
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	856	576	40	1,472
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	10,485	7,529	9,271	27,285
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	9,438	8,080	716	18,234
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	5	10	15	30
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	0	2	0	2
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	163	505	111	779
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	107,892	71,691	31,097	210,680
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	83,120	105,149	21,141	209,410
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	33,366	41,714	8,549	83,629
2.5 Number of insitutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	141	65	4	210
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	98	3,056	601	3,754
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	115,042	324,059	146,606	585,707
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	616	9,145	3,910	13,671
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	22,800	155,419	78,705	256,924
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	6,489	6,423	12,953	25,865
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	1,744	83	0	1,827
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	2,558	1,191	358	4,107
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	2,584	1,224	234	4,042
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	0	36	0	36
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	0	52	0	52
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	1	40	27	68
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	33	125	242	400
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	0	322	239	561
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	45,359	14,778	80	60,217
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	19	128	42	189
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	11	5	27	42
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	10	4	22	36
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	25	25	14	64

5.3. CHAD

Figure 28: Chad – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.3.1. CHAD AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

During the first two quarters of 2020, the situation in Chad remained extremely fragile, with worrying levels of food insecurity and extreme poverty.¹ Insecurity also remained a primary concern, as illustrated by the Boko Haram attack on 23 March, when the Chadian military suffered a major blow with 98 dead soldiers on the island of Bohoma while terrorists had time to retreat with an important stock of weapons.² In the wake of the attack, President Idriss Déby announced the retaliation operation Colère de Bohoma, resulting in an official death toll of 1,000 jihadists and 52 Chadian soldiers, and virtually no jihadists reportedly left on Chadian soil.³ President Idriss Déby also threatened to cease participation in regional military operations if no additional efforts were undertaken by neighbouring countries,⁴ highlighting the shortcomings of regional military cooperation.

The humanitarian situation remained dire in the first semester of 2020, with 5.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance by June 2020.⁵ Chad continued to host refugees, with 472,110 refugees present in the country by 30 June 2020, mostly coming from Sudan, the Central African Republic (CAR), and Nigeria.⁶ The country is also home to 297,187 IDPs,⁷ including 236,426 in the Lac region,⁸ as a direct consequence of the general insecurity.

Improving access to basic services, including water and education

Despite efforts to increase its population's access to water, education and electricity, Chad remained one of the countries with the lowest rates of access to basic services, including water and education. In 2020, most of the population still did not have access to safe drinking water or sanitation services.⁹ Even in the capital N'Djamena, access to drinkable water did not exceed 30% at the beginning of 2020.¹⁰ The main causes for low access to water services are the lack of infrastructure, poverty, poor governance, semi-arid to arid climates, but also insecurity and forced displacements, with displaced people sometimes losing access to the basic services they had been used to before. Available drinking water is often dirty and puts people at risk of water-borne diseases.¹¹ Education is increasingly worrying: in 2019, 26% of Chadian children were out of primary education¹² (well above sub-Saharan Africa's average of 19% in 2019) and¹³ the situation is deteriorating – in 2015, the number was 21% in Chad –¹⁴ due to security issues, insufficient teaching personnel in certain regions, and limited finances.

In this grim context, the EUTF pursued its efforts to improve access to basic services by building infrastructures and promoting their sustainable management. In S1 2020, 239 social infrastructures were built or rehabilitated in Chad (indicator 2.1 bis). Of this total, 207 pieces of infrastructure were built for water and sanitation purposes (or 57% of the total water-related pieces of infrastructure built since the inception of EUTF-funded programmes), all through the RESTE programme (TD-01). The activities of the programme RESTE included the drilling of 170 new boreholes in villages or small towns with a mean depth of 50 metres. 120 boreholes were equipped with hand pumps (type VERGNET), and

¹ FAO, 'Chad – Humanitarian response, May-December 2020'. Retrieved [here](#).

² RFI, 'Le Tchad endeuillé par la mort de 98 soldats dans une attaque de Boko Haram', 25 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ Le Monde, 'Tchad : face aux djihadistes, les coups de colère, de com' et de bluff du Président Idriss Déby', 16 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Le Point, 'Bassin du Lac Tchad : Idriss Déby Itno se retire des opérations anti-djihadistes', 13 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ OCHA, 'Chad situation report', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ UNHCR, 'Chad data', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ UNHCR, 'Personnes relevant de la compétence du HCR', Chad, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ UNICEF, 'Water, sanitation and hygiene', Chad, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹⁰ Construction Review, 'N'Djamena water distribution network extension project in Chad underway', 20 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ AfDB, 'In Chad, the African Development Bank quenches the thirst of residents with clean drinking water', January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

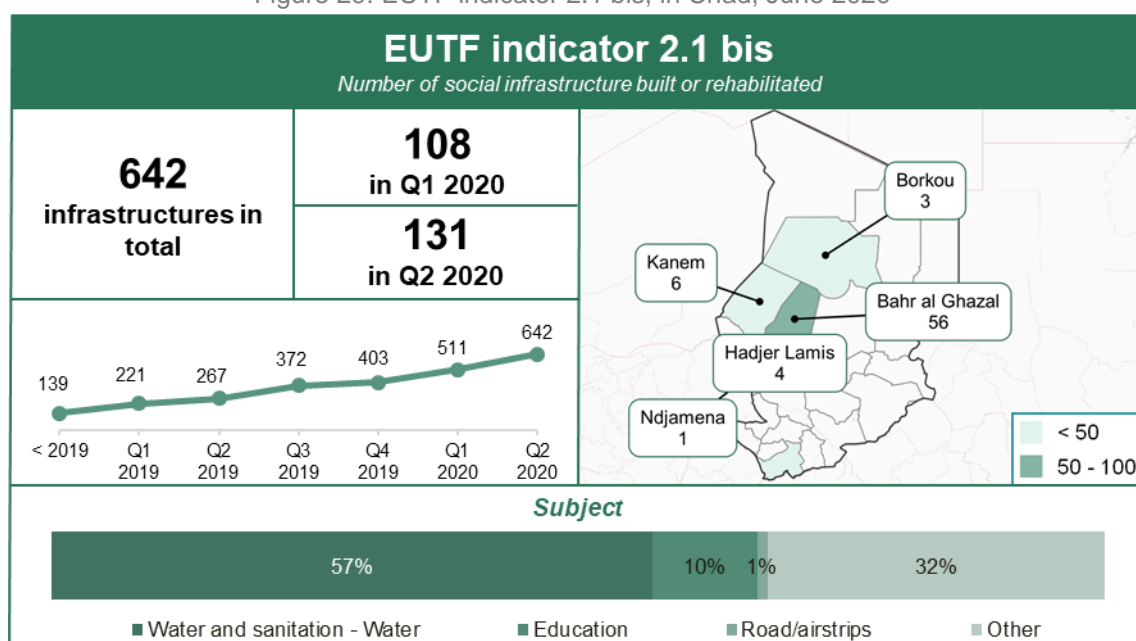
¹² Children out of school correspond to the number of primary-school-age children not enrolled in education at a given moment. Children out of school may have already received some primary education, or receive it in the future. UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 'Children out of school: measuring exclusion from primary education', 2005. Retrieved [here](#).

¹³ WB, 'World Bank Data – Chad and Sub-Saharan Africa', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹⁴ WB, 'World Bank Data – Chad', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

submersible electrical pumps were installed in about 50 boreholes, lifting water with solar energy into adjacent water tanks of 10 to 50 metres cube. Chlorinated water is then conveyed by gravity from the tanks via small distribution networks to the tapping points or water kiosks. In order to further improve the hygienic conditions, latrines were also built in selected schools and hospitals. The vast majority of the infrastructure built or renovated was in the Lac region (230 in S1 2020), followed by the Bahr al Ghazal region, where one water body and four wells were built in Q2 2020, and Hadjer Lamis with four drills. In the field of education, 27 infrastructures were equipped or rehabilitated in the first half of 2020, all in Q2 by RESILAC (REG-05) and RESTE, all in the Lac region, where many schools have been forced to close due to Boko Haram’s attacks, and where many people have a reduced access to education.¹ RESILAC supported 20 functional alphabetisation centres with equipment, as well as two professional training centers, targeting specific beneficiaries – mostly young or adults individuals seeking for specific trainings linked to their professional activity, such as sewing, or farming. RESTE expanded the capacity of five schools with new classrooms.

Figure 29: EUTF indicator 2.1 bis, in Chad, June 2020²



Reducing food insecurity

In 2020, Chad remained very exposed to food insecurity for various reasons. Its volatile Sahelian climate characterised by hot temperatures and extreme rainfall seasonality considerably affects crops and yields, while extreme weather events are amplified by climate change. Insufficient hydraulic infrastructure, low agricultural mechanisation, poor logistics and paltry public resources are the main reasons behind agriculture’s fragility in Chad. Lastly, insecurity and displacements have driven people out of their lands, exposing them to further food insecurity due to the loss of traditional fishing and agriculture livelihood activities.³ For instance, by April 2020, there were 236,426 IDPs in the Lac region.⁴ Despite a 7% increase in cereal production compared to the average production of the last five years, food insecurity remained prevalent in Chad in 2020: more than 2.3 million people were in a situation of food insecurity in the country during the March-May 2020 period, including more than 450,000 people

¹ Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, OCHA reported that 13 schools in Chad, and 1,208 in the Lake Chad Basin overall, had been forced to close due to insecurity. OCHA, ‘Lake Chad Basin – Humanitarian snapshot’, 27 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² The map colour code and the graph presents data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 202.

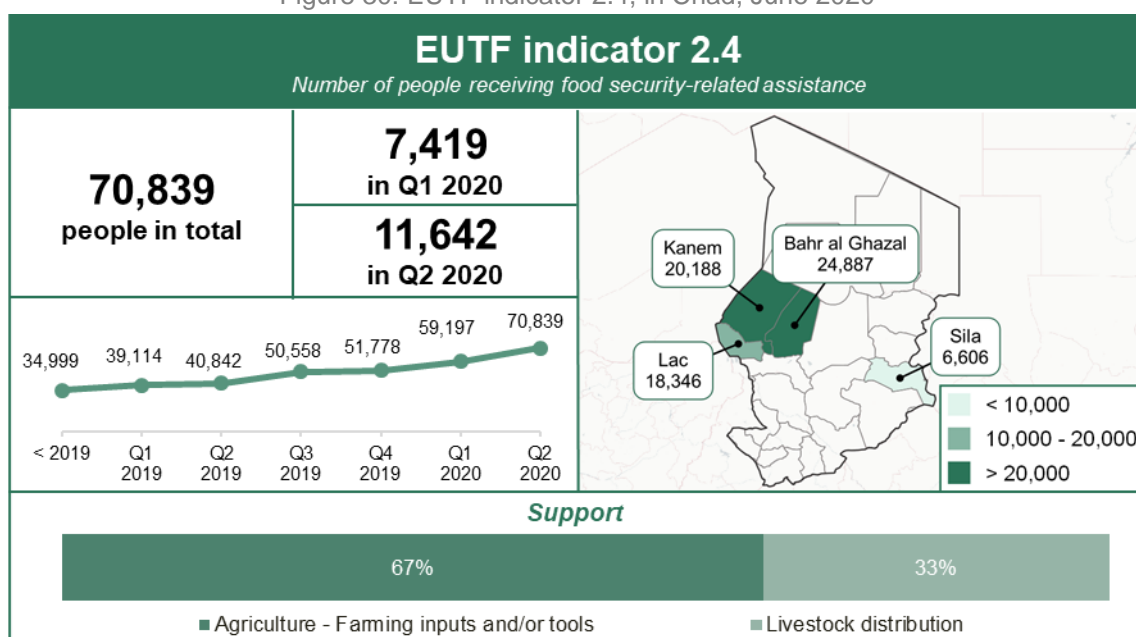
³ WFP, ‘Chad’, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ IOM DTM, ‘Chad – Lac province’, April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

in severe food insecurity (phases 3 to 5).¹ As a direct consequence, many people are in need of nutrition assistance. In 2020, more than 1.8 million children aged 6–59 months suffered from acute malnutrition – including 460,000 children from severe acute malnutrition and 1.4 million children from moderate acute malnutrition.²

In this context, EUTF-funded programmes provided food security-related assistance to 19,061 people in the first semester of 2020 (indicator 2.4), or 27% of the total number of beneficiaries since the beginning, and more in half a year than in all of 2019 (16,779). Food security-related assistance was provided through two EUTF-funded programmes: RESTE (TD-01), with 12,455 people assisted in the first half of 2020, and DIZA (TD-07), with 6,606 beneficiaries. DIZA beneficiaries were all located in the Sila province, in the east of the country, and benefitted from access to agricultural and veterinary inputs as well as operational support. RESTE beneficiaries received support for livestock production (7,992), agricultural inputs for rainfed crops and trainings (4,014 individual beneficiaries) and trainings on animal health (449).

Figure 30: EUTF indicator 2.4, in Chad, June 2020



Preventing tensions through human rights and local development

In Chad, tensions around natural resources and access to land, which are linked to socio-ethnic differences, threaten the overall cohesion of the country, and the peaceful cohabitation of communities. In the east of the country (Sila) where natural resources are scarce and sought after, communities can find themselves competing over these resources which can lead to conflict and exacerbate pre-existing tensions.³ The situation is made tenser by the risks of a spillover of violence coming from neighbouring Sudan and the arrivals of refugees –16,000 refugees from Sudan crossed the border in early 2020.⁴ Similar risks exist in the south, where herders and transhumance pastors live alongside farmers, and where host communities cohabit with refugees and returnees from neighbouring CAR.

In this context, the EUTF adopted a preventive approach, focusing on peacebuilding, peaceful cohabitation of populations and comprehensive development schemes that clarify access to land and

¹ OCHA, 'Chad report - More than 2.3 million people in food insecurity, including 450,000 in severe food insecurity in Chad', Cadre Harmonisé, 24 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² USAID, 'Food assistance fact sheet – Chad', updated 13 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ ICC, 'Eviter la reprise des violences communautaires à l'est du Tchad', December 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

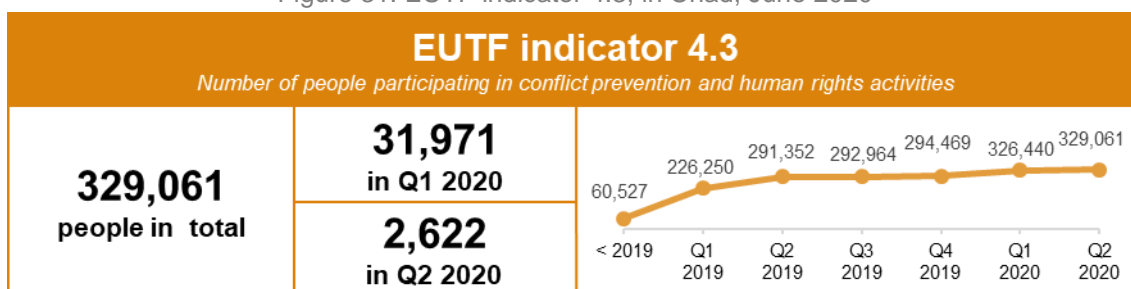
⁴ UNHCR, 'Chad emergency update', 23 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

resources, and promote peaceful relations among the different communities. It aimed to build peace, promoting dialogue among communities, and establishing local development plans to reduce the root socio-economic causes of potential conflicts. EUTF-funded programmes operate, among others, in the most fragile, remote areas, close to the borders, where the presence of the central state is weaker.

In S1 2020, 34,592 people participated in conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities (indicator 4.3), which represents 11% of the total achieved since the inception of EUTF-funded programmes in Chad. During the first half of 2020, conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities were conducted by the programmes: SECUTCHAD (TD-05, 31,164 conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities in S1 2020), RESILAC (REG-05, 1,360), RESTE (TD-01, 1,320), DIZA (TD-07, 363), PRODECO (TD-06, 305), and PDU (REG-18, 80).

EUTF-funded peacebuilding programmes in Chad follow three different rationales. First, programmes such as SECUTCHAD (TD-05) aim to ensure the security of communities, promote social cohesion as an overall prevention of terrorism strategy, and re-establish trust between civilian populations and security forces. SECUTCHAD, which ended in June 2020, organised peacebuilding activities through cultural and sports events, targeting youth across the territory. It also contributed to strengthening the governance of security forces, with updated codes of ethics, operational plans in the Lac region, and trainings. Second, some programmes such as RESTE (TD-01) and RESILAC (REG-05) conduct social cohesion activities to ease tensions around natural resources in volatile areas. RESILAC participants were involved in inter and intra community dialogue and/or activities on human rights, gender, civilian mediation, conflict prevention and peacebuilding as well as awareness raising activities on these topics. RESILAC also strengthened peace by involving community leaders in the implementation of local agreements on development and resource-sharing. All of RESILAC’s peacebuilding activities took place in Lac Region. RESTE reinforced peace by creating local committees on conflict prevention, animated by local community members, in the regions of Bahr al Ghazal, Kanem and Lac. Third, the DIZA (TD-07) programme targets host communities where, over the years, refugees and returnees and displaced communities have also settled, adding pressure to the environment and existing services.¹ Indeed, DIZA’s main objective is to enhance peaceful cohabitation of refugees, returnees, and host populations in zones with high concentrations of refugees and returnees, at the border with CAR in the south and with Sudan in the east. It also aimed to improve governance by raising awareness of community leaders and strengthening local administrative structures.

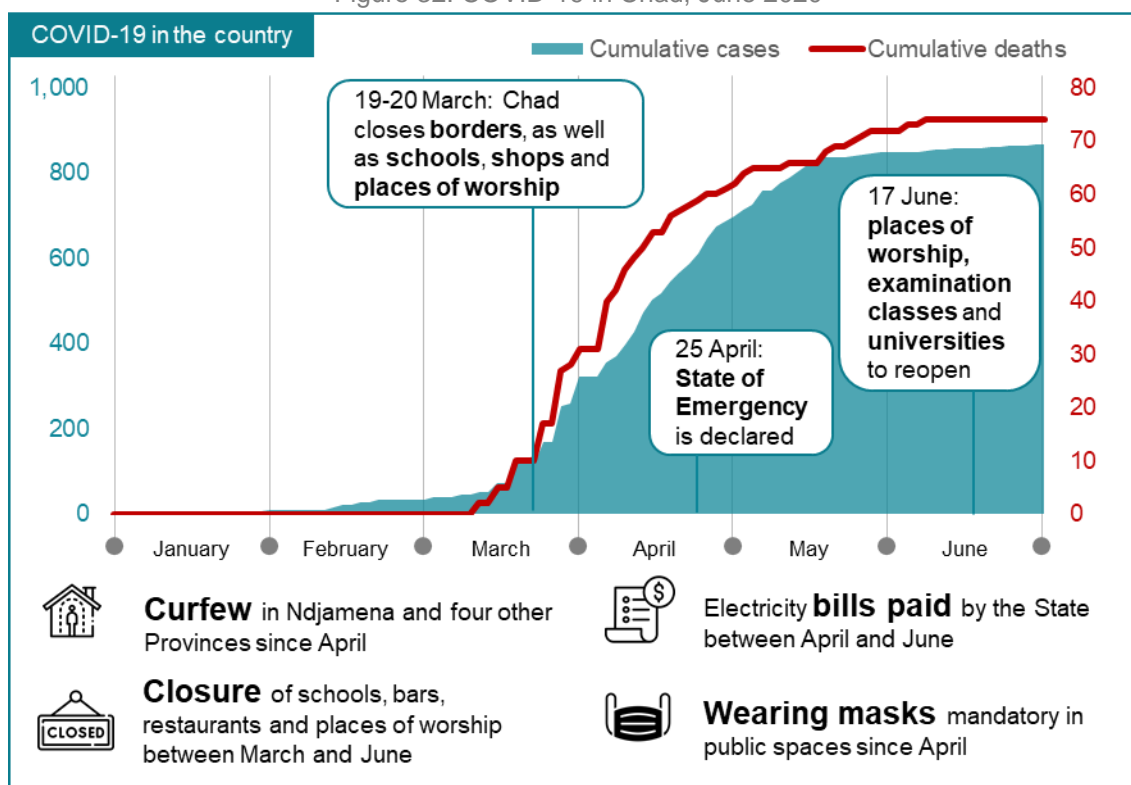
Figure 31: EUTF indicator 4.3, in Chad, June 2020



¹ More information on the UNHCR CRRF approach can be retrieved [here](#).

COVID-19 pandemic in Chad

Figure 32: COVID-19 in Chad, June 2020



Chad recorded its first COVID-19 case on 19 March 2020, imported by a traveller from Douala, Cameroon.¹ The same day, Chad closed its borders, as well as schools, shops and places of worship. These preventive measures, as well as reduced flows with northern Africa and Europe, and the population's ruralness, allowed Chad to be relatively spared by the pandemic, with 866 cases diagnosed and 74 deaths by 30 June. On the other hand, the country was particularly vulnerable to the resulting economic crisis, for two main reasons: its reliance on imports for agricultural and other consumer goods (coming mostly from Cameroon, through the Maroua-Kousseri-Ndjamena axis) and its overdependence on oil revenues.²

No EUTF-funded programmes in Chad specifically repurposed or augmented their funds for COVID-19 related activities. Yet, most of them had to adapt their activities to the lockdowns and other restrictions. Closed TVET centres, and the prohibition of group meetings forced implementing partners to postpone or innovate to be able to continue their group activities. For instance, RESTE reached people with loudspeakers for sensitisation campaigns on resilience-building practices and basic rights (indicator 2.7), in this case for WASH infrastructure.

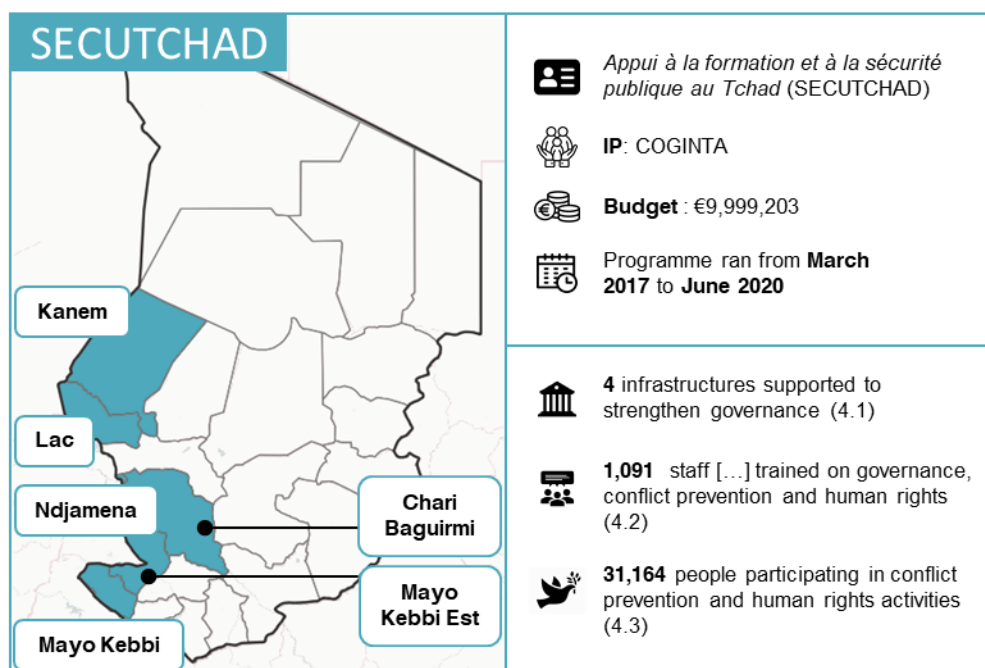
In addition, some regional EUTF-funded programmes repurposed some of their activities to cope with COVID-19. In Q2 2020, La Voix des Jeunes II organised a mass media campaign to raise awareness on the risks associated to COVID-19, reaching 112,000 people (indicator 2.7). Espaces Frontaliers G5 sensitised 45 people on COVID-19, in the Lac region (indicator 2.7), and more than 400 students who were stranded at the border with Cameroon received support (inland transportation and kits) through the regional EU-IOM JI COVID-19 fund.

¹ Anadolu Agency, 'Chad confirms its first COVID-19 case', 19 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² The barrel of Brent crude oil plummeted to 19.5 USD on 27 April. Oil prices retrieved [here](#).

5.3.2. PROGRAMME COMPLETED IN S1 2020

Figure 33: SECUTCHAD (programme and project, TD-05)



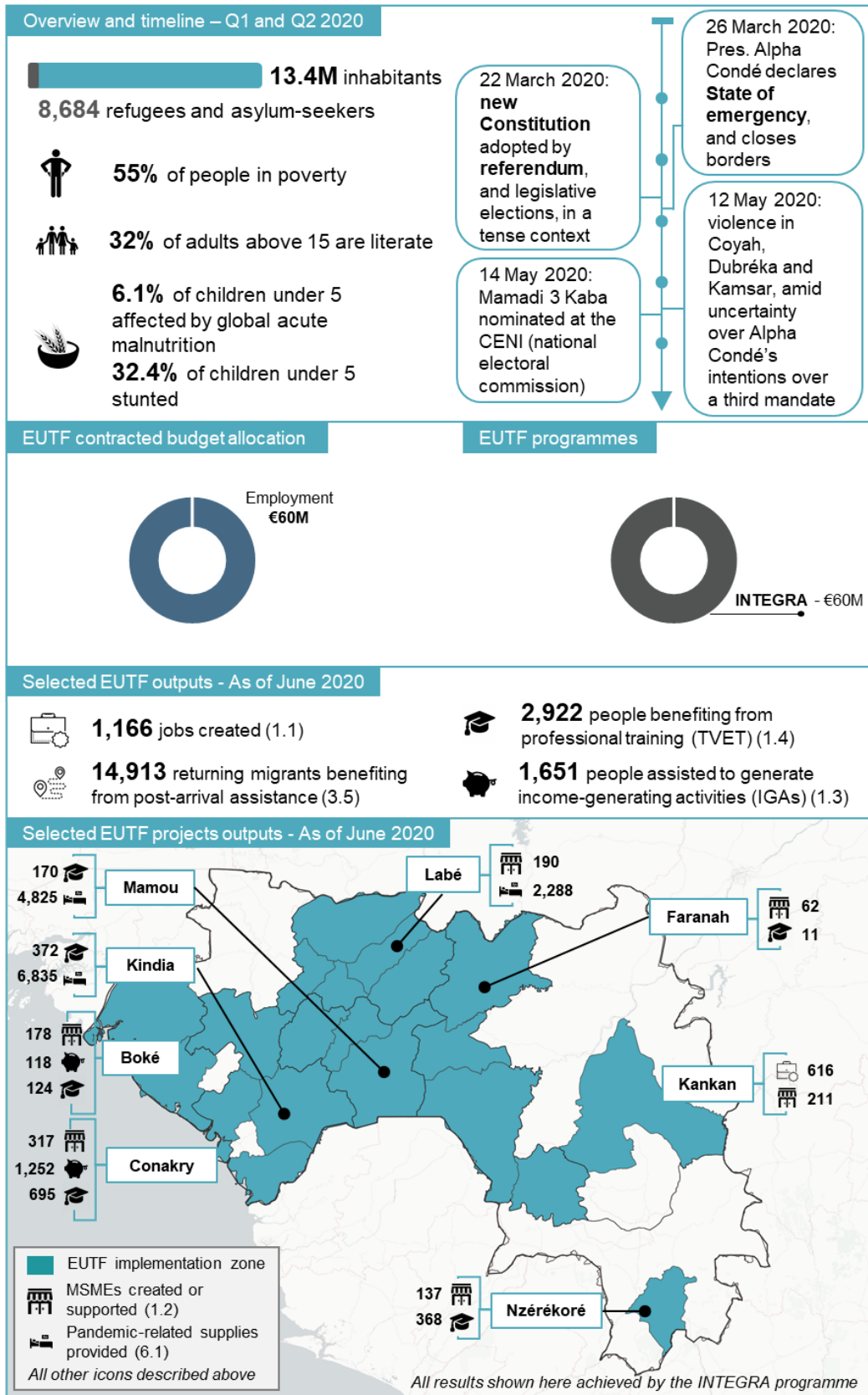
5.3.3. CHAD AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 7: EUTF common output indicators for Chad, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	2,081	2,278	410	4,769
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	0	47	20	67
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	5,268	16,982	3,349	25,599
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	230	2,454	1,131	3,815
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	3	24	4	31
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	26	56	5	87
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	139	264	239	642
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	660	2,567	1,989	5,216
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	18,546	10,477	6,232	35,255
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	34,999	16,779	19,061	70,839
2.5 Number of insitutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	8	40	4	52
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	70	317	107	494
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	21,672	30,706	172,708	225,086
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	57	2,095	489	2,642
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	35,160	221,000	0	256,160
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	0	605	353	958
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	48	265	151	464
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	0	1,196	0	1,196
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	1	1	0	2
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	0	16	6	22
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	0	0	4	4
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	0	216	353	569
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	667	1,223	1,362	3,252
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	60,527	233,942	34,592	329,061
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	1	1	11	13
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	9	186	60	256
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	5	12	2	19
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	10	20	4	34
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	16	20	5	41

5.4. GUINEA

Figure 34: Guinea – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.4.1. GUINEA AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

In the first half of 2020, Guinea's socio-economic situation remained fragile, with poverty, political unrest, and uncertainty over Alpha Condé's intention to stay in power. In the first half of 2020, 55% of the population in Guinea still lived in poverty.¹ While GDP growth was solid in 2019 (+5.6% annually, its fourth straight year above 5%),² the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic crisis started to impact an insufficiently diversified economy, which relied excessively on mining and agriculture.³

As Guinea headed toward the summer and the lean period, food insecurity remained prevalent, with 22% of households being food-insecure, and 24% of children aged 6-59 months suffering from stunting as of June 2020.⁴ While the Guinean agricultural potential remains enormous, low productivity, poor farming techniques and major post-harvest losses have continued to undermine the sector and exposed the weakest parts of the population to food insecurity.⁵

Enhancing job creation and value creation

In Guinea, economic growth remains insufficiently inclusive. Even though the country is endowed with vast natural resources, especially mining and hydropower, this potential does not materialise into increased income for the population, poverty reduction or improved access to basic services.⁶ Despite a strong potential for economic diversification, with mining, telecoms, agri-business, or transport, agriculture remains the country's main source of income and employment, especially in rural zones, representing 57% of rural households' income.

In this context, EUTF-funded programmes supported job creation and small enterprises, as well as economic diversification. The €60M programme Appui à l'intégration socio-économique des jeunes INTEGRA (GN-01), implemented by ITC, GIZ, Enabel, UNDP and UNCDF, supported job creations and economic activities in several ways. In S1 2020, 1,111 jobs were created (indicator 1.1), representing 95% of the total jobs created or supported since the inception of EUTF-funded activities in Guinea. This high number can be explained by two main reasons. Creating and maintaining sustainable jobs in the MSMEs supported by the programme started to pay off, with 631 jobs in the first half of 2020. Job placements were the second main reason behind the surge in numbers, with 441 jobs. Due to the COVID-19, during the first half of 2020, job placements and advice on professional orientation were conducted through phone calls. Finally, 39 jobs were created through labour-intensive work contributing to the implementation of development plans at the local level.

From January to June 2020, INTEGRA (GN-01) also supported 892 MSMEs (indicator 1.2) in various sectors (e.g. agriculture and the development of value chains with additional added value in agribusiness, logistics, marketing and digital marketing), representing 67% of the total number of MSMEs supported since the beginning of the programme. One third of the MSMEs supported in the first half of 2020 were given access to finance, 65% benefitted from entrepreneurship training, and the rest (1.3%) were supported by putting them in relation with young entrepreneurs from the different regions and creating networks of mutual support and exchange.

