



# LAKE CHAD BASIN COMMISSION

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## 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**

Pending the review of its regional Strategic Action Plan (SAP) adopted in 2008, the Executive Secretariat of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) adopted in 2014 an operational and strategic orientations plan 2014-2017. This plan took into account new challenges, notably climate change, security and urgent humanitarian needs for refugees and internal displaced persons (IDPs) as well as development actions for vulnerable populations.

The report hereby highlights activities carried out as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 by the various departments of LCBC. It focuses on the development activities achieved on ground in 2016 as approved by the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers which would like to make LCBC an instrument of coordination of efforts of its member countries and technical and financial partners with a view to preserving this vulnerable common heritage, the Lake Chad and ensuring its development. The enhancement of the potentialities of this resource may constitute an option for vulnerable groups, such as youth likely to be soft targets for Boko Haram terrorist Group, and/or to migrate towards northern countries.

Development actions at the regional level and in member countries as a result of studies and works conducted in the field with the assistance of the technical and financial assistance of development partners, focused on the following six major strategic axes: (i) Improvement of the quality and quantity of Lake Chad basin waters; (ii) Restoration, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources within the Lake Chad basin; (iii) Restoration and conservation of the Lake Chad basin ecosystems; (iv) Strengthening of stakeholders capacities; (v) Development of the LCBC institutional and operational framework and; (vi) Development of emergency interventions for vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin.

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. Aspects related to security are dealt with in another framework taking into account the sensitivity of the issue. However, a brief on the security aspect is presented in this report.

In order to ensure the smooth execution of planned activities, the Executive Secretariat of LCBC spent the amount of 7,578,340,149 FCFA out of a total budget which stands at 16,398,941,000 FCFA, equivalent to an execution rate of 35%. The poor execution of the budget is due the one hand to the delays faced in launching PRESIBALT (whose activities exceed half of this budget), and on the other to the irregular payment of statutory contributions by member countries and the poor mobilization of necessary resources to fund the emergency interventions meant for vulnerable groups in the basin.

Despite successes recorded as far as security is concerned in the Lake Chad basin, which would have enabled a smooth implementation of field activities, it was observed a decrease in the rate of execution of activities due to the delays faced in



the payment of annual contributions and the accumulation of arrears of contributions by member countries. This poor execution rate is also due to the delays recorded in implementing the reform of the organogram of the Executive Secretariat of LCBC.

The report comprises the following five ((5) parts: (i) a synthesis of the technical achievements of the Commission; (ii) the execution of activities relating to peace and security; (iii) the Regional and international cooperation and; (iv) Administration and finance; (v) the state of the implementation of the resolutions of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Council of Ministers.

### **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 programs in member countries; (ii) to encourage joint programs 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 programs.

**LCBC's Advisory Bodies:** a) Donors advisory Committee.

The donors' advisory committee is a body which has been reconstituted since the 2008 Institutional Reform of LCBC.

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 while others are not and need to be operationalized after the coming into effect of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter.

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

In line with its 2017 program of activities adopted by the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in N'Djamena, Republic of Chad, 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.

In total, 181 activities were planned for 2017. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, 118 activities were executed, which represents an execution rate estimated at 66 %. Due to delays recorded in the execution of PRESIBALT and financial constraints faced in the last three quarters of the year, focus was made on the execution of actions relating to the improvement of the quality and quantity of waters and to the restoration and the sustainable conservation of the natural resources and ecosystems of the Lake Chad basin. Emergency actions for vulnerable communities were partially implemented as they should have been funded through contribution arrears which were unfortunately paid with delays.

The execution of the entire activities carried out costed 6,099,874,778 FCFA against a provision of 14,432,734,000 FCFA, equivalent to 33% of the annual development budget.

Activities funded by member States' contributions represent 1.542.412.024 FCFA, for an earmarked allocation of 3.906.900.000 FCFA, which represents 39% of the development budget for the year. The other activities undertaken from funds provided by Technical and Financial Partners (PRODEBALT, PRESIBALT, GIZ/BGR).

The report hereby focuses on the state of implementation of 2017 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;

***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.*

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

As part of the evaluation of the current knowledge on the availability, the discharges and the quality of surface water including the interaction with Lake Chad which is the first intervention of the target under the objective of the quality of water resources (OQERE 1 of the SAP, the actions undertaken during the 2017 fiscal year are summarized as follows:

#### **1.1.1. Management and enhancement of hydro-meteorological data collection tools in the basin**

Hydrological data (hydrometric, meteorological, piezometric and water quality-related data) constitute an essential basis for the evaluation of water resources and decision making process. They enable to assess not only water resources, but also its dynamics in relation with human pressure (ex: increasing demands, pollution, changes in land-use and/or with climate change impacts). They are also used to plan water resources by estimating the availability of water based on demands, and to develop water-development-based scenarios.

Information derived from collected data enable member countries to better understand the relevance of these data in terms of allocating financial and human resources following local needs.

To achieve this, several actions were conducted to better grasp the whole issue. In 2017, the main objective of collecting and processing socioeconomic, meteorological and hydrological data is to feed the regional data base of LCBC, to ensure the calibration of the hydrological model and the edition of the hydro-meteorological yearbooks as well as environmental, meteorological and hydrological bulletins.

Field missions conducted jointly in Chad, the Far north region of Cameroon and Diffa (Niger) with the support of Experts from national hydrological Departments enabled to

assess the status of gauging networks and water off-taking by pumping in small scale irrigation projects. Concerning socio-economic data, both farmers and local institutions provided relevant data which enabled to assess the impact of climate change on production systems (small scale irrigation, market gardening, etc.) and adaptation agricultural techniques.

### **1.1.2. Operationalization of the data collection platform of the water allocation model**

LCBC assesses the status of the hydro-meteorological networks in the national territories of the Lake Chad conventional basin. The results of these assessments show that: (i) in the Cameroonian side of the basin, the network which comprises 13 hydrometric stations and 9 meteorological stations need to be rehabilitated; (ii) in the Nigerien territory of the basin, the network which comprises 5 hydrometric stations and 6 meteorological stations should not only be rehabilitated but also densified; (iii) in the Chadian portion of the basin, 29 hydrometric stations and 10 meteorological stations need to be renovated and ; (iv) in the Central African Republic portion of the basin, 13 hydrometric stations among which 9 were assessed and need to be renovated.

In summary, the results of the assessment of the status of the hydrometric stations in the basin highlighted the current situation and enabled to plan actions for the operationalization of these networks. The similarities of all these national networks include the irregular monitoring and maintenance of these stations as well as the need to strengthen the capacities of technicians and the insufficiency of resources allocated to technical departments by member countries.

In this vein, several actions were conducted with a view to operationalizing the network in the basin. These actions include the renovation of agro-meteorological and hydrological stations within the basin, the creation of hydrological and agro-meteorological stations and the purchase and installation of equipment (manometer and digital data loggers).

To support and ensure the smooth execution of actions, 8 missions to supervise the rehabilitation and installation works of the different equipment and stations were conducted.

Out of the 60 hydrometric stations that exist all over the basin, LCBC basic network comprises 13 major stations to control the minimum discharges during low water level and 5 stations to control maximum flows during high water period.

In order to upgrade its basic network, LCBC ordered hydrometric equipment which were delivered in 2016. These equipment include scale elements (mires), limnigraphs equipped with bubble sensors, computers and software-combined systems as well as piezographs (12) in complete sets among which 6 were installed.

LCBC, with the support of technical and financial partners, acquired 12 data loggers to ensure the piezometric monitoring of groundwater resources. Four boreholes were constructed in 2017 to supplement the existing piezometers and six data loggers were installed.

### **1.1.3. Meteorological and hydrological data collection missions**

As part of LCBC's activities, several missions were planned to collect data with a view to preparing hydrological yearbooks and information bulletins so as to feed the regional data base of LCBC.

LCBC, with the support of member countries technical departments, conducted in September and October 2017, three missions to collect hydrological and meteorological data and information in the national territories of the Lake Chad conventional basin, namely in Cameroon, Chad and Niger.

It is worth noting that to better know the inflows of the Vina River (tributary of the Logone), the renovation of the station of Warak in Cameroon is vital and urgent (Dam.....).

Observers of key stations should also be provided with all necessary equipment (boots, bush knives, field books, flash-lights, bicycles, etc.) and their capacities strengthened.



#### **1.1.4. Isotopic, chemical and hydrogeological studies of ground water in the basin**

LCBC, with the support of the Program for the "Sustainable Management of Lake Chad Basin Waters" of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) and the Federal Institute of Geoscience and Natural Resources (BGR), conducted isotopic, chemical and hydrogeological studies on the quaternary formation water table. Twelve (12) recommendations relating to the protection and the monitoring of groundwater were formulated based on findings and results obtained. Eight out of these recommendations deal with the qualitative and quantitative protection of groundwater in the Lake Chad basin and the remaining four are dealing with issues relating to the monitoring of both surface and ground water.

These recommendations constitute a summary of the technical reports of the results of the analyses done between 2010 and 2017 and published by the LCBC/BGR Project. The translation of these recommendations into actions will be done in LCBC's future work plans.

The following findings were highlighted in these technical reports:

- High concentrations of nitrogen compounds (ammonium, nitrite, nitrate) and faecal bacteria. These concentrations are the result of a bad use of chemical fertilizers and local pollution due to human activities. They may cause methaemoglobinaemia (syndrome of blue baby, drinking water guidelines, WHO, 2011) and may also cause cancer. The most affected areas in the Lake Chad basin are areas with high density of population;

- A geogonical concentration of arsenic and fluoride which is higher than WHO standards (WHO, 11) was also observed in the basin. Any exposure to a high concentration of arsenic may cause cutaneous lesions. A long term exposure may cause skin, bladder and lung cancer as well as peripheral vascular disease. The exposure to a high concentration of fluoride may cause stains on teeth (dental fluorosis) and a long period exposure may cause skeletal problems (fluorose-osteosclerosis). In the Lake Chad basin area, the region of Bahr el Ghazal, alongside the Logone River, areas with basement rocks (fluoride) and N'Djamena (fluoride) are considered to be the most affected areas.



#### **1.1.5. Support to the drafting of two (2) annexes to the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter**

To ensure the effectiveness of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter, annexes 8 and 9 which should supplemented the ones already drafted and adopted by member countries, were drafted with the support of PRODEBALT. The two annexes relating respectively to: (i) the checklist of proposed measures to be submitted for notification and the modalities of notification, directives and the delivery of the authorization of the implementation and (ii) modalities and conditions relating to the coordinated management of water facilities in the Lake Chad basin. These annexes were submitted for validation during a regional workshop held in August 2017 in Douala, Republic of Cameroon. This workshop was attended by experts from LCBC and member countries. Experts attended the workshop comprised one specialist in the domains of water resources and environment as well as one legal expert in environment or in water resources field.

At the end of the workshop, the report on annex 8 was validated subject to taking into account all the observations made by national Experts. However, annex 9 was not validated as some member countries (Chad, Niger and Nigeria) deemed it necessary to extend consultations to all relevant stakeholders in their respective countries.

#### **1.1.6. Determination of the surface areas of Lake Chad and flood plains/wetlands during the 2017 hydrological season**

The Lake Chad historic maximum open water extent is determined to be 7,464 km<sup>2</sup> while the seasonal extent for 2014/2015 hydrological year is 4,475 km<sup>2</sup>. The month of December has the highest surface extent of 1,849.46 km<sup>2</sup>.

The Hadejia-Nguru floodplain historic maximum open water extent is determined to be 485.68 km<sup>2</sup> while the seasonal extent for 2014/2015 hydrological year is 175.99 km<sup>2</sup>. The month of

February has the highest surface extent of 74.43 km<sup>2</sup>. The maximum water extent in Hadejia – Nguru is however distributed in several pools located between the numerous ancient sand dunes called Jigawa in Hausa.

