



LAKE CHAD BASIN COMMISSION

# ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT



# 2016



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>GENERAL INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>PART 1: LCBC'S TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>AXIS I: IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF LAKE CHAD BASIN WATERS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
1.1. Assessing the knowledge on the availability, discharge and quality of surface water and their interactions with Lake Chad .....	11
1.1.1 Operationalization of LCBC's modelling tool.....	11
1.1.2 Edition and publication of hydrological, hydrogeological and environmental diaries and bulletins.....	12
1.1.3 Support to synoptic and hydrometeorological stations in Cameroon, CAR, Niger and Nigeria .....	12
1.1.4 Socio-economic, meteorological and hydrological field data collection missions.....	13
1.1.5 Analysis of the interaction between surface and ground water in the Chari basin ...	13
1.1.6 Monitoring of the piezometric levels of ground water resources in the basin .....	13
1.1.7 Lake Chad-water table flows modelling.....	14
1.2 Strengthening of the legal and institutional framework in terms of surface water resource management.....	15
1.2.1 Development of the annexes to the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter.....	15
1.2.2 Monitoring of the ratification process of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter .....	15
1.3.1 Acquisition and installation of piezometric equipment.....	15
1.3.2 Construction of boreholes.....	16
1.3.3 Acquisition of equipment for the improvement of basic hydrometric network .....	16
1.3.4 Status of the hydrometric networks in the Nigerien and Cameroonian national territories of the basin .....	16
1.4 Carrying out a comprehensive assessment of the different sources of pollution of surface and ground water in the Lake Chad basin.....	17
<b>AXIS II: RESTORATION, CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE LAKE CHAD BASIN.....</b>	<b>19</b>
2.1 Capacity building of local authorities on planning techniques and introduction of economic tools with a view to promoting the sustainable use of natural resources.....	20
2.2 Development of regional data bases including the Geographic Information System (GIS) for the environmental planning and management.....	20
2.2.1 Collection of metadata in member countries (Chad, Niger, Nigeria, and Cameroon) .....	20
2.2.2 Regional conference on changes noticed in the basin ecosystems .....	21
2.2.3 Drafting of 2013 Report on the Status of the Lake Chad Basin .....	21
2.2.4 Edition of the Annual Report on the Status of the Lake Chad Basin Ecosystem .....	21
2.3 Demonstration of ecologically sound agropastoral practices through pilot projects and creation of surface and ground water protection zones .....	21
2.3.1 Small scale irrigation projects .....	21
2.3.2 Adaptation to climate change .....	22
2.4 Promotion of alternative sources of revenue and adoption of sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities.....	22
2.5 Promotion of energy-wood supply strategies.....	23
2.5.1 Community reforestation.....	24
2.5.2 Agroforestry plantation.....	25
2.5.3 Restoration of reserved forests .....	25

2.6. Development of stock routes and pasture lands .....	26
2.6.1. Development of stock routes and pasture lands .....	26
2.6.2. Construction of pastoral wells .....	27
2.6.3. Restoration of grazing areas .....	27
<b>AXIS III: RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE LAKE CHAD BASIN ECOSYSTEMS .....</b>	<b>28</b>
3.1. Formulation and execution of deteriorated ecosystems restoration activities in critical desert areas.....	28
3.1.1. Identification of flood-prone areas, wetlands and vegetal cover in 2016.....	28
3.1.2. Household energy supply strategies based on participative forest developments with a view to ensuring sustainable supplies in terms of energy-wood and other alternative sources of energy.....	29
3.2 Sustaining and promoting best soil and water conservation practices (half moon, banks, other techniques relating to soil and water conservation (CES) and soil defence and restoration (DRS), etc.) .....	29
3.2.1 Activities relating to soil and water conservation (CES) and soil defence and restoration (DRS).....	29
3.2.2 Regeneration of degraded ecosystems .....	30
3.2.3. Sanddune fixation or stabilization.....	30
3.2.4. Invasive species control.....	30
<b>AXIS IV : CAPACITY BUILDING OF STAKEHOLDERS.....</b>	<b>31</b>
4.1. Execution of a public participation strategy for the Lake Chad basin and its integration in the national action plans (NAPs).....	31
4.1.1 Celebration of LCBC's anniversary (22 May 2016).....	31
4.1.2 LCBC's communication Plan.....	31
4.2 Revitalization of the Lake Chad Basin Parliamentarian Network.....	32
<b>AXISV : DEVELOPMENT OF LCBC OPERATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK.....</b>	<b>33</b>
5.1. Execution of LCBC' Strategic Action Plan (SAP 2008 – 2025).....	33
5.1.1. 2016 operational planning including recommendations formulated during the 61 <sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers. ....	33
5.1.2. Support to the launching of new projects and programmes .....	34
5.1.3 Monitoring and evaluation missions of the activities of LCBC's Projects and Programmes.....	34
5.1.4. Preparation of project sheets .....	34
5.1.5. Review of the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) .....	35
5.1.6. Operational planning of 2017 activities.....	35
5.1.7. Strengthening of LCBC's technical capacities .....	35
5.1.8. Update of Lake Fitri and Waza Logone sub-basins management Plans.....	35
5.2. Setting up of a performant financial management system at LCBC.....	36
5.3. Improving LCBC's working environment .....	36
5.4. LCBC's visibility in Member States and towards Partners.....	36
5.4.1. Edition of LCBC News Magazine.....	36
5.4.2. Edition of 2014 and 2015 activity reports and 2016 work plan .....	36
<b>AXIS VI: EMERGENCY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR VULNERABLE PERSONS IN THE LAKE CHAD BASIN.....</b>	<b>38</b>
6.1. Development of income generating activities for communities and vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin .....	38

6.1.1. Development of market gardening activities in the Lake Chad basin .....	39
6.2. Development of basic social facilities with a view to promoting socio-economic activities in the Lake Chad basin.....	41
6.2.1 Support to health centers and schools.....	42
6.2.2 Construction of boreholes in the Lake Chad area.....	42
<b>PART 2: LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACE AND SECURITY ACTIVITIES .....</b>	<b>44</b>
2.1. General activities .....	44
2.1.1. Signing of the Support Implementation Agreement (SIA) to MNJTF .....	44
2.2. Specific activities .....	46
2.2.1. Transfer of national contingents to MNJTF’s authority .....	46
2.2.2. Conduct of assessment missions in communities affected by Boko Haram attacks.....	46
2.2.3. Maiden and familiarization tours in Sectors by the new Commander MNJTF .....	47
2.2.4. Operational planning conference.....	47
2.2.5. Joint technical assessment mission (JTAM).....	47
2.2.6. Special session of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff (CDS) of LCBC member countries and Benin .....	47
2.2.7. Meeting of the Ministers of Defence of LCBC member countries and Benin .....	47
2.2.8. Launching of Operation GAMA AIKI I.....	48
2.2.9. Meeting of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff of LCBC’s member States and Benin.....	48
2.2.10. Rotation of MNJTF Staff Officers.....	48
2.3. Funding .....	48
<b>PART 3 : REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.....</b>	<b>49</b>
3.1. <i>Regional cooperation</i> .....	49
3.1.1. Cooperation with the SEMRY (Yagoua Rice Farming Modernization and Development Corporation)and CAMWATER (Cameroon Water Corporation) .....	49
3.1.2. Cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) .....	50
3.1.3. Cooperation with the Panafrican Agency of the Great Green Wall (APGMV) .....	51
3.1.4. Cooperation with the African Basin Organization Network (RAOB) .....	51
3.1.5. Cooperation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) .....	51
3.1.6. Cooperation with the Global Water Partnership (GWP) .....	51
3.1.7. Cooperation with the International Commission for Oubangui-Sangha-Congo Basin (CICOS) .....	52
3.1.8. Cooperation with the Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS) .....	52
3.2. <i>International cooperation</i> .....	52
3.2.1. Cooperation with the African Development Bank (AfDB) .....	52
3.2.2. Cooperation with World Bank .....	53
3.2.3. Cooperation with the German Cooperation (BMZ) .....	53
3.2.4. Cooperation with the French Development Agency (AFD).....	53
3.2.5. Cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) .....	53
3.2.6. Cooperation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) .....	54
3.2.7. Cooperation with Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE International) ...	54
3.2.8. Cooperation with the United Nations European Economic Commission (UNECE) .....	54
3.2.9. Cooperation with the African Union (AU) .....	54
3.2.10. Cooperation with Powerchina International Group Limited.....	55
3.2.11. Cooperation with ECA/UNDP/UNOWAS .....	55

<b>PART 4: ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.....</b>	<b>56</b>
4.1. Human resources.....	56
4.2. Human resources administration.....	56
4.2.1. Promotion.....	56
4.2.2. Confirmation.....	56
4.2.3. Home leave.....	56
4.2.4. Internships.....	56
4.2.5. Recruitments.....	57
4.3. LCBC's financial situation as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December2016.....	57
4.4. Budget execution as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December2016.....	57
4.4.1. Execution of the recurrent budget.....	58
<b>GENERAL CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>61</b>
ANNEXES.....	61

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AFD	French Development Agency
AGR	Income Generating Activities
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
AMESD	African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development
APD	Detailed Engineering Work
AfDB	African Development Bank
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
CC	Climate Change
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
CEMAC	Central African Economic and Monetary Community
CEN-SAD	Community of Sahel-Saharan States
CES/DRS	Conservation of Water and Soil / Defence and Restoration of Soils
CICOS	International Commission of the Congo-Oubangui-Sangha Basin
FC	Financial Controller
LA	Legal Advisor
CoMs	Council of Ministers
COMIFAC	Central Africa Forest Commission
CST	Sugar Company of Chad
DFE	Director of Finance and Equipment
DAF	Director of Administration and Finance
TD	Technical Director
DICTs	Division of Communication and Information Technologies
DBO	Division of the Basin Observatory
DCP	Division of Cooperation and Project
DNRM	Division of Natural Resource Management
DWR	Department of Water Resources
DWRE	Director of Water Resources and Environment
DWRM	Department of Water Resources and Meteorology
FAE	African Water Facility
LDF	Local Development Funds
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
GIZ	Deutsch Gesellschaft für Zusammenarbeit (German International Technical Cooperation)
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GEF	Global Environment Facility
FFEM	French Fund for Global Environment
IRD	Research Institute for Development
LACBO	Lake Chad Basin Observatory
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
IOWater	International Office for Water
MDGs	Millenium Development Goals
OQERE	Quality Objectives for Environment and Water Resources
DCP	Data Collection Platform
PDRI-CL	Integrated Rural Development Project of Chari-Logone river systems

PNSA	National Food Security Programme
PPIV	Small Scale Irrigation Projects
FYIP	Five Year Investment Plan
PRESIBALT	Programme for the Rehabilitation and Strengthening of the Resilience of Socio-Ecological Systems in the Lake Chad basin
IBWTP	Inter-Basin Water Transfer Project
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CSO	Civil Society Organization
OSS	Sahel and Sahara Observatory
MoUs	Memorandum of Understanding
PAIBLT	Project in Support to the Lake Chad Basin Initiative
NAP	National Action Plan
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
PRODEBALT	Sustainable Development Programme of the Lake Chad Basin
PULCI	Emergency Inundation Control Programme
ToRs	Terms of References
IER	Institutional Evaluation Report
CAR	Central African Republic
ROAB / RIOB	African Basin Organizations Network/ International basin Organizations Network
ES	Executive Secretary
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
SEMRY	Rice Farming Modernization and Development Corporation of Yagoua, Cameroon
GIS	Geographic Information System
EU	European Union
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

## **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

The mission of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) has been extended to take into account current challenges, namely climate change and security challenges. The Programme of activities of LCBC also encompasses both developmental activities for vulnerable populations and those related to peace and security restoration in the Lake Chad area. This was in addition to the statutory mission of LCBC which consists in monitoring water resources and developing knowledge with a view to restoring and preserving the Environment and ensuring the sustainable management of the natural resources in the basin.

The report hereby highlights activities carried out as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 by the various departments of LCBC. It focuses on the development activities achieved on ground in 2016 as approved by the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers. Activities relating to security are dealt with elsewhere due to the sensitivity of the issue. However, a synthesis was prepared on this security chapter to brief the reader.

