



BRIEFING NOTE

Rural Development, Water Supply and Sanitation

Assessment

Like in other developing countries, poverty in Chad is predominantly a rural phenomenon (World Bank, 2013). However, the rural sector has potential that if tapped will inevitably contribute to improving the living conditions of Chadians and ensure food security in the country.

In fact, the agriculture sector (including food and cash crops, livestock breeding, fishing and forestry), mostly developed in the rural area, play a dominant role in the country's economic structure. This sector accounted for about 28 percent of GDP over the 2005-2015 period and 80 percent of jobs. It is also a significant source of non-oil export revenue mainly from cotton, animal production and Arabic gum (45 percent, 25 percent and 7 percent of non-oil exports respectively).

As for resources, the country has 39 million hectares of farmland, 5.6 million of which is irrigable and 19 million of which is arable land, considerable groundwater and surface resources, livestock estimated at more than 100 million heads, abundant and varied wildlife and significant fishery resources including fishing with annual production of 80.000 tonnes. The production of wood and wood products is not well known though *Accacia senegal* or the gum tree, covering about 380.000 km² makes Chad one of the leading producers of Arabic gum. The Chadian livestock feeds on natural food with 84 million ha of natural pasture and 23.3 million ha of natural forest that is home to abundant and varied wildlife. This is an important biodiversity heritage. The country also has 22.4 million ha of protected areas and 7 million ha of fish resource producing area in a year with normal rainfall, with a great variety of fish species. In spite of

progressive desertification, the country is blessed with close to 20 billion cubic metres annually of renewable underground water and exploitable aquifers estimated at between 260 and 550 billion cubic metres (World Bank, 2014).

Considering the concentration of these resources in the rural area, it goes without saying that national development challenges are tied to those of rural development. In spite of its considerable potential, the agriculture sector is facing multiple challenges that are having a

Woman pumping water (Moyen-Chari)



Key figures

- The agriculture sector in the broad sense (agriculture, livestock breeding, hunting, fishing and forestry) accounts for about 28 percent of GDP.
- Exports of cotton and animal production (mainly cattle) represent 45 percent and 25 percent of non-oil exports respectively.
- The livestock, forestry and fishery sub-sector accounted on average for 15.5 percent of GDP between 2005 and 2015.
- 78 percent of the Chadian population live in the rural area where agriculture constitutes the main source of revenue.
- Rates of access to drinking water and sanitation have increased from 21 percent and 7 percent in 2000 to 52.5 percent and 18 percent in 2015 respectively.

negative impact on agricultural production. These constraints include under-exploitation of the country's water resources and as a result, agricultural production depends only on rainfall and the vagaries of the weather; there is poor management and capitalisation of land and cultural and pastoral species ; teaching and counselling staff requirements throughout the country are not met. Other structural constraints include poor agricultural mechanization, landlocked production areas because the poor state of the roads does not promote the development of the buoyant agriculture, forestry, pastoral and fish sectors. This isolation limits the integration of the rural economy into the domestic market system, which is essential for increasing the revenue of producers. Lastly, the external isolation of the country (the closest port is more than 1000 km away) has a significant impact on the competitiveness of agricultural exports.

Persistent drought has led to great north-south migration. Changes in production methods are showing that successive climate shocks have increased the vulnerability of the country's production systems.

The rural sector is facing the major challenge of degradation of ecosystems, subjected to growing human pressure and the effects of climate change. The gradual disappearance of the vegetation, soil degradation, the gradual advance of the desert (3 km per year), siltation, sanding or even the drying up of rivers and lakes, the disruption of seasons and the disappearance of some animal and plant species, are concrete expressions of this degradation of the environment and ecosystems. More specifically, the livestock sub-sector suffers from many constraints including the degradation of pastoral resources and the increase in the transhumance period which very often causes conflicts between farmers and livestock breeders.

Moreso, there is persistent drought, anthropogenic pressures and inappropriate cultural practices.

Furthermore, the rural sector is poorly funded with 3.6 percent of credits allocated to the economy in 2016 (BEAC, 2017).

Considering the economic potential of the rural sector, funding it will create opportunities for developing the country. It is also worth noting that unequal access to productive assets between women and men is a major handicap for rural development. Lastly, poor coordination of state interventions and partners in the rural sector, as reported in agriculture development documents, hinders the efficiency of actions taken. Reform efforts should focus on securing title deeds, the economic inclusion of women and income-smoothing for producers by strengthening their resilience to climate change.

