



LAKE CHAD REGION RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (PROLAC)

3rd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region

**28 - 30 May 2024
N'Djamena – Chad**

CONCEPT NOTE

February 2024

1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Lake Chad region is one of the regions in Africa where insecurity caused by unprecedented violence by the Boko Haram terrorist Group has resulted in the degradation of the social fabric and traditional livelihoods, among other consequences, thus causing the massive displacement of people not only within their own countries but also and to neighbouring countries. The Lake Chad region is indeed a fragile social ecosystem. As a result of these factors, the region is a highly integrated system with highly significant transboundary knock-on effects.

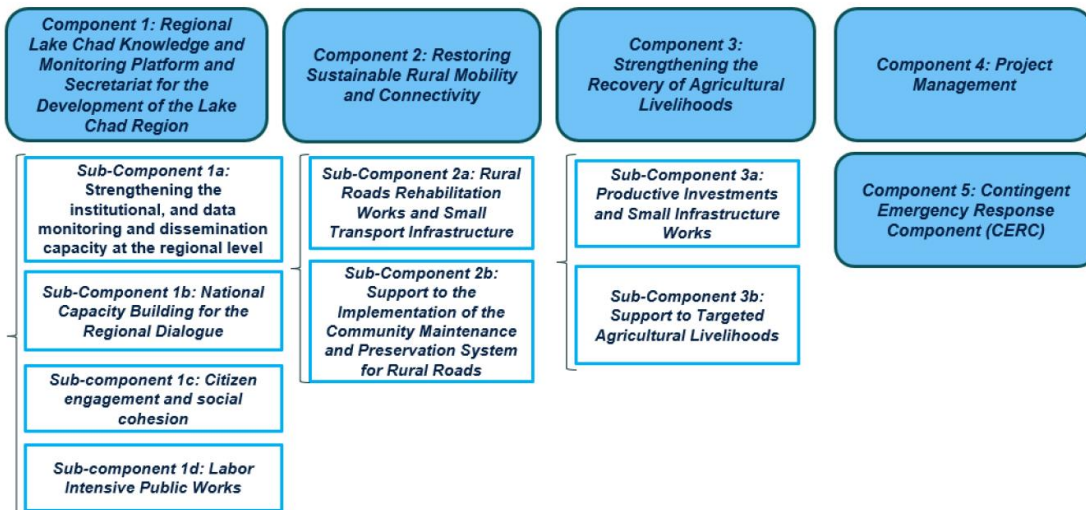
It should be noted that the violence resulting from the insurgency of the terrorist group Boko Haram (BH) in the Lake Chad basin has disproportionately affected the populations living there. As de facto in the forefront of an unprecedented devastating crisis, in addition to being the first victims of the indiscriminate violence and violent extremism of this terrorist group, which knows no religion nor law, communities continue to suffer the full impact of economic, social, and cultural disintegration, including several displaced villages, closed markets, suspended economic activities, kidnappings of people increasingly popular in the region, followed by ransom demands, etc. Unfortunately, this is the dark picture of the degeneration of the economic and social fabric in which people living along Lake Chad live daily.

It was in this context that LCBC and its technical and financial partners decided to take stock of the situation in this Basin, which affects four countries, namely Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, and Chad.

Consultations and discussions led to the organisation of the inaugural session of the Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum and the development of the Regional Strategy for Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience of territories in the Lake Chad Basin affected by the Boko Haram crisis. It includes the formulation and effective and efficient implementation of innovative regional projects that will contribute to significantly reducing extreme poverty in the Lake Chad basin in general and in the Lake Chad region in particular. The advent of PROLAC is, therefore, part of this approach.

The development objective of PROLAC is to contribute to the recovery of the Lake Chad region by supporting regional coordination and crisis monitoring, knowledge and monitoring, connectivity and rural mobility, and agricultural livelihoods in selected areas of Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, and Chad. The beneficiaries of the project are vulnerable populations in the intervention areas of the four countries concerned, with a particular focus on women and young people at risk.

Indeed, the project aims not only to address the challenges related to the development of the Lake Chad region but also to contribute to the recovery of the region through the implementation of five (05) components.



LCBC, as part of this project, is responsible for the implementation of sub-component 1a on the Lake Chad Regional Knowledge Management and Monitoring Platform, as well as the Secretariat for the Development of the Lake Chad Region. In this capacity, LCBC shall coordinate all activities as part of the platform and in close partnership with all stakeholders in the region.


LCBC is the central coordinating organ for guidance and decision-making on transboundary development activities to ensure coherence and consistency. As such, it is for this reason that LCBC, through PROLAC - PIUs, intends to organise, in partnership with the PROLAC country PIUs, the **3rd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region**.

