

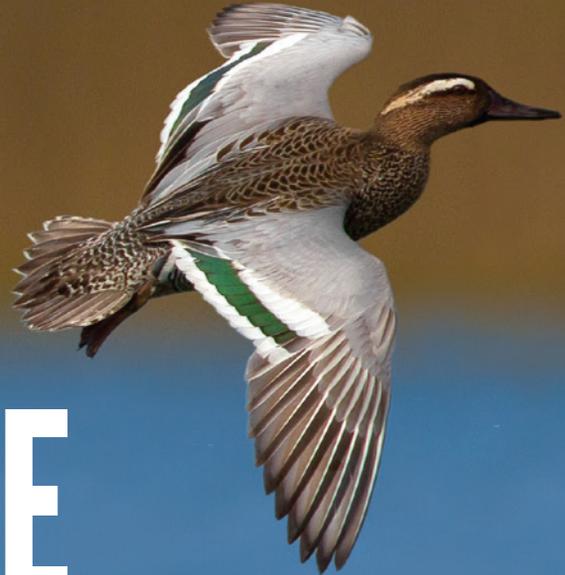


Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

A decorative graphic on the left side of the page consisting of several concentric, curved lines in shades of blue, orange, and yellow, resembling a stylized sun or a circular pattern.

RESSOURCE PROJECT

SWM Sahelian Wetlands Site



A large flock of ducks is gathered in a wetland area. In the foreground, many ducks are standing in shallow water. In the background, a large number of birds are in flight, some showing white and black patterns on their wings. The landscape is dominated by tall, dry grasses and reeds. A semi-transparent blue circle with a yellow bottom edge is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

Seventy-five
out the 127 European
bird species that winter
south of the Sahara are
in decline



the challenge

Millions of people depend on the major Sahelian wetlands to meet their food and financial needs. These ecosystems are home to a multitude of waterbirds – migratory and resident – and provide essential livelihoods and services to local communities.

However, climate change, water and agricultural developments, and the intensive exploitation of the natural resources are contributing to the degradation and disappearance of the wetlands. The resulting dramatic changes in habitats have a major impact on the waterbird populations in the Sahel, and the impacts of hunting have yet to be assessed. These populations have already declined by 40 percent between 1960 and 2000. If the waterbirds were to disappear from this region, many rural communities would be deprived of an important source of protein.

our response

The RESSOURCE Project stands for “Strengthening expertise in sub-Saharan Africa on birds and their rational use for communities and their environment”.

Restoring and preserving the wetlands is a way to ensure the sustainability of the use of the services and the resources that they provide, in particular waterbirds, for the many rural populations that depend on them. In five countries in the Sahel and the Nile Valley, the RESSOURCE Project, in collaboration with the national authorities and local communities, aims to:

- preserve the ecosystems of major Sahelian wetlands;
- improve knowledge on waterbird populations and on harvesting by hunting;
- develop innovative solutions for the sustainable management and exploitation of wetlands and waterbird populations.





“Through the FFEM-FAO partnership, we are showing that conservation and the sustainable use of the natural resources are compatible. Combining the protection of the global environment with the socio-economic development of local populations is an essential point of convergence for our two institutions.”

Constance Corbier Barthaux
Manager of Biodiversity projects
French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM)

