



Lake Chad Basin Regional Biodiversity Action Plan (LCB-RBAP)

Abridged Version

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List of Acronyms

CAR	Central African Republic
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEMAC	Monetary and Economic Community of Central Africa
COP	Conference of the Parties
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Technical Cooperation)
IGA	Income generating activities
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LCB	Lake Chad Basin
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NTFPs	Non-timber forest products
RBAP	Regional Biodiversity Action Plan
PMU	Project Management Unit
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
TDA	Transboundary diagnostic analysis
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Lake Chad and its active basin are a major freshwater resource and a hub of development, trade and cultural exchange between populations north and south of the Sahara. Rich in biological resources, the Lake Chad Basin is home to numerous animal and plant species which, over the decades, have been an important source of income and a means of survival for the populations, contributing to their well-being and to the socio-economic development of the sub-region.

However, it has to be said that the rich biological resources of the Lake Chad Basin (LCB), which underpin the well-being of its populations, are subject to extensive natural and anthropogenic pressures. The majority of reports on the state of the environment, climate, biodiversity and land constantly remind us that the LCB's ecosystems are undergoing continual degradation. IN fact, the unsustainable resource exploitation/management techniques, demographic pressure and the effects of climate variability and change appear to be the main factors of this loss of biological diversity in the LCB's. These factors are gradually contributing to a significant decline in the LCB's fisheries and other natural resources in recent years, resulting in a strong competition for access to and exploitation of the basin's resources which leads to conflicts over the use of the resources and affects the livelihoods of the population as well as ecosystem degradation.

To address these challenges, it is imperative for us to adopt an integrated approach to the management of the LCB's water resources and biological diversity. Our ability to care for our beautiful Basin and halt the damage to its ecosystems in order to protect the services it provides to us and will provide to future generations depends on the level of knowledge of the Basin's natural ecosystems, their state of degradation and the restoration needs. It is with this in mind, that the Lake Chad Basin's Regional Action Plan for Biodiversity 2023-2028 (LCB-RBAP) has been developed in a perspective to contribute to the rational management of the Basin's biological resources.

The (LCB-RBAP) lays the groundwork for rethinking and developing new actions to meet the expectations of the various stakeholders. It aims to: guarantee better conservation and sustainable use of biological resources; achieve better knowledge of these resources and, finally, satisfy the needs of populations through sustainable use and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the exploitation of biological and genetic resources within the Basin.

My most fervent wish is that this action plan gets the necessary attention and support from governments, development partners, the private sector, NGOs, CSOs, indigenous peoples and local communities, women's and youth groups, etc.... for its effective and efficient implementation, thus enabling the protection and preservation of the Lake Chad Basin ecosystem, which represents our common heritage as a sustainable environmental resource.

I would like to thank the LCBC Executive Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Environment Facility for their constant support in the production of this document.



01. INTRODUCTION

Lake Chad and its active basin (fig.1) constitute an important freshwater resource and a centre for development, trading and cultural exchanges between the peoples living to the North of the Sahara and those to the South. About twenty-two (22) million people, the majority of whom are poor, depend for their livelihoods on activities carried out in the Lake Chad. Unfortunately, the surface area of the lake has been considerably shrinking (Fig.2), passing from 1,514 km² in 1973 to 2,500 km² today, even during peak periods.¹

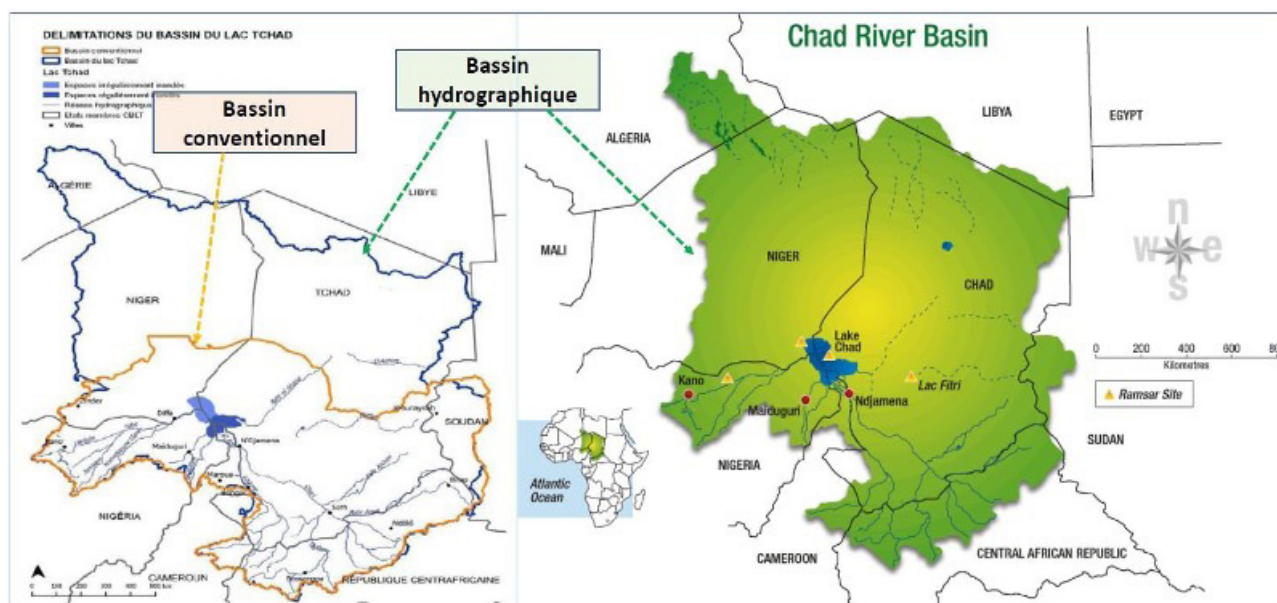


Figure 1: Lake Chad Hydrographic and conventional basins (source: Current state of play of the Lake Chad Basin, 2016).

