IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Burkina Faso

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Context

- Natural resource management policies and strategies based on poor scientific evidence
- Prevalence of a sectorial approach
- Poor perception of environmental challenges and links between poverty and environment by policymakers at the local level, leading to insufficient inclusion into local development plans
- Persisting land tenure issues, a real constraint to wider adoption and use of good practices in sustainable land management
- Feminization of rural poverty and inadequate consideration of gender concerns in implementation of development projects and programmes

Objectives and priority interventions

- Enhanced resilience of Sahel populations faced with climate change thanks to monetary income increases
- Integration of research findings and traditional know-how, and development and implementation of an effective communication strategy for development

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- Coordination and cross-sector dialogue and promotion of integrated approaches, especially as part of local development plans
- Broad dissemination of sustainable land management technologies in the intervention zone and inclusion of dimensions linked to land degradation, adaptation to climate change and reduction of its impact and biodiversity preservation into local development plans
- Local governance of natural resources and capacity building (securing land tenure, reinforcing shareholders capacity, strengthening frameworks for dialogue at the local level, support and advice to producers)
- Research & development, knowledge management and communication activities
- Promotion of income-generating activities and creation of a directory / platform on the income-generating potential of each region involved in the programme

Budget 2014-1019 : US$ 43.6 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Chad

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Context

- Since the 1973 and 1984 droughts, major changes occurred in the vegetation cover with loss of many woody and herbaceous plants, North of the 5th parallel
- Drop in farm and animal production
- Legal and regulatory texts not used or not understood
- Poor technical messages to small-scale farmers associated with poor response capacity to producers' demands and transfer of research results
- Policies not always conducive to safeguarding and developing of natural resources, or improving production systems through innovation (technical and material capacity reinforcement)

Priority interventions

- Diversification of agriculture and livestock production systems through water resource control (i.e. creating reservoirs, artificial lakes and hydraulic structures to improve productivity)

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- Reduction of soil erosion through restoration of vegetative cover which will help reduce wind speed and increase rainfall infiltration as well as organic matter of degraded soils
- Increasing reforestation rate to restore the ecological balance, conservation, development of plant and animal biodiversity and response to local needs in forest products, especially in firewood and service wood, but also in non-wood forest products such as gums, resins, roots, leaves, barks, fruits and medicinal plants
- Improving the quality of life and health by income-generating activities and development of basic social infrastructures which will help "ecological migrants" return to their lands and repopulate rehabilitated zones while developing local governance
- Encouraging scientific research for development by supporting training, exchange, traditional knowledge promotion and support to scientific networks mobility
- Creation of a data base and Geographical Information System to monitor and evaluate the impact of interventions

Expected results

- Construction of 20 water resource development structures (reservoirs, cut-off drains, micro-dams) to irrigate 5,000 ha of land in the most vulnerable areas
- 25 pastoral and village wells, 15 vaccination parks, as well as signage of 300 km of cattle corridors
- 150 km of access routes to urban areas and rehabilitation or building of regional markets
- Building of 10 schools and rehabilitation of 25 classrooms
- Building 5 health centers
- Electrification of 20 community villages
- The programme will reach 150,000 people, of which some 70,000 women and youth, and will help bring a sustainable solution to rural migration

Budget 2014 -2019: US$ 57 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

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Djibouti

Context

- Recurrent droughts and chronic rainfall deficits have led to a drop in plant and animal yield and output, as well as a loss of biodiversity, and vegetation and degradation of the soil cover
- Structural food insecurity and increased poverty

Objectives and priority interventions

- Restoration of degraded lands and vegetation cover
- Mobilization and enhancement of underground and surface water resources to reduce the impact of drought on farming and pastoral production systems
- Improving the socio-economic status of populations living in areas crossed by the Great Green Wall: Attar, Kihil, Ali Sabieh
- Establishment of a conducive institutional and legal framework for implementation of the Great Green Wall
- Capacity building and implementation of related actions

Expected results

- Construction of 16 water resource development structures –reservoirs, cut-off drains, micro-dams – in order to irrigate 3,000 ha of land

Djibouti

- Agro-forestry, pasture enrichment and degraded land rehabilitation initiatives, with tree planting on a minimum of 300 000 ha
- Infrastructures to support pastoral production: 15 pastoral wells, 10 vaccination parks, 200 km of cattle corridors
- Solar energy electrification of 15 villages and camps
- Support and advice, extension and training of more than 20, 000 small-scale farmers, including at least 6,000 women.

