

Country Gender Profile: Burkina Faso

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Summary

Summary of Country Gender Profile in Burkina Faso (2013)
General Situation of Women in Burkina Faso
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Burkina Faso is a landlocked country made up of about 60 ethnic groups, and the social relationship between men and women varies according to ethnic group as each group has its own customs and culture. Also, there is disparity between the social and economic conditions of women in urban and rural areas. The division between men's and women's work is deeply ingrained in Burkina Faso, and women are generally regarded as having a lower status than men.• The government of Burkina Faso has adopted a policy to promote gender equality. It is required to implement activities and conduct reviews based on that policy.• Although the situation of women has improved, it is still necessary to keep in mind the inequality of the sexes due to traditions as well as social and cultural factors. Therefore, continued efforts are required to change the mindset in order to promote gender equality.
Government Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Constitution of Burkina Faso clearly states that men and women are equal. The government has ratified international agreements and treaties related to gender issues, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination.• The poverty reduction strategy paper in 2004 confirmed the importance of gender in development and pointed out the need to adopt a strategy for gender. Thus, the National Gender Policy was established in 2009.
National Machinery
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As of 2013, the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender is national machinery in Burkina Faso and plays a role in the promotion of women's status and gender equality. However, budget shortfalls are a big challenge for the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender.• Gender Groups have been established in each ministry in order to promote gender mainstreaming. However, it is necessary to strengthen the capacity of the Gender Group members.
Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Government of Burkina Faso has adopted a strategic development program for basic education in order to promote basic education. The National Program for Acceleration of Literacy has been adopted to improve the literacy rate. The Government also adopted a National Strategy for Acceleration of Girls' Education in 2012 and prioritizes the promotion of girls' education• The enrollment rate of girls in primary education has been improving, but the enrollment rate and completion rate in secondary education are still low.• It is important to create a favorable environment for girls in order to promote girls' education. Early pregnancy and early marriage are two of the concerns in girls' education.

Health and Hygiene

- Maternal health is considered to be a priority issue in Burkina Faso. There are also extensive activities to address the problems that women face in the areas of reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and water and sanitation.
- There have been improvements in the situation of women in the areas of health and hygiene, but further actions are required to improve their condition. The reason that women have inadequate access to health facilities and insufficient prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs (Sexually transmitted infections) is that women cannot take appropriate actions by themselves or must negotiate with men because of their low social and economic status.

Agriculture

- Agriculture is a major industry in Burkina Faso, and the majority of agricultural production is for self-consumption. Women play a leading role in agricultural production. However, they have difficulty in accessing equipment and credit, and the environment surrounding women is harsh.
- The government has clearly indicated its desire to promote equal access to land for men and women. The law permits equal property rights for men and women. However, it is difficult for women to acquire land, especially in rural areas, which prevents women from becoming economically autonomous.

Economic Activities

- The government of Burkina Faso promotes the revenue-generating activities of women's cooperatives.
- In Burkina Faso, women face difficulties in accessing credit. To counter this, the Support Funds for Women's Revenue Generating Activities was established to finance the activities of women.

List of Abbreviations

AfDB	African Development Bank
CCG	Cadre concertation genre/ Gender Consultation Group
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CNLP	Comité national de lutte contre la pratique de l’excision/ National Committee to fight Circumcision
CSLP	Cadre Stratégique de Lutte contre la Pauvreté/ Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
ECOWAS	Economic Community Of West African States
EU	European Union
FAARF	Fonds d’Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes/ Support Funds for Women’s Revenue Generating Activities
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GGF	Groupeement de Gestion Forestière/ Forest Management Group
HIV/AIDS	Human-Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
PNE	Politique nationale de l’emploi/ National Employment Policy
PNG	Politique nationale genre / National Gender Policy
SCADD	Stratégie de croissance accélérée et de développement durable/ Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development
SNAEF	Stratégie nationale d’accélération de l’éducation des filles/ National Strategy for Acceleration of Girls’ Education
STIs	Sexually transmitted infections
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UNDP	United Nations Development Programs
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO	World Health Organization

Exchange Rate
1FCFA(XOF)=0.173JPY
(January 2013)

This study was conducted between December 2012 and March 2013 by Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting, based on a review of secondary data and a field survey in Burkina Faso. This report was produced as a reference material for JICA to implement its projects in the country. The views and recommendations presented here do not necessarily reflect the official views and opinions of JICA.

Map



1. Basic Profiles

1-1 Social Economic Profile

Social Economic Indicators								Ref.
Social Indicators								
<u>International development indicators</u>		Human Development Index (Value/Rank)		Gender-related development index (Value/Rank)		Gender empowerment measurement (Value)		
	2011	0.331/181		NA		NA		(1)
	2005	0.370/176		0.364/154		NA		(2)
<u>Demographic indicators</u>		Total (millions)		% of urban population		Annual population growth rate	Total fertility rate	(3)
			female population		female population			
	2011	17.0	50.35%	11.59% (2010)	NA	2.99%	5.812	
	2006	14.6	50.51%	9.77%	NA	2.94%	5.998	
		Life expectancy		Households number by head of households (HH)				
		Male	Female	Total	Male-headed	Female-headed		
	2011	54.4	56.4	NA	NA	9.4%(4) (2003)		
	2006	52.1	53.9	NA	NA	NA		
<u>Economic indicators</u>								
		GNI/Capita (USD)	Growth rate of real GDP	GDP implicit deflator	Gini index	Aid/GNI		(3)
	2011	570	4.16%	136.91	39.79 (2009)	NA		
	2006	420	6.77%	110.40	39.6(2003)	NA		
<u>Public sector expenditure on sectors</u>		Health	Education	Social welfare	Defense	Gender	Others	(3)
	2010	13.49%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
	2006	16.21%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
		/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	(3)
	2010	3.43%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
	2006	3.55%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
<u>Industry/GDP</u>		Agriculture	Industry	Service	Others			(3)
	2006	33.28%	22.36%	44.36%	NA			
	2001	36.62%	19.25%	44.13%	NA			
<u>Labor indicators</u>		Total number		Unemployment rate		Minimum wage		(3)
		(thousands)	% female labor force	Total unemployment rate	Female unemployment rate	Male	Female	
	2006	7,544.2 (2010)	47.6% (2010)	2.3%	1.7%	NA	NA	
	1998	5,169.4	48.3%	2.4%	2.6%	NA	NA	
<u>Employment rate</u>		Agriculture	Non-agriculture					(4)
			Industry	Retail	Education	Social Service		
	Total(Thousands)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
	% of female	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		

Gender Gap Subindexes	Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Economic participation and Opportunity	32	(5)
Labor force participation	33	
Wage equality for similar work (survey)	47	
Estimated earned income (PPP USD)	39	

