Climate Security and Peacebuilding Thematic Review - Highlights
April 2023

Between 2017-2021, PBF invested nearly $100 million towards climate, peace and security efforts through 43 projects across 22 countries.

There was a 400% increase in the approval of climate security and environmental peacebuilding projects between 2016-2021.

Climate, peace and security demand continues to grow in West Africa and the Sahel, and PBF’s portfolio is becoming more geographically diverse across continents.

To date, PBF supported climate-security programming of 21 different entities (16 UN agencies, 5 CSOs):

Cross-border and regional approaches:
Transnational nature of climate-security threats = cross-border/ regional approaches. PBF has been a leading actor in supporting such interventions. More cross-border political engagement is needed to sustain such efforts.

Gender-climate-security nexus:
Natural resource management or localized climate adaption are often used as an entry point to promote greater inclusion of women and youth in local governance and decision-making processes. More learning is needed to deepen this nexus and long-term impact on social norms.

Risk-tolerant approach:
Risk-tolerant approach: PBF invests in contexts that other donors may find risky. 9/10 countries that received the most PBF climate-security and environmental peacebuilding funding were among the most vulnerable to climate change, and 6/10 were among the most fragile states.

Co-benefits of climate, peace and security:
Climate-security and environmental peacebuilding programming offer novel entry points to address trenchant social issues like women’s exclusion or elite capture in local communities.

1. Additional 10 projects related to climate, peace, and security were approved in 2022, comprising an additional $33 million in funding. These were not included in the scope of this Review.
2. Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, and Sudan are the 10 countries that received the most PBF climate-security and environmental peacebuilding funding. Of those, all but the Solomon Islands were ranked among the most vulnerable to climate change, according to the ND GAIN Index.
3. Chad, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Sudan were ranked among the most fragile states, according to the Fragile States Index.