



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# Strengthening Human Security and Community Resilience in the Sahel – Year II

## Progress Report II

**Period covered: January 2018 – December 2018**

---

**UNDP Sahel Programme  
Dakar Platform for West & Central Africa  
Regional Service Center for Africa**



**Project title :** Strengthening Human Security & Community Resilience in the Sahel

**Area of intervention :** Sahel Region: Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, & Regional Office

**Budget :** 1,000,000 Euros

**Donor :** Luxembourg

**Period :** January 2018 – December 2018



*Figure 1: Woman beneficiary of AGR- Small Animals fattening- Abalack, Niger*

# Table of Contents

- List of Acronyms .....4
- Background & Context.....5
- Intervention Framework .....6
  - United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) .....6
  - UNDP’s Pivotal Role .....6
- Objectives of the project .....7
  - A. Results at the Regional Level.....8
  - B. Results at the Country Level .....11
    - 1. Burkina Faso .....11
    - 2. Mauritania .....18
    - 3. Niger.....21
- Conclusion.....26
- Recommendations.....27

## List of Acronyms

|                |  |                     |
|----------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>CSC</b>     | <b>Conseil Supérieur de la Communication</b>   | <i>Burkina Faso</i> |
| <b>CSO</b>     | Civil Society Organizations  | <i>Worldwide</i>    |
| <b>DGSN</b>    | Direction General for National Security  | <i>Mauritania</i>   |
| <b>DIM</b>     | Direct Implementation Modality   | <i>Worldwide</i>    |
| <b>DNPGCCA</b> | Dispositif National de prévention et de Gestion des<br>Catastrophes et Crises Alimentaires<br>National mechanism for the prevention and management of<br>disasters and food crises | <i>Niger</i>        |
| <b>CGPE /</b>  | Comité de Gestion des Points d'Eau<br>Water Points Management Committee  | <i>Niger</i>        |
| <b>AUSPE</b>   | Association d'Usagers du Service Public de l'Eau<br>Association of Public Water Service Users  | <i>Niger</i>        |
| <b>IGA</b>     | Income Generating Activities   | <i>Worldwide</i>    |
| <b>MATD</b>    | Ministère de l'Administration Territoriale et de la<br>Décentralisation<br>Ministry of Territorial Administration & Decentralization   | <i>Burkina Faso</i> |
| <b>MCP</b>     | Ministerial Coordination Platform  | <i>Worldwide</i>    |
| <b>MIDEC</b>   | Ministry of Interior & Decentralization -  | <i>Mauritania</i>   |
| <b>ONAFAR</b>  | Organisation Nationale des Faits Religieux<br>National Observatory of Religious Facts  | <i>Burkina Faso</i> |
| <b>SCAP/RU</b> | Systèmes Communautaires d'Alertes Précoce et de<br>Réponses aux Urgences   | <i>Niger</i>        |

|               |  |                  |
|---------------|--|------------------|
|               | Community Early Warning and Emergency Response Systems |                  |
| <b>UNDP</b>   | United Nations Development Programme                   | <i>Worldwide</i> |
| <b>UNISS</b>  | United Nations Integrated Strategy on the Sahel        | <i>Worldwide</i> |
| <b>UNOWAS</b> | United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel    | <i>Worldwide</i> |
| <b>VSO</b>    | Vulnerability Monitoring Observatories                 | <i>Niger</i>     |

## Background & Context

Peace and stability are fundamental for socio-economic development and building strong institutions and communities. Within the UNDP-Luxembourg partnership framework, the Grand Duché of Luxembourg has signed a three-year agreement with UNDP (3 million Euros) to build on key results achieved under the Japan financed initiative in the area of human security and community resilience in the Sahel.

As of today, new waves of perspectives are unfolding in the Sahel, including the elaboration of the UN Support Plan for the Sahel. The growing insecurity in the region coupled with intra and inter-community conflicts, people displacements due to conflicts are a setback to human, and economic development. The region, particularly the Liptako-Gourma area and the Lake Chad basin remain a big threat to global security with the flow of movements across those porous borders. Neighboring countries of Mali are devastated by the spillover effect of the 2012 crisis where terrorist attacks and criminal activities are in the rise. These challenges are strongly felt in cross-border regions and hindering communities' stability.

Hence, the implementation of the project "Strengthening Human Security and Communities' Stability in the Sahel" becomes a salvation for border communities where movements of terrorist fighters and transnational criminal activities are accentuated.

This progress report is complementary to the previous one released for 2017. The report recounts activities implemented in 2018 capitalizing on key achievements from the previous years to ensure greater impact and sustainability. The present progress report will direct initiatives for 2019, including mainly the scaling up of some activities such as the culture of moringa in Burkina Faso and

Niger; the support to the fisherwomen in the Lake Chad basin together with the harvest of spirulina, and the challenges facing youth in this region.

## **Intervention Framework**

### **United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS)**

In 2018, following thorough internal and external consultations, the UN Support Plan for the Sahel (UNSP)<sup>1</sup> was elaborated to ensure coherence and complementarity for greater impact of the UN interventions in the region. As a fact, the United Nations has expanded its coverage of the Sahel by identifying five additional countries to be added to the G5 Sahel countries namely: Cameroon, The Gambia, The Republic of Guinea, Nigeria, and Senegal. All these countries are interlinked and interdependent given their proximity and shared borders that require transnational interventions. Rather than being another strategy, the UNSP intends to ensure coherence, complementarity, and coordination for greater impact as part of the international response in the Sahel. A resource mobilization mechanism has been established to that effect.

