



Self Help  
Africa



**WEST AFRICA**  
2020-21

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# REGIONAL PROFILE WEST AFRICA 2020-21



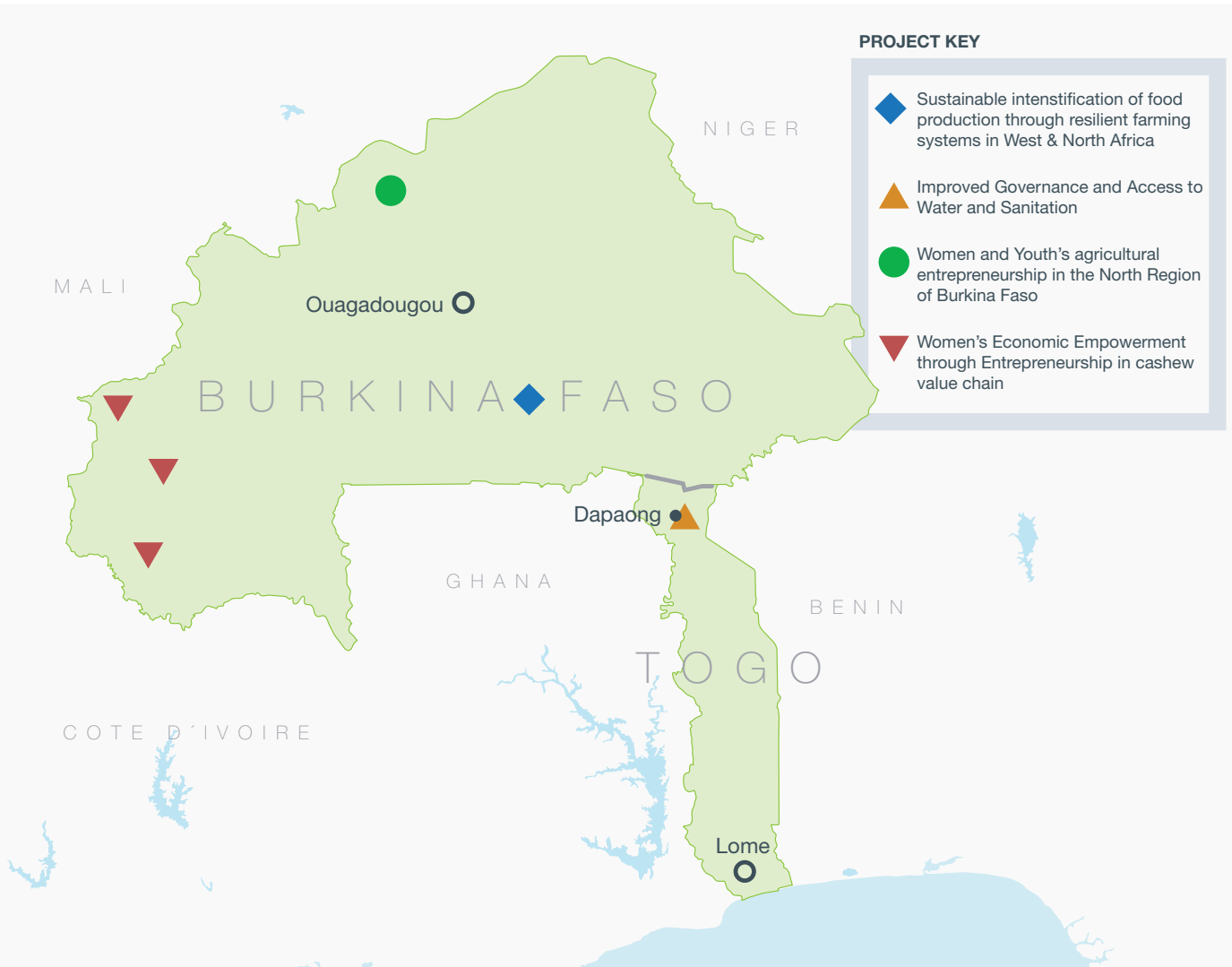
Binta Kanazoe Liouligou Village, Yargo, Kourittenga, Centre-East, Burkina Faso

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.