Approaches to gender issues							
<u>Ratification and signature of international conventions and treaties</u>					Year		
Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women					1987	(6)	
Convention on the Rights of the Child					1990	(6)	
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment					1999	(6)	
Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa					2003	(7)	
<u>Women in decision-making(%)</u>							
Government		Seats in parliament	15.3%	Private Sector	Managers	NA	(4)
		Ministerial Position	17.9%		Professional and technical workers	NA	
<u>Policy of Gender</u>					Year	(8)	
Politique Nationale Genre					2009		
<u>Laws of gender</u>					Year		
Constitution					1991	(8)	
Law banning FGM					1996	(9)	
Law on Gender Quota					2009	(10)	
<u>Public organization of gender</u>							
Name of the national machinery: Ministry for the Promotion of Woman and Gender (Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme et du Genre)							

Gender Gap Subindexes	Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Political Empowerment	94	(5)
Women in parliament	83	
Women in ministerial positions	82	
Years with female head of state (last 50)	58	

1-2 Health Profile

Health Indicators								Ref.							
Prevalence of health services		No. of Hospital beds per 1,000 persons		No. of physicians per 1000persons				(3)							
2010		0.4		NA											
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000)		2011		Total		81.6		Female		NA		(3)			
										NA					
2006		Total		146.4		Female		141.6		(4)					
											156.4				
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000)		2011		Total		161.7		Female		NA					
2006		Total		NA		Female		NA							
Prevalence rate associated with tuberculosis (per 100,000)		NA		Total		NA		Female		NA					
Prevalence and death rates associated with infectious diseases		NA		Total		NA		Female		NA					
% of vaccinated (1 year old)		BCG		DPT1		Polio		Measles				(4)			
		NA		91		NA		63							
Reproductive health		2006		Contraceptive prevalence rate		Rate of births attended by trained personnel		Anemia prevalence among pregnant women		(4)					
		17.4%		53.5%		NA									
2011		Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 birth)		Total fertility rate		Average age of first marriage		(4)							
		300 (2010)		5.812		Female: 19.4 (2003) Male: 26.1									
Nutrition		Children underweight for age (under 5)		Oral re-hydration therapy use rate		Iodine deficiency		(4)							
		2009		7%		NA		NA							
		2003		16.6%		NA		NA							
Community health service		Access to safe water				Access to improved sanitation				(4)					
		Total		Urban		Rural		Total		Urban		Rural			
		2010		79%		NA		NA		37% (11)		87% (11)		13% (11)	
		2005		70%		NA		NA		NA		NA		NA	
HIV/AIDS		HIV prevalence						% of population aged with comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS		(3)					
		Total		Male		Female									
								Pregnant women		Male		Female			
		2011		1.1%		0.3%		0.6%		NA		NA		NA	
2006		1.5%		NA		NA		NA		NA		NA			

Gender Gap Subindexes			Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Health and survival			100/135 countries	(5)
Sex ratio at birth (female/male)			1	
Healthy life expectancy			104	

1-3 Education Profile

Education Indicators								Ref.
Education systems	Primary	6 years	Secondary	6 or 7years	Tertiary	NA		(12)
Adult literacy rate	Total	28.3%	Male	36.7%	Female	21%		(12)
Primary education								
Enrollment (net)	2011	Total	63.2%	Male	65.2%	Female	61.1%	(3)
	2005		43.5%		48.3%		38.5%	
Progression rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA	
Drop-out rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA	
Secondary education								
Enrollment (net)	2011	Total	17.5%	Male	19.4%	Female	15.5%	(3)
	2005		10.6%		12.4%		8.8%	
Progression rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA	
Drop-out rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA	
Tertiary education								
Enrollment (gross)	2011	Total	3.9%	Male	5.1%	Female	2.5%	(3)
	2005		2.1%		2.9%		1.3%	
Progression rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA	
Drop-out rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA	
Tertiary level enrolment by field of study by gender								
Female	2011	Education	Arts	Sociology, business, law	Social science	Health	Engineering, manufacture, construction	(4)
			18.43%	21.86%	34.11%	9.10%	45.45%	
		Service	Agriculture	Science	Others		9.09%	
			18.14%	23.9%	16.28%	54.55%		

Gender Gap Subindexes		Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Educational Attainment		125	(5)
Literacy rate		130	
Enrollment in primary education		121	
Enrollment in secondary education		122	
Enrollment in tertiary education		125	

Reference:

- (1) *Human Development Report*, UNDP, 2011.
- (2) *Human Development Report*, UNDP, 2007/2008.
- (3) World Development Indicators.
- (4) *Gender Statistics*, World Bank.
- (5) World Economic Forum, *the Gender Gap Report 2012*.
- (6) UN Web site: <http://treaties.un.org/>
- (7) African Commission on Human Rights : <http://www.achpr.org/instruments/women-protocol/>

- (8) Ministère de la promotion de la femme, *Document de la politique nationale genre du Burkina Faso*, octobre 2009.
- (9) Population Council, *Analyse de l'évolution de la pratique de l'excision au Burkina Faso*, mars 2006.
- (10) Quota Project Website : <http://www.quotaproject.org/uid/countryview.cfm?country=22>
- (11) Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Hydraulique, *Enquête nationale sur l'accès des ménages aux ouvrages d'assainissement familial 2010, Monographie Nationale*, octobre 2011.
- (12) *Tableau de bord de l'Education de Base Année scolaire 2010/2011*, Ministère de l'Education nationale et de l'alphabétisation, 2011.

2. General Situation of Women and Government Policy on Gender

2-1 General Situation of Women in Burkina Faso

General Situation of Women in Burkina Faso

- 1) Burkina Faso is a landlocked country made up of about 60 ethnic groups, and the social relationship between men and women varies according to ethnic group as each group has its own customs and culture. Also, there is disparity between the social and economic conditions of women in urban and rural areas. The division between men's and women's work is deeply ingrained in Burkina Faso, and women are generally regarded as having a lower status than men.
- 2) The government of Burkina Faso has adopted a policy to promote gender equality. It is required to implement activities and conduct reviews based on that policy.
- 3) Although the situation of women has improved, it is still necessary to keep in mind the inequality of the sexes due to traditions as well as social and cultural factors. Therefore, continued efforts are required to change the mindset in order to promote gender equality.

[General situation]

Burkina Faso is a land locked country in Sub-Sahara Africa. It achieved independence in 1960 as Upper Volta (Haute Volta), and its name was later changed in 1984 to Burkina Faso, which means “the country of honorable people.” From a political standpoint, President Compaoré has been President since 1991, being re-elected in 1998, 2005, and 2010.

At the administrative level, Burkina Faso is composed of 13 regions, 45 provinces, 350 departments, 350 communes, and 8,228 villages. Burkina Faso has about 60 ethnic groups, out of which Mossi is the largest group and makes up more than 40% of the population. Other ethnic groups include Peulh, Touaregue, etc. The main religion of the country is Islam at 60.5% of the population, followed by Catholicism at 19%, animism at 15.35%, and Protestant at 4.2%¹.