However, according to current demographic projections, by 2025 the basin's population will reach 50 million. This demographic explosion is likely to lead to a significant decline in the lake's fishery resources and other natural resources, resulting in competition for access to and exploitation of the basin's resources by local populations, an increase in the number of management challenges and in the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of these resources, as well as the degradation of ecosystems.

¹ ROHALLATI NDARA Pierre, hydrologist/ LCBC, international workshop on water scarcity, taking action within trans-boundary basins and reducing health impacts. Practical measures to reduce water scarcity in the Lake Chad Basin, Geneva -Switzerland 11 -12 December 2017

To meet these challenges, the LCBC has developed several strategic documents between 2000-2008 including the Natural Resource Management Strategy, the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), which are complementary planning and decision-making tools. In 2016, it updated the report on the state of the Lake Chad ecosystem.

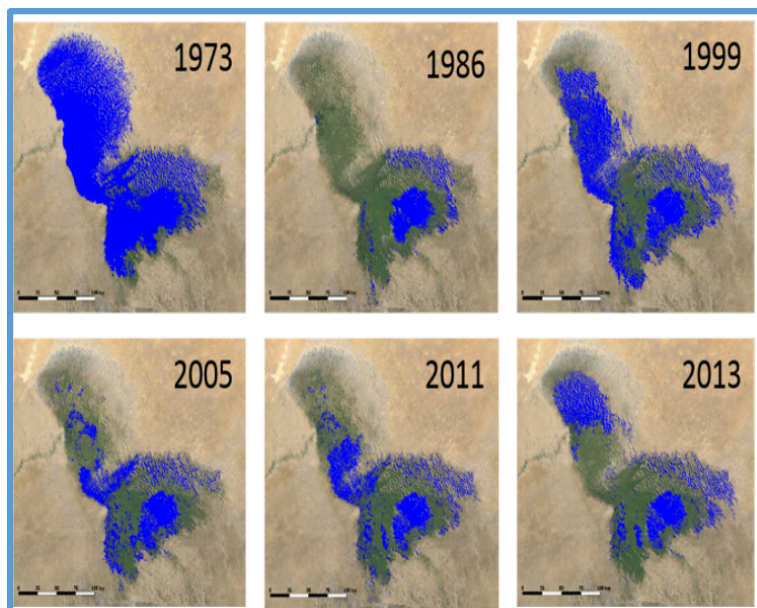


Figure 2: Variation in the surface area of Lake Chad between 1973-2013

Notwithstanding the development and implementation of these various strategic documents, it is worth noting that the rich biological resources of Lake Chad, which underpin the well-being of the population, are subject to strong natural and anthropogenic pressures. Hydrological variability and the disappearance of freshwater, water pollution, sedimentation in rivers and water bodies, changes in land use, damage to and modification of ecosystems, invasive species, the direct and indirect effects of climate change, and demographic pressure are among the drivers that increase the already high pressure on the basin's biological resources. The latter are now directly or indirectly responsible for the loss

of biodiversity observed in the basin. According to the IUCN red list, the consequences of the destruction of natural wildlife habitats are the cause of the alarming state of the loss of most of the basin's species, some of which are critically endangered and others simply endangered. The consequences of this situation include the disappearance of certain animal and plant species, soil alteration, the disappearance of wetlands, the reduction of economic activities carried out by local people and the negative impact on human health.

In order to provide an effective and efficient response to the challenges facing the basin in terms of biological resource management, a regional action plan needs to be developed, taking into account the approaches set out in the LCBD-SAP and the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at CBD COP-15.

1.1. Vision and objectives of the RBAP

Strategically, the RBAP vision is in line with the LCBC vision, which states that: "The Lake Chad Region would like to see by the year 2025 the Lake Chad "Common heritage" and other wetlands maintained at sustainable levels to ensure the economic security of the freshwater ecosystem resources, sustained biodiversity and aquatic resources of the basin, the use of which should be equitable to serve the needs of the population of the Basin thereby reducing poverty level". As such, the RBAP vision states that:

“

“By 2028, the natural resources and once lush landscapes of the Lake Chad Basin are rehabilitated and managed sustainably and equitably to build resilience to climate change, support inclusive economic growth, prosperity and improve social cohesion, spirit of solidarity and sharing in a regional context of peace and security”.

”

The RBAP overall objective is to strengthen the conservation and sustainable use of the LCB's biological resources through the restoration and rational management of ecosystems, in particular sensitive habitats, for the survival of the basin's species and the well-being of its populations. By setting the above-mentioned objective, the LCB intends to improve the policy and institutional frameworks for the management of biological resources, the restoration of the Basin's ecosystems, the conservation of fauna and flora, the creation of income-generating activities and finally the

strengthening of community resilience to increase efforts to conserve biodiversity and the sustainable management of biological resources in the LCB.

