



CECI



WUSC/EUMC

**uniterra**

An initiative of CECI and WUSC

**our actions****in agriculture and rural development  
in Burkina Faso**

Food insecurity remains a daily reality in Burkina Faso. Uniterra's partners focus their activities on two fronts: strengthening the conditions that favour food security and diversifying income sources among rural populations. The objective is to improve living conditions in the country, particularly for women.

**AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT IN BURKINA FASO**Area: 274,000 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 11.9 million

Gross National Income (GNI) per capita:  
\$300 USThe country adopted a National Food  
Security Strategy in October 2001.Chronic food insecurity is related to risky  
climatic conditions, poor soil productivity  
and crop pests.The geographic context is highly constrain-  
ing: the country is landlocked and its  
continental climate is highly variable and  
characterized by vast seasonal variations.  
Agricultural activity slows down during the  
dry season between October and May.  
(Source: [www.burkinaonline.bf](http://www.burkinaonline.bf))In Burkina Faso, the rural sector occupies a  
predominant place in the national economy.  
It constitutes the principal source of  
employment and income for the majority of  
the population. About 86% of the total  
population is employed in it and 40% of the  
GDP is from agricultural activities.**ON THE GROUND**

Three sectors have been identified for intervention: oilseeds (i.e. shea butter-based products), grain (rice, corn, sorghum and millet) and produce (fruits and vegetables). We support the building of capacities among agricultural producers and peasant organizations, especially in marketing and distribution, as well as in food processing. We have also initiated projects to strengthen the management capacities and institutional development of professional organizations.

**PROFILES OF PARTNERS IN BURKINA FASO**

**La Coalition Burkinabé pour les Droits de la femme** is an umbrella group for the promotion and defence of women's rights with 13 member groups. Its main mission is to contribute to increasing respect for women's rights at the national and regional levels. In Burkina Faso, women are still too often disadvantaged and marginalized. The CBDF was chosen to promote due consideration of the GAD approach among partner organizations.

**L'Association Songtaaba-Yalgre (ASY)** is a non-profit federation composed of 10 women's groups with a total membership of 2,000 women. ASY is an organization concerned with the production, processing and marketing of local products, in particular conventional and organic shea butter—including its sub-products (soap, lotions, etc.). It also provides its members with training and informal basic education. As part of its efforts to promote shea butter, ASY has implemented a project called KARIBIO. The general objective of this project is to improve the incomes of women producers at the grassroots by ensuring that the quality standards of their shea butter production meet the needs of the international market. The Association already exports shea butter to Europe and North America. It obtained a certificate of compliance from Ecocert International as a value-added for commercialization of shea butter markets.

**La Fédération nationale des Industries de l'Agro-Alimentaire et de transformation du Burkina** is a non-profit umbrella group bringing together food-processing businesses and industrialists involved in the following food products sectors: cereals, fruits and vegetables, cattle, meat, fish, oilseeds, milk and dairy products.

**L'Union des groupements pour la commercialisation des produits agricoles de la Boucle du Mouhoun (UGCPA/BM)**, is to develop a collective marketing system for the products of the members of its affiliated groups (GPA). The products in question are organic rosella and dry cereals (corn, sorghum, and millet). The UGCPA seeks to help affiliated producers gain higher incomes, as well as defend their interests and contribute to their food security. The UGCPA has received support in this effort from its technical and financial partners, including UPA-DI, a Canadian partner of CECI.

**THE OTHER PARTNERS IN BURKINA FASO**

Comité Interprofessionnel du Riz du Burkina (CIR-B)

Table Filière Karité (TFK) (Savonnerie Parfumerie du Houet (SPH))

Union des Coopératives Agricoles et Maraîchères du Burkina (UCOBAM)

Union des Groupements de Productrices de Produits du Karité Sissili-Ziro (UGPPK/SZ)

[www.uniterra.ca](http://www.uniterra.ca)**MDG #3**Millennium  
Development Goals**PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

UNITERRA aims at the establishment of fairer and more equitable gender relations, and the improvement of the status of women, through the integration of the gender approach in its cooperation projects.