It should be recalled here that this 3rd edition of the Lake Chad Basin Development Forum will be held in 2024 in N'Djamena, Chad, after the 1st and 2nd editions, which were held respectively in Abuja in 2022 and Niamey in 2023, with encouraging outcomes under the following main themes:

- 1st Forum: **"Lake Chad Basin: Climate Change, Security, Resilience and Development Recovery"**
- 2nd Forum: **"Regional Integration and Natural Resource Risk Management: Solutions for Sustainable Peace and Economic Development in the Lake Chad Region"**

The 3rd edition is unique in that it will be held just after the mid-term review of PROLAC in Cameroon, Niger, Chad and LCBC and the closing of MCRP in Nigeria. Furthermore, the Regional Stabilization Strategy for the Lake Chad basin also ended of its 1st phase of implementation on 31 December 2023. Consequently, the 3rd Development Forum must be a moment not only to evaluate the organisation of this event, now institutionalised as a reference meeting, but also to take stock of the implementation of PROLAC and MCRP to draw lessons, capitalise on what has been learned and correct the shot and fix the next steps.

The 3rd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region brings together representatives from the LCBC Member States and national and



international actors addressing peace, development, and humanitarian issues. PROLAC Implementation Units (PIUs) at the country level, academics, civil society organisations (CSOs), beneficiaries, and potential donors will also take part in this annual meeting.

Discussions will be organised on the main theme and the following sub-themes:

2. MAIN THEME

“Enhancing local governance and social cohesion for socio-economic development and food security in a changing climate in the Lake Chad Basin.”

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

- **General Objective**

The Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region aims at establishing a sustainable platform of exchange for local panel wrap and international actors and decision-makers to discuss and plan new cooperation initiatives with a view to strengthening the impact of the stabilisation of the region. The Forum brings together development practitioners for a dialogue on development strategy and operational solutions to address the challenges of climate change and conflict, sustain economic recovery, repair the social contract, and meet the needs of women, youth and the most vulnerable in the Lake Chad region.

- **Specific Objectives**

Specifically, the Annual International Forum on the development of the Lake Chad region will:

- Present the progress made by PROLAC/MCRP and other projects at the regional level,
- Discuss existing regional and national initiatives,
- Discuss the harmonisation of development and stabilisation strategies in the Lake Chad region,
- Discuss and plan new cooperation initiatives with a view to enhancing the impact of the stabilisation of the Lake Chad region,
- Discuss how to increase resilience to Climate Change in the Lake Chad region,
- Discuss various themes related to development in the Lake Chad region,
- Develop recommendations to address issues of development and fragility-conflict-violence in the Lake Chad region.

4. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

At the end of the Forum, the following outcomes are expected:

- Relevant recommendations on security and development issues and also how to address fragility, -conflict, and violence in the Lake Chad region are formulated,
- A declaration for decision-makers in the Lake Chad region is prepared.

5. FORMAT

The 3rd Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region will be held in N'Djamena, Chad, from 28 to 30 May 2024. This Forum will be a three-day meeting in a hybrid format divided into several sessions. (in-person and virtual) for a wider audience.

High-level moderators will facilitate the meeting and will include plenary sessions and thematic workshops.

The working languages of the Forum will be English and French. LCBC will provide simultaneous interpretation of the event in both languages. All meeting documents will also be available in English and French.

The Forum will end with the presentation and adoption of recommendations and a final declaration to address issues of development, resilience, and fragility in the Lake Chad region.

6. ORGANISATION OF THE FORUM

The Forum will be held for three days. Day one will focus on the opening ceremony, the implementation status of recommendations for the second Forum, and plenary sessions. Day two and three will be devoted to technical workshops and experience-sharing meetings between PIUs of the various projects and programmes of the Basin.

The 3rd Forum will also provide an opportunity for all the development institutions in the Basin and students receiving PROLAC scholarships to exhibit their research at stands so that they can communicate about their activities and inform the public.

The sequential structure is set out in the forum agenda.

7. AGENDA OF THE 3RD FORUM

3RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAKE CHAD REGION

28 - 30 May 2024
N'Djamena – Chad

THEME:

“Enhancing local governance and social cohesion for socio-economic development and food security in a changing climate in the Lake Chad Basin.”

