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**Unity-Progress-Justice**



**CONTRIBUTION OF BURKINA FASO TO THE REPORT OF THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION A/RES/74/235 ON  
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT**

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## INTRODUCTION

Burkina Faso, by acceding to Resolution A/RES/74/235, has committed itself to far-reaching reforms with a view to considerably improving the living conditions of women and in particular to promoting their participation in development actions.

This commitment has been translated into practice through the development and implementation of policies, programmes and strategies in the areas covered by the resolution.

## **1- STRENGTHEN AND IMPLEMENT GENDER-SENSITIVE POVERTY ERADICATION STRATEGIES, INCLUDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS, TO HELP ENSURE AN APPROPRIATE STANDARD OF LIVING FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, PARTICULARLY IN THE FACE OF COVID-19 CHALLENGES**

The following measures have been undertaken by Burkina Faso to address gender inequalities and gender-based violence:

- ✓ the adoption of the National Gender Strategy 2020-2024 with the objective of "promoting the establishment of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through the implementation of concrete actions at all levels (central, local, community), by actors in the priority areas of national development";
- ✓ the training of 1,184 actors, including 240 women from local authorities, on gender mainstreaming in Local Development Plans;
- ✓ the training of 1,034 actors, including 326 women in charge of planning within ministries and institutions, on gender-sensitive planning;
- ✓ the training of 4,875 people, 56.14% of whom are women in financial education;
- ✓ the adoption of Law No. 003-2020/AN of 22 January 2020 setting quotas and positioning procedures for candidates in legislative and municipal elections in Burkina Faso;
- ✓ Law No. 034-2020/AN of 25 August 2020 amending Law No. 014-2001/AN of 3 July 2001 on the Electoral Code, which sets in its article 1 of Chapter I, a quota of at least 30% for the benefit of both sexes, the modalities of positioning candidates in legislative and municipal elections in Burkina Faso;
- ✓ the shift of all Ministries to gender-responsive budgeting;
- ✓ the creation of gender promotion units in ministries and institutions;
- ✓ the development of statistical yearbooks of ministries with gender-specific data;
- ✓ the production every two 02 years since 2010, by the National Institute of Statistics and Demography of a booklet entitled "Gender Booklet: Women and Men in Burkina Faso" whose fifth edition was validated in June 2020. This booklet provides an overview of gender relations in the areas of population, health, education, employment, security and the decision-making sphere as well as gender-based violence (GBV);
- ✓ training of ministry executives in gender- and children's rights-responsive budgeting as well as 37 members of the gender caucus on the use of gender analysis tools for policies, programs and projects;

- ✓ the popularization of gender data through the website of the Permanent Secretariat of the National Council for the Promotion of Gender.

**Burkina Faso's specific actions to contribute to the resilience of women and girls to the effects/impact of COVID-19 have included:**

- ✓ financial support in the form of a subsidy for 20,000 women in markets and yaars who are victims of containment measures at a rate of 20,000 FCFA per person per month for three (03) months;
- ✓ the establishment of the Economic Recovery Fund (FREE COVID) which has made it possible to grant loans to 20,342 women and girls for a total envelope of four billion seven hundred and fifty million (4,750,000,000) CFA francs.
- ✓ Direct cash transfers to women from poor and vulnerable households. This measure affected 566,040 women in 119,983 households in 8 regions of the country since 2015, including 54,337 internally displaced women and 511,703 women from host communities.

In terms of lessons learned, it should be noted that with these resources, women have improved their diets as well as that of their children and all members of their households. In addition, they have better access to health services for themselves and for members of their households. They also undertake income-generating activities and participate in decision-making in the household.

**2- PROMOTING WOMEN'S TRANSITION FROM INFORMAL TO FORMAL EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING IMPROVING WOMEN'S ACCESS TO DECENT WORK, BETTER PAY, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND QUALITY CHILDCARE**

Specific actions taken to facilitate the formalization of women's businesses include:

- ✓ the adoption in May 2021 of an integrated strategy for the transition from the informal to the formal economy that aims to ensure decent work for this category of worker in line with ILO Recommendation 204;
- ✓ the organization of information/awareness sessions in the thirteen regions on the opportunities and the need for the formalization of companies for the benefit of women and women's organizations;
- ✓ support for the formalization of women's informal enterprises through the subsidy of application fees relating to the formalization of women's enterprises.
- ✓ The organization of women recipients of cash transfers into village savings and credit associations (WITH) that meet women's needs for uncomplicated, sustainable and accessible

financial services. THE AVEC is a solidarity group that offers opportunities to integrate other community development themes. In terms of lessons learned, even after the end of the project, the AVEC groups continue to function. Some are growing and now have access to conventional financial services, including micro-credit institutions.