The report also focuses on issues relating to the administrative and financial management of the Executive Secretariat of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, notably human resources administration, budget, acquisition and maintenance of equipment, documentation and archives.

This report also stressed the support of the Technical and Financial Partners without which development and security activities could have not been carried out.

## LCBC's MANDATE AND MISSIONS

The Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) was established on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1964 by four (4) Lake Chad riparian countries, namely Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. LCBC is a permanent advisory body through which member countries express formally their willingness to promote their cooperation and their commitments towards harnessing the Lake Chad basin resources. The Central African Republic (CAR) joined membership in 1996 followed by Libya in 2008. Egypt, the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan are observer members.

The mandate assigned to LCBC is to: (i) manage in a sustainable and equitable manner Lake Chad and other transboundary water resources of the basin; (ii) conserve and preserve the ecosystems of the Lake Chad basin; and (iii) Promote regional integration, preserve peace and security in the conventional basin.

As such, LCBC is in charge of – inter alia –: (i) to collecting, assess and disseminate information relating to projects and programmes in member countries; (ii) to encourage joint programmes and projects in the Lake Chad basin; (iii) to ensure liaison among member countries with a view to sustaining the use of water resources and other natural resources in the basin and;(iv) to monitor the execution of studies and level of implementation of activities being carried in the basin while keeping member countries posted thereof.

On the institutional level, LCBC is provided with three (3) bodies:

- A. **The Summit of Heads of State and Government** which is the policy and decision-making Body. It meets every two (2) years;
- B. **The Council of Ministers** which comprises two (2) Commissioners per member country, is a decision making and control body of the execution of joint development policies and strategies. It meets once a year;
- C. **The Executive Secretariat** is in charge of executing decisions and resolutions issued by the Summit of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers. It represents LCBC on the legal, civilian, administrative and diplomatic levels. It also ensures the smooth execution of LCBC's projects and programmes.

**LCBC's Advisory Bodies: a) Donors Advisory Committee (DAC)**

The donors' advisory committee is a body which has been reconstituted since the institutional reform of 2008.

**b) Stakeholders' committee (SC)**

The stakeholders committee represents and coordinates civil society organizations.

**LCBC' SUBSIDIARY ORGANS**

To ensure good governance, the Lake Chad Basin Commission focuses on the following six (6) bodies:

- The Technical Committee (TC) ;
- The Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee (IMTC) ;
- The Stakeholders Committee (SC) ;
- Management Office per country (MOC) or Focal Structures (FS);
- The Water Resource Experts Committee (WREC) ;
- The Committee on Environment, Science and Planning (CESP).

It is worth mentioning that some of these bodies are operational and some others not. Therefore, there is need to operationalize those left.

## **PART 1: LCBC'S TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

In line with its 2016 programme of activities adopted in January 2016 by the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Niamey, Republic of Niger, the actions achieved by the Executive Secretariat focused on the following six (6) components also called axes : (i) Improvement of the quality and quantity of Lake Chad Basin waters; (ii) Restoration, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources of the Lake Chad basin; (iii) Restoration and conservation of Lake Chad basin ecosystems; (iv) Capacity building of stakeholders; (v) Development of LCBC's operational and institutional framework and; (vi) Development of emergency activities for vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin.

132 activities were planned for 2016. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, 77 activities were executed, which represents an execution rate estimated at 58 %. The execution of the entire activities carried out stood at 6,099,874,778 FCFA against a provision of 18,747,984,396 FCFA, equivalent to 33% of the annual development budget. Activities funded by member countries contributions represent 1,070,835,632 FCFA, which is equivalent to 18% of the cost of these achievements. The balance was provided by PRODEBALT.

The report hereby focuses on the state of implementation of 2016 planned activities, axis per axis while stressing the costs of these activities.

## AXIS I: IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF LAKE CHAD BASIN WATERS

**Indicator 1:** The quantity and quality of Lake Chad water are maintained at a sustainable level as compared with the average period of 60's taken as a reference year;

**Indicator 2:** A measurable reduction of the level of the main groups of water contaminant, sediment and biota;

**Target 1:** To develop and initiate the execution of surface water management strategies;

**Target 2:** To develop and initiate the execution of ground water management strategies;

**Target 3:** To develop regional pollution reduction strategies.

***Key messages of axis I:** The annual planning of this axis focuses on the development of knowledge, the strengthening of the legal framework, the demonstration of a sound management of surface water and a detailed assessment of different ground water pollution sources.*



Borehole water sampling campaign in the Salamat area, Chad



Bathymetric and seismic campaign in Lake Chad southern basin, Chad

### 1.1. Assessing the knowledge on the availability, discharge and quality of surface water and their interactions with Lake Chad

#### 1.1.1 Operationalization of LCBC's modelling tool

As part of the execution of the Water Charter of the Lake Chad Basin, a workshop on the enhancement of the Lake Chad basin water resources management and planning model was organized. This decision making support tool enables to give non-objection notices on the execution of socio-economic projects in the basin.

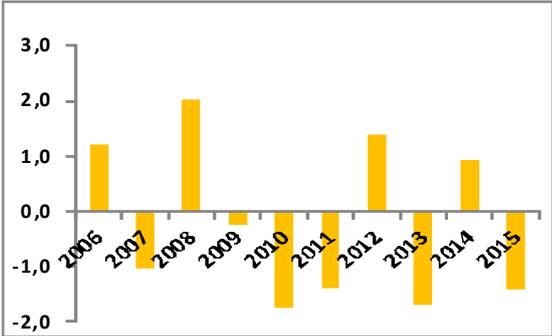
The aim of the workshop was to assess the situation and to set up a data sharing platform and an optimum execution mechanism of the model.

The workshop formulated the following three recommendations: (i) the ratification of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter by the member States which have not yet done so; (ii) the operationalization of the National Focal Structures (SFN), in compliance with the Water Charter ; (iii) the setting up of the data collection network on irrigation schemes.

**1.1.2 Edition and publication of hydrological, hydrogeological and environmental diaries and bulletins**



Water catchment on the Logone River at Zimado, Far North Cameroon



Evaluation of rainfall by means of the index

Both 2013-2014 hydrological diaries and two semestrial HYDROMET and ECOLACBO bulletins were edited. The 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 diaries were also edited. It is worth mentioning that the 2012-2013 diaries focused on challenges confronting hydrological departments in member countries. These challenges include lack of gauging and data collection campaigns, poor recording of data in some national hydrological departments, etc. Bulletins highlight useful information on the conduct of activities executed by the Basin Observatory, and opinions made on the hydrometeorological situation of the basin. In this vein, It was observed for example that during the period ranging from 2006 to 2015 in Sarh, Chad, four (4) years out of ten (10) recorded excess rain. The rest of time remained dry and deficient in terms of rainfall.

**1.1.3 Support to synoptic and hydrometeorological stations in Cameroon, CAR, Niger and Nigeria**

As part of its 2016 programme in support of national hydrological stations observers, the Basin Observatory provided the stations of Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria with about 20 bicycles. The aim of this support is to facilitate the collection of data with a view to ensuring their availability in the Regional Data Base (RDB) of LCBC. In CAR where no station has been operational since 2000, two (2) computers (laptop) were donated to the National Meteorological Department.



*Donation of bicycles in Cameroon*



*Donation of two computers (lap top) in CAR*

#### **1.1.4 Socio-economic, meteorological and hydrological field data collection missions**

The main objective of socio-economic, meteorological and hydrological data collection is to supply LCBC's regional data base, to edit 2013-2014 diaries and HYDROMET and ECOLACBO Bulletins. Missions are often carried out jointly with the experts of national hydrological services. They covered the Far North region of Cameroon and Diffa region (Niger), and are used to assess the status of gauging networks. Concerning socio-economic data, it is worth noting that agricultural producers and local institutions provided reliable data which help assess the impact of climate change on their production facilities (small scale irrigation projects, market gardening, etc.) and resilience-based agricultural techniques. Data relating to water catchments by pumping in terms of small scale irrigation projects have been collated.

#### **1.1.5 Analysis of the interaction between surface and ground water in the Chari basin**

The objectives of the analysis include, inter alia: The knowledge of ground water recharge in the area of Salamat, environmental data collection in the basin with a view to supplying the regional data base (RDB) and ensuring the quality of ground water in the wetland of the Salamat as well as assessing the vulnerability of the aquifer.

Two surface and ground water measurement campaigns were conducted in 2016. These campaigns enabled to sample at least 50 water points and to analyze them.

A recommendation to extend a similar study to the KomaduguYobe River Basin and Lake Fitri was formulated.

#### **1.1.6 Monitoring of the piezometric levels of ground water resources in the basin**

The main objective of the monitoring of piezometric levels is to ensure the monitoring of ground water level variations.

The aim is also to collect data and to make them available with a view to supplying the hydrological model which is being developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Three (3) data loggers were installed this year in Chad by the NASA and one (1) in Nigeria, or a total of four (4) data loggers installed in the basin.

In addition to the installation of the devices, a technical workshop on the collect of information relating to piezometers in the basin was organized. It enabled to have a clear picture of their status and to adopt the data collection system.

Regular missions to check the status of the data loggers installed as part of the Sustainable Development Programme of the Lake Chad Basin (PRODEBALT) and the NASA, and to collect data were conducted in the following stations: Loutou, N’Gueledeng 1 and 2, KingKing and N’Djamena’s outskirts(N’Djamena Koura).

All the stations visited are operational and data collected are homogeneous and reliable.



A data logger hanging inside the borehole by means of a ring. Installation of a data logger inside the borehole

### 1.1.7 Lake Chad-water table flows modelling

The objective of the activity executed by the Research Institute for Development (IRD) as part of AFD’s Project, but funded by the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) was to improve the knowledge on the interaction between surface and ground water. The work mainly focused on the observation of geochemical and chemical functioning, the hydrodynamics relationship between the water table and Lake Chad, the reconstruction of a data base, the bathymetry of Lake Chad and the modeling of surface and ground water of the Lake Chad basin.

The following available results (9products)were presented to LCBC during a workshop held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016:

- The identification by sismic sampling of four (4) holocene sedimentary deposits under Lake Chad for the last 20,000 years ;
- The estimation of the permeability and porosity of the quaternary aquifer by means of the method of magnetic resonance of protons (RMP Method);



Presentation of the results of the studies on modelling

- The isotopic and physico-chemical monitoring of both Lake Chad waters and quarternary aquifer;
- The integration of isotopic and geophysical data with a view to identifying surface and ground flows in the Lake Chad northern basin and in the valley of the KomaduguYobe River.

## **1.2 Strengthening of the legal and institutional framework in terms of surface water resource management**

### **1.2.1 Development of the annexes to the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter**

As part of the development of annexes to the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter, a Consultant was recruited by PRODEBALT (with AfDB funding) to develop annexes 7 and 8 to this Charter. The Consultant completed the first draft which will be reviewed by LCBC's Experts before submitting it for a validation during a regional workshop scheduled for 2017.

### **1.2.2 Monitoring of the ratification process of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter**

A Meeting of the Regional Parliamentarian Committee of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) was held in November 2016 in N'Djamena, Chad. Three (3) parliamentarians per member State attended the meeting which enabled participants to better understand the issue to be addressed and the challenge to be met with a view to ensuring a better management of natural resources in the Lake Chad basin. In the same vein, the Legal Advisor of LCBC, during a mission conducted to Nigeria, noted that significant progress was made in the process of ratification of the Charter by this country.

## **1.3. Demonstration of a sound surface water management**

### **1.3.1 Acquisition and installation of piezometric equipment**

The aim is to acquire and install piezometric equipment with a view to demonstrating a sound management of surface and ground water resources.

The Lake Chad Basin Commission, with the support of technical and financial partners, acquired 12 data loggers. The purpose of these equipment is to ensure the piezometric monitoring of ground water resources.

In addition to existing piezometers, four (4) piezometers were constructed and six (6) data loggers were installed in 2016.

41 piezometers should be constructed and 21 data loggers have been planned to be installed in the Lake Chad basin in 2017. Villages where these piezometres are constructed are in a dire need of potable water. They therefore solícite the construction of boreholes to overcome this challenge.

### 1.3.2 Construction of boreholes

As part of the Local Development Funds (LDFs), 42 manual pumps including 38 boreholes in Cameroon and 4 others in Chad were constructed. Five (5) small scale potable water supply system were constructed in Chad, notably in the Chari Baguirmi and Hadjer Lamis regions.