## WEST AFRICA



|    | Programme   | Donor                         | Total Budget | Time Frame        | Implementing Partner  | Programme Area  |
|----|---|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|---|---|
| 01 | Improved Access to Drinking Water and Sanitation Services   | EU and other trusts and funds | € 687,000    | 2016<br>▼<br>2019 | Association d' Appui aux Activités de Santé Communautaire   | 67 villages in the Cantons of Naki Est and Ogaro, Savannah Region, Togo |
| 02 | Women and Youth's Agricultural Entrepreneurship in the North Region of Burkina Faso                     | Expertise France              | € 221,009    | 2018<br>▼<br>2020 | Africare, Fédération National des Groupements Naam (FNGN), Union des Baore Tradition d'Épargne et de Crédit (UBTEC) | Yatenga Provinces, Communities of Thiou, Koumbri, Barga and Tanghai     |
| 03 | Women's economic empowerment through entrepreneurship in cashew value chain                             | Austrian Development Agency   | € 940,000    | 2019<br>▼<br>2022 | UNPA  | Comoé, Houet and Kénédougou   |
| 04 | Sustainable intensification of food production through resilient farming systems in West & North Africa | European Union H2020          | € 484,000    | 2019<br>▼<br>2024 | LUKE  | Multinational, for SHA: Burkina Faso                                    |



Sana Guira Zoenabo pictured with her children, Ouedraogo Aboubacar, Ouedraogo Yidiane, Ouedraogo Aboul Rasmane and Ouedraogo Oumarou, Poedogo 1 Village, Loumbila, Oubritenga, Plateau Central, Burkina Faso.

01

## IMPROVED GOVERNANCE AND ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION, TOGO

**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 Naki-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 drills 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.

In order for Self Help Africa's intervention to be sustainable, artisans will be trained in latrine and borehole maintenance. Water point management structures will also be set up to collect fees from users in order to fund any repairs needed. SHA is helping to build ownership and responsibility within the communities by forming development committees and WASH associations, as well as forming a local project management team in order to assure the sustainability of the action.

**32,569 households**

- 54% women
- 67 villages in the Savanna region of Togo



Amidou Yameogo, Randaogo Village, Yargo, Kourittenga,

02

## WOMEN AND YOUTH'S AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**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+)

**Objective: To strengthen the economic capacity of women farmers in the cashew nut sector, while supporting the creation of enterprises around complementary income-generating activities (beekeeping, by-products processing, market gardening) through established in areas of high cashew production.**

SHA has been working in the cashew value chain since 2012 and has an excellent reputation in this sector in West Africa. This new project will contribute to improving the living conditions of women in the cashew production areas in the Cascades and Hauts Bassins regions, by strengthening the economic empowerment of 2,790 households active in the cashew sector.

SHA and the National Union of Cashew Producers, the implementing partner, are targeting 2,790 women, in particular cashew producers and processors from Comoé, Houet and Kénédougou provinces, who are organised into 5 cooperatives of cashew producers. The project will also target formal and informal groups of artisanal processors, as well as women who do not own orchards but are working alongside their husbands in the targeted communities. The economic capacities of the women targeted by the project will be strengthened through theoretical and practical trainings on entrepreneurship, on the cooperative management of processing units, the development of business plans and on investment and funding scoping.

**2790 households**

**Objective: To empower West and North African smallholder farmers, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and national associations and influencing governments and inter-governmental organisations to successfully intensify food production in a self-sufficient, sustainable and resilient manner.**

This research project will apply multi- and transdisciplinary, participatory, and multi-actor approaches in order to ensure maximum applicability and replicability of the project beyond its duration. SHA and its consortium participants will also cluster with various relevant ongoing projects, sharing knowledge, expertise, approaches, methodologies, and results in a bidirectional manner, both contributing to and receiving from collaborators working on related challenges. Considering interactions between ecosystems, agronomic practices, societal drivers and the welfare of smallholder farmers and communities is a crucial aspect of this project.

A multi-actor approach is therefore central to the successful planning, design, development and implementation of new approaches and technologies. This participatory approach will ensure inclusiveness, which will help to empower particularly smallholder farmers, especially women and youths, as well as SMEs. It will also help to link smallholders to SMEs and establish networks with other relevant actors (e.g. soil associations, farmers' unions) and strengthen the preparation of policy recommendations for informing policymakers on best practices



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