**CGIAR Research Program on   
Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)**

**Organisational Baseline Study:  
Overview Report for Yatenga - Tougou, Burkina Faso (BF0107)**

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# INTRODUCTION

This is a report on the Organisational Baseline Survey (OBS) carried out in February and March of 2012. The interviews were conducted at 27 organisations that were working or collaborating with farmers and/or the community in Tougou which is in Yatenga Province, Burkina Faso. The research site's climate ranges from Sudano Sahelian to Sahelian, with average annual rainfall of between 400 and 700 mm which falls during the months of June to September. The area experiences high rainfall variability and is very drought prone. Almost 70 percent of the land is deemed unsuited for agricultural purposes due to low fertility levels and soil erosion is widespread. Around 90 percent of farmers are engaged in subsistence farming (primarily millet, maize and sorghum) and extensive livestock production (primarily small ruminants).

CCAFS' organisational-level baseline studies supplement the quantitative household baseline surveys and the qualitative village baseline studies at the same locations.

The objectives of the organisational baseline study are to:

* Provide indicators to allow us to monitor changes in behaviours and practices of locally relevant organisations over time
* Understand the provision of information/services at the local level that informs farmers’ decision making about their livelihood strategies in response to climate change

# ORGANISATIONS INTERVIEWED

Prior to this organisational study, CCAFS conducted a participatory village study within the Tougou site. Participants of the village study were asked to create an institutional landscape of their community by listing the most important organisations that were active in the area and then providing information on how they were involved in the community. Specifically, the participants were asked which organisations were involved in food security activities, food crisis situations, and natural resource management (NRM) work. CCAFS then took this list of organisations and provided it to the interviewers conducting the Organisational Baseline Survey. The interviewers were given leeway to eliminate an organisation they believed was not relevant and to add any organisations that may have been left out of the village study discussions.

The interviewers did not specify how the interviewed organisations were selected or how they relate to the list generated by the village survey.

Tabulated below is the list of organisations interviewed with a brief description of their activities.