### 1.3.3 Acquisition of equipment for the improvement of basic hydrometric network

LCBC's basic hydrometric network comprises 12 stations to control minimum flows during low water period and 5 stations to control maximum flows during high water period, out of the sixty hydrometric station that exist in the entire basin.

LCBC purchased hydrometric equipment in 2016 with a view to strengthen its basic network. The materials include scale elements (mires), limnigraphs equipped with bubble sensors, computers and associated operating software as well as complete sets of piezographs were installed in boreholes.

LCBC organized a training session in N'Djamena in 2016 for its experts and those of the Ministry of Hydraulics. The aim of the workshop was to train trainers on OTT CBS bubble sensors used to measure surface and ground water. It also focused on a better knowledge on how DuoSens registers operate in terms of ground water hydrometry and OTT CTD. The use of HYDRAS3 software for transmission, processing and management of hydrological data was part of the training modules.



Group photo, OTT Training workshop



DuoSens recorder for hydrometry

### 1.3.4 Status of the hydrometric networks in the Nigerien and Cameroonian national territories of the basin

LCBC ensures a regular assessment of the hydrometeorological networks in the national territories of the Lake Chad conventional basin. In 2016, the status of these networks is as follows:

- In the Cameroonian national territory of the basin (Far North and Adamaoua regions), the network comprises 13 hydrometric stations and 9 meteorological stations, and needs to be fully rehabilitated;

- In the Nigerien national territory of the basin (Diffa region), the network comprises 5 hydrometric stations and 6 meteorological stations.

The common challenge facing all these networks is the lack of regular monitoring and maintenance. The lack of funds is another challenge. The capacities of technicians also need to be built.



The Mayo-Boula at Dargala, Far North Cameroon



Meteorological shelter in Diffa, Niger

#### **1.4 Carrying out a comprehensive assessment of the different sources of pollution of surface and ground water in the Lake Chad basin**

The assessment of the quality of ground water and its interaction with surface water was carried out in the wetland of Salamat (Chad) situated in the Chari river basin. The main activities carried out in 2016 focused on a sampling campaign targeting 50 water points.

The aim is to carry out isotopic and chemical analyses on collected water samples with a view to determining major ions, heavy metal ions and water isotopes. SECQODA and BGR laboratories in N'Djamena (Chad) and Hanover (Germany), respectively will conduct both analyses and the reading of results obtained.

**Execution of AXIS I's budget:** This axis includes 3 targets, 7 interventions and 24 activities. 20 activities were executed out of 24 planned. The execution rate is 83%. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 4 356 839 095FCFA was spent on this chapter against 6 619 144 904 FCFA. The execution rate is 66%.

**Partial conclusion:** Several field activities relating to the assessment of piezometric and hydrometeorological networks, data collection, the installation of new gauging and observation networks for the modelling of the discharge of Lake Chad and its underlying water table, were carried out. Data collected were used to produce diaries and bulletins to serve the needs of water actors and to supply LCBC's regional data base. To facilitate future collection of hydrometric data that LCBC needs, observers in Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria were provided with about 20 bicycles. An optimal execution mechanism of the Lake Chad basin Water Charter Planning model was set up during a workshop. As part of the advocacy towards the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter, the Regional Parliamentarian Committee (RPC) on Lake Chad was reactivated during a workshop held in N'Djamena. In the same vein, LCBC recruited a Consultant to draft annexes 7 and 8 to the Water Charter.

It is worth mentioning that most of the results achieved were possible due to the technical and financial support of LCBC's traditional partners (AfDB, BMZ, GEF and FFEM).

## AXIS II: RESTORATION, CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE LAKE CHAD BASIN

**Indicator 1:** Sustainable and measurable increase in quality bioresource productions at a level as compared with the level of the base line reference period of the 1960's ;

**Indicator 2:** Sustainable and measurable increase in the livelihoods of the populations of the Lake Chad Conventional basin countries;

**Target 1:** To regulate the use and sustainable management of river and lacustrine ecosystems;

**Target 2:** To promote ecologically sound agropastoral practices in the basin;

**Target 3:** To improve the livelihoods of riparian communities so as to reduce their dependence on unsustainable fishery practices;

**Target 4:** To promote sustainable management of timber and non timber resources as well as pastoral productions;

**Target 5:** To develop stock routes;

**Target 6:** To preserve and reconstitute at a viable level endangered species.

**Key messages II:** This axis focuses on the capacity building of local authorities in terms of sustainable use of natural resources, the development of LCBC's regional data base, demonstration of ecologically sound agropastoral practices, creation of water protection zones, promotion of alternative revenue sources, adoption of sustainable livelihoods for fishermen, promotion of energy-wood supply strategies and development of stock routes and pasture lands.



Market gardening producers association, Bol (Chad)

## **2.1 Capacity building of local authorities on planning techniques and introduction of economic tools with a view to promoting the sustainable use of natural resources**

As part of the capacity building in terms planning techniques and sustainable utilization of natural resources, fish processing and conservation materials were acquired. A training was also organized thereof. In line with the Strategic Action Plan (SAP), proposed actions are aimed to strengthen the resilience of socio-economic activities facing the climate change challenge, and to develop sustainable production systems.

The main objective of the training was to help reduce post-catch losses with a view to improving the revenues of fish sector actors and to upgrading the quality of fish supplied for consumption, through:

- The training of fishermen, fishmongers, and fish processors on the techniques of smoking, drying and icing and fish oil extraction;
- The popularization of the improved equipment of conservation, drying, oil extraction and smoking of fresh fish (isotherm containers, drying stages, oil presser and Chorkor oven).

Four (4) modules were trained in the five (5) recipient countries of the programme. The modules focused on the conservation of fresh fish by means of ice, fish smoking, fish drying, extraction of fish oil and post-catch losses reduction techniques. A total of 300 persons were trained.

## **2.2 Development of regional data bases including the Geographic Information System (GIS) for the environmental planning and management**

### **2.2.1 Collection of metadata in member countries (Chad, Niger, Nigeria, and Cameroon)**

Metadata collection (data on data) consists in collecting data packets on water resources, environment and socio-economy. Recent hydrogeological maps were obtained on the Chadian national territory of the basin. This also paved the way for a future collaboration with RESEAUX Project which works in the sector in Chad. In Niger, key reports and documents were obtained in Diffa relating to agriculture and fishery. These documents include a local development plan (PDC)-Goudoumaria, pedological report on sub-basins and deeps, Agrifor report (sweet pepper-Diffa). The University of Bangui (CAR) provided the Basin Observatory with the new



Meeting with a community grouping (Diffa)

Atlas of the Central African Republic. In the Far North region of Cameroon, Logone Birni and Kousséri areas, the visit of the Integrated Rural Development Project of Chari-Logone River system (PDRI) provided pertinent information on the local development in this area and the extent of water catchments by pumping for the purpose of small scale

irrigation projects belonging to community groupings. In Nigeria, documents on areas dominated by the typha, such as the case of Hadedja-Nguru, were provided.

### **2.2.2 Regional conference on changes noticed in the basin ecosystems**

As part of the preparation of the second “Report on the Lake Chad Basin Ecosystem”, LCBC intends to organize a Forum with a view to collecting scientific contributions on major changes observed in the Lake Chad Basin Ecosystem from 2012 to 2014. A preparatory meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at LCBC’s Headquarters in N’Djamena, Chad in line with the workshop for the review of the final draft of the previous report. The terms of reference (ToRs) of the conference and the table of contents of the next report were reviewed.

### **2.2.3 Drafting of 2013 Report on the Status of the Lake Chad Basin**

The first “ Annual Report on the Status of the Lake Chad Basin” was envisaged based on data collected in 2013. The report should mainly focus on the status of water resources and the evolution of vegetation cover in the Lake Chad basin. A Consultant was recruited in June 2016 by GIZ to provide LCBC with technical support. The terms of reference of the activity were drafted. A road map was also defined and the table of contents was produced.

### **2.2.4 Edition of the Annual Report on the Status of the Lake Chad Basin Ecosystem**

The table of contents of the annual report on the Lake Chad basin ecosystem was validated by the members of the scientific committee during their maiden meeting held in 2016 in N’Djamena, CHAD. LCBC’s member countries are being toured to collect updated data following a form designed thereof.

## **2.3. Demonstration of ecologically sound agropastoral practices through pilot projects and creation of surface and ground water protection zones**

### **2.3.1 Small scale irrigation projects**

To increase the production of food crops and market gardening, LCBC developed 600 hectares of small scale irrigation projects (PPIV) in 2016 including 10 hectares in Cameroon, 220 ha in Niger, 170 ha in Nigeria and 200 ha in Chad.

The following irrigation systems were constructed: (i) water catchment system (enhancement of the catchment and/or basement to fix the motor driven pump); (ii) water backflow pumping and distribution system; (iii) lands development; (iv) Operationalization of the installed equipment and (v) training of beneficiaries on the sustainable use of these facilities.

The water distribution system used is the californian network. This network comprises a buried PVC-based water piping system to channel water from the stream to remote lands or lands with irregular topography. The system enables to reduce water losses by infiltration, and to irrigate up to 2 ha or more if the pumping capacity is higher.

### **2.3.2. Adaptation to climate change**

As part of the Climate Change Adaptation Project funded by the German Cooperation, several activities were conducted, notably: the finalization and the presentation of the conclusions of the study on climate change and the publication of results achieved by the Project.

Climate change adaptation measures in sites approved may be divided into three categories as follows:

1. The sustainable development of small scale agricultural projects (rainfed and flood recession agriculture) and livestock and fishery sectors with a view to strengthening the resilience of rural populations affected by climate change negative effects in the pilot area (Bongor and Yagoua), and to improving the revenues of these populations.
2. Local actors capacity strengthening measures (farmers, livestock farmers, fishermen, decentralized technical departments, local associations and NGOs, etc. through the organization of study tours and transboundary platforms of exchange as well as institutional and technical training sessions and local knowledge transfer. The security challenge could not allow the smooth execution of activities in the Cameroonian portion of the basin where only inventories were conducted.
3. Activities related to communication, information and awareness towards local populations and actors on climate change and good practices in terms of rainfed and flood recession agriculture, livestock farming and fishery as well as consolidation of tested measures which may be disseminated beyond the pilot zone.

### **2.4. Promotion of alternative sources of revenue and adoption of sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities**

The aim of the actions proposed to improve the livelihoods of communities is to increase the resilience of socio-economic activities with a view to addressing climate change effects and developing production systems in a sustainable manner. They include integrated water resource management activities, sustainable forest resource management, agro-forestry plantations and sound management of fishery resources as well as sustainable local development alternative initiatives. Several actions were conducted by PRODEBALT, notably the construction of biogas units and the distribution of Chorkors ovens, drying stages and isotherm containers.



Construction of docks at Bozoum, CAR

To promote alternative sources of income and to ensure sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities, the following activities were carried out:

- **Acquisition and distribution of Chorkor ovens and drying stages**

360 Chorkor ovens were acquired in CAR in 2016. To reduce fish post-catch losses, 276 isotherm containers, 360 Chorkor ovens, 1,400 ml drying stages were disseminated in the country as part of PRODEBALT Programme. These fish conservation units are considered as effective alternative solutions for the processing and the marketing of fish with a view to increasing the efficiency of the use of fish resources in fish capture areas.

- **Construction of markets**

A fish market was planned to be constructed in Maiduguri, Borno State. The execution rate of the construction works was estimated at 70% in 2016. The construction of this fish market shall be completed in 2017.

- **Construction and equipping fishing facilities**

To ensure a sustainable management of fishery resources, the Programme has planned the construction of fishing facilities as follows: 3 landing docks and 4 surveillance antennas per member country, equivalent to a total of 15 landing docks and 20 surveillance antennas in the basin.

- **Funding of income generating activities (LDFs)**

The Local Development Funds(LDFs) which is part and parcel of PRODEBALT, are considered as a tool to fund community facilities and income generating activities with a view to improving the livelihoods of populations living in the basin, notably women by increasing their revenues.

LDFs comprise a primary window (or component) relating to facilities outlined in local development plans (PCD) and a second window dedicated for Income Generating Activities (AGR).



Construction of schools, Far North Cameroon

The overall local development funds in 2016 stood at 1, 440,000,000FCFA.