¹ WFP, 'Guinea', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² WB, 'World Bank Data – Guinea', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

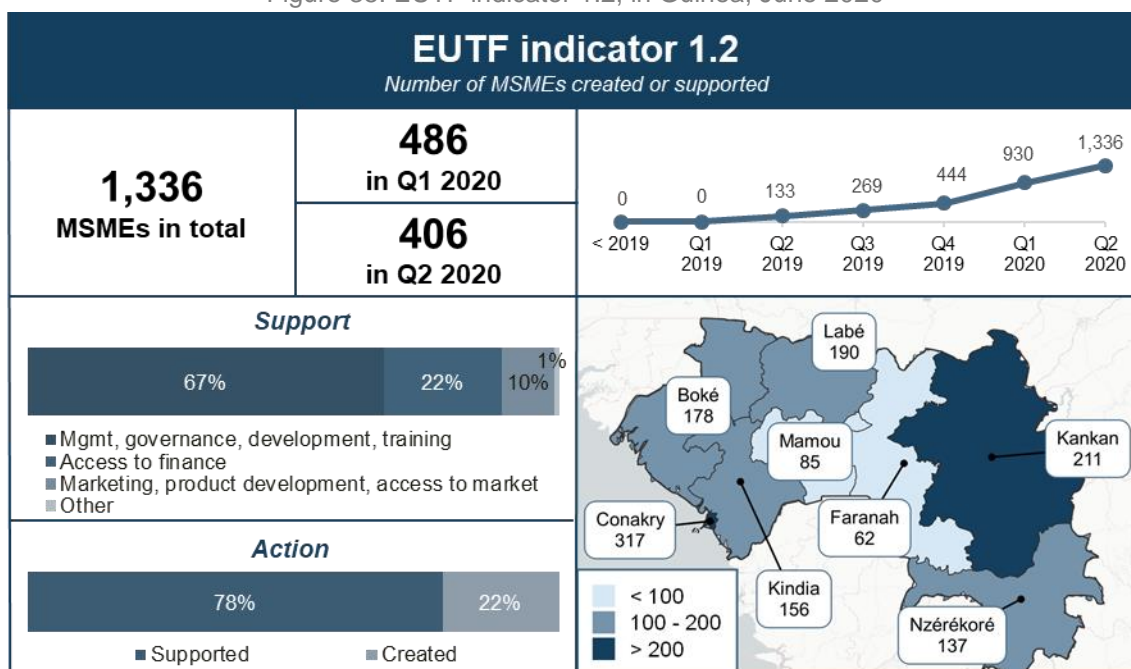
³ WB, 'Guinea country overview', 25 November 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ WFP, 'Guinea', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ WFP, 'Guinea country brief', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ Guinea country overview (WB). Op. Cit.

Figure 35: EUTF indicator 1.2, in Guinea, June 2020



Professional training, focusing on youths and women

With nearly 73% of the population under 30 years of age, the youth represents the largest demographic group in Guinea by far.¹ Yet, in most cases, they remain excluded from the path to formal employment, and have few economic opportunities. Many young Guineans, even with high education degrees, wind up performing jobs for which no special qualification is required, such as driving taxis or selling fruits. This is mainly due to a lack of formal jobs in the private sector. On the other hand, many young Guineans lack the basic skills to find a job – for instance, the literacy rate in Guinea was 30.4% in 2019.² Therefore, the job market issue in Guinea is both an offer and a demand problem.

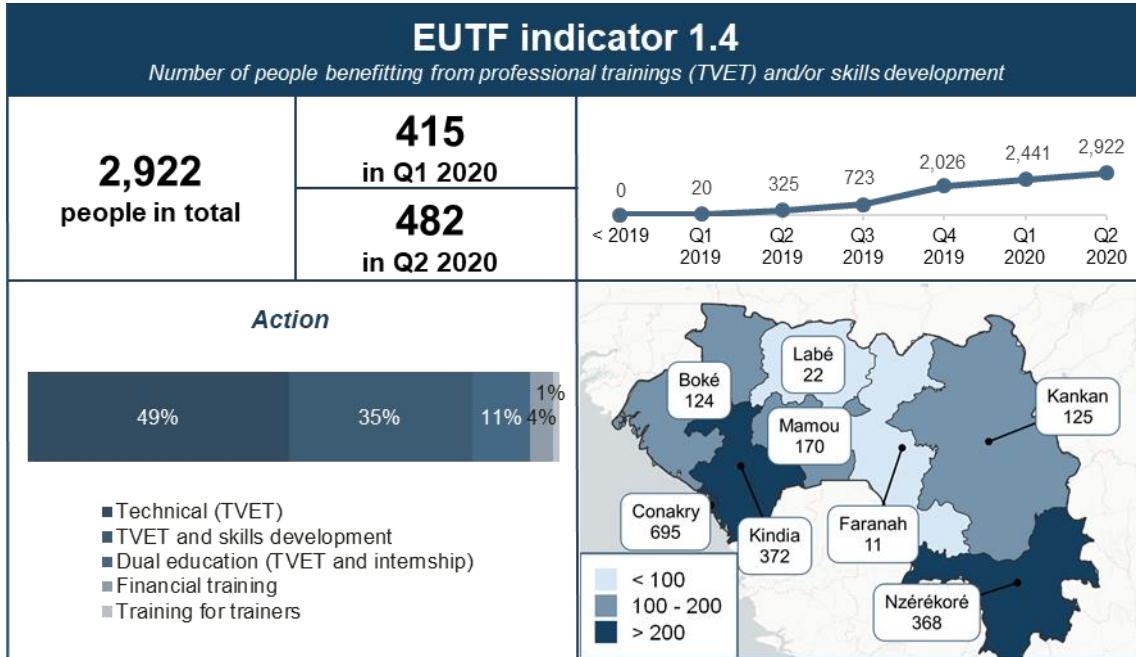
For all these reasons, EUTF-funded programmes continued to support professional education in Guinea in 2020. INTEGRA (GN-01) aimed to reinforce TVET and improve the employability of the youth. It focused on TVET, the building of labour-intensive economic infrastructure through cash-for-work, as well as the creation of sustainable employment opportunities through the development of entrepreneurship and support to value creation in certain economic sectors. Their final objective is to reach more than 15,000 young people in precarious professional situations.

In S1 2020, 896 Guineans benefitted from TVET and/or skills development (EUTF indicator 1.4), 31% of the total beneficiaries reported under this indicator since the start of EUTF-funded programmes in Guinea, and following the same pace as in 2019 (2,026 beneficiaries over the year). All beneficiaries were vulnerable people under 35. They included 311 people trained on prospection for new jobs and opportunities. In addition, 24% of the support provided (219 people) consisted in TVET trainings, 24% (214 people) skills development, and 17% (152 people) construction of labour-intensive infrastructure, serving both to remedy the lack of basic infrastructure in Guinea’s rural areas and provide a hands-on, practical form of training for young Guineans. For non-physical activities, INTEGRA (GN-01) had to innovate to comply with COVID-19 restrictions: it organised webinars and online trainings with collaborative digital tools for beneficiaries, among other, in the fields of urban logistics and digital marketing.

¹ UN, data accessed in April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² UNESCO, ‘Guinea’, data accessed in April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

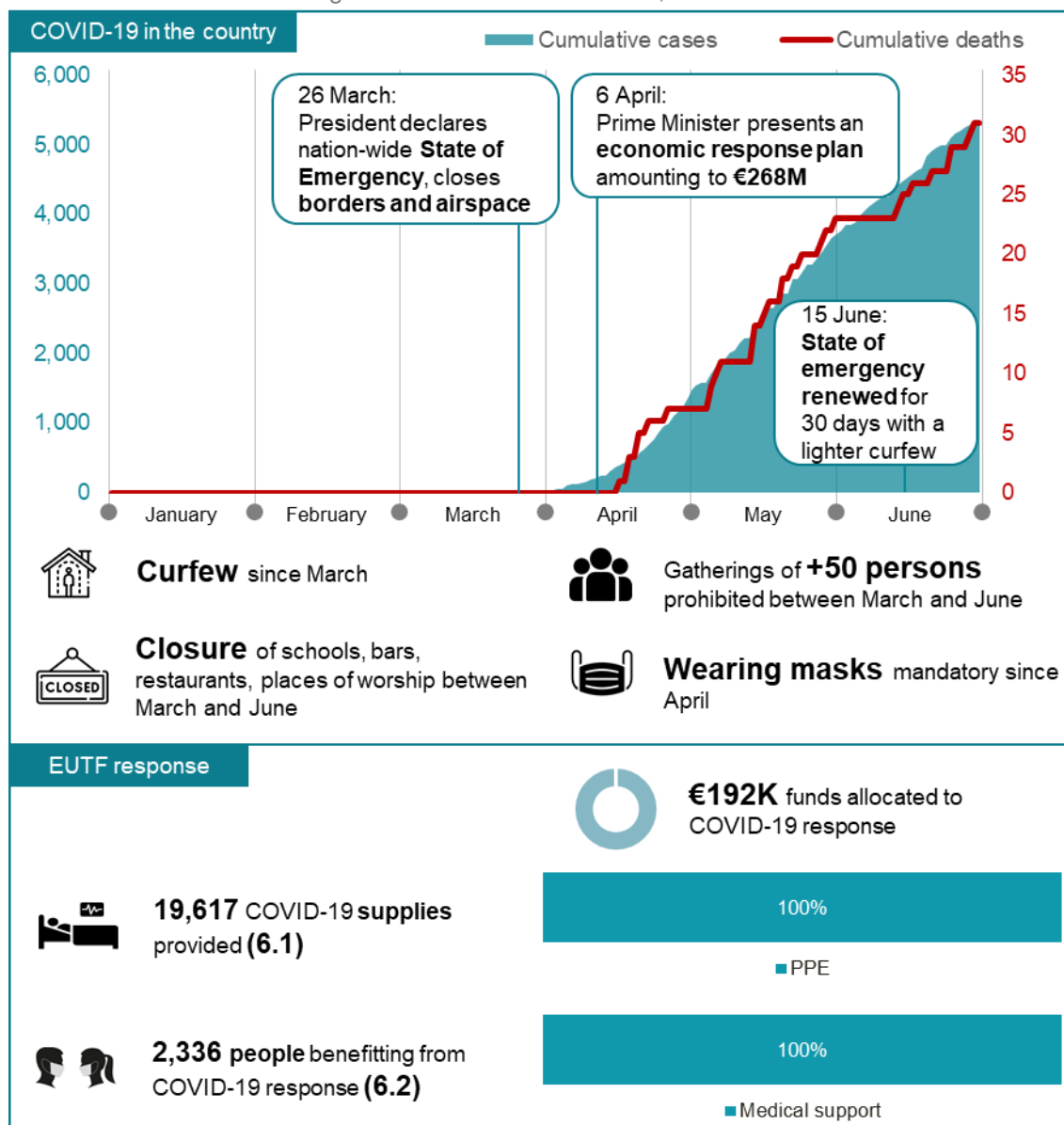
Figure 36: EUTF indicator 1.4, in Guinea, June 2020¹



¹ The map colour code and the graph presents data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 1,035.

COVID-19 pandemic in Guinea

Figure 37: COVID-19 in Guinea, June 2020



Guinea officially recorded its first COVID-19 case on 13 March 2020. On 26 March, President Alpha Condé declared a nationwide state of emergency, closed borders, and suspended school indefinitely. School closures affected 2.9 million children at the end of the school year.¹ The progression of the virus was relatively curbed, with 5,351 cumulated cases and 31 deaths officially recorded by 30 June. National screening capacity was strengthened, allowing up to nearly 1,200 tests per day by June 2020. The government also provided quantities of rapid test kits and PPEs for the health personnel.² Despite all these preventive efforts, the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 was important. Many small entrepreneurs and informal workers suffered from the measures adopted to stop the pandemic. For instance, the ban on inter-city travelling within the country was a major blow for many small entrepreneurs and street vendors.³

¹ UNICEF, 'Guinea: COVID-19 situation report, N°9', 10 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Ibid.

³ Enabel, 'Partners for entrepreneurs in Guinea', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

EUTF-funded programmes adapted some of their activities to the sanitary crisis. The INTEGRA programme (GN-01) redirected €191,500 to fund COVID-19 activities. It distributed 19,617 pandemic-related supplies (masks and bottles of hydro-alcoholic gel) between January and June 2020 (indicator 6.1). It also promoted preventive measures against COVID-19, such as regular and compulsory hand washing, respecting a security distance between beneficiaries, and developed poster campaigns to raise awareness on social distancing. In Q2 2020, 2,236 people benefitted from COVID-19 emergency response activities (indicator 6.2). In addition, IOM supported the COVID-19 taskforce in the country through the EU-JI COVID-19 regional fund.

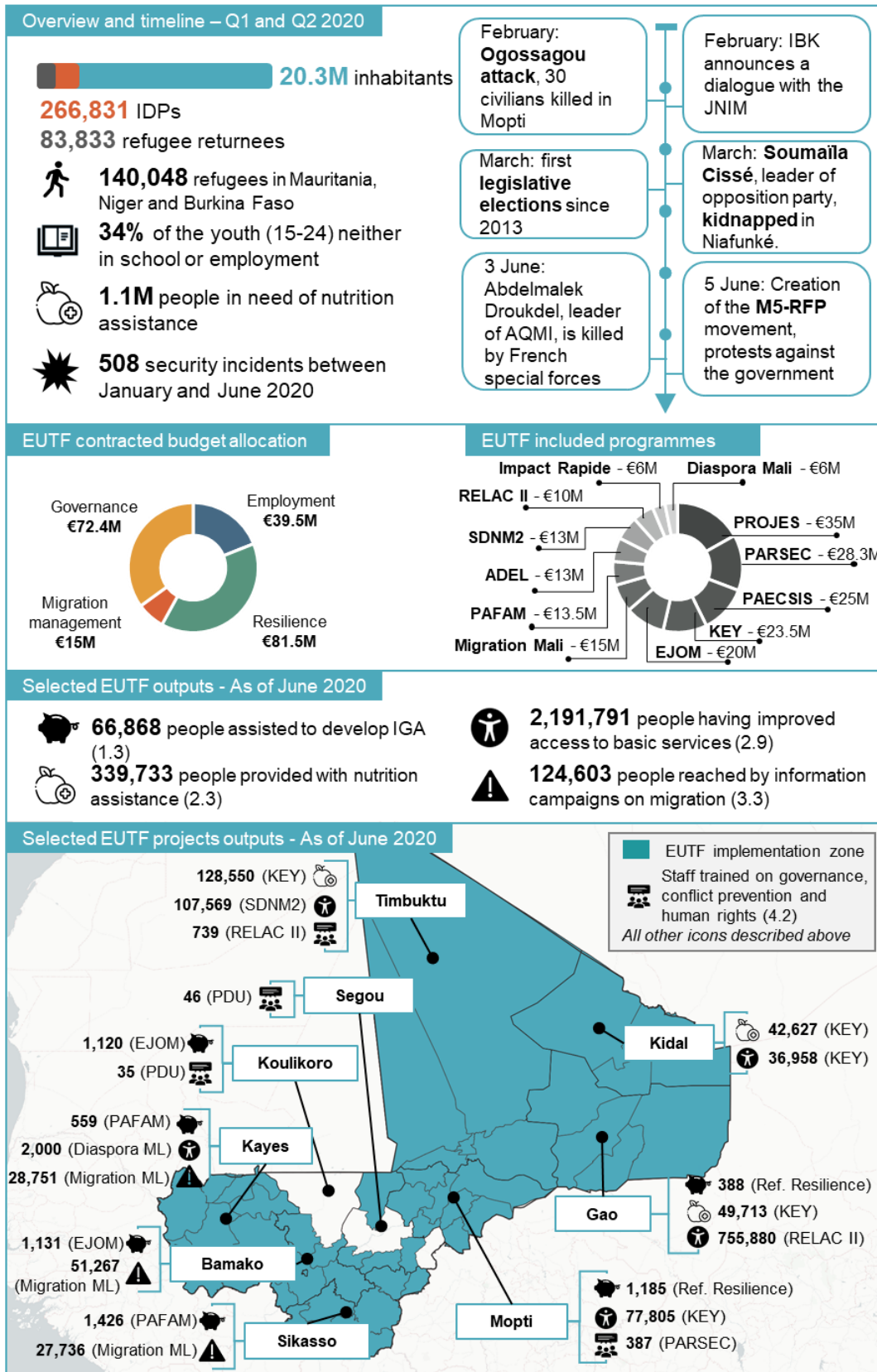
5.4.2. GUINEA AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 8: EUTF common output indicators for Guinea, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	0	55	1,111	1,166
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	0	444	892	1,336
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	0	1,246	405	1,651
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	0	2,026	896	2,922
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	0	3	2	5
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	1	0	0	1
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	0	74	0	74
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	21,155	21,161	0	42,316
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	0	81	3	84
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	9,238	4,058	1,617	14,913
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	1,675	2,326	1,048	5,049
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	0	174	0	174
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	0	220	17	237
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	672	107	7	786
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	0	8	0	8
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	0	8	1	9
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	0	15	0	15
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	0	36	0	36
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	19,617	19,617
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	2,336	2,336

5.5. MALI

Figure 38: Mali – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.5.1. MALI AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

The political and security situation in Mali deteriorated during the first half of 2020. On 29 March and 19 April 2020, the two-round parliamentary elections which had been postponed since 2018 due to insecurity in the country were held as planned.¹ Following the invalidation of a number of results, contestation grew in Bamako against President Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta. In June, the composite M5-RFP opposition movement was created, spearheaded by imam Mahmoud Dicko.² The movement organised mass protests throughout the beginning of the year, protesting the lack of economic opportunities, lack of state services and insecurity in the country.³ In the first half of 2020, 508 attacks were recorded in Mali. March was the deadliest month since 2012.⁴

The country hosted 266,831 IDPs in June 2020, a 28% increase from 207,751 in December 2019.⁵ Violence and insecurity in the Liptako-Gourma area also caused added displacement across borders and as of June 2020, Mali hosted 42,779 refugees, a stark increase from January (26,732 people).⁶ Most new refugees in Mali are Nigeriens fleeing the border regions of Tillabéri and Tahoua into the Ménaka region.⁷ In addition, Malian refugees who had sought protection in Burkina Faso have left the camps there following a series of attacks in the first half of the year: more than 5,000 refugees previously hosted in Goudoubo have left the camp to attempt to return to Mali.⁸ As of May 2020, Mali hosted 83,833 refugee returnees.⁹ The insecurity, inter-community clashes and attacks by armed groups, coupled with food shortages, affect populations in Mali, where basic needs are not met. 2.3 million people needed food assistance in the beginning of the year.¹⁰

Supporting security forces and exploring options for conflict resolution

Since 2012, Mali has been critically impacted by the upsurge of violence from non-state armed groups in the northern and central regions. In order to support the Malian armed forces to fight non-state armed groups and to improve the protection of the border areas of the Liptako-Gourma area, EUTF-funded projects have trained and equipped the local and national security forces and built infrastructures for them. This approach is coupled with training of community representatives and civilian institutions on conflict resolution and governance.

As of June 2020, 3,205 people have been trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights in Mali (indicator 4.2), including 23% (or 734 people) members of local and national security forces trained to face security threats. In Q1 2020, 95 people were trained and among them, 76% people were local and national security forces, while they represented 13% of those trained in Q2 2020 (42).

¹ BBC Afrique, 'Le Mali élit ses députés, malgré le COVID-19'. April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Mouvement du 5 juin – Rassemblement des forces patriotiques – Movement of June 5 – Rally of patriotic forces.

³ France Info Afrique, 'Mali: en réponse à la contestation, le président annonce une "dissolution de fait" de la Cour Constitutionnelle', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ ACLED, 'Armed Conflict Location and Event data project dashboard', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ UNHCR, 'Mali: Country report', accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ Ibid.

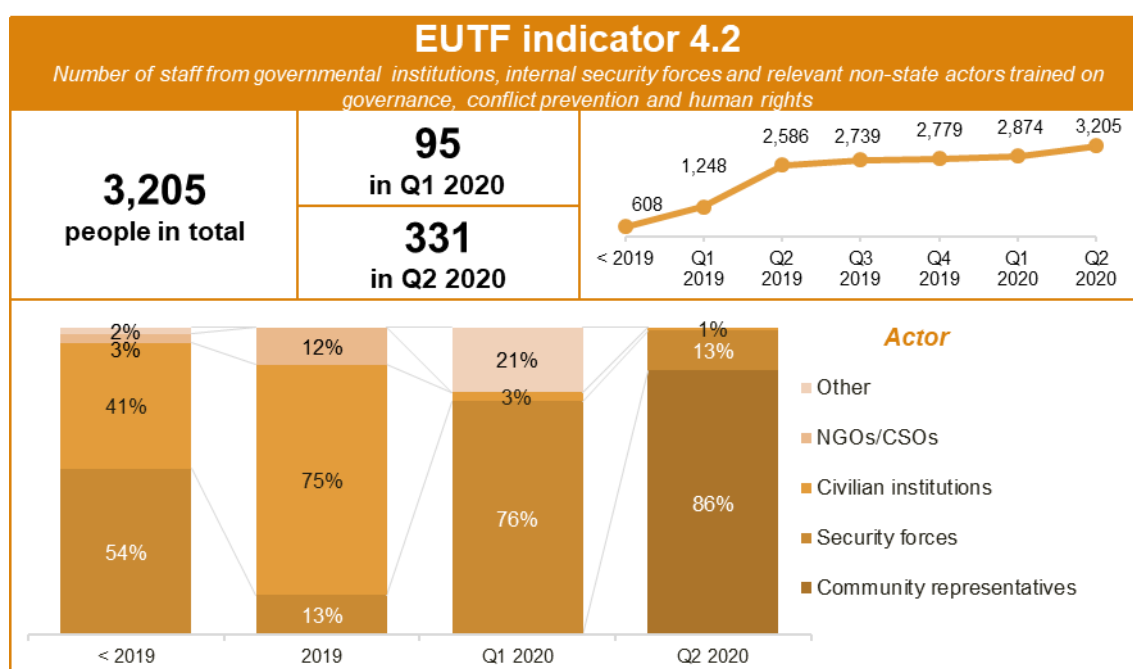
⁷ UNHCR, 'Mali: Situation of refugees, internally displaced people and returnees', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ UNHCR, 'Violence in Burkina Faso forces Malian refugees to return home', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ Op. Cit.

¹⁰ OCHA, 'Aperçu des besoins humanitaires – Mali', January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

Figure 39: EUTF indicator 4.2, in Mali, June 2020



As of June 2020, all local security forces trained (387 people) were working in Mopti, which has become the most violent zone of the Malian conflict. In the first half of 2020, there were more fatalities recorded in Mopti than in any other region of the Sahelian countries (1,153 people).¹ EUTF-funded projects have also supported Malian armed forces in the region through equipment and the construction of infrastructures. As of June 2020, the PARSEC programme (ML-06) has supported the construction of seven infrastructures for armed forces in the region of Mopti (indicator 4.1). These infrastructures included secure barracks and units meant to improve communication and cooperation among the Malian forces. The programme has also supported security forces through the provision of thirteen cars and one airplane (indicator 4.1 bis).

In addition to the training and reinforcement of the security forces' capacities to fight non-state armed groups and protect border areas, EUTF-funded programmes have also supported the training of community representatives to increase opportunities for peaceful conflict resolution. In Q2 2020, most of those trained on conflict resolution were community representatives (86% of 331 people, indicator 4.2). The regional programme PDU (REG-18) has trained a total of 284 mediators in Mali. These mediators, organised in networks, aim to support the peaceful resolution of farmer-herder conflicts. In April 2020 alone, the programme has supported the resolution of 35 conflicts in Mali, most of which took place in the regions of Mopti and Ségou (respectively 12 and 14). Building community-owned mediation networks is especially important in Mali, where the JNIM² has reportedly posited itself to solve inter-community conflicts in Mopti, thus taking on more governing responsibilities.³

Building infrastructures to support the provision of basic services

The conflict in Mali, and the subsequent withdrawal of decentralised state representation (including basic services and administration) in the North has caused wide disruptions in the provision of basic services for the population. In 2020, an estimated 1.4 million people are estimated to be in need of water and sanitation services, while 1.5 million people are lacking health services.⁴ Degradation or lack of infrastructures is an important part of this situation and is increasing the marginalisation of vulnerable

¹ ACLED, 'Armed Conflict Location and Event data project dashboard', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen

³ ACLED, 'Mid-Year update: ten conflicts to worry about in 2020', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ OCHA. Op. Cit.

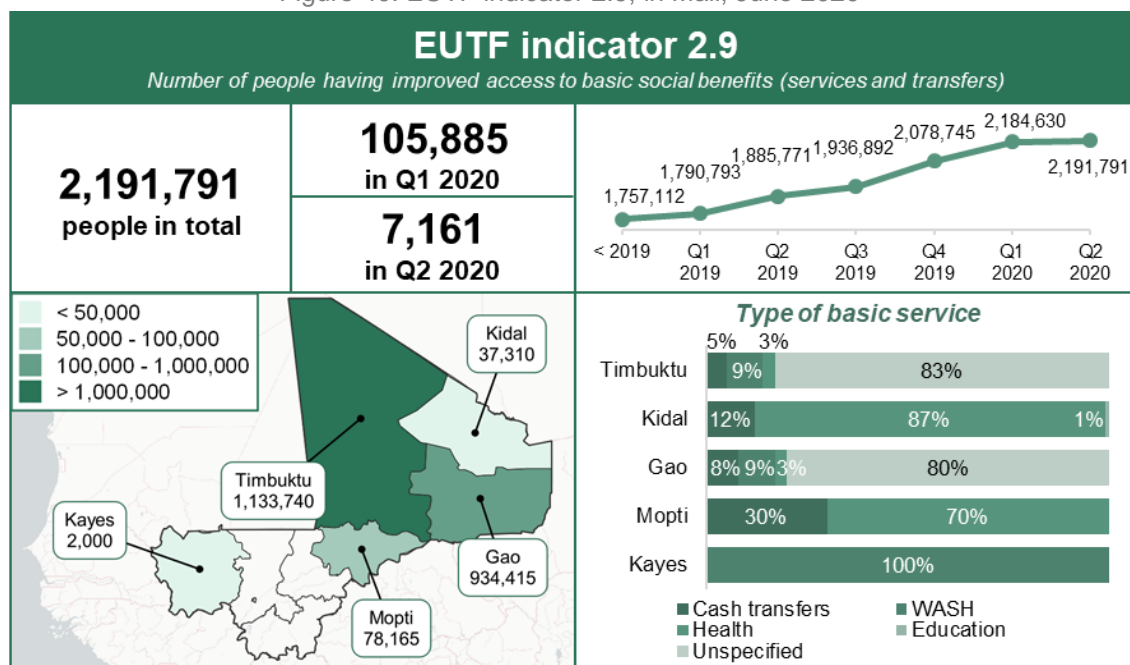
populations. EUTF-funded programmes in the country have mostly supported improved access to basic services for populations through the construction of infrastructures.

As of June 2020, 2,191,791 people have benefitted from improved access to basic services through the activities of EUTF-funded programmes (indicator 2.9). In Q1 2020, 105,885 people benefitted from improved access to basic services, 89% of them through the construction of infrastructures. In Gao and Timbuktu Regions, the Sécurité et développement au Nord du Mali – Phase 2 (SDNM2, ML-04) programme, implemented by AFD, aims to support the implementation of the 2015 Algiers Peace Agreement, whose third annex contains provisions for the support of infrastructure development in the northern regions. The programme has built 71 infrastructures as of June 2020 (indicator 2.1 bis), servicing a total catchment area of 187,812 people.

In Q1 2020, 105,885 beneficiaries had improved access to basic social services, including 66% to water and sanitation services, mostly in the regions of Gao and Timbuktu, while 22% benefitted from improved access to health care. Numbers for health and water services account for both the sedentary population (25% of the beneficiaries of both water infrastructures health care) and transhumant or nomadic pastoralists. In the first half of 2020, 1,261 schools were closed in northern and central Mali, hampering access to education for an estimated 338,700 children.¹ Education infrastructures, which benefit only sedentary populations, have serviced an additional 1,177 people in Gao, Timbuktu, Kidal and Mopti in Q1 2020.

In Q2 2020, 7,161 more people benefitted from improved access to services, through the activities of PROJES (in central Mali) and Diaspora Mali (ML-10 and ML-05). The Diaspora Mali programme, organised in cooperation with the Ministry for Malians Abroad, aims to catalyse and support investments from the diaspora into development projects in the regions of origin. The programme is currently supporting 21 projects (indicator 3.1), of which two have been completed, bringing 2,000 people improved access to water and sanitation services.

Figure 40: EUTF indicator 2.9, in Mali, June 2020²



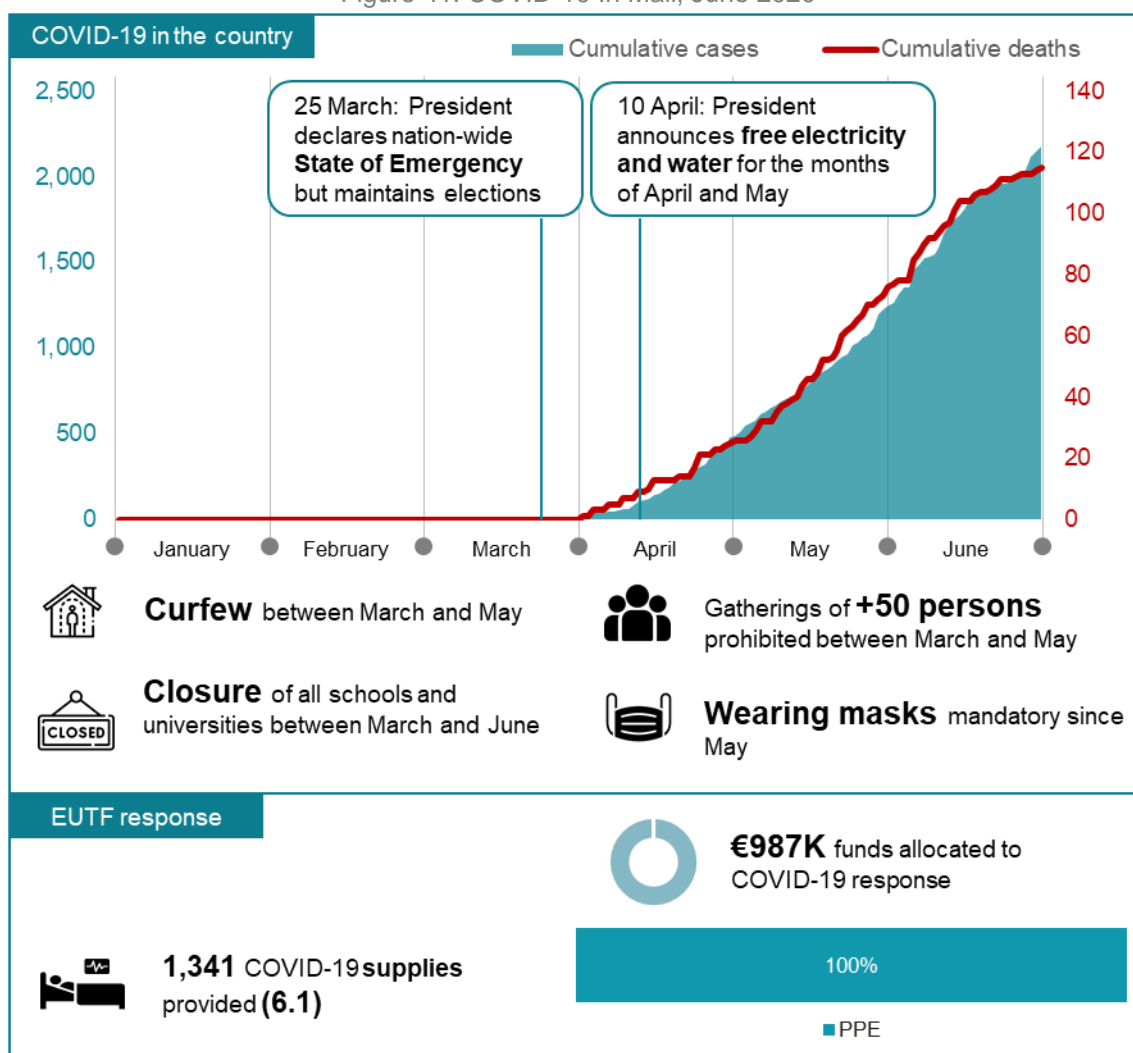
¹ UNICEF, 'Mali - Humanitarian situation report', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² The map colour code and the graph presents data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 6,161.

