



COMMUNITY-BASED ADAPTATION IN NIGER

United Nations Development Programme

Government of Japan's Support to Niger

UNDP, through funding from the Government of Japan, is supporting efforts in Niger to create a model for community level climate change adaptation measures. The model is based on the implementation of concrete activities that deliver quick results, address community priorities, and integrate with local practices. The activities are generated out of a Vulnerability Reduction Assessment (VRA) process – a unique methodology developed by the UNDP/GEF CBA – extensively tested in Niger. The project targets capacity building efforts for non-governmental organizations (NGOs). It is expected to have a positive impact on national policy as well as build global momentum for increased action around climate change adaptation.

Key Outputs

- 1** Inform and Engage National-Level Policymakers in the CBA Process
- 2** Use Local Volunteers at Project Sites to Support Community Mobilization and Social Cohesion and Improve Adaptation Strategies
- 3** Compile and Disseminate Lessons from CBA-Related Activities
- 4** National and Regional Exchange of Best Practices and Lessons Learned

Targeted Areas of Intervention and Support to Local Communities

Vulnerability Reduction Assessment (VRA):

The community applied the VRA method to facilitate a mid-term evaluation of an adaptation project. This process included the collection of VRA mid-term indicators as well as related qualitative data, stories, pictures and lessons in a gender-disaggregated form. The VRA method is already generating an interactive dialogue and is creating positive dynamism ("solutions oriented") between participants, enhancing accountability, facilitating voluntary community mobilization, and inclusiveness, social cohesion and local ownership. The project's VRA scores done in December 2009 were higher than previous VRA scores, and the qualitative data also showed similar positive trends. This is an indication that communities are satisfied (especially with the provision of improved seeds) with the way projects are being conducted, including relationships forged with partnering NGOs. Whereas most communities emphasized the importance for continued capacity building activities, they noted that they were confident in their ability to sustain activities beyond the project. This is a positive reflection of transfer of knowledge during the project implementation stage.

Project Development:

Three projects -- ONG AGIR (\$46,688), ONG ALAD (\$31,548) and ONG EIP (25,099) -- were successfully initiated and are under implementation to strengthen communities' capacities to adapt to climate change. The N'NYATT (pipeline resources of \$35,477) project was recently reviewed and approved by the National Steering Committee. Community mobilization and local ownership, in addition to climate change adaptation activities, are key components in all projects.

Knowledge Management and Sharing Lessons Learnt:

Lessons, interviews, and pictures on the mid-term VRA processes in Niger were collected and used in the VRA working paper currently used by National Coordinator's and UN Volunteers in the project. Further, the in-country CBA team is creating a pool of experts and NGOs involved in adaptation at the local level, who can collaborate and share their knowledge within communities. The UNDP Governance unit at the Regional Center in Dakar included a Participatory Video development activity in their plan to document lessons and disseminate results from Niger and showcase the project to demonstrate a successful VRA process.

Building Momentum for CBA: Next Steps

Three project proposals are the result of focused efforts to test and validate the Vulnerability Reduction Assessment (VRA). The VRA integrates country priorities and engages local stakeholder to develop, monitor, and evaluate projects. It also incorporates an effective feedback loop to keep projects relevant and on track. Full implementation of the three projects will take place in the next phase taking advantage of data generated from the VRA's during the first phase of the project. Projects will be implemented as a next step, building from Phase I VRA results and focusing on:

- ▶ Expanding Agroforestry practices in the five (5) villages of the Terroir of Tamalolo, Department of Tanout, Region of Zinder-Niger
- ▶ Producing and disseminating a participatory video for each CBA project to document and share community experiences with climate change adaptation
- ▶ Intensifying goat herding in fourteen (14) villages of the Terroir of Tamalolo in the Department of Tanout, to help vulnerable women adapt to the effects of climate change
- ▶ Improving the living conditions of the rural communities of the Terroir of Tamalolo through the improvement of farming production systems that protect against the effects of climate change.



Source: National Coordinator, CBA Niger

Status of Budget in Niger as at June 2010

Japan Trust Fund	Grants (US\$)	Non-Grants (US\$)	Totals (US\$)
Total Funds	96,709	76,361	173,070
Total Expenditure	101,468	36,000	137,468
Non-Expended (encumbered for 2010 activities)	-3,759	40,361	36,602
Fund Delivery Rate			80%

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July 2010

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