



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ENHANCING RESILIENCE FACTSHEET

While the vast majority of Burkina Faso's population relies on subsistence agriculture, their country is increasingly plagued by drought, floods, pest invasions, and diseases. This often results in the need for life-saving humanitarian assistance.

Homegrown practices in water conservation and other improvements in agriculture are increasingly helping Burkinabés to avoid major crises caused by recurrent climatic shocks. Nevertheless, more than 3.5 million people, roughly 20 percent of the population, are food insecure and approximately 50 percent of rural households are not able to produce sufficient quantities of food to sustain their daily caloric intake.

OUR WORK

USAID has been implementing multi-sectoral resilience programs in Burkina Faso since 2013. The first phase was called the Resilience in the Sahel Enhanced (RISE) and ended in 2018. It proved quite successful so a second phase, simply called RISE II, was launched to cover the 2018-2024 period.

One of the main areas of focus of RISE II is to enable Burkinabé communities and the government to be more effective actors and agents in building their own future. RISE II works primarily in Centre-Nord with some activities in the East and Sahel regions. The RISE II project pursues five objectives designed to help vulnerable people permanently escape poverty. The first is safe access to water, both for

Photo: Ezra Millstein/Mercy Corps

productive use and for drinking. This includes activities designed to secure access to land, reduce conflicts, and improve natural resource management.

Activities focused on water, sanitation, and hygiene are designed to increase the use of handwashing and safe food practices. USAID also provides advice and expertise to the Ministry of Health to draft, implement, finance, and enforce policies for adequate water, sanitation, and hygiene practices in healthcare facilities. USAID is also using new technologies to help women secure land rights

The second objective is to strengthen agriculture market systems in Burkina Faso. To this end, USAID improves the structures and organization of markets, promotes business development and opportunities for youth and women, and strengthens the business environment. To support market actors, USAID works with banks as well as savings and lending groups to increase Burkinabé farmers' access to credit.

USAID works on improving the cowpea, poultry, and small ruminants (goats, sheep, etc.) value chains. As such, USAID supports Burkina Faso's agriculture sector with a focus on improving the ability of vulnerable people to earn a living. This includes activities designed to increase access to credit, diversify economic opportunities, improve natural resource management, and better agricultural and animal production.

The third objective is to ensure healthy families by improving family planning, and the health, and nutrition of women of reproductive age, pregnant/breastfeeding women, and children under five years of age. USAID also supports efforts to strengthen the national healthcare system so it can provide better care and health services to the people of Burkina Faso.

The fourth objective is to strengthen governance. USAID supports local governments and state institutions to improve transparency, accountability, and the delivery of public services. In addition, USAID supports the development of local community leadership so that they can join efforts to increase people's resilience and reduce their vulnerability to recruitment by violent extremists.

The fifth objective is to help women and youth to be more actively integrated in their communities so they can be a force for positive change. This includes efforts to increase their access to and control over productive resources, increase their ability to earn a living, improve their health, and be represented in government.

In addition to RISE II's work, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Affairs activities provide a foundation upon which economic growth, natural resource management, governance, health, and other sectors can develop.

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