Supporting the construction of infrastructures also allows project to bring short-term relief to vulnerable populations through cash for work activities. In Q1 and Q2 2020, 1,013 people were employed on construction sites, working for the equivalent of 453 full-time jobs (indicator 1.1).

COVID-19 pandemic in Mali

Figure 41: COVID-19 In Mali, June 2020



On 19 March 2020, the government of Mali announced movement restrictions and the closure of schools.¹ The first COVID-19 cases in Mali were recorded a week later, on 25 March 2020.² On that day, President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita declared a nationwide state of emergency and a curfew from 9pm to 5am, while places of worship remained opened.³ As of 30 June 2020, 2,173 COVID-19 cases had been recorded and 115 people had died.⁴

Insecurity in Mali has put a strain on agricultural production and livelihoods. Curfew and social distancing have further impacted revenues and livelihoods while movement restrictions measures have made goods more expensive and reduced remittances from the diaspora.⁵ In addition, for many rural households, restrictions on movement occurred during an essential season for the preparation of fields

¹ ACAPS, 'Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger – Vulnerability to COVID-19 containment measures', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Financial Afrik, 'COVID-19 : Le Mali enregistre ses deux premiers cas importés', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ The Conversation, 'L'expérience malienne dans la gestion de la pandémie du COVID', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ OWID, 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and deaths', Retrieved in June 2020, [here](#).

⁵ World Bank, 'World Bank predicts sharpest decline of remittances in recent history', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

and transhumance movements (April-June) and 1.3 million people were already in severe acute food insecurity in Mali in June 2020.¹

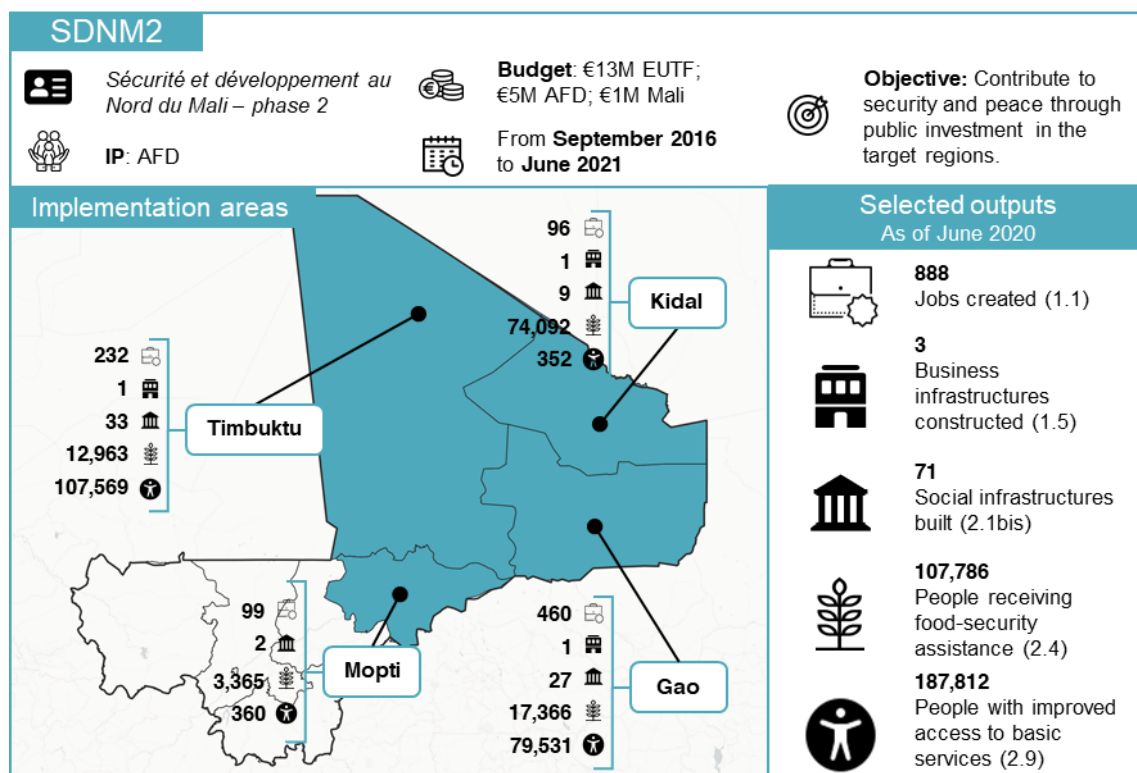
EUTF-funded programmes implemented in Mali have reoriented almost one million euros (€987k) to varied activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. The Diaspora Mali programme (ML-05) accounts for 70% of this budget, having launched a €686k (FCFA 450M) call for proposals for COVID-19 pandemic response related programmes initiated by diaspora members. The EJOM programme (ML-09) has also set aside €110k to support business plans by 19 young people to bring innovative response to challenges that have emerged throughout the pandemic.

In Q2 2020, 123,160 people were reached by awareness-raising campaigns on COVID-19 symptoms, means of prevention and measures put in place by the government (indicator 2.7). 84% of the beneficiaries were reached through youth-hosted broadcasts supported by the La Voix des Jeunes II programme (REG-19) while 18,876 people were sensitised by the PAFAM programme (ML-02).

Finally, the PAECISIS programme (ML-08) has set aside an estimated €182k to support civil registry centres during the first half of the year: the programme has provided and distributed 1,325 kits of protective masks, in civil registration centres around the country (indicator 6.1). In addition, to ensure continuous civil registration across the country, the programme has equipped workers with 12 pieces of equipment to facilitate remote working, including eight computers and two conference kits (indicator 4.1 bis).

5.5.2. PROJECTS NEWLY INCLUDED IN THE MLS

Figure 42: SDNM2 (programme and project, ML-04)



¹ FAO, 'Mali, response overview', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

Figure 43: Diaspora Mali AFD (project, ML-05-01)

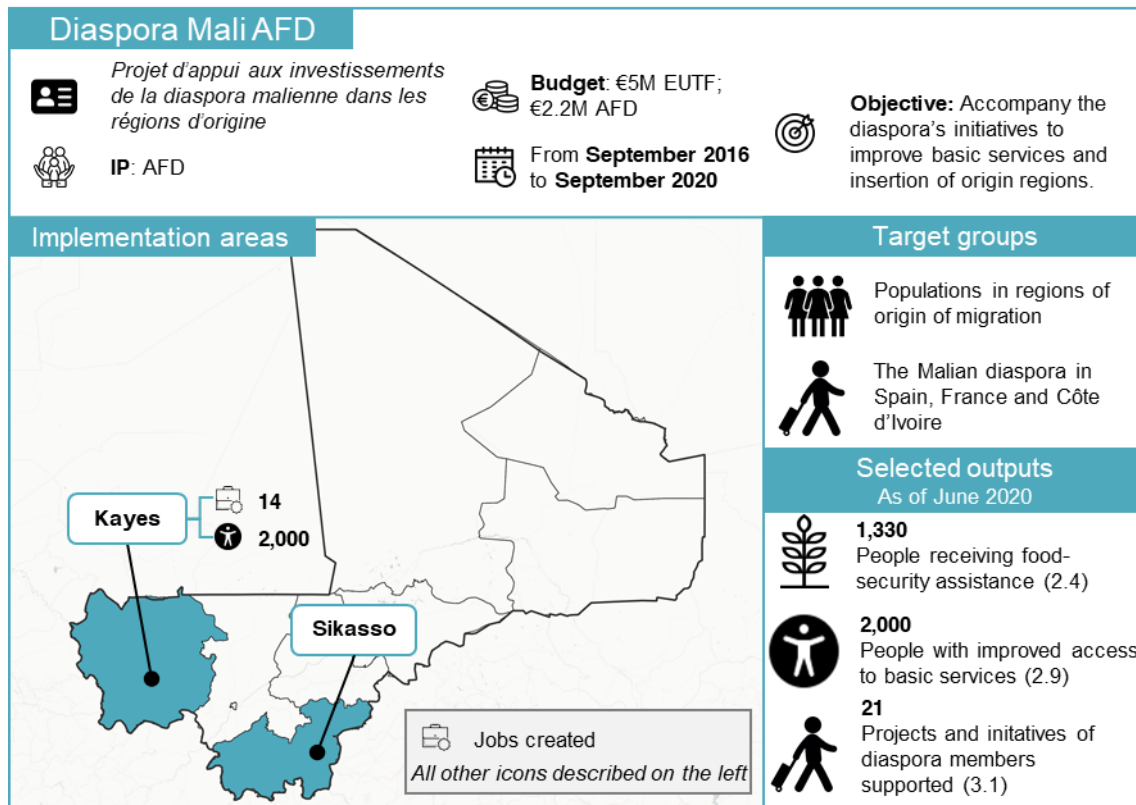
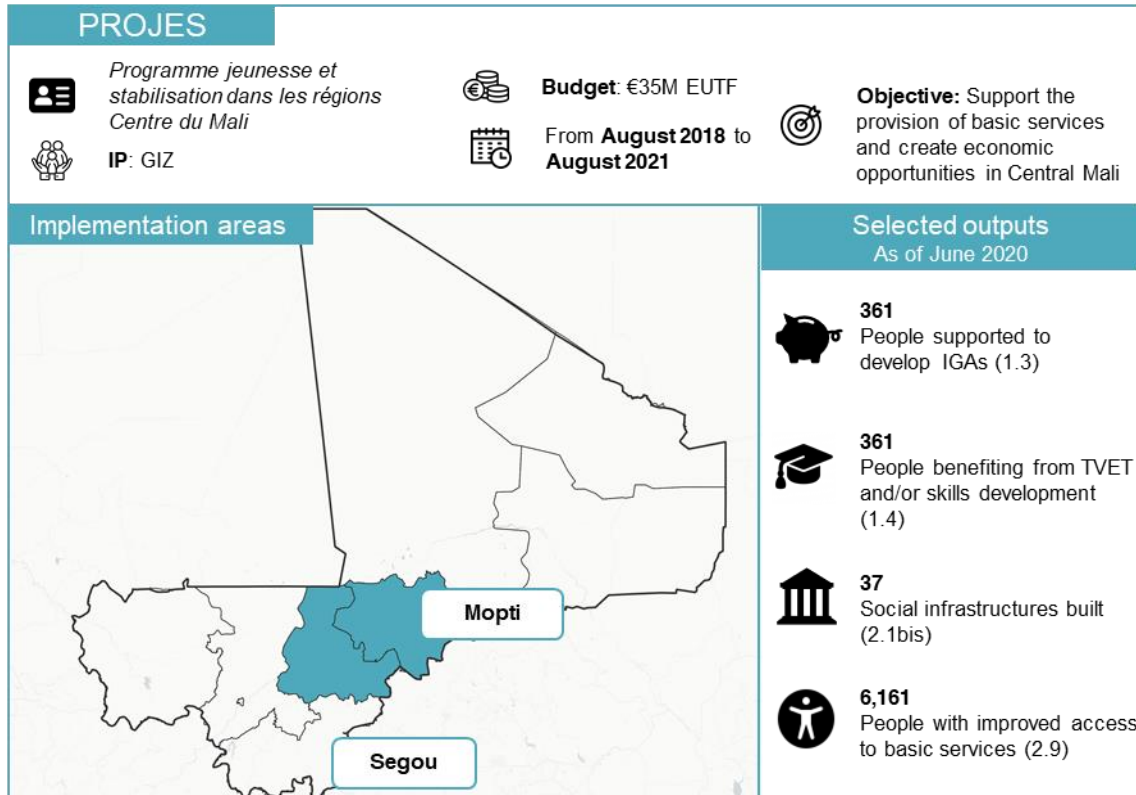


Figure 44: PROJES (programme and project, ML-10)



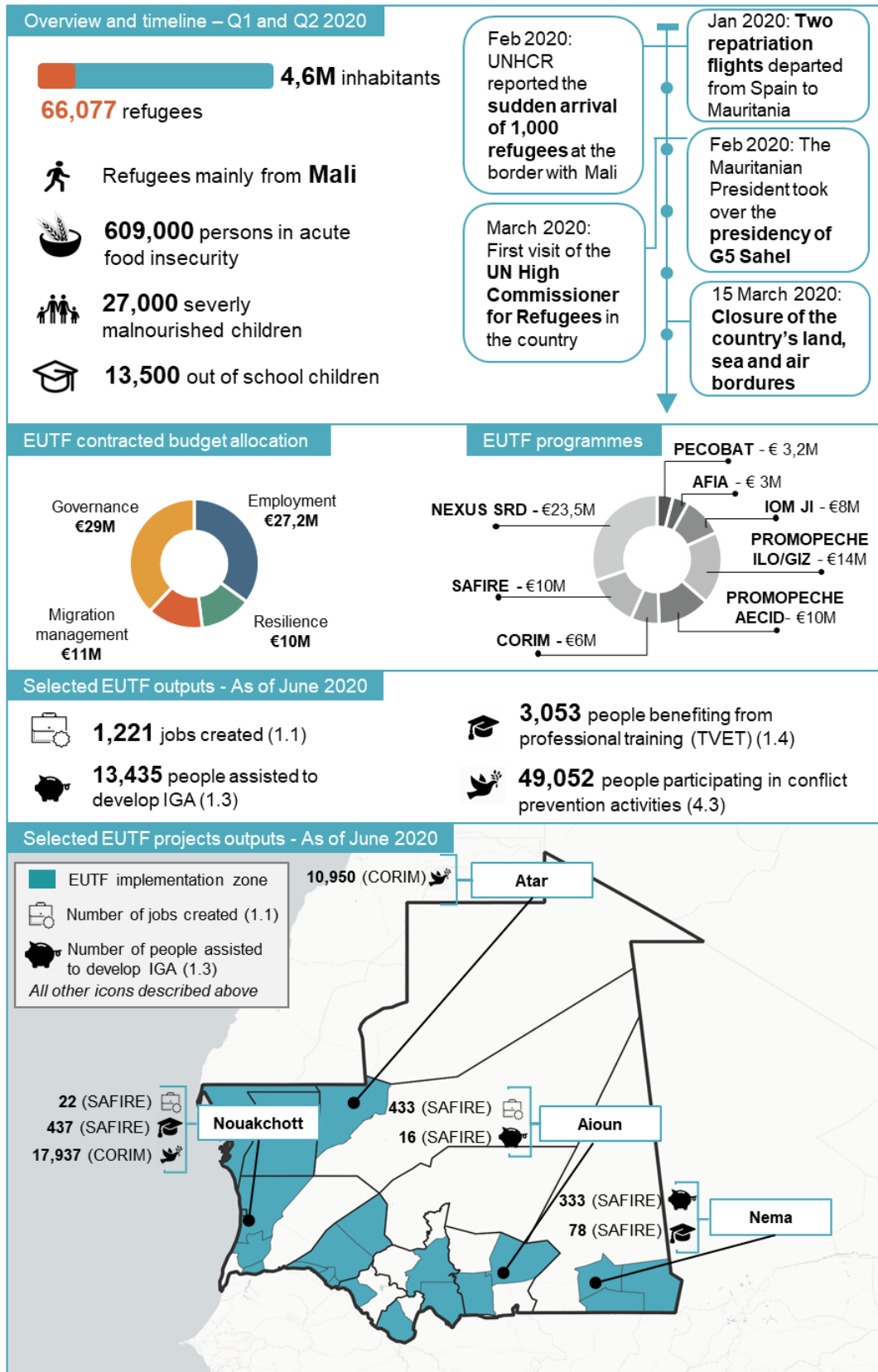
5.5.3. MALI AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 9: EUTF common output indicators for Mali, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	0	1,049	453	1,502
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	950	573	200	1,723
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	18,845	47,125	898	66,868
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	3,689	4,942	4,261	12,892
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	7	10	1	18
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	261	323	75	659
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	3,813	2,344	100	6,257
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	108,533	202,667	28,533	339,733
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	45,662	70,333	54,637	170,632
2.5 Number of insitutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	10	23	0	33
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	5,133	4,736	697	10,566
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	32,655	225,076	191,747	449,478
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	586	6,113	80	6,779
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	1,757,112	321,633	113,046	2,191,791
3.1 Number of projects and initiatives supported by diaspora members	0	0	21	21
3.2 Number of migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs...	224	156	62	442
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	0	90,906	33,697	124,603
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	1,611	947	113	2,671
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	11,847	7,476	1,528	20,851
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	1,766	5,999	1,459	9,224
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	3	19	0	22
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	25	0	0	25
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	2	14	2	18
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	0	0	1	1
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	3	2	1	7
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	13	6	261	280
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	608	2,171	426	3,205
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	265	1,713	282	2,260
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	37	381	23	441
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	12	25	0	37
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	17	16	9	42
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	34	26	1	61
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	8	1	8	17
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	1,341	1,341

5.6. MAURITANIA

Figure 45: Mauritania – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.6.1. MAURITANIA AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

While Mauritania's economy's growth rate has accelerated in recent years, from 3.6% GDP growth in 2018 to 6.3% in 2019, it is expected that this trend will slow down in 2020 due to the economic impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic.¹ On the regional scene, Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, took over the presidency of the G5 Sahel in February 2020, succeeding to the Burkinabe Kaboré, at a time of increased security attacks in several Sahel countries.^{2,3}

Serious levels of global acute malnutrition continue to be reported in Mauritania in the first half of 2020, with certain regions showing levels above the emergency threshold (of 15%)⁴. Over 609,000 people (around 25% of the total population) are also at risk of food shortages, especially due to droughts.⁵ While the country faces recurrent and acute climate shocks since 2012, the situation was particularly preoccupying in the first half of 2020 with rainfall deficit pressuring livestock, food and nutrition security, especially in the south of the country.⁶

Increasing livelihoods and economic opportunities for women and youth

Part of Mauritania's population did not benefit from the economic growth witnessed in the past few years: in particular, women and youth remain excluded from the labour market. The unemployment rate for youth is 15%, while 57% of the population is below 20.^{7,8} Unemployment is also slightly higher for women than for men, with 13% for the former against 11% for the latter.⁹ Several factors limit youth and women's access to labour market such as a mismatch between offer and demand, the lack of secondary education, as well as rare opportunities for technical and professional training in the country. There are concerns this may lead to an exodus of this population group towards neighbouring countries or Europe in the search for economic opportunities, and it has been identified as a factor contributing to youth radicalisation.¹⁰

Against this backdrop, the SAFIRE programme (MR-07) aims to promote the social and professional insertion of women and youth to reduce the risk of radicalisation and emigration. With implementation led by three partners – OXFAM, GRET and the French Red Cross –, this programme provides support through several approaches, including professional training and support to IGA. Indeed, professional training is key to accessing the job market, including for the informal sector which represents 80% of the population's income source. The activities developed by SAFIRE led to the creation or support of 850 jobs in Q2 2020 (indicator 1.1), mainly in the wilayahs of Hodh El Gharbi and Nouakchott, 70% of all the jobs (1,221) created or supported since the inception of EUTF-funded programmes. In the first half of 2020, most of the jobs benefitted women (63%) and youth (54%), while only 20% of the jobs created or supported in 2019 had benefitted women. These jobs are self-employed, skilled and informal and in the main following sectors: construction, agriculture, fishery and livestock production, and handicraft. Agriculture, fishery and livestock production notably represents 31% of GDP in Mauritania and work opportunities for one third of the active population. Support to this sector is also quite strategic as it is highly exposed to the effects of climate change, and Mauritania is already prone to food insecurity and malnutrition. Following agriculture and commerce, the construction industry is a key economic

¹ Data World Bank, 'Mauritania'. accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Jeune Afrique, 'Sommet G5 Sahel: Kaboré cède la présidence au Mauritanien Ghazouani', 25 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ RFI, 'G5 Sahel: un 6e sommet des chefs d'Etat dans un contexte de multiplication des attaques', 24 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ OCHA, 'Overview of humanitarian needs and requirements – Sahel crisis', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, 'Mauritania Factsheet', 21 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ OCHA. Sahel Crisis. Op. Cit.

⁷ Data World Bank, 'Unemployment, youth total (% of total labor force ages 15-24) (modeled ILO estimate) – Mauritania', accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

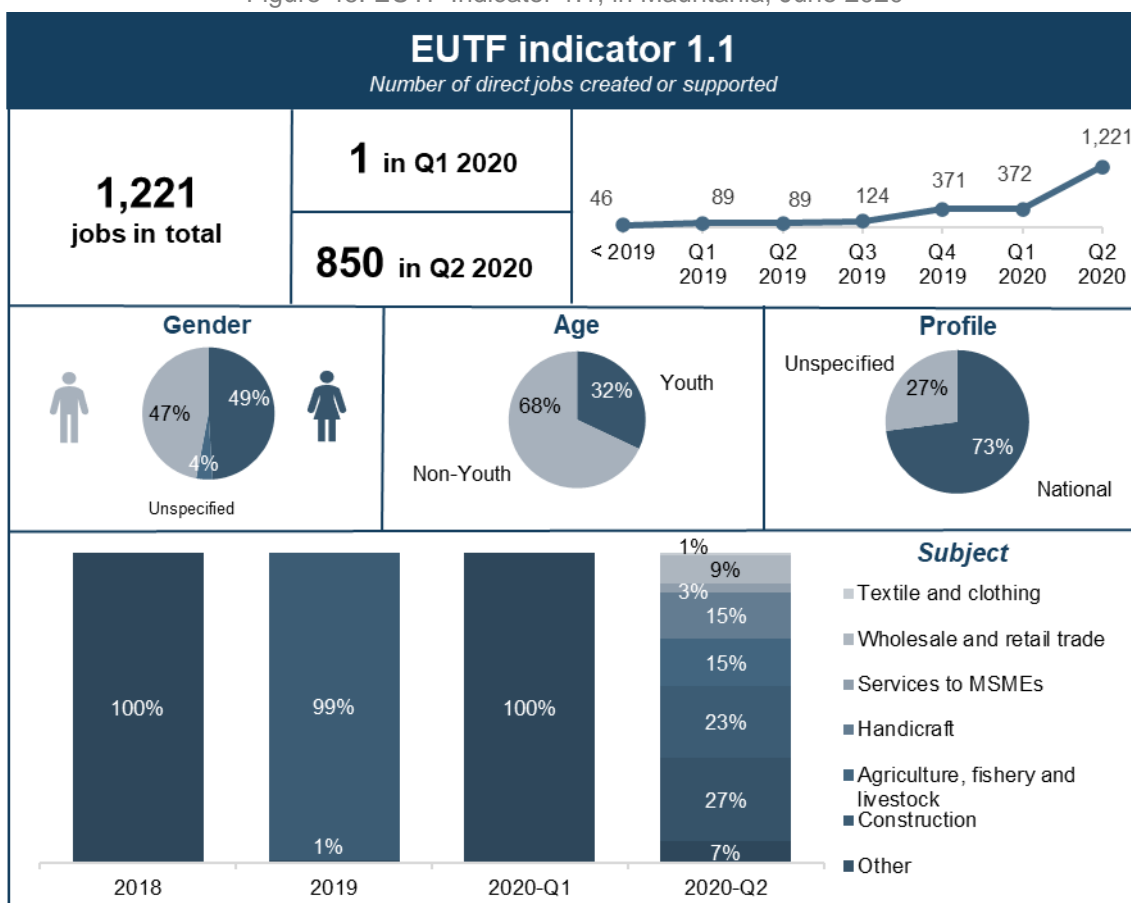
⁸ Office National de la Statistique, 'Situation de l'Emploi et du Secteur Informel en Mauritanie en 2017', August 2017. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Rapport de recherche pour la Mission de recherche Droit et Justice, 'Saisir les mécanismes de la radicalisation violente : pour une analyse processuelle et biographique des engagements violentes', April 2017. Retrieved [here](#).

sector contributing to national growth and which gained importance in the past few years, notably due to the country's increased urbanisation.¹

Figure 46: EUTF Indicator 1.1, in Mauritania, June 2020



Preventing violent radicalisation through community dialogue and reinsertion

While no terrorist attack has been reported on Mauritanian soil since 2011, there has been a rise in fundamentalism and radicalisation in the country for the last few years. In the popular view, trajectories of radicalisation are due issues of economic redistribution and lack of social support (parental divorce, exclusion, family crises) or the presence of political factors such as adherence to the opposition and criticism of the government.² Strong social stratification in Mauritania and high demographic growth leading to a very young population also play an important role in this phenomenon.³

The EUTF aims to improve governance and strengthening conflict prevention. In the first half of 2020, 33,364 persons participated in conflict prevention activities (indicator 4.3): this represents 68% of all participants (49,052) since the inception of EUTF-funded programmes. More specifically, EUTF provides support to prevent violent radicalisation in the country mainly through the programme *Projet d'appui à la prévention de la radicalisation violente en République Islamique de Mauritanie* (CORIM, MR-06) implemented by Expertise France. The main objective of this programme is to contribute to the stability of the Sahel-Saharan strip and the security and resilience of the Mauritanian population, and in particular its youth. One of its key components is the development and dissemination of an alternative discourse to violent narratives, in collaboration with various stakeholders, including Imams and Ulemas.

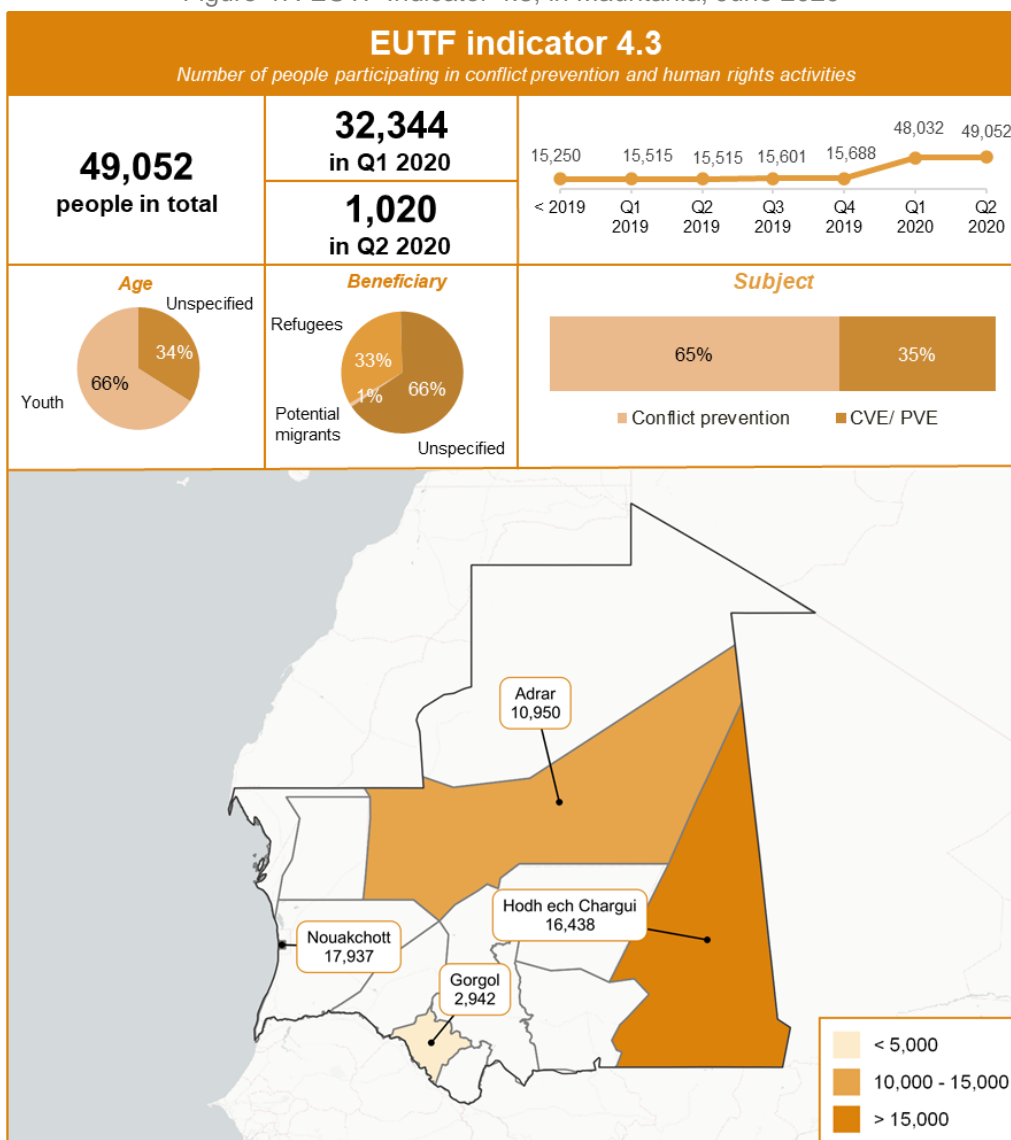
¹ OIT, 'Le secteur du bâtiment Mauritanien – Enjeux, orientations et potentiel de réforme', 2017. Retrieved [here](#).

² Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, UNDP, 'Radicalization and Citizenship – What 800 Sahelians have to say – Mauritania National Report', 2016. Retrieved [here](#).

³ Géo Confluences, 'Radicalisation, violence et (insécurité) - Ce que disent 800 Sahéliens', 23 May 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

The dissemination of this discourse is notably based on preaches: 72 were conducted in Q1 2020 (indicator 4.3) with a total participation of 31,240 people – around 433 per preach - in the wilayahs of Nouakchott, Gorgol and Adrar.¹ Beyond preaches, the alternative discourse is also disseminated through three WhatsApp groups with different audiences, as this social media is widely used by Mauritians. These groups included 176 members in Q1 2020 and 227 members in Q2 2020 on average (indicator 4.3).²

Figure 47: EUTF Indicator 4.3, in Mauritania, June 2020³



Beyond this component, CORIM also aims to prevent violent radicalisation through the identification of and support to vulnerable and/or at-risk people. The identification is conducted by religious focal points (imams and ulemas) at the end of discussions and debates following the daily preaches, or by close family. Following identification, individual and tailored support is provided by imams through an informal and regular dialogue in order to deconstruct their violent discourse. In the first half of 2020, 589 people (indicator 4.3) were identified and supported in the wilayahs of Nouakchott, Gorgol and Adrar.

¹ The total participation amounted to 31,240 people.

