



Regional Dialogue and Investment Project on Pastoralism
and Transhumance in the Sahel and Coastal West Africa (PREDIP)

A successful experiment to promote peaceful livestock mobility as a cornerstone of production and marketing systems in West Africa

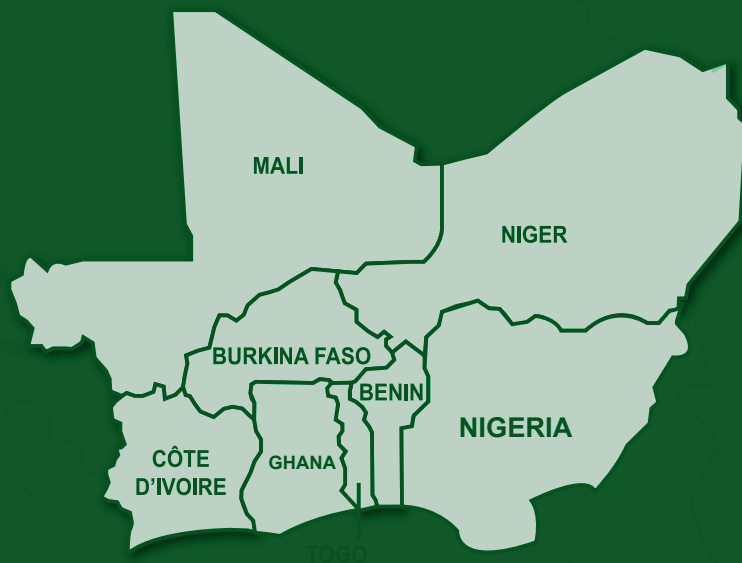


The N'Djamena symposium in the Republic of Chad (May 2013) and the Nouakchott declaration in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (October 2013) have given renewed interest to the livestock sector in view of its significant contribution to people's incomes and food security. The PREDIP (*Projet régional de dialogue et d'investissement pour le pastoralisme et la transhumance transfrontalière au Sahel et dans les pays côtiers de l'Afrique de l'Ouest* - Regional Dialogue and Investment Project on Pastoralism and Transhumance in the Sahel and Coastal West Africa (PREDIP), along with several other regional initiatives (PRAPS, PEPISAO, etc.) was then implemented to promote and enhance mobile livestock farming.

Implemented between 2018 and 2024, PREDIP covered eight (08) countries, including five (05) coastal countries (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo) and three (03) Sahelian countries (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger), with the main approach being to target cross-border areas between the south of Sahelian countries and the north of coastal countries. These areas, which are known to have a high concentration of animals, are also known to be conflict-ridden due to the exploitation of pastoral resources shared between users.

Over the five (05) years of its implementation, PREDIP has provided innovative solutions to the unique challenges of managing pastoral resources, transhumance and interactions between pastoralists and farmers in Sahelian and coastal areas. Whether in terms of improving information systems, sector governance, setting up agro-pastoral infrastructure and facilities or promoting animal health, PREDIP has made significant gains and learnt from its practices.

This summary note presents the Project's main milestones, its achievements, its positive impact, as well as the innovations and best practices that have emerged from its implementation. In view of the challenges that have been met and the results that have been achieved, this brochure also bears witness to the unwavering commitment of all those involved in the successes achieved by PREDIP.



1. Context



A particular context marked by challenges in terms of the management of pastoral resources, transhumance and interactions between pastoralists and farmers in the Sahelian and coastal zones present

The Sahelian and coastal zones present a particular and complex context marked by unique challenges in terms of the management of pastoral resources, transhumance and interactions between pastoralists and farmers. Five (05) main contextual challenges justified the PREDIP's formulation and implementation.



1. Recurrent land and pastoral conflicts due to competition over the use of grazing land and access to natural resources. These conflicts hamper cross-border transhumance and compromise the food and economic security of local populations.



2. Inadequate and/or deteriorating agro-pastoral infrastructure and facilities for herd management, and poor cooperation between countries in monitoring cross-border animal diseases, are major obstacles to effective and peaceful cross-border transhumance.



3. Inadequate epidemiological surveillance of transboundary and zoonotic animal diseases, exposing herds and populations to major health risks.



4. Weaknesses in the sustainable management of practices in a context where it is essential to promote sustainable and innovative pastoral practices, particularly in terms of pasture management and the restoration of degraded rangelands to mitigate environmental impacts and strengthen community resilience.



