

TFT – Selection of the target site

Hans-Werner Wabnitz

April 2004

A. Criteria

1. Land use by settled farmers (agriculteurs) and by herders and itinerant herders (pastoralists);
2. At least one area of ephemeral wetlands;
3. A “reasonable number” of beneficiaries claiming use-rights in the target area; “reasonable” meaning not too few, and not too many to be interviewed in the remaining time frame of the *first phase* of the Initiative (April 30, 2005); an estimate would roughly be not more than 300 sedentary and equivalent number of herders – but this depends also on who needs to be approached, and who is considered, traditionally, to speak for the family (the fact that eventually every single person needs to be heard is not forgotten, but immaterial in this first assessment);
4. Some interesting historical, environmental or biodiversity feature;
5. Reasonable distance from Aioun, which forms the adm. center for the execution of the Initiative.

B. Process of selection

6. Discussions have been undertaken by task team leader over the course of the years 2002 through 2004 explaining the objectives of the Initiative and the reasons behind the selection criteria with:
 - a) Personnel of the GTZ funded GIRNEM in Aioun Al Atrouss and Nouakchott (German experts as well as Mauritanian counterparts in Aioun Al Atrouss);
 - b) Personnel of the World Bank funded projects “Rainfed” (PGRNMP) and “Community-based” (CBRN) (Bank staff in Nouakchott and Washington as well as their Mauritanian counterparts in Aioun Al Atrouss, Nema and Nouakchott);
 - c) Colleagues in the World Bank knowledgeable of the concept.
7. Fact findings tours have been undertaken by the task team leader:
 - a) in 2000/2001 general summary inspection of some wetlands west of Kiffa and in the vicinity of Nema at the occasion of a judicial fact finding visit;
 - b) in October of 2003 fact finding tour of the task team leader together with staff of PGRNP around Nema and Aioun Al Atrouss (Gaat of _____; Tamourt of Goungel;
 - c) at the same tour fact finding tour together with staff of GTZ to the Tamourt Boichiche (?) and _____;
 - d) in April 2004 fact finding tour with Lars T. Soeftestad, Consultant, Mohamed El Mokhtar N’Diaye (dit Cherif) and Di to the Tamourt of Chlim; the dam of Mambrok; Gaat of Savannah; Tamourt of Oum Lelli; Tamourt Goungel, and discussion of advantages and disadvantages of these sites.

C. Reasons for selection of an area that include Tamourt Chlim, Tamourt Oum Lelli, and Gaat Savannah

8. Three wetlands being used differently: for herders only; for herders and settled farmers, for settled farmers only, respectively;

9. Activity of both partner organizations in the area (GTZ and World Bank) but not over-invested or exploited or contentious;
10. Identification of potential RAMSAR site (Chlim (?));
11. Socio-historical interest in the reasons for the settlement of Tadert; well at Tadert and Savannah;
12. Opposing claims of three tribes to the area of ?????????? in view of potential future donor driven investments.