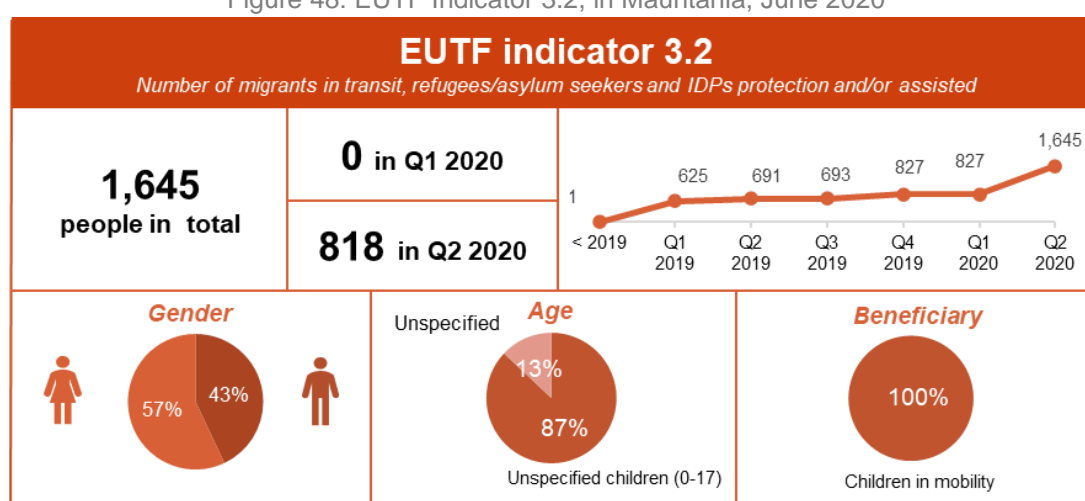
² 'On average' as during the quarter, some members left the groups while others joined.

³ The map colour code presents data from the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 16,997.

Strengthening the protection of children on the move from exploitation and trafficking

While Mauritania is often presented as a country of transit for migration towards North Africa and Europe, it has increasingly become a country of destination in recent years. In 2019, 44% of international migrants in Mauritania were below 19 years old.¹ As in other countries in West Africa, child migration can take several forms such as that of talibé children (young boys who move in order to learn the Koran, entrusted by their families to a religious master called “marabout” and highly vulnerable to abuse from him)², young girls becoming housemaids, working children trying to financially support their family, and children entrusted to close family members through fosterage practices which are very common in the region.³ Mobility tends to increase the vulnerability of children who are at higher risks of exploitation and trafficking. Although two draft laws aiming to fight against trafficking of migrants were under review by the Ministerial Council in March 2020,⁴ Mauritania lacks legal and institutional national frameworks to ensure the implementation of international conventions and the protection of children in mobility.⁵

Figure 48: EUTF Indicator 3.2, in Mauritania, June 2020



In this context, the AFIA programme (MR-02) implemented by Save the Children aimed to increase the protection of children migrants from exploitation and trafficking. A key aspect of this programme is the provision of support and equipment to Protection and Social Insertion Centres (*Centres de Protection et d'Insertion Sociale*) and community organisations which take care of vulnerable children, including children in mobility and victims of trafficking. In Q1 and Q2 2020, 20 structures were supported with equipment (indicator 2.1bis), including 12 in the wilayahs of Nouakchott and eight in Dakhlet Nouâdhibou. In Q2 2020, 818 children in mobility had access to these centres (indicator 3.2), the highest number ever reported throughout the implementation of the programme. They were located in the wilayahs of Trarza, Nouakchott, Dakhlet Nouâdhibou and Brakna, and 33% were girls.

¹ UN DESA – Population Division, ‘International migrant stock 2019 - Country profiles’, accessed in Nov. 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Save the Children, MMC, ‘Young on the move in West Africa’, February 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

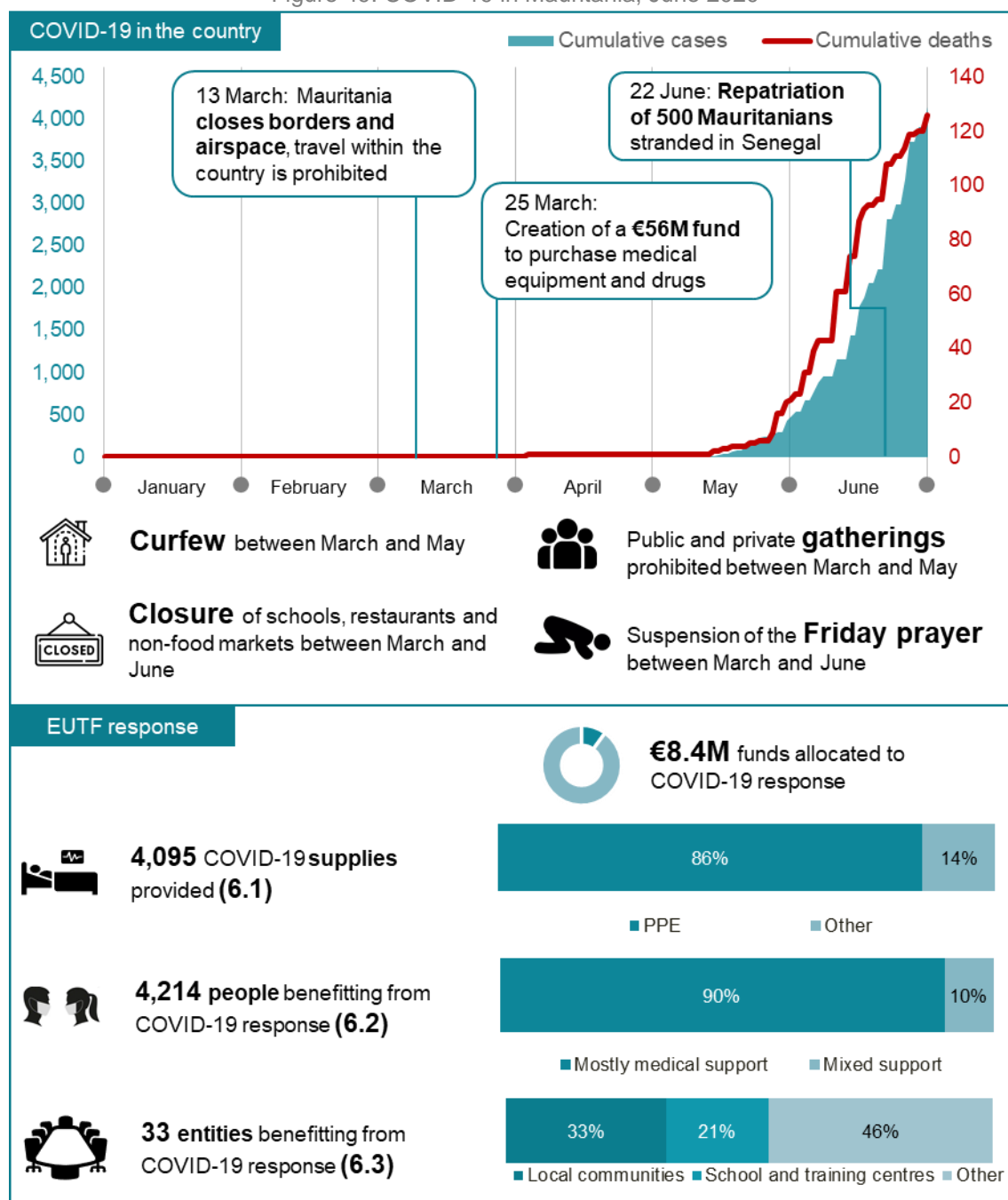
³ Save the Children, ‘Etude anthropologique sur les enfants en mobilité en Mauritanie’, February 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ UNODC, ‘La Mauritanie sur le point de criminaliser la traite et le trafic de personnes, avec le soutien de l’UONUDC’, 30 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ EUTF-SAH-MR-02-01 Description of Action.

COVID-19 pandemic in Mauritania

Figure 49: COVID-19 in Mauritania, June 2020



The first case of coronavirus in Mauritania was reported on 14 March 2020¹ and the government rapidly took measures to constrain the spread of the pandemic in the country. Among others, ports and airports and restaurants and cafés were closed as well as borders with Mauritania’s neighbouring countries. A curfew was also imposed from 8pm to 6am and the great prayer was suspended from 27 March onwards.² These strict measures and their quick implementation appeared to be effective in the containment of the virus and, on 22 April, the Ministry of Health announced that there was no longer any positive case of coronavirus in the country.³ In total, only 17 cases and one death were reported by

¹ Ouest France, ‘Coronavirus. Premier cas en Mauritanie, vols réduits depuis la France’, 14 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Financial Afrik, ‘La Mauritanie frappe fort contre le COVID-19’, 9 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

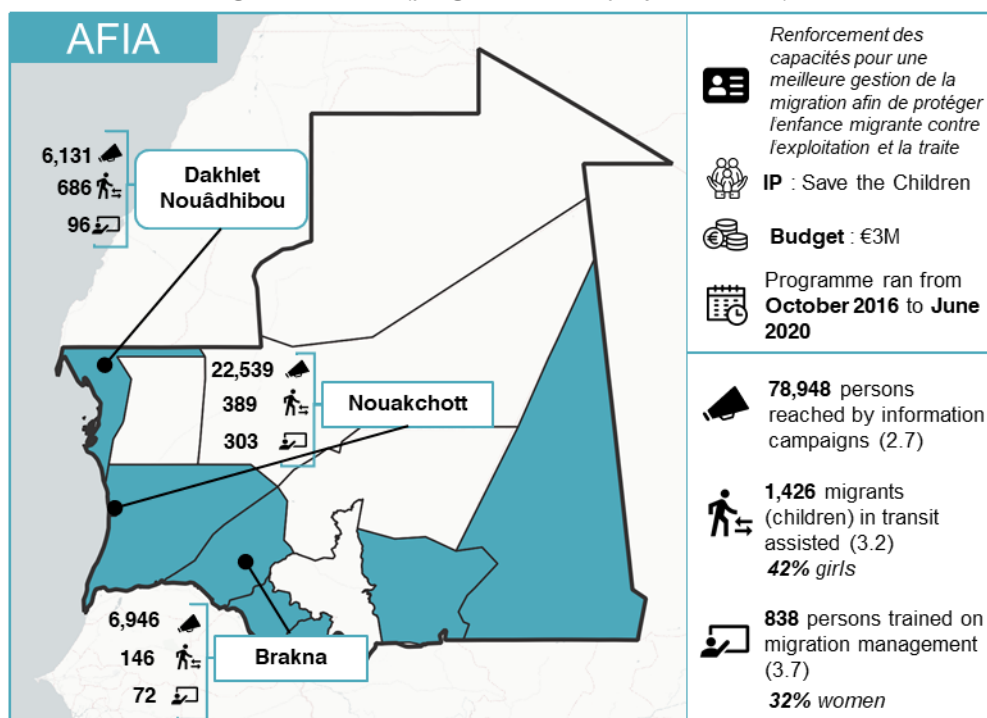
³ Courrier International, ‘La Mauritanie, championne de la lutte contre le COVID-19?’, 24 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

the end of April.¹ However, the number of cases rapidly increased again in the following weeks with more than 4,149 cases reported at the end of June.² On 22 June, the government of Mauritania started repatriation operations for 900 nationals stuck in Senegal due to borders' closure, with a first flight of 500 people.³

All the EUTF-funded programmes in Mauritania adjusted their activities because of the global pandemic, and some programmes were unable to report data for one or the two quarters as a consequence.⁴ Some IPs redirected funds towards the pandemic response. 4,095 pandemic-related supplies (indicator 6.1) were purchased by AFIA (MR-02) and SAFIRE (MR-07), mostly PPE (86%). They were distributed mainly to local communities (67%), but also NGOs/CSOs (19%) and governmental institutions (14%). 4,214 people benefitted from personal equipment (indicator 6.2), including 40% children, and 33 entities received medical and protection equipment (indicator 6.3), including 21% schools and training centres. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Mauritania was also characterised by awareness-raising activities, notably organised as part of SAFIRE, Refugees' Resilience (REG-06) and Promopêche ILO/GIZ (MR-04). In total, 143,419 people benefitted from these activities (indicator 2.7). SAFIRE, for instance, conducted them through megaphone in specific neighbourhoods or villages in order to encourage social distancing. In addition, IOM provided COVID-19 support to border posts through the EU-JI COVID-19 regional fund.

5.6.2. PROGRAMME COMPLETED IN S1 2020

Figure 50: AFIA (programme and project, MR-02)



¹ Ibid.

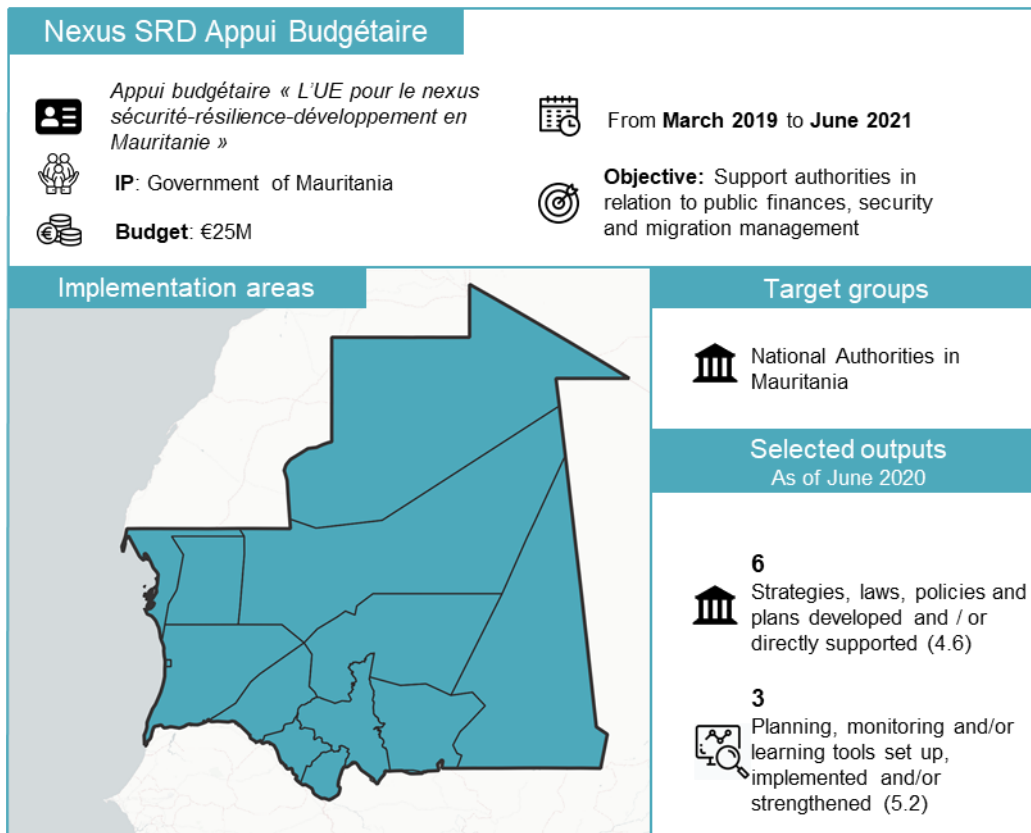
² Financial Afrik, 'COVID-19: la Mauritanie passe à nouveau commande d'équipements pour pallier au manque de tests', 29 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ RFI, 'Coronavirus: l'amertume des Mauritaniens rapatriés du Sénégal', 24 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ It was notably the case of PROMOPECHE AECID for Q2 2020 and NEXUS SRD for both quarters.

5.6.3. PROJECT NEWLY INCLUDED IN THE MLS

Figure 51: NEXUS SRD Appui Budgétaire (project, MR-08-01)



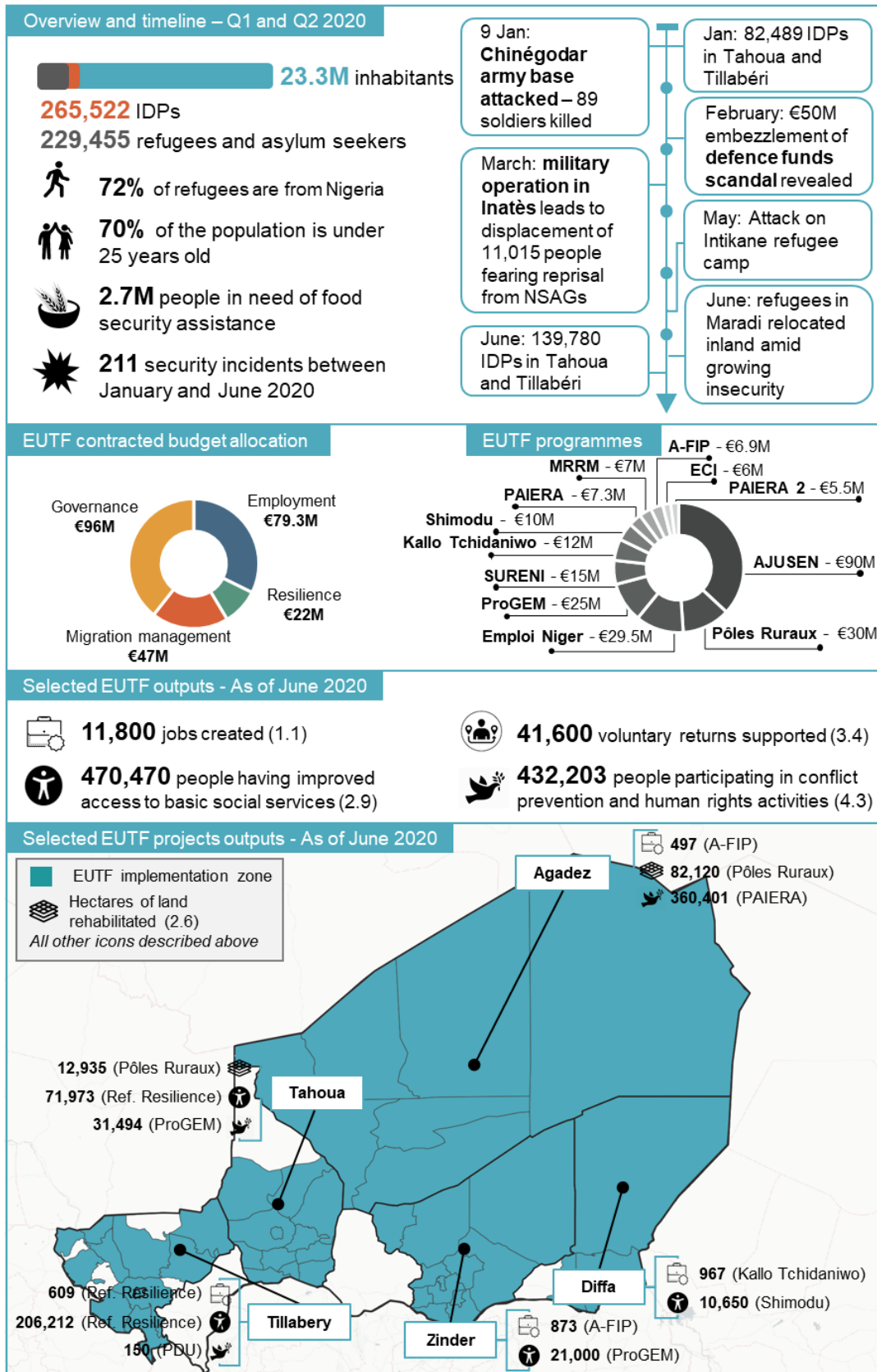
5.6.4. MAURITANIA AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 10: EUTF common output indicators for Mauritania, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	46	325	850	1,221
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	0	18	227	245
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	5,160	7,678	597	13,435
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	533	1,746	774	3,053
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	0	0	2	2
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	4	11	25	40
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	404	204	334	942
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	0	3,098	4,141	7,239
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	0	5,422	8,775	14,197
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	8	12	0	20
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	0	87,260	210,851	298,111
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	0	170	0	170
3.2 Number of migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs...	1	826	818	1,645
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	6,558	14,138	331	21,027
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	951	2,525	104	3,580
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	11	12	6	29
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	4	6	0	10
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	15	76	43	134
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	65	773	0	838
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	0	3	0	3
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	13	30	3	46
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	2	2	0	4
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	0	0	677	677
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	223	305	308	836
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	15,250	438	33,364	49,052
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	39	10	2	51
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	0	25	99	124
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	23	13	1	37
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	5	32	13	51
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	9	1	2	12
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	4,095	4,095
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	4,214	4,214
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	33	33

5.7. NIGER

Figure 52: Niger – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020¹



5.7.1. NIGER AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

Non-state armed groups in Niger have kept up deadly attacks during the first half of 2020. On 9 January 2020, Niger suffered its worst attack against military forces by non-state armed groups yet, with 89 soldiers killed at the base of Chinégodar in Tillabéri.² Non-state armed groups have also attacked civilians in the area, causing added displacement in the regions of Tahoua and Tillabéri, which hosted respectively 55,625 and 84,155 IDPs in June 2020.³ As of June 2020, there had been 855 fatalities from attacks in Niger since the beginning of the year, a number already higher than the total number of fatalities for 2019 (719).⁴

The rise in violence increased humanitarian needs, especially for forcibly displaced populations and an in areas where a state of emergency is in effect (Diffa, Tillabéri and Tahoua), as market access and food provision were hindered by security measures. In the beginning of the year, 2.9 million people were estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in Niger.⁵ As of June 2020, Niger hosted 532,794 persons of concern, including 265,522 IDPs.⁶

Managing transit migration in Niger

Every year, thousands of people transit through the region of Agadez, whether directly from their places of origin, expelled from Algeria, returning from Libya or moving internally within Niger. In June 2020 alone, the IOM recorded an average of 1,506 individuals crossing flow monitoring points across the whole country daily.⁷ In light of this situation, EUTF-funded programmes have supported the country to improve its migration management, both at the national and local level. The EUTF has funded a budget support action under the AJUSEN programme (NE-06) which, among other things, supported the development of Niger's National Migration Policy. In Q1 and Q2 2020, EUTF-funded programmes have trained respectively 121 and 54 staff from local civilian institutions in migration management (indicator 3.7). In the first half of 2020, the ProGEM programme (NE-02) trained 68 members of communal authorities to anticipate and adapt to flows of internal, circular and transit migration. The programme supports municipalities to reflect around the topic of migration and development, and to ensure improved access to basic services and social cohesion for transit communities and migrants. The remaining trainees (107) were trained on the topic of youth, employment and migration by the Emploi Niger programme (NE-11) in Zinder.

In addition to migration management activities, EUTF-funded programmes have supported activities to counter trafficking of people. While the 2015-36 law against smuggling of migrants has led to a relative decrease in transit migration in the city of Agadez, smuggling has reportedly become more professionalized, more expensive and more dangerous.⁸ As of June 2020, the AJUSEN programme (NE-06) has supported the training of 190 members of national civilian institutions and justice officials on human trafficking (indicator 3.7). The Joint Investigative Team programme (NE-05), a unit embedded in the Nigerien police force, has worked to investigate trafficking networks in Niger and has identified 20 international trafficking networks in Q1 and Q2 2020. Since the beginning of activities, the project has arrested 405 people suspected of trafficking activities.

Facilitating return and resettlement from Niger

As per its location at the crossroad of migration routes, Niger is a key point of transit for migrants on their return path. As of June 2020, a total of 41,600 people had received pre-departure services to

¹ NSAGs: Non-State Armed Groups

² Le Monde, 'Au Niger, l'armée subit ses plus lourdes pertes à Chinégodar avec 89 soldats tués', January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ UNHCR, 'Niger - Population of concern', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ ACLED, 'Armed Conflict Location and Event data project dashboard', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ OCHA, 'Aperçu des besoins humanitaires – Niger', January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

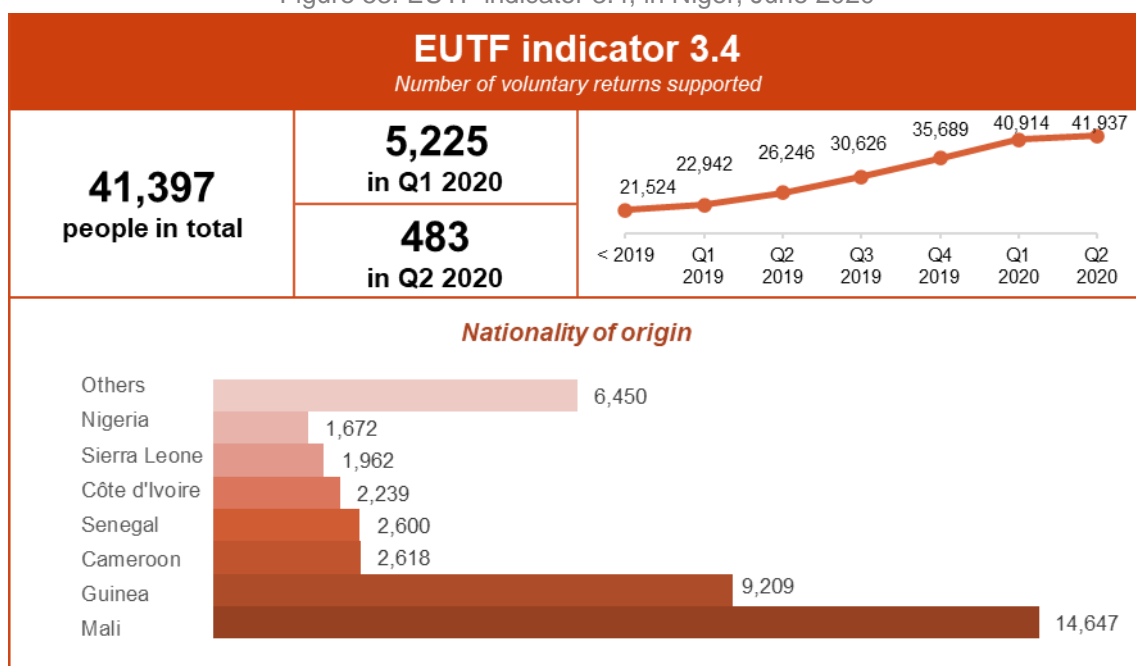
⁶ UNHCR, 'Niger – Population of concern', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ IOM, 'DTM – Population Flow Monitoring, Niger', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ MEDAM, 'The political economy of migration governance in Niger', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

facilitate their return to their country of origin since the beginning of the JI. 5,225 people have benefitted from such services in Q1 2020, while only 686 were returned in Q2 2020, mostly due to COVID-19 related restrictions on travel. All were assisted through the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (NE-01 and NE-07). Most migrants arriving to IOM-run transit centres have been expelled from Algeria, and either reached the centres by themselves or were rescued through search and rescue missions in the desert.¹ In Q1 and Q2, IOM has rescued respectively 5,075 and 1,017 Nigeriens and third-country nationals through its search and rescue operations. Return movements from Algeria to Niger follow two separate processes. On the one hand, the official repatriation convoys of Nigerien nationals, which are subject to a formal agreement between Algeria and Niger, have continued in 2020. On the other hand, the Algerian authorities have continued to forcibly expulse migrants from Algeria to Niger.² These are mostly third-country nationals from other West African countries, but also Nigeriens. In Q1 and Q2, 6,413 people expelled from Algeria were assisted by IOM, among which 92% decided to join the AVRR programme.

Figure 53: EUTF indicator 3.4, in Niger, June 2020



Niger has also been a major platform for supporting asylum seekers and refugees evacuated from Libya, through the EUTF-funded Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM, REG-04). In Q1 2020, the ETM has supported the evacuation of 128 people from detention centres in Libya (including 9 children), bringing the total number of people evacuated by the project to 3,172 (indicator 3.8). The ETM also supports the resettlement of refugees registered directly in Niger. In Q1 and Q2 2020, the ETM has submitted to third countries respectively 151 and 80 files for refugees, mostly from Sudan and Nigeria (indicator 3.8). In Q1 2020, 193 evacuees and refugees have effectively departed to third countries. However, COVID-19 related travel restrictions posed challenges to resettlement and departure of refugees from the centre and in Q2 2020, no evacuee or refugee left the centre to be resettled. In order to adapt to the new context, resettlement countries have been encouraged to increasingly opt for remote interviews with refugees and asylum seekers; Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden have already started doing so.³

¹ IOM, 'Overview of migrants in vulnerable situations assisted in the transit centres, the Niger', 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

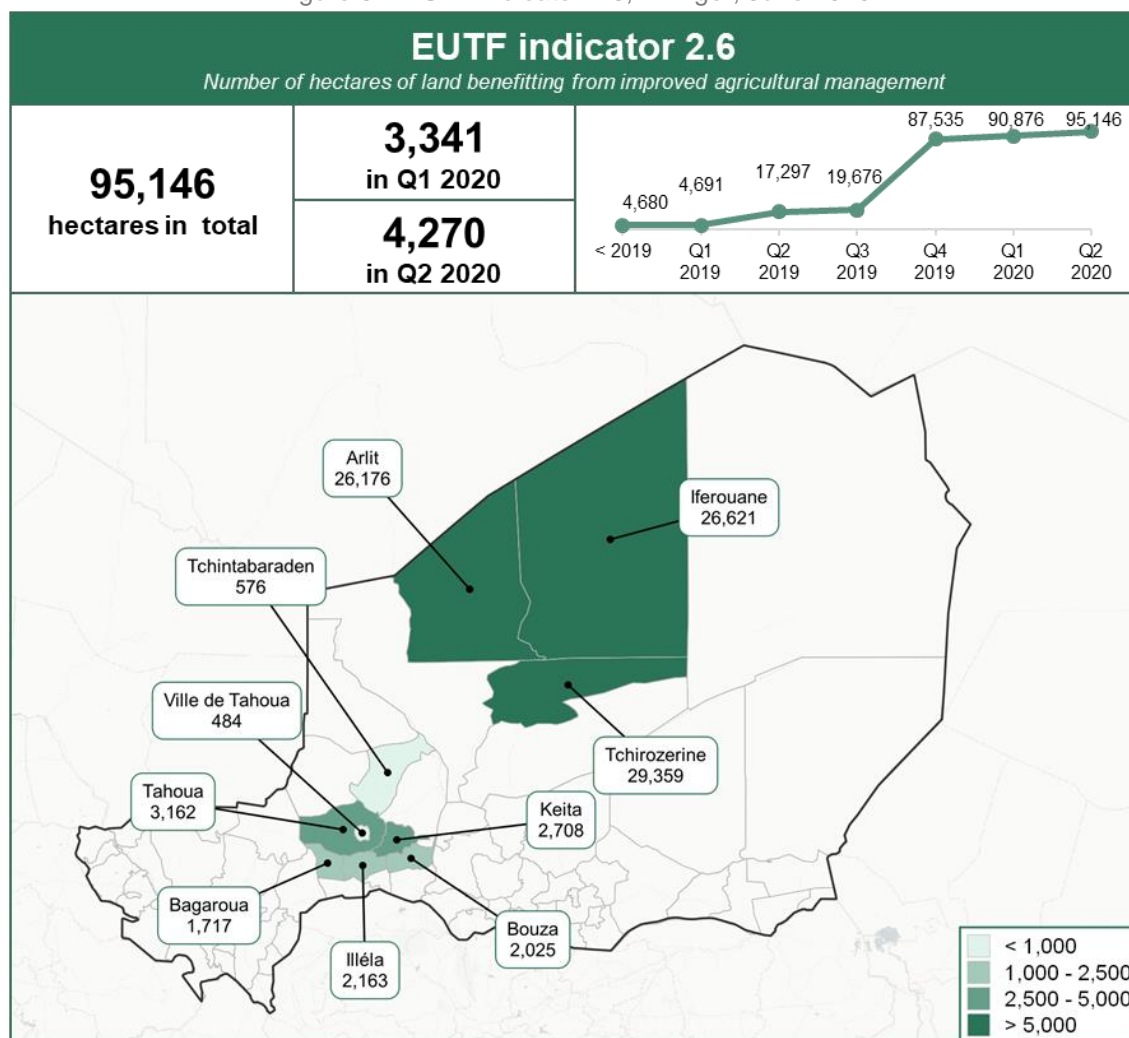
² Amnesty International, 'Forced to Leave: Stories of Injustice Against Migrants in Algeria', 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

³ UNHCR, 'Factsheet: Emergency Transit Mechanism', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

Supporting agriculture to improve the resilience of populations

In Niger, where 80% of the population relies on agriculture and livestock for their livelihoods, providing agricultural support is needed to improve food security and resilience to shocks.¹ Every year in Niger, floods ravage lands and crops and force populations out of their homes. As a response, EUTF-funded programmes in Niger have supported the rehabilitation of lands and protection of arable areas from floods.

