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**Resilience and Economic Growth in the Sahel -  
Enhanced Resilience  
REPUBLIC OF NIGER and BURKINA FASO  
REGIS-ER**

**Annual Report**

**OCTOBER 1, 2014 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

**November 2015**

Cooperative Agreement No. 625-A-14-00001

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## Acronyms and abbreviations

| English           | French            | Meaning                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| i3N               | i3N               | High Commission of the Initiative Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens                                                                                      |
| A2N               | A2N               | Association Nodde Nooto (NGO "ready to serve" for conflict management)                                                                                     |
| ADROC             | ADROC             | Action pour la Dynamisation et Renforcement des Organisations Communautaires                                                                               |
| AGRHYMET          | AGRHYMET          | Agro-Hydro-Meteorological Center (Centre Agro-Hydrologique Météorologique)                                                                                 |
| APOR              | APOR              | Actions pour la Promotion des Organisations Rurales                                                                                                        |
| AREN              | AREN              | Association pour la Redynamisation de l'Elevage au Niger                                                                                                   |
| Arziki            | Arziki            | USAID Niger Food Security Project ended 31 March 2014                                                                                                      |
| AUE               | AUE               | Association des usagers d'eau (water users' association)                                                                                                   |
| BDL               | BDL               | Bio-Reclamation of Degraded Lands (Récupération biologique des terres dégradées)                                                                           |
| BDS               | BDS               | Business Development Services                                                                                                                              |
| C4D               | C4D               | Communications pour le Développement                                                                                                                       |
| CB                | BC                | Cereal Bank (Banque Céréalière)                                                                                                                            |
| CBO               | OCB               | Community-based Organization (Organisation Communautaire de Base)                                                                                          |
| CBSP              | APS               | Community-based Solution Provider (Agent Prestataire de Services)                                                                                          |
| CCA               | ACC               | Climate Change Adaptation (Adaptation au Changement Climatique)                                                                                            |
| -                 | CCA               | Niger Government Food Crisis Response Unit (Cellule Crise Alimentaire)                                                                                     |
| CES/DRS           | CES/DRS           | Conservation des eaux et des sols/défense et restauration des sols (soil and water conservation works; SWC)                                                |
| CF                | AC                | Conservation farming (Agriculture de conservation)                                                                                                         |
| CGPE              | CGPE              | Comité de Gestion de Point d'Eau (Water point management committee)                                                                                        |
| CLTS              | ATPC              | Community-Led Total Sanitation (Assainissement total piloté par la communauté)                                                                             |
| COFOB/<br>COFOCOM | COFOB/<br>COFOCOM | Commission Foncière de Base (Village-level land titling agency)<br>Commission Foncière de la Commune (Commune level land titling agency)                   |
| COGEHA            | COGEHA            | Comité Local de Gestion Hygiène/Assainissement (Hygiene /Sanitation Committee)                                                                             |
| CRS               | CRS               | Catholic Relief Services                                                                                                                                   |
| CRWT              | TPC               | Contour Rock Wall Terrace (Terrasse en pierre suivant les contours)                                                                                        |
| CSPS              | CSPS              | Centre de Santé et de Promotion Sociale (Health and Social Promotion Center)                                                                               |
| DEAR              | DEAR              | Méthode de comptabilité transparente (Double Entry Accounting Register)                                                                                    |
| DRM               | GRC               | Disaster Risk Management (Gestion des Risques des Catastrophes)                                                                                            |
| ER                | ER                | Résilience renforcée (Enhanced Resilience)                                                                                                                 |
| EWS               | SAP               | Système d'Alerte Précoce (Early Warning System)                                                                                                            |
| FCFN              | FCFN              | Haymaking and conservation of natural fodder (Fauche et Conservation du fourrage naturel)                                                                  |
| FFP               | FFP               | Food For Peace (USAID-funded food program)                                                                                                                 |
| FMNR              | RNA               | Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (Régénération Naturelle Assistée)                                                                                      |
| FP                | PF                | Family Planning (Planification familiale)                                                                                                                  |
| GENOVICO          | GENOVICO          | Gestion Non-Violente des Conflits (Non-Violent Conflict Management)                                                                                        |
| GNRM,<br>H/GNRM   | GGRN, R/GGRN      | Head of/Governance and Natural Resource Management component (Responsable/Gouvernance et Gestion des Ressources Naturelles), REGIS-ER                      |
| GoBF              | GoBF              | Government of Burkina Faso (Gouvernement du Burkina Faso)                                                                                                  |
| GoN               | GoN               | Government of Niger (Gouvernement du Niger)                                                                                                                |
| HH                | Ménage            | Household (Ménage)                                                                                                                                         |
| HNW,<br>H/HNW     | SNW,<br>R/SNW     | Head of/ Health/Nutrition and WASH component (Responsable/ Composante Santé/Nutrition et WASH), REGIS-ER                                                   |
| ICRISAT           | ICRISAT           | International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics                                                                                           |
| ICT               | ICT               | Information and Communications Technology (Technologies d'Information et des Communications)                                                               |
| IGESPLAM          | IGESPLAM          | Initiation à la Gestion and à la Planification Maraichère (Initiation to Market Garden Management and Planning)                                            |
| INRAN             | INRAN             | Institut National de la Recherche Agricole au Niger                                                                                                        |
| IOM               | OIM               | International Organization for Migration (Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations)                                                                 |
| IP                | PI                | Prestataire indépendant (Independent service provider)                                                                                                     |
| IR                | RI                | Intermediate Result, as used in USAID's causal model - results framework for its projects (Résultat Intermédiaire, dans le cadre de résultats des projets) |
| KOKARI            | -                 | "Kokari" Local Rural Credit Service (Service d'Intermédiation en Crédit Rural)                                                                             |
| MAG               | MAG               | Ministère de l'Agriculture                                                                                                                                 |
| MARP              | MARP              | Participatory approach network (Réseau pour la promotion des approches participatives)                                                                     |
| MFI               | IMF               | Micro-finance Institution (Institution de microfinance)                                                                                                    |
| MHE               | MHE               | Ministère d'Hydrologique et de l'Environnement                                                                                                             |
| MMI               | MMI               | Mobile market information system (Système d'Information sur le Marché)                                                                                     |
| MSI               | MSI               | Marie Stopes International (family planning NGO)                                                                                                           |

*Acronyms and abbreviations - continued*

| English        | French     | Meaning                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MtM            | MtM        | Mother to Mother ( <i>Mère à mère</i> )                                                                                                                                       |
| NCBA CLUSA     | NCBA CLUSA | National Cooperative Business Association/ Cooperative League of USA                                                                                                          |
| NRM            | GRN        | Natural Resource Management ( <i>Gestion des Ressources Naturelles</i> )                                                                                                      |
| OSV            | OSV        | Observatories to monitor vulnerability ( <i>Observatoires de Suivi de la Vulnérabilité</i> )                                                                                  |
| PASAM-TAI      | PASAM-TAI  | Programme d'Appui à la Sécurité Alimentaire des Ménages-Tanadin Abincin Iyali - CRS Niger WASH in Maradi, Zin                                                                 |
| PCOAS          | PCOAS      | Commune Land use plan ( <i>Plan Communal d'occupation et d'affectation des sols</i> )                                                                                         |
| PDCO           | PDCO       | <i>Patate douce à chair orange</i> (Orange-fleshed sweet potato)                                                                                                              |
| PEM            | PEM        | <i>Point d'eau moderne</i> (modern water point)                                                                                                                               |
| PMP            | PMP        | Performance Monitoring Plan ( <i>Plan-tableau pour suivre la performance</i> )                                                                                                |
| PMH            | PMH        | <i>Pompe à motricité humaine</i> (Hand-operated pump)                                                                                                                         |
| PO             | OP         | Producers' Organization ( <i>Organisation des producteurs</i> )                                                                                                               |
| PS             | SP         | Private Sector ( <i>secteur privé</i> )                                                                                                                                       |
| PTA            | PTA        | Annual Workplan ( <i>Plan de travail annuel</i> )                                                                                                                             |
| RC             | RC         | <i>Réseau californien</i> (California Irrigation System)                                                                                                                      |
| RECA           | RECA       | <i>Réseau des Chambres d'Agriculture du Niger</i> (Network of Niger Granges)                                                                                                  |
| REGIS-AG       | REGIS-AG   | Resilience and Economic Growth in the Sahel – Accelerated Growth                                                                                                              |
| REGIS-ER       | REGIS-ER   | Resilience and Economic Growth in the Sahel – Enhanced Resilience                                                                                                             |
| RISE           | RISE       | Resilience in the Sahel Enhanced                                                                                                                                              |
| SECCA          | SECCA      | <i>Stratégie Epargne Crédit Communautaire Auto-géré</i> (Self-managed Community Savings and Loan Strategy)                                                                    |
| SBCC           | CCSC       | Social and behavior change communication ( <i>Communication pour le changement social et de comportement</i> )                                                                |
| SCAP-RU        | SCAP-RU    | Community early warning and rapid response system ( <i>Système Communautaire d'Alerte Précoce et de Réponses aux Urgences</i> )                                               |
| SAREL          | SAREL      | Sahel Resilience Learning ( <i>Apprentissage sur la Résilience dans le Sahel</i> )                                                                                            |
| SFR            | SFR        | <i>Services Fonciers et Ruraux</i> (Rural and Land Tenure Government Services)                                                                                                |
| SHELADIA       | SHELADIA   | Sheladia Associates, Inc., a U.S.-based multidisciplinary consulting firm and REGIS-ER partner ( <i>Cabinet multi-disciplinaire basé aux USA et partenaire sur REGIS-ER</i> ) |
| SLC, H/SLC     | BEE, R/BEE | (Head of) Sustainable Livelihoods component ( <i>Responsable/composante Bien-Être Économique</i> ), REGIS-ER                                                                  |
| SP/CPSA        | SP/CPSA    | <i>Secrétariat Permanent de la Coordination des Politiques Sectorielles Agricoles</i>                                                                                         |
| SPRING         | SPRING     | Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (sponsor of Digital Green)                                                                         |
| SVPP           | SVPP       | <i>Service vétérinaire privé de proximité</i> (Local private veterinarian service provider)                                                                                   |
| SWC or CES/DRS | CES/DRS    | Soil and Water Conservation/Defence and Restoration of Soil ( <i>Conservation des eaux et des sols/Défense et Restauration des sols</i> )                                     |
| TA             | AT         | Technical Assistance ( <i>Assistance technique</i> )                                                                                                                          |
| TBD            | TBD        | To be decided                                                                                                                                                                 |
| TOR            | TDR        | Terms of Reference ( <i>Termes de Référence</i> )                                                                                                                             |
| TOT            | TOT        | Training of Trainers ( <i>Formation des formateurs</i> )                                                                                                                      |
| URC            | URC        | University Research Co., LLC                                                                                                                                                  |
| USG            | GUS        | United States Government ( <i>Gouvernement des États Unis</i> )                                                                                                               |
| VA             | AV         | Village Animator ( <i>Animateur villageois</i> )                                                                                                                              |
| ViM            | ViM        | Victory over Malnutrition                                                                                                                                                     |
| VVV            | VVV        | Vulgarisateur volontaire villageois (Volunteer village veterinarian trainer)                                                                                                  |
| WSA            | EAA        | Water and Sanitation for Africa ( <i>Eau et Assainissement pour l'Afrique</i> )                                                                                               |
| WASH           | EHA        | Water Sanitation and Hygiene ( <i>Eau Hygiène Assainissement</i> )                                                                                                            |
| WFP            | PAM        | World Food Programme ( <i>Programme Alimentaire Mondial</i> )                                                                                                                 |

## Executive summary

### Second-year highlights

- ▶ **3800 hectares put under conservation farming, and 6000 hectares under farmer-managed natural regeneration**, as these activities are scaled up and producers are already signing up for next year's season
- ▶ Sustainability of water supply was improved as communes, local repair artisans, and REGIS-ER signed agreements that ensure manual pump repairs; **53 water points and 34 hand-operated pumps were repaired; 47 water management committees were trained**
- ▶ **CBSP** including masons, welders, veterinarian workers, gardeners, and nursery managers as members of the private sector have earned **38.6 million FCFA (\$US 67K)** through contracts and sales of services and goods
- ▶ Self-managed credit and savings schemes (SECCA) set up in REGIS-ER Niger regions have reached more than a thousand households; recorded **savings add up to 60 million FCFA (\$US 104K) and loans of 205 million FCFA (\$US 350K) have been disbursed** to fund animal fattening, warehouse receipts, small commerce, purchase of inputs, fish sales
- ▶ More than **17,000 vulnerable stakeholders have been trained in climate change adaptation** techniques that improve natural resource use and productivity
- ▶ **The first local convention in Niger was integrated into the Commune Development Plan**
- ▶ **1100 hectares of degraded lands were restored** for tree or crop production by village producers in collaboration with World Food Programme
- ▶ **More than 35,000 moringa and 38,000 baobab seedlings** were distributed to vulnerable households for home gardening projects
- ▶ **Community meals prepared in Mother-to-Mother groups** are having an impact on behavior change; as one woman in Tibilindi village has said in Burkina Faso: "This is the first time that women from different households have eaten a meal together, from the same platter; this has made us into a closer group."
- ▶ Husband schools were established in 136 villages of Niger and Burkina Faso, with more than **1,200 'model husbands' identified** to lead groups of men in learning about the 'first 1,000 days', mother and child nutrition, and family planning topics

### Points of convergence

REGIS-ER's three main components work together on several production, governance, and health activities. They also work with partners in development with the common objectives of providing the means for families living in climate-vulnerable settings to thrive and build reserves and capacity in spite of adverse conditions. These are some of the activities that were carried out collaboratively and with that common vision.

#### Livelihoods

- Rotating fora on themes common to DFAP partners in Niger; regular planned meetings between partners
- Collaboration with REGIS-AG: contribution to value chain studies, organization of regional workshops, organization of small ruminant fairs for Tabaski, warehouse receipts program study in Burkina
- Participation in promotional day for moringa organized by USAID-WA-WASH as a prelude to organizing mini-fairs to promote enriched foods

- Collaborative expansion of conservation farming with Niger FFP partners Sawki and PASAM-TAI
- Livelihoods Component continues to work directly with the Governance Component on implementing conservation farming (CF) and farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR) on the same land
- Home gardens implemented with mother-to-mother groups (MtM) set up by the Health Component: members are the first to receive moringa and baobab seedlings following training in planting and nutrition carried out by Project specialists in Agriculture and HNW; surplus crop sales increase revenues
- Planning for multiple-use wells that cover household as well as garden and livestock needs

### Governance

- Production activity on degraded lands (BDL) is informed through the Livelihoods Component
- FMNR is now formally combined with CF during training
- Using advice from the Livelihoods Component, sensitization of community members on climate change covers the topic of crop risks
- Using advice from the Health Component, FMNR training targets nutrition-related plants
- WFP's household economic analysis was used to prioritize beneficiaries for REGIS-ER assistance

### Health

- MtM members prioritized for gardening and livestock activities through the Livelihoods Component
- Latrine grants prioritized for villages who have started working with FFP partners
- Latrine construction with a goal of using sanitized excreta and urine as fertilizer is underway in several pilot households in Niger
- Husband schools installed in villages where FFP partners work with Care Groups, thus increasing men's participation in issues related to health and nutrition of women and infants
- Workshop on radio message planning and consistency held with partners FFP, UNICEF, Alive & Thrive, Ministry of Health, SPRING, USAID | REGIS-ER

### What are we learning?

- REGIS-ER has increased collaboration and reduced the workload of field staff by proactively using existing community-based groups (such as those working with other projects and partners) to introduce technologies and training, instead of creating new groups.
- The selection of CBSP is a critical step that impacts the success, sustainability, and scaling up of Project activities. CBSP are a crucial piece of the Project: they develop opportunities that relieve market bottlenecks encountered by households, and their business activities are a chance for the Project to broaden its zone of influence. The importance of a good identification is reflected in the strategy that uses regional and village-level staff to lead that process.
- Choosing the right habbanayé beneficiaries is also important. Beneficiaries receive a capital investment to develop small livestock businesses that improve their own resilience; at the same time, those beneficiaries of the offspring of initial animals also need to be identified with care. Using triangulation with three groups who give input on potential beneficiaries has proven a good method that is particular to REGIS-ER.
- Sometimes the success of an activity depends on whether it is begun at the right time. For example, repairing and constructing water points and latrines began during the onset of the rainy season. This brought on two roadblocks: accessibility of the sites, and availability of the community to contribute to the work (cost share).
- Cultural norms should be considered when devising behavior change strategies.

## Introduction

Resilience in the Sahel Enhanced is a United States Government initiative that aims to strengthen resilience in target vulnerable populations in the Sahel region so that crisis-based humanitarian assistance is required less frequently. REGIS-ER Project is one of the USAID partners carrying out the RISE initiative.

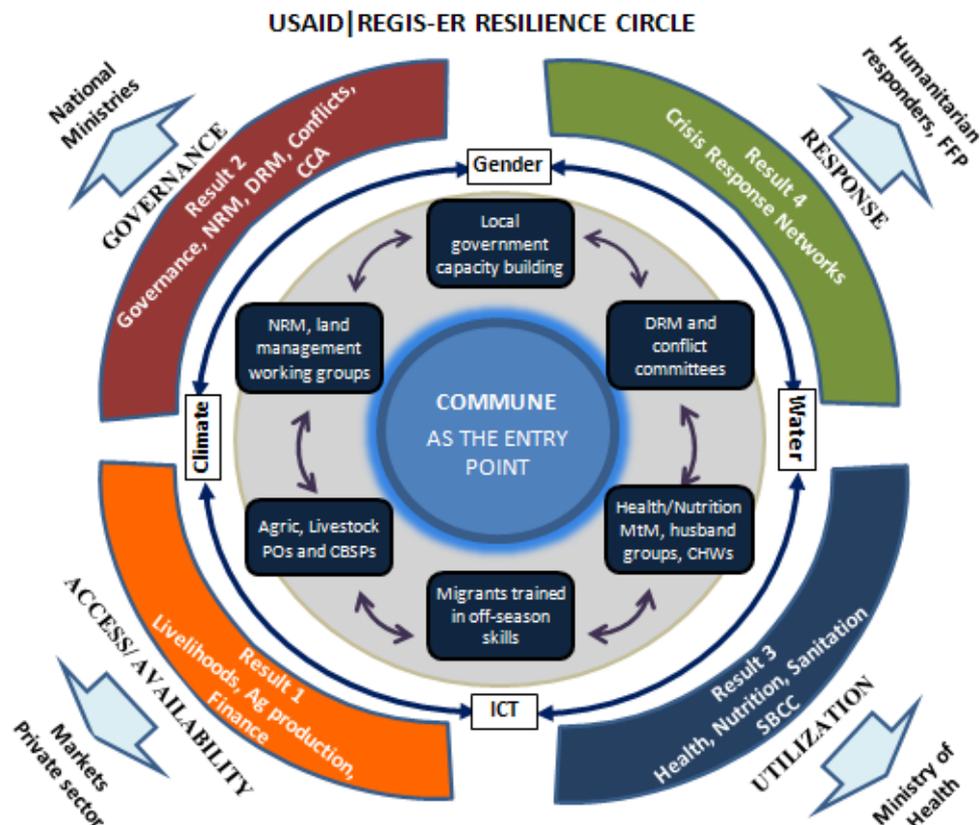
USAID defines resilience as the ability of people, households, communities, countries, and systems to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses so they become less chronically vulnerable and more able to achieve inclusive growth. In the broader context, USAID investments in resilience seek to address the root causes of this chronic vulnerability through nutrition-led agriculture and livestock rearing, better health and hygiene, stronger governance and natural resource management, and awareness of climate change impacts and adaptation to them.

USAID | REGIS-ER addresses the diverse, structural causes of chronic vulnerability using a “360-degree” approach. The overall objective is to increase the resilience of chronically vulnerable populations in marginal agriculture and pastoral zones in the Sahel regions of Niger and Burkina Faso.

Enhance resilience is being achieved through activities that achieve REGIS-ER’s three main objectives (and their intermediate results), which are also the names of the three principal components:

- **Sustainable livelihoods** (diversifying economic opportunities and developing a system of local service providers; intensifying agricultural and animal production and marketing, especially through conservation farming and improved small-scale livestock operations; facilitating access to credit and savings institutions and training)
- **Strengthened governance** (managing natural resources through legally recognized land use plans and soil management; planning for resiliency in the face of climate change and related disasters; improving mechanisms for preventing and resolving conflict over resources; building capacity in commune government structures for coordination and planning)
- **Improved health and nutrition** (providing access to potable water and training water point management committees; developing capacity of community health workers and mother/father/youth group leaders to guide behavior change discussions related to health, sanitation, and nutrition of families, women, and infants; using behavior change communications to promote key health and nutrition actions like growing and consuming more diverse and nutritious food, using latrines with hand-washing, breast-feeding exclusively in the first six months)

A crisis-based modifier of activities will engage if the Project mode temporarily changes to one of providing humanitarian assistance due to unforeseen events or disasters, thus disrupting Project objectives as little as possible.



Cross-cutting themes that are integrated into the three components include small grants and cost-sharing, pro-active gender inclusion, training in all technologies, communications with the public, climate change considerations in component technologies, environmental compliance, and continual monitoring and evaluation.

