The West Africa programme operates in Burkina Faso and Togo, with the regional office based in Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso and a country office in Dapaong, Togo. The focus of the West Africa programme is increasingly on value addition and creating linkages with private sector opportunities for agricultural producers.

**PROJECT KEY**

- Building Resilience to Climate Extremes and Disasters
- Improved Governance and Access to Water and Sanitation
- Women and Youth’s agricultural entrepreneurship in the North Region of Burkina Faso

**REGIONAL PROFILE**

**WEST AFRICA**

**2019**

**PROGRAMME: IMPROVED ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES**

- **Donor:** EU and other trusts and funds
- **Total Budget:** €666,000
- **Time Frame:** 2016-2019
- **Implementing Partner:** Association d’Appui aux Activités de Santé Communautaire
- **Programme Area:** 67 villages in the Cantons of Niki Est and Dzoumou, Savanes Region, Togo

**PROGRAMME: BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE EXTREMES AND DISASTERS**

- **Donor:** DFID
- **Total Budget:** €1,800,000
- **Time Frame:** 2015-2016
- **Implementing Partner:** Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Direction Générale des Productions Végétales (DGPV-Min of Agriculture dept of Plant Health), Wend Yam, Project Écologie et Relaisement (PER), Association Zood Nooma pour le Développement (AZND) Association de Développement Sougi N doorway (ASDIN)
- **Programme Area:** Kourweogo and Oubritenga provinces, Plateau Central and Sanmatenga and Bam provinces, Centre Nord regions of Burkina Faso

**PROGRAMME: WOMEN AND YOUTH’S AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE NORTH REGION OF BURKINA FASO**

- **Donor:** Expertise France, Albert Jurgens Fund
- **Total Budget:** €220,000
- **Time Frame:** 2018-2020
- **Implementing Partner:** Africare, Fédération Nationale des Groupements Naam (FNGN), Union des Baore Tradition d’Épargne et de Crédit (UBTEC)
- **Programme Area:** North region, Yatenga province, villages in Thiou, Gaumbwa, Bagya and Tongha, Burkina Faso
Objective: To contribute to the improvement of the quality of life for rural populations through ensuring equitable and adequate access to water, sanitation and health.

The Improved Governance and Access to Water and Sanitation project is being implemented in the Nah-Est and Ogaro communities of northern Togo, which have recorded very low levels of access to drinking water – 26% and 52% respectively. These levels are not sufficient to sustain local populations.

This project is being implemented in order to improve Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) practices, and local governance of water resources.

The project both builds new, and rehabilitates existing boreholes in the region, in order to provide access to safe drinking water to 5,750 people. 1,908 latrines, of which 150 are Ecological Sanitation, will be built over the three-year project, providing sanitation facilities to 19,080 people. The project is promoting the diversification of agricultural production of smallholder farmers and improving incomes through sustainable access to drought-tolerant seeds, improved soil fertility and a specific focus on enterprise development. Self Help Africa is also providing training to increase the organisational capacity of farmers, and promote climate-smart agriculture techniques.

Evidence from the resilience-building approaches is being used for embedding climate adaptation approaches in local, regional and national plans and generating best practice guidelines on climate adaptation in the Sahel region.

• 32,569
• 54% women
• 67 villages in the Savanna region of Togo

Objective: To strengthen the ability of smallholder farmers to cope with the impact of climate variability by diversifying agricultural production.

Burkina Faso’s climate is changing rapidly, leading to increased aridity and water shortages. This is causing increased difficulties for subsistence farmers, who are highly vulnerable to climate extremes.

Working with Welthungerhilfe, local government and local partners in Burkina Faso, the Building Resilience to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) project is decreasing the vulnerability of 620,000 women, children and men.

The project is promoting the diversification of agricultural production of smallholder farmers and improving incomes through sustainable access to drought-tolerant seeds, improved soil fertility and a specific focus on enterprise development. Self Help Africa is also providing training to increase the organisational capacity of farmers, and promote climate-smart agriculture techniques.

Evidence from the resilience-building approaches is being used for embedding climate adaptation approaches in local, regional and national plans and generating best practice guidelines on climate adaptation in the Sahel region.

• 200,000 will receive direct training
• 419,136 total beneficiaries will benefit from early-warning weather signals
• 310,000 female beneficiaries (direct and indirect)

Objective: To contribute to the socio-economic stability of the Northern region of Burkina Faso through the creation of economic opportunities for 240 women and young people.

Burkina Faso is a landlocked sub-Saharan country with high levels of poverty and limited natural resources. 45% of the population is living in extreme poverty, in the Northern region, the poverty rate was estimated at 70% in 2016 and the local population is mostly comprised of women and young people (24% of the population is between 15 and 24 years of age).

In response to increasing poverty rates, unemployed youth are forced to migrate on a seasonal basis to Mali, Ivory Coast or inner Burkina Faso in search of employment opportunities on arable land and pastures, or on gold panning sites where they are exposed to fatal accidents, banditry or other demeaning jobs in order to secure an income.

In the communes of Thiou and Koumbri in Yatenga province, which share a border with Mali, the situation is similar to that of the northern region, with a large population of young people who find themselves without employment. This is compounded by the deteriorating security situation in the region, mainly due to the proximity to the Malian border as well as other cross-border and terrorist activities.

And yet, in the northern region, economic potential still exists in spite of the difficult climate but this remains underexploited. Agriculture and livestock account for more than 80% of the economic activities of the northern region’s population which is also ranked as the first potato-producing region in the country.

Despite the local agricultural potential, vocational training opportunities remain limited to sewing, soap, pottery and hairdressing; and formal programmes providing training in more relevant areas of economic activity are rare.

To address this gap, SHA’s intervention offers economic opportunities to young people and women, with a focus on reducing gender inequality and the effects of climate change.

This project will contribute to the socio-economic stability of the Northern region of Burkina Faso by creating economic opportunities for 240 women and young people. The project will support the young people and women in the region in the development of small businesses in the agricultural and livestock sectors.

• 240 women and young people (120 young people aged 16-33, 50% male, 50% female and 120 women aged 34+)

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Venegba Anna Marie, Yameogo Safari, Yameogo Marie and Yameogo Biba, Kalkinka Village, Burkina Faso.