Burkina Faso is committed to promoting decent jobs in the green economy where women are mainly involved in the collection, processing and marketing of NWFP. They hold 68.45% of jobs against 31.55% for men according to a study carried out in 2016.

Thus, in order to promote the participation and leadership of women in the management and governance of environmental and natural resources, the MEEVCC has developed and adopted the National Strategy for the Promotion and Enhancement of NWFP. To operationalize this strategy several actions/activities have been carried out, including :

- ✓ capacitybuilding of women and youth on the production and processing of agro-silvo-pastoral products by FAFPA;
- ✓ le follow-up of circular letter N°2017-002/PM/SG/DGEF of 13 January 2017, relating to measures for the consumption of local food products by public structures;
- ✓ le follow-up of Order No. 2017-002/PM/CAB of 31 January 2017 on the purchase of local food products by state structures as part of their supply;
- ✓ the establishment of a month dedicated to the consumption of local products;
- ✓ the endowment of 102 women's organizations with an average of 20 members (2040 women) in nutritious garden kits with the support of the NWFP2 (98 kits) and P1P2RS (10 kits) project;
- ✓ capacity building on techniques for collecting, processing and packaging NWFP. In total, 17,644 direct actors, 80% of whom were women, were affected out of a total of 25,000 actors;
- ✓ support from associations and cooperatives for the production of shea butter in complete production chains;
- ✓ I has set up 12 multifunctional platforms for the benefit of organizations bordering the 12 intervention forests of the PIF including 03 platforms in each of the four regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, East, Centre West, South-West);
- ✓ lhas set up 120 new nutritious gardens, including 15 in ecovillages and 105 in the NWFP2/Tree-Aid intervention area with financial supportfrom Swiss cooperation;

- ✓ la construction of **07** infrastructures for the storage and marketing of NWFP for the benefit of stakeholders;
- ✓ la construction of 04 processing infrastructures and 01 NWFP storage warehouse in 04 intervention regions with the financial support of Coop Suisse;
- ✓ la realization of 04 showcases and 15 marketing kiosks;
- ✓ the granting of various kits to several women's professional organizations to the tune of 260,000,000 FCFA;
- ✓ the organization of awareness-raising activities on the nutritional values of NWFP through several media and channels (leaflets, posters, brochures, media, IEC meetings/sessions, fairs, promotional days etc.);
- ✓ the training of 3,281 actors in the NWFP sector, including 2,658 women and 623 men, in NWFP processing techniques financed to the tune of CFAF 64.98 million;
- ✓ the establishment of 138 nutritious gardens for the benefit of stakeholders for the intensive production of baobab and moringa leaves;
- ✓ the construction of 15 NWFP storage/processing and marketing infrastructures for the benefit of NWFP professional organisations;
- ✓ **113** Actresses were financially supported for their participation in fairs and promotional days.

**3- PROMOTE AND PROTECT WOMEN'S LABOUR RIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORKPLACE, THROUGH TARGETED MEASURES, INCLUDING UNIVERSAL MINIMUM WAGE, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK, REDUCE THE COMPARTMENTALISATION THAT EXISTS IN THE WORLD OF WORK AND WAGE DIFFERENTIALS BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN AND PUT IN PLACE MEASURES ON COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS AND RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND PROMOTION OF FEMALE STAFF**

In order to strengthen the legal status of women and girls, the following texts have been adopted by Burkina Faso:

- ✓ Law No. 003-2021/AN of 1 April 2021 on the social security scheme applicable to public officials of the State in Burkina Faso which, in its article 53, provides that the insured person, mother of at least three dependent children, beneficiary of an old-age allowance, is entitled to a 10% bonus of the said allowance;