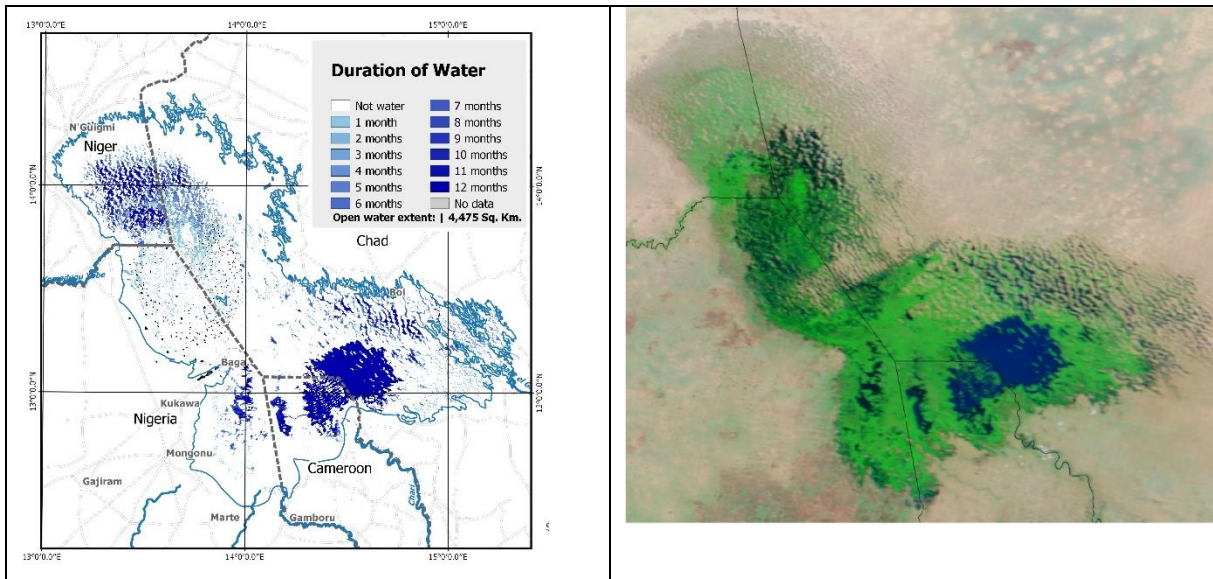
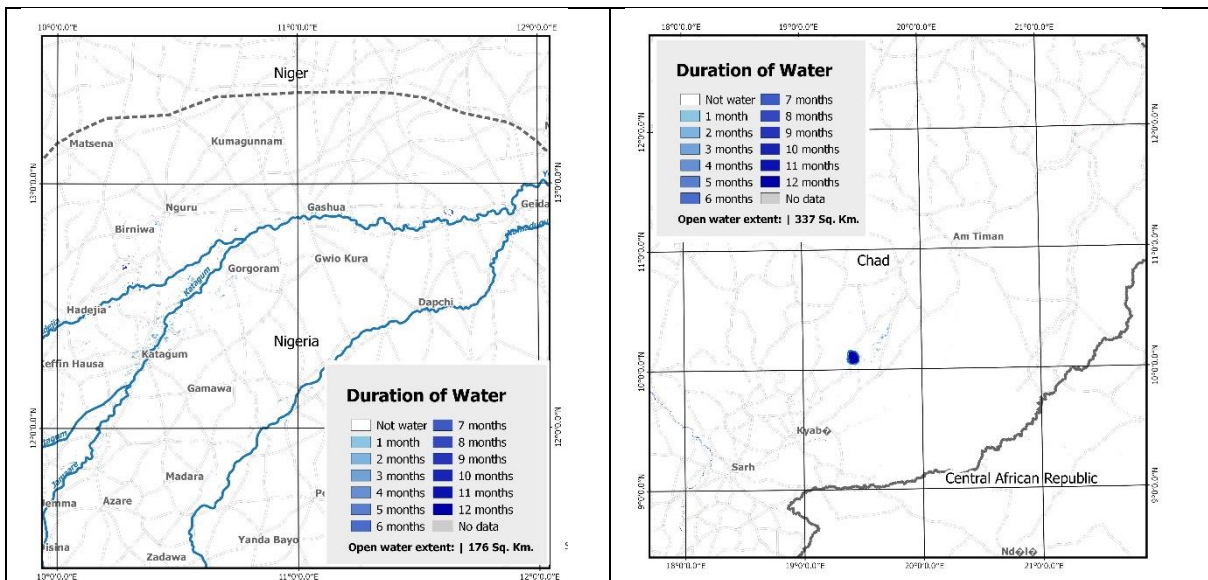


Figure 1 Lake Chad Open Water Extent & Extent of Vegetation (green) water (blue & back) on 30th December 2017.

The Salamat floodplain historic maximum open water extent is determined to be 726.37 km<sup>2</sup> while the seasonal extent for 2014/2015 hydrological year is 336.73 km<sup>2</sup>. The month of December has the highest surface extent of 118.25 km<sup>2</sup>.



### 1.1.7 Lake Chad Information System (LCIS)

The LCIS is an online information system which provides LCBC with current relevant spatial and non-spatial information and data for the purpose of the integrated management of water resources (IWRM). This information system is to store and manage various types of information and data of all the member countries of LCBC and other



regional stakeholders of the basin in a regional data base, and to display synthesized data in maps, diagrams and tables.

The LCIS facilitates the systematic storage, classification, recovery, exchange and analysis of pertinent data on aspects related to water, climate, environment and socio-economy. It also constitutes a source of data and information needed for the preparation of IWRM products, such as the report on the Lake Chad basin ecosystem (SOB) and the annual monitoring report (AMR).

In 2017, GIZ supported LCBC to organize a training workshop for its personnel to acquaint them with the contents and functionalities of the LCIS and to ascertain a checklist of challenges to meet and activities to be carried out in such a way to permit the perfect integration of the LCIS into LCBC regional data base.

Following this workshop, an online limited access to LCBC server which should enable its regular updating, was developed by a consultant hired by GIZ. The aim of this functionality is to work on LCBC' server and to transfer data to the server hosted in Germany and vice versa.

The consultant is being supporting LCBC to develop and to implement a LCIS user concept with a clear definition of roles, responsibilities and the rights of each user. The definition of posts within LCBC for the management of the LCIS is key to ensure its effective and efficient implementation and the regular updating of the Regional Data Base.

## **1.2. Evaluation of current knowledge on the availability, discharge and quality of groundwater and their interaction with Lake Chad**

### ***1.2.1. Acquisition and installation of piezometric equipment***

As part of the development and initiation of the execution of groundwater management strategies, LCBC, through one of its intervention in the SAP, focuses on the assessment of current knowledge on the availability, discharge and quality of groundwater including their interactions with Lake Chad. In this vein, the action which has been planned is to rehabilitate and to install piezometers.

A first step has been achieved with the inventory of piezometers in the basin, in close cooperation with Ministries in charge of Hydraulics of member countries. It has been observed in the field that piezometers are not monitored. It was also revealed that their number is insufficient to form an effective and operational network when some of these piezometers are even not protected. The combined effects of these drives with evaporation makes the water of these piezometers not reflecting that of the aquifer.

As part of the 2017 campaign, 10 data loggers were installed out of 10 piezometers in good status within the framework of the activities of PRODEBALT and NASA.

### ***1.2.2. Regional network of piezometers***

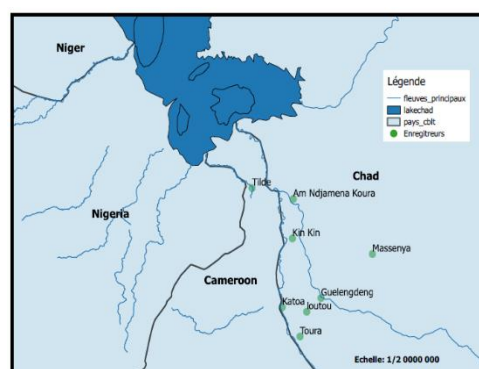
In May 2017, a technical workshop was organized to define a local and regional piezometric network, with the support of the LCBC-BGR Project.

The objective of the workshop was to present the existing data based on agreed pre-established criteria in 2016 and to define a concept to ensure the regional monitoring of locations of digital data loggers.

In total, 25 digital data loggers were purchased and will be installed in the basin by the LCBC-BGR Project, and distributed as follows: 8 piezometers in Chad which is likely to receive data loggers, 9 in Niger, 6 in Cameroon and 2 in CAR. It is worth noting that 2 additional data loggers are planned to be installed with a view to ensuring the monitoring of surface water of the Lake Chad.

### **1.2.3. Sampling and data collection mission by LCBC-BGR Project**

In June 2017, a joint team LCBC-BGR conducted a mission in the flood plain of Logone in Cameroon and Chad to download data from data loggers installed by LCBC, PRODEBALT Program and NASA on the one hand, and on the other to collect soil samples and trees with a view to assessing the evapotranspiration. Infiltration tests were also conducted. The aim of the mission was to collect data which enable to assess the annual and interannual fluctuation of the water table of the area. In total, 8 data loggers were visited by the team.



As far as sampling exercise is concerned, the objective of the mission is to assess quantitatively the direct infiltration of water into the water table through soils, the evapotranspiration and the annual and inter-annual fluctuation of the table.

Three (3) soil profiles were achieved (two (2) in Chad and one (1) in Cameroon) and six (6) tree samples were collected.



### **1.2.4. Water sampling mission conducted in floodplains (Yaérés)**

In June 2017, a joint mission LCBC-BGR conducted a field mission in the floodplain of Logone in Chad and Cameroon, in the area situated between Bongor (Chad) and Kousseri (Cameroon) and registered as RAMSAR site.

The aim of the mission was to collect surface and groundwater water samples with a view to performing chemical and isotopic analyses so as to understand the hydrology of the region and to update existing data.

In this vein, the exercise concerned 51 sites including 33 boreholes, 13 open wells and 5 water courses. In the field, in situ measurements of the chemical parameters such as the pH, the conductivity, the temperature and the dissolved oxygen were conducted.

The laboratory analysis of major ions (bicarbonate, sulfate, chloride, calcium, magnesium, sodium, fluoride and potassium), heavy metals and water isotope were also conducted.

#### ***1.2.5. Bacteriological analysis of water from manual boreholes and the Chadian Company in Charge of Drinking Water Supply (STE) at N'Djamena***

Two ground water sampling campaigns were conducted both in May and November 2017. The aim of these campaigns was to carry out the bacteriological analysis of water (to check the presence of coliforms and enterococci), with a view to completing the campaign of the previous year.

The output of these analyses ascertained the presence of fecal coliforms and enterococci in some of the boreholes of the Chadian Company in Charge of Drinking Water Supply (STE). These conclusions of the analyses were sent to the company so as to enable it taking all necessary measures.

#### ***1.2.6 Thematic maps development workshop***

LCBC, with the support of BGR, organized in May 2017 a workshop on the following theme: "Production of thematic maps and standardization of the legends of the Lake Chad Basin Hydrogeological Map".

The Waza and Salamat floodplains vulnerability and thematic maps were presented and the legends of national hydrogeological maps harmonized with a view to developing a map covering the whole basin.

#### ***1.2.7. Training on ground water management at the level of basin organizations***

A training workshop for focal points on the "integration of the transboundary aquifers management into basin organizations in Africa" was held in February 2017 at N'Djamena. This workshop was organized by the LCBC-BGR Project and was preceded by the training of LCBC experts in December 2016. The aim of the training was to show the interaction between surface and ground waters so as to ensure a global management of water resources in the basin. At the end of the workshop, a recommendation was made to extend this training to take into account the bodies in member countries in charge of ground water management.

#### ***1.2.8. Training on the use of Level 1 QGIS software***

A training workshop on the use of QGIS software (10.14 Essen version) was organized in May 2017 at N'Djamena by LCBC with the support of BGR. The hydrogeologists and GIS experts from member countries took part in this training program.

The objective of the workshop was to train hydrogeologists and GIS experts from LCBC and member States on the mastery of softwares in general. It is worth noting that 17 experts were trained. At the end of the workshop, it was recommended to pursue the level 2 QGIS software training as planned by LCBC for the year 2018.

**Execution of the budget of Axis I:**

*The 2017 planning focused on 2 targets, 3 interventions and 42 activities. 16 activities were funded directly by LCBC while 12 activities were funded by the Technical and Financial Partners and 14 activities through a co-funding. The overall amount of the two sources of funding stands at 1,555,689,000 FCFA.*

*During the year 2017, the LCBC spent a total sum of 144.550.950 FCFA on this axis. The grand total of the funding provided by the TFP stands at 1.037.789.000 FCFA.*

## **AXIS II. Restoration, conservation and sustainable use of Lake Chad basin natural resources**

**Indicator 1:** Sustainable and measurable increase in quality bio-resource productions at a level as compared with the level of the baseline 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 agro-pastoral 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;

***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 agro-pastoral 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.

### **2.1. Development of the regional data bases for environmental planning and management purposes.**

#### **2.1.1. The Convention with UNESCO**

A convention on the execution of the project entitled "applying the model of transboundary reserves and world heritage with a view to promoting peace within the Lake Chad basin through the sustainable management of its natural resources", was signed as part of the implementation of PRESIBALT Program. The lifetime of the Project is 2017-2020.

The Project shall help mitigating poverty and promoting peace by strengthening the participatory, inclusive, fair and sustainable management of natural resources and applying world heritage and biosphere reserve management principles to the entire Lake Chad catchment area.

It will also enable to improve knowledge, to strengthen institutional, economic and technical capacities and to restore ecosystems. The results of these activities will support the application for obtaining an international status.

### **2.1.2. Protection of elephants in the Mayo Lemié area**

As part of the implementation of PRESIBALT Program, a convention was signed with an NGO named “SOS ELEPHANT “. The Convention deals with integrated development activities to protect elephants alongside the Chari River in the areas of Mayo Kebbi and Chari-Baguirmi.

It is a three year-convention which provided a myriad of activities that will help protect elephants in the areas concerned. The convention also made provisions to support the promotion of bee-keeping and agriculture in the project area.

### **2.1.3. Socio-economic data collection**

The collection consisted in gathering basic information from studies, publications on the various socio-economic sectors. In the visited countries, national strategies on agriculture, education, health, facilities demographic statistics were obtained.

