



Drylands Development Programme (DRYDEV)



ANNUAL REPORT 2015 OF BURKINA FASO

Sigles et abréviations

AKVO RSR	AKVO signifie eau en esperanto et RSR : Really Simple Reporting (Rapportage vraiment Simple)
AZN	Association Zood-Nooma pour le Développement
CAP	Plan d'activités Communautaire
DGIS	Direction Générale de la Coopération Internationale du Ministère des affaires étrangères des Pays-Bas (DGIS).
DIP	Detail Implementation Plan
DryDev	Dry Land Développement
GRN	Gestion des Ressources Naturelles
GTB	Groupe Teed-Béogo
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
OCADES/CARITAS	Organisation Catholique pour le Développement et la Solidarité
PIP	Program Implementation Plan
S&E	Suivi-évaluation
SEMUS	Association Solidarité et Entraide Mutuelle au Sahel
UGF/CDN	U nion des G roupements F éminins C e D wane N yeee
WP	Work-package

DRYDEV NARRATIVE REPORT April-December 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the period from April to December 2015. The first quarter of the year was part of the inception phase which was completed in March 2015. The second quarter of the year (April – June 2015) was a bridging period that involved development and refinement of the 2015-2018 PIP and 2015 DIP. Lessons learnt from the inception phase were built into these operational plans following several consultations that were held with project stakeholders in Burkina Faso. Implementation of the DIP 2015 started in July 2015 after the approval of the Programme PIP and DIP by the DGIS. Key activities carried out over the year 2015 can be summarized as follows:

- Further refinement and selection of the programme intervention sites including comparison sites in 6 sub-catchments
- Establishment of contractual agreements between RMARP, SNV and TREE AID
- Roll out of the option by context approach
- Strengthening of the Country team capacity through the recruitment of additional staff whose skills complement those of existing staff
- Baseline data collection for programme impact evaluation
- Development and submission of the 2016 DIP
- Development of the Programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (PMEL) framework
- Community Action Planning (CAP) process in 5 communities from the Bam sub-catchment. About 1108 farmers including 443 women and 665 participated into the CAP Process. Priority options and farmer learning priorities were identified through the CAP process
- Five members of the Country team trained in programme communication and reporting (AKVO training)

Overall, implementation of the 2015 DIP did not reach a momentum. The agricultural season in the Sahel that starts in June meant it was too late for the Programme to facilitate field activities due to farmer being busy with their farm work. In addition, several unplanned consultation meetings between country implementing partners and ICRAF were necessary before definite selection of programme intervention sites. Rolling out of the option by context approach required extensive consultation between project partners. Furthermore it took more time than anticipated to establish contractual agreements between ICRAF and RMARP and between RMARP, SNV and TREE AID. Having new additional staff in place was also challenging. Most newly recruited staff came in board in the last 2 months of 2015. However with the country team now all in place, it is anticipated that a momentum will be reached over the year 2016.

1. INTRODUCTION

In Burkina Faso, DRYDEV is being implemented in 6 selected sub-catchments from six provinces including Bam, Passoré, Sanguié, Sourou, Yatenga and Zoundama. RMARP as well as coordinating the overall implementation of the programme has responsibility for the delivery of WP2 and WP3. Delivery of WP1 and WP8 are under the responsibility of Tree Aid while SNV lead on the delivery of WP4, WP5 and WP6. The Country team is being led by a Country Manager recruited by RMARP in November 2015. Technical backstopping of the project at country level is provided by strategic partners including the Institut National de l'Environnement et de Recherches Agronomiques (INERA) and PAGIRE, the National Secretariat for Integrated Water Management provide. These strategic partners are members of the country team. In Burkina Faso, RMARP, SNV and Tree Aid are working in the same project sites, each partner implementing WPs under its responsibility and complementing the expertise of the other partners. In the field the programme is being supported by local organizations contracted by the implementing partners.

