

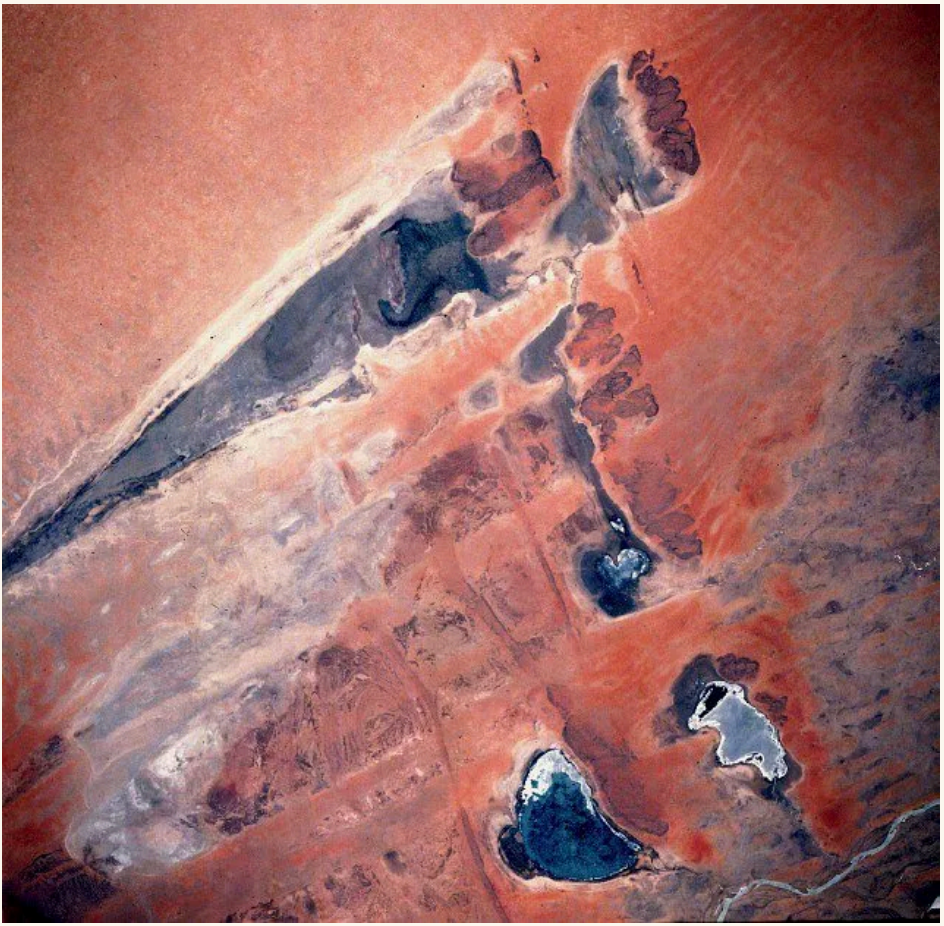
MCQ Question · mcqquestion.com

Lake Faguibine: West Africa’s Vanishing Lake

Free · Share

Lake Faguibine: West Africa’s Vanishing Lake

Once one of West Africa’s largest freshwater lakes, Lake Faguibine in Mali has largely dried up. A real decline, with three plausible-sounding distractor lakes still full.



NASA satellite image of Lake Faguibine, Mali, showing its dried, desert-like basin. Photo: NASA, Wikimedia Commons, Public Domain.

Which West African lake actually dried up

Faguibine, not Victoria, Volta, or Oguta

01
Lake Faguibine

In Mali, largely dried up, now desert-like terrain.

02
Lake Victoria

Wrong African region. East Africa, not West Africa, still one of the world's largest lakes.

03
Lake Volta

In Ghana, a huge artificial reservoir, still full, still West Africa's largest lake.

04
Lake Oguta

In Nigeria, a genuine, still-existing freshwater lake, unrelated to Faguibine.

Lake FaguibineA once-large Malian lake, historically fed by a channel from the Niger River, now largely dried up.
Sahel drought Repeated severe droughts across the Sahel belt since the 1970s, a major cause of Faguibine's decline.
Kondi channel The feeder channel connecting Faguibine to the Niger River, now silted and dredged in restoration attempts.
Lake Volta Ghana's huge artificial reservoir, West Africa's actual largest lake, unlike the dried-up Faguibine.

Which West African Lake Actually Dried Up?

Must Know

Faguibine, Not Victoria, Volta, or Oguta

- Lake Faguibine, in Mali, has largely dried up. Much of its former lakebed is now desert-like terrain.
- Lake Victoria sits in East Africa, not West Africa, and remains one of the world's largest freshwater lakes.
- Lake Volta, in Ghana, is a huge artificial reservoir. It remains full and is still West Africa's largest lake.
- Lake Oguta, in Nigeria, is a genuine, still-existing freshwater lake, a different, unrelated lake from Faguibine.

