



**Economic Community
of West African States
(ECOWAS)**



**West African
Economic and
Monetary Union
(UEMOA)**



**United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification
(UNCCD)**



**Permanent Interstate
Committee for Drought
Control in the Sahel
(CILSS)**

**SUB-REGIONAL ACTION
PROGRAMME TO COMBAT
DESERTIFICATION IN WEST
AFRICA**

Septembre 2013

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AfDB	:	African Development Bank
AGRHYMET	:	Regional Training Centre for Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology and their Applications
ALG	:	Autorité pour le Développement du Liptako-Gourma
AMCEN	:	African Ministerial Conference on Environment
CAADP	:	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CAP	:	Common Agricultural Policy
CBD	:	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	:	Community-Based Organization
CCD	:	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
CCRE	:	Water Resources Coordination Centre
CILSS	:	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CREREE	:	Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
CRES	:	Regional Solar Energy Centre
CRIC	:	Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification
CSLP	:	Strategic Framework for Poverty Reduction
CSO	:	Civil Society Organization
CSRC	:	Sub-Regional Coordination Committee
DAERE		Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources Directorate (ECOWAS)
DC	:	Desertification Control
DLDD	:	Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought
ECA	:	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECOWAP	:	ECOWAS Agricultural Policy
ECOWAS	:	Economic Community of West African States
EE	:	Environment Education
EIER	:	Interstate School of Rural Equipment Engineers
EISMV	:	Inter-State School for Veterinary Sciences and Medicine
ENDA-TM	:	Environmental Development Action in the Third World
FAO	:	United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture
FBO	:	Farmer-based Organization
FCFA	:	African Financial Community Franc
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	:	Global Environmental Facility
HIPC	:	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
IFAD	:	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGO	:	Intergovernmental Organization
INSAH	:	Sahel Institute
IO	:	International Organization
IRED	:	Institut de Recherche en Développement
IUCN	:	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRM		Integrated Water Resources Management
MDG	:	Millennium Development Goals
NAP	:	National Action Plan
NBA	:	Niger Basin Authority
NEAP	:	National Environmental Action Plan

NEPAD	:	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	:	Non Governmental Organization
NRM	:	Natural Resources Management
OMVG	:	Gambia River Basin Development Organization
OMVS	:	Senegal River Development Organization
PAID-WAS	:	Panafrican Institute for Development-West Africa/Sahel
PANGIRE		National Integrated Water Resources Management Action Plans
PCAE	:	Politique commune d'amélioration de l'environnement (<i>Common Environmental Improvement Policy</i>)
PLCE		Programme de lutte contre l'ensablement (<i>Sand Encroachment Control Programme</i>)
PRAI-MD	:	Programme Régional d'Aménagement Intégré du Massif du Fouta Djallon (<i>Regional Programme for the Integrated Management of the Fouta Djallon Highlands</i>)
RBEP		Regional Biomass Energy Programme
SLM	:	Sustainable Land Management
SRAP/WA	:	Sub-Regional Action Programme for West Africa
TG	:	Theme Group
UEMOA	:	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UNCED	:	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	:	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	:	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WARDA	:	West African Rice Development Association
WAWRP		West African Water Resources Policy
WB	:	World Bank

Background and Rationale for the SRAP

Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) are major constraints to the economic and social development of African countries, especially in West Africa. The international community acknowledged that fact during the Rio Conference (June 1992) by adopting the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in countries severely affected by drought and/or desertification, especially in Africa (CCD).

In its 11th Article the CCD stipulates that “the affected country parties shall liaise as appropriate to develop, in accordance with the relevant Annexes regarding the implementation at regional level, sub-regional or regional action programmes to fight desertification in order to harmonize, complete and improve the efficiency of national action programmes (NAP)”. That article specifies that the area for action of the Subregional Action Programmes/Desertification Control (SRAP/DC) should focus on issues that are better managed at sub-regional level. The sub-regional action programmes produce, when necessary, mechanisms for the management of shared natural resources. These mechanisms enable to efficiently solve transboundary issues related to land degradation and desertification and support the harmonious implementation of national action programmes.

In applying these provisions, the sixteen (16) countries in West Africa and Chad (in Central Africa), decided in September 1994 to cooperate in developing and implementing a sub-regional action programme to combat desertification and manage shared resources. That programme is titled “SRAP – West Africa” (SRAP/WA) under the aegis of ECOWAS and CILSS. The countries concerned are: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea (Conakry), Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

The implementation report of the SRAP/WA adopted in June 1999 by ECOWAS Heads of State and Government highlighted several achievements out of the eight priority areas identified by the SRAP stakeholders. Nevertheless, the absence of a common and shared vision for the SRAP has resulted in: (i) the inappropriate functioning of operational framework mechanisms; (ii) the inappropriate functioning of the SRAP/WA's governance mechanisms; (iii) difficulties in mobilizing financial resources for funding the programme.

The second generation of SRAP/WA (SRAP2) is developed for the adoption of UNCCD's ten-year strategy (2008-2018). It addresses the two-fold concern of the 17 ECOWAS and CILSS countries to improve the implementation of the CCD in the sub-region: (i) by maximizing the complementarity and convergence with new institutional frameworks and rural development policies in the sub-region in order to consolidate the common vision for the sustainable management of natural resources undertaken by the previous SRAP, (ii) a better coverage of environmental challenges using the synergy between the three Rio Conventions, (iii) meeting the requirements of the 3/COP 8 decision calling for the alignment of National Action Plans (NAPs), SRAPs and Regional Action Programmes (RAPs) with the strategic and operational objectives of the ten-year strategy of the CCD.

Objectives of the SRAP-WA

In keeping with the spirit of the Convention, the current SRAP aims at promoting a partnership between the different actors intervening on issues related to the sustainable management of shared resources, in order for these resources to serve present and future generations in their quest for economic and social wellbeing.

Its long term objective is to rehabilitate, strengthen and sustain the productive and protective functions of ecosystems shared by at least two or more countries in the sub-region, by creating a conducive environment for national and sub-regional stakeholders to develop initiatives to ensure the sustainable management of land resources (water, soil, flora and fauna).

In that respect, SRAP/WA provides a framework and opportunity to:

1. Develop a large coalition among stakeholders at various levels;
2. Improve the collection, management and dissemination of information and know-how on sustainable land management;
3. A better positioning of the issue of environment and sustainable land management in national priorities;
4. An improved knowledge of “Man-Climate” interactions within the natural resources dynamics and the conditions for improving the resilience of human and natural environments to climate change. Reflections in the context of the implementation of the SRAP should contribute to the emergence of a single sub-regional programme addressing issues related to DDL, Climate change (CC) adaptation and mitigation, and biodiversity preservation/rehabilitation.

Aligned with the ten-year strategy, the SRAP has three strategic objectives:

- 1. Improve living conditions and food security in arid and semi-arid zones of West Africa**
- 2. Improve the state of transboundary and/or shared ecosystems.**
- 3. Establish efficient partnerships (in transboundary and/or shared resources management among sub-regional, national, local and international partners in order to speed up the implementation of the CCD at national and sub-regional levels.**

In addition to these strategic objectives there are 4 other operational objectives within the areas of intervention of the Programme:

1. Efficiently integrate DDL issues in sub-regional and national priorities in West Africa and influence the international community, sub-regional and national stakeholders to address DLDD issues more efficiently.
2. Work at creating in the sub-region a generally conducive environment for finding sustainable and efficient solutions to combat desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.
3. Strengthen the scientific basis of CD/NRM in West Africa and establish an efficient system for capacity strengthening and DLDD knowledge management in the sub-region.
4. Support financial and technological resource mobilization for the implementation of CCD in West Africa.

Implementation mechanism

Learning from the implementation of previous SRAP, the implementation mechanism of the current SRAP should be based on the following principles:

- ✓ The need for a driving institution to coordinate the programme;
- ✓ The need for alignment with the ten-year implementation strategy of the CCD ;
- ✓ The technical know-how, motivation and ownership;
- ✓ The primary mandate and relevant policy endorsement;
- ✓ The continuity and use of previously successful arrangements;
- ✓ Responsibility sharing among the various sub-regional institutions within the framework of appropriate partnerships;
- ✓ And the provision of resources to support the responsibilities and mandates assigned.

As a sub-regional policy and economic integration institution, ECOWAS will play the role of single policy coordinator in charge of facilitation and consultation among SRAP2's stakeholders. To support the organization in this task, a technical coordination unit and technical secretariat will be established.

The technical coordination is composed of the ECOWAS Commission (DAERE), UEMOA Commission and Executive Secretariat of CILSS. It will be supported by a Manager.

CILSS Executive Secretariat will serve as Secretariat.

Each of the 4 operational objectives will be covered by a leading institution and associated institutions in accordance with clearly defined arrangements.

The coordination of the programme for combating desertification will be include into the Coordination Unit on Climate Change which already exists at the ECOWAS Commission

Funding the SRAP WA

The SRAP will be funded from two main sources:

- Internal sub-regional funding mainly from the ECOWAP/PRIA funding mechanism and the existing funding mechanisms at UEMOA, namely the structural funds originating from the community solidarity levy (CSL) and endowments: FAIR, FRDA or FRGE being discussed at the UEMOA Commission.
- External funding: the strategy aiming at increasing external resources to fund the programme should therefore consists in:
 - Supporting the States to maximize multilateral and bilateral funding tools and mechanisms at their disposal and the new funding opportunities related to the other conventions;
 - Develop external capacities and synergies between sub-regional IGOs in order to scale up the level of resources mobilization offered by the funding mechanisms and tools intended for the region. This implies that, not only would it be necessary to train

national executives and IGOs officials in mastering funding institutions' procedures and channels, but, once again, there will be a need to strengthen synergies between sub-regional policies and programmes.

Monitoring and Evaluation of the SRAP-WA

Within the framework of the SRAP, monitoring and evaluation aim at providing decision makers with information that would enable them know the extent to which the mechanisms established to coordinate and implement the SRAP and its programmes are operational and appropriate. It should also assist in knowing the extent to which the actions carried out have produced the expected results based on performance and impact indicators as defined by the ten-year strategy.

The monitoring of the will be conducted by CILSS which will submit the output to the Programme Steering Committee (PSC). Thus, at the first level, monitoring and evaluation will be conducted on the activities of the regional priorities identified for the SRAP. The various sub-regional actors involved in the implementation of SLM actions will be included in this exercise. To that effect, it would be necessary to streamline and align the monitoring-evaluation systems with the ten-year strategy .

The monitoring-evaluation will involve the implementation process of the SRAP-WA..

I. INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD) in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, is one of three conventions formulated following the RIO 1992 process.

Adopted in Paris on June 17, 1994 and enforced on December 26, 1996, the CCD is an international law convention. It calls on its signatories, either as ‘affected country parties’ or ‘developed country parties’ to take joint measures in combating desertification and land degradation throughout the world, and more especially in Africa, a region considered as a priority. The fact that African countries expeditiously signed and ratified this convention is evidence of awareness from all segments of the society regarding the tremendous economic, social and political consequences of desertification on the daily lives and future of West African populations.

In its Article 11, the CCD stipulates that the “affected country parties shall consult and cooperate to prepare, as appropriate, in accordance with relevant regional implementation annexes, subregional and/or regional action programmes to harmonize, complement and increase the efficiency of national action programmes (NAP)”. To implement these provisions, the sixteen (16) countries of West Africa and Chad, a central African country, have decided in September 1994 to cooperate in formulating and implementing a subregional action programme to combat desertification and manage their shared resources. This action programme is titled “SRAP – West Africa” under the aegis of ECOWAS and CILSS. The countries concerned are: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea (Conakry), Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

Following the lengthy participatory and iterative process, the subregional action programme to combat desertification in West Africa and Chad (SRAP/WA) was adopted in June 1999 by ECOWAS Heads of State and Government.

After about ten years of implementing the SRAP/WA (CILSS, 2006) there have been achievements but also multifaceted constraints that have hindered the efficient implementation of the programme. These constraints include: (i) difficulties in mobilizing financial resources to fund activities; (ii) inappropriate operation of coordination and steering mechanisms of the SRAP/WA, and (iii) the weakness of links between the SRAP/WA and the existing or uncompleted regional environmental policies.

Moreover, since the adoption of the SRAP/WA, the institutional context of environmental and rural development in West Africa has evolved with the formulation and/or adoption of new policies and programmes namely: the ECOWAS environmental policy, the regional action programme for integrated water resources management (RAP/IWRM), NEPAD and its environmental chapter, the Common Environmental Improvement Policy (PCAE-UEMOA), and ECOWAP/CAADP. These are all new initiatives that could boost the efficiency and visibility of the SRAP/WA’s implementation.

While the sub-region had engaged this reflection in order to reactivate the implementation of the SRAP/WA, international stakeholders were in the same spirit that prevailed during the adoption in September 2007 in Madrid of a Strategic Framework (2008-2018) of the United Nations Convention

to Combat Desertification. The objective of this Framework was to boost the implementation of the Convention at all levels (national, sub-regional and regional).

Thus, the second generation of the Subregional Action Programme to combat desertification in West Africa and Chad (SRAP2) meets the two-fold concern of West African countries and Chad to improve the implementation of the CCD in West Africa and Chad by: (i) harnessing its complementarity and convergence with new institutional and political frameworks for rural development in the subregion in order to consolidate the common vision for sustainable natural resources management by the SRAP; (ii) improving the coverage of environmental challenges based on the synergy between the three Rio Conventions; (iii) meeting the demands of the 3/COP 8 decision calling for the alignment of NAP, SRAPs and RAPs with the strategic and operational objectives of the ten-year (2008-2018) CCD strategy.