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| Organisation | Main areas of activity |
| ACC (Association cri du cœur) | has health based activities aimed at reducing child mortality, the prevalence of HIV and tuberculosis. It also works to fight against poverty and improve food security (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| AFDR (Association –formation-développement-ruralité) | is fighting against poverty, hunger, unemployment and for women's emancipation (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| AMMIE (Appui Moral, Matériel et Intellectuel à l’Enfant | is focused on improving child wellbeing, in part by educating families, administrative authorities, political, traditional and religious populations about the need to support children in order to guarantee a secure future (including: capacity building, funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| A.P.P.A (appui conseil pour la professionnalisation des producteurs agricoles) | is working to professionalize farmers and train them in self-employment, as well as fighting against illiteracy (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| ASKOOM (Association Koom pour l’Auto - promotion des femmes du Burkina Faso) | is focused on improving the position of women and girls, as well as their rights. It promotes literacy and training, and promotes income generating activities as a way to improve living conditions among girls and women (including: capacity building, funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| ASPAGO (Association Solidarité des producteurs agro-pastorales de Ouahigouya) | is focused on enhancing, specialising and diversifying the skills of rural women particularly in terms of production and marketing. It also works to increase funding to women to reduce their rate of poverty (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| ASPMY (Association des Producteurs Maraichers du Yatenga) | is focused on increasing yields, improving living standards and professionalizing the production of horticultural products (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| Association Viim Yoodo (AVY) | is working to improve living conditions, fight food insecurity and protect the environment (including: capacity building, funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| AZ (Association Zaï) | works to enhance productivity and restore arable lands, while training and educating farmers on environmental conservation (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| BIBIR | This is an African NGO which emphasises giving children a good environment and good health so that they may access education and gain the ability to be agents of positive change in their societies. Some projects directly benefit children while others do so indirectly by supporting farmers and empowering women. The organisation provides capacity building, funding, coordination, monitoring and evaluation services to local development projects. |
| DPAH-Loroum | is a government organisation that works to strengthen the capacity of farmers' organisations and improve agricultural production while preserving natural resources. |
| DPAH-Ouahigouya | is a government organisation that works to strengthen the capacity of farmers' organisations and improve agricultural production. |
| DPEDD-Ouahigouya (Direction Provinciale de l’Environnement et du Développement Durable) | is a government organisation that monitors farmers' organisations and provides them with capacity building relating primarily to the environment, conservation, non-timber forest products and sustainable farming practices. |
| DPRA-Ouahigouya (Direction Provinciale des ressources animales du Yatenga) | is a government organisation that monitors farmers' organisations and provides them is a government organisation that with capacity building in the relation to livestock with a focus on improving production. |
| DREP (Direction Régionale de l’Economie et de la Planification) | is a government organisation that works in research and planning, assisting producers to be responsible in planning for their futures. |
| FISCAAZO (Fondation Internationale de Solidarité Cheick Abdoul Ouédraogo pour la coopération Nord-sud au Développement) | is fighting poverty and promoting the merits of organizing into groups, associations or unions in order to have more impact (including: funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation) among farmers. |
| FNGN-Lorum (Fédération National des Groupements Naam) | fights against hunger, poverty and illiteracy. It is also fighting for the professionalization of farming (including: capacity building, funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| FNGN-Ouahigouya (Fédération National des Groupements Naam) | works to improve productivity in the context of sustainable agriculture. It offers capacity building and training to farmers and strengthens farmers' access to microcredit (including: funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| GARY (Groupement des Artisans Ruraux du Yatenga) | is a government organisation that is focused on reducing hunger and improving access to drinking water (including: capacity building, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| OCADES CARITAS/Lorum (OCADES-L) | looks to improve food self-sufficiency in the area, fight against the waste of crops by farmers and promote cash crops and gardening (including: capacity building, funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| OCADES CARITAS/Ouahigouya (OCADES-O) | is working to promote Christian charity and enhance the integral development of everyone, social justice, peace and human rights (including: capacity building, funding local development projects, coordination, monitoring and evaluation). |
| PAFASP (Programme d’Appui aux Filières Agro-Sylvo-Pastorale) | is a government organisation that works to coordinate and monitor micro projects, with the goal of strengthening the capacity of professional and inter-professional organisations to develop implementation strategies for the development of market-oriented sectors. |
| PNGT 2 (Programme National de Gestion des Terroirs « II ») | is a government organisation that coordinates, monitors and evaluates local development projects. It works to provide the technical support necessary for all those involved in implementing local development activities in rural communities to identify, plan, finance and implement micro-projects |
| PROFIL (Projet d’Appui aux Filières Agricoles) | is a government organisation that provides capacity building, financing, coordination, monitoring and evaluation support to local development projects relating to agriculture. Its primary objective is to strengthen networking among target groups and other value chain members. |
| PSA/RTD (Projet de Sécurité alimentaire par la récupération des terres dégradées dans le Nord du Burkina Faso) | is a government organisation that is geared toward improving food security by recovering and regenerating degraded land and promoting agro-silvo-pastoralism. It is involved in these through coordination, monitoring and evaluation. |
| PZA (Projet Zébu Azawak) | provides capacity building, financing, coordination, monitoring and evaluation support to local development projects relating to livestock. |
| RC (Red Cross) | provides capacity building, funding, coordination, monitoring and evaluation services to local development projects, with a focus on health and food security. |

## Gaps:

This table contains a list of gaps which the interviewers identified in the organisations.

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| Gap | Organisation(s) |
| Inadequate financial and material resources | GARY, AZ, FISCAAZO, FNGN-L, AMMIE and OCADES-L |
| Inadequate human, financial and material resources | AFDR and DPEDD-O |
| RAS | BIBIR, ACC, AVY and DPRA |
| Lack of specific slot on climate change | PNGT 2 and AZP |
| Inadequate financial and material resources. Socio-cultural factors. | OCADES-O |
| Inadequate financial and material resources. Insufficient adopted seeds. | ASKOOM |
| Inadequate financial and material resources. Weakness in technical aspects | FNGN-O |
| Inadequate financial and material resources. Inadequate training, sensitization/information. | ASPAGO |
| Inadequate financial and material resources. Insufficient climate-related activities. | DPAH-O |
| Lack of status report in order to evaluate progress. | PSA/RTD |
| Unavailability of timely financial resources. | PROFIL |
| Weak synergy between intervention's players. | DREP |
| Late availability or absence of inputs. Inadequate financial resources for the training of farmers. | DPAH-L |
| Lack of reforestation activities, lack of support to farmers for the improvement of their yields and lack of financial support for improved stoves. | RC |
| Illiteracy | ASPMY |

# SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Most of the organisations involved in agricultural capacity building display some knowledge of climate change, but it is not listed in the main objectives of any organisation. Among the organisations with climate change related activities most seem to focus on adaptation, particularly in relation to increasing food security. There is relatively little focus on climate change mitigation. The following categories contain activities that are indirectly related to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

## Natural Resource Management (NRM):

There is a strong focus on NRM in this location. There is a widespread interest in reforestation, soil conservation and land regeneration. Furthermore, many organisations are working to make farming methods less damaging to the environment.

NRM as an activity is mentioned by DPAH-L, ASKOOM, AMMIE and BIBIR. The first draws farmers' attention to the importance of natural resource management, while the other three focus on capacity building and providing advice on the topic. PZA provides capacity building in the management of grazing lands.

Education, training and advice on environmental protection are offered by BIBIR, PAFASP, DPEDD, AZ, AMMIE, FISCAAZO and FNGN-O. FNGN-O also monitors and supervises environmental activities. DPRA-O highlights the links between activities and the environment. PSA/RTD, DPEDD and AVY rehabilitate, conserve, and protect the environment respectively.

Reforestation is an activity for AFDR, PSA/RTD, ASPAGO (practice and promotion), DPAH-O, DPAH-L, ASPMY, ASKOOM, FNGN-O, FNGN-L (collective and individual), FISCAAZO, DPEDD, OC-L, APPA (with native species), AFDR and AMMIE. DPEDD also creates community forests. DPRA-O raises awareness about reforestation and participates in reforestation campaigns. AZ is working to involve women in the process of reforestation, as well as building capacity and organising reforestation camps. AFDR also participates in plant production. BIBIR's reforestation activity is the school grove which it has been involved in for three years. AMMIE is also involved in the maintenance of groves.

Some organisations are also working to protect existing forest cover. DPEDD runs the Forest Police and promotes rational exploitation of timber resources. AFDR stresses the harmful effects of wood cutting, while GARY fights against excessive wood cutting. ASPAGO fights against clearing and AVY works to increase awareness of proper forest management.

Alongside reforestation there is a move to restore general vegetation and plant cover in the region. PSA/RTD supports the production of plants and rehabilitation of plants and vegetation. DPEDD looks to increase and strengthen the area of woody vegetation cover. OC-O provides support, advice and materials for the production, planting and maintenance of plants and seedlings. FISCAAZO, FNGN-L and DPAH-L focus on the protection and preservation of indigenous plant species.

Rehabilitation of degraded land is an activity in which PSA/RTD, PZA, ASPAGO ASKOOM, PNGT 2 and AZ are involved. PNGT 2 and AZ specify that their involvement is through capacity building, while PSA/RTD is working to recover 3000 ha of barren land to make them usable. PZA is looking to retrieve, manage and enhance degraded grazing land, and AZ is using erosion control practices and organic manure to restore and develop arable land. Assisted natural regeneration activity is also wide spread, with DPEDD, DPAH-O, ASPAGO, FNGN-O, ASKOOM, AZ, and PNGT 2 all involved.

