



Community-Based Adaptation FAST FACTS

NIGER

Improving agro-forestry and providing better seeds to the community of Maigochi Saboua, Roubou

Grantee: Association de Lutte pour l'Autosuffisance et le Développement

Type of organization: NGO

Number of participants: 3,052

Location: Roubou Municipality, Dakoro Department, Niger

CBA Contribution: \$30,163 USD

Project Partners:

Co-financing: Government of Japan (\$31,548 USD, ALAD (\$1,759 USD); Roubou Community (\$6,468 USD)

Project Dates: November 2009-September 2011

BACKGROUND

The Community-Based Adaptation Programme (CBA) is a five-year United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) global initiative funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) within the Small Grants Programme (SGP) delivery mechanism. The UN Volunteers partners with UNDP and GEF/SGP to enhance community mobilization, recognize volunteers' contribution and ensure inclusive participation around the project, as well as to facilitate capacity building of partner NGOs and CBOs. In addition, funding is provided by the Government of Japan, the Government of Switzerland and the Government of Australia. The CBA's goal is to strengthen the resiliency of communities addressing climate change impacts.

This CBA project aims to protect the environment and to improve food security for the vulnerable people of Maigochi Sabou in Niger. The landlocked country of Niger is located in Western Africa. The Sahara desert and the semi-arid Sahel zone cover approximately 80 percent of the country's land. The climate is Sahelian and unfavorable due to the low altitude. The rainy season lasts three to four months, from June to September, and the dry season lasts eight to nine months. The site of the project is Maigochi Saboua in the district of Dakoro, found in the Centre-South of the country. The population is approximately 7,564 people whose main economic activities are agriculture, breeding, crafts and trading. Employing more than 80% of the population, agriculture is considered the primary driver of economic growth. Farming is mainly carried by Haoussa peoples, while Peulh, and Touareg peoples are largely agro-herders. The Tarka Valley is the main ecosystem in the area. Communities depend on it to provide natural resources such as wood, water and fertile lowland fields. In the last few years, it has experienced significant changes due to multiple periods of drought, increased pressure from farmers and shepherds, and from the detrimental effects of climate change.



CBA plant nursery enhancing the agro-forestry system in Maigochi Saboua, Niger

CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

Climate change experts predict that Niger will experience increases in rainfall variability, aridity and evapotranspiration as well as higher temperatures. Natural and agro-pastoral ecosystems will be impacted by additional soil erosion and reduced water supplies. Some species such as "doug" palm tree may disappear due to drought. As water tables fall, wells will need to reach deeper. As agricultural yields fall, farmers may clear new lands in the Tarka Valley, increasing pressures on the ecosystem and hindering its resistance to the negative effects of climate change and variability.

Contact information: **CBA Project Management Unit at cba@undp.org**
304 East 45th St., 9th Floor New York, NY 10019 Tel: (212) 906-5006

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES

This CBA project aims at improving agro-forestry practices in the community by using assisted natural regeneration (ANR), planting trees, carrying out awareness campaigns, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices that use improved seeds to adapt to climate change and variability. The project was formulated through a participatory process carried out by the NGO ALAD and involving a variety of stakeholders. Specifically, the project will increase the resilience of the community and its ecosystem through the following outcomes:

- Establishing one village nursery
- Planting 10,000 *Acacia albida* and *Acacia senegal* species in the fields of at least 60 farm managers
- Opening an improved seed bank to help boost agricultural yields
- Improving the incomes of vulnerable women through backyard farming of sheep and goats
- Through ANR, improving agriculture and forestry techniques and the management of natural resources
- Increasing awareness of observed and forecasted climate change impacts



Improved millet seeds (HKP) and cowpea (KVX) provided to pilot farmers

The project will help the recipients protect against chronic food insecurity by maximizing their agricultural production. It will also improve the resilience of Tarka Valley ecosystems to the adverse effect of climate change.

FOCUS ON...

Global environmental benefits

The project will preserve the Tarka ecosystem, which is a national and international heritage site, by reducing the pressure on its natural resources with the implementation of alternative planting activities. Assisted natural regeneration techniques help the community restore depleted farmland and maintain soil fertility and productivity.

Community ownership and sustainability

The communities of Maigochi Saboua have played an important role in the formulation of the project. For its implementation, they will volunteer their time, resources and labour. For example, in-kind support from community members will contribute to the planting of vegetal cover and the reconstruction of the store. In addition, women will contribute financially to an investment fund to purchase livestock.

Policy influence

As this emerge from the CBA Niger Country Programme Strategy, lessons learned from the implementation of the project will be shared with other regions. This will also provide opportunities for incorporation into national adaptation and planning policies in partnership with African Adaptation Program.

For more information about CBA or CBA projects visit: www.undp-adaptation.org/project/cba

Further information, lessons learned, and experiences gathered from climate change adaptation activities globally can be found at the Adaptation Learning Mechanism: www.adaptationlearning.net