Budget 2014-2019: US$ 70.3 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Egypt

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Context

- Sand encroachment in the Old Nile Valley Zone in Upper Egypt is estimated to have decreased productivity on agricultural land and in oasis systems by 25-35 percent, a loss of almost 150 million USD per year
- Lack of proper and effective measures to combat land degradation, despite ample scientific and empirical evidence of its adverse environmental, economic, social impact
- The four governorates in Upper Egypt are home to one third of the country's population living in poverty, and to almost half of those living in conditions of extreme poverty

Objectives and priority interventions

- Establishment of appropriate protection systems against sand encroachment and wind erosion, including mechanised barriers, shelter belts and irrigation systems
- Creation of jobs to combat poverty, while enhancing stakeholders income and social status
- Enhancement of integrated and sustainable management of available resources
- Field measurements and monitoring using remote sensing
- Securing active participation of relevant stakeholders in

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Egypt

monitoring, assessing and managing natural resources
- Capacity development, including technology transfer and dissemination, knowledge management and experience sharing
- Communication and awareness raising
- Resource mobilization

Budget 2014-2015: US$ 810 000

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Eritrea

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Context

- About 70% of the land area is classified as hot and arid, receiving an average annual rainfall of less than 350 mm
- Total forest cover decreased from about 30% in 1900 to less than 1% in 1995
- Vegetation cover has been reduced due to drought, excessive collection of firewood and construction wood, forest fires, over grazing and over browsing, expansion of settlements and villages
- Loss of fertile soil due to erosion
- Overexploitation of ground water resources

Objectives and priority interventions

- Effective harmonization of policies and programs for sustainable management of natural resources and socio-economic development
- Rehabilitation of degraded lands, reforestation, soil and water conservation
- Establishment and management of enclosures and nursery sites
- Sustainable management of natural resources in six zones of the country: Maekel, Debub, Gash Barka, Northern Red Sea, Southern Red Sea, and Anseba
- Planting of economically useful trees in three zones of the country: Debub, Gash Barka and Anseba

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Eritrea

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- Sand dune fixation in Southern Red ßSea Zone
- Establishment of five Protected Areas
- Income generating activities
- Human and institutional capacity building
- Community awareness programme and training
- Monitoring and evaluation

Expected results

- Local people and communities are empowered and involved in planning and management of natural resources
- Livelihoods and food security of targeted population are improved due to increasing agricultural productivity, soil and water conservation and reforestation
- Diversification of natural resource base leads to a harmonization of natural resource management, food security and poverty alleviation strategies
- Increased economic value of natural resources is provided to communities and the country
- Conflicts over land tenure and water resources are significantly reduced

Budget 2014-2019: US$ 30 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

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Ethiopia

Context

Erratic rainfall coupled with droughts and weak natural resource management have led to:

- About 75% of the country's land affected by desertification
- Loss of 140,000-200,000 ha per year of forests and woodlands
- Annual nutrient losses of 30 kg/ha of nitrogen and 15-20 kg/ha of phosphorous
- Soil loss due to water erosion of 2 billion metric tons per year, or an average of 42 tons/ha/yr

Objectives and priority interventions

- Conservation, restoration and enhancement of natural resources – biodiversity, water and soils
- Improvement of the carbon sequestration capacity in vegetation cover and soils, reversing migration flows to the recovered areas , and improving the living conditions of local communities
- Improvement of the livelihoods of local communities in arid and semi-arid zones through income generating activities and the establishment of basic social infrastructure

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- Diversification and enhancement of the performance of production systems - agriculture, livestock, forestry - to meet domestic demand
- Promotion of good governance and management of natural resources
- Promotion of local community interventions along the Great Green Wall
- Strengthening food security through sustainable management, restoration and improvement of agri-silvo-pastoral systems
- Research and knowledge management
- Promotion of synergies with similar efforts undertaken by the government, including its sustainable land management programme