The staff in the three main components updated their targets and strategies in March 2015. The components also evaluated their own activities in order to strategize and make improvements for the FY16 workplan so that the best activities can be intensified and extended into more areas.

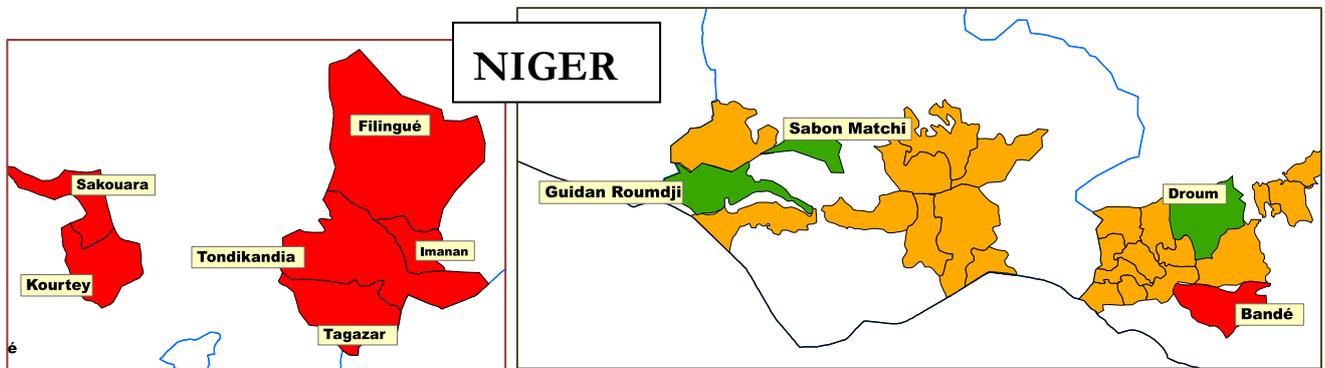
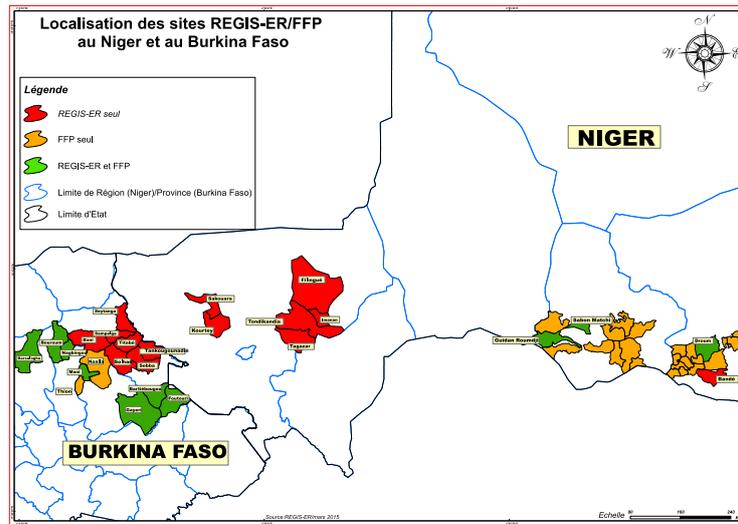
GPS coordinates of all Project villages were recorded and will help us identify our sites during the life of the Project.

#### NOTE ON THE PRESENTATION OF TARGETS AND RESULTS

In each component's chapter, a table of progress with regard to indicator targets is presented using the main disaggregations. The table is followed by descriptions of activities that contributed to the results.

Calculation and reporting methods are verified throughout the life of REGIS-ER. In 2015, for example, indicator titles, targets, and definitions were reviewed and updated for indicators that proved to be inadequately described to assure consistent application in all field regions. It was also an opportunity for the components to review strategies so as to reduce the workload while maximizing results.

## Location of REGIS-ER and FFP sites in Niger and Burkina Faso



The new maps of work zones showing overlap and single-partner communes, produced at the request of USAID for a report on collaboration between REGIS-ER and FFP partners

# 1. Sustainable Livelihoods Component (SLC)

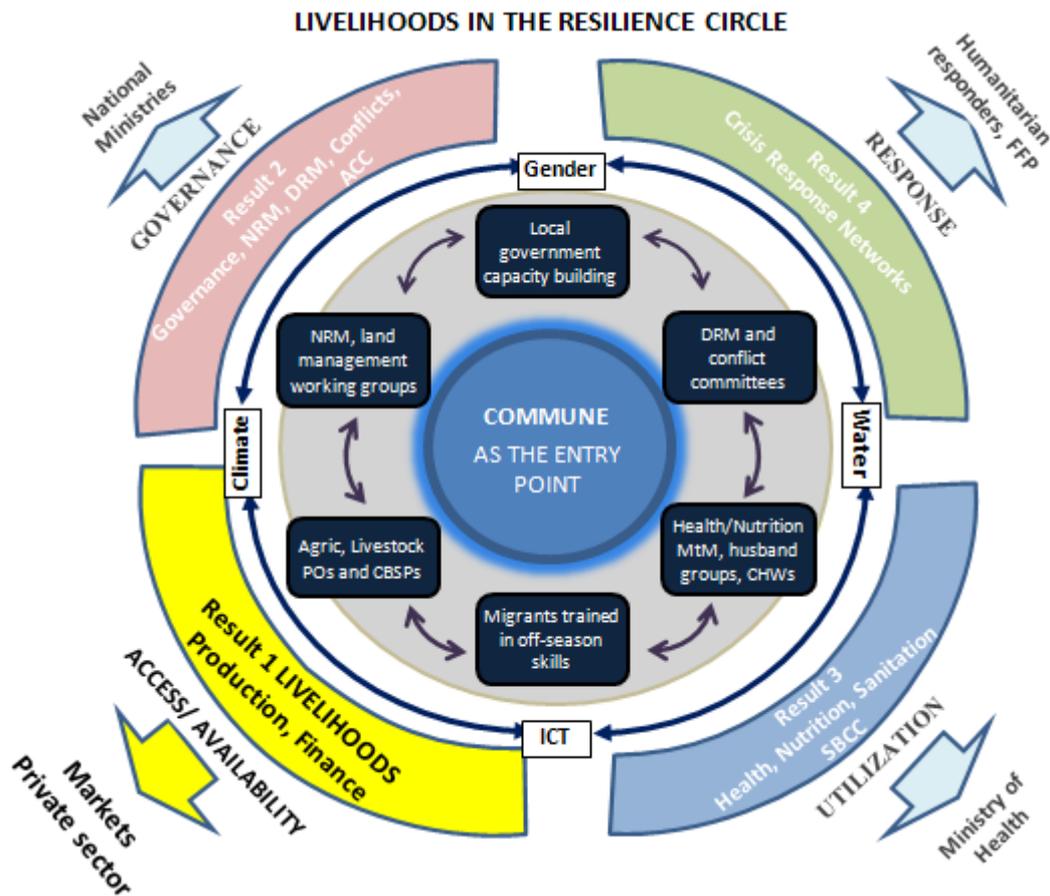
## Livelihoods activities and resilience

The objective of the Sustainable Livelihoods Component is to provide a way for producers at all levels to achieve resilience and food security in spite of repeated shocks that result from climate change, degradation of soil quality, and demographics.

The component addresses two of the food security pillars: availability of food through improved and intensified production, and access to better services, products, and information.

Capacity of producers is built using proven successful technologies in small livestock, garden, and agricultural production (such as conservation farming, producing and storing fodder to fatten animals, warehousing onions to wait for higher prices, local veterinarian and repair services) that intensify and diversify production. These technologies are leading to better nutrition, increased household and entrepreneurial revenues, and a potential for increasing household assets that act as a buffer in hard years.

With a view towards strengthening the safety net and promoting entrepreneurship, the Project is facilitating access to financial services (savings and loans) and providing training in business literacy.



## Summary table of progress towards indicator targets

| Indicator                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | QUARTER OF FY15 |       |        |        | Performance since inception |              |                                   |                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1               | 2     | 3      | 4      | Cumul FY2<br>2014-15        | Cumul<br>FY1 | Cum. TARGET<br>FY 1+2             | % Target<br>FY 1+2                |
| <b>Intermediate Result 1.1: Diversified economic opportunities</b>                                                                                                                                                                             |                 |       |        |        |                             |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.1.1. Increase in income from off-farm economic opportunities (\$US) **<br><i>This indicator will be changed to "Number/ % of households reporting an increase in income", surveyed at mid-term and end</i>                                   | 4,489           | 2,380 | 17,084 | NA     | 23,953                      | 16,498       | NA** see comment in indicator box | NA** see comment in indicator box |
| <b>of which, for women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3,583           | 1,228 | 8,729  |        | 13,540                      | 4,706        |                                   |                                   |
| 1.1.2. Number of jobs attributed to REGIS-ER implementation (FTE)                                                                                                                                                                              | 292             | 418   | 1,115  | 486    | 2,233                       | 350          | 480                               | 538%                              |
| <b>of which, for women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 237             | 399   | 962    | 353    | 1832                        | 310          |                                   |                                   |
| New                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 293             | 234   | 869    | 438    | 1834                        |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.1.3. Number of people trained in skills relevant for local/ migrant off-season labor                                                                                                                                                         | 2,122           | 2,820 | 7,953  | 7,228  | 20,123                      | 39           | 10,000                            | 202%                              |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1,148           | 1,493 | 6,424  | 6,406  | 15,471                      | 38           |                                   |                                   |
| New                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                 |       |        | 5,203  | 5,203                       |              |                                   |                                   |
| <b>Intermediate Result 1.2: Intensified production and marketing</b>                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |       |        |        |                             |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.2.1. Number of farmers or others who have applied improved technologies or management practices                                                                                                                                              | 5,984           | 4,145 | 3,592  | 18,580 | 32,301                      | 9,034        | 40,000                            | 103%                              |
| <b>practiced by women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5,485           | 2,782 | 2,236  | 11,469 | 21,972                      | 8,507        |                                   |                                   |
| Conservation farming                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |       |        | 4,696  | 4,696                       |              |                                   |                                   |
| CES/DRS, BDL, Village territory mgmt                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |       |        | 10,187 | 10,187                      |              |                                   |                                   |
| Nurseries, fruit trees, irrig, impr. seed, gardens                                                                                                                                                                                             |                 |       |        | 649    | 649                         |              |                                   |                                   |
| Sanitation., crop storage, sm. ruminants, water point mgmt, PO, value-adding                                                                                                                                                                   |                 |       |        | 2,514  | 2,514                       |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.2.2. Number of hectares under improved technologies or management practices                                                                                                                                                                  | 185             | 85    | 237    | 8,328  | 8,835                       | 948          | 20,000                            | 49%                               |
| Conservation farming                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 180             | 65    | 72     | 3,705  | 4,022                       |              |                                   |                                   |
| CES/DRS, BDL, village territory mgmt                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |       | 126    | 4,553  | 4,679                       |              |                                   |                                   |
| Nurseries, fruit trees, irrig, impr. seed, gardens                                                                                                                                                                                             | 54              | 1     | 7      | 39     | 101                         |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.2.3. Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training                                                                                                             | 5,052           | 5,200 | 13,242 | 10,979 | 34,473                      | 6,199        | 100,000                           | 41%                               |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 3,655           | 3,044 | 8,105  | 7,298  | 22,102                      | 5,483        |                                   |                                   |
| New                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                 | 4,291 | 11,802 | 4,771  | 20,864                      |              |                                   |                                   |
| Producers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0               | 20    | 37     | 7,216  | 7,273                       |              |                                   |                                   |
| Government agents                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 0               | 8     | 65     | 27     | 100                         |              |                                   |                                   |
| CBSP, IP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0               | 11    | 211    | 14     | 236                         |              |                                   |                                   |
| Civil society                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                 |       |        |        |                             |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.2.4. Number of food security private enterprises, producer organizations, water user associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and CBOs receiving USG assistance through REGIS-ER                                       | 132             | 129   | 279    | 410    | 950                         | 215          | 1200                              | 97%                               |
| <b>Women's groups</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 91              | 85    | 107    | 206    | 489                         | 215          |                                   |                                   |
| New                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 81              | 71    | 87     | 201    | 440                         |              |                                   |                                   |
| NRM committee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 0               | 0     | 0      | 11     | 11                          |              |                                   |                                   |
| Water point mgmt committee                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0               | 0     | 0      | 36     | 36                          |              |                                   |                                   |
| PO (producers' organization)                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 0               | 0     | 0      | 165    | 165                         |              |                                   |                                   |
| Civil society, NGO, CBO                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0               | 0     | 0      | 26     | 26                          |              |                                   |                                   |
| 1.2.5. Number of food security private enterprises, producer organizations, water user assoc'ns, women's groups, trade and business assoc'ns, and community-based organizations who have applied improved technologies or management practices | 116             | 95    | 46     | 288    | 545                         | 176          | 600                               | 120%                              |
| <b>Women's groups</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 85              | 64    | 20     | 165    | 334                         |              |                                   |                                   |

| Indicator                                                                                                                                                                        | QUARTER OF FY15 |         |        |         | Performance since inception |              |                       |                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1               | 2       | 3      | 4       | Cumul FY2<br>2014-15        | Cumul<br>FY1 | Cum. TARGET<br>FY 1+2 | % Target<br>FY 1+2              |
| New                                                                                                                                                                              | 74              | 51      | 14     | 82      | 221                         |              |                       |                                 |
| NRM committee                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |         |        | 5       | 13                          |              |                       |                                 |
| Water point management committee                                                                                                                                                 |                 |         |        | 2       |                             |              |                       |                                 |
| PO                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |         |        | 174     |                             |              |                       |                                 |
| Civil society, NGO, CBO                                                                                                                                                          |                 |         |        | 1       |                             |              |                       |                                 |
| 1.2.6. Number of firms (excluding farms) or CBOs engaged in agricultural and food security-related manufacturing and services now operating more profitably                      |                 |         |        | 63      | 63                          | 6            | 120                   | 58%                             |
| New                                                                                                                                                                              |                 |         |        | 58      | 58                          |              |                       |                                 |
| CBSP                                                                                                                                                                             |                 |         |        | 63      | 63                          |              |                       |                                 |
| 1.2.7. Number of vulnerable households benefitting directly from USG interventions through REGIS-ER                                                                              | 11,601          | 11,197  | 14,706 | 19,165  | 56,791                      | 13,208       | 100,000               | 70%                             |
| Female                                                                                                                                                                           | 4               | 206     | 889    | 813     | 1,912                       |              |                       |                                 |
| New                                                                                                                                                                              | 0               | 2,806   | 7,654  | 7,722   | 18,812                      |              |                       |                                 |
| 1.2.8. Value of incremental sales (collected at farm-level) <sup>2</sup> attributed to program implementation (millet, sorghum, maize, cowpea, rice, peanut) - \$US <sup>1</sup> | 13,162          | 9,332   | 89,299 | 39,506  | 151,300                     | 5,565        | TBD                   |                                 |
| New                                                                                                                                                                              |                 |         |        | 14,840  | 14,840                      |              |                       |                                 |
| Animal products (meat, skin, animals)                                                                                                                                            |                 |         |        | 33,453  | 33,453                      |              |                       |                                 |
| Moringa leaves processed or not                                                                                                                                                  | 430             | 0       | 2,480  | 241     | 3,151                       |              |                       |                                 |
| Fodder crops (cowpea, hyacinth bean)                                                                                                                                             |                 |         |        | 197     | 197                         |              |                       |                                 |
| Sorghum                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |         | 282    |         | 282                         |              |                       |                                 |
| Non-fodder cowpea                                                                                                                                                                |                 |         | 34     |         | 34                          |              |                       |                                 |
| 1.3.1. Value of agricultural / rural loans (\$US) <sup>1</sup> loans to women                                                                                                    | 48,096          | 162,767 | 58,838 | 146,649 | 416,350                     | 97,737       | 1.25M                 | 41%                             |
| New                                                                                                                                                                              | 32,190          | 86,908  | 38,935 | 66,747  | 224,779                     | 56,661       |                       |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                  |                 |         |        | 60,901  | 60,901                      |              |                       |                                 |
| 1.3.2. Number /% of beneficiary households with access to formal or community-based financial services                                                                           | 269             | 1,983   | 884    | 1,760   | 4,896                       | 956          | TBD                   | (% of households in 1.2.7 = 8%) |
| 1.3.3. Number of active informal savings and loan groups strengthened                                                                                                            | 20              | 0       | 105    | 85      | 210                         | 0            | 400                   | 53%                             |
| operated by women                                                                                                                                                                | 16              | 0       | 95     |         |                             |              |                       |                                 |
| New                                                                                                                                                                              |                 |         |        | 33      | 33                          |              |                       |                                 |
| Formal                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |         |        | 0       | 0                           |              |                       |                                 |
| Informal                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |         |        | 85      | 85                          |              |                       |                                 |
| 1.3.4. Value of savings accumulated by project beneficiaries (\$US) <sup>++</sup>                                                                                                | 6,482           | 0       | 43,490 | 34,778  | 84,749                      | 0            | 350,000               | 24%                             |
| 1.3.5. Number of MSMEs including farmers receiving USG assistance to access loans                                                                                                | 68              | 91      | 18     | 78      | 255                         | 10           | 250                   | 106%                            |
| operated by women                                                                                                                                                                |                 |         |        |         |                             |              |                       |                                 |

1 Exchange rate used per \$1 US: Quarter1: \$1=500 FCFA; Quarter2: \$1=604 FCFA; Quarter3: \$1=593 FCFA; Quarter4: \$1=583 FCFA

2 The value shown is cumulative value of sales, not calculated by incremental sales according to the PIRS. The database is being updated to calculate the correct amounts.

## IR 1.1. Diversified economic opportunities

### Community-based solution providers (CBSP) and independent providers (IP)

Supporting the emergence of CBSP based in REGIS-ER intervention villages is one of the most important ways to ensure that high-quality products, services, and information that assure food security and resilience remain available to vulnerable household members. The CBSP program is being expanded through REGIS-ER support. In the past year, the Project identified potential CBSP together with beneficiaries in their villages; they were trained and given equipment or material to carry out their work.

## Niger

**Fruit and forest tree nursery managers:** In the context of nutrition and promoting economic activities that are less dependent on the rains, 11 CBSP are being taken under REGIS-ER's wing as they learn about producing and selling fruit and forest trees. They have been trained by REGIS staff and given equipment and materials to build a shade structure and to plant fruit trees. Each nursery manager signed a contract to produce 10,000 baobab, moringa, pomme du Sahel, mango, citrus, and papaya trees for a fee of 1,100,000 FCFA. The plants were first made available to women in MtM groups for planting at the household level. Simple home gardens were also established using moringa, baobab, and papaya trees (as opposed to "full" home gardens).

**Orange-fleshed sweet potato or PDCO and manioc cutting multipliers:** In Tillabéri South, three CBSP who prepare manioc and orange sweet potato cuttings were set up for business by REGIS-ER to serve all of Niger's four regions. Beneficiaries are in the process of being listed.

Manioc cuttings are being produced in Tarbanassa and Aggou, where contracts worth 3.5M FCFA were signed with two producers to deliver cuttings within two months.

Orange sweet potato cuttings (PDCO) are being produced under a 2.5M FCFA contract with the private sector for 100,000 30-centimeter lengths. They are already ready for planting.

**CBSP ripper welders:** The essential equipment for conservation farming is the ripper; therefore the project decided to introduce a closer source of rippers to Niger producers rather than ordering it from trained artisans in Burkina Faso. In Niger, three artisans received training in making rippers; they then made 55 of them in Niamey, 20 in Maradi, and 60 in Zinder. As a result, \$US 14,625 (8.775M FCFA) came into the hands of CBSP artisans.

**Auxiliary veterinarians (AE) and women vaccinators:** Selection of auxiliary veterinarians (AE) as CBSP followed a method that was finalized during a workshop in Maradi in August 2014. Selecting them from their own communities has the double advantage of providing local services and bringing in revenues to the local economy. Identifying and training women poultry vaccinators has become a priority.

329 CBSP have been trained:

- 42 AE trained in entrepreneurship, diagnosing animal sickness, and parasite cycles
- 101 women trained in poultry vaccination
- 166 AE retrained during the annual vaccination campaign

### Examples of increased resilience for people and animals thanks to USAID | REGIS-ER's Livelihoods livestock programs

Tillabéri:

- ▶ 630+ chickens vaccinated against Newcastle disease
- ▶ Average revenues of 5,610 FCFA per woman vaccinator

Bonkor-Sakoira and Dia-Dia Peulh/Kourthèye:

- ▶ 200,800 FCFA earned from poultry vaccinations in the first year
- ▶ Bankor - 70,800 FCFA used by the CBSP to buy a cow and restock veterinary supplies
- ▶ Dia-Dia Peulh - 130,000 FCFA used to buy a water pump for 70,000 FCFA, restock veterinary supplies for 40,000 FCFA, and buy family staples with the rest

Maradi:

- ▶ AE men and women functioning in spite of modest means and a lack of credit
- ▶ 166 CBSP AEs trained under private veterinarians to take part in the annual vaccination campaign with REGIS-ER sponsorship, providing employment and income during a tough part of the year

**CBSP masons:** 20 masons (five per region) were trained in henhouse construction. After the training, each one built a demonstration model in his village. If six others were requested by villagers, the masons could potentially earn 90,000 FCFA.

**CBSP garden animators:** Six CBSP in Tillabéri South facilitated the development of 42 garden sites. They had been trained in IGESPLAM and are using the system to produce vegetables to sell all year.