- ✓ Law 004-2021/AN of 6 April 2021 on the social security scheme applicable to employed and assimilated workers in Burkina Faso;
- ✓ the implementation of the National Labour Policy 2011-2020 whose immediate objective n°11 is to improve the conditions of women in the workplace;
- ✓ Law No. 081-2015/CNT of 24 November 2015 on the general status of the State Civil Service, Article 16 of which prohibits any discrimination in employment based in particular on sex;
- ✓ Law No. 028-2008/AN of 13 May 2008 on the Labour Code in Burkina Faso enshrines, among other things, equal remuneration ("equal degree, equal pay" article 182), prohibits assigning a woman to work likely to affect her reproductive capacity, her health or that of the child if she is pregnant (Article 142);

In addition, Article 62 of Law No. 081-2015/CNT of 24 November 2015 on the general status of the State Civil Service provides that female civil service personnel are granted maternity leave for a total of fourteen weeks. Article 65 adds that for a period of fifteen months from the birth of the child, the mother is entitled to rest for breastfeeding. The total duration of these rests is one and a half hours per day.

**4- PROMOTE FEMALE ENTREPRENEURSHIP, DEVELOP EXISTING WOMEN-OWNED MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS**

Several points were raised in Resolution A/RES/74235, including paragraph 11 "promoting women's transition from informal to formal employment, including improving women's access to decent work, better pay, social protection and quality childcare" and paragraph 37 "promoting women's entrepreneurship, develop existing women-owned micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and provide opportunities for women to become entrepreneurs".

The actions carried out by the Support Fund for Women's Income-Generating Activities (FAARF) in the direction of the economic empowerment of Burkinabe women are in line with these points listed above.

In line with FAARF's main mission of contributing to women's economic empowerment through the promotion of their access to financial services, several results have been achieved since its creation.

In terms of credits, the FAARF has granted for the year 2021, an amount of nineteen billion eight hundred and sixty-one million six hundred and thirty-one thousand five hundred

(19,861,631,500) CFA francs for the benefit of one hundred and thirty-two thousand five hundred and eighty-three (132,583) women, including sixty-three (63) people living with a disability for seventeen million nine hundred thousand (17,900,000) CFA francs.

Since its creation in 1990 to December 2021, it is a cumulative amount of one hundred and forty-one billion eight hundred and sixteen million seven hundred and seventy thousand four hundred and thirty-five (141,816,770,435) CFA francs for the benefit of two million four hundred and forty-nine thousand four one (2,449,081)Burkinabe women.

In terms of training provided to support beneficiaries, the year 2021 saw the completion of ninety-five (95) sessions for the benefit of two thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight (2,878) women beneficiaries of credits. From its creation to December 31, 2021, more than fifty-two thousand eight hundred and four (52,804) beneficiaries received training from faarf in various themes in order to better manage credits.

In addition to the regular funding of the FAARF, several projects and programmes are being implemented to support the economic empowerment of Burkinabe women, including:

Under the Ivorian-Burkinabe Friendship and Cooperation Fund for the Advancement of Women (FACIBF), forty-two (42) projects integrating women were financed to the tune of two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000,000) CFA francs.

Regarding the Economic Recovery Fund (FRE-COVID19) intervened in order to revive the national economy strongly affected by the emergency measures taken following the coronavirus disease, credits amounting to four billion seven hundred and fifty million (4,750,000,000) CFA francs have benefited 20,342 women in the 45 provinces. This funding was intended to support the resilience of the population and promote the recovery of the economy. As part of the promotion of the financial and social inclusion of vulnerable populations, component 4 of the Support Program for the Development of Local Economies (PADEL) implemented by the FAARF has made it possible to finance since 2019 the activities of nine thousand four hundred and twenty-five (9425) promoters (men and women) for an amount of one billion five hundred and fifty-four million four hundred and eighty-three thousand eight hundred and forty (1,554,483,840) CFA francs.

With regard to the Economic Empowerment Of Youth and Women (PAE/JF) programme to contribute to the reduction of unemployment and underemployment among young people and women in Burkina Faso, FAARF was able to finance ten thousand one hundred and ninety-nine



(10,199) promoters for a total amount of three billion fifty million one hundred and forty-three thousand (3,050,143,000) CFA francs.

In addition to these funding and training actions, faarf has carried out huge reforms aimed at increasing the accessibility of its services and the impact of its interventions. Among the reforms, the increase in the ceiling amounts of appropriations, regionalization through the creation of regional antennas, the digitalization of operations, the synergy of actions with other national financing funds.