The UNSP aims to center efforts in the Sahel through a holistic approach prioritizing UN entities joined-up programming, engaging the communities of the Sahel in six priority areas namely: (1) promoting cross-border and regional cooperation for stability and development; (2) preventing and resolving conflicts; violent extremism and crime; and promoting access to justice and human rights; (3)- promoting inclusive and equitable growth and increasing quality access to basic services; (4)- building resilience to climate change, improving management of natural resources, and decreasing malnutrition and food insecurity; (5)- promoting access to renewable energy; and (6)- empowering women and youth for peace and development in the Sahel.

### **UNDP's Pivotal Role**

UNDP continues to strengthen the linkage and coherence of its interventions at country and regional levels to achieve the Agenda 2030 and the AU Agenda 2063. As the lead of the Governance Pillar of the UNISS, UNDP works closely with the two other Pillars (Security and Resilience) to ensure that

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.un.org/africarenewal/sites/www.un.org.africarenewal/files/English%20Summary%20Report\\_0.pdf](https://www.un.org/africarenewal/sites/www.un.org.africarenewal/files/English%20Summary%20Report_0.pdf)

transnational and regional issues are dealt with efficiently through the development-humanitarian-security nexus and strengthening the cooperation between the Governments and the Citizens.

This project is also being implemented in the framework of the UNDP's Strategic Plan 2018-2021 to ***“help countries to achieve sustainable development by eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development and building resilience to crises and shocks.”***

## Objectives of the project

The project *“Strengthening Human Security and Community Resilience in the Sahel”* is a regional initiative funded by the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg from January 2017 to December 2019, building on key achievements from the initial phase funded by the Government of Japan. Its objective is to increase the economic resilience of vulnerable communities in the G5 Sahel countries. The project aims to strengthen, at the institutional and community levels, the foundations for consolidating peace, social cohesion and governance.

The overarching goal of this project is to strengthen formal and informal mechanisms at the community level to promote social cohesion, sustainable livelihoods, community security and economic resilience in the G5 Sahel countries, particularly at cross-border areas, and to contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDGs 13 & 16.

The Project is built upon two major outcomes:

**Outcome 1:** Enhanced capacities of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community security and social cohesion. Outcome activities will foster stronger local governance structures through proactive multi-stakeholder engagements for peace consolidation and social cohesion, and efficient local administrations in various localities of the Sahel region.

**Outcome 2:** Improved economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce inequalities and foster stability. Outcome activities will include interventions at the community level that improve people's ability to achieve their basic needs and improve community resilience to recurrent crises through improved access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

## A. Results at the Regional Level

In 2018, at the regional level, the project contributed to strengthening strategic partnerships with regional institutions. Participation of the UNDP Regional Platform was ensured in high level regional consultations to allow greater collaboration in the sub-region. Some major activities were undertaken such as:

- The organization of the international ministerial conference on “Access to Justice, Impunity, and Human Rights in the Sahel” (Niamey, September 2018). Access to Justice remains a challenge for citizens in the Sahel region that necessitates strong political commitment from the States to apply international human rights. The conference was attended by the Ministers of Justice of the ECOWAS, The African Union Commission, the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, Civil Society Organizations, and other stakeholders. The President of Niger, H.E. Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou made the opening remark. The “Niger Declaration” was issued at the conclusion of the conference, and one of the recommendations was the decision to establish a Ministerial Platform to ensure that a mechanism is put in place to facilitate exchange between Ministers of Justice and judicial experts in the region. The Platform will also be a tool to evaluate countries’ compliance with commitments they made and to measure progress on the application of international human rights standards in West Africa.
- Support to the G5 Sahel Ministerial Coordination Platform under the Chadian presidency; operating under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Platform received office equipment and supplies, motorcycles, and internet connection to make the Platform functional. As a recommendation of the UNISS, regular communication is maintained with the Platform to ensure continuity and efficient implementation of its programme of activities. The project supported the organization of the ministerial conference of the G5 Sahel in March 2018; the elaboration of the Platform’s communication strategy.
- Continued support has been provided to the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat. Within that framework, the project facilitated the organization of the G5 Sahel extraordinary meetings ahead of the donor conference for which technical support was provided. To facilitate the



organization of the G5 Sahel Donors' Conference (held in December 2018), a formal request was addressed to the UNDP Regional Office in Dakar to provide the necessary support to strengthen its existing capacities and elaborate its resource mobilization strategy for the implementation of its Priority Investment Plan (PIP). Thus, in early January 2018, UNDP's experts conducted a week-long training of the G5 Sahel Thematic Groups Leaders on mastering the techniques of advocacy and resource mobilization; as well as in monitoring and evaluation.

- Additionally, a Senior UNDP Officer was assigned to Dakar to assist the elaboration of the UN Support Plan in support to the UNISS.

