



Photo: PNUD, Burkina Faso

## BURKINA FASO CASE STUDY

September 2010

### STRENGTHENING ADAPTATION CAPACITIES AND REDUCING THE VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN BURKINA FASO

<b>Country</b>	Burkina Faso
<b>Region</b>	Western Africa
<b>Key Result Area</b>	Agriculture/Food security Natural Resource Management <i>Keywords: Agro-sylvo pastoral sector, community centered approach, capacity building, information exchange, monitoring</i>
<b>Project ID</b>	3978
<b>Project Activity Dates</b>	Start: 2009 End: 2013
<b>Key Stakeholders</b>	Farmers in the agricultural sector and people in the communities of Burkina Faso.

## ABSTRACT

The

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ISSUES

### *Background/Baseline*

Climate changes are evident throughout Burkina Faso. The eastern and southwestern parts of the country, which generally have more favourable weather, are increasingly hit by high temperatures and pockets of drought. The government is helping villagers dig wells and build small water reservoirs to better utilize the country's scarce water resources.

Human activities like excessive cutting of trees, overgrazing of livestock and more intensive farming deepen the problems. In the east, "we see growing pressure on the land, especially around protected conservation areas, rivers and lakes," notes Antoinette Ouédraogo, president of a women's development association and a member of a national climate change experts' group. Those pressures, she told Africa Renewal, include the uncontrolled clearing of land, poaching of wildlife and migration of livestock as herders from the north search for new pastures. Such environmentally harmful practices worsen the impact of climate change.

### *Problem*

According Burkina Faso's NAPA identifies the vulnerability of the agriculture sector to climate change, including variability, as a key national priority for economic development. LCDF resources are requested for a programmatic approach to supporting adaptation. In particular, resources will be used to meet the additional cost of strengthening relevant national and sub-national capacities and institutions in the agriculture and water sectors in Burkina Faso to manage climate change pressures.

Assessments undertaken during the NAPA process and the Initial National Communication (INC) demonstrated that the regions of Sahel, Middle -West, Mouhoun, Cascade and Middle -North, all located in the Sahelo-Soudanian climatic zone (where the annual rainfall ranged ranging from 200 to 750 mm) , are likely to be worst affected. Two major long-term risks have been identified, including (i) the reduction of the annual rainfall by -3.4% (2025) to - 7.3% (2050) (this includes the reduction of precipitation levels by 20-30% (by 2050) between July and September, key months for crop growth); and (ii) the increase of average temperature by 0.8° C (2025) to 1.7° C (2050). Despite a number of autonomous measures to overcome current climate pressures, anticipated climate change, including variability, is likely to compound problems facing the sector even further. Given the dominance of the agriculture sector, with 86% of the working population engaged in pastoral and agro-forestry activities, and accounting for 40% of the national GDP, adaptation is of paramount importance to Burkina Faso.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

### *Major Goals- Potential Indicators for Monitoring Adaptation*

**Project objective:** The project's overall goal is to enhance Burkina Faso's resilience and adaptation capacity to climate change risks in the agro-sylvo-pastoral sector. The specific objective of the proposed project is to implement priority interventions that will reduce vulnerability of communities and food-production systems in Burkina Faso threatened by changes in mean climatic conditions and climatic variability.

It will seek to achieve the following outcomes:

**1. Capacity to plan for and respond to climate changes in the agro-sylvo-pastoral sector**

- Sectoral legislation, policy and planning/ programming frameworks revised to account for adaptation to climate change.
- Consultation and partnership mechanisms leading to field level synergies amongst all projects in this field.
- In six communes, commune level extension agents have knowledge and tools for integrating climate change into farm level agro-sylvo-pastoral activities.

Successful Practice	
Key Successes	One of the key successes of the project is...
What Factors Supported Success	This success is supported by...
Relevant Information	...

- In three Provinces, Provincial technical officers have the knowledge and tools for integrating climate change into agro-sylvo-pastoral related sectors.
- Strengthened capacity to collect and manage data and information.
- The national, regional and provincial food security monitoring and response system has adapted to the risks of climate change.

**2. Risk of climate induced impacts on agriculture productivity reduced**

- In Mounkuy, Souri, Safi, Koboure, Tin Akoff, and Bangawa villages, the communities are constantly adapting their agro-sylvo-pastoral related activities to the negative effects of climate change.

**3. Lessons learned and best practices from pilot activities, capacity development initiatives and policy changes disseminated.**

- The pilot villages regularly exchange information and experience.
- Tool for collecting and storing all the lessons emanating from project.
- Project lessons learnt shared with local partners and international agencies (including scientific community).

**Solution: Adaptation Approach, Components and Description**

This project addresses urgent priorities...

**Mainstreaming Components**

In terms of mainstreaming adaptation in the communities of Burkina Faso, both the central government and the regional administration will be critical partners.

**PROJECT CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS**

**Major Challenges**

- The main barriers encountered...

## Adaptation Questions

- How can the agricultural sector adapt to climate change in order to increase food security?
- How can communities adapt their agro-sylvo-pastoral related activities to the negative effects of climate change?
- What lessons can be learned from the community-centered approach?
- How can information on climate change be effectively presented to influence decision makers?

## LESSONS LEARNED

### Results and Learning

In order to enhance Burkina Faso's resilience and adaptation capacity to climate change risks in the agro-sylvo-pastoral sector, the project must encapsulate systemic, institutional and individual capacity to respond to climate change in the agricultural sector, demonstrate the best practices in climate resilient agro-pastoral production for sustainable improvement of food security, and disseminate the knowledge learned throughout all sector levels.