Figure 54: EUTF indicator 2.6, in Niger, June 2020



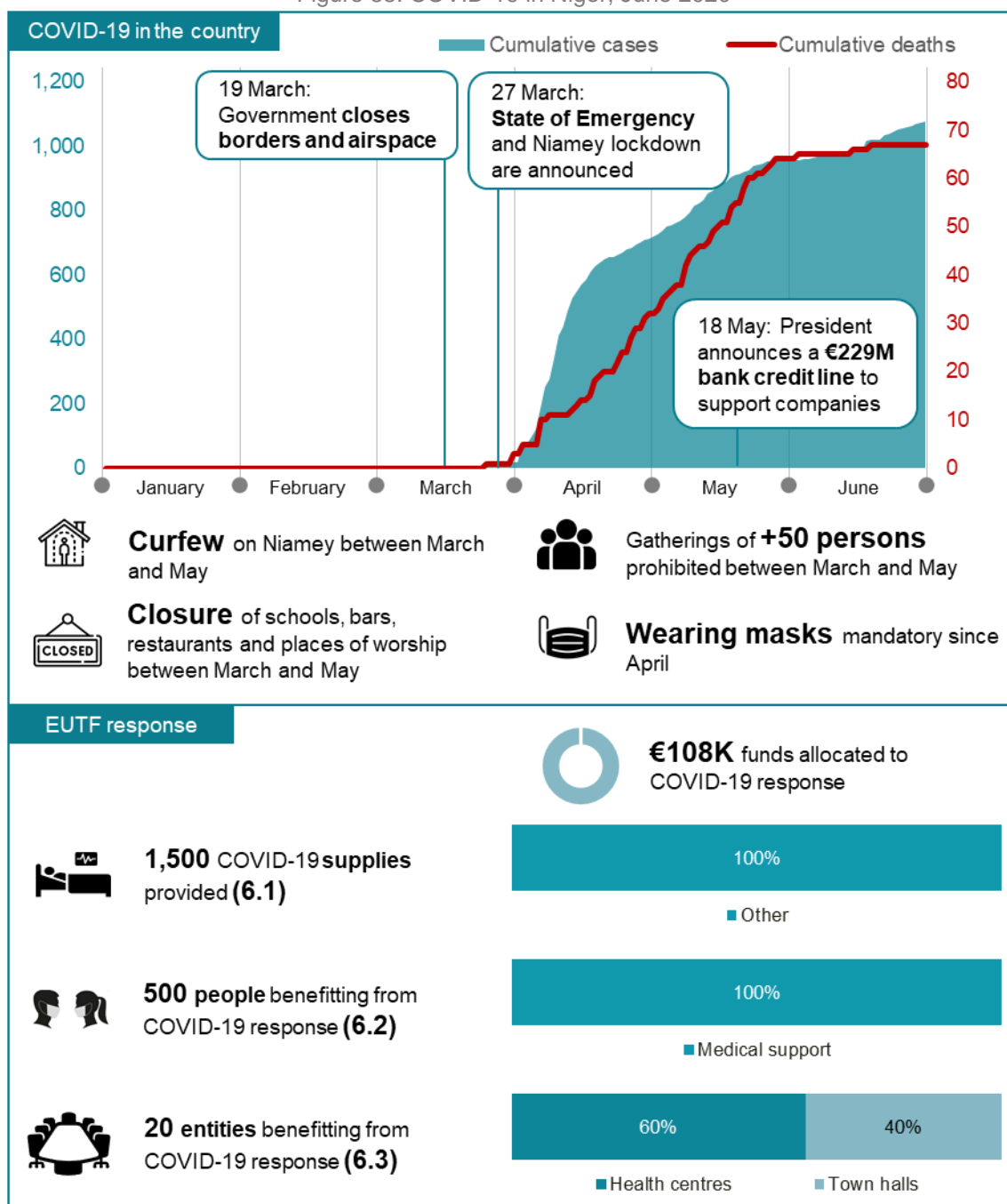
As of June 2020, EUTF-funded programmes in Niger have supported the rehabilitation of 95,146 hectares of land (indicator 2.6). In the first half of 2020, the land was rehabilitated through activities of soil conservation, irrigation and restoration by the Pôles Ruraux and RESILAC programmes (NE-03 and REG-05). Such activities are conducted through cash for work, which allows to offer short-term income to beneficiaries in the regions of intervention. In Q1 and Q2 2020, the Pôles Ruraux programme has created the equivalent of respectively 1,585 and 1,957 full-time jobs through cash for work activities (indicator 1.1). Pôles Ruraux is implemented in areas of the regions of Tahoua and Agadez selected for their vulnerability to climate hazards but with high agricultural yields. Similarly, RESILAC rehabilitated 1 726 hectares providing 9 041 persons with new direct access to land. RESILAC also trained 93 people in resilient agriculture that withstands shocks and climate hazards (indicator 1.4). The trainees were all in Diffa, where RESILAC intends to support livelihoods and resilience.

¹ FAO. 'FAO au Niger'. Accessed in November 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

In addition, the land's low productivity along with climate hazards prevent the correct development of agricultural value chains. In order to support the development of economic opportunities in the agricultural sector, the Pôles Ruraux programme (NE-03) supports access to credit for small holder farmers. As part of this component, in Q1 2020, the programme has trained 764 youth in financial education (indicator 1.4). This aims to reinforce agricultural value chains in the country. Since the beginning of EUTF-funded activities, 4,369 people have been supported through TVET and skills development in the field of agriculture, fishery, livestock and food processing, accounting for 30% of all beneficiaries reported under this indicator.

COVID-19 pandemic in Niger

Figure 55: COVID-19 in Niger, June 2020



The first confirmed COVID-19 case in Niger was announced on 19 March 2020, more than a month after the first recorded case on the continent.¹ On that same day, measures announced two days before by President Mahamadou Issoufou entered into effect: international borders were closed, as well as bars and restaurants, universities and schools.² By 27 March, a curfew was instituted in Niamey, and the president announced the state would cover water and electricity bills for the country's poorest households.³ As of 30 June, Niger had 1,075 reported cases, and had recorded 67 deaths.⁴

As Niger is traditionally a major transit point for people in mixed migration flows, the closure of borders and restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have stranded refugees and migrants who were waiting for repatriation and return in increasingly crowded centres as those in Agadez. In addition, migrants who have been deported from Algeria keep arriving from the North. People entering the country must quarantine for two weeks, often in places ill-equipped to respond to the basic needs of refugees and migrants isolating there.⁵ In June, it was estimated that 5.6 million people would potentially be food insecure over the lean season (June-August). Among these, 2.9 million saw their main revenue stream impacted by COVID-19-related restrictions and disruptions.⁶

In Niger, the Emploi Niger programme (NE-11) is the only one to have reoriented EUTF funds to COVID-19 response activities. €108k were allocated to various activities of sensitisation and distribution of equipment. 1,500-pandemic related supplies were distributed (indicator 6.1), benefitting 500 people (indicator 6.2), 12 health centres and 8 town halls (indicator 6.3). While some projects have had to pause activities as a result of the pandemic, the Pôles Ruraux programme (NE-03) was able to hold awareness-raising activities with their beneficiaries, thus reaching 11,897 people with messages on measures of social distancing in the first half of 2020 (indicator 2.7).

¹ RTI, 'Le Niger enregistre son premier cas de coronavirus', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Ici Niger, 'Niger : message à la nation du Président Mahamadou Issoufou sur la situation de la pandémie du coronavirus', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ RFI, 'Coronavirus au Niger : le pouvoir annonce un couvre-feu à Niamey et de nombreuses remises de peine', March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

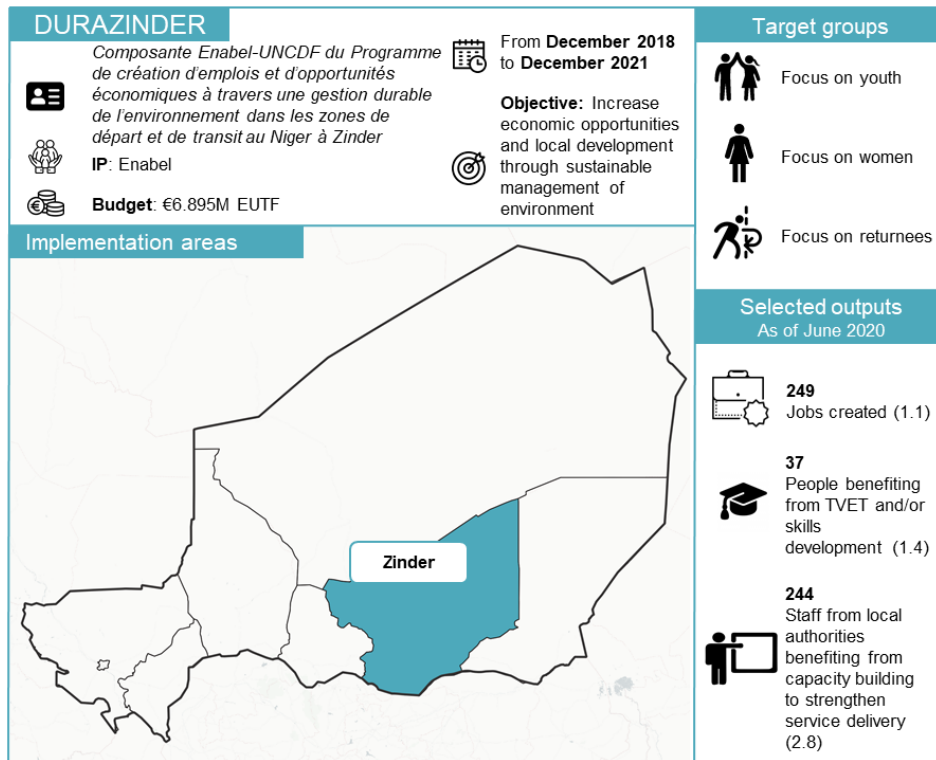
⁴ OWID, 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and deaths', Retrieved in June 2020, [here](#).

⁵ REACH, 'Briefing note: impact of COVID-19 on mixed migration in the Agadez region, Niger', April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ OCHA, 'Niger: Plan de réponse humanitaire révisé – mise à jour due à la pandémie de COVID-19', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

5.7.2. PROJECT NEWLY INCLUDED IN THE MLS

Figure 56: DURAZINDER (project, NE-11-02)



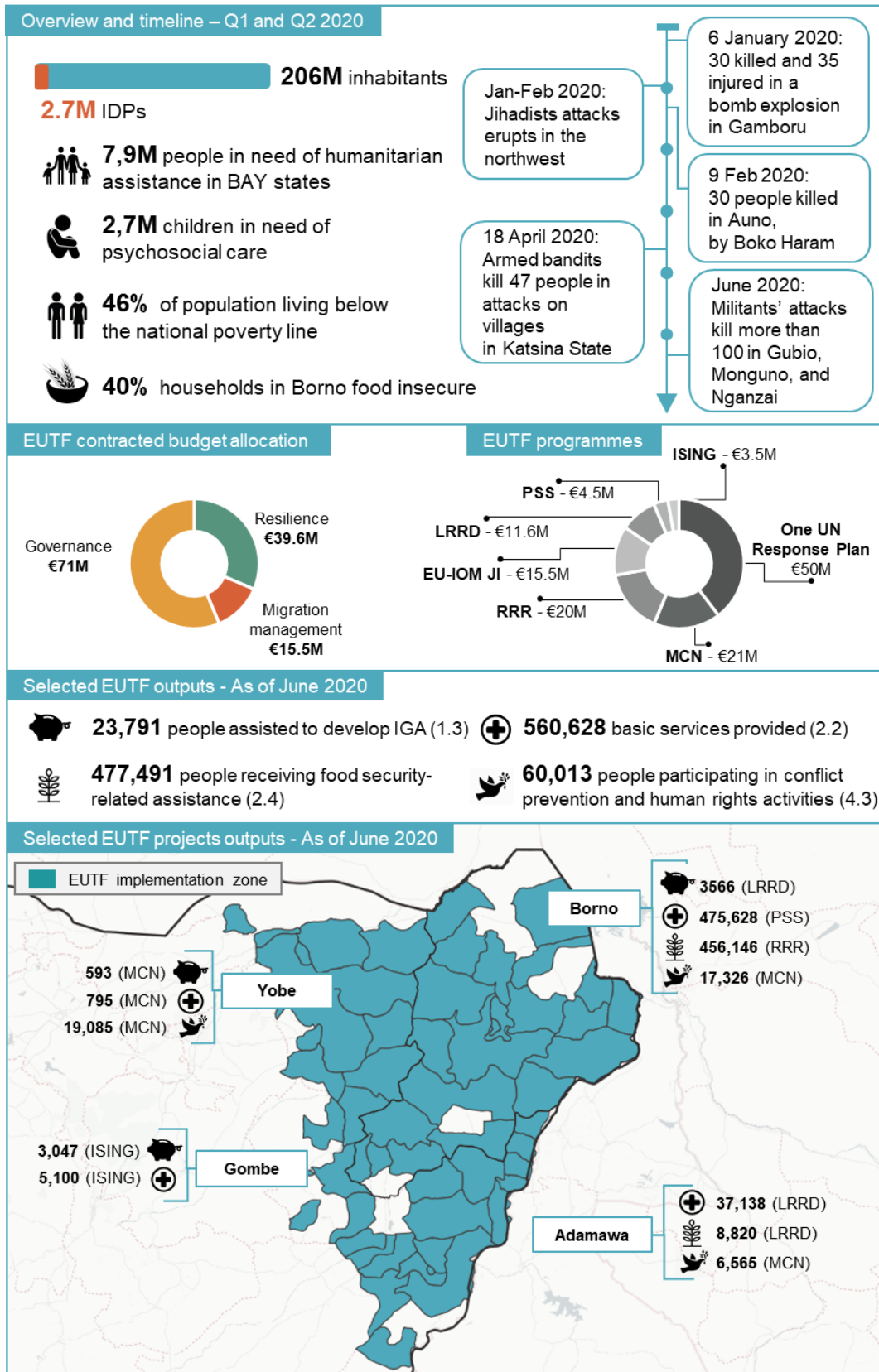
5.7.3. NIGER AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 11: EUTF common output indicators for Niger, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	3,542	3,651	4,607	11,800
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	91	111	0	202
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	5,940	5,359	2,146	13,445
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	6,051	7,569	912	14,532
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	0	213	3	216
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	26	30	16	72
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	62	40	17	119
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	1,262	6,806	164	8,233
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	0	2,860	0	2,860
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	70,386	114,169	3,804	188,359
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	4,680	82,855	7,611	95,146
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	0	3,912	106,466	110,378
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	651	1,225	445	2,321
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	144,191	275,679	50,600	470,470
3.2 Number of migrants in transit, refugees/asylum seekers and IDPs...	1,642	1,165	133	2,940
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	263,488	199,745	941	464,174
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	21,524	14,165	5,911	41,600
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	5,345	1,633	441	7,419
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	435	742	125	1,302
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	65	14	10	89
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	639	672	175	1,486
3.8 Number of people of concern benefitting from evacuation and resettlement...	2,915	1,395	359	4,669
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	0	6	4	10
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	9,233	2,996	22	12,251
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	10	0	0	10
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	459	1,081	581	2,121
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	1,607	1,712	267	3,586
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	395,666	36,241	296	432,203
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	7	40	0	47
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	46	37	0	83
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	53	58	3	114
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	24	18	5	47
5.4 Number of regional cooperation initiatives created...	8	8	10	26
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	1,500	1,500
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	500	500
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	20	20

5.8. NIGERIA

Figure 57: Nigeria – Key facts and figures dashboard



5.8.1. NIGERIA AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

In the first half of 2020, Nigeria witnessed a significant and alarming intensification of armed attacks against civilians and soldiers with 479 attacks and 1,386 fatalities.¹ In the north-eastern state of Borno, they were imputable to Boko Haram, the ISWAP and lone bandits attacking villages and military bases.² The country also recorded increased levels of violence in the north-west where jihadist infiltrations fuelled the intra-communal conflict between Fulani herders and Hausa farmers.³ In the Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states most hit by the decade-long armed conflict, the humanitarian situation remained dire, as the number of people in need of urgent humanitarian assistance rose from 7.1 million in 2019 to 7.9 million at the end of May 2020.⁴ Food insecurity and malnutrition remained at grim levels, with 3.8 million people in need of food security assistance and 1.1 million of nutrition assistance.⁵ The most vulnerable people included IDPs, the number of which remained fairly stable at 2.7 million,⁶ many of them living in congested camps in Borno. Finally, the number of Nigerian refugees in the three neighbouring countries (Niger, Cameroon and Chad) rose to 294,798 in June 2020, up by more than 15,000 since the end of 2019.⁷

Addressing divisions through dialogue and mediation activities

Amid chronic insecurity, the northern Nigerian states have seen, during the first months of the year, a further increase in violence as attacks against civilians and soldiers have continued at a frightening rate.⁸ As the security backdrop remained fundamentally volatile, addressing divisions through dialogue and mediation activities to stabilise communities divided by the insurgency and other longstanding issues undermining cohesion and resilience, remained a prime priority of the government and of the EUTF. As of June 2020, 60,013 people from local communities were involved in inter and intra community dialogue and/or activities on human rights, gender, civilian mediation, conflict prevention and peacebuilding (indicator 4.3), an increase of 45% compared to the total up to December 2019. The MCN programme (NG-03), which implements in all three BAY states, accounted for 42,975 of those engaged; the LRRD programme (NG-01)⁹, which operated until its completion in 2019 in Borno and Adamawa accounted for 10,380; and the UNICEF-implemented PSS (NG-06)¹⁰ for the remaining 6,658, all in Borno. Overall, 49% of beneficiaries were reached in Borno, 32% in Yobe and 19% in Adamawa. Since LRRD and PSS concluded their activities in this field in 2019, MCN remained the sole contributor to EUTF indicator 4.3 since then.

¹ ACLED Retrieved [here](#)

² Ouest France, 'Nigéria : 4 soldats tués et 11 blessés dans une nouvelle attaque djihadiste', 5 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Le Monde Afrique, 'Au Nigéria, au moins 30 civils tués près de Maiduguri, capitale de l'Etat du Borno', 11 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Le Parisien, 'Nigeria : au moins 70 soldats tués dans une embuscade djihadiste', 24 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Ouest France, 'Nigeria. 20 civils tués et 14 blessés dans une attaque djihadiste dans le Nord-Est', 18 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Le Monde Afrique, 'Au Nigéria, escalade inquiétante des violences dans le nord-ouest', 29 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#). BBC, '59 morts lors d'une attaque djihadiste au Nigeria', 10 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Ouest France, 'Nigeria. Boko Haram rase un village et assassine 69 personnes', 10 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#). Le Monde Afrique, 'Nigeria : au moins 38 personnes tuées dans une attaque djihadiste', 14 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ ICG, 'Violence in Nigeria's North West: Rolling back the mayhem', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ OCHA, 'Nigeria Situation Report', 27 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ UNCHR, 'Nigeria: Population of Concern Snapshot', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

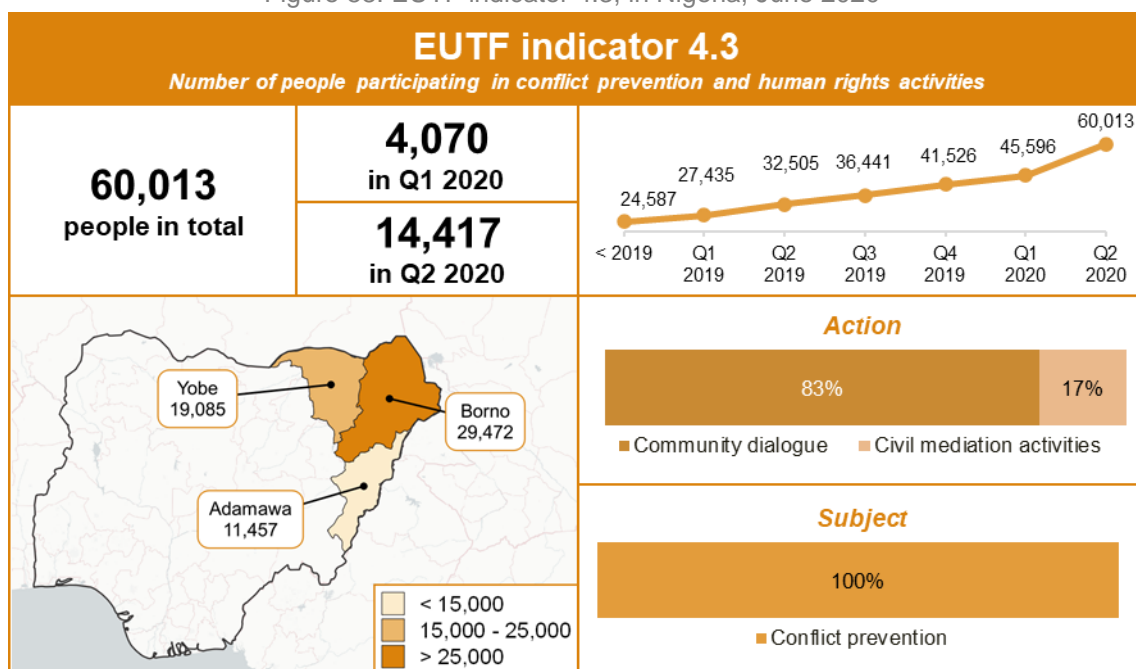
⁷ UNHCR, 'Nigeria Situation, Last updated on 31 August 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ ACLED Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development and promoting the stability and safety of communities in displacement in North East Nigeria (LRRD).

¹⁰ From Risk to Resilience: Providing reintegration assistance, care management, mental health and psychosocial support services to children in Borno, including those associated with Boko Haram (PSS).

Figure 58: EUTF indicator 4.3, in Nigeria, June 2020¹



'Enhancing state and community level conflict management capability in north-eastern Nigeria' (MCN) is a British Council-implemented €21M EUTF-funded programme, which has been helping to ensure that informal conflict resolutions mechanisms are properly functioning since February 2017. By identifying traditional rulers and leaders and engaging and training them, the programme has been enhancing communities' resilience to conflicts.

In the first half of 2020, the MCN programme engaged 18,487 individuals, one fifth (22%) in the first three months and four-fifths (78%) in the following three. 16,506 people, including 84% (13,502) in Q2 only, were involved in community dialogues aiming to prevent conflict. They participated in dispute resolution sessions with programme-trained local council officials, local court officials, traditional rulers, and community leaders. 818 individuals, mainly from host communities in Yobe and Adamawa, participated in Community Accountability Forums (CAF) established by the programme, which are public forums where the community meets with vigilante groups. CAFs are designed to provide a degree of accountability to ensure that vigilante groups reflect the community's needs. In addition, 247 people participated in multi-stakeholder local platforms called Community Peace and Safety Partnerships (CPSP) that aim to regularly bring together government, security and community actors to work in a coordinated way for peace, safety and security. These CPSPs conduct early warning and early response initiatives while also undertaking resolution of conflicts, serving as coordinating and accountability platforms for administrators and officials, security institutions, civil society groups, community leaders and religious leads. Finally, the remaining 916 beneficiaries reached during the first half the year participated in various dialogue and mediation platforms funded by MCN, mainly in communities divided because of the insurgency.

Providing support to vulnerable pastoralists and agro-pastoralists Awareness campaigns

Since the eruption of the Boko Haram insurgency in 2009, the north-eastern Nigerian states have seen a dramatic increase in the levels of displacement and food insecurity. In 2020, increased constraints and security-related incidents have hampered effective humanitarian response in all three BAY states.²

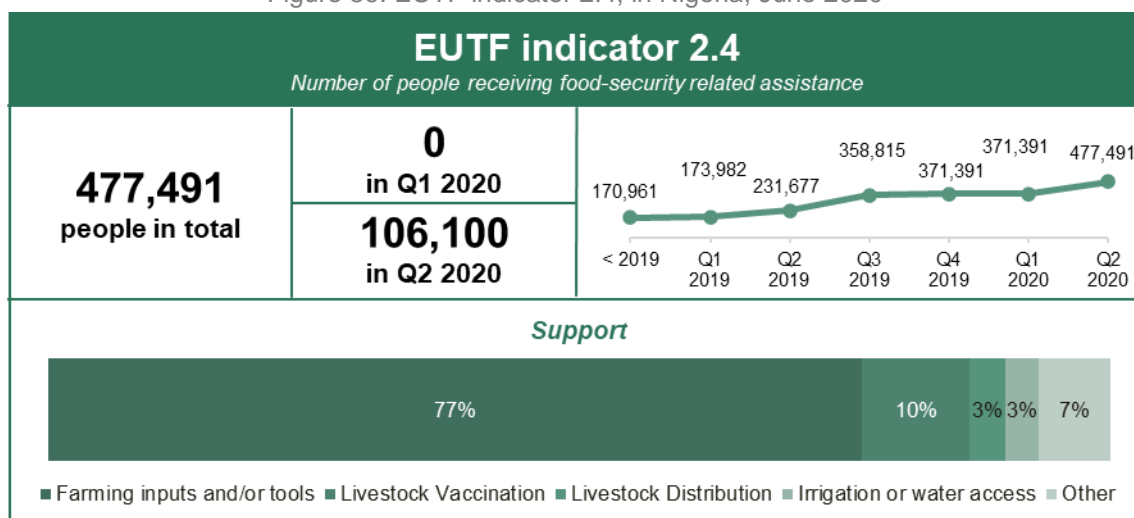
¹ Due to approximation total may vary ±1.

² OCHA, 'Nigeria: Access constraints drive up humanitarian needs', Retrieved [here](#).

Moreover, most IDPs continue to rely on host communities for basic needs and food. Combined with chronic waves of lootings and attacks, this has further impoverished and put under extreme pressure local communities. As farmers are often prevented from working in the fields by the fear of looters, the loss of harvests has worsened the food insecurity situation. 3.6 million people in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe were projected to be severely food insecure from June to August 2020.¹ In order to respond to these needs, the EUTF-funded programme Response Recovery and Resilience (RRR NG-07), implemented by FAO, WFP and UN Women, provides support to vulnerable pastoralists and agropastoralists, including returnees, IDPs and host communities. It aims to sustainably improve production and mitigate agropastoral risks through the development of small-scale and family farming.

As of June 2020, 477,491 people have been provided with food-security related assistance in the country. Of these, 96% were reached by the interventions of the RRR programme in Borno, 3% by LRRD's work in Borno and Adamawa, and the remaining 1% by RESILAC in Borno.

Figure 59: EUTF indicator 2.4, in Nigeria, June 2020



RRR was the only contributor reporting outputs during the first half of 2020. The programme has reached 106,100 people in S1 (direct beneficiaries and their households), which represents an increase of 29% from the total reached up to end 2019. First and foremost, 73,451 people of these benefitted from the provision of quality agricultural inputs to reinforce crop production, intercropping diversification, and soil conservation. These rain-fed inputs consisted of a package including a 25kg bag of fertilizer, a mixed nutritional staple food (millet, maize, sorghum, rice, groundnut, sesame, and cowpea seeds) and legumes.

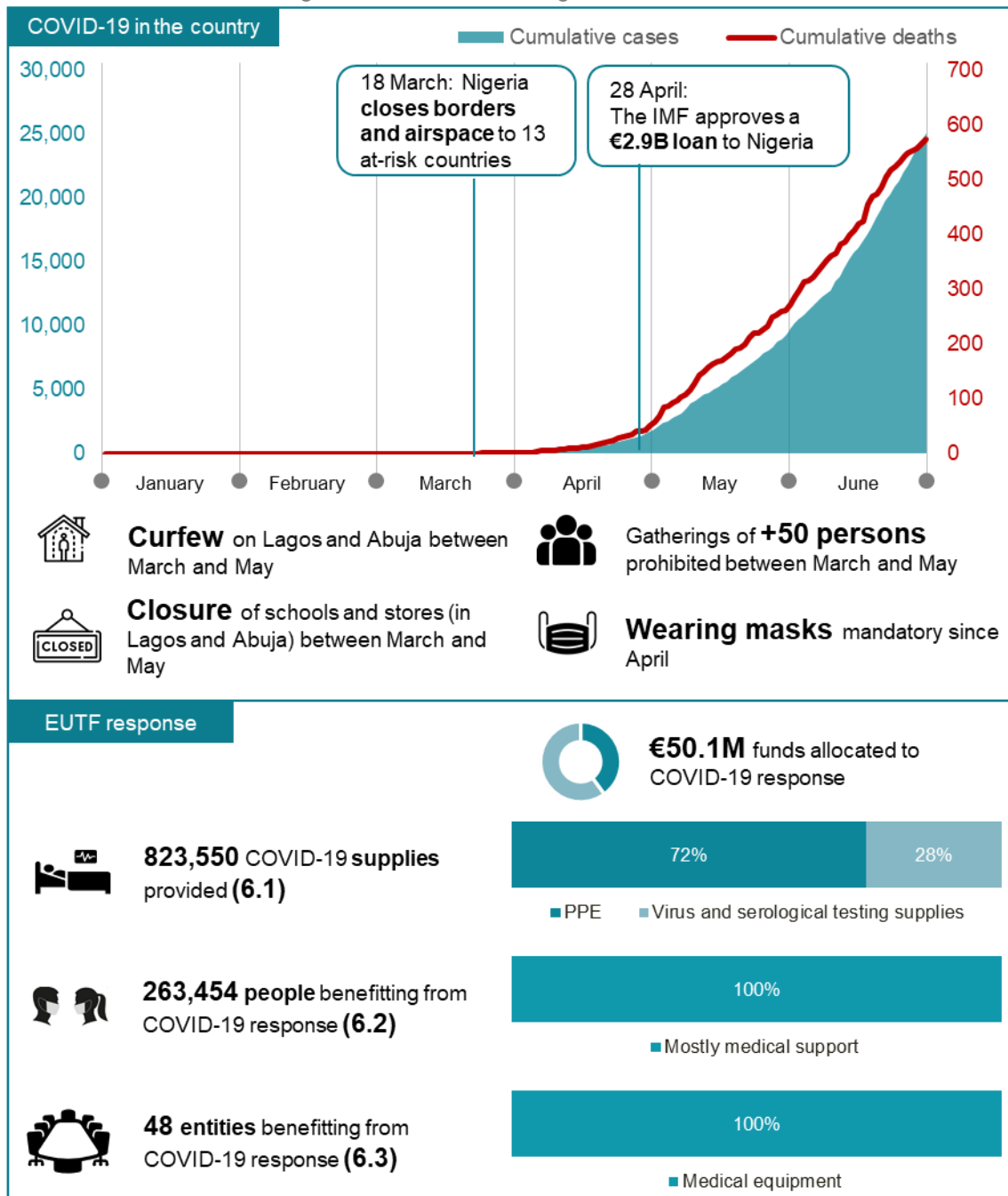
Furthermore, 31,360 people benefitted from the provision of stoves and evaporative cooling pots (zeer pots). The use of zeer pots can prolong the shelf life of vegetables by several weeks or months. As adequate storage of vegetables can reduce post-harvest food losses, the provision and distribution of fuel-efficient stoves contributes to improve nutrition in local communities and reduces pressure on scarce natural resources. When energy access is improved, the increased time availability of women traditionally tasked with cooking and the collection of fuelwoods, allows them to engage in other income-generating activities. Also, they reduce the risks women face, like for instance, exposure to toxic smoke when cooking on open fires or rudimentary stoves, undercooking food or skipping meals, exposure to GBV and protection risks during fuelwood collection. Finally, the unsustainable cutting of fuelwood also contributes significantly to deforestation and forest degradation. This situation is often aggravated near IDP camps, where a higher density of people needs access to wood.

¹ Cadre Harmonisé Updated Results on Identification of Risk Areas and Populations in Acute Food and Nutrition Insecurity in Adamawa, Borno, Kano and Yobe States of Nigeria. Retrieved [here](#).

