

Intervention:	Erosion Control Tahoua and Tillabéry
Country:	Niger
Date:	since 1991
Challenge:	Process of degradation and erosion continued unabated under the increased land-use pressure of the growing population, accompanied by a general degradation of the vegetation cover.
Objectives:	Maintenance and restoration of the agro-sylvo-pastoral production potential by protecting the natural resources from wind and water erosion. Improvement of living conditions of the population
Approach of the Intervention:	<input type="checkbox"/> Participatory approach: strong target group orientation <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale erosion control measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rehabilitation of large forest-pasture areas ○ Introduction of erosion protection crop farming techniques <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction of land use plans by target groups <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of an impact monitoring system
Benefits and Impacts:	<p><u>Impacts on the Target Group:</u></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Easier access to water and increased water use efficiency (through availability of so far unused drainage water & groundwater replenishment) <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term growing of wood production <input type="checkbox"/> Additional yields (through use of stone embankments, plant troughs on the cropland & rehabilitation of sylvo-pastoral community areas) <input type="checkbox"/> New possibility for vegetal cultivation (through irrigation enabled by new river sills) <input type="checkbox"/> Self-help approach for poverty reduction and training in different methods to resolve conflicts <input type="checkbox"/> Positive impact on gender imbalance (traditionally only men own land, so that women did not derive any direct benefits from the productive improvements of the privately owned land): Promotion of women supported in independent cultivation of land and self-organization ("food for work"-program, participation in village committees and village resource management)
	<p><u>Ecological impact:</u></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement of vegetation in areas where programme measures were implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Successful rehabilitation measures on forest pastures
	<p><u>Cost-benefit-efficiency:</u></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Positive cost-benefit ratios overall (despite very high TC costs)
Lessons learned:	<input type="checkbox"/> Original approach of conservative erosion control was altered in favor of an integrated approach <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale anti-desertification measures usually exceed the self-help capacities of the local population <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusion of some complementary measures (rural roads, buildings to hold village assemblies) <input type="checkbox"/>
Wider application:	<input type="checkbox"/> The conception of the project can be used as a model for similar programmes in resource protection. <input type="checkbox"/> To contain the alarming process of degradation, development cooperation must make available substantial amounts of finance to support the rehabilitation of natural resources – also under future strategies for rural development and poverty alleviation.
Implementing agency & partners	<input type="checkbox"/> KfW Entwicklungsbank <input type="checkbox"/> Programme de Mesures Anti-Érosives (PMAE) (Project-executing

	agency) □ GTZ/ TC (Consultant)
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