1.2. Scope and methodological approach for the development of the RBAP

With a sub-regional scope, the preparation of this document followed 6 (six) main steps as presented in figure 3 below:

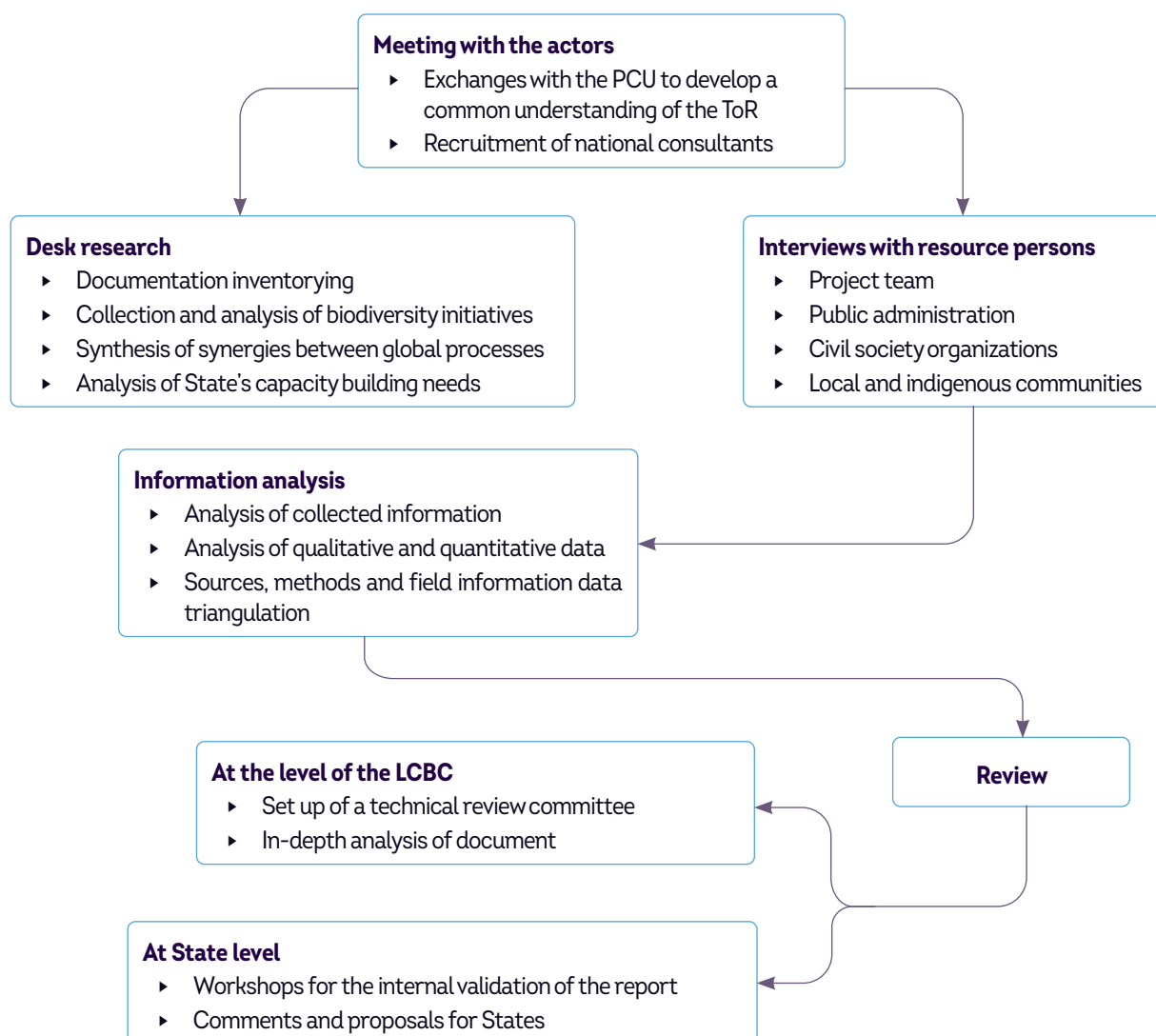


Figure 3: RBAP developing process

1.3. RBAP theory of change

The RBAP is based on a theory of change which assumes that urgent policy and strategic action at sub-regional and national (LCBC member countries) levels is needed to transform economic, social and financial systems so that the trends which have increased biodiversity loss are stabilised by 2028 at the latest and allow the basin's natural ecosystems to be restored. It recognises that a inclusive approach involving all public authorities and society is needed to bring the changes required over the next five years, which will serve as a springboard towards achieving the LCBC vision.



02. RBAP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The implementation of this RBAP will consist of 3 priority areas of intervention, which are priority components. Each area is broken down into targets (specific objectives), each comprising activities and expected results (see table 1 below).

Table 1: Areas of intervention, targets, activities, expected results and measurement indicators

