



Republic of Niger

## Impact evaluation of the Food Security and Economic Development of Maradi Region Project (PASADEM)

AFREA – Abidjan 14 March 2019

Independent Office  
of Evaluation

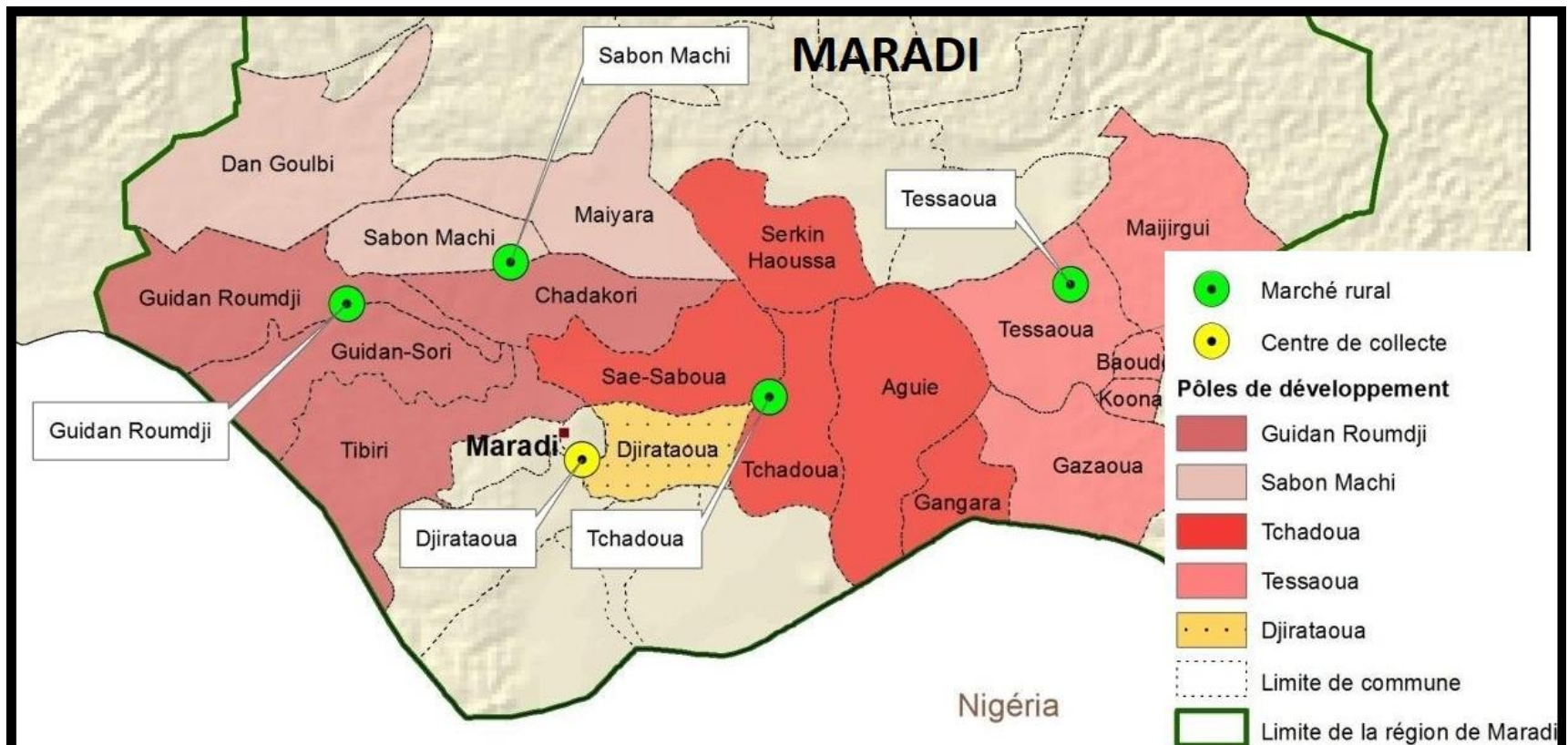
 **IFAD**  
Investing in rural people





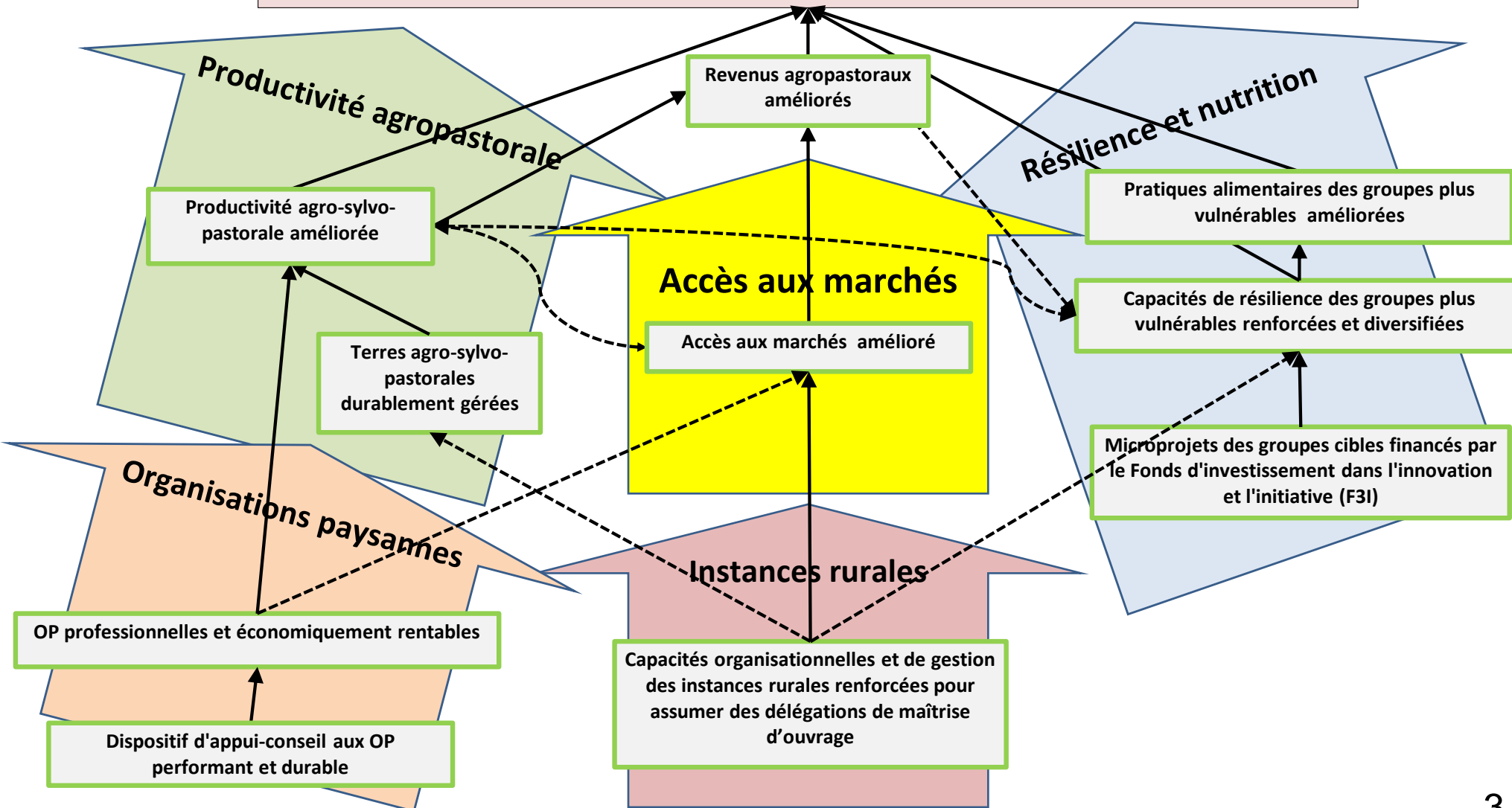
# Short presentation of PASADEM

- **Durée: 2012-2018**
- **Coût total: 33,8 M d'USD** (FIDA, PAM, FEM, Gouv., bénéficiaires)
- **5 Pôles de développement économiques**
- **273 villages - 65 000 ménages ciblés**



# Theory of Change of PASADEM

*Conditions de vie, sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle et résilience améliorées de 65 000 ménages ruraux autour de 5 pôles de développement économiques dans 18 communes de la région de Maradi*



# Favourable factors for the impact assessment

1. Easy access to documentation and people
2. Existence of household monitoring database for a representative sample of households in 35 villages
3. Good KM efforts on key interventions
4. Existence of a GIS (incomplete)
5. Good collaboration of the project team of the follow-on project in the region
6. Decent national expertise in conducting surveys

