

6. Implementation

The strategy described above is a long-term strategy (15–20 years). Its implementation requires the development of an operational action plan, with a short to medium-term timeframe (3–5 years). The action plan (see Annex) identifies priority activities. For each activity or group of priority activities, project sheets are prepared. These sheets give the estimated budget, the key institutional partners and the implementation timeframe.

This action plan is developed by a Working Group including people and institutions represented in the Regional Water and Climate Change Network. This network serves as a special framework for consultation and dialogue, and could be organized around definite strategic objectives. This network includes:

- national focal points on climate change;
- experts from Government institutions responsible for defining and implementing national water policies;
- experts of river basin organizations;
- representatives of national focal points of the Ramsar Convention, the Conventions on Biodiversity and Desertification;
- university scientists or climate research centres;
- representatives of civil society (associations of water users).

In addition to the development of the action plan, the Working Group is also in charge of ensuring the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the regional adaptation strategy and action plan.

CILSS, GWP-WAWP and UICN-BRAO which are the initiators of the process are in charge of setting up and running the Regional Water and Climate Change Network, resource mobilization and execution of the identified projects. As far as the implementation of each project is concerned, suitable institutional partnerships will be required.