Several field achievements were recorded in Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, CAR and Chad. These community facilities include the construction of classrooms with two blocs of latrines, manual boreholes, mini potable water supply system, getways, etc.); income generating activities (small ruminant farming; cattle feeding, the commercialization of ovines, grain mills, milk processing units for yaourt production).

## **2.5. Promotion of energy-wood supply strategies**

The promotion of energy-wood supply strategies of the Lake Chad Basin Commission falls in line with the promotion of sustainable management of timber resources, non timber forest products and pastoral productions.

Activities which were executed in 2016 in line with the sustainable management of vegetal cover in the basin stressed the following strategies:

### 2.5.1. Community reforestation

The community reforestation consists in bringing populations to restore degraded areas through the production, plantation and management of plants. The aim of this activity is to contribute to the development and sustainable management of forest resources of the site, and to improve the living conditions of populations whose livelihoods depend on these resources by: (i) strengthening the capacities of beneficiaries in terms of production techniques and plants plantation as well as community site management; (ii) the regeneration of the vegetal cover ; (iii) the improvement of soil fertility, crops yields and; (iv) meeting beneficiaries energy wood supply needs.



Restoration of reserved forests at Zamay, Far North Cameroon

The promotion of community reforestation activities by setting up a simple management plan and restoring close to 630.5 ha in several local community forests selected in the basin. The used forest species are as follows: local forest species such as the *faiderbia*, *acacia senegal*, *acacia seameia*, *acacia nilotica*, *acacia seal*, *azachdiractaindica*(neem), *balanites*, *zizyphus*, etc.

The setting up of nursery teams at the level of selected sites is considered as the major requirement for success. Local populations were trained on forest planting techniques. This enabled to provide a certain category of the population with job opportunities.

Table: Community reforestation areas per member country:

Countries	Sites	Areas restored in 2016	Total planned
Cameroon	Peté, LogoneBirni, Yagouaand Guere	125 ha	2, 000 ha
Niger	N'guigmi, Goudoumaria and Bosso	360 ha	360 ha
Nigeria	Dabi, Maje,Yakasawa, MigaTarabu, Madachi (YOBE and JIGAWA States)	100 ha	723 ha
Chad	Mayo Kebbi-East	45.5 ha	700 ha
CAR		0	550 ha
<b>Entire Lake Chad basin</b>		<b>630.5 ha</b>	<b>4 333 ha</b>

The execution rate in 2016 is estimated at 63%. In the meantime, the remaining 37% will be executed in 2017.

### 2.5.2. Agroforestry plantation

For agroforestry activities, LCBC has planned the development of degraded lands in the most sensitive areas through the plantation of feedgrade and fertilizer species with a view to reducing ecosystem stress, rehabilitating degraded lands, and conserving and harnessing in a sustainable manner biodiversity. Species to be used should be resistant to water stress and capable to improve the fertility of soil through nitrogen mineralization and the production of a litter. The core issue is to address the root causes of the degradation through participative activities.



Sesame farmland at Guelendeng, Chad

The 8000 ha of agroforestry activities planned are distributed as follows: (i) plantation of more than 5,000 nitrogen fixing trees (*faiderbiaalbida*); (ii) plantation of more than 2,500 feedgrade tree species (*leucaenaleucocéphala*, *acacia Sénégal*); (iii) plantation of more than 16, 000 acacia nilotica. Each plantation campaign is followed by a sensitization and information campaign towards populations. A social mobilization campaign should be organized at the level of each site with a view to ensuring ownership by populations. This step shall also consist in sensitizing communities on issues relating to land degradation and climate change.

2,515 ha of agroforestry activities were conducted in the entire basin in 2016 (Cameroon 520 ha, Niger 1,340 ha, Nigeria 500 ha, and Chad 155.5 ha). The execution rate is estimated at 66%.

### 2.5.3. Restoration of reserved forests

LCBC has set the objective to strengthen and conserve in a sustainable manner the productive capacities of Lake Chad and its ecosystems including the restoration of 2,400 ha of reserved forests.

The aim of the project is to restore degraded sites inside reserved forests through reforestation with a view to reducing ecosystem stress, ensuring deteriorated land restoration, conserving and enhancing biodiversity in a sustainable manner.

The following activities were carried out: (i) restoration of reserved forests by developing projects; (ii) plantation of 64, 000 forest plants (8m spacing) ; (iii) transfer of competences to riparian beneficiaries in terms of reforestation.

The reforestation was conducted by planting local forestry species such as the Acacia albida (*faidherbia*), Acacia senegal (*Gommearabique*), Acacia nilotica (*Gonakier*), Khayasenegalensis(*Cailcédrat*), Sclerocariabirrea, Acacia polyacantha (*Polyacanta*), Prosopisafricana, Zizyphusmauritiana (*Jujubier*), Ximeniaamericana, Balanitesaegytiaca (*Savonnier*), Tamarindusindica (*Tamarindus*), Parkiabiglobosa

(*Néré*), *Sennesiamea (Cassia)*, *Azadirachtaindica (Neem)*, *Leucaenaleucocephala*, *Albizialebbeck*. The planted species include *Acacia nilotica*, *Acacia sénégál*, *A. albida*, *Balanitesaegyptiaca*, *Azadirachtaindica*, *Khayasenegalensis*, *Sclerocaryabirrea*, etc.

Concerning reserved forests restoration, activities were conducted in the Cameroonian portion of the Lake Chad basin only. Significant number of sites were developed in Mokio and Zamay covering a surface area of 253 ha out of 300 ha planned. The execution rate is estimated at 84% in 2016. The 16% left will be achieved in 2017.

In addition to field activities, planted sites maps were developed and sites surveillance and management committees were set up. The capacities of surveillance and management committees were strengthened on the spot.

## **2.6. Development of stock routes and pasture lands**

### **2.6.1. Development of stock routes and pasture lands**

The development of stock routes and pasture lands was aimed at increasing community participation in natural resources management, restoring grazing lands and promoting peaceful coexistence among resident populations as well as ensuring accountability of transhumants and other stakeholders for managing common resources in a sustainable manner. It also paves the way for a forum for dialogue among communities so as to prevent conflicts.

Numerous stock routes were identified for the purpose of demarcation and construction of pastoral wells along with these routes.

In the lake Chad basin, field activities focused on the development of 665 Km of stock routes as planned (Cameroon 200 km, Niger 100 km, Nigeria 100 km, Chad 145 km and CAR 120 km).

The activities relating to the demarcation of stock routes were essentially carried out in the Cameroonian and Chadian national territories of the basin in 2016. In this vein, 250 Km of stock routes were planned. Based on this planning, the following results were achieved:

- In the Chadian national territory of the basin, 150 Km of stock routes were demarcated in the locations of Dagana, Dababa, Haraze Albiar, Massenya and Chari, as planned. The execution rate is 100%;
- In the Cameroonian portion of the basin, 10 km of stock routes were demarcated. This poor execution rate of the activity is due to the security challenge in the area.

### 2.6.2. Construction of pastoral wells

The construction of pastoral wells shall boost pastoral activities, secure pastoral systems, ensure the sensitization of the users of pastoral wells and stock routes. It also enhances the sector and upgrade grazing.

The constructions of pastoral wells equipped with solar or electric submerged pumps for cattle watering were completed. In 2016, five (5) pastoral wells were constructed in Cameroon, 19 wells in Chad and 18 in Niger.



Pastoral wells at Mandjakma, (Tchatibali), Far-North Cameroon

### 2.6.3. Restoration of grazing areas

Pasture lands restoration activities were conducted at the center of Sayam located in the nigerien portion of the basin. 90 ha were planned and the entire grazing land was restored. The execution rate is 100%.

**Execution of budget under axis II:** This axis comprises 6 targets, 7 interventions and 27 activities. 18 activities were carried out of 27 planned. The execution rate is estimated at 67%. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the sum of **4,348,839,095** FCFA was spent against 6,619,144,904 FCFA allocated. The execution rate is 66%.

**Partial conclusion:** Activities focused on the acquisition of fishing equipment and the training of fishermen on fish processing and conservation. This activity was completed by PRODEBALT by constructing biogas units, Chorkor ovens, drying stages and isotherm containers with a view to promoting alternative source of revenues and adopting sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities. PRODEBALT also constructed fish markets and fish processing facilities, funded income generating activities through local development funds (LDFs), and carried out agroforestry plantations and reserved forest restoration activities. In the same vein, stock routes and pasture lands were successfully developed. Water resources, environmental and socio-economic metadata were also collected in most of the member countries through theme maps and technical reports. 1460 ha of irrigation projects were developed for local populations in Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Chad. The study on climate change was carried out and the results of the study were submitted.

## AXIS III: RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE LAKE CHAD BASIN ECOSYSTEMS

**Indicator:** Reversal of biodiversity degradation trend.

**Target 1:** To control desertification;

**Target 2:** To fight against deforestation and;

**Target 3:** To define and execute land restoration and conservation strategies

***Key messages III:*** This axis focuses on degraded ecosystems restoration projects and programmes in critical desertic areas, domestic energy strategies based on participative forest development and their consolidation, and promoting best soil and water conservation techniques.

### 3.1. Formulation and execution of deteriorated ecosystems restoration activities in critical desert areas

#### 3.1.1. Identification of flood-prone areas, wetlands and vegetal cover in 2016

A study on the spill area of Logone waters which supply both Lake Maga and Toupouri depressions (Lake Fianga) in the Far North Cameroon, was conducted by LCBC in collaboration with the hydrological departments of Chad and Cameroon.



Study on the spillage of Logone at the threshold of Dana in the Niger basin, FN Cameroon

The spill area of Logone in Bongor (Chad) was prospected through topographic surveys, GPS and information collected from communities.

The following findings were highlighted during leveling campaigns: the zero of Bongor' scale (321.49 m) is close to 2 m lower than the spill shore (323m) of Dana Bac in Cameroon. The spill occurs when the level of Logone reaches two (2) meters.

The study also shows that to protect communities living in the Cameroonian side of the location of Dana against inundations caused by Logone's floods, a permanent surveillance and monitoring system is required. The study therefore formulated the following recommendations: a) the development of a digital field model map(MNT

Map)of the spill area; b) the integration of the component on floodplains monitoring in the planning of national hydrological departments and the installation of digital water level gauging tools.

Through images produced by Google earth, the study also identified flood-prone areas in the basin. A vegetation map which also shows critically deteriorated areas, was edited based on satellite data dated 1999-2015.

### **3.1.2. Household energy supply strategies based on participative forest developments with a view to ensuring sustainable supplies in terms of energy-wood and other alternative sources of energy**

Domestic energy supply strategy based on participative forest developments with a view to ensuring sustainable supply in terms of energy wood was developed for the cities of Maiduguri, N'Djamena and Bangui. In 2016, the Central African Republic (CAR) was the only country to benefit from the subvention of 7,900 subsidized improved stoves.

## **3.2. Sustaining and promoting best soil and water conservation practices (half moon, banks, other techniques relating to soil and water conservation (CES) and soil defence and restoration (DRS), etc.)**

### **3.2.1 Activities relating to soil and water conservation (CES) and soil defence and restoration (DRS)**

The Lake Chad Basin Commission committed itself to increasing the productive capacities of the lake and to restoring the ecosystems of its basin in a sustainable manner through soils defence and restoration projects and programmes. These activities include the execution of CES/DRS related activities on fertile lands through the various techniques tried out in some member countries. The works cover 3,150 ha and include stone belts, banks, terrace, bowls, scarps, zaï, chiseling, spillway crest and earth dikes.



Calibrated stony millstream at Lara, Far-North Cameroon

In 2016, 1,383 linear meter of small water works (Bunds) were constructed including 453 linear meter in Cameroon, 480 in Niger and 450 in Chad.

### 3.2.2 Regeneration of degraded ecosystems

To protect Lake Chad and its basin, LCBC committed itself to sustainably rehabilitating and conserving the productive capacities of the lake and its basin ecosystems.

As part of the regeneration of degraded pastoral ecosystems policy, 23,000 ha of degraded grazing lands in the basin are planned to be restored. This will enable to:

- (i) To prevent any invasion or encroachment of pasture lands and stock routes by unpalatable herbaceous species, such as the *Sida Cordifolia*, *Pergulariathomentosa*, *Cassia mimosoides*, *Cassiaoccidentalis*, *Leptadeniapyrotechnica* and;
- (ii) to upgrade pasture lands and stock routes by introducing palatable herbaceous species.