In terms of prospects, the FAARF has undertaken the development of the application aimed at pooling the database of customer data of the ten (10) national financing funds of Burkina Faso, the acquisition of a new management information system (GIS) powerful tool for processing women's files and the implementation of a MESO FAARF system.

All these actions have had a positive impact in terms of impact on the socio-economic life of women in rural and urban areas, as evidenced by the report of the impact study on the credits granted by the FAARF which highlights the following results:

From the point of view of economic profitability of activities: FAARF credits reveal a considerable impact on increasing women's turnover (93% of women have seen their production increase), increasing the level of autonomy (more than 66.25% of the beneficiaries surveyed); strengthening the financial soundness of the activities carried out by its beneficiaries; the creation of seasonal (59% of respondents) and permanent (62% of respondents) jobs;

As for the impact of the credit on the economic well-being of beneficiaries, the data show an increase in the capacity of FAARF beneficiaries to participate in expenses related to tuition fees and school supplies (69% of respondents).

This has contributed to increasing the level of empowerment of women beneficiaries of the credits granted by the FAARF.

With a view to promoting women's entrepreneurship, measures have been taken which include:

- ✓ the implementation of a national strategy for the promotion of women's entrepreneurship 2016-2025, the objective of which is to contribute to women's economic empowerment;
- ✓ the existence of programmes to strengthen the vocational skills of girls and women in traditionally male occupations within vocational training centres;

- ✓ the existence of government measures to grant installation kits to promote the professional integration of women;
- ✓ the creation of specific funds to finance women's activities such as the Support Fund for Income-Generating Activities of Women Farmers (FAAGRA) and the Support Fund for Women's Income-Generating Activities (FAARF). FAARF financed from January 2014 to September 2021, more than 83,868 projects of 1,108,452 beneficiaries for a total amount of 86,704 990000 FCFA. The financial capacity of the FAARF in 2020 has been strengthened with an amount of 5 billion CFA francs, for the granting of loans to women as part of the revival of women's economic activities following the COVID-19 disease mentioned above;
- ✓ the implementation of the Economic Empowerment Program for Youth and Women (PAE/JF) 2017-2020 which has financed 22,106 micro-projects, 62% of which are led by women for a total amount of 2,697,937,000 CFA francs;
- ✓ the financing of women entrepreneurs' projects by the Ivorian-Burkinabe Friendship and Cooperation Fund for the Advancement of Women;
- ✓ the establishment of a credit line housed in the Burkinabe Fund for Economic and Social Development (FBDES) to support structuring and innovative projects for women and young people (START UP);
- ✓ the implementation of the Special Programme for Job Creation for Youth and Women (PSCE/JF). Component 4 of this programme focused on promoting women's economic empowerment through job creation, technology and support for the promotion of women's businesses. Thus, from 2014 to 2018, more than 2300 women's organizations benefited from 16,890 modern equipment in the amount of 3,432,000,000 FCFA;
- ✓ implemented the Integrated Programme for women's empowerment (PIAF) from 2016 to 2020, which included the provision of agricultural inputs (fertilizers and seeds) to 218,519 rural women and support for the establishment of civil registration records for nearly 13,200 women and girls;
- ✓ the implementation of the 2016-2020 Agricultural Mechanization Strengthening Program has enabled women to be provided with 12,43.54 tons of seeds of improved cowpea varieties, 24,284 units of agricultural equipment and 10,863 draught animals.
- ✓ the operation to remove women and children from street situations initiated in 2018, which from 2018 to 2021 trained 244 women removed from the street in female leadership, business management and poultry farming technology. These women each benefited from a

poultry kit and an amount ranging from 80,000 FCFA to 120,000 FCFA in order to promote their socio-economic integration;