AGENDA

DAY 1		
SESSION 1: OPENING CEREMONY [PLENARY]		Moderator:
8:00 – 9:00	Arrival and registration	Participants
9:00 – 9:30	Remarks by the Chairman of the National Organising Committee	
9:10 - 9:20	Remarks by the Governor of the City of N'Djamena	
9:20 – 9:30	Remarks by the Representative of the World Bank Chad	
9:30 - 9:40	Remarks by the Chairman of the Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum	
9:40 – 9:50	<i>Film on the Lake Chad Basin</i>	
9:50 – 10:00	Remarks by the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC)	
10:00 – 10:10	Remarks by the 1 st Commissioner of the Republic of Chad to LCBC	
10:10 - 10:25	Opening remarks by the Guest of Honour	
SESSION 1: Inaugural Presentation		
10:25 - 10:55	Nexus strategic mechanisms - governance and social cohesion for the socio-economic development of the Lake Chad region	Speaker Prof. Saibou Issa, Cameroon
Official VIP Photo/Exhibition/Student Poster Session		
	Introductory Presentation - LCBC	Technical Director, LCBC

	Security Trends in the Lake Chad Region	ISS
	Q&A Session	Participants
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK	
SESSION 2: Community resilience tools, opportunities, and challenges for agricultural stability		
Moderator: Prof. Robert Ndjouenkeu, University of Ngaoundere		
13:30 – 13:50	Community resilience tools, opportunities, and challenges for agricultural stability	Speaker Kossoumna Liba’a Natali, Cameroon
13:50 – 14:10	Role of state regulatory mechanisms, community leaders, elites, and local organisations in preventing food insecurity	Speaker Prof. Mahamat Foudda Djourab, Chad
14:10 – 14:30	Integrated water resource management in changing climate and local development and social cohesion mechanisms	Speaker Dr Amadou Issoufou Abdourhimou, Niger
14:30 – 14:50	Development of Emerging Economic Value Chains for Inclusion of Women and Youth: Opportunities and Challenges	Speaker Prof. Daniel M. Gwary, Centre for Arid Zone Studies, University of Maiduguri.
14:50 – 16:30	Q&A Session	Participants
16:30	Coffee Break	
END OF DAY ONE		
DAY 2		
9:00 - 09:20.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Outcomes of Day One ❖ Expectations of Day Two 	
SESSION 3. a: Mapping and enhancing local governance actors’ efficiency		
Moderator: Mrs Marthe Wandou, President/Chairperson NGO ALDEPA		
9:20 - 9:40	Actors in local governance and implementation of decentralisation in the Lake Chad region	Speaker Hajja Hamsatu, Nigeria
9:40 – 10:00	The role of Councils in local development under environmental challenges	Speaker Adoum Fortey Amadou, Chad
10:00 – 10:20	Women’s organisations, rural entrepreneurship, and food self-sufficiency	Speaker

		Dr Koultchoumi Babette, Cameroon
10:20 - 11:30	Q&A Session	
TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS/GROUP DISCUSSIONS		
SESSION 3. b: Mapping and enhancing local governance actors' efficiency		
<p>Session 3. b consists of three (3) parallel workshops in different rooms. Practitioners will be invited to share lessons learned from previous and current activities and discuss related challenges and solutions in the Lake Chad region.</p>		
Room A		
11:45 - 12:45	Introduction of the session, the keynote speaker, and the panellists (10 minutes) (setting the scene, presenting the objectives, expected outcomes/key messages and proceedings).	Moderator Prof. Yayé Aissetou Dramé (PhD) ,
	Improving the capacity of Councils to exploit local development potential	Barka Mahamat, Maire Goulfey, Cameroon
	Remarks by panellists	
	Q&A Session	Participants
	Coffee break/Exhibition & Posters	
	Group Discussions 2 Groups	Participants
LUNCH BREAK		
Room B		
11:45 - 12:45	Introduction of the session, keynote speaker and panellists (setting the scene, objectives, expected outcomes and proceedings)	Moderator Prof. Amadou Boureima,
	Capacity building for action of decentralised government departments	Speaker Gondeu Ladiba, Chad
	Remarks by panellists	Panellists
	Q&A Session	Participants
	Coffee break/Exhibition & Posters	Participants