## Burkina Faso

**Fruit tree nursery managers:** Six managers were trained and supplied with materials in the three regions (two per region) so they could provide good quality plants to beneficiaries. Thanks to REGIS-ER, they produced and sold 34,818 plants (13,000 in Kaya, 11,968 in Dori, 9,850 in Fada). The composition of trees includes moringa, baobab, and papaya of all different varieties that will be placed in home gardens, where they will contribute to improving household diets for vulnerable beneficiaries.

**CBSP ripper welders:** Six artisans were trained in the three regions; one of them resides in Ouagadougou. In 2015, CBSP produced and sold 296 rippers, earning \$US 54,340 -- more than 27M FCFA.

**Village-based CF animators:** In 2015, REGIS-ER trained 25 lead producers as CF animators who provide ripping services for farmers outside CF groups. The local animators worked side-by-side with REGIS facilitators to reach 114 groups in Fada, 100 in Kaya, and 54 in Dori. Thanks to contracts with the Project for ripping, the animators earned \$US 16,500 (8.25M FCFA), asking 2,000 FCFA per site and doing two sites per day. The ripper can also be rented out for 1,000 FCFA per day.



**VVV in Damkarko 1 (Kaya) giving a vaccination**

**Volunteer village extension workers (VVV):** In each of the 10 villages where poultry-raising was tested, REGIS-ER trained a VVV so that poultry health care would be available on-site. All 10 VVV (of which one is a woman) were identified by members of the communities on the basis of availability, ethics, confidence, rigor, commitment to the prophylaxis schedules, willingness to be paid per visit, and in possession of a means of transportation.

Once identified, the poultry consultant trained the VVV in collaboration with the Center for the Promotion of Village Poultry Production (CPAVI), the national technical service in charge of aviculture in Burkina Faso. Professional cards and certificates are awarded to the trainees.

The newly-trained VVV receive coolers, poultry injection needs, worming medicine, antibiotics, vaccinations, and 10-liter sprayer. To improve recording of services provided and to promote their businesses, REGIS-ER held meetings with them to assess progress 4 months after training. The VVV were assisted with drawing up action plans for the short and medium term, June to December 2015. At the end of the assessment, a monitoring notebook was given to them to write down each service rendered. For the 10 VVV in the three regions, 567,775 FCFA in services were recorded over six months March to September 2015.

### Examples of revenues earned by VVV in Dori

| Services delivered                                         | Number/Quantity | Unit cost (FCFA) | Total cost (FCFA) |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>VVV in Ouro Tiaguel</b>                                 |                 |                  |                   |
| Sales of medicine pills                                    | 226             | 50               | 11,300            |
| Sales of antibiotic packets                                | 27              | 500              | 13,500            |
| Vaccinations (units)                                       | 278             | 60               | 16,680            |
| Spray treatment of chickens and henhouses (number of jugs) | 44              | 250              | 11,000            |
| <b>Total1</b>                                              |                 |                  | <b>52,480</b>     |
| <b>VVV in Dowendou</b>                                     |                 |                  |                   |
| Sales of medicine pills                                    | 456             | 50               | 22,800            |
| Sales of antibiotic packets                                | 30              | 500              | 15,000            |
| Vaccinations (units)                                       | 963             | 75               | 72,225            |
| Spray treatment of chickens and henhouses (number of jugs) | 46              | 250              | 11,500            |
| <b>Total2</b>                                              |                 |                  | <b>121,525</b>    |
| <b>Grand total</b>                                         |                 |                  | <b>174,005</b>    |

### Livelihoods works with Health Component to increase resilience through better nutrition



**Almost 35,000 baobab, moringa, and papaya trees were distributed to households for home gardens to improve household nutrition in Burkina. Nursery managers also earned \$3,480 in revenues for their work.** (Photo: Barsalogo's nursery)

**CBSP masons:** To promote traditional henhouses up to standards, one mason in each of the 10 villages was identified and trained to build them in his own village. Each mason built six other henhouses to earn 15,000 FCFA each.

**Summary of CBSP in Burkina Faso:** 57 CBSP were trained, including 1 woman.

- 6 nursery managers
- 6 ripper welders
- 25 CF animators
- 10 VVV
- 10 masons to build henhouses

Not only did the CBSP improve results for 2015, but also they brought in revenues of \$US 77,245 (38.6M FCFA) as shown in the following table.

#### CBSP trained by REGIS-ER and revenues earned in Project zones of Burkina Faso (FCFA)

| Region       |                        | Rippers welders   | Nursery managers | CF animators     | VVV            | Henhouse masons | Total             |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Kaya         | <b>Total CBSP</b>      | 2                 | 2                | 10               | 4              | 4               | 22                |
|              | women:                 | 0                 | 0                | 0                | 1              | 0               | 1                 |
|              | Revenues earned        | 2,600,000         | 650,000          | 3,300,000        | 346,700        | 360,000         | 7,256,700         |
| Fada         | <b>Total CBSP</b>      | 2                 | 2                | 15               | 4              | 4               | 27                |
|              | women:                 | 0                 | 0                | 0                | 0              | 0               | 0                 |
|              | Revenues earned        | 7,670,000         | 492,500          | 4,950,000        | 41,070         | 360,000         | 13,513,570        |
| Dori         | <b>Total CBSP</b>      | 1                 | 2                | 0                | 2              | 2               | 7                 |
|              | women:                 | 0                 | 0                | 0                | 0              | 0               | 0                 |
|              | Revenues earned        | 2,080,000         | 598,400          | 0                | 174,005        | 180,000         | 3,032,405         |
| Ouagadougou  | <b>Total CBSP</b>      | 1                 | 0                | 0                | 0              | 0               | 1                 |
|              | women:                 | 0                 | 0                | 0                | 0              | 0               | 0                 |
|              | Revenues earned        | 14,820,000        | 0                | 0                | 0              | 0               | 14,820,000        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>Trainees</b>        | <b>6</b>          | <b>6</b>         | <b>25</b>        | <b>10</b>      | <b>10</b>       | <b>57</b>         |
|              | <b>Revenues earned</b> | <b>27,170,000</b> | <b>1,740,900</b> | <b>8,250,000</b> | <b>561,775</b> | <b>900,000</b>  | <b>38,622,675</b> |

## Enterprises and diversified livestock units: animal fattening

### Niger

Animal fattening is practiced mostly by women. It generates revenue even when little credit is available and conditions are harsh. During the year, fattening enterprises were assisted with training, monitoring, advising, and facilitation of getting credit. The table below presents results by region.

#### Status of assisted animal fattening enterprises

|                                        | Maradi          | Tillabéri North | Tillabéri South | Zinder          |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Number of POs concerned                | 15              | 33              | 16              | 34              |
| Number of people raising animals       | 346 (326 women) | 670 (537 women) | 446             | 717 (594 women) |
| Credit awarded (FCFA)                  | 19,176,000      | 41,460,000      | 19,750,000      | 53,330,000      |
| Gross revenue generated (sales) (FCFA) | 30,270,000      |                 | 34,875,000      | 71,851,538      |

### Regional Tabaski fairs promotes small ruminant value chain (and resilience through increased/diversified income and better nutrition) in Niamey, Maradi, Zinder

To promote the small ruminant value chain, REGIS-ER collaborated with REGIS-AG and PPAO (World Bank-funded Agricultural Productivity Program for West Africa) to organize 3 Tabaski fairs on September 19-21 in Niamey (for Tillabéri), Maradi, and Zinder.

The fairs provided a forum for exchange between value chain actors: government; civil society organizations like AREN, chambers of agriculture, inter-professional livestock groups, and commune authorities; merchants; animal fattening enterprises and individuals; and input providers.

The regions' highest authorities as well as a delegation of merchants from Nigeria attended, giving the events a distinctive atmosphere.

After the fairs, a meeting was held in Zinder between the Regional Council president and representatives of the participants. The meeting resulted in a proposal for setting up an international livestock fair near the border with Nigeria to maximize profitability of livestock products and reduce transport difficulties.



Livestock Ministry visiting animal selling stands at a REGIS-organized fair

#### Impacts of the fairs:

**Number of sellers and buyers attending:** More than 900 men and women

**Number of animals shown:** 1,270, including 71 goats and 1199 bucks

**Number of animals sold:** 580+, at a value of 62.7M FCFA (17.7M for Tillabéri; 22M for Zinder; 3M for Maradi)

## Burkina Faso

In accompaniment to animal fattening, REGIS-ER developed and implemented a strategy for short-term animal rearing. The main support planned through this strategy includes:

- Providing grants for all improved fodder crop seed
- Assisting with providing small equipment like black plastic and bale mold
- Assisting with animal care following a set cycle of feeding
- Providing grants for transporting animal feed ordered by groups (around 20,000 FCFA per ton)

At the current stage, fodder crops have been put in place by 383 animal fatteners on 109.3 hectares, with an expected production of 377 tons.

## IR 1.2. Intensified production and marketing

### Habbanayé

Habbanayé is a Fulani custom wherein people come to the aid of a community member in difficulties by giving that person an animal. The custom has been elevated to the status of a model used by many development projects with a similar vision. REGIS-ER carried out a test of the practice in Tillabéri South and continued the practice in its other regions in Niger and in Burkina Faso.

#### MAKING THE SMALL RUMINANT PROGRAM SUSTAINABLE

In the habbanayé program in Burkina Faso, 5 goats are given to each vulnerable person to produce offspring that will be used for regenerating new stock. Over six months in the dry season, the 5 goats will require 900 kg of fodder. The plan for meeting these needs is as follows:

- ▶ 500 kg of concentrated feed is immediately given to each person, which will cover at least 7 months.
- ▶ A fodder-growing scheme is proposed for 0.25 ha per habbanayé beneficiary; with a typical yield of 3 tons per hectare, this land will produce 750 kg of cowpea or hyacinth bean. Training has already begun.
- ▶ Training in hay conservation for natural fodder has also begun, producing a potential additional 500 kg per beneficiary using vegetation that grows in the rainy season.

**Niger** - After lessons learned in Balléyara (Tillabéri South), REGIS-ER rolled out habbanayé in two communes of Maradi and two in Zinder. 100 beneficiaries per region benefited from a set of three female goats, one buck, five 50-kg sacks of bran, and 5 50-kg sacks of cottonseed. Highlights of the process are as follows.

- The most appropriate beneficiaries were selected using criteria validated by local committees
- The two regional teams were highly motivated during the process
- Participation in the ceremonies when animals were distributed, by:
  - Administrative and traditional authorities
  - Decentralized services: Livestock, Social Development, Planning and Environment
  - HCl3N
  - Radio Anfani (in Bandé)
- Mayors' office sites used to harbor goats during quarantine and warehouses to store feed before the ceremony
- Animal health care assured by SVPP and their networks who were supported by the Project

A similar process was begun in Tillabéri North; a request for bids was published, and then the activity was submitted for evaluation before the whole process was complete.

In Tillabéri South where the first habbanayé ceremony took place last year, results are encouraging and this was proven during the evaluation. The process of passing the gift to the second group of vulnerable women is in progress.

**Habbanayé status by region**

| Region          | Number of villages | Initial stock | Total mortality | Total births | Current stock |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Maradi          | 10                 | 400           | 31              | 59           | 428           |
| Zinder          | 10                 | 400           | 35              | 22           | 387           |
| Tillabéri South | 18 (in 2014)       | 600           | 72              | 443          | 971           |

Beneficiaries and others were trained in red goat rearing, making densified multi-vitamin licks, treatment of hay with urea, and monitoring animal health.



**Making densified multivitamin licks - Tillabéri South**

**Details on capacity building**

| Region          | Themes                                    |                                                                            |                               |                                         |                             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                 | Raising red goats                         | Making densified multivitamin salt licks (BMND) and treating hay with urea |                               | Health monitoring                       | Animal fattening techniques |
|                 |                                           | Direct training                                                            | Cascade training              |                                         |                             |
| Maradi          | 100 beneficiaries plus REGIS facilitators | 60 producers and 10 facilitators                                           | -                             | -                                       | -                           |
| Zinder          | 100 beneficiaries plus REGIS facilitators | 21 producers and 10 facilitators                                           | 64 producers                  |                                         | 88 women producers          |
| Tillabéri South | 150 beneficiaries and facilitators        | 15 women producers and 6 facilitators                                      | 321 producers of whom 10 men  | 11 AE and 16 women and 50 men producers | -                           |
| Tillabéri North | 0                                         | 19 producers and 10 facilitators                                           | 345 producers of whom 115 men | -                                       | -                           |

**Burkina Faso** - Habbanayé in Burkina is slightly different than in Niger: instead of red goats, local goats are used. And instead of 3 females and 1 male, 4 females and 1 male are part of the Burkina reproduction unit given to vulnerable women.

REGIS-ER implemented habbanayé as a pilot activity in Burkina Faso with 150 women split between the 3 regions: 78 in Dori, 32 in Fada, and 40 in Kaya. After information and sensitization, beneficiary identification, grant applications, and soliciting bids, the next steps were carried out:

- Training 150 beneficiaries in raising and caring for local goats
- Technical training of 150 beneficiaries in setting up fodder cropping plots
- Delivery of four goats and one buck per beneficiary (a total of 600 goats and 150 bucks) - all deparasitized and given wide-range antibiotics and vaccination against PPR and pasteurellosis
- Delivery of concentrated feed (10 50-kg sacks per woman); 75 tons of feed to maintain goats and sheep purchased from the Society for Making Animal Feed (SOFAB)
- Delivery of fodder seeds: 285 kg of cowpea, 126 kg of hyacinth bean, 30 kg of sorghum for a total of 30 hectares of fodder crops

Beneficiaries contributed to the process by setting up traditional pens for the animals and collecting stocks of fodder to facilitate animal feeding.

150 people including 33 MtM members benefited from the habbanayé operations in Burkina, which shows the ongoing collaboration between Livelihoods and Health Components.

Since the distribution of reproduction kits to women beneficiaries in April-May 2015, there have been 13 deaths and 19 births. More than half of the goats are pregnant and a peak in births is expected in October. The main cause of death is the ingestion of plastic bags or dystoxia while giving birth. In order to further reduce the latter cause of mortality, protocols are being negotiated with private or public vets to find a more local way to monitor animals.



A beneficiary in the village of Margou (Fada) holding a kid born to her herd



A habbanayé beneficiary in the village of Sidogo during animal distribution



Veterinarian agent caring for animals before they are distributed



Feed distributed for animals in Sidogo



Goat pen built by beneficiaries in Sidogo (Kaya)

**Income from livestock is associated with lower probability of being poor**

| 1% increase in income from livestock is associated with a | decrease in % of: |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Probability of being poor                                 | 0.37              |
| Probability of being under-nourished                      | 0.18              |
| Snapshot poverty gap                                      | 0.13              |
| Lifetime poverty gap                                      | 0.01              |
| Composite poverty gap                                     | 0.03              |
| Snapshot calorie gap                                      | 0.04              |
| Lifetime calorie gap                                      | 0.01              |

*SOURCE: World Bank African Drylands Seminar Series: Household Resilience and Participation in Markets: Evidence from Ethiopia Panel Data. 2014. From a presentation that is part of a larger study financed by IFPRI and the World Bank and conducted by a team from the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" composed of Pasquale L. Scandizzo, Sara Savastano, Federica Alfani, and Adriana Paolantonio. The study investigates the impact over time on poverty and nutritional shortfalls of several determinants of resilience along the three dimensions of exposure to shocks, sensitivity to shocks, and coping capacity, in the rural drylands of Ethiopia. [http://terrafrica.org/Drylands/African\\_Drylands\\_SS\\_Household\\_Resilience\\_Scandizzo\\_Feb19.pdf](http://terrafrica.org/Drylands/African_Drylands_SS_Household_Resilience_Scandizzo_Feb19.pdf)*

**Aviculture**

**REGIS-ER wants to capitalize on the fast reproduction cycle of and the lucrative market for chickens to increase the purchasing power of beneficiaries and the resilience of households.**

**Niger**

The Project distributed chicken “reproduction units” (10 local-variety hens and one improved cock) as a pilot activity in Niger’s four intervention regions. Five villages were identified in each region, with six beneficiaries per village, using criteria contributed by other Project components. Thus, in each village, there are 3 women from MtM groups, 1 VVV leader, and two other vulnerable women. As of now, the selections have been made, beneficiaries have been trained, henhouses have been started but not completed (sealant, roof, floors remaining).

**Summary of poultry activity in Niger (all 4 regions)**

| Region | Number of Villages | Number of beneficiaries | Number of masons | Training topic |                       |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
|        |                    |                         |                  | Aviculture     | Henhouse Construction |
| Total  | 20                 | 120                     | 20               | 69 producers   | 20                    |

Training was provided by a consultant and attended by regional livestock specialists, commune and regional livestock services, and SVPP.



**Training of regional staff and leaders in aviculture, Tillabéri South**

**Poultry raising is practiced by nearly all rural populations. It is profitable but limited by certain aspects that USAID-REGIS-ER wants to improve: health, feed, and habitat.**

### Burkina Faso

REGIS-ER launched the pilot operation in improved traditional poultry rearing in 10 villages: four in Kaya and Fada, and two in Dori. 60 beneficiaries including 40 women participated. Highlights include:

- Assistance with henhouse construction using a kit of cement, window frames, and payment for qualified labor
- Distribution of small equipment and material for poultry (feeding trays and drinking troughs)
- Distribution of feed appropriate for layers and for chicks
- Distribution of reproduction units made up of 10 hens and 1 cock to each beneficiary, for a total of 600 hens and 66 cocks given to 60 beneficiaries

As of today, all 60 henhouses have been stocked and laying and hatching are underway. In Ouro Tiaguel, chicks are already being hatched.



Beneficiary in front of her henhouse in the village of Oué (Fada)



Overall view of the type of henhouse used in the village of Komboissi (Fada)



Hens sitting on eggs in a henhouse in Oué



Equipment and material distributed to beneficiaries for poultry raising - Tanghin (Kaya)

### Animal feed and health

**Animal health care is one of the major pillars of USAID | REGIS-ER's livestock subcomponent, as it is hard to access in rural areas; yet it has a significant impact on households who need a return on their investment.**

### Niger

To assist with the annual vaccination campaigns in Niger, the Project signed collaboration agreements with two SVPP in Maradi (Dakoro and Guidan Roudji), two SVPP in Zinder, and the one SVPP in Tillabéri South. The arrangement was formalized so that capacity could be built among the SVPP networks in vaccination techniques and

equipment as a matter of efficiency, and to lead and sensitize herders for a better presentation of animals to be vaccinated.

Under the habbanayé operations in Maradi and Zinder, the Project signed a contract with SVPP during animal quarantine. The SVPP were hired to vaccinate small ruminants against plague, pasteurellosis, and pox; to deparasitize animals inside and out; to mark their ears; and to administer vitamin therapy to them.



To follow up each quarter, the three SVPP in Guidan Roudji, Dakoro, and Magaria were further contracted with the Livestock Service as a pilot exercise. These services are being evaluated at the regional level as to whether they are worth pursuing elsewhere. All goats in the two regions have been monitored and treated as needed.

REGIS-ER's participation in the vaccination campaign did not succeed in Tillabéri North since the SVPP could not set up his team in time.

### Vaccination campaign in Zinder (Magaria and Mirriah) and Tillabéri South (Balléyara and Filingué) communes

| Regions         | Number of households reached | Number of tropical livestock units (TLU) vaccinated |                 |                |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                 |                              | PPCB                                                | PPR             | Pasteurellosis |
|                 |                              | Bovines                                             | Sheep and goats | Camels         |
| Zinder          | 23,422,                      | 171,750                                             | 163,951         | 2,140          |
| Tillabéri South | 51,154                       | 211,632                                             | 341,457         | 3,808          |

### Hyacinth bean (*dolique*)

Experimentation with hyacinth bean in 18 villages with 167 producers on 22 hectares led to satisfactory results in Tillabéri North and Zinder, and less so in Maradi and Tillabéri South due to late sowing of seed. Hyacinth bean is a good floodplain crop that should be seeded at the end of the rainy season in September-October around water sources and places where humidity remains longer or on irrigated sites.

### Hyacinth bean in Niger

| Region              | Number of producers | Total area (ha) | Production (metric tons/ha) |        | Value (FCFA) |         |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------------|---------|
|                     |                     |                 | Seed                        | Fodder | Seed         | Fodder  |
| Tillabéri North     | 72                  | 13.1            | 1.65                        | 7.86   | -            | 111,000 |
| Zinder              | 23                  | 1.5             | -                           | 3.30   | -            | -       |
| Maradi <sup>1</sup> | 69                  | -               | -                           | -      | -            | -       |



Hyacinth bean associated with sugar cane - Nafouta, Zinder



Hyacinth bean monoculture - Danjagalé, Zinder



Hyacinth bean in Kalibiri Commune, Sakoira T-North

<sup>1</sup> In Maradi the stream did not overflow as usual; thus the mudplain gardening could not take place.

## Burkina Faso

**Fodder crops:** REGIS-ER drafted a strategy for extension and integrating livestock-related activities (fodder cropping, fattening, credit, making hay and conserving natural fodder, animal feed) and is the basis for field implementation.

