

West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (USAID WA-WASH)

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KOOM LA VIIM NEWS

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AGREEMENT SIGNING BETWEEN USAID WA-WASH AND LONAB

USAID West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (USAID WA-WASH) signed a partnership agreement with the National Lottery of Burkina Faso (LONAB). The signing ceremony was held on March 22, 2013 at 10:00, at the Joly Hotel in Ouaga 2000. The signing ceremony was presided by Mr. Dramane KONE the Technical Advisor of the Burkinabe Minister of Economy and Finances in the presence of Mrs. Janet TRUCKER, USAID Director; Dr. Lakhdar Boukerrou, USAID WA-WASH Regional Director; and Mrs. Amelie TAMBOURA/SAWADOGO, LONAB General Director. It was also attended by many representatives of USAID WA-WASH international and local partners as well as representatives of government institutions and NGOs.



Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, Regional Director of USAID WA-WASH and Amélie TAMBOURA, General Director of LONAB signing the partnership agreement

BOUKERROU, Regional Director USAID WA-WASH on behalf of FIU/GLOWS, and Mrs. Amelie TAMBOURA, Director General of the National Lottery of Burkina Faso on behalf of the National Lottery of Burkina Faso. The main objective of this agreement is to provide more impact to USAID WA-WASH Program interventions in favor of the disadvantaged population of Burkina Faso.

On behalf of Florida International University (FIU) and all the partners involved in USAID WA-WASH implementation, Dr. Lakhdar

It is the first partnership agreement signed by USAID WA-WASH in the course of the implementation of the Program activities. Through this agreement, LONAB is dedicating \$700,000, the equivalent of 350,000,000 CFA to collaborate with USAID WA-WASH, under the Global Development Alliance/Partnership (GDA/P) for the implementation of its activities related to water supply, sanitation and hygiene, climate change, food security and gender.

The agreement between the two organizations goes in keeping with the implementation of USAID WA-WASH GDA/P main activity derived from one of the Program's results which targets to strengthen regional enabling environment and capacity for WASH to achieve WASH MDGs in West Africa.

The agreement was signed by Dr. Lakhdar

BOUKERROU thanked all attendees for participating in this agreement signing ceremony. He stated that the actual agreement targets three main sectors which are: (1) food security and water supply for an amount of 250,000,000 CFA; (2) water treatment at households for 350,000,000 CFA, and (3) training of graduate students for 100,000,000 CFA. These interventions are of concern to the US Government; because as mentioned by Mrs. Janet Trucker USAID Director, "they contribute to Burkina Faso's Government fight for the population to get access to water, sanitation hygiene, food security, the adaptation to climate change and the participation of women in the country development. It is in this course that the American Government finances under the leadership of the United States Agency for International Development, WA-WASH Program for an amount of \$28 million to help solve this crucial need". The USAID Director also stated

Words from the Editor

KOOM LA VIIM means Water is Life, in mooré, a local language in Burkina Faso. This monthly electronic Newsletter publishes information generated in the course of the implementation of the USAID WA-WASH Program.

Beyond the original meaning of KOOM LA VIIM, the newsletter treats all the issues related to USAID WA-WASH interventions. With this communication vehicle we aim to share with you news you can use and bring to you information about our program activities.

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Photos: PR/C Department

that Barack Obama bound himself to dedicate an important share of US aid towards Africa to sectors related to public health, food security and adaptation to climate change.

In her speech, Amelie TAMBOURA/SAWADOGO General Director of LONAB expressed her pride to concretize a promise which had been made during the launch ceremony of USAID WA-WASH July 16, 2012. To her, involvement in this partnership with USAID WA-WASH goes in keeping with the social responsibility of her institution to support the Burkinabe Government and all the development stockholders in developing Burkina Faso and fighting efficiently against poverty. The General Director thanked the USAID WA-WASH Regional Director for his initiative to tie a partnership between their two institutions.

All the speakers at the ceremony praised the initiative of the agreement signing and invited other public and private organizations to follow the example of LONAB.



The stakeholders of the partnership agreement signing: from left to right: Mr. Dramane KONE the Technical Advisor of the Burkinabe Minister of Economy and Finances, Mrs. Amelie TAMBOURA/SAWADOGO, General Director of LONAB, Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, Regional Director of USAID WA-WASH, Mrs. Janet TRUCKER, Director of USAID; and Ousseini YEYE, USAID WA-WASH Deputy Director in charge of GDA/P.