# Main challenges of the impact evaluation

1. Identification of beneficiary villages and households
2. Distinguishing the effects of various components of the project
3. Evaluability of certain impacts
4. Contamination by other projects
5. Resources limitations (financial and time)
6. Insufficient baseline data

# Impact evaluation methodology

- Preparatory mission
- Review of project documents
- Household Quantitative Survey (HQS)
- Participatory Narrative Survey (PNS)
  - Empowerment of women in the household
  - Producers' bargaining power
- Qualitative assessment mission

# Quantitative Household Survey

- Household monitoring database (baseline situation)
- Appropriate data typology
  - Approved Food Security Indicators (FCS, HDDS, CSI)
  - Recall
  - Perceived trend
- Combination of different methods of analysis
  - Propensity score matching (PSM)
  - Difference in difference (DID)
  - Endogenous treatment effect (instrumental variable)

# Participatory Narrative Survey

- New research method rarely used in impact evaluation
- Steps:
  1. Collecting short stories about personal experiences
  2. The stories are self-interpreted by those who have told them through a questionnaire
  3. Software-assisted catalysis of stories (NarraFirma)
  4. Participatory analysis to deepen, explain and generalize observed trends.



# Participatory Narrative Survey (story example from the PNS-Women)

**Prompting question: If you think back over the past 5 years, do you remember a decision made in your household that was important to you? How did that happen? What was the impact on your household?**

"Two years ago, I remember the day I told my husband to take my goat and sell it. He agreed with this proposal which had made him happy. As the school year approaches, I have to meet the needs of my three children who attend primary school. I have to buy them supplies and even clothes and make a reserve for their recreation.

My husband went to the Kolta market to sell it. He sold it at 20,000 FCFA. I was pleased and happy with the sale of my goat because I have at least goats in my possession that I can sell when a need is felt and it is thanks to the support of PASADEM. I can support myself and my children at any time."

# Participatory Narrative Survey (story example from the PNS-Markets)

**Prompting question: When thinking back over the last five years, can you think of an experience where you were really happy or disappointed with a transaction you made with a collector? How did that happen?**

"Last year, at Sabon Machi's market, I did a nutsedge sale that did not satisfy me. I brought 7 bags of which 5 did not belong to me. As soon as I arrived close to the market, a collector I know well and who usually comes here to the village to buy our products saw me and told me he was interested. I agreed to sell him because of our relationship. He asked me if I knew the price. I told him no. He informed me that the bag costed 15000 francs, he even swore and asked me to go to the market to inform me if he did not believe it. I trusted him and I accepted this price. When I came to the market, to my surprise, I found the bag at 17500 francs. I quickly looked for my buyer. I informed him of the situation. He told me that I needed to understand the market and it was just after I sold him my bags that the price went up. He only wanted to make fun of me and I responded to him accordingly. People came to separate us and I left the market for the village all sad."