Fodder cropping techniques were implemented for different types of beneficiaries in the 3 regions:

- ▶ Animal fatteners - support for animal production as fodder preparation in advance makes them more independent in dry season
- ▶ Habbanayé beneficiaries - fodder cropping as a way to avoid reproductive goat food insecurity in dry season and to limit environmental impact of the animals (as goats are destructive to vegetation)

The table below summarizes the volumes of fodder seed distributed and planted by region.

### Distribution and plantation of fodder seed in Burkina

| Region | Crop                  | Number of producers | Quantity of seed distributed (kg) | Area seeded (ha) | Quantity of fodder expected (metric tons) | Observations |
|--------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Dori   | Cowpea K VX 745 11-P  | 221                 | 1000                              | 51.4             | 201.2                                     | 3T/ha        |
| Fada   | White hyacinth bean   | 225                 | 1061                              | 51.1             | 153.2                                     | 3T/ha        |
| Kaya   | Cowpea K VX 745 11-P  | 41                  | 152                               | 8.4              | 25.2                                      | 3T/ha        |
|        | Sorghum - Sariasso 11 | 41                  | 139                               | 10.0             | 80.0                                      | 8T/ha        |
|        | White hyacinth bean   | 13                  | 49                                | 2.4              | 7.2                                       | 3T/ha        |
| Total  |                       | 541                 | 2400                              | 123.3            | 466.8                                     |              |

27 lead herders from animal fattening groups were trained in setting up fodder cropping fields and technical itineraries for the process. The leaders then trained the other members of their groups, so a total of 383 producers were reached. In habbanayé, 146 women were trained in their villages on fodder cropping.

**Haymaking and conservation of natural fodder (FCFN):** FCFN is a good way to build fodder stores. It has been integrated into REGIS-ER's strategy and implemented in Manni. 18 producers, including two women, received the training. Bale molds will be set up in groups and villages to help complete feed stocks.

## Conservation farming (CF)

### Conservation farming includes several strategies for adapting to climate change:

- ▶ Reducing soil carbon loss while increasing organic matter that leads to higher productivity and a better chance to sell surplus crop
- ▶ Enriches soil with addition of compost and leaving crop residue after harvest (less fertilizer needed)
- ▶ Concentrates rainwater where it is needed by physical means (zaï, demi-lunes), by good plowing practices (ripper), by increasing infiltration (plowing on the contour, breaking up compacted soil with organic matter)
- ▶ Favors successful yields in the face of uncertain rains when improved early-maturing seeds are used

## Niger

**Training of producers and implementation of the 2015 CF season:** 12 agriculture technical service agents and 4 BRACED SUR1M, 4 CRS, and 2 SAWKI partners were trained.

1,606 producers adopted CF and used it on 1,558 hectares that were sown with cowpea variety ISV 128, HKP millet, and Mota Maradi sorghum.

Because the ripper took so long to arrive in the communities, the area under CF was reduced. Nevertheless, the farmers were motivated to make their furrows as cheaply as possible using the ever-available hoe. It was difficult for many of the producers in the beginning, but in hindsight, those who desisted are regretting they did, once they saw the amazing results recorded from the fields of those who continued with CF in 2015.

**Status of CF producers and areas for the 2015 season - Niger**

| Region | Planned number of producers | Number of producers who signed up | Total number of CF groups trained | Number of producers trained | Number of producers putting CF into practice | Total area under CF technology (ha) | Total area in CF with FMNR (CF+) (ha) |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Zinder | 600                         | 719                               | 59                                | 605                         | 605                                          | 450                                 | 448                                   |
| Maradi | 600                         | 784                               | 72                                | 712                         | 561                                          | 372                                 | 105                                   |
| TS     | 600                         | 263                               | 39                                | 233                         | 165                                          | 556                                 | 21                                    |
| TN     | 360                         | 521                               | 45                                | 275                         | 275                                          | 180                                 | 44                                    |
| Total  | 2160                        | 2287                              | 215                               | 1825                        | 1606                                         | 1558                                | 618                                   |

**Assistance with equipment and inputs:** The leader of each CF group received everything needed for one hectare of chemical fertilizer and improved seed. The rest of the group members were given enough improved seed to plant half of their declared area. CF producers were organized into 215 groups in the villages, each one receiving a CF kit composed of a measuring tape, 100-meter rope, and a ripper.

**Status of inputs and equipment distributed for the 2015 CF season - Niger**

| Region | Weight of seeds distributed (kg) |        |        | Number of beneficiaries of seed | Quantity of NPK (urea) (kg) | Number of beneficiaries of NPK | Equipment  |                       | Number of CF groups benefiting |
|--------|----------------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
|        | Sorghum                          | Millet | Cowpea |                                 |                             |                                | Ripper     | Measures (rope, tape) |                                |
| Zinder | 200                              | 1600   | 2000   | 740                             | 6000 (6000)                 | 72                             | 72         | 72                    | 72                             |
| Maradi | 310                              | 1 410  | 1 600  | 719                             | 6000 (6000)                 | 60                             | 60         | 60                    | 60                             |
| TS     | 125                              | 1000   | 1250   | 275                             | 4900 (4900)                 | 45                             | 22 (7 old) | 61                    | 45                             |
| TN     | 110                              | 366    | 494    | 222                             | 3900 (3900)                 | 39                             | 39         | 39                    | 39                             |
| Total  | 745                              | 4376   | 5344   | 1956                            | 20800 (20800)               | 216                            | 193        | 232                   | 216                            |

**Community-based seed multiplication of biofortified millet:** The Component initiated multiplication of biofortified millet seed. In spite of late rains, the activity is progressing well. Variety GB8735 is already well appreciated by producers, and they estimate that it is the best-adapted variety for changing climate because it is early-maturing. It took 60 days only in Tillabéri North and Zinder. We plan to make the seed available to MtM groups in the coming season.

**Burkina Faso****Training producers and implementation of the 2015 CF season:**

To scale up conservation farming this year, REGIS-ER trained 267 CF producer groups were set up: 53 in Dori, 114 in Fada, 100 in Kaya. 4,594 producers were trained in the combined CF-FMNR technique, and 4,086 producers applied the combination on 2286 hectares (1,301 in Kaya, 817 in Fada, and 168 in Dori).

Other than the lead producers, FFP partners in Kaya (5) and Fada (1), with the technical services of Agriculture and Environment in Kaya (5), Fada (4) and Dori (7) were also trained along with 25 local animators. All of these trainees were able to carry training back to Project intervention villages.

In order to incite new producers to apply CF this year, learning visits were organized to existing producers' fields in nearby villages. 99 people from Kaya and 245 from Dori participated along with FFP partners and technical services.



**Diallo Issa, lead producer in the village of Samba Peulh (Barsalgho) in his CF field**

**Status of CF producers and areas for the 2015 season - Burkina**

| Region       | Planned number of producers | Number of producers who signed up | Total number of CF groups trained | Number of producers trained | Number of producers putting CF into practice | Total area under CF technology (ha) | Total area in CF with FMNR (CF+) (ha) |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Kaya         | 1500                        | 1551                              | 100                               | 1551                        | 1551                                         | 1302                                | 1302                                  |
| Fada         | 1710                        | 3117                              | 114                               | 2535                        | 2200                                         | 817                                 | 817                                   |
| Dori         | 360                         | 567                               | 53                                | 508                         | 335                                          | 168                                 | 168                                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3,570</b>                | <b>5,235</b>                      | <b>267</b>                        | <b>4,594</b>                | <b>4,086</b>                                 | <b>2286</b>                         | <b>2286</b>                           |

CF fields are developing well overall. Many producers already appreciate its performance in comparison to surrounding fields: CF fields are more evenly developed, and the seed varieties used mature more quickly. To measure the impact of CF on millet, sorghum, and cowpea production for 2015, a protocol was set up with government technical services under the Ministry of Agriculture. Yield squares were placed by technicians in CF and non-CF fields to compare them.

**Equipment and inputs provided:** The Project gave 283 rippers and 277 measurement instruments (ropes and tapes) to groups to delimit and measure their fields. A total of 17,168 kg of improved seeds were distributed (9,655 kg of sorghum, 3,709 kg of millet, 3,804 kg of cowpea). CF leaders were also provided with 27,600 kg of NPK.

**Status of inputs and equipment distributed for the 2015 CF season - Burkina**

| Region       | Weight of seeds distributed (kg) |             |             | Number of beneficiaries of seed | Quantity of NPK (urea) (kg) | Number of beneficiaries of NPK | Equipment  |                       | Number of CF groups benefiting |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
|              | Sorghum                          | Millet      | Cowpea      |                                 |                             |                                | Ripper     | Measures (rope, tape) |                                |
| Kaya         | 4700                             | 2000        | 2700        | 1551                            | 10000                       | 100                            | 100        | 100                   | 100                            |
| Fada         | 3800                             | 864         | 854         | 2178                            | 12200                       | 123                            | 123        | 123                   | 123                            |
| Dori         | 1155                             | 845         | 250         | 508                             | 5400                        | 51                             | 60         | 54                    | 51                             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>9655</b>                      | <b>3709</b> | <b>3804</b> | <b>4237</b>                     | <b>27600</b>                | <b>274</b>                     | <b>283</b> | <b>277</b>            | <b>274</b>                     |

**Community-based seed multiplication of biofortified millet:** 3 hectares of community seed production was put in place using two varieties of biofortified millet (GB 8735, ICRI-TABI) that will provide women in MtM groups with zinc and iron-rich millet. The common objective of Livelihoods and Health Components is to make the use of these varieties wide-spread to improve nutrition in MtM groups and their children.

**Bioreclamation of degraded lands (BDL)****Niger**

5,659 women working on BDL lands were trained. They planted 119 ha with Konni okra, senna, and Sadoré hibiscus. They are organized into 90 groups, each with a kit provided by REGIS-ER that consists of picks, hoes, 2-meter tapes, a mason's level, a rope, a leveling frame, and seeds for women starting BDL for the first time.



**BDL sites in Basma: 1 ha developed with stone bunds and planted in okra, hibiscus, and sesame in Barsalogo**

**Number of BDL beneficiaries trained and area worked - Niger**

| Region       | Number of BDL sites | Number of BDL women's groups | Number of women trained | Number of women practicing | Total area covered with conservation work (ha) | Total area planted (ha) |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Zinder       | 10                  | 10                           | 786                     | 786                        | 27.37                                          | 27.37                   |
| Maradi       | 52                  | 52                           | 1644                    | 1644                       | 47.50                                          | 47.50                   |
| TS           | 31                  | 52                           | 1008                    | 1087                       | 44.59                                          | 35.56                   |
| TN           | 24                  | 24                           | 1960                    | 2034                       | 27.27                                          | 27.27                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>117</b>          | <b>138</b>                   | <b>5398</b>             | <b>5551</b>                | <b>146.73</b>                                  | <b>137.7</b>            |

## Burkina Faso

Women working on BDL lands build rock contour bunds, berms, and zai. 2,266 beneficiaries were trained in managing these sites for production, making compost, and climate change. 42 BDL sites on 46.5 hectares were treated, of which 42.6 ha were planted by 2,116 women for this rainy season.

### Number of BDL beneficiaries trained and area worked - Burkina

| Region | Number of BDL sites | Number of BDL women's groups | Number of women trained | Number of women practicing | Total area treated (ha) | Total area planted (ha) |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Kaya   | 13                  | 12                           | 670                     | 670                        | 14.0                    | 13.0                    |
| Fada   | 19                  | 19                           | 1050                    | 900                        | 21.5                    | 18.5                    |
| Dori   | 10                  | 10                           | 546                     | 546                        | 11.0                    | 11.0                    |
| Total  | 42                  | 41                           | 2266                    | 2116                       | 46.5                    | 42.5                    |

## Irrigation

### Niger

The irrigation subcomponent installed several oasis garden models this year: wells with pulleys, Volanta pumps with basins, and solar-powered pumps. After these were set up, a study was done on each system's effectiveness and sustainability. The solar pump system with basins appears to be the best adapted for various reasons: it does not pollute, it is renewable, it is available all year in the Sahel, it is easy to maintain, it reduces physical effort, and the time gained from traditional water pulling leaves women free for other pursuits.

### Oasis gardens: realizations in Niger

| N° | Region          | Irrigation system                                                         | Village      | Area (ha) | Number of women | Status                                                                                                     |
|----|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Tillabéri South | Oasis Garden fenced – 4 wells with pulleys                                | Sourgo Koira | 1.0       | 55              | Finished                                                                                                   |
| 2  | Tillabéri South | Oasis Garden fenced – 2 wells with pulleys and Volanta pump with 6 basins | Soukoutou    | 1.0       | 49              | Finished                                                                                                   |
| 3  | Tillabéri South | Oasis Garden fenced – garden borehole, solar pump, 10 faucets             | Tinkafa 2    | 1.5       | 50              | Finished                                                                                                   |
| 4  | Tillabéri South | Oasis Garden fenced – garden borehole, solar pump and 12 basins           | Iguéfane     | 1.2       | 54              | Finished                                                                                                   |
| 5  | Tillabéri South | Oasis Garden fenced – well, Volanta pump, pulleys                         | Marakou      | 1.0       | 53              | Finished                                                                                                   |
| 6  | Maradi          | Garden fenced with solar pump and 10 storage basins                       | Elkolta      | 1.2       | 40              | Borehole, fence, basins completed<br>In progress: solar pump installation and distribution network         |
| 7  | Maradi          | Garden fenced with solar pump and 10 storage basins                       | Zabourey     | 1         | 39              | Borehole, fence, basins completed<br>In progress: solar pump installation and distribution network         |
| 8  | Maradi          | Garden fenced with solar pump and 12 storage basins                       | Fadin Bayan  | 1         | 50              | Borehole, fence, basins completed<br>In progress: solar pump installation and distribution network         |
| 9  | Zinder          | Garden fenced with solar pump and 10 storage basins                       | Kakitama     | 1.5       | 50              | Borehole, fence completed<br>In progress: Bid solicitation for solar pump installation, basin construction |
| 10 | Zinder          | Garden fenced with solar pump and 10 storage basins                       | Koudouma     | 1.5       | 50              | Borehole, fence completed<br>In progress: Bid solicitation for solar pump installation, basin construction |



Monitoring the pumping trial: at the end, a 15 m<sup>3</sup> flow was obtained (Koudouma).

To facilitate irrigation, the site needs a borehole operated by a solar pump; a chain-link fence; and storage basins

Beyond these investments, an external consultant has identified and studied several potential garden sites and their constraints, advantages and disadvantages of possible systems, their efficiency and their profitability over time, accessibility of irrigation equipment, and especially their sustainability. On the basis of the analyses and other findings of FY 2015, an irrigation strategy is being drawn up that will allow REGIS-ER to clarify its formulas for assisting and considering other groups and stakeholders in addition to women.

## Burkina Faso

### Oasis gardens: realizations in Burkina Faso

| N° | Region | Irrigation system                                                                                            | Village   | Area (ha) | Number of women | Number of men | Status                                                                                         |
|----|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Kaya   | Oasis Garden – 1 borehole with solar panels and drip irrigation                                              | Kouini    | 1         | 32              | 0             | Pump is immersed and solar panels installed<br>In progress: remaining fence, irrigation system |
| 2  | Kaya   | Oasis garden – 4 wells with Volanta pump                                                                     | Bissighin | 1,5       | 82              | 4             | In progress: fence, irrigation system, deepening the well, finishing cap area                  |
| 3  | Kaya   | Garden semipublic – pumping from impoundment by gas-powered pump + Calif. system                             | Nagbingou | 2         | 11              | 11            | In progress: fence, irrigation system                                                          |
| 4  | Dori   | Community garden with semi-California network; several pumps powered by diesel with pumping from impoundment | Seytenga  | 22        | 35              | 65            | Wire fence built                                                                               |

## Home gardens

### Home gardening and market gardening for nutrition, dietary diversity, and revenues

**Home gardens** are usually 20 square meters or less in size. Two models are being promoted by REGIS-ER:

- ▶ The “full” model contains moringa, baobab, and leafy vegetables, on plots with sufficient water in dry season
- ▶ The “simple” model contains moringa and baobab and possibly pomme du Sahel (*Ziziphus mauritiana*) at sites where there is insufficient water to support a garden in dry season

The target population for home gardens includes MtM group members, Safe Space sites, habbanayé practitioners, and other vulnerable women. Home gardens focus on household consumption and dietary diversity; they are complemented by composting training and household health discussions. In addition to technical training, the women receive training from men in the Ecoles des Maris (husband schools) or from CBSP working in market gardens. As with any production activity, selling surplus produce is a possibility.

**Market gardens** typically cover at least 500 square meters; for REGIS-ER purposes, a trained lead gardener is given a portion of annual seed and inputs so that he/she can provide cascade training and demonstrations to others.

## Niger

2,048 home gardens (simple and full versions) were set up this year as described in the following table.

### Status of home gardens - Niger

| Region          | Number of beneficiaries trained in simple gardens | Number of beneficiaries of plants /directly seeded | Number of plants distributed |               | Number of moringa plants from direct seeding | Number of beneficiaries trained in complete home gardens | Total number of home gardens | Total area in complete home gardens (ha) |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                 |                                                   |                                                    | Moringa                      | Baobab        |                                              |                                                          |                              |                                          |
| Tillabéri South | 96                                                | 96                                                 | 0                            | 19500         | 96                                           | 40                                                       | 96                           | 3.42                                     |
| Zinder          | 928                                               | 928                                                | 18560                        | 500           | 16460                                        | 0                                                        | 928                          | 0                                        |
| Maradi          | --                                                | 986                                                | 2864                         | 1823          | 3098                                         | 0                                                        | 986                          | 0                                        |
| Tillabéri North | 592                                               |                                                    | 1678                         | 1083          | 2761                                         | 65                                                       | 592                          | 0.16                                     |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>1616</b>                                       | <b>2010</b>                                        | <b>23,102</b>                | <b>22,906</b> | <b>22,415</b>                                | <b>105</b>                                               | <b>2602</b>                  | <b>3.58</b>                              |



Home gardens in Balléyara, June 2015



Training of Husband School members in setting up home gardens in Basma (Barsalogo)

## Burkina Faso

**Home gardens - full version:** To promote full gardens with vegetables and moringa, 46 women and 24 men from Ecole des Maris (EdM) in Bissighin and Basma villages (Kaya Region) were trained in setting up the gardens: how to make garden beds, seed them, and maintain the plants. Okra, baobab, and hibiscus seed were provided. To incite more participation in this activity, culinary demonstrations were given using moringa for 86 women from Basma. At this point, 115 home gardens of this type have been set up in Kaya.

**Home gardens - simple version:** Where water constraints do not allow full gardens to be set up, baobab, moringa, and papaya were given to households. More than 13,000 moringa, 15,000 baobab, and 800 papaya seedlings were distributed to 14,000 people who had been trained in plantation and maintenance of the plants.

### Status of home gardens - Burkina

| Region       | Number of beneficiaries trained in simple gardens | Number of beneficiaries of plants /directly seeded | Number of plants distributed |               |            | Number of moringa plants from direct seeding | Number of beneficiaries trained in complete home gardens | Total number of home gardens | Total area in complete home gardens (ha) |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|              |                                                   |                                                    | Moringa                      | Baobab        | Papaya     |                                              |                                                          |                              |                                          |
| Kaya         | 4950                                              | 4950                                               | 4957                         | 4943          | 0          | 0                                            | 46                                                       | 115                          | .021                                     |
| Fada         | 5006                                              | 5006                                               | 2925                         | 5310          | 0          | 722                                          |                                                          |                              |                                          |
| Dori         | 4148                                              | 4148                                               | 5552                         | 5560          | 856        | 0                                            | 0                                                        | 0                            | 0                                        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>14,104</b>                                     | <b>14,104</b>                                      | <b>13,434</b>                | <b>15,813</b> | <b>856</b> | <b>722</b>                                   | <b>46</b>                                                | <b>115</b>                   | <b>.021</b>                              |

## Market gardening

Niger - Market garden support from REGIS-ER is detailed in the table below.

### REGIS-ER support for market gardens in Niger

| Region          | Number of sites | Total area (ha)   | No. producers trained in IGESPLAM | No. producers trained in improved production techniques for market produce and moringa | Support provided by REGIS-ER                                                                    | Crops produced                                                   | Quantities sold (FCFA) |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Tillabéri South | 42              | 88.72             | 111                               | 2,597                                                                                  | 5 oasis gardens - management<br>101 kg veg seeds, 225 kg moringa seed<br>16 T NPK and 10 T urea | -                                                                | 43,255,760             |
| Zinder          | 812             | 3.08 <sup>2</sup> | 0                                 | 489                                                                                    | 2 oasis gardens - management<br>1.5 kg veg seeds, 100 kg moringa seed                           | 54 T cabbage<br>5.4 T lettuce<br>0.9 T peppers<br>23.76 T tomato | 8,541,000              |
| Tillabéri North | 20              | 3.88              | 415                               | 420                                                                                    | 7 kg veg seed<br>2.05 T fertilizer                                                              | 26.72 T lettuce, cabbage, tomato, onion, maize, carrots          | 2,074,186              |
| Maradi          | 3               | 3.30              | 60                                | -                                                                                      | 3 oasis gardens - management                                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                      |

### Burkina Faso

60 market gardeners on five sites (4 in Kaya; 1 in Dori) were trained in using the Initiation to Management and Planning for Market Gardens (IGESPLAM). The lead gardeners from Kouini, Bougou, Nagbingou1 and Bissighin participated from Kaya and those from Seytenga participated from Dori. A crop calendar and activity plan are found at each site.