Burkina Faso is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 183rd out of 187 countries in the 2013 Human Development Index. The poverty rate is 43.9% (2009), which means that the half of the population lives under poverty line². Regional disparities in the poverty rate are large, with a poverty rate of 68.1% in the Northern region, 62.2% in the Eastern region is 62.2%, and 56% in the Boucle du

¹ See CIA, World Fact Book. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/uv.html>

² The poverty line is 108,454 FCFA per year. The poverty line includes the food poverty line and non-food poverty line. The food poverty line is 75,315 FCFA, and non-food poverty line is 33,139 FCFA.

Mouhoun region³.

The main industry in Burkina Faso is agriculture, and the main export items include cotton and shea butter. In addition, the mining sector has flourished because of country's rich natural resources, and gold has become the top export commodity.

[General situation of women]

Since each ethnic group has its own customs and culture, the social relationship between men and women varies according to the group. In addition, there is disparity between the social and economic conditions of women in urban and rural areas. In general, women are subordinate to men in Burkina Faso. However, Peulh women are less subordinate to men compared to Mossi women. In addition, in regards to succession, Mossi is a patrilineal group, but in the west and southwest regions, there are some matrilineal groups and groups of dual descent (Lobis, Dagaras, etc.)⁴.

Concerning girls' enrollment in primary school, the disparity between urban and rural areas remains wide. There are several factors that prevent girls from continuing their education. For example, there is a socially ingrained idea that girls should do household chores rather than go to school. In addition, the society believes that girls marry into the husband's family, so it is a waste of money to invest in girls and that the money is better invested in boys. Another problem is the custom of forced marriage. Girls under the legal age for marriage are forced into unregistered marriages. In addition, at school, there are many cases where girls become pregnant due to violence by other students, teachers, and tutors, and they then drop out of school. The ratio of married children aged 12 to 17 is 6.5% at the national level and varies in each region. The ratio in the central region is 2.1%, while the ratio in Sahel is 16.4%. A study conducted in 2006 found that one of every 25 women had married before the age of 15⁵.

Gender based violence (GBV) poses a serious problem in Burkina Faso. Although female genital mutilation (FGM) is prohibited by law, the practice is still persists in the country and affects women's health.

3 Ministère de l'économie et des finances, Analyses de quelques résultats des données de la phase principale de l'enquête intégrale sur les conditions de vie des ménages, *EICVM 2009*, septembre 2010, p.2.

4 Ministère de l'économie des finances, *Etude pour la Formulation de la Politique nationale Genre du Burkina Faso Draft 3*, mars 2008.

5 UNICEF, *Analyse de la situation de la pauvreté et de la vulnérabilité de l'enfant et de la femme au Burkina Faso*, décembre 2010.

[Representation in the decision-making process]

The Minister of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender is a woman, and 5 out of the 32 ministers in Burkina Faso (15.6%) are women. At the present, women account for only about 20 out of the 127 seats in the parliament. The percentage of women in various positions in 2009 is as follows⁶.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governors: 2 women (total 13): 15%• Mayors: 23 women (total 351): 5%• Municipal assembly members: 6,400 women (total 17,800): 35.8%• Ambassadors: 4 women (Total 28): 14.28%• Consulate generals: 1 woman (Total 5): 20% |
|--|

The government supports the female parliamentarians. For example, it promotes the participation of female representatives in various parliamentary commissions and assists their activities. It has also held workshops and training to teach female candidates about conducting an election campaign⁷.

[Issues originating in religious and traditional customs]

In the Burkinabe society, there exists a deeply-rooted, andocentric idea that women are inferior to men, and that they are under tutelage of men. There are many ethnic groups in the country, and each of them has a different culture and traditions, including polygamy. Among these ethnic groups, Mossi has a male-oriented society.

The division between men's and women's work is a deeply ingrained concept in Burkinabe society. Similar to other African countries, fetching water and other household chores are considered to be a woman's job. In addition, women are engaged in growing crops for the family, and they have a heavy work load, which prevents girls' education and women's social advancement. In many cases, women are not allowed to marry based on their own free will. Furthermore, there is a tradition of early marriage in Burkina Faso. However, the issue of early pregnancy and birth resulting from early marriage poses many problems, such as problems in women's health, education, and the promotion of women's social and economic position. The tradition of levirate, which requires a widow to marry her belated husband's brother, is still practiced in rural areas. Along with polygamy, this tradition has been one of the reasons for the spread of sexually-transmitted infections.

⁶ FNUP, *Rapport national, Bilan de la Mise en œuvre du programme d'action de la conférence internationale sur la population et le développement quinze ans après (CIPD +15)*, p.16.

⁷ From interviews with the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender.

The custom of female genital mutilation is ingrained in the society, even though it was banned by law in 1996, and people are aware of harmful effects of this practice. However, there are people who make a living on FGM, such as circumcisers, and these people continue to conduct FGM. The practice of FGM poses a serious problem to women's health.

From an economic standpoint, women face many difficulties since their right to property ownership is not widely acknowledged. Generally, women have no right of succession. Furthermore, although the laws do not prohibit women's access to land, it is extremely difficult for women to acquire land in rural areas. This lack of property makes accessing credit much more difficult. This vicious cycle results in a framework within which women are dependent on men.

In addition, in rural areas, there are cases where older women that have no money or children are expelled from their village after being accused of being a witch. This practice has an aspect of the social exclusion of vulnerable older women and requires special attention.

2-2 Government Policy on Gender

Government Policy on Gender

- 1) The Constitution of Burkina Faso clearly states that men and women are equal. The government has ratified international agreements and treaties related to gender issues, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination.
- 2) The poverty reduction strategy paper in 2004 confirmed the importance of gender in development and pointed out the need to adopt a strategy for gender. Thus, the National Gender Policy was established in 2009.

[Government policy on gender]

The government of Burkina Faso adopted the National Gender Policy (Politique nationale genre: PNG) in 2009, which addresses and promotes gender equality. In December 2012, the First Lady of Burkina Faso held a meeting to support the PNG, indicating that the government wants to promote gender equality.

Burkina Faso ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination in 1987 and the Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa in 2003.

Burkina Faso's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (Cadre Stratégique de Lutte contre la Pauvreté: CSLP) has 11 principles. The fifth principle deals with gender. It confirms the importance of women in socio-economic development and recommends the establishment of a national strategy for gender. Consequently, the government conducted a redaction with assistance from donors and adopted the document of National Gender Policy in 2009.

The overall objective of the National Gender Policy is to “promote equitable and participatory development of men and women, as well as ensure access, equal control, equal access to resources, and equal access to the decision-making process, in respect to fundamental rights.”