PRIORITY AREA 1: ENHANCEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES			
Targets	Activities	Expected Results	Indicators
Target 1.1. Promote a (sustainable) management policy for the basin's biological resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Establish a policy framework for biodiversity restoration in the basin; ▶ Take into account biodiversity issues in relation to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and national development strategies; ▶ Revise the legal and institutional framework and policy reforms for the management of biological resources in the Member States in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ There is an existing policy framework for the restoration of biodiversity; ▶ Biodiversity is taken into account in national development policies; ▶ The legal and institutional framework for the management of biological resources in the basin is revised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of States that have developed or have a policy framework for biodiversity restoration; ▶ Number of States that have developed or have a biodiversity mainstreaming strategy into their development policies; ▶ Number of States that have revised or developed their legal and institutional framework on natural resources.
Target 1.2. Encourage Member States to develop and strengthen their policies for the enhancement and sustainable use of the basin's biological resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Support Member States to set up effective and efficient monitoring and surveillance systems or programmes for the sustainable use of natural resources of Lake Chad ▶ Support, at the level of each Member State, the establishment of a platform for civil society exchange on issues relating to the development and sustainable use of the basin's biological resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Effective control and monitoring systems for the sustainable use of biological resources are developed; ▶ A platform for civil society exchange on issues relating to the development of biological resources is established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of States that have developed or revised their NBSAPs; ▶ Number of activities organised with CSOs on the enhancement of biological resources.
Target 1.3. Involve all stakeholders in decision-making on improving the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Set up an awareness-raising and capacity-building programme for elected representatives, administrative authorities, indigenous peoples and local communities, young people and women on improving the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.; ▶ Set up a network of councils to increase the participation of local elected representatives in implementing policies to improve the management of the basin's biological resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ An awareness-raising and capacity-building programme for elected representatives, administrative authorities, indigenous peoples and local communities, young people and women on improving the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources is set up; ▶ A network of councils to increase the involvement of local elected representatives in implementing policies geared towards improving the management of the basin's biological resources is set up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Capacity-building activity report of national stakeholders in the sustainable management of biological resources; ▶ Report/minutes on the establishment of a network of national stakeholders on the management of biological resources.
Target 1.4. Capitalise on relevant experience and traditional know-how for the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Create a framework for consultation at national level with a view to sharing experience and best practice at regional level on the management of the basin's biological resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A framework for consultation at national level with a view to sharing experience and best practice at regional level on the management of the basin's biological resources is created. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of States that have organised at least one activity to share experience and traditional know-how for the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.
Target 1.5. Strengthen policy awareness at State level on the management of biological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Strengthen dialogue between Member States on issues relating to the management of biological resources in the Lake Chad Basin; ▶ Implement action plans to optimise efforts to monitor the use of resources at national and regional level; ▶ Revitalise the parliamentary network in the Lake Chad Basin to lobby and advocate political decision-makers on an ongoing basis to ensure that biodiversity is taken into account in the allocation of budgetary resources at national level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Member States that have a dialogue framework on issues relating to the management of biological resources in the Lake Chad Basin; ▶ Action plans to optimise efforts to monitor the use of resources at national and regional level are implemented; ▶ The parliamentary network of the Lake Chad Basin is operational. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of policy awareness-raising activities carried out by each State on the management of biological resources. ▶ Number of States that have developed or have plans for monitoring the use of biological resources; ▶ Document to create the parliamentary of the Lake Chad Basin.
Target 1.6. Make more effective measures to control the basin's biological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Implement measures to control the use of Lake Chad's biological resources; ▶ Strengthen the monitoring of water levels in Lake Chad and its tributaries in order to ensure ecological flows in the basin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Measures to control the use of Lake Chad's biological resources are operational; ▶ Water resources in Lake Chad are regularly monitored to ensure ecological flows. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of measures taken by States to control the use of biological resources ▶ Number of States that have trained officials to monitor water resources in the Lake Chad Basin.

PRIORITY AREA 1: ENHANCEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Target 1.7. Harmonise policies and strategies for the management of the basin's biological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Carry out studies to assess the level of convergence of the biological resources management policies and strategies of the basin's member countries; ▶ Develop a common strategy and policy document for the management of the basin's biological resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The level of convergence of the biological resources management policies and strategies of the basin's member countries is assessed; ▶ A common strategy and policy document for the management of the basin's biological resources is developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of States with well-harmonised biological resource management policies and strategies; ▶ Common strategy and policy document for the management of the basin's biological resources
Target 1.8. Promote the sustainable use and management of the basin's ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Develop and implement a programme to rehabilitate buffer zone corridors and portions of illegally appropriated land; ▶ Develop pilot programmes for the conservation and sustainable management of wetlands; ▶ Promote activities to restore ecosystems and degraded land in the basin; ▶ Develop ecotourist pilot projects based on existing successful models in other countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A programme to rehabilitate corridors, buffer zones and portions of illegally appropriated land is developed and implemented ▶ Pilot programmes for the conservation and sustainable management of wetlands are developed; ▶ Activities to restore degraded ecosystems and land in the basin are promoted; ▶ Pilot ecotourist projects based on existing successful models are developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of States that have rehabilitated illegally appropriated corridors and buffer zones; ▶ Number of pilot programmes for the conservation and sustainable management of wetlands developed in the LCB; ▶ Number of projects to restore degraded ecosystems and land in the LCB; ▶ Number of ecotourism pilot projects developed in the LCB.
Target 1.9. Capacity-building of stakeholders on the management of biological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Develop and implement awareness-raising and education programmes on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources and ecosystem services. ▶ Develop capacity-building initiatives on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources and ecosystem services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The LCB countries have and are implementing awareness-raising and education programmes on the sustainable management of biological resources and ecosystem services; ▶ Capacity-building initiatives on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources and ecosystem services are developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of awareness-raising and education programmes on the sustainable management of biological resources carried out; ▶ Number of capacity-building initiatives on sustainable management of biological resources available.