USAID WA-WASH TO TREAT DRINKING WATER IN THREE REGIONS OF BURKINA FASO

The USAID WA-WASH Program officially launched its water treatment Point of Use (PoU) activities on April 8, 2013, in the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri, Région du Centre of Burkina Faso. This activity costs \$532,827, an equivalent of 266,000,000 CFA, is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and a contribution from the National Lottery of Burkina Faso (LONAB). The launching ceremony was headed by Mrs. Mamounata BELEM/OUEDRAOGO, the Burkinabe Minister of Water, Hydraulics, Planning and Sanitation with the presence of H E. Thomas DOUGHERTY, the US Ambassador in Burkina Faso. The project will be conducted by the Program of Social Marketing and Communication for Health (PROMACO). Other attendees included representatives of international and local partners of USAID WA-WASH Program, the regional, provincial and local authorities, and the religious and customary authorities of Tanghin-Dassouri



Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, Regional Director of USAID WA-WASH, pronouncing his speech and urging the stakeholders to make the project of water treatment at household level a success.

The overall objectives of the USAID WA-WASH water treatment PoU activity are: (1) increase knowledge on the dangers of untreated water supply and awareness of PoU products; (2) improve access to PoU water treatment products; (3) increase the adoption and proper use of household water treatment prod-

ucts; and (4) support governments to develop a more strategic approach to PoU. The regions of the Centre, la Boucle du Mouhoun, and the South-West of Burkina Faso are concerned with this operation. The average of non-potable water usage is high in the first two regions and in the peri urban communes



His Excellence Thomas DOUGHERTY, US Ambassador to Burkina Faso, explaining the importance of Aquatabs for the populations and the support of USAID to the PoU project.

of the center region, the population practice bad behaviors related to hygiene, and water storing, and they do not behave there is a link between diarrhea and lack of hygiene.

Through this activity, about 10 million tablets of «Aquatabs» will be distributed in 132 villages. 55,695 households and a total of more than 321,000 people, of which 51% are women, will be targeted by the operation.

On behalf of the population, Mr. Boniface NANA, the 1st deputy of the mayor of Tanghin-Dassouri commune, thanked the American People for their generosity towards the inhabitants of the commune. He asserted that *“despite the efforts of raising awareness on a large scale for the use of potable drinking water, it should be noted that potable water remains inaccessible for a large*

majority of the population of our villages. This is why we want to show you our satisfaction for the implementation of Point of Use activities in our commune”.

H.E. Thomas Dougherty, the US Ambassador to Burkina Faso stated that: “the launch of this project goes in line with the U.S. Government’s commitments, especially, to contribute to supplying drinking water to vulnerable populations so that they can enjoy good health and be able to better take care of themselves, and to contribute to socio-economic development of their country”.

Heading the ceremony, Mrs. Mamounata BELEM/OEDRAOGO, the Minister of Water, Hydraulics Planning and Sanitation, thanked USAID for its constant contribution to development projects in Burkina Faso. She reiterated her support to the USAID WA-WASH program and ensured that she will always be available for the initiative. “We are sure that the massive use of the product of water treatment Point of Use will have a huge impact on reducing infant mortality, and the launch of Aquatabs contribute to better health for all the Burkinabé”, the Minister said. Mrs. Belem’s message to the population of Burkina

Faso was clear: “Aquatabs is for us! Let’s use it to treat our drinking water. Through adequate and effective use, we should ensure that, we contribute to significantly reduce the rate of diseases related to the consumption of non-potable water”.

Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, Regional Director of USAID WA-WASH congratulated PROMACO for being selected to

conduct the Point of Use activities and urged it to carry out its assignment successfully. Dr. BOUKERROU also solicited the commitment and the support of regional, provincial, local, religious and traditional authorities for the good implementation and success of all the activities related to this water-treatment project at household level in Burkina Faso.



Mrs. Mamounata BELEM/OUEDRAOGO, Minister of Water, Hydraulics Planning and Sanitation, giving the speech for the official launching of Aquatabs.

