



WORLD WATER WEEK SEMINAR:

Adaptive water management in the Lake Chad Basin: Addressing current challenges and adapting to future needs

The open water surface of Lake Chad has reduced from approximately 25 000 km² in 1963, to less than 2 000 km² in the 1990s heavily impacting the Basin's economic activities and food security. The shrinkage of the lake has been driven by both global and local causes: climate change and vastly increased competing demands on the lake and its surrounding land have accelerated its shrinkage over the past years.



1963



1973



1987

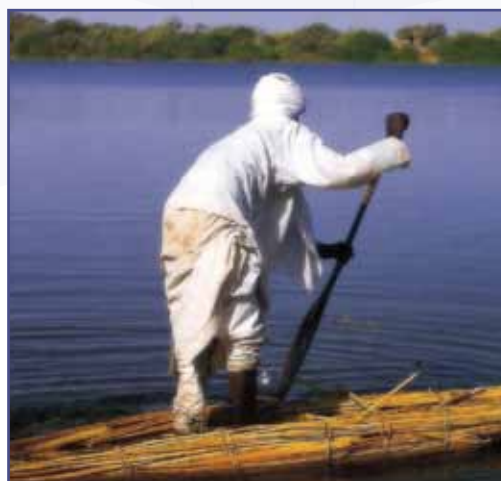


1997



2003

Led by the conviction that there cannot be much water saving from efficient management only, due to the high evaporation, a call was made for the adoption of measures beyond the convention of the available water resources in the Basin. The supply management has, however, been dominating while less attention has been given to demand management. The combination of both as well as the introduction of emergent measures that respond to the global cause of the problem is, therefore, needed within an adaptive framework to save the Lake.



The seminar will address the current challenges in the Basin and will explore opportunities for an Adaptive Water Management and possible future strategies to be adopted to replenish the lake and to safeguard its surrounding livelihood.

The seminar will contribute to the effort of formulation of adaptation plans together with a clear Basin action plan. It will help the capitalization of enough knowledge to respond to the current and future challenges in the Basin, and also the call for larger commitments and contributions from the international community to save the lake.

Adaptive water management in the Lake Chad Basin: Addressing current challenges and adapting to future needs



Seminar Programme:

Chair: Mr Abdullahi Umaru Ganduje, Executive Secretary, LCBC

Co-chair: Mr Parviz Koohafkan, Director of Land and Water Division (NRL), FAO

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| 09:00 | Address by Mr Abdullahi Umaru Ganduje, Executive Secretary, LCBC |
| 09:10 | Address by Mr Parviz Koohafkan, Director, NRL, FAO |
| 09:20 | Seminar Overview, Mr Maher Salman, NRL, FAO & Mr Alex Momha, LCBC |
| 09:30 | Water transfer project: More emphasis on the intra-basin environmental and socio-economic impacts.
Mr Michel Dimbele-Kombe, Director of Water Resources and Environment, LCBC |
| 09:45 | Application of climate adaptation systems and the improvement of predictability systems.
Dr Haruna Kuje Ayuba, Head of Department of Geography, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria |
| 10:00 | Aquifer recharge and storage systems to halt the high level of evapotranspiration.
Dr Sara Vassolo, BGR, Germany |
| 10:15 | Appraisal and up-scaling of water conservation and small-scale agriculture technologies.
Mr Amadou Allahoury Diallo, NEPAD |
| 10:30 | Coffee Break |
| 11:00 | Questions and Panel Discussion |
| 11:30 | Open Debate |

Moderator: Mr Pasquale Steduto, Chief of Water Development and Management Unit, FAO

Themes to be addressed:

THE CAUSES

1. The shrinking of the Lake: Climate change or anthropogenic effects?
2. Lake Chad: A regional problem with global causes?

THE RESPONSES:

1. Unless global hydrology changes tomorrow, is the water transfer the last hope for saving the Lake?
2. Who will bear the cost of saving the Lake? Is there a scope for payments for environmental services?

12:15 Summary and Conclusions

12:30 Close