Soil and water conservation as a joint activity is listed by PAFASP, DPAH-O, ASPAGO, AZ, ASKOOM, FNGN-L, FNGN-O, PNGT 2, and AZ; with the last three specifically focused on capacity building and training. Furthermore, PAFASP and AFDR provide training in soil conservation and restoration techniques respectively. DPAH gives advice on soil enrichment and training on recovery and restoration techniques for degraded soils. OC-O supports traditional conservation practices. AZ is working to involve women in the process of soil restoration. OC-L and FISCAAZO are focused on teaching anti erosion techniques such as hedging (living or dead). BIBIR expresses its involvement in both protecting and restoring soil. AVY is involved in water conservation. PNGT 2, GARY and PSA/RTD build hydro-agricultural infrastructure, including pits, large diameter wells and vegetable garden wells; PNGT 2 also makes boreholes and GARY also makes micro-dams and filtering dykes. DPRA-O is concerned with the protection of embankments near dams. Water management is also an important area; PSA/RTD organises local committees to manage water (maintenance and infrastructure), PZA provides capacity building on water management, GARY is responsible for the management of and access to drinking water and OC-L protects and operates water points.

Responsible farming practices are being promoted and taught by many organisations in the area. DPEDD, PAH-L, AVY, GARY and FNGN-O are all working to allow farmers to make informed decisions about their farming practices and minimise their impact on the environment. ASPAGO, APPA, OC-L and GARY develop degraded land through the use of Zai, bunds and half-moons. AZ, FNGN-L and APPA provide training in the production of manure pits, while ASPAGO makes compost pits. BIBIR promotes the use of organic manure, as well as providing counsel on the use of pesticides. ASPMY also gives advice on the use of pesticides and encourages moderate use. APPA teaches farmers how to clear a field without affecting local species and trains them in proper crop management. APPA, along with PSA/RTD, also promotes agro-silvopastoralism, providing information on planting trees that will reduce the effects of sun and prevent soil erosion.

Finally, RC, AMMIE and FNGN-O are all involved in promoting the use of energy efficient stoves to reduce the use of wood for energy.

## Preparation to withstand extreme events:

Considering the drought prone nature of the area it was surprising that there was not more of a focus on preparation to withstand extreme events. In fact, only AZ who organises drought awareness campaigns, mentions drought at all. However, there are a number of organisations working to improve food security and strengthen communities' ability to store grain successfully.

AMMIE is working to provide information and improve awareness of food security, as well as reinforcing ways to manage food security. The RC looks to improve food security by increasing focus on economy of resources and rational use. BIBIR's involvement is not clearly described but it states its concern with food security. FISCAAZO encourages the raising of livestock to improve food security, while FNGN-L constructs and supplies granaries with the same goal. AZ promotes proper management of food stocks, while FNGN-L provides training on how to preserve crops. FNGN-O and ASKOOM both offer training in the management of grain stocks, and PSA/RTD puts farmers in touch with SONAGESS (La Société Nationale de Gestion du Stock de Sécurité Alimentaire - The National Society for the Management of Food Security Reserves). PZA offers capacity building in the harvesting and preserving of fodder.

## Reduction of risk due to climate variability:

Adapting farming practices, through diversification, improved seed varieties and earlier planting, are the most commonly practiced activities aimed at mitigating the impact of climate variability.

FNGN-O and PSA/RTD encourage the diversification of production, the former with a focus on agricultural production while the latter promotes rice, calf fattening, dry production and stock breeding. AVY, ASPAGO, AZ and ASKOOM encourage off-season crops, and DPAH-O offers training and advice on off-season crops. Meanwhile, AVY encourages diversification out of production by promoting and developing NTFPs (Non Timber Forest Products).

PSA/RTD helps people to adapt by promoting technical packages that will allow them to be more productive. AVY, AZ, DPAH-L, ASKOOM and AFDR and ASPAGO promote improved seed varieties. FISCAAZO advises farmers on good seed choices and PROFIL offers support and advice on seed varieties in relation to weather, climate change and food security. DPAH-O makes the improved seed varieties available.

Early sowing is promoted by DPAH-O and ASPMY. Meanwhile, PSA/RTD encourages farmers to follow the agricultural calendar developed by the Department of Agriculture and DPAH-L provides farmers with information about sowing dates.

There seems to be relatively little focus on making weather information and forecasts available to farmers. FNGN-O allows farmers to access climate information and ASPMY observes the area's weather and climate.

## Activities' Relationship to Climate Change:

11 of the 27 organisation did mention climate change specifically, though none list it among their key objectives or current activities. These organisations express a desire to raise awareness, disseminate knowledge and enhance adaptation.

