

# oxfam GB niger

Community based integrated water resources  
management programme in banibango and  
soumatte

MUS (Multiple Use Services ) Group meeting, London

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**OXFAM**

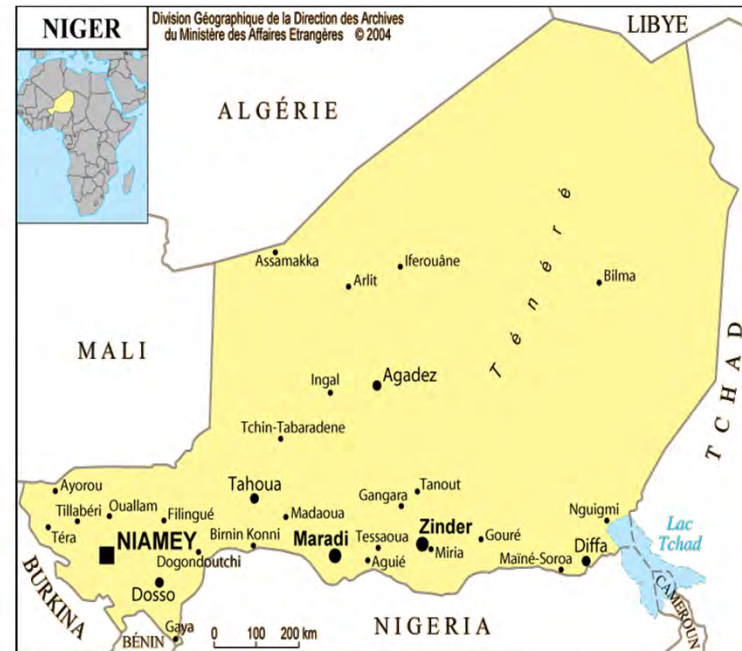
# Presentation Overview

- **Brief Niger context**
- **Oxfam's Mission**
- **Objectives of CBWRM in Niger and how it fits in to Oxfam mission**
- **CBWRM in Banibangou and Soumatte project**
- **What has been achieved**
- **What are the lessons learned /challenges**
- **Ways forward**

# THE NIGER CONTEXT

- Niger borders 7 countries Algeria and Libya to the North Tchad to the East , Nigeria and Benin to the south and Burkina Faso to the west
- Niger - endemic poverty: over 60% of the country's 11.5 million people live with less than \$1 per day
- Chronic severe food insecurity
- Highest population growth rate: 3.4% / 85% lives in rural areas
- Agriculture 40% GDP; mainly rain-fed crops
- National Strategy state: **“Water scarcity is the limiting factor of agriculture production growth”**

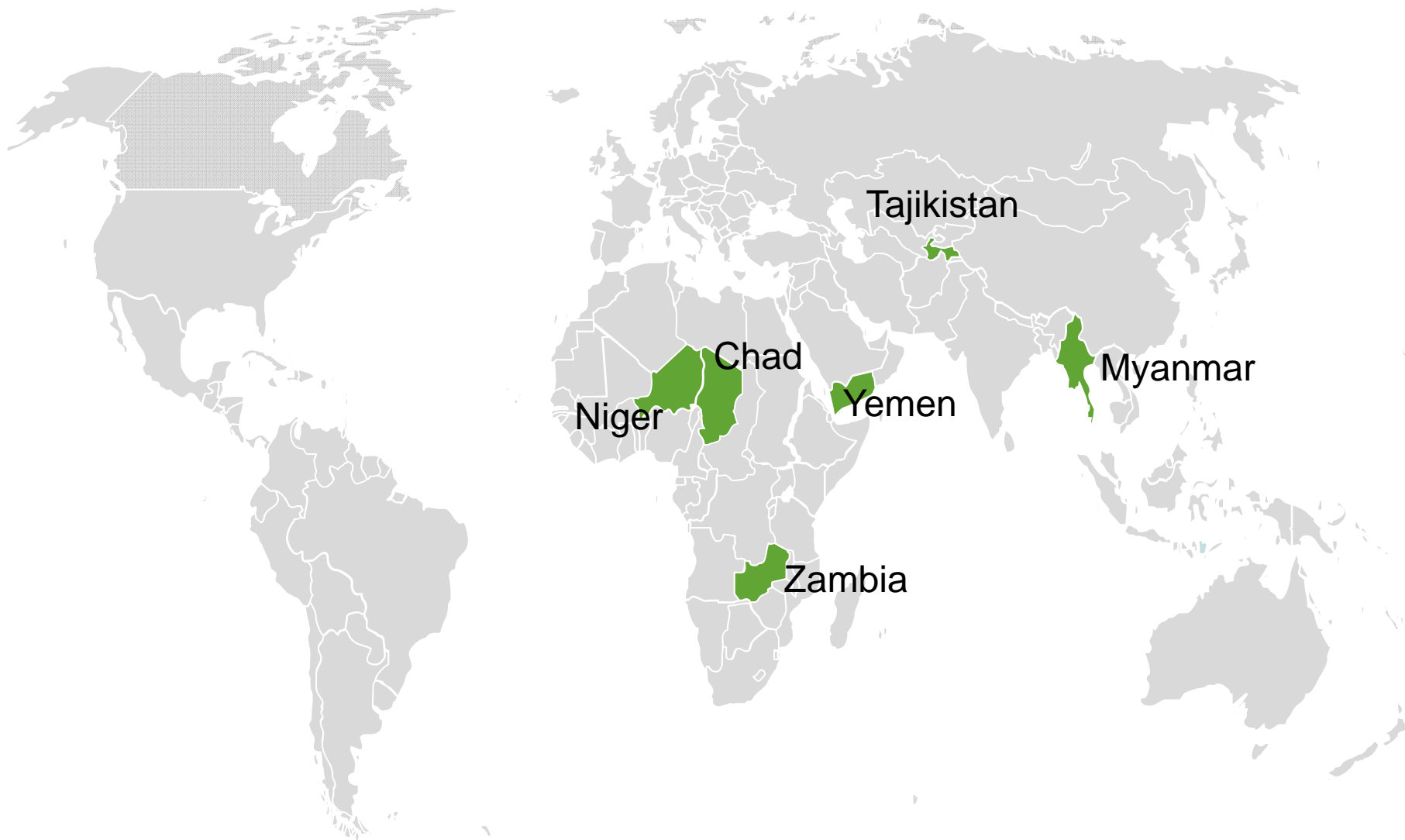
*“the people of the Sahel are more vulnerable now than at any time” (Oxfam study on vulnerability: Beyond any Drought, 2007)*