VISIT OF THE AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC CORPS DEAN TO THE COMMUNE OF TANGHIN-DASSOURI

In partnership with the African Diplomatic Corps (ADC) in Ouagadougou, USAID West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (USAID WA-WASH) will build forty family latrines in the village of Bazoulé, located in the Rural Commune of Tanghin-Dassouri, Burkina Faso. In prelude to the inception of the project, H.E. the Ambassador of Algeria, representing the ADC in Burkina Faso, made a trip to the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri, Province of Kadiogo, on January 23, 2013. The objective of this trip was to discover the areas where the latrines will be built and get information about sanitation issues in the municipality. The visit included discussions with Tanghin-Dassouri local authorities as well as with Bazoulé’s village development committee. The Algerian Diplomat also visited the multi-family rope pump installed by Winrock International in the village of Oueglega.



Second from left, the Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps is listening to WINROCK International representative explanation of the rope pump functioning.

Populated with 55,172 inhabitants, spread out in 28 villages, the rural commune of Tanghin-Dassouri, encounters a critical problem of sanitation that needs to be addressed and significantly improved. Around 95% of the population defecates in open nature. The first support from the Burkinabe Government to build latrines in the commune goes back in 2011. Three hundred and forty latrines were built then. In 2012, seven hundred latrines were built in the commune. Bazoulé, the target village for the project with the African Diplomatic Corps, is among the most insalubrious villages in the commune with a serious lack of household sanitation infrastructures.

The construction of the latrines is part of the USAID WA-WASH GDA/Partnership approach designed to leverage the investment of the American People in the region by attracting more funding from other sources to better serve the disadvantaged populations. The objective of this partnership is to provide access to sanitation facilities to reduce the sanitation and hygiene problems in Bazoulé. The project will be implemented by USAID WA-WASH through a local NGO. The activities include: (1) awareness campaigns and information; (2) training of hygienists; (3) training of masons; (4) launching of the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach with the community; (5) construction of 40 latrines; (6) waste and plastic bags collection. The execution period is six months and its cost is estimated at \$10,400, of which \$5,200 (approximately 2,500,000 CFA) will be contributed by the African Diplomatic Corps.

The construction of the latrines in Ba-

zoulé is crucial because the population still remember incidents related to the lack of sanitation infrastructures in the village. Rasmata OUEDRAOGO, a local councilor of Tanghin-Dassouri commune said: *"In Bazoulé, a lady once went to defecate in the nature and when she finished easing herself, she realized that she had defecated on a snake. Fortunately, the snake did not bite her. If there were sanitation infrastructures, that incident would not have happened"*. Karim OUEDRAOGO an inhabitant of Bazoulé also added: *"My grandfather built a latrine covered with tree branches and mud. Over time, the termites ate the wood and one day, a boy entered the toilet to defecate. Unfortunately the cover of the latrine broke and the boy fell into the latrine. He broke his leg."* Building latrines to Burkina Faso standards is the aim of USAID WA-WASH.

The First Deputy Mayor of Tanghin-Dassouri, Boniface Nana said *"the project is salutary and brings hope to*

the inhabitants of the commune in general, and for Bazoulé's population in particular". He expressed his wish to see this project extended to more than one village of the municipality. Mr. Nana concluded that with the USAID WA-WASH partnership initiative, the rate of access to sanitation will increase in Bazoulé as well as in other villages in the near future.

The Traditional Chief of Bazoulé expressed his joy for the selection of his village as the intervention area of this project. He therefore exhorted the populations to mobilize themselves for the implementation of the project which benefits children first. *"I know that the diplomatic corps will invest a lot of money in this project. So we will make it a success. This is the best way for us to thank the donors"*, the Chief said.

After talking to the local authorities and the population of Bazoulé, the representative of the African Diplomatic Corps discovered the realities the population face in terms of sanitation. H.E. the Ambassador of Algeria promised to advocate in his organization and his country for their contribution in solving the sanitation problems he witnessed in the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri. He also ensured that he will follow the implementation and the evolution of the latrines' construction project activities.

USAID WA-WASH's delegation also visited a multi-family rope pump installed by Winrock International in Oueglega. Oueglega is another village in the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri, where USAID WA-WASH Program targets the improvement of access to clean water through the improvement of wells and the installation of low cost pumps.