The document is organized in three sections:

- ✓ The first section presents: (i) the physical and socio-economic background of West Africa and Chad; (ii) the SLM thematic in West Africa and Chad; (iii) the state of the previous SRAP and lessons learned to identify SLM subregional priorities within the context of the ten-year strategy.
- ✓ The second section is devoted to the new orientations of the subregional action programme to combat desertification in West Africa and Chad (SRAP-WA) and successively expands on: (i) the rationale for a new generation of a SRAP-WA, (ii) the logical framework (strategic and operational objectives, expected results and main activities)
- ✓ The third section develops the implementation strategy of the SRAP-WA.

SECTION I – SUBREGIONAL BIOPHYSICAL AND SOCIO- ECONOMIC CONTEXT AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE SRAP/WA (SRAP1)

- 1. Biophysical and socio-economic characteristics of the zone covered by the SRAP-WA**
- 2. The issue of desertification/land degradation in the subregion**
- 3. SRAP first generation: Achievements, Constraints**
- 4. Lessons learned and subregional SLM priorities**

1. BIOPHYSICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ZONE COVERED BY THE SRAP₂

1.1 BIOPHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The second generation of the SRAP will continue in the same geographic dynamic defined in September 1994.

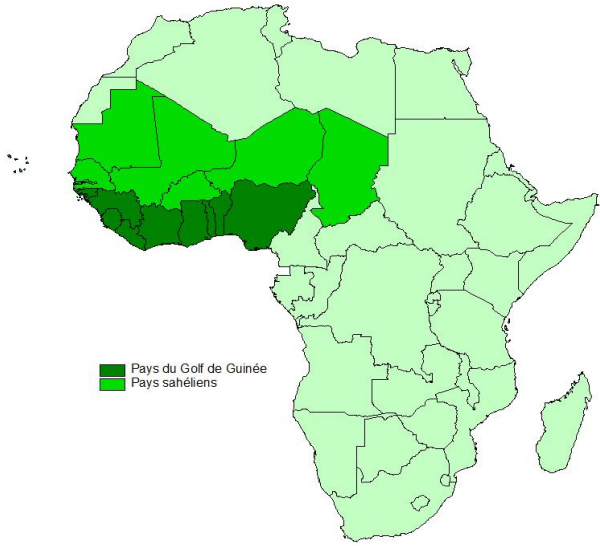
The countries concerned are: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cap-Vert, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and Chad.

The countries covered by the SRAP/WA form a large geographical and political group covering 6,590,000 km².

These countries are highlighted in Figure 1 and could be grouped in two large sub-entities:

- Sahelian countries: they are eight (8): Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.
- The Gulf of Guinea: Nine (9) countries: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo.

Figure 1: Location map of the zone of intervention of SRAP₂



The Sahel, in its continental section (except for Cape Verde) forms part of a larger regional group including five pluviometric regions with a rainfall varying from 150 mm in the north to 1,200 mm in the south.

The rainy season lasts between 3 to 5 months in Sahelian countries. The high interannual irregularity of rainfall in this part of the subregion is increasingly evident in dry periods with catastrophic effects for the environment and people.

The countries in the Gulf of Guinea are characterized by a humid tropical climate in the coastal fringe and a dry climate northwards. The average annual rainfall is between 2,000 and 2,500 mm, alternating between two rainy seasons and two dry seasons.

The region covered by the SRAP/WA2 hosts various types of ecosystems (forest, marine and mountain ecosystems). Forest resources in the region are threatened by a combination of factors including: agricultural expansion, commercial crops, increased harvest of fuelwood, overgrazing, rapid urbanization, industrialization, drought, civil wars and bushfires. Rapid deforestation in the subregion is a concern in view of the scope of degradation initiated since the 70s. The subregion averagely records alarming deforestation rates estimated à 1.2 million hectares annually (FAO, 2006).

Soils in the subregion are mainly fragile, hardly fertile and have a particularly low nitrogen and phosphorous content. The soils in Saharan-Sahelian and Sahelian zones are particularly vulnerable to wind erosion.

The issue of land use and especially the issue of land tenure insecurity are essential in managing natural resources throughout the subregion. These issues give rise to i) new clearings and shifting agriculture; (ii) the postponement of development and investments for intensification; (iii) the escheat of communal territories during dry seasons, leading to all sorts of misuse of the resource. In several West African countries, the new phenomenon of land grabbing by foreign developed countries is rampant. This problem affects several countries in West Africa and is a threat to the social, political and economic stability of the subregion. The various conflicts that have troubled the subregion in recent years were motivated by the access to, and control of land resources with a violent challenging of property titles acquired years ago. Since the same causes can produce the same effects, a serious examination of this issue at appropriate levels in ECOWAS is necessary to guide actions by the various governments.

In the area of water resources, West African states are strongly interdependent. Except for Cape Verde, each West African shares at least one watercourse with one of its neighbors. Three large river basins – the Niger, Chad and Senegal – create solidarity among the West African countries of the African Great Green Wall (GGW). Climatic variability is one of the most important threats for surface and ground water resources.

- The variability and vulnerability of water resources in the face of climate changes.

1.2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

With a population of a little over 225 millions, i.e. 30% of the African population, and with almost 85% of its surface area severely degraded and experiencing recurring droughts, West

Africa is generally characterized by (i) endemic poverty¹ and (ii) a strong dependency of its populations, largely rural, on natural resources. In that subregion more than anywhere else, rural poverty reduction largely depends on improving poor populations to derive their livelihoods and incomes from natural resources.

The institutional framework strongly influenced by economic integration is at the root of the development of an intergovernmental cooperation on various shared and/or transboundary natural resources.

2. THE ISSUE OF DESERTIFICATION/LAND DEGRADATION AND DROUGHT (DLDD) IN THE SUBREGION

Land degradation is an old phenomenon dating back from the introduction of logging industrial crops in West Africa, mainly cotton and groundnut for Sahelian countries, coffee and cocoa, pineapple for coastal countries. During the colonial period, it was considered more important to ensure maximum production without restituting to the land the nutrients it lost due to the intensive cultivation of these products.

The phenomenon worsened towards the end of the sixties when human actions were compounded with the climate (the long dry season culminating in the great droughts of 1973-74 and 1984-85). Today, no country in the subregion is spared, especially in view of the increasing needs of populations, the old forms of land use that respected the harmonious balance between man and his environment, have been abandoned for unsustainable forms of land resources management.

2.1 THE CAUSES, MANIFESTATIONS AND EFFECTS OF LAND DEGRADATION

Desertification in the region is mainly visible through the gradual impoverishment and degradation of the productive biological potential (soil, water, fauna, flora).

The entire subregion (both Sahelian and Gulf of Guinea countries) is affected. The effects of desertification are enormous and often dramatic especially in the Sahelian region (food insecurity, pauperization of rural masses).

2.1.1 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

The Convention to combat Desertification defines a number of concepts that are repeated here.

The term “desertification” refers to land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid zones as a result of various factors including climate variations and human activities.

The expression “land degradation” refers to the decrease or extinction, in arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, of the biological or economic productivity and complexity of non-irrigated farmed lands, irrigated farmed lands, rangelands, forests or woodlands due to land use or one or several phenomena, namely phenomena caused by human activities and his settlement

¹ Over 30% of the population survives on less than one (1) US dollar a day

modes, such as: (i) soil erosion caused by wind and/or water, (ii) the deterioration of physical, chemical and biological or economic properties of soils, and (iii) the long term disappearance of the natural vegetation.

The expression “desertification control” refers to activities related to the integrated management of lands in arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid zones, for sustainable development and with the aim of (i) preventing and/or reducing land degradation; (ii) partly rehabilitating degraded lands, and (iii) rehabilitating desertified lands.

2.1.2 THE CAUSES OF LAND DEGRADATION

Land degradation is mainly due to human activity and the climate.

Anthropogenic factors

The main anthropogenic factors of land degradation in West Africa and Chad are:

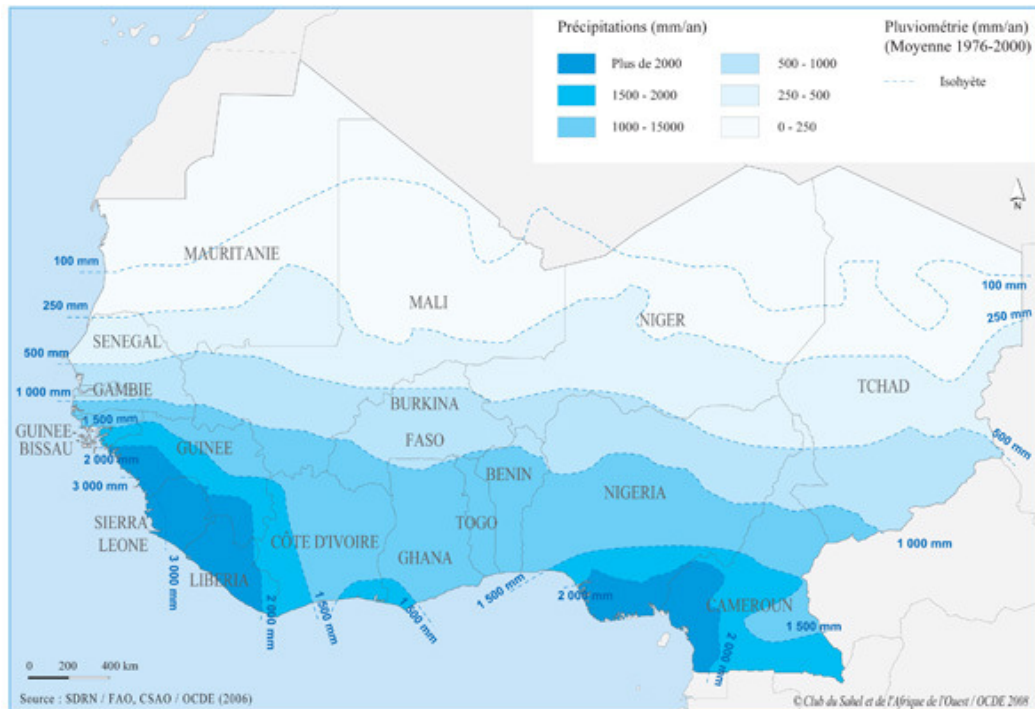
- ✓ The abusive and inappropriate use of plant and forest resources, thereby denuding soils and exposing them to extreme weather (floods, winds, excessive sunshine, etc.). It is the case for (i) uncontrolled clearing for farming (ii) wood harvesting for fuel, (iii) logging for the production of roundwood and timber, (iv) overexploitation of rangelands; bushfires, population pressure leading to soil and forest degradation.
- ✓ The intensification of intra and interstate migration: internal and external migrations caused by inclement climatic conditions in Sahelian areas, conflicts and political crises that have led to the intensification of population movements and transboundary transhumance (from the Sahel towards the forest zone). This massive influx of humans and animals in the wetlands of neighboring countries are a pressure on natural resources and lead to various problems including (i) soil and environmental degradation, and (ii) the increased frequency and aggravation of conflicts among farmers on the one part, and among farmers and pastoralist on the other part, for access to these resources.

In the Gulf of Guinea countries, the overexploitation of wood resources has reached worrisome proportions. In Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria, uncontrolled clearing for shifting agriculture has considerably reduced the plant cover.

Climatic factors

Since 1968, the subregion has faced recurring droughts, the effects of which are increasingly felt, including in coastal countries. They translated into substantial pluviometric deficits with often serious consequences. The downwards trend of the average annual rainfall seems to have started during the 1970 decade and increased during the 1980s. The decline in average rainfall before and after 1970 varies from about 15% to over 30% depending on the zone. During the past thirty years, there has been a significant North-South slide of isohyets for the Sahelian zone as shown by Figure No. 2.

Figure 2 : Isohyets Map



Combined with the overexploitation or poor management of renewable natural resources, the effects of droughts and climate variability exacerbate desertification and land degradation.

Desertification is closely related to climate change and to biodiversity loss as it deeply affects production and consumption modes.

In its Second Evaluation Report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlighted the close link between climate changes and desertification.

In effect, soil degradation results in decreased biodiversity and contributes to climate change. In turn, climate changes cause land and biodiversity degradation while the rehabilitation of degraded soil contributes to biodiversity protection, mitigates the impact of climate change and contributes to climate change adaptation. (Figure 3)

As is the case with most developing regions, West Africa and Chad are particularly vulnerable to the potential impacts of climate change. These will worsen desertification and its effects in arid zones with consequences on agricultural production systems which are already experiencing chronic deficit.