- ✓ the creation in 2014 at the Burkinabe Fund for Economic and Social Development (FBDES), of a special window "support for women's entrepreneurship" with a financing credit of six billion (6,000,000,000) FCFA. This window has provided financial resources in the 13 regions of Burkina Faso, 357 women's associations and 411 individual promoters, i.e. more than 25,000 women directly affected by the funding;
- ✓ the implementation of the Project to Support the Transformation of the Economy and Job Creation (PATECE) which in 2018 trained 700 women from women's associations and groups in the main production sectors and in entrepreneurship. In 2017, it set up a line of credits of 200 million FCFA for the financing of 17 women's associations and groups involved in the processing of agri-food products as well as the awarding of prizes to 39 women entrepreneurs on the occasion of the night of the woman entrepreneur;
- ✓ the implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework Programme, which supported 226 women-led shea butter enterprises;
- ✓ the implementation of the Project to Support the Marketing of Dried Mango and Processed Cashew Nuts, which has created 7,565 jobs, including 6,906 for women;
- ✓ the implementation of the sub-project *entreprenre au féminin* (2016-2019) of the regional project women's empowerment and demographic dividends in the Sahel (SWEED) has trained 420 adolescent girls and 210 girls in production, processing and conservation of local products, 200 adolescent girls and 100 young women on financing opportunities, subsidizing the innovative vocational training of 120 adolescent girls;
- ✓ the training in 2020 in the field of livestock of 18,401 producers in six (06) animal sectors (livestock/ meat, milk, hides and skins, honey, pork and poultry) including 8,209 women, the training in 2020, of 4,844 producers including 42.16% of women and on the promotion of mowing and fodder conservation. This action made it possible to mow and store 36,792.48 tons of fodder;
- ✓ support for the improvement of livestock housing, which has promoted the construction of 473 barns for 78 women and 150 young people, 1,123 sheepfolds for 470 women and 379 young people, 637 pig barns for 259 women and 105 young people and 2,401 chicken coops for 949 women and 494 young people;

- ✓ the strengthening of the capacities of 561 village volunteer extension workers on specific themes for poultry farming, of which 6.06% are women and 18% young people, the training of 6,114 poultry farmers on poultry techniques, of which 42.33% are women and 38.40% are young people.
- ✓ the implementation from 2018 to 2019 of the Women-Young Entrepreneurs and Citizenship Project (PROFEJEC), with the provision of a seed fund of 200,000,000 FCFA for the benefit of 100 young people and women entrepreneurs;
- ✓ the training by FAFPA in 2018 of 2,443 women on various themes including saponification, weaving, etc.
- ✓ the training of 15 girls in mining trades, namely blasting, mineral processing and heavy machinery;
- ✓ the training of 8,414 women and girls in women's centres and 1,622 girls in sectors such as bakery, hairdressing, sewing, drawing/building, electrical, mechanical, carpentry, plumbing and IT from 2015 to 2018;
- ✓ the training of 283 young people, including 212 girls, in the family helper training centres (CFAF) in Ouagadougou, Gaoua and Fada N'Gourma from 2014 to 2019;
- ✓ the subsidy for innovative vocational training and the provision of installation kits to 120 adolescent girls as part of the "entrepreneurship for women" project for an amount of 120,903,800 FCFA from 2018 to 2020.

**In terms of women's access to productive resources (land, energy and other natural resources), the following activities have been carried out:**

- ✓ the training of 4,147 actors, 71.50% of whom are women, in the techniques of manufacturing and using improved cookstoves;
- ✓ the implementation of the "Barefoot college" project whose objective is to train illiterate women to equip their village with solar energy and to benefit equitably from decent jobs in the green economy (photovoltaic panels, solar kits, solar street lights). As part of this project, in 2016, seven (07) women benefited from a 6-month training in India in solar energy.

On the agricultural front, in 2019, 47.10% of women benefited from ploughs, 48.55% from dump carts, 58.75% from small tray carts, 51.25% from seeders and 56.83% from draught oxen and 50% of agricultural equipment are distributed to women.

According to CEFORE data, the number of businesses created by women and men is continuously increasing in Burkina Faso. Their workforce increased from 7,600 to 13,000 during

the period 2015 to 2019. During this period, 20% of companies registered with CEFORE have female promoters.<sup>1</sup>

These measures have taken the form of actions to strengthen women's capacities, facilitate women's and girls' access to national funds and financing institutions, and increase the volume of credit allocated to women and girls by funds and banks.

