



African Water Facility
Facilité africaine de l'eau

Mobilising Resources for Water in Africa
Mobiliser des ressources pour l'eau en Afrique



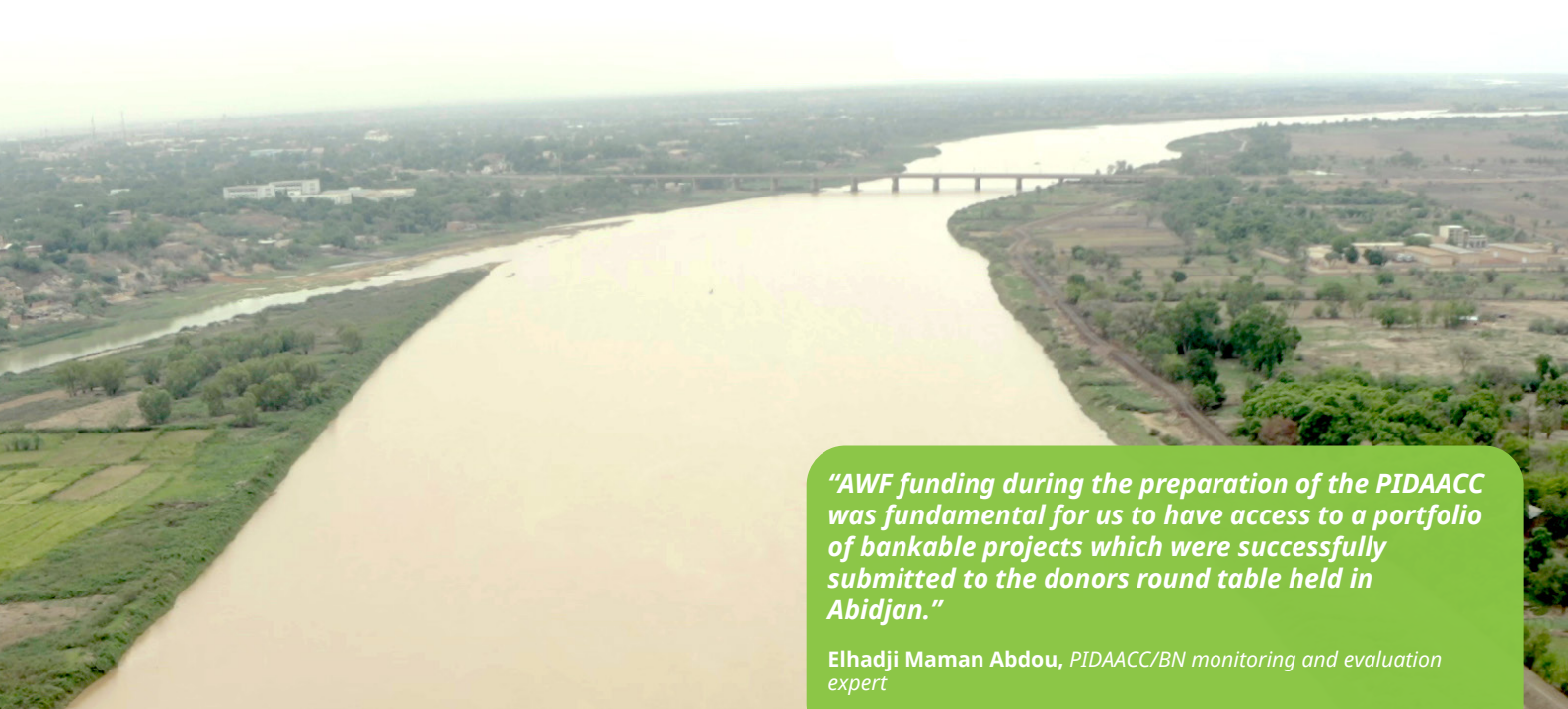
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

PROJECT BRIEF

NIGER:

INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAMME IN THE NIGER BASIN (PIDAACC/BN).

Preliminary Studies of Multi-Purpose Infrastructures



"AWF funding during the preparation of the PIDAACC was fundamental for us to have access to a portfolio of bankable projects which were successfully submitted to the donors round table held in Abidjan."

Elhadji Maman Abdou, PIDAACC/BN monitoring and evaluation expert

The PIDAACC/BN project

The Niger river basin is of capital importance for the riparian populations and economies of the 9 member countries of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA). For several decades aridification of the climate and the decrease in river flows has been observed. Locally associated with land pressure, this process has strongly marked the general degradation of natural resources, the destruction of vegetation and the intensification of water and wind erosion as well as the silting-up of watercourses.

In 2014, the PIDAACC/BN was launched by carrying out preliminary studies (technical, economic, financial, environmental, and social) which will then be used to establish the feasibility of the project itself and catalyse investments. Besides the preparatory analyses, the programme also

provided regional and national coordination, as well as technical and financial management and supervision. The PIDAACC/BN project presented many advantages, in terms of enhancing food security, creating jobs, especially for young people and women, contributing to the fight against poverty, improving the resilience of human and natural systems to climate change, namely by improving the water flow and protecting its watershed. Beneficiaries are estimated to be the nine member states of the NBA, the Executive Secretariat of the NBA(ES/NBA) and the populations of the Niger Basin.

To PIDAACC/BN the funding from AfDB/AWF has been a real vector which has enabled the NBA and its member countries to have a portfolio of bankable project documents to finance PIDAACC/BN implementation. The African Water Facility (AWF) was responsible for financing nearly 50% of the total project budget, which ascended to almost EUR 1.5 million. The project was concluded by the end of 2018.