5. Shortcomings in the regulatory and institutional framework, particularly in the application of policies and regulations on pastoralism and transhumance at regional and national level. In addition, there is a lack of reliable information and data on the livestock sector, which makes it difficult to formulate appropriate policies and strategies.

Meeting all these challenges means, above all, promoting peaceful livestock mobility as the keystone of production and marketing systems in West Africa.

2. PREDIP,

an integrated and innovative solution for peaceful livestock mobility



PREDIP was born out of the EU's ambition to help find appropriate solutions to conflicts over access to and exploitation of pastoral resources in cross-border areas shared by Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo. Priority areas of concentration or corridors have been identified in these countries with all the stakeholders within six (06) major routes/corridors:

- 1) Mali (Sikasso region) - Northern Côte d'Ivoire;
- 2) Burkina Faso (Hauts Bassins region) - Northern Côte d'Ivoire;
- 3) Burkina Faso (Centre-South region) - Northern Ghana;
- 4) Niger (Tillabéri region) - East of Burkina Faso - Benin – Togo;
- 5) The Niger - Nigeria route;
- 6) The Nigeria - Benin route.

The consolidation of the partnership between the European Union and the Inter-Governmental Organisations (ECOWAS, CILSS and UEMOA), as well as the Regional Farmers' Organisations in these areas, has made it possible to support people in pastoralism and cross-border transhumance in the light of emerging needs by including new topics (value chains, pastoral economy, strengthening cross-border dialogue, etc.).



PREDIP is therefore an initiative whose overall objective is to sustainably strengthen the contribution of pastoralism and cross-border transhumance to food and nutrition security, equitable socio-economic development and regional integration in West Africa.

To achieve this overall objective, four (04) specific objectives have been defined as follows:

- Help facilitate and improve decision-making in the field of pastoralism and transhumance.
- Facilitate peaceful cross-border transhumance and improve nutrition.
- Secure the mobility of herds and their access to pastoral resources and markets.
- Help reduce transboundary animal diseases that have an impact on animal and human health.

These specific objectives make up the priority areas or main Components of PREDIP's intervention.

3. The five (05) PREDIP priorities



broken down into Components and supported by regional actors

PREDIP's main objectives have been broken down into five (05) Components, each coordinated by different service providers with their own intervention framework.

Component 1 (C1)

Regional Pastoral Information Service (SRIP)



Objective: Improve the management of information and knowledge on pastoralism and transhumance



Main implementing partner:
Centre Régional AGRHYMET (CRA)



Budget and funding:
€3.1 million (European Union)



Implementation period:
December 2018 to December 2023,
with a 12-month extension from
December 2022



Contracting structure:
Delegation of the European Union
(DUE) Niger

Component 2 (C2)

Regional Dialogue Project for Peaceful Transhumance in West Africa (PRODIATA)



Objective: Create conditions for peaceful cross-border transhumance and improve nutrition



Main implementing partners:
Care International Denmark, with a
consortium of partners including SNV,
APESS, ROPPA, RBM



Budget and funding:
€4.1 million (EU and third-
party contributions)



Implementation period:
August 2018 to June 2023,
with a 5-month extension from
February 2023



Contracting structure:
DUE Burkina Faso

Component 3 (C3)

Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets (PAMOBARMA)



Objective: Secure herd mobility and access to pastoral resources and markets



Main implementing partners: Acting for Life, with a consortium of partners (RECOPA, URFBV, GAJEL, OPEF, AEBRB, AJELAMO, AREN, ANOPER, CIKOD, GDCA, APSS-Nigeria, GEVAPAF, FENAPFIBVTO, VSF-B)



Budget and funding: €11.75 million (EU, Agence Française de Développement)



Contracting structure: DUE Burkina Faso



Implementation period: September 2018 to September 2022

Component 4 (C4)

Contrôle des Maladies Transfrontalières en Afrique de l'Ouest (COMATAO)



Objective: Maîtriser les maladies animales transfrontalières ayant un impact sur la santé animale et humaine



Main implementing partner: Centre Régional de Santé Animale (CRSA)



Budget and funding: €3.75 million (EU)



Implementation period: October 2019 to March 2024, with a 12-month extension from March 2023



Contracting structure: DUE Mali

Component 5 (C5)

Coordination régionale



Objective: Coordonner, suivre et évaluer la mise en œuvre des composantes opérationnelles



Main implementing partner: Secrétariat Exécutif du CILSS



Budget and funding: €4 million (EU)



Implementation period: August 2018 to March 2024, with a 9-month extension from June 2023



Contracting structure: DUE Burkina Faso

Between 2018 and 2024, PREDIP's implementation has mobilised total funding of more than €27.1 million, including €25 million from the EU and around €2.1 million in contributions from third parties (AFD and others). This funding has made it possible to cover all the main Components to help achieve the results set.

