

An unique patrimony



Located in the Lake Chad basin, the **Waza Logone floodplain** is an unbelievable location with a significant value for fauna, flora and of course for the Men who are living in.

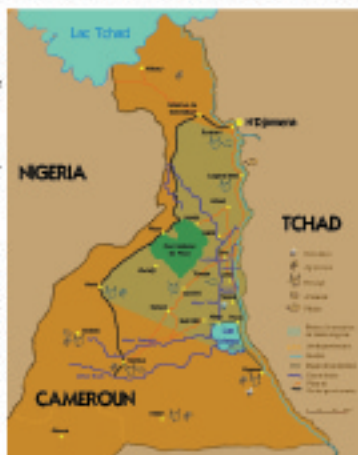
It is also a fragile place, with complex interactions, depending on the mercy of rains and of generosity of floods.

Men also threaten this natural site, through greedy practises on natural resources.

Waza Logone Floodplain : Ramsar site of international importance

The Waza Logone floodplain was designed in 2006 as wetlands of international importance.

With about 8000 km², Logone river influences it for flood as well as the plain influences the Logone river. It's inhabited by several ethnic communities, who practise various activities: fishing, rearing, agriculture, trade, craft industry... More than 200 000 inhabitants live in the floodplain.



Waza National Park

Created in 1934, the rearing reserve of Zina Waza became the Waza National Park in 1968. In 1982, UNESCO classifies the Park as Biosphere Reserve. Dwelling on more than 170 000 ha, the Waza National Park is typical of Sahelian-Sudanian areas.

It's also the most visited National Park in Cameroon.



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Waza Logone Floodplain

Proposals for
protecting, developing, managing

If you want to support the
management plan of Waza
Logone Floodplain,

Or if you want to develop
partnership for this project,

Or if you want to share your
competencies,

Or if you are looking for further
information,

Please contact IUCN!



Central and West Africa Program

Protecting



Built in 1979, Maga dam has privated of inondations the Waza Logone plain for 15 years : fauna and flora declined and men suffered.

In 1994 when reffloodings started thanks to Government of Cameroon and IUCN actions, and with help of national and international organisations, an important

hope happened.

However the situation is precarious.

Now actions have to be driven through management plan elaborated par the Lake Chad Basin Commission, validated in December 2007 by stakeholders.

Acting for Water Resource

Maintaining the reffloodings

Improve management of Maga dam, of its lake and water releases

Improving management of water and its quality

Setting up adaptation strategies for dryness conditions



Acting for Land Resource

Elaborating and validating the strategic plan of the Land Resource of Waza Logone floodplain

Improving agro-pastoral productions systems

Improving management of fishing canals

Acting for Biodiversity

Overseeing species in the area, especially those endangered or invasing.

Monitoring the environment and habitat of these species, especially relative to vegetation.

Elaborating and helping for setting up the management plan of Waza and Kalamaloué National Park.



Identifying and protecting the floodplain means investing for socio-economical development of the whole region of Waza Logone

Developing

Efficient protection of natural species does not exist without a sustainable vision of socio-economical development.

This is the reason why the management plan of the Waza Logone floodplain offers to improve traditional practices.



Improving practices

- **Fishing practices**, setting up of the common rules

- **Rearing practices**, access to grazing and monitoring of water holes...

- **Agriculture practices**, monitoring irrigation and sustainable fertilisation of soils...

Improve access to water

- **for production use** (agriculture, rearing, fishing)

- **for human use**

- **for Waza National Park uses**, in order to limit animals migration outside park limits during dry season.



Promoting

- **New social services**: access the medical care and education, basic social infrastructures...

- **New activities**: beekeeping, fish-breeding, Arabic gum collection, forestry, ecotourism, promotion of cultural patrimony, non timber forest products...



Decreasing the human pressure on natural resources means insuring a sustainable development of activities

Managing

A project like the Waza Logone floodplain can only succeed if local populations are involved in the decision-taking process.

Therefore the management plan is built on participatory management whose goal is to protect and develop the Waza Logone floodplain, selected like a Ramsar site.

Setting up a discussion group with stakeholders to debate on the management of resources:

Identifying resource users and their priorities

Animating a local actors forum, taking into account all stakeholders

Negotiating rules for the resources management between stakeholders



Strengthening actors' capacities

Helping access to micro-financing for agricultural development

Leading towards sustainable organisation of the fishing activities for resource conservation

Improving rearing network

Developing tailored communication system

Creating a structured communication plan

Developing tools

Carrying on financing of local development activities

Promote natural resources and also alternatives activities

Leading towards the application of local development plans.



Deciding and managing together means reaffirming inhabitants' position in the heart of the Waza Logone floodplain