

Système national MNV et de suivi de la CDN

Eng: Developing National MRV and NDC Monitoring Systems

ICAT Final Country Report, NIGER

Project Title: Système national MNV et de suivi de la CDN (Eng: Developing National MRV and NDC Monitoring Systems)

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BACKGROUND

Niger, like other countries of the international community, signed and ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), on June 11, 1992 and July 25, 1995, respectively. It also ratified the Kyoto Protocol on March 17, 2007 and the Paris Agreement (PA) on September 21, 2016. In accordance with the relevant provisions of Articles 4 and 12 of the UNFCCC, and the directives of decision 17CP/8, Niger has committed to communicate its greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory to the Conference of the Parties (COP).

To meet these commitments, Niger, through the National Council on the Environment for Sustainable Development (CNEDD), presented its Initial National Communication (INC) at the Sixth Conference of the Parties (COP6) on climate change in November 2000 in La Haye (Netherlands). The Second National Communication (SNC) was presented at the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties (COP15) on climate change in December 2009 in Copenhagen (Denmark) and the third communication presented in 2016 (Marrakech) at the twenty-second Conference of the Parties (COP22). It should also be noted that in 2015, Niger developed and submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) as part of the negotiations prelude to the Paris Agreement.

In response to the Paris Agreement, the international community has decided to support countries that wish to revise their NDC in order to increase their ambition for adaptation and mitigation. In this context, Niger is part of a process of preparing its revised NDC through the NDC Partnership Initiative, launched in 2019 called Climate Actions Enhancement Package (CAEP).

The objectives of this new NDC include:

- Contribute to the reduction of overall GHG emissions (2°C or even 1.5°C objective by 2050) while continuing its low-carbon socio-economic development that is resilient to the harmful effects of climate change
- Fight against poverty
- Ensure the food and nutritional security of the population
- Promote the sustainable management of natural resources and the massive use of renewable energy
- Strengthen the resilience of ecosystems and communities

NDC PRIORITIES AND TARGETS

The NDC also aims for sectoral “unconditional and conditional” reductions relative to the business-as-usual (BAU) scenario:

- The agriculture, forestry, and other land uses (AFOLU) sector:
 - Unconditional Reductions: 4.5% (BAU 2025) and 12.57% (BAU 2030)
 - Conditional Reductions: 14.6% (BAU 2025) and 22.75% (BAU 2030)
- The Energy sector:
 - Unconditional Reductions: 11.2% (BAU-2025) and 10.6% (BAU-2030)
 - Conditional Reductions: 48% (BAU-2025) and 45% (BAU-2030)

For an amount of 9.9 billion USD (including 3.1 billion USD for mitigation), the operationalization of the new NDC requires significant financial, technological, and logistical resources as well as capacity building in order to enable the achievement of economic and social development objectives, the NDC and the Paris Agreement.

ICAT PROJECT GOALS

The technical support provided to the country is expected to contribute to the following results:

- Niger has the capacity to monitor the implementation and impact of mitigation actions identified in its revised NDC for the Energy and AFOLU sectors
- Niger is putting in place tools and monitoring mechanisms for the implementation of the NDC
- Niger is starting work to organize its climate financing monitoring system (national and international)
- Knowledge and lessons learned are shared

Acknowledging that adaptation is also a priority for Niger, this project covers only the mitigation part of the NDC.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES, OUTPUTS, AND OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT

The table below lists all the deliverables completed under the project work plan.

Work Plan Deliverables	Deliverable description	Challenges, opportunities, and/or recommended next steps for future related activities and outputs
<i>Deliverable A:</i> Workshop Report	Report of the inception meeting	No challenges
<i>Deliverable B:</i> Assessment of data collected for the development of the inventory and the revised NDC	This deliverable covers the state of the art of the data collected in the framework of the previous GHG inventory and 2021-NDC as well as the list of data to be collected for the project.	The data collection is not an easy task in Niger as it is a large country and data have to be collected on-site for some cases.
<i>Deliverable C:</i> Dataset for use in GACMO (Data collection templates and data collected)	Report on data collected by national consultants	The project supported national experts to collect new data on energy consumption. This was a critical element in improving the GHG inventory time series.
<i>Deliverable D:</i> Training Report	Training session (February 21-24, 2023) for stakeholders on the GHG inventory and the NDC tracking, including Policies & Measures (P&M) assessment and GACMO. Training materials and report were prepared.	The workshop deepened participants' understanding of various aspects related to climate transparency. The recommendations highlight the need for continued collaboration, increased awareness and financial mobilization to advance efforts in terms of climate change in Niger. Also, experts working on the preparation of the BTR and stakeholders have adopted appropriate tools to facilitate the transition from BUR to BTR.
<i>Deliverable E:</i> Training materials, stakeholder training		
<i>Deliverable F:</i> GACMO results for NDC actions	This deliverable presents the results using GACMO as a NDC tracking tool. These results were used in the common tabular format (CTF) 5 [<i>Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, related to implementing and achieving a nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement</i>] to prepare Niger for reporting its BTR.	It was not possible to track all P&M as all activity data are not available and not always easy to track (i.e. LEDs). A link between tools was also discussed as Niger used GACMO and EXACT to develop its NDC.
<i>Deliverable G:</i> Report on NDC monitoring indicators and monitoring tools	Report outlining indicators to track the NDC implementation.	The identification of indicators based on international recommendations highlights the importance of aligning national efforts with global standards. In addition, the introduction of a system for monitoring and evaluation, strengthens Niger's capacity to evaluate progress toward NDC targets and adjust its actions based on the results obtained.
<i>Deliverable H:</i> Application of ICAT methodologies – policy impact assessment for agriculture, forestry, and renewable energy	Report presenting all detailed steps to implement ICAT policy assessment methodology for agriculture and forestry, and the Policy and Action standard for renewable energy.	These methods are complex to implement so this requires a lot of capacity building to support national consultants on a step-by-step basis. Niger has now implemented 3 methods and

