

WOW
WINGS OVER WETLANDS
The UNEP-GEF African-Eurasian Flyways Project

WOW - DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT #: 06
REPORTING PERIOD: December 09 - March 2010
REPORT PREPARED BY: Abba Mahmoudou, Abdou Malam Issa, Gabin Agblonon

Country	Niger
Project Title	Community-based management of natural resources Namga-Kokorou Complex
Project ref. number	G 6
Name of Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Wetlands International, Africa Programme
Total amount of funds under this agreement	USD 200,000
Expected project duration	24 months
Date of signature of the agreement	27 th March 2007
Contact in Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Name: Abdoulaye Ndiaye Title: Capacity Development Manager / WOW Project, West & Central Africa Regional Center Focal point e-mail: andiaye@wetlands.sn / site web: www.wetlands.org Tel: +221 33 869 16 81 Fax: +221 33 825 12 92

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1. Executive Summary

During this three additional months period, the focus of the activities under the project was on the continuous of the planned activities which were not be able to be undertaken in the previous reporting period. So, the additional time was a time opportunity to, :

- Held a last project Steering Committee meeting
- Held A roundtable with potential donors and government structures to promote the Management Plan and advocate for some funds raising
- To put the villages management committees in place
- And conduct two training sessions for the communities' members

Related to public sensitization and awareness actions, the finalization of the second documentary on the Plan elaboration process was bit delayed but should be available end in April or in May.

1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

#	Key Project Achievements
1	Round table with donors and government structures
2	Final steering Committee meet
3	Training session on conflicts management
4	Set up of and enforce complex management committees within villages

1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	Actualization of the villages action plan in order to fit them with the regional development plan and the management plan plan activities	Re-allocate the training budget for these actions recommended by the steering committee.	March 2010	Local project team
2	Elaboration of an implementation action plan of the Management Plan		March 2010	Local project team

A. Summary

During the first semester of the project implementation, effort was focused to the project staffing process and the discussion between the institutional partners for the establishment of a legal framework and procedures following which the activities were conducted during the whole project period.

Till to end of the project at end of March 2010, the activities implemented together by the project team members, the local communities' leaders, the local government authorities and the consultants were dedicated to reach four mains outcomes:

1- A community owned Management Plan for the Namga-Kokorou complex which has required a mobilization process of local communities' members, the local authorities and various consultants on the issue. This led to many studies and population consultations through workshops and specific meetings with key actors.

2- Strengthening of local Councils for the implementing of the Management Plan which took form through the capacity building activities for local government representatives and communities' leaders in addition to the development of a local consensual code of laws with local structures for its implementation.

3- A better understanding of wetlands values and wise use practices at local level through trainings sessions on various thematic (e.g. wetlands management techniques, local governance, self-promotion, conflict management, etc.) for the local communities and local councils members. These training sessions were supported by initiation and implementation of sensitization actions arising from a communications strategy developed and adopted for the complex.

4- Finding financial support for initial implementation of the management plan. The attempts to achieve this outcome have led mainly to a roundtable with potential institutional donors and government structures as well as the development of small initiatives with other actors in the site.

B. Key project achievements

This section highlights important project achievements.

#	Key Project Achievements	Dates
1	Arrangement and tripartite agreement between the Niger Ministry of Environment, WWF office in Niger and Wetlands International Africa office for the project implementation.	Feb.08
2	Procurement of essential field materials and equipment for project activities running in the site.	March 08
3	Development and adoption of participative community based Management Plan for the Namga-Kokorou Complex.	July 09
4	Information Technology materials procurement and set up of a wetlands database including data on Namga-Kokorou complex for monitoring issues.	Nov. 09
5	Development of a local code of laws for a participative management and a sustainable use of the natural resources within the complex.	Jan. 09
6	Setting up of a local advisory panel as legal framework to regulate and approve the interventions and any other actions in and around the complex area.	Jan. 09

7	Setting up and enforcement of villages' management committees for follow up of the consensual rules established.	
8	Capacity building and sensitization of the local communities and local councils' members through training on various thematic related to wetlands values and wetlands management.	During project
9	Exchange visit to Burkina (Mare d'Oursi) for local communities' leaders and political authorities.	Oct. 09
10	Support (materials) to women groups in the villages for the development of alternative income generating activities.	2008
11	Development and implementation of a communications strategy for the complex.	From Sept. 08
12	Realization of short video with focus on the wetlands and highlighting local activities in the framework of the community management plan.	2008
13	Support to local radio channel station with procurement of some technical equipment.	Oct. 08
14	Sensitization (public) campaigns for local communities through projection of documentaries and public discussion within villages in and around the complex.	May 09 to March 10
15	Roundtable with potential donors and governmental structures for Management Plan promotion and funds raising for its key activities.	Feb. 10

2. Project Management

The following table highlights issues that affect project performance and achievement of expected outcomes, and describe proposed next steps.

