



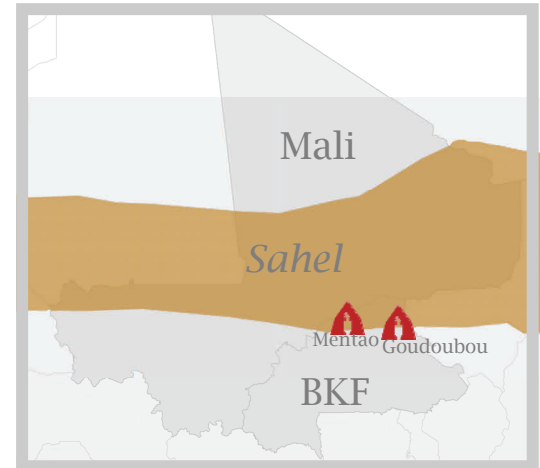
Milk Solutions for the Livelihoods and Self-Reliance of Malian Refugees and Host Communities in Burkina Faso

Seeds for Solutions 2014–2017

Sahel Milk aims at contributing to the self-reliance and socio-economic well-being of Malian refugees and host communities in the Sahel Region of Burkina Faso through the establishment of sustainable dairy micro-enterprises.

Why milk?

Malian refugees and host communities in the region are mostly skillful pastoralists, who own cows, goats, sheep, donkeys, and camels. Their traditional diet consists of milk and millet.



Vaccination campaigns in 2013 by Vétérinaires Sans Frontières—Belgique (VSF) revealed that Malian refugees arrived in Burkina Faso with over 47,000 livestock. Today, the majority of the animals are with herders near the Mali-Burkina Faso border, where there are natural grazing grounds and sources of water.

Due to the distance to their livestock, the refugees are unable to access milk regularly. This has a negative impact on the nutritional status of children, especially in Goudoubou camp, where the Global Acute Malnutrition rate is 12% and well above emergency levels.

Considering the collective skills, knowledge and livestock resources available, it is logical to invest in the dairy sector, which could be much more successful than it is today. Functional local dairies are few in number and do not cover local consumer needs in Burkina Faso.

According to a joint study by VSF and UNHCR, nearly 18,000 liters of milk could be marketed daily, after taking into account calf and household consumption needs, as well as the effects of a nomadic lifestyle. This is based on a potential 34,000,000 liters of daily milk production in the three provinces in the Sahel.



Milk in Numbers

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How will we achieve this?

PHASE

1

2

3

GOAL

ACTIVITY

Increase milk production by 20% & strengthen refugee assets

Provide literacy & numeracy courses

Provide better quality feed and healthcare to animals

Provide training in pastoral resource management

Build business relationships between milk producers, collectors & processors-sellers

Increase income & future earning capabilities of medium-scale cattle owners, milk processors-sellers & collectors

Build skills in entrepreneurship & sustainable basic business management of milk producers & processors-sellers at individual & association levels

Strengthened resilience & self-sustained earning capabilities

Continue providing technical & advisory support on business development

Support access to financial services/information, public & private sector decentralized services & products

Facilitate integration of herders & milk producers into Unions

Where are we today?

An analysis on the milk value chain in the Sahel and the selection of beneficiaries are about to be completed by the project partner VSF.

The livelihood baselines, which allow us to monitor any changes in economic activities, assets and disposable income, are currently being created by the British Research NGO Evidence for Development and the Polytechnic University of Bobo-Dioulasso / Institute for Rural Development in Burkina Faso. This component is expected to be completed in December 2014.



What are our challenges?

Identification of participating refugees & their livestock, due to their nomadic mobility, large geographical dispersal and integration within host communities.

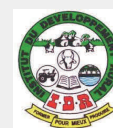
Involvement of women, due to social restrictions on mobility.



Inclusion of all refugees, due to cultural barriers related to the sale of milk from certain social groups.



& partners



www.unhcr.org
www.data.unhcr.org/Sahel Situation



www.unhcr.org/kora



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