## Budget

| <b>Financial Status - Sahel Luxembourg Funded Project</b> |                           |                           |                          |                   |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>In US Dollars</i>                                      |                           |                           |                          |                   |
| <i>Report as of 31 January 2019</i>                       |                           |                           |                          |                   |
| <b>Component</b>  | <b>Resource Allocated</b> | <b>Total Expenditures</b> | <b>Remaining Balance</b> | <b>Delivery %</b> |
| <b>Regional Component</b>                                 |                           |                           |                          |                   |
| <i>00104235 in UNDP1</i>                                  | 1 107 218,97              | 758 715,32                | 348 503,65               | 69%               |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>                                       |                           |                           |                          |                   |
| <i>00105608 in BFA10</i>                                  | 367 400,00                | 293 672,65                | 73 727,35                | 80%               |
| <b>Mauritania</b>   |                           |                           |                          |                   |
| <i>00105611 in MRT10</i>                                  | 303 400,00                | 222 411,92                | 80 988,08                | 73%               |
| <b>Niger</b>  |                           |                           |                          |                   |
| <i>00105613 in NER10</i>                                  | 485 000,00                | 481 568,13                | 3 431,87                 | 99%               |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>2 263 018,97</b>       | <b>1 756 368,02</b>       | <b>506 650,95</b>        | <b>78%</b>        |

This financial report demonstrates implementation rate for the period up to 31 January 2019.

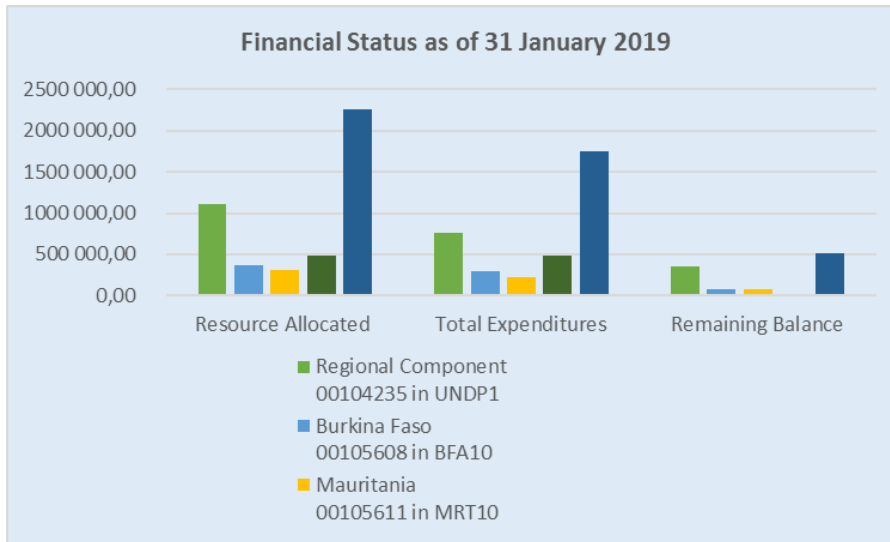


Figure 2: Official ceremony- Handing over of office equipment to the Ministerial Coordination Platform- Ndjamena, Chad

Most of the activities were conducted at country level in Burkina Faso, Mauritania, and Niger, while the regional component has put emphasis on regional integration, which is the decisive factor in tackling national and local issues.

In 2019, project activities will be extended to Chad with the aim to support the fisherwomen in the Lake Chad region who have become head of households<sup>2</sup> by maintaining livelihoods as the men have been killed by the Boko Haram insurgency. This project site was among the ones chosen and visited by the UN Deputy Secretary General during the high-level mission in Chad in June 2018 together with the Swedish Foreign Minister in her capacity as President of the Security Council.

## B. Results at the Country Level

### 1. Burkina Faso


In the implementation phase of the project, the Burkina Faso country office has focused on:

1. Strengthening the operational capacities of the National Observatory of Religious Facts (ONAFAR);
2. Strengthening dialogue and consultation between the State and civil society organizations;
3. And the strengthening of production capacity of the women of Yibi and Boura who cultivate and sell moringa in the municipality of Arbollé.



|  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <b>OUTCOME 1:</b> Greater presence of the Government, and improved access to public services in relevant cross-border areas                                  |   |  |   |
| <b>Output 1.:</b> The culture of tolerance and peace promoted through interreligious dialogue and exchange between the State and civil society organizations |   | <b>Target</b>  | <b>Progress/Statut</b>  |
| <b>Indicators:</b><br>- number of sessions held <b>(target: 2)</b><br>- number of people trained <b>(target: 24)</b>   | 1.1.: two regular sessions (programming and assessment) coupled with training for members of the ONAFAR | - 2 sessions held<br>- 24 people trained<br>- Activity Report 2017-2018 available<br>- Program of activities 2018-2019 available | - Two sessions coupled with two training sessions held<br>- One validated annual activity report available;<br>- A draft programme of activities 2018 - 2019 available<br>- 50 people, including members of the ONAFAR, and 11 women, trained and |

<sup>2</sup> [https://reliefweb.int/report/world/au-lac-tchad-des-femmes-p-cheuses-comme-espoir-d-un-avenir-meilleur?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=user&utm\\_campaign=shared](https://reliefweb.int/report/world/au-lac-tchad-des-femmes-p-cheuses-comme-espoir-d-un-avenir-meilleur?utm_medium=email&utm_source=user&utm_campaign=shared)