Specific objectives of PNG

1. Promote equal rights and equal opportunities in terms of access and control of basic social services
2. Promote participatory economic development, as well as access to and more equitable distribution of income and resources
3. Develop equal participation of men and women in the decision-making process at all levels
4. Promote the institutionalization of gender in all areas
5. Promote a dynamic partnership for gender and development
6. Develop mechanisms and an awareness in all stakeholders in order to bring about a change in behavior and attitudes towards equity and equality in the relationships between men and women

[Women and the national development plan]

The current national development plan of Burkina Faso is the “Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development (Stratégie de croissance accélérée et de développement durable: SCADD) for 2011-2015” adopted in December 2010. SCADD recognizes the importance of gender, such as equality in school enrollment and literacy education, promotion of women’s status, gender mainstreaming in all sectors, and achievement of accelerated growth. SCADD has 8 goals, of which the fourth goal is to “Promote the (autonomy) independence of women and equality between men and women” and the sixth goal is to “Improve maternal health.” Although the other goals do not specifically mention woman, through the goals to “Ensure an education for everyone” (third goal), “Reduce the mortality rate of children under 5 years of age” (fifth goal), and “HIV/AIDS, malaria” (seventh goal), it is important to reach out to girls and women.

SCADD set four strategic axes, the fourth of which is to give consideration to the cross-cutting priorities in the development of policies and programs where gender is cited.

Specific objectives of SCADD

1. Achieve a real GDP average growth rate of 10%
2. Alleviate extreme poverty and hunger
3. Assure a primary education for all people
4. Promote gender equality and the autonomy of women
5. Reduce the mortality of children less than 5 years old
6. Improve maternal health
7. Combat and prevent HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases

Strategic axes of SCADD

1. Develop the pillars of accelerated growth
2. Consolidate human capital and promote social protection
3. Reinforce governance
4. Take into account the cross-cutting priorities in the development of policies and programs

[Gender-related laws and regulations]

In terms of national laws, the Constitution ratified on June 2, 1991 stipulates in Part 1, Article 1 that the basic rights and obligations to which all nationals in Burkina Faso are free and equal, and all discrimination on the grounds of sex is prohibited.

In 1996, a law banning FGM was adopted. However, there has been no progress in the monitoring and implementation of this law, and the practice of FGM still persists in the country.

The law passed on April 16, 2009 stipulates a gender quota for elections⁸. This law requires that 30% of the candidates listed in local and legislative election be women.

⁸ Loi No. 010-2009 /AN du 16 avril portant fixation de quota aux élections législatives et aux élections municipales au Burkina Faso.

Table: Gender related laws and regulations in Burkina Faso

Laws and regulations	Year	Contents
Constitution	1991	Prohibits any discrimination on the grounds of sex, and stipulates equality between men and women
Law banning FGM	1996	Prohibits FGM
Law on Gender Quota	2009	30% of candidates in local and legislative election should be women

Source: From interviews and the Quota Project

Quota Project website: <http://www.quotaproject.org/uid/countryview.cfm?country=22>

2-3 National Machinery for the Advancement of Women

The Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender

- 1) As of 2013, the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender is national machinery in Burkina Faso and plays a role in the promotion of women's status and gender equality. However, budget shortfalls are a big challenge for the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender.
- 2) Gender Groups have been established in each ministry in order to promote gender mainstreaming. However, it is necessary to strengthen the capacity of the Gender Group members.

[Background]

The predecessor of the present Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender was established by the decree issued on June 19, 1997⁹ regarding the realization of an institutional mechanism for the advancement of women as stated in the strategic objectives and actions in the Platform of Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995. The role of the ministry is to implement and monitor the policies of the Burkina Faso government in terms of women's social and economic improvement.

In 2013, the institution was reorganized, and the term “gender” was added to the name of the ministry, resulting in the current Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender (Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme et de Genre). This change shows that Burkina Faso is trying to confront gender issues not only from the perspective of improving women's status but also from a grander perspective.

⁹ Décret n°97-270/PRES/PM.

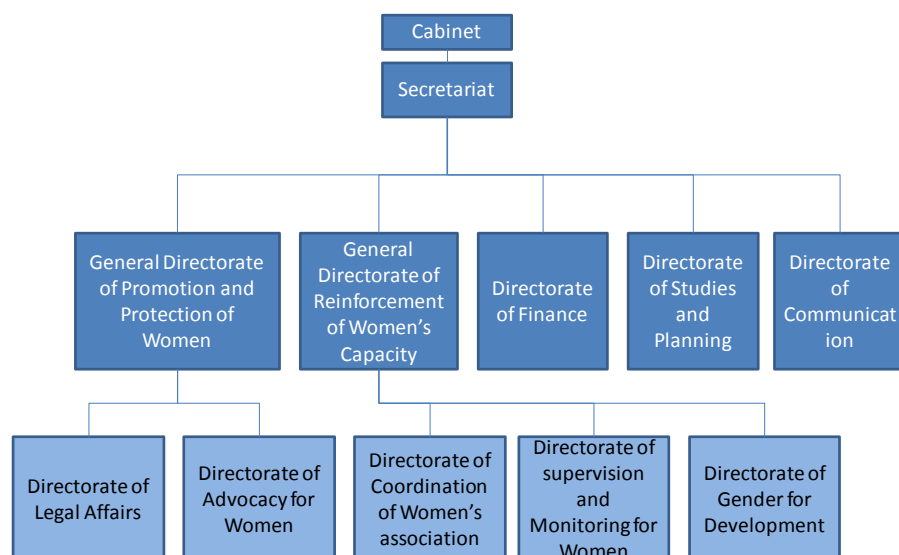
[Outline of the national machinery]

Name of the national machinery	Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender (Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme du Genre)
Year established	1997
Budget	902 million FCFA (of which national budget is 357 million FCFA)(2012)
Objectives	Implementation and monitoring of government policies for the improvement of women's status
Roles	Planning, monitoring, and evaluation of improvements in women's status Promotion of equality between men and women Promotion of reproductive health rights Advocacy activities with the Ministry of Human Rights and Civic Promotion Coordination of activities for women with other organizations Monitoring and evaluation of the impacts of the activities conducted by NGOs and female associations Planning and monitoring of the National Gender Policy with the other related governmental organizations.

Source: From the website of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender and interviews

<http://www.mpf.gov.bf/index.php/le-ministere/organisation/attributionsmissions>

[Organization chart]



(*)This organization chart is for the Ministry for Promotion of Women

Source: Website of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender

There is also a National Council for Gender Promotion (Conseil National pour la Promotion du genre) that promotes gender equality. Presided over by the prime minister, this Council consists of all ministries, all gender groups (Cellule Genre), and all civil society organizations. The Council also has a permanent

secretary. Council meetings are held twice a year. However, since there are about 300 participants who attend the Council meetings and the cost of hosting the meeting is high, only 1 meeting was held in 2012.

[Main activities of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender]

●Project regarding the issuance of birth certificates to women

In Burkina Faso, 41.9% of women in rural areas and 10.7% of women in urban areas do not have a birth certificate, and about 3 millions Burkinabe women's are not officially recognized¹⁰. Without a birth certificate, women cannot receive a national identity certificate, and thus, they have no access to administrative procedures. In addition, they cannot conduct transactions with financial organizations, such as banks, and they cannot officially marry. Furthermore, their access to land and freedom of movement is also restricted. Women without a birth certificate are also sometimes unable to receive assistance for economic independence. For these reasons, a program entitled "Operation: one woman, one birth certificate (Opération une femme, un acte de naissance)" began in September 2012 for a period of one year in cooperation with the other ministries in order to issue birth certificates to 2 million women.