### Sites and training for market gardens in Burkina

| Region | Number of sites | Total area (ha) | No. of producers trained in IGESPLAM |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Kaya   | 4               | 5.5             | 30                                   |
| Dori   | 1               | 22              | 30                                   |
| Total  | 5               | 27,5            | 60                                   |



Market garden in Dalweye, T-North

## Fruit tree production

REGIS-ER assistance to nursery managers has enabled a wide distribution of 4 highly nutritious leaf and fruit trees to thousands of households: Moringa, baobab, papaya, and pommes du Sahel.

### Status of fruit tree distribution in 2015 - Niger

| Region         | Baobab | Moringa | Papaya | Pomme du Sahel | Total plants sold to REGIS and private sector | Value of sales to REGIS-ER | Value of sales to private sector | Cumulative sales |
|----------------|--------|---------|--------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Zinder         | 800    | 1,600   | 800    | 150            | 3 650                                         | 85 000                     | 115 000                          | 200 000          |
| Tillabéri-Sud  | 21,364 | 2,190   | 4,784  | 1,236          | 29,574                                        | 1,419,375                  | 367,000                          | 1,275,125        |
| Tillabéri-Nord | 1,699  | 1,083   | 977    | 0              | 3,751                                         | 178,000                    | 0                                | 278,000          |
| Maradi         | 2,992  | 3,786   | 2,605  | 10             | 9,728                                         | 309,375                    | 260,000                          | 569,375          |

NB: add to the figures for Maradi where the nursery manager Elh Aboubacar Issa from Guidan Roundji produced and sold forest plants as well: *Acacia senegal* or gum (19,800 plants sold for 9,080,000 FCFA) and *Azadiracta indica* or neem (200 plants sold for 20,000 FCFA).

<sup>2</sup> Area reflects only that which was monitored by REGIS-ER staff.

**Status of fruit tree distribution in 2015 - Burkina**

| Region       | Baobab        | Moringa       | Papaya     | Pomme du Sahel | Total plants sold to REGIS and private sector | Value of sales to REGIS-ER | Value of sales to private sector | Cumulative sales |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Kaya         | 6,443         | 8,957         | 0          | 0              | 15,400                                        | 495,000                    | 550,000                          | 1,045,000        |
| Fada         | 5,310         | 2,925         | 0          | 0              | 8,235                                         | 411,750                    | 0                                | 411,750          |
| Dori         | 5,560         | 5,552         | 856        | 0              | 11,968                                        | 598,400                    | 0                                | 598,400          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>17,313</b> | <b>17,434</b> | <b>856</b> | <b>0</b>       | <b>30,103</b>                                 | <b>1,505,150</b>           | <b>550,000</b>                   | <b>2,055,150</b> |

**IR 1.3. Improved access to financial services****Economic growth to reduce vulnerability**

In Niger and Burkina Faso, USAID | REGIS-ER is promoting sustainable economic growth as a way to build resilience to recurrent climate change impacts. With its partner Kokari and using self-managed community savings and credit schemes (SECCA), the Project is facilitating access to credit services and the means to build savings.

**Savings and loans**

The community savings and credit schemes of SECCA are based on regular savings contributions and community-based credit management. This sustainable strategy was developed in May 2015 and immediately deployed. It includes these features which are customized by each group:

- ▶ Average group membership [20]
- ▶ One-time membership and training fees totaling [1000 FCFA]
- ▶ Weekly contributions of [150 FCFA] per member
- ▶ [10%] interest rate for collectively-used funds, [32%] rate for individuals
- ▶ [3%] penalty rate for late repayment

A hypothetical 40-week cycle using these defaults can result in a pooled 334,000 FCFA loan fund (>\$US 600).

Because the SECCA system was introduced in mid-year, results are still on the low side but are expected to rise appropriately in the coming years.

**Niger** - In the context of supporting producers' organizations, all types of producers (men and women, youth and adults) exhibited noticeable commitment to the SECCA savings and credit system.

Other highlights of the year include:

- 71 groups adopted the strategy; more than 1,233 group members (111 men and 1,132 women) were trained.
- The number of households with access to external (formal) and internal (community) financial services is 1,971, of which 1,088 are using the SECCA system.
- In all, 636 organizations (both formal and informal) received REGIS-ER assistance related to credit such as setting up the group, reactivation, or facilitation of accessing external credit.
- Cumulative savings recorded among groups surpasses 60 million FCFA (\$US 103,800).
- 205,050,000 FCFA in credit (\$US 355,000) was awarded this year. Activities funded include animal fattening, warehouse receipts, small commerce, animal health and farming supplies, and supplies related to fish sales.

**Burkina Faso** - A training session was organized in each of the three regions. The 30 REGIS-ER facilitators (including five women) were trained along with fifteen regional SECCA specialists. After training, each region wrote up an operational action plan to implement the strategy. Since then, more than 50 informational and sensitization meetings have been held with local authorities, leaders, and community members. Those in Manni (Fada) are now organized to participate in SECCA.

**USAID's DCA loan guarantee fund:** Meetings were held to discuss linking with USAID's DCA fund, which is almost expired in Burkina Faso at Ecobank. A new request was presented to a USAID Regional Office mission with an orientation towards more local REGIS-ER target MFIs.

## 2. Governance and Natural Resource Management Component (GNRM)

### Governance activities and resilience

Degradation of natural resources and climate change have a negative impact on agriculture production and weaken the resilience of communities as rains and wind become more unpredictable and destructive. The Governance Component is addressing this problem on four fronts: sustainable management of natural resources, adaptation to climate change, preparedness for catastrophic events, and conflict management.

The second year has focused on field implementation of comprehensive strategies that are being adjusted according to results of internal evaluations of each of the four areas of intervention.

In natural resource management, the component continues to develop and implement local conventions and has started the process to integrate them into Communal Development Plans (PCD). In Tondikandia, the local convention is monitored and promoted through forums and local community radio programs.

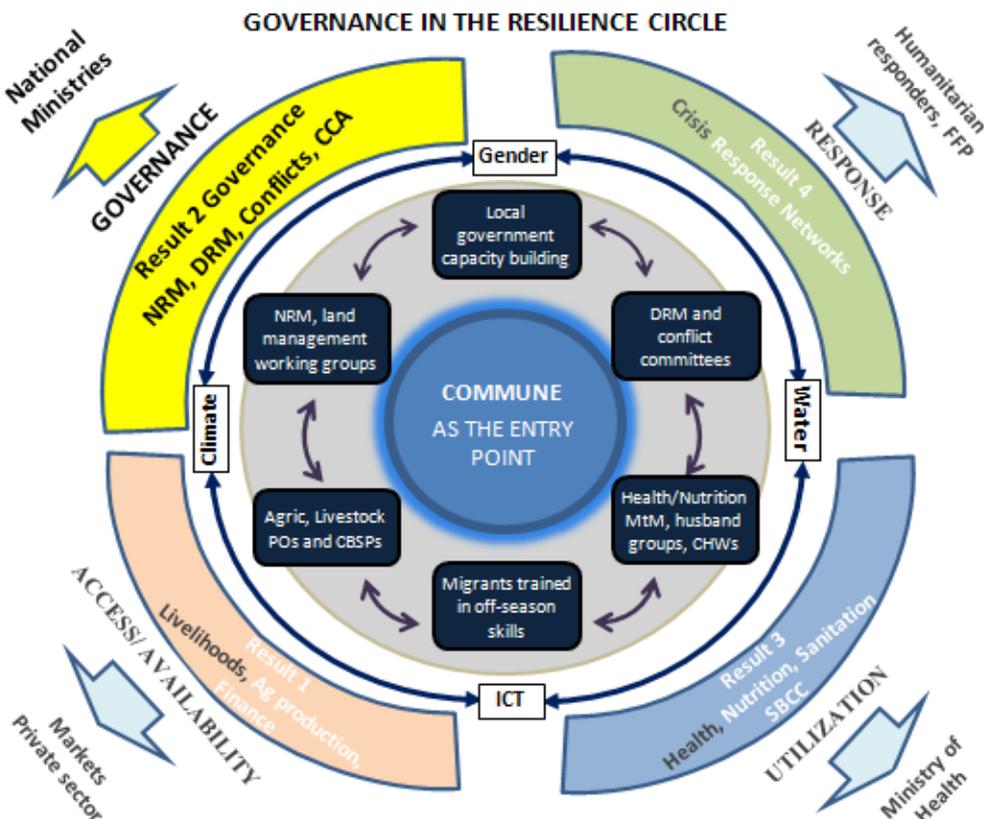
Farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR) continues in all regions as it is systematically integrated into conservation farming (reported under Livelihoods Component).

To help address climate change, a robust partnership has been developed in Niger and in Burkina Faso with the World Food Programme (WFP). The Component has focused on the restoration of plateaus and fragile slopes in all villages that have developed NRM plans to combat erosion and promote sylvo-agricultural works in areas prone to erosion.

Conflict due to competition for natural resources is being addressed through the establishment of local land tenure commissions that are equipped and trained in conflict management. Facilitating land deeds for women also increases their resilience as they are assured their long-term investments in making the land productive will not be taken away.

With regard to management of risks, REGIS-ER is setting up, training, and equipping SCAP-RU and training existing Red Cross volunteers in first response strategies.

The above activities build the capacity and resilience of local development actors using a community-based approach.



The Resilience Circle sees local governance as the key to inclusive and sustainable resilience plans and actions; it is the way that conflicts and risks related to stewardship of resources are managed.

## Summary table of progress towards indicator targets

For indicators for which the targets are far surpassed, the reasons include efforts made by stakeholders to bring in participants to NRM fora and the partnership with WFP that led to many extra participants in climate change adaptation activities. Another factor contributing to climate change adaptation by stakeholders is the creation of village territory management plans that provide fora for training in adaptation technologies at the same time that they are implemented. Targets for the most extreme cases of underestimation can be revisited during next year's review of the REGIS-ER Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.

Early warning system development has not yet been accounted for as the SCAP-RU have just been trained and the systems are being set up in partnership with Karkara, a well-known NGO in Niger.

| OBJECTIVE 2. Improved governance and natural resource management                                                       |                 |       |                    |        |                             |           |                    |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Indicator                                                                                                              | QUARTER OF FY15 |       |                    |        | Performance since inception |           |                    |                 |
|                                                                                                                        | 1               | 2     | 3                  | 4      | Cumul FY2 2014-15           | Cumul FY1 | Cum. TARGET FY 1+2 | % Target FY 1+2 |
| 2A. Number of community-level plans implemented with NRM, conflict management, or DRM components                       | 7               | 0     | 0                  | 18     | 25                          | 0         | 50                 | 50%             |
| NRM and conflict management                                                                                            | 7               |       |                    | 17     | 24                          |           |                    |                 |
| 2B. Number of stakeholders with increased capacity to adapt to impacts of climate variability /change                  | 620             | 1,982 | 9,990 <sup>3</sup> | 5175   | 17,767                      | 317       | 1,500              | 1206%           |
| <b>Intermediate Result 2.1: Strengthened natural resource management</b>                                               |                 |       |                    |        |                             |           |                    |                 |
| 2.1.1. Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change issues                                  | 0               | 131   | 84                 | 56     | 271                         |           | 180                | 151%            |
| 2.1.2. Number of community residents participating in NRM meetings                                                     | 0               | 535   | 564                | 1,314  | 2,326                       | 84        | 660                | 352%            |
| women                                                                                                                  |                 | 323   | 117                | 432    | 872                         | 7         |                    |                 |
| youth 18-30 years                                                                                                      |                 |       |                    | 0      | 99                          |           |                    |                 |
| members of producer organizations                                                                                      |                 |       |                    | 1,012  | 1,012                       |           |                    |                 |
| 2.1.3. Number of hectares under improved NRM practices (local conventions)                                             | 0               | 108   | 578                | 15,266 | 15,951                      | 222,500   | 250,000            | 95%             |
| <b>Intermediate Result 2.2: Strengthened disaster risk management</b>                                                  |                 |       |                    |        |                             |           |                    |                 |
| 2.2.1. Number of people trained in disaster preparedness as a result of USG assistance                                 | 0               | 167   | 95                 | 0      | 262                         | 0         | 300                | 87%             |
| women                                                                                                                  | 0               | 22    | 11                 | 0      | 33                          | 0         |                    |                 |
| 2.2.2. Number of communities with disaster early warning and response (EWR) systems working effectively                | 0               | 0     | 0                  | 0      | 0                           | 0         | 10                 | 0%              |
| <b>Intermediate Result 2.3: Strengthened Conflict Management</b>                                                       |                 |       |                    |        |                             |           |                    |                 |
| 2.3.1. Number of conflict prevention systems, conflict assessments, or response mechanisms supported by USG assistance | 8               | 24    | 82                 | 0      | 114                         | 0         | 100                | 114%            |
| Prevention or response mechanism                                                                                       | 0               | 24    | 82                 | 0      | 106                         |           |                    |                 |
| Evaluation                                                                                                             | 0               | 0     | 0                  | 0      | 0                           |           |                    |                 |
| 2.3.2. Number of disputes mediated to the satisfaction of all parties to the conflict                                  | 0               | 0     |                    |        | 0                           | 0         | 20                 | 0%              |
| <b>Intermediate Result 2.4: Strengthened government and regional capacity and coordination</b>                         |                 |       |                    |        |                             |           |                    |                 |
| 2.4.1. Number of local conventions integrated into PDC/PCD                                                             | 0               | 0     | 0                  | 1      | 1                           | 0         | 5                  | 20%             |
| <b>Gender equality</b>                                                                                                 |                 |       |                    |        |                             |           |                    |                 |
| 4.D. Number of hectares of farmland registered in the name of women                                                    | 24              | 14    | 0                  | 49     | 108                         | 45        | 30                 | 510%            |

<sup>3</sup> Outstanding result made possible by counting all activities with a direct link to adaptation to climate change as documented by NCBA CLUSA in May, 2015 (see Appendix in April-June 2015 quarterly report) and by joining with WFP on NRM fora in Sabon Machi, Maradi

## IR 2.1. Strengthened natural resource management

### Niger

Two new local conventions were written for Guidan Roundji (Maradi) and Droum (Zinder). The conventions include maps of existing resources, socioeconomic infrastructure, livestock corridors, and potential conflict zones. Governance Component organized workshops to validate natural resource utilization rules. The conventions will be integrated into respective PDCs in the coming year.

The local convention developed in Tondikandia is being formally integrated into the PDC this year. Information on the convention was broadcast on local radio.

2,392 ha of farmland benefited from FMNR put into practice by 2,400 committed producers who were trained by government technical services with specialists from REGIS-ER.



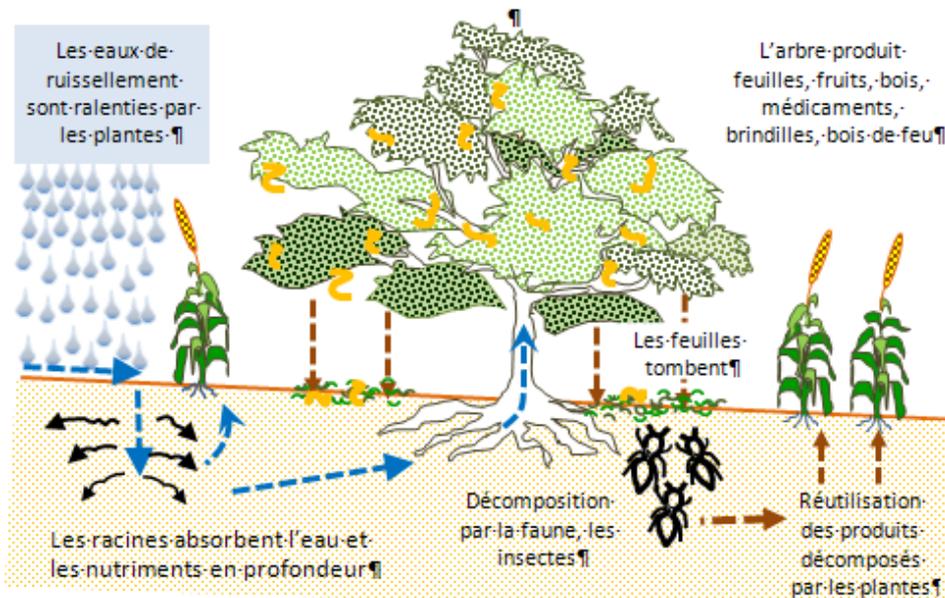
Direct seeding of trees behind rock bunds on contours in Tondikandia



Regeneration of grasses and shrubs and reduced runoff behind rock bunds on contours in Tondikandia

Climate change adaptation was addressed through technical and awareness training of 3,953 farmers. CCA activities use a watershed management approach focused on the prevention of floods that threaten agriculture fields and villages. 610 ha of degraded land underwent the beginning of restoration to productive agricultural land based on strategies outlined in village resource management plans.

### RÉGÉNÉRATION NATURELLE ASSISTÉE POUR ADAPTER AU CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE CYCLE NUTRITIF METTANT À PROFIT LES ARBRES



FMNR Poster distributed to the regions, adapted from Guide technique de la conservation des terres agricoles, Société Japonaise des Ressources Vertes, 2001

### Burkina Faso

Local conventions were produced in Barsalogo and Seytenga. The last steps of presenting the plans and adoption by the respective communes are planned for the beginning of FY16.

FMNR was promoted at training workshops where basic hand tools were provided. Producers put 3,598 ha under 'classic' FMNR (without CF) and 357 ha under FMNR combined with CF ('REGIS style').

Climate change adaptation (CCA) activities were preceded by a study tour with the MARP network of innovative activities in Burkina. Following the study tour, a strategic guide on CCA activities was developed as the REGIS-ER climate change handbook for all regions of the project. Based on the guide, farmers have been organized and trained

in soil erosion control and the causes and impacts of climate change. As a result, 314 ha of degraded land have been restored by farmers in Burkina and 549 ha restored in collaboration with WFP by 1,266 producers, including 451 women. Grasses and trees were direct-seeded on 863 ha.



Half-moons in Manni, Fada; training in construction of rock bunds in Gayéri, Fada

## IR 2.2. Disaster risk management

The Project helped set up six community early warning systems for quick response (SCAP-RU) with training and equipment in Niger. REGIS-ER was assisted by its partner Karkara, a local NGO with experience in disaster risk management. 262 people were trained in preparedness for eventual catastrophes at the commune level.

**In Burkina**, an agreement was formalized and signed with the Red Cross to implement a field plan. A specialist on disaster risk reduction was recruited by the Red Cross; REGIS-ER covers all of the specialist's expenses including salary. An action plan was elaborated and work began in the commune of Barsalogho (Kaya) with the training of 20 Red Cross Volunteers, six of whom are women.



Training Red Cross volunteers at Barsalogho - Kaya

## IR 2.3. Strengthened conflict management

In brief, REGIS-ER uses the framework for conflict resolution as outlined in USAID's *Supporting Peace Processes*<sup>4</sup>:

1. Conflict prevention (establish processes and rules as contained in the local conventions; establish and train structures in negotiation capacity, as is being done with CoFoB and CoFoCom; promote constructive media as through REGIS-sponsored radio programs)
2. Conflict resolution (convene stakeholders; provide logistics; coordinate technical assistance/expertise; develop resolution agreements -- these steps will be tested in coming years of operation of the committees that were trained by REGIS-ER)
3. Conflict recovery (support implementation committees; improve public awareness; foster reconciliation; monitor agreements -- these steps will also be tested in the coming years as implementation of the local conventions continues)

### Niger

In collaboration with GENOVICO and the Permanent Secretary of the Rural Code, joint committees were set up in 40 villages to manage conflicts. Land tenure commissions were set up in zones of high conflict risk at the village level, and upcoming conflicts will be monitored as time goes on.

In addition to continually communicating with the population and integrating the local convention at Tondikandia into the PDC, four animal corridors that covered 270 km were identified and work has begun to make sure that the laws and regulations related to the corridors are enforced.

68 ha of land were transferred to women's groups following the legal process.

### Burkina Faso

The process of acquisition and transfer of land began in all regions. A total of 39 hectares of BDL land and gardens were transferred to women's groups. Negotiations on land tenure authorized by recorded hearings were validated; the next step will result in the issuance of legally recognized land titles.

64 ha of sylvo-pastoral sites are in the process of legal transfer to groups composed of men and women.

<sup>4</sup> [http://transition.usaid.gov/our\\_work/cross-cutting\\_programs/conflict/publications/docs/Supporting\\_Peace\\_Process\\_Toolkit.pdf](http://transition.usaid.gov/our_work/cross-cutting_programs/conflict/publications/docs/Supporting_Peace_Process_Toolkit.pdf)

## IR 2.4. Strengthened government, regional capacity, and coordination

Integrating the PDC takes place at the commune level in collaboration with local authorities.

The staff of REGIS-ER's Governance component participated in meetings with local authorities and other partners in development (CARE, Mercy Corps, ACDI-VOCA, OCADES, FAO, CRS) to discuss how to improve coordination among partners working on resilience in the same communes. The meetings focused on presenting strategic plans and objectives to make sure they are in line with regional and communal development plans.

The team also worked closely with Food for Peace partners to coordinate on joint activities and, in some cases, to share costs of implementation, as with ViM in Centre-Nord/ Kaya.

