



How to implement sustainable soil management practices in the framework of nutrition sensitive agriculture in Burkina Faso

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Soils 4 nutrition project in Burkina Faso

- Burkina Faso is a Sahelian country with an agricultural vocation. **Agriculture in Burkina Faso employs more than 86% of the active population**, is the main supplier of food to the populations and contributes 35% to the GDP (PNSR, 2018) ;
- However, the country is still struggling to ensure its food and nutritional security. **More than half of households** do not have access to a diversified and balanced diet ;
- Chronic malnutrition **affects more than 32.9% of children under 5** and anemia affects more than 90% of them.
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The Bureau National des Soils (BUNASOLS) is a public establishment attached to the Ministry in charge of agriculture which implements the policy of the Government of Burkina Faso in the field of soil science with a view to promoting the rational and sustainable land use.

• **Assignments:**

- inventory and assess land resources for the planning and development of agricultural development projects and programs;
- carry out pedological studies and draw up pedological and soil suitability maps at different scales;
- carry out soil, water and plant analyzes for agricultural and/or industrial purposes and control the quality of fertilizers (**more than 50 parameters**);
- participate in the scientific and technical training of managers in the field of soil science.

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❑ OBJECTIVES OF THE "MICRONUTRIENTS" PROJECT IN BURKINA FASO

Identify best practices for Sustainable Land Management (SLM) and micronutrients to promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Burkina Faso.

❑ METHODOLOGY

- Scoping meetings with the actors concerned;
- Establishment of the reference situation of micronutrients;
- Identification of good practices for sustainable soil and micronutrient management;
- Identification and morphopedological characterization of the soils of the sites for the tests;
- Establishment of the reference situation of chemical parameters and micronutrients of soils, plants and crops
- Implementation and monitoring of test fields with volunteer producers and supervisory agents;

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□**METHODOLOGY**

- Evaluation of the tests and organization of guided visits ;
- Training of producers and supervisors on sustainable soil and micronutrient management techniques;
- Joint organization with the FAO of a national workshop to validate the results (**Took place in April 2022**).

SOILS 4 NUTRITION PROJECT IN BURKINA FASO

RESULTS

R1 : Adding micronutrients and organic matter to fertilization significantly increased crop yields.

R2 : Fertilization based on micronutrients helps to improve the levels of these micronutrients in soils and agricultural products.



Sorghum



Cowpea

Sustainable soil management for nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia



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R3: Micronutrients improve the effectiveness of chemical fertilizers and the combination of organic matter with micronutrients or chemical fertilizers is the mainstay of soil fertilization.



Guided visits of the test fields



Training sessions for more than 140 farmers and 4 extension workers on Sustainable Land Management and micronutrients

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Soils 4 nutrition project in Burkina Faso : Follow up

Sampling of soils, plants and agricultural products (maize, sorghum, cowpea) on several peasant agro-ecological sites (04 regions).



Policy brief : Sustainable soil management as the cornerstone of nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Burkina Faso.



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