## **2.2. Demonstration of ecologically sound agro-pastoral practices through pilot projects and creation of surface and ground water protection zones**

### **2.2.1. Small scale irrigation projects**

To increase the production of food crops and market gardening, LCBC executed in the basin, through PRODEBALT Program, pilot small-scale irrigated projects. These projects enabled to develop 570 hectares in Cameroon, 441 ha in Niger, 455 ha in Nigeria and 300ha in Chad. The total areas achieved in the entire basin is 1,756 hectares.



The adopted irrigation system comprises the following two elements: (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 installed water allocation system was of the Californian network type. It 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.



### **2.2.2 Adaptation to climate change**

As part of the Project entitled “Adaptation to Climate Change”, the following activities were conducted with the support of the technical and financial partners on the selected sites: (i) the promotion of micro-projects in sustainable agriculture (rain-fed and flood-recession agriculture), livestock farming, fishery and the development of other relevant sectors with a view to building the resilience of the rural populations living around the pilot areas (Bongor and Yagoua) ; (ii) the execution of

measures relating to the strengthening of the capacities of local actors (farmers, livestock farmers, fishermen, regional technical departments, local associations and NGO, etc.) through field tours and transboundary knowledge sharing as well as technical and institutional training, local competence transfer; (iii) the implementation of actions related to communication, sensitization and education towards local populations and actors around issues like climate change and good practices in terms agriculture (rain-fed and flood-recession agriculture), livestock farming and fishery and; (iv) the capitalization of good practices.

#### **a) Pilot measures in the project area of intervention**

During the 2016-2017 agricultural campaign, five (5) climate change adaptation pilot projects were executed within three production systems (rain-fed agriculture, flood-recession agriculture and large scale livestock farming). Moreover, three (3) projects using the approach of field agriculture schools were tested and the results of these tests are available.

These projects touched 96 farmers and 17 women gathered in an association in N'Djamena-Maroua-Bongor triangle. These farmers were provided with various support: training on the technical itinerary, agricultural equipment and farm inputs (seeds).

During this campaign, 14 types of seeds that are enhanced and adapted to climate change were tested. These varieties include 4 for rain-fed sorghum, 2 for beans, 3 for maize, 1 for melon, 1 for water melon and 3 for flood recession sorghum.

The campaign was closed with a workshop to present the results of the transboundary knowledge sharing held in May 2017 in Bongor. Over hundred farmers, NGOs extension workers, experts from the regional technical departments of ministries in charge of agriculture in Chad and Cameroon took part in this workshop.

#### **b) Development of the regional climate change adaptation strategy**

As part of the preparation of the regional climate change adaptation strategy, a draft strategy was prepared following the process below: (i) the setting up of a multidisciplinary technical team; (ii) the drafting of the concept note; (iii) the analysis of national climate change adaptation policies and the conduct of an assessment study on climate change, the vulnerability of fishery and agro-pastoral activities and adaptation-based initiatives in the Lake Chad basin.

### **2.3. Promotion of alternative source of revenues and adoption of sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities**

The proposed actions are aiming at improving the livelihoods of communities and strengthening the resilience of socio-economic activities with a view to facing climate change and developing the production systems in a sustainable manner.

A myriad of actions were carried out through PRODEBALT, notably the construction of biogas units and gracious distribution of Chorkor ovens, drying stages and isotherm containers.

LCBC is also promoting alternative income generating sources and the adoption of sustainable livelihoods for fishing communities through the following activities which are the accumulation of the results obtained since the inception of the program:

### **2.3.1 Acquisition and distribution of Chorkor ovens, isotherm containers and drying stages**

Fish processing materials were acquired and distributed with a view to adapting production systems to climate change and reducing postharvest losses.



To cover the entire basin, 925 Chokor ovens were acquired and distributed following the distribution formula: 150 for Cameroon, 140 for Niger, 240 for Nigeria, 35 for Chad and 360 for CAR.

It is worth mentioning that 715 isotherm containers were acquired and distributed in the basin as follows: 340 for Cameroon, 100 for Niger, 100 for Nigeria, 75 for Chad and 100 for CAR. Furthermore, 2,527 ml of drying stages were popularized within the basin; that is to say 595 ml in Cameroon, 112 ml in Niger, 112 ml in Nigeria, 308 ml in Chad and 1,400 ml in the CAR.



These fish conservation units constitute effective alternatives for the processing and the commercialization of fish. The main objective of this is to ensure the sustainable use of fishery resources in fishing areas.

### **2.3.2. Construction of modern fish markets**

Two pilot fish markets were constructed in Maiduguri (Borno State in Nigeria) and Maroua (Far North region of Cameroon).





### **2.3.3. Convention with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

As part of the execution of the activities of PRESIBALT, a convention relating to the support to be provided to the fishing communities to implement Lake Chad fishery development plans is about to be signed.

A myriad of actions were provided in this convention with a view to supporting the execution of fishery management plans. The support concerns five domains of the planning namely i) information and statistics; ii) legislation; iii) monitoring, control and surveillance; iv) postharvest loss; v) the management of the plan.

### **2.4. Construction and equipment of fishing facilities**

To ensure the sustainable management of fish resources, LCBC constructed and equipped 30 facilities distributed as follows: 13 fishery surveillance branches (3 in Cameroon, 2 in Niger, 4 in Chad and 4 in CAR) and 13 landing stages (3 in Cameroon, 5 in Niger, 3 in Chad and 2 in the CAR).



### **2.5. Funding of micro-projects through Local Development Funds (LDF)**



LDFs constitute a tool to finance community infrastructures and income generating activities with a view to improving the income of populations living within the basin, notably women.

LDFs comprise a first window (or component) for infrastructures contained in community development plans (CDPs) and a second window for income generating activities (IGA). The total cost is 1, 920 Millions FCFA.

In the area of intervention of PRODEBALT, 507 micro-projects were funded including 123 in Cameroon, 101 in Niger, 70 in Nigeria, 115 in the CAR and 98 in Chad. These micro-projects include basic community infrastructures (classrooms with two bloc of latrines, manual boreholes, mini-potable water supply system, walkways, etc.) and income generating activities (small ruminant livestock farming, livestock grazing, commercialization of sheep, mills, milk processing units (Production of yogurt).



## 2.6 Promotion of energy wood supply strategy

LCBC's energy wood supply strategy falls in line with the sustainable management of timber resources, non-timber forest resources and pastoral productions. In this vein, the following activities were conducted:

### 2.6.1. Community reforestation

The community reforestation is an operation consisting in bringing populations to recover degraded lands through seedlings production, planting and maintenance. It aims at contributing to the development and sustainable management of forest resources and to improve the living conditions of populations whose livelihoods depend on these resources. This can only be possible through : (i) the strengthening of the capacities of beneficiaries in terms of seedlings production, planting and maintenance techniques as well as community site management; (ii) the regeneration of the ligneous vegetal cover of degraded community lands; (iii) the improvement of soil fertility and production systems and ; (iv) the fulfilment of beneficiaries needs in terms of wood.



Community reforestation works were also conducted through the development of a simple management plan on the one hand, and the reforestation of 650.5 ha of degraded lands in several selected community forest in the basin on the other. The following forest species are used: local species such as the *faiderbia*, *acacia senegal*, *acacia seamia*, *acacia nilotica*, *acacia seal*, *azachdiracta indica* (neem), *balanites*, *zizyphus*, etc.

The establishment of nursery teams at the various selected sites constitute is key to ensure the success of operations. In this vein, local populations were trained on the technical production of forest seedlings, which created job opportunities for a certain category of the population.

Concerning the community reforestation, it is worth mentioning that 3, 108 ha were achieved in the entire basin (2000 ha in Cameroon, 360 ha in Niger, 600 ha in Nigeria and 148 ha in Chad).

### 2.6.2. Agro-forestry plantation

LCBC planned for developing degraded lands in most vulnerable areas by planting feed grade and fertilizing species. The aim is to reduce the pressure on ecosystems, to rehabilitate degraded lands, to conserve and enhance the biodiversity in a sustainable manner. It is worth mentioning that species used are not only resistant to water stress, but also they may improve soil fertility through azote fixation and the production of a litter.



The objective is to address the root causes of the degradation through participatory operations.

Agro-forestry plantation activities include the development of 6,493 ha in the entire basin; that is to say 2,000 ha in Cameroon, 1,500 ha in Niger, 2,253 ha in Nigeria, and 740 ha in Chad.

### **2.6.3. Restoration of protected forest**



LCBC committed itself to rehabilitating and to conserving the productive capacities of the lake and the ecosystems of its basin including the restoration of 2,400 ha of protected forest. The following activities were carried out: (i) the development of protected forests; (ii) the plantation of 64,000 forest seedlings; (iii) the transfer of competences to riverine populations in the various selected sites in terms of reforestation.

Protected forests-related restoration activities were carried out only in the Cameroonian national territory of the basin. 253 ha out of 300 ha planned were restored in the areas of Mokio and Zamay in Cameroon.

In addition to field achievements, it is worth mentioning that activities relating to the development of maps for planted sites, the setting up of site surveillance and management committees, monitoring, and the strengthening of the capacities of these surveillance and management committees were carried.

## **2.7. Promotion of alternative income sources and sustainable livelihoods for livestock farmers.**

As part of the improvement of the living conditions of livestock farmers, several actions were conducted in the basin, notably:

### **2.7.1. Development of stock routes and grazing lands**

The development of stock routes and grazing lands falls in line with the promotion of the participation of communities in the management of natural resources, the restoration of grazing lands while focusing on a peaceful co-existence among indigenous populations, the accountability of livestock farmers on transhumance and the different users concerning the issue of managing their common heritage, the setting up of a platform for dialogue among communities with a view to mitigating and preventing conflicts.

778 Km of stock routes in the basin were demarcated as follows: 300 km in Cameroon, 100 km in Niger, 100 km in Nigeria and 278 km in Chad.



### **2.7.2. Construction of pastoral wells**



The aim of pastoral wells is to ensure the protection and the enhancement of pastoral systems. They also ensure the sensitization of users living in the surroundings of these pastoral wells and stock routes and the federation of livestock farmers as well as the upgrading of pastures.

135 pastoral wells/boreholes using animals to pump water or equipped with submersible or solar pumps and four (4) waterers each were constructed and distributed as follows : 35 in Cameroon, 44 in Niger, 7 in Nigeria, 33 in Chad and 16 in the CAR.

### **2.7.3. Development of feed-grade areas**

Pilot projects covering 90 ha of feed-grade areas were executed in the Cattle Multiplication Center of SAYAM located in the Nigerien territory of the Lake Chad basin.

#### *Execution of the budget of Axis II:*

*The 2017 planning of axis II focused on 5 targets, 5 interventions and 28 activities including 3 activities funded directly by LCBC, 24 activities funded by the Technical and Financial Partners and one activity co-funded. The total planned amount for both sources of funding stands at 7,020,615,000 FCFA.*

*During the year 2017, the LCBC has disbursed the sum of 10,000,000 FCFA to support the implementation of the activities of projects. The total financial contribution of TFPs, in this axis, is 7,010,615,000 FCFA.*

### **AXIS III: Restoration, conservation of the Lake Chad basin ecosystems**

**Indicator:** Reversal of the trend to the degradation of the biodiversity;

**Target 1:** Desertification combat;

**Target 2:** Definition and execution of land restoration and conservation strategies

*Key messages III: The annual planning of this axis deals with degraded ecosystems restoration projects and programs in critical desert areas, domestic energy strategies based on participatory forest development, their capitalization and the promotion of the best soil and water conservation techniques.*

#### **3.1. Capitalization and promotion of best soil and water conservation techniques (half moon, embankments and other soil and water conservation and soil defense and restoration techniques**

##### **3.1.1. Activities relating to water and soil conservation and soil defense and restoration (CES/DRS)**

LCBC committed itself to rehabilitating and conserving in a sustainable manner the productive capacities of Lake Chad and the ecosystem of its basin through soil defense and restoration projects.

Activities relating to CES/DRS were carried out in cultivated croplands by using the various techniques tested in most of the countries. These activities include rocky belts, embankments, terraces, cuvettes, scarps, zaï, chiseling, spill way crests and earth dikes and covered 5, 000 ha within the basin (3,150 ha in Cameroon ; 1,400 ha in Niger and 450 ha in Chad.



##### **3.1.2. Restoration of degraded ecosystems**

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

In this vein, 4,400 ha of pastoral degraded ecosystems were restored in the basin (2, 000 ha in Cameroon, 1,400 ha in Niger and 1,000 ha in Chad). These activities are aiming at the following: (i) fighting against the invasion of pasture lands and stock routes by unpalatable herbaceous species, such as the *Sida cordifolia*, *Pergularia thomentosa*, *Cassia mimosoïdes*, *Cassia occidentalis*, *Leptadenia pyrotechnica*; (ii) upgrade grazing areas and stock routes by introducing palatable herbaceous species.