		should be able to reproduce it for other policies and measures.
<i>Deliverable I:</i> Report on the state of international financial support in Niger	Report listing all projects and programmes supported by international donors as well as needed support	This list will be very useful when reporting on support needed and support received in the BTR
<i>Deliverable J:</i> Report on the development of the national system for monitoring international financial support	Report on the implementation of the ICAT climate finance tracking methodology	Further support and dissemination to national stakeholders is necessary. The current method needs to be further elaborated to support the implementation of next steps.
<i>Deliverable K:</i> Final Workshop Report	Final workshop report	No challenges
<i>Deliverable L:</i> Report on key results and lessons learned	Report outlining results and lessons learned	No challenges

The table below lists expected outcomes, indicating their status.

Work Plan Expected Outcomes	Final Status	Challenges, future opportunities, and signs of project sustainability
Niger has the capacity to monitor the implementation and impact of mitigation actions identified in its revised NDC for the energy and AFOLU sectors	Met	Several activities have been carried out to support NDC tracking including the use of GACMO to track the NDC implementation and fill in CTF 5 as well as the P&M assessment by implementing ICAT impact assessment methodology and the Policy and Action Standard methodology to assess 3 P&M for energy, agriculture, and forestry. National stakeholders have been trained and regular remote meetings have been organized to apply the methodologies step by step. SMART indicators have been defined to track the NDC implementation. ICAT climate finance tracking methodology, Step 1, has been applied to prepare the implementation of the next steps in future work. Further training of national stakeholders will be necessary to spread the knowledge on the transparency support pillar which is critical for LDCs.
Niger is putting in place tools and monitoring mechanisms for the implementation of the NDC	Met	
Niger is beginning work to organize its climate financing monitoring system (national and international)	Met	
Knowledge and lessons learned are shared	Met	

THE USE AND APPLICABILITY OF ICAT TOOLBOX AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT'S CAPACITY BUILDING PLANS

Several ICAT tools and methodologies have been applied in the scope of this project.

- GACMO has been used to track the implementation and impact of several P&M from the NDC. The GACMO tool was used to develop the 2021-NDC for the energy sector, so it is the best tool to track the energy P&M over time and allow to fill in CTF 5.
- For the P&M impact assessment, two ICAT methodologies have been applied. The revised ICAT Agriculture Methodology was applied to assess the National Strategy of Rice cultivation development. The ICAT Forestry Methodology was applied to assess the impact of the Forest natural regeneration. The Policy and Action Standard methodology was applied to assess the National Plan for the Development of Renewable Energy. All data collected, assumptions, and results are reported into detailed in Deliverable H.
- Finally, Step 1 of the climate finance tracking ICAT methodology was applied to list the projects financed, map the stakeholders and draft the future institutional arrangements.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POTENTIAL PHASE II PROJECT ACTIVITIES

For Phase II, several activities are of interest for Niger. These include application of the remaining steps in the ICAT climate finance tracking methodology, preparation for Article 6 MRV principles (this include the training of stakeholders on C market mechanism; state of the art of C market opportunities in Niger, national roadmap to access carbon market), development of the national MRV system for remaining sectors not covered under Phase I (Waste, Industrial Processes and Product Use). To reflect county's priorities, the scope of Phase II work plan will likely focus on the implementation of the climate finance tracking methodology and the preparation for Article 6 readiness.

LESSONS LEARNED

Ability to provide capacity building interventions and technical support to countries in their primary language is key. Lack of tools available in French required the team to spend more time on translation of training materials and a bit less on providing technical support. A wider selection of ICAT tools in French and other languages would help project teams tailor and deliver effective capacity building support.