Expected results

- Clear policies and legislative measures conducive to equity in accessing and controlling resources, as well as greater private sector investments
- Local people and communities and Civil Society Organizations are empowered to plan, implement and monitor income generating activities in their areas
- Land tenure and water resources conflicts are significantly reduced, while improved co-existence between pastoral and agricultural communities lead to a better environment and livelihoods
- Reduction of rural poverty and increased employment have a positive impact on food security, resilience to climate change and sustainable management of land resources
- Migration to urban areas is significantly reduced due to better access to land resources, rehabilitation of rural infrastructure and increased opportunities for income generating activities in rural areas

Budget 2014-2020: US$ 66.8 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Gambia

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Context

- Loss of vegetation cover, increasing signs of soil erosion and salinization especially in northern half of the country
- Total forest cover decreased from 81% in 1946 to 41% in 1993
- High population growth rate of 3.2% and related pressure on the arable and non-arable lands
- An estimated 20% of the present population is migrants from the sub-region or refugees from other West African countries
- Over 80% of the population employed in agriculture
- Increased rate of rural-urban migration
- Unclear land-tenure systems

Objectives and priority interventions

- Creation of an enabling environment - improvement of policies , legal, institutional, financial, technical capacities - for uptake and upscaling of sustainable land management at all levels
- Institutional strengthening for the support and coordination of stakeholder efforts in sustainable land management
- Rehabilitation of degraded lands, reclamation of desertified lands and reversing land degradation
- Up-scaling and mainstreaming of sustainable land management

Gambia

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- Building capacity to enhance stakeholder participation in sustainable land management implementation
- Establishment of a sustainable land management coalition
- Community based natural resources management and agro-forestry practices
- Knowledge management and information dissemination
- Monitoring and evaluation

Expected results

- Local people and communities are empowered and involved in terms of management responsibility and ownership
- Rural livelihoods in the Northern Region of The Gambia are improved
- Migration to urban areas is significantly reduced due to better access to land resources and increased opportunities for income generating activities in rural areas
- Stocktaking and assessment of sustainable land management constraints and opportunities are undertaken
- Main investment priorities for the implementation of the Great Green Wall are identified
- Integrated land use planning and ecosystem approach to conservation are undertaken

Budget 2014-2018: US$ 640,000

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Mali

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Context

- Deforestation of 500,000 ha /year to meet farming and wood-energy supply needs
- Every year, over 20, 000 ha of farmland are threatened by sand dunes
- Surface and underground water is largely affected by siltation of rivers. In the inner Delta of the Niger, water losses are estimated around 30 billion m3/yr and over 13 million m3 of silt are deposited in rivers every year.
- The "Costs of Environmental damage and inefficiencies " (CDI) in the use of natural resources, energy raw materials and inputs account for 21.3 percent of GDP, i.e. over US$ 1.3 billion

Objectives and priority interventions

- Integrated development of degraded zones in Nioro, Nampala-Timbuktu, the Niger loop between Timbuktu and Ansongo, Tilemsi Valley, Ansongo-Anderamboucane areas
- Protecting the Niger river against sand encroachment
- Strengthening institutional, technical and financial capacities, including at the local level
- Knowledge management, particularly locally, stocktacking and sharing of experiences, including accompanying research and communication

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Mali

- Development of land protection, rehabilitation and sustainable use of natural resources in line with national priorities and international environmental conventions
- Development of accompanying activities and investment: credits, subsidies, promotion of income-generating activities
- Development of appropriate technologies and synergy of technologies
- Gender empowerment and integration of poorer communities

Budget 2014-2019: US$ 514 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

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Niger

Context

- Main development constraints are traditionally linked to an extremely dry climate in the major part of the country, and vulnerability of soils which are particularly prone to erosion and fertility loss
- Recurrent droughts and resulting food-deficit years have further undermined the resilience of agriz-silvo-pastoral systems and local communities' capacities
- Insecurity prevailing in the Sahel and Sahel-Saharan strips in recent years is yet another major constraint for Niger's development