CATEGORY	ISSUES	PROPOSED SOLUTIONS	DEADLINE	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Recruitment & management of staff and consultants				
Finance & administration				
Logistics & operations				
Reporting & communication				
Coordination with project partners				
External issues (e.g. difficult access to the project site for political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)				
Other				

2.2 Project Steering Committee (SC)

Date of last SC Meeting	09th March 2010
Proposed Date for next SC Meeting	N/A
QUESTIONS	ANSWER
This Report was reviewed and approved by the Project SC	No. Meeting was held before reporting
The work plan & budget for next six months was reviewed & approved by the Project SC	N/A
The SC is meeting periodically and providing effective direction/inputs?	Yes. Last meeting ended with lot of and pertinent recommendations

Updated list of SC Members (Chairperson first):

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Elhadji Ibrahim Aoussouk	Secrétaire Général du Gouvernorat de Tillabéri		
Hamadou Mamoudou	Directeur Général de l'Environnement des Eaux et Forêts (Ministère de l'environnement et de la Lutte contre la Désertification-ME/LCD Niger)	dgeef@intnet.ne	+ 227 9656 2360
Abdoulaye Ndiaye	Wetlands International	ablaywet@orange.sn	+221 33 869 1681
Aboubacar Awaiss	Coordinator WWF Niger	awaiss_wwf@yahoo.fr	+227 2035 0097
Abdou Malam Issa	Directeur de la Faune et de la Chasse (ME/LCDNiger) – Project Coordinator	malam_ia@yahoo.fr	+227 9687 0825
Issoufou Omarou Magagi	Directeur Départemental de l'Environnement de Tera.		+ 227 9688 3272
Hamissou Garba	Ministère de l'environnement et de la Lutte contre la Désertification-ME/LCD Niger		
Abba Mahmoudou ¹	Project Manager (Secretariat to the Steering Committee meetings)	abam_fa@yahoo.fr	+227 2035 0097

¹ Abba Mahmoudou is just the Secretary of the Steering Committee.

3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions

ACTIVITIES	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS	PROGRESS	ISSUES & PROPOSED SOLUTIONS	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
<p>Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.</p>					
<p>Outcome 1 A community-owned management plan and based on sound technical data</p>					
<p>Activity 1.1 <i>Elaboration of the community-based management plan</i></p>	<p>May 2009</p>	<p>(C)</p>	<p>The draft document is amended, validated and the final endorsed version is available.</p>		
<p>Activity 1.2 <i>Contribute to wetlands monitoring for Namga-Kokorou</i></p>	<p>Over the all project duration</p>	<p>(c) (80%)</p>	<p>Operational database available at WWF office c</p>		
<p>Outcome 2 Local Councils committed to and capable of implementing management plan.</p>					
<p>Activity 2.1 <i>Enhance capacity of local government structures for natural resource management</i></p>	<p>Over the all project duration</p>	<p>IP 95% (90%) ↑</p>	<p>One of the two last planned trainings was shifted</p>		
<p>Activity 2.2 <i>Develop legislation and structures for its implementation</i></p>	<p>Within the last 12 months</p>	<p>(C) (95%)</p>	<p>The management committees at villages' level. With support and expertise from NGO ADA</p>		<p>Project local team</p>
<p>Outcome 3 Better understanding of wetland values and wise use practices at local level (local communities and Local Councils)</p>					

