

TEST Niger

Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (TEST) for the strengthening of industries' environmental/social responsibility capacities in the Niger Basin

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PROJECT FRAMEWORK

2018 - 2024

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'Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (TEST) for the strengthening of industries' environmental/social responsibility capacities in the Niger Basin' constitutes component 3 of a larger project supported by the Global Environment Facility International Waters (IW): 'Improving Integrated Water Resource Management, knowledge-based management and governance of the Niger Basin and the Iullemeden-Taoudeni/Tanezrouft Aquifer System (ITTAS)'

\$2,800,000

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CONTEXT

The main objective of the project was to reduce wastewater discharges and pollution loads in the Niger River Basin in partnership with the industrial sector in the region. The three main contributing factors to the decrease of water quality in the Niger River were identified as: industrial, mining, and agricultural pollution. The project focused on enabling private sector manufacturing industries to actively participate in the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in the Niger River basin by reducing their environmental footprint, pollution loads and wastewater discharges in the Niger river aquifer system, through the implementation of UNIDO TEST methodology and the adoption of more Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) methods.

IMPACT

The adoption of harmonized 'Standards for Discharge of Pollutants in the Niger River' by all members states of the NBA represents a key legislative result and transboundary environmental policy instrument for the protection and preservation of water quality in the Niger River. A significant achievement enabling regular water quality monitoring and analytical data sharing was the adoption of the **Memorandum of Understanding** on the modalities of operationalization of the Water Quality and Pollution Monitoring and Data Sharing (WQPM-DS) system between the NBA and its Member States.

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STRATEGY

Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology

Project TEST Niger was designed to identify and address land-based pollution hotspots across the Niger River basin through the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST) methodology to industries in the basin, reducing industrial wastewater discharges and pollution loads in the Niger River, while improving the industries' competitiveness, environmental, social and economic performance.

Applying an "audit" approach into companies' material, energy and water use, the TEST-Methodology proposes solutions to improve economic and environmental performance through more efficient resource management, process optimization and/or investment into environmentally sound solutions and technologies, thereby enhancing the companies' competitiveness and capacity to comply with environmental regulations.

Transboundary Environmental Regulatory Framework

UNIDO and project partners assisted member countries of the Niger Basin Authority in developing transboundary environmental regulatory frameworks and strengthening institutional capacities for Water Quality and Pollution Monitoring and Data Sharing (WQPM-DS).

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Payback Period of Identified Measures







CONTRIBUTING **TO SDGs**











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