In 2016, 282 ha were developed including 231 ha in Cameroon and 51 ha in Niger.

### 3.2.3. Sanddune fixation or stabilization

58 ha of palisades were constructed out of 62 ha planned to be executed in the Chadian national territory of the basin in 2016.

### 3.2.4. Invasive species control

Invasive species control activity was carried in the Nigerien national territory of the basin and covered 100 ha in 2016.

**Budget execution under Axis III:** The 2016 planning of this axis focused on 3 targets, 3 intervention and 10 activities. As at the date of the report hereby, out of the 10 activities planned, 6 were funded by LCBC. The execution rate is 60%.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 468, 137,712 FCFA was spent under this chapter against the sum of 901,115,043 FCFA allocated. The execution rate is 52%.

**Partial conclusion:** In 2016, the Executive Secretariat of LCBC identified flood-prone areas, wetlands and vegetation based on the study on the crest of Dana (Cameroon) and the Logone spill area in Bongor (Chad). As part of the domestic energy supply strategy based on participative forest development with a view to ensuring energy wood supply, the Central African Republic acquired 7,900 improved stoves.

In line with erosion control activities, it is worth mentioning that out of the 62 ha planned, 58 ha of palisades were constructed in Chad.

## AXIS IV : CAPACITY BUILDING OF STAKEHOLDERS

**Indicator 1:** The aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems are preserved and restored;

**Indicator 2:** The ecosystem productivity is increased;

**Target 1:** To strengthen the participation of the public and stakeholders of the Lake Chad basin countries in terms of environmental management.

**Target 2:** To improve communication and information sharing among actors;

**Target 3:** To promote environmental communication in the Lake Chad basin;

**Target 4:** To create an active partnership between the Forum of NGOs of the Lake Chad basin, local and transboundary companies and stakeholders as well as the other Basin Organization.

*Key message of Axis IV: This axis focuses on public participation strategies in actualizing national action plans (NAPs) and revitalizing the Parliamentarians Network with a view to ensuring the lobbying and advocacy towards decision makers.*

### 4.1. Execution of a public participation strategy for the Lake Chad basin and its integration in the national action plans (NAPs)



Meeting of the Regional Parliamentarian Committee on Lake Chad, N'Djamena, Chad

#### 4.1.1 Celebration of LCBC's anniversary (22 May 2016)

This anniversary was marked by the distribution of 550 school kits to children of refugees of Lake Chad islands, the handover of a well to the village of Toui (Bol region) and the donation of medical products and equipment to the Health Center of Gredaya (HadjerLamis).

#### 4.1.2 LCBC's communication Plan

A draft of the strategic communication Plan was prepared by the Lake Chad Basin Commission. The aim of this Plan is to promote LCBC as a benchmark Basin Organization at the service of the communities of the member States in their fight to share and preserve water resources and the ecosystems of the Lake Chad basin in a sustainable manner. The Plan also aims to identify the target audience of LCBC, define how to

upgrade the corporate image of the Organization, ensure publications and their dissemination. The Strategy shall enhance the capacity of the organization to achieve its vision, mission and objectives, and ensure the compliance of activities related to communication with LCBC' strategic documents (Strategic Action Plan, Lake Chad Basin Water Charter, the Five Year Investment Plan, the Environmental Audit Report, the Emergency Programme for youths and vulnerable persons, the Lake Chad Development and Climate Change Adaption Action Plan, etc.). The objective of the plan is to improve the knowledge and understanding of issues relating to water resources and sub-regional integration through sensitization and advocacy around current challenges.

The Communication Plan should be validated by all the relevant actors and might be funded by LCBC and its partners.

#### **4.2 Revitalization of the Lake Chad Basin Parliamentarian Network**

A meeting of the Regional Parliamentarian Committee on the Lake Chad Basin was held from 3-5 October 2016 in N'Djamena (Chad). The main objective of this meeting was the reactivation of this Committee, particularly with the renewal of Parliaments in most of the member States.

This meeting also focused on the issue of the Inter-Basins Water Transfer Project from Oubangui River to Lake Chad, the issue of climate change in the Lake Chad basin, the security challenge in the basin, mitigations measures and results obtained after the execution of these measures as well as challenges. A particular attention was accorded to the critical financial situation LCBC is going through due to delays in the payment of contribution arrears and contributions by member States. The issue of the ratification of the Lake Chad Basin Water by Nigeria and the Central African Republic (CAR) was raised.

**Execution of the budget under axis IV:** The planning of axis IV has focused on 4 targets, 4 interventions and 10 activities in 2016. During the period under review, 3 activities out 10 planned were conducted. The execution rate is estimated at **30 %**.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the sum of 70,367,000 FCFA was spent under this chapter against an overall budget head which stands at 386,000,000 FCFA as part of the celebration of the 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of LCBC. The execution rate is 18%.

**Partial conclusion:** The anniversary of LCBC was celebrated this on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 at Bol (Chad). In line with this celebration, several events were organized. It is also worthy to mention that the draft of LCBC Communication Plan has been elaborated but should be reviewed and validated. The meeting of the Regional Parliamentarian Committee (RPC) on Lake Chad was held in N'Djamena, Chad.

## AXIS V : DEVELOPMENT OF LCBC OPERATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

**Target 1:** To ensure the execution of LCBC's Projects and Programmes as well as MoUs;

**Target 2:** To ensure the coordination and operation of the regional monitoring system;

**Target 3:** To mobilize resources from member States, development partners, private sector and civil society;

**Target 4:** To ensure availability of adequate human resources;

**Target 5:** To set up adequate facilities ;

**Target 6:** To ensure the visibility of LCBC and the Executive Secretariat at the national, regional and international levels.

***Key messages under axis V:*** This axis focuses on the execution of the Strategic Action Plan of LCBC (SAP), the improvement of the organization of LCBC activities, the setting up of a performant financial management system and the upgrading of LCBC's working environment.



Workshop on the review of WazaLogone floodplain management Plan

### 5.1. Execution of LCBC' Strategic Action Plan (SAP 2008 – 2025)

#### 5.1.1. 2016 operational planning including recommendations formulated during the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

In line with the observations made by the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Niamey, Republic of Niger, an operational planning workshop was held in N'Djamena, Chad to review resolutions made during the session, recommendations formulated by national experts, identify ways and means for their execution, prioritize the activities of the various departments, and identify expected results in 2016 as well as measurable indicators.

### **5.1.2. Support to the launching of new projects and programmes**

The launching of the Programme for the Rehabilitation and Strengthening of the Ecological Systems in the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT) at the national and regional levels and the training of the new team at the management unit of the programme on the procedures of AfDB's procurement procedures, disbursement procedures, etc.). The aim of this training session was to ensure an effective and efficient implementation of the programme. It is worthy to mention that the programme is not operational in Nigeria as the Loan Agreement has not yet been signed between this country and AfDB.

### **5.1.3 Monitoring and evaluation missions of the activities of LCBC's Projects and Programmes**

The peculiarity of LCBC's operational planning is the involvement of focal points and local NGOs leadership in the monitoring and evaluation process of actions in member States. This involvement shall not only enable to have a better comprehension of actions on ground, but also to ensure a good ownership by focal points of achievements. Two (2) supervision missions were planned in 2016 accordingly in each recipient country.

The aim of these supervision missions was to assess the state of implementation of activities on ground, identify difficulties encountered during the execution and see with stake holders how to sustain and consolidate achievements after the closure of the programme.

The major findings and lessons learnt during the execution of actions in the Lake Chad basin are as follows: (i) Delays recorded in the disbursements of funds by the technical and financial partner (AfDB); (ii) Poor financial capacities of some NGOs or enterprises to carry out activities smoothly, in compliance with service provision agreements signed with them; (iii) The security challenge in some of the projects areas of intervention, which couldn't allow the smooth execution of projects and programmes and; (iv) lack of visibility of field achievements.

### **5.1.4. Preparation of project sheets**

As part of the preparation of project sheets, LCBC was supported by technical and financial partners. The support was extended to the following:

- The pre-identification of the projects contained in the Lake Chad Development and Climate Resilience Action Plan in close cooperation of the World Bank Team in Cameroon and Chad. The similar exercise shall be performed in the other countries in 2017;
- The assessment of LCBC/GWP Project relating to the Early Warning System in the Lake Chad basin;
- The assessment of LCBC's management capabilities to execute UNDP/GEF Project in line with the SAP and;

The pre-identification of LCBC/AfDB Project relating to the socio-professional reintegration of youths in the Lake Chad basin.

### **5.1.5. Review of the Strategic Action Plan (SAP)**

In line with recommendations in the initial version of the SAP, a provision is made for its review after five (5) years of implementation. In fact, the review process has started for three (3) years, with the support of GIZ who recruited Consultants to review and validate new versions accordingly. An initial consultation workshop which brought together the main actors who took part in the drafting of the SAP, was held in N'Djamena, Chad. A planning meeting was then held in Bonn, Germany to approve the scenario and to define a road map thereof. The process is delayed due to the lack of GIZ funds.

### **5.1.6. Operational planning of 2017 activities**

The operational planning is a key process in terms of prioritizing activities to be executed by the Commission in a particular year. It is held each year in the first quarter of the year. This year, the operational planning was held in November 2016. A draft work plan with a relevant budget for the year 2017 (PTBA 2017) was prepared and shall be submitted to the upcoming Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, for review and validation.

Each year, the operational planning is conducted in line with the strategic planning 2014-2017 of the Lake Chad Basin Commission.

### **5.1.7. Strengthening of LCBC's technical capacities**

LCBC 2025 Vision is to create conditions conducive to the preservation of Lake Chad through its sustainable conservation and the protection of the other wetlands, with a view to ensuring the economic security of fresh water ecosystem resources, the preservation of the biodiversity and the sustainability of aquatic resources as well as their equitable use in a way to meet the needs of the populations in the basin; thereby reducing their level of poverty.

To achieve this objective, the Lake Chad Basin Commission shall strengthen the technical capacities of its stakeholders so as to ensure an effective execution of its field activities and their smooth supervision.

In this vein, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, with the support of GIZ, launched a significant programme of capacity building for its experts and focal points on the basic principles of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

### **5.1.8. Update of Lake Fitri and Waza Logone sub-basins management Plans**

As part of its Project entitled "Reversal of water and land degradation trends in the Lake Chad basin ecosystem" or LCBC/GEF Project, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, with the technical support of the International Union for the Conservation of the Nature (IUCN), designed a five year management plan for the Waza Logone Flood Plain in 2007. This Plan should be reviewed after each five (5) years taking into account results obtained and challenges.

A workshop to validate the synthesis of results of the consultation phase with stake holders on the process of review of the Waza Logone floodplain management plan was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at the Municipal Club of Maroua, Cameroon.

The objective of this workshop was to inform key actors of the existence of the management plan and the need to review it.

## **5.2. Setting up of a performant financial management system at LCBC**

The 2015 account audit of the Executive Secretariat of the Lake Chad Basin Commission was conducted by an independent Consulting Firm. The audit report is available.

## **5.3. Improving LCBC's working environment**

LCBC Headquarters were renovated with a view to improving work environment and the security of the personnel, after fifty (50) years of existence. Provisions have been made in the 2016 budget to rehabilitate the roof of the building. However, only very sensitive areas of the building were rehabilitated.

## **5.4. LCBC's visibility in Member States and towards Partners**

### **5.4.1. Edition of LCBC News Magazine**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, only one half year issue of "LCBC News Magazine" was published. Five hundred (500) copies were produced and widely disseminated in member States.

### **5.4.2. Edition of 2014 and 2015 activity reports and 2016 work plan**

In line with LCBC 2016 Work Plan adopted by the Council of Ministers, the Executive Secretariat proposed to edit the 2014 and 2015 activity reports and the 2016 work plan.

This year, taking into account the insufficiency of financial resources and the urgency to develop and make available PURDEP document which is considered as the base line document of the planning, decision was taken to edit and print the 2015 activity report and PURDEP document both in French and English languages.