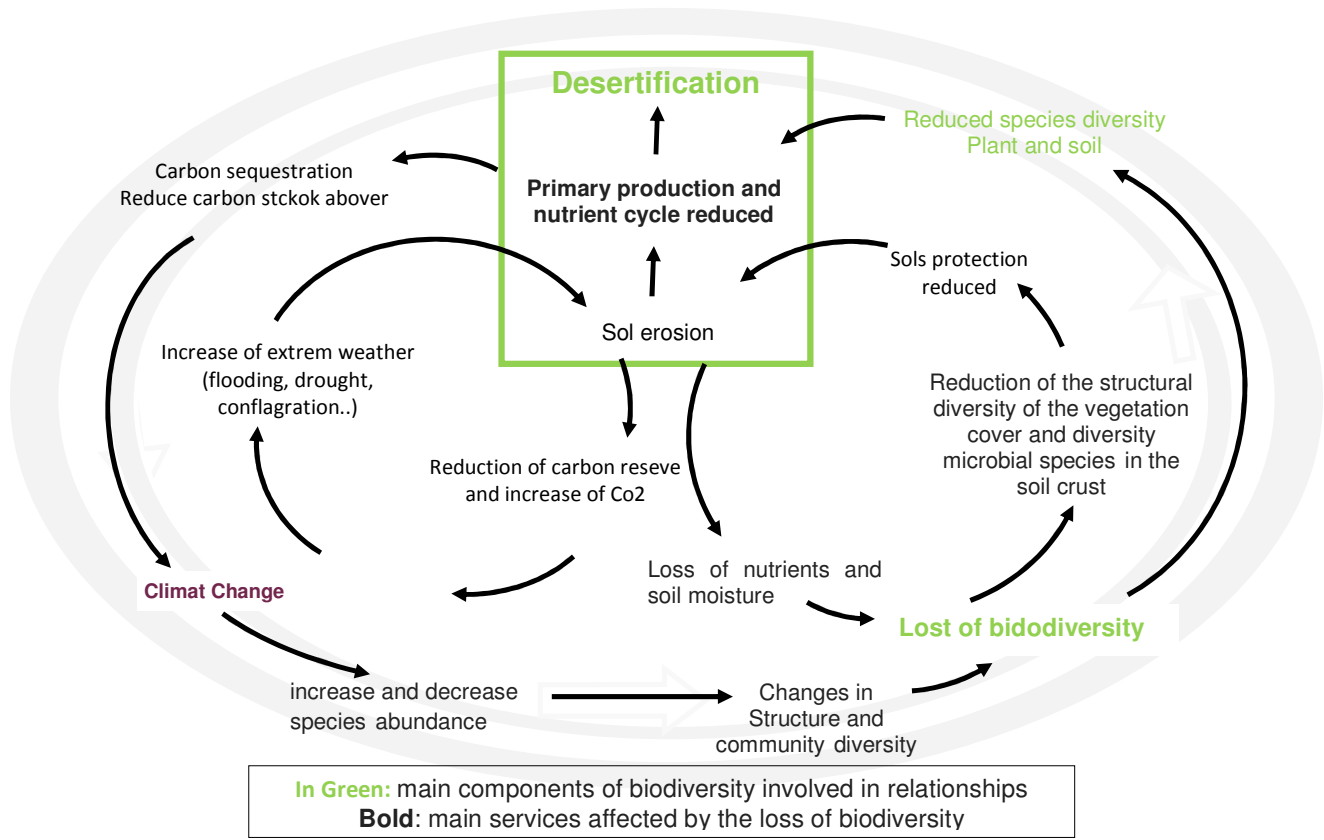
Modifications in land use through the transfer of forest surfaces to other uses will contribute to accentuating land degradation and global warming. This rather complex process will contribute to aggravating climatic conditions throughout the subregion covered by the SRAP.

In arid zones, climate changes might aggravate the process of soil degradation and desertification. The impacts of climate changes retroaction on desertification would translate into the misuse of water, land, forest and rangeland resources, thus leading to soil erosion and degradation, etc.

According to scientific projections, the arid regions of West Africa will become warmer and deserts will become extreme due to climatic changes.

Increased soil aridity would lead to the degradation of the plant cover, increased bushfires, wind erosion, rainwater erosion, etc. which in turn could accentuate climate changes.

According to forecasts, arid regions of West Africa will become hotter due to climate change. Increased aridity lead to the degradation of plant cover, increasing bush fires, wind erosion, erosion due to rainwater, etc... This in turn could increase climate change.



Source: Evaluation des écosystèmes pour le millénaire

Figure 3 : Links between soil degradation, climate change and biodiversity conservation (Source: WRI, 2005)

2.1.3 THE MANIFESTATIONS AND EFFECTS OF LAND DEGRADATION

The phenomenon of land degradation is manifest in various forms, some of them irreversible: wind erosion scours farmland and generates dunes while filling water bodies and lakes with sand (example: the Faguibine system and Lake Chad).

Water erosion scours the fertile layer of arable lands and is a serious threat to food security. The salinization of lands due to natural (high evaporation during droughts when rainfall is low and scorch high) or human phenomena (irrigation).

Throughout the subregion, there is a strong disruption of agricultural systems balance following the combined effects of recurring droughts and anthropogenic actions.

In the Sahelian zone of the subregion, the consequences of desertification are seen in the following elements, among others: (i) a disruption of agricultural cycles and therefore poor harvests on soils that have become infertile as a result of water and wind erosion, (ii) a significant migration motivated by the quest for better living conditions. By compromising the production of food crops, desertification exacerbates famine. Famine generally happens in zones already affected by poverty. After the lands have been desertified, they become more fragile and therefore their resilience to the natural variability of the climate is reduced.

In its southern part (Gulf of Guinea), forest potential has tremendously shrunk. Forest resources in the region are threatened by a host of factors including: agricultural expansion, cash crops, increased harvest of fuelwood, overgrazing, uncontrolled urbanization, industrialization, drought, civil wars and bushfires. Rapid deforestation in the subregion is a serious concern due to the extent of degradation initiated in the 1970s.

Moreover, beyond the general economic consequences of desertification, it accentuated the competition and struggle to access and control natural resources, thus generating cultural, ethnic and land conflicts as demonstrated by the wars that have plagued and continue to plague the entire subregion and especially countries such as Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Côte d'Ivoire.

3. SRAP/WA : ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS

Adopted in 1999, the SRAP/WA was designed as a guiding strategic framework to reference, arbitrate and harmonize actions in combating desertification (CD) and the negative effects of droughts, for governmental and non-governmental stakeholders of member countries and organizations. In that sense, countries in the subregion, especially the national focal points of the CCD have insisted on the need for the SRAP/WA to play the following two primary functions during its operational phase:

- Influence policies, strategies and practices to combat desertification at subregional and national levels. The orientations defined by the SRAP as well as the implementation mechanisms (theme groups, CSRC, subregional fora) should assist in further examining the concepts as well as their operationalization, facilitating exchanges for improved knowledge and know-how sharing and a continuous improvement of strategies and actions;
- Streamline subregional mechanisms of intervention. Thus, it should be possible in time, to uncover duplications and convergences among the interventions of IGOs and other subregional stakeholders and contribute to the development of complementarities and synergies. This would lead to the pooling of objectives and resources.

In order to operationalize the SRAP/WA, eight (8) priority fields for subregional cooperation grouped in three areas of intervention have been identified: (i) Sustainable management of shared and/or transboundary natural resources; (ii) sustainable control of SLM constraints and contingencies; (iii) Support measures for a best natural resources management. Each priority area or theme group was coordinated by an IGO or NGO from the subregion.

On the basis of orientations defined by the stakeholders and using the consultation mechanisms (especially theme groups), stakeholders operating in isolation in transboundary programmes should join their efforts to initiate and implement the management of shared and/or transboundary resources. Thus the status of implementation of the SRAP/WA was

produced based on initiatives developed by all the subregional actors, in one or more of the priority areas.

Thus, major initiatives have been developed by stakeholders in the subregion. However, it should be mentioned that various constraints have hindered the efficient implementation of the programme.

3.1 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS (FIRST GENERATION)

3.1.1 WATER RESSOURCES MANAGEMENT

To recall, the objectives identified for this priority area within the framework of the SRAP are three:

- ✓ Support the establishment of functional consultation frameworks and the definition of modalities for the sustainable and fair use of water resources in the subregion;
- ✓ Capitalize and upscale the achievements of the various actors in the area;
- ✓ Ensure, increase and improve water supply.

Regarding these above objectives the following achievements have been made:

- a) Support the establishment of functional consultation frameworks and the definition of modalities for the sustainable and fair use of water resources in the subregion

The Centre for Water Resources Coordination (CCRE) was established in the subregion under ECOWAS Department of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources with the objective of ensuring the promotion of integrated water resources management (IWRM), coordinating and monitoring regional activities in order to operationalize the integrated management of water resources in West Africa, in accordance with the statutes, policies and programmes of ECOWAS. To that effect, the Centre is expected to provide specific support to river basin countries and agencies.

Specific support to countries

The CCRE assists in defining National Integrated Water Resources Management Action Plans (PANGIRE) and implementing and sharing the methodology to develop IWRM (GWP/UCRE/UNEP) and monitoring. The Centre works at:

- Formulating and adopting a framework convention for the management of shared water resources in West Africa;
- Creating a regional observatory to monitor water resources.

Specific support to basins

For the improved governance of shared water resources in the subregion, the CCRE has provided support for the establishment of three new basin organizations. They are: (i) the Comoé-Bia-Tano (Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali), (ii) the Mono (Togo, Benin) and (iii) the Cavally-Cestos-Sassandra (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone).

- b) Regarding the increase and improved management of water supply:

Adoption of a Regional Water Resources Policy for West Africa (PREAO)-ECOWAS/UEMOA/CILSS. As the result of a regional consensus (ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS) the policy was adopted on 19 November 2008 by the Summit of ECOWAS Heads of State and presents the key principles of water management (equity, balance and sustainability) governing the sustainable management of shared water resources.

3.1.2 TRANSBOUNDARY PLANT AND ANIMAL RESSOURCES MANAGEMENT

The objectives of the SRAP/WA for the priority area “Sustainable management of shared and/or transboundary plant and animal resources” are two-fold:

- ✓ Define and support the enforcement of common standards and modalities for the management of shared resources and ecosystems, including coastal resources;
- ✓ Design and provide States and stakeholders with efficient tools to plan for the subregion based on comparative advantages.
 - a) Regarding the definition and support to implement common standards and modalities for the management of shared resources and ecosystems, including coastal resources, the ECOWAS Commission has formulated, with FAO’s support, the subregional forestry policy which aims at conserving and facilitating the socio-economic development of forestry resources and the sound use of ecosystem goods and services in the region.
 - b) As regards the conception and provision to States and stakeholders of efficient tools to plan the subregional space based on comparative advantages, the following progress has been made :

Together with its partners (UEMOA, CILSS, FAO and IUCN), the Commission has developed, on the recommendations of ministries, the forest dialogue document.

The overall objective of the Forestry Dialogue is to encourage West African countries to sustainably manage in a concerted manner forest and wildlife resources in the subregion for the wellbeing of populations and environmental preservation.

Based on the Dialogue paper, a document titled ‘Convergence plan’ which aims at pooling efforts for a concerted and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in West Africa, is currently being developed. There is a need to provide the subregion with a federative framework on the basis of which the member states agree to engage national and regional actions for the sustainable management of forest ecosystems on the basis of a holistic and ecosystem approach. The convergence plan has the following objectives: (i) Facilitate the delivery by local stakeholders (local authorities, farmers’ organizations, technical services and service providers) of their responsibilities within the framework of the decentralized management of forest and wildlife resources; (ii) promote the establishment and maintenance of a network of shared and/or transboundary protected areas (parks, reserves) and to develop a better management system; (iii) Reduce conflicts related to the use of shared and/or transboundary pastoral resources and develop improved systems to manage these resources; (iv) Promote the sound use of the shared and/or transboundary forest heritage ; (v) Preserve and soundly manage sensitive ecosystems resources (mangroves, wetlands and arid zones); (vi) Streamline forest policies, laws and regulations, taking into account agro-ecological specificities; (vii) Improve the securing and conservation of forest and wildlife resources and the living conditions of populations.

The following achievements have been recorded for this theme group:

- Validation of the forestry dialogue document by Ministers in charge of forestry in ECOWAS member states;
- Support of ECOWAS, FAO and IUCN for the formulation of the convergence plan. The 25 member countries have formulated national plans that are currently being validated. The subregional validation should take place by the end of 2012.

In addition to these actions, there have been concrete initiatives, programmes and projects undertaken by stakeholders that have contributed to achieving the objectives and priority of the theme.

- The Regional Park W ECOPAS programme conducted by UEMOA with funding from the European Union and addressing the management of natural resources shared by three countries in the subregion (Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger)
- The integrated transboundary ecosystems management project between Niger and Nigeria conducted by the Joint Niger-Nigeria Commission with funding from GEF and both countries. This project adopted the catchment approach and beyond plant and animal resources, tackled other natural resources, including water resources. An evaluation of this project in 2010 has led to the recommendation to extend it while making it a programme of the SRAP/WA and the contribution of the subregion to the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and Sahel Initiative.
- The project for the protection of Gourma elephants, the only elephant species living in an arid, almost desertic zone.
- The projects and programmes for the conservation/improvement of ecosystems in the Fouta Djallon Highlands (MFD) and particularly two major programmes, should be mentioned. They are the regional programme in support of integrated natural resources management (AGIR) and the integrated water resources management programme in the Upper Niger Basin (GIRENS).
- The siltation control programme (PLCE) developed and implemented by ABN.
- The Regional Global Initiative of Environment and to Fight Desertification in Sahelian Africa (IREMLCD) implemented by CILSS aims to finance micro-projects to combat desertification through Civil Societies (village associations, farmers' organizations, NGOs, etc..).
- The Italy-CILSS Fund to Combat Desertification for Poverty Reduction in the Sahel (LCD-PR) implemented by CILSS, aims to help local authorities and civil society to create the conditions to increase investment and trade, and to support the most vulnerable categories of the population
- The programme for the development of livestock breeding formulated and implemented by the Liptako-Gourma Authority (ALG)
- Various other initiatives developed by stakeholders on a small scale have dealt with the Djoudj Bird Sanctuary, Niger's 'cures salées' (Salt cures), rangeland management in the north of coastal countries that regularly host transhumance from Sahelian countries, etc.

3.1.3 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESSOURCES MANAGEMENT

In this area, the SRAP targets two major objectives:

- ✓ Increase the availability of new and renewable sources of energy (NRSE) and their accessibility by populations for sustainable development;
- ✓ Ensure in the **long term**, the substitution of fuelwood and charcoal by other sources of energy
 - a) As for increasing the availability of new and renewable sources of energy (NRSE) and their accessibility by populations for sustainable development, the ECOWAS Commission created, for the entire region, a Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE). The overall objective of the Centre is to contribute to the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of West Africa by improving access to modern, reliable and affordable energy services, while ensuring energy security and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
 - b) Regarding ensuring the substitution of fuelwood and charcoal with other sources of energy in the long term, the subregion has developed programmes and a Centre to reach the following goals:
 - At UEMOA's level, rehabilitate the Regional Centre for Solar Energy (CRES) of Bamako in Mali, and the establishment of a Regional Biomass Energy Programme (PRBE).
 - At CILSS's level, the establishment of the Regional Programme for the Promotion of Household and Alternative Energy in the Sahel (PREDAS) and the Regional Solar Programme.