# OXFAM MISSION

- Oxfam's vision is a world without poverty
- 4 main aims:
  - Improved food security for the poor
  - Create more resilient communities
  - Turn the tide of income and gender inequality
  - Mobilise others to reduce poverty and improve response to humanitarian disasters
- Oxfam has been working in water for over 50 years – currently sits in 2 areas
  - **WASH in humanitarian emergencies and fragile states/chronic cyclical emergencies**
  - **Water as a productive resource which enhances resilience strategies**

# WRM KEY COUNTRIES



# Objectives CBWRM Niger

- To scale up IWRM Tillabery district for Banibagou and Soumatte community
- Improve adoptive capacities of local communities by working with local partners and authorities at local and national level
- To help build the resilience of vulnerable households and communities through **sustainable access to water for human , livestock consumption as well as for agriculture**



# CBWRM programme activities in Banibagou & Soumatte

(supported by Ahmed Tea)

- Partnership with local partner KARKARA & communities
- Partnership with MoA and University of Niamey
- Drilling of new BHs installation of Solar submersible pumps
- Rehabilitation of BHs
- Provision of cattle troughs
- Small scale irrigated agricultural production – increase income of local producers- women headed households





# Programme achievements

- **Multi-use water system:** Monitoring as basic to allocate for multiple uses (domestic, livestock, and agricultural production) – borehole piped supply to 8,000 people and 15,000 livestock
- **Livelihoods support:** Market gardening support to 500 gardeners – drip irrigation system developed
- **Water harvesting :** Rooftop rainwater harvesting, field bunds and terracing sub-surface dams for water retention
- Sand dams around trees to increase water retention in soil



# Overhead water storage –Solar pannels in Soumatte



# Achievment -Banibangou





Soumatte cattle trough  
underconstruction



# Monitoring Hydrological data

- Engaging the community in the monitoring of hydrogeological data, water level monitoring, collecting rainfall information etc..
- Helping the community to prioritize the use of their water sources



# Programme outcomes

- **Gender:** Women as smallholder farmers involved through gardening collective – allowed for women to use own money to support family through hunger gap
- **Food security:** Project evaluation – led to increased meals for 60% of households from 1.7 to 3 meals a day
- Reduced need for emergence coping behaviour
- **Livelihoods:** 93% beneficiaries reported having an increase in income – average of 117 USD per agricultural season allows to cover food needs during hunger gap
- **Conflict element:** Initial finding show improved social cohesion through a forum (Fulani and Zarma and farmers)



# Challenges

- **Sustainability in monitoring** – need for continuous external inputs -More sensitization and support to the women community members to continuously use the potential of the scheme.
- **Irrigation methods and land tenure:** Expansion of production dependent on size of plots, ability to diversify crops
- **Seasonality:** Hot/rainy season market gardening activities get compromised
- Krakra Oxfam's Partner should be encouraged and supported more to proactively support the community to understand their lack of motivation and if they need more support in terms of seeds etc



# Challenges

- Understanding the market for vegetable produce so that the women community members of the scheme can produce what is needed by the market. An area for stronger coordination between the WASH & EFSL teams.

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# Plots when least cultivated



Banibangou

# FUTURE PLANS

- Policy and leverage plans – how can we use this information to influence Water /agriculture authorities, Water Codes etc.
- Market/value chain: improving infrastructure local communities can overcome isolation and achieve better connection to markets and complementary livelihood opportunities.
- Replicating the approach to surrounding communities & villages in Quallam – ( if funding can be made available )

**THANK YOU**



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