Finally, 1,289 people have benefitted from the provision of livestock distribution as the RRR programme provided 263 fattening bulls (lean bullock) to youth-headed households to diversify the family's dietary intakes. The promotion of cattle-fattening as a potential income generating activity is an opportunity to diversify livelihood options for IDP youths thereby mitigating the risk of recruitment by armed groups.

COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria

Figure 60: COVID-19 in Nigeria, June 2020



The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Nigeria was recorded on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen tested positive in Lagos.¹ The case was also the first recorded in sub-saharan Africa.² Even

¹ NCDC, 28 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

² Ibid.

though, compared to other continents, COVID-19 has been slower to spread in Africa, by 30 June 2020, in Nigeria, the number of cases reached 25,133 and showed an accelerating trend.¹ To counter the growing pandemic risk, the government closed borders with thirteen at-risk countries and adopted strong restrictive measures on people's movements and gatherings.² A month after the first case, on 29 March, the government announced the full lockdown of its political and economical capitals Abuja and Lagos while state governors imposed further measures and restrictions in their respective states. At the end of April, the IMF approved a massive €2.9B loan to help Nigeria deal with the economic and social consequences of the pandemic, part of a €5.9B package that the country asked to borrow from the IMF, WB, and AfDB.³

The COVID-19 outbreak further exacerbated the pressure on Nigeria and its fragile health care system, which was already weakened by violence against civilians, including attacks on hospitals and limited humanitarian access. At the beginning of the pandemic, Nigeria had only seven labs with the capacity to test for the virus, and five hospital beds available for every 10,000 people.⁴ The WHO reported additional challenges, such as poor compliance in the use of facemask, social distancing, and good hygiene practices by the general public, low community awareness and education, and insufficient PPEs across Nigeria.⁵ Moreover, with four in five people working in the informal sector, like many other countries in the region, the large majority of the population cannot benefit from a social welfare system. The pandemic emergency further worsened the economic situation, bringing poor Nigerians into extreme poverty. The government's capacity to respond to a full-scale explosion of the pandemic in the most populated country in the continent was insufficient.

In this highly alarming context, the EUTF, as well as other donors, decided to support the United Nations Development Programme to implement the 'One UN Response Plan to COVID-19' programme (NG-09) in Nigeria. The programme's specific objective is to support the rapid implementation of the country's National COVID-19 Multi-Sectoral Pandemic Response Plan in order to ensure optimum care to the confirmed cases and contain a further spread of the outbreak. With a total budget of €50M, the direct beneficiaries of this EUTF-funded action are the Federal Ministry of Health, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and the Presidential Task Force. Through an inclusive and nationally-owned response, the programme has been coordinating collective efforts in partnership with the government, CSOs, private sector, international and national stakeholders.

Two other EUTF-funded programmes have reoriented EUTF funds to COVID-19 related response activities: €136k were allocated by MCN (NG-03) and €4K by RRR (NG-07). While MCN has started implementing COVID-19 activities in the first half of the year, RRR will start during the third quarter.

Overall, as of June 2020, EUTF-supported programmes have distributed 823,550 COVID-19 pandemic-related supplies. 86% of these were dispatched at federal level by the One UN Response programme and 14% by MCN, which is supporting the country's COVID-19 response in its implementation areas in BAY. 72% consisted of supplies such as face shields and goggles as well as safety boxes, biohazard bags, oropharyngeal airways and 28% of virus and serological testing supplies. While One UN Response dispatched centrally to the government, MCN provided 68,326 supplies directly to 27 CSOs, 44,850 to 14 local communities, 1,485 to six government institutions and 31 to one hospital. Overall, 263,454 people (indicator 6.2) and 48 entities (indicator 6.3) directly benefitted from MCN's COVID-19 emergency response activities. Also 13,843,955 people were reached by awareness raising campaigns on preventive measures, recovery interventions supported, risk communication and public engagement messaging (indicator 2.7).

¹ OWID, 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and deaths'. Retrieved in June 2020, [here](#).

² Le Monde, 'Coronavirus : le Nigeria ferme son accès aux voyageurs arrivant de treize pays à risque', 19 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

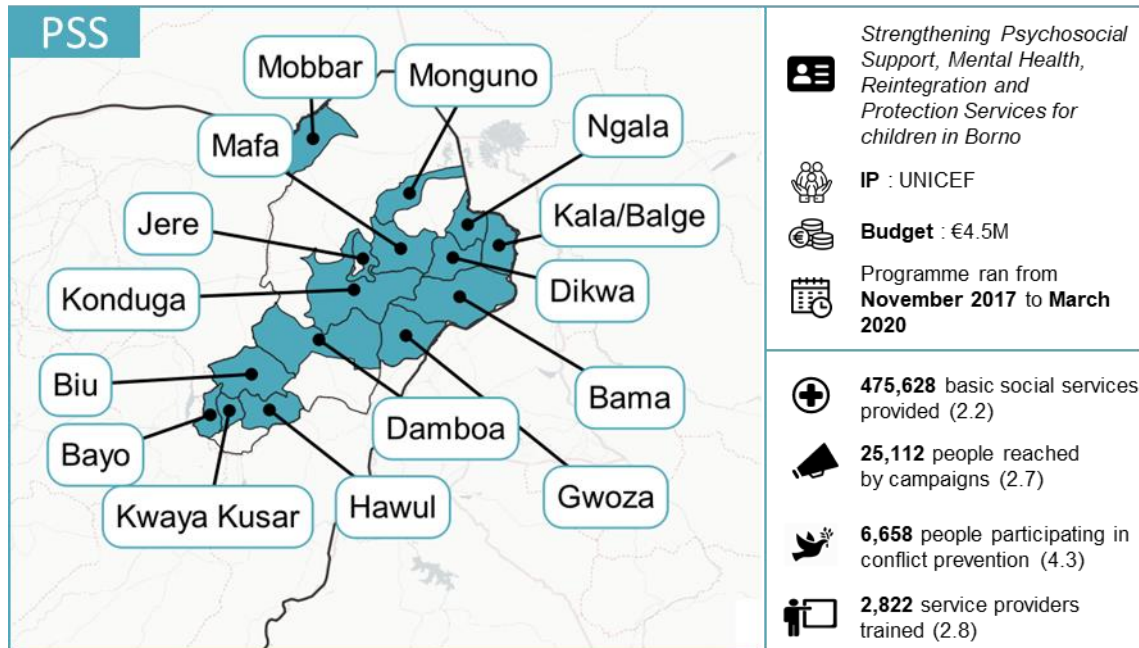
³ France Info, 'Coronavirus: le Nigeria veut emprunter 7 milliards de dollars pour faire face à la crise', 8 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

⁴ Federal Ministry of Health. Retrieved [here](#)

⁵ WHO, 'COVID-19 Situation Update: Northeast Nigeria', 7 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

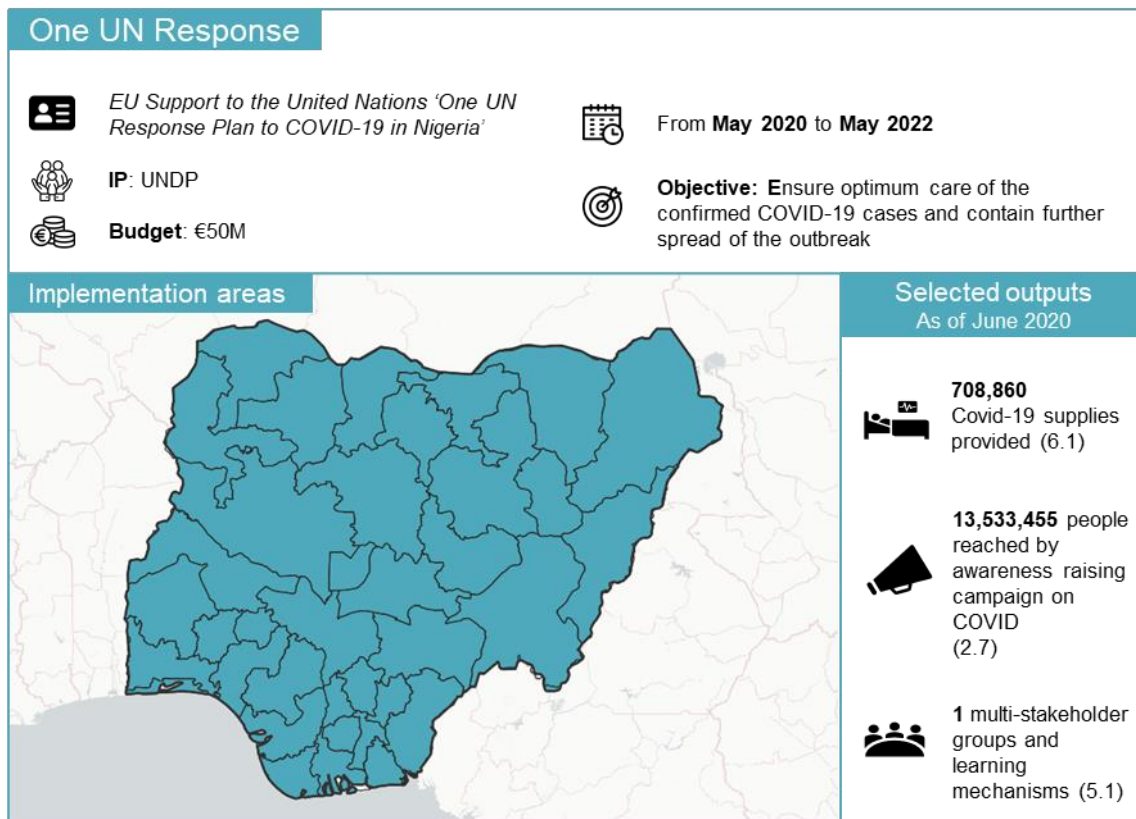
5.8.2. PROGRAMME COMPLETED IN S1 2020

Figure 61: PSS (programme, NG-06)



5.8.3. PROJECT NEWLY INCLUDED IN THE MLS

Figure 62: One UN Response (programme, NG-09)



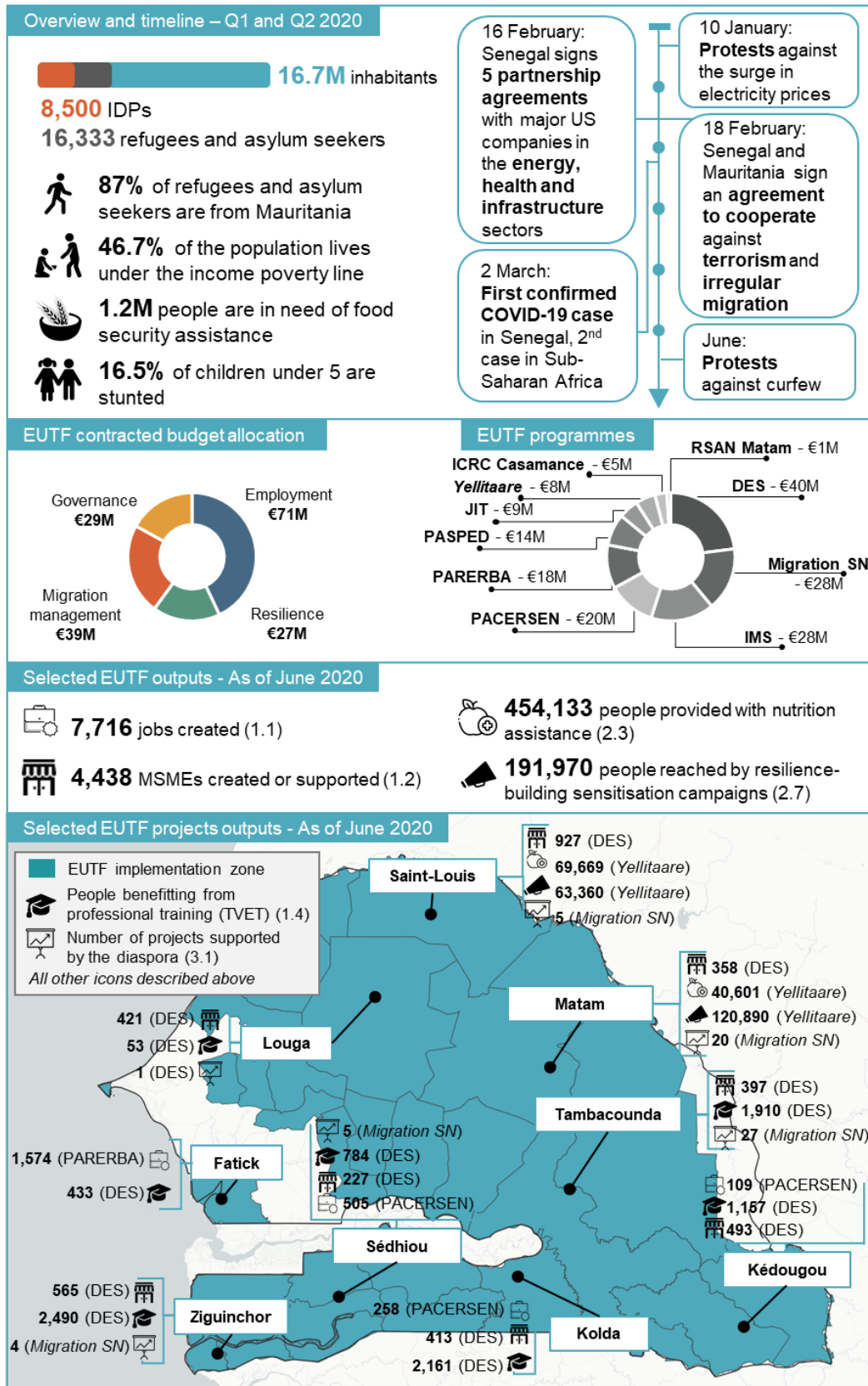
5.8.4. NIGERIA AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 12: EUTF common output indicators for Nigeria, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	4,575	82	0	4,657
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	257	27	11	295
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	17,101	5,511	1,179	23,791
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	774	1,322	105	2,201
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	12	0	0	12
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	431	24	1	456
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	186,085	315,828	58,715	560,628
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	0	0	7,000	7,000
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	170,961	200,430	106,100	477,491
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	0	600	273	873
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	114,224	9,388	13,849,699	13,973,311
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	5,624	1,774	174	7,572
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	69,360	17,965	0	87,325
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	1,265	11,020	10,910	23,195
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	2	3	0	5
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	11,495	4,467	588	16,550
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	5,086	4,665	805	10,556
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	0	41	14	55
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	10	65	43	118
4.1 Number of infrastructures supported to strengthen governance	4	17	3	24
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	0	0	40	40
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	9,103	4,602	2,011	15,717
4.3 Number of people participating in conflict prevention...	24,587	16,939	18,487	60,013
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	9	2	10	21
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	33	1	1	35
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	16	12	4	32
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	28	9	4	42
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	823,550	823,550
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	263,454	263,454
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	48	48

5.9. SENEGAL

Figure 63: Senegal – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.9.1. SENEGAL AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

In Senegal, the first half of 2020 was marked by the signature of major agreements on future security cooperation. On 18 February, Senegal and Mauritania signed an agreement to deepen cooperation against transborder terrorism, irregular migration, arms and drugs trafficking and money laundering, all of these issues being on the rise in both countries:¹ for instance, major firearms flows take place from Guinea-Bissau to Casamance in Senegal, and from Mali to Mauritania, with major seizures taking place on the Guinea-Bissau-Senegal and Mali-Mauritania borders.² Senegal also witnessed starchy opposition from civil society to the planned 10% increase in electricity prices, with social unrest taking place in Dakar and several municipalities, spearheaded by the citizen collective “Noo Lank”.³ Despite being stable and relatively spared by violence and mass displacements, Senegal remained affected by poverty and food insecurity. At the end of June 2020, 47% of its population lived under the poverty line, with difficulty to meet basic food, health, and education needs.⁴ Food insecurity and malnutrition stood at respectively 7.2% and 8.2%, 19% of children aged 6 to 59 months⁵ were chronically malnourished 17% moderately to severely stunted.⁶ Finally, about 770,000 people were expected to be in food insecurity during the 2020 lean season, a 124% increase compared to 2019.⁷

Fostering MSME development and job creation across sectors to upkeep growth

Senegal is one of the most economically dynamic countries in the SLC region, with a steady high real GDP growth of over 6% on average from 2015 to 2019,⁸ despite a GINI index of 40.3⁹ and a position of 166 (out of 189) on the Human Development Index.¹⁰ However, since early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed Senegal’s economic outlook. GDP growth projections have been lowered from 6% to less than 1% as a result of the expected slowdown in tourism (-60%) and transport (-9%).^{11,12} In a country with limited fiscal buffers and safety nets and a large informal sector, the negative macroeconomic outlook poses significant challenges.¹³

To support economic development in Senegal, the EUTF has committed, among others, to densify the fabric of MSMEs across different economic sectors. As of June 2020, 4,438 MSMEs have been created or supported in Senegal, including 1,090 in Q1 2020, a 39% increase from December 2019, and 517 in Q2, a 13% increase from Q1 (indicator 1.2). The *Développer l’emploi au Sénégal* (DES) programme (SN-04) has been the most prominent driver of MSME development, assisting 94% and 97% of MSME creation or support in Q1 and Q2, respectively. The programme works by implementing the Mise à Niveau¹⁴ of companies in high-potential sectors, such as agriculture and food processing in Casamance, horticulture in Louga, or mining in Kédougou and Matam. Most MSMEs were supported with trainings and assistance with formalisation in Q1, and assistance to Bureau de Mise à Niveau and

¹ Le Monde, ‘La Mauritanie et le Sénégal renforcent leur coopération, de la pêche à la lutte contre le djihadisme’, 19 February 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² UNODC, ‘Firearms trafficking in West Africa’, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ RFI, ‘Sénégal : Nouvelle manifestation contre la hausse du prix de l’électricité’, 11 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ UNDP, ‘Human Development Data (1990-2018)’. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ WFP Senegal, ‘Country Brief’, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ UNDP, ‘Human Development Data (1990-2018)’. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ WFP Senegal, ‘Country Brief’, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ The African Development Bank Group, ‘Senegal Economic Outlook’, 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁹ World Bank Data, ‘Indice GINI – Sénégal’, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹⁰ UNDP, ‘Human Development Indicators – Senegal’, accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ WFP Senegal, ‘Country Brief’, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

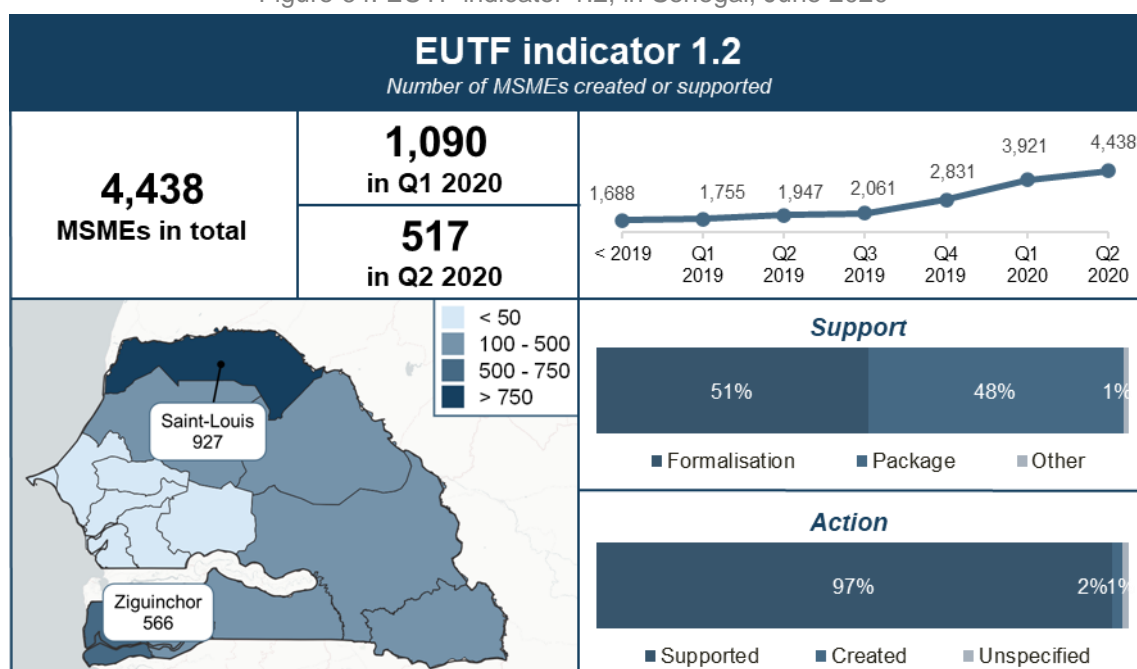
¹² The African Development Bank Group, ‘Senegal: Macroeconomic Outlook’, 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹³ The World Bank Group, ‘The World Bank in Senegal: Overview’, July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹⁴ “Mise à Niveau” (aka. upgrading) is a tool for improving competitiveness implemented by the Bureau de Mise à Niveau (BMN). It is available to business owners to exploit their development potential and help them transform their companies into champions of productivity and profitability. It encompasses the elaboration of upgrading plans adapted to the strategic needs/objectives of companies, the co-financing of upgrading plans through a system of investment incentives (tangible and intangible), the monitoring of supported companies, and the facilitation of access to credit.

access to non-financial services through the Fonds à Frais Partagés¹ hosted in the ADEPME² in Q2. DES also created 1,266 jobs through support to MSMEs in the first half of 2020.

Figure 64: EUTF indicator 1.2, in Senegal, June 2020³



The EUTF has also committed to provide employment opportunities to the most vulnerable. As of June 2020, 7,716 jobs have been created, including 2,043 in Q1 2020, a 51% increase from December 2019, and 1,659 in Q2, a 27% increase from Q1 (indicator 1.1). Job creation is a pressing issue in Senegal, where more than 300,000 people enter the workforce each year.⁴ Yet, job creation is insufficient to absorb this constantly growing labour force and immigration. Most labour is informal, entailing low remuneration and limited social protection.⁵ Estimates account for 34% of the population being underemployed in 2019.⁶ The main contributor to job creation amongst EUTF-funded programmes in Senegal in the first half of 2020 was the PARERBA programme (SN-08). PARERBA aims to support the creation, consolidation, and reinforcement of permanent agricultural jobs (and to a lesser extent, non-agricultural jobs), through the development of hydro-agricultural infrastructures allowing better water control and sustainable land management and therefore agricultural productivity throughout the year. Over the first half of 2020, PARERBA created 1,912 jobs, including 943 in Q1 and 969 in Q2. All of these were agricultural jobs created upon the establishment and enhancement of farms in the rural communities of Thiès, Kaolack and Fatick with an aim to increase vegetable production. In Senegal, the agricultural sector is the most dynamic driver of growth⁷ and it employs over half of the country's workforce. In this regard, agricultural job creation is a top strategic priority for the EUTF in the country. Accordingly, 62% of all jobs created or supported by the EUTF in Senegal in the first half of 2020 were jobs in the agricultural sector. Specifically, the region of Kaolack is a key area for agricultural

¹ Cost-Sharing Fund.

² "Agence de Développement et d'Encadrement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises", aka. Agency for the Development and Supervision of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

³ The map colour code and the graph presents data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 501. Also, only data over 500 was clearly spelled out. Exclusions: 2,945.

⁴ The Borgen Project, 'Fighting youth unemployment in Senegal', May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

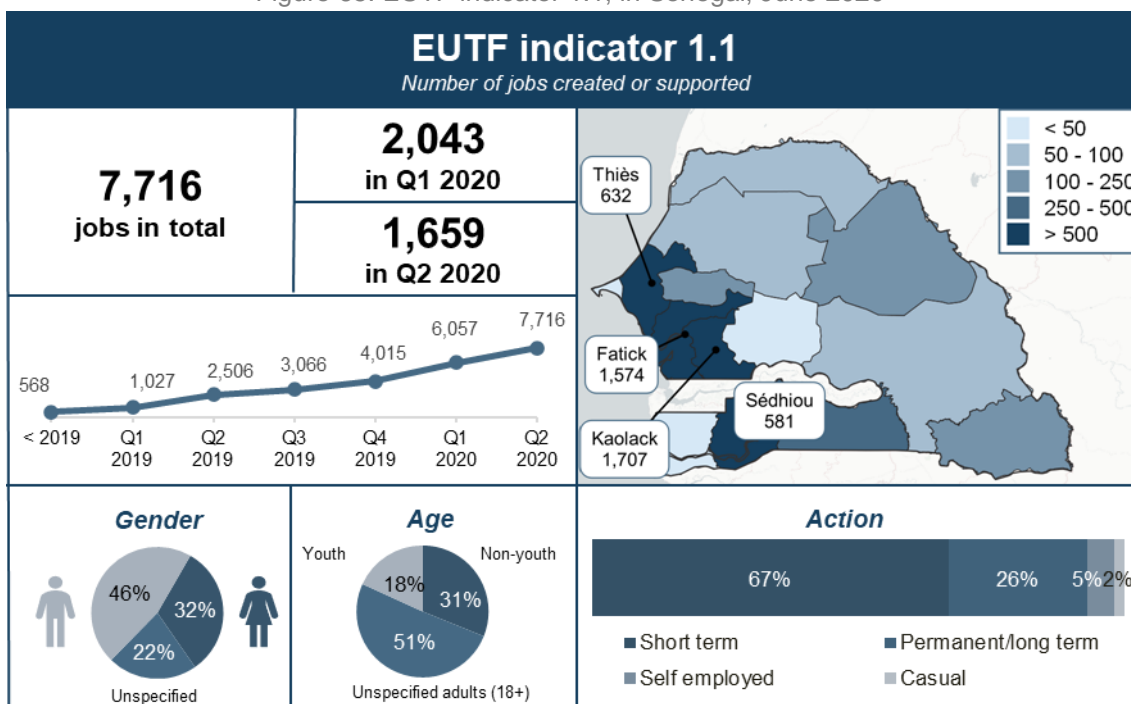
⁵ The World Bank Group, 'The World Bank in Senegal: Overview', April 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ Konhert, D., Marfaing, L., 'Senegal: Presidential elections 2019 – The shining example of democratic transition immersed in muddy power politics', March 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ The World Bank Group, 'The World Bank in Senegal: Overview', July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

development, as 75% of its population is employed in agriculture.¹ In the first half of 2020, more than half (57%) of the jobs created or supported by PARERBA were located in Kaolack: 1,096 agricultural jobs (705 in Q1 and 391 in Q2).

Figure 65: EUTF indicator 1.1, in Senegal, June 2020²



Improving irrigation and access to irrigation in central and south-eastern rural Senegal

In Senegal, agriculture employs 60% of the population,³ and accounts for 17% of the country's GDP.⁴ However, only a small proportion of the land is arable (17%),⁵ and it is for the most part under-performing, as yields are generally low. Senegal is highly dependent on rainfall to determine agriculture production, as less than 5% of the cultivated land is irrigated.⁶ Yet, parts of the country are located in the drought-prone Sahel, a region characterised by irregular rainfall and poor soil conditions. Land degradation affects 34% of its territory and is mainly attributed to human activity and poor water management practices.⁷ In 2020, rainfall deficit coupled with declining soil fertility have led to a decline in production (especially of cereals)⁸ and pasture availability. This decline is particularly significant in central and south-eastern Senegal,⁹ where rain-fed lowland rice is quite common, rainfall is erratic and rice yield is generally low.¹⁰ As a result, the combined effects of insufficient food production, high food prices and low resilience has compounded food insecurity in these regions.¹¹

¹ Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie (ANSD), 'Situation Économique et Sociale de la Région de Kaolack', 2008. Retrieved [here](#).

² The map colour code and the graph presents data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Exclusions: 2,155. Also, only data over 500 was clearly spelled out. Exclusions: 3,222.

³ FAO in emergencies, 'Senegal', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Government of Senegal, 'Programme National d'Investissement Agricole pour la Sécurité Alimentaire et la Nutrition', 2018. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ Lloyds Bank, 'The economic context of Senegal', October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ US Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative, Feed the Future, 'Climate-Smart Agriculture in Senegal', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ FAO in emergencies, 'Senegal', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

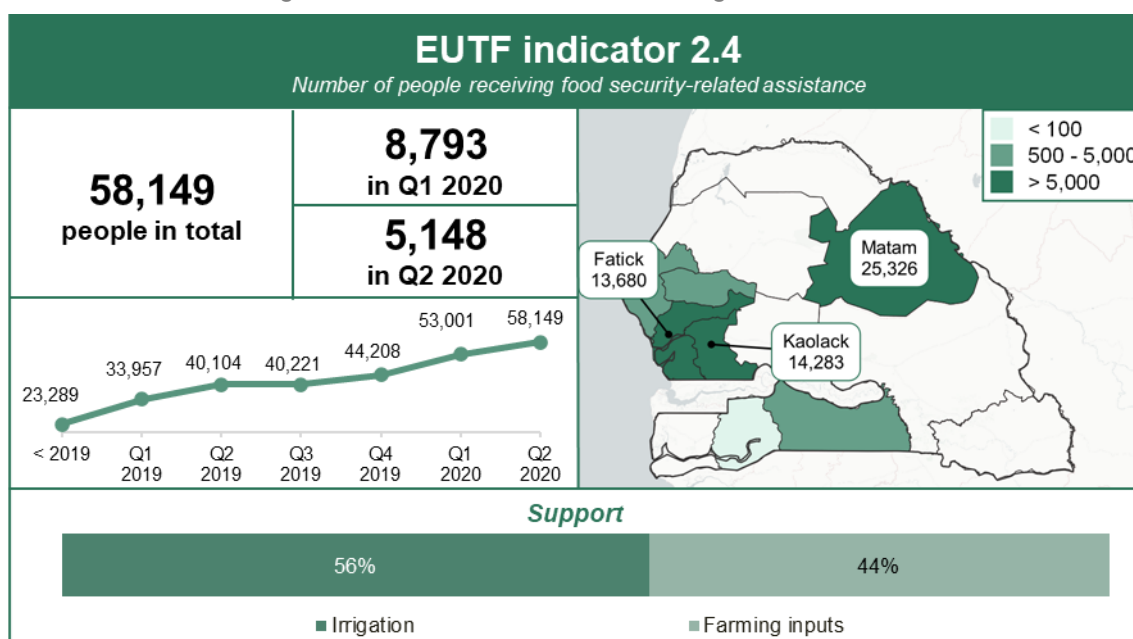
⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Global Yield Atlas Gap, 'Senegal', accessed in October 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

¹¹ WFP Senegal, 'Country Brief', June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

The EUTF works to alleviate dependence on rain-fed agriculture to increase and diversify agricultural production through a two-pronged approach. On one hand, it improves vulnerable households' access to irrigation (99% of S1 2020 beneficiaries of food-security related assistance gained access to irrigation). As of June 2020, 32,661 people have gained access to irrigation, including 8,631 in Q1, a 46% increase from December 2019, and 5,148 in Q2, a 19% increase from Q1 (indicator 2.4). The major contributor to access to irrigation in the first half of 2020 was PARERBA (SN-08). It provided secure land and irrigation access to 8,451 vulnerable agro-pastoralists in Q1 and 5,148 in Q2, respectively 75% and 58% of whom lived in central Kaolack. In Senegal, the agro-pastoral situation is characterised by significant forage deficits which have led to early transhumance and increased the risk of conflicts with farmers over scarce water resources.¹ In this regard, 99% of all beneficiaries of irrigation in Senegal during the first half of 2020 were agro-pastoralists (98% in Q1, 100% in Q2).