	Group Discussions 2 Groups	Participants
LUNCH BREAK		
Room C		
11:45 - 12:45	Introduction to the session, keynote speaker and panellists	Moderator: Prof. Zakaria Beine (Historian)
	Improving the capacity to design and manage local projects	Speaker Chetima Hamidou, Lord Mayor of Mora (Cameroon)
	Remarks by panellists:	Panellists:
	Discussions Session	Participants
	Coffee break/Exhibition & Posters	Participants
	Group Discussions 2 Groups:	Participants
12:45 - 13:30	<i>Presentation of workshop group discussions in plenary</i>	Participants
LUNCH BREAK		
PARTICIPANTS		
SESSION 4: Knowledge management and research funded by PROLAC-MCRP		
	Introduction of the session, keynote speaker and panellists (set the scene, present the objectives, expected outcomes or key messages and proceedings)	Moderator Prof. Mohammed Mala Daura - Vice Chancellor, Yobe State University Damaturu,
14:30 - 14:50	Presentation of the outcomes of the Mapping of research studies on the Lake Chad Basin, data access and sharing mechanisms, prospects for future research	Speaker Consultant
14:50 - 15:10	Knowledge Management Platform and its sustainability strategy	Speaker PROLAC-LCBC
15:10 - 15:30		Speaker
15:30 – 16:00	Q&A with panellists and experts The moderator presents the participants' questions to the speakers and panellists for further discussion.	Participants

DAY 3		
9:00 - 9:20.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Outcomes of Day Two ❖ Expectations of Day Three 	
SESSION 5: Improving Land and transboundary governance for socio-economic development and social cohesion		
	Introduction to the session, keynote speaker and panellists	Moderator Hajiya Hamsatu Zanna Laminu - MD Alamin Foundation for Peace and Development
9:20 - 9:35	Forced migration, land management and local governance in the Lake Chad region: Case Study of Diffa region in Niger	Speaker Dr Hamet Bachir
9:35 - 9:50	Impact of crises on management structures and economies in border areas	Speaker Abba Shettima, Nigeria
9:50 - 10:15	Stakes, practices, and challenges of integrated border management	Speaker Fombebe Mathias Tayem, Cameroon
10:05 - 10:30	Remarks by panellists	Panellists
10:30 – 11:00	Discussions Session	Participants
-	Q&A with panellists and experts The moderator presents the participants' questions to the speakers and panellists for further discussion.	Participants
Room A		
	Introduction to the session, keynote speaker and panellists	Moderator Prof. Dr Ir. Ali Mahamane, Full Professor, Abdou Moumouni University, Niamey
11:10 - 11:25	Inclusive management of conflict over natural resources	Speaker Prof. Sambo Armel, Cameroon
11:25 - 11:40	Remarks by panellists	Panellists
11:40 - 11:55	Discussions Session	Participants
-	Coffee break/Exhibition & Posters	Participants
11:55 - 12:55	<u>Group Discussions</u>	Participants

	2 Groups:	
Room B		
	Introduction to the session, keynote speaker and panellists	Moderator Prof. Djanrang Manna, Chad
11:10 - 11:25	Managing new migratory trends, providing social services, and preserving social cohesion in expanding communities	Speaker Prof. Mbarkoutou Mahamat Henri, Cameroon
11:25 - 11:40	Remarks by panellists	Panellists
11:40 - 11:55	Discussions Session	Participants
-	Coffee break/Exhibition & Posters	Participants
11:55 - 12:55	Group Discussions 2 Groups:	Participants
Room C		
	Introduction to the session, keynote speaker and panellists	Moderator Prof. Zakaria Ousmane, Chad
11:10 - 11:25	Rehabilitating cross-border facilities and co-development in border areas	Speaker NIGER
11:25 - 11:40	Remarks by panellists	Panellists
11:40 - 11:55	Discussions Session	Participants
	Coffee break/Exhibition & Posters	Participants
11:55 - 12:55	Group Discussions 2 Groups:	Participants
12:25 – 1:00	<i>Presentation of workshop group discussions in plenary</i>	Participants
SESSION 6: Contribution of national and regional projects to the revival of socio-economic activities in the Lake Chad region		
Room A: Moderator: Prof. Aliyu Shugaba - Vice Chancellor, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria		
13:00- 14:00	Contribution of PROLAC and MCRP/ Presentation of research funded by PROLAC-MCRP	PROLAC/MCRP PIUs, Lead Coord/LCBC/Rese archers
Room B:		
13:20 – 14:00	Contribution to other projects and programmes	
14:00 – 15:00 PARTICIPANTS		
LUNCH BREAK		

SESSION 7: CLOSING CEREMONY		
15:00- 15:10	Reading of the Declaration of the Forum	
15:10 - 15:20	Handing of the baton to the Host Country of the 4th Edition of the Annual International Forum on the Development of the Lake Chad Region	PROLAC - Cameroon
15:20 - 15:30	Remarks by the Chairman of the Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum	
15:30 - 15:40	Remarks by the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission	Amb. Mamman NUHU
15:40 - 15:50	Closing remarks by the Guest of Honour	
15:50 – 16:00	VIP Photo Session	VIP
END OF CEREMONY		