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FA2 WORKSHOP (MONTPELLIER, 13- 15 MAY 2014)



**Vocational education/training of pastoralists : A real
contribution to the management of grassland
Pilot case: transborder area Burkina- Benin- Togo**

A P E S S

Association pour la Promotion de l'Elevage au Sahel et en Savane

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| Context- major stakes and challenges



- High rate of illiteracy (90%) of adult population and very low rate of children's enrolment (2- 3%) among the population of pastoralists of the eastern region of Burkina Faso,
- Important transhumance movement to Benin and Togo during the dry season,
- Ignorance of cross-border transhumance laws and regulations,
- *Non respect of environment and protected sites by some pastoralists,*
- *lack of integration and recurrent violent conflicts in the welcoming sites of transhumants.*

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II The Cross – border pilot vocational education project

In 2011, designing and implementation of an education programme targeting Burkina Faso pastoralists In Benin and Togo by 3 NGOs (APESS, Andal & Pinal , Potal Men) with the financial support of SDC

Opening of 25 literacy centers in the transborder area and registration of 876 adult learners (204 women). Vocational education focussing on writing, reading, basic mathematics and more specific contents on pastoralism , regulations, ,modern livestock, management of grasslands and integration values.

An important communication, and participatory approach for the designing and the implementation of the project involving pastoralists and local communities leaders, local elected authorities, national and local administration officials of the 3 countries.



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Main achievements

1. A pedagogic evaluation was conducted after the second year and 70% of the learners are certified
2. Important knowledge acquisition in reading , writing and basic mathematics in Fulfulde language
3. Real appropriation of the regulations of cross- border pastoralism (most of the them possess their international certificates of transhumance and their animals are vaccinated before crossing the border line
4. Significant progress in the communication with the local administration and local communities
5. Improvement of social integration, more respect of environment and protected areas, and cattle routes, reduction of conflicts,
6. Introduction of innovations in livestock on the departure sites (fodder crops, association of livestock and crops, processing of livestock sub products, etc.)



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IV Education is important but should be supported with additional measures

- The pilot project contributes in the improvement of pastoralists' livelihoods and it is now extended to 4 other cross- border areas , covering 7 countries (Burkina, Benin, Togo, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Chad), PREPP (Regional Education/training programme for pastoralists in Cross- border areas)
- Concrete investments to facilitate both mobility and intensification:

FOR INTENSIFICATION

- To pursue and strengthen APESS experience model of families farms diagnosis well known as « bilan simplifié » that can permit to assess the rate of the annual coverage of each family basic needs (this model has shown its proofs),
- To support to fodder crops production
- To establish value chains platforms (production, processing and marketing),
- construction of cattle market facilities and development of water points.

To support mobility

Education project should be reinforced to permit a better appropriation of transhumance regulations, better protection of environment and respect of cultural integration values

Development of water points all along the cattle routes as well as on the sites to facilitate the maintaining of learners.

Development of parking and grazing reserves for pastoralists in the welcoming countries

Setting up all the necessary mechanisms that focus on the values of transhumance economy in the welcoming communes to show the reciprocity on interests. This will enhance the confidence between pastoralists and the local populations

Investment in market facilities in the cross-border areas.



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Many thanks for your kind attention !!!