2. Progress towards sub-outcomes (Give summary overview of progress towards outcome)

Sub-Outcome	Indicator	Progress
Sub-Outcome 1: Appropriate landscape/watershed level NRM initiatives undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of sub-catchments covered by expected 'foot prints' of the sub-catchment level NRM initiatives 	<p>6 sub-catchments delineated including programme intervention sites and comparison sites</p> <p>CAP Process carried out in 5 communities in the Bam sub-catchment. 1108 farmers including 443 women and 665 participated into the CAP Process. Farmer priority interventions options selected and learning priorities defined</p>
Sub-Outcome 2: Improved & climate smart on-farm water & soil management practiced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of farmers practicing promoted practices on-farm water and soil management practices 	<p>Establishment of 4 irrigated vegetable gardens in 4 communities. Benefiting 322 farmers including 267 women and 55 men</p> <p>Integrated technology package (zai + rocklines+ microdosing) promoted in 2014 taken forward by farmers in 6 communities</p>
Sub-Outcome 3: Improved & inclusive & climate-smart production options pursued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of farmers practicing promoted production practices 	None in 2015. However interventions options and best practices identified through the CAP process
Sub-Outcome 4: Increased participation of male, female and disadvantaged farmers in lucrative value chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of men and women in HH participating in targeted value chains 	Selection of promising value chains completed through the characterization studies. Further analysis carried out through the CAP process: Operational strategy to further work with farmers on these value chains developed by SNV
Sub-Outcome 5: Increased numbers of famers linked to credit & financial services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # and value of loans accessed by men & women in HH in last 12 months 	None over this reporting period. Plans are underway to give in 2016 priority over self funding mechanism especially village saving associations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of male & female HH members provided with business training, advice, and/or mentoring support in last 12 months 	None in 2015. Anticipated to start in mid 2016
Sub-Outcome 6: Capacity of local duty-bearers and farmer organizations developed and/or 'duty fulfillment' pressure applied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent to which targeted local duty bearers and institutions have skills, knowledge, resources, and/or motivation to fulfill functions 	Key local institutions and their governance systems identified through the CAP: Plans are underway to learn from Niger Innovation Platforms model and possibly replicate the approach in Burkina Faso
Sub-Outcome 7: Key 'scaling stakeholders' identified, find evidence/learning credible and relevant, and actively promote its uptake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> #of identified 'scaling stakeholder' actively promoting uptake of evidence and learning generated under the programme. 	Potential scaling stakeholders identified through the CAP process : Further work anticipated in 2016 through stakeholder mapping ; engagement and management
Sub-Outcome 8: Awareness raised and attitudes improved among key policy makers/ other stakeholders, resulting in their taking desired action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of targeted policy makers and other policy relevant stakeholders meaningfully seeking to bring about targeted policy and institutional reforms 	Key policy constraints identified and further reviewed : Operational strategy to engage with policy reforms under development

3. ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS OUTPUTS

3.1 Output tracking (Excel sheet)

Please see attached Excel file.

Le tableau suivant présente l'état des réalisations du DIP 2015 :

Tableau 1 : Les réalisations du DIP 2015

DIP 2015 activity Description	Achievements (10 words max)	Number of farmers reached		
		Female	Male	Total

WP2: On-farm water & soil management				
2.4 Promotion de la petite irrigation				
Réalisation de 4 périmètres maraîchers	4 périmètres maraîchers réalisés et en cours de production	267	55	322
	2 périmètres maraîchers en cours d'aménagement	-	-	-
WP7: Planning, M&E, and Scaling of Learning				
7.2 Participatory M&E with FOs & local stakeholders				
Elaboration du plan de suivi-évaluation du programme au Burkina	Plan de suivi-évaluation provisoire élaboré	-	-	-
Elaboration du DIP 2016 du Burkina Faso	DIP 2016 du Burkina élaboré et approuvé par ICRAF	-	-	-
Formation des acteurs du programme sur les outils participatifs de collecte de données du CAP	1 session de formation réalisée	-	-	-
Réalisation des étapes 1 à 4 du processus CAP dans 05 villages du Bam	05 CAP en cours d'élaboration	443	665	1 108

3.2 What activities were undertaken and what outputs were realized

3.2.1 Work Package 1 Sub catchment level NRM

Key activities planned in the 2015 DIP include sub catchment action plan development, capacity building in sub catchment management and development of forest and pastoral management plans.

Given the delay in establishing contractual agreements with implementing partner in Burkina Faso and delays in getting in board newly recruited staff little progress was made under WP1. Key activities carried out include the following:

Five members of the Burkina Faso country team attended in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia to the practical training on rain water harvesting

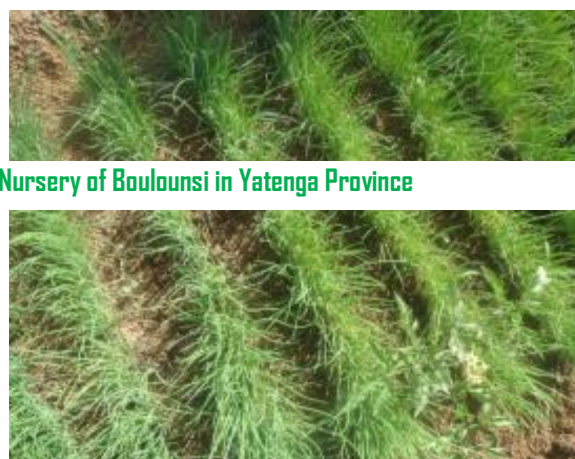
Further consultations were held between RMARP and ICRAF to proceed with the selection of the programme intervention sites in Burkina Faso. Sub-catchments were further delineated, enabling the country to select relevant intervention sites and control sites following site recognition visits in the field that were jointly carried out by RMARP and ICRAF



Pouni Sub-catchment in the District of Sanguié

3.2.2 Work Package 2 On-farm water & soil management

Réseau MARP Burkina, the lead organization for this WP, conducted an identification of vegetable garden sites in the six intervention provinces, with the support of partners in the field. Four sites were then selected for the implementation of vegetable gardens in four villages.



