

Abstract of activities related to assessing costs and benefits of adaptation options in Niger

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There are a number of projects and programmes in progress to implement adaptation measures in Niger. These include the UNDP-GEF Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF) programme, the World Bank Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (WB/PPCR), the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery – Climate Risk Management (BCPR-CRM), the UNDP/GEF-SGP on Community Based Adaptation (CBA), several agricultural sector projects under the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment,” the Implementing NAPA priority interventions to build resilience and adaptive capacity of the agriculture sector to climate change in Niger”. Many of the preferred adaptation options outlined in Niger’s NAPA (2006), in the agricultural and water sector in particular are being addressed by the UNDP-GEF-LDCF programme.

At present, the adaptation initiatives in place are fragmented and restricted to pilot projects focused on specific sectors (principally agriculture and water). Without aligning human development with climate change management efforts, progress will be sub-optimal, with potential existing for duplication of activities or even implementation of maladaptive activities based on insufficient data.

So in Niger, there are no activities that are undertaken on assessing costs and benefits of adaptation options. But we have launched a project “Supporting Integrated and Comprehensive Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation in Africa”.

Through this project, in-depth cross-sectoral social, economic and environmental assessments and cost-benefit analyses will be conducted (using tools such as systems modelling and scenario planning) by the line ministries in collaboration with experts, comparing the costs of climate change (the business-as-usual scenario) with the benefits of effective adaptation.

These analyses will be updated periodically with new information and results from other analyses and the development and use of planning tools (see below). Assessments of a variety of adaptation measures will also be conducted. The results of the risk assessments and cost-benefit analyses will be used to develop long-term planning tools. These long-term planning tools will be used by key stakeholders to incorporate climate risks and adaptation measures into integrated development planning, to address the impacts of climate change.

The project will:

- Identify appropriate financial instruments and mechanisms through consultations with stakeholders and by literature review;
- Establish demonstration projects to field-test and refine identified financial instruments and mechanisms;
- Undertake in-depth cost/benefit analyses of all instruments and mechanisms tested;
- Compile lessons-learned and provide policy- and decision- makers with information to climate proof investment decisions