A view of the delegation with the Traditional Chief of Bazoulé after exchanging. Seated from left to right Dr. Lakhdar Boukerrou USAID WA-WASH, Regional Director, the Traditional Chief of Bazoulé and H.E. Abdelkrim Benchiah Ambassador of Algeria to Burkina Faso

THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF LONAB VISIT TO OUEGLEGA, COMMUNE OF TANGHIN-DASSOURI

The National Lottery of Burkina Faso (LONAB) will sign an agreement with USAID West Africa Water Supply Sanitation and Hygiene Program (USAID WA-WASH). Through this agreement, LONAB will put at the disposal of USAID WA-WASH an amount of 350,000,000 CFA, the equivalent of \$700,000, to collaborate with USAID WA-WASH under the Global Development Alliance and Partnership (GDA/P) Program for the implementation of its activities related to water supply, sanitation and hygiene, climate change, food security and gender. On February 8, 2013, Mrs. Amelie Tamboura, the LONAB General Director accompanied by two staff members of her organization, visited WA-WASH infrastructures in Oueglega within the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri. The delegation included USAID WA-WASH Regional Director Dr. Lakhdar Boukerrou, USAID WA-WASH Deputy Director in charge of GDA/P Ousseini Yéyé, and the USAID WA-WASH WINROCK International representative in Burkina Faso, Patrice Beaujault.

The main goal of this visit was to show the LONAB staff what USAID WA-WASH Program is doing on the ground and how they could collaborate to address pressing issues for the local popula-

tions. Before starting the visit, Dr. BOUKERROU explained the approach of his organization towards the implementation of Program activities in Burkina Faso. The activities are relat-

ed to water, sanitation, hygiene, climate change, food security and gender and their implementation takes into consideration the strategy of the country in the respective

fields. Great importance is also given to the sustainability aspect of Program activities. In the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri, USAID WA-WASH activities are within the domain of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (AEPHA). In the village of Tama, Aquatabs will be promoted to be used for the treatment of water; building latrines is the focus of the Program in Bazoulé. In Oueglega, where agriculture and gardening market are the major income generating activities, USAID WA-WASH, through its partner WINROCK International, is promoting the installation of affordable pumps and rehabilitating traditional wells through the private sector.

The first stop in Oueglega was at a multi-family rope pump installed on a 52-year old traditional well. Around twenty-three households and more than one hundred persons make use of this pump. Winrock International representative, Patrice BEAUJAL, explained the manufacturing of the pump, its installation and its functioning. All the works related to the pump and its installation have been done by local artisans trained by the project staff and



A view of the delegation after visiting the village and infrastructures realized by USAID WA-WASH through WINROCK International



Mr. Patrice BEUJAL, WINROCK International representative in Burkina Faso third from left explaining the working of a pump installed in Oueglega to: Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, USAID WA-WASH Regional Director first from left, and Mrs. Amelie Tamboura, General Director of LONAB.

consultants. The installation of the pump has facilitated the population's access to water at a low cost and at a place where they use and like to come for water. According to Mr. Beaujault this particular pump model costs 60,000 CFA. The total cost of the upgrade traditional well, (borehole, pump and concrete cover) is 300,000 CFA to 400,000 CFA, equivalent to \$600 and \$800.

The second infrastructure visited by the LONAB staff was a traditional well stabilized through the technique of "havage". This technique consists of deepening wells by digging and shaving the sides with concrete rings in order to improve the well and prevent

its collapse. The well is open and people can still apply the old system of collecting water by using hand drawn bladders. The water from this well is generally used for gardening and other agricultural activities.

The LONAB staff was pleased with USAID WA-WASH projects and accomplishments. The General Director stated that the prospects for collaborating with USAID WA-WASH were good and she encouraged the implementers to continue searching for sustainable equipment at low costs for the benefit of disadvantaged population.

BOUKARY ILBOUDO'S REHABILITATED WELL IN OUEGLEGA, COMMUNE OF TANGHIN-DASSOURI

Mr. Boukary Ilboudo, is a household chief in Oueglega, a village in the commune of Tanghin-Dassouri. He owns a well, built by his father 52 years ago. Each dry season, most of the wells in Oueglega dried up except few ones, including Ilboudo's. During that time it is a habit for many households to fetch their drinking water from Mr. Boukary Ilboudo's well. Unfortunately, the well was not covered and its interior was collapsing. To help populations get access to quality water of drinking and to promote the semi-family rope pump, WINROCK International, an implementing partner of USAID WA-WASH, rehabilitated the well.



Boukary ILBOUDO, the owner of the rehabilitated well in Oueglega

Oueglega has 2,663 inhabitants, and faces a real problem of access to water. According to the President of the Comité Villageois de Développement (CVD) Issaka YANOGO, the major sources of water for the populations are traditional wells. In the rainy season, water is available for both gardening and drinking through the wells. But in the dry season, notably in the months of March, April and May, water becomes scarce. Even having water for drinking in wells becomes difficult.

