BURKINA FASO
COUNTRY PROFILE

In the face of rising violence that has led to increased internal displacements in Burkina Faso, USAID is helping Burkinabes to better withstand conflicts and natural disasters. USAID’s programs save lives, improve local governance, support local community leaders, build resilience, support social cohesion, strengthen healthcare systems, and help youth and women become more involved in local decision-making processes. Burkina Faso is among the ten countries with the highest malaria disease burdens in the world. USAID partners with the people of Burkina Faso in combating the disease, for example with the large-scale distribution of life-saving mosquito bed nets. USAID also builds the resilience of Burkinabes by strengthening the country’s governmental institutions, by increasing the capacity and accessibility of social and public services, and by ensuring access to more nutritious foods.

OUR WORK

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

USAID’s long-standing efforts to improve agriculture and food security contributes to strengthening the resilience of chronically vulnerable populations in the Centre Nord, Sahel, and Est regions. Programs are designed to diversify communities’ and households’ economic opportunities, and increase the profitability of farming. USAID contributes to stronger institutions and local governance structures to manage natural resources, reduce conflict, and mitigate the risks of disasters. Other areas of focus include improving access to credit, intensifying agricultural and animal production and sales, and better rural land tenure services.
DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS & GOVERNANCE

USAID works with youth, communities, religious leaders, civil society, and government to reduce the risk of instability and to increase resilience to violent extremism. USAID’s approach builds economic opportunities, empowers local leaders, reduces tensions, encourages moderate voices, fosters civic participation, and promotes government responsiveness. USAID focuses on women and youth because they are often absent from the country’s political life and are also more prone to exploitation by violent extremist organizations. USAID partners with the electoral commission to support voting procedures and promote democratic values shared by Burkina Faso and the United States. USAID also partners with the Independent Human Rights Commission as well as civil society organizations who are investigating allegations of human rights abuses - and help victims.

GLOBAL HEALTH

Burkina Faso is making progress on several fronts. For example, life expectancy, chronic malnutrition, and fertility rates have followed positive trends. The same can be said for newborn, infant, child, and maternal mortality rates. That being said, the overall context and health situation remains dire. Against a backdrop of rising political and social instability the country continues to see persistent, emergent, and neglected diseases affect the population. USAID supports the reform and modernization efforts led by the Ministry of Health to improve the access and utilization of quality health services across the country. USAID’s focus is the people most affected by high morbidity and mortality rates. This includes newborns, infants, children under 5, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women. USAID is supporting the improvement of many aspects of the healthcare system. This includes service delivery, management, human resources, equipment, and research. USAID also supports social and behavior change for better health outcomes. USAID’s support to the healthcare sector in Burkina Faso includes contributions from the President’s Malaria Initiative, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, and the Global Health Security Agenda.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)provides food assistance, water, sanitation, hygiene, shelter, non-food items, healthcare, nutrition, and protection to more than 250,000 people in Burkina Faso. These include internally displaced persons, refugees, and their host communities. This assistance is delivered in partnership with the World Food Program, UNICEF, and a network of international non-governmental organizations. USAID also supports humanitarian coordination and security coordination.

CONTACTS

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