

# BURKINA FASO

## 2025

Woord en Daad is a Dutch NGO which brokers broad partnerships for change for the worlds' poor, both global and local, facilitates shared decision making of partners in business development and implementation, and advocates for Southern stakes in the international agenda among Northern policy makers and donors.

Southern partners represent the poor, unreached and voiceless at the table, take space for agenda setting providing strategic guidance for systemic change in their context; and access, align and complement existing resources in the system, including knowledge, legitimacy, networks, value base and money.

Woord en Daad partners with organisations in Burkina Faso who aim to sustainably improve the lives of vulnerable people and to realise a dignified existence for every individual, through a systemic change approach. We cooperate in multi-stakeholder partnerships with governments, businesses, civil society organisations, churches/faith based organisations and knowledge institutes to reach a maximum of impact.



### PARTNERS IN BURKINA FASO

#### Civil society actors

CREDO, SPONG, ODE, ADDAD

#### Educational partners

AESEB, Children Believe, INCE BF, CEATS, Association Lydie

#### Business partners

ACFIME, Forth Investment, ASPMY, ADS, Job Booster Enterprise



## Education *Sponsoring and INCE*

Woord en Daad facilitates long-term partner CREDO to annually offer almost 4,000 children the opportunity to attend education, and hundreds of youth with accelerated learning through so-called Speed Schools. Reaching the most vulnerable is one of the core drives. Together, we systematically work to reach the poorest of the poor and left behind groups such as children living with disabilities.

Education in Burkina Faso needs more than just implementing educational projects. That is why a local chapter of the 'International Network for Christian Education' (INCE) is working on value-based system change in Burkina Faso. The INCE-BF consortium and strategic partners have a strong vision to structurally improve the quality, relevance and resilience of education in Burkina Faso. This is done through mobilising the major actors of the Burkinabe education system for this transformation.

## Combatting Child Exploitation *with the AFAS Foundation*

Woord en Daad participates in a consortium of eleven members to break the chains of child labour and exploitation. The programme focusses on increasing societal awareness of child exploitation and transforming community attitudes and actions toward child labour. Together, we aim at rescuing and rehabilitating over 5,000 children exploited in domestic labour, providing them with necessary care and opportunities for education and employment. By providing people access to necessary socio-economic resources, influencing the government and legal systems and influencing the current socio-cultural norms we hope to address the root causes of child labour. The programme leverages local expertise and international support to maximise impact and change the entire system surrounding child exploitation. In this way more children will have the opportunity to lead a dignified life.

In a consortium of Burkinabe and Dutch organisations we collaborate on preventing child labour in the Fonio value-chain. With a business-centred approach financed by businesses and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency the consortium creates a movement for ethically responsible trade connecting Burkinabe farmer families to Dutch consumers.

## Job and Business Booster *Youth Employment*

In partnership with different organisations Woord en Daad collaborates to increase local employability of rural and urban youths. The Job and Business Booster programme focusses on market-driven (self-) employment of youths, who have a vision and a strategy to develop and strengthen their own enterprise. Short entrepreneurial and value-based trainings, combined with a coaching strategy supports these small enterprises to strengthen and further open up new wage-employment for other youths. The focus is to facilitate inclusive and dignified employment for youths, based on an entrepreneurial approach. The programme works with local trainers and a network of coaches. Access to finance for the youth entrepreneurs to invest in their businesses is facilitated via a network of MFIs. In 2024 the focus of the Job and Business Booster programme is to strengthen 360 start-ups to develop and expand their operations to facilitate employment for 1,440 youths.

## Agribusiness for food security *Fair Maize*

Food security is a major challenge in Burkina Faso. Woord en Daad, along with in-country partners, is working towards sustainable change in the maize value chain. Sustainability, being beneficial for the environment and viable in the long term, is emphasized. Farmers receive training to optimise their yield, teaching them new agricultural methods. Many of these farmers are young people and women, often in disadvantaged positions, so the project explicitly involves these groups to foster equitable relationships.

To increase food security, efforts extend beyond just the farmers, who are at the beginning of the chain. Farmers are organised into cooperatives, enabling them to collectively sell their harvest, which attracts larger customers such as factories. Collaboration with a factory processing maize and cowpeas into products, like maize flour ensures fair prices for farmers and aims to build lasting relationships with them. This provides farmers with more income security, ultimately improving food security for the entire population of Burkina Faso. All individuals have the right to access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.





### **Sustainable Water** *Drops for Crops*

Improving water-use efficiency in Burkina Faso is an important challenge. A large share of the population in Burkina Faso works in agriculture. A sector with potential, but where farmers all too often earn little income. Among other things, the strong reliance on the weather, a lack of knowledge and technology, and an uncertain market are restrictive factors for the farmers. In the water-challenged North of Burkina Faso, we collaborate on integrated water resource management measures and efficient water use.

Our intervention is focused on smallholder vegetable producers. We aim for increased production and a yearly income growth for these farmers and their families. Income improvement is expected to be on average 500 euro per year per farmer.

### **Policy Influencing** *Benkadi*

Benkadi is a five-year collaborative programme of four West African national NGO platforms and Woord en Daad, financed by the Dutch government (as part of the civil society strengthening and policy influencing Power of Voices programme). The Benkadi programme focuses specifically on strengthening the position of vulnerable groups and communities in Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Mali when it comes to the effects of climate change. The aim is to ensure that these groups and communities have equal rights, opportunities and opportunities to be resilient to climate change. The living environment for residents of Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Mali is changing as a result of climate change. This makes it difficult for the local communities to support themselves as they are highly dependent on natural resources.

Southern leadership is the strength of this project. The strength and creativity of the four West African NGO platforms who are in the consortium are optimally challenged and utilised.