**OUTCOME 1:** Greater presence of the Government, and improved access to public services in relevant cross-border areas

| <b>Output 1.:</b> The culture of tolerance and peace promoted through interreligious dialogue and exchange between the State and civil society organizations | <b>Target</b>   | <b>Progress/Statut</b>   |
|--|---|--|
|  | (National Observatory for Religious Facts)  | <p>- Members of the ONAFAR equipped to dialogue in the management of religious conflicts</p> <p>equipped on the practice of religious freedom and conflict prevention in Burkina Faso.</p>  <p>BANDEROLE ONAFAR2.pdf</p> |
| 1.2.: Equip the ONAFAR with office supplies and computer consumables for its operationalization  | - Office supplies and Computer consumables offered  | The functioning of the ONAFAR has been strengthened and optimized through the supply of computer consumables and other office supplies. Correspondence, requests, reports and other documents were produced on time.   |
| 1.3.: Provide the ONAFAR with logistical means (a vehicle and a motorcycle) for its sensitization and mediation missions                                     | - 1 véhicule<br>- 1 motorcycle  | 1 car and 1 motorcycle have been acquired for ONAFAR to facilitate its sensitization and mediation missions throughout the national territory.   |
| 1.4.: Provide ONAFAR with media monitoring equipment (television, radio, internet access)  | Access to information through:<br>- 1 television set<br>- 5 radios<br>- Routers for internet connection | ONAFAR members will be more informed and more effective in the follow-up of religious media discourses thanks to the TV set, the five radio sets and the internet access available to them.  |

**OUTCOME 1:** Greater presence of the Government, and improved access to public services in relevant cross-border areas

| <b>Output 1.:</b> The culture of tolerance and peace promoted through interreligious dialogue and exchange between the State and civil society organizations |  | <b>Target</b>   | <b>Progress/Statut</b>  |
|--|--|---|---|
|  | 1.5.: Organize 5 meetings between the ONAFAR and the religious and customary authorities of the areas at risk in order to designate focal points in each region (Sahel, North, Mouhoun Loop East and West) | 4 focal points designated in the five "at risk regions"   | - Five sensitization and advocacy meetings held between the ONAFAR and the religious, customary, administrative and political authorities of the five sensitive regions;<br>- 20 focal points (4 per "at risk" regions) set up to promote interreligious dialogue, collect information and monitor religious facts in the regions.  |
|  | 1.6.: Creation of a website for the ONAFAR   | - 1 website is functional   | - 1 website created to ensure the visibility of ONAFAR and to facilitate referral to third parties/others. The project ensured that the visibility of the donor through the website.<br><a href="http://www.onafar.org">www.onafar.org</a> & <a href="http://www.onafar.bf">www.onafar.bf</a>   |
|  | 1.7.: Organize the third session of the consultation and dialogue framework between the State and the civil society organizations of Burkina Faso  | Constructive dialogue between the country's senior authorities and CSO representatives on topics of interest to all. Elaboration of the report of the 3rd session of the consultation and dialogue framework between the State and CSOs | The annual conference was held 26-27 December 2018 around the main theme "State/CSO Partnership: What challenges for an effective fight against insecurity and terrorism? "<br><br><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <br/>             Banderole PNUD<br/>             OSC_300x150.pdf         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <br/>             RAPPORT<br/>             CONSOLIDE DE LATRC         </div> </div><br><a href="http://lefaso.net/spip.php?article87179">http://lefaso.net/spip.php?article87179</a> |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>OUTCOME 1:</b> Greater presence of the Government, and improved access to public services in relevant cross-border areas   |   |   |
| <b>Output 1.:</b> The culture of tolerance and peace promoted through interreligious dialogue and exchange between the State and civil society organizations  | <b>Target</b>   | <b>Progress/Statut</b>  |
| <b>OUTCOME 2:</b> Improved economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities for reduced inequalities and stability  |   |   |
| <b>OUTPUT 2:</b> Local means of sustainable livelihoods are improved and opportunities for access to employment strengthened.<br><br><b>Indicators:</b> Number of water points completed<br><b>Target:</b> 2<br><br><b>Indicators:</b> Number of shed completed<br><b>Target:</b> 1 | 2.1: two water points are developed for the communities of Boura and Yibi doing small agriculture/farming and poultry<br><br>2.2. Contribute to the building of a shed for the women of Boura | Producers of the promising sectors (moringa and local poultry) have water points to consolidate their production activities<br><br>Now the women associations in Boura have a place to store their crops without fear of ransack by predators |

### Implementation of Project activities & results achieved

In Burkina Faso, the UNDP country office in consultation with the national counterparts agreed to implement both Outcome 1 & 2 of the project to ensure greater presence of the Government and improve access to public services in relevant cross-border areas.

The following activities were conducted:

- (i) *The culture of tolerance and peace was promoted through interreligious dialogue and exchange between the State and civil society organizations.*

Two training sessions (programming and assessment) were organized for the members or the National Observatory of Religious Facts ONAFAR, religious and the civil society organizations (CSO) to promote interreligious dialogue. The first session was held in Kombissiri (Central-South region) from June 17 to 22, 2018 and was the opportunity to present, amend and approve the 2017-2018 mid-term activity report of the ONAFAR. The session was followed by a training of members of the ONAFAR extended to 10 religious leaders and religious media animators on the theme "Role of ONAFAR in the practice of religious freedom." A total of 20 participants attended including six women. The topics covered during this training focused, among others, on: a) the institutional and political framework of religious freedoms in Burkina Faso; b) the normative framework for the protection of religious freedoms in Burkina Faso; and c) inter-religious dialogue as a tool for the resilience to radicalization.

