

CASE STUDY -- NIGER

Niger is among the 20 countries participating to the global project: “Capacity Development for Policy Makers to Address Climate Change”. The 2 sectors selected at National Level to better understand the magnitude of funds needed to tackle climate change now and in the long term, are Agriculture/Livestock for adaptation aspects, and Forestry for mitigation options. The national team has successfully completed all project activities and is now streamlining the results into their policy processes.

The **initial National Inter-Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Change**, held on 19-20 November 2009 in Niamey, engendered high-level participation and media coverage. Around 50 participants attended from a broad range of Ministries, NGOs, academia and embassies. Climate change governance and coordinated long-term planning to address climate change were discussed during the Dialogue, along with the linkages between the UNFCCC negotiations and national processes. Among the main recommendations from the Dialogue agreed were the need for:

- Integrate climate change within national strategies, in particular the Priority Action Plan of the Strategy for Accelerated Development and Poverty Reduction for 2008-2012 through sectoral strategies in this area;
- Strengthen the capacities of national research institutions and centres of excellence in the area of climate change in order to support the implementation of strategies; Strengthen cooperation between countries in the sub-region with a view to putting into place adaptation & mitigation strategies;
- Revitalizing the Commission on climate variability and climate change by allocating substantial financial resources enabling it to meet regularly and to participate efficiently in international and regional meetings on climate change to ensure enhanced representation and participation of Niger in negotiations;
- A variety of forestry and Agriculture/Livestock measures, based upon presentations made by national experts on these key sectors (see below).

The government selected the **key sectors of forestry from a mitigation perspective, and agriculture/livestock from an adaptation perspective**, for the investment & financial flows (I&FF) assessment. National experts prepared issues papers that described the importance of the sectors and anticipated challenges to implementing the I&FF assessments:

- **Forestry:** The forestry sector contributes to 17% of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Forest resources are of strategic importance for the people who rely on them to satisfy their basic needs. Inadequate management of forests is an important issue for Niger.
- **Agriculture/Livestock:** The agriculture/livestock sector is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Niger’s economy is largely rural; the primary sector employs about 85% of the national workforce and accounted for 44% of GDP in 2008.

The **national I&FF assessment** seeks to answer the question: *“From a developmental perspective, what needs to be done to adapt to or mitigate climate change in the selected key sectors, and what policy framework, investment environment and financial architecture will be required to achieve that purpose?”* A national institution undertook the assessment, reporting to an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change. Technical backstopping was provided to the national team by PASS, a regional centre of excellence located in Tanzania, three regional experts with backgrounds in climate change economics and forestry, and UNDP.

To prepare the national team for conducting the I&FF assessment a training was held 6-8 July 2009 in Niamey, to familiarize the 20 participants with the I&FF methodology. The training was attended by senior practitioners in the fields of the key sectors, climate change and finance.

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I&FF assessment results

- **Forestry:** The team of national experts has determined that US\$ 2.17 billion is needed to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in the forestry sector through priority actions of reforestation (US\$ 266 million) and the substitution of fuelwood as an energy source (US\$ 1.9 billion): Five measures have been proposed to increase carbon sequestration through restoring degraded land, afforestation and reforestation:
 - Natural regeneration (US\$ 3.5 million)
 - Forest management (US\$ 20.1 million)
 - Reforestation (US\$ 76.5 million)
 - Plantations (US\$ 70.8 million)
 - Dune fixation (US\$ 95.4 million).Measures to substitute fuelwood with other energy sources include:
 - Photovoltaic (US\$ 1493.4 million)
 - Solar thermal (US\$ 171.1 million)
 - Energy conservation (US\$ 238.3 million).
- **Agriculture/Livestock:** US\$ 374 million is needed to adapt to the effects of climate change in the agriculture/livestock sector through implementation of four main measures:
 - Improving rainfed crop production (US\$ 120 million)
 - Promotion of irrigated crops (US\$ 181.1 million)
 - Improving the production of extensive livestock (US\$ 51.6 million)
 - Promotion of intensive farming (US\$ 21.1 million).

The results of the I&FF assessment were presented at the concluding **National Inter-Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Change**, held on 22-23 September 2010 in Niamey. Around 90 participants attended the Dialogue, ranging from key Ministries and international organizations active in Niger to NGOs and international banks. The Dialogue also included panel discussions on topics including inter-ministerial coordination, climate financing, and the role of international organizations.

A 15-page executive summary and a promotional 4-page flyer that summarize the project outcomes in Niger for decision-makers were prepared in French and English, which are being used by the national team to carry the results of the I&FF assessment further.

Lessons learned

- The project process took 2 years, this time was necessary to gather all the needed data, set up an experienced team and conduct the assessment, and finally to validate the results.
- As the project overlapped with the finalization of the Second National Communication (submitted in December 2009), outcomes of the National Communication were used for the I&FF assessment and preliminary findings of the I&FF assessment (identification of key sectors and prioritization of mitigation/adaptation activities) were integrated into the National Communication.
- The I&FF results are highly useful for further national Climate Change and budgetary planning and for better participation in the international negotiations.

Next steps

- The Conseil National de l'Environnement Pour Un Developpement Durable (CNEDD) has been feeding the I&FF results into their work in their strategic cadre and also into an action plan for rural development. CNEDD is also reaching out to organizations that attended the final dialogue, including the Banque Atlantique and the Banque BCEAO.
- More sectors to be assessed: As a consequence of the project, the national government focal point would now like to do I&FF assessments for the sectors Water Resources and Transport if funding can be identified.

For more detailed reports of these activities, go to: <http://www.undpcc.org/en/niger>