To reach this objective, the highest amount of funding (\$11,722,298) out of all the project components went towards demonstrating the best practices in climate resilient agro-pastoral production, where hopefully, the risk of climate induced impacts on agro-sylvo-pastoral productivity were reduced through the understanding, testing and adoption of best practices through a community-centered approach.

With a rural population that has a low capacity to adapt, with climate changes forecasted to be very significant, and with the majority of the population engaged in economic activities that are highly vulnerable to climate change, Burkina Faso is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, and this project must be successful for the sake of Burkina Faso's economic and humane future.

This project has the most potential at the local level because many of the people in villages will have implemented or be implementing specific actions to adapt to climate change, which will directly lead to a significant number of people benefiting from increased food and economic security. At local levels, the main result of this LDCF project is for 6 villages, with a total population of approximately 15,000, to have developed strategies to adapt to climate change. Accordingly, in a less risky climate, the villagers can be expected to contribute more to livelihood and economic development.

The most significant and urgent impacts of climate change in Burkina Faso, as identified by the NAPA, are forecasted to be on the agriculture, livestock and agro-forestry sectors in the Sahel and Sudan-Sahel Zones. These impacts, imposed upon existing climate variability, pose a threat to the entire integrated development model currently being followed through much of rural Burkina Faso, and are likely to reverse previous advances towards the MDGs. This project will support climate resilient development in six pilot villages. It will broadly build capacity to support villages across several administrative Provinces, and appropriately strengthen the national enabling environment. The project will build upon a baseline consisting of rural development and economic livelihood development in the agriculture, livestock and agro-forestry sectors.

### Key lessons learned:

**1. Determine management arrangements through institutional assessments conducted during the preparatory phase:** At the national level management arrangements were determined based on an institutional assessment undertaken during the preparatory phase. Additionally, the existing committee responsible for the preparation of the NAPA and for the Second National Communication to the UNFCCC will act as Project Steering Committee (PSC). The PSC will be responsible for support, policy guidance and overall supervision of the project. The PSC is specifically responsible for: validating key project outputs, notably annual work plans, budgets, technical reports and progress; monitoring and evaluating project progress.

**2. Establish Synergies and Coordination by close physical proximity (e.g. share work spaces):** At the start of this project, two closely related projects are to be implemented by SP/CONEDD. These are: (i) *Supporting the implementation of integrated approaches to adapting to climate change in Africa – Burkina Faso component* (supported by the Government of Japan) and (ii) *Adapting to Climate Change in order to Increase Human Security in Burkina Faso* (supported by the Government of Denmark). In order to optimise synergies and cost-efficiencies, all three projects should share work-spaces, Steering Committees and equipment. They should also develop joint workplans, activities and inputs.

**3. Harmonise co-financing agreements with similar projects:** In addition, close working relationships should be developed with a series of related projects and programmes. In order to ensure complementarity and mutual support, initial co-financing agreements

have already been developed with the following: PNGT 2, PLCE/BN, NA TURAMA, Maintaining and Improving Oursi wetlands, Support to Rural Communities and Inter-Community Initiatives (ACRIC) CDM capacity development project, UNDP's Small irrigation project, UNDP's Project for the sustainable natural resource management, UNDP's Project for the capacity development of Government Administration and the coordination.

**4. Fund objectives appropriately:** In order to enhance Burkina Faso's resilience and adaptation capacity to climate change risks in the agro-sylvo-pastoral sector, the project must encapsulate systemic, institutional and individual capacity to respond to climate change in the agricultural sector, demonstrate the best practices in climate resilient agro-pastoral production for sustainable improvement of food security, and disseminate the knowledge learned throughout all sector levels. To reach this objective, the highest amount of funding (\$11,722,298) out of all the project components went towards demonstrating the best practices in climate resilient agro-pastoral production, where hopefully, the risk of climate induced impacts on agro-sylvo-pastoral productivity were reduced through the understanding, testing and adoption of best practices through a community-centered approach.

**5. Strategically identify which scale (international, regional or local) can be used most efficiently for effecting change:** This project has the most potential at the local level because many of the people in villages will have implemented or be implementing specific actions to adapt to climate change, which will directly lead to a significant number of people benefiting from increased food and economic security. At local levels, the main result of this LDCF project is for 6 villages, with a total population of approximately 15,000, to have developed strategies to adapt to climate change. Accordingly, in a less risky climate, the villagers can be expected to contribute more to livelihood and economic development.

## **Sustainability**

The improvement of adaptation capacity in the agricultural sector and within the communities in general will lead to an improvement of the sustainability of current response mechanisms. This will specifically be done by encapsulating systemic, institutional and individual capacity to respond to climate change in the agricultural sector; demonstrating the best practices in climate resilient agro-pastoral production for sustainable improvement of food security; and disseminating knowledge learned throughout all sector levels.

## **Replicability**

Cooperation among the stakeholders and consistent support from the government is crucial in successful implementation of the project. Involvement of district authorities and local communities and their acceptance of the project are crucial for successful implementation of project activities. Although replication has not explicitly been discussed, the objective of the project is to build adaptive capacity for the agricultural sector in Burkina Faso. Building adaptive capacity will enable replication to occur.

## **Funding**

GEF Project Grant: \$2,900,000

Co-financing sources and amounts: \$20,095,000

Total project cost: \$22,995,000

## **Time Frame**

2009-2012

ALM Profile Created: September 2010

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Website: <http://gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3684>

<http://www.pnud.bf/>

Adaptation Learning Mechanism: [www.adaptationlearning.net](http://www.adaptationlearning.net)