4. Achievements and performance

in line with expectations



In line with the priority areas, **four (04) main operational** results were initially set.



Result 1

A regional pastoral information service is set up and operational.



Result 2

Dialogue and governance on cross-border transhumance are strengthened to mitigate conflict risks and improve nutrition for children and women.



Result 3

Cross-border pastoral infrastructure and facilities are built and managed sustainably.



Result 4

The coordinated epidemiological surveillance, prevention and management system for priority transboundary diseases is operational.

PREDIP's achievements and tangible results in five (05) years of implementation testify to the commitment of stakeholders and partners to promote sustainable pastoralism and peaceful cross-border transhumance in the region, reflecting its significant impact on food security, regional governance and animal health in the West African region. Efforts to capitalise on the project's achievements, using the « ongoing capitalisation » approach (which allows practices to be documented throughout the project's implementation phase), have made it possible to identify and enhance the project's achievements by each intervention.



Troupeau transhumant dans le District de Fumbisi au Ghana



Component 1 (C1)

Regional Pastoral Information Service (SRIP)

The implementation of Component 1 has significantly improved pastoral stakeholders' access to reliable and dynamic integrated technical information.



Objective:

Improve the management of information and knowledge on pastoralism and transhumance



Main achievements:

Setting up a Regional Pastoral Information Service (SRIP)



Main results achieved:

- **Production of operational knowledge** and spatial analysis through:
 - o 3 scientific articles produced;
 - o A thesis written;
 - o 58 newsletters on the agropastoral campaign and bush fires produced.
- **Dissemination of knowledge** and spatial information relating to pastoralism and transhumance, using ad hoc tools such as:
 - o A functional digital library containing over 2,000 documents relevant to pastoralism (<https://agrhyment.omekas.mind-and-go.net/s/bibnum-cilss/page/Bienvenue>);
 - o A geoportal containing up-to-date biophysical data and pastoral infrastructure (<http://geoportail.cilss.int>);
 - o A dashboard.
- **Building the capacity of local and national stakeholders** to use the information and knowledge produced to improve the effectiveness of decision-making:
 - o 2 classes of 41 professionals cofinanced for a Master's degree in pastoralism;
 - o 300 professionals trained to use the geoportal and the digital library;
 - o 140 people trained in participatory cartography, data processing and analysis using QGIS;
 - o 7 experts trained in the use of drones, including two with certificates.
- **Providing agro-pastoralists with reliable technical information tailored to their needs**, so that they can optimise their tactical and strategic herd management choices and reduce their exposure to risk:
 - o 1 rural radio information system involving 45 community radio stations in Niger and Benin;
 - o 1 mobile phone information system developed to cover more than 3 million producers;
 - o 1 document capitalising on best information dissemination practices;
 - o And so on.

Component 1 has a planned activity completion rate of 88% and an overall financial completion rate of 91%.



Component 2 (C2)

Regional project dialogue for peaceful transhumance in West Africa (PRODIATA)

The implementation of Component 2 has led to a lasting strengthening of dialogue and governance of cross-border transhumance.



Objective:

Create conditions for peaceful cross-border transhumance and improve nutrition



Main achievements:

Strengthening dialogue and governance on cross-border transhumance



Main results achieved:

- **Improved governance of cross-border transhumance through**
 - o Boosting cross-border consultation frameworks;
 - o Capacity-building for the judiciary in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger;
 - o Capacity building for 3 National Transhumance Committees (CNT) (Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger);
 - o 2 round table meetings on resource mobilisation organised by the CNTs of Mali and Burkina Faso;
 - o Regional consultation with CNTs from the Sahelian and coastal countries;
 - o 2 multi-stakeholder innovation platforms in Korhogo, Côte d'Ivoire, and Builsa, Ghana, for dialogue to prevent and manage agro-pastoral conflicts;
 - o 12 community watch-keeping relays in Korhogo and Builsa;
 - o Meetings to raise awareness amongst transhumant herders following the ban on transhumance in Benin;
 - o And so on.
- **Improving the existing regulatory framework** for cross-border transhumance and promoting its implementation at regional and national level:
 - o Training of 50 magistrates and 195 other actors on the issue of land tenure in relation to pastoralism;
 - o Support for the preparation of 3 case files and their submission to the courts to protect 1,150 ha of grazing land for 2,702 livestock farmers in the Dosso region of Niger;
 - o Support for 680 livestock farmers from the village of Karey Gorou in the Departement of Kollo (Niger), to take their case to the contentious chamber of the State Council to obtain the annulment of Order No. 0122/MUL/SG/DGU/A/DU of 20 June 2014 approving and making enforceable the Saga Fondou Plateau subdivision plan, thereby protecting a grazing area;
 - o And so on.
- **Improving public perception of transhumant livestock farming** in the PREDIP zone and more widely in the ECOWAS/CILSS zone
 - o Carrying out a study on people's perception of transhumance, commercial transport and conflict management versus the socio-economic contribution of pastoral mobility in coastal countries;
 - o Drawing up an advocacy note to ensure that nutrition and transhumance issues are taken into account in communal development plans (PDC),
 - o Production of important materials and tools to raise awareness amongst livestock farmers;
 - o And so on...

Component 2 has a 94% completion rate for planned activities and an overall financial completion rate of 98%.



Component 3 (C3)

Livestock Mobility Support Project for Better Access to Resources and Markets (PAMOBARMA)

The implementation of Component 3 has significantly improved pastoral stakeholders' access to reliable and dynamic integrated technical information.



Objective:

Secure herd mobility and access to pastoral resources and markets



Main achievements:

Cross-border investment to promote local economic development



Main results:

- Marking out/securing 1,482 km of livestock tracks
- Construction of 43 water points
- Construction of 10 livestock markets
- Development of 28 grazing/rest areas totalling 1906 ha
- Georeferencing and mapping of the various infrastructures.
- Construction of 14 cattle feed banks and the purchase of 1,100 metric tonnes of cattle feed
- Construction of 15 loading platforms
- Construction, refurbishment and equipping of 7 veterinary posts.

Component 3 has a planned activity completion rate of 83% and an overall financial completion rate of 99%.



Component 4 (C4)

Transboundary Disease Control in West Africa (COMATAO)

The implementation of Component 4 has enabled the operationalisation of the epidemiological surveillance, prevention and management system for priority transboundary animal diseases.



Objective:

Control transboundary animal diseases with an impact on animal and human health



Main achievements:

Establishment of an epidemiological surveillance, prevention and management system for priority transboundary diseases



Main results achieved:

- **Setting up a functional regional framework for efficient, effective, and coordinated epidemiological surveillance:**
 - o A virtual platform for collaborative communication
 - o An assessment of the reference epidemiological situation for TADs, including zoonoses, made,
 - o Animal health data collection tools developed and validated,
 - o A Regional Animal Health Information System (RAHIS) for ECOWAS Member States set up,
 - o Technical and financial capacity building for more than 8 laboratories in the PREDIP area,
 - o Several training courses for laboratory technicians and animal health workers,
 - o Support for the operation of national epidemio-surveillance networks in data collection and analysis,
 - o And so on.
- **Facilitating access to veterinary medicines, bio-medical services, and vaccines of guaranteed quality:**
 - o 8 national discussion meetings in the 8 countries on the application of the regulations on veterinary medicinal products in order to take stock of the regulations in force concerning the import, distribution and control of veterinary medicinal products, vaccines and biological products and to assess the level of application of the regulations in this field.
 - o And so on.
- **Implementation of increasingly coordinated and effective vaccination campaigns** along corridors and between countries:
 - o Development and validation of regional strategies (regional animal health and welfare strategy; livestock identification and traceability strategy),
 - o Organisation of annual evaluation workshops for joint cross-border vaccination campaigns,
 - o And so on.
- **Development and implementation of regional vector-borne disease control plans:**
 - o Development of a regional strategy for the control of trypanosomoses and tick-borne diseases,
 - o Implementation of small-scale pilot testing activities to implement the regional strategy for the control of trypanosomoses and tick-borne diseases,
 - o And so on.

Component 4 has a 79% completion rate for planned activities and an overall financial completion rate of 80%.



Component 5 (C5)

Regional Coordination

The implementation of Component 5 has helped to establish the pillars of effective PREDIP management and coordination.