These are the organisations which mention climate change specifically and their related activities:

PAFASP - Capacity building in Natural Resource Management, Food Security, Weather and Climate Change

PNGT 2 - Capacity building for counsellors, CVDs (Comité Villageois de Développement - Village Development Committee) and citizens on climate change.

PROFIL - Offer support and advice on seed varieties in relation to weather, climate change and food security

PROFIL - Adapt the cultural system to the climate

ASPAGO - Promote the use of improved seeds and other adaptations to climate change

AFDR - Provide information on Climate Change and the need to adapt, as well as advice on how to do so

OC-O - Offer support in climate change adaptation

OC-L - Raise awareness about the effects of climate change and provide information on prevention and adaptation strategies

BIBIR - Capacity building and advice on Climate Change

AMMIE - Capacity building and advice on climate and Climate Change

The above activities highlight an understanding of climate change and the need for adaptation in the face of it, but only OC-L mentions preventative action. There seems to be an acute awareness of changes in the environment and the need to protect and rehabilitate it. However, there was a dearth of activities relating to extreme events and only moderate activity reducing the risk relating to climate variability. Weather forecasting, early warning systems and other climate based activities were surprisingly absent.

Despite this apparent awareness, most organisations lack an explicit agenda that targets climate change, climate variability or its consequences. The interviewers state that, "none of the organisations in the study currently lay any special emphasis on climate change" and "there is no specific slot reserved for climate change in these organisations". He expounds that, "Their level of involvement in climate change varies from very weak to high. This variation is no doubt related to the lack of a specific provision for climate change or to weak policy (government or financial partners’ priorities) or to inadequate human financial and material resources."

Due to the use of lists and concise descriptions, there is some ambiguity as to whether the activities in the above three subsections are climate change related activities. They have been listed because they do relate to climate change; however, in most cases they may be being implemented for other reasons, such as to improve agricultural productivity or to overcome natural year to year variability. Thus, the organisations' climate change activities may be activities that date back to before there was a focus on climate change, and their attention to it is a by-product. Natural resource management activities in particular are mentioned as climate change related activities, though they seem to be geared towards increasing productivity levels and not for climatic reasons. The following activities are indicative of this:

PSA/RTD - Work to increase food production through land restoration

 DPAH-O - Improve agricultural production, including afforestation, soil and water conservation, use of improved varieties

The interviewers note that, "The survey revealed that they are actually involved in the area of adaptation to climate change and/or food security, even if this is not deliberately mentioned in their respective programmes of activity. The need for capacity building by each of these organisations was made evident."

With regard to ASPAGO, the interviewers state that, "The main activity is the capacity building of its members and producer organizations. Intervention with regard to climate change is limited by a lack of financial and material resources." Similarly, they say of ASKOOM that, "Its actions are much more pronounced with regard to capacity building among its members and women's organizations, while intervention with regard to climate change is limited by a lack of financial and material resources."

## Potential Partnerships:

The interviewers make mention of a number of existing and potential partnerships. According to him, "The outsourced government services are already collaborating with CCAFS, as well as an NGO, FNGN. The other bodies studied also showed great interest in collaborating with any CCAFS project, as food security and adaptation to climate change constitute their main area of interest." No further details were provided.

The ASPMY questionnaire included the following comment from the interviewers, "The objectives and activities carried out by ASPMY are those of an organization which seeks to attain self-sufficiency in food and to mitigate the effects of climate change. To do so, this organization could partner with CCAFS, since some of their mutual objectives and activities contribute towards ensuring food security and reduce the vagaries of the climate. Getting an appointment from this organization was not easy as its members have a heavy workload. During the interview, the respondent was very anxious to get back to his work. Besides the problem of availability, a sort of weariness was noted on the part of the respondent. Because of the numerous studies previously conducted and which have produced no follow up, the people consider this as a routine study. As a result they are asking themselves what purpose it serves. In fact the interviewee had special interest in the outcome of the survey being conducted by CCAFS. In conclusion, the interviewee suggested that results of this survey be conveyed to all the different institutions interviewed so that they may benefit from the study."