PRIORITY AREA 2: ENHANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND MONITORING OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE LCB

Target 2.1. Enhance biodiversity knowledge in the basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Make a biodiversity current state of play in the basin and a periodic and systematic assessment of the stakeholders involved; ▶ Carry out periodic inventories and ecological monitoring of the basin's biological resources; ▶ Set up a solid database system on the basin's biological resources for better planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The current state of play in the basin and a periodic and systematic assessment of the stakeholders involved is carried out; ▶ Periodic inventories and ecological monitoring of the basin's biological resources is carried out; ▶ A solid database system on the basin's biological resources is set up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Periodic assessment report on the current state of play; ▶ Reports on ecological inventories and monitoring; ▶ Existence of a database on the basin's biological resources.
Target 2.2. Ensure effective monitoring of biodiversity in the basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Periodically assess the level of degradation of the basin's biological resources; ▶ Set up a system for monitoring, collecting and managing biodiversity-related information; ▶ Promote the sharing and dissemination of biodiversity monitoring findings in the basin; ▶ Promote best monitoring practices managed by beneficiary communities ▶ Assess the level of implementation of the RBAP by the Member States; ▶ Open dialogue with stakeholders on the findings of the analysis of biodiversity assessment and the implementation of the RBAP, and formulate recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The level of degradation of the basin's biological resources is known; ▶ A system for monitoring, collecting and managing biodiversity-related information is operational; ▶ The sharing and dissemination of the findings of biodiversity monitoring in the basin is promoted; ▶ The level of implementation of the PARB by Member States is assessed and known; ▶ Best monitoring practices managed by the beneficiary communities are promoted; ▶ Dialogue with stakeholders on the findings of the analysis of biodiversity assessment and the implementation of the RBAP is open and recommendations are formulated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Periodic assessment report on the level of degradation of the basin's biological resources; ▶ Report on missions to monitor and collect biodiversity-related information; ▶ Number of meetings to share and disseminate the findings of biodiversity monitoring in the basin; ▶ Report on the implementation of the RBAP in each State; ▶ Number of community groups involved in LCB biodiversity monitoring; ▶ Report on meetings between stakeholders.

PRIORITY AREA 3: SUSTAINABLE USE AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THE EXPLOITATION OF BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC RESOURCES

<p>Target 3.1. Strengthen the development of value chains of the basin's biological and genetic resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ensure capacity-building of community groups on the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit- sharing arising from the exploitation of genetic resources (ABS); ▶ Assess and enhance traditional knowledge associated with biological and genetic resources; ▶ Develop value chains based on the LCB's biological resources; ▶ Operationalise the process for obtaining NTFP exploitation permits in the LCB States. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Capacity-building of community groups are effectively strengthened on the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit- sharing arising from the exploitation of genetic resources (ABS); ▶ Traditional knowledge associated with biological and genetic resources is assessed and enhanced; ▶ Value chains based on the LCB's biological resources are developed; ▶ The process for obtaining NTFP exploitation permits in the LCB States is operational. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of States: that have ratified the Nagoya Protocol on ABS; that have an ABS strategy; and with a regulatory framework on access and benefit-sharing arising from the exploitation of genetic resources; ▶ Report on the enhancement initiatives of traditional knowledge associated with biological and genetic resources in the LCB; ▶ Number of value chains based on biological resources in the LCB developed; ▶ Number of NTFP exploitation permits granted.
<p>Target 3.2. Strengthen the socio-economic activities of local communities, taking into account the gender aspect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Set up income-generating initiatives targeting women, young people and vulnerable groups; ▶ Support small-scale producers in the areas of food production and small livestock; ▶ Create sustainable agro-pastoral innovations for indigenous and local populations; ▶ Create indigenous mechanisms for income-generating activities (IGA) in line with the protection of biological resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Income-generating initiatives targeting women, young people and vulnerable groups are put in place; ▶ Small-scale producers in the areas of food production and small livestock are provided support; ▶ Sustainable agro-pastoral innovations for indigenous and local populations are created; ▶ Indigenous mechanisms for income-generating activities (IGA) in line with the protection of biological resources are created. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of income-generating initiatives targeting women, young people and vulnerable groups created; ▶ Number of small-scale producers trained in sustainable food production; ▶ Number of sustainable agro-pastoral innovations created; ▶ Number of mechanisms for sustainable income-generating activities created.
<p>Target 3.3. Support and assist indigenous peoples and local communities in the creation of alternative activities to reduce pressure on the basin's biological resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Promote renewable energy activities; ▶ Promote activities in the field of aquaculture, compost and fodder crops; ▶ Encourage councils to promote waste recycling activities to help clean up the basin's ecosystems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Renewable energy activities are promoted; ▶ Activities in the field of aquaculture, compost and fodder crops are promoted; ▶ Communities are encouraged to promote waste recycling initiatives to help clean up the basin's ecosystems; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of renewable energy activities promoted; ▶ Number of activities in the field of aquaculture, compost and fodder crops promoted; ▶ Level of pollution of the basin's ecosystems and number of waste recycling activities created.
<p>Target 3.4. Support and ensure capacity-building of farmers and associated sectors in the use of healthy production techniques in line with the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Support and encourage agro-pastoral producers to use organic inputs in their production chain; ▶ Build the capacity of stakeholders in line with the Cartagena Protocol and its implementing procedures; ▶ Assist and support Member States to develop legal instruments relating to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; ▶ Set up an aggregated biotechnology laboratory that takes account of biosecurity at basin level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Agro-pastoral producers are provided support and encouraged to use organic inputs in their production chain; ▶ Capacity-building of stakeholders are strengthened in line with the Cartagena Protocol and its implementing procedures; ▶ Member States are assisted and provided support to develop legal instruments relating to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; ▶ An aggregated biotechnology laboratory is set up, taking account biosecurity at basin level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of training courses organised for agro-pastoral producers on the use of organic inputs; ▶ Number of training courses organised for agro-pastoral producers on biosafety; ▶ Number of States that have developed or dispose of legal instruments relating to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; ▶ Agreement to establish an aggregated biotechnology laboratory in the Basin.