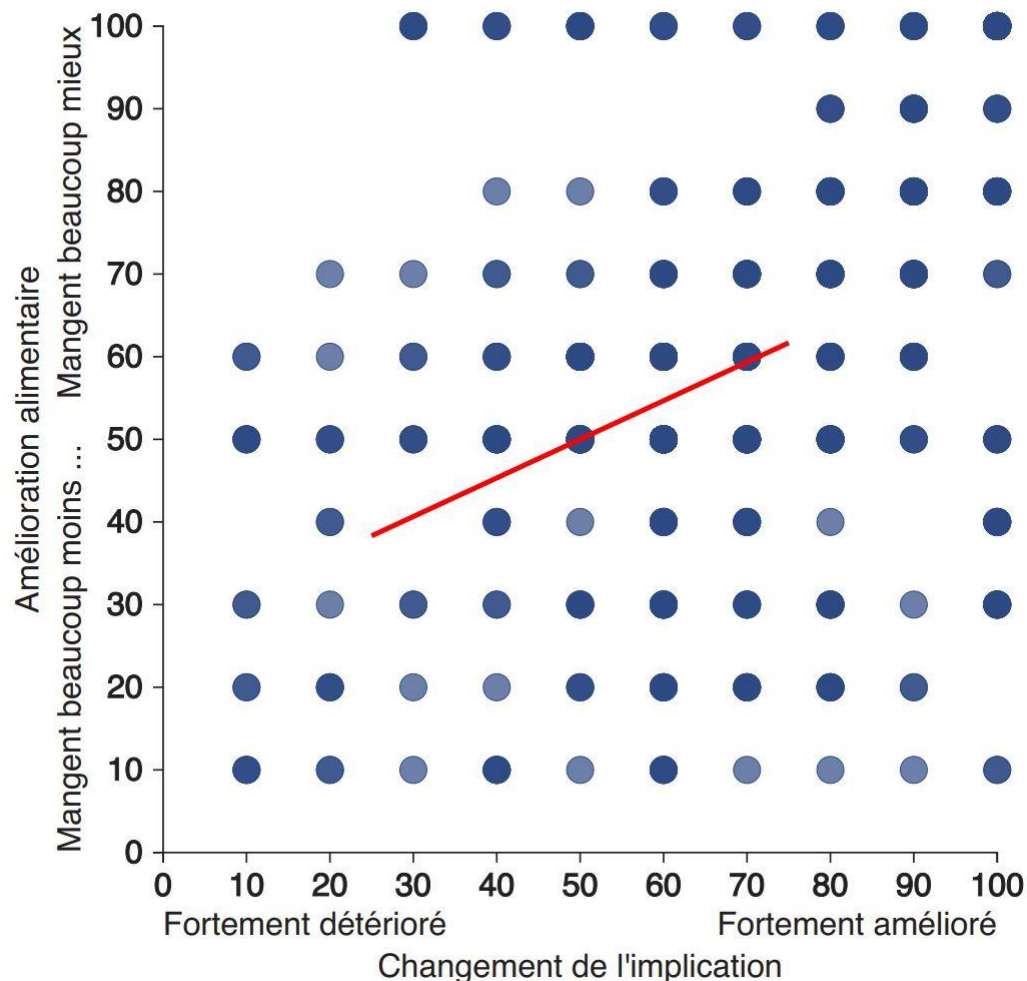
# Self-interpretation questionnaire

<p>C3. Comment vous sentez-vous par rapport à cette histoire? [Choix multiple – max 3]</p> <p>[1] Heureuse [2] Triste [3] Mécontente [4] Respectée [5] Non respectée [6] Plein d'espoir [7] Sans espoir</p>	<p>C4. Pour combien de temps pensez-vous vous rappeler de cette histoire?</p> <p>Curseur: Peu de temps /-----/ Pour le reste de ma vie</p>	<p>C5. Quand l'histoire a-t-elle eu lieu?</p> <p>[1] Il y plus de 5 ans [2] 3-5 ans [3] 1-2 ans [4] moins d'un an</p>
<p>C6. Comment les hommes dans votre ménage se sentiraient-ils s'ils vous entendaient raconter l'histoire, exactement comme vous me l'avez racontée maintenant? [Choix multiple – max 3]</p> <p>[1] Heureux [2] Triste [3] Mécontent [4] Respecté [5] Non respecté [6] Indifférent</p>	<p>C7. Parlons de la décision qui a été prise dans l'histoire. Lorsque la décision a été prise, quelqu'un vous a-t-il demandé ce que vous vouliez?</p> <p>[1] Pas du tout [2] Un petit peu [3] Moyennement [4] Beaucoup</p>	<p>C8. Pensez-vous que vous devriez être impliquée dans la décision prise dans l'histoire?</p> <p>[1] Pas du tout [2] Un petit peu [3] beaucoup [4] Complètement</p>

# Catalysis

- Visualization of self-interpretation responses and relationships between them with graphs
- Formulation of observations on trends and interpretations (hypotheses) to explain them through the reading of selected stories
- Grouping of interpretations into research themes

p: <0.0001; Spearman's rho: 0.4672; n: 507; No answer: 56



# Participatory analysis

- Expert Focus Groups
- Group discussion with women and producers
- Themes identified through catalysis
- Discussions are launched by reading of a sample of stories around selected themes





# Lessons learned

- Use of the household monitoring database provided a baseline situation and allowed matching based on pre-project characteristics
- Combination of several methods of quantitative analysis allowed to evaluate the different components of the project and to compensate for the limitations of each method
- Sample of small villages: reduction of external validity
- The PNS helped to better understand and generalize social dynamics, and to assess the social impacts of the project
- PNS gave voice to targeted populations in data analysis
- But PNS require know-how and high motivation of the investigators

# Thank you!

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