Agricultural hitching near Kyabé in Moyon-Chari



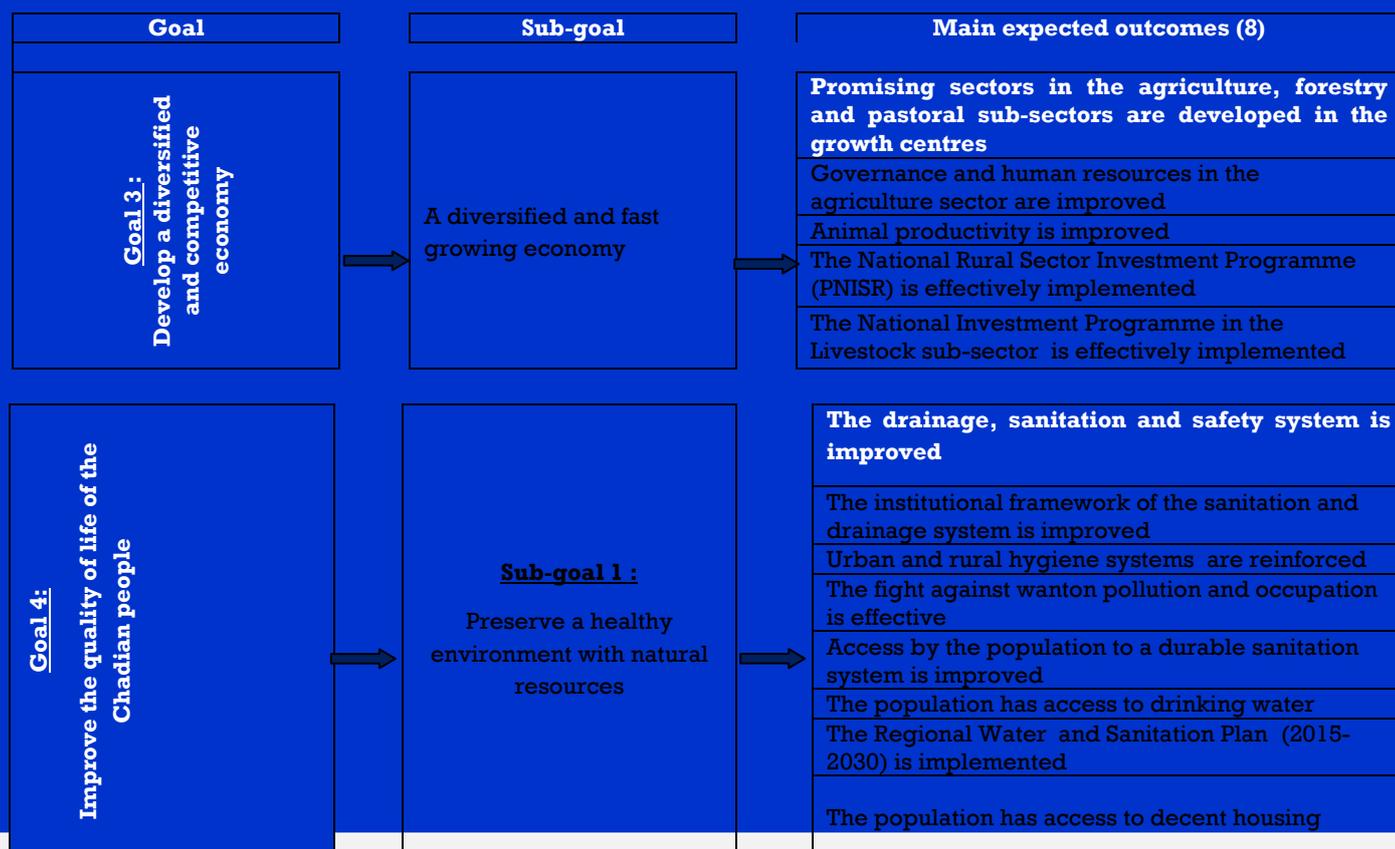
Considering the importance of the agriculture sector for the country's development, the government has increased investments in the sector and implemented several programmes to promote rural development (PNSA, PASAOP, PROADEL, etc.). Over the 2005-2012 period, PNSA, ONASA and CotonTchad received grants amounting to CFAF 157.5 billion under projects to help increase agricultural production (World Bank, 2014). Thanks to these public investments to promote rural development, significant results have been achieved. Hence, in 2013, 290 additional water points were installed for livestock breeders (NDP implementation Report). In addition, 4000 tonnes of fertilizer were made available to farmers. Though the figures were higher than for 2012, they fell short of the interim 2013 targets. The gap was filled in part in 2014 with the supply of 1732 tractors for farmers. Besides, the rate for vaccinating cattle against contagious diseases increased from 15 percent to 18 percent between 2012 and 2013.

