Water in Sahel
Humanitarian needs vs. lasting change

WEDNESDAY 28   14 - 15:30 - Room M3

Co-convened by:

WATER HUB · OBSERVATOIRE DU SAHARA ET DU SAHEL · french water partnership fwp pfe partenariat français pour l'eau

With: ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM · unicef for every child · SECOURS ISLAMIQUE FRANCE · SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONAL · SPONG · AFD AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT · URD · oshun · UDUMA

Main takeaways

- 120 participants from 76 organizations (see attached for the list)
- Presentation of UNICEF report part 1 : "water Under Fire"
- Round table conclusions:
- Global recommendations on working with local organizations, the private sector and the nexus agenda in fragile and conflict-affected areas **remain mainly theoretical with little practical examples of good practices**. --> The FWP Working group will dig dipper on good practices and best value-added initiatives.
- There is a real **desire** from Local NGO, private sector and INGO **to work together in complex settings**...
    ... There must be an important focus on "**transferring capacity but not the risks**" --> The FWP should investigate good practices regarding reinforcing capacity and risk management.

Intro - the Sahel region water context: a deficit? By Khatim Kherraz

Source : OMM (2001)   © Club du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest / OCDE 2009
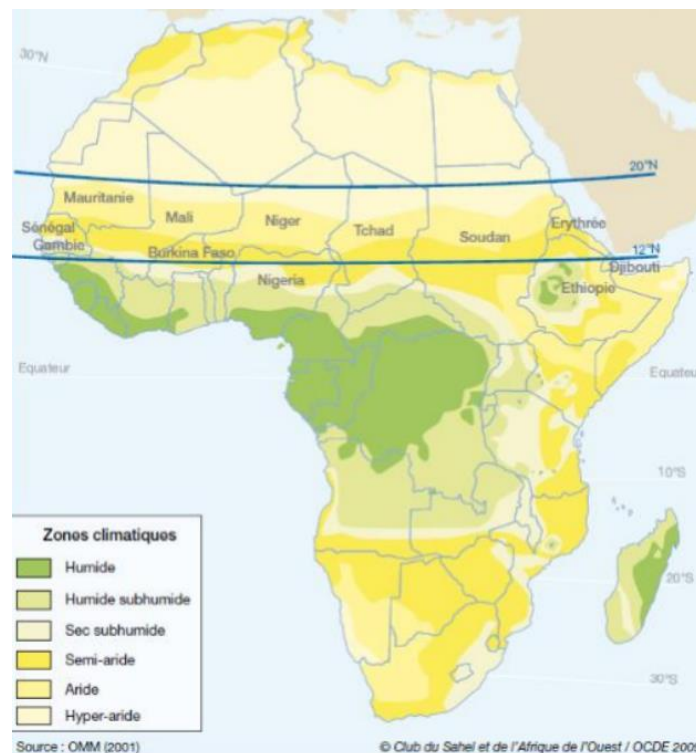
- Surface water is the most used.
- Natural disasters (torrential rains, storms, droughts ...) are increasing (Taylor et al., 2017)
- In 20 years, the availability of water has dropped by 40%.
- This leads to an increase in conflicts of use: for agro pastoral activities, domestic uses.
- Yet The water tables are rich and the most important water resource of the area by its volume, its renewal and its accessibility.

Intro - Sahel region increased security challenges by Francois MUNGER

The Sahel region has experienced a deterioration of its security situation over the last eight years in which access to water and natural resources play a major role in tensions between communities.

Insecurity has spread initially from Mali and Nigeria which both experienced non-state armed groups military campaigns that gradually expanded to their neighboring countries. Whereas in Mali the conflict was originally initiated by a rebellion movement from the North - later overthrown by islamist armed groups, in Nigeria the sect known as Boko Haram gained power and succeeded in setting up armed groups.

This situation has notably been the result of deficiencies in development policies and crisis of confidence in the relations between states and their populations. The community resentment over long awaited basic services proved to be fertile ground for the spread of radicalist ideas. The militarization of certain communities further triggered some push-effect for rival communities to take arms following clashes on access to natural resources or livestock thieves in order to defend their interests. Moreover, the insecurity has caused the suspension of infrastructures projects in fragile areas.

