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Burkina Faso : Stability and development for people in the border areas

On behalf of the German Federal Government and the EU, GIZ supports Burkina Faso's efforts to improve living conditions, border management and to enhance security and stability.

The challenge

For several years, Burkina Faso has been affected by increasing instability in the neighbouring countries of Mali and Niger. Some sections of the borders of this landlocked country in West Africa are neither marked nor sufficiently controlled and do not offer the people adequate protection. Conditions are conducive for the spread of crime, particularly in the regions bordering Mali and Niger. At the same time, living conditions in these areas are often very poor because of a lack of good infrastructure and the absence of basic public goods such as water supply and education. People frequently have to travel for hours to obtain medical care. Development opportunities are therefore limited. The situation is exploited by violent groups, people smugglers and arms dealers seeking to gain control over the areas.

Our Approach

Burkina Faso has responded to the challenge and, with support from GIZ, has developed a national border management strategy which will be implemented under the new project. Through integrated border management, the project aims to contribute to stability in the country, to prevent further radicalisation in the areas bordering Mali and Niger and create better long-term prospects for the population. To this end, a range of structures will be created or expanded at local, national and regional

Project name	Integrated Management of Border Regions in Burkina Faso (ProGEF)
Commissioned by	Federal Foreign Office (AA) European Union (EU)
Implemented by	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project region	Burkina Faso, areas bordering Mali and Niger
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation
Duration	1 December 2016 – 31 December 2021
Budget	EUR 38,54 mill. (30 mill. EUTF; 8,4 mill. AA)

level, which will improve not only the security situation but also the living conditions.

Regional and local institutions, as well as security sector actors such as customs officials and police personnel, are being trained in carrying out border controls in a conflict-sensitive manner while respecting human rights, in preventing corruption and in administering the regions more efficiently. At the same time, wells, health care centres and schools are being built in order to increase access to water, medical care and education.

Transnational cooperation with Mali and Niger plays a crucial role in ensuring long-term stability in the region.



Mise en œuvre par

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Synergy of our interventions in pilot municipalities, through :



How we go about ...

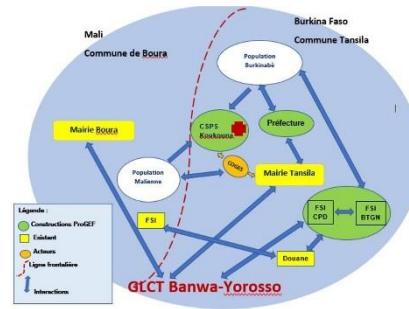
The project focuses on four fundamental aspects of an efficient and integrated border management system:

- Strengthening the institutional and legal framework;
- Creating networks between the actors responsible for border control and border security;
- Developing basic social services and improving crisis management in areas close to the border;
- Improving steering, coordination and monitoring of the national border management programme.

Our measures and activities :

- Training for and networking between, more of 2300 security actors at local, national, and regional level.
- Creation, putting in operation and equipment of 03 interdepartmental consultation frameworks of the internal security forces and 05 local cross-border cooperation groups in the program's intervention areas.
- Provision of equipment (motorcycles, cars, GPS, etc.) for the internal security forces of the value of more than one billion CFA francs.
- A framework agreement for cross-border cooperation signed between Burkina and Niger.
- Construction and rehabilitation of 50 wells, 4 schools, 6 health centers and 17 infrastructures to strengthen the protection of the population in border areas by 2021.
- Setting up a monitoring and evaluation system and supporting the transformation of the Integrated Border Management Program into three-year sliding plans.
- Strengthening trust and cohesion between the population and the representatives of the State, including the Internal Security Forces.
- Support to the project of Identification, Reconciliation, Analysis of Police (IRAPOL): computerized system of research of criminals, stolen vehicles... (training, equipment, interconnection).

Protection of people is given top priority. All measures take account of the role and needs of most vulnerable groups such as women, children, people with disabilities, refugees and migrants.



- The realization of commun diagnoses through focus groups and forums between the internal security forces, traders, and transporters on road harassment;
- The celebration of the international day of borders in regions;
- Support for the operation of the Locality Safety Committees;
- Awareness of community leaders about the role and missions of the internal security forces, promoting peace and living together;
- Locality internal security forces open house day etc.

... achieving real results

The project aims to achieve the following results by 2021:

- **Legal framework strengthened:** at least 50 % of the recommendations made by the national border commission and by local transnational commissions in order to improve the legal framework of cross-border cooperation, at the institutional and legal level are implemented.
- **Security and stability:** public satisfaction with border control and security has increased by 20%.
- **Improved basic services:** the population's access to basic public services (water, health care, education) has improved by 5%.
- **Effectiveness and local steering:** the Government of Burkina Faso has implemented its national border management strategy for the most part.

The EU Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa

The project is funded by the EUTF and by the German Federal Foreign Office. Through the The European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa, the EU and its member states help promote economic development in addition to improving migration management, living conditions, stability and good governance in Africa.

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