International travel to Niger during the project was challenging. Therefore, the capacity building workshops were organized using a hybrid approach: one expert from Citepa in the country during

the workshop while others provided support virtually. This helped facilitate engagement with stakeholders even though not all the experts were present in person.

When utilizing the GACMO tool for NDC tracking, several exchanges took place with UNEP-Copenhagen Climate Center on specific use of the tool for specific P&M. As UNEP-CCC developed and maintains the GACMO tool, their staff are leading experts in its application. These exchanges were very efficient and useful in project implementation. Access to support from UNEP-CCC on GACMO leads to positive synergistic outcomes for ICAT projects.

the implementation of ICAT policy assessment methodologies is complex for beginners and extensive support is necessary to carry out this activity. Based on our experience, assessing 3 strategies or national plans, in addition to other work plan activities, overextended the team of national experts. It also required a lot of effort for the technical support team to facilitate the step-by-step assessment process. Also, as mentioned above, the language barrier created an additional difficulty in the process.

In regard to applying the climate finance tracking methodology, recruiting a national expert in climate finance is essential, but challenging to identify a strong national candidate. International candidates, even from the region, could be a good option. A more detailed methodology or examples from other countries would be very useful to support further application of the climate finance tracking methodology due to its complexity.

This project supported Niger in enhancing the system to track the country's NDC with a focus on the GHG inventory and mitigation P&M tracking. This is a critical element in preparing for the BTR reporting by the end of 2024. Also, assessing national strategies in terms of impacts on GHG emissions will help Niger to update its NDC in 2025. Finally, climate finance tracking is a priority for many countries. Phase I initiated the implementation of the ICAT methodology for climate finance tracking, establishing a foundation for future climate finance tracking work in future project phases.

PHOTOS AND GRAPHICS

Capacity Building Workshop on Inventories and Policies and Measures; Niamey, Niger, February 21-24, 2023.





The following figure shows an example output from the policy impact assessment work stream of the project. The figure shows the causal chain developed to assess impact of the assisted natural regeneration (RNA) national strategy according to the ICAT Forestry methodology (Deliverable H).

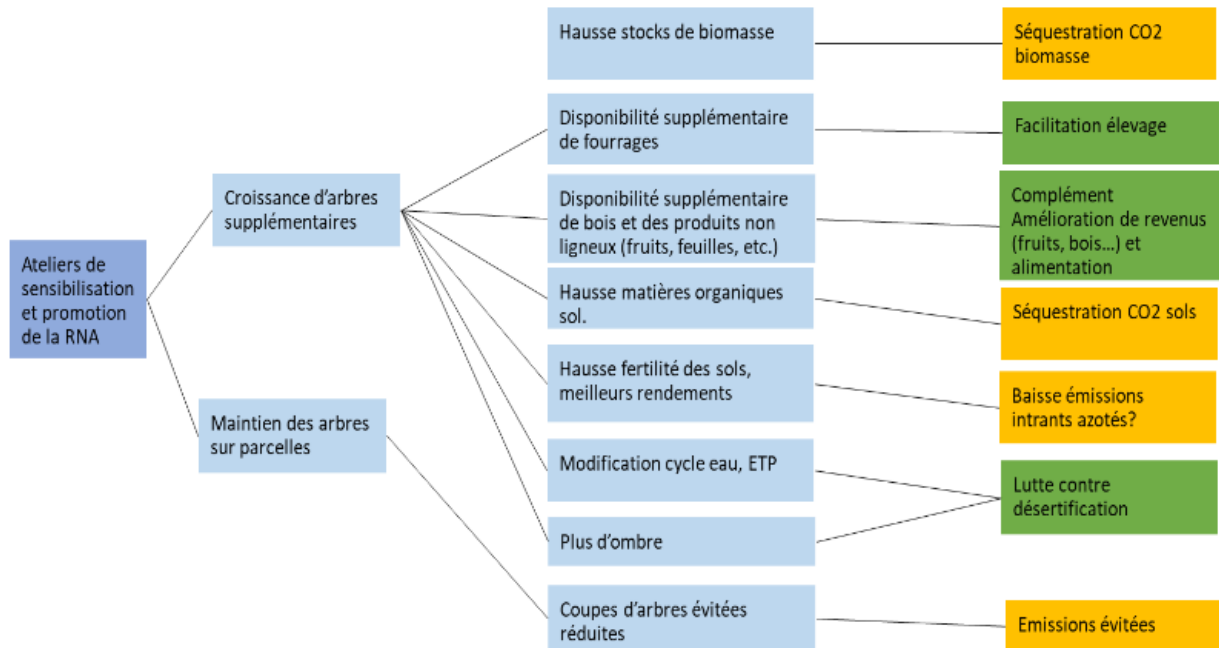


Figure 1 : Chaîne des impacts de la RNA