Figure 66: EUTF indicator 2.4, in Senegal, June 2020²

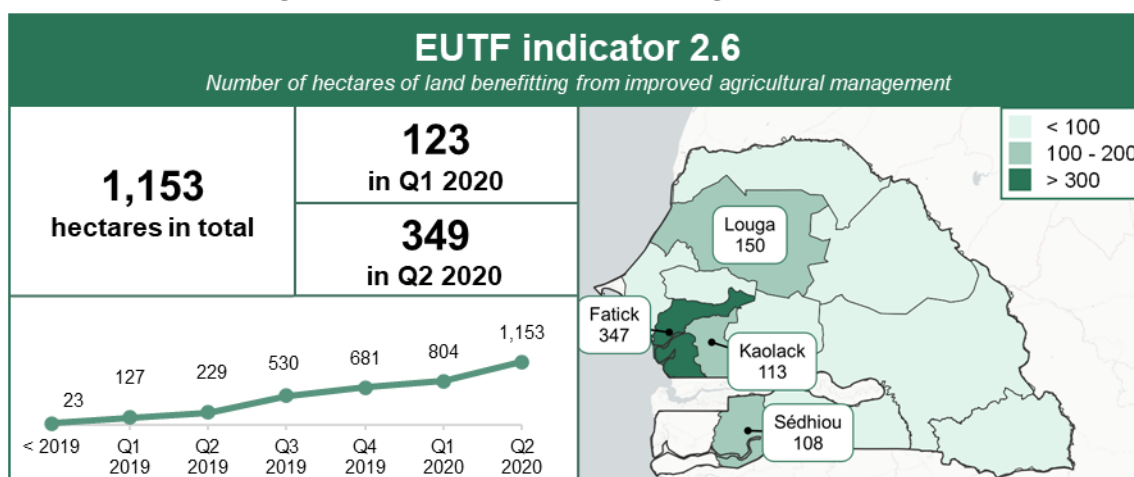


On the other hand, the EUTF supports improved irrigation of agricultural land. As of June 2020, 1,153 hectares of agricultural land have benefitted from improved land management in Senegal (indicator 2.6). This figure comprises 1,043 hectares of agricultural land having been irrigated, including 123 in Q1 and 343 in Q2. In Q1 2020, the 123 hectares of agricultural land were supported by PACERSEN (SN-05), which provided irrigation, rehabilitation and improved agricultural practices through the establishment and enhancement of farms. 47% of these 123 hectares were in south-eastern Sédhiou. PACERSEN aims to create job opportunities in regions more susceptible to emigration through land development by traditional community and family farms. In Q2 2020, 248 hectares of agricultural land benefitted from newly built irrigation systems PARERBA (SN-08), including more than half in central Fatick, and the remaining 95 by PACERSEN.

¹ FAO, 'Sahel. Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal. Regional overview', December 2019. Retrieved [here](#).

² The map colour code and the graph present data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Also, only data over 5,000 was clearly spelled out. Exclusions: 4,860.

Figure 67: EUTF indicator 2.6, in Senegal, June 2020¹



Leveraging the development impact of migration through diaspora involvement

Senegal has had a negative migratory balance since the 1980s.² Today, it is estimated that the Senegalese diaspora represents between 2.5 and 3 million people,³ mainly present in Europe (destination chosen by 46% of them, including 17.6% in France, 13.8% in Italy and 9.6% in Spain), Africa (46%, including 9.9% in Mauritania, 5.5% in The Gambia and 4.8% in Côte d'Ivoire or Gabon), as well as North America (8%).^{4,5} The weight of transfers from the Senegalese diaspora to the national economy is considerable. In 2020, remittances to Senegal accounted for €1.9B, or 9.4% of its GDP,⁶ a significant amount which continues to grow.⁷ However, remittances contribute mainly to household consumption, as less than 5% of all transfers are directed towards productive investment.⁸

A priority for Senegalese authorities is to leverage the development potential of the Senegalese diaspora and include them in the development strategies of the country,⁹ as put forward by the 2014 Plan Sénégal Émergent.¹⁰ In line with this objective, the EUTF has devised and funded programmes which aim to support diaspora involvement. As of June 2020, 64 projects and initiatives have been supported by the Senegalese diaspora in Europe, including 9 in Q2 2020, a 16% increase from December 2019 (indicator 3.1). All these projects and initiatives were co-funded by PAISD (SN-06-02), after their selection and validation by a selection committee. PAISD promotes local, economic and social development initiatives in Senegal and supports the productive investments of the diaspora through the mobilisation of the means and skills of Senegalese nationals established in France, Spain, Italy and Belgium.¹¹ Co-funded projects and initiatives mainly aimed to construct, rehabilitate and/or equip social infrastructures such as schools, health centres and water system in the diasporas' areas of origin. Overall, 42% of all the projects and initiatives supported by the Senegalese diaspora were

¹ The map colour code and the graph present data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Also, only data over 100 was clearly spelled out. Exclusions: 435.

² Action Fiche of project T05-EUTF-SAH-SN-06-02, "Renforcement de la gestion et de la gouvernance des migrations, retour et réintégration durable au Sénégal et accompagnement des investissements de la diaspora sénégalaise", accessed in Oct. 2020.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Diafrik Invest, 'Propositions sur la contribution de la diaspora sénégalaise à l'investissement productif', Jan. 2018. Retrieved here.

⁵ Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie for the IOM, 'Migration au Sénégal : Profil migratoire 2018', 2018. Retrieved here.

⁶ World Bak Data, 'Migration and Remittances Data', accessed October 2020. Retrieved here.

⁷ Action Fiche of project T05-EUTF-SAH-SN-06-02, 'Renforcement de la gestion et de la gouvernance des migrations, retour et réintégration durable au Sénégal et accompagnement des investissements de la diaspora sénégalaise', accessed in Oct. 2020.

⁸ Diafrik Invest, op. cit.

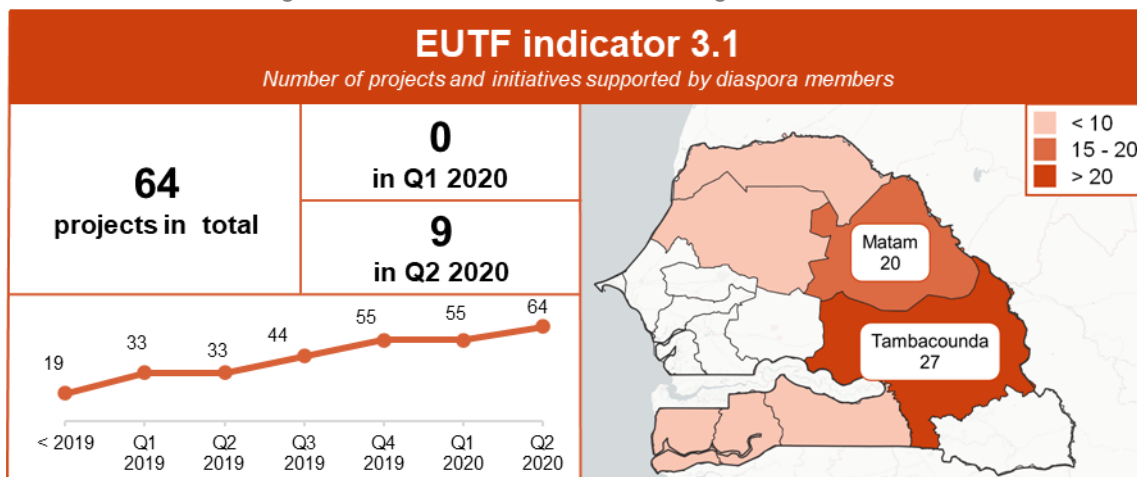
⁹ Action Fiche of project T05-EUTF-SAH-SN-06-02, op. cit.

¹⁰ 'Plan Sénégal Émergent' (Plan for an Emerging Senegal) is an economic and social governmental strategy that recommends the design of support tools intended to stimulate investment from the diaspora. Diafrik Invest, op. cit.

¹¹ Action Fiche of project T05-EUTF-SAH-SN-06-02, 'Renforcement de la gestion et de la gouvernance des migrations, retour et réintégration durable au Sénégal et accompagnement des investissements de la diaspora sénégalaise', accessed in Oct. 2020.

implemented in Tambacounda, and 31% in Matam, both main regions of departure.¹ The co-funding of these projects by PAISD led to the creation of 229 jobs, including 53 in Q1² and 42 in Q2 (indicator 1.1). All these jobs were short-term construction jobs for men. 17% of them were located in Tambacounda and 15% in Matam.

Figure 68: EUTF indicator 3.1, in Senegal, June 2020³



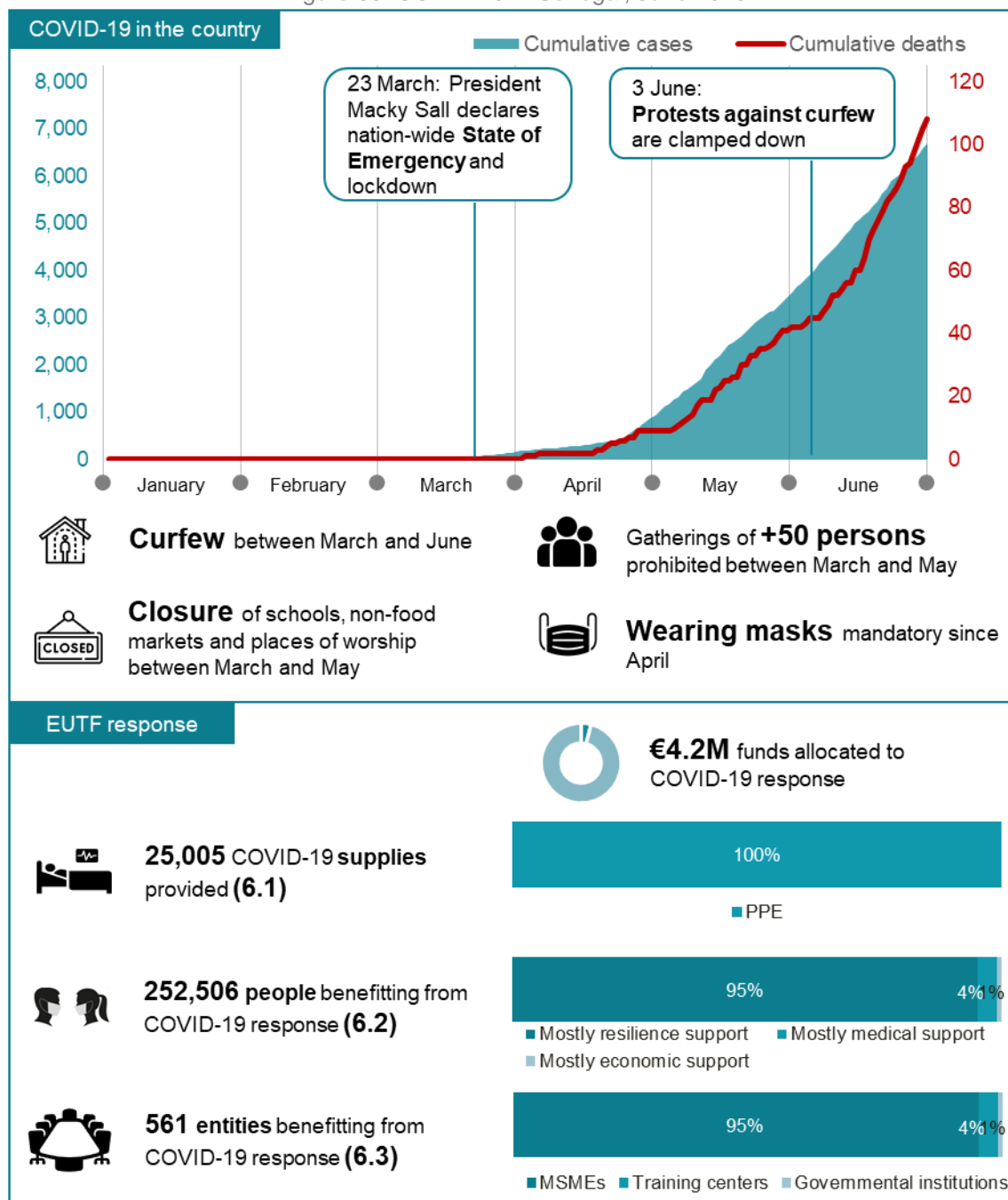
¹ Ibid.

² Migration Sénégal did not support any diaspora project or initiative in Q1, the jobs created in Q1 thus result from the co-financing of previous projects.

³ The map colour code and the graph presents data for the programmes which have been able to disaggregate data at the first administrative level. Also, only data over 20 was clearly spelled out. Exclusions: 17.

COVID-19 pandemic in Senegal

Figure 69: COVID-19 in Senegal, June 2020



Senegal was one of the first countries of the region to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with its first case recorded as early as 2 March,¹ a few days after the first Sub-Saharan case was recorded in Nigeria.² The Senegalese authorities intervened on 20 March when 36 cases were recorded.³ First, President Macky Sall decided to shut down Senegal’s air borders.⁴ Three days later, on 23 March, he declared a nationwide state of emergency and lockdown, imposing a curfew and prohibiting gatherings, whilst launching a “Force COVID”, a €1.5B Solidarity Fund to protect the economy in times of halted

¹ Le Monde, ‘Un Français installé à Dakar, premier cas confirmé de coronavirus au Sénégal’, 2 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² La Croix, ‘Nigeria: un cas de coronavirus recensé à Lagos, le premier en Afrique subsaharienne’, 28 Feb. 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ BBC, ‘Coronavirus : le Sénégal ferme totalement ses frontières aériennes’, 19 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Ibid.

activity.¹ On 1 April, extraordinary measures were taken when the National Assembly gave President Macky Sall power to legislate by ordinances.² Despite the re-opening of schools, markets, and places of worship on 11 May,³ social discontent against the imposed curfew was quick to emerge,⁴ prompting the national authorities to lift both the state of emergency and the curfew on 29 June.⁵ As of 30 June 2020, Senegal had reported 6,698 COVID-19 cases and 108 deaths,⁶ with a significant increase in the last weeks.⁷

In Senegal, six EUTF-funded programmes – *Développer l'emploi au Sénégal* (DES), PARERBA, PACERSEN, Yellitaare, Migration Sénégal (National JI Project) and PASPED (SN-04, SN-08, SN-05, SN-01, SN-06 and SN-09) – have reoriented funds or leftover material towards COVID-19 response activities.⁸ €4.2M were allocated to sensitisation, supply distribution, and support to MSMEs and other actors. As of June 2020, 25,005 COVID-related supplies have been distributed in Senegal (indicator 6.1). Top contributors were DES and PARERBA. DES distributed gels, washbasins, and masks in Ziguinchor, Tambacounda and Kédougou, whilst PARERBA focused on Thiès, Kafrine, Fatick and Diourbel (Thiès and Diourbel featured amongst the regions with the highest concentration of cases).⁹ Additionally, 252,506 people have directly benefitted from COVID-19 emergency response activities (indicator 6.2). PARERBA was the main contributor to this result, with 241,877 people assisted, mostly people receiving food aid and economic actors supported with subsidies. DES was also an important contributor, with 10,449 people assisted, mostly people receiving supplies and craftsmen benefitting from contracts to produce supplies. In total, DES supported 561 MSMEs, local authorities and training centres (indicator 6.3). Most of the support went to MSMEs as they are a priority in Senegal, and were severely threatened by the lockdown, social distancing, transport and trade restrictions and factory and market closures.¹⁰ Finally, PARERBA sensitised 3,200 people to COVID-19 mitigation measures through mass media campaigns (indicator 2.7).

¹ Financial Afrik, 'Sénégal : Macky Sall décrète l'État d'urgence et annonce un fonds de 1000 milliards de FCFA', 23 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Jeune Afrique, 'Sénégal : les députés donnent à Macky Sall le pouvoir de légiférer par ordonnances', 2 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ France Info, 'Sénégal : Macky Sall annonce la réouverture partielle des marchés, écoles et lieux de cultes', 12 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Financial Afrik, 'COVID-19 au Sénégal : la rue gronde contre le couvre-feu', 4 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ Agence Ecofin, 'Le Sénégal ouvre son ciel, mais maintient ses frontières terrestres et maritimes fermées', 30 June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ OWID, 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and deaths', Retrieved in June 2020, [here](#).

⁷ UNICEF, 'COVID-19 Situation Report - #06', May – June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁸ Although only four of them had implemented COVID-19 activities as of June 2020: DES, PACERSEN, PARERBA and Yellitaare. The activities implemented by the four programmes accounted for €877,311.

⁹ UNICEF – COVID-19 Situation Report. Op. Cit.

¹⁰ UNHCR, 'COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE – West & Central Africa', 1 July 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

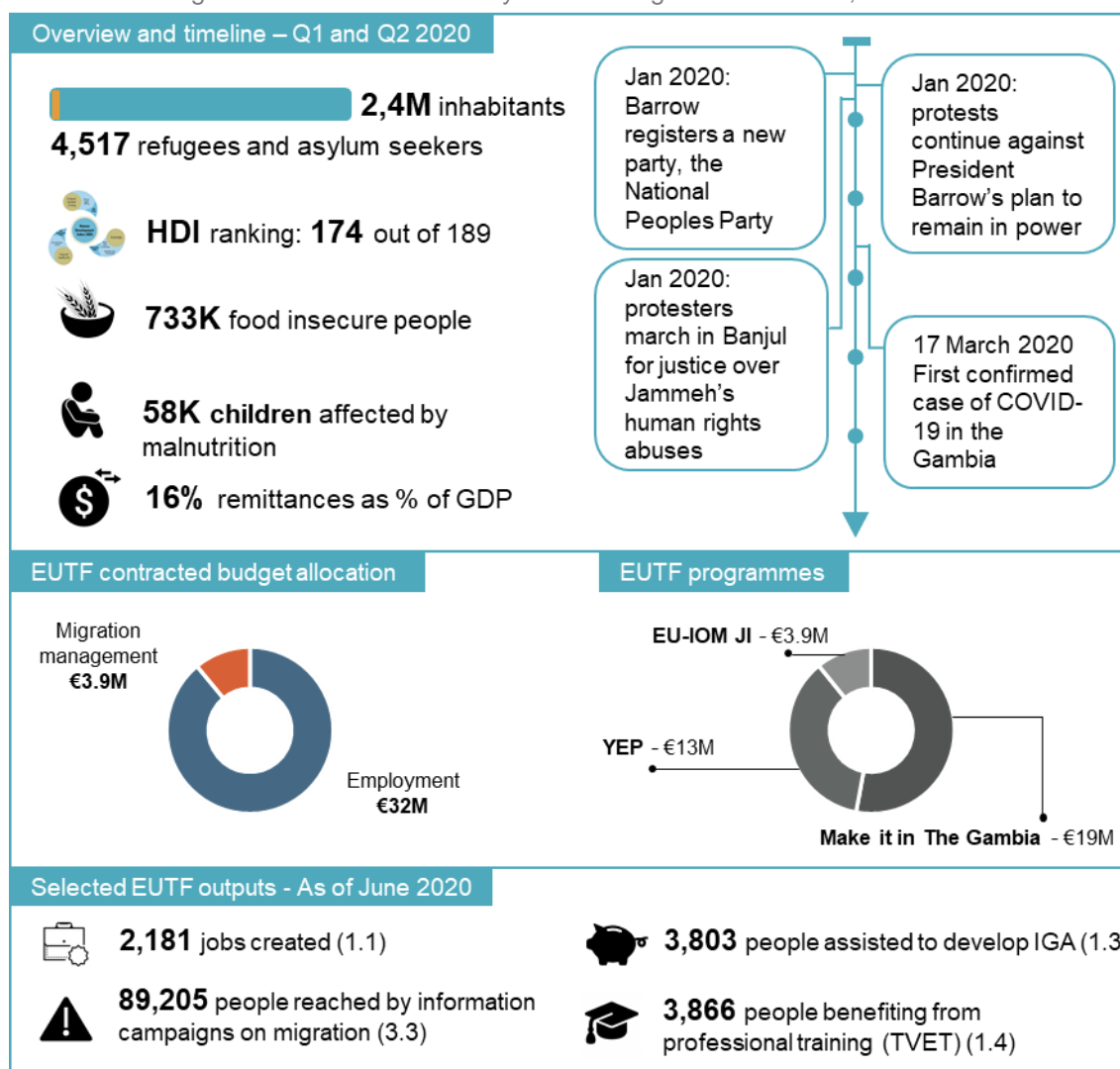
5.9.2. SENEGAL AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 13: EUTF common output indicators for Senegal, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	568	3,447	3,702	7,716
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	1,688	1,143	1,607	4,438
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	6,207	7,405	1,135	14,747
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	9,757	7,177	887	17,821
2.1 Number of local development plans directly supported	5	16	7	28
2.1 bis Number of social infrastructure built or rehabilitated	9	67	0	76
2.2 Number of basic social services delivered	5,378	2,781	0	8,159
2.3 Number of people receiving nutrition assistance	67,575	327,702	58,856	454,133
2.4 Number of people receiving food security-related assistance	23,289	20,919	13,941	58,149
2.5 Number of insitutions that adopt local disaster risk reduction strategies	0	40	0	40
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	23	658	472	1,153
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	42,939	104,275	44,756	191,970
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	194	1,997	25	2,216
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	2,400	10,737	1,829	14,966
3.1 Number of projects and initiatives supported by diaspora members	19	36	9	64
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	103,918	506,419	88,851	699,188
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	0	12	6	18
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	3,683	936	314	4,933
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	843	776	267	1,886
3.6 Number of institutions strengthened on migration management	0	8	0	8
3.7 Number of individuals trained on migration management	0	147	0	147
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	0	36	39	75
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	221	73	257	551
4.1 bis Number of equipment provided to strengthen governance	0	0	340	340
4.2 Number of staff trained on governance, conflict prevention and human rights	150	50	0	200
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	8	28	0	36
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	0	44	0	44
5.2 Number of planning, monitoring and/or learning tools set up...	8	9	0	17
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	14	5	0	19
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	25,005	25,005
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	252,506	252,506
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	561	561

5.10. THE GAMBIA

Figure 70: The Gambia – Key facts and figures dashboard, June 2020



5.10.1. THE GAMBIA AND THE EUTF IN S1 2020

During the first half of 2020, The Gambia was marred by political turmoil. In early January, incumbent President Adama Barrow registered a new party, the National Peoples Party, with himself as its leader, in a move that would allow him to compete in next year's presidential election.¹ Upon his election in January 2017, Barrow had sworn to only lead a transitional government for three years, despite the five-year presidential term he was due.² Thousands of protestors took to the streets demanding that he honour his pledge and step down, to no avail.³ Moreover, in January, social unrest mounted, with protests to demand justice for former dictator Yahya Jammeh's human rights abuses⁴ and a call from the Gambia Center for Victims of Human Rights Violations group for a ban on his former party, the Alliance for Patriotic Reorientation and Construction Party.⁵ Amid the political turmoil and the fading promises of improved economic growth and stability, the country also faced inescapable poverty and

¹ Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), 'President Barrow's Broken Promise Threatens Gambia's Post-Jammeh Future', 15 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² The Africa Report, 'Gambia's President Barrow chooses mandate over constituents', 29 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ CGTN, 'Gambia president forms new political party', 1 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ RFI, 'Gambians march for justice over Jammeh's human rights abuses', 26 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁵ AA, 'Gambian rights group calls for ban on ex-leader's party', 21 January 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

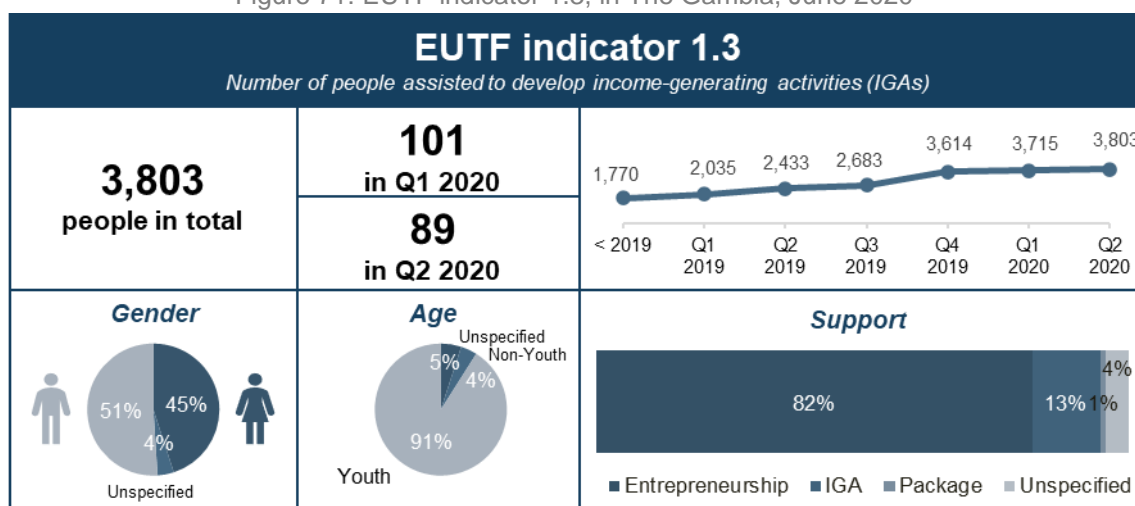
rising food insecurity and malnutrition.¹ In The Gambia, as of June 2020, 733,000 people were food insecure and malnutrition affected 58,177 children.²

Supporting Gambian youths through IGAs and MSMEs

The Gambian economic fundamentals at the end of 2019 were showing a positive outlook, with a real GDP growth estimated to have reached 6% in 2019.³ However, the country’s economy, given its very low diversification, was inherently very vulnerable to external shocks. Such a shock materialised with the COVID-19 outbreak which dramatically impacted two out of the country’s three main sources of revenues: tourism (20% of the GDP)⁴ and remittances (16% of the GDP)⁵.

EUTF-funded programmes in The Gambia focus mostly on economic support and livelihoods. During the first half of the year, they particularly supported IGAs and MSMEs. Overall, 3,803 people have been assisted to develop income-generating activities (indicator 1.3) in the country by EUTF-funded programmes, of these, 189 in the first half of 2020. 171 youths benefitted from entrepreneurship and business development activities by the Youth Empowerment Programme (YEP GM-01) while the remaining (18) were reached by the Make it in The Gambia (MIITG GM-03) programme. The YEP has been deploying a market-driven approach to IGA where self-employment opportunities for youths are selected based on market demand.

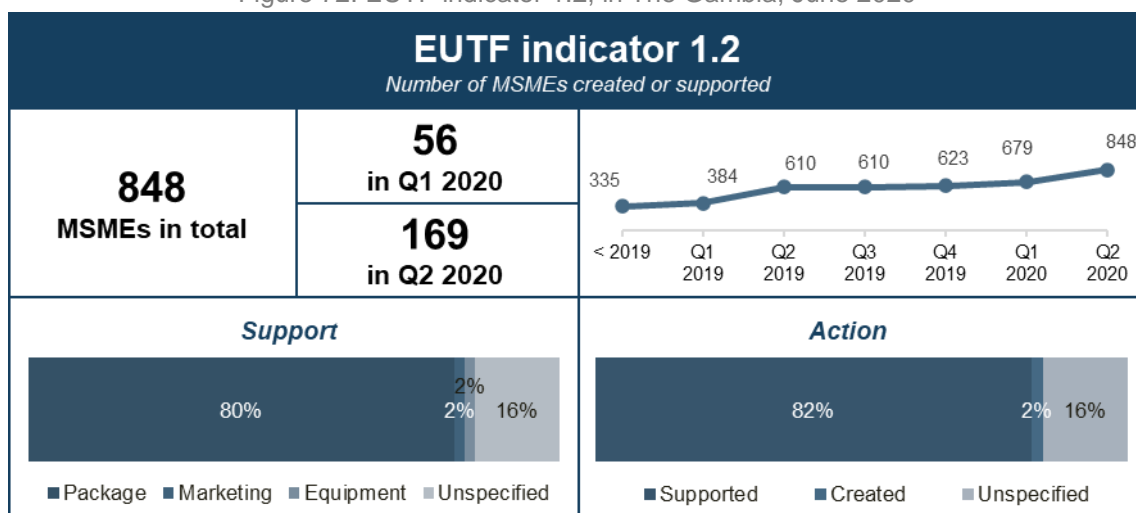
Figure 71: EUTF indicator 1.3, in The Gambia, June 2020



EUTF-funded programmes have also supported a total of 848 MSMEs (indicator 1.2), including 225 during the first half of 2020. Of these, two thirds (145) were supported by MIITG and a third (80) by YEP, which provided technical assistance and capacity-building to enhance productivity and quality in the food processing, tourism, and other selected industries. YEP also intends to help diversify the country’s economy by supporting untapped sectors, such as the creative and digital services sectors. It has been improving MSMEs’ production processes, increasing their value added and their ability to respond to market demand and requirements by applying best management practices and supporting technology exchanges with industry leaders.

¹ WFP The Gambia, ‘Country Brief’, June 2020. Retrieved [here](#).
² Ibid.
³ IMF, The Gambia, ‘Country profile’, December 2019, Retrieved [here](#)
⁴ UNDP, ‘COVID-19 Socio-economic Impact in Africa’, April 2020. Retrieved [here](#)
⁵ WB, ‘Remittance Flows’, October 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

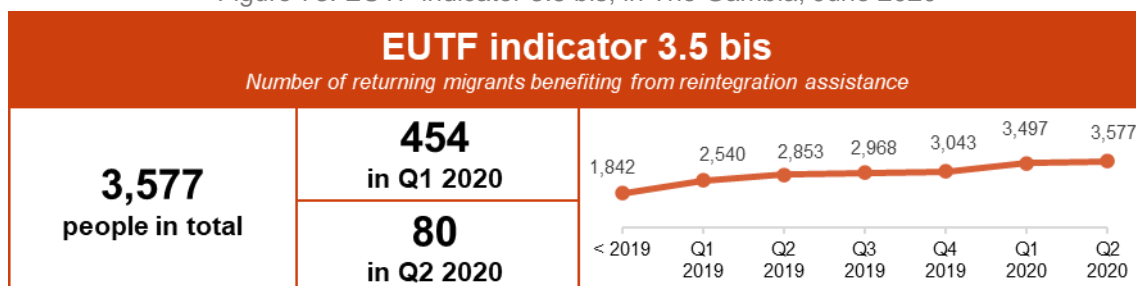
Figure 72: EUTF indicator 1.2, in The Gambia, June 2020



Providing reintegration assistance to Gambian Returnees

During the peak of the 2015 European migration crisis, The Gambia was one of the West African countries that accounted for the strongest increase in arrivals in Europe. In 2016, out of the approximately 181,000 migrants arriving irregularly on the Italian shores, 7% were Gambians, ranking amongst the top nationalities.¹ In fact, in recent years, Gambians have emigrated at a higher per capita rate than other African nations.² Since March 2017 the EU-IOM Joint Initiative (GM-02) has been addressing irregular migration from The Gambia by promoting strengthened migration governance, improved migrants’ protection and the sustainable reintegration of returnees.

