

# 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.