THEORY OF CHANGE - SRF - 2025

Overall objective: The basic needs of the most vulnerable populations in crisis areas in the Sahel (particularly SA, health, NUT, PROT, WASH) are better met through a humanitarian response based on humanitarian principles, high quality and with a focus on value for money (VFM).

Axe 1 : Quality fundings

IMPACT
A better quality, more effective humanitarian response that complies with humanitarian principles and improves the coverage of basic needs in crisis areas in the Sahel.

RESULT
Vulnerable populations affected by conflict and displacement receive increased assistance and protection, covering both underserved and hard-to-reach rural areas and urban and peri urban areas in crisis.

THEREFORE
NGOs strengthen their financial stability and programming capacity, and are able to design and implement more relevant, coherent and inclusive interventions.

IF

The SRF provides high-quality humanitarian funding that is multi-year, predictable, flexible, and large-scale.,

It ensures that projects meet high standards, are needs-driven, people-centered, locally grounded, and focused on hard-to-reach areas

Axe 2 : Localisation

IMPACT
The role of NNGOs/LNGOs is strengthened within the humanitarian system; they gain recognition and space, contributing to a more inclusive, tailored, and sustainable response to crises in the Sahel.

RESULT
Vulnerable populations, including displaced people and those in hard-to-reach areas, receive locally delivered assistance that is adequate, standards-compliant, high-quality, and offers clear value for money.

THEREFORE
NNGOs/LNGOs are able to deliver humanitarian assistance that is better aligned with standards, of high quality, coordinated with other actors, demonstrates clear value for money, and reaches hard-to-access areas.

IF

The SRF deploys tailored funding channels in an equitable partnership framework.

and provides NNGOs/LNGOs with effective, customized support to strengthen their institutional and operational capacities.

Axe 3 : Regional Catalytic window

IMPACT
NGOs build collective influence and help shape a more inclusive, effective, and principled regional humanitarian system.

RESULT
Within regional coordination, they are able to develop stronger, more coherent, and credible advocacy based on shared evidence.

THEREFORE
NGOs access data, analysis, and tools to strengthen their practices and enhance intervention quality.

IF

The SRF captures and disseminates lessons from its initiatives — especially on quality funding, quality standards, and localization.

And by investing in synergies between national and regional coordination, as well as in innovation and strategic and operational research.

Axe 4 : Contribution to humanitarian reform

IMPACT
The SRF contributes to reforming the humanitarian system in the Sahel and beyond, showcasing the relevance of a regional NGO fund as an innovative, inclusive, and sustainable mechanism

RESULT
This experience contributes, within the framework of the Humanitarian Reset, to the recognition and legitimacy of NGO-led pooled funds as instruments for the future of humanitarian action.

THEREFORE
It stands as a credible example of a pooled fund led by and for NGOs, enhancing both the effectiveness and inclusiveness of humanitarian response.

IF

The SRF is established, managed, and strengthened while proving its capacity to deliver quality, value-for-money humanitarian aid in the Sahel's crisis hotspots.

SRF
SAHEL REGIONAL FUND