

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Tillia Pastoral Wells Rehabilitation Project

Niger

I. Introduction

This appendix describes the activities to be undertaken and the results to be achieved with the funds obligated under this Agreement. Nothing in this Appendix A shall be construed as amending any of the definitions, conditions, or terms of the Agreement.

II. Background

ONG Aharog was created in 1999 to promote conflict management and local development activities in Tahoua, Niger, which includes the rural commune of Tillia. Tillia is part of the largest zone in Niger that is exclusively reserved for pastoral communities, with millions of animals. The pasture is rich and abundant, attracting herders and their animals. During the rainy season, temporary lakes are widely spread through the area, providing the herders access throughout the zone to find the best pastures. When these lakes dry up after the end of the rainy season, the herders and their animals depend on the few permanent watering points that have been developed to supply water to these communities.

In spite of their rarity and their importance in the life of the herders in the region, these watering points have been poorly managed by influential individuals. Users have not been represented in the management of the wells, there is little transparency in their management, and user fees are often misappropriated, resulting in frequent equipment breakdowns and degradation of the facilities. The breakdowns can last several weeks, depriving the communities from their only access to water, creating conflicts, and often resulting in the death of both people and animals.

Recent decentralization policies have created an opening for the watering points to be managed by local associations representing the users of the wells. Representatives from the herder communities and the Commune, working with ONG Aharog, have prioritized four water points that need rehabilitation and improved management to secure access to water for an estimated 28,500 people, largely from marginalized ethnic groups, and their animals.

III. Funding

A. ADF Contribution

The financial plan for ADF's contribution is set forth in Appendix A.-1 of this Agreement. The Parties may make changes to the financial plan without formal amendment, if such changes are made in accordance with Article 8 of the Agreement and

do not cause ADF's contribution to exceed the obligated amount specified in Article 4, section 4.1 of the Agreement.

B. ONG Aharog Contribution

ONG Aharog will make its technical personnel and relevant equipment available for implementation of the Project.

IV. Project Goal

The goal of this Project is to improve the overall socioeconomic and health status of people in the Tillia Rural Commune of the Tahoua Region of Niger.

V. Project Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to increase access to water in the Tillia Rural Commune, as indicated by the increase in the quantity of water provided to users, which will increase from a baseline of 183,700 cubic meters per year to:

- A. 209,508 cubic meters in Year 1;
- B. 233,642 cubic meters in Year 2; and
- C. 257,814 cubic meters in Year 3.

VI. Project Outputs

The achievement of these outputs will be measured by the following.

Improved Wells Management Capacity

- A. Revenues collected to cover operating and maintenance costs of the wells from the sale of water increase from a baseline of CFA 63,618,000 to:
 - 1. CFA 100,310,000 in Year 1;
 - 2. CFA 110,878,500 in Year 2; and
 - 3. CFA 122,562,875 in Year 3.
- B. The wells and pumping facilities function at least 90 percent of the time.

VII. Project Activities

A. Well Rehabilitation

The primary grant activity is the rehabilitation of four pastoral wells located in the following communities in the Tillia Rural Commune: Egarek, Inkotayan, Intazayene, and Ekinawene.

ONG Aharog will identify qualified contractors to rehabilitate three contre puits at the Ekinawene, Itazayene, and Egarek sites and construct a new contre puits at the Inkotayan site, following all technical standards required by the Water Service of Tchintabaraden. This will include raising the well margins, filling all undrained areas, and constructing appropriate caps, protective slabs, fencing to restrict access to the well sites, and drainage structures to evacuate water that may spill around the well sites. The contractors will also construct two new shelters for the electric generators at the pumping stations in Egarek and Inkotayan, renovate and cover the water reservoir at Egarek, repair or construct eight new concrete receiving tanks, watering troughs and supply pipes, construct three new metal watering tanks, and install 1,000 meters of new water supply lines to connect three new public water fountains. The contractors will clean and disinfect all water systems prior to delivery and deliver water samples to the Water Service for testing to ensure the wells meet all norms for consumption.

ONG Aharog will procure and hire qualified contractors to install one new 40 KVA electric generator in Egarek, overhaul two old generators at Egarek and Inkotayan, and install a new submersible pump in Egarek.

B. Water Management Committees

ONG Aharog will conduct an initial meeting to mobilize the users and other stakeholders to review the previous management of the water points and install new committees that reflect the range of communities that use the stations. ONG Aharog will conduct training sessions for the committees on their roles and responsibilities, management, bookkeeping, monitoring and oversight, reporting, and rights and responsibilities under the new decentralization policies. They will also provide training to local leaders identified on conflict arbitration and resolution. ONG Aharog will identify, train, and install local development agents to work with each of the water management committees. The ADF Partner will provide basic orientation to ADF bookkeeping and grant management procedures to ONG Aharog.

The Water Management Committees, in concert with ONG Aharog, will ensure the regular operation and maintenance of the facilities and equipment at the water points. The four water management committees will meet regularly, supervise the use of the wells, account for the use of revenues collected, effect routine maintenance activities, and communicate with ONG Aharog and appropriate authorities in case of important repair or management needs.

They will also ensure the replacement of two electric generators at the Egarek and Inkotayan sites and the replacement of one submersible pump at the Egarek site during the life of the project. The Water Management Committees will implement the recent decisions made to raise the cost of water from 350 CFA per cubic meter to 500 CFA per cubic meter at the two pumping stations, and 5,000 CFA to 10,000 CFA per dedicated drawing pulley at the two manually operated sites.

ONG Aharog is expected to continue to provide support and advisory services to the Water Management Committees beyond the life of the current Project. Fees for these services will be developed and agreed upon with the Water Management Committees during the Project, contingent upon the Committees' satisfaction with the quality of services received.

VIII. Roles and Responsibilities

ADF's Partner in Niger will provide the standard ADF training in bookkeeping, monitoring and assessment. ONG Aharog is responsible for ensuring the proper management and implementation of the Project. The ADF Partner in Niger will provide ONG Aharog with technical and management assistance during implementation.

IX. Monitoring and Evaluation

ADF's Partner in Niger will closely monitor the activities of ONG Aharog to ensure proper reporting, adherence to the project implementation plan and progress towards the achievement of Project objectives. The Partner will continuously assess the Project risks and take remedial actions as needed. Monitoring by the Partner will be an important aspect of the on-going coaching and advisory service. The Partner will review ADF's quarterly reports and will submit comments and observations to the management of ONG Aharog as part of the on-going performance assessment.