



WEST AFRICA
2016

WEST AFRICA COUNTRY PROFILE 2016

The West Africa programme operates in four countries: Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo and Benin, with the Regional office based in Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso and country offices in Tamale, Ghana, and Dapaong, Togo.

The focus of the programme is increasingly on value addition and creating linkages with private sector opportunities for agricultural producers.



	Programme	Donor	Total Budget	Time Frame	Implementing Partner	Programme Area
01	Building Resilience to Climate Extremes and Disasters	BRACED Programme – DFID	€1,100,000	2014 ▼ 2017	Welthungerhilfe, PER, Wend Yam & CABI	Kourwéogo, Oubritenga, Plateau Central, Sanmatenga & Bam Provinces, Centre Nord regions. (Burkina Faso)
02	Improved Access to Water & Sanitation	European Commission, Electric Aid, Jersey Overseas Aid Commission & Private Trusts/Foundations	€1,599,050	2011 ▼ 2016	Wend Yam, SOS Sahel International, Organic	Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre Nord & Centre Sud (Burkina Faso)
03	Improving Incomes & Food Security through Agricultural Production	Jersey Overseas Aid Commission	€286,527	2015 ▼ 2017	ADECCOL	Kourittenga Province & Centre-East Region (Burkina Faso)
04	Smallholder Agricultural Entrepreneurship	Electric Aid, Anton Jurgens Fond & SHA	€102,000	2015 ▼ 2016	Association de Projet Ecologie et Reforestation (PER)	Bam Province & Central North (Burkina Faso)
05	Realising Agricultural Productivity Gains in the Sahel	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	€649,110	2015 ▼ 2017	Comité Interprofession de Céréales	Centre-Nord Region, Burkina Faso)
06	Sustainable Agriculture, Food-Based Nutrition & Enterprise Development	SHA	€57,102	2015 ▼ 2016a	Trax Ghana	Upper East & Northern Regions, (Ghana)
07	Empowering Women within the Cashew Value Chain	Walmart Foundation	€ 777,125	2015 ▼ 2017	African Cashew Alliance	Bole, Wench, Kintampo & Brong-Ahafo (Ghana)
08	Linking into the Future	Intersnack, African Cashew Initiative & SHA	€194,561	2014 ▼ 2016	Tolaro Global & DEDRAS	Tourou, Daringa, Bonkpo & Komi in Parakou, Djougou & N'Dali Districts (Benin)
09	Economic & Ecological Resilience	Jersey Overseas Aid Committee	€288,903	2014 ▼ 2016	Rafia, Gadib & Code Utile	Savannah Region (Northern Togo)

01 BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE EXTREMES AND DISASTERS, BURKINA FASO

This project seeks to strengthen the ability of smallholder farmers to cope with the impact of climate variability by diversifying agricultural production and increasing household income.

Working with Welthungerhilfe, local government and local partners in Burkina Faso the project is building the economic, ecological and organisational resilience of 620,000 women, children and men.

The project is promoting the diversification of agricultural production of smallholder farmers and improving incomes

through the sustainable access to drought-tolerant seeds, improved soil fertility and a specific focus on enterprise development.

The project is also working closely with the government to strengthen agricultural extension services and early-warning weather systems.

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.

Total direct beneficiaries: 620,000



Yenegba Anne Marie cooking for Yameogo Safari, Yameogo Marie and Yameogo Biba, Burkina Faso.

02

WATER AND SANITATION, BURKINA FASO

This is an EC-funded project providing safe drinking water, latrines and hygiene awareness training to 30,000 people in the Boucle Mouhoun, Centre Nord and Centre Sud regions of Burkina Faso. The provision of safe drinking water and sanitation remains a major challenge in rural Burkina Faso.

Two types of latrines are being provided: basic family Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines and ECOSAN latrines, designed to transform faecal matter into a safe, natural fertiliser. Agriculture inputs such as chemical fertilisers are expensive, often beyond the means of most rural households, and can be damaging to the environment, so an additional benefit of this project will be an increase in crop yields through access to natural fertiliser.

Water points are being rehabilitated or constructed according to the availability of boreholes and wells in villages. The project is working with three local partners and local governments to ensure careful maintenance and management of the latrines and boreholes is continued.

Total direct beneficiaries: 30,000

03

IMPROVING INCOMES & FOOD SECURITY THROUGH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, BURKINA FASO

Located in the Centre East Region of Burkina Faso, this Jersey Overseas Aid Commission supported project is improving household income and food security for 1,240 farmers by increasing production and returns from rice and vegetables.

Farmers are being trained in rice and vegetable production, seed multiplication, in establishing irrigated market garden plots for vegetable production, and in improved management of wetlands for rice production. Improving access to irrigation enables farmers to produce vegetable crops during the dry season, and help diversify diets and improve nutrition. Drip irrigation reduces labour demands, and farmers can spend more time on other income-generating activities.

The project is also supporting the establishment of strong producer and processor cooperatives that will enable farmers to increase returns through processing and improved market access. Additionally, training is being provided to lead farmers and work is being carried out in close cooperation with government extension staff to ensure that skills and knowledge are embedded at community level.

Total direct beneficiaries: 1,240



04

DEVELOPMENT OF SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP, BURKINA FASO

This project is seeking to support 420 rural poor farming households in 12 villages in Kongoussi and Nasséré departments, two of the most arid areas of Bam Province, Burkina Faso.