PIDAACC/BN

Project Code: P-Z1-EAZ-040

Grant Number: 5600155003601

Approval Date: 2nd April 2014

Closing Date: 31st December 2018

Total Budget: EUR 1,452,986

AWF Funding Amount: EUR 717,576

Additional funding from:

- West Africa Economic Monetary Union, WAEMU
- Infrastructure Consortium for Africa, ICA
- Niger Basin Authority, NBA
- Countries' Governments

Implementing partners:

- Niger Basin Authority, NBA

Geographical scope and scale:

- NBA Executive Secretariat (NBA/ES).
- Nine member states of the NBA: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria
- National and regional institutions involved in the basin for
- the conservation of water resources and the environment
- Populations of the Niger Basin



Impacts and Solutions

The **preliminary studies of the infrastructure (integrated agricultural development and adaptation to climate change)** of the programme were set up for all 9 NBA countries, and subsequently a regional synthesis of studies was prepared.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) as well as 9 National Project Coordination Units (NPCU) were established. The regional and national steering and monitoring bodies were set up and are operational.

A round table of donors was organised to present the projects and **collect funding commitments**. This round table was the opportunity to present the financing needs of PIDAACC/BN.

The share of funding obtained far exceeded the expectations, with **donors contributing with 87.2% of the financing, against an expected rate of 50%**. The remaining funds are provided by the NBA and the countries' governments. The AfDB is one of the main contributors to the PIDAACC/BN implementation, with a total among loans and grants of about EUR 60 million.

Ultimately, the project produced the two expected outcomes; on one hand the NBA and its member countries have a portfolio of **bankable projects on agricultural development and adaptation to climate change in the Niger basin**, and on the other, the **financial resources required for the implementation of the programme are mobilised by countries, beneficiaries, and donors**.

Key Challenges

Some of the countries face security problems, namely Mali and Cameroun. To assure the completion of the last studies before the end of the project, the activities plan was implemented in regions less concerned by security problems until the improvement of the overall situation.

Compliance with the implementation schedule: Initial planned project duration was of 20 months but eventually it ended-up lasting 50. The delays were mainly associated with difficulties in assuring the disbursements schedule. This was reflected in slow payments of the consultant's and in enabling the organisation of the workshops to validate the interim reports and the transition to the next stages of the study.

Undertaking all necessary measures to avoid delaying the execution of program activities is required in order to continue PIDDAACC/BN, namely in the implementation phase.

"The activities carried out in Djambo succeeded in consolidating the dunes in a sustainable way, thus preventing the silting up of the river."

Abdoulaye Kaya, NBA Communication Expert.

Key Lessons

- **The components of the “studies” were in perfect alignment with the NBA’s need to have bankable project documents necessary to fund the PIDAACC/BN.** This adequacy has facilitated the participation of donors and NBA member countries throughout the “studies” process as well as the appropriation of the solutions adopted.
- **The mobilisation of donors for the financing of PIDAACC/BN has been a real success** at the donors’ round table. From the three initial donors that participated at the project appraisal stage, this number increased to five that have committed to fund PIDAACC/BN implementation. **This shows the relevance that development partners gave in general to the impacts of climate change, and in particular to those affecting the Niger Basin.**
- **The financial support of AWF has made it possible to carry out various studies,** regarding technical, economic, financial, environmental, and social analysis that were then used to establish the feasibility of PIDAACC/BN and to catalyse investments.
- **Project management and coordination:** Focusing the project team on the effects of the PIDAACC/BN during its implementation stage, to later measure the expected impacts. **Attention should be placed in monitoring and evaluation.**



Recommended actions

From the PIDAACC/BN project, it is possible to identify the below-recommended actions regarding structures, policies, and strategic plans:

The coordination and management structures put in place during project implementation gave great results. This system should be maintained in the implementation of PIDAACC/BN activities.

Establishing a sustainable system for communication and dissemination of information on integrated development and climate change, in general and on the Niger basin specifically. A corresponding adequate operating budget should be considered in the implementation of the PIDAACC/BN.

The development of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is of paramount importance and should be included in the terms of reference for the implementation of PIDAACC/BN activities.

The implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system during the course of the project can prevent or avoid the occurrence of issues.

PIDAACC is ultimately an integrated program for agricultural development and adaptation to climate change. **To ensure the sustainability of the program,** it is necessary to **implement the recommendations of the environmental and social impact studies,** and the associated management framework, implementation phase.

“The project aims to build 365 hydraulic structures, to restore more than 2 million hectares of degraded land, to develop intelligent agriculture in the basin, and to create more than 100,000 jobs for young people and women throughout 100 sub-projects which will be financed in the 9 member countries of the Niger Basin Authority.”

Head Teacher of Kaplewo Primary School in Baringo County



Other related Project Resource

Programme intégré de développement agricole et d'adaptation au changement climatique dans le bassin du Niger (PIDAACC/BN): Études préliminaires des infrastructures à buts multiples, Rapport d'Évaluation. December 2013. AWF.
Programme intégré de développement agricole et d'adaptation au changement climatique dans le bassin du Niger (PIDAACC/BN): Études préliminaires des infrastructures à buts multiples, Rapport d'Achèvement de Projet. September 2018. AWF.
<https://projectsportal.afdb.org/dataportal/VProject/show/P-Z1-EAZ-040>



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