Table: Ratio of persons without a birth certificate or identity card

Area	Birth Certificate		Identity Cards	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Urban	10.7%	6.9%	24.9%	10.3%
Rural	41.9%	29.3%	60.1%	24.3%
Total	34.5%	23.9%	50.8%	20%

Source : Website of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender

(<http://www.mpf.gov.bf/index.php/accueil/35-les-grands-evenements/88-termes-de-reference-de-loperation-une-femme-un-acte-de-naissance>)

●Review of discriminatory dispositions under the Family Code¹¹

The Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender also works to revise the discriminatory dispositions under the Family code. At present, the legal marriage age for women is 16, but it will be raised to 18 as required by the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women.

¹⁰ Web site of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender : L'appel du ministre de la promotion de la femme: <http://www.mpf.gov.bf/index.php/accueil/35-les-grands-evenements/88-termes-de-reference-de-loperation-une-femme-un-acte-de-naissance>

¹¹ Web site of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender "Révision des dispositions discriminatoires au code des personnes et de la famille." <http://www.mpf.gov.bf/index.php/politiques/nos-projets/86-revision-des-dispositions-discriminatoires-au-code-des-personnes-et-de-la-famille>

- Training of female candidates in elections¹²

The Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender supports female candidates as the number of female representatives is still small.

- (1) Training for women on leadership
- (2) Know-how on running an election campaign

[Other ministries]

Gender Groups (Cellule Genre) have been established within all ministries. Each Gender Group is made up of the officials who belong to that ministry, and the ratio of men to women is 50:50. Action Plans for Gender issues has been established in each ministry. However, it is necessary to strengthen the capacity of the Gender Group members¹³.

- Ministry of Human Rights and Civic Promotion (Ministère des Droits Humains et de la Promotion Civique) (established in 2002)

Objective: Implement and monitor the promotion of human rights

As opposed to the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender, the Ministry of Human Rights and Civic Promotion's scope is all people, not just women. Therefore, its advocacy activities are aimed at all persons. However, depending on the theme, sometimes only women are the target. For example, as an advocacy activity for elections, women are targeted as a group with low voter participation.

Roles

Protection of Human Rights

- Provide information, training and advocacy activities to all people
- Disseminate documents related to human rights
- Support civil societies in regards to the promotion and protection of human rights
- Promote a culture of peace and human rights

Promotion of individual and collective rights

- Protection of individual and collective rights by the government
- Implementation and monitoring of international agreements and treaties concerning the protection and promotion of human rights

¹² Website of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender.

<http://www.mpf.gov.bf/index.php/accueil/23-programmes/85-formation-des-femmes-candidates-aux-elections>

¹³ From interviews with the ministries and donors.

- Implementation of measures to resolve and prevent violence against human rights
- Promotion of the rights of vulnerable groups, such as women, children, the elderly, and disabled people

Promotion of Civics

- Promotion of civics is a new role of the ministry¹⁴.
- Promotion of civic education
- Peace
- Promotion of social economic rules
- Promotion of civics in the area of politics

¹⁴ From interviews with the Ministry of Human Rights and Civics Promotion.

3. Current Situation of Women by Sector

3-1 Education

Education

- 1) The Government of Burkina Faso has adopted a strategic development program for basic education in order to promote basic education. The National Program for Acceleration of Literacy has been adopted to improve the literacy rate. The Government also adopted a National Strategy for Acceleration of Girls' Education in 2012 and prioritizes the promotion of girls' education
- 2) The enrollment rate of girls in primary education has been improving, but the enrollment rate and completion rate in secondary education are still low.
- 3) It is important to create a favorable environment for girls in order to promote girls' education. Early pregnancy and early marriage are two of the concerns in girls' education.

[Government policies]

In 2002, Burkina Faso implemented the 10-year Plan for Basic Education (Plan décennal de développement de l'éducation de base) for the period from 2000 to 2009. Following the completion of the plan, the Strategic Development Program for Basic Education (Programme de Développement Stratégique de l'Éducation de Base: PDSEB) for 2012-2021, was adopted in May 2012.

The Ministry of National Education and Literacy (Ministère de l'éducation nationale et l'alphabétisation) is the ministry with jurisdiction over primary education and literacy education. The Directorate on the Promotion of Girls' Education (Direction de la promotion de l'éducation des filles) has been established to promote girls' education. Secondary and higher education are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Secondary and Superior Education (Ministère des enseignements secondaire et supérieur)¹⁵, and the Directorate on Girls' Education and Gender Promotion (Direction de l'éducation des Filles et de la Promotion du Genre) has been established. The policy for secondary education, higher education, and scientific research, the Sob Sector Policy for secondary education, higher education, and Scientific Research (Politique sous-sectorielle des Enseignements secondaire, supérieur, et de la Recherche scientifique), for the period from 2010-2025 has been adopted at a ministerial conference.

In regards to literacy education, against the backdrop of the low literacy rate in which less than one third of all people in Burkina Faso are literate, the National Program for Acceleration of Literacy by 2015

¹⁵ The former Ministry of Secondary and Superior Education and Scientific Research (Ministère des enseignements secondaire, supérieur et de la recherche scientifique).

(Programme national d'accélération de l'Alphabétisation d'ici à 2015: PRONAA 2015) has been established.

[Gender perspectives in the educational development plan]

The government of Burkina Faso announced the “National Strategy for Acceleration of Girls’ Education (Stratégie nationale d’accélération de l’éducation des filles:SNAEF) with the participation of donors and related ministries in recognition of the need to further achieve education for all and MDGs, and SNAEF was adopted June 19, 2012. The objective of SNAEF is to contribute to all persons obtaining an education by 2010 by reducing gender disparities through the creation of favorable conditions for the acceleration of girls’ education in terms of access, retention and success in the three areas of education, including non-formal education and vocational training.

SNAEF consists of the following nine strategic axes. Advocacy activities, the construction of schools, and support for teachers and students’ mothers are conducted based on SNAEF.

Nine Strategic Axes of SNAEF

1. Social mobilization for girl’s education
2. Reinforcement of the capacities of the actors and structures in the promotion of girls’ education
3. Improvement of the school environment (pre-school, primary, and post-primary education)
4. Acceleration of girls’ access to basic education
5. Promotion of actions to retain girls in the educational system
6. Improvements to the results of girls at school
7. Development of actions against violence towards girls in the family and at school
8. Reinforcement of the capacities of the institutions in charge of girls’ education (pre-school, primary, and post-primary education)
9. Promotion of informal basic education as well as technical and vocational training

[Primary education]

The educational system in Burkina Faso consists of a 3-year preschool education, 6-year primary education (elementary school) 4-year post-primary education (lower secondary education) (junior high school), and 3-year secondary education (high school). The education laws passed in July 2007 made the 10-years of primary and post-primary education compulsory¹⁶.