**Execution of the budget under AXIS V:** The 2016 planning focused on six (6) targets, six (6) interventions and thirty six (36) activities. The results achieved so far are as follows: 23 activities were executed out of 36 activities planned, which represents an execution rate estimated at 53 %.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the sum of 364,625,442 FCFA was spent under this chapter against the sum of 999,500,000 FCFA approved. The execution rate is 36%.

**Partial conclusion:** The Executive Secretariat reviewed resolutions issued during the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and recommendations formulated by national experts. It also set up the new team of PRESIBALT Management Unit in line with AfDB procedures. Current projects and programmes supervision missions in member States were conducted. The draft 2017 PTBA was prepared and will be submitted to the upcoming Council of Ministers. A capacity building workshop on planning, monitoring and evaluation and capitalization of LCBC was held. A draft communication strategy was drafted for the Lake Chad Basin Commission. Moreover, the LCBC 2015 account audit was conducted. The roof of LCBC's building was partially rehabilitated. The conference room was entirely renovated. Finally, the 2015 activity report and PURDEP Project document were edited.

## AXIS VI: EMERGENCY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR VULNERABLE PERSONS IN THE LAKE CHAD BASIN

**Target 1:** To create income generating activities and ensure poverty control;

**Target 2:** To develop socio-economic facilities;

**Target 3:** To set up Units for the smooth monitoring and management of activities contained in the PURDEP;

**Intervention 1:** Development of income generating activities for communities and vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin;

**Intervention 2:** Development of basic social infrastructures with a view to favoring socio-economic activities in the Lake Chad basin;

**Intervention 3:** Development of the management Units of transboundary socio-economic activities in the Lake Chad basin

***Key messages under Axis VI:*** This axis focuses mainly on the development of income generating activities for communities and vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin.



Promotion of aquaculture at Jigawa, Nigeria

### 6.1. Development of income generating activities for communities and vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin

Numerous activities in support of the Lake Chad riparian populations were identified in 2016 as part of LCBC Emergency Action Plan, and executed in two phases. The first phase focuses on socio-economic activities, notably market gardening activities in the Nigerian, Chadian and Cameroonian portions of the basin. The second phase shall deal with the promotion of aquaculture in the Nigerian portion of the Lake Chad basin.

### 6.1.1. Development of market gardening activities in the Lake Chad basin

#### A. In Cameroon

The support provided to market gardeners in the Cameroonian national territory of the basin includes:

- The construction of 20 agricultural boreholes for 20 producers to supply water permanently for irrigations;
- The construction of two (2) open wells to supply water throughout the year;
- The construction of five (5) stoned millstreams to supply five (5) reservoirs;
- The acquisition of 480 polyvinyl chloride pipes (PVC pipe) of 4 m length and 7 rolls of collapsible or flexible hoses of 90 m length, for irrigation purposes,
- The acquisition of various production equipment (28 motor pumps, 67 watering cans, 21 wheelbarrows, 30 other light materials, 21 back-pack sprayers and 3 ulva sprayers) and agricultural fertilisers (24 bags of NPK fertilizers and 24 bags of urea).



To carry out this activity, LCBC was provided with the technical support of the Regional Integrated Development Project of Chari-Logone river system (PDRI CL), Technical departments in charge of Agriculture and local NOGs such as ACEEN and SAHELI, which are very active in areas of intervention. These bodies are responsible for the monitoring of the support and the assessment of changes in the live of beneficiaries.

#### B. In Niger

Over 300 sub-basins were identified in the departments of Mainé Soroa and Goudoumaria. The following five (5) sub-basins were selected.

- The site of KIL with a joint cooperative referred to as “ALLABANASSA” which is cropping 34 hectares ;
- The site of DARSAROM with a joint cooperative whose strength is 30 producers and which is cultivating 24 hectares;
- The site of NARI with a joint cooperative of 41 producers growing 38 hectares;
- The site of Goudoumaria with a women cooperative growing 15 hectares and ;
- The site of KADELABOUA with a cooperative.

The crops grown by the 5 cooperatives and 18 groupings over 300 ha include the following: maize, cassava, solanum tuberosum (irish potato), daucuscarota (carrots), pepper, onion, watermelon, moringa, dates, mango, guava, etc.

For a smooth conduct of its activities, LCBC, with the authorization of local authorities, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the NGO “Agir Plus” to ensure the supervision and monitoring of beneficiaries.



The NGO “Agir Plus” working in the field in Niger

**C. In Chad**

LCBC provided support to 18 market gardening associations including 7 women associations and 11 mixed cooperatives in the Lake Chad region, 19 associations among them 8 women organizations in the Hadjer Lamis region. In a nutshell, LCBC supported 37 agricultural associations and cooperatives comprising more than 850 producers who are growing close to 240 hectares. The NGOs ASDED and “Let’s Safe Lake Chad” were selected to ensure the supervision of works and the monitoring of beneficiaries in the two regions mentioned, based on MoUs signed with LCBC.

Both local traditional and administrative authorities highly commended the initiative and expressed their hope that such an initiative will be extended to take into account socio-economic activities. This will also improve the visibility of LCBC.



NGOs “ASDED” and “Saving Lake Chad” working on ground

#### **D. In Nigeria**

Income generating and jobs creation activities in Nigeria in 2016 focus on the promotion of aquaculture in JIGAWA state, Kano state, YOBE state and BAUCHI state. Three (3) ponds were constructed and *Clarias sp* fish species (fingerlings) are growing in these ponds. Management committees were trained on the various fish farming techniques and the management of ponds. These ponds are pilot ponds with a view to enabling beneficiaries to ensure the ownership of these techniques and to be able to construct their ponds so as to sustain the activity.

In this vein, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Komadugu Yobe Basin Wetland Development Initiative (NGO KYB-WDI) to support beneficiaries from the beginning of the activity up to the harvest of fish.

Based on results obtained during the initial fish harvest, Governors of recipient states committed themselves to popularizing these fish farming techniques and to providing support to those who would like to create their own business in the aquaculture sector.



Development of aquaculture in Nigeria

#### **6.2. Development of basic social facilities with a view to promoting socio-economic activities in the Lake Chad basin.**

This action focuses on the facilities which will enable the promotion of economic activities including the improvement of the living conditions of recipient populations, notably through the construction of water points and the rehabilitation of basic social infrastructures.

### 6.2.1 Support to health centers and schools

As part of the 2016 budget, a set of equipment consisting of bed, obstetric tables, chairs, benches and other small materials and first aid products was donated to the health center of the village of GREDDAYA, Chad. School kits were also donated to the school of the village of Toui in Chad. These donations took place on the 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of LCBC celebrated this year on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016.



Support to the health center of Gredaya and school of Toui, Bol, Chad

### 6.2.2 Construction of boreholes in the Lake Chad area

In 2016, 12 boreholes equipped with manual pumps were constructed in the villages around Lake Chad in Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria affected by the attacks of Boko Haram Terrorist Group.



**Execution of the budget under AXIS VI:** *The 2016 planning focuses on 3 targets, 3 interventions and 25 activities. Results achieved so far include the conduct of 12 activities out of 25 planned and funded by LCBC. The execution rate is estimated at 48 %.*

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, an amount of 362,296,700 FCFA was spent on this axis against the amount 3,115,538,449 FCFA budgeted, which represents an execution rate of 12%.

**Partial conclusion:** Socio-economic activities (market gardening and aquaculture promotion activities) were carried out in great part of the Lake Chad basin in 2016. Activities relating to the construction of boreholes and wells, and acquisition of agricultural fertilizers were conducted in Cameroon. In Niger, 5 major cooperatives working on more than 140 hectares of agricultural lands and fish farming ponds were supported. The aquaculture sector was promoted in the Nigerian portion of the Lake Chad basin.

## **PART 2: LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACE AND SECURITY ACTIVITIES**



Meeting of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF)

In line with the execution of its mandate, LCBC carried out numerous activities relating to the preservation of peace and security in the Lake Chad basin this year, notably the reactivation of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram Terrorist Group. The aim of these activities was the promotion of sub-regional integration, strengthening of military cooperation among LCBC's member countries and improvement of MNJTF's operational capabilities.

### **2.1. General activities**

LCBC leadership held several high level meetings in 2016. They were also invited to attend a series of meetings with strategic partners including the following:

#### **2.1.1. Signing of the Support Implementation Agreement (SIA) to MNJTF**

LCBC/MNJTF delegation took part in the signing ceremony of the SIA on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in Addis-Ababa (Ethiopia). This tripartite agreement (African Union-LCBC-MNJTF Troops Contributing Countries (TTCs) defined modalities for provision of additional support to MNJTF provided by strategic partners through AU.

##### **a. Donors' conference**

LCBC/MNJTF delegation lead by the Executive Secretary, Head of Mission (ES-HoM) attended the donors conference organized by the African Union on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia under the chairmanship of His Excellency Idriss DEBY ITNO, President of the Republic of Chad and Current Chairman of the African Union. The aim of this conference was to mobilize funds with a view to supporting MNJTF operations.

### **b. Visit of AFRICOM's Commander to MNJTF Mission HQs**

The ES-HoM of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) with his entourage granted an audience to a delegation of US AFRICOM lead by its Commander General DM Rodriguez on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The meeting was held at the Office of the Head of Mission of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF). This high level meeting was a forum to assess the support provided to MNJTF by the United States of America as part of the fight against Boko Haram Terrorist Group. The meeting also enabled to identify new avenues for further cooperation.



### **c. Participation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit on regional security**

A high level delegation of LCBC/MNJTF (Leadership and experts) lead by the ES-HoM, attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Security Summit held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria. This high level meeting convened by His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, after the Summit of Paris held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014 on security in



Nigeria, enabled to assess success achieved in the fight against Boko Haram Terrorist Group, and to define an action plan with a view to addressing the critical humanitarian situation in the Lake Chad region.

### **d. Participation to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations Advisory Committee on securities issues in Central Africa (UNSAC)**

Following an invitation of the United Nations Office in Central Africa (UNOCA), a team of experts from LCBC and MNJTF attended the 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the United Nations Advisory Committee on in securities issues in Central Africa (UNSAC) held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR).

This gathering offered the opportunity to share experience and to have fruitful discussions on issues relating to security in general and to the fight against the terrorist thread in Central Africa in particular.

**e. Visit of the Current Chairman of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of LCBC's member countries to MNJTF HQs**

HIS EXCELLENCY ISSOUFOU MAHAMADOU, President of the Republic of Niger, Head of State, Current Chairman of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of LCBC's member countries visited in early March 2016 the Headquarters of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) of the Lake Chad Basin Commission based in N'Djamena, Chad.



The aim of the visit was for the Chairman of LCBC's Summit to reiterate the full support of the governments and populace of LCBC member countries to MNJTF towards eliminating Boko Haram Terrorist Group in the Lake Chad basin area. The visit was also aimed at encouraging MNJTF Staff Officers in their common fight against terror in the sub-region and giving further support towards the full operationalizing of MNJTF HQs with a view to getting ride completely of this insurgency.

**f. Meeting of Defence Ministers of LCBC's member countries and Benin Republic**

A meeting of the Ministers of Defence (MoD) and Chiefs of Defence Staff (CDS) of LCBC member countries and Benin was convened by the Chairman of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of LCBC member States, from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in Niamey, Republic of Niger with a view to assessing the first phase of Operation GAMA AIKI and to reviewing issues relating to the management of MNJTF Mission.

**2.2. Specific activities**

In line with the execution of the mandate of MNJTF Mission, several operational activities were conducted by LCBC in 2016. These activities include inter alia the following:

**2.2.1. Transfer of national contingents to MNJTF's authority**

A ceremony of transfer of authority of chadian troops dedicated to MNJTF took place on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at BAGA SOLA. This ceremony marked the end of the general process of transfer of national contingents to MNJTF's authority.

**2.2.2. Conduct of assessment missions in communities affected by Boko Haram attacks**

A team of experts from LCBC and MNJTF in charge of Civilian and Military Cooperation (CIMIC) toured from 24<sup>th</sup> January to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016 areas affected by Boko Haram attacks in the area of responsibility of MNJTF, with a view to assessing the humanitarian situation in these areas.

These field visits enabled to observe the socio-economic, infrastructural and human disaster confronting communities due to Boko Haram terrorist attacks, and to identify the appropriate response thereof.