Substantial efforts have been made by the Government with the support of development partners to improve access to drinking water and safe systems. This increased the drinking water access rate from 17 percent in 1990 to 67 percent in 2015 and improved the sanitation coverage rate from 12 percent in 2011 to 35 percent in 2015. On 31 December 2015, the rate of access to hygiene and sanitation services was 20 percent. Lastly, the government set up a Housing Bank to improve access to decent housing for Chadians.

Optimal exploitation of the natural resource potential (arable land, hydraulic, forestry, fishing, wildlife resources and livestock) could boost the country's economy by developing the promising agriculture, forestry and pastoral sectors. Developing these promising sectors will help to improve food security in the country and the monetary income of producers by increasing production and access to profitable domestic and foreign markets. Hence, growth will be stimulated through substantial support to these sectors (products and by-products of livestock breeding, Arabic gum, onion and garlic, sesame, shea, rice, corn, peanuts, vegetables, etc) and value chains (beef, milk, hide, leather). Regional and sub-regional spaces (CEMAC, CEEAC, CBLT, ABN, CILSS, CEN-SAD, etc.) will provide opportunities for marketing agricultural, forestry and pastoral products.

The contribution of technical and financial partners in the development of the rural sector is important and will be reflected in the funding of a presidential programme entitled "National Programme for Food Sovereignty", a comprehensive intervention in the rural sector also integrating the National Rural Sector Investment Programme (PNISR). The promising sector mentioned above will be developed by setting up real economic centres of competitiveness in the regions. These centres of growth identified in the "National Development Emergency Plan: an oil-free Chad" will bring together in the same region all actors of the sectors (productive, cooperative and industrial). In fact, if the state sets up adequate infrastructure (electricity, roads, ICT, etc.) in these centres, this will foster the creation of industries for storage, transformation and conservation of commodities. Structuring these sectors will lead to economies of scale sufficient to place Chad's economy on the regional and international value chains.

In order to improve access to drinking water and safe systems, several actions have been taken. They include improving the institutional framework of the sanitation and drainage sector; strengthening urban and rural hygiene systems; improving access by the population to a durable sanitation system; promoting the effective fight against wanton pollution and occupation, improving access by the population to drinking water, implementing the Regional Water and Sanitation Investment Plan (2015-2030) and helping the people to have access to decent housing.



Funding

The total cost of actions to develop the promising agriculture, forestry, pastoral sub-sectors as well as sanitation and water in the 2017-2021 NDP stands at one trillion, eighty three billion seven hundred and seventy seven million five hundred thousand CFA Francs (CFAF 1 083 777 500 000). The cost of developing the promising sectors in the agriculture, forestry and pastoral sub-sectors is estimated at four hundred and seventy nine billion two hundred and ten million CFA Francs (CFAF 479 210 000 000) while actions that help to improve the drainage, sanitation and safety system amounts to six hundred and four billion five hundred and sixty seven million five hundred thousand CFA Francs (CFAF 604 567 500 000).

Expected outcomes	Total
Promising sectors in the agriculture, forestry and pastoral sub-sectors are developed in the growth centres	479 210 000 000
Governance and human resources in the agriculture sector are improved	7 040 000 000
Animal productivity is improved	67 170 000 000

The National Food Sovereignty Programme (National Rural Sector Investment Programme (PNISR)) is effectively implemented	205 000 000 000
The National Investment Programme in the Livestock sub-sector is effectively implemented	200 000 000 000
The drainage, sanitation and hygiene system is improved	604 567 500 000
The institutional framework in the sanitation and drainage sector is improved	5 532 500 000
Urban and rural hygiene systems are reinforced	2 700 000 000
The fight against wanton pollution and occupation is effective	1 950 000 000
Access by the population to a durable sanitation system is improved	3 150 000 000
The population has access to drinking water	176 785 000 000
The Regional Water and Sanitation Plan (2015-2030) is implemented	323 215 000 000
The population has access to decent housing	91 235 000 000
Total cost	1 083 777 500 000