The second session was held in Ziniaré (central-plateau region)<sup>3</sup> from 5 to 8 November 2018 and served as a framework to review and validate the outgoing Bureau's annual activity report. In addition, the session made it possible to elect the new team members of the ONAFAR in accordance with the texts governing the Observatory. At the end of the session, a draft work plan 2019 has been elaborated.

In addition, during this 2nd session, 30 people including five women, members of ONAFAR, resource persons of umbrella organizations of the religious communities and the Board of the ONAFAR, were trained in " Conflict Prevention and Management". Participants were able through practical cases of conflict to:

- understand the notion of peace and the typology of conflicts;
- know the triggers of the conflicts;
- acquire the skills to prevent and manage conflicts;
- better understand the impacts of conflicts;
- know the different approaches and tools for conflict analysis, effective advocacy, and mediation.

- (ii) The ONAFAR was equipped with media monitoring tools (TV, radio, internet connection) to allow the Observatory on the one hand to better follow the content of religious speeches/statements broadcasted through various media. On the other hand, these tools

---

<sup>3</sup> The choice of the central region of Burkina Faso indicates how the threats of radicalization and insecurity frighten the country and not only limited to the north Sahel region of the country

will allow the members of the Observatory to stay informed, so appropriate actions are taken whenever necessary. In fact, some speeches can carry messages of radicalization and incite extremism in certain communities. Hence, the ONAFAR is able to bring its expertise to the Superior Council of Communication with sound opinions so appropriate sanctions are imposed on media which violate the regulations.

Finally, the project allowed the ONAFAR to establish regional cells and facilitated missions to promote inter and intra-religious dialogue, exchange with the customary, religious, administrative and political authorities of the Sahel to strengthen social cohesion in the country, particularly in the North, Boucle du Mouhoun, East and West which are sensitive and considered at risk of radicalization and terrorist attacks. These visits were the opportunity to discuss with local authorities, inform them about the missions of the ONAFAR, and raise their awareness on inter and intra-religious dialogue. Another important aspect of these field trips was the designation and installation of the ONAFAR Regional Focal Points (RFP). It was initially planned to induct three (3) RFP by region. However, the lessons learned from the first activity required an adjustment and an increase in the number of focal points by region in order to be consistent with the number of representations of the existing religious sensitivities which are also represented in the ONAFAR. Thus, RFPs by region increased from 3 to 4, for a total of 20 RFPs. These RFPs are responsible for promoting inter-religious dialogue, collecting and transmitting relevant information on religious matters to ONAFAR, particularly on the coexistence between different religious denominations to strengthen social cohesion and, in turn, to reduce the risk of radicalization and enlistment by violent extremist groups in the communities. The information they provide will feed into the national report that ONAFAR produces for the Burkinabe authorities. It should be noted that during these missions, recommendations were made to the various partners for better support, particularly training of the RFPs and prevention during missions in “at risk areas.”

In summary, during the missions undertaken by the ONAFAR, at least 16 religious organizations of different faiths were sensitized on inter and intra-religious dialogue in the five regions considered sensitive by the ONAFAR. Some of the members of these organizations were also trained on the practice of religious freedom in Burkina Faso and on the prevention and management of conflicts.

Overall, the visits by the ONAFAR and exchanges with the authorities and communities increased the visibility of the institution and their role in contributing to the instauration of peace and security in the country.



- (iii) Creation of a website for the ONAFAR and its functionality on two extensions: [www.onafar.bf](http://www.onafar.bf) and [www.onafar.org](http://www.onafar.org).

This Platform aims to strengthen or even extend the actions of the ONAFAR; increase its visibility in the country and therefore bring the institution closer to the people. In addition, the site will enhance awareness by spreading messages of peace and social cohesion. Third parties could also contact ONAFAR, inform them about the religious situation in a particular area, and report any potential radicalization trends in the communities concerned.

- (iv) The organization of the third session of the consultation and dialogue framework between the State and the CSOs of Burkina Faso on the theme *"State/CSO partnership: what challenges for an effective fight against insecurity and terrorism"*. After a change of timing, this activity, was conducted on 26-27 December 2018 under the auspices of the Presidency of Burkina Faso and chaired by the Prime Minister. Thanks to the financing of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Government of Burkina Faso has instituted these annual consultations as a platform where the State and the CSOs could exchange.

The opening session of the meeting was chaired by the Prime Minister and the closing ceremony by



Figure 3: Cérémonie Ouverture Cadre Concertation & Dialogue Etat-OSC; Burkina Faso - <http://lefaso.net/spip.php?article87179>

HE the President of Burkina Faso. During his closing statement, the President acknowledged the review of the legal texts governing the management of security issues and the resolution of the problems that hinder civil-military cooperation; he invited the members of the Government to take practical steps at the level of each ministry to put an end to the

exercise of commercial activities by the civil servants; invited CSOs to change their ways of communicating on social networks, especially on issues related to terrorism and insecurity; reassured CSOs that arrangements will be made to prohibit political parties from planning for CSO

positions in their organization charts. In this regard, the Head of State invited CSOs to establish a CSO charter.

at the community level, two boreholes were drilled in Yibi and Boura after consultations with the mayor of the municipality and the populations of the beneficiary villages. These water drilling were necessary because the Sahel Programme noted during a field visit that the women group in Yibi could not water their moringa plants because of the drought. The village chief had ordered that the only well in the village be used for domestic consumption and animals watering only. Having a second well was really beneficial since it gives women the opportunity to continue their moringa business.