Recent multilateral initiatives aim to address this issue through a "security and development" nexus. This is the case of the G5 Sahel. Older institution such as the Lake Chad Basin Commission also adopted this approach. However their implementation has hitherto been characterised by a focus on the military component. **The vital and strategic aspect of access to water and basic services is underestimated.** Since one year, these nexus organisations have managed to secure funding for their development branch. Yet on the ground, results show only limited progress and there is a clear shift in the mind of the population regarding the ineffectiveness of the nexus approach.

Security experts are warning that as the war in Syria is coming to an end, international islamist mouvements are focusing more on the Sahel as a new ground to cast a global Jihad against Western interests. In June 2019, the Head of states of Ivory Coast and Senegal issued a joint statement expressing their concerns regarding the security in the region and the insufficient capacity of the G5 and the MINUSMA.

In May 2019, UN Secretary General has acknowledged the persistent security issues in the region. He has stressed that "security initiatives in the Sahel will only have a lasting effect if underdevelopment, poverty, governance, the lack of access to basic services and economic opportunities, systematic exclusion and the effects of climate change are addressed simultaneously." The SG calls for a more integrated approach of security operations and development programmes.

In order to contribute to the crafting of solutions for the region, the Geneva Water Hub had organised a roundtable in November 2018 aiming to conceptualise concrete actions in which water is central to development and stabilisation. Its report outlines potential areas for engagement, considering, inter alia, the stakes pertaining to peacebuilding issues, the role of transboundary basin agencies and other interstate structures, the engagement of armed forces, humanitarian interventions as well as the involvement of civil society, the private sector, youth and local populations for actions using water as a driver for peace.

What needs to be set up is ultimately new avenues for coordination between the different types of actors in the region, or in other words to create a contiguum approach to address security and development issues that are

evolving quickly in time and space. This is of particular concern to humanitarian actors which faces the challenges to secure their access to victims of the conflict and meet the growing humanitarian needs