3.1.4 CROP AND FOREST TREES SPECIES PEST CONTROL

The objectives of the SRAP/WA in this priority area were to:

- ✓ Protect plants, crops, trees and animals against pests and other pathogens;
- ✓ Timely detect and contain outbreaks.

Regarding the protection of plants, crops, trees and animals against pests and other predators, ECOWAS has adopted:

- Regulations on pesticides;
- Regulation on plant and animal safety;
- The Sahelian Committee on pesticides with CILSS/INSAH as its Secretariat is currently an efficient body for the regulation of pesticides.

Each of these regulations makes provision for entities to control, implement and monitor activities. Other pest control programmes are currently being developed. They include: (i) a Crop pest prevention and management programme with FAO; (ii) a regional study on the quality of pesticides disseminated in West Africa.

In the area of grasshoppers monitoring and control, the AGRHYMET Regional Centre has developed through the Regional Project for Integrated Grasshopper Control in the Sahel (PRELISS): (i) environmentally friendly strategies to control locusts in the Sahel and; (ii) decision making tools for the management of locusts in the Sahel, and have strengthened the capacities

of countries to that effect. Other initiatives have been developed in this area, mainly by the trade sector in order to improve the quality of access by subregional products to the international market. It is the case with the project to control the mango fly and other projects on tubers.

3.1.5 EARLY WARNING AND MITIGATING THE EFFECTS OF DROUGHT

In the framework of the SRAP, the main objective is to strengthen national and subregional capacity for the prevention and control of drought and its risks, particularly food insecurity and natural resources degradation.

Four results were expected from the implementation of the programme:

- ✓ Availability of data on the monitoring of the cropping season in its various components ;
- ✓ Vulnerability criteria of the environment are defined and applied, maps on the vulnerability of hotspots are available;
- ✓ The networks and prevention actions of the various institutions, as well as their equipment are strengthened;
- ✓ Relevant drought crisis prevention and management policies and strategies are formulated and implemented.

Regarding the expected results, the following prevention and mitigation actions were shared among integration and technical organizations:

- CILSS for data on populations, food balances in agricultural products markets with the PREGEC (bringing together the MISs, SAPs, WFP and FEWSNET);
- WARDA and IITA (agricultural and socio-economic data on production systems) AFRISAT (macro-economic data);
- OCHA for advocacy and coordination of food aid interventions;
- ReSAKSS for agricultural policies performance indicators;
- ECOWAS for data on regional trade and on water resources;
- UEMOA for macro-economic data and agricultural sector indicators.

The combined efforts of these various actors enable the subregion to regularly produce:

- Ex-ante assessments of the cropping season;
- Harvest previsions in September and ex-post assessments of the cropping season.

They also enable subregional decision makers and their partners to obtain information in a timely manner in order to prevent and manage food crises. The ongoing efforts in the area of the subregional programme for climate change adaptation aiming at providing the subregion with a climate model and strengthening climate prevision capacity, also contributes to the implementation of planned activities.

In addition, the following initiatives could be included in this priority area:

- An ACP/EU Facility for the management of natural disasters in West Africa implemented by UEMOA and ECOWAS that should generate a regional programme in the area of natural disasters prevention in West Africa. This project aims at strengthening natural disaster prevention capacity at national and subregional levels. The expected results are:
 - Formulation of a regional strategy and support to the formulation of national disaster prevention strategies;
 - Creation and networking of national disaster prevention platforms and identification of prevention strategies in terms of sectoral policies;

- Feasibility study of a regional project in the area of natural disaster prevention for West Africa;
- Establishment of intra-ACP Cooperation;
- Strengthening of the institutional capacity of UEMOA, ECOWAS and national institutions.

This project started in 2011 and will end in December 2013.

- Through the AGRHYMET Regional Centre, CILSS has been implementing since 2009, with funding from the European Union, a major programme for Environmental Monitoring for Sustainable Development (AMESD) in West Africa on behalf of the African Union. The West Africa component of this programme implemented by the AGRHYMET Regional Centre aims at strengthening the capacity of regional and national institutions in charge of the water control sector for agriculture and livestock in using and interpreting satellite information. This component will also support decision makers in the region by facilitating access to environmental information derived from observing the Planet.

3.1.6 SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

In this area, the objectives of the SRAP/WA were to:

- ✓ Obtain tools and knowledge for an improved understanding of ; (i) processes leading to desertification and drought, and (ii) the impacts of these processes and the respective role of the natural and human factors that cause them;
- ✓ Facilitate an interactive dialogue among decision makers, researchers and producers in the formulation and implementation of research programmes aiming at developing improved, affordable and accessible technologies;
- ✓ Save, integrate and develop local and traditional knowledge, know-how and practices;
- ✓ Openly exchange and communicate promptly any available information regarding desertification control and the mitigation of the effects of drought.

In spite of the efforts made in this context by CILSS/INSAH with the national agricultural research systems and the establishment of an online database on technologies and in the framework of networks such as CORAF, the theme remains topical in the context of the ten-year strategy of the UNCCD.

3.1.7 INFORMATION, TRAINING, COMMUNICATION

Based on the principle that the involvement of populations and partnerships are key factors for the success of the CCD, and the need for the SRAP to support the efforts undertaken in the countries to raise awareness on environmental issues as well as the relevant and appropriate capacities and skills, the Subregional Action Programme has set three objectives:

- ✓ Undertake and support awareness and education programmes in order to increase knowledge on the causes and effects of desertification and drought and how important it is to reach the objectives of the CCD;
- ✓ Promote capacity strengthening for countries and stakeholders in the subregion on desertification control, especially through the development and implementation of training programmes;
- ✓ Support and conduct, if necessary, the training of decision makers, managers as well as the staff in charge of collecting and analyzing data, disseminating and using the information on drought provided by actors in other fields.

The ECOWAS Commission has put in place an Agricultural Information System (ECOAGRIS) which intervenes in the following four areas:

- Macroeconomic statistics
- Information systems on agricultural production
- Information system on markets
- Early Warning System

3.1.8 COORDINATION OF MARKETING SCHEMES AND DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE

The Subregional Action Programme has identified the following three objectives:

- ✓ Develop potentials for agricultural and agroforestry production in the subregion and reduce the reliance towards foreign aid;
- ✓ Improve the competitiveness of production, processing and marketing channels of agricultural products in the subregion;
- ✓ Increase trade in agricultural, agri-food and forest products among Sahelian and coastal countries.

Among the achievements of this theme group:

- a) The formulation of UEMOA (PAU) and ECOWAS' (ECOWAP) Agricultural Policies. ECOWAS' policy was aligned with the NEPAD's CAADP and has led countries and the subregion to develop National Agricultural Investment Programmes (NAIP) and the Regional Agricultural Investment Programme (RAIP). The objective of the agricultural policy is to **“contribute to sustainably meeting the food needs of populations, achieving economic and social development and reducing poverty in Member States as well as inequalities among territories, zones and countries”**.

For the implementation of the policy at regional level, a Regional Agricultural Investment Programme (RAIP) was adopted with a Regional Investment Plan (RIP) for a first phase of five years and is based on four federative programmes which are:

1. The promotion of strategic products for food sovereignty;
2. The promotion of a global environment conducive for regional agricultural development;
3. The reduction of food vulnerability and the promotion of sustainable access to food;
4. The steering, funding mechanism and monitoring-evaluation mechanism.

In the context of the promotion of a global environment conducive for regional agricultural development, ECOWAS has adopted:

- An action plan for the processing of cereals in West Africa
- A protocol on free movement of people and goods and a chapter on agricultural products
- A Scheme on trade liberalization in the ECOWAS community with national endorsement certificates
- The Common External Tariff (CET)

a) The action plan for the development and transformation of livestock breeding in the ECOWAS Community by 2011-2020 was adopted with the following objective: development, transformation and economic improvement of the livestock, meat and milk sectors for sustainable food security, poverty alleviation and income generation while preserving natural resources.

b) A biotechnology and biosecurity plan was adopted by Ministers.

The objective of this plan is to develop actions in order to increase agricultural productivity and stimulate competitiveness while preserving basic natural resources in an environmentally friendly manner. In this context, a programme is being developed in collaboration with CORAF. An ECOWAS biosecurity regulatory project is being jointly developed with UEMOA and CILSS.

3.2 CONSTRAINTS IN IMPLEMENTING THE SRAP

The main constraint in implementing the SRAP has been the lack, from the onset, of a common and shared vision of the instrument itself. Some viewed it as a CILSS programme and partially from ECOWAS and wondered why they should contribute to its success. Others viewed it as an opportunity to receive resources from the international community to finance their operations. This often translated into the erection of barriers even within one institution. As the resources were not coming, there was a lack of interest in the programme and most of the actions conducted by stakeholders made no reference to the SRAP.

The lack of common and shared vision for the SRAP resulted in: (i) a poor operation of the operational framework mechanisms; (ii) the poor operation of the SRAP/WA governance mechanisms ; (iii) difficulty in mobilizing financial resources to finance the programme.

3.2.1 THE POOR OPERATION OF THE SRAP/WA'S OPERATIONAL MECHANISM

The choice of leaders for theme groups was motivated by the capacity of the IGOs and NGOs involved to manage, at regional level, programming in the given field and to share (distribute and monitor) responsibilities, and also their capacity to mobilize resources to support their own actions and therefore play their role in implementing the SRAP/WA.

Eventually, it was noted that the Institutions appointed as Liaison Centres, just as the leaders of the theme groups, have not been able to mobilize resources to facilitate the operation of partnership mechanisms or to ensure the distribution of tasks and the coordination of activities within theme groups. The consequence of this situation is the duplication of initiatives and actions within IGOs, with no mention of the SRAP and sometimes no consideration to the skills and capacity to deliver.

3.2.2 THE POOR OPERATION OF COORDINATION AND STEERING MECHANISMS

All the operation mechanisms established for the governance of the SRAP/WA have not been functional except for the Subregional Coordination Committee (SRCC) the funding of which came from CILSS until 2003. This body held five sessions between 1999 and 2005 and enabled the subregion to:

- Submit all the subregional reports to the COP ;
- Strengthen the capacity of the CCD's focal points in drafting country reports;

- Initiate the consultation between the focal points of the Rio generation conventions for the development of synergy in implementing these conventions;
- Engage CCD's focal points in reflections on funding action programmes.

The poor functioning of the other bodies was due to their high operational cost and the fact that the liaison centres were unable to gainfully use the existing coordination mechanisms that benefit from definite and predictable resources, namely those provided by ECOWAS. Rather than having its own coordination mechanisms, the SRAP should have relied on these existing mechanisms.

In addition to the operational costs that were difficult to mobilize, in the case of the theme groups, specific criteria have not been put in place to regulate their composition. In spite of their scientific nature, each institution wanted to be part of all the groups. Thus, their composition was inadequate.

3.2.3 DIFFICULTY IN MOBILIZING FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Another direct consequence of the vision that the stakeholders had of the SRAP, was their inability to present their ongoing initiatives, the initiatives being designed, their available resources and those they needed to successfully implement their initiatives. Such transparency was necessary, on the one part, to identify funding sources and on the other part, to convince donors that they are not financing the same actions two or more times.

The inadequate funding of the SRAP was also due to the lack of investment framework that could have facilitated resource mobilization. The argument on the non-bankable nature of the SRAP or the non compliance of technical and financial partners with their engagements is not justified in light of the fact that each stakeholder developed and implemented projects and programmes in the spirit of the SRAP and received resources for their implementation.

Moreover, it should be noted that various initiatives have been financed by GEF but on the basis of projects initiated by 'external' actors such as UNEP, FAO, the World Bank, UNDP, etc. The countries and institutions in the subregion have behaved more as receivers of projects than as frontline actors for the development of these projects. Thus, subregional institutions would benefit from pooling their efforts to put in place a regional capacity for the formulation of projects and for resource mobilization.

It should also be noted that the funding of the SRAP has suffered from the lack of involvement of some CILSS donors from environmental and NRM sectors. GIZ was left alone to support the SRAP from 2002.

4. LESSONS LEARNED AND SUBREGIONAL PRIORITIES IN THE AREA OF SLM

The revitalization of the SRAP in the context of the ten-year strategy of UNCCD should capitalize on past lessons and experiences and maximize the assets and new opportunities in West Africa and Chad.

4.1 LESSONS LEARNED

4.1.1 POOR COORDINATION OF POLICIES AND ACTIONS TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

As an expression of the vitality and the interest of public decision makers and other actors of the subregion for regional cooperation and integration issues, West Africa has several consultation frameworks but also a multitude of activities that are often poorly coordinated in the agricultural sector.

Actually, the subregion has more than 40 subregional institutions working in the area of natural resources management and rural development. The efficiency of the IGOs working towards regional integration is slowed down by their great number, the frequent duplication of their mandates, objectives and coverage areas, as well as actions. These institutions have developed and continue to develop initiatives that are remotely interconnected and the coherence of which is not tested. Each organization aims at ensuring its survival and its legitimacy by developing its own programmes, rather than devising ways to complement the others and strengthen their respective capacities to coordinate and support the States that created them. Thus, in the area of rural development, more than 15 strategic initiatives supported by integration and cooperation institutions are currently operating in West Africa.

Over the years, there has been the need to establish cooperation mechanisms between the various institutions while respecting the prerogatives of each of them. Various efforts have already been made to harmonize, create synergy and improve the coordination of IGOs' activities and even to combine some of these activities in order to reduce their number. Thus, between 2001 and 2004, a common programme of West African IGOs was established with IFAD's support. For its part, CILSS attempted to converge the efforts of IGOs and member states in combating drought and desertification; similar efforts were undertaken by ECOWAS in the areas of development, policy, economic and commercial integration. The creation of the Association of West African IGOs also fits into this context.

