



BURKINA FASO

Strengthening Adaptation Capacities and Reducing the Vulnerability to Climate Change

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND	
LDCF grant	\$3,300,000
Cofinancing	\$20,144,595
NAPA completion	December 2007
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CEO endorsement	April 2009
Implementation start and completion	April 2009–April 2013
GEF Agency	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Other executing partner	National Council for Environment and Sustainable Development

Located mostly in the dry Sahelo-Sudanian climatic zone, Burkina Faso is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Two major long-term risks have been identified: (a) reduction of annual rainfall by -3.4 percent (2025) to -7.3 percent (2050, including a reduction of precipitation levels by 20–30 percent by 2050 between July and September, which are key months for crop growth); and (b) increase of average temperature by 0.8 degrees Celsius (2025) to 1.7 degrees Celsius (2050). Despite a number of autonomous measures to overcome current climate pressures, anticipated climate change is likely to compound problems facing the agriculture sector even further. Given the dominance of the sector—86 percent of the

working population is engaged in pastoral and agroforestry activities, and agriculture accounts for 40 percent of the national GDP—adaptation is of paramount importance.

Project Activities and Expected Impacts

The LDCF project in Burkina Faso implements interventions to reduce vulnerability of communities and food production systems that are threatened by changes in mean climatic conditions and climatic variability. These interventions include two main subthemes: improving systemic, institutional, and individual capacity to respond to climate change in the agricultural sector; and demonstrating best practices in climate-resilient agropastoral



production for sustainable improvement of food security, thereby fostering capacity building, policy revisions, and upscaling at the national level.

The first subtheme ensures that key national agriculture and water policies fully reflect anticipated climate change risks and that policy changes delivering vulnerability-reduction benefits in the context of emerging climate risks are implemented. Additionally, institutional arrangements for supporting early warning on climate-induced food shortages are improved, as well as communication plans on updated climate change-induced risks. These interventions are informed by, and fully linked to, the community-level pilot adaptation measures described below.

The second subtheme is based on existing initiatives to support agricultural intensification and diversification, and land and water conservation measures. It focuses on piloting a range of adaptation measures at the community level, including climate-resilient irrigation approaches;

developing livestock feed (forage and agro-industrial feedstuff) storage facilities in the center region; improving the resilience of forage facilities; and developing improved food reserve facilities, including management practices, taking into account climate change risks. With this range of pilot demonstration activities, the project facilitates learning and replication, which can be supported through adjustments in policy and institutional support structures, as mentioned above.

Synergies and Coordination

The project closely interacts with the following programs currently under implementation in Burkina Faso: (a) a project on Livestock Development of Liptako Gourma, (b) a program for water resources valorization, (c) an agricultural development program supported by Denmark, (d) a project fighting the silting/stranding of the Niger river basin, (e) a project on supporting local development of Comoé-Léraba-KénéDougou, and (f) a project on natural resources management.

For More Information

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