African Water Facility

Niger River Basin show case

Financing transboundary cooperation and basin development

Geneva, 05 December 2023







## **Outline**

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1 Niger Basin Project & secured funding

Approach and enabling factors

Lessons learnt and way Forward



Studies for multipurpose infrastructure –agricultural, climate change adaptation and development programme

**Start year : 2014, AWF funding** EUR 717,576 **(50%)** out of EUR 1,452,986

#### **Objective**

• Preparation of multipurpose infrastructure studies for integrated dvt targeting small dams, irrigation, fishing and water reservoirs.

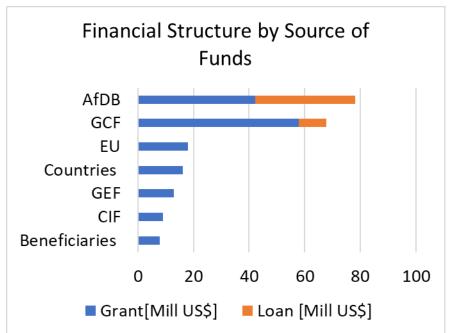
#### Results

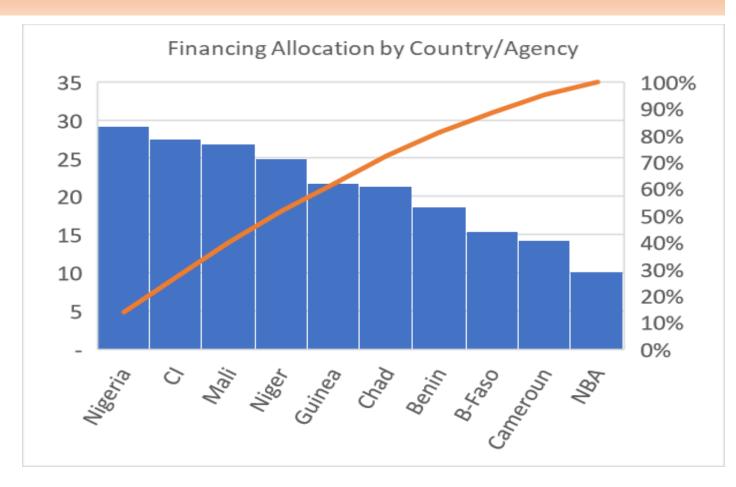
- 9 priority investment projects developed for each country in the basin
- *EUR 210 million secured in blended downstream financing* for 9 national projects. Implementation ongoing targeting ;
  - Recovery of 140 000 ha of degraded land target, 4 million farmers
  - Construction of 209 water infrastructure systems for agro-pastoral & fish-farming activities
  - Implementation of 450 sub-projects for agric. chain dvt and capacity building of 184 youth SMEs



# Niger River basin -PIDACC Program, mobilized (\$ 210 million) for Investment in 2017)







Loan financing 22%; Grant financing 78%



#### APPROACH AND ENABLING FACTORS

### **Approach**

- Supported regional and national water coordination and planning mechanisms
- Climate Resilient Basin-wide Planning multi-sectoral planning, implementation and management of water resources projects based on the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem-Climate nexus approach and IWRM
- Engagement of the potential donors at early stage of the studies-A round table of donors was organized to present the projects and collect funding commitments

#### **Enabling factors**

- Strong Niger River Basin Authority entrusted and empowered by the members states
- Countries trust and commitment at Ministerial level to coordinated planning and investment looking at optimized shared benefits from the common water resources
- Each country prioritizing the projects and earmarking funds for investment
- Packaging the projects as multi-purpose to address the different needs and uses for water
- Showing equity in term of project per country and quantification of benefits for each country
- Mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation and safe guards
- Good water resources data sharing protocols- informing optimized analytical work for water resources allocations
- Co-financing by the countries



#### **LESSONS LEARNT AND WAY FORWARD**

Components of the "studies" were in **perfect alignment with the Niger Basin Authority and countries** to have bankable project documents necessary to mobilized financing for the Projects

Effective governance/institutional arrangements (reforms) anchored at high level

Climate resilient basin level planning with multi-purpose infrastructure (water, food, energy, ecosystem, climate and peace nexus)

**Managing and quantification of country equity -** National projects prioritized and informed by regional plans

Investment program with a climate focused bankable projects to attract climate and blended financing

**Coordinated and built trust in the states-** plan and undertake equitable projects, leverage finance and shared benefits

**Potential financial identification and early engagement** to attract innovative finance (blended finance incl. environment and climate finance)