## 2. Mauritania

The implementation of the work plan 2018 was done under **Outcome 1** of the project which was part of the Mauritania UNDAF --Axis 4 on *“Improving Governance and Capacity Building for Actors”* and contributes to its Outcomes **Outcome 1: *“Democratic institutions are strengthened for the full exercise of their functions, and the promotion of citizens’ participation and control”***; and **Outcome 2: *“Public administration has increased capacities and skills to conduct development policies more effectively, including through the gender and human rights approach.”***

The Outputs of the UNDAF Action Plan on which this project is based, aim to achieve SDG-5— *“capacity building of national and local institutions”* and focuses on border management for stability and human security in Mauritania.

Terrorist attacks and criminal activities in border areas prevent any development prospect for communities’ stability and security. Overall, the project has raised awareness of citizens in the public (national institutions and their local branches, local elected representatives) and private sectors (young women, livestock breeders, farmers, traders, etc.) about the need to manage borders in a concerted way by ensuring the two important dimensions of security and development as part of an appropriate national border management strategy.

Hence, the project has put both security and development at the heart of the management of border



areas in association with the local populations concerned while providing them with basic support and services.

| <b>Outcome 1: Building the capacity of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion</b> |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Output</b>  | <b>Target</b>   | <b>Progress/Status</b>   |
| <b>Output 1: Building the capacity of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion</b>  | Organization of two training workshops for the members of the Hodh Echargui regional border management committees and in Assaba | 60 people from the two regions (Assaba and Hodh El Gharbi) participated in two held respectively on July 10-11, 2018 and July 12-13, 2018. Participants included national border management agencies and institutions (30 senior border management officials: 3 Prefects; 5 Border Police Officers; 3 Gendarmes; 3 Customs officers; 3 Road Safety agents; 2 Magistrates; 3 village committee chairpersons; 3 women presidents of women's associations; and 3 Imams). The workshops raised public awareness about the need to manage borders to ensure the security-development nexus is taken into consideration. |
|  | Equipment of the secretariats of two Regional Committees with meeting rooms and office materials for their operationalization   | Regional Border Management Committees established at Assaba and Hodh Elgharbi level. The committees were equipped with meeting room office equipment and computers. More than 40 participants trained on issues of integrated border management, counter-terrorism and the protection and promotion of human rights with attention to youth and women as well as to migrant populations.   |
|  | Acquisition of 10 Motorcycles rolling stock for Gougui and Touil border posts.  | A reception ceremony of the equipment was organized with the DGSN and the MIDEDEC: a lot of 10 Yamaha-type bikes aimed at strengthening the intervention capacities of the management teams at the borders with Mali from Gougui and Hamed to Hodh El Gharbi and Assaba.   |

**Outcome 1:** Building the capacity of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion

| Output  | Target | Progress/Status  |
|---|--------|--|
| <b>Output 2:</b><br>Establishment of a coordination, monitoring and evaluation system for the Sahel project |        | The coordination of the activities and follow-up are ensured by designated focal points who ensure the implementation of the project's activities in collaboration with the DGAT of the Ministry of the Interior and the Decentralization. |

The focus on border areas with Mali and Senegal, has been a strategy to prevent the recruitment of young population by criminal and extremist groups. This activity is based on the ordinance by the Ministry of Interior and Decentralization to establish a National Commission for Border Management and Regional Border Management Committees to ensure the safety of the communities.

Local communities and authorities benefitted from capacity building sessions to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion. Senior officials involved in border management (Prefects, Border Policemen, Gendarmes, Customs, GSR Road Safety, Magistrates, village committee chairmen, women and young presidents of women's and Youth associations, and Imams) were trained on integrated border management to support the development and implementation of strategies that would improve exchanges between the responsible authorities and the local population. That was the opportunity to establish and/or strengthen the collaboration between the authorities and local communities. Subsequently, they worked together to elaborate the local security plan.



The motorcycles offered to agents at border posts will facilitate prompt response, the movement and prosecution of suspicious cases along the borders.



## Implementation of Project activities & results achieved

**Outcome 1.: Building the capacity of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion--** Prevention of recruitment by criminal and extremist groups in the border areas with Mali and Senegal.

- **Output 1:** Capacity-building of local communities and local authorities to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion.
  - **Establishment of the National Border Management Commission and the Regional Border Management Committees** by order No. 0590/MIDEC of 10 July 2018 of the Minister of Interior and Decentralization, establishing a National Commission and Regional Border Management Committees.



Figure 4: Training session on border management- Mauritania

## 3. Niger

The Niger component was implemented to achieve **Outcome 2** of the project entitled "*Economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihoods is improved*" with: **Output 1:** *Greater presence of the Government, and improved access to public services in the concerned cross-border areas;* **Output 2:** *Local sustainable livelihoods are improved and opportunities for access to employment strengthened.* In this framework, the UNDP Niger country office has signed LOAs with three executing partners namely:

- NGO AJEDEV for the implementation of micro-projects dedicated to young men and women in the aim to strengthen the resilience of communities through awareness raising on the danger of terrorism and radicalization and their impact, job creation and livelihood enhancement in the department of Abalak, in south-west Tahoua region in Niger;
- The UNDP Multifunctional Platform Project for the rehabilitation of the small warehouse housing the Bengourou (Tillaberi region) multifunctional platform; then the transformation of the old shed into a crop storage facility.
- UNCDF to provide technical support for the implementation of **Output 1** *"Stronger Government Presence and Improved Access to Public Services in Cross-Border Areas"* and **Output 2** *"Local livelihoods are improved and increased opportunities for access to employment."* The purpose of this collaboration agreement with UNCDF improved women's and young people's access to drinking water through the realization of a mini drinking water supply and the reinforcement of the users' skills in management and training, hygiene and sanitation.

