Regional Strategy

In 2018, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, with support from the African Union and UNDP, launched a Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience (RSS) for the Lake Chad Basin regions affected by the crisis. The RSS ‘seeks to establish a common approach and an inclusive framework for all stakeholders to support a timely, coordinated, and effective transition from stabilization to early recovery and the resumption of stalled development processes’ (LCBC, 2018).

The RSS is implemented through Territorial Action Plans (TAPs), developed under the auspices of the Governors of each of the eight target territories in the Nigerian northeastern states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states, the Diffa region in Niger, Lake region and Hajder-Lamis region in Chad and the far north and north region of Cameroon.

Civil society’s engagement in the implementation of this Strategy is key and NGOs and community-based organizations have a particularly significant role to play in the TAPs. To this effect, the RSS has envisioned the set-up of a Regional Civil Society Organizations (CSO) platform, with the aim to articulate civil society’s role in the implementation of the Strategy’s TAPs at the regional, national and territorial levels.

DIMS Vision

The Directory and Information Management System (DIMS) is a three-year initiative launched by the Lake Chad Basin Commission in April 2021, to create the information management space for the LCBC Regional CSO Platform. DIMS supports civil society’s active engagement in the TAPs, nourishing their cross-border collaboration and organizational sustainability.
Through the DIMS, the LCBC takes a “whole of society approach” engaging and vitalizing one of the region’s greatest assets, its diverse and abundant civil society.

DIMS is inclusive, bringing in as many CSOs as it can who meet minimum criteria of TAPs relevance and accountability. Through DIMs, even the smallest CSOs can grow and collaborate with other CSOs and external partners. For the more advanced CSOs, opportunities to scale programming, increase organizational sustainability, provide peer-to-peer support and seek direct facilitated funding will be offered.

Engagement in the DIMS is voluntary with CSOs explicitly agreeing to make certain key organizational data and competencies publicly available.

All data stored in DIMS Private will be kept confidential and of exclusive ownership of each CSO until its management decide to share parts or the totality of it with the users of the external portal, or DIMS Public.

Contact:
RSS Secretariat: Shereen Dbouk, CSO Advisor, DIMS Project Coordinator: shereen.dbouk@undp.org
iMMAP: Koen Van Rossum, Program Manager, Civil Society Organizations: kvanrossum@immap.org

Features
DIMS will produce a digital platform with offline and online features, accessible to the broad range of CSOs engaged in the TAPs. The platform will have two main components:

**DIMS Private:** Civil Society Organizational Strengthening portal, providing a confidential space for CSOs to take stock of organizational and programmatic ambitions, assess strengths and weaknesses against key benchmarks, network with complementary organizations and access relevant knowledge and resources.

**DIMS Public:** A comprehensive public facing CSO directory: ensuring the visibility of CSO efforts and needs in the TAPs, providing opportunities for partnerships, cross territorial and cross border cooperation, and synergies across the humanitarian, development and peace building nexus. In addition, the DIMS Public provide an overview of CSOs’ strengths and capacity challenges, allowing for tailor-made focused external support.

The Approach
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iMMAP Partners
DIMS is a LCBC initiative implemented by iMMAP. iMMAP provides information management (IM) services to humanitarian and development organizations, enabling informed decisions and targeted assistance to the world’s most vulnerable populations. iMMAP collaborates with the NGO Roots and Transition – R&T for the CSO engagement component of the DIMS Project. R&T helps meet the need for new and flexible solutions and tools in the face of continual changes and emergencies.

Personnel
Number of personnel: 6

- Women: 1
- Men: 5
- National: 8
- International: 8

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