Therefore, people use to rush to the few wells that are still functional. Mr. Boukary ILBOUDO's well is among the few wells with water during this period. According to him, about 30 to 40 people from more than 6 households use his well. Unfortunately his well was collapsing, and despite his effort, the water was still affected by germs and microbes, making it non-potable.

WINROCK International conducted the rehabilitation of the well. Its interven-

tion consisted of repairing the collapse well and placing a local manufactured pump on it. Today Boukary ILBOUDO owns a modern well equipped with a pump. Because of the investment by the American people, around twenty-three households and more than 100 people have now access to clean water and no longer have to drink contaminated water. Below are pictures of the two wells (left: before and right: after rehabilitation). The pump installation has been done by local artisans trained by the project staff and consultants. According to Mr. Patrice Beaujault, Winrock representative in Burkina Faso, this particular pump model costs 60,000 CFA. The total cost of the upgrade traditional well, (borehole, pump and concrete cover) is 300,000 CFA to 400,000 CFA, equivalent to \$600 and \$800.



A picture of the well of Boukary ILBOUDO before USAID WA-WASH intervention. Photo taken on October 9 2012



A picture of the same well after USAID WA-WASH intervention. Photo taken on December 18 2012

TRADITIONAL WELLS IMPROVEMENT TRAINING IN KOUKOULDI AND OUEGLEGA

After the training of welders on rope pumps manufacturing for domestic use organized on December 10-16 in Koudougou, USAID WA-WASH partner, WINROCK International in charge of Multiple Use Service Delivery (MUSE) trained more artisans in its intervention areas. This training that sought to improve traditional wells, was organized in the village of Koukouldi, commune of Ténado on January 19-25, 2013, and in the village of Oueglega, commune of Tanghin-Dassouri from January 27, to February 2, 2013. The improved wells are now used in market gardening. Divided into three teams, eleven drillers participated in the trainings..



The introduction of a nozzle in a collapsed well in Koukouldi

The purpose of this training was to build local artisans capacities in improving collapsed wells in order to facilitate access to water. These improved wells could then be used for the population's market gardening and other production, which generate money and create good living conditions for the communities. The training was conducted by Mr. Roland M TAPIA, an expert from France, who contributed to consolidate the capacity of a local expert (Denis TAPSOBA). The participants came from Boromo and Koukouldi. They had training sessions related to

(1) techniques of manufacturing and installing rings; (2) cutting techniques (deepening with rings with water); and (3) techniques of diving in wells. The training in Koukouldi allowed the trainees to place six rings of 0.5m each inside the two wells identified for the test. These wells were deepened after installing the rings through the techniques taught to the participants.

Similar training was conducted in Oueglega, from December 27, 2012 to January 02, 2013. The chosen well for the training initially had collapsed side, about 5m deep. The trainer showed participants how to solve the problem of landslide ground wells. 14 rings of 0.5m each were made and placed in the well.

The training sessions are beneficial to participants and the communities, because there are for example, more than 500 collapsed wells in the village of Oueglega only. Participants in the training sessions will be in charge of repairing collapsed wells. They will also promote the techniques they have learned within the communities.

The training period was also the opportunity to test a pedal rope pump prototype, manufactured with local recycled materials, (a recycled bike coupled with a rope pump used to collect water). The test was quite successful and the trained drillers' teams have now recorded first orders from clients in the villages the demonstrations were done.

At the end of the training, beneficiaries and owners of tested wells expressed their satisfaction about the work done. They thanked the American people whose contributions will help them improve their living conditions.



A rope pump made with a recycled bike in the village of Oueglega

CONSERVATION FARMING TRAINING IN THE RURAL COMMUNE OF TANGHIN-DASSOURI

How to deal with climate change in order to have a food security in Burkina Faso? To respond to this problem, WINROCK International, a USAID WA-WASH implementing partner, conducted a field training in the locality of Tanghin-Dassouri, from February 18-21, 2013. Participants to this training were WINROCK's extended field workers on the ground. Nine Lead Farmers from the four communes of Boromo, (Boucle du Mouhoun region), Koudougou, (Center West region), Komki-Ipala and Tanghin-Dassouri (Center region), attended the training, was conducted by Mr. Laurent Gomis, a consultant.

