

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This document is an addendum to the Regional Development Plan report completed in January 1999¹ and is also a component of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the Chad portion of the Chad Export Project. The EMP describes the measures that have been proposed to ensure environmentally sound management and mitigation of anticipated negative impacts during the construction and operational phases of the Chad portion of the Chad Export Project (the Project). The Project is designed to exploit crude oil reserves of three fields located in southern Chad in the Sous-prefecture of Bébédjia in Prefecture of Logone Oriental. The oil will be transported over 1070 km to the Atlantic coast of Cameroon near the town of Kribi *via* a pipeline. In Chad, the pipeline will run about 180 km from near the village of Komé to the border with Cameroon on the Mbéré River southwest of Baibokoum. The construction phase of the oil field installations will last about 2.5 years and will employ about 3 000 workers in Chad (2 000 Chadians). In addition, about 800 laborers will be engaged in pipeline construction at any one time though in Chad this will last only about three to six months. The production phase of the Project will last 25-30 years during which time between 400 and 600 people will be employed in the area around the oil fields. Based on an oil price of \$15 per barrel, the Project will generate about \$2.745 billion (1 647 000 million FCFA) in revenues for the Government of Chad. Of this sum, about \$137.25 million (82 350 million FCFA) will be disbursed directly to the region of production to be managed by local, decentralized authorities.²

The objective of this report is to outline appropriate measures to mitigate the anticipated indirect impact of the Project resulting mainly from the immigration of people seeking employment or moving to the region in expectation of other tangible benefits. The immediate purpose of this is to ensure that the potential long-term benefits for development in the region are not owing to the excessive economic, social and environmental costs associated with a large influx of unemployed immigrants. If measures are not implemented to minimize speculative immigration and to provide essential services and resources to the itinerant population, their needs could severely compromise the region's ability to sustain future development. Today, the region already suffers from inadequate social services and many natural resources are being depleted because of poor management practices. The approach that will be adopted in this report is to examine first the immediate requirements to limit immigration to people who have guaranteed employment and, second, to identify specific activities that will help reduce the socioeconomic burden of a large immigrant population. The terms of reference for this study are presented in Appendix A of this document.

¹ Preparation of a Regional Development Plan for the Chad Export Project : Evaluation and Preliminary Practical Recommendations. Prepared by Andrew Watson and Masra Tamtanga Ngoidi.

² According to the terms of Law No. 001/PR/99 of 11 January 1999 on the management of petroleum revenues. This Law can be found in Volume 4 Part II of this EMP.

Delimitation of the Zone Covered by the Regional Development Plan