Objective:

Coordinate the implementation of the project to ensure the coherence of all interventions



Main achievements:

Establishment of an effective system for PREDIP coordination, monitoring-evaluation, and capitalisation



Main results achieved:

- Internal coordination

- o Support for the harmonisation of the Components' logical frameworks,
- o Support for the preparation of planning and reporting documents (16 AWPBs, 8 half-yearly reports and 8 consolidated annual plans),
- o Organisation of field missions to provide institutional support and advocacy for the Components (in Niger, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Togo),
- o 9 PREDIP Technical Committee meetings organised to improve project management.
- o And so on.

- External coordination

- o Establishment of an operational mechanism for synergy between PREDIP Components and with other CILSS pastoralism projects,
- o Support for coastal countries in the process of validating their PRIDEC documents (support for the 4 countries in organising PRIDEC validation workshops and the Regional Component),
- o Creation of a mapping tool on the infrastructures of projects and programmes on pastoralism and transhumance in the Sahel and West Africa (complementing PREDIP's geo-referencing system),
- o Setting up a coordination mechanism with the Components and the countries through the AFPs on the Components' exit strategy to ensure the sustainability of the gains made at the end of the project,
- o Support for the contract extension process for Components 1, 2 and 4.
- o And so on.

- Capitalisation

- o 11 capitalisation products published, including 5 best practice sheets and 6 capitalisation notes,
- o 1 regional website created and maintained (<https://predip.cilss.int>),
- o And so on.

Component 5 has a planned activity completion rate of 88% and an overall financial completion rate of 91%.

5. Difficulties encountered



PREDIP has encountered a number of difficulties in its implementation, which have been overcome thanks to the proactivity, involvement and commitment of those involved in its implementation. The difficulties included:

- The complexity of the project's technical set-up, which resulted in the juxtaposition of 5 different projects (each with its own logical framework, strategy and area of intervention).
- Weaknesses in the technical monitoring and evaluation system, which has not provided human resources for monitoring and evaluation activities for each Component,
- Insufficient financial resources allocated for certain activities (monitoring and evaluation, project and programme mapping study, etc.),
- Administrative red tape involved in issuing certain permits (aerial photography, particularly in Niger and the northern part of Benin),
- Difficulties encountered by country technical focal points,
- The security situation, which limits the mobilisation of teams in the field,
- And so on.

For PREDIP, these difficulties have been sources of learning that add to the important knowledge generated during the five (05) years of project implementation.