##### **3.1.3. Sand dunes fixation or stabilization**

2,200 ha of sand dunes were stabilized 10(1,800 ha in Niger and 400 ha in Chad). The aim of these operations is to fix sand dunes by putting in place palisades and through plantations.

#### **3.1.4. Invasive species control**

Pilot projects concerning 172 ha including 130 ha in the commune of Guidimouni (Zinder region) in the Nigerien territory of the basin, and 42 ha in the Marma Channel (Nigeria) were conducted.

The invasive plants collected were used, inter alia, to produce compost, handicraft products and combustible.



#### **3.2. Strategies for energy wood and other alternative sources of energy supply**

The domestic energy strategy in line with participatory forest development for energy wood was developed for the cities of Diffa, Maiduguri, N'Djamena and Bangui. 7,900 improved fire places were subsidized in the basin.

#### **3.3 Project for restoration of degraded ecosystems in critical desert areas**

##### **3.3.1 Restoration of the arboretum of the area of Douguia in Chad**

As part of the preparation and execution of biodiversity conservation and degraded ecosystems restoration projects in the Lake Chad basin, LCBC undertook the rehabilitation of the arboretum of Douguia. In this vein, the following actions were carried out: (i) identification of the extents of the site; (ii) setting up of acacia nursery; (iii) the construction of a manual borehole and (iii) plantation. These actions were carried out with the support of technical departments and local authorities.

The construction of the borehole on the site of the arboretum of Douguia aims to provide riverine households with potable water, but also to water the restored arboretum.



##### **3.3.2 Conservation of the biodiversity**

As part of the conservation of the biodiversity, the SAYAM Center which is located in the Nigerien territory of the basin was provided with 150 pure-bred KOURIS cattle and other facilities (elevated-water reservoir, generator and immunization unit). The regional authorities of Diffa visited the center and committed themselves to saving this emblematic species of the Lake Chad basin.

Execution of the budget of Axis III: The planning 2017 focused on 2 targets, 2 interventions and 6 activities of which 2 were funded by LCBC. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, all the 6 activities out of 6 planned were executed.

The interventions of the LCBC which concern support for activities of projects and program in this axis amount to 15,000,000 FCFA, while the Technical and Financial Partners provided the sum of 375,231,000 FCFA; bringing the total funding under this axis to 380,231,000 FCFA.

## **AXIS IV: Strengthening of the capacities of Stakeholders**

**Indicator 1:** Land and aquatic ecosystems restored and preserved;

**Indicator 2:** Ecosystems productivity increased;

**Target 1:** Increasing the participation of the general audience and stakeholders of the Lake Chad basin member countries in terms of environmental management;

**Target 2:** Promoting environmental education in the Lake Chad basin.

*Key messages under Axis IV: The 2017 planning of this axis dealt with the strategies of participation of the general audience in the execution of national action plans (NAPs) and the revitalization of Parliamentarian's Network with a view to ensuring the advocacy and lobbying towards decision-makers in the Member States and the international community.*

### **4.1 Execution of Lake Chad basin stakeholders' participation strategy**

#### **4.1.1. Organization of the International Conference on Lake Chad**

The gradual shrinkage of Lake Chad, desert encroachment, climate change and security challenge in the basin affected considerably the pastoral, agricultural and fishery systems, thereby impacting negatively on the livelihoods of the basin riparian populations.

To face these challenges, LCBC and the Federal Government of Nigeria, with the support of UNESCO, are co-organizing in February 2018 an International Conference on the following theme: "Saving the Lake Chad to revitalize the basin's ecosystem for sustainable livelihood, security and development".

The specific objectives of the conference are as follows : (i) To inform stakeholders, discuss and develop consensus on the different solutions to restore Lake Chad, including the Inter Basin Water Transfer (IBWT) Project from the Ubangi River to the Lake Chad; (ii) To bring together experts, political decision makers, donors, UN Specialized Agencies, scientific and technical experts, Civil Society, NGOs and researchers to exchange knowledge and share information on water resources development and management in a crisis environment for sustainable development in the Lake Chad Basin ; et (iii) To garner political and financial support, for the restoration option identified for the Lake Chad.

#### **4.1.2. LCBC's Communication Plan**

A draft communication strategy was developed by LCBC and aims at promoting the Commission as a basin Organization serving the great interest of the populations of its member countries concerned by the issue of sharing and preserving water resources and the ecosystems of the Lake Chad basin in a sustainable manner. It defines the target audience of LCBC, highlights the ways and means to promote the corporate image of the institution through publications, etc. The strategy shall help LCBC achieve its vision, missions and objectives. It also enable to ensure that the activities of communication are in line with LCBC major strategic documents (SAP), the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter,



the Five Year Investment Plan, the Environmental Audit Report, the Emergency Program for youth and vulnerable groups, the Lake Chad Development and Climate Change Resilience Action Plan, etc.

The communication strategy is also aiming at improving the knowledge of water-related issues and other issues dealing with sub-regional integration through sensitization and advocacy on major current challenges.

The communications plans of LCBC's projects and programs derived from this strategic communication Plan.

#### **4.1.3. Assessment of the Regional Agricultural Training School of N'Gala**

Following the decision made by the Council of Ministers to close the Regional Agricultural Training School due to the security challenge prevailing in the area, LCBC conducted a mission to the Gambaru-Ngala with a view to assessing the school which has been closed since May 2013.

The mission observed that the buildings are in a very bad condition, the office furniture were either burnt or vandalized and in some extent taken away by Boko Haram terrorists. It is worth mentioning that archives were also destroyed completely. No office furniture was found on the site, the two generators and their shelters were destroyed. However, the water tank is in good repair despite the tires which were flat. Few metal beds, the borehole and the elevated water tank are also preserved.



Talks are being held to handover the premises of the school to the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, and the curricula to UNESCO in Kaduna, Nigeria.

***Execution of the budget of Axis IV:*** The 2017 planning of this axis focused on 2 targets, 2 interventions and 17 activities. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 66,510,000 FCFA was spent by LCBC on capacity building under this chapter by using its own funds, out of a provision of 115,000,000 FCFA. The execution rate is 58%.

*Concerning the Technical and Financial Partners, the total amount of 993,719,000 FCFA was spent to ensure the smooth conduct of these activities.*

## **AXIS V : Development of the institutional and operational framework of lcbc**

**Target 1:** Secure the execution of Programs, Projects and MoUs of LCBC

**Target 2:** Conduct the coordination and functioning of the regional monitoring mechanism

**Target 3:** Mobilization of resources from member countries, development partners, private sector and civil society organizations

**Target 4:** Availability of reliable and competent human resources

**Target 5:** Availability of adequate facilities

**Target 6:** Secure the visibility of LCBC and the Executive Secretariat at national, regional and international level

**Key message:** *the 2017 planning of this axis focuses on the implementation of the SAP, the improvement of the holding of events and conduct of LCBC activities and the setting up of a reliable financial management system as well as the improvement of working conditions at LCBC.*

Based on the observations made during the 62<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the Council of Ministers held in N'Djamena, Chad in February 2017, the operational planning enabled to take into account the resolutions of that session and recommendations of experts. It also enabled to identify activities to be carried out, prioritizing them according to respective departments and formulated visible results in 2017.

### **5.1 Implementation of the SAP 2008 – 2025**

#### **5.1.1. Support to the inception of new projects**

LCBC conducted activities related to the execution of the Programme for the rehabilitation and strengthening of the resilience of the socio-ecological systems of the Lake Chad basin (PRESIBALT).

Significant progress was made in terms of acquisition, field missions to identify the project sites, technical specifications, signing of conventions with the UNESCO and SOS Elephants. However, the Programme is facing some delay on the recruitment of consulting firms in charge of studies, monitoring and control of works, disbursement of funds and the non-participation of Nigeria which has not signed the loan agreement with AfDB.

Furthermore, LCBC finalized and launched the GEF/UNDP project on the "improvement of the management of Lake Chad through the strengthening of the resilience to climate change and the reduction of ecosystem stress by implementing the SAP", signing the related convention with the UNDP. Both parties adopted a roadmap of actions to be carried out and the recruitment of the staff of this project is underway.

With the support of the AfDB, LCBC finalized the development of the Project in support to the socio-economic reintegration of youths in the Lake Chad basin. The objective of this Project is to assist governments of the region in securing the socio-economic reintegration of populations affected by the insurgency of Boko Haram in the Lake Chad basin.

It aims to : (i) build the resilience capacities of the youths; (ii) improve the living standards and youth productivity; (iii) support the development of productive activities adapted to youths and young girls; (iv) identify and support the activities required for the reintegration of youths; (v) support the regional inclusion of the project at LCBC through capacity building; (vi) strengthen national capacities on resilience and vocational training; (vii) strengthen the monitoring and evaluation mechanism at LCBC and (viii) build the capacities of key ministries in the member countries. This project will start in 2018.

In recent years, the AFD has renewed its approach on the support to transboundary basin organizations by focusing on the hydrologic monitoring and climate change.

- **Capacity building of LCBC's personnel and staff from its member countries** to better perform the hydrologic monitoring of surface waters (acquisition, processing, management, dissemination and operational utilization of hydrologic data) for the adaptation to global changes ;
- Innovation by using **earth observation satellites** for the hydrologic monitoring, through the space altimetry ;
- Strengthening of the cooperation between LCBC and some **national hydrologic departments (NHDs)**, especially in Cameroon and the CAR.

The LCBC is presently waiting for the signature of the forthcoming convention between the Government of Chad and AFD to launch the activities.

In collaboration with LCBC, the CILSS prepared a project entitled "**Global Alliance for the resilience in the Sahel region and West Africa**". The objective of this project is to strengthen food security for vulnerable communities and the resilience of livelihoods and ecosystem services. This includes:

- ✓ Understand the socio-economic and ecologic trends of Sahel landscapes and conditions needed to build the resilience of populations and ecosystem services;
- ✓ Promote large-scale best practices or resilience models for a quality socio-economic and ecologic transformation;
- ✓ Support councils in the planning of the development in line with the quality socio-economic and ecologic transformation by promoting green economy in a bid to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities.

### **5.1.2. Refocussing of LCBC's actions**

In a bid to refocus the activities in line with the SAP 2008 – 2025 whose execution started in 2010, and taking into account the receding of Lake Chad, the environmental challenges caused by the population pressure and socio-economic activities by water users, the institutional capacities of LCBC and current security challenges, a series of studies and audits were conducted to assess the level of execution of the SAP in order to highlight the priority actions to save Lake Chad. As many activities at LCBC fail to take into consideration current events in the basin, a consultation platform with stakeholders is of paramount importance to have an idea of the baseline situation and sample the orientations in line with relevant actions against land degradation in the Lake Chad basin.

The enhanced actions include: (i) part-time and maintenance activities, (ii) activities related to the streamlining of the management of natural resources, (iii) activities for the control of the coherence, (iv) conflicts related to the conduct of the change process; (v) the extent of the strategic enhancement, (vi) relevance of the enhancement of manpower, (vii) enhancement of the organizational performance and assessment.

### ***5.1.3. Monitoring and evaluation of the activities of projects/programs***

For some years, LCBC focal points and local NGOs coordinators are fully involved in the monitoring and evaluation of actions in member countries. This move enables to better understand these actions in the field and master the related achievements. In 2017, two (2) supervision missions took place in each member country in line with the activities carried out by projects and programs.

These missions paved the way for the increase of the number of achievements, identify the weaknesses and explore, together with all the stakeholders, the ways and means to sustain these actions.

Overall, the recipients commended the actions of projects and programs, which were instrumental in improving their living standards. Some of these actions include drinking water supply, income generating activities, basic infrastructures, restoration of damaged ecosystems, etc. However, the following hindrances were noted: (i) security challenges confronting some projects sites; (ii) low financial resources of some NGOs and local companies, which were unable to perform their duties in accordance with the service provision contract; (iii) delay in disbursing the funds by the technical and financial partner; (iv) lack of visibility of field actions.

### ***5.1.4. Development of bankable project documents***

LCBC's mandate includes regional integration and preservation of peace and security among its member countries. In this vein, the institution relies on development actions through projects for communities living in the Lake Chad basin.

The lessons learnt from recent and ongoing projects funded by the development partners highlight that their execution is hampered by the low execution rate, which leads to the non-completion of expected results. This is attributed to: (i) low preparation level of projects and programs; (ii) poor understanding of the donors' procedures; (iii) lack of knowledge about some available funding sources; (iv) limited financial management capacities.

To overcome those challenges, LCBC hired a consulting firm to build the capacities of its staff members and the national experts on the following theme: "Development of bankable projects in the Lake Chad basin area". The purpose of this session was to provide LCBC experts with the expertise required to prepare bankable projects on the transboundary natural resources and climate change adaptation.

The major funding sources presented in this workshop during this session focused on the identification and development of projects funded by GEF, EDF, AfDB and World Bank.

#### **5.1.5. Review of the SAP (2008-2025)**

The review process of the SAP is underway in compliance with its provisions about the five-year review in order to include new challenges occurring in the basin.

Several consultative workshops bringing together key actors who drafted the SAP, were held in N'Djamena and Bonn with the technical and financial support of GIZ, UNDP and GEF.