Nursery of Boulounsi in Yatenga Province

These villages include Kyon (Sanguié), Kiembara (Sourou), Boulounsi (Yatenga) and Loagha (Bam). Each site covers an area of about 0.5 hectares and was fence with chicken wire. A total of 322 farmers including 267 women and 55 men received the support of the programme including on small equipment and seeds. Nurseries were established and water irrigation system especially wells were under development to ensure water availability.

3.2.3 Work Package 3 Agricultural commodity production

Farmer priority interventions options were discussed through the CAP process: Further reflections are being held by RMARP in consultation with the implementing partners in Burkina Faso to roll out and implement over the year 2016 a set of activities related to WP3. Plans are underway to learn from the DryDev Niger Innovation Platforms experience.

3.2.4 Work Package 4 Enhancing market access

Findings of the characterization studies were reviewed and refined in the 2016 DIP. In addition, promising value chains identified through the studies were feedback to farmers for further screening. An operational strategy is being drafted by SNV for the roll out of WP4 activities over the year 2016.

3.2.5 Work Package5 Financial services linking

None activities related to WP 5 was carried out in 2015. Financial linking activities, especially establishing village saving groups are anticipated to be launched in mid 2016.

3.2.6 Work Package 6 Local governance & institutional strengthening

Given the delay in setting- up the SNV team it was not possible to carry out in 2015 the activities planned under this WP. However through the CAP process, local institutions were identified and priority actions identified to strengthen organizational development and governance of local institutions including farmer-led organizations.

3.2.7 Work Package 7 Planning, M&E, and scaling of learning

Rolling out of the CAP Process in Burkina Faso

The workshop was held from August 27th to 28th 2015 at Palm Beach Hotel (Ouagadougou) and was facilitated by ICRAF team. Participants were representatives of the programme implementing partners in Burkina Faso. Participants developed familiarity with the "Options by context" approach and its tools and acquainted with the programme coordinating procedures (communication and M & E). Each implementing partner also shared implementing strategy for work packages under their responsibility. A schedule for implementation of the activities for the remaining of 2015 was jointly drafted by ICRAF and the country partners.

The programme implementation partners met at least three times to reflect on the programme implementation strategy from July to November, 2015. The consultation aimed at presenting the CAP process and the various stages of its development to partners and agreeing with them on the steps included in starting the process in Burkina Faso: After these meetings, a strategy document describing the different stages of the CAP process was developed and validated by the various partners. A two-day induction workshop was then organized in December 2015 to familiarize field facilitators with the CAP process and its data collection tools. Twenty one (21) participants including implementing partners, field partners, technical services and officials from the municipality of Kongoussi attended the workshop which was followed with field facilitation in 5 communities (Loagha, Bognam, Bognam Fulani, Sakou Sakou and Fulani). The process involved mapping of community resources, farmer livelihoods strategies, socio-economic categorization of famers, setting community vision.



Facilitation of the CAP process in the village of Sakou

Facilitation of the CAP process in the village of Foulbé

About 1108 farmers including 443 women and 665 participated into the CAP Process. Priority options and farmer learning priorities were identified through the CAP process. Lessons learnt from the CAP process include its highly participatory nature and its relevance to different categories of farmers in the project area.

Baseline survey

In the 3 Sahel countries a major activity in 2015 was the launch and implementation of data collection for the programme baseline. ICRAF provided lead on technical matters especially in the design of the study including survey questionnaire and ToR for local enumerators. About 1500 households in 6 sub-catchments were surveyed. Findings of the baseline will inform target setting in the PMEL framework.

Planning; Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework

RMARP PMEL Officer participated in September in Niger to the PMEL workshop organized by ICRAF. The purpose of this workshop was to discuss the PMEL framework developed by ICRAF and the finalization of Sub-outcome and output indicators for impact measurement and program progress.

The Burkina monitoring and evaluation plan is still under development. Indicators for Work-package 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8 were identified based on the standard indicators proposed by ICRAF monitoring and evaluation experts. Additional relevant indicators were also proposed by the country team. However, indicators for WP 4, 5 and 6 that fall under the responsibility of SNV have yet to be completed. In fact, SNV was not comfortable with the proposed indicators but failed to suggest new indicators. With the effective establishment of its programme team, this will be hopefully in 2016 taken forward.

