



Community-Based Adaptation FAST FACTS

NIGER

Reconstitution of hut livestock to reduce household vulnerability to climate change in the communities of Houtchi and Dan Djaoudi, Roubou

Grantee: Ecole Instrument de Paix

Type of organization: NGO

Number of participants: 1,831

Location: Roubou Municipality, Dakoro Department, Niger

Project Partners: Villagers Community of Houtchi and Dan Djaoudi; Departmental Direction of Animal Resources of Dakoro; Cabinet Studies-Cartographie-Training

CBA Contribution: 42,424 USD. **Co-financing:** CBA Japanese Fund (25,099 USD), EIP (1680 USD), Community (5,655 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 at developing alternative livelihoods by improving livestock herds in order to reduce households dependency on the Tarka ecosystem. Niger is a landlocked country 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 its low altitude. The rainy season lasts three to four months, from June to September, and the dry season lasts eight to nine months. Temperatures vary from 19°C in the cool season to 35°C in dry season. The project takes place in Houtchi and Dan Djaoudi villages in the municipality of Roubou. The population is approximately 1,831 people making up 305 households. The main economic activities are rainfed agriculture, including wheat and sorghum, and livestock breeding. These activities are primarily carried out by women to complement products coming from other agricultural crops such as gumbo, pepper, cotton. The adverse impacts of climate change in the region are leading to water scarcity, drought, soil degradation, decrease in fodder production, death of livestock and decreases in agricultural yield. As a result, the population now relies heavily on the exploitation of their natural resources, such as the commercialization of firewood, for their livelihoods.



Goat loans are used as revolving funds to generate income for women.

CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

Climate change projections in Niger forecast climate risks ranging from drought and extreme temperatures to violent winds and dust storms. Over time, climate change will bring an increase in mean temperatures, erratic precipitation, intense evapo-transpiration and increased aridity. These changes will have adverse impacts on

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

natural and agro-pastoral ecosystems; soil erosion will worsen while water tables fall. The availability of water for humans and animals will be reduced and the vegetal cover will degrade. These risks are expected to increase threatening residents' livelihoods and the sustainability of their natural resources.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES

This CBA project aims at protecting the Tarka ecosystem by providing the surrounding communities with livelihood alternatives other than the exploitation of natural resources. The project was formulated through a participatory process carried out by the NGO EIP and involving a variety of stakeholders. The project will support the provision of livestock to vulnerable households to increase their food security and to provide alternative source of income. This will help decrease the pressure on the natural resources of Tarka. In this respect, the following activities will be implemented:

- Raising awareness of climate change risks and adaptation strategies
- Organization of women into cooperatives and a federation
- Distribution of goats to women in order to genetically improve the livestock herds
- Training of beneficiaries in livestock management
- Organization of a trip to study and share experiences



Livestock feed that will fatten animals and improve women's incomes

The project will be implemented through a participatory and community approach, taking into consideration the daily concerns of the population. Strategies implemented for reducing the adverse impacts of climate change will be discussed and evaluated based on their efficacy.

FOCUS ON...

Global environmental benefit

The project will preserve the Tarka ecosystem, which is a national and international heritage site, by reducing the pressure on its natural resources through the provision of alternative livelihood sources.

Community ownership and sustainability

Residents of Houtchi and Dan Djaoudi have played an important role during the formulation of the project. In the same vein, they will volunteer their time, labor and resources for its implementation. For example, farmers will monitor plants and disseminate the agro-forestry techniques acquired. The project will be managed by members of management committees composed of different stakeholders including farmers.

Policy influence

The project will build on the participation of local politicians to advocate the conservation of the Tarka Valley ecosystem as well as the incorporation of climate change considerations into policy.

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



