

We affirm; resolved: Development assistance should be prioritized over military aid in the Sahel region of Africa.

**Contention One:** Existing developmental problems are left unaddressed.

**Sub-point A:** Resource inadequacy.

### The IAEA elaborates on the issue

Persistent droughts in the Sahel region have led to a humanitarian crisis. **Around 1.5 million children are facing severe malnutrition and risk death from starvation or disease.** Most available fresh water in region is located in underground aquifers but the information on these resources is still inadequate. The lack of this information greatly affects sound decision making regarding sustainable development and management of this scarce resource. **A collaborative approach to dealing with water management is essential**, both between the participating countries and the participating partner organizations.

This magnifies instability in the Sahel.

**Francesco Femia, a founding director of the Center for Climate and Security, [explains,]** agrees with Werrell that there isn't a straightforward cause-effect relationship here. "But **when a government has a great deal of difficulty providing basic resources for its public,**" he says, **"and when climate-exacerbated droughts make that situation worse, then the staying power** of non-state actors"—such as al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb—**and sympathy for non-state actors can rise."**

Left unaddressed, climate change will increase instability in the region. **The Center for Naval Analyses impacts**

**Climate change acts as a threat multiplier for instability** in some of the most volatile regions of the world. Projected climate change **[and] will seriously exacerbate already marginal living standards** in many Asian, African, and Middle Eastern nations, **causing widespread political instability and the likelihood of failed states.** Unlike most conventional security threats that involve a single entity acting in specific ways and points in time, **climate change has the potential to result in multiple chronic conditions**, occurring globally within the same time frame. Economic and environmental [these] conditions in already fragile areas will further erode as food production declines, diseases increase, clean water becomes increasingly scarce, and large populations move in search of resources. Weakened and failing governments, with an already thin margin for survival, **[and] foster the conditions for internal conflicts, extremism, and movement toward increased authoritarianism and radical ideologies.**

**Next, development assistance works to resolve this issue by providing water, agriculture and health infrastructure.**

**The Africa-EU Partnership exemplifies water development efforts:**

Faced with encroaching desertification, the Sahel region is heavily affected by the realities of climate change. To mitigate its effects and combat poverty and pollution in a sustainable way, it is therefore vital to reap the benefits of the abundant source of energy that is the sun. **Three million people living in the [Sahel] region have gained access to drinking water thanks to** the EU funded installation of **solar-powered pumps.** In cooperation with the Permanent Interstate Committee on the Fight against Desertification in the Sahel (CILSS) and the partner countries Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Chad, Niger and Gambia, rural populations could be provided with drinking water supply systems. The 2010 food crisis has highlighted the urgent need for action in this region: according to UNICEF estimations, **300 000 children under 5 years die every year in the Sahel from malnutrition. The poor quality of water is aggravating the health condition of these populations.** The Regional Solar Programme has made an important contribution to relieving their condition. The installation of solar pumps on sealed boreholes allowed for the provision of water of better quality than the water fetched from large wells. As many as 1 000 solar installations and almost 400 solar systems have been built. **In addition to the benefits in terms of access to clean water, households, schools and hospitals could be equipped with electricity.** The economic benefits are tangible: **the project has strengthened the photovoltaic energy sector, creating 28 new industries and training almost 1 000 people.** In addition to relieving poverty, environmental targets are met through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions-

**CIDA reports** that agricultural assistance by the World Food Program alone has **Supported 1.3 million women and men in food-for-work and cash-for-work activities, such as soil rehabilitation and hedge reconstruction to protect agricultural land.**

#### **Sub-point B: Disease.**

Diseases are exacerbated by the lack of health infrastructure. **The World Health Organization explains**

According to data from the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS), as of 15 June 2012 the overall funding received for the five countries that have issued a consolidated Appeal (CAP) –Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, the Niger and Mali – amounts to 58% of the financial requirements. However, **the health sector has only received 19% of the funds needed.** In the case of WHO, **the low level of funding** of its appeals, only 8%, **is hampering its capacity to coordinate the health response, sustain progress made and collect and disseminate adequate health information to its partners. Additional funding is urgently needed to continue the implementation of the Regional Health Strategy for the Sahel.**

Fortunately, steps have been taken. **UNICEF reports**

Of particular concern during the Sahel crisis was the **[in] 2012** "lean season," the period just before the next harvest when food would be especially scarce.