Figure 73: EUTF indicator 3.5 bis, in The Gambia, June 2020



By the end of June 2020, 3,577 migrants from The Gambia have been provided with reintegration assistance (indicator 3.5 bis), including 534 individuals supported during the first half of 2020 – an 18% increase compared to the figures reported at the end of 2019. Overall, The EU-IOM JI supported 3,457 returning migrants in the country while YEP (GM-01) supported the other 120. During the first half of 2020, in response to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, as part of their reintegration assistance under the EU-IOM JI, 20 migrant returnees helped produce protective suits and shoe coverings.³ Indeed, the EU-IOM JI has mainstreamed COVID-related activities into existing operations in order to address the shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) in the country. The returnees, most of whom were stranded in Libya and Niger, were previously trained in tailoring, and received sewing equipment. Another group of returnees with tailoring skills was referred to the YEP programme, which partook in a similar scheme producing reusable face masks.⁴

¹ IOM, 'Migration in The Gambia – A Country Profile', 2017. Retrieved [here](#)

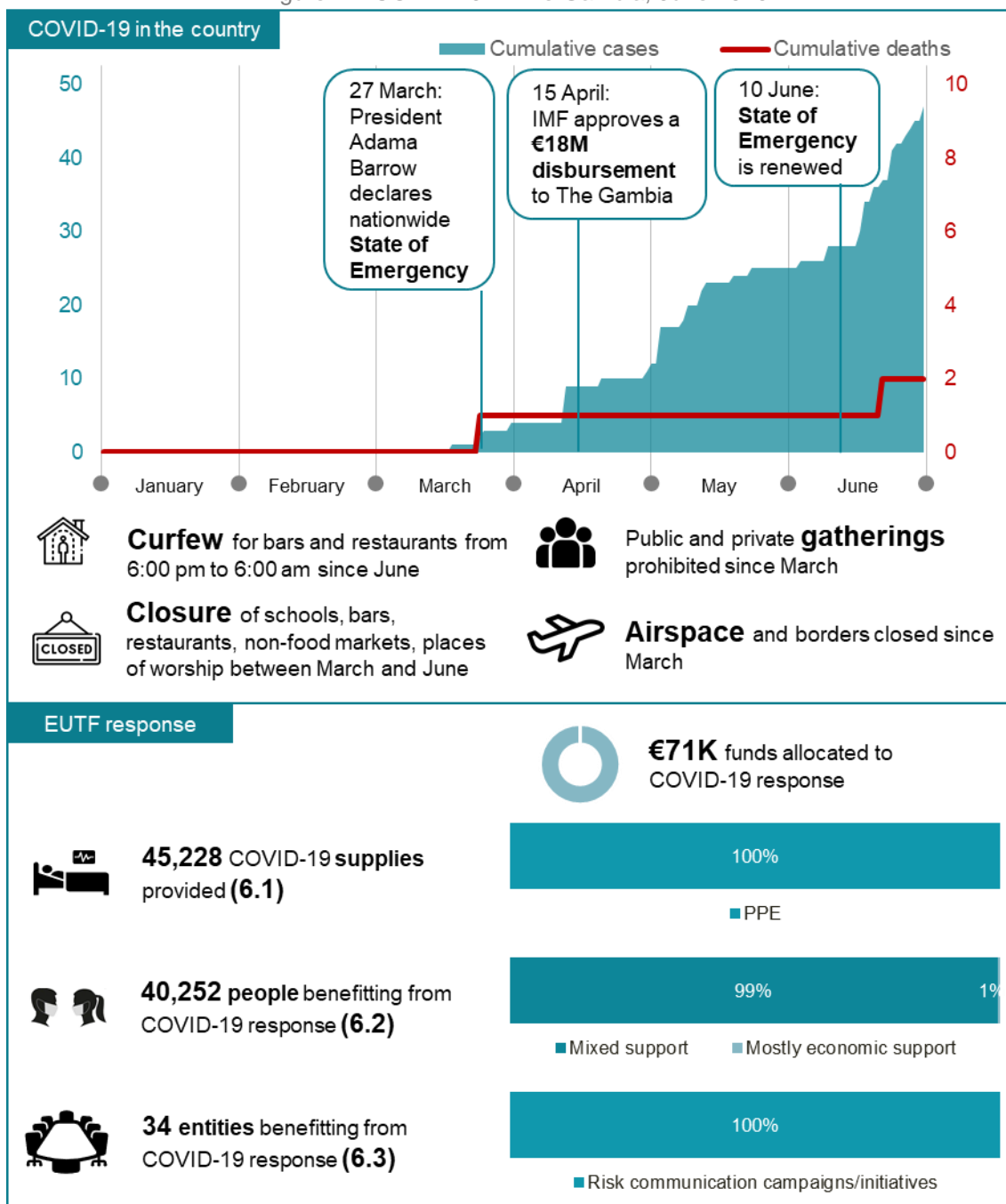
² UNFPA. 2018. Retrieved on [IOM website](#).

³ EUTF, 'Gambian returnees produce protective equipment for COVID-19 frontline border officials'. 6 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

⁴ Ibid.

COVID-19 pandemic in The Gambia

Figure 74: COVID-19 in The Gambia, June 2020



The first case of COVID-19 case was recorded in The Gambia on 17 March. On the same day, the government ordered all universities to close and all gatherings to cease.¹ Two days later, president Barrow started restricting the airspace to a number of European countries, until 23 March when he completely closed it.² By the end of March, on the 27, the state of emergency was officially declared.³ In April, the IMF Executive Board approved an €18M disbursement to The Gambia to address the urgent balance of payments need of the country, as the COVID-19 pandemic was projected to dramatically

¹ CGTN, 'The Gambia announces first case of COVID-19', 18 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#)

² AA, 'COVID-19: Gambia, Senegal to close border for 21 days', 23 March 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

³ Ministry of Health. Retrieved [here](#).

lower its economic growth.¹ In June the state of emergency was renewed for the third time and borders remained closed.²

In The Gambia, both YEP (GM-01) and MITG (GM-03) allocated funds to COVID-19 response activities. During the first two quarters of 2020, the total amount spent on these activities has been of almost €71,000. Overall, 45,228 pandemic related PPE supplies and one 3D printing machine were distributed (indicator 6.1). 40,252 people benefitted from COVID-19 response (indicator 6.2). 34 MSMEs were supported to mitigate COVID-19 related risks and impact through risk communication campaigns and initiatives (indicator 6.3). Finally, 95,000 people were reached by awareness raising campaigns on COVID-19 at the community level and through radio programmes. Moreover, since the beginning of the pandemic in the country, EUTF-funded programmes have used their reach on social media to further widen the spread of information on COVID-19 preventive measures. For instance, in April, the YEP programme launched a poetry challenge to raise COVID-19 awareness.³ Thanks to the 3D printing machine provided by the programme, one of the supported MSMEs has started producing and testing 3D printed protective gear in partnership with a local research centre (MRC unit The Gambia at LSHTM⁴).⁵ Also, three training centres supported by YEP, where youth acquire tailoring skills, have been helping a group of young fashion entrepreneurs and women groups in rural areas to reorient production towards handmade facemasks.⁶ As the COVID-19 health and socio-economic crisis has hit the country hard, these additional efforts will aim not only at containing the infection but also at building resilience in more rural areas.

5.10.2. THE GAMBIA AND THE EUTF COMMON OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 14: EUTF common output indicators for The Gambia, June 2020

EUTF Indicator	2016-2018	2019	S1 2020	Total
1.1 Number of direct jobs created or supported	370	1,681	90	2,141
1.2 Number of MSMEs created or supported	335	288	225	848
1.3 Number of people assisted to develop income-generating activities	1,770	1,844	189	3,803
1.4 Number of people benefitting from professional training (TVET)...	767	2,877	222	3,866
1.5 Number of industrial parks and/or business infrastructure constructed,...	0	5	3	8
2.6 Hectares of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable...	0	21	1	22
2.7 Number of people reached by sensitisation campaigns on resilience...	0	0	95,000	95,000
2.8 Number of staff from local authorities and basic service providers trained...	0	42	3	45
2.9 Number of people having access to improved basic services	0	688	440	1,128
3.3 Number of potential migrants, reached by information campaigns...	8,775	73,378	7,052	89,205
3.4 Number of voluntary returns supported	0	4	2	6
3.5 Number of returning migrants benefitting from post-arrival assistance	3,703	785	208	4,696
3.5 bis Number of returning migrants benefitting from reintegration assistance	1,842	1,201	534	3,577
3.10 Number of people benefitting from legal migration and mobility programmes	0	10	1	11
3.11 Number of awareness raising events on migration	65	208	202	475
4.6 Number of strategies, laws, policies and plans developed...	4	1	0	5
5.1 Number of multi-stakeholder groups and learning mechanisms formed...	4	4	3	11
5.3 Number of field studies, surveys and other research conducted	0	1	0	1
6.1 Number of pandemic-related supplies provided	0	0	45,228	45,228
6.2 Number of people directly benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	40,252	40,252
6.3 Number of entities benefitting from COVID-19 activities	0	0	34	34

¹ IMF, 'Executive Board Approves a US\$21.3 Million Disbursement to The Gambia to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic', 15 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

² Ibid.

³ EUTF, 'The Youth Empowerment Project launches a poetry challenge to spread information on COVID-19', 14 April 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁴ Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

⁵ EUTF, 'Innovative protection: from cotton facemask to 3D-printed face shields', 27 May 2020. Retrieved [here](#).

⁶ Ibid.

5.11. REGIONAL PROJECTS NEWLY INCLUDED IN THE MLS

Throughout this report, results are shown depending on the implementation country of the programme. Thus, results achieved by regional programmes in one of the ten countries presented above are shown in the corresponding country. Some regional programmes are implementing activities in EUTF countries that have not been included yet in the MLS (Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) or in other eligible countries of the region (Benin, Guinea-Bissau and Togo). Finally, some results achieved by regional programmes are at the regional level. Such results are presented in the overview of results (section 4.2). Three regional projects have been newly included to the MLS and are presented here.

Figure 75: IPDEV2 (programme and project, REG-11)

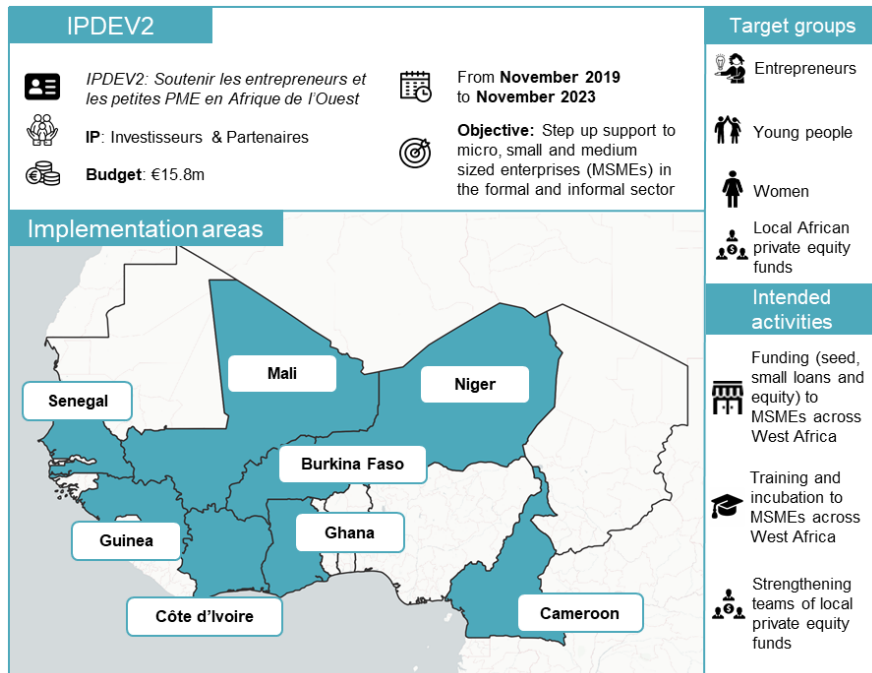


Figure 76: TEH Golfe de Guinée (programme and project, REG-12)

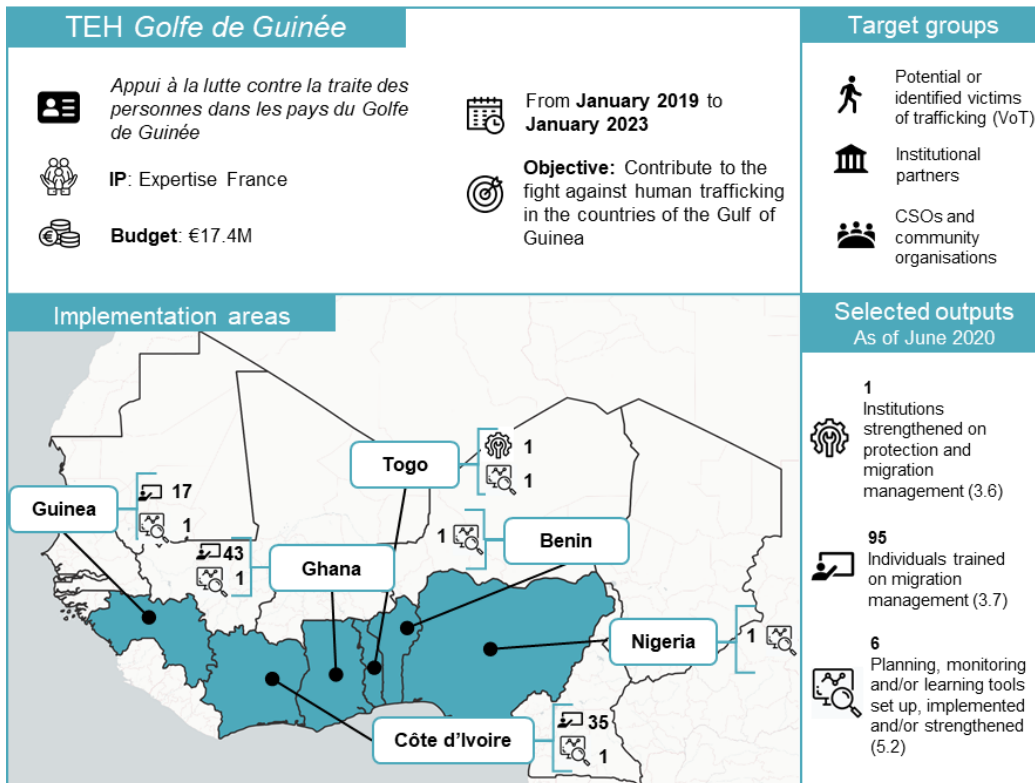
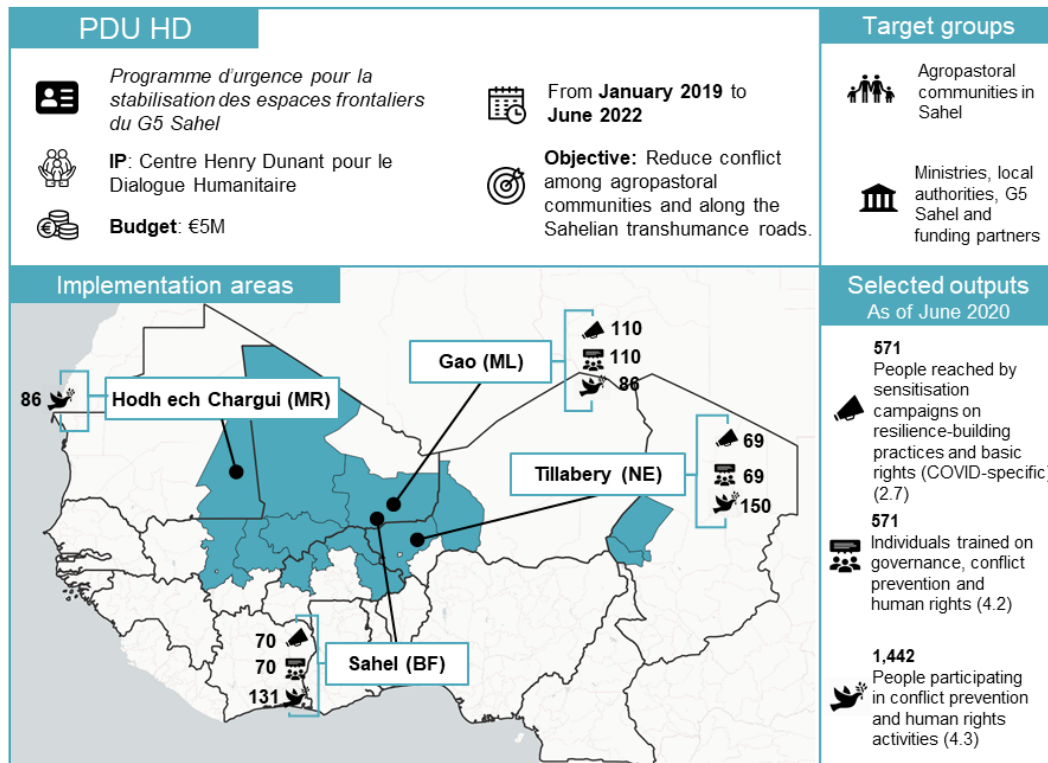


Figure 77: PDU HD (project, REG-18-01)



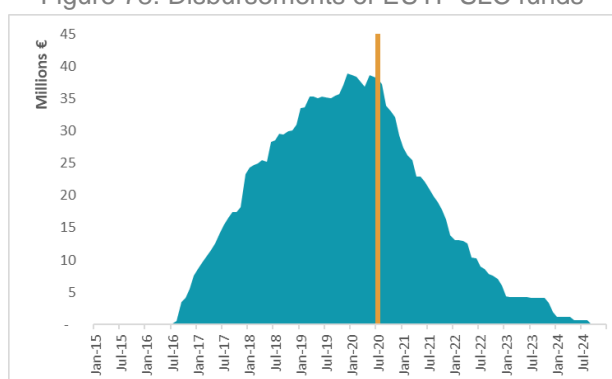
CONCLUSIONS

The severe crisis that has been affecting the Sahel and Lake Chad region for several years continued deteriorating the security and displacement population in the first half of 2020. In June 2020, the number of IDPs reached 1.7M in central Sahel, a 46% increase since December 2019, while it remained around 2.7 million in the Lake Chad Basin. Massive displacement, combined with climate change and endemic poverty, and the COVID-19 pandemic which broke out this semester, resulted in a rising number of people in need, reaching 23.6 million as of May 2020.

THE EUTF PORTFOLIO IN S1 2020

To better address these concerns, the EUTF SLC portfolio grew during the first part of 2020 by 8% in terms of number of projects and 12% in terms of funding, from 170 operational contracts and €1.61B at the end of 2019 to 183 contracts and €1.80B in October 2020. The fund reached its peak of disbursement during the first half of 2020, but a significant amount of programming remains.

Figure 78: Disbursements of EUTF SLC funds¹

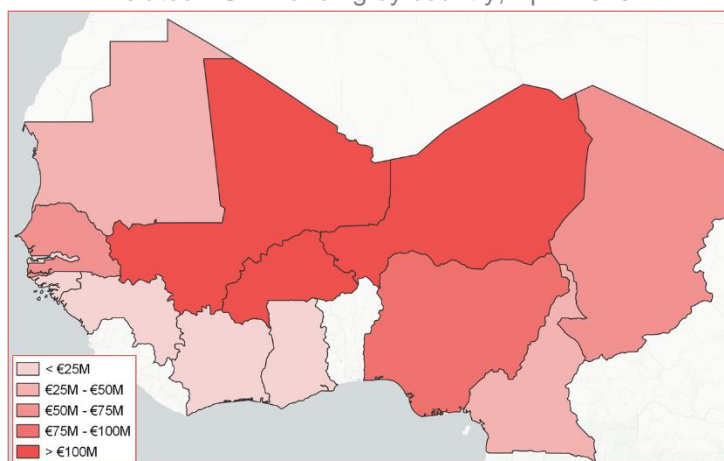


New projects were contracted to cover all strategic objectives. For example, five additional projects were contracted for the emergency stabilisation programme of the G5 countries' border areas (two as part of SO4, three contributing to SO2); and two additional contracts were signed for the program assisting the national identification system in Senegal (contributing to SO4).

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the EUTF decided to specifically support UNDP's One UN Response Plan to COVID-19 in Nigeria (€50M).

As part of the Lessons learned exercise described below, the MLS attempted to assess what percentage of the overall budget was dedicated to migration, mobility and forced displacement. It found that 48% of EUTF funding for the Sahel and Lake Chad window is currently dedicated to migration, mobility and forced displacement (or 'Extended SO3'). Forced displacement and migration-related funding is largest in Niger (€189M), Mali (€132M), and Burkina Faso (€120M). A significant contributor to these activities is the regional EU-IOM Joint Initiative programme, which provides assistance to migrants through assisted voluntary return and reintegration.

Figure 79: Forced displacement, migration and mobility-related EUTF funding by country, April 2020



To mitigate the impact of the pandemic on SLC countries, the EUTF also reacted by reorienting some of its funding towards the COVID-19 response. In total, 38 projects redirected funds, accounting for

¹ Estimates based on known contracts' budget, start and end dates. Only contracted and operational projects are included.

€65M, towards a COVID-19 response; 31 projects had implemented COVID-related activities, accounting for €52M, as of 30 June 2020.

S1 2020 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In terms of outputs, results under all Strategic Objectives managed to maintain some momentum in 2020.

- **Economy and employment:** To address high unemployment rates and fragile economies, the EUTF supported the creation of 13,045 jobs in the first half of 2020 (indicator 1.1). In addition, 23,425 people benefitted from assistance to income-generating activities (indicator 1.3) and 12,547 from professional training (TVET) and/or skills development. 4,172 MSMEs were created or supported.
- **Resilience:** To improve Sahelian populations' resilience to climate shocks and conflict, EUTF-funded projects supplied 384,446 people with food security-related assistance (indicator 2.4) and 149,128 with nutrition assistance (indicator 2.3) in the first half of 2020. In addition, 10,289 hectares of land benefitted from improved agricultural management (indicator 2.6). The EUTF supported the delivery of 96,804 basic social services (indicator 2.2) and built or rehabilitated 529 basic services infrastructures (indicator 2.1 bis), thus improving access to basic services for 288,372 people. (indicator 2.9).
- **Migration:** The Trust Fund assisted 12,015 voluntary returns and humanitarian repatriations (indicator 3.4), supported 6,058 returnees with post-arrival assistance (indicator 3.5) and 5,098 with reintegration assistance (indicator 3.5 bis) in the first half of 2020. EUTF-funded projects also provided assistance or protection to 1,013 migrants in transit, children in mobility, IDPs and refugees (indicator 3.2). To improve migration management in countries of origin, transit and destination, the Trust Fund provided capacity building or operational support to 54 institutions and non-state actors (indicator 3.6).
- **Security and stability:** To buttress governance and policymaking efforts in the region, the EUTF supported the drafting of 108 laws, plans and policy documents (indicator 4.6) in S1 2020. Concerning conflict prevention and peacebuilding, 127,375 individuals participated in peacebuilding activities centred around social cohesion, conflict resolution and management (indicator 4.3). EUTF-funded projects also delivered conflict prevention- and security-related training to 4,993 staff and members of key actors involved in social cohesion and peace dynamics (indicator 4.2).
- **COVID-19 response:** To mitigate the impact of the pandemic on SLC countries, 933,177 COVID-19 supplies were provided (indicator 6.1); 571,770 individual beneficiaries and 696 institutions benefitted from specific COVID-19 response activities (indicators 6.2 and 6.3).

THE MLS

This report is the outcome of the sixth round of data collection conducted by the MLS team for the EUTF's Sahel and Lake Chad window. Since the publication of the last report, the EUTF common output indicators have been revised to better capture and harmonise the portfolio's outputs. Changes included removing some of the original EUTF indicators, creating several new ones and expanding some of the definitions and disaggregation categories. To make time for this process, the MLS team did not produce a Q1 2020 report, and instead focused on revising data and communicating with the IPs about the methodological changes. For this reason, this report serves as a joint Q1 and Q2 2020 report, focusing on the outputs achieved by EUTF-funded projects in the first two quarters of 2020. The format of this report largely follows the Q4 2019 annual report, which adopted a more narrative approach, linking project outputs to contextual data.

The data collection for the S1 2020 report lasted from early July to mid-September. During this time, the MLS team initiated a revision process of all outputs reported to the MLS, and adapted data tracking

tools in cooperation with IPs to reflect the new methodological notes for each EUTF indicator. After the changes to the reporting templates had been agreed upon with each IP, partners were asked to provide two sets of data for Q1 and Q2 2020. In addition to this, budget information and data on COVID-19 response activities was also collected from IPs. While this was likely the most demanding data collection phase for both IPs and the MLS team, this process allowed for a large-scale revision and review of the entire MLS dataset. Furthermore, with clear definitions and disaggregation categories now in place, it is expected that the reporting process will return to a smoother roll-out by the next reporting period.

This report includes data for 143 projects, a number that has been gradually increasing from 71 projects in the first report for 2018, to 93 in Q1 2019 and 129 in Q4 2019.

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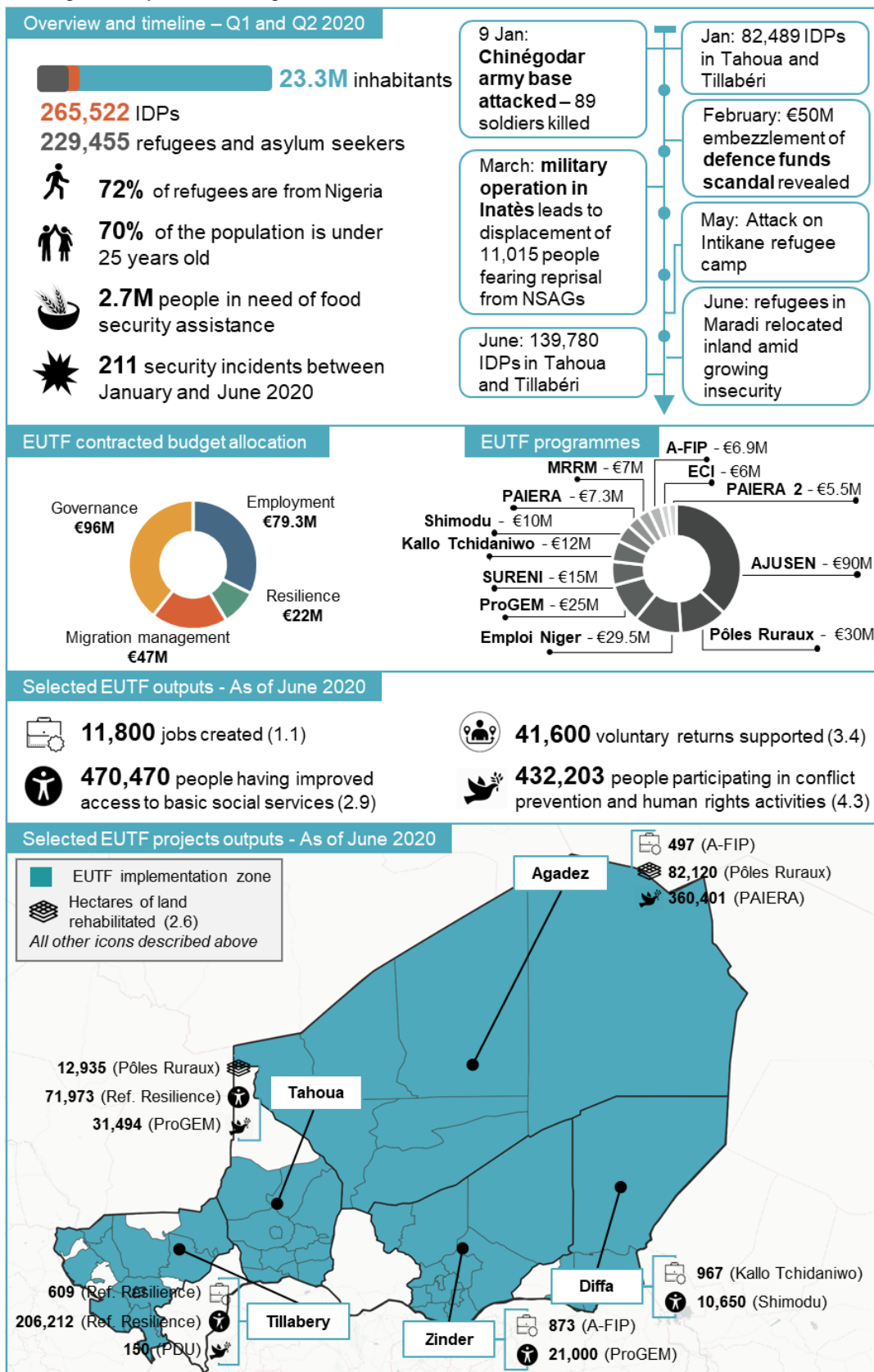
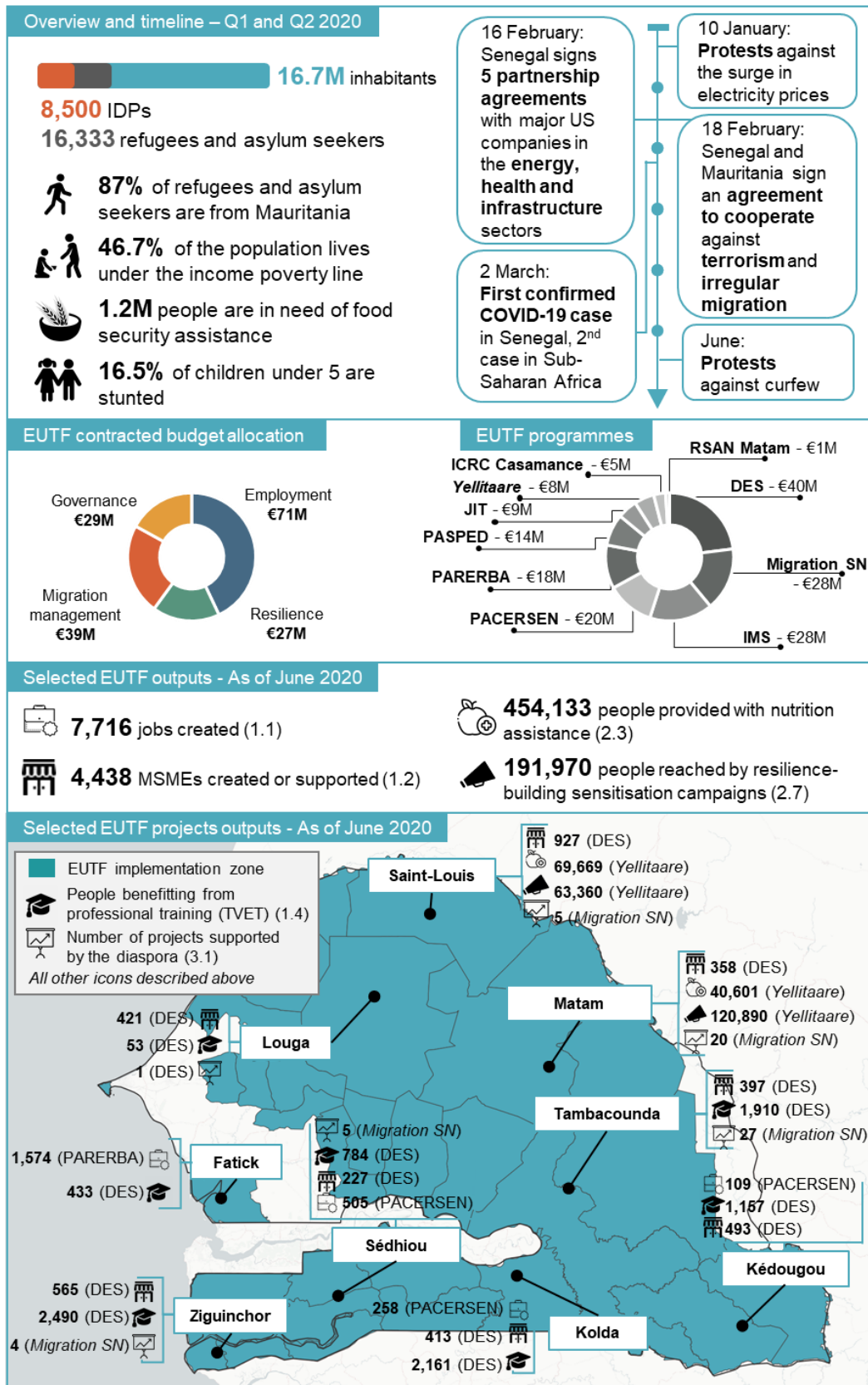


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