### Combining CF with FMNR to leverage adaptation to climate change

Organic matter used in classic conservation farming modifies and improves soil structure and microbiology. It breaks up heavy soils, retains more rainwater, reduces the temperature, prevents leaching and erosion, holds fertilizers in place, and corrects microbial action. Soil fertility stems directly from organic matter. The organic matter comes from compost and leaving crop residues after harvest.

The contribution to soil organic matter from FMNR is clear. Trees in fields drop their leaves and fine twigs that turn into mulch. Fine roots decompose and attract underground life that favors greater yields. When forage as a byproduct of FMNR is fed to animals, their fertilizer is brought back to the field and sometimes contains more tree seeds that sprout and can be managed as regeneration.

#### A short list of advantages provided by practicing FMNR with CF as a strategy for adapting to climate change:

- ▶ increased agricultural yields (for millet, an extra 30 to 220 kg/ha have been recorded)
- ▶ soil temperature reduction thanks to shading, which reduces the amount of rainfall needed to prevent wilting and the need to re-sow fields when rains fail
- ▶ bonus supply of fuel and construction wood that reduces distances to walk for these basic household needs; fodder may also be provided
- ▶ increased revenues through sales of surplus and secondary products



Combined FMNR and CF - Barsalogo, Kaya; classic FMNR field with gao and *Balanites* (adoua)

#### References:

Banoin M., J. Aristid, J. Philippe, 1998. *Le défrichement amélioré au Sahel : Une pratique agroforestière adoptée par les paysans - Bois et Forêts des Tropiques* no. 255

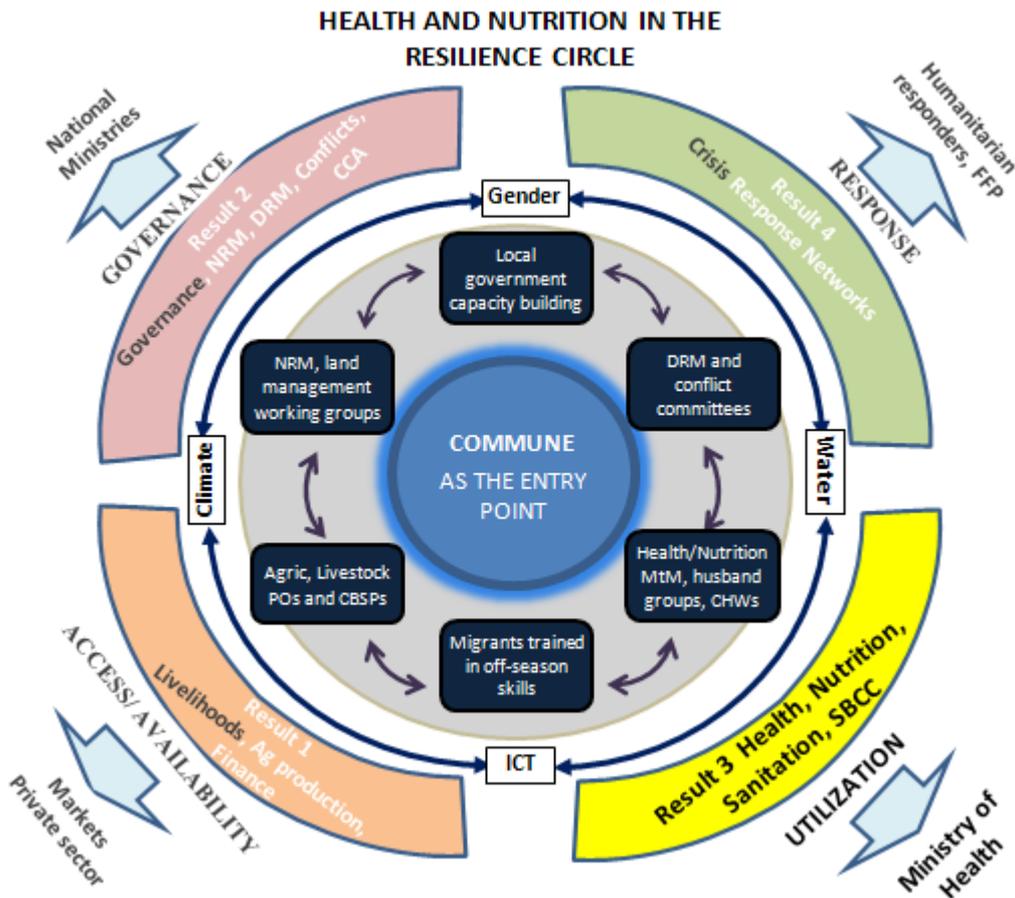
PPILDA Appui aux initiatives et innovations paysannes porteuses pour réduire la vulnérabilité des exploitants familiaux au Niger: l'approche du PPILDA 2005-2012 - document by A. Meschinelli - <http://fipao.faso-dev.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Alessandro-Meschinelli-document-final.pdf>

### 3. Health, Nutrition, and WASH Component (HNW)

#### Health and nutrition activities and resilience

Strengthening resilience and the third pillar of food security requires efficient use of food resources with consideration for both qualitative and quantitative aspects. REGIS-ER promotes rational utilization of food through diversification of diet, access to fortified foods, improved access to health and nutrition services, access to potable water, and improved sanitation practices. This is done through nutrition-led agriculture and building the capacity of communities to identify and address their own needs in the health sector, behavior change communications, and health service quality improvement (QI) teams. Target populations for improved health and nutrition include children less than five years of age and pregnant and lactating women; men are included in the target population served by Ecole des Maris (EdM).

During fiscal year 2015, HNW was able to initiate a comprehensive health-nutrition-WASH program in all of the regions of REGIS-ER, thanks to robust participation by communities and the inclusion of local expertise in health, nutrition, and hygiene.



## Summary table of progress towards indicator targets

| OBJECTIVE 3. Improved health and nutrition                                                                                                                 |                 |               |                 |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Indicator                                                                                                                                                  | QUARTER OF FY15 |               |                 |                  | Performance since inception |              |                       |                    |
|                                                                                                                                                            | 1               | 2             | 3               | 4                | Cumul FY2<br>2014-15        | Cumul<br>FY1 | Cum. TARGET<br>FY 1+2 | % Target<br>FY 1+2 |
| <b>Intermediate result 3.1: Better access to potable water</b>                                                                                             |                 |               |                 |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| 3.1.1 Number of people gaining access to an improved water source*                                                                                         |                 |               | 9000            | 6200             | 15200                       | 0            | 61,500                | 25%                |
| <b>Niger</b>                                                                                                                                               |                 |               | 9000            | 3500             | 12,500                      |              | 13,500                | 93%                |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>                                                                                                                                        |                 |               | 0               | 2700             | 2700                        |              | 48,000                | 6%                 |
| 3.1.1.bis Number of water points built or rehabilitated by REGIS-ER                                                                                        | 0               | 0             | 36              | 23               | 59                          | 0            | 214                   | 28%                |
| <i>Borehole (with REGIS grant)</i>                                                                                                                         |                 |               | 17              | 22               | 39                          |              |                       |                    |
| <i>Protected well (with REGIS grant)</i>                                                                                                                   |                 |               | 19              | 1                | 20                          |              |                       |                    |
| 3.1.3. Number of people using an improved sanitation facility**                                                                                            | 0               | 450<br>people | 4,944<br>people | 17,502<br>people | 22,896<br>people            | 0            | 21,534                | 106%               |
| <b>Niger</b>                                                                                                                                               |                 | 0             | 4944            | 16932            | 21,876                      |              | 16,200                | 135%               |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>                                                                                                                                        |                 | 450           | 0               | 570              | 1020                        |              | 5,334                 | 19%                |
| 3.1.3.bis Number of improved sanitation facilities built or rehabilitated by REGIS-ER                                                                      | 0               | 75            | 824             | 2917             | 3816                        |              | 3,589                 | 106%               |
| <i>Pit latrine with slab (with REGIS grant)</i>                                                                                                            | 0               | 2             | 80              | 2140             | 2222                        |              |                       |                    |
| <i>Improved ventilated latrine (with REGIS grant)</i>                                                                                                      | 0               | 4             | 430             | 1449             | 1883                        |              |                       |                    |
| <i>Tippy-tap or hand washing station</i>                                                                                                                   | 0               | 0             | 0               | 974              | 974                         |              |                       |                    |
| <b>Intermediate result 3.2: Improved health and nutrition practices</b>                                                                                    |                 |               |                 |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| 3.2.2. Number of children under 5 reached by USG-supported nutrition programs (selected disaggregations by source)                                         |                 | 10424         | 12013           | 27,419           | 49,856                      | 0            | 38,100                | 131%               |
| Nutrition messaging                                                                                                                                        |                 | 1514          | 4299            |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| MtM groups                                                                                                                                                 |                 | 5421          | 2822            |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| Home gardening                                                                                                                                             |                 | 3914          | 1426            |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| Market gardening                                                                                                                                           |                 | 818           | 1882            |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| Hygiene and sanitation messaging                                                                                                                           |                 | 678           | 453             |                  |                             |              |                       |                    |
| <b>Niger</b>                                                                                                                                               |                 | 9,128         | 8,231           | 16,746           | 34,105                      |              | 17,900                | 190%               |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>                                                                                                                                        |                 | 1,296         | 3,782           | 10,673           | 15,751                      |              | 20,200                | 78%                |
| 3.2.4. Number of people trained in child health / nutrition through USG-supported programs                                                                 | 120             | 3765          | 5722            | 24,388           | 33,995                      | 109          | 60,000                | 57%                |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                               | 36              | 2675          | 4120            | 22,209           | 29,040                      | 74           |                       |                    |
| <b>Niger</b>                                                                                                                                               | 0               | 916           | 1657            | 11965            | 14538                       | 54           | 29,400                | 50%                |
| <b>Burkina Faso</b>                                                                                                                                        | 120             | 2849          | 4065            | 12423            | 19457                       | 55           | 30,600                | 64%                |
| 3.2.7. Percent of target population who can state where they would go to get access to family planning (question for baseline, midterm, and final surveys) |                 |               |                 |                  |                             |              | TBD                   |                    |

\*Estimate based on the average number of people served by a water point: 250 in Niger, 300 in Burkina. HNW set itself a goal of 18,800 households HH.

\*\* Number of persons 5-year target based on 6 people per latrine X number of latrines projected to be built in 5 years 11,500 = 69,000

### IR 3.1. Improved access to potable water

#### Rehabilitation of water points

To improve community access to potable water, the team began with an assessment of needs for each village which resulted in a list of priority water points to rehabilitate and publishing a solicitation for bids.

53 water points were rehabilitated in Niger and 34 in Burkina Faso.

**Niger**

The team gathered information on the number of people using the water points and the performance of community water management committees. This information was analyzed using the national norm of 250 people for each equivalent water point (EPE) which permitted the team to calculate access rates and to determine priorities.

Based on the analysis, 507 new water points will be needed in Niger and 129 are in need of rehabilitation. 94 of these wells and boreholes in 61 villages need immediate attention and require in-depth technical diagnosis to estimate costs and the amount of work involved.

Specialists and local well diggers assessed the condition of the basins, the apron, the shaft, and water quality.

Borehole hand pumps (PMH) were removed and disassembled to assess the condition of all parts; the condition of the borehole and of the area around the borehole in terms of cleanliness and quality of the water were all examined. It was determined whether or not the borehole was in need of a *soufflage* (blowing out). For the 41 remaining boreholes and wells needing immediate attention, the respective communities were put in charge.

The Project trained 55 local well and pump technicians and provided them with a 'kit' to assure proper and timely maintenance of pumps provided by the project.

The quality of water for each water point is analyzed before and after the rehabilitation is carried out. Chlorine can be used to address quality issues. Assigned responsibilities for these tasks will be formalized in a water quality assurance plan due in the next quarter.

**Work done on water points by region in Niger**

| Location                          | Zinder        | Maradi | Tillabéri South | Tillabéri North | Total     |           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Water points assessed</b>      | 15            | 39     | 24              | 16              | <b>94</b> |           |
| <b>Water points rehabilitated</b> | Wells         | 2      | 8               | 9               | 1         | <b>20</b> |
|                                   | Boreholes PMH | 9      | 6               | 2               | 13        | <b>30</b> |



**Rehabilitation of a well in the village of Koumchi, Maradi**



**Blowing out a PMH, Darey, Sani Idi Commune, Sabon Machi, Maradi**



**Rehabilitated PMH, Katara Moussa, Guidan Roundji Commune, Maradi**

**Burkina Faso**

The assessment of water points to be repaired by REGIS-ER was based on two types of manual pumps: those less than 10 years old and those more than 10 years old.

**PMH less than 10 years old:** A detailed technical evaluation of 103 nonfunctioning PMH less than 10 years old determined the nature of the problems and what was needed to repair them. The assessments were carried out by local specialists or artisans under an agreement between the specialists and the commune. This approach is in sync with the principles of decentralization and involvement of communes in the management of water points.

REGIS-ER WASH specialists supervised all aspects of the assessments. The



**Diagnosis of PMH less than 10 years old in Barsalogho, Kaya**

pumps were taken apart to determine which parts needed repair or replacement. This permitted the teams to calculate the cost of rehabilitation for each PMH.

**PMH more than 10 years old:** Bids were solicited for work on boreholes more than 10 years old and 3 enterprises were selected to replace the pumps on 55 boreholes more than 10 years old. Work began at the start of the rainy season, which caused many delays due to inaccessibility of certain sites. The following table shows the diagnostics and rehabilitation of water points by region.

#### Diagnostics and rehabilitation of water points by region in Burkina Faso

|                                          | Centre-Nord (Kaya) | Est (Fada) | Sahel (Dori) | Total |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|--------------|-------|
| <b>Diagnostics of PMH</b>                | 25                 | 14         | 64           | 103   |
| <b>Number of boreholes rehabilitated</b> | 9                  | 0          | 0            | 9     |

In Niger and Burkina Faso, a contribution from the population was used to set up a revolving account for future repairs according to laws and regulations of both countries. The initial contribution and payments for water use will be used to assure that the works are repaired and maintained for the long term.

## Organization of Water User Associations and Water Management Committees

At the same time that the technical diagnostics of water points were carried out, the teams worked to set up or revive existing water users' associations (AUE) in Burkina and water point management committees (CGPE) in Niger to assure long-term management of the rehabilitated wells and boreholes.

**Niger** - 47 CGPE were set up or revived according to the official national guidelines for villages. 138 CGPE members were trained in the link between potable water and health and nutrition, hygienic practices, roles and responsibilities of CGPE members, and administration and management of a CGPE.



Training in WASH at REGIS-ER Office, Balléyara, Tillabéri South

#### CGPE by region in Niger

|                                 | Zinder | Maradi | Tillabéri South | Tillabéri North | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| <b>CGPE established/revived</b> | 11     | 13     | 13              | 10              | 47    |
| <b>Members of CGPE trained</b>  | 33     | 39     | 36              | 30              | 138   |

**Burkina** - A survey was conducted to determine whether existing AUE complied with the latest regulations on potable water canalization, and to assess their needs for assistance with becoming fully functional. After the assessment, REGIS-ER initiated a training sessions on the necessity of periodic meetings about water management issues; the role of payments by the population for water used; respecting the requirement to pay fees to the commune for preventative monitoring services; the collection of 75,000 FCFA per water point for maintenance; and the importance of cleanliness and hygiene around the well.

The trainings were conducted in East and Sahel Regions. In the Center North region, in three targeted communes, 93 AUE have been set up and trained, and they are operational.

## IR 3.2. Improved Health and Nutrition Practices

### Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC)

During the year, strategic plans related to SBCC were developed for each region based on local priorities. Several different tools/approaches contribute to improved health practices, nutrition, hygiene and behavior change: Mother-to-mother support groups (MtM), Safe Space, and Husband Schools (EdM).

### ***Mother to Mother (MtM)***

MtM are groups of 15 women who are pregnant or mothers of children less than 5 years old who meet bimonthly to share practices and issues related to health, nutrition, and hygiene. In Niger and Burkina Faso, the MtM were set up following meetings and a diagnostic of actual practices employed by the targeted community. Workshops were organized and attended by representatives of associations, opinion leaders, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and community health workers. The workshops facilitated ownership of the program and provided a forum for selection of mother leaders and community relays (ASBC). A total of 746 MtM groups (424 in Niger and 322 in Burkina Faso) were set up in villages not covered by similar programs like Care Groups or neighbor groups set up by FFP/DFAP partners.

Once the groups were set up, the ASBC/community relays and the mother leaders (ML) were trained in exclusive breast feeding, complementary feeding, building tippy-taps and hand washing with soap, negotiating skills, and how to organize and conduct MtM meetings.

The various themes served as a basis for discussion during the bimonthly meetings through the sharing of experiences. Contrary to conventional approaches of lecturing and passing a message, the approach adopted by REGIS ER is based on discovering what practices have given the best or worst results according to group members as a means to promote adoption of the best HNW practices.

In Burkina Faso, after three months of implementation, meetings were held to take stock of the performance of the MtM groups. The evaluations were carried out by the ASBC, lead mothers, and health agents to identify strong points and weaknesses of each group with an aim to improve the approach. REGIS-ER field staff were present during these meetings to assure that the principles of the approach were respected and to revise training technical content based on experiences shared by the groups.

### ***Husband Schools (EdM)***

The husband schools (learning groups composed of men) are being tested by the project in villages where FFP partners are working with an aim to better integrate men so that they will be more proactive about food and nutrition of women, babies, and young children.

**Niger** - EdM were established in 80 villages in the project zone based on preliminary discussions with health authorities who were involved in the selection of villages based on the prevalence of acute malnutrition.

General assemblies were organized in each village with the objective of sharing the approach with the community and identifying the characteristics of a model husband. The community selected 12 to 15 model husbands whose role as leaders was confirmed during the assembly in the presence of health agents. A total of 1200 model husbands have been identified; they will be trained during the first quarter by the end of 2015.

**Burkina Faso** - EdM were set up in 56 villages in Kaya Region and Gayéri Commune following meetings with health authorities and those who were involved in choosing villages based on the prevalence of acute malnutrition.

As in Niger, general assemblies were organized in each village to share the approach with the community and to determine the characteristics of a model husband which led the selection of 12 model husbands who were validated with participation by local health authorities. 672 model husbands were selected and trained in:

- their role in the organization and administration of EdM
- the first 1000 days of life
- how to break the cycle of malnutrition
- how to break the cycle of contamination and sickness caused by ingestion of fecal matter

Following the sensitization, each EdM formulates an action plan to promote better nutritional and health practices in the household. The EdM meets two times per month to plan activities and to assess progress on the implementation of their action plans.

In the region of Kaya, the first results are encouraging.

- 1346 households benefitted from communication/information packages on the first 1,000 days
- 69 tippy-taps have been set up in households
- 44 of 97 households who were encouraged to set up household gardens have set up their gardens
- 1767 households have planted moringa and baobab trees at home

### ***Safe Space (SS) in Niger***

Given the experience of FFP Partner Sawki in Safe Space, the project is working in collaboration with Sawki in Maradi to set up and monitor SS groups. After several meetings at the regional level, the health team from Niamey worked with the regional team and Sawki to launch the REGIS-ER SS program in Maradi. The visit allowed the team to discuss the approach with Sawki and also visit the field to introduce it to a variety of actors involved (adolescents, mentors, parents and opinion leaders). The approach was put into action in 15 villages in Maradi with the initiation of 19 Safe Space groups composed of 420 girls between the age 12 and 18 years with the consent of the girls' parents.

The girls work closely with mentors they have selected themselves. The mentors were trained on their roles and responsibilities, communications techniques, exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, hand washing with soap, and family planning. Monitoring and advising is provided by the mentors at weekly meetings.

Based on follow up visits and observations, some obvious benefits of SS are emerging:

- a remarkable change in the girls' capacity to express themselves openly in public
- an obvious interest in the different themes discussed as evidenced by the continual questions asked to the mentors
- an improvement in basic body hygiene that is noticed and appreciated by the parents and the community.



**Safe Space in Achalou village,  
Sabon Machi Commune, Maradi**

### ***Adaptation, pretest, and multiplication of informational posters***

In Niger, informational posters were assembled to use in training and meetings of MtM groups. Pictures and content were based on experiences of other projects financed by USAID in other countries like Benin and Nigeria.

In Burkina Faso, the National Nutrition Directorate (DN) of the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with its technical and financial partners, developed a package of informational posters on all of the best practices of health, nutrition and hygiene.

Given that REGIS-ER is not working on the entire package of themes developed by the DN, the DN authorized REGIS-ER to select certain themes and posters to update based on the latest recommendations from international experience. In Niger and Burkina, the posters were pretested in project zones to solicit feedback from actors who will eventually benefit from the information and messages taught with each image. The posters were modified based on these observations and recommendations of participants.

### ***Collaboration with SPRING on pilot projects DIGITAL GREEN and DMI***

Collaboration between REGIS ER, SPRING and other DFAP partners has resulted in the production of 8 community videos in Niger and 15 radio spots in Burkina Faso.

#### **SPRING/DIGITAL GREEN in Niger**

The pilot project in Niger initiated and supervised by SPRING and Digital Green has produced and distributed 8 videos with local communities. Their objective is to change behavior related to health, nutrition, and hygiene.

The project worked with Spring, Digital Green and Sawki to set up technical teams and train them in the production of videos and formative research in two villages in Guidan Roumji. Formative research was conducted through focus groups and permitted the team to identify behavior-related problems related to health-nutrition-hygiene and begin discussions on best practices. The results of the research allowed the team to determine priorities of the community before the filming began.