¹⁶ JICA “Research on the basic education sector : Burkina Faso” 2012.

The net enrollment ratio in primary education in 2010 was 63.2% overall, and 65.2% for boys and 61.1% for girls¹⁷. The enrollment rate of girls in primary education has significantly improved, with the male-to-female ratio increasing from 71.3% in 2000 to 88.7% in 2009 and 92.7% in 2011.

Although there have been improvements, there still remain a number of challenges in terms of the completion rate of primary education. The completion rate for girls increased from 42.5% in 2009 to 49.1% in 2010. For boys, the completion rate rose from 49.2% in 2009 to 55.1% in 2010¹⁸. In addition, there are net disparities among regions. The enrollment rate (gross) in Sahel is low at and 46.2% for boys and 42.9% for girls (Total: 44.6%). In the eastern region, the enrollment (gross) rate for girls is 52.6% (Total: 53.6%, Boys: 54.5%). The total completion rate in the Sahel region is 27.8% (Girls: 25.1%, Boys: 30.4%), and in the eastern region it is 37.7% (Girls: 35.3%, Boys: 40%).

In primary education, the number of female teachers has been increasing. In 2009 the proportion of female teacher was 35.6%, but it rose to 37.3% in 2010.

The following table shows the net primary education enrollment rates in Burkina Faso and other African countries.

Table: Net enrollment in primary education in Burkina Faso and other African countries

Country	Total (%)	Girls (%)	Boys (%)	Year
Burkina Faso	63.17	61.09	65.19	2011
Benin	89.14	NA	NA	2008
Côte d'Ivoire	61.48	55.82	67.11	2009
Niger	62.49	56.61	68.04	2011

Source: World Development Indicators

[Secondary education]

In secondary education, the net enrollment rate of girls has improved. In lower secondary education, the net enrollment of girls in 2007 was 13.5% (Total: 16.1%, Boys: 18.7%), but it increased to 15.5% in 2010 (Total: 17.5%, Boys: 19.5%) and 17.3% (Total: 19%, Boys: 20.8%) in 2011. The completion rate of girls is 17.7% (Total 20.3%, Boys: 23%). In regards to high school, the completion rate of girls is low, and there have been no significant improvements. The completion rate for girls is just 6% (Total: 8%,

¹⁷ World Development Indicators.

¹⁸ MENA, *Tableau de bord de l'éducation de base, Année scolaire 2010/2011*.

Boys: 10.5%)¹⁹.

One of the problems with secondary education is that there is competition to enter junior-high schools because of the small number of schools. Therefore, both boys and girls face difficulties when trying to enter junior-high school. However, the rate of enrollment of girls is less than that of boys. This is partly due to the fact that parents cannot afford the education costs for girls. Since there are few secondary schools in rural areas, girls in rural areas have to find somewhere safe and secure to live in urban areas. Since there are few schools with dormitories, they end up living in with their relatives, and often, the parents cannot afford the costs. Another reason for the low enrollment rate is the hesitation or unwillingness of the parents to allow their girls to attend secondary schools in urban areas because they are afraid of the high risk of early pregnancy. Furthermore, the completion rate of girls poses another problem. Girls face many obstacles in the completion of their studies. For example, many girls quit school because of gender based violence (undesired pregnancy).

The number of teachers across the country is 9,532, but there are only 1,848 female teachers²⁰.

The following table shows the secondary education (gross) enrollment rates and the proportion of female teachers in Burkina Faso and other African countries.

Table: Secondary school enrollment and the proportion of female teachers

	Secondary School Enrollment (%, gross)			% of Female Teachers	Year
	Total	Girls	Boys		
Burkina Faso	22.60	19.76	25.35	16.27	2011
Benin	51.40	38.70	64.24	12.30	2011
Côte d'Ivoire	27.14	19.36	34.91	NA	2002
Niger	14.44	11.34	17.52	19.35	2011

(*) the Benin data for the ratio of female teachers is from 2004

Source: World Development Indicators

[Tertiary education]

Tertiary education is provided by universities, grandes ecoles, private research institutes, and public research institutes. There were 33,515 students enrolled in tertiary education in 2006 and this figure increased to 41,779 in 2007. However, enrollment in tertiary education is still low at 293 per 100,000 people, and the male-to-female ration was only 0.45 in 2007.

¹⁹ MESS, *Annuaire Statistique de l'Enseignement Secondaire 2011-2012*, p.27, p.30. MESS.

²⁰ *Annuaire Statistique de l'Enseignement Secondaire 2011-2012*, p.109.

The shortage of teachers has caused problems in tertiary education. The number of female teachers is small, and the ratio of female teachers is just 10.26%²¹.

The following table shows the enrollment rates in tertiary education (gross) in Burkina Faso and other African countries.

Table: Gross enrollment in tertiary education in Burkina Faso and other African countries

	Total	Girls	Boys	Year
Burkina Faso	3.86	2.55	5.14	2011
Benin	13.31	5.60	21.19	2011
Côte d'Ivoire	8.28	5.69	10.86	2009
Niger	1.51	0.86	2.25	2011

Source: World Development Indicators

[Literacy education]

According to statistics by MENA²², the adult literacy rate is 28.3% in Burkina Faso. The rate is particularly low for women, with just 21% of adult women being literate. The adult male literacy rate is 36.7%. There are no statistical literacy rates by gender for urban and rural areas; however the literacy rate in urban areas is 62.9% compared to 19.2% in rural areas, which indicates a gap between urban and rural areas. The low literacy rate of women creates a major hindrance to their economic and social improvement, which has been pointed out during the course of the interviews.

MENA is in charge of literacy education, and it tries to connect literacy education to revenue-generating activities as a means of improving the impact of literacy education²³.

The following table shows the adult literacy rates in Burkina Faso and other African countries.

²¹ Ministère des enseignements secondaire, supérieur, et de la recherche scientifique, Politique sous-sectorielle des Enseignements secondaire, supérieur et de la recherche scientifique 2010-2025, décembre 2009.

²² MENA, *Tableau de bord de l'éducation de base, Année scolaire 2010/2011*.

²³ From interviews with MENA.

Table: Adult literacy rates in Burkina Faso and other African countries

	Total	Women	Men	Year
Burkina Faso	28.73	21.58	36.68	2007
Benin	42.36	30.26	55.17	2010
Côte d'Ivoire	56.17	46.61	65.17	2010
Niger	28.67	15.08	42.93	2005

Source: World Development Indicators

[Vocational training and technical education]

In terms of vocational training and technical education, the national policy for technical professions (Politique nationale d'enseignement et de formation technique et professionnels) was adopted at a ministerial meeting in 2008 and positions the promotion of women's employment as a priority.

