

Support for cross-border cooperation in the Sahel - ACTS project

Helping Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso to preserve their sovereignty through better border management in terms of security and local development

1. What is ACTS?

Who?

ACTS is a Priority Solidarity Fund (FSP) project financed by France

What?

Its aim is to help African States find solutions to manage their border areas

How?

- Encourage involvement from international organizations and donors in audits and studies prior to identifying projects
- Help to carry out coordinated projects in sovereign fields (police, defence, customs, justice) and in local development (education, health, water, agriculture)
- Based on feedback, gradually roll out these mechanisms in other border areas of the Sahel G5 (Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and Chad)

2. What are the objectives?

- **At local level:** encourage field initiatives for populations by involving local communities in cross-border cooperation projects under the security-development theme
- **At regional level:** allow the States concerned to draw up their own governance doctrines to preserve their sovereignty and stability

[ON THE MAP:]

Mali

Niger

Burkina

Bamako

Ouagadougou

Niamey

Timbuktu

Kidal

Gao

Dori

Tillabéri

Liptako-Gourma region
ACTS initial pilot area

3. What fields are covered?

Fighting terrorism and organized crime

- Internal security
- Justice
- Customs
- Defence

Development

- Encourage border populations to join their States' démarche and to fight crime

4. Project implementation

France's contribution to the region (security, development, governance), excluding military operations, was €752m for the 2012-2013 period.

44 French staff involved

Close coordination with the French military personnel working to stabilize the region

Permanently seeking partnerships and complementarity with other technical and financial partners

Integration into UN and European Union strategies