ACTIVITIES	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS	PROGRESS	ISSUES & PROPOSED SOLUTIONS	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.					
Activity 3.1 <i>Identify the training needs and elaborate a training program</i>	January 2010	(C)	Training needs document and training program completed since previous period.		
Activity 3.2 <i>Execute/implement the training program</i>	Till end of the project	100% (90%)	Last training was conducted on the Pacific way for conflict management		
Activity 3.3 <i>Develop a Communications Strategy for Namga-Kokorou</i>	February 2009	(C)	Communications strategy document available since previous period and under implementation.		
Activity 3.4 <i>implement the Communications Strategy</i>	Till end of the project	90% (-)	Unfortunately the supplier does not yet complete the work as agreed.		Project local team & WIA.
Outcome 4 Financial support for initial implementation of the management plan mobilized.					
Activity 4.1 <i>Develop proposals to implement key elements of the MP to maintain the physical attributes of Namga-Kokorou and restore site integrity</i>	Over the last 15 months	IP 50% (35%) ↑	Last steering committee recommend: 1- Actualization of the villages action plans in order to incorporate the management Plan activities which thus could be integrated in action plans at regional level 2- Realization of an implementation plan for the Management Plan	Project at end stage. Hire NGO ADA for his experience and expertise to actualize the plans Put a writing committee in place to work for the MP implementation action plan	Local team and WIA

4. Funds Disbursement

4.1 Disbursement of GEF Funds

Report on the status of GEF Funds managed under this Agreement with UNOPS.

Total Budget approved for the provision of technical services:	\$US 200,000
Funds advanced by UNOPS to date:	\$US 191, 750
Total expenditure this reporting period:	\$US 44, 125
Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule):	\$US 8, 250
Balance (if applicable):	\$US 211

Certified by Projects Managers: Site level: Abba Mahmoudou; SRS office: Gabin Agblonon

General Category of Expenditure	Total budget (a)	Total expenditure to date (b)	Total budget balance (a-b)	Opening balance this period (c)	Last payment received	Expenditure in reporting period (d)	Balance at end of reporting period
Personnel	33 385	36 772	-3 387	3 516		6 222	-2 706
Equipments	32 870	32 976	-106	335		1 311	-976
Subcontracts	23 545	25 025	-1 480	-1 270		1 555	-2 825
Workshops and training	48 346	47 855	491	16 249	2 146	16 158	91
Travel and operations	40 854	31 406	9 448	15 924	10 854	8 569	7 355
Executing agency support overheads	16 000	16 179	-179	4 582	2 000	5 794	-1 212
Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	5 000	4 517	483	5 000		4 517	483
Miscellaneous and contingency	0	0	0	0		0	0
Total	200 000	194 729	5 271	44 337	15 000	44 125	211

4.3 Status of co-financing

Sources of co-financing	Total funds committed (cash)	Total in-kind contribution	Total co-financing (cash + in-kind)	Total received to date	Balance
ME/LCD – DGEE (DFPP)		80 000	80 000	54 020	25 980
WWF Niger (Freshwater Programme West Africa)		70 000	70 000	65 780	4 160
Total				119 800	30 140
List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation					
			Total		

5. Performance Evaluation

5.1 Logical framework

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of March 2010	Risks and assumptions
Immediate Objective					
Community-owned sustainable use planning process demonstrated.	<p>Management plan endorsed by local councils</p> <p>Signs of replication efforts locally and nation-wide</p> <p>Evidence that donors / government willing to support the implementation of the management plan</p>	<p>Management Plan</p> <p>Documentation on the participatory process</p> <p>Demonstration project progress reports</p>	No formal management plan exist for the sites	<p>Final document of the community management plan for the complex is available and is endorsed with local government representative (Regional governor).</p> <p>Roundtable meeting with donors, local government structures and other actors present in the zone. A more or less clear view on their short term interventions planning and the sharing of the MP and its priorities Which were discussed deeply with some recommendations.</p>	<p>Overall project is managed successfully and in genuine cooperation with local communities. DGE (project executor) status remains positive in government structures.</p> <p>Wide community support for project objectives.</p>
Outcomes					
Outcome 1. A community-owned management plan and based on sound technical data	<p>Community-based plan is available</p> <p>Evidence of appropriate consultative process</p> <p>International standard biodiversity data available in national database (University of Niamey)</p>	<p>Demonstration project progress reports</p> <p>Supporting documentation.</p> <p>IWC or Ramsar database</p>	No formal management plan for the sites	<p>Final and formal management plan validated with communities and local authorities available for the complex. The plan also was endorsed by local government representative</p> <p>Short video movie on the whole management plan elaboration process under finalization.</p> <p>Database nearly finalize and can already be used for some requests..</p>	The plan is achievable & realistic. Monitoring protocols are appropriate; database is effective and compatible with other datasets.