Self Help Africa is working with its local partner Association de Projet Ecologie et Reforestation (PER) in building the capacity of poor smallholder farmers to use proven low-cost soil and water conservation agriculture practices with the aim of increasing agricultural productivity; contributing to improving biodiversity; supporting healthy soils and clean water; combating land degradation; and contributing to long-term environmental stewardship.

In addition, the project is strengthening the capacity of 12 farmer organisations to provide ongoing support for their members in the use of new techniques to maximise their returns from crop and tree sales.

By supporting smallholder farming households to adopt new crop varieties and proven low-cost improved agronomic techniques SHA aims to sustainably increase and diversify their agricultural production by at least 25%. Increased production will in turn lead to improved income generation.

Total direct beneficiaries: 420

05

REALISING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY GAINS IN THE SAHEL, BURKINA FASO

Self Help Africa is collaborating with Context Global Development (CDG) on a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (B&MGF) funded pilot project in the Centre Nord Region of Burkina Faso.

The Centre Nord Region is an area characterised by a short growing season, high rainfall variability, under-diversified agriculture and is highly vulnerable to food insecurity.

In Burkina Faso, sorghum and millet, on which the project focuses, make up the staple food of around 70% of the population. Through this pilot, Self Help Africa proposes to test whether strengthening the capacity of the Comité Interprofession de Céréales – Burkina Faso (CIC-B) and stimulating local demand will transform the sorghum and millet value chains in the country, improving productivity, income and nutrition of smallholder farmers in dryland areas.

CIC-B is an umbrella organisation representing producers, traders, processors, input suppliers and transporters. SHA will test whether it is a suitable and sustainable mechanism to address a range of constraints in the sorghum and millet value chain. The learning generated from testing this approach will be widely applicable as CIC-B structures are already established in a number of West African countries and cover a range of crops.

Total direct beneficiaries: 1,250



06

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION & ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT, GHANA

The overall aim of this project is to improve soil fertility and a food-based approach to nutrition, to increase food security and wealth creation amongst smallholder farmers in Northern Ghana.

Over 2,000 farmers (350 households) in the Upper East and Northern Regions of Ghana are being assisted.

The principal target group of the nutrition component of the project are poor, rural women and young children (6 months-5 years of age). A key crop being promoted to support this goal is the nutrient-rich orange-fleshed sweet potato.

The project is seeking to increase crop production and income through adoption of Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture (LEISA) techniques and the diversification of income sources for participating households.

Total direct beneficiaries: 2,100

07

EMPOWERING WOMEN WITHIN THE CASHEW VALUE CHAIN, GHANA

This Walmart Foundation funded project is being jointly implemented with the African Cashew Alliance in two countries – Ghana and Kenya.

Through the use of two low-cost community-based extension approaches, 'lead farmers' and 'farmer field schools', communities are receiving skills to undertake improved agricultural practices.

The project is training cashew farmers on increasing production of quality cashew nuts and empowering producers within the cashew nut value chain. Cashew growers are being assisted to diversify incomes by utilising by-products of cashew farming and inter-cropping with legumes.

Training of farmer associations in value chain management and 'farming as a business' is enabling them to engage in informed relationships with buyers and negotiate prices.

The project is also addressing the low and unstructured organisation of cashew farmers. Organising farmers will enable them to institutionalise knowledge and best practices and create a platform for sharing and multiplying learning and experiences.

Total direct beneficiaries: 25,000 (Ghana)



Yendoukoa Assibi & Kolani Anne with goat, Nassiete Village, Togo

08

LINKING INTO THE FUTURE - BENIN

Building on an earlier pilot project, this initiative is seeking to increase by 25% the cashew production of close to 2,500 small-scale farm producers working in the cashew sector.

1,770 cashew producers are being assisted, along with 520 women being supported with inter-cropping, and 120 smallholder farmers with beekeeping. The project is working to strengthen community-based extension services, strengthen farmer organisations and provide assistance in value chain development. All with a particular focus on gender inclusion.

A further objective is to improve the organisation of cashew producers and their cooperatives through training in operational and financial management and by linking them to micro-finance institutions.

By partnering with Tolaro Global processing plant, and the German snack company Intersnack, the cashew farmers are receiving training in quality control and have a ready market for their crops. There is also a contract with the African Cashew initiative (ACI) for this initiative to provide training materials and support.

The project is working in the Tourou, Daringa, Bonkpo and Komi Districts in Parakou, and in Djougou and N'Dali Districts.

Total direct beneficiaries: 2,410

09

ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE, TOGO

This Jersey Overseas Aid Commission-funded project aims to improve the food security and income of rural smallholder farmers in the isolated and poor Northern Savannah region of Northern Togo.

Building on earlier work with partners RAFIA, GADIB and Code Utile, the project is focusing on training farmers in natural resource management, improving soil fertility and on increasing the production of soybeans, maize, millet, sorghum and rice. The project is particularly targeting female smallholder farmers and taking an integrated approach to ensure sustainability.

Self Help Africa is working closely with producer and processing farmer-led organisations and cooperatives to strengthen management practices and to secure improved prices for members through bulking.

Seed grower associations are being supported and trained to produce certified, drought-tolerant varieties of staple crops, to ensure that farmers have ongoing access to affordable, appropriate, quality seed.

By working with producer, processing, seed multiplication and tree nursery groups, skills and techniques will be retained at community level and farmers can support each other.

Total direct beneficiaries: 3,330

WEST AFRICA

12 PO Box 418,
Ougadougou 12, Burkina Faso
Tel. +226 25 37 57 45
E-mail: westafrica@selfhelpafrica.org

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Cover: Sanwogou Lalle, Tonte Village, Togo.
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