**Around 60 species
of Palearctic waterbirds
winter in the major
Sahelian wetlands**

where we work

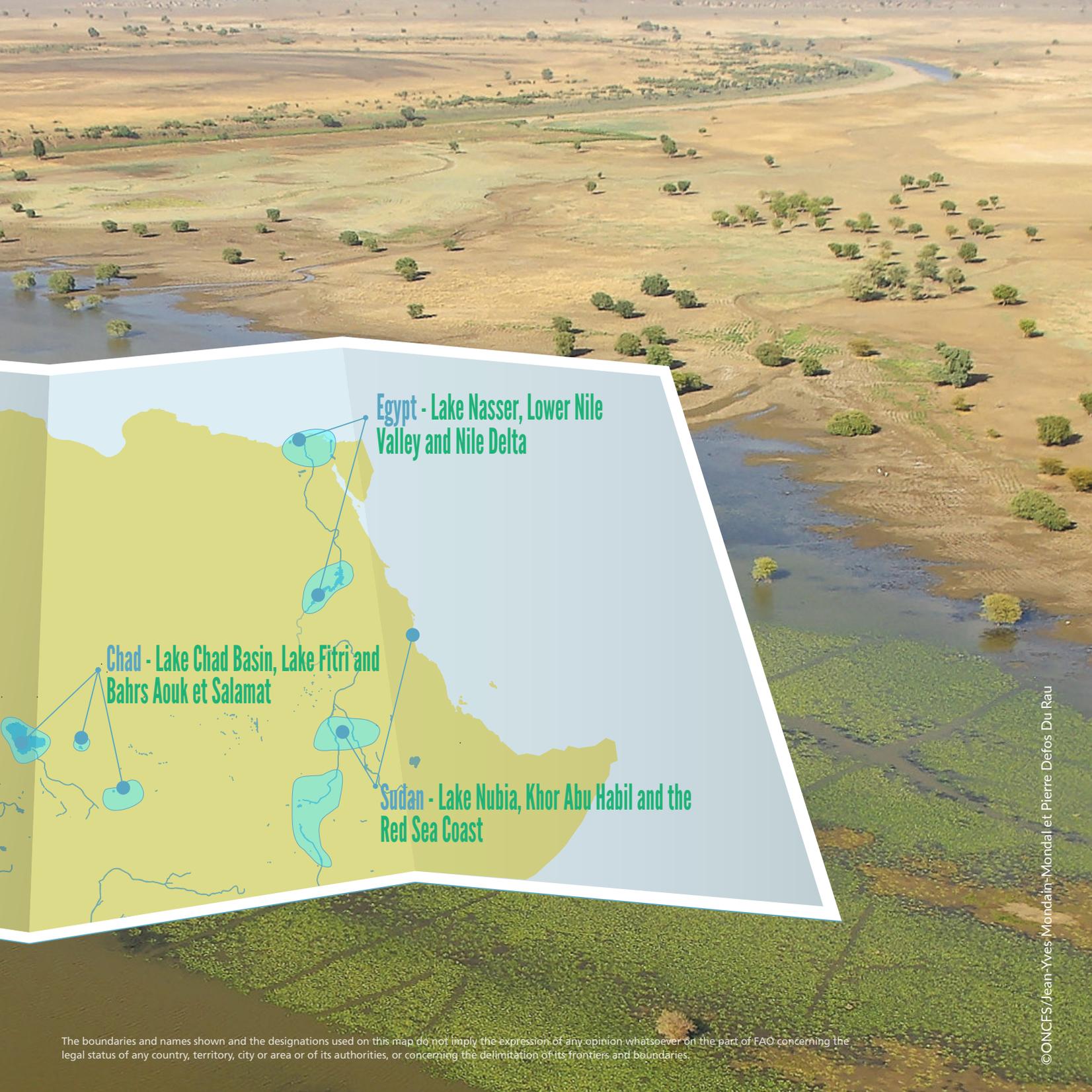
PROJECT RESSOURCE

● Major Sahelian wetlands

Senegal - Senegal River Delta

Mali - Inner Niger Delta

Source: United Nations, Map No 4170, February 2020



Egypt - Lake Nasser, Lower Nile Valley and Nile Delta

Chad - Lake Chad Basin, Lake Fitri and Bahrs Aouk et Salamat

Sudan - Lake Nubia, Khor Abu Habil and the Red Sea Coast

“The efforts and achievements of the RESSOURCE Project will be sustainable through the integration into national policies of the commitments made by the States that have ratified the agreements on the conservation of wetlands and waterbirds, in particular, Ramsar and AEWA.”

Dr. Jacques Trouvilliez
Executive Secretary
Agreement on the Conservation of
African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)

capacity building

Capacity building is essential. The emergence and development of local expertise bringing together institutional actors, civil society, ornithologists and the hunting community are at the heart of the RESSOURCE Project’s mandate.

We support the transfer of skills to local communities and national administrations responsible for the natural resources and the autonomy of partner countries for the monitoring and sustainable management of wetlands and their waterbird populations.

A woman wearing a brown hijab is the central focus, looking intently through a pair of black binoculars. She has a slight smile and is looking towards the right. In the background, other people are visible, some also holding binoculars, suggesting a group activity or a field observation. The scene is outdoors with bright, natural light. A semi-transparent blue circle with a yellow bottom edge is overlaid on the image, containing white text.

**The RESSOURCE Project
strengthens
North-South and South-South
cross-border
collaboration**



With the technical support of





partnership approach

The RESSOURCE Project (2017–2021), coordinated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), is a joint initiative with several technical partners collaborating with national authorities and communities in the five pilot countries to ensure a sustainable environment.

Co-funded by the French Global Environment Facility and the European Union, the project is the Sahelian component of the Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme (SWM Programme), an initiative of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS).



RESSOURCE PROJECT

SWM Sahelian Wetlands Site



FIND OUT MORE

RESSOURCE-Project@fao.org

<https://www.swm-programme.info/ressource-project>



Supported by



FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL

This document was produced with the financial assistance of the French Facility for Global Environment and the European Union. The sole responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the RESSOURCE Project and can in no way be taken to reflect the opinions of the French Facility for Global Environment or the European Union.



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence