

Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative

The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative

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The African**wall**



Outline

- I. The GGWSSI: What for?
- II. Mandate of the AU Commission
- III. Achievements/Results
- IV. Lessons learnt
- V. Way forward



I. The GGWSSI: What for?

- The close interaction between Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought, Climate Cchange, Biodiversity loss in drylands, especially in Africa

The Rio triplets and synergy



Source: Car1 / Drynet

I. The GGWSSI: What for?

- The need to Improve the resilience of human and natural systems to Climate Change extreme events (Drought, floods)
- The need to shift from Emergency solutions to Sustainable and Long-term solutions

I. The GGWSSI: What for?

The GGW a realistic idea based on:

- Drylands and Deserts: not just problems but opportunities
- Local experiences in the Sahel:
 - ✓ It is possible to improve and enhance ecosystem services
 - ✓ Sustainable land and water management: basis for adaptation, mitigation, resilience, food security and fight against poverty

I. The GGWSSI: What for?

More than a physical wall of trees, the GGWSSI is a metaphor:

- Raising awareness on drylands development issues
- Mosaic of integrated actions at landscape level
- Long term solutions to DLDD, CC and biodiversity loss





II. Mandate of the AU Commission

- To Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of GGWSSI by countries, RECs and partners.
- To Establish an enabling environment, in particular through:
 - ✓ A common and Shared Vision supported by a harmonized strategy
 - ✓ Knowledge management and sharing of good practices
 - ✓ National action Plans and Projects at national and sub regional levels
 - ✓ Capacity Development



III. Results/Achievements

At regional and sub regional levels

- Harmonized Strategy and Communication strategy
- Capacity Development strategy and action Plan
- Three Cross-borders projects in West Africa (Nigeria - Niger,
Niger - Burkina Faso and Niger - Burkina Faso - Mali)

III. Results/Achievements

At national level

- 10 national GGW Action Plans (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Chad)
- A Project on Ecotourism (Senegal)





III. Results/Achievements

At national Level

- Planting 11 million native trees have contributed to the restoration of 27,000 hectares of degraded land in Senegal
- Construction of infrastructure helps reducing human and animal pressure on natural resources



III. Results/Achievements

At national Level

- Vegetable gardens and income-generating activities



Vegetable gardens, Senegal

III. Results/Achievements



Women and young girls harvesting pepper at Daura, Nigeria

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IV. Lessons learnt: successes

- Keen interest (national, international)
- Partnerships and establishment of a “Great Green Wall community”
- Participation / Real efforts for civil society involvement



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IV. Lessons learnt: challenges

- Coordination
- Ownership (RECs)
- Maintain the momentum with concrete actions on the ground





V. Way forward

- Integrate the GGWSSI in key planning instruments (NAPAs, NAP/UNCCD, CAADP, etc)
- Encourage national governments of AU member states to demonstrate their commitment to the initiative through the funding of GGW national action plans



V. Way forward

- participation of civil society, the private sector, local communities and community-based organizations
- create new opportunities for rural employment, especially for women and youth





V. Way forward

- Strengthen communication to enhance participation and ownership of the initiative by all stakeholders



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Thanks

www.fao.org/partnerships/great-green-wall

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