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of March 2010	Risks and assumptions
Outcome 2. Local Councils committed to and capable of implementing management plan	Local decree(s) / decision(s) First steps taken to implement management plan by council members	Demonstration project progress reports Supporting documentation	Some local traditional frameworks and single-handed actions related to fixation of dunes	A code of laws developed and validated for implementation with local communities. Advisory panel in the place and local management committee set up with more sensitized members. Management structures put in place in the villages (06) for a smooth consensual management	Any administrative & legal obstacles are overcome successfully. Plan receives support of local chiefs and district officers.
Outcome 3. Better understanding of wetland values and wise use practices at local level (local communities and Local Councils)	Awareness levels will be assessed by an initial needs analysis and post activity assessment survey.	Results of initial training needs assessment Results of before and after awareness surveys	Initial needs analysis not yet done	Assessment of trainings needs and elaboration of communication strategy completed. Local authorities, community leaders and number of other community members more sensitized through capacity building and awareness activities implemented. No formal surveys. Just the quick assessment after workshops, training session and exchange visit gave the real interest and enthusiasm from participants.	Training is appropriate and local conditions favorable for trainees to put skills to practice; trainees remain in area.
Outcome 4. Financial support for initial implementation of the management plan mobilized.	Evidence that donors / government willing to support the implementation of the management plan	Demonstration project progress reports and supporting documentation	Any management plan/No proposals	Roundtable with some donors and actors, deeply discussion of the Plan with them leading to some recommendations for its improvement as well as strategies in order to liaise the MP actions with the villages and department development plan.	Community-based plan is effectively ready to be implemented. Donors are interested in supporting MP implementation.

5.2 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool

QUESTION	ANSWER
Was the PAMETT performed for the Lake Namga-Kokorou's protected area?	YES
Date of first PAMETT:	October 2007
PAMETT performed by:	Abba Mahmoudou & Abdou Issa Malam

5.3 Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
STAKEHOLDERS	
# of NGO staff involved in this project	04
# of Government Staff involved in this project	06
# of Volunteers involved in this project	
# of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular)	01
TARGET BENEFICIARIES	
# of beneficiaries involved in this project	60 000
# of people involved in project workshops	300
# of people trained under this project	60
COMMUNICATION ISSUES	
# of press articles featuring the project and/or related issues	-
# of TV/radio program featuring the project and/or related issues	1 video on populations involvement process in the activities One documentary on the plan elaboration process (under finalization)
# of publications produced under this project	Three graduation thesis A leaflet
Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts	200 - 300

6. Key Lessons Learned

It is not enough to just only sensitize and trained the communities without accompanying them in the time because once you turn your back they'll return back to the old habits. So a longer and continuous period of accompanying with more means is needed to empower communities and local responsible for a sustainability management of their natural resources.

ANNEXES

In each report, please include the following information in the annexes:

- ✓ List of workshops (title, date, location, # of participants) held in the period covered by this report
- ✓ List of technical reports produced in the period covered by this report
- ✓ List of media communication (TV/radio/press) released in the period covered by this report
- ✓ List of publications produced in the period covered by this report
- ✓ Updated inventory of equipment purchased with project funds (please use the table provided – double-click on the file icon below, insert items, and the “save” the file)

Please send by email to the PCU:

- ✓ 1 photograph of the project team as a group, and passport size photo of project manager (if not already submitted)
- ✓ Photographs representing main aspects of project work, and illustrating project impact (i.e. of workshops, field research, education and awareness, ecotourism, volunteer groups. Please take pictures illustrating the impact of the project, i.e. of the situation “before”, “during” and “after” the project)
- ✓ general photographs illustrating the environment of the site
- ✓ Soft copy of technical reports produced by project
- ✓ Soft copy of workshop reports

Please keep records of (for later review/consultation by the PCU)

- ✓ Financial records (invoices, receipts) of all expenditure incurred with project funds
- ✓ Hard copy of press articles and publications produced by the project
- ✓ Copy of TV/radio programs