For the year 2020, we note among other things that:

- ✓ 3,731 people, 57% of whom are women from the Centre-Ouest, Nord, Hauts-Bassins, Cascades, Centre-Est, Plateau Central and Boucle du Mouhoun regions, were trained in financial education. 51 (men, women) agents were trained in 03 training sessions on the themes: digital finance, Islamic finance and agricultural value chain.
- ✓ 3,311 women and girls were financially educated with digital means
- ✓ 2804 (35% women and 26% youth) farmers used DFS to ensure payments in the value chain
- ✓ 2891 (37% women, 25% youth) farmers accessed technical and commercial information through digital
- ✓ 399 (24% carried by women) MSMEs whose transactions have been digitized
- ✓ 399 (24% led by women) SMEs whose transactions are e-recorded
- ✓ 936 business promoters in three (03) provinces (Oudalan, Seno, Yagha) were selected for technical and managerial capacity building and two hundred and seven (207) promoters to benefit from specific support to MFIs-IF through SOFIGIB and national funds
- ✓ 1,439 promoter files were funded to the tune of 450,499,005 FCFA in 07 regions. Compared to the implementation of inclusive finance in the Sahel region, 1439 individual promoters and groups/associations were financed via mobile banking.

Also, capacity building actions have made it possible to train faarf agents, regional branches and the National Coordination Unit on various themes (financial education, Islamic finance, project management under MS, monitoring and evaluation and credit recovery techniques, public procurement).

Regarding the year 2021, we also note:

- ✓ 300 women were trained in business management and banking relations;

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<sup>1</sup> INSD, Genre Booklet April 2002; p 77

- ✓ 100 women were trained on the technical routes of rice production, processing and marketing;
- ✓ 14 projects are selected for funding at a total cost of 3,453,685,390 FCFA
- ✓ 8,107 people, 58.70% of whom were women, benefited from the training;
- ✓ Loans worth CFAF 988.87 million were granted to 7,692 promoters of microprojects in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Centre-Sud, Est, Nord and Sahel regions;
- ✓ 58 business projects, 12 of which were led by women, were financed for an amount of 5,906,243,316 FCFA;
- ✓ Seven (7) large companies, including 2 led by women, received funding;
- ✓ 15 SMEs led by women received financing totalling CFAF 1 051 289 429;
- ✓ equity investments were made for the benefit of 23 companies, one of which was supported by a woman to the tune of 2,280,000,000 CFA francs.

**5- INTERDIRE ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, PARTICULARLY IN THE WORLD OF WORK, IN PARTICULAR FORMS OF MULTIPLE AND INTERSECTING DISCRIMINATION, TO WHICH MIGRANT WOMEN AND WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES ARE EXPOSED, FOR EXAMPLE,**

With a view to promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, the National Multisectoral Council for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COMUD/Disability) was strengthened with the creation of a Permanent Secretariat in 2014. Similarly, a Directorate for the Protection and Promotion of Disabled Persons exists within the Ministry responsible for national solidarity.

In addition, from 2015 to 2017, the Informal Sector Support Fund (FASI) granted 33,300,000 FCFA to 57 people with disabilities, including 22 women.

**6- TO RETURN AND ELIMINATE ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE, SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, INCLUDING IN THE WORLD OF WORK, AND TO ADDRESS THE INCREASE IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE THAT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS GIVEN RISE TO**

Several legislative and policy initiatives have been taken to protect and promote women's fundamental human rights. These include:

- ✓ the adoption of Law No. 061/CNT of 6 September 2015 on the prevention, repression and reparation of violence against women and girls and the care of victims;
- ✓ the adoption of Law No. 025-2018/AN of 31 May 2018 on the Penal Code which, in its articles 513-1 et seq., further punishes acts of violence against women and girls;
- ✓ the adoption in 2015 of the National Strategy for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Marriage (SNPEME);
- ✓ the development of the 2022-2024 national action plan to combat gender-based violence;
- ✓ the development of the national action plan for the implementation of UN Resolutions 1325 and over;
- ✓ the creation of a Centre for the Care of Survivors of Gender-Based Violence from 2015 in Ouagadougou and the regions;
- ✓ the organization of regional conferences on positive socio-cultural values that reached 757 people;
- ✓ the establishment of the Legal Aid Fund (FAJ) by Decree No. 2009-558/PRES/PM/MJ/MEF/MATD on the organization of judicial assistance in Burkina Faso and revised in 2016 by Decree No. 2016-158/PRES/PM/MJDHPC/MINEFID on the organization of judicial assistance in Burkina Faso. This institution is intended to be a contribution from the State to indigent persons and to the categories of persons determined by the said decree for the handling of their cases in court. To this end, women who meet the conditions set out in the decree benefit from the assistance of the Fund;
- ✓ Law No. 040-2019/AN of 29 May 2019 on the Code of Criminal Procedure guarantees the equality of litigants before the law (Article 100-1);
- ✓ the development of the National Strategic Plan to Promote the Elimination of FGM 2016-2020, the implementation of which has made it possible to obtain over the five years, 3127 public declarations of abandonment of FGM and the establishment of 3127 monitoring cells in the villages concerned.