### **2.2.3. Maiden and familiarization tours in Sectors by the new Commander MNJTF**

Just after his duty assumption on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the new Commander of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), Major General LO ADEOSUN carried out an operational and familiarization tour in MNJTF Sectors, such as Sector 1 in Mora (Cameroon) from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and Sector 3 in Baga Kawa (Nigeria) from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February 2016.

### **2.2.4. Operational planning conference**

An operational planning meeting chaired by the Commander MNJTF and attended by all sectors commanders and MNJTF Staff Officers, was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in the conference room of MNJTF in N'Djamena, Chad. The aim of the meeting was to define the course of action of future operations.

### **2.2.5. Joint technical assessment mission (JTAM)**

A joint technical assessment mission (AU-LCBC/MNJTF JTAM) was carried out from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at LCBC Headquarters in N'Djamena, Chad with a view to harmonize the procedures of implementation of the additional support provided to the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) by strategic partners through AU.

### **2.2.6. Special session of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff (CDS) of LCBC member countries and Benin**

A special session of CDS of LCBC member countries and Benin was held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 in Yaounde, Cameroon. The theme of this session of CDS which was preceded by a preparatory expert meeting, was “MNJTF activities assessment and Futur Plans.” The meeting recognized the urgency to conduct a significant joint military operation including Sectors 1, 2, 3 and 4 with LCBC/MNJTF funding.

### **2.2.7. Meeting of the Ministers of Defence of LCBC member countries and Benin**

A meeting of the Ministers of Defence of LCBC member countries and Benin was convened on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016 by the Lake Chad Basin Commission in N'Djamena, Chad under the chairmanship of the Minister Delegate at the Presidency of the Republic, in Charge National Defence and War Veterans and Victims, Mr. BENAINDO TATOLA. This ministerial session which falls in line with the meeting of Chiefs of



Defence Staffs, focused on the planning of a significant joint operation to be conducted by MNJTF against Boko Haram Terrorist Group in the border area between Niger, Nigeria and Chad.

### **2.2.8. Launching of Operation GAMA AIKI I**

After its validation by LCBC decision makers as part of the collective efforts aiming at eliminating ultimately Boko Haram Terrorist Group, Ops GAMA AIKI I was launched early June 2016 after having mobilized necessary logistics. The main objective of the operation was to neutralize Boko Haram terrorists in the border area of the Komadugu Yobe River between Niger and Nigeria to ensure the sustenance of MNJTF disposition in its area of responsibility.

### **2.2.9. Meeting of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff of LCBC's member States and Benin**

The Committee of CDS of Troops Contributing Countries (TCCs) held a special session on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016 in the Operations Room (Ops Room) of MNJTF Tactical HQ in Diffa (Niger). The aim of the meeting was to assess Ops GAMA AIKI I, and to ensure coordination measures for a better conduct of military theater operations.

### **2.2.10. Rotation of MNJTF Staff Officers**

In line with the provisions of the Concept of Operations (CONOPs), the Deputy Force Commander (DFC), Brigadier General NKA Valère from Cameroon and the Chief of Staff (COS), Brigadier General NGOMBONGUE Zakaria from Chad were replaced after having accomplished their one year tenure.

## **2.3. Funding**

LCBC/MNJTF activities were funded by the Mission in 2016.

LCBC/MNJTF carried out various activities which significantly contributed to the strengthening of military cooperation and sub-regional integration as well as the operationalization of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) for the fight against Boko Haram Terrorist Group. The mobilization of international partners to support activities relating to the fight against terrorism phenomenon in the sub-region was also strengthened this year. The synergy of action created and solidarity shown should be financially and politically sustained with a view to eliminating terrorism phenomenon in the sub-region, and to effectively managing the humanitarian situation so as to restore normal life in these affected areas.

## **PART 3 : REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

In addition to traditional partnerships, LCBC strengthened its cooperation and collaboration with other sub-regional and international partners and organizations. This cooperation and collaboration include aspects relating to development, execution and monitoring of projects and programmes or other initiatives likely to help implement its Strategic Action Plan (SAP).

The cooperation and collaboration mainly focused on institutional support to the Executive Secretariat, technical and financial support in terms of execution and monitoring sub-regional initiatives, technical assistance to the Executive Secretariat or in terms of support to the experts of the Executive Secretariat to attend international gatherings or forums.



### **3.1.Regional cooperation**

#### **3.1.1. Cooperation with the SEMRY (Yagoua Rice Farming Modernization and Development Corporation)and CAMWATER (Cameroon Water Corporation)**

The Executive Secretary of LCBC and the Director General of the SEMRY of Cameroon signed a Framework Cooperative Arrangement in April 2016. This agreement focuses on the execution in the Logone river basin of a project referred to as “Emergency Floods Control Project (PULCI)” which is an initiative of the Government of Cameroon and cofounded by the World Bank. Both Parties to this Framework agreed to cooperate as part of the production and collection of hydrometeorological data and to share experience with a view to forecasting inundations within the project area. Policies and approaches to rehabilitate and ensure the permanent monitoring



of pluviometric and hydrometric gauging networks were also envisaged. Several activities were carried out as part of the execution of this legal instrument by the Basin Observatory.

A similar agreement is about to be signed with CAMWATER Corporation which is in charge of managing the potable water supply network in Cameroon. CAMWATER is planning to develop facilities and works necessary for the catchment, production, transport and storing as well as the distribution of potable water in the Far North region.

**3.1.2. Cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**

IUCN signed a Cooperative Agreement with LCBC under which BRIDGE Africa Project has been being executed since 2015. The Building River Dialogue and Governance Project (BRIDGE) provides support to countries sharing lacustrine or river basin to ensure an effective water management.

BRIDGE-Afrique Project is supporting LCBC's existing initiatives and promoting existing institutional provisions. It takes part in the implementation of the integrated water resource management (IWRM), the production and dissemination of



the basin theme maps. It also provides support to the member countries in the ratification process of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter. The project supports Cameroon in promoting dialogue among water stakeholders following the creation of a structure called “Transboundary Natural Resource Management Platform of Chari-Logone sub-basin (PTGRN – SBCL)”. In 2016, a joint mission (LCBC and IUCN-Cameroon) enabled to share with the Commission the results obtained during the initial phase of execution of the project and future plans including the edition of new theme maps.

As part of a convention between IUCN and LCBC, a training of trainers was held in August 2016 in Douala, Cameroon. The training session focused on transboundary shared waters governance and water-related dividends sharing.

Another training workshop of the Lake Chad Basin Water Ambassadors and Parliamentarians was held in August 2016 in Douala, Cameroon to discuss issues related to water consolidation.

### 3.1.3. Cooperation with the Panafrican Agency of the Great Green Wall (APGMV)

As part of the partnership with the APGMV, LCBC attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Agency held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in Dakar, Senegal. A data and experience sharing partnership agreement is planned to be signed between the two institutions.



### 3.1.4. Cooperation with the African Basin Organization Network (RAOB)

As part of the cooperation that exists between the two organizations, LCBC attended the General Assembly of the African Basin Organization Network (RAOB) held in September 2016 in Kigali, RWANDA.

At the end of this assembly, both RAOB's new statutory instruments and communication strategy were adopted.

### 3.1.5. Cooperation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)

LCBC attended a technical launching workshop of a regional support project to pastoralism in the Sahel held from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 in N'Djamena, Chad.

The aim of the workshop was to create in one hand an information sharing framework on the implementation mechanisms of the project with the participation of all the relevant actors, and on the other hand to sensitize stake holders around the objectives and expected results of the project.

The Project is funded by the World Bank and covers six (6) countries as follows: Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Chad.

The Project covers 12 regions in Chad all of them are situated in the Chadian national territory of the Lake Chad basin.

### 3.1.6. Cooperation with the Global Water Partnership(GWP)

LCBC and the GWP have been developing since July 2016 a strategy for the forecast of inundations and drought in the Chari-Logone basin. The strategy is entitled "LCBC-GWP Early Warning System."The project technical document is being prepared before submitting it to donors, for funding. A Consultant was recruited thereof and already submitted the activity launching report. The experts of LCBC and the Ministry of Water of Chad took part in



this launching workshop held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 in N'Djamena, Chad, and made valuable inputs during the review of the report. Participants to the workshop formulated landmark recommendations and defined a road map for the next steps of the process.

The GWP also supports LCBC as part of the strengthening of the capacities of its experts. In this vein, a training session was organized in N'Djamena, Chad by LCBC with the support of the GWP. The topic of the session was the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM).

### **3.1.7. Cooperation with the International Commission for Oubangui-Sangha-Congo Basin (CICOS)**

The CICOS is a special partner of LCBC in the domain of data and experience sharing. The Executive Secretary of LCBC was invited to attend the Ordinary Session of this Organization held in October 2016 in Douala, Cameroon.

### **3.1.8. Cooperation with the Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS)**

The Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) collaborates with the Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS) as part of the Inter-Basin Water Transfer Project from Oubangui to Lake Chad. It is worth mentioning that ECCAS is an strategic partners which supports LCBC in terms of advocacy, and is sparing no efforts towards reconciling or harmonizing viewpoints of both Congo Basin and LCBC member countries.

## **3.2. International cooperation**

### **3.2.1. Cooperation with the African Development Bank (AfDB)**

The cooperation between LCBC and the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) which is also the leader of LCBC technical and financial Partners, is characterized by the funding of two programmes being executed in the Lake Chad basin, namely the Sustainable Development Programme of the Lake Chad Basin (PRODEBALT) and the Programme for the Rehabilitation and Strengthening of the Resilience of the Socio-Ecological Systems of the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT).



Launching of PRESIBALT at LCBC HQs, Chad

AfDB is also planning to fund a project on the socio-professional integration of youths in the Lake Chad basin area. It is worth mentioning that the project is being formulated.

### **3.2.2. Cooperation with World Bank**

The cooperation with World Bank focuses on the execution of the Lake Chad Development and Climate Change Resilience Action Plan. The Bank is planning to fund the project partially. It also committed itself to supporting LCBC in organizing a round table donors conference to mobilize additional funds.

### **3.2.3. Cooperation with the German Cooperation (BMZ)**

As part of the German Cooperation, BGR provides LCBC with support in executing a project on improving ground water knowledge in the Lake Chad basin. GIZ is working with LCBC on the climate change adaptation strategy.

The Project “support to ground water resource management at the Lake Chad Basin Commission” falls in line with a technical cooperation that exists between LCBC and BGR (German Federal Institute for Geoscience and Natural Resources). The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The main aim of this collaboration is to strengthen LCBC’s competences in terms of transboundary water resource management. The project was launched in 2015. It should end in June 2018.

### **3.2.4. Cooperation with the French Development Agency (AFD)**

The cooperation between LCBC and AFD is extended to the execution of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter and the knowledge of surface and ground water.

In the same vein, AFD is proposing to fund a new project relating to the hydrological monitoring of the basin. The project is being formulated.



### **3.2.5. Cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO)**

Within the framework of the cooperation between the two institutions, a Convention relating to the creation of biosphere reserves in the Lake Chad basin and the registration of Lake Chad itself as UNESCO’s World Heritage was signed through the Programme for the Rehabilitation and Strengthening of the Resilience of the Socio-Ecological Systems in the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT).

A Partnership Convention on information and experience sharing is expected to be signed with the UNESCO Regional Center for Integrated River Basins Management (RC-IRBM), Kaduna, Nigeria.

### **3.2.6. Cooperation with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

As part this cooperation between the two institutions, a Convention on the implementation of Fisheries Management Plan in the basin was signed through PRESIBALT.

### **3.2.7. Cooperation with Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE International)**

The support of CARE International to LCBC includes the strengthening during a workshop of LCBC experts capacities in terms of Gender and social development.

### **3.2.8. Cooperation with the United Nations European Economic Commission (UNECE)**

LCBC attended two (2) training workshops organized by the UNECE in September and October 2016 in Geneva. The topics of these two workshops focused on water resource management and climate change in transboundary basins as well as the implementation of two UN Conventions on shared waters.

The aim of these training sessions was to train participants on issues relating to international cooperation, water resource management within the context of climate change, and funding mechanisms in transboundary basins.

### **3.2.9. Cooperation with the African Union (AU)**

The African Union is supporting LCBC as part of activities relating to peace and security restoration in the Lake Chad Basin. It also ensures the coordination of MESA's Project (Monitoring for Environment and Security in Africa). The project which is funded by the European Development Fund (EDF), has been being executed since 2012. Provisions were made under this project to equip LCBC satellite data reception station.