#### **SPRING/DMI in Burkina Faso**

SPRING partnered with Development Media International (DMI) to create radio spots in Burkina Faso on women's nutrition, exclusive breast feeding, complementary feeding and handwashing with soap. The broadcasts were done by community radio stations in the Center-North and Eastern Regions and broadcast in local languages of Gulmachema and Moore. The broadcasts allowed the project to expand coverage of targeted communities on a regular and more frequent basis.

### ***Celebration of the International Hand Washing and Latrines Day in Burkina Faso***

The event was celebrated in several regions covered by the project. Many partner and government technical services of health, water, education, and others involved in WASH were mobilized. In each region, the High Commissioner, the highest authority of the province, was present for the ceremony. Communities actively participated in demonstrations of hand washing and use and maintenance of latrines.

In Dori, OXFAM co-financed the ceremony with REGIS-ER. A radio-crochet competition and other activities, with winners receiving hygiene kits containing a handwashing station and soap.

REGIS-ER distributed hand washing stations to schools, CSPS, and mayors' offices to promote hand washing with soap. A round table was organized on themes related to WASH; it was animated by technical service agents with REGIS-ER staff and broadcast by community radio stations.

In the villages, the event was marked by building tippy-taps and organized sessions on the importance of hand-washing and usage and maintenance of latrines.

### ***Dietary diversity***

To facilitate the adoption of best practices related to dietary diversity and increase the types of food consumed by women and children between 6-23 months, the project organized demonstrations and practical training sessions on the preparation of locally available food.



**Day of hand washing (Tippy-Taps) and latrines at Barsalgho, Kaya**

### **Community meals in Burkina Faso**

Sharing community meals is part of a strategy to improve on local recipes and increase knowledge regarding best nutritional practices. It consists of an assessment of ingredients in a given recipe and working with women on ways to add what is needed to make them more balanced and nutritious.

Community meals present an opportunity to address other themes related to health, nutrition and hygiene. An added benefit is bringing the participants closer together so they are mutually supportive.

### ***Promotion of moringa, baobab and papaya***

In Burkina Faso, the REGIS-ER's Health and Livelihoods Components worked together on demonstrations of preparations of moringa and koukouli. 89 women in the village of Basma, Kaya, participated. Following the demonstration, the women said that they understand the nutritional benefits of the recipe and are ready to put it into practice. (Note that the preparation of and knowledge about nutritional benefits of moringa are far less advanced in Burkina than in Niger).

In Niger, meetings were organized in Tillabéri South on the nutritional value of garden and milk products. These meetings were attended by 248 people of whom 229 are women. The aim was to inform women of the composition and advantages of certain vegetables, fruits and milk products. At the same time, discussions were conducted on local beliefs and taboos with regard to consumption of baobab and sweet potato, with an aim of encouraging the community to include these nutritional foods in their diet.

REGIS-ER distributed moringa, baobab, and papaya seedlings to 12,800 beneficiaries that included MtM group members.

### ***Promotion of balanced children's cereal in Burkina***

In response to the problem of inadequate nutrition for infants between 6-24 months, the project is training women in the preparation of biofortified flour (with added local vegetable products, sugar, and oil)



**Demonstrations of fortified cereal-making, Seytenga Commune, Dori**

and enriched porridge. Following the demonstrations, a study was carried out using the TIPS (Trial of Improved Practices) method to determine the level of adoption of the recipes by mothers. It showed that of the 45 women enrolled, 44 have continued to use the improved formulas. In response to these encouraging results, the project trained 410 ASBC and ML who in turned organized demonstrations for 3,150 members of MtM.

### **Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)**

With a minimal investment of grant funds, Community-led Total Sanitation was introduced to the most vulnerable households throughout the project zones to promote improved hygiene through the construction and use of latrines by the entire community.

A comprehensive training of trainers in CLTS was conducted in Tillabéri that included field agents from REGIS-ER, representatives from the technical services of water and health, and WASH focal points from the commune. The objective of the training was to identify pools of local resource persons who can assist in the implementation of CLTS in all villages of the project. The results of this initial training are encouraging. A total of 112 villages committed to the vision of total sanitation for their villages (only 90 villages were targeted for this year).

Local masons were trained in the construction of quality latrines using the ‘SanPlat’ and ‘conique’ models in Niger and the single-hole VIP model in Burkina Faso. A total of 425 local masons were trained in construction of latrines as well as in the basics of hygiene. Of the 425 trained, 320 received a basic tool and equipment kits to facilitate construction, and they are now ready to provide quality services to the community.

Following the training and formal commitments of villages to CLTS (*déclenchement*), the project offered a small grant package to 3,469 of the most vulnerable households. These grants allowed the masons to begin construction of the latrines; such demonstrations are shown to be effective in motivating the community to adopt a new technology. In Niger, the grant consisted of 3 sacks of cement, 1.5 meters of reinforcing rod size 8 for the concrete, a roll of wire, and 3 m of PVC. In Burkina, the grant consisted of 5 sacks of cement, 4.4 m of reinforcing rod, a roll of wire, and 3 m of PVC. In both countries the cost of the mason was included in the grant; the community provided additional labor and some materials.

**Niger:** In addition to the latrines that were constructed with grant funds, the communities constructed latrines using their own resources. A total of 3,646 latrines have been built in Niger, which include pit latrines with slab and ventilated improved pit latrines. The following table shows the progress of construction of latrines in Niger and the number of tippy-taps by region.

**Number of latrines and tippy taps by region in Niger<sup>5</sup>**

| Latrines and tippy taps achieved                    | Maradi | Tillabéri North | Tillabéri South | Zinder | Total       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|-------------|
| <b>Total of latrines partially funded by grants</b> | 1013   | 643             | 801             | 1189   | <b>3646</b> |
| <b>Pit latrines with a slab</b>                     | 640    | 552             | 801             | 227    | <b>2220</b> |
| <b>Ventilated improved pit latrines</b>             | 236    | 0               | 741             | 807    | <b>1784</b> |
| <b>Tippy Tap or hand washing station</b>            | 0      | 17              | 0               | 146    | <b>163</b>  |

In addition to the CLTS approach to promote long-term hygiene, a study tour was organized to introduce the notion of ECOSAN (ecological sanitation) to a wider audience in Niger. ECOSAN uses treated, biodegradable human waste to fertilize tree and food crops. Following the study tour which took place at Aguié, Maradi, 15 households in Tillabéri have volunteered to adopt the ECOSAN approach as a pilot activity in Tillabéri North. To begin, 15 urinals were installed to collect urine. Given that soil fertility is a problem in all areas of the project, the ECOSAN approach is promising and will be expanded and monitored in 2016.

To assure that better practices regarding hygiene and CLTS are appropriated and properly monitored on a continual basis, the project set up or revived 92 village-based salubrity committees (CVS). A total of 273 members of CVS were trained in capacity building, the administration and function of the CVS, and hygiene management at the village level.

<sup>5</sup> Differences between the numbers of latrines reported here and in the results table at the beginning of the Health Component chapter are due to inconsistent use of disaggregation fields on data collection forms. Continued training of staff is planned to improve consistency across regions. Pit latrines with slabs may also be ventilated improved pit latrines, so there is overlap between the two styles.



**Declaration of village commitment to ODF in Kourthèye Commune, Tillabéri North**

**ECOSAN pilot activity**

Ecological sanitation, which is commonly referred to as ecosan, is an approach used towards the provision of basic sanitation, and aims to:

- Provide a barrier to the transmission of excreta related diseases and contribute to improved health of the community
- Provide a form of sanitation that is accepted by users in terms of its level of comfort and hygiene
- Reduce environmental impacts and costs associated with the disposal of human waste
- Promote recycling of nutrients contained in excreta to grow fruits and vegetables; thus enhancing food security and reducing the need to rely on artificial fertilizers

Lab testing and experience with urine-diverting toilets indicates that odors and pathogens in urine and faeces can be destroyed in 6 months by drying and storage in containers away from people.

**Sources:**

UNDP/SIDA Publications on Water Resources No. 18: *Closing the Loop - Ecological sanitation for food security, Yr. 2000* (A. Esrey, I. Andersson, A. Hillers, R. Sawyer)

*Ecological sanitation in Burkina Faso: Solid gold in human excrement, 2008 mission report by A. Kiéma*

**WASH-oriented CBSP**

285 CBSP masons were trained to build improved latrines in 90 villages of Niger. They brought in 10,800,900 FCFA (\$US 19,000) when they built 2,700 latrines for 4,000 FCFA each.

55 water pump repairmen were also trained and given kits to repair waterpoints.

**Burkina**

The following table shows the progress of work of construction of latrines and tippy taps in Burkina Faso by region.

**Number of latrines and tippy taps by region in Burkina<sup>6</sup>**

| Latrines and tippy taps built / installed    | Fada | Kaya | Dori | Total |
|----------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|
| Total of latrines partially funded by grants | 63   | 48   | 59   | 170   |
| Pit latrines with slabs                      | 0    | 2    | 0    | 2     |
| Ventilated improved pit latrines             | 0    | 46   | 53   | 99    |
| Tippy taps or hand-washing stations          | 481  | 189  | 141  | 811   |

**Improved access to health services**

Any intervention to improve health, nutrition and hygiene conditions in Niger and Burkina must be accompanied by an effort to improve access to quality health services. The strategy of USAID/REGIS ER is threefold:

- Support and reinforce the assurance of quality health services within the community
- Build capacity of health agents to improve the quality of health services they provide
- Improve interactions between the community, commune health agents, and local health centers.



**Training health agents in Barsalogo Commune, Kaya, BF**

<sup>6</sup> Differences between the numbers of latrines reported here and in the results table at the beginning of the Health Component chapter are due to inconsistent use of disaggregation fields on data collection forms. Continued training of staff is planned to improve consistency across regions.

***Training of REGIS-ER facilitators and government health workers***

In **Burkina Faso**, training in integrated health service for project and government health workers that was started at the end of FY14 was continued in the Eastern and Center North Regions. The topic is the improvement of feeding practices for children and infants (ANJE). Four training sessions were organized by the project for district health workers. Eighty-nine agents improved their skills in providing assistance and guidance on health and nutrition for women and children at the health centers.

In **Niger**, 121 health agents involved with various REGIS-ER staff were trained in their roles to promote good practices regarding health, nutrition and hygiene.

Using the cascade approach, the project continues to conduct various trainings for a host of actors on different themes. Lead mothers, ASBC, COGES, and COSAN were trained in exclusive breast feeding, complementary nutrition and hand washing with soap. These trainings were conducted with health agents at community health centers. After extending training to MtM members, a total of 33,570 people (14,490 in Burkina and 19,080 in Niger) were trained.

A total of 672 EdM members were sensitized on ‘the first 1,000 days’ and best practices for hygiene and sanitation. EdM husbands are now equipped and ready to begin discussions with their peers and family on the importance of staying involved with questions of health, nutrition and hygiene for women and young children.

**Community mobilization for Quality Improvement (QI) in Burkina Faso**

With an aim of involving the community in a more meaningful manner in the management of health problems, the project adopted the strategy to set up quality improvement teams (QI). In Burkina Faso, training sessions were organized in Ouagadougou for health specialists from the national and regional offices as well as representatives from Mwangaza Action. The goal of the training was to build capacity of personnel of the REGIS-ER health team in coaching in order to support actors involved in QI at the village level.

Training consisted of setting up a QI team in the village of Sidogo in Kaya following a meeting with local authorities, women, men, and youth. The team in Sidogo consists of 12 members including the village chief, the ASBC, a teacher, a mother leader, and two members from an EdM in charge of implementing the QI program to improve health, nutrition and hygiene practices in the village.



**Village assembly to put a QI team in place in Sidogo, Barsalogho, Kaya, BF**

## Cross-cutting activities

### Administration and operations

The admin department carried out a comprehensive review of procedures in FY15 with an aim of simplifying and streamlining them and making them more efficient. The main aim of this exercise was to bring the project personnel closer to its clients at the village level while improving safety and security. The following measures were taken.

- The creation of a sub office in Magaria, Zinder
- The identification of temporary lodging facilities at the village level to allow field agents to spend the night in villages as opposed to commuting
- The setup of modest offices in the communes where the teams can hold meetings and plan for the week
- Two general assemblies held (December 2014 in Niamey and June 2015 in Ouaga) team-building and strategy review exercises
- The training of all drivers on road safety, basic mechanics and maintenance, training in the use of four-wheel drive, training on administrative procedures and logistics.

### Summary of major procurements in FY 2015:

- 55 metric tons of garden and rainfed crop seed
- 600 female goats and 200 male red goats from Maradi and 200 metric tons of feed in Niger; 750 local goats in Burkina Faso for the habbanayé program
- Masons' kits for distribution to those trained by REGIS-ER (materials and equipment for latrines)
- Tools and equipment for soil erosion and water management works (climate change adaptation)
- Server and other support materials for M&E
- GIS-compatible computer (not yet delivered)

### Human resources

This year HR focused on improving work conditions of REGIS-ER with respect to regulations and procedures of NCBA CLUSA, USAID, and national laws in Niger and Burkina Faso, as follows:

- Updating of the manual of admin procedures for personnel
- Initiation and introduction of new evaluation tools to assure better transparency of performance reviews
- Evaluation and introduction of a salary scale that will serve as a reference to determine salary levels for personnel
- A new tool (the personnel action form) was developed to facilitate recruitment
- A manual of orientation for new staff is in the process of being developed
- A review of procedures to assure a smooth transition when someone is leaving the project to assure compliance with existing regulations of NCBA CLUSA and labor laws for Niger and Burkina Faso

During the year, the Administrative and Finance Director and the Project COP left the Project and were replaced.

As of 30 September, 2015, a total of 192 people are employed directly by NCBA CLUSA or indirectly through its sub-awardees as summarized by country in the following table.

| Category of personnel              | Number |         |       | Location                                  |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                    | Niger  | Burkina | Total |                                           |
| Expatriates                        | 2      | -       | 2     | Niamey and Ouagadougou                    |
| TCN (third country national)       | 3      | 2       | 5     |                                           |
| Nationals (NCBA CLUSA)             | 81     | 47      | 128   | Niamey, Ouagadougou, Regions and Communes |
| Nationals employed by sub-awardees | 31     | 26      | 58    |                                           |
| Total                              | 117    | 75      | 192   |                                           |

## Finance and Accounting

Despite the complexity of the project, the financial management and accounting department continues to carry out its function efficiently to support the many project activities. The following improvements have added to the overall efficiency of the unit.

- Upgraded internal control procedures and assured segregation of responsibilities and authority
- Maintained and organized all records and storage in archives to be ready for audits
- Assured an efficient and rational use of project funds by tracking all expenses and reinforcing internal controls following the norms required by NCBA CLUSA
- Assured the project is in conformity to national laws in Niger and Burkina Faso in terms of payroll requirements (taxes, social security, etc.)
- Provided accurate and timely fiscal information to USAID and NCBA CLUSA.

## Sub-awards and grants

### *Monitoring and building capacity of partners*

The Project works with various partners/sub-awardees in Niger and Burkina Faso who recruit specialists for the project and are integrated into regional and field teams to assist with activities in their respective fields of expertise. In addition to technical support, the partners are responsible for paying their employees and taking care of all administrative details in compliance with regulations of USAID and NCBA CLUSA. Each month, partners submit a request for funds and monthly expense reports.

In FY 2015, the total disbursement of funds to partners and their expenses were as follows:

- ▶ Disbursements: 311,189,223 FCFA
- ▶ Expenses justified: 277,290,896 FCFA

Partners' staff were trained in reporting procedures and justification of expenses based on regulations of USAID and NCBA CLUSA. A series of other meetings were held with partners to discuss how to improve the partnership with a focus on implementation of activities. For certain partners whose performance was deemed unsatisfactory, it was recommended that a focal point be designated to work with the technical teams of REGIS-ER on a monthly basis.

### *Small Grants*

Grant funds were used in a variety of project activities to promote new technologies and to assist the most vulnerable segment of the population of target communities.

| Activity                                        | Amount FCFA        | Amount FCFA        | Amount FCFA        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                                 | Burkina            | Niger              | Total              |
| Agriculture                                     | 55,701,190         | 47,256,750         | 102,957,940        |
| Livestock                                       | 49,056,000         | 72,495,500         | 121,551,500        |
| Irrigation                                      | 12,918,000         | 95,454,536         | 108,372,536        |
| Latrines                                        | 49,800,000         | 95,172,300         | 144,972,300        |
| Climate change adaptation work                  | 23,477,800         | 28,896,000         | 52,373,800         |
| Assistance to land tenure commissions           | ,                  | 2,320,000          | 2,320,000          |
| Rehabilitation and construction of water points | 132,719,005        | 233,121,000        | 365,840,005        |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>323,671,995</b> | <b>574,716,086</b> | <b>898,388,081</b> |

### *Cost share*

A principal component of cost share is the contribution by the beneficiaries to activities undertaken with REGIS-ER. Contributions are often in kind, and the value is estimated based on market values for services or products provided to the activity. A cost share strategy is under development which will detail all avenues for capturing cost share and improve capturing beneficiary contributions.

| Activities                                                  | Burkina<br>FCFA  | Niger<br>FCFA      | Total<br>FCFA      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Agriculture - Contribution of inputs and Labor</b>       | 1 715 187        | 81 336 428         | 83 051 614         |
| <b>Contribution in kind and labor to construct latrines</b> | --               | 30 100 345         | 30 100 345         |
| <b>Miscellaneous monetary contributions</b>                 | --               | 124 303 838        | 124 303 838        |
| <b>Miscellaneous contributions in kind for training</b>     | --               | 1 161 135          | 1 161 135          |
| <b>Contributions linked to animal fattening</b>             | --               | 4 050 450          | 4 050 450          |
| <b>Total</b>                                                | <b>1 715 187</b> | <b>240 952 196</b> | <b>242 667 382</b> |

## Monitoring and Evaluation

During the second year of the project, the M&E component made the necessary changes to complete the setup of a viable M&E system that allowed the project to improve on the collection of information and data, reporting, and giving feedback to field staff to adjust data tables as needed.

During the last quarter, the M&E component worked with SAREL to finish a methodology on 11 indicators whose baselines are to be established by REGIS-ER. In light of an apparent underrepresentation of targeted beneficiaries of the Project in the sample population for the RISE baseline, the project exchanged ideas with SAREL and Sheladia and is considering the possibility of completing the data with a baseline study by REGIS-ER on some of the impact and outcome indicators.

The Head of the M&E component and the COP attended a meeting organized by USAID and SAREL in Niamey in September 2015 on the preliminary results of the baseline study conducted by SAREL and a report on data quality carried out by TANGO in Burkina Faso. Discussions were held with TANGO on the preparation for a similar study on data quality of the baseline study for RISE in Niger.

In light of comments and feedback by USAID, the M&E team produced a report *Review of Indicators, Targets, and Scale-Up Strategy of REGIS-ER* that was finalized in September, 2015.

The M&E team was also heavily involved in the development of the Annual Work Plan for FY16 as it made adjustments to the format (from last year's plan) to assure that results from internal evaluations and feedback from the components would be included in the plan.

### *CommCare application changes*

In April-June, based on an evaluation of CommCare data collection results and reporting using smartphones that showed unsatisfactory results, a decision was made to reorient Dimagi's effort to focus on GIS and MMI (mobile market information) and to limit data collection with the androids to specific activities and surveys.

A CommCare GPS application was developed by the REGIS-ER ICT specialist with input from component heads and others to collect geographic coordinates of project sites in the field. Coordinates for a total of 570 villages (including 36 new villages) and many work sites have been sent to USAID's Dakar regional office.

### Summary of villages covered with recorded GPS coordinates by country and region

| Country      | Region           | Number of<br>Communes | Number of<br>villages | Number of new<br>villages |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Niger        | Maradi           | 2                     | 62                    | 2                         |
|              | Tillabéri North  | 2                     | 48                    | 4                         |
|              | Tillabéri South  | 4                     | 65                    | 2                         |
|              | Zinder           | 2                     | 72                    | 2                         |
|              | <b>Sub total</b> | <b>10</b>             | <b>247</b>            | <b>10</b>                 |
| Burkina Faso | Kaya             | 3                     | 102                   | 5                         |
|              | Fada             | 4                     | 100                   | 0                         |
|              | Dori             | 8                     | 121                   | 21                        |
|              | <b>Sub total</b> | <b>15</b>             | <b>323</b>            | <b>26</b>                 |
| <b>Total</b> |                  | <b>25</b>             | <b>570</b>            | <b>36</b>                 |

### ***Database improvement***

A consultant from SkyTerre in Niger was recruited to develop a local database based on the project data collection forms and cheat sheet. The database has been tested and appears successful, with all but 12 indicators integrated. Full implementation of the system requires a server to receive data from field offices; however, the server has been held up in customs. Until the system is functional, the project will continue to analyze data as it has in the past.

### ***Workshops and meetings***

During the second quarter, an evaluation of the monitoring and evaluation system was initiated to make necessary adjustments. Workshops were organized in February, 2015 in Ouagadougou and in Niamey.

Also in the second quarter, a workshop to review targets, indicator definitions, and scale-up strategy was held in Niamey. The workshop was attended by all of the Component Heads, a representative from Sheladia, and two representatives from USAID, Niamey.

Three training workshops on CommCare applications developed by Dimagi were held in Niger (Maradi and Tillabéri South) and Burkina Faso (Fada) for field agents and regional M&E specialists in February. They were conducted by the ICT and IT specialists from the project.