**7-  PROVIDE WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH EQUITABLE AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE AND QUALITY HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING SEXUALITY AND PROCREATION,**

**SO THAT THEY CAN EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO THE ENJOYMENT OF THE HIGHEST ATTAINABLE STANDARD OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, IN PARTICULAR IN THE FACE OF HIV/AIDS AND COVID-19 EPIDEMICS**

Specific actions taken in the area of women's sexuality and procreation are as follows:

- ✓ issued Decree No. 2016-311/PRES/PM/MS/MATDSI of 29 April 2016 on free care for pregnant women and children under five years of age, which registered 27,738,280 benefits offered to pregnant women for an amount of 68,717,720,847 CFA;
- ✓ the adoption of Decree No. 2019-40/PRES/PM/MS/MFSNF/MFTPS/MATD/MINEFID on free family planning services in Burkina Faso allowed from 2019 to 2020, 1,037,613 FP benefits offered for an amount of 817,733,895 FCFA;
- ✓ implemented the Project to Support the Health Sector and Population Policies (PAPSP) including its component 2 "Strengthening women's rights in sexual and reproductive health".

**8- TOPROMOTE AND PROTECT THE RIGHT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS TO EDUCATION AND TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE ACCESS, IN THE SAME WAY AS MEN AND BOYS AND IN COMPLETE SAFETY, TO ALL LEVELS OF EDUCATION, AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO LEARN THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PROLONGED SUSPENSION OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES CAUSED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND ADDRESSING THE SCHOOL OR UNIVERSITY DROP-OUT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS**

The specific actions implemented by women to protect and promote the fundamental human rights of women and girls in the field of education are as follows:

- ✓ the adoption of a national strategy for the development of inclusive education that enabled the enrolment of more than 10,000 children with disabilities between 2015 and 2016;
- ✓ the creation in 2018 of the Directorate for the Promotion of Inclusive Education, Girls' Education and Gender
- ✓ the adoption of the Education and Vocational Training Sector Plan 2017-2030;
- ✓ the implementation of the national strategy to accelerate girls' education 2012-2021 with the vision of establishing an education system free from all forms of discrimination
- ✓ the adoption of the education and vocational training sector plan 2017-2030;



- ✓ Decree No. 74/465/PRES/EN of 21 December 1974 regulating the conditions of school attendance of pupils in pregnancy prohibits the exclusion of girls in a state of pregnancy in high schools and colleges;
- ✓ The application of Decree No. 2018-0565/PRES/PM/MENA/MINEFID of 6 July 2018 defining the scholarship scheme in post-primary and secondary education has enabled the granting of 54% of places to girls in technical education and scholarships in scientific fields.

The ministry developed a post-COVID-19 response plan adopted in April 2020 that received funding from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE). Component 3 of this response plan entitled "Return of girls to school" has made it possible to implement several actions in favor of the return and retention of 121,000 girls from primary to secondary school. Other actions include:

- ✓ support to 240 APE/AME members and local associations for the enrolment and re-enrolment of girls who have dropped out of school;
- ✓ the training of 1200 teachers from schools in six (06) regions targeted region on gender-sensitive education in emergencies;
- ✓ providing vulnerable girls with 4,000 bicycles;
- ✓ provided hygiene kits to vulnerable girls and children with disabilities;

In addition, the Government of Canada in collaboration with UNICEF Burkina supported the implementation of the "Back to school better" project between October 2020 and June 2021, which allowed access and retention of 30,000 girls and the sensitization of 625,000 community members on the issue of education in health and security crisis.