"Conservation Farming" or "Agriculture of Conservation" is a cultivation technique already vulgarized in the United States, and in parts of Africa, notably Zambia, Zimbabwe and Senegal. The technique consists in acting on the soil to enable it to produce naturally.

The nine Lead Farmers who participated in the training session are representatives of producers of 15 to 20 farming groups in USAID WA-WASH three intervention regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Center West, Center) in Burkina Faso. The training was conceived to address issues related to Food Security, Climate Change, and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR). This training is of importance to producers because their regions are exposed to impacts of climate change and thereby to food security.



Participants applying techniques of holes digging on a farm

For greater efficiency, the training went through two phases (theoretical and practical). The theoretical phase helped participants understand the different stages of Conservation Farming (CF). From the preparation of the soil, to the seedling, the trainer put emphasis on intermediate steps for the CF. Four keywords define the CF: (1) localize contribution and inputs optimization; (2) preserve and improve the soil structure and its biological life; (3) re-assure production, including contributing to adaptation to climate change; and (4) increase the outputs. Participants in the training were showed the concept of CF is a system of production based on soils conservation that aims to improve their natural productive potential for obtaining optimum and regular yields on a given parcel. The practical phase has built capacities of participants in two methods of the CF, namely: the manual method (digging holes) and the coupled method (tracing furrows).

The trainer explained to participants that a successful technique of CF is one that is carefully planned, from the designation phase to the evaluation of performance. He urged them to be methodical in its application, and to better display the contribution of CF



Trainees experimenting furrows tracing by fertilizers

technique to Food Security. A communication on Climate Change; Natural Assisted Regeneration (RNA) and Food Security was done.

The training was also devoted to the methodology of field application and replication / dissemination to other producers. The nine trainees will replicate the techniques learned to producers groups in their villages. In this course more than 150 producers will prepare their fields for the next rain season in conformity with CF technique.

This WINROCK's training session aimed to achieve USAID WA-WASH goal related to increase local and national capacity to adapt to water-related Climate Change impacts.

CAPACITY BUILDING IN CVCA IN NIAMEY, NIGER

On December 10-14, 2012, the USAID West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (USAID WA-WASH) organized its second workshop on Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA). The workshop took place in Niamey, Niger, and was conducted by CARE International, an implementing partner of the USAID WA-WASH Program, with the collaboration of Florida International University. This workshop gathered USAID WA-WASH international and local partners, representatives of local and international NGOs, Governmental Agencies working in the field of water and environment, agriculture, urban planning, housing and sanitation and municipalities.

The CVCA workshop organized in Niamey from December 10-14, 2012 is a continuation of the workshop held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, December 3-7, 2012 by the USAID WA-WASH Program. In Niamey, the training involved 19 participants representing USAID WA-WASH local and international partners' organizations, municipalities, and agents from technical services of the Ministry of Hydraulics and

Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Planning, Housing and Sanitation).

The main aim of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of partners involved in the implementation of the USAID WA-WASH Program by enabling them to master concepts and tools of participatory analysis of vulnerability and climate change adaptation. More



A trainee receiving his attendance certificate in Niamey

specifically, the workshop sought to: (1) enhance knowledge and promote a common understanding of the WA WASH Project among all participants; (2) provide knowledge and skills to use CVCA methodology and tools for developing adaptation strategies, (3) facilitate learning and sharing of experience on CC and livelihoods enhancement strategies.

During the training the participants defined their expectations and also did an inventory of their knowledge of the CVCA concepts. A day was chosen to allow participants to use the tools they have learnt about during the workshop within a community. This real life case study was done to draw lessons for future applications.

The first outcomes of the CVCA training were: (1) replication/restitution: in-house training to other members of partners' staff and field staff, (2) replication/restitution/Adaptation to part-

ners' programs: local communities and nine farmers who are leaders in their villages were trained on agriculture conservation; (3) other farmers will be

trained by these farmers in each of the nine villages; (4) local NGOs have developed/written proposal for climate change adaptation capacity building.



A view of participants in the CVCA training in Niamey, Niger

CAPACITY BUILDING IN CVCA IN WA, GHANA

From February 18-21 2013, the USAID West Africa Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (USAID WA-WASH) organized a workshop in Wa, Upper West Region of Republic of Ghana. The main theme of the workshop was "Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA)". It was conducted by CARE International, an implementing partner of the USAID WA-WASH Program, with the collaboration of Florida International University. This training was addressed to representatives of organizations involved in the USAID WA-WASH Program implementation, as well as local NGOs.