Intro - Escalated humanitarian needs and restricted access by Laura LEFLOCH

Sahel faces an exceptional crisis with the worst humanitarian needs in years. According to OCHA, this year, at least 5 more million people will need assistance (8 may 2019), adding to the 24 million already in need (OCHA 2018). Insecurity is severely disrupting WASH services which were already failing or lacking due to structural factors.
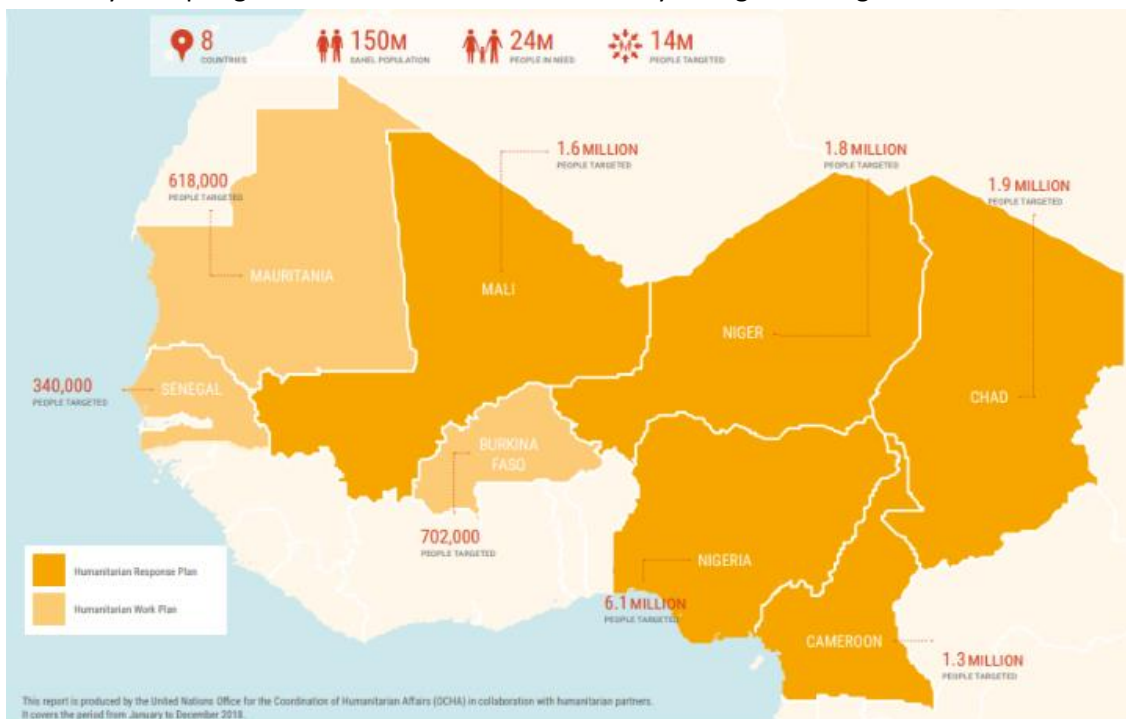
Source: OCHA, 2018 OVERVIEW OF HUMANITARIAN NEEDS SAHEL AND REQUIREMENTS
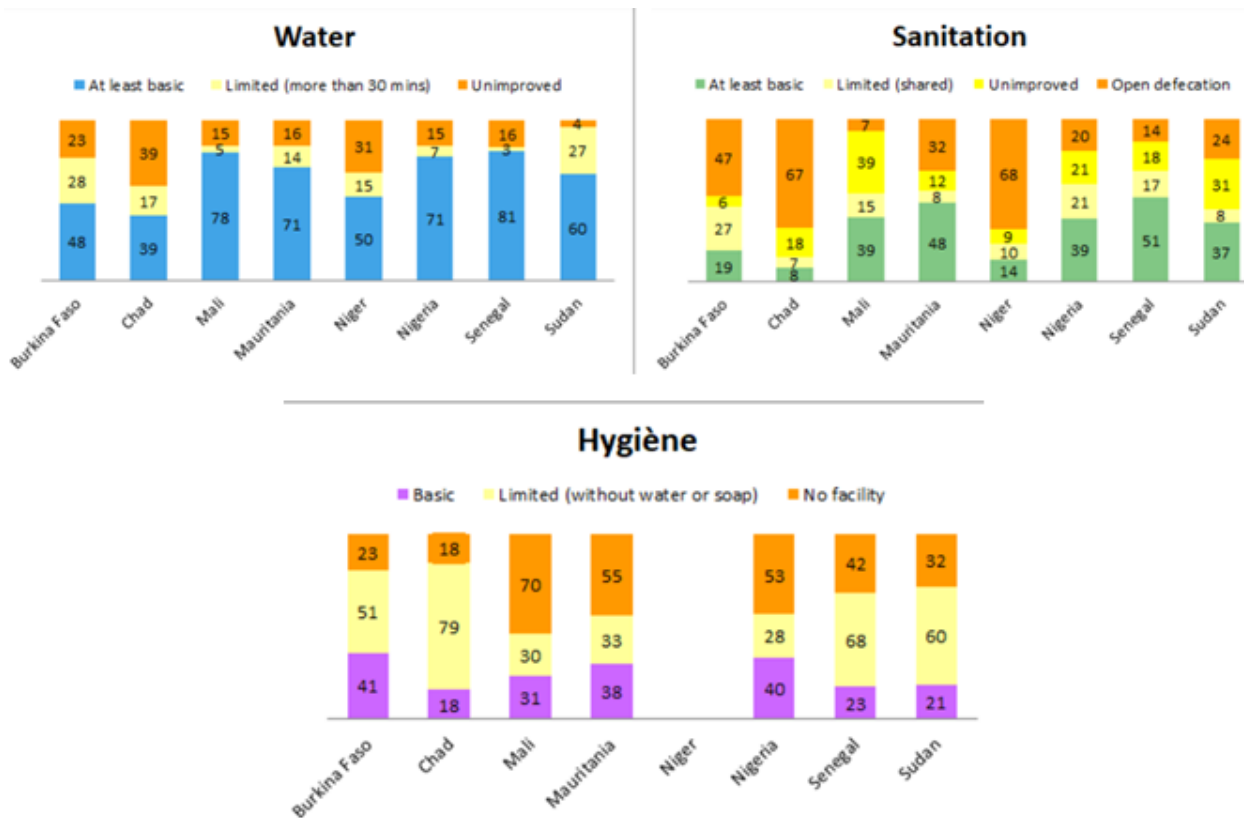
Access to WASH services in 2017. Source : JMP 2019

Accessing the population
Access is constrained as a result of ongoing hostilities. Actors face restrictions of movements. Organisations have to be ready to bear the risks, to engage their responsibility for the protection of their staff and the population their want to work with. A responsibility a lot of actors can't take / are not willing to take. Therefore, many populations remain out of reach. Capacity transfer to local actors is seen as a way to continue services (without transferring the risks).

