

Project objective

The objective is to contribute to strengthening the resilience of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in the face of climate change (CC) by adapting access to agro-pastoral resources in a context of mobility and climate change and in co-designing innovations for pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in Chad.



Background

In Chad, pastoralism and agro-pastoralism allow for a rational exploitation of the immense natural range areas in a highly variable and unpredictable environment. With an estimated livestock population of 94 million, ruminant farming accounts for 44% of agricultural GDP. However, for about four decades pastoralists have faced changes in their environment due to repeated droughts and floods, and rising temperatures. These climatic changes are coupled with increased competition for resources and an increase in land pressure, leading to a multiplication of conflicts and social unrest, sometimes leading to bloody clashes. The modification of the pastoral mobility regimes also induces modifications of the health and socio-cultural environment to which the stockbreeders must adapt. In this context, research must understand the transformations underway, and propose new concerted resource management methods. A consortium made up of IRED, the Pastoral Platform of Chad (PPC) and CIRAD, is committed to producing knowledge, co-constructing innovations and co-developing decision support tools to support the adaptation strategies of Chadian pastoralists and agro-pastoralists.



Theory of change to achieve the objectives

To achieve the expected impacts, the project will develop a **Research-Action in a Partnership approach** that allows the respective skills of the consortium to be brought into synergy by mobilizing their know-how in the field of research and development. It also makes it possible to involve field actors and scientists in the analysis of situations, the exploration of solutions, their implementation and their evaluation while respecting an ethical framework previously discussed and formalized.

Specifically, the project first aims to update and share knowledge on adaptations of pastoral and agro-pastoral systems to climate change. This phase will be based on studies and field research intended to update the reference data. This work will be returned to the community of decision-makers and stakeholders in the sector via the Pastoral Platform of Chad. The project will then aim to co-design innovations for better access to agro-pastoral resources. These innovations will focus on the production of livestock feed using locally available by-products, the implementation of fodder crops, and improving access to water. These innovations will be co-designed, tested, evaluated and disseminated within local innovation platforms. Finally, the project will aim to develop decision support tools based on the mapping and monitoring of pastoral resources and mobility. These tools will be tested thanks to the national and local partners of the Chad Pastoral Platform to prevent conflicts and encourage concerted management of resources. The results of this Action Research will be widely disseminated at local, national and sub regional levels through local and national



consultation workshops organized by the Pastoral Platform of Chad, participation in regional scientific events (symposia, conferences, etc.) and the organization of a regional conference on pastoral land in partnership with other projects and programs.

For the **sustainability of the actions**, the Pastoral Platform of Chad supported by CIRAD, will encourage the development of innovative public / private partnerships, in particular for the “nutritional blocks for animals”, or the sale of fodder. Thus, certain actors will be able to develop new economic activities. Still for the perpetuation of actions and their inclusion in a political framework, the project will benefit from the experience and capacity of the PPC to bring and facilitate political dialogue between different stakeholders (State, OPE, Donors, etc.) as part of a long-term partnership. The PPC will make it possible to better take into account the needs of the actors, to disseminate the lessons learned from the project and to obtain a large-scale impact. The action research work on the practices of institutional actors with regard to the law will also lead to proposals for improving the legal and regulatory framework relating to the protection of the environment or the draft Rural Code which is in preparation.

Increased attention will be paid to gender aspects and young pastoralists. Taking gender into account will be adapted to each project area. The project will: i) promote the advancement of women in the area of decision-making; ii) guarantee the participation of women and young people in management committees and their participation will be organized taking into account the quality of their contribution and finally; iii) take care to adapt innovations to the needs and capacities of women, including being vigilant about gender differences in the workload.

Main activities

Pilot sites will be identified from the start in the project intervention areas to: i) conduct surveys, in particular on mobile farming systems; ii) conduct experiments on fodder resources of high productive and nutritive value, on innovative technical systems of access to water, and methods of resource management.

It will also involve developing with these actors decision-making tools (ie actors' cards, local development plans, local charters, etc.) adapted to the local context and the evolution of natural resources and climate variability. This work will be carried out in the framework of action research in partnership both through local innovation platforms and the PPC. The results of the various activities will be the subject of feedback workshops in the field with the beneficiaries and the target groups. The project also provides for capacity building actions for breeders to adapt their practices and train stakeholders to the tools of conflict prevention and management. Finally, communication actions are planned to reach a wider audience (conference, radio, press, etc.).

Organisation

The project is organized into 3 thematic components and one for coordination.

Component 1: Production of knowledge on the adaptation of pastoral systems to climate change. The objective is to update knowledge on the diversity of pastoral and agro-pastoralist adaptation practices to climate change in order to support their transition to more resilient farming methods.

Component II: Co-design of innovations adapted to the realities of the different agro-ecological zones. The objective is to co-identify innovative practices allowing better resilience of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists. Component 2 is implemented through three activities.

Component III: Co-development of decision support tools adapted to the local context and the evolution of natural resources and climate variability. The objective is to support the establishment of local multi-stakeholder committees to co-design decision-making tools and train them in their use in order to contribute to the prevention and management of conflict risks. Component 3 is implemented through two activities.

Component IV: Coordination and animation of the project. The objective is to animate the various activities implemented within the components by including piloting activities, programming of activities, management of research resources, coordination between project partnerships and with field partners, reporting, publication and communication support, and monitoring and evaluation.

Implementing organizations

Research Institute in Livestock for Development (IRED), Chad, leader of the consortium with a coordination team supported by an international technical assistant.

Project partners

The Pastoral Platform of Chad (PPC), Chad and the Center for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (CIRAD), France are involved in the framework of a consortium and funding agreement with IRED.



Other stakeholders

Pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, farmers, technical agents of the pastoral platform, technical agents and experts from ministries and projects (PASTOR, PREPAS, PRAPS), University of Ndjaména, Local customary authorities, Producer organizations (National Confederation of Breeders' Organizations of Chad-CONORET; Interprofessional Confederation of the Livestock Sector in Chad (CONFIFET) and NGOs (Network of Action Sharing and Solidarity for Development-RAP ; Catholic Committee against Hunger and for Development-CCFD ; Cooperazione Internazionale-COOPI ; CARE Austria,) will be associated in the implementation of the project.



Region

Chad (Central Africa): Intervention area with a complementary agrological profile: Mandoul / Moyen-Chari (Sudanian zone); Guéra / Batha and Chari-Baguirmi (Sahelian zone), Ennedis / Ouadi Fira (Saharan zone).

Funding and co-funding

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|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| UE (95%) | € 3,000,000 |
| Co-financing of the consortium (5%) | € 157,895 |
| Total budget | € 3,157,895 |

Duration

4 years (2019-2023)