

BURKINA FASO

BASIC FACTS ABOUT PEI BURKINA FASO

Timescale: Phase I 2010-2013; Phase II 2014-2017.

Partners: Ministry of Environment, Fisheries and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture, Mining and Livestock, the Prime Minister's Office, UNDP Country Office and UN-PAGE.

Focus: Support the operationalization of policies, plans and programs that combine poverty-environment, including gender and climate change linked objectives, to promote pro-poor sustainable development and enhanced livelihood opportunities for vulnerable groups depending on natural resources.

MAINSTREAMING CONTEXT

Burkina Faso's economy is based on mining, agriculture, livestock and fishery and natural resources are estimated to contribute to 31.5% of the GDP. Furthermore, 85% of the population depends on natural resources for their livelihoods. The natural resource sector is hence of crucial importance to Burkina Faso's development. In this context the government is focusing on sustainable development through integrating and implementing poverty-environment objectives in development and sector policies, and at the sub-national level, and encouraging innovative investment in the environment sector and responsible business practices for pro-poor growth.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Raise awareness about the poverty-environment nexus among key stakeholders including government, donors, civil society and the private sector by disseminating study findings through strategic communication and Poverty-Environment Champions.

Improve the availability of economic evidence and tools, e.g. budget guidelines, investment mechanisms, economic evaluations, for national decision makers to better incorporate poverty-environment objectives in national, sector (cotton and mining) and district planning and budgets processes.

Improve the capacity of national and provincial authorities in planning and managing public and private investment for pro-poor environment outcomes, including through the development and implementation of a National Investment Plan on Environment and Natural Resource Management and a National Environment Fund.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Enhanced awareness among key stakeholders and increased media coverage on the importance of the poverty-environment nexus attributed to the PEI national communication strategy, the use of Poverty-Environment champions, strategic studies as well as capacity building events.

Poverty-environment issues are fully integrated in Burkina Faso's national development plan (the SCADD) 2011-2015, the national policy for sustainable development, and accompanying legislation and local planning processes (e.g. Agenda 21 in the Po Region).

Three sector policies (Mining, Agriculture and Health) include poverty-environment objectives. The Government has further improved the environmental framework law and developed a manual outlining legal actions and enforcement measures to safeguard livelihoods and the health of the poor based on recommendations from a PEI supported study on the cost of unsustainable chemical use in the [cotton](#) and [mining](#) sectors.

Burkina Faso's National Assembly adopted a bill banning the production, import, marketing and distribution of non-biodegradable plastic bags in May 2014. The bill was informed by PEI and UNEP Green Economy presentations made to Burkina Faso's Economic and Social Council in previous years.

In 2011 a budget line to support environment and natural resources management within the Ministry of Finance was created and budgeting and planning tools have been developed for the operationalization of the SCADD. The National Investment Plan for Environment and Sustainable Development was approved in 2013. The plan promotes a green economy through increased investments for pro-poor environmental sustainability. Between 2011 and 2012, the environment sector received an increased public sector allocation of USD 2 million.

The Ministry of Economy and Finance, with PEI support, established a web-based monitoring system for tracking poverty-environment indicators of the SCADD 2011-2015.

The Yanta Union in Bobo Dioulasso, supported by PEI reduced deforestation and developed alternative income generation activities benefiting women from non-timber products.

PEI Burkina has successfully acted as a catalyst for supporting Government to mobilise financial support from a range of partners, including funds for chemical mainstreaming from the Montreal Protocol and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency; the World Bank's rural development programme includes poverty-environment elements, the EU's Environment Development Fund 2014-2020 includes poverty-environment as one of its thematic areas and poverty-environment has been mainstreamed into the UNDAF.

LESSONS LEARNED

The appointment of high profile individuals from the political, private sector, traditional authorities and the arts and culture as poverty-environment champions have proven to be a very successful communication and lobby strategy to raise the profile of poverty-environment mainstreaming in Burkina Faso.

A national investment plan and sufficient public sector budget allocation are important tools to operationalize poverty-environment objectives included in the SCADD 2011-2015 and sector plans. Removing institutional, legal and financial barriers for poverty-environment mainstreaming is required and an important aspect of PEI's work.

WAY FORWARD

Enhance the focus on budget allocations for poverty-environment mainstreaming and continue the support to the Ministry of Economy and Finance in developing the next national development plan (SCADD 2016-2020) by strengthening P-E linkages and domestication of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular inclusive green economy and sustainable consumption and production.

Enhancing coherence and coordination between UNEP and UNDP respective portfolio of programmes and projects in Burkina supporting key national institutions, in particular the Ministry of Environment, Fisheries and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.