Another critical issue is the significant insufficient funding for basic services and the quality of funding mechanisms
Needs are currently outpacing available resources. Last year, aid organizations have appealed for 600 (six hundred) million dollars to assist 3.7 million people in BF, Niger and Mali. Four months into 2019, in may, the average funding stands at only 19 (nineteen) per cent (OCHA).
Better quality funding (accessible, flexible and coordinated, targeted to where the needs are) can help implementers build programs that are more adapted to the context, test innovative solutions. Partnership with the private sector is another avenue in that regard.

The confusion between actors in the field, especially humanitarian and military actors
stabilisation forces such as MINUSMA/Sahel Alliance implement quick impact projects to stabilise zones of conflicts. But it is important that humanitarian actors remain perceived neutral and independent by communities and parties to the conflict so they don't become targets, so they can have access to the population, and that they don't endanger the people they work with. the operations of the different actors have to be in adherence with their respective mandates.

These increasing challenges are pushing implementers to adapt their capacity and fill the gaps created by limited resources. How to build new partnerships ? new way of delivering WASH in fragile contexts ?

UNICEF's new report "Water under fire"

Accéder au rapport et au PPT du rapport
Extremely fragile contexts compared with non fragile (JMP, 2019)
- 3x as likely to practice open defecation
- 4x as likely to lack basic sanitation services
- 8x as likely to lack basic drinking water services

WASH SDGs (6.1,6.2)
- 1 in 5 countries on track to achieve basic drinking water target
- 1 in 10 countries on track to achieve basic sanitation target – 9 countries coverage is decreasing
- Financing Gap: estimated at US$114 billion per year globally, of which US$60 billion per year is needed for fragile contexts.

Some messages:
- Stop attacks on water and sanitation infrastructure and personnel.
- Build a WASH sector capable of consistently providing high-quality water and sanitation services in emergencies
- Link life-saving humanitarian responses to the development of sustainable water and sanitation systems for all, while taking opportunities to build peace.

3 growing avenues for sustainable WASH service delivery in fragile contexts - Round tables

1. *Capacity transfer to local actors*

A quick SWOT ANALYSIS was discussed

Force :
- Connaissance du contexte local et des forces en présences (acteurs leviers, lieux d'échanges, …) à force pour le software
- Accès

Opportunities
- Poussée internationale du monde humanitaire avec le Grand Bargain et le « Localization agenda » : volonté de ne plus concevoir les projets sans inclure les bénéficiaires et de faire transiter les financements directement vers les ONG locales
- Existence des National WASH clusters créant des liens avec les OGN locales
- Durabilité des programmes
- Résilience des populations

Limits
- Les ONG locales en contextes de crises et fragilités ne sont pas si nombreuses.
- Les ONG locales sont elles aussi victimes des violences et de la réduction de l'espace humanitaire. Elles ne peuvent pas inconditionnellement intervenir dans ces zones.
- · Les ONG locales sont peu équipées (Peu ou pas accès aux données, moyens de communication limités, technicité …)

Risks
- o Transfert de risques aux acteurs locaux.
- o Délégation sans suivi à baisse de qualité ou effondrement des initiatives (EXAMPLE Lake Chad Bassin Institute)
- o Potentiel manque de neutralité et exclusion (genre, ethnie, …)

Recommandations :
1. <u>Transférer les capacités pas les risques</u> : équipe/accompagner les acteurs locaux dans la gestion du risque (EXAMPLE : ONG INSO)
2. <u>Investir dans la préparation entre les acteurs du développement et de l'humanitaire quand les fragilités s'intensifient</u> pour partage des outils d'intervention : données, outils de communication, capacités,
3. <u>INGO et bailleurs doivent se doter de réelles stratégies de capacity building</u> : investir dans la construction et le maintien de partenariats, partage d'outils, participation au débat internationaux, …