A view of participants in the CVCA training in Wa, Ghana

After workshops on Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) in Burkina Faso December 3-7, 2012 and Niger, December 10-14, 2013, the USAID WA-WASH Program organized another workshop on the same theme in Wa, Upper West Region of Republic

of Ghana from February 18-21, 2013. A total of 17 participants attended the workshop. Participants are from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Sustainable Integrated Development Services Center (SIDSEC), Irrigation Development Authority (IDA), Belim Wusa

Development Agency (BEWDA), New Energy, PRONET North, CARE International, PRUDA and the District Assembly.

During the four-day training workshop, 14 presentations made by Mr. Romanus Gyang in areas related to climate change adaptation, differential vulnerability and capacity assessment with focus on the Gender dimension, analysis of vulnerability, CVCA Tools etc.

The workshop aimed to strengthen the capacity of partners involved in the implementation of the USAID WA-WASH Program by enabling them to master the concepts and tools of participative analysis of vulnerability and climate change adaptation. More specifically, the workshop sought to: (1) enhance knowledge and promote a common understanding of the WA WASH Project among all participants; (2) gain knowledge and skills to conduct CCVA and analysis to develop adaptation strategies using the CVCA methodology and tools; and (3) facilitate learning

and sharing of experience on CC and livelihoods enhancement strategies.

A field test on the CVCA tool in the Zambogo community in the Nadowli District permitted the participants to apply the lesson learnt during the training. This enabled them to understand the CVCA process at the field level. The tools used by participants in the field included: (1) seasonal calendar; (2) hazard mapping resource access; and (3) Vulnerability matrix venn diagram. About seventy eight (78) men and women from the community participated in this exercise. Community members were excited by the exercise

which involved them to the processes of analyzing climate situation of their own community. The field test also



A demonstration of CVCA tools application in Zambogo community.

permitted the participants to collect a maximum data that were processed for risk reduction planning.

At the end of the training, evaluation forms were completed by all participants and submitted to help inform the WA WASH team on similar assignment designs. Dr. Lakhdar Boukerrou, the regional Director of USAID WA-WASH commended the facilitator and partners for their dedication towards making the training a success. He recommended partners to make use of the knowledge acquired for developing concrete climate change responsive projects at the community level.

GIS INTERNS' EXPERIENCE COLLECTING DATA IN THREE REGIONS OF BURKINA FASO

Asmao Kabore, Ismaila Iiboudo, Romaric Kouguindiga and Yaya Malo are interns at USAID WA-WASH Department of Geographical Information System and Food Security (GIS/FS) . They have 6 to 9 months of internship and they conducted a survey related to Point of Use (PoU) Information Collection in three USAID WA-WASH Intervention regions (Center, South-West and Boucle du Mouhoun) in Burkina Faso. This assignment has given them practical and professional experiences.

Formed in two groups, the four students had to collect PoU data in the field. Their tasks were: (1) to draw maps of to the intervention areas of USAID WA-WASH; (2) to treat the information collected during the survey they conducted; (3) to work on their master's research papers; and (4) to help their supervisors in performing the tasks assigned to the Department of GIS/FS and all the Program staff.

For the four students, the internship at USAID WA-WASH is their first professional experience. They all acknowledged that this experience has given them an important edge, highlighting the skills they have acquired. "My internship at WA-WASH allows me to deepen my knowledge in map conception with a computer and to learn more about the working world», Ismaila Iiboudo said. He added: "This will allow me to feel confident, while addressing practical specific professional situations, which I am facing now and will be facing in the future." Yaya Malo also had the same viewpoint and said that USAID WA-WASH allowed him to discover the work environment, the operation of an administration, its components and principles, and how to behave like a professional.

For the intern Romaric Kouguindiga, the benefit he got from USAID WA-WASH goes beyond the professional context. "The survey conducted in the three regions has taught me more

about Burkina Faso. It was an opportunity for me to discover the realities of my country" he said. Indeed, he did not formally know much about his country, especially in terms of people's access to WASH services. He explained that he was stunned to discover that even in Ouagadougou, the capital city of Burkina Faso, many people do not have access to such services.