While the SRAP advocates the use of subregional skills, it also expresses the needs for greater consultation and more operational synergy to avoid duplications and counter performances.

To that effect, there is a need to pay attention to the various programmes of NEPAD, particularly its environmental action plan and its Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) with reference to agricultural, livestock and forest resources. This option will enable to put in place conditions that are vital for the success of each programme and the coherence of NEPAD's initiatives with those envisaged for the SRAP.

4.1.2 THE POOR ARTICULATION/INTEGRATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS OF SAHELIAN COUNTRIES

Under the instigation of Breton Wood Institutions, the socio-economic development policies of most ECOWAS member states have shifted, in ten years, from structural adjustment programmes (SAP in the 90's) to poverty alleviation strategies (PAS at the beginning of the 2000s). However, in spite of the close links between environmental management, population and socio-economic issues, the successive reforms of economic policies in the States have not always consequently integrated environmental considerations in these development strategic planning frameworks. This evolution has also influenced the architecture of official development assistance.

Both, SRAP and NAPs have not been integrated into poverty reduction strategies, which is, since the advent of the MDGs, the only framework for mobilization and implementation of

development aid. Moreover, the contradictions found, paradoxically, on the one hand between the priorities of the environment and the fight against desertification in the Speech of policymakers and in the second hand the proportion of national resources allocated to it "sector ", limited the opportunity of the mobilization of financial resources to combat desertification

Since the end of the 1990s, the modalities of official development assistance provided by developed countries comply with the commitments made in favor of reaching the millennium development goals (MDG), and since 2005 to the Paris Declaration on Aid effectiveness which advocates for alignment, harmonization and ownership. These commitments will guide the support from multilateral or even bilateral financial partners in the coming years.

Both the SRAP and NAPs have not been integrated in strategies to alleviate poverty which are now the only frameworks for mobilization and implementation of official assistance since the emergence of the MDGs. Moreover, the contradictions noted between, on the one part, environmental and desertification control priorities presented in the discourse of policymakers and, on the other part, the proportion of national resources allocated to this 'sector' are also a factor that has limited the mobilization of financial resources for desertification control.

These difficulties would also result from the diverging visions regarding the nature of the international convention to combat desertification (CCD) and its action programmes, between the donor community on the one hand, and West African government officials on the other hand. Thus, for the donor community, the CCD is a specialized multilateral agreement on the environment, designed to federate the various development frameworks (especially rural) in dry subhumid, semi-arid and arid zones; the institutional focal points for West Africa would on the other part consider the CCD as a freestanding convention; and the approaches used for the implementation at the various levels are more sectoral than global.

Such divergent perceptions among technical and financial partners resulted in the low allocation of financial resources for the NAPs and SRAP/WA. In this context, starting at the end of the 1980s, both internal and external financial resources have been geared towards funding the priorities identified by countries based on poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSP).

This situation has not facilitated the mobilization of internal financial resources to control desertification.

Therefore, to combine the economic development needs and sustainable environmental management, there is a need to actively consider all the environmental aspects both in poverty alleviation strategies (socio-economic aspects) and in sectoral policies and strategies having an impact on the environment: farming, pastoralism, water resources management, urbanization, industrial development, mining, etc. Unfortunately, it may be difficult to achieve this in the short term in the absence of a consensual and official reference and/or a national and/or subregional leadership.

This new dimension of official aid should be integrated in national and subregional financial resources mobilization strategies.

4.1.3 THE DIFFICULT SYNERGIC MANAGEMENT OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Since the Rio Conference, most West African states have signed and ratified the three major conventions produced by the negotiation:

- The United Nations Framework-Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC);
- The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

- The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

These three conventions and protocols are addition to other multilateral environmental agreements.

In addition to these three conventions and their related protocols, there have been other more specific conventions and protocols dealing mainly with the protection of the ozone layer and the management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

In the face of increasingly complex and interdependent environmental problems, we unfortunately observe for West Africa, a poor articulation or integration of national strategies, plans or programmes aiming at implementing the international commitments on the environment endorsed by the States. This realization is particularly true for the three Rio Conventions on climate change, biological diversity and desertification control: at national level the implementation of each convention is rather perceived by stakeholders as an opportunity to mobilize external resources provided by the various funding mechanisms.

The weaknesses of national and subregional capacities to maximize opportunities and mobilize the resources provided by financial mechanisms related to global environment are increasingly manifest (especially the resources available in the context of GEF to finance biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, POP management and the protection of the ozone layer or mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), or the climate change adaptation fund. This gap can only be filled through a subregional strengthening and pooling of capacities, in order to more efficiently mobilize, for land degradation control, the resources made available, mainly in the framework of GEF/SIP and of conventions on biodiversity and climate changes.

4.2 SUBREGIONAL PRIORITIES IN THE AREA OF DLDD

In view of the lessons learned from the previous SRAP and the desire of countries not to duplicate the programmes (NAPs) and Institutions, SLM **issues that better fit subregional solutions and that contribute to the ten-year strategy** should be articulated around the following priorities:

- 1) Strengthening the partnership ;
- 2) Creating a more conducive political environmental;
- 3) Producing and disseminating information for decision making.

4.2.1 STRENGTHEN THE PARTNERSHIP FOR AN EFFICIENT HARMONIZATION AND COORDINATION OF DLDD INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMMES

In accordance with the guiding principles provided by stakeholders in the subregion since the Niamey Forum held in 1997, the SRAP should contribute to rationalizing subregional intervention mechanisms, uncovering duplications and convergences in IGOs' interventions and developing complementarities and synergies. This concern is still topical and the SRAP should provide a technical and policy framework to enable subregional actors to share their programmes, projects and initiatives in order to identify together the duplicated resources, the gaps in interventions and the complementary efforts to be provided and by who.

4.2.2 CREATION OF A MORE CONDUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR DC

One of the objectives assigned to the SRAP by the Niamey forum in July 1997, was that the instrument should influence desertification control policies, strategies and practices at

subregional and national levels. This concern is still relevant. This concern also remains topical. West Africa is one of the regions in the world where it will be difficult to reach only one MDG by 2015. This is to say that 'everything is a priority' in that subregion and that each sector is engaged in a competition to elevate the priority level of these developmental issues. The environmental and rural development sector is not foreign to that reality and requirement and the function of the SRAP is to provide the States and their NAP-DC with political, economic and social arguments necessary for DLDD issues to remain at the heart of national agricultural policies and strategies for economic growth and poverty reduction.

4.2.3 STRENGTHENING THE PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION FOR DECISION MAKING

At technical level, West African countries are characterized by poor technical knowledge on the state of the various natural resources and their evolution trends. Moreover, they do not have efficient monitoring systems to assess the impact of human activities on the environment.

In the absence of a tested capacity for environmental monitoring, all these countries remain highly vulnerable to increasingly frequent and violent natural disasters. In addition, the poor technical capacity of the main users of natural resources who, in most of the countries use farming systems that are not adapted to the fragility and regeneration capacity of the ecosystems. This is all the more important because these practices rely heavily on climate changes and are unable to generate a surplus that could be invested in their improvement.

The lack and unreliability of data and information on drought and desertification represent a major handicap for the planning needed to boost development activities. The SRAP provides a framework to improve the programmatic framework of the DLDD inasmuch as the knowledge on desertification/climate change/loss of biodiversity dynamics exceeds the capacities of each individual country in the subregion.


SECTION II –SRAP/WA (SECOND GENERATION)

1. Rationale

2. Preparation process of the SRAP

3. Objectives and results of the SRAP

4. Links-synergies with the ten-year strategy and other regional and subregional policies, strategies and programmes



1 JUSTIFICATION OF THE SRAP

1.1 THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

Article 9 of the Convention stipulates that the action programmes (NAPs, SRAPs, RAPs) are iterative and progressive and will be updated in the context of a permanent participatory process taking into consideration the lessons learned from actions undertaken on the field, as well as the outcomes of research activities. Thus, without the emergence of the ten-year strategy, the SRAP is a document that should be constantly improved with current experiences, the results of studies and research, institutional mutations, following a continuous participatory process.

1.2 EVOLUTION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL CONTEXT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Since the adoption of the SRAP/WA and its implementation mechanism, West Africa and the entire continent have been marked by an evolution of the political and institutional context in terms of environmental management. In addition to the political and institution context, it is also the evolution of the conceptual framework of environmental issues that can enable to better understand the new challenges for West Africa in the area of sustainable land management and desertification control.

1.2.1 THE NEED TO HARMONIZE THE SRAP WITH THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL REFERENCE FRAMEWORKS

Since its adoption in 1999, the institutional and political context in the area of environmental issues and rural development has evolved in West Africa, with the formulation and/or adoption of new policies and programmes that can now offer opportunities to manage the priority areas of the SRAP/WA. They are:

- The Regional Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management (RAP/IWRM);
- NEPAD and its environmental initiative;
- The UEMOA Common Environment Improvement Policy (PCE);
- The ECOWAS Common Agricultural Policy and Forest Policy formulated in that context;
- The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) of NEPAD and the Environment Chapter of NEPAD;
- The ECOWAP/CAADP of ECOWAS;
- The ECOWAS Environmental Policy ;
- The subregional Action Plan to reduce vulnerability to climate change.

1.2.2 THE NEED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEW FRAMEWORK OF ACTION: THE 2008-2018 TEN-YEAR STRATEGY OF UNCCD

Ten years after the endorsement of the Convention to combat desertification, it should be noted that certain factors have hindered its optimal enforcement. Among these factors: (i) the insufficient funding allocated to the Convention as compared to the funding of the other two conventions adopted in Rio, (ii) the weakness of its scientific foundations, the lack of advocacy and awareness of the various stakeholders groups, the existence of institutional gaps and the difficulty for parties to agree on their views (ICCD/COP(8)/10/Add.29 July 2007).

Adopted by the Decision 3/COP.8, the Vision of the CCD's 2008-2018 ten-year strategy is to "establish a global partnership aiming at combating and preventing desertification and land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought in affected zones in order to contribute to poverty reduction and to the sustainable respect of the environment". The strategy offers the unique opportunity to meet some of the major challenges of the Convention, to maximize its assets, to capitalize on the possibilities related to the new global policy and funding context, and to provide renewed common bases for all stakeholders.

The mission of the ten-year strategy is to "establish an overall framework designed to facilitate, at national and regional levels, the development and implementation of policies, programmes and measures aiming at preventing, controlling and suppressing desertification and land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought through scientific and technologic excellence and the public awareness, the establishment of standards, advocacy actions and resources mobilization in order to contribute to poverty reduction".

Henceforth, its strategic objectives (SO) will guide the actions of all stakeholders and partners in the context of the Convention including strengthening the political will. These objectives are four: (i) Improve the living conditions of affected populations; (ii) improve the state of affected ecosystems; (iii) generate global benefits for an efficient implementation of the CCD; (iv) mobilize the needed resources for the implementation of the CCD through efficient partnerships between national and international actors.

The operational objectives that will guide the actions towards the realization of the strategy are five: (i) Advocacy, awareness raising and education (influence actors for the efficient implementation of the CCD); (ii) Framework of action (create a conducive environment for seeking solutions); (iii) Science, technology and knowledge (be a world renowned authority in the area of CCD-related knowledge); (iv) Strengthen capacity (take stock of, and meet the needs); (v) Funding and technology transfer (mobilize financial and technological resources and focus them to obtain the maximum impact).

The legal basis for the alignment of action programmes (NAPs, SRAPs, RAPs) are embedded in the following relevant decisions:

- **Paragraph 5** of Decision 3/COP.8 taking into account the new scientific context of the new framework of action, "invites the affected developing country parties and any other affected country party, in the framework of the applicable annex regarding the implementation at regional level, to align their action programmes and other relevant activities with the 2008-2018 strategy, namely by ensuring they obtain the results associated with the five operational objectives of the strategy.
 - **Paragraph 11** of Decision 3/COP.8 Result 2.2: The affected countries revise their national action programme (NAP) into a strategy document based on biophysical and socioeconomic reference data to be included in integrated investment frameworks. Result 2.3: the affected Country parties include their NAPs and issues related to the sustainable management of land and soil degradation in their development plans as well as in their relevant sectoral investment plans and policies.
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2. PREPARATION PROCESS OF THE SRAP

SRAP2 is the outcome of a participatory process in the context of consultations initiated since 2006 by CILSS and ECOWAS in order to boost the programme. This process was marked by the following milestones:

- The study of the implementation of SRAP/WA conducted by CILSS in 2006;
- The meeting of SRAP/WA theme groups leaders held in March 2007 and which recommended the review of SRAP/WA to boost it through the use of newly available opportunities in the sub region;
- The orientations of the 2007 study conducted by ECOWAS on the repositioning of SRAP/WA as compared to the ECOWAS environmental policy.
- The recommendations of the 5th session of the July 2008 CSRC including: (i) the redrafting of the document to align it with the UNCCD ten-year strategy adopted in September 2008, (ii) the formulation of a funding strategy for the SRAP/WA.
- The recommendations of the stakeholders meeting held in March 2011 in Abuja.
- The technical validation at Cotonou (Bénin)
- The Sectorial Ministerial adoption in September 2013 at Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)
- The ECOWAS ministerial council adoption in December 2013 at Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)

3. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Article 11 of the Annex on Africa specifies that the scope of the SRAP/WA in Africa should be focused on issues that are better dealt with at subregional level. The subregional action programmes generate mechanisms for shared natural resources management. Such mechanisms enable to efficiently solve transboundary issues related to land degradation and desertification and provide support to the harmonious implementation of national action programmes.