Quelques exemples de transfert de capacités aux acteurs locaux à étudier
- La méthode DO DO « faire faire » (EXEMPLE 1 : au Burkina Faso IONG -> Reseau d'ONG SPONG -> ONG Locales)
- L'investissement dans le renforcement de capacités (EXEMPLE 2 : le Master Humanitaire WASH 2ie au Sénégal
- Les projets WASH en « remote controle » (EXEMPLE 3 : ?)
- Les Rapid Response Mechanisms géré par des acteurs locaux (EXEMPLE 4: ?)

WAYS forward
Like recommended during the global WASH Cluster 2019 annual meeting, implementers/donors should continue to invest in capacity building for surge and preparedness including local actors: security management, skills, communication tools, data collection...

2. *Partnering with the private sector*

Quelles collaborations possibles à toutes les phases du cycle de projet?

- Réalisation de projets d'accès à l'eau potable « clés-en-mains » L'entreprise est en charge de la conception, de la construction & de l'exploitation (études hydrogéologiques, forage, pompage, traitement, distribution, maintenance).
- Prestataire de service classique pour de la MOE ou des contrats de travaux : réalisation de schémas directeurs, études diverses, évaluation de projets, diagnostic (hydrologiques, hydrauliques, économiques, etc.) – Intervention à des moments clés du projet.
- Exploitation/gestion de services public via des contrats de délégation de Services publiques (DSP) de type Gérance ou Affermage ou Concession ou hybride (Constructeur – Investisseur – Gestionnaire) ; Possibilité d'investissements privés (partenariat Public Privé) dans une logique de retours sur investissements
- Innovation: R&D, co-développement d'approche ou de produits innovants en partenariat (eg. type couplage « remote monitoring » et repair en 24h - EXEMPLE 2) (eg. conception d'un nouveau système de détection rapide du Vibrio Cholera – EXEMPLE 3)
- Financement : opportunité d'attirer des sources nouvelles de financement (secteur privé, bailleurs)
- Mécénats de compétences : mise à disposition d'expertise à moindre coût

Quelques recommandations:

- Impliquer le secteur privé le plus en amont possible. Afin de s'assurer qu'on va créer l'environnement permettant de faire en sorte que le secteur privé puisse recouvrer son investissement initial
- Identifier des facteurs de prédictibilité du succès en contexte des fragilités etc.

Ways forwards :

1. Aller chercher **plus d'exemples concrets de mobilisation du privé dans les contextes des crises et fragilités**
2. Il faudrait réaliser **une analyse SWOT basée sur des exemples concrets** (du développement si pas beaucoup de cas humanitaire) afin de capitaliser sur les opportunités/les forces et trouver des solutions face aux limites/les risques.
3. Basé sur l'analyse SWOT, **construire un narratif factuel sur l'intégration du secteur privé dans les réponses WASH humanitaires (avantages & limites)**
4. **Discuter : Plaidoyer avec les bailleurs pour la mise en place de mesures incitatives (encouragements, systèmes de dédommagement ; autorisation des financements en cascades pour encourager les partenariats publics privés de type « investisseur – constructeur – gestionnaire » ou « investisseur – gestionnaire », ...)**

Quelques éléments pour commencer le SWOT

Les avantages de travailler avec le secteur privé

- Fourniture de services d'eau & d'assainissement avec recherche d'une certaine viabilité économique = espoir de durabilité
- Capacité d'innovation & adaptabilité à des contraintes d'un terrain
- Mise à disposition d'Expertise
- Capacité d'investissements
- Élargir notre gamme de réponse : (éviter les Clash de modalités économiques).

Les faiblesses

- N'ont pas pour mandat de s'attaquer aux inégalités
- Les bénévoles ne se rendent pas dans les zones rouges

- limites en ingénierie sociale (pour l'acceptation du service/produit)

Les risques de travailler avec le secteur privé

- Ne fonctionne pas dans tous les contextes, réplicabilité
- recherche de contextes à rentabilité économique.
- Prise de risque limitée – besoin de recouvrir les investissements (or dans les contextes de crises les coûts sont plus élevés et les revenus généralement plus bas).