The results arrived at during these workshops, enabled to identify the experts in charge of the review. The review of the TDA is underway, as it will define the transboundary issues required to conduct the review of the SAP as part of the LCBC-GEF/UNDP Project.

#### **5.1.6. Planning of the 2018 activities**

The planning of activities is essential for the running of LCBC. It is usually conducted during the last quarter of the year as it defines the activities to be carried out during the following year. A draft annual work plan and budget (PTBA) 2018 based on the 2014-2017 strategic planning and the outcomes of the refocusing workshop, will be submitted to the 63<sup>rd</sup> ordinary session of the Council of Ministers, for consideration.

#### **5.1.7. Capacity building on the planning, monitoring and evaluation and capitalization**

In order to set enabling conditions for the preservation of Lake Chad through sustainable conservation, economic security of fresh water ecosystems resources, preservation of the biodiversity and sustainability of aquatic resources as well as their equitable utilization so as to meet the needs of the populations thus alleviating poverty, LCBC has to plan its actions in an efficient and effective manner.

The capacity building of experts is of paramount importance to meet the target above. In this vein, thanks to the assistance of its technical and financial partners, LCBC has embarked on a large-scale capacity building program of its experts and focal points on the basic principles of planning, monitoring and evaluation.

#### **5.1.8. Updating of the management plans of the Waza Logone sub-basin**

In 2007, the LCBC/GEF Project on the "Reversal of Land and Water Degradation Trends in the Ecosystem of the Lake Chad basin" provided the Waza-Logone floodplain (a Ramsar site) with a management plan with the support of the IUCN. It is worth mentioning that this plan is subject to review each five years based on the results secured and pressing challenges.

The consultation phase between various stakeholders on the stakes, challenges and socio-economic development potentialities of the plain started in 2016 and enabled to sample opinions on the management objectives and actions to be carried out.

In 2017, a multidisciplinary task force was set up to develop the draft updated plan to be submitted to a validation workshop in 2018.

### **5.1.9. Review of the management plan of the Lake –Fitri sub-basin**

Lake Fitri is ranked as biosphere reserve and Ramsar site of international importance. It was provided with a management plan in 2007 by LCBC and its partners.

The overall objective of this plan is the safeguard of the ecologic system and mitigation of conflicts related to the utilization of water resources of the Lake. This plan is subject to a five-year review just like other management plans.

LCBC undertook the review process of this plan in collaboration with the relevant technical departments and local authorities through: (i) the evaluation of the execution of the current plan; (ii) the assessment of the current state of the Lake with regards to ongoing and future activities in the basin and; (iii) the consultation with stakeholders. Other steps of this process are planned for 2018.

### **5.1.10. Ratification and effectiveness of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter**

LCBC's member countries adopted the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012. This Charter is meant to supplement the provisions of the Convention and the statute of the Commission of 1964, with a view to facilitating the implementation of both the Vision 2025 and the Strategic Action Program (SAP) of LCBC.

The Lake Chad Basin Water Charter is a legal framework which aims to develop the Lake Chad basin in a sustainable manner through a concerted, equitable and integrated management of the Lake Chad basin shared water resources and environment.

Articles 94 and 95 of the Charter provides that the legal instruments of ratification should be submitted to the Government of Chad which shall notify the other member countries of the Commission. The Charter shall be effective thirty (30) days following the submission of these legal instruments by the two-third of LCBC's member States.

It is worth recalling that four (4) of the six member countries of LCBC (Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria) have ratified the Charter so far. What now remains is to check whether these legal instruments are really submitted to the Government of Chad before the effectiveness of the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter.

Upon its effectiveness and in line with article 102 of the United Nations Charter, the Lake Chad Basin Water Charter shall be submitted to the Commission of the African Union (AUC) and the Secretariat General of the United Nations (UNSG), for formal registration.

## **5.2. Setting up of an effective financial management system at LCBC**

An independent consulting firm conducted the 2016 audit of accounts. The related report is available.

The Financial Controller performed an audit of the physical achievements of projects and programs such as PRODEBALT, PRESIBALT, BGR and GIZ. These operations enabled to draw a link between the physical achievements and expenditures.

Furthermore, the manual of administrative, financial and accounting procedures is being reviewed to include the new organizational chart and provisions applicable to projects and programs.

#### **5.2.1. Edition of the 2016 activity report and 2017 program of activities**

These documents were edited and printed out in 500 copies in English and French and made available to the members of the public in order to enhance the visibility of activities carried out by the Commission.

#### **5.2.2. Setting up of an effective HR management system**

Three documents related to the management of human resources were drafted at LCBC in 2017. These include:

#### **5.2.3 HR management manual**

The HR management manual aims to provide directives for the promotion of equity, objectivity and transparency in the recruitment of human resources in order to attract and keep quality work force. It also defines a systematic approach to manage the training and development of staff and the relationships between staff members.

The HR management manual stands out as a reference manual for directors, heads of divisions and senior staff for the management of human resources.

#### **5.2.4 Performance management system**

This document defines the objective and system meant for the conduct of annual interviews and the half-yearly review of objectives assigned to LCBC' staff members.

#### **5.2.5. Staff reception and induction brochure**

As part of knowledge management of the Commission, the reception and induction brochure of the Commission provides the new staff member with all information needed for his first months at LCBC. It is a very useful tool for the adaptation of the newcomer to the new working environment providing details on his working conditions like rights and other entitlements. It will be instrumental in increasing the staff productivity in the institution with focus on his/her performance, attitudes and organizational commitment.

***Budget execution of AXIS V:*** This axis comprises 6 targets, 6 interventions and 63 activities, of which 56 are funded by LCBC, 6 by TFPs and 6 are co-funded for a total amount of 2,852,480,000 FCFA.

*As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, an amount of 748,294,184 FCFA was spent out of 1,724,000,000 FCFA which were allocated to this axis. The key activities include the operational planning, the support to the inception of new projects, the refocusing of actions and updating of management plans.*

## **AXIS VI: Development of emergency actions for vulnerable groups in the Lake Chad basin**

**Target 1:** income generating activities/fight against poverty

**Target 2:** socio-economic infrastructures

**Target 3:** management and monitoring unit of the PURDEP

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

**Intervention 2:** Develop basic social infrastructures to support socio-economic activities in the Lake Chad basin

**Intervention 3:** Develop a management structure of achievements in the Lake Chad basin

***Key Message VI:*** *The annual planning of this axis is about the development of income generating activities for vulnerable communities and groups in the Lake Chad basin.*

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

#### **6.1.1 Promotion of poultry farming in Niger**

As part of activities to support poultry farming in the basin in 2017, the related actions were carried out to promote it in the Niger side of the basin. A MoU was signed with a local NGO in August 2017 in order to perform poultry farming works.

The purpose of this MoU is to: (i) build three poultry farms (one per site) ; (ii) build three warehouses or one per site ; (iii) build three security guard houses including one per site ; (iv) train 30 youths on poultry farming or 10 youths per site ; (v) provide 30 tons of food or 10 tons per site ; (vi) acquire and distribute 1,500 laying hens or 500 per site and ; (vii) acquire petty equipment and veterinary inputs.

#### **6.1.2 Support to stock-farmers in the Lake Chad region**

A local company constructed Three (3) solar powered pastoral boreholes in the Lake Chad region in the areas of DEYLA, DOUMDOUM and BADERI.

#### **6.1.3 Support to bee-farmers and shee-butter producers in the CAR**

Equipment and inputs were dispatched to these farmers for the processing of shee-butter and production of honey as part of the activities of various common interest groups in councils of Bossangoa.

A MoU was signed between LCBC and a local NGO for the implementation of this support.

### **6.2 Develop the basic social infrastructures to support socioeconomic activities in the Lake Chad basin**

This action focuses on the infrastructures that support economic activities and improve the living standards of recipient populations, notably the construction of water points and rehabilitation of basic social infrastructures.



### 6.2.1 Construction of boreholes around Lake Chad

In 2017, 12 hand-powered boreholes were constructed in the villages located in the surroundings of the lake in Cameroon, Nigeria, Niger and Chad, where residents suffered a lot from Boko Haram's atrocities.



### 6.2.2 Promotion of small-scale irrigated areas in Nigeria (PPIV)

Plans were underway to develop 75 ha in Bauchi, Jigawa, Kano and Yobe States by local NGOs. The related works are about the : i) digging of 300 boreholes ; ii) the provision of 300 powered pumps (3 inches) ; iii) the installation of the Californian network system ; iv) the purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs ; v) the training of recipients.



### 6.2.3 Promotion of aquaculture in Maga, Cameroon

The rehabilitation of the fingerlings production station is underway in conjunction with local authorities.

A MoU was signed between LCBC and a local NGO to perform the related works which include: (i) the construction of six (6) ponds (400m<sup>2</sup> each) ; (ii) the rehabilitation of eight (8) ponds including two (2) of 800 m<sup>2</sup> each, two circular water reservoirs of 13 m of diameter and four of 5 m<sup>2</sup> each ; (iii) the digging of a solar-powered borehole, an elevated water tank and solar panels ; (iv) the rehabilitation of two (2) water elevated tanks of 1 m<sup>3</sup> each ; (v) the training of staff of the Fishery Centre on the fingerlings production techniques and management of the station; (vi) the purchase of petty equipment (seine net of 6mm of diameter, oxygen bottles, dip nets, water containers, weigh scale, etc...) et ; (vii) purchase of 200 effective spawners of *Tilapia nilotica* including 2/3 for female and 1/3 for male as well as fish food, etc.

#### **6.2.4. Rehabilitation of the PAIBLT building in the location of Kousseri**

This building should have been constructed to host the national coordination of PAIBLT project. The company responsible for the construction could not complete the works. In view of this and in order to complete these works and make the building operational, LCBC made a provision on the rehabilitation in its 2017 program of activities approved by the Council of Ministers. The renovation works were completed and a fence was constructed. The whole building was already accepted.



***Budget execution of AXIS VI: 3 targets, 3 interventions and 25 activities were planned for the 2017 fiscal year relying on the payment of arrears of contributions for a total amount of 1,500,000,000 FCFA.***

*As of 31st December 2017, an amount of 558,056,890 FCFA was spent for an execution rate of 37%. The key activities carried out comprise poultry farming, irrigation, drinking water supply and rehabilitation works, etc....*

## **PART II: PEACE AND SECURITY ACTIVITIES**

The peace and security activities were carried out at LCBC in 2017 following the same impetus noticed during the previous two years. These activities fall in line with the LCBC mandate and aim to promote sub-regional integration, strengthen the military cooperation between the member countries and preserve peace and security in the Lake Chad basin. In this vein, the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) improved its working conditions thus building its operational capacities in line with the fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group.

Thanks to the support of the international community, the resolute commitment of LCBC leaders pooling their efforts to bring out a common and coordinated response to security challenges posed by Boko Haram to all the riparian countries of Lake Chad, the fight was constant. This synergy of actions enabled to break down the violence and terror cycle which were about to be set by hordes of Boko Haram terrorists. This move is attributed to joint operations conducted by the MNJTF in coordination with national forces of Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Chad. With the considerable degrading of Boko Haram, a relative calm is noticed in the basin thus paving the way for the stabilization phase.

This report is intended to review all the key activities undertaken in 2017 drawing a difference between general activities from specific activities, which were carried out to crack down on terrorism in the Lake Chad basin.

### **2.1 General activities**

LCBC was the focus of an intense diplomatic activity and various interactions in 2017 thanks to the interest it enjoyed from regional and international actors and successes recorded as part of the fight against Boko Haram. In addition, to make the actions visible, LCBC hosted the following major activities:

#### ***2.1.1 Visit of a Senior Swiss Official***

Mr. Pascal HOLLIGER in charge of politics and security at the Swiss Embassy in Abuja came to LCBC Headquarters on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017. He held talks with some military officials at LCBC /MNJTF about the security as one of the LCBC missions amid growing concerns on Boko Haram terrorist activities in the Lake Chad basin as well as efforts being put by its member countries to put an end to terrorism.

#### ***2.1.2 Participation in the funeral of Brigadier General Kodji Jacob.***

The Executive Secretary of LCBC, Head of Mission of the MNJTF led a 5-man delegation to the funeral of Brigadier General Kodji Jacob organised by the Cameroonian Government on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 in Yaoundé. The focus was to pay a great tribute to this senior military Officer who passed away on duty as a result of the helicopter crash and for his tireless efforts on the fight against Boko Haram as well as the remarkable cooperation he instilled among the troops in his area of responsibility.

#### ***2.1.3 Mission of the UN Security Council***

A 15-man delegation from the UN Security Council paid a visit to the HQ of the MNJTF on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017. They attended sessions on the presentation of the prevailing

operational situation in the area of operations of the MNJTF. The members of the UN Security Council commended the LCBC member countries for the efforts they deployed to fight against Boko Haram. They pledged more support to the MNJTF.

