

Evaluation Summary

Pastoral water programme in Central Chad 2nd phase – Almy Al Afia 2

Country: **Chad**

Sector: **Rural development**

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Date of the evaluation: 2020

Key data on AFD's support

Projet numbers: CDT 1125

Amount: €11 million

Disbursement rate: 100%

Signature of financing agreement: May 2009

Completion date: February 2016

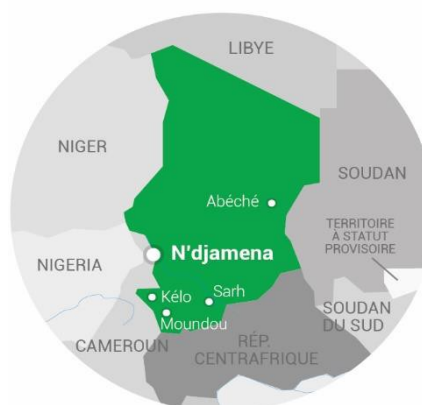
Total duration: 5 years

Context

Pastoralism plays a crucial role in Chad's economy as it ensures the development of the Sahelo-Saharan regions marked by a highly variable climate. Yet, the scarcity of available groundwater and conflicts over water use limit the country's potential for development.

Actors and operating method

With the Directorate of Pastoral Water Resources (Ministry for Pastoral and Village Water Resources) as the contracting authority, the "pastoral water resources" component was implemented by the ANTEA-IRAM partnership and mobilised a team of international experts and local technicians. A focal point from the Department for Pastoral Organisation and Securing Pastoral Systems ensured the link with the Ministry of Livestock. A second component of the project, with the General Directorate of Roads as contracting authority and co-financed by the Government of Chad, involved constructing a pastoral bridge over the River Batha.



Objectives

The actors involved in managing natural resources and land in central Chad integrate, into the works and development actions they implement, the securing of pastoral mobility and the promotion of sustainable management of pastoral resources. Their overarching goal is to secure the pastoral economy, strengthen social peace and fight against poverty in pastoral and agropastoral areas.

Expected outputs

- 300 km of demarcated transhumance corridors
- 40 new wells
- 42 rehabilitated wells
- Bridge over the river Batha allowing for the secure crossing of animals and vehicles

Performance assessment

Relevance

The relevance of the social engineering activities is validated by the absence of conflict, the upholding of the principles of free access, of priority for pastoral use and pastoral reciprocity in the management of wells, as well as the active maintenance of conflict prevention and management bodies. The quantitative objectives for water infrastructure in Guera are justified in light of the region's need for groundwater, but they seem ambitious given that the project had, at the same time, to develop a technical reference for bedrock areas.

Effectiveness

The relevance of the social engineering methodology defined during the first phase of the project ensured that the project was clearly effective but, conversely, this suffered from the absence of a sustainable mechanism for the maintenance of the works.

Efficiency

The efficiency of the project hangs mostly on the relevance of the social engineering methodology and the fact that the project team mastered it. Again, the absence of a sustainable mechanism for maintaining the works and a fixed technical reference for bedrock areas constituted significant constraints.

Impact

- Improvement of the pastoral water supply
- Recognition by sedentary communities of the pastoralists' rights in the project space (demarcation)
- Development of shared references regarding social support in identifying the wells to be developed/rehabilitated and the sections to be demarcated
- Training in pastoralist skills at ministry level
- Significant contribution to the elaboration of a national pastoral development strategy and a pastoral code
- Government involvement in setting up a national scheme for the maintenance of works

Sustainability

- A highly sustainable social engineering methodology
- The sustainability of conflict prevention and management bodies was constrained by the limited human resources involved in supporting them, compared to the water development objectives
- The sustainability of water structures was limited by the absence of a long-term scheme for maintaining the works and a fixed technical reference for bedrock areas

Added value of AFD's contribution

The PHPTC2 project is part of a series of AFD-funded pastoral water projects that have helped public institutions and policies to integrate support for pastoral development. Since the 1990s, AFD financing has had a driving role in changing the logic underpinning the intervention of pastoral water projects. This has shifted from a logic whereby access to water is an end in itself towards a logic whereby water is a means of securing pastoral mobility, then a means of governing pastoral spaces to ensure peacefulness and a complementarity with other uses (PHPTC), and finally a means of governance and territorial development (PASTOR project).

Conclusions and lessons learnt

The impact of the project to secure pastoral mobility is determined by the works maintenance capabilities. The operationalisation of a works maintenance scheme (ongoing within the PASTOR project) is a priority for the development of pastoralism in central Chad. In this context, a basic scheme for monitoring the works and their flows would inform the actors' thinking and choices and enhance their empowerment.

The social agreements negotiated when the wells were created or rehabilitated may be called into question due to changes in mobility dynamics, (pseudo)-sedentarisation and agricultural expansion, along with the changing well-flow rates. The crisis prevention and management bodies, supported by PHPTC2, could usefully become involved in these questions, which constitute a major challenge for the future of pastoralism in the region.

The technical reference for bedrock areas is not yet finalised and it would be worth deploying efforts for a national multi-disciplinary research and development programme.

In a setting where the number of companies is inadequate to easily meet the demand in a timely manner and with the required quality criteria, significant resources must be dedicated to inspecting the works.

Finally, the settlement of livestock breeders in agricultural areas around the wells present a major challenge for the future of pastoralism and it is worth taking this into account when setting the directions for water projects. »