All the four students involved recognized that in the number of all the tasks they accomplished, the WASH data collection remains the most im-

portant. According to them, it gave them a number of benefits including: (1) ability to use GIS for data collection (2) access to data for preparing their theses (3) opportunity to approach rural communities to know how they face their daily water-related, sanitation and hygiene problems; and (4) Improvement of their knowledge towards WASH services in rural areas. They said the experience acquired during their sojourn in USAID WA-WASH Program Regional Office will help them during all their life.



From left to right: students Yaya MALO, Asmao KABORE, Romaric KOUGHUINDIGA, and Ismaila IIBOUDO processing data gathered during the survey.

ARMELLE: THE FIRST WA-WASH INTERN TO DEFEND HER THESIS



Yaoua Labelle Armelle KOKO, the first intern of USAID WA-WASH Program to defend her thesis.

Ms. Yaoua Labelle Armelle KOKO is one of 13 students preparing their thesis at USAID WA-WASH Regional Office. She has completed her internship at USAID WA-WASH in the Monitoring and Evaluation department. Ms. KOKO has come from Côte d'Ivoire and was attending a high school named the "Institut Supérieur d'Informatique et de Gestion" (ISIG)

in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Ms. KOKO joined USAID WA-WASH on November 26, 2012. And at the end of the four-month internship, she finalized a thesis to be presented in order to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Project Management. During the internship, Ms. KOKO's supervisor Mr. Abdoulaye SEMDE taught her the concepts, princi-

ples, approaches and tools of Monitoring and Evaluation. She also received skills related to the implementation of developmental projects at the image of USAID WA-WASH Program.

On April 8, 2013, Ms. KOKO brilliantly defended her thesis, titled "Analysis of the USAID WA-WASH Program Monitoring and Evaluation system" and she received the grade of 16/20. She is the first undergraduate student to defend her thesis at the end of an internship at USAID WA-WASH Program.

At the end of this successful experience, Ms. KOKO expressed her satisfaction and her gratitude to the USAID WA-WASH Program: "I thank USAID WA-WASH for giving me the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge I acquired during my academic training. I also commend the coaching I got for collecting and processing the required data to write my thesis". The Ivorian student thanks went also to the American People whose investment permitted her to complete her academic training in Burkina Faso.

SOME PICTURES OF REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF SOCIAL EVENTS



Mr. Ousseini Edos YEYE, USAID WA-WASH Deputy Regional Director, blowing on a candle during his birthday celebration



Mr. Ousseini Edos YEYE receiving his birthday gift from Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU USAID WA-WASH Regional Director



Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, USAID WA-WASH Regional Director, cutting his birthday celebration cake



Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, USAID WA-WASH Regional Director, sharing the cake with colleagues

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY, JUNE AND JULY

EVENT	DATE
West Central Africa Region Environmental Security Symposium in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	May 20-24
Training of Trainers by UNESCO-IHE in Tamalé, Ghana	May 22-29
CARE/WINROCK Gender Workshop in Tamalé, Ghana	May 27-29
Climate Change Training for Decision Makers in Tamalé, Ghana	May 27-31
CARE/WINROCK Gender Workshop in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	June 3-5
CARE/WINROCK Gender Workshop in Zinder, Niamey, Niger	June 10-12
Climate Change Training for Decision Makers in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (Tentative)	June 17-21
Climate Change Training for Decision Makers in Niamey, Niger (Tentative)	July 22-26

SOME PICTURES FROM WA-WASH IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES



From left to right: Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, USAID WA-WASH Regional Director, HE Thomas DOUGHERTY US Ambassador to Burkina Faso, Mrs. Mamounata BELEM/OUEDRAOGO Burkinabe Minister of Water, Hydraulics Planning and Sanitation



From left to right: Mrs. Amelie TAMBOURA/SAWADOGO Burkinabe National Lottery General Director, Janet TRUCKER USAID Director, and Mrs. Lynda BOUKERROU



HE Thomas DOUGHERTY answering journalists' questions at the end of the Point of Use activity launch ing ceremony



Mr. Emmanuel CODJIA, an USAID WA-WASH intern receiving his certificate of internship from Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU, USAID WA-WASH Regional Director



Mr. Emmanuel CODJIA after receiving his certificate of internship from Dr. Lakhdar BOUKERROU



Family Picture of USAID WA-WASH Regional Office Staff at the end of Emmanuel CODJIA ceremony

WA-WASH Implementing Partners



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