#### **2.1.4. RIFU Conference (Regional Intelligence Fusion Unit).**

A 5 man-delegation from LCBC/MNJTF led by Major General LO Adeosun took part in the RIFU Conference held on 7-12 May 2017 in Washington DC, US. Thanks to the support of the US, the Conference aimed to find out ways and means to improve the intelligence collection and sharing system at the RIFU for the LCBC member countries and the MNJTF. The Conference also served as a platform to build the capacities of participants on this domain.

#### **2.1.5 Second Regional Conference on the Prevention of Violent Extremism**

LCBC/MNJTF participated in an important Conference held from the 31st May to 1st June 2017 at Hotel Hilton of N'Djamena, Chad under the theme: "Invest in peace and prevention of violence in the Sahel-Sahara region : second regional conference on the prevention of violent extremism". During this Conference jointly organized by the International Peace Institute (IPI), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the UN Office in Central Africa (UNOCA) and the UN Office in West Africa and Sahel Region (UNOWAS), the Executive Secretary took part in the plenary session 4 under the theme: "towards a regional approach on the prevention of violent extremism".

#### **2.1.6 . Forty-fourth session of the UNSAC, Yaoundé, 29 May - 2 June 2017**

A LCBC/MNJTF delegation led by the Deputy Force Commander of the MNJTF took part in the deliberations of the 44th meeting of the UN Advisory Committee on peace and security issues in Central Africa. The LCBC/MNJTF officials made presentations on the situation of the fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group during the experts meeting held on the 30th May 2017.

#### **2.1.7 Regional Seminar on the theme "Security and Defence Forces on the prevention of violent extremism in Africa "**

This seminar was organized by the Higher Defence and Security Studies Centre (CHEDS) of Senegal and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE) of Switzerland on 9-10 October 2017 in Dakar, Senegal. LCBC was represented by the Military Adviser to the ES. The Seminar underscored the necessity to bring out a community-based response championed by different categories of actors on violent extremism laying emphasis on the relevance of the role of defense and security forces on the prevention of violent extremism in Africa.

## **2.2. Specific activities**

Numerous activities related to the fight against terrorism were carried out by the LCBC /MNJTF in 2017. As information related to the operational activities in line with the mandate assigned to the MNJTF on the fight against Boko Haram, are protected, only the following activities connected with the overall management of the MNJTF in compliance with the decisions made by the LCBC member countries to preserve peace and security need to be disclosed:

### **2.2.1 Launching of Operation Gama Aiki 2**

As Boko Haram activities kept growing in the Lake Chad basin, the meeting of the Ministers of Defence held on the 13th October 2016 in Niamey decided to continue this operation dubbed GAMA AIKI. After its validation during a special session of the Council of Ministers of Defence held on the 20th December 2016 in N'Djamena and the provision of related funds, the operation GAMA AIKI 2 was launched in January 2017.

### **2.2.2 . Meeting of the Ministers of Defence on 21-24 February 2017 in Abuja**

A meeting of the Ministers of Defence, Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Intelligence and Security Agencies of the LCBC member countries and Benin Republic was held on 21-24 February 2017 in Abuja. The major items on the agenda included the evaluation of the security situation and operations of the MNJTF in the Lake Chad basin, the review of the Concept of Operations (CONOPS), the operationalization of the civilian component of the Mission and the review of the draft Decision on the creation of the Council of Ministers of Defence.

During the deliberations, it was revealed that tangible results recorded in the theatre of operations by the MNJTF in coordination with the national forces from countries, enabled to restore a relative peace and security atmosphere in the Lake Chad region although the evil sect keeps conducting isolated suicide attacks and laying improvised explosive devices. Following these observations, the Ministers of Defence directed the Executive Secretary to set up a task force to define the management modalities of the post-operation phase involving all relevant stakeholders.

### **2.2.3. Meeting of the Ministers of Defence from the 4th to 6th July 2017 in Yaounde**

The Ministers of Defence, Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Intelligence and Security Agencies of the LCBC member countries and Benin Republic met again on 4-6 July 2017 in Yaounde, Cameroon. During that ordinary session, the final evaluation of Operation Rawan Kada launched in January 2017 by the MNJTF, was conducted to consolidate the achievements of Operation Gama Aiki. The meeting noted that the security situation was calm and the operational capabilities of terrorists were considerably degraded although they were still harmful. This attracts the necessity to look at the root causes of terrorism.

#### **2.2.4. First stabilisation Conference**

In a bid to secure a smooth management of the post-operation phase and based on the mandate assigned to the Executive Secretary of LCBC by the successive sessions of the Council of Ministers of Defence held on the 24th February in Abuja, the first stabilization conference was held on 2-4 November 2017 in N'Djamena on the development of a regional stabilization strategy in areas affected by terrorism perpetrated by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad basin. The event was jointly organized by LCBC and the African Union (AU). It was attended by many international financial and technical partners, relevant UN agencies, civil society organizations, representatives of LCBC member countries and Benin Republic and close to ten representatives of victims of the crisis. The Conference adopted eight (8) guiding principles which will drive the development and set up of a regional stabilization strategy in the Lake Chad basin. The major guiding principles include the national and regional ownership, the national, regional and continental leadership, gender mainstreaming and adherence to regional and international human rights instruments.

#### **2.2.5. Validation meeting of the new MNJTF joint operation**

A special session of the Council of Ministers of Defence, Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Intelligence and Security Agencies of the LCBC member countries and Benin Republic was held on 12-14 December 2017 in N'Djamena, Chad. It was mainly devoted to the consideration and validation of the new operations plans of the MNJTF and related budget. It was also an opportunity to adopt the report of the meeting of experts on the review of the Concept of Operations (CONOPS). This new flagship joint operation dubbed "Operation AMNI FAKAT" could be launched in January or February 2018.

From all indications, this series of meetings brings together all the stakeholders who carry out their activities under the umbrella of LCBC, especially on peace and security aspects. These include the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff whose military expertise is key to the assessment of situations, measures or strategies as well as the coordination and monitoring of their execution. It is worth noting the Council of Ministers of Defence who plays a vital role in making political decisions. These bodies operate following the will of the Heads of State and Government of LCBC to get provided with decision-support tools on peace and security matters. The formalization of their existence through their inclusion in the LCBC organogram is timely.

#### **2.3. Funding**

No financial provision on peace and security was set in the LCBC 2017 budget due to challenges facing the Commission in collecting contributions from its member countries. As such, peace and security activities were thoroughly funded by the budget of the MNJTF Mission in 2017.

#### **2.4. Partial Conclusion**

In 2017, LCBC conducted various successful activities, which led to the strengthening of the military cooperation among its member countries and regional integration. In this vein, LCBC enjoyed the new mindset of leaders of the sub-region, which is characterized by a mutual trust, brotherly relationships and the desire to work as a team to overcome common security challenges. This new momentum is the driver of tireless efforts provided by LCBC member countries in order to operationalize the MNJTF, which mirrors their determination to pool their efforts to crack down on the Boko Haram sect in the sub-region. They decided to develop a regional stabilization strategy in areas affected by Boko Haram thanks to tangible results recorded in the field as they enabled to restore a relative peace and security atmosphere in the Lake Chad region. This will enable to address the root causes of the crisis in an effective manner through an inclusive approach, which looks at key issues, including the deradicalization and reintegration of former terrorists, the involvement of women, the respect of human rights and the rule of law.

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

In addition to the usual partnerships, LCBC extended the list of its partners in 2017 thus strengthening its cooperation with other sub-regional and international organizations for the development, execution and monitoring of programs, projects and other initiatives in line with the SAP.

This move focused on the institutional support to the Executive Secretariat, financial and technical assistance for the execution and monitoring of regional initiatives, provision of guidance and the participation of experts of the Executive Secretariat in international events.

### **3.1 Regional Cooperation**

#### **3.1.1. Cooperation with CAMWATER (Cameroon Water Utilities)**

LCBC and CAMWATER signed a framework cooperation agreement to set up a beneficial cooperation platform on the sustainable and concerted management of water resources in the Cameroonian side of the Lake Chad basin. Specifically, it is about: (i) collecting and sharing data in accordance with relevant provisions of the Water Charter of the Lake Chad basin; (ii) installing equipment to measure and observe the water parameters; (iii) building the capacities of both structures through working groups, conferences, training sessions and other activities.

After signing this agreement, the ToRs of an observation network of the level of the water table in the divisions of Mayo Danay, Logone and Chari in Cameroon were adopted.

#### **3.1.2. Cooperation with SEMRY/PULCI**

As part of the execution of the component “prevention of floods” of the PULCI project, plans are underway to install equipment for the monitoring of hydrometric and hydrologic parameters and the collection of data required for the modeling of rainfall and runoff in a bid to prevent floods in the Cameroonian side of the Lake Chad basin.

In 2017, those equipment were acquired in addition to a training session which brought together national experts on hydrology and meteorology.

The equipment were received and handed to the relevant technical departments in Cameroon and Chad. LCBC is planning to set up a flood risk prevention unit in the pilot zone of the project in coordination with the contingency plans of Cameroon and Chad.





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

The IUCN and LCBC developed thematic maps and the management plan of the Chari-Logone sub-basin for a better knowledge and management of water resources and related resources of this sub-basin.

### **3.1.4. Cooperation with the Global Water Partnership (GWP)-CAF**

LCBC and the GWP-CAF cooperate for a better management of water resources. In this vein, a strategy for the forecast and prevention of floods and droughts in the Chari-Logone sub-basin entitled " Early Warning System (EWS) in the Lake Chad basin ", was developed and finalized in 2017.

This system will boost the development of hydro-meteorological capacities of the Lake Chad region and enable an effective prevention of disasters in the basin.

The project aims to reduce the vulnerability of women and other vulnerable groups on extreme unfavorable events related to climate change.

### **3.1.5. Cooperation with CICOS**

The partnership between LCBC and CICOS was active in 2017 in terms of information and experience sharing on various domains of the inter-basins water transfer project between the Ubangi River and Lake Chad, the preparation of the upcoming international conference on Lake Chad and activities of the African Network of Basin Organizations (RAOB) and the MESA project.

### **3.1.6. Cooperation with ECCAS**

The partnership with ECCAS focused on the draft Convention on the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts related to the utilization of shared water resources in Central Africa.

This Convention targets: i) good water resources governance; ii) strengthening of the cooperation for a better integration in Central Africa; iii) execution of the Regional Action Program for Integrated Water Resource Management (PARGIRE.)

LCBC has to invite its member countries to adopt this Convention based on the Water Charter of the Lake Chad basin.

### **3.1.7. Cooperation with the African Union**

LCBC and the African Union jointly organized a regional stabilization conference for the areas affected by Boko Haram on 2-4 November 2017 in N'Djamena. This conference had as theme" Support the development of a regional stabilization strategy in the areas affected by Boko Haram". It was the first out of three Conferences to be organized as part the development of the above-mentioned strategy.

LCBC took part in the AU meeting in Abuja on the ornamental fishing from the 31<sup>st</sup> July to 1st August 2017. The overall objective of the meeting was experience sharing on previous and current activities in a bid to develop strategies and action plans for the improvement of governance and management of decorating fishing in line with the background and

declaration of Malabo in 2014 about the contribution of fishing and aquaculture to food security and economic growth.

Following a request for funding submitted by the Commission on the execution of the fishing plan of Lake Chad, a positive response was given about the cost of objective III (improving the concerted management, policies and legislations). A related workshop was postponed.

### **3.1.8. Cooperation with the ResEau project in Chad**

As part of the access and dissemination of information on sustainable management and mapping of the water resources of the basin, LCBC and the ResEau Project from the Chadian Ministry of Water signed a MoU on the conditions to get access and use data available at LCBC, those of the Information System on Water Resources of the ResEau Project and the terms of the cooperation in order to share other scientific knowledge.

## **3.2. International Cooperation**

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

The cooperation with AfDB, the LCBC's leader of technical and financial partners focuses on the funding of two projects in the Lake Chad basin (PRODEBALT, PRESIBALT).

As the Bank has a wealth of experience on community development and socio-economic reintegration, it is planning to support the stabilization process of the youths in the Lake Chad basin, providing them with viable economic and social alternatives by funding a **project in support of the socio-economic reintegration of vulnerable youths in the Lake Chad basin** which is being developed. This project aims to: (i) improve the professional skills of youths; and (ii) support economic initiatives and self-employment activities for the target groups. The total cost of this project is 13 Million AU for the period 2018-2021.

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

The cooperation with the World Bank is about the execution of the Lake Chad development and climate change resilience action plan.

The Bank is planning to fund parts of this action plan and assist LCBC in holding a Donor's Conference for the mobilization of additional resources.

### **3.2.3. Cooperation with the German Ministry for Economic and Development Cooperation (BMZ)**

As part of the German cooperation, the BMZ is funding two projects at LCBC: "sustainable management of water resources" and "support to the management of groundwater resources of the Lake Chad basin" through GIZ and BGR respectively.

GIZ supports LCBC on three components: (1) strengthening of the cooperation between LCBC and its member countries; (2) capacity building of LCBC staff on the strategic planning in a bid to mitigate the effects of climate change in the basin; (3) climate change adaptation based on information generated and lessons learnt from trials conducted in the field. The total amount of this support is 2,4 million Euros and this phase is to be concluded in June 2019.