Development of the 2016 DIP for Burkina Faso

The 2016 DIP was developed in October 2015, with the support of ICRAF. Several consultations meetings with implementing partners helped finalize this Plan. Given the delay in the implementation of the 2015 DIP, several outstanding activities were carried forward in 2016 leading to a significant increase of the Burkina Faso 2016 budget.

3.2.8 Work Package 8 Policy analysis & influencing

Over this reporting period, findings of the characterization studies were reviewed as part of the drafting of the 2016 DIP. Plans are underway for Tree Aid to develop an operation strategy for policy influencing that will be launched in 2016.

4. Key Challenges and Constraints

4.1 List down any key constraints that you faced in this reporting period; what you did do to overcome them?

Establishing partnership agreements between ICRAF and RMARP and then RMARP with its implementing partners has taken much time. As a result there were significant delays in the implementation of the 2015 DIP.

It has proven difficult in 2015 to ensure full participation of SNV and Tree Aid in DryDev Consultation meetings initiated by RMARP: While this is mainly related to the late establishment of the teams

within Tree Aid and SNV. Adhering to a calendar of event would help avoid such difficulty. For the year 2016 RMARP has drafted a calendar of DryDev key events that was approved by key implementing partners. However there are still concerns over SNV staffing which has only one full time project officer. Consultation will be initiated by RMARP with SNV in 2016 to discuss options for recruiting an additional project officer. ICRAF support will be most needed.

There have been several consultations on the new direction adopted by the Programme with little time devoted to the DIP implementation. Furthermore some of the ICRAF messages were confusing and often contradictory and some proposed meetings were made at a short notice.

Finalizing the PMEL framework that is led by ICRAF has proven difficult. Findings of the baseline study are yet to be shared with Country teams. Furthermore efforts should have been made by ICRAF to involve partners in the design of the baseline survey. The survey questionnaire was felt to be too long for farmers: Furthermore the relevance of some of the survey questions was not evident.

On financial issues, ICRAF requests to RMARP to send photocopies of financial documents for auditing purposes are causing some difficulties including huge quantity of finance documents to photocopy and send: Unfortunately There is no budget forecasted for such spending.

4.2 List key opportunities you discovered and how the program can capitalize on them

There are local partners available and committed to supporting the programme implementation.

Target farmers, communities and local authorities are enthusiastic about the innovations introduced by the programme and are mobilized to deliver the project.

Having in board as strategic partner the SP-PAGIRE, the Burkina Faso National Integrated Water Management Secretariat, offers opportunities for delivering WP1 in line with Burkina Faso Water Management policy and strategy

5. Lessons learned

5.1 List down any lesson you have learned during this reporting period.

Working with Partners

Given the multi-sectorial and multi-institutional nature of DryDev, having different partners with complementary skills and expertise to deliver the work packages is particularly relevant

Functional involvement of stakeholders

Strong links and synergy in delivering the various DryDev work packages are crucial for the success of the programme in Burkina Faso. In this regard each implementing partner has a key responsibility to ensure its availability and commitment to the programme activities. Over the year 2015 it is only RMARP who spearheaded DryDev in Burkina Faso. Significant efforts are expected from the other partners in 2016

Good Practice/Innovation

The CAP process helped raise individual and collective awareness around the issues and challenges relating to the sustainable management of strategic resources. The CAP process is open, thus enabling to integrate emerging themes in the centre of current development policies and strategies for sustainable development. It contributes in bringing innovation in the sense that people are

prepared to take their destiny in hand, without necessarily relying on external aid, on the basis of their vision of the desired change

Implementing quick wins is likely to maintain farmer commitment to the programme while long term interventions are being planned at the sub-catchment level

Ownership of DryDev by farmer organizations is crucial for the programme delivery. In this regard effort to roll out actions related to strengthening local institutions and governance will key to the successful delivery of the programme.

Project/programme Management

The appointment of the Burkina Country Team Manager was most needed. This position is key to ensuring synergy and complementary between implementing partners as well as an integrated delivery of the work packages.

While strategic partners are committed to support DryDev in Burkina Faso, their full participation to the programme activities is yet to reach momentum. Efforts should be made by strategic partners and RMARP in 2016 to ensure this happened

5.2 Provide a description of situations to demonstrate how you applied the following (both successes and failures)

Integration/Inclusiveness/Bottom up,

Field facilitation of the CAP process indicated the relevance of the approach in Burkina Faso despite its limited application one sub catchment. Efforts will be made in 2016 to tailor the CAP with the sub catchment management plans and the 2017 DIP development

Leveraging strategic partnerships

As noted above, the country team was able to bring in board the national secretariat for integrated water management. With now a full programme team in place, further efforts will be made in 2016 to secure the support of additional strategic partners whose expertise would complement the programme team.