EMERGENCY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PDU)
“Three Borders” Project in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger

DONOR(S)
French Development Agency (AFD); Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS)

COUNTRIES
Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger

CODE
CZZ2322

AMOUNT
55.500.000 € (AFD: 55 M€; CDCS: 0,5 M€)

DATES
16.05.2019 - 04.12.2024

PHASE
Implementation

PDU PILLAR(S)
II) Resilience to food insecurity
III) Conflict prevention

PARTNERS
• NGO Consortium (IRAM, GRE-T, AVSF, CIEDEL)
• Burkina Faso: Ministry for Territorial Administration, Decentralisation and Social Cohesion (MATDC)
• Mali: National Investment Agency for Local Authorities (ANICT)
• Niger: The High Authority for Peacebuilding (HACP)

DESCRIPTION
The “Three Borders” project seeks to contribute to the stabilisation, development and peace consolidation efforts of the governments of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger in the countries’ shared border territory.

The overall objectives of the Three Borders project are to:

(i) Respond to the most urgent needs expressed by the communities,
(ii) Support the recovery of economic activity,
(iii) Promote the restoration of the states’ legitimacy and strengthen the rule of law in the border area.

The specific objective of the project is to support socio-economic development and strengthen social cohesion in the border area. This objective is broken down into two main workstreams:

1) "Development": This workstream focuses on access to basic social services, the development of agro-pastoral activities and infrastructure with a local economic impact, and on strengthening local project management capacities.

2) "Governance": This workstream focuses on the dialogue between public authorities and communities, actions to promote peace and strengthen the trust between communities.

The total project budget for the three countries is EUR 55.500.000 for a period of four years. The first tranche of EUR 34.500.000 provided by the AFD in 2019 is part of the PDU, including the contribution of EUR 0.5 million in 2019 from the Crisis and Support Centre of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (CDCS).
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The project’s start-up phase was initiated in November 2018 for a duration of 9 months. It allowed for the implementation of the following priority actions:

Mali

- Establishment of 10 livestock feed stores to the benefit of livestock organisations; establishment of a revolving credit for 7 fishermen in Badi Koyra; creation of 6 seed banks for rainfed crops; improvement of storage conditions through the provision of pallets, racks and bags; provision of 25 small ruminants for 6 women’s organisations each in the form of a revolving credit;
- Construction of a vaccination park;
- Construction of sheds for the livestock market in the Gao district;
- Rehabilitation of 4 wells, livestock markets and slaughter areas in the Gourma-Rharous commune;
- Rehabilitation of boreholes, installation of a solar kit, and equipment of a fonio processing unit in Koro;
- Rehabilitation of boreholes, installation of solar kit and construction of a logging area in Bankass;
- Construction of a vaccination park and equipment of the milk processing unit in the commune of Douentza.

Burkina Faso

- Strengthening the Milk Innovation Platforms (PIL) previously set up by the farmers’ organisation APESS in the North (Ouahigouya) and Sahel (Djibo) regions and the establishment of a new platform in Dori.
- Setting up a stock of 150 tonnes of cattle feed, strengthening the existing shops in the PILs in Djibo and Ouahigouya and creating a similar system for the PIL in Dori.
- Improving access conditions to credit through the establishment of 17 Village Savings and Credit Associations (AVEC) comprising 480 women and 30 men;
- Strengthening women’s capacities through the establishment of national “women’s spaces” in the three countries.

Niger

- Implementing a credit line with a Micro-Finance Institution which allowed the acquisition of 3 animals by 450 women each;
- Support for 7 market gardening sites in 6 communes (improvement of production conditions through drilling, cleaning wells, fencing and pumping systems);
- Construction of 3 livestock feed banks and an input bank, and the provision of stocks of livestock feed to create or increase the banks' capacities, as well as the training of the bank management committees;
- The rehabilitation of 33 ha of agricultural land, replacing the planned activity of constructing fire breaks (cancelled due to the delay in the transfer of funds);
- A study tour with the sector stakeholders and the communes which allowed for an exchange between local authorities (elected officials and General Secretaries) and citizen producers, breaking down certain prejudices.

What is the Emergency Development Programme?

In 2018, the Heads of State of the G5 Sahel asked the Permanent Secretariat of the G5 Sahel (SPG5 Sahel) to launch quick-impact emergency projects. Consequently, the Emergency Development Programme (PDU) came into life in order to stabilise fragile border areas identified by the G5.

In response to the G5 Sahel’s request to finance the PDU, the Sahel Alliance’s members collectively mobilised 226 million Euro dedicated to 21 projects and programmes in total. These projects meet the following 3 criteria:

I. The project is located in sensitive cross-border areas as identified by the G5
II. The project responds to specific thematic or sectoral issues
III. Actual achievements are visible by the end of 2018 / beginning of 2019