BGR is planning to conduct the strategic and operational planning of this phase of the project in January 2018. It is worth noting that this phase will be completed in November 2019.

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

The partnership with AFD was active in 2017 through the formulation of the request for funding of the project on the improvement of knowledge about the hydrologic monitoring of the Lake Chad basin, the monitoring of the Lake Chad Resilience (RESILAC) and the project for the hydro-agricultural development of polders in the areas of Tandal and Guini in the Chadian territory of the basin, which is being identified.

#### **3.2.5. Cooperation with UNESCO**

A convention was signed with the UNESCO through PRESIBALT in a bid to create a biosphere reserve in the basin and rank Lake Chad within the UNESCO World Heritage. The project has already been launched with the holding of sensitization workshops in the basin.

UNESCO is assisting LCBC for the holding of the international conference on Lake Chad on 26-28 February 2018 in Abuja, Nigeria.

#### **3.2.6. Cooperation with MESA**

During the year under review, two staff of LCBC participated in the training programme of the AU-MESA project. The two programs held in March 2017 are;

1. MESA System Administration Training for Station Users in French
2. MESA System Application (eStation-2) Training for Station Users in French

The training enable the installation of the 3 computer systems in the premises of LCBC for access to MESA continental dataset for rainfall, temperature and vegetation condition.

#### **3.2.7. Cooperation with the United Nations**

An updated version of the UN Strategy on Boko Haram of September 2016 was approved by the Secretary General in the first half of April 2017. Following the Secretary-General's Executive Committee decision 4 (a) (2017/29) of 23rd February, a Core Group of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on Boko Haram was established, comprising the Department for Political Affairs (DPA), UNDP, OCHA and UNOHCHR, to further integrate UN efforts across the region, and help guide/lead implementation of the updated strategy. Under the strategy, the UN provides technical support to the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) through the African Union (AU). A joint AU-LCBC-MNJTF Steering Committee was inaugurated on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016, to strengthen coordination and information-sharing. In parallel with the need to reinforce PVE efforts, a key objective of the humanitarian response pillar of the updated UN Strategy remains enhancing access to humanitarian assistance, including through civil-military coordination and logistics.

LCBC has endorsed the Project entitled “Winning the Peace on Lake Chad: Supporting a Sub-Regional Approach to Violent Extremism” which shall last 36 months, as part of LCBC request for a support from Technical and Financial Partners through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

UNDP Country Offices in Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon are all engaged in supporting their respective Governments to establish counter violent extremism frameworks and implement specific projects to address the crisis around Lake Chad. National counter violent extremism activities are integrated within wider UN and UNDP portfolios for humanitarian response and early recovery initiatives, optimizing synergy between the different elements of international assistance.

The overall objective of the project is to establish a coordinated cross-border approach to prevention and response to violent extremism around Lake Chad, augmenting current national efforts with a sub-regional perspective and support. The strategy of the project is predicated upon three assumptions:

1. The cross-border nature of the challenge will be better addressed by a consistent and coordinated cross-border approach to resolving it, and that support to the development of a sub-regional inter-Governmental agreement and Action Plan required;
2. Strengthening cultural resilience to violent extremism requires a program of engagement with local communities, ensuring a participatory and inclusive approach to decision-making on security and development issues;
3. Improved civil-military cooperation is an opportunity not just to improve delivery of humanitarian assistance and early recover initiatives, but to address grievances arising from security responses as well as the longer-term developmental causes of the insurgency.

### ***3.2.8. Cooperation with the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)***

The Chadian Ministry of Water organized an information and experience sharing workshop on the membership of Chad to the 1992 UN Convention on the protection and utilization of transboundary water courses and lakes with the assistance of LCBC and the General Secretariat of this Convention in February 2017. The purpose of this Convention is to protect and secure the quantity, quality and sustainable utilization of transboundary water courses thus boosting cooperation between the riparian countries of the basin.

Following this workshop, Chadian authorities committed to speeding up the membership process of Chad to this Convention and promoting it in other member countries of the basin as Chad is a member of both LCBC and the Niger Basin Authority (NBA.)

As part of the cooperation with LCBC, UNECE organized a workshop on the acceleration of actions required to counter water scarcity and reduce sanitary, socioeconomic and environmental hazards in Geneva in December 2017. During this workshop, LCBC presented the Water Charter of the Lake Chad basin, which is its legal instrument on water management.

### **3.2.9. Cooperation with CARE International**

After meeting with CARE's officials in 2016, LCBC solicited and secured their support in organizing a training session on gender and development for LCBC and PRESIBALT experts.

In March 2017, a draft MoU was made available to formalize the partnership between CARE and LCBC. Some PRESIBALT staff members attended a meeting in Niamey to deepen the cooperation framework between both institutions in a bid to support the meeting of objectives by PRESIBALT in terms of reducing gender inequalities in the Lake Chad basin. After this meeting, the major recommendations included the active preparation of the political and institutional meeting in order to explore joint development planning on issues related to gender/woman, youth employment, and resilience/sustainability in the Lake Chad basin.

The Director General of CARE and the gender expert in that institution in Abidjan paid a courtesy call to the Executive Secretary of LCBC in September 2017. After this visit, the Executive Secretary directed PRESIBALT officials to prepare a formal MoU between LCBC and CARE INTERNATIONAL. The first draft MoU is being considered by LCBC staff members.

### **3.2.10. Cooperation with the African Union**

The African Union supports LCBC on peace and security activities in the Lake Chad basin. It also coordinates the project MESA (Monitoring for Environment and Security in Africa), which is funded by the European Development Fund. This project intends to renovate the reception station of satellite data of LCBC.

Lastly, the African Union, through its BIRA Office, is planning to fund the third component of the management plan of fisheries in the Lake Chad basin thanks to a support provided by the European Union.

### **3.2.11. Cooperation with Schiller Institute**

The Schiller Institute is an international political and economic think tank, one of the primary organizations of the LaRouche movement, with headquarters in Germany and the United States. The Institute and the Geopolitical Academy of Paris co-organized a highly successful seminar held in Paris, on Oct. 24 on the theme of *how China's New Silk Road win-win approach works and how it is already transforming the world*. LCBC and more than a hundred diplomats, experts, business leaders, China specialists, French-China friendship associations, parliamentary attaches, media, students participated in.

This intense seminar covered the essentials of the Chinese projects and concrete development examples which are already working in Africa, and the recipe for joint Franco-Chinese projects in France and Europe, or abroad.

LCBC delegate gave a short brief in which he pointed out the current efforts to restore Lake Chad to re-establish the former level of Lake Chad and other wetlands through water

transfer. The plan is to reverse the degradation of the ecosystem and establish the integrated management of water resources.

## **PART IV: ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

### **4.1 Human Resources**

The number of the members of staff of the LCBC has decreased from 83 to 64 as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. A total of 19 departures have been recorded. These departures have been occasioned by the closure of the N’Gala Agricultural Training School (16 persons); 1 retirement (Head of Division of Basin Observatory), 1 departure as result of end of contract (Private Secretary of the Executive Secretary) and 1 as result of death (the electrician).

The human resources in place as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 are presented as follows:

**Table No1: LCBC permanent staff**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
CE (Executive Secretary)	1	1.56
C1- C3 (Directors, Heads of Divisions, Financial Controller, Advisers and Coordinators)	10	15.63
C4 (Experts of category 1)	6	9.38
C5 - C6 (Experts of category 2)	17	26.56
C7 – C9 (Junior staff)	30	46.88
Total	64	100

Within the framework of the implementation of the activities of PRESIBALT and PRODEBALT programmes, the LCBC has effected some recruitment to support the already existing human resources. The personnel recruited, for the year, concerns essentially the Programme for the rehabilitation and strengthening of the resilience of the socio-ecological systems of the Lake Chad Basin (PRESIBALT).

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the number of personnel engaged in the PRESIBALT is 35 employees all categories inclusive. One case of death was recorded (the National Coordinator of Niger). The staff members who are not in the roll of the permanent LCBC staff are paid from the funds of the programme.

**Table No 2: Breakdown of the PRESIBALT Personnel**

<b>Positions</b>	<b>Regional Coordination</b>	<b>Coordinations</b>	<b>Number</b>
Regional Coordinator	1		1
Monitoring-Evaluation Expert	1		1
Procurement Expert	1		1
Gender and sustainable development Expert	1		1
Account Manager	1		1
Administrative Assistant	1	4	5
Cashier	1	-	1
Messenger	-	4	4
Driver	2	4	6
Gardener	-	3	3
National Coordinators		3	3
Accountants	-	4	4
NR Management Expert	-	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>35</b>

Concerning the personnel of the Sustainable Development Programme of the Lake Chad Basin, as 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the number of the personnel members of the PRODEBALT stands at 15 employees, including all categories. Contrary to the personnel of the PRESIBALT, the members of personnel of the Regional Coordination of the PRODEBALT, with exception of the Account Manager, the Accountant and the Administrative Assistant, have been recruited by the LCBC and were seconded to the Programme. Thus, their salaries are being paid by the LCBC. They, however, get allowances from the Programme. Presently, the personnel has been reduced with end of the Programme.

The human resources available at the Regional and National Coordination are as follows:

**Table No 2: Breakdown of PRODEBALT personnel**

<b>Post</b>	<b>Regional Coordination</b>	<b>National Coordinations</b>	<b>Number</b>
Regional Coordinator	1		1
Monitoring and Evaluation Expert			
Fishery Expert	1		1
Agro-pastoralism Expert	1		1
Account Manager	1		1
Administrative Assistant	2		2
Accountant	1	-	1
Messenger	1		1
Driver	1		1
National Coordinators		5	5
NR Management Expert	1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>



## 4.2. Human Resources Administration

During the 2017 fiscal year, the routine activities assigned to the administration of the management of the human resources were regularly executed. These include the management of leaves of absence, administrative leaves and home leaves. The recording and the treatment of applications for the refund of medical bills, settlement of the gratuities of employees leaving the LCBC.

### 4.2.1 Promotions

Sixty four (64) of which 34 senior staff and 30 junior staff have been promoted to 1 step further in their categories during the 2017 fiscal year.

### 4.2.2 Recruitments

Positons	Number	Posting
Accounts Manager	1	Regional Coordination of PRESIBALT-Chad
Bilingual Administrative Assistant	1	
Cashier	1	
Driver	2	
NR Management Expert	2	National Coordination of PRESIBALT
<b>Totale</b>	<b>6</b>	

Replacement of two (2) natural resources management experts has been carried out at the national Coordinations of Niger and CAR, as result of the following reasons: a) resignation of the natural resources management expert of Niger, and 2) death of the natural resources management expert of the CAR.

### 4.2.3 Internship

Within the framework of the support to the training of students undertaking research and others in search of perfection, the LCBC has received twenty (20) students in its different departments. The students were oriented based on their needs, either perfection internship or academic/research in preparation for theses. The students undertook internship in the following divisions/sections with the general themes below:

Supervisory Division/Department	Number	Theme
Division of Natural Ressources	5	Hydrology/Hydrogeology
Division of Cooperation and Projects	4	Mangement, evaluation-monitoring
Division of Human Resources	3	HR Management
Division of Accounting and Finance	2	Projects Management, accounting and finance
Military Advisor to ES/LCBC	3	Good governance, conflict management/peace and security
PRESIBALT/PRODEBALT	3	Projects Management–Case studies

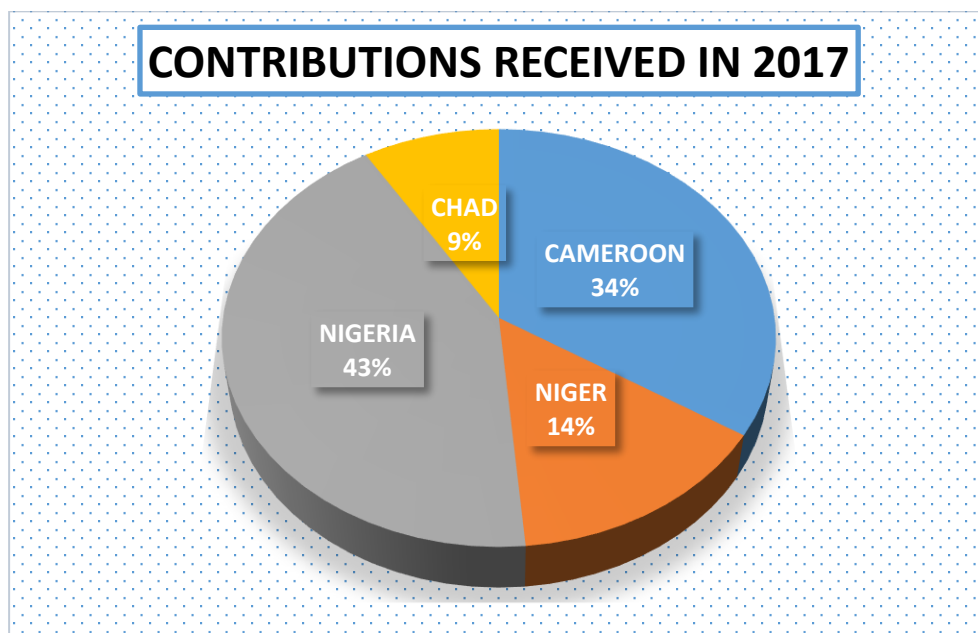
### 4.3 Financial Situation as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

The situation of the contributions of Member States as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 stands as follows:

Member States	Owed contributions		Total	Payments received in 2017	Outstanding
	Arrears as of 31/12/2016	2017 Budget			
Cameroon	2.659.428.506	724.589.702	3.384.018.208	1.100.000.000	2.284.018.208
Libya	2.532.929.267	652.130.732	3.185.059.999	-	3.185.059.999
Niger	575.155.343	253.606.396	828.761.739	469.297.626	359.464.113
Nigeria	-	1.449.179.404	1.449.179.404	1.377.617.860	71.561.544
Chad	564.872.177	398.524.336	963.396.513	282.436.088	680.960.425
RCA	1.601.000.538	144.917.940	1.745.918.478	-	1.745.918.478
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.933.385.831</b>	<b>3.622.948.510</b>	<b>11.556.334.341</b>	<b>3.229.351.574</b>	<b>8.326.982.767</b>

During the year 2017, the Executive Secretariat received the sum of the 3.229.353.574 FCFA as annual contributions and arrears of contribution, as shown in the above table. The payment of Nigeria which was meant to settle all its financial obligations could not totally cover them because of the fluctuation of the exchange rate of the Dollar.