Objectives and priority interventions

- Sustainable management of agri-silvo-pastoral systems and improvement of food security: soil and water preservation and restoration, farmland protection against sand encroachment and forest fires, underground and surface water development, enhancement of agricultural, forestry and livestock production systems
- Local governance of natural resources and capacity development: improving land tenure security, capacity development of stakeholders, support and advice to producers

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Niger

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- Biodiversity conservation and development and improved carbon sequestration through restoration of vegetation and soil cover
- Restoring degraded lands through stocktacking of achievements such as the greening of the Sahel through assisted natural regeneration
- Diversification of natural resources production, sustainable use and development systems
- Meeting domestic needs in wood and non-wood forest products and promoting renewable energy
- Establishment of basic socio-economic infrastructures and promotion of income-generating activities
- Reinforcement of local and community development in the Great Green Wall area: basic socio-economic infrastructure, income-generating activities
- Accompanying research and knowledge management/dissemination/development /sharing: natural resource knowledge enhancement, knowledge capitalization and management, technology transfer.

Budget 2014-2019: US$ 838 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

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Nigeria

Context

- Between 50% and 75% of the 11 frontline states of Nigeria are under severe threat of land degradation and desertification
- The Northwest and Northeast geo-political zones had the highest poverty rates in the country with 77.7% and 76.3% respectively in 2010
- Desertification and natural resources degradation are eroding the livelihood base of millions of people

Objectives and priority interventions

- Improvement of the management of land resources and their sustainable use
- Improvement of the well-being of affected people and reduction of their vulnerability to desertification and climate change
- Development of an enabling policy, legal and institutional framework for sustainable land management and desertification control
- Improvement of critical infrastructure
- Enhancement of private sector investment in sustainable land management
- Development of effective communication and cooperation among stakeholders
- Scientific knowledge on desertification and drought phenomena

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

Nigeria

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- Trans-boundary cooperation for cross-border environmental sustainability
- Mobilization of financial and technological resources at national, bilateral and multilateral levels
- Monitoring and evaluation system

Expected results

- Local people and communities are empowered and their participation in sustainable land management is increased
- Ecosystems and environmental integrity are protected and restored
- Agricultural lands are maintained stable and productive due to the development and promotion of sustainable land management practices
- Rural poverty significantly reduced, food security and livelihoods enhanced and employment promoted due to economic incentives, mechanisms and actions

Budget 2014-2019: US$ 223.3 million

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA AND THE SAHEL INITIATIVE

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Senegal

Context

- Persistent rainfall deficits since 1972, coupled with anthropogenic factors, have had a serious impact on the ecological balance, causing degradation of soils and natural resources, a decline in agricultural production and precarious food and energy security
- Despite efforts to draw up coherent and effective agricultural, forestry and pastoral policies, and some notable successes, it must be recognized that the results, in terms of effectiveness of policies and strategies, remain below expectations
- The socio-economic impact of the fall in agricultural output has been dramatic, causing a sharp drop in local incomes. This decline, exacerbated by a lack of sustainable alternative sources of revenue and inadequate basic economic and social infrastructure, explains the persistence of poverty in rural areas

Objectives and priority areas for action

- Creating and consolidating a line of defence by restoring plant cover (through reforestation and sustainable management of forest resources), and contributing to

Senegal

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the integrated development of rural areas and measures to combat poverty within the framework of sustainable development

- Restoring and conserving biological diversity and bringing about positive change in the local biophysical environment, through support measures including prevention of bushfires, development of wild plant-based food products and ecotourism in the Great Green Wall area
- Developing infrastructure (wells, fences, retention basins) in the Great Green Wall area with the aim of increasing the availability of water and products for consumption by local households and villages
- Promoting eco-citizenship at local level: influencing the attitudes and behaviour of people, leading to a more rational and efficient use of natural resources in favour of sustainable economic and social development
- Increasing awareness on the links between livelihoods development and improved environmental management including on benefits generated from reforestation and restoration of degraded lands
- As a result of more diversified production, women will have the opportunity to develop horticulture and have access to high value nutritional products (potatoes, cowpeas, carrots) to improve diets and increase household revenue

Budget 2014-2019: US$ 39 million

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