

CSO-CGIAR Competitive Grants Program

“Scaling out the IWRM implementation in Nakambé basin in Burkina Faso through capacity building and institutionalization”

Concept Note

I. Contact Information

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Organization name	BD Broederlijk Delen/Monaster St Benoit de Koubri Programme d'appui aux barrages
Organization address	11 BP 1462 Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso Phone: + 226 50 40 55 86-+ 226 76 68 68 69
Organization type	NGO
Organization website	
Organization description & date established	The BD- NGO established in 1950 is backstopping participatory rural development actions in Burkina Faso with a focus on agricultural development and infrastructure. So far, 80 multi-purpose reservoirs were rehabilitated or built by the NGO between Ouagadougou and Po in southern Burkina Faso. The BD provides technical and organizational support to the community based Organizations such as small reservoirs' committees and women farmers and peasants.

II. Project details

Title of proposal	Scaling out the IWRM implementation in Nakambé basin in Burkina Faso through capacity building and institutionalization
Project duration using grant funds	24 months
Countries of implementation	Burkina Faso

III. Primary CGIAR Center Partner

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IV. Other Partners

Name of Partner Organizations	Department of Geography
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V. Project Questions

1) PROBLEM DEFINITION

In Burkina Faso, the process of decentralization of water resources management is gradually taking place within the action plan of IWRM policy adopted by the government in 2003. Challenges faced by all stakeholders at this stage of the transition in governance are not only socio-economical but also technical, institutional and organizational.

A central element in the success in implementing IWRM policy in Burkina Faso is the refinement of the prevalent institutional framework. “Water Local Committee”, (locally known as *Comités Locaux de l’Eau*), are elected local associations to be involved in the decision making process over the resource at the basin level. The nucleus of such committees is the reservoir committees. A few of them are established recently and yet limited mainly to the present project study area.

Basically, the committees are explicitly recognized as institutional key players in IWRM implementation process in the policy documents. However, for the sake of a true participation, the committees to be established in different agro-ecological zones need to be enough capacitated both in terms of adequate knowledge, skills, organizational and technical assets to become equal partners in the process of implementing IWRM approach.

So far, the NGO in partnership with IWMI and other local institutions are backstopping four committees in Niararlé basin in Burkina Faso to expand their vision beyond the local small reservoir to the basin scale and the aim is to learn from and build up on the small scale exercise to scale out this experience.

The current policy shift is taking place in the complex dilemma of equity, resources stewardship and environmental sustainability that entails competition and conflicts around water resource. Such context is challenging water users, the civil society, the policy makers and the water research community equally. Therefore we believe that all the stakeholders and end users will directly benefit from the outcome of the present initiative.

The project basic hypothesis is that the success of IWRM will depend on effective participation of committees from different agro-ecological zones and the success of the committees in IWRM implementation effort will depend to a large extent on their technical and organizational capacity in planning and management of water resources from a basin perspective.

The project central question

- a. How to scale out the community participation and upgrade governance from four local reservoir committees to the different agro-ecological zones within the IWRM approach
- b. How best to do the technical and organizational capacity strengthening of the 12 reservoir committees and
- c. How would it determine the institutional partnership with other water governing bodies at the basin level and how would this in turn facilitate the transition in governance and implementation of IWRM in Niararlé basin to further optimize community resilience to climate change.

A suitable environment to experiment how to address these issues lies in the profound institutional change taking place around small reservoirs in Burkina Faso. More than 1500 of them are spread all over the country. The NGO operating in Niararlé (BD de Koubri) leading this project in partnership with IWMI and other local institutions is backstopping the implementation of the IWRM policy through empowerment of community based organizations involved in local water management and planning.

2) OBJECTIVES

1. To strengthen the technical and organizational capacity of local water committees for empowering partnership and governance over water resources at the basin scale
2. To foster the capacity of local and basin institutions to achieve adequate anchorage of IWRM policy implementation in Niararlé basin through capacity development and civil society leadership
3. To facilitate the institutionalization of IWRM approach in an inclusive framework to upgrade equity in access and reduce vulnerability of water users under different agro-ecological zones in Burkina Faso
4. Experiment and learn from the capacity building process led by the civil society in policy and research up-take in water resources development and management in Sub Saharan Africa.

3) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The present investigation is linked to two ongoing projects in the same area with different but complementary goals. The first is about hydrological and ecological aspects of small reservoirs. The second is about the use of participatory GIS as a tool in small reservoir water allocation in Niararlé. The current project has a clear demarcation that consists in the focus on institutionalization and anchorage of IWRM approach and practices within the new water policy and also in the focus on research results up-take and implementation. The project will be implemented in a stepwise process throughout the following steps:

1. The first step was in fact initiated in 2006 to ensure ownership and pertinence of the present project with the four reservoir committees, the General Direction of Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Fishery will be further complemented and the three project partners.
2. A capacity development process will be developed and implemented based on local committees' technical and organizational needs with the four local committees on IWRM concepts, tools and practices within the existing institutional environment. Later, we will experiment the outcome of the capacity development process on the effective governance at the local scale
3. Scale out this process to 12 committees selected to consider the agro-ecological diversity and set up a forum federating the local committees at the basin scale with the basin governing bodies including the Basin Agency.
4. Elaborate and test adequate guidelines for further replication of the process by the NGOs, CBOs and The General Direction of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and fishery in Burkina Faso and beyond.

4) INNOVATION

1. Investigating the potential and drawbacks of IWRM institutionalization through community empowerment and effective governance in a continuum from local to basin level.
2. In the project conceptual framework, effective governance through capacity building is linked to agro-ecological vulnerability to ensure equity in power and optimize implementation of IWRM.

5) RELEVANCE and INNOVATIVENESS of PARTNERSHIP

1. Instead of the conventional set up, the project aims at investigating the role of civil society in leading and facilitating IWRM policy implementation in Burkina Faso through better participation and effective governance.

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2. The project will test the feasibility in project monitoring and evaluation process by the communities. In that sense, the project innovation will consist in the introduction of “Project End Users Board” to which our team will be accountable throughout the project life.
3. The project team is already cemented enough during the previous project to work in trans-disciplinary and inclusive environment. The smooth communication and regular joint field work and community workshops fostered the team building process, tasks organization and participatory decision making within the team and with stakeholders.
4. The project support team includes water users, CBOs, researchers with different fields of expertise in water management and policy and institutional issues, administration representative, development practitioners, the General Direction of Water Resources in Burkina Faso.

6) EXPECTED RESULTS

The project will deliver two types of outputs. *Intangible outputs*, including technical and organizational skills and attitudes at individual, community, and organizational level based on the appropriate capacity building and community needs assessment. Whereas *tangible outputs* will consist of:

1. Guidelines on community mobilization and empowerment in IWRM implementation at the basin scale in a civil society led partnership in the Sub Saharan Africa
2. Guidelines on the process of institutionalization of IWRM from the local to basin perspective
3. Document the drawbacks and best practices in the CSO leadership in water governance and participatory implementation of IWRM in water scarce areas in Sub Saharan Africa.

7) REPLICABILITY

Potential replication of the process is ensured through a clear strategy for multiplier factor set for this project. Twelve reservoir committees involved in the present project will become facilitators in a partnership framework where local committees, the BD-NGO, are backstopping The General Direction of Water resources (DGRE) leading the implementation of the IWRM policy at the national level to learn from the drawbacks and shortcomings and build on strengths and bright spots of the present project process.

8) SUSTAINABILITY

The project is based on a co-constructed diagnosis on institutions, resources, ecosystem assets and constraints, conflicts and synergies around water resources at the basin level done in a participatory set of platforms. Community needs (technical and organizational) assessment through a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) to ensure project ownership and sustainability is an ongoing process in the project area. The aim is to deliver a set of technical, institutional and policy options to optimize water allocation over time and space and reduce the vulnerability of community subgroups and ecosystems. The institutional sustainability is ensured through the General Direction of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture that is supporting this application and the civil society leading this initiative.

VI. PROPOSED BUDGET:**Grant funding requested 216,909US\$**

Item	Proposed Budget (US \$)
Personnel	69,700
Research supplies and services	60,000
Equipment	45,000
Training and other knowledge-sharing activities	79,500
Travel	12,500
Communication	15,000
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>281,700</i>
General Administration expenses (10%)	28,170
Total Project cost	309,870
Co-financing and Funding (no less than 30% of total project cost)	92, 961
Grant funding request (no more than 70 % of total project cost)	216,909
Details of co-financing and funding sources	<p><i>In kind contribution</i></p> <p>IWMI : Staff time senior researcher 39,000 \$ * Small reservoir project (SRP 46) funded by CPWF for the first year, and IDRC funded project (Gouvernance et gestion des petits barrages) for the second year.</p> <p>BD Facilitating 3 workshops, community mobilization at the 12 small reservoirs: 25,433 \$ Sister project funded by IDRC (Gouvernance et gestion des petits barrages)</p> <p>University of Ouagadougou Staff time and three students (1 PhD and 2 MSc within the sister project funded by IDRC 30,000 \$</p>