PRIORITY AREA 3: SUSTAINABLE USE AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THE EXPLOITATION OF BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC RESOURCES

<p>Target 3.5. Promote local governance of the basin's biological resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Build the capacity of local populations in the area of biological resources governance; ▶ Increase local stakeholders' knowledge of the land degradation process with a view to rational use of the basin's biological resources; ▶ Involve community leaders in decision-making on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources; ▶ Take into account sustainable resource management issues in the process of developing or updating regional/ provincial/communal development plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Capacity-building of local populations are strengthened in the area of biological resources governance; ▶ Local stakeholders' knowledge on the land degradation process with a view to rational use of the basin's biological resources are strengthened; ▶ Community leaders are involved in decision-making on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources; ▶ Sustainable resource management issues are taken into account in the process of developing or updating regional/ provincial/communal development plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of groups trained in the area of biological resources governance; ▶ Number of countries with a strategy to combat desertification and number of initiatives to combat land degradation created; ▶ Number of community leaders per State involved in decision-making bodies on sustainable management of biological resources; ▶ Number of countries with regional/ provincial/ communal development plans integrating the management of biological resources.
<p>Target 3.6. Increase public participation in the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Support community-based micro-projects on the management and sustainable use of biological resources in the basin; ▶ Establish a "Friends of the Lake Chad Basin" programme with the aim of organising an annual competition on best practice in the area of sustainable management of the basin's biological resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Community-based micro-projects on the management and sustainable use of biological resources in the basin are provided support; ▶ A "Friends of the Lake Chad Basin" programme is established with the aim of organising an annual competition on best practice in the area of sustainable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of community-based micro-projects on the management and sustainable use of biological resources in the basin implemented; ▶ Report of the preparatory meeting to establish the "Friends of the Lake Chad Basin" programme.
<p>Target 3.7. Promote the use of renewable energies within communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Building the capacity of local communities to use renewable energies; ▶ Support local communities to access renewable energy equipment in the basin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Capacity-building of local communities are strengthened to use renewable energies; ▶ Local communities are provided support to access renewable energy equipment in the basin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Number of initiatives to enhance local resources created for renewable energy production and number of community groups trained in the use of renewable energy; ▶ Percentage of the rural population with access to and which effectively use renewable energy equipment in the basin.



03. ACTORS AND IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

3.1. Implementation principles and actors

The implementation of this RBAP will comply with sustainable development principles, prevention principle, the user-pays principle, and the principle governing the use-by-States, as illustrated by the diagram below:

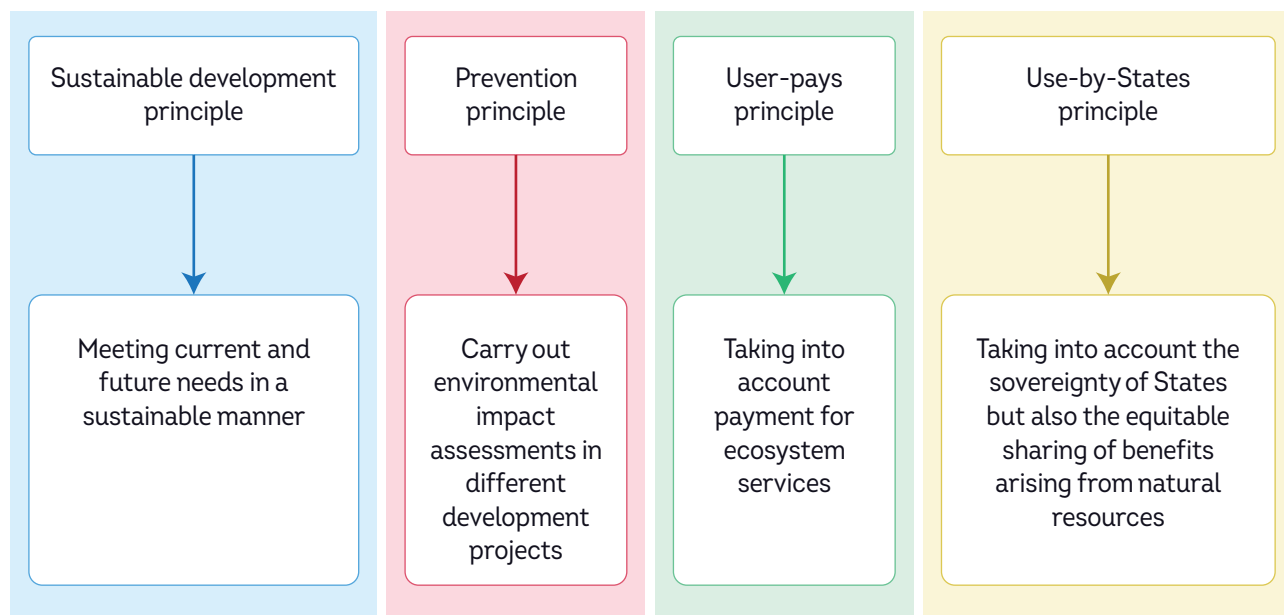


Figure 4: RBAP implementation principle.