6. Lessons learnt

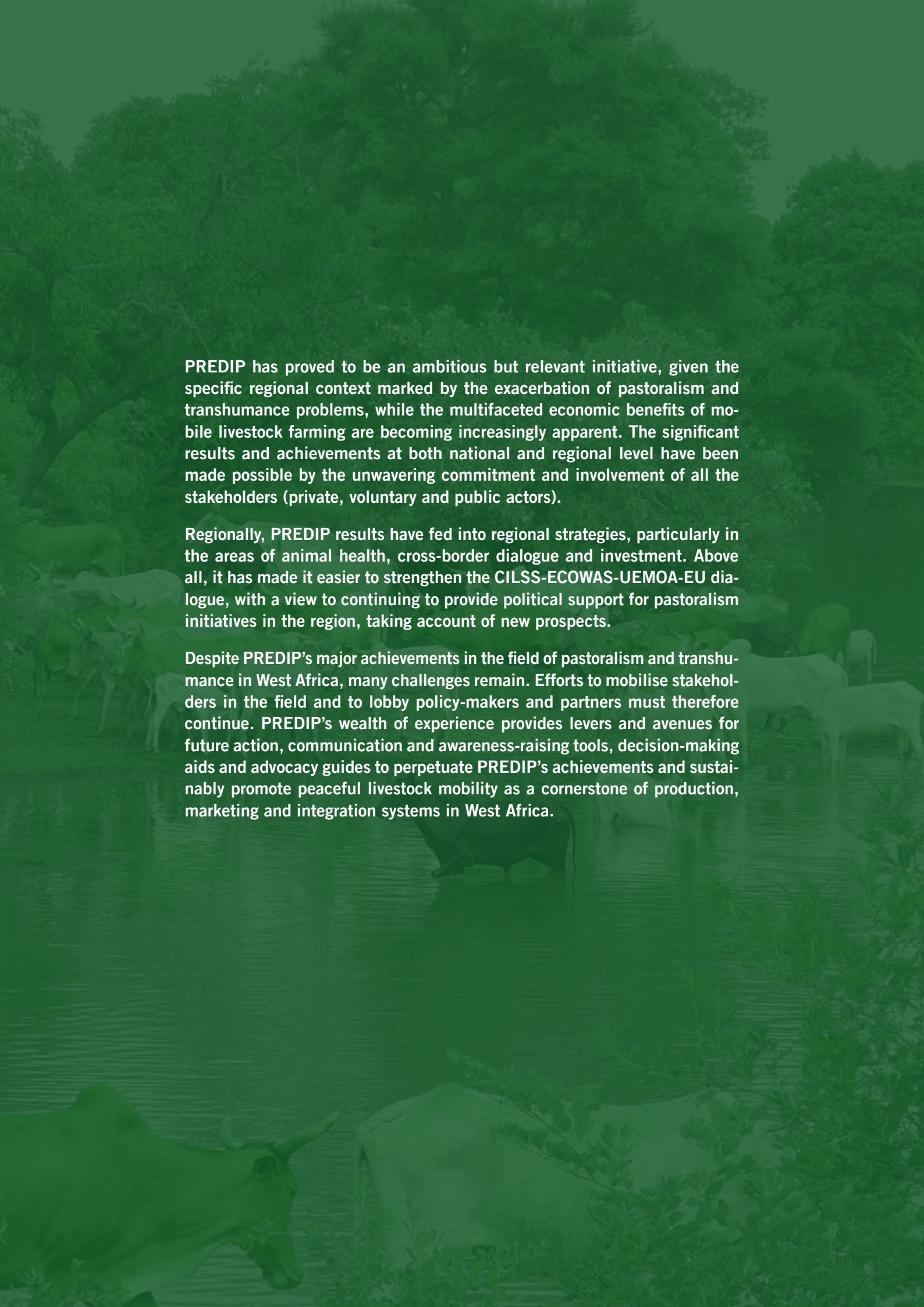


The challenges overcome and successes achieved during the implementation of PREDIP have yielded valuable lessons, providing essential insights to guide future interventions.

- Interactive radio programmes provide livestock farmers with access to reliable information for better decision-making,
- Multi-stakeholder innovation platforms for natural resource management are a constructive dialogue tool for peaceful transhumance,
- National Transhumance Committees must be revitalised to ensure good governance of cross-border transhumance,
- Legal and judicial assistance to livestock farmers remains an effective means of securing land tenure,
- Setting up committees to draw up usage charters to monitor and manage agro-pastoral facilities,
- Regional coordination of vaccination campaigns helps control transboundary animal diseases,
- Setting up administrative focal points is an effective way of implementing regional projects,
- Dialogue and consultation at all levels ensure synergy between players and the success of interventions.

The experience gained has already been put to good use in other projects designed to address the region's new challenges (PRIDEC, PRADEP-AOS, etc.). Today, **the new challenges for future interventions are combined in terms of:**

- Continued efforts to revitalise cross-border consultation frameworks,
- Support for the operationalisation of the Regional Observatory of Mobile Livestock Production Systems in West Africa and the Sahel,
- Continued collaboration and synergies with projects and programmes on pastoralism and transhumance,
- Capitalise on investments made to develop new initiatives coordinated by IGOs
- Scaling up of best practices and lessons learnt.



PREDIP has proved to be an ambitious but relevant initiative, given the specific regional context marked by the exacerbation of pastoralism and transhumance problems, while the multifaceted economic benefits of mobile livestock farming are becoming increasingly apparent. The significant results and achievements at both national and regional level have been made possible by the unwavering commitment and involvement of all the stakeholders (private, voluntary and public actors).

Regionally, PREDIP results have fed into regional strategies, particularly in the areas of animal health, cross-border dialogue and investment. Above all, it has made it easier to strengthen the CILSS-ECOWAS-UEMOA-EU dialogue, with a view to continuing to provide political support for pastoralism initiatives in the region, taking account of new prospects.

Despite PREDIP's major achievements in the field of pastoralism and transhumance in West Africa, many challenges remain. Efforts to mobilise stakeholders in the field and to lobby policy-makers and partners must therefore continue. PREDIP's wealth of experience provides levers and avenues for future action, communication and awareness-raising tools, decision-making aids and advocacy guides to perpetuate PREDIP's achievements and sustainably promote peaceful livestock mobility as a cornerstone of production, marketing and integration systems in West Africa.