Other actions carried out in this context are: the training of 200 teachers on gender-sensitive pedagogy, the abandonment of child marriage, the training of 300 APE/AME/COGES members on protective measures against COVID-19.

As part of the implementation of education in emergencies, other actions to protect against COVID-19 and improve the school environment for the maintenance of girls and other vulnerable children have been carried out. These include the provision of soap and hydrological gel, nose masks, and handwashing devices to schools.

Also in the actions to mitigate the early and prolonged closure of classes due to COVID-19, support courses and a study camp were organized for girls as well as a study on the school

dropout of girls benefiting from World Bank support as part of the Women's Empowerment in the Sahel and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) project.

**9- IENTEGRATE THE INTEGRATION OF GENDER ISSUES INTO POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE REDUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND DISASTER RISKS, AND PROVIDE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO ENABLE WOMEN TO PARTICIPATE FULLY AND EQUALLY IN DECISION-MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION IN THESE AREAS**

Here, we retain among other actions:

- ✓ the adoption of the National Environment Strategy 2019-2023 and its action plan, one of the guiding principles of which is the integration of gender into the design, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of all actions;
- ✓ the strategy for gender mainstreaming in the local governance of forest resources project in Burkina Faso 2018-2022.
- ✓ the adoption in 2015 of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PNA) which aims to (i) reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by developing adaptation and resilience capacities, (ii) facilitate the integration of adaptation to climate change, in a coherent manner, into new or existing policies, programmes or activities, in specific development planning and strategy processes within relevant sectors and at different levels.

Thus, in the field of women's access to energy, the country has set up a project called "Barefoot college" whose objective is to train illiterate women of a certain age so that they can benefit equitably from decent jobs in the green economy and equip their village with solar energy (photovoltaic panels, solar kits, solar street lights). In 2016, seven (07) women received 6 months of training in India. Beyond professional learning, this experience was an opportunity for women to discover their potential and increase their personal development. The project had socio-economic and environmental impacts.

This project carried out the following activities:

- ✓ la construction of the infrastructure of the training center for women (solar grandmothers),
- ✓ lheld a general assembly of solar grandmothers,
- ✓ the equipment of a workshop of solar grandmothers,
- ✓ la construction of a hydraulic structure on the site of the centre for the training of women,

- ✓ la construction of the infrastructure of the centre for the training of women,
- ✓ la construction of buildings for housing use for the training of women,
- ✓ la construction of an office building for the training of women,
- ✓ the acquisition of housing and office furniture and equipment to equip the centre for the training of women,
- ✓ the equipment of a workshop of solar grandmothers,
- ✓ la selection of learners,
- ✓ the organization of recycling sessions for the benefit of 270 solar grandmothers,
- ✓ the acquisition of protective clothing for the benefit of solar grandmothers.

In the field of sanitation and the improvement of the living environment, women play an extremely important role in waste management, particularly through the collection and processing of waste mainly from urban and semi-urban municipalities. They also contribute to the cleanliness of the living environment and its beautification. Thus, the following activities were carried out:

- ✓ the construction of 05 plastic waste treatment and recovery centres, three of which are currently being finalized (Gaoua, Manga, Dédougou) and two already received (Dori, Tenkodogo);
- ✓ the acquisition of equipment for the equipment of the centers (03 foundries, 08 mills, 03 batches of molds, 05 presses, 05 biodegradability testing devices and generators);
- ✓ the purchase of 1866.75 tons of waste;
- ✓ the acquisition of 903 collection equipment for plastic waste collectors (181 garbage cans, 180 peels, 181 wheelbarrows, 180 rakes, 181 forks);
- ✓ the acquisition of personal protective equipment for plastic waste collectors (30 gas masks, 56 safety shoes, 40 fluorescent safety vests, 50 coveralls, 98 soaking gloves, 104 leather gloves, 100 red gloves, 130 boots, 10,000 nose covers, 60 glasses, 40 helmets, 05 caps);
- ✓ the training of 34 actors from plastic waste treatment and recovery centres;
- ✓ the training of 36 collectors and recyclers on the organization and good practices of plastic waste management.

**Conclusion**

Burkina Faso has implemented several actions and far-reaching reforms with a view to considerably improving the living conditions of women and particularly to promoting their participation in development actions. This commitment has been translated into practice through the development and implementation of policies, programmes and strategies in the areas covered by the resolution.