Achieving the objectives and practical implementation of the RBAP requires a conducive legal and institutional environment and relevant expertise for effective communication. These concerns are taken into account in the areas of intervention aimed at creating a responsible governance framework. An important dimension of this framework deals with the operationalisation and implementation of international conventions on biodiversity. Capacity-building at all levels and the implementation of an effective monitoring and evaluation system are key components of the governance framework.

The RBAP will be implemented by the following actors:

- ▶ Governments and their various entities;
- ▶ Local elected representatives;

- ▶ Technical and financial partners;
- ▶ The private sector;
- ▶ Local Authorities;
- ▶ Rural and indigenous communities;
- ▶ Civil society organisations;
- ▶ Customary and communal authorities;
- ▶ Youth and women's associations;
- ▶ Religious groups;
- ▶ Research and training institutions;
- ▶ Media.

3.2. Institutional, policy and legal implementation framework

The institutional framework for implementing the RBAP is made up of ministries within which a national LCBC focal point is appointed, as well as the sector ministries responsible for biological resource management issues in member countries. On the political level, the implementation of this plan relies on the policy framework of the Summit of Heads of State and Government, the Council of Ministers, and the Executive Secretariat of the LCBC. Finally, the legal and regulatory mechanism brings together national and the LCBC instruments, as well as those of the MEAs.

3.3. Capacity-building plan

This plan focuses on the skills of stakeholders in the area of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, while promoting regional, national and local expertise. Regarding coordination and harmonisation of activities to implement the RBAP, it is recommended that existing structures be strengthened, such as government structures, civil society organisations and the private sector.

3.4. Communication and awareness-raising strategy

In order to ensure the sustainability of the RBAP, it is important to identify and meet the technical capacity-building requirements through awareness-raising and communication campaigns at all levels, on all aspects and for all target groups concerned, in accordance with the capacity needs assessment. A smooth communication and awareness-raising will ensure strong mobilisation of key stakeholders.

3.5. Monitoring & evaluation of implementation

The monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the RBAP involve the definition and use of indicators specific to the RBAP, which requires the mobilisation of significant resources according to needs and the human and financial means to collect data with the sole aim of providing information to the selected indicators. It was therefore decided to use, as far as possible, indicators for which systems already exist to report on progress made (see table 1 above).

3.6. Strategy and reporting tools

Reporting will involve collecting data from different sources, organising it and presenting it in such a way that it is easy to read and interpret. Two reporting options will be used:

An online reporting system that allows Member States to provide information as part of the implementation of the RBAP; or

A standard reporting system, which allows Member States to provide information based on a reporting template provided by the LCBC.

3.7. Resource mobilisation plan for the RBAP implementation

The implementation of the RBAP requires sufficient resources. These resources could come from another project

formulated to GEF which would aim to implement the priority area of intervention of the RBAP. As a prelude to such an event, a detailed investment plan will need to be developed, defining specific activities and costs to achieve the objectives identified in the RBAP. Potential partners may include: GEF, UNDP, World Bank, African Development Bank, GIZ, European Union, etc. International financial institutions may also be approached for loans. Finally, other initiatives such as the development of the South-South strategic partnership to mobilise resources may be developed, without forgetting the importance and need to strengthen the contributions from Member States.

3.8. Institutional monitoring at Member States level

At sub-regional level, institutional monitoring of the implementation of the RBAP will be carried out by the LCBC, through the LCBC focal point ministries and those responsible for biological resource management in the Member States. Monitoring missions will be required to report periodically to the LCBC on the results of their various controls. The LCBC may hire an external monitoring firm to work with the Member States to verify the quality and monitor the implementation of the RBAP.



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ANNEX

Table 2: Cost of implementing the RBAP by activity

PRIORITY AREA 1: ENHANCEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES							
Targets	Activities	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	Budget (USD)
Target 1.1. Promote a (sustainable) management policy for the basin's biological resources.	Establish a policy framework for biodiversity restoration in the basin						5,902,000
	Take into account biodiversity issues in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and national development						9,554,000
	Revise the legal and institutional framework and policy reforms for the management of biological resources in the Member States in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework						7,928,000
Target 1.2. Encourage Member States to develop and strengthen their policies for the enhancement and sustainable use of the basin's biological resources.	Support Member States to set up effective and efficient monitoring and surveillance systems or programmes for the sustainable use of Lake Chad's natural resources.						12,525,000
	Support, at the level of each Member State, the establishment of a platform for civil society exchange on issues relating to the development and sustainable use of the basin's biological resources						7,930,000
Target 1.3. Involve all stakeholders in decision-making on improving the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.	Set up an awareness-raising and capacity-building programme for elected representatives, administrative authorities, indigenous peoples and local communities, young people and women on improving the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.						11,451,000
	Set up a network of councils to increase the involvement of local elected representatives in implementing policies geared towards improving the management of the basin's biological resources.						6,466,000
Target 1.4. Capitalise on relevant experience and traditional know-how for the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.	Create a framework for consultation at national level with a view to sharing experience and best practice at regional level on the management of the basin's biological resources.						9,403,000
Target 1.5. Strengthen policy awareness at State level on the management of biological resources	Strengthen dialogue between Member States on issues relating to the management of biological resources in the Lake Chad Basin						5,655,000
	implement action plans to optimise efforts to monitor the use of resources at national and regional level						4,910,000
	Revitalise the parliamentary network in the Lake Chad Basin to lobby and advocate political decision-makers on an ongoing basis to ensure that biodiversity is taken into account in the allocation of budgetary resources at national level.						5,226,000
Target 1.6. Make more effective measures to control the basin's biological resources	Implement measures to control the use of Lake Chad's biological resources						5,480,000
	Strengthen the monitoring of water levels in Lake Chad and its tributaries in order to ensure ecological flows in the basin						5,469,000
Target 1.7. Harmonise policies and strategies for the management of the basin's biological resources	Carry out studies to assess the level of convergence of the biological resources management policies and strategies of the basin's member countries.						5,525,000
	Develop a common strategy and policy document for the management of the basin's biological resources						5,823,000