In preparation for an external DQA, all of the regional and national M&E specialists and the DCOP participated in a training organized by SAREL in Niamey (31 Aug. - 4 Sept., 2015).

### ***Collection and analysis of data***

During the year and following February workshops held in Niamey and Ouagadougou, data collections forms were simplified and corrected, and the “cheat sheet” was deployed to help field agents identify which forms to fill out based on weekly planned activities.

In preparation for the baseline study particular to indicators under REGIS-ER responsibility, a methodology was developed by the component in collaboration with Sheladia and shared with SAREL. Dimagi developed a CommCare application to collect data that will facilitate the implementation of the methodology.

In view of the complexity of M&E in REGIS-ER, some staff were added as needed. The following table is a summary of personnel recruited for M&E during FY15.

**Personnel recruited for M&E in FY 15**

|    | <b>Title</b>            | <b>Country</b> | <b>Location</b> | <b>Hire date</b> | <b>Observations</b>  |
|----|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 01 | Regional M&E specialist | Niger          | T-South         | Nov. 2014        | Replace existing     |
| 02 | M&E national specialist | BF             | Ouagadougou     | March 2015       | New Post             |
| 03 | Database Administrator  | Niger          | Niamey          | May 2015         | New Post             |
| 04 | Regional M&E specialist | BF             | Fada            | -----            | Replacement ongoing  |
| 05 | Assistant S&E           | BF             | Dori            | -----            | Ongoing              |
| 06 | Data entry team         | Niger          | Niamey          | June 2015        | 3 people (temporary) |
| 07 | Trainee                 | Niger          | Niamey          | Sept. 2015       | Assistance as needed |

## **Training**

Because of the number of activities that started up during the second year, training intensified in terms of the number and themes at all levels.

In the first year, training focused on the identification of training needs responding to village assessments and the development of the *cascade* approach (training of trainers); the second year concentrated on capacity building of multidisciplinary field agents responsible for facilitating various activities. A number of training tools and technical manuals and posters were produced on credit, poultry, gardening, health and nutrition, CF-FMNR, IGESPLAM, climate change adaptation, soil erosion control, and others.

### ***Coordination of training***

When possible, training was coordinated between components involved in the same activity. For example, FMNR is a crosscutting activity that touches Governance and Livelihoods, as are soil conservation and restoration of degraded lands. Household gardens are coordinated between Livelihoods and Health Components.

In addition to coordinating training, the component facilitated workshops and large meetings like the SECCA, poultry rearing, and annual workplan work sessions.

One of the challenges this year was to coordinate training when other partners were involved. Examples include the Safe Space Program with Sawki in Maradi, climate change activities in Maradi and Burkina Faso with WFP, and climate change adaptation in Burkina Faso with MARP.

The training component also worked with components to simplify training and lower the number of days per month that field agents were involved in trainings. A general rule is that field agents should not be involved in more than five days of training per month. Where possible, approaches were also simplified to reduce the number of training sessions. For example, the number of steps involved to develop a local convention was considerably reduced this year.

The project is also aware of the importance of including government services in trainings to reinforce capacity of government services and promote ownership by the government so the activities continue on after the project. In the health sector, government health agents are trained as trainers for the MtM and EdM activities. This is also true for livestock where government agents are included in training of women to vaccinate chickens, construction of chicken house and care of goats, for example.

## Communication

One of the highlights of the year was the production of a short video on a women's garden in Balléyara that was shown on national television.

In view of difficulties encountered in the beginning of the project with regard to communications, and the immediate need to develop a robust communications component to better publicize results, the project is updating its strategy and has recruited an experienced female communications specialist based in Burkina Faso to move the component forward. The specialist's orientation in Niamey was scheduled for the first week of FY16.

The following table is a summary of the main activities of the Communication component for FY15.

| Activities                                                                    | Partners and location                            | Country |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Meeting with Community Radio stations                                         | Balléyara, Maradi, Zinder                        | Niger   |
| Recruit consultant to train 'animateurs' for community radio stations         | Tillabéri South, Maradi, Zinder, Tillabéri North | Niger   |
| Participate in the startup of Digital Green video program                     | Niamey, Save The Children and SPRING             | Niger   |
| Meet with ONG Songes on Husband Schools                                       | ONG Songes                                       | Niger   |
| Production of video on women's garden in Balléyara                            | Balléyara                                        |         |
| Coordination with the grants component on support to community radio stations | Niamey                                           | Niger   |

## Gender

REGIS ER continues to give priority to vulnerable women in many activities: BDL, Oasis gardens, Household gardens, habbanayé, CES/DRS, and many Health and Nutrition roles (MtM/Mother Leaders, Safe Space/mentors). In addition, the Governance component continues to work on facilitating the acquisition of recorded title deeds for gardens for vulnerable women. (The title deed is a precondition for the project to invest in irrigation systems for Oasis Gardens).

Women are also encouraged to apply with each advertised staff position.

Men are targeted for certain activities such as Husband Schools (EdM) and the important role that they play in health and nutrition of their family. Some Digital Green videos are aimed at men in this regard.

With regard to M&E, all results are disaggregated by gender to make sure that women are given due consideration in the results.

An international consultant developed a gender strategy to reinforce project personnel understanding and action with regard to gender. The topic was taken into consideration during the formulation of the work plan for FY16. In light of the recommendations of the gender consultant, the project plans to recruit a full time gender specialist.

| Performance indicators and gender disaggregation                                                                                                                                                                                               | Cumul FY2 | Cumul FY1 | Total. FY 1+2 | % in terms of women                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1.1.1. Increase in income from off-farm economic opportunities (\$US)                                                                                                                                                                          | 23953     | 16498     | <b>40,451</b> | 45% of the increase<br>(3 quarters) |
| <b>of which for women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 13540     | 4706      | <b>18,246</b> |                                     |
| 1.1.2. Number of jobs attributed to implementation                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2233      | 350       | 2,583         | 83% of the jobs                     |
| <b>of which for women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1832      | 310       | 2,142         |                                     |
| 1.1.3. Number of people trained in skills relevant for local and migrant off-season labor                                                                                                                                                      | 20123     | 39        | 20,162        | 77% of the participants             |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 15471     | 38        | 15,509        |                                     |
| 1.2.1. Number of farmers or others who have applied improved technologies or management practices                                                                                                                                              | 32301     | 9034      | 41,335        | 74% of the producers                |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 21972     | 8507      | 30,479        |                                     |
| 1.2.3. Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training                                                                                                             | 34473     | 6199      | 40,672        | 68% of the participants             |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 22102     | 5483      | 27,585        |                                     |
| 1.2.4. Number of food security private enterprises, producer organizations, water user associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations receiving USG assistance                               | 950       | 215       | 1,165         | 60% of the groups                   |
| <b>operated by women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 489       | 215       | 704           |                                     |
| 1.2.5. Number of food security private enterprises, producer organizations, water user assoc'ns, women's groups, trade and business assoc'ns, and community-based organizations who have applied improved technologies or management practices | 545       | 176       | 721           | 46% of the groups                   |
| <b>operated by women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 334       |           | 334           |                                     |
| 1.2.7. Number of vulnerable households benefitting directly from USG interventions                                                                                                                                                             | 56669     | 13208     | 69,877        | 3% of the households                |
| <b>headed by women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1912      |           | 1,912         |                                     |
| 1.3.1. Value of agricultural and rural loans                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 416351    | 97737     | 514,088       | 55% of the credit                   |
| <b>(\$US) of which went to women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 224779    | 56661     | 281,440       |                                     |
| 2.1.2. Number of residents participating in NRM fora                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2413      | 84        | 2,497         | 35% of the participants             |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 872       | 7         | 879           |                                     |
| 2.2.1. Number of people trained in disaster preparedness                                                                                                                                                                                       | 262       |           | 262           | 13% of the participants             |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 33        |           | 33            |                                     |
| 3.2.4. Number of people trained in infant health and nutrition                                                                                                                                                                                 | 33995     | 109       | 34,104        | 85% of the participants             |
| <b>women</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 29040     | 74        | 29,114        |                                     |
| 4.D. Number of hectares of farmland deeded to women                                                                                                                                                                                            | 87        | 45        | 132           | 100% of the beneficiaries           |

## Problems and proposed solutions

### Livelihoods

- Differences in per diem and other disbursements/costs for various activities between RISE partners create confusion and misunderstandings within the target communities. Proposed solution: meet with partners to try to agree on rates and standardize the per diems and other costs across the board.
- The complexity of the system of data collection which leads to an under-reporting of results. Proposed solution: simplify the system and render it more efficient so all results are captured; develop a method of collecting data based on sampling to track results especially for activities where large numbers of people are involved.

***Governance and GRN***

- Dissolution of the Municipal Councils in Burkina Faso (during the transition phase to elections) has slowed the process of formulating Local Conventions
- Tardiness in the procurement of certain equipment and in the payment of communities for CES/DRS work; Insufficient monitoring of communities involved in the construction of CES/DRS works due to insufficient staff. Proposed solution: hire additional supervisors in the field
- Overload on field agents has caused a delay in the promotion of FMNR in certain areas.
- Delays caused by lengthy admin and finance procedures at REGIS-ER

***Health Nutrition/WASH***

- Lack of appropriate M&E tools to capture results of MtM and EdM. Solution: The component will work with M&E division on collection tools
- Insufficient monitoring and presence of field agents with regard to MtM and EdM activities due to a lack of sufficient staff or misunderstandings about the multi-disciplinary nature of field agents
- Insufficient logistics and transport for field activities. Solution: improve planning of vehicle use and/or increase the number of project vehicles.

***Training/Communication***

- Insufficient communication between regional specialists, national specialists, and Component Leaders. (In certain instances, terms of reference are sent to Niamey without the knowledge of the Regional Coordinators.
- Tardiness in the development/revision of guides and technical training manuals by the components
- Tardiness in the submission of terms of reference that must be approved before activities begin in the field
- Training organized without taking into account the planning priorities of the regions

***Grants and Cost Share***

Regular monitoring of sub agreements helped CLUSA to detect and provide support to local partners in addressing issues. REGIS-ER Finance staff have provided training and capacity building in financial record keeping with local subawardees as warranted. Bi-annual subaward evaluations are undertaken to determine risk factors and corrective actions have been recommended. Although it rarely occurs, when a partner cannot improve its performance despite NCBA CLUSA's mentoring, there may be cause for termination.

Despite the enormous potential to capture cost share in the communities, the capture of actual cost share is low. For example, the cost share associated with the project's participation in the national livestock vaccination campaigns in Zinder and Maradi. One proposed solution is to review forms currently in the field to make them easier to fill out and to automate some of the calculations.

***Monitoring and Evaluation***

One of the major constraints in M&E is the lack of understanding by the field agents of the new data collection sheets and how to fill them in.

The proposed solution is to allow the M&E team to focus on contractual indicators and organize information sharing meetings at all levels. Communication between M&E and technical personnel at the national and field levels can be improved, and more field visits should be made by the central office to improve understanding of the collection forms.

***Administration and Finance***

A difference of interpretation of the PAT (Protocole d'Accord Type, or standard country agreement) between NCBA CLUSA and the Government of Niger has caused delays and increased costs associated with procurement of equipment and material.

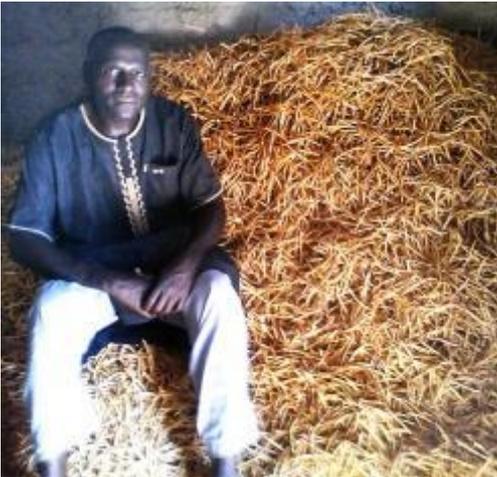
The condition of the vehicles and generators that were donated to REGIS-ER has deteriorated and are in continual need of repair. Three vehicles in Niger and one in Burkina were transferred from the ARZIKI Project. The cost of continually repairing these four vehicles is considerable and it is time to replace them. A request to replace the vehicles and some generators will be submitted to USAID in the near future.

In addition, the REGIS-ER-procured motorcycles have proven to be ill-adapted to the sandy road conditions in Niger. NCBA CLUSA will explore potential solutions to this problem in close coordination with USAID.

## SUCCESS STORY

### CF: EXCEPTIONAL PRODUCTION WITH A REVOLUTIONARY TECHNOLOGY

**In spite of planting late, conservation farming gave this farmer the best yields he has ever had.**



**Laouali Mamane seated next to his excellent harvest of cowpeas**

Photo: USAID REGIS-ER

*"I was so surprised to be able to harvest 84 days following my late planting - 700 kg of cowpeas and 750 kg of millet on 2 half-hectare parcels - while on 3 hectares of my fields farmed traditionally, I only harvested a total of 750 kg. 'What Magic!' exclaimed my friend from Malam Issaka village. 'I never saw such a big quantity of food produced on such a small area!'"*

USAID|REGIS-ER is promoting conservation farming with farmers organized into groups led by a trained lead producer who serves as a model farmer for group members. One lead producer, Mr. Laouali Mamane, planted HKP millet and ISV128 cowpeas in Gagoumoungaye Commune, Zinder, on July 7, 2015, after a late start to the rainy season. He told the following story following his harvest 84 days later.

"REGIS-ER staff trained me in conservation farming, so I tested it on a portion of my 12-hectare farm located west of Gagoumoungaye village.

"At the beginning, I was not totally sure that I would benefit from conservation farming, reason for which I only tried it on one hectare: half a hectare in cowpeas and half a hectare in millet. I respected the technical package that was offered, mainly because I wanted to honor my commitments as a CF leader, but I was not convinced.

"Against all expectations and in spite of late planting, I noticed the millet and cowpeas on my CF plots were looking better than on all my adjacent fields. My fields became the subject of many discussions in the village. I constantly received visitors to my fields. Some days, I received more than 60 visitors, and what struck me was the number of women from four neighboring villages that are not even working with REGIS-ER.

"I applied the technologies that REGIS-ER taught me: ripping, composting, zaï, and the application of fertilizer in microdoses in planting pockets. In the beginning, there were only 3 or 4 sprouts of millet in each pocket; then I noticed rapid growth. After two weeks, the number of sprouts for each pocket was clearly higher than in my other, 'traditional' fields."

On leaving the field very satisfied with what he or she saw, each farmer who visited Laouali's conservation farming plots made a firm commitment to try it for him or herself in 2016.

"I harvested on September 29, 84 days after planting -- 700 kg of cowpeas on a half hectare and 750 kg of millet on a half hectare; but on 3 hectares, using traditional farming, I only got a total of 750 kg!

"Next year I am committed to practicing CF technology with my own money on all my fields, and to work hard to convince other producers from my village and neighboring villages to do the same."

## Appendix: Reporting on the EMMP

### Livelihoods Component

| REQUIREMENT IN THE EMMP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Action taken                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>PESTICIDES/FERTILIZERS</b></p> <p>Documents, videos, or radio messages produced on integrated pest management, soil fertility, handling of agricultural produce, conservation agriculture, other topics related to those mentioned on this form</p>                                                                                  | <p><b>Fertilizers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A training module on compost production was added to training programs for CF, gardening and moringa production</li> <li>• 402 training sessions of 14,853 farmers on the production of compost for BDL, CF and gardening activities</li> <li>• A draft strategy for the production of compost for next year's growing season was developed</li> <li>• Test of vegetative cover of mucuna sp. in Burkina Faso</li> <li>• Training module of RNA developed for CF program</li> </ul> <p><b>Pesticides:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on IGESPLAM for Regional Ag specialists was carried out. One component of the training is the rotation of crops as a mitigation measure for pests and disease</li> <li>• During FY2015, 221 producers from 13 gardens were trained in IGESPLAM and developed a plan to rotate the crops for each garden.</li> <li>• Bioprotect Enterprises was contacted to discuss the possibility of introducing biological pesticides</li> <li>• A manual written for market gardening in 2014 includes selective use of pesticides (and only those approved by USEPA and CILSS, as referenced in footnotes); its focus is on how to prevent the need to use pesticides.</li> <li>• PERSUAP: REGIS plans to update manuals and technical sheets in the coming fiscal year so that all aspects of pesticides are covered, including protective clothing and the Safe Use Action Plan (planned for first quarter of FY16)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>DEMONSTRATION SITES</b> - Random site visits should be made to verify whether beneficiaries are using restricted pesticides.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action not yet taken</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>CONSERVATION FARMING</b></p> <p>Exchange visits to CF sites are sponsored; the number of hectares farmed with CF is reported</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3843 ha planted in CF</li> <li>• 3 exchange visits for 470 producers were organized following the crop season of 2014 to prepare for the 2015 crop season</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p><b>IMPROVED SEED</b></p> <p>The component declares in simple form that procedures required by USAID to procure seed have been followed (new varieties are researched on plots of less than 4 hectares; plant materials are quarantined before distribution; technical sheet with potential impacts on local varieties is developed)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved seeds are the same that were already introduced in both countries by certified private established seed companies (except for moringa PKM1, dolique, Sadoré hibiscus and Konni okra that were exported to Burkina from Niger.</li> <li>• A request for authorization to purchase seed was approved by USAID</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>IRRIGATION</b></p> <p>Screening form for new sites filled in to identify potential impacts of the system on the environment, with mitigation activities described</p>                                                                                                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wire fences are used on managed irrigation site with live fencing planted on the inside. Fences using cut branches are not used.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Livestock - habbanayé</b> - Proof that the breed introduced can adapt to the intervention zone; justification for the selection of this breed; proof of its performance in the local setting</p>                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In BF, the project purchased local races of goats</li> <li>• In Niger the red goat of Maradi was introduced because of their ability to multiply rapidly</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

## Appendix: EMMP

| REQUIREMENT IN THE EMMP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Action taken                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>LIVESTOCK - animal feed</b></p> <p>List of the number of animals delivered and the quantity of food required to feed them calculated and accounted for; feeding plan for when the delivered feed runs out; hectares under contract for improving pasture quality</p>                               | <p>In BF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5 goats per person were given to 150 vulnerable women using the habbanayé approach</li> <li>○ 900 kg of animal feed is needed for each set of five goats (enough feed to last for six months during the dry season)</li> </ul> <p><b>The plan to satisfy these needs are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 500 kg of concentrated feed was given to each herder to cover 7 months of needs.</li> <li>● A program to produce livestock feed on 0.25 ha per herder was introduced. In theory, 750 kg of feed can be produced, as hyacinth bean and cowpea produce about 3 metric tons/ha.</li> <li>● 10 trainings were given to 150 women on habbanayé. 441 kg of cowpea, hyacinth bean, and sorghum were provided to plant on 29 ha.</li> <li>● Hay( FCFN) was promoted and normally each woman can gather and store 500 kg of natural hay</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>LIVESTOCK - water</b></p> <p>Evidence that animal and human water sources have been separated; documentation of new conflicts developing over newly managed water sources; for multi-use systems, analysis of water quality and observation of poor practices (visual checklist in EMMP annex)</p> | <p>Multi-use water systems are in the planning stage for selected sites in the gardening program.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>NEW VALUE CHAINS</b> - Each new product is to be documented in terms of current and future production /regeneration potential, as well as conflicts that may arise from increasing demand for it. In particular, the adequacy of natural regeneration is to be addressed.</p>                      | <p>No new value chains introduced.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>BUILDING CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>Any new structure with a surface area of 1000 m2 or more, or that costs at least \$200,000, is no longer considered “small” construction. Regional reporting and the grants manager will mention the size of any new building /warehouse constructed</p>          | <p>All structures planned by the component will have a square area of less than 1 000 m2 and a value of less than \$200,000.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

**HEALTH Component**

| REQUIREMENT IN THE EMMP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | ACTION TAKEN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| <p><b>WELLS AND BOREHOLES - Water quality plan</b></p> <p>Water quality assurance plan in place for each site; copy sent to environment specialist in Niamey</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Draft document nearly ready to submit</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>WELLS AND BOREHOLES - documentation and monitoring</b></p> <p>List of new wells by site and type, GPS coordinates archived by the component and a copy sent to environmental specialist in Niamey for verifications and spot checks. One visit per quarter to a randomly selected site to verify good maintenance and utilization (visual inspection sheet in EMMP)</p> | <p>Lab analyses submitted before rainy season with only a few with small amounts of E. coli that has been treated with supervision by EAA/Niger.</p> <p>Some wells are under observation.</p> <p>Agreements have been signed with state labs in Niger and private labs in Burkina.</p> |
| <p><b>WELLS, IRRIGATION SYSTEMS, BOREHOLES, OTHER WATER SOURCES</b> - Evidence of committees set up to maintain and ensure management of new sites</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>47 water point management committees with 138 members trained in Niger this year.</p> <p>93 Water User’s Associations set up in Burkina.</p>                                                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>LATRINES</b></p> <p>Form filled in to assure good siting (not in a water course; at least 30 m away from any water point) - annex in EMMP</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>Supervision of latrine construction done by regional staff WASH specialists and field agents; verbal confirmation that latrines are sited at the appropriate distance from water sources</p>                                                                                        |