In view of this, the SRAP/DC seeks to promote a partnership between the various stakeholders dealing with the sustainable management of shared resources for the latter to serve current and future generations in their quest for economic and social wellbeing.

Its long term objective is to rehabilitate, strengthen and maintain the productive and protective functions of ecosystems shared by at least two countries in the subregion, by creating the conditions for the national and subregional actors to develop initiatives ensuring a sustainable management of land resources (water, soil, vegetation, wildlife).

In that respect the SRAP/WA2 provides a framework and opportunity for :

1. The development of a large coalition among stakeholders at the various levels;
 2. The improvement of sustainable land management related information and know-how collection, management and dissemination;
 3. A better positioning of the environmental issue and sustainable land management in national priorities;
 4. A better knowledge of "Human-Climate" interactions in the dynamics of natural resources and the conditions for the improvement of resilience of human and natural environments to climate change. Reflections in the context of the implementation of SRAP should contribute to the emergence of a
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single subregional programme that deals both with DLDD issues and issues regarding climate change adaptation and biodiversity preservation/rehabilitation.

3.1 VISION, STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

A VISION

By 2020 the land resources (soil, water, vegetation) of West Africa Region are sustainably managed and contribute in an effective manner to food security, Peace and good livelihood for the population from the arid, semi-arid and sub humid areas.

B STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Improve living conditions and ensure food security in arid and semi-arid zones of West Africa

Expected outcome 1.1 The livelihoods of West African populations are improved and more diversified and incomes are generated from sustainable land management.

Expected outcome 1.2 West African populations are less vulnerable to climate change, climate variability and drought at food, nutritional and ecological levels.

2. Improve the state of transboundary and/or shared ecosystems

Expected outcome 2.1 The productivity of lands and goods and services provided by transboundary and/or shared ecosystems are sustainably improved.

Expected outcome 2.2 Transboundary and/or shared ecosystems, particularly the resources of large river basins, forests and wildlife parks and reserves shared by two or more countries, the Fouta Djallon Highlands resources are less vulnerable to climate change and variability and to drought.

3. Establish efficient partnerships (in the area of transboundary and/or shared resources management between subregional, national, local and international partners in order to speed up the implementation of CCD at national and subregional levels.

Expected outcome 3.1 The overall context of the subregion is more conducive to the concerted implementation of the CCD and to the development of synergies in implementing environmental conventions.

Expected outcome 3.2 A common and shared vision of land resources management is promoted and the competition for access to resources among subregional and national institutions is replaced with an efficient cooperation.

Expected outcome 3.3 Increased financial, technical and technological resources are provided to West African countries and Chad for the implementation of the CCD.

3.2 OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED RESULTS AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

Table 1 : Operational objectives, results and main activities

Operational Objective 1	Operational Objective 2	Operational Objective 3	Operational Objective 4
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<p>1. Efficiently integrate DLDD issues in subregional and national priorities in West Africa and influence the international community, regional and national stakeholders to address DLDD issues more efficiently.</p>	<p>Work at creating in the subregion, a general environment conducive to finding sustainable and efficient solutions to combat desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.</p>	<p>Strengthen the scientific foundations of DC/SLM in West Africa and establish an efficient system to strengthen capacities for managing DLDD-related knowledge in the subregion.</p>	<p>Support financial and technological resources mobilization for the implementation of CCD in West Africa.</p>
Results	Results	Results	Results
<p>R.1.1 The main subregional stakeholders groups are efficiently informed on DLDD issues as well as synergy between controlling the problems and climate change adaptation/mitigation, biodiversity preservation and synergically implement the three Rio conventions.</p> <p>R.1.2 The issues of desertification and land degradation are addressed at subregional and national fora dealing with environmental and agricultural issues.</p> <p>R.1.3 CSOs are largely associated to DLDD-related activities conducted by West African economic integration and technical cooperation institutions.</p>	<p>R.2.1 IGOs' interventions and programmes are efficiently coordinated and harmonized.</p> <p>R.2.2 The guiding principles or regional convergence on the management and sustainable use of lands and related resources shared by two or more countries in the subregion are developed and applied.</p>	<p>R.3.1 The knowledge on the evolution of DLDD and the corresponding vulnerability study is improved.</p> <p>R.3.2 Efficient mechanisms for the management and sharing of SLM knowledge and climatic risks, including traditional knowledge are put in place.</p> <p>R.3.3 Capacity strengthening needs are known.</p>	<p>R.4. 1. Countries and organizations in the subregion establish integrated investment frameworks in the area of DLDD.</p> <p>R.4.2 ECOWAS intensifies its efforts to promote south-south and north-north cooperation to facilitate access to appropriate DLDD technologies.</p>
Main activities	Main activities	Main activities	Main activities
<p>A.1.1.1 Advocacy/lobbying to Heads of State and Government by the ECOWAS Commission for a rationalization of subregional IGOs' interventions.</p> <p>A.1.1.1 Advocacy/lobbying to the other categories of subregional stakeholders.</p> <p>A.1.1.3 Advocacy/lobbying of international partners and outside ECOWAS.</p> <p>A.1.2.1 Establishment of a network of champions and activists in charge of monitoring and advocacy at fora.</p> <p>A.1.2.2 Organization of the sub-region's participation to various international meetings of MLAs</p> <p>A.1.3.1 Involvement of CSOs in the implementation of the SRAP.</p>	<p>A.2.1.1 Establishment of consultation mechanisms to harmonize approaches and facilitate synergies and complementarities in the various IGOs' interventions.</p> <p>A.2.1.2 Effective involvement of IGOs in the implementation of MLAs and regional initiatives in West Africa.</p> <p>A.2.2.1 Improvement of knowledge on legal constraints facing SLM</p>	<p>A.3.1.1 Establishment of the DLDD profile of West Africa</p> <p>A.3.2.1 Put in place a platform for knowledge management and sharing</p> <p>A.3.3.1 Identification of IGO's capacity strengthening needs</p>	<p>A.4.1.1 Establishment of an integrated investment framework for all the IGOs in the subregion.</p> <p>A.4.1.2 Support to the States in establishing SLM integrated investment frameworks and aligning their NAP to the ten-year strategy.</p> <p>A.4.2.1 Establishment of a mechanism to access DLDD technologies.</p>

3.3 CONVERGENCE WITH OTHER SUBREGIONAL PROGRAMMES AND THE TEN-YEAR STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN

The overall objective and specific objectives selected for the SRAP/WA are as follows:

In accordance with the general orientations of the PCAE/UEMOA and EP/ECOWAS

The PCAE and EP encompass all the priority areas for intervention of the SRAP2 mainly related to the *sustainable management of natural resources to alleviate poverty and food insecurity* and its corresponding supporting provisions.

The second focus of the PCAE addresses issues related to the mitigation of climate change effects as well as the harmonization of environmental standards and assessments, while the first focus of the EP aims at promoting partnership and establishing a high level consultation mechanism.

Converge with the agricultural policy of UEMOA through its global objective which is to “sustainably contribute to meeting the food needs of the population, to the economic and social development of Member states and to poverty reduction in rural areas”. This convergence is perceptible in the specific objectives: (i) attain food security by reducing food dependency and by improving the functioning of agricultural products markets; (ii) sustainably increase agricultural productivity and production (iii) improve the living conditions of farmers by developing the rural economy and by improving their income and social status.

Converge with the global objective of ECOWAS agricultural policy framework:

« Contribute to a concerted and sustainable management of shared natural resources with a view to significantly improving the living conditions of populations” and more specifically in its component on managing rangelands and organizing transhumance and transboundary forest ecosystems biodiversity presentation.

Complementary with:


- The subregional action plan for the reduction of vulnerability to climate changes in West Africa through its global objective: “To develop and strengthen the sub-region’s capacity to be resilient and adapt to climate changes and extreme weather events” and its specific objectives: “to strengthen the scientific and technical capacity of the sub-region in reducing vulnerability to climate changes, promote the integration of climate change-related dimensions in the formulation of development policies, strategies, programmes and projects at subregional and national level, develop and implement subregional and national climate change adaptation programmes and projects”.
- The NEPAD environmental initiative’s subregional action plan for West Africa which ultimately aims at generating and encouraging subregional initiatives and supporting the rehabilitation of a healthy and productive environment that can uphold the fight against the constant degradation of resources, food insecurity and poverty, particularly through the efficient implementation of the Environmental Initiative in West Africa;
- The 2007-2015 strategic plan of the Water Resources Coordination Unit through its mission in support to ECOWAS states in implementing an equitable and efficient management of water while ensuring the sustainability of its uses and its strategic programme which calls for facilitating direct support to the countries and advancing the integration of the water sector at regional level.

Relevant to the four strategic objectives of the ten-year strategic framework of CCD:



(1) improve the living conditions of the affected populations; (2) improve the state of ecosystems; (3) identify the global advantages of the implementation of the CCD; (4) mobilize resources in favor of the implementation of CCD through partnerships and the following five operational objectives of that framework: (1) advocacy, awareness and education, (3) policy framework of action. (3) science, technology and knowledge, (4) capacity strengthening, (5) funding and technology transfer.

SECTION 3 –IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- 1. Actors and bodies**
 - 2. Implementation modalities**
 - 3. Funding Modalities**
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1. SRAP/WA: ACTORS AND BODIES

The sub-region covered by the SRAP2 has several cooperation frameworks in the areas of rural development, economy and environment. These are institutions that have acquired a rich experience, international stature and renowned references. Indeed, the sub-region has over 40 Institutions of all types with varied skills to address, among others, SLM issues.

In addition to these institutions, there are other categories of actors such as the civil society (NGOs, women associations and federations, youth organizations, farmers' organizations, etc.), networks, institutions, regional and international research bodies and training institutions.

The SRAP offers to all these stakeholders the opportunity to work together in a coordinated and concerted manner to optimize their resources and skills for greater performance of their common goals.

Moreover, in regard of the evolution of the sub regional and the reinforcement of the African integration, SRAP will be implemented on the basis of integrated approach and the development of the synergy with the other initiatives on going in the region (GGWALL, ...)

Finally, the implementation of SRAP will be based on a scheme to develop synergies among environmental conventions, especially those of the generation of Rio Convention

1.1. ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ACTORS

1.1.1. THE ACTORS

They are:

- 1) Governmental structures (the State and its agencies);
- 2) Subregional cooperation structures (intergovernmental bodies and organizations, regional and international research networks and bodies, sub-regional training institutions...);
- 3) Civil society organizations and associations (NGOs, women, youth and farmers' associations and movements, private operators);
- 4) Bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies.

1.1.2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH ACTOR:

a) Role and responsibility of the State and its agencies :

The implementation of the SRAP calls for the following roles and responsibilities from the State and its agencies:

- ✓ Promote, within this framework, the inclusion of participation and partnership principles for all actors.
- ✓ Provide support to the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the programme's orientations.
- ✓ Ensure the inclusion of the NAP and SRAP's projects, programmes and activities into the

overall national and sub-regional strategies and policies relating to sustainable development and poverty reduction.

- ✓ Develop and implement appropriate measures, mechanisms and legislations to facilitate the implementation of the programme.
- ✓ Establish and facilitate a framework for consultation, exchange and monitoring-evaluation of NAP and SRAP implementation involving the participation of all the categories of actors
- ✓ Engage in the mobilization of the needed resources to implement NAP and SRAP.

b) Role and responsibility of the civil society :

The democratization movement experienced by West Africa has motivated the emergence of various categories of development actors intervening in diverse areas: desertification control, economy, education, culture, arts, sport, unionism, human rights, politics, etc.

Farmers' organizations, NGOs, civil society organizations are part of the organizations that should enjoy a constant attention in terms of shared resources management. Ensuring the participation of all these actors to the implementation of the SRAP is a decisive criterion for ensuring the effective involvement of all stakeholders to the CCD.

The common roles and responsibilities of civil society organizations are summed up as follows:

- ✓ Participate in the reflection on, identification and development of achievements in the area of DC;
- ✓ Contribute to the formulation of projects and programmes and their implementation;
- ✓ Take an active part in discussions on natural resources management, consultations and experiences sharing inside and outside the countries;
- ✓ Integrate at national and subregional levels a large group of civil society organizations;
- ✓ Share among civil society organizations the means and ideas for actions;
- ✓ Mobilize local and foreign financial resources;
- ✓ Develop local partnership between CSOs and public authorities;
- ✓ Take on their share of responsibility in:

(i) information / awareness of CBOs, NGOs and other relevant SRAP actors (ii) the technical and methodological organization of the participation of CBOs and NGOs in SRAP actions/activities.

c) Role and responsibilities of subregional cooperation structures

Coordination structures mainly include intergovernmental organizations such as ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS, River basin bodies, etc. These structures will be responsible for:

- ✓ Contributing to policy harmonization ;
- ✓ Providing scientific support in implementing specific actions ;
- ✓ Advocating for the mobilization of co-financing;
- ✓ Developing and implementing SRAP programmes in accordance with their mission
- ✓ Contributing to the development of partnerships based on the SRAP
- ✓ Participating in the monitoring-evaluation of the implementation of SRAP.

d) Role and responsibility of development partners

The SRAP offers the opportunity to renew and enrich existing partnership relationships between, on the one part, ECOWAS and the financial and technical partners (FTP), and on the other part, between the latter and the States. In this context, the role and responsibilities of that category of actors are:

- ✓ To contribute to the lessons learned from cooperating in the area of Desertification;
- ✓ To play their full role in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and coordination of SRAP programs and projects
- ✓ To participate in monitoring and evaluating of the implementation and to communicate the amount of their financing contribution and evaluation of the impact of global and specific support of various partners;
- ✓ To actively participate in defining and implementing new policies and orientations, particularly in the context of the SRAP;
- ✓ To fully play their role in designing, implementing, monitoring-evaluating and coordinating SRAP programmes and projects;
- ✓ Provide leveraging catalytic technical assistance to complete the funding plans of ECOWAS member countries and Chad.
- ✓ Provide multiform support to the SRAP for the development and synergy between the three Rio Conventions and to reduce poverty in the zones affected by DLDD and climate change in the sub-region covered by the previous SRAP.
- ✓ Contribute to implementing the environmental policies defined for the sub-region.
- ✓ Follow up on the technical and financial commitments made in the context of ECOWAS.