The ratio of women in technical and professional educational institutions is 43.9% (2011). In addition, there are regional disparities. In the central region, the ratio of women is 50.6%, but in other regions, the ratio is lower. For example, the ratio of women is 39.9% in the eastern region and 35.9% in the southeastern region.

[Teachers]

In general, there is a need to improve the quality of teachers as well as to increase the number of teachers in order to improve the quality of education in Burkina Faso.

There are more male teachers than female teachers in Burkina Faso. Generally, teachers tend to avoid rural areas, but for female teachers, it is much more difficult to work in rural areas as it is hard for them either to leave their families or bring their families to their place of assignment. Therefore, female teachers often negotiate to avoid rural assignments, which delays their arrival at their place of assignment. In Burkina Faso, the number of teaching hours is low, and these delays further reduce the total number of teaching hours. Therefore, the problems that female teachers face affect the education the children receive²⁴.

²⁴ From interviews with JICA projects.

Diverse problems affecting the enrollment of girls in school

The government and donors recognize the necessity of creating a favorable environment that enables girls to remain in school and continue their schooling to all the levels of education.

- Girls cannot go to schools because of household chores
- Gender based violence, including early marriage and undesired pregnancy
- Socio-cultural prejudice to women : Priority is given to boys' education

In addition, the kidnapping of girls by men who work in the mines or cotton industry has become a social problem in Burkina Faso. These incidents happen often in the Sahel region, but there are no statistics on the issue. There are various cases of kidnapping, but in the majority of cases, workers with money obtain the consent of girls aged 12-13 or of their families and then elope together. These girls are thus unable to continue their education. With the help of the police, a search is initiated, but if the couple flees to a foreign country, it is difficult to locate them. Therefore, there is a growing awareness of advocacy activities for girls and their families in regards to this matter.

3-2 Health and Hygiene

Health and Hygiene

- 1) Maternal health is considered to be a priority issue in Burkina Faso. There are also extensive activities to address the problems that women face in the areas of reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and water and sanitation.
- 2) There have been improvements in the situation of women in the areas of health and hygiene, but further actions are required to improve their condition. The reason that women have inadequate access to health facilities and insufficient prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs is that women cannot take appropriate actions by themselves or must negotiate with men because of their low social and economic status.

[Government policy]

The government of Burkina Faso has adopted a National Policy of Health (Politique nationale de santé) and has implemented activities based on the National Development Plan for Health (Plan national de développement sanitaire) for 2011-2020. The plan positions the issue of maternal health as an important issue and clarifies that the cause of maternal death is HIV/AIDS, malaria, anemia, and hemoglobin anomalies. It also presents the practices that have a negative impact on women, including FGM, early marriage, levirate and demands for a widow to marry her husband's brother, abortion, difficulties in accessing health facilities, and the quality of health service.

[Health]

The national maternal mortality rate was 129 per 100,000 births in 2000. The rate differs in each region, and in the Sahel region, it was 253, much higher than national average. Prenatal checkups are free and include HIV/AIDS testing, which helps increase the number of people who receive prenatal checkups.

Women face difficulties in accessing health and medical service in part because of geographic problems, but also, their inferior social and economic position prevents them from receiving appropriate health and medical services. For example, women need advance permission from their husbands before they take their children to a health center. If they go without permission, they will have to pay for the transportation and medication.

The following table shows maternal mortality rates (per 100,000 births) in Burkina Faso and other African countries.

Table: Maternal mortality rates in Burkina Faso and other African countries

	Maternal mortality rate	Number of maternal deaths	Year
Burkina Faso	300	2,100	2010
Benin	350	1,200	2010
Côte d'Ivoire	400	2,700	2010
Niger	590	4,500	2010

Source: World Development Indicators

[Water and sanitation]

Similar to other African countries, retrieving water is generally the job of women and children. Fetching water as part of the household chores takes time, and it keeps women away from revenue-generating activities and girls away from school²⁵.

In regards to sanitation, the low literacy rate and the problem of local languages makes it difficult to advocate hygiene on the local level. In addition, inadequate access to sanitation facilities and insufficient knowledge on hygiene is the cause of various water-related diseases. Furthermore, many schools do not offer separate toilets for boys and girls. They are only equipped with unisex toilets, which indicates a lack of sensitivity towards girls. In fact, the lack of toilets for girls is one of the reasons girls do not continue schooling.

[Reproductive health]

The government of Burkina Faso has adopted the Strategic Plan for Securing Reproductive Health Products (Plan stratégique de sécurisation des produits de santé de la reproduction). The plan aims to ensure access to contraceptives, provide quality reproductive health services, and subsidize the purchase of contraceptives. In 2010, the ratio of contraceptive use was 28.3%, and it has since risen to 34.2%²⁶.

In Burkina Faso, children are generally considered to be bestowed by God, so people do not accept the idea of limiting the number of children. In this regard, the Ministry of Health must address the challenges faced in reproductive health, which are characterized by the “4 excesses (quatre trop)”: too early pregnancies; too narrow intervals between deliveries; too many deliveries; too late deliveries (over

²⁵ From interviews with the Ministry of Water, Agricultural Hydraulic and Sanitation.

²⁶ Ministère de la santé, *Santé Annuaire 2011*.

40 years old) ²⁷.

[HIV/AIDS and STIs]

HIV/AIDS measures have been implemented under the strong initiative of the President. It is the President who presides over the National Council of the Fight against AIDS (Conseil national de lutte contre le SIDA). In the Ministry of Health, the Sectorial Health Program to fight against HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) (Programme sectoriel santé de lutte contre le VIH/SIDA et les IST) was established and work has begun from the three main activities of: prevention, including testing and advocacy activities; medicine for HIV/AIDS; and monitoring of diseases. Against the backdrop of these activities, HIV prevalence has fallen from 7.17%²⁸ in 1997 to 1.2% ²⁹ in 2010.

On the other hand, practices such as polygamy and levirate make the prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs difficult. Furthermore, the fact that women are not as empowered as men makes women more vulnerable to sexually transmitted infections. For instance, if a man finds that he has acquired a sexually transmitted infection, he takes his partner, a woman, to the testing. On the other hand, if a woman finds that she has a sexually transmitted infection, it is difficult for her to take her partner, a man, to the testing. Furthermore, it becomes an issue whether she even has her husband's permission for the testing. It is very difficult to receive advance permission for the test from her husband when the woman wishes to receive such a test. In regards to prevention, since women do not have the power to negotiate with men, it is difficult for them to ask their male partners to use contraceptives.

One of the recent concerns in this area is the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and STIs among prostitutes and homosexual individuals. In Burkina Faso, the number of homosexual individuals is estimated to be relatively small. They are not accepted socially and are subject of social exclusion. However, the prevalence of HIV/AIDS among homosexual individuals is relatively high. Therefore, there is a growing awareness to the need to address this group.

Currently, the mining industry in Burkina Faso has received extensive investments, and at the same time prostitution at mining sites is reported to be increasing. In Burkina Faso, there are no regulations on prostitution. Although no official statistics are available, there is a growing concern over the prevalence of HIV/AIDS at mining sites³⁰.