UNICEF appealed for funding and rapidly prepared a comprehensive response plan that included therapeutic food, the prevention and treatment of malaria, immunization, and adequate sanitation. Swift donor response allowed **UNICEF and its partners** to jump into action and **increase[d] the number of nutrition centers by over 50%, provision[ed] them with supplies and equipment, and set up mobile clinics to service isolated areas.** In all, it was the most extensive intervention ever seen in the Sahel.

By year's end, **850,000 children** were projected to have **received treatment for severe acute malnutrition.** **Millions were immunized against life-threatening diseases, and 7.3 million families received insecticide-treated bed nets** to prevent malaria. **Steps were also taken to improve governments' abilities to monitor malnutrition and to make families more resilient in the face of similar shocks.**

#### **Sub-point C: Education.**

**The Africa Development Bank stresses**

Overall, our results suggest that **with respect to enhancing primary education outcomes,** aid has been more relevant for improved enrolment (education quantity) than for increased achievement (education quality). Based on the most recent OECD sectoral disbursement data and a regression specification comparable to the preferred specification in the growth model elaborated by Clemens et al. (2012), we find that **an increase of education aid** by 1 per cent **increases the growth rate of primary enrolment** by about 0.06 percentage points (or very roughly, a doubling of aid leads to an increase by 6 percentage points). This result is relatively modest, but non-negligible. When considering that donors have indeed tremendously increased their disbursements on aid in recent years, they can claim that a sizeable share of the progress towards universal primary education (and MDGs) is due to their financial support. Some caution is necessary, however, when interpreting these results because only since 2002 donor reporting of disbursements is reasonably comprehensive. Possibly related to this problem, the statistical significance of the effect of education aid is not robust to variations in the econometric specification, and notably in sample size.

This significantly contributes to crime. **Enrico Moretti impacts**

There are many theoretical reasons to expect that education reduces crime. **By raising earnings, education raises the opportunity cost of crime and the cost of time spent in prison.** Education may also make individuals less impatient or more risk averse, further reducing the propensity to commit crimes. To empirically explore the importance of the relationship between schooling and criminal participation, this paper uses three data sources: individual-level data from the Census on incarceration, state-level data on arrests from the Uniform Crime Reports, and self-report data on crime and incarceration from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. All three of these data sources produce similar conclusions: **schooling significantly reduces criminal activity.** This finding is robust to different identification strategies and measures of criminal activity. The estimated effect of schooling on imprisonment is consistent with its estimated effect on both arrests and self-reported crime. Both OLS and IV estimates produce

similar conclusions about the quantitative impact of schooling on incarceration and arrest. The estimated impacts on incarceration and self-reports are unchanged even when rich measures of individual ability and family background are controlled for using NLSY data. Finally, we draw similar conclusions using aggregated state-level UCR data as we do using individual-level data on incarceration and self-reported crime in the Census or NLSY.

**Contention Two:** Proactive measures must be taken now.

### **Oxfam International highlights**

**By investing now in earlier and more cost-effective actions, vulnerable populations can be better protected at a much lower cost than if action is delayed until the crisis hits.** Preventing malnutrition is far cheaper than treating it; keeping animal herds alive is many times less expensive than replacing them.

**Committing and disbursing the funding as early as possible is as important as the amount itself.** In the

2011 Horn of Africa crisis, for example, few funds were released until a full famine was declared, many months after the first warnings. Figure 1 shows how late funding was mobilised in relation to the first warnings, and how it was thus unable to halt the ever-rising rates of malnutrition that built up towards famine levels over many months.

Moreover, development assistance addresses a larger scale of the conflict. **The Center for the Study of Economic Policy explains**

**Because civil conflicts often have regional spillovers** – risk of contagion of conflicts, destabilisation of entire regions – **political stability and peace represent regional public goods** (Mendez 1999, Hamburg and Holl 1999, Arce and Sandler 2002). Thus **foreign aid, by dampening the negative externalities of civil wars for neighbouring countries** (hence preserving growth) **seems to indirectly contribute to regional political stability and the development of regional public goods.**

Because of the unpredictability of the situation, we must take action now. **UNICEF warrants**

In emergencies on this scale, the speed of responsiveness is key. **It is difficult to predict how the situation will evolve, as any factor** – rains, outbreaks of disease, insecurity – **can cause the threat to children to escalate overnight. To this end, unrestricted funding has proven invaluable, enabling us to react quickly and effectively to changing circumstances.** In addition to the immediate nutritional and health needs, at times of crisis children's education can be disrupted or they may become separated from their families, which exposes them to greater risk. And so the crisis extends beyond food security: child protection must be addressed as an integral part of humanitarian response.