PRIORITY AREA 1: ENHANCEMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES							
Target 1.8. Promote the sustainable use and management of the basin's ecosystems	Develop and implement a programme to rehabilitate buffer zone corridors and portions of illegally appropriated land						5,065,000
	Develop pilot programmes for the conservation and sustainable management of wetlands						5,067,000
	Promote activities to restore ecosystems and degraded land in the basin						5,877,000
	Develop ecotourist pilot projects based on existing successful models in other countries						6,000,000
Target 1.9. Capacity-building of stakeholders on the management of biological resources	Develop and implement awareness-raising and education programmes on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources and ecosystem services.						6,425,000
	Develop capacity-building initiatives on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources and ecosystem services						4,942,000
TOTAL PRIORITY AREA 1							142,623,000
PRIORITY AREA 2: ENHANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND MONITORING OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE LCB							
Target 2.1. Enhance biodiversity knowledge in the basin	Make a biodiversity current state of play in the basin and a periodic and systematic assessment of the stakeholders involved.						1,859,000
	Carry out periodic inventories and ecological monitoring of the basin's biological resources;						2,675,000
	Set up a solid database system on the basin's biological resources for better planning.						4,450,000
Target 2.2. Ensure effective monitoring of biodiversity in the basin	Periodically assess the level of degradation of the basin's biological resources;						1,602,000
	Set up a system for monitoring, collecting and managing biodiversity-related information;						3,635,000
	Promote the sharing and dissemination of biodiversity monitoring findings in the basin;						2,660,000
	Promote best monitoring practices managed by beneficiary communities						2,225,000
	Assess the level of implementation of the RBAP by the Member States;						3,580,000
	Open dialogue with stakeholders on the findings of the analysis of biodiversity assessment and the implementation of the RBAP, and formulate recommendations						2,655,000
TOTAL PRIORITY AREA 1							25,341,000
AREA 3. SUSTAINABLE USE AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THE EXPLOITATION OF BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC RESOURCES							
Target 3.1. Strengthen the development of value chains of the basin's biological and genetic resources	Ensure capacity-building of community groups on the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing arising from the exploitation of genetic resources (ABS)						15,573,000
	Assess and enhance traditional knowledge associated with biological and genetic resources						12,083,829
	Develop value chains based on the LCB's biological resources						12,703,000
	Assist and support Member States to develop legal instruments relating to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol						5,678,000
	Operationalise the process for obtaining NTFP exploitation permits in the LCB States						6,490,000

AREA 3. SUSTAINABLE USE AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THE EXPLOITATION OF BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC RESOURCES						
Target 3.2. Strengthen the socio-economic activities of local communities, taking into account the gender aspect	Set up income-generating initiatives targeting women, young people and vulnerable groups;					10,638,800
	Support small-scale producers in the areas of food production and small livestock.					12,796,343
	Create sustainable agro-pastoral innovations for indigenous and local populations					12,825,219
	Create indigenous mechanisms for income-generating activities (IGA) in line with the protection of biological resources					7,107,676
Target 3.3. Support and assist indigenous peoples and local communities in the creation of alternative activities to reduce pressure on the basin's biological resources	Promote renewable energy activities					12,390,133
	Promote activities in the field of aquaculture, compost and fodder crops					27,798,000
	Encourage councils to promote waste recycling activities to help clean up the basin's ecosystems					10,782,000
Target 3.4. Support and ensure capacity-building of farmers and associated sectors in the use of healthy production techniques in line with the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.	Support and encourage agro-pastoral producers to use organic inputs in their production chain					9,261,000
	Build the capacity of stakeholders in relation to the Cartagena Protocol and its implementing procedures					15,573,000
	Assist and support Member States to develop legal instruments relating to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety					7,758,000
	Set up an aggregated biotechnology laboratory that takes account of biosecurity at basin level					4,652,000
Target 3.5. Promote local governance of the basin's biological resources	Build the capacity of local populations in the area of biological resources governance					2,458,000
	Increase local stakeholders' knowledge of the land degradation process with a view to rational use of the basin's biological resources					3,540,000
	Involve community leaders in decision-making on the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources					1,758,000
	Take into account sustainable resource management issues in the process of developing or updating regional/ provincial/communal development plans.					5,058,000
Target 3.6. Increase public participation in the sustainable management of the basin's biological resources	Support community-based micro-projects on the management and sustainable use of biological resources in the basin					6,758,000
	Establish a "Friends of the Lake Chad Basin" programme with the aim of organising an annual competition on best practice in the area of sustainable management of the basin's biological resources.					5,900,000
Target 3.7. Promote the use of renewable energies within communities	Building the capacity of local communities to use renewable energies					8,233,000
	Support local communities to access renewable energy equipment in the basin					6,858,000
TOTAL PRIORITY AREA 3						224, 673,000
GRAND TOTAL (Total Priority Area 1 + Total Priority Area 2 + Priority Total Area 3)						392, 637,000