²⁷ From interviews with the Ministry of Health.

²⁸ Ministère de santé, *Annuaire statistique 2005*.

²⁹ Ministère de santé, *Annuaire statistique 2011*.

³⁰ From interviews with the Ministry of Health.

The following table shows the prevalence rates of HIV in Burkina Faso and other countries

Table: Prevalence of HIV in Burkina Faso and other African countries

	Total (% of population ages15-49)	Women (%, ages15-24)	Men (%, ages15-24)	Year
Burkina Faso	1.1	0.6	0.3	2010
Benin	1.2	0.8	0.4	2010
Côte d'Ivoire	3.0	1.4	0.6	2010
Niger	0.8	0.5	0.2	2010

Source: World Development Indicators

[FGM]

FGM is widely practiced in Burkina Faso. In 1996, about 66% of women aged 15 to 49 had been circumcised. The government of Burkina Faso has banned this practice and established the National Committee to fight Circumcision (Comité national de lutte contre la pratique de l'excision: CNLP).

FGM is still practiced in Burkina Faso partly because the laws banning the practice have not been implemented and that the people who conduct circumcisions are not punished. One of others reasons for this is that those who make a living from FGM object to the prohibition of FGM as they do not want to lose their jobs. Therefore, other revenue-generating activities for these people should be considered.

3-3 Agriculture

Agriculture

- 1) Agriculture is a major industry in Burkina Faso, and the majority of agricultural production is for self-consumption. Women play a leading role in agricultural production. However, they have difficulty in accessing equipment and credit, and the environment surrounding women is harsh.
- 2) The government has clearly indicated its desire to promote equal access to land for men and women. The law permits equal property rights for men and women. However, it is difficult for women to acquire land, especially in rural areas, which prevents women from becoming economically autonomous.

[Government policies]

Agriculture is positioned as priority sector in the first strategic axis of SCADD, the development of pillars for accelerated growth, as the poverty rate in rural areas is 50.7%. SCADD recognizes the importance of access to land as well as soil conservation. Both men and women have difficulty in accessing land, and in 2007, the government adopted a national policy for land ownership that aims to achieve equitable access to land for both men and women.

[Agriculture]

Agriculture, which accounts for about 30% of GNP, is a major industry in Burkina Faso that supports the national economy and employment. Excluding cotton, agriculture in Burkina Faso is mainly the production of food, of which 60-70% is consumed in the household³¹. Agriculture in Burkina Faso depends heavily on precipitation and is therefore vulnerable to climate change.

In Burkina Faso, women's main job is to produce food for the family in the family fields, which are owned by men. According to the PNG, 75% of food production for household consumption is produced by women. However, women are in a weaker position than men in terms of purchasing agricultural equipment and accessing credit. In addition, it is rare for a woman to own a large number of livestock. There is also an ingrained division of labor in agriculture. For example, the processing and production of shea butter is considered to be a woman's job.

³¹ FIDA, Burkina Faso, *Options stratégiques pour le programme-pays*, septembre 2007.

[Access to land]

The laws concerning the possession of land prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sex. In 2007, the government of Burkina Faso adopted the National Policy for Securing Landownership (Politique Nationale de Sécurisation Foncière en Milieu Rural) to promote poverty reduction, social peacemaking, and sustainable development in order to ensure equitable access to land and investments as well as equitable use of land. This policy states that women have the same rights to land as men.

Some rules take into account the participation of women. The Village Land Commission (Commission Foncière Villageoise), which has a maximum of 9 members, should include 2 representatives from women's associations.

Nevertheless, women still face difficulties in owning land, especially in rural areas. In addition, men (husbands) sometime give women land, but the land is not always fertile. Also, women do not have the right of inheritance so that they cannot inherit land either. This limited access to land is one of the main obstacles that women face in obtaining economic autonomy from men.

3-4 Economic Activities

Economic Activities

- 1) The government of Burkina Faso promotes the revenue-generating activities of women's cooperatives.
- 2) In Burkina Faso, women face difficulties in accessing credit. To counter this, the Support Funds for Women's Revenue Generating Activities was established to finance the activities of women.

[Employment]

In Burkina Faso, the agricultural and informal sectors are the main sources of employment. Specifically, many women are engaged in low income activities in agricultural and informal sectors, such as self-sufficient agriculture or micro retail. In vocational training, women tend towards tertiary service professions with low technical and professional requirements, which leads them to low salary jobs. The reasons of this include their heavy domestic workload and inadequate financial capabilities³².

Since 2008, the government of Burkina Faso has implemented the National Employment Policy (Politique nationale de l'emploi: PNE) with the aim to promote job creation. The PNE recognizes that women are in a vulnerable position in regards to employment and that women's employment should therefore be promoted.

[Women's cooperatives]

The government of Burkina Faso promotes the creation of women's cooperatives. This is an affirmative action which is permitted by laws to promote cooperatives that consist only of women. In 2010, there were 2,500 cooperatives in the country, and one third of them were women's cooperatives. The scale of women's cooperatives is generally smaller those for men. The ratio of female participants out of all participants in cooperatives in Burkina Faso is about one in three. In Burkina Faso, there exists a clear division of labor, and certain jobs, such as brewing beer and making shea butter, are considered to be women's jobs. Women's cooperatives are engaged in these activities, while on the other hand, men are engaged in logging, hunting and fishing.

Shea butter is one of the main export products of Burkina Faso, and it attracts many European and American companies because it is a specialty product of the country. Some women's cooperatives

³² Ministère de la jeunesse et de l'emploi, *Politique Nationale de l'emploi*, mai 2008.

produce and sell shea butter and other local products, and they are even starting to become more like companies.

[Women's access to credit]

When women need to obtain financing from banks in order to start their revenue-generating activities, they often face many obstacles. First, women generally only need a relatively small loan, and the interest rates of banks are too high. In this regard, the government has conducted a feasibility study in cooperation with UNDP and UNFPA, and it was decided to establish a fund for financing to women. In September 1990, the Support Funds for Women's Revenue Generating Activities (Funds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes: FAARF) was established, and FAARF issued its first loan in May 1991. FAARF is under the control of Ministry of Economy and Finance, and it also offers financing to women who are illiterate and cannot speak French.

The loans by sector from 1991 to the end of 2010 are as follows. The ratio of agriculture is small because women do not own land, while on the other hand, the ratio of livestock farming is rather high because women can own and raise livestock while still performing their household chores. The transformation sector includes production of shea butter.

FAARF loans by sector

- Agriculture : 3.05%,
- Craft : 1.97%
- Livestock Farming: 43.27%
- Transformation: 26.15%
- Commerce : 35.74%
- Others: 0.32%

It should be pointed out that women do not tend to launch risky revenue-generating activities. Generally, women hesitate to enter new fields, and they tend to join in the same revenue-generating activities. Consequently, there is little diversity, which does not lead to a successful business. In this regard, FