



ACTION AGAINST DESERTIFICATION

NIGERIA

Desertification, land degradation and drought are among the biggest threats to sustainable development of the drylands in northern Nigeria. Moreover, climate change is putting extra pressure on the country's fragile ecosystems. Action Against Desertification aims to provide real solutions to this dire situation by protecting and restoring ecosystems and essential services that are key to reducing poverty, strengthening food security and enhancing livelihoods.

Action Against Desertification supports Nigeria's Great Green Wall interventions in rural communities in three dryland states - Sokoto, Jigawa and Bauchi – by upscaling restoration activities and promoting the sustainable management of landscapes and natural resources.

→ LARGE-SCALE LAND RESTORATION

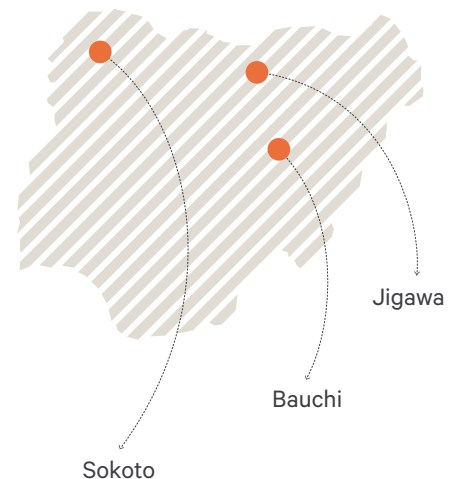
In 2017, 485 hectares of degraded land were planted with six indigenous native species through direct sowing, including *Balanites* and *Acacia*, while four herbaceous species were introduced to provide fodder for livestock. In 2018, an estimated 1500 hectares will be planted for restoration.

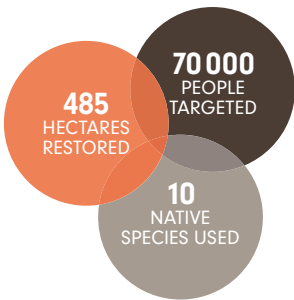
→ NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS

Action Against Desertification is promoting the development of forest products through village enterprises. This can help improve the living conditions of the rural population. Activities include beekeeping, honey and fodder production, *Balanites* oil extraction and marketing, as well as the harvesting and commercialization of gum Arabic. The project also supports micro-gardens and community nurseries, the produce of which generates additional income.

→ CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Over 140 staff from federal state and local government together with community technicians have been trained in large-scale restoration techniques, as well as native seeds treatment and planting through direct sowing. In 2018, community associations will be trained in livestock improvement, honey production, gum Arabic harvesting and fodder production, and provided with necessary tools and equipment and take-off grants to start their activities.





The project targets over 70 000 people in rural communities in the three northern states with a particular focus on farmers, pastoralists, fishermen, sellers of forest products and medicinal herbs, local craft men and local authorities, including women and youth.

In close collaboration with:

- Ministry of Environment
- National Agency for the Great Green Wall
- Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria
- Local authorities in Bauchi, Jigawa and Sokoto state

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is an initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) in support of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative and UNCCD national action programmes to combat desertification. It promotes sustainable land management and restoration of degraded land in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Action Against Desertification is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union in the framework of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF).

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