1.2 BODIES

The implementation of SRAP will lie down on decision makers, implementation, coordination and monitoring and evaluation bodies, assisted by advisory bodies to ensure the active participation of all categories of actors involved in the fight for SLM and the adverse effects of climate change.

1.2.1 THE EXPERT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN ECOWAS MEMBER STATES

This committee composed of ministers in charge of environmental issues extended to include Mauritania and Chad, is the body that validates and orients the policy actions of the SRAP2. The committee will inform ECOWAS Heads of State and Government extended to include Mauritania and Chad on the progress of the implementation of SRAP.

1.2.2 THE PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

The Programme Steering Committee (PSC) is the body in charge of guiding and monitoring programme management. The PSC should convene an ordinary session once every year and in extraordinary session whenever the need arises. It will be chaired by the ECOWAS Commission. The UEMOA Commission will hold the position of Deputy Chair while CILSS will provide technical secretariat services until the establishment of the Manager.

The PSC is mandated to:

- ✓ Define and arbitrate actions according to priorities and available resources;
- ✓ Produce documents to be submitted to the Council of Ministers;
- ✓ Supervise the implementation of SRAP;
- ✓ Identify potential partners and support the facilitation and finalization of partnership agreements on the implementation of SRAP;
- ✓ Review and endorse annual workplans and budgets for the implementation of the programme as well as activity reports;
- ✓ Develop synergy between the programme and other similar and related activities in the sub-region.

The Steering committee of the programme comprises representatives from:

- ✓ The ECOWAS Commission ;
- ✓ The UEMOA Commission;
- ✓ The Executive Secretariat of CILSS;
- ✓ The representatives of relevant subregional institutions involved in desertification and drought issues;
- ✓ The representatives of national focal points in charge of desertification (3 representatives: countries holding the ECOWAS chair, UEMOA Council of Ministers and CILSS Presidency);
- ✓ The representatives of subregional NGOs' apex structures and farmers' organizations ;
- ✓ The representatives of the sub-region in the various offices of the COP and its subsidiary bodies (CRIC & CST)
- ✓ The chairman of the scientific and technical advisory committee (STAC);
The Commission of African Union and the NEPAD Agency as observers

The PSC may, when the need arises, invite representatives of CCD institutions, particularly the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) and all specialized institutions, to make presentations on thematic and/or specific issues.

1.2.3 THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC)

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) is primarily in charge of providing a scientific basis to the understanding of the desertification phenomenon in the various agro-climatic zones of the sub-region and to the answers envisaged by the sub-region. Its mandate will mainly involve the following aspects:

- ✓ Evaluation of scientific, technical and socio-economic data regarding the causes and consequences of desertification and land degradation in the various agro-climatic zones of the subregion.
- ✓ Validation of studies and data related to the desertification profile of the sub-region and to the interaction between climate change adaptation/mitigation, drought mitigation and the rehabilitation of degraded land in the affected zones;
- ✓ Motivated views on the possibilities to adapt to West African contexts technologies that have been tried and tested elsewhere ;
- ✓ Preparation of the sub-region's participation in the STC (ordinary sessions and special sessions).

Composition: the STAC will comprise of scientists, resource persons specialized in desertification issues, subregional institutions. It will be established following the criteria of professional competencies and will represent a large array of disciplines and experiences in biophysical and socioeconomic areas. It will meet for ordinary sessions every two years and for special sessions as necessary. All sessions will be chaired by CILSS.

2. DELIVERY MODALITIES

2. 1. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In line with the principles and instructions of the CCD, the current 2011-2018 SRAP/DC will be both a federative framework for combating Land Degradation and Deforestation in West Africa and Chad and an operational tool to contribute to implementing the Environmental Policy (EP) of ECOWAS and the PCAE of UEMOA.

The SRAP is designed to be a programme for the implementation of the CCD and the adaptation/mitigation/reduction of vulnerability to climate changes in West Africa. The implementation of the SRAP should therefore contribute to increasing the efficiency and effects of scale of the NAP's results.

The stakeholders of SRAP/WA have agreed on the following guiding principles to orient their actions:

- ✓ Ensure the participation of all actors, especially women and the youth ;
- ✓ Tackle issues of common interest for at least two countries of the sub-region and have a tangible and rapid impact on the implementation of their NAP/DC
- ✓ Ensure solidarity, partnership and coordination among all the actors of DC in the sub-region in order to make the most of the low resources devoted to DC and induce leverage effects; rationalize and strengthen the institutions concerned and the mitigation of the effects of drought.
- ✓ Rely primarily on subregional resources. External assistance and support should be considered as optional;
- ✓ Build SRAP on the existing achievements. The implementation of the SRAP will be more efficient in existing institutions that are well rooted in their geographical context and in view of the ongoing and future projects and programmes. Actors may and should largely contribute to it by integrating and internalizing the SRAP concepts in their own programmes and projects;
- ✓ Include the SRAP in poverty eradication strategies as an essential aspect and as a progressive and iterative programme;
- ✓ *The subsidiarity principle is dear to all the subregional development policies and strategies and will naturally apply to the implementation of the SRAP/WA.*
- ✓ *Complementarity: the definition of mandates as well as the delegation of authority to IGOs should be done with the aim of achieving complementarity, in order to preclude duplications and resources wasting.*
- ✓ *Strengthen the cooperation with the other sub-regions and regions across the globe.*

The guiding principles are in line with the spirit of the ten-year Framework of the CCD and take into consideration the obligations of stakeholders to the United Nations Framework convention on climate change.

2.2 IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

In the current context, and capitalizing on lessons learned from the implementation of the previous SRAP, the implementation mechanism of the current SRAP should be constructed around the following basic principles:

- ✓ The need for an institution to drive and coordinate the programme;
- ✓ The need to align with the ten-year implementation strategy of the CCD;
- ✓ The technical skills, motivation and ownership;
- ✓ The preliminary mandate and related political endorsement;
- ✓ The continuity and use of previously successful arrangements;
- ✓ The sharing of responsibilities among the various subregional institutions in the context of appropriate partnerships;
- ✓ And the mobilization of resources to support the responsibilities and mandates assigned.
- ✓ The need to build on existing and develop synergies with other programs of ECOWAS
- ✓

2.2.1 POLICY AND TECHNICAL COORDINATION

As a subregional institution for political and economic integration, ECOWAS will be the single political coordinator responsible for facilitation and consultation among the actors of SRAP2 until the establishment of the Project Manager.

As such it will be in charge of:

- Coordinating and directing the implementation mechanisms and institutions of SRAP2 (PSC and STC) and funding their operation;
- Organizing regular consultative meetings between ECOWAS-CILSS-UEMOA on the implementation of the CCD.
- Putting in place a common work programme.
- Identifying the financial gaps in relation to the financing plan and mobilize the required financial resources.
- Designing frameworks to facilitate synergic actions from all the actors involved in implementing regional priorities.
- Developing international relations and partnerships
- Advocating to policy makers.

The technical coordination body chaired by ECOWAS should meet at least twice a year to:

- ✓ Agree on a joint programme of work
- ✓ Identify funding gaps in relation to the action plan and pursue the needed funding;
- ✓ Assess results.

2.2.2 Programme Management

Based on the principle of building on existing and develop synergies with other programs of ECOWAS, the operational management of the program will be provided by the Management Unit of Climate Change Program already in place.

To this end the Unit staff of the CC program will be expanded by a technical staff whose principal duties are:

- Preparation of the programme and annual implementation budget
- Daily monitoring of programme implementation
- Preparation of draft documents for all SRAP meetings (PSC, CST and CCD sub-regional and international meetings)
- Technical support missions to Member States
- Preparation of PSC and CST meetings and drafting of meeting reports
- Identification and mobilization of relevant institutions to ensure implementation of the included in the action plan
- Preparation of the sub-region's reports for the Conference of Parties
- Preparation of all activities reports
- Monitoring-evaluation of the activities programme

An Ad Hoc Committee is put in place pending creation of the PMU. The Ad Hoc Committee is comprised of representatives of the three institutions (CILSS, UEMOA AND ECOWAS) to ensure implementation of tasks assigned to the Unit. The CILSS Executive Secretariat is in charge of coordinating the Committee.

▪

2.1.2 OPERATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

Each operational objective will be implemented by a leading institution and associated institutions as presented in Table 2.

Table 2 : Leading institutions and associated stakeholders

	Leading Institution	Associated Institutions
Operational objective 1: <i>Efficiently integrate DLDD issues in subregional and national priorities in West Africa and influence the international community, subregional and national actors to efficiently address DLDD issues.</i>	ECOWAS	
Operational objective 2: <i>Work at creating a generally conducive environment in the subregion for devising sustainable and efficient solutions to</i>	ECOWAS	

combat desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.

Operational objective 3: *Strengthen the scientific basis of DC/SLM in West Africa and establish an efficient strengthening system.*

CILSS/AGRHYMET

ECOWAS/CCRE

The Observatories of River Basin Bodies (OMVS, ABN, MFD), OSS, WASCAL, ACMAD, CSE

SNRA

Operational Objective 4: *Support the mobilization of financial and technological resources for the implementation of CCD in West Africa.*

ECOWAS

UEMOA, GM

2.3 MONITORING-EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation in the context of the SRAP aims at providing policy makers with information to enable them know to what extent the mechanisms put in place to coordinate and implement the SRAP and its programmes are functional and appropriate. It should also enable to know the extent to which the actions conducted have produced the expected results on the basis of performance and impact indicators as defined in the ten-year strategy.

Thus, firstly, the monitoring-evaluation will be performed on regional priority activities identified for the SRAP. The various subregional actors involved in implementing SLM actions will be concerned by this monitoring-evaluation. To that effect, the monitoring-evaluation systems will be aligned with the ten-year strategy system which comprises of 11 impact indicators.

The appointed representatives of all the subregional actors meet with CILSS to consolidate the data and produce the subregional report to be submitted to ECOWAS.

Monitoring-evaluation will be performed on the implementation process of the SRAP, the results and impact indicators as proposed in the ten-year strategy. CILSS is responsible for this task and will submit the results of its evaluation to the PSC.

2.4 FUNDING MECHANISMS

The main goal is to put in place adequate principles, procedures and measures with a view to ensuring better and more efficient financial resources mobilization for successful CCD implementation through SRAP and establishment of diverse and efficient partnerships between the national and international actors.

More specifically:

- Provide support to the West African States and Chad to put in place the appropriate institutional, legal and financial framework aimed to facilitate mobilization of financial resources needed for SRAP implementation.

- Capacity-building of the national and sub-regional actors to ensure mastery of the procedures and structures to facilitate access to the international mechanisms and funds (available and new opportunities).
- Promote greater financial contribution from the countries, local communities, civil society and private sector to CCD investments by integrating activities relating to fight against desertification and land degradation into poverty reduction strategies.

Facilitate access to the Community's structural funds by providing, among others, grants from the solidarity Community Levy.

SRAP will be funded from two main sources:

Internal funding

- The ECOWAP/PRIA funding mechanism

In order to facilitate the implementation of the agricultural policy, the ECOWAS Commission has created:

- A regional agricultural Agency
- A fund regularly fed by the Commission with the support of partners for the running of the agency and funding of national NAIP projects and regional projects (PRIA) and which includes four windows:
 - The regional agricultural integration window ;
 - The food security window ;
 - The innovation support and capacity strengthening window ;
 - The support to regional policy, institutional and regulatory framework window.
- Community structural funds (in support to regional integration (FAIR), regional funds for agricultural development (RFAD), regional funds for Environmental management (RFEM).

External funding

A global funding strategy will be formulated to access the various existing funds and innovative funding sources.

- Global Environmental Fund (GEF);
- The opportunities of funds for climate change adaptation;
- TerrAfrica Initiative with funding from the World Bank for SLM ;
- Search for funding by intergovernmental organizations (IGOs).

Funding from private foundations for combating climate changes (Bill Gates and SOROS). The objective is to implement appropriate principles, approaches and measures to contribute to an improved and efficient mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of the CCD through the SRAP and by the establishment of diversified and efficient partnerships between national and international actors.

- Support West African states and Chad in putting in place an institutional, legal and financial framework to enable the mobilization of financial resources to implement the SRAP;
- Strengthen the capacity of national and subregional actors in order to ensure the control of procedures and workings to facilitate access to international mechanisms and funds (existing and new opportunities);

- Promote an improved financial participation of States, local authorities of the civil society and the private sector in the investments in favor of the CCD by integrating desertification and land degradation control in poverty alleviation strategies;
- Promote the recourse to the structural funds of the Community through, among others, endowments received from the community solidarity levy.

A specific study could help in identifying the funding mobilized through ongoing actions and then determine the funding gaps and profile of possible funding sources, as well as the modalities for accessing the potential sources and actions to undertake by the main actors (ECOWAS, States, CILSS, UEMOA, River Basin Bodies, and other IGOs and actors including EBID and BOAD).