The chart below shows the amount each Member States owes in terms of contributions and arrears of contributions as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017:



#### 4.4. Execution of the budget as of 31st December 2017

The overall budget of the Executive Secretariat, approved during the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers amounts to 5.873.106.881 FCFA, of which 3.906.900.000 FCFA earmarked for development budget, representing 68% and 1.966.206.881 FCFA earmarked for current expenditure, representing 33%. As of 31<sup>st</sup> the sum of 3.006.311.877 FCFA was spent, representing an execution of 51%. The development budget was executed by 39% whereas the current budget is 74%. The weak execution rate of the budget was due to the late payment of the statutory contributions by Member States, which compelled the Executive Secretariat to adopt a strategy of prudence in spending.

	Budget	Achieved	%
Recurrent	1.966.206.881	1.463.899.853	74%
Development	3.906.900.000	1.542.412.024	39%
	<b>5.873.106.881</b>	<b>3.006.311.877</b>	<b>51%</b>

##### 4.4.1 Execution of development budget

The development budget of the year 2017 stands at 3.906.900.000 FCFA, taking into account the activities of the emergency plan with the sum of 1.500.000.000 FCFA. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 1.542.412.024 FCFA has been used for development, representing an implementation rate of 39%.

The detail of the execution of the development budget is as follows:

### **AXIS I: Improvement of the quality and the quantity of the waters of the Lake Chad Basin**

This axis comprise 3 targets namely (i) “evaluate the current knowledge on the quality of the surface waters”, (ii) “deepen the feasibility studies of the inter-basins water transfer Project” et (iii) “evaluate the current knowledge on the quality of the groundwater”. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum 144.550.950 FCFA has been spent on this item in the allocated budgetary package of 517.900.000 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 28%. The activities executed include Hydrologic data collection, evaluation of the status of hydrometric network in the CAR & Nigeria, undertaking the hydrologic, chemical & isotopic assessment of the Lake, the determination of the size of the Lake during the 2017 hydrologic season, and the size of floodplains/wetlands in the year 2017.

### **AXIS II: Restoration, conservation and sustainable use of the resources of the Lake Chad Basin**

Axis II comprises 3 targets namely (i) “Develop the regional GIS Data Base”, (ii) “Initiate and execute sound agro-pastoral practices pilot projects”, (iii) “Promote alternative sources of revenues”. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, this axis recorded the sum of 10.000.000 FCFA for budgetary estimate of 30.000.000 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 33%. This amount has been used for the construction of the database and the collection of metadata in the Member States.

### **AXIS III: Restoration and conservation of the ecosystems in the Lake Chad basin**

It is composed of 2 targets notably (i) “Develop and execute projects and programmes”, (ii) “Capitalize and promote the best ecosystem conservation techniques”. As 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum 15.000.000 FCFA has been used for developing project sheets.

### **AXIS IV: Building stakeholders’ capacities**

The OQERE V comprises the only one following target: “Implementation of a strategy for the participation of stakeholders. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 66.510.000 FCFA has been spent in this item for a budgetary allocation of 15.000.000 FCFA, for capacity building of the personnel of the LCBC and Experts of Member States, on project monitoring and evaluation, as well as the implementation of partnerships with the PULCI and the NASA, representing an execution rate of 58%.

### **AXIS V: Developing an institutional and operational framework for LCBC**

This chapter comprises 6 targets namely (i) “Implementation of the SAP 2008-2025”, (ii) “Improving the organization of events and activities”, (iii) “Putting in place a high performance finance management system”, (IV) “Putting in place a high performance human resources management system”, (V) “Improving the working environment”, (VI) “Improving the visibility of the LCBC in the Member States”. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017,

the sum of 748.294.184 FCFA has been spent on this item, for a budgetary allocation of 1.724.000.000 FCFA, representing 43%. The main activities executed include the operational planning, supporting the take-off of new projects, the payment of the counterpart funds to the projects and supervision of activities of the LCBC/FPs, the refocusing of the actions of the Commission, updating the management plan of the Waza-Logone and the updating of the management plan of LAC FITRI. Equally, to be noted is the organisation of the workshop for the capitalization of good practices of projects and programmes of the LCBC, the renewal of the Internet subscription and settlement of the gratuities of the released personnel of the Regional Agricultural Training School of Ngala.

#### **AXIS VI: Emergency Development actions for vulnerable groups**

This axis comprise 3 targets namely (i) "Develop income generating activities", (ii) "Development of basic infrastructures" and (iii) "Development of socio-economic infrastructures". As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 558.056.890 FCFA has been spent in this item for a budgetary allocation of 1.500.000.000 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 37%. The main activities implemented include the promotion of poultry farming activities in Zinder (Niger), the creation of small scale irrigated schemes in Nigeria, supply of potable water in Cameroon, the rehabilitation of the district of Kousseri in Cameroon, potable water supply in CHAD, and supply of potable water in Nigeria.

#### **4.4.2. Execution of the recurrent budget**

The approved recurrent budget of the LCBC stands at a total sum 1.966.206.881 FCFA. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 1.463.899.853 FCFA has been spent to ensure the daily running of the Executive Secretariat, representing an execution rate of 74%. This execution rate which may appear weak for a recurrent budget is due to the delay in the implementation of the new organogram resulting from the reform, but it is also due to the fact that certain positions remained vacant after the departure of the occupants and there was no replacement.

The details of the execution of the recurrent budget are presented as follows:

- ***Statutory Meetings***

This budget item includes expenditures relating to the holding of the sessions of the Councils of Ministers and the Summits of Heads of State and Government. The sum of 270.000.000 FCFA has been earmarked for the year 2016. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, no expenditure was committed under this item, due to the fact that statutory meetings did not hold in 2017.

- ***Salaries, emoluments and other benefits of the personnel***

This item concerns salaries and emoluments, allowances and other benefits of the personnel. A budgetary allocation of 1.082.355.912 FCFA was earmarked to cover these expenditures. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the actual expenditures stood at 905.403.907 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 84%.

- ***Gratuities of the personnel***

This budgetary line recorded a provision of 232.350.969 FCFA for the payment of gratuities and entitlements of the personnel on departure. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 211.995.511 FCFA has been spent, representing an execution rate of 91%.

- ***Transport and missions***

This item has received a budgetary allocation of 145.000.000 FCFA earmarked for the fiscal year 2016. At the end of the year 2017, the corresponding expenditure has reached the sum of 111.683.250 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 77%.

- ***Consummed External Services***

This concerns different running charges, notably communication, maintenance, and reception costs, insurances, fuel and lubricants, banking fees, as well assorted consumptions, etc. A budget of 276.000.000 FCFA has been authorized for this item. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the expenditures relating to these budget items stood at 184.062.206 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 67%.

- ***Purchase of equipment and furniture***

This is about different purchases of petty equipment (computers, printers and others) and office furniture. A package of 52.000.000 FCFA has been earmarked for this item. During the year 2017, the total expenditure relating to this item stood at 42.692.829 FCFA, representing an execution rate of 81%.

- ***Contingencies***

The sum of 17.500.000 FCFA has been earmarked for this item. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the sum of 8.062.150 FCFA has been spent, representing an execution rate of 54%.

**PART V : STATE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE 62<sup>ND</sup> ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**Resolution No 1: Relating to the end of the tenure of the Executive Secretary**

*“Commissioners, after deliberations, recommend:*

- a) *Holding of a Summit of Heads of State and Government to fill the position of the Executive Secretary ;*
- b) *On the event of the impossibility of holding a Summit, consultations amongst the Heads of States should be made for the designation of :*
  - *A new Executive Secretary;*
  - *Or extend the tenure of the current Executive Secretary until the holding of the next Summit. »*

This Resolution is implemented vide letter **No 000053/PRN/CAB** dated 03 May 2017, the current Chairman of Summit of Heads of State and Government has decided to maintain the current Executive Secretary until the holding of the next Summit.

**Resolution No 2: Relating the reactivation of the position of Deputy Executive Secretary**

*“The Commissioners, after deliberations, maintain the postponement of the reactivation of the position of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the LCBC”*

This Resolution is implemented as the position of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the LCBC is not reactivated.

**Resolution No 3: Relating to the recruitment of the Director of Administration and Finance (DAF) and the Technical Director (TD)**

*« The Commissioners, after deliberations, approve:*

*The recruitment of :*

- *Mr. NADJINGAR TITDJEBAÏE for the position of Director of Administration and Finance (DAF) ; and*
- *Mr. BOUBAKARI MANA for the position of Technical Director (TD)”*
- 

This Resolution is implemented as the two Directors have been recruited and have actually assumed duty on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

**Resolution No4: Relating to the 2017 Programme of Activities and Budget of the Executive Secretariat of the LCBC.**

*“The Commissioners, after deliberations, approve:*

*The LCBC budget of the fiscal year 2017, in conformity with the programme of activities, balancing revenues and expenditures for the sum of sixteen billion three hundred ninety three million eight hundred and thirty four thousand (16.398.834.000) Francs CFA as per the following breakdown:*

- *Ten billion five hundred and twenty five million eight hundred thirty four thousand to be funded by Technical and Financial Partners ;*
- *Six billion eight hundred and seventy three million one hundred and seven thousand (5.873.107.000) Francs CFA to be funded by Member States.*

*The budget is broken down as follows:*

- *Development : 14.432.627.000 FCFA*
- *Recurrent: 1.966.207.000 FCFA »*

The resolution is implemented as the approved budget has been regularly executed within the limit of the availability of resources.

**Resolution N°5: Relating to the closure of the Regional Agricultural Training School of N’Gala.**

*« The Commissioners, after deliberations,*

- ✓ *Approve the closing down of the Regional Agricultural Training School of NGala ;*
- ✓ *Authorize the Executive Secretary to start the settlement of the gratuities of all the members of personnel still in service with the total amount of 250.000.000 FCFA ;*
- ✓ *Direct the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps for the retrocession of these infrastructures to the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF).”*

The resolution is fully implemented as: i) The closure of the School is effective; ii) The gratuities of the personnel have totally been settled and iii) a letter was addressed to the Command of the Multinational Joint Task Force in order to take possession of the infrastructures of the school.



## CONCLUSION AND LESSIONS

After the execution of activities planned in 2017, it is worth noting that various actors cooperated in synergy to meet one of the targets of LCBC which is "to set up a strategic and participatory framework for the sustainable development of the Lake Chad basin and undertake a cooperative programme for the transboundary management of water and land resources ". Actually, apart from aspects, which are not covered by co-funded projects, most of the indicators of the following three components were met: improvement of the quantity and quality of waters, conservation of the biodiversity and restoration of the ecosystems of the basin.

Milestones were reached in terms of implementation of quick impact activities on the communities and organisation of stakeholders at both national and regional levels on water resources knowledge management.

The following achievements need to be highlighted and consolidated in 2018:

- ✓ The improvement of data and knowledge management on water and environment by providing equipment to hydrologic and meteorological networks ;
- ✓ Cross-cutting or thematic studies to deepen the environmental issues and water resources management;
- ✓ The creation of an operational framework for the execution of micro-development projects for the preservation of environment and poverty alleviation in the basin ;
- ✓ The conduct of a transboundary diagnostic analysis (TDA) and the strategic action plan (SAP) in a participatory manner thus providing LCBC with an updated strategic planning tool.

To consolidate these achievements and make sure that actions are successful, LCBC and its member countries as well as partners should endeavour to ensure security and peace in the basin and mobilise funds for the development and stabilisation of the basin and conduct of 2018 activities.

As such, thanks to these technical and financial efforts, LCBC is making progress in terms of consolidating its founding principles which include: solidarity, sharing and equity.