Opportunités

- Demande existante et croissante pour des services de qualité et durables ; possibilité de créer des services viables économiques (économie de l'eau déjà existantes dans de nombreux contextes ; services informels souvent plus chers que les services formels).
- Opportunité grandissante dans l'accompagnement du risque (ONG de triangulation des informations sécuritaires partagée avec les acteur de terrain INSO)

Les exemples pratiques:

- EXEMPLE 1: UDUMA https://www.uduma.net/
- EXEMPLE 2: Oshun et le remote monitoring/repair en 24h à Dakar à Abidjan et à Ouagadougou.
- EXEMPLE 3: Innovation produit : OmniVis – Developing a water-based smartphone diagnostic device for Yemen and Haiti that uses DNA- amplification to detect the bacteria Vibrio cholerae, which causes cholera, in less than 30 minutes. - Un https://www.omnivistech.com/cholera / (Encore en développement)
- EXEMPLE 4: UNICEF Partenariat Public Privé pour l'eau de boisson (atteindre des prix 15 fois inférieurs à l'eau en bouteille), contact tgrieve@unicef.org from more info).

3. *In parallel to peace Building operation*

- The inclusion of water into the military component of peacekeeping operations must be treated with caution. It should be reminded that UN peace operations have both civilians and militaries.
- Each situation is different and needs to be assessed separately.
- A specific situation in which water should be included is when the peace operations help warrying parties in the negotiation of peace (water may be used as a tool of negotiation).
- The situation of peacekeeping operations administering a territory (like in the case of Kosovo or Timor Leste) is specific. In this case, there is a recognition that ensuring access to water is part of their mandate.
- In the case of MINUSMA in Mali, the access to water is addressed as a quick project. The risk is to ensure the access to water for the civilians as a short-term and not long-term issue.
- The civilians can fear the intervention of military forces of the peacekeeping operations in bringing water. Are they legitimate actors? In traditional systems, people can be afraid to talk with people in uniforms.
- Transfer capacity and not risk;
- Create nexus between energy, water, development and local action- transition mode
- There is a need for REAL capacity building strategy;
- Rely on data collection from local actors
- NGOs have created access to most volatile areas of conflict and have access to both public and private financing

Annexe 1 : list of the 76 participant organisations

Aalto University Water & Development Research Group	MINISTERE DE L'EAU ET L'ASSAINISSEMENT du Burkina Faso
ABHSM	Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
Action Against Hunger	Nairobi CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY
Adelphi	Niyel
Agence Française de Développement - AFD	Nordic Africa Institute
Akvo Foundation - Akvo	Norwegian Church Aid - NCA
Alliance for Global Water Adaptation	Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel
ANEW	OSHUN
Antea group	PATH
Aquatabs	Programme Solidarité Eau - pS-Eau
Arpa EMC	SAHARA AND SAHEL OBSERVATORY (OSS)
Association des Jeunes Professionnels de l'EAH du Sénégal (AJPEAS)	Samaritan's Purse
BGR	SECOURS ISLAMIQUE FRANCE
Cap-Net Lanka	Secrétariat permanent des ONG (SPONG)
CARE International	SIAAP - SIAAP
CIMA Research Foundation	Sida
CNRS	Sightsavers
Coalition Eau	SIWI
CrossVision	Solar-Dripper - NRC Bio Innovation
Deltares	Solidarités International
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit - GIZ	Stockholm Environment Institute - SEI
Embassy of Demark, Ouagadougou	SWISS FRESH WATER
Ericsson	Swiss Water Partnership
ECHO	The Center for Water Security and Cooperation - CWSC
European External Action Service	The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany - BGR	U.S. State Department
firma Thomas Henrikson	UDUMA
French Biodiversity Agency	UNESCO International Hydrological Programme - UNESCO-IHP
Geneva Water Hub	UNICEF
German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR)	UNICEF Sweden
GIZ	University of Eastern Finland
Global Water Partnership - GWP	Uppsala University

Global Water Partnership Central Africa	**Water for Good**
Groupe URD	**WaterAid**
Humana People to People	**World Bank Group**
IHE Delft	**WWW&P Assistants**
International Water Management Institute	