Annex 1: Inventory of Outputs/Services

a) Meetings

No	Meeting Type ⁴	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organized by	# of Participants	Report issued as doc no	Language	Dated
1	roundtable	Table ronde avec les bailleurs	Tera	08 march 2010	Project team	Project team	20	Report	French	March 2010
2	Meetin	Steering committee meeting	Tera	09 March 2010	Project team	Project team	08	Report	French	March 2010
3	Training	Formation en prévention et gestion non violente des conflits	Oursi (Burkina Faso)	10-15 March 2010	Project team	Project team	20	Report	French	March 2010

b) Printed Materials

No	Type ⁵	Title	Author(s)/ Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.							
2.							
3							
4							
5							

c) Media coverage

No	Description	Date
1.	Continuous information session through the local radio channel	

⁴ Meeting types (Inter-governmental Meeting, Expert Group Meeting, Training Workshop/Seminar, Other)

⁵ Material types (Report to Inter-governmental Meeting, Technical Publication, Technical Report, Other)

2.	Small (17 mn) video on project presentation	
3.		

d) Technical Cooperation with relevant parallel initiatives

No	Type ⁶	Purpose	Venue	Duration	Additional information for Grants and Fellowships ONLY		
					Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost (in US\$)
1.							
2.							

e) Other Outputs/Services (e.g. Networking, Query-response, Participation in meetings etc.)

No	Description	Date
1.		
2.		
3.		

⁶ Technical Cooperation Type (Grants and Fellowships, Advisory Services, Staff Mission, Others)

Annex 2: Inventory of Non-Expendable Equipment

Internal ID	Item	Purchase Date	Original price (CFA)	Price in US\$	Present Condition	Description of Use
WoW/Nig/Mat/001	01 Vehicle 4x4 - Toyota Hilux	March 2008	8 446 328	\$17 440	Good	For project activities and travels to the site
WoW/Nig/Mat/002	02 Motorcycles Jianshé	March 2008	1 709 340	\$3 529	New	For project's animators in the field
WoW/Nig/Mat/003	02 Helmets	March 2008	90 000	\$186	Good	For project's animators in the field
WoW/Nig/Mat/004	01 Desktop, 01 printer	June 2008	1 300 000	\$2 684	New	Based at Tera and use by project site coordinator
WoW/Nig/Mat/005	01 Digital camera	June 2008	398 200	\$822	New	Use in field operations and workshops
WoW/Nig/Mat/006	02 canoe	Oct. 2008	460 000	\$950	Good	For field operations and sites surveillance
WoW/Nig/Mat/007	01 Fax machine	Oct. 2008	300 000	\$619	Good	Support ministry through project coordinator's office equipment.
WoW/Nig/Mat/008	04 Bikes	Oct. 2008	360 000	\$867	Good	Materials to support the community groups for the site surveillance
WoW/Nig/Mat/009	01 Voice recorder	Oct. 2008	90 000	\$217	Good	Support to community radio channel for use in workshop and awareness campaigns in the site
WoW/Nig/Mat/010	02 Fixed batteries 100a/H	Oct. 2008	190 000	\$457	Good	Support to community radio channel
WoW/Nig/Mat/011	01 TV Sharp Ecran 21'	May 2009	195 000	470	Good	For the awareness meetings in the villages surround the complex
WoW/Nig/Mat/012	01 DVD/VCD player	May 2009	75 000	181	Good	For the awareness meetings in the villages surround the complex
WoW/Nig/Mat/013	01 Video cassette player VHS	May 2009	60 000	144	Good	For the awareness meetings in the villages surround the complex
WoW/Nig/Mat/014	02 speakers + 02 Amplificator	May 2009	90 000	217	Good	For the awareness meetings in the villages surround the complex
WoW/Nig/Mat/015	01 Generator 1500 DC	May 2009	80 000	193	Good	For the awareness meetings in the villages surround the complex
WoW/Nig/Mat/016	01 Desktop Dell	May 2009	850.000	2 047	Good	For the biodiversity database reconstitution
WoW/Nig/Mat/017	01 UPS 800 VA	May 2009	145 000	349	Good	For the biodiversity database reconstitution

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WoW/Nig/Mat/018	04 GPS	Feb 2010	259 759	700	Good	For fields trips and surveys
WoW/Nig/Mat/019	05 Tents	Feb 2010	337 654	538	Good	For field trip and surveys