



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



NIGER



MCC-NIGER

Sustainable Water and Agriculture Compact

The \$437 million Compact with the Republic of Niger, signed on July 29, 2016, aims to reduce poverty and accelerate economic growth. The Compact seeks to address two major constraints to economic growth in Niger: (i) lack of access to water for productive uses, which inhibits agricultural productivity and household food security; and (ii) institutional and physical barriers to trade, including poor road networks and dilapidated market infrastructure, which create high transaction costs and lower sales volume. The Compact will tackle these constraints with two projects: Irrigation and Market Access and Climate-Resilient Communities. These two projects aim to increase rural incomes through both greater agricultural production and yields, and through increased sales and value for agricultural products. The principal intended direct beneficiaries of the Compact are expected to be 489,359 households (approximately 3.9 million people).

Compact Overview

Irrigation and the Market Access Project: [\$254.6 million]

Through the compact's Irrigation and the Market Access Project, MCC will partner with the Government of Niger to improve access to irrigation, through the rehabilitation and development of three large-scale irrigation systems. Access to irrigation will allow communities to increase crop yields, sustainable fishing and livestock productivity. The project will also upgrade road networks to significantly improve access to markets and services, establish market platforms to competitively position farmer groups in the marketplace and provide technical support to farmers, especially women and youth, to improve performance of their businesses.

In addition, the project will reform policies and institutions, including the creation of a national water resource management plan and natural resource and land use management plans, while strengthening local capacities to apply best practices to sustainably use and maintain irrigation, road and market infrastructure.

Climate-Resilient Communities Project: [\$96.5 million]

The Climate-Resilient Communities Project aims to increase incomes for small-scale agriculture and livestock-dependent families in eligible municipalities in rural Niger by improving crop and livestock productivity, sustaining natural resources critical to long-term productivity, and increasing market sales of targeted commodities. The project will be implemented in partnership with the World Bank through existing project implementation units ("PIUs") located in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.

Both the Irrigation and Market Access and Climate-Resilient Communities Projects will be implemented in the southwestern part of the country, including the regions of Dosso, Tahoua, Tillaberi and Maradi.