



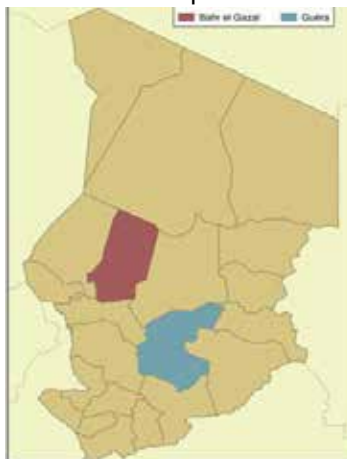
Chad

Resilience

2014/15

Reinforcing resilience capacity and food security in Bahr el Gazal and Guéra

The review evaluated the success of two projects - the 'reinforcing resilience capacity in Bahr el Gazal' project, and the 'Improving the Food Security Information System in Guéra Region' project (usually known by its French acronym as PASISAT), implemented by Oxfam and partner organisations Mostagbal and Nagdora. The aim of the project in Bahr el Gazal was to strengthen adaptive capacity and diversify livelihoods, so people in the region would be less vulnerable to future droughts and other shocks. Activities included distribution of seeds and tools; training on agricultural techniques, market gardening and of community animal-health workers; restocking of sheep and goats; and vaccination of livestock. The main objective of the project in Guéra was to strengthen the region's Food Security Information System by establishing processes under which data on meteorological conditions and crop production are collected regularly by officials within each canton, and submitted to a central coordinating office. Project participants also benefited directly from support in market gardening and training on seed replication techniques, soil conservation and restoration work; and promotion of improved nutritional practices.



Map of Chad. The two areas included in this Effectiveness Review are shown: Bahr el Gazal in red and Guéra in blue.

Project date: February 2011 - March 2015

Evaluation: February 2015

Publication: September 2016

Evaluation Method

The review sought to evaluate the impact the two projects had on households who directly participated in project activities. In Bahr al Gazal, interviews were conducted with a sample of households that were assessed as being 'poor' and 'very poor'- the evaluation here was carried out only in the communities that had received the greatest concentration of project interventions. In Guéra, interviews were conducted with a sample of those who had participated directly in market gardening and seed-replication activities. A 'quasi-experimental' evaluation design was used whereby data from interviews with project participant households, and with households from nearby communities who had not been supported by the projects, were analysed using propensity-score matching and multivariate regression. See the document 'How are effectiveness reviews carried out?' for more information on evaluation design. Full details about the specific evaluation design used in this case are contained in the full report of the Effectiveness Review.

Results

Project outcome	Linked to project logic	Evidence of positive impact		Commentary
		Bahr el Gazal	Guéra	
Crop production and sales	Yes	Yes	Yes	Evidence in Guéra that the project had an effect on increasing the number of vegetable crops produced, the amount sold of staple and vegetable crops, and thus, revenue from the sale of crops. In Bahr el Gazal, the project was successful in increasing the number of staple crops produced.
Adoption of improved agricultural techniques	Yes	Yes	Yes	Evidence that project participants were more likely to implement improved agricultural techniques such as improved seeds and phytosanitary treatment.
Livestock ownership and health	Yes	Yes	Not assessed	Evidence of access to improved veterinary care in Bahr el Gazal and an increased number of livestock vaccinated.
Food security and dietary diversity	Yes	Yes	No	Households in project communities in Bahr el Gazal were less likely to suffer from severe food insecurity.
Indicators of material wealth	No	No	No	No evidence that households in project communities increased in terms of indicators of material wealth (ownership of livestock and other assets, and housing conditions) since 2010 relative to households in comparison villages.
Resilience to future shocks and stresses	Yes	Yes	Yes	Evidence that the projects have lead to improvements in various characteristics thought to be associated with resilience, especially in indicators of access to contingency resources and support, and integrity of the natural and built environment. In Bahr el Gazal, the project also led to improvements in livelihood viability, and social and institutional capability.

Going forward

Learning from this effectiveness review will be incorporated into future projects by both Bahr el Gazal and Guéra programme teams. Resilience dimensions will be better addressed within programmes firstly by conducting training for staff, and by their inclusion in programme strategic documents. Specific intervention and comparison communities will be identified in programmes where future resilience-building activities related to these dimensions will be implemented. Resilience indicators that will measure these activities will be identified and rigorously monitored against well established baselines in both intervention and comparison communities. Regular reviews and studies will provide the opportunity to examine the impact of the activities related to the resilience dimensions. A clear scaling strategy will also be devised to determine if these activities should be scaled. At the inception phase, future projects will consider incorporating behavioural change activities, such as raising awareness on climate change, change and innovation and adopting new practices. The sustainability of interventions will be strengthened through a greater engagement with state authorities, ensuring they have clearly identified roles in future project implementation and encouraging collaboration with their technical services to jointly devise monitoring plans with Oxfam staff.

Photo credit: Andy Hall/Oxfam