#### Implementation of Project activities & results achieved

The activities implemented included capacity building of the local elected officials and traditional leaders, the designated individuals of the communities of Bengourou and Handaga for the management of the water supply facilities. The Public Water Services organized a workshop to train members of the water users' associations, women producers, the management committees of the multifunctional platforms (MPTF) and the mini Drinking Water Adduction (DWA) on financial education. The realization of a mini drinking water adduction in Bengourou was a capitalization on the results of the previous UNDP-UNCDF support in the urban district of Téra, Tillabery region.

Since the attempts to drill boreholes in Bengourou were negative, the two boreholes were drilled successfully in Djankara, a hamlet of Bengourou to supply Bengourou and some other neighborhood villages. The two boreholes will be solar equipped. This water supply was in response to the demands of the women association in the village who already benefitted from other initiatives and have been successful in managing their multifunctional platform and generate revenues. This action will consolidate the results achieved for sustainability.



Figure 5: Young women beneficiaries of AGR (sewing)- Abalack, Niger



Figure 6: young woman beneficiary- Abalack, Niger

**OUTCOME 2:** Improved economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce inequalities and foster stability.

| <b>Output 2.1.:</b> Greater presence of the Government, and improved access to public services in relevant cross-border areas   | <b>Targets</b>   | <b>Progress/Statut</b>   |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Train and sensitize the population on the management of water and sanitation</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Management committees established</li> <li>. Local actors trained</li> <li>. Women trained in financial management</li> </ul> <p><b>Targets:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 women on water management &amp; sanitation</li> <li>100 women in financial education</li> <li>100 local actors trained on delegated management</li> </ul> | <p>2.1.1. Train local elected officials, traditional chieftaincy and the population on the delegated management of the water supply facilities</p> <p>2.1.2. organize a training workshop on financial education for women producers, PTFM management committees and mini water supply</p> <p>2.1.3. Technical studies (topographic survey, socio-economic study, etc.) for the realization of the Bengourou mini water supply</p> | <p>Currently, the village of Bengourou has a modern shed housing all PTFM equipment, services are operating normally, and the old house serves as a storage for in-kind crops women receive for the usage of the platform or from farming</p> <p>The MPTF has motivated the community and contributes a lot to the improvement of their living conditions, particularly for women.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 development actors including 21 local elected officials, 29 traditional leaders and 50 members of the managing committees trained got a better understanding and control of the organizational framework of the public water service in rural water supply; population are now knowledgeable of regulatory tools of the Rural Water Services Guide;</li> <li>• The roles and responsibilities of the various actors involved in the public water service were defined;</li> <li>• A funding mechanism of DWA (cost recovery policy, the development and approval of water tariffs) established;</li> <li>• Awareness on the basic rules of hygiene/ sanitation.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Output 2.2.</b></p> <p>Local means of sustainable livelihoods are improved and opportunities for access to employment strengthened</p>  | <p>2.2.1. Organize a training workshop on financial education for women producers, PTFM management committees and mini DWA</p> <p>Support the installation of the learners of the micro-project "support for the</p>   | <p>At the end of the training, workshops were set up and vocational kits delivered to beneficiaries in Abalak.</p> <p>9 groups formed in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sewing sector: three groups of 7</li> </ul>   |   |



**OUTCOME 2:** Improved economic resilience to recurrent crises by supporting inclusive access to resources and sustainable livelihood opportunities to reduce inequalities and foster stability.

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p># functional workshops<br/>         # open and functional bank accounts<br/>         # groups that have received the training and who use it to manage their activities</p> | <p>empowerment of women and youth in the department of Abalak"</p>                                   | <p>women + 1 man; and one group of each of the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welding</li> <li>- motorcycle Mechanics</li> <li>- Restauration (bakery)</li> <li>- Wood carpentry</li> <li>- Electricity sector</li> <li>- Masonry</li> </ul> <p>It should also be noted that a mutual savings accounts have been opened for each group to acquaint them with micro financial management</p> |
| <p><b>target:</b></p> <p>9 workshops<br/>         9 bank accounts<br/>         1 film produced</p>   | <p>2.2.2. Study tour to Burkina Faso to exchange with women producers of Moringa</p>                 | <p>This experience will help in the capitalization of the culture of moringa in the two countries to generate decent incomez for the women</p>   |
|  | <p>2.2.3. training young beneficiaries of Abalak in associative life and in financial management</p> | <p>The beneficiaries got experience in working together; hence creating social cohesion in a multicultural area and gave young people more confidence to contribute to development initiatives</p>   |
|  | <p>2.2.4. Realization and diffusion of a documentary film on the moringa project of the women</p>    | <p>Documentary film, t-shirts, caps, women head scarves, and bags, designed for better communication &amp; visibility of the donor</p>   |

Lessons learned: the municipality of Téra (Tillabéry region) with the support of the deconcentrated technical services was able to implement some development actions planned in their annual investment plan (PIA) and ensure the sustainability of the infrastructures.

