

**Preservation of Lake Chad:
contribution to the Lake
development strategy**



Contributing to preserving Lake Chad and its socioeconomic and environmental role for neighboring countries, by developing operational proposals, while preserving ecosystems, and via concerted water resources management.

CONTEXTE ET OBJECTIFS

Lake Chad is the second largest wetland area in Africa. Some **three million people** from the four neighboring countries (Cameroun, Chad, Niger and Nigeria) make their livelihoods from the resources and services provided by the lake: irrigated agriculture and water recession around the lake, transhumance breeding, fishing, and transport of goods.

The droughts in the 1970s and 1980s and, more recently, in 2008-2010, and the opening of regional roads have promoted trade expansion and led to dual migration dynamics of herders towards the south.

The densities reached on the shores of the lake, of 60 inhabitants/km², are unusual in the Sahel area. This human concentration is likely to crystallize situations of tension, in particular over the issue of resource sharing.

The lake is also subject to strong seasonal and interannual variations.

In 1964, the six States of the lake watershed set up **the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC)** in order to more effectively manage resources, avoid conflicts of uses and contribute to the economic development of the basin.

DESCRIPTION

The project is based on **3 components**:

- Synthesis of knowledge to better assess the human and environmental dynamics of the lake.
- Complement to the water management planning model.
- Support for the introduction of the Water Charter and the strengthening of relations with the other transboundary basin organizations.

IMPACTS

- **Contribute to local social and economic development** by improving water, soil and territorial management, and to removing the constraints on irrigated agriculture and fishing.
- **Preserve the global environment.** Lake Chad is an international RAMSAR site and the Heads of State and Government of LCBC have proposed to make it a world heritage site. The fragile balance of its ecosystem is today threatened by the pressure from the growing population.

01/11/2011 Project start date
31/12/2014 Project end date

25/11/2011 Project grant date

N'Djamena Location

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS sector(s)

subvention Financing Tool(s)

12 400 000 EUR Amount of the program Including FFEM funding

800 000 EUR Amount of FFEM funding

3 ans Duration of funding

Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad (CBLT) Beneficiaries

EU Cofinanceur(s)

AFD Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Institution responsible