Quick check 1. Q1. True or False: Lake Faguibine, in Mali, has largely dried up into desert-like terrain. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Quick check 2. Q2. True or False: Lake Victoria, the lake that dried up in this question, sits in West Africa. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Quick check 3. Q3. True or False: Lake Volta, Ghana's huge reservoir, has also dried up like Faguibine. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

How Faguibine Dried Up, and What Comes Next

Good to Know

A Niger River Channel, Cut Off by Drought

- **Faguibine was historically fed by a channel connecting it to the Niger River, once making it one of West Africa's largest freshwater lakes.**
- Repeated Sahel droughts since the 1970s, combined with silting of its feeder channel, cut off the lake's water supply.
- Communities who once fished and farmed around Faguibine lost their livelihoods as the lake dried, forcing many to migrate elsewhere.

> **Quick check 4.** Q4. True or False: The Niger River historically fed Lake Faguibine, before drought and siltation cut off its supply. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

> **Quick check 5.** Q5. True or False: Repeated Sahel droughts beginning in the 1970s are most associated with Faguibine's decline. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Restoration Attempts and Wider Context

- Mali's government and international partners have tried dredging the Kondi channel to restore Niger River flow into Faguibine, with limited and uneven success.
- **NASA satellite imagery has documented Faguibine's decades-long shrinkage, making it a frequently cited real-world example of desertification on the edge of The Sahara Desert.**

- **Faguibine sits within the wider Sahel belt covered in The Geography of Africa.**

Quick check 6. Q6. True or False: Mali has attempted dredging the Kondi channel to help restore water flow into Lake Faguibine. *(True or False?)* See answer ↓

Think it through, before reading on. Lake Volta is also in West Africa and faces its own environmental pressures. So why doesn't Volta get picked as the "dried up" lake instead of Faguibine?

Show the explanation

Lake Volta is a huge artificial reservoir, created by damming the Volta River for hydropower. It remains full and is still West Africa's largest lake by surface area, even though reservoir levels can fluctuate with rainfall. Faguibine, by contrast, lost its actual water source when its feeder channel from the Niger River silted up during repeated Sahel droughts, and has never been artificially replenished the way a dammed reservoir can be.

Remember the trap. Faguibine dried up. Victoria, Volta, and Oguta did not.

Quick Q&A

Which West African lake has largely dried up?

Lake Faguibine, in Mali.

Which river historically fed Lake Faguibine?

The Niger River, through a channel now silted up.

When did the Sahel droughts most linked to Faguibine’s decline begin?

The 1970s.

What has Mali attempted to restore Faguibine’s water flow?

Dredging the Kondi channel, with limited success.

Previous Year Question

PYQ

A Lake That Turned Into Desert

🔗 Related Topics

- **The Aral Sea: An Environmental Disaster** — another lake destroyed by upstream water diversion and drought, closely paralleling Faguibine's decline.
- **The Geography of Africa** — the wider Sahel geography Lake Faguibine and Mali sit within.
- **The Sahara Desert** — the desert directly encroaching on Faguibine's former lakebed as Sahel drought continues.
- **Lake Turkana: The Jade Sea** — another African lake under serious threat from reduced river inflow.
- **The World's Major Drainage Systems** — the Niger River basin Faguibine's feeder channel once connected to.
- **Why Savanna Grassland Stays Treeless** — another West/Central African ecosystem shaped by the same seasonal drought and rainfall patterns.

✅ MCQ on Lake Faguibine: West Africa's Vanishing Lake

🎲 More World Geography Practice

Practice MCQs

1. Which West African lake has largely dried up, turning into desert-like terrain?

A. Lake Oguta

B. Lake Volta

C. Lake Victoria

D. Lake Faguibine

See answer ↓

2. Which river historically fed Lake Faguibine, before drought and siltation cut off its supply?

A. Niger River

B. Senegal River

C. Volta River

D. Nile River

See answer ↓

3. Which decade's onset of repeated Sahel droughts is most associated with Lake Faguibine's decline?

A. 1970s

B. 1930s

C. 1950s

D. 2010s

See answer ↓

4. What has Mali's government attempted, with limited success, to help restore water flow into Lake Faguibine?

A. Building a new dam on the Niger

B. Dredging the Kondi channel

C. Diverting the Senegal River

D. Constructing a desalination plant

See answer ↓

Answer Key

1. **D.** Lake Faguibine, in Mali, has largely dried up. Its former lakebed is now mostly desert-like terrain. ↑ Q1
2. **A.** Faguibine was historically fed by a channel connecting it to the Niger River, once making it one of West Africa's largest freshwater lakes. ↑ Q2
3. **A.** Repeated Sahel droughts starting in the 1970s and 1980s, combined with silting of its feeder channel, cut off the lake's water supply. ↑ Q3
4. **B.** Mali's government and international partners have tried dredging the Kondi channel to restore Niger River flow into Faguibine, with limited and uneven success. ↑ Q4

Quick-check answers

1. **True.** ↑ 1
2. **False.** ↑ 2
3. **False.** ↑ 3
4. **True.** ↑ 4
5. **True.** ↑ 5
6. **True.** ↑ 6

Curated by Arsalan Zuberi · mcqquestion.com



Scan to read online

https://mcqquestion.com/articles/worldgeo0062-lake-faguibine-west-africas-vanishing-lake/