# Conclusion

In a regional context marked by the rise of violent extremism, religious fundamentalism and the fragility of peace, the project's interventions are of paramount importance because they reinforce prevent and manage conflicts through interreligious dialogue and dialogue between the State and CSOs on topics of national interest. The project also gives local communities the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting their livelihoods.

Overall, the project has been 95% implemented as planned in 2018.

During field visits, beneficiaries have demonstrated great satisfaction for the support provided to them from the Government of Luxembourg through UNDP. Meanwhile, the needs remain acute for socioeconomic and employment opportunities to reduce populations' vulnerability and increase their resilience, so they are better equipped to face daily challenges.

The project's direct and indirect beneficiaries and technical authorities in all three countries have praised the Sahel Programme's initiatives, thanks to the financing of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, which is undoubtedly contributing to the stabilization and occupation of able-bodied youth, and potential "candidates" for migration and radicalization.

In 2019, the project will also emphasize on youth unemployment and idleness. This particular emphasize on youth integration was indicated by the Niger country office; Niger being a country where the youth facing multiple challenges both from being part of the Liptako-Gourma region as well as to the crisis steaming in Diffa from the Lake Chad Basin are exposed to all kinds of crisis, criminal activities, terrorist attacks from the Lake Chad Basin, and drug consumption. Niger is also an illegal migration route.

Regional partnership has been and will be strengthened with regional institutions as well as regional development actors to ensure coherence and complementarity.

To pursue the momentum, the Programme is working on mobilizing resources to amplify the effects of the project on the communities with greater access to basic services and to improve security in the region.

The various trainings and awareness workshops not only enabled the creation of economic opportunities for local communities but brought together the communities and the local authorities, on the need for collaboration, dangers of terrorism and violent extremism in a region still facing

insecurity. The grant of means of transportation and communication equipment helps border agents to quickly respond to crisis when they occur.

## Recommendations

It would be commendable that the monitoring and evaluation mechanism continues to function beyond the project period to ensure that investments are sustainable and/or see how to correct flaws due to security and environmental crisis, or for any other reason that would setback the gains.

By all means, the contribution of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has changed communities' livelihoods sustainably.

## Summary of Activities in 2018 (not exhaustive)

| Activity   | Description  |
|--|--|
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>  |  |
| Training of ONAFAR Members on the Practice of religious freedom & conflict prevention  | <b>61</b> (50 men and 11 women) +<br><b>20</b> regional focal points   |
| Office equipment to ensure functionality & creation of a website for the ONAFAR  | - <b>1</b> television set<br>- <b>5</b> radios<br>- Routers for internet connection<br>- <b>1</b> website: <a href="http://www.onafar.bf">www.onafar.bf</a> or <a href="http://www.onafar.org">www.onafar.org</a> .  |
| Water points established   | <b>2</b><br>(for the communities of Boura and Yibi to facilitate small agriculture/farming and poultry)  |
| <b>Mauritania</b>  |  |
| Capacity building of local communities & local authorities to jointly promote community safety and social cohesion in the two regions of Assaba and Hodh El Gharbi | <b>60</b><br>(30 senior border management officials: 3 Prefects; 5 Border Police Officers; 3 Gendarmes; 3 Customs officers; 5 Road Safety agents; 2 Magistrates; 3 village committee chairpersons; 3 women presidents of women's associations; and 3 Imams).<br>national border management agencies and institutions |
| Training on integrated border management, counter-terrorism & the protection & promotion of human rights   | <b>40</b>  |
| Strengthening the intervention capacities of border management agencies-- borders with Mali (rom Gougui and Hamed to Hodh El Gharbi and Assaba).                   | <b>10</b><br>Motorcycles   |
| <b>Niger</b>   |  |
| Training & sensitization water management & sanitation   | <b>30</b><br>(women)   |
| Training on delegated management of water supply facilities  | <b>100</b><br>local actors trained   |
| Training on financial management   | <b>100</b><br>(women in financial education)   |
| Regulatory tools of the Rural Water Services Guide   | <b>100</b><br>development actors including:  |

| Activity  | Description  |
|---|--|
|   | (21 local elected officials, 29 traditional leaders & 50 members of the managing committees)   |
| Support & training on IGA & micro-project management (women & youth in Abalak)      | <b>9 groups</b> formed in:<br>- <b>3</b> groups of<br>* <b>7</b> women<br>* <b>1</b> man Sewing sector;<br>- <b>1</b> group of each of the following sectors:<br>- Welding<br>- motorcycle Mechanics<br>- Restauration (bakery)<br>- Wood carpentry<br>- Electricity sector<br>- Masonry |
| Boreholes/water points  | <b>2</b><br>(Djankara to supply village of Bengourou)  |
| <b>G5 Sahel Ministerial Coordination Platform – Office equipment &amp; supplies</b> |  |
| Laptop  | <b>5</b>   |
| Printers  | <b>6</b>   |
| Inverter  | <b>5</b>   |
| Desks   | <b>2</b>   |
| Chairs  | <b>4</b>   |
| Hard drive  | <b>2</b>   |
| Memory sticks   | <b>10</b>  |
| toner   | Stock of <b>36</b>   |
| Paper   | <b>5</b> boxes   |



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG  
Coopération luxembourgeoise



Figure 7: Closing Ceremony of the State-CSOs Consultations by the President of Burkina Faso