THREE-YEAR BUDGET OF THE PROGRAMME

<i>Operational objective</i>	Activities	Financing sources		Costs (2013-2015) in USD
		Internal resources	External resources	
<i>Operational objective 1: Efficiently integrate DLDD issues in sub-regional and national priorities in West Africa and influence the international community, sub-regional and national actors to efficiently address DLDD issues</i>	Advocacy/lobbying to Heads of State and Government by the ECOWAS Commission for a rationalization of sub-regional IGOs' interventions	510 000	0	510 000
	Advocacy/Lobbying to the other categories of sub-regional stakeholders	200 000	100 000	300 000
	Advocacy/lobbying to international partners and outside ECOWAS	500 000	1 500 000	2 000 000
	Establishment of a network of champions and activists in charge of monitoring and	200 000	0	200 000

advocacy at fora			
Organization of the sub-region's participation to various international meetings of MLAs	2 100 000	0	2 100 000
Involvement of CSOs in the implementation of SRAP-WA	200 000	400 000	600 000
TOTAL OBJECTIF OP 1			

	IR	ER	Costs
Activity			
Establishment of consultation mechanisms to harmonize approaches and facilitate synergies and complementarities in the various IGOs' interventions	900 000	300 000	1 200 000
Effective involvement of IGOs in the implementation of MLAs and regional initiatives in West Africa	100 000	0	100 000
Improvement of knowledge on legal constraints facing SLM	100 000	400 000	500 000
Support to the sub-region for the development and implementation of at least two cross-border projects	100 000	500 000	600 000

Operational objective 2: Work at creating a generally conducive environment in the sub-region for devising sustainable and efficient solutions to combat

<i>desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought</i>				
	TOTAL OP Objective 2			
Operational objective 3: <i>Strengthen the scientific basis of DC/SLM in West Africa and establish an efficient system to strengthen capacity-building and management of knowledge relating to DLDD in the sub-region</i>	Establishment of the DLDD profile of West Africa	150 000	350 000	500 000
	Put in place a platform for knowledge management and sharing	50 000	0	50 000
	Activity	IR	ER	Costs
	Identification of IGOs capacity-building needs	0	100 000	100 000
	Strengthen or revitalise environmental surveillance and drought early warning	100 000	100 000	
	TOTAL OP OBJECTIVE 3			
Operational Objective 4: <i>Support the mobilization of financial and technological resources for the implementation of CCD in</i>	Establishment of an integrated investment framework for all IGOs in the sub-region	50 000	150 000	200 000

West Africa	Support to the States in establishing SLM integrated investment frameworks and aligning their NAP to the ten-year strategy	0	150 000	150 000
	Establishment of a mechanism to access DLDD technologies	50 000	0	50 000
	TOTAL OP OBJECTIVE 4			
	TOTAL OPERATIONAL ACTIVITES	5 210 000	3 950 000	9 160 000

Programme Management Budget (for 3 years in \$ US)

Headings	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
manager	85 000	85 000	85 000
Equipment (computer, consumable, etc..)	7 000	2 000	2 000
Participation in sub-regional and international CCD meetings	10 000	35 000	30 000

Support mission to the countries			
Total	102 000	122 000	117 00
TOTAL UNIT	341 000		

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LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

RESULTS	MAIN ACTIVITIES	SECONDARY ACTIVITIES	RESULTS INDICATORS	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS
Operational Objective 1: Efficiently integrate DLDD issues in subregional and national priorities in West Africa and influence the international community, regional and national stakeholders to tackle more efficiently DLDD issues.				ECOWAS	
Result 1.1: The main subregional stakeholders groups are efficiently informed on DLDD issues as well as synergy between controlling the problems and climate change adaptation/mitigation, biodiversity preservation and synergically implementing the three Rio conventions.		Draft an information note to policymakers			
		Conduct field visits for the network of ECOWAS parliamentarians on environmental issues			
	Advocacy/lobbying of the other categories of subregional stakeholders.	Produce a documentary for broadcasting on national and subregional television channels			
		Produce and disseminate messages from the current ECOWAS President delivered on the 17 June			
	Advocacy/lobbying of international partners and outside ECOWAS.	Organize a session of the World Forum on Sustainable Development on a Theme focused on the preservation of the Fouta Djallon Highlands and the links in West Africa between the DLDD-Climate change-Biodiversity-Wetlands themes.			
		Participation of the current ECOWAS President during Rio+20 and reading of a message.			
Result 1.2 The issues of desertification and land degradation are addressed at subregional and national fora dealing with environmental and agricultural issues.	Establishment of a network of champions and activists in charge of monitoring and advocating at fora.	Identification and solicitation of the best activists for the subregion.	Number of interventions by the champions at fora		
		Organization of press briefings and messages during events related to agriculture, food security and sustainable development	Number of relevant documents containing DLDD-related declarations and recommendations of funds		
		Speech by activists in presence of national parliaments and at Councils of Ministers of subregional IGOs.			
	Organization of the subregion's participation to various international meetings of MLEs	Organization (every two years) of preparatory SR technical consultations at the African Pre-COP and UNCCD's COP	Reports of consultations and number of participants to SR consultations		
			Number of decisions identified and		

RESULTS	MAIN ACTIVITIES	SECONDARY ACTIVITIES	RESULTS INDICATORS	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS
		Organization of at least three meetings of participants from the sub-region (governmental delegates and CSOs) during each session of the CRIC/COP	successfully defended during the SR consultations within the Africa Group		
<p>Result 1.3 CSOs are largely associated to DLDD-related activities conducted by West African economic integration and technical cooperation institutions.</p>	<p>Involvement of CSOs in the implementation of the SRAP.</p>	Reactivation/support to subregional networks operating in the area of DLDD	<p>Number of meetings organized on behalf of CSOs</p>		
		Advocacy to various IGOs in the sub-region for CSOs' participation in their statutory meetings.			
		Effective involvement of CSOs' representatives in activists groups and in technical consultations for the preparation of COP/CRIC and during COP/CRIC			
		Organize the involvement of CSOs in lobbying policymakers and PTF on DLDD and mainstreaming issues in the various programmatic development frameworks at subregional and national levels			
		Support to CSOs networks for the preparation of their positions and the restitution of the outcomes of meetings conducted in the context of SRAP/WA and the activities of various subregional IGOs.			
<p>Operational Objective 2: Work at creating in the subregion, a general environment conducive to finding sustainable and efficient solutions to combat desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.</p>				ECOWAS	
<p>Result 2.1 IGOs' interventions and programmes are efficiently coordinated and harmonized.</p>	<p>Establishment of consultation mechanisms to harmonize approaches and facilitate synergies and complementarities in the various IGOs' interventions.</p>	Mapping of IGOs' interventions and development of a common and shared vision in the area of sustainable use and management of land and related resources shared by two or more countries in west Africa.	The mapping document of NGOs' interventions exists.		
		Institution of an Assembly (annual? Every two years?) for the primary managers of IGOs and river basin bodies (with the participation of their coordinating ministers/Chairman of the Council of Ministers) to provide the status on the implementation of their programmes and projects and biennial programmes of biennial activity.		ECOWAS	

RESULTS	MAIN ACTIVITIES	SECONDARY ACTIVITIES	RESULTS INDICATORS	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS
		Submission of the outcomes of the General Assembly of IGOs' Manager to the ECOWAS Summit of Heads of State and Government for review and decision	A declaration/ decision of Heads of State on the complementarity of actions among IGOs exists.		
		Organization of annual consultations among IGOs working on the same theme (priority is given to themes on: water, new, renewable household energy, shared forest and wildlife resources)	Joint workplans between IGOs with clearly defined responsibility exist.		
Result 2.1 IGOs' interventions and programmes are efficiently coordinated and harmonized.	Effective involvement of IGOs in the implementation of MLEs and regional initiatives in West Africa.	Technical and methodological support for the review of IGOs' programmes for the inclusion of issues related to CC, SLM and BDC and, if necessary, alignment with the ten-year strategy of the UNCCD.	Number of IGOs that have reviewed their programmes to include issues related to CC, SLM and BDC.		
		Inclusion of IGOs' programmes in the CAADP and Great Green Wall processes in West Africa			
		Development of joint/common initiatives in the areas considered as priority areas by the member states.			
Result 2.2 The regional convergence guiding principles on the management and sustainable use of lands and related resources shared by two or more countries in the subregion are developed and applied	Improvement of knowledge on legal constraints facing SLM GDT	Realization of a comprehensive study on the national legislations and subregional directives in the area of the management and use of lands and resources shared by two or more states and identification of options for harmonization. Conduct advocacy actions at national level for the harmonization of legislations governing the management of transboundary resources.	The analytic document including recommendations for the harmonization of legislation exists.		
		Formulation of an action plan and mobilization of political commitment.			
		Identification and consensus on the legislative provisions and implementation instruments.			
	Support to the subregion in developing and implementing at least two transboundary projects		Project documents. Commitment of partners to finance both projects		

RESULTS	MAIN ACTIVITIES	SECONDARY ACTIVITIES	RESULTS INDICATORS	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS
Operational Objective 3 : Strengthen the scientific foundations of DC/SLM in West Africa and establish an efficient system to strengthen capacities for managing DLDD-related knowledge in the subregion.				CILSS/AGRHYMET	CSE, SNRA
<p>Result 3.1 The knowledge on the evolution of DLDD and the corresponding vulnerability study is improved.</p>	Establishment of the DLDD profile of West Africa	<p>Realization of a study on the main ecosystems in the sub-region and the biophysical and socio-economic factors contributing to DLDD in each ecosystem</p> <p>Organize a training session on a harmonized methodology for the establishment of DLDD profiles.</p> <p>Establishment of a baseline based on reliable biophysical and socioeconomic data</p> <p>Establishment every three years of a report on the state of lands and related resources shared by two or more states.</p> <p>Formulation of subregional reports to the COP</p>	<p>A harmonized methodology for the establishment of DLDD profiles exists.</p> <p>Number of countries and of private assessment bureaux and national executives trained on the harmonized methodology for the establishment of DLDD profiles.</p> <p>Number of NAPs aligned and that have mainstreamed a biophysical and socioeconomic baseline</p> <p>Number of subregional reports submitted to the COP and based on relevant indicators and an efficient system for monitoring DLDD.</p> <p>Two reports on the State of the Environment are published.</p> <p>Number of subregional reports submitted to the COP</p>		
<p>Result 3.2 Efficient mechanisms for the management and sharing of SLM knowledge and climatic risks, including traditional knowledge are put in place.</p>	Put in place a platform for knowledge management and sharing		A platform for the management and sharing of knowledge exists.		
<p>Result 3.3 Capacity strengthening needs are known.</p>	Identification of IGOs' capacity strengthening needs	<p>Formulation of a regional summary document on ANCR actions</p> <p>Support to the efficient integration of needs by strengthening the capacities of CSOs in national assessments (ANCR)</p> <p>Realization of a prospective study on future capacity strengthening needs in the sub-region in the area of DLDD.</p>	The summary document on the capacity strengthening needs at regional level exists.		

RESULTS	MAIN ACTIVITIES	SECONDARY ACTIVITIES	RESULTS INDICATORS	LEAD AGENCY	PARTNERS
Operational Objective 4 : Support financial and technological resource mobilization for the implementation of CCD in West Africa.					
<p>Result 4.1 : Countries and organizations in the subregion establish integrated investment frameworks in the area of DLDD.</p>	Establishment of an integrated investment framework for all the IGOs in the subregion.	Identification and programming of investment priorities based on the mapping of interventions and the priority needs in the area of sustainable management and use of land and associated resources shared by two or more countries in the sub-region.	A document identifying investment priorities on resources shared by two or more states in the sub-region exists.		
		Identification of funding and formulation gaps – under the aegis of ECOWAS- of a common strategy for resources mobilization in financing DLDD activities for all IGOs in the sub-region.	A strategy for the mobilization of financial DLDD actions for all IGOs in the sub-region exists.		
	Support to States in establishing SLM integrated investment frameworks and aligning their NAP to the ten-year strategy.	Organization of a focus meeting on national processes for the alignment of NAPs	A guide adapted for the alignment of NAPs in the sub-region exists. Number of countries who align their Action Programmes with the alignment guide proposed by ECOWAS.		
		Technical support (CILSS) for the alignment of NAPs and the preparation of national reports.	Number of countries being technically and financially supported for the alignment of their NAPs		
<p>Result 4.2 : ECOWAS intensifies its efforts to promote south-south and north-north cooperation to facilitate access to appropriate DLDD technologies.</p>	Establishment of a mechanism to access DLDD technologies.	Development of partnership with AMU and Latin American and Asian countries.	Number of countries that have accessed new technologies and apply them in the field.		
		Mobilization of networks and CSOs from the North for the establishment of partnerships in the area of technology transfer.	Number of new partnerships established with CSOs from the north		

ANNEXE

MAIN IGO IN WEST AFRICA*(i). Integration IGO :*

- Communauté Economique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO);
- Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest-Africaine (UEMOA);

(ii). SPECIALYSE IGO IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR :

- Comité Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS) avec ses deux organismes spécialisés que sont AGRHYMET et INSAH;
- Conférence des Ministres de l'Agriculture de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre (CMA/AOC);
- Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad (CBLT);
- Autorité du bassin du Niger (ABN);
- Association pour le Développement de la Riziculture en Afrique de l'Ouest (ADRAO);
- Conseil Africain de l'Arachide (CAA);
- Autorité de Développement Intégré du Liptako Gourma (ALG);
- Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du fleuve Sénégal (OMVS);
- Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du fleuve Gambie (OMVG);
- Union de la Rivière Mano (URM)
- Centre International pour la Recherche sur l'Élevage dans les zones subhumides (CIRDES)
- ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)
- Centre Africain pour les Application de la météorologie (ACMAD)
- Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la Recherche et le Développement Agricole (CORAF)

iii) les Institutions à caractère financier :

- AMAO : Agence Monétaire de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
- BIDC ; Banque d'Investissement et de Développement de la CEDEAO
- BOAD ; Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement
- GIABA: Groupe Intergouvernemental d'Action Contre le Blanchissement d'Argent en Afrique de l'Ouest
- IMAO : Institut Monétaire de l'Afrique de l'Ouest

- WAMA : West African Monetary Agency
- WAMI : West African Monetary Agency.