During MESA's Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya

Finally, the African Union, through its BIRA Office, is proposing to fund the third component of Lake Chad basin Fisheries Management Plan through a funding from the European Union.

### **3.2.10. COOPERATION WITH POWERCHINA INTERNATIONAL GROUP LIMITED**

LCBC signed a MoU between LCBC with POWERCHINA on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at Abuja Nigeria.

The MoU is on cooperation between the Parties towards the actualization of the water transfer from the Congo Basin to the Lake Chad Basin. The objective of the MoU is to establish the basis on which the Parties shall carry out successful basic research of Lake Chad Basin Water Transfer project and associated future projects in line with the framework of the laws and regulations of LCBC member countries.



Signing ceremony of the MoU

Powerchina has among other things agreed to finance itself to the tune of 1.8million US Dollars.

The Parties are proposing a meeting to examine the technical aspect of the project towards the actualization of the water transfer from Congo Basin to Lake Chad Basin and the establishment of a Steering Committee.

### **3.2.11. Cooperation with ECA/UNDP/UNOWAS**

The Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) has approached the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) to request their support in terms of strengthening its capacity to deliver on its reinforced mandate.

A joint scoping mission was then organized in November 2016 at the LCBC headquarters to assess and define how to provide a coordinated assistance to the LCBC to help foster the Lac Chad area's security and development.

After this first mission and the review of the "Aide Memoire" by the LCBC, the UN team will come up with an UN-wide comprehensive Capacity Building Programme, including timelines for its implementation.

## **PART 4: ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

### **4.1. Human resources**

LCBC Staff strength in 2016 was reduced from 86 to 82 personnel. This decrease in number is due to the following: (i) One retirement (Legal Advisor) ; (ii) One resignation (Lauderer) ; (iii) One leave of absence and; (iv) One death (Storekeeper).

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the staff strength per category is as follows:

Table: Distribution of staff strength per category

<b>Category</b>	<b>Staff strength</b>	<b>Rate</b>
CE (Executive Secretary)	1	1
C1 – C3 (Directors, Heads of Divisions, Financial Controller and Advisors)	12	15
C4 (Coordinators, Expert of category 1)	6	7
C5 – C6 (Experts of category 2, technicians)	22	27
C7 – C9 (Junior staff and others)	41	50
Total	82	100

The staff strength of categories ranging from C4-C6 mainly comprises experts and intermediate staff representing 34 % of the staff strength as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. The Junior staff (C7-C9) represents 50 % of the staff.

### **4.2. Human resources administration**

Human resource administration focused on promotions and confirmations in 2016.

#### **4.2.1. Promotion**

The performances of 41 staff members were successfully evaluated in 2016. Likewise, 41 junior staff members were assessed in the same period.

#### **4.2.2. Confirmation**

Two (2) senior staff members were confirmed in 2016, namely the Head of Division in charge of natural resource management and the Head of Division in charge of Communication and Information Technologies.

#### **4.2.3. Home leave**

28 staff members were granted home leave in 2016, in compliance with staff rules and regulations.

#### **4.2.4. Internships**

As part of the support to the supervision of students in terms of research and skills upgrading, LCBC hosted twelve (12) students in its various departments and divisions. The aim of this intership is to help these students upgrade their skills, and provide them

with necessary and relevant information as part of the preparation of their projects or academic research.

#### 4.2.5. Recruitments

As part of the execution of the Programme for the Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Socio-Ecological Systems in the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT), the personnel of the Regional Coordination and National Coordinations was recruited, in line with the evaluation report of the programme. The recruited staffs assumed duties in April 2016. The following table shows the distribution of this personnel:

Positions	Reg. Coord	Nat. Coords (Cameroon, Niger, CAR, and Chad)	Total
Regional Coordination	1	-	1
Monitoring-Evaluation Expert	1	-	1
Procurement Expert	1	-	1
Gender and Social Development Expert	1	-	1
National Coordinators	-	4	4
Accountants	-	4	4
Natural Resource Management Expert	-	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>

#### 4.3. LCBC's financial situation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

The situation of member countries contributions and contribution arrears as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 is as follows:

Member countries	Outstanding contributions		Total	Payments received in 2016	Balance
	Arrears as at 31/12/2015	2016 Budget			
Cameroon	1 632 388183	1 027 040323	2 659 428506	-	2 659 428506
Libya	1 608 592976	924 336291	2 532 929267	-	2 532 929267
Niger	394 577447	359 464113	754 041560	178 886217	575 155343
Nigeria	1 232 521338	2 054 080646	3 286 601984	3 286 601 984	-
Chad	-	564 872177	564 872177	-	564 872177
CAR	1 395 592473	205 408065	1 601 000538	-	1 601 000538
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 263 672417</b>	<b>5 135 201615</b>	<b>11 398 874032</b>	<b>3 465 488 201</b>	<b>7 933 385 831</b>

The Executive Secretariat received in 2016 the sum of 3,465,488,201 FCFA as payments of contribution arrears and 2016 contributions. Nigeria has settled its entire financial obligations to LCBC. Niger paid part of its contribution arrears to LCBC Budget.

#### 4.4. Budget execution as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

The overall budget of the Executive Secretariat of LCBC as approved by the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers stands at 21.550.482.379 FCFA, of which the sum of 18.742.984.396 FCFA is dedicated for development, equivalent to 87%, and the amount

2 807 497983 FCFA allocated for recurrent, giving 13%. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, a total of 7.578.340.149 FCFA was spent. The execution rate is 35%.

Concerning the budget funded by the contributions of the member countries, a provision of 8.750.036.432 FCFA was made of which the amount of 5.942.538.449 FCFA for development, equivalent to 68%, and the sum of 2.807.497.983 FCFA for recurrent, giving 32%. A total of 2.550.300.903 FCFA was spent out of this provision. The execution rate is 29%.

The development budget execution rate is about 18%. However, the recurrent budget execution rate is 53%. The poor budget execution is due to non-payment of statutory contributions by member countries.

<b>Budget lines</b>	<b>Provisions</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Recurrent	2.807.497.983	1.479.465.271	53%
Development	5.942.538449	1.070.835 632	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.750.036432</b>	<b>2.250.300.903</b>	<b>29%</b>

It is worth mentioning that the amount of 65 073002 FCFA incurred in 2015 were paid in 2016. It was used for the construction of three (3) boreholes in Chad (36 518640 FCFA), internet subscription and renewal of computer anti-virus protection (24 712880 FCFA) and the provision of medicines to populations affected by Boko Haram attacks (3 841482 FCFA).

As the execution of the development budget was presented together with technical achievements, the execution of the recurrent budget of the Executive Secretariat of LCBC will be presented under this chapter.

**4.4.1. Execution of the recurrent budget**

LCBC’s recurrent budget stands at 2 807 497983 FCFA. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the sum of 1 479 465271 FCFA was spent to ensure the daily running of the Executive Secretariat, which represents an execution rate of 53%. This rate includes unspent provisions made to cover the payment of staff entitlements as a result as the implementation of the new organisational structure approved as part of LCBC’s reform. If these provisions were not included, the execution rate of the recurrent budget would have been 83%. Details on the recurrent budget execution are as follows:

- **Council of Ministers and Summit of Heads of State and Government**

This chapter includes expenditures relating to the holding of Councils of Ministers and Summits of Heads of State and Government. The sum of 270 000000 FCFA was approved in 2016. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, no expenditure was incurred under this chapter. The reason is simply because no statutory meeting has been held so far.

- **Staff salaries, emoluments and other allowances**

This chapter includes salaries, emoluments, allowances and other gratuities provided to LCBC's personnel. The sum of 990 294 447 FCFA was allocated to cover these expenditures. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the sum 946 914 845 FCFA was spent, which represents an execution rate of 96%.

- **Staff's entitlements**

The sum of 1,026,203,536 FCFA was allocated to cover the payment of entitlements of staff including those who should be discharged as a result of the reform. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 144,056,620 FCFA was spent to pay the entitlements of staff on retirement. The execution rate is 14%. It is worth noting that the resources allocated for the reform were not used.

- **Transport and missions**

The sum of 170,000,000 FCFA was approved under this chapter in 2016. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the sum of 133 603 122 FCFA was spent under this chapter, which represents an execution rate of 79%.

- **Security and cleaning up**

This chapter includes the provision of cleaning up and private security services as well as allowances paid to the policemen posted at LCBC. The sum of 63,000,000 FCFA was approved under this chapter. The amount of 49,900,000 FCFA was spent. The execution rate is 79%.

- **Maintenance of buildings and equipment**

The sum of 70 000 000 FCFA was approved under this chapter. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 41 438 563 FCFA was spent. The execution rate under this chapter is 59%.

- **Utilities and telecommunications**

The sum of 69 000 000 FCFA was approved under this chapter in 2016. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 64,388 061 FCFA was spent. The execution rate is 93%.

- **POL (Petroleum, Oil and lubricants) and insurance for vehicles**

The sum of 26,000,000 FCFA was approved under this chapter in 2016. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 16 623 899 FCFA was spent. The execution rate under this chapter is 64%.

- **Acquisition of equipment and furniture**

The sum of 50,000,000 FCFA was approved under this chapter. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 26 767 112 FCFA was spent to acquire computers, printers, office furniture and other office supplies. The execution rate under this chapter is 54%.

- **Other supplies**

This chapter includes cleaning materials, power supplies, plumbing, etc. The sum of 8,000,000 FCFA was allocated under this chapter to cover these expenses in 2016. The amount of 8,172,927 FCFA was spent as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. The execution rate is 102% under this chapter.

- **External services provided**

This budget head includes various recurrent charges, notably reception fees, bank charges, external audits, studies, etc. The sum of 42,000,000 FCFA was approved under this chapter. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 28 908 657 FCFA was spent. The equivalent execution rate is 69%.

- **Miscellaneous and unforeseen**

The sum of 23,000,000 FCFA was approved under this chapter. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the amount of 15,781,567 FCFA was spent, which is equivalent to an execution rate of 69%.

## **GENERAL CONCLUSION**

It is worth noting that LCBC made significant progress in 2016 in terms of natural resource management despite climate change, financial, security, and humanitarian challenges confronting the Lake Chad basin area. These achievements were possible thanks to military successes achieved on ground by the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) to fight against Boko Haram Terrorist Group which considerably degraded the military capability of these terrorists. These successes augur the end of the suffering of Lake Chad basin riparian populations.

This progress recorded in 2016 by LCBC was also due to the monitoring of water resources and the development of knowledge with a view to restoring and sustaining the Environment, ensuring the sound management of natural resources and formulating appropriate projects for the benefit of vulnerable populations..

In line with its vision and mandate, LCBC is sparing no efforts to improve the livelihoods of its populations within a context characterized by lack of funds due to the non payment of contributions and contribution arrears by member countries.

As part of its Strategic Action Programme (SAP), LCBC has fulfilled its major statutory missions in 2016. It also extended the network of its partners showing interest in the issue of Lake Chad safeguarding. Significant progress was also made in the areas of finance, management and administration of human resources as well as in maintenance equipment acquisition, documentation, records and the communication pattern.

Notwithstanding this progress made, challenges are still to be addressed. In addition to critical climate change effects and the humanitarian disaster confronting the Lake Chad basin area, the mobilization of financial resources needed to serve peoples aspirations remains a major concern. Delays have been faced in the payments by member countries of their contributions and contribution arrears to LCBC's budget. However, LCBC is optimistic that if contributions are regularly paid, its vision or missions consisting in sustaining water resources in the basin for the benefit of populations in the basin and fighting poverty, will be easily achievable.

Despite current and future challenges, there is hope with the new PRESIBALT programme, the Lake Chad Development and Climate Change Resilience Action Plan, and the Emergency Development Plan dedicated exclusively for youths. To effectively address all these challenges, naturel resources should be sustained for the great benefit of Lake Chad riparian communities.

The extent of challenges confronting the Lake Chad basin requires LCBC to extend its activities and services to cover the entire basin. One of LCBC's major challenges in 2017 shall therefore be the extension of its activities and services to cover the entire basin while ensuring quality, effectiveness and efficiency through targeted communication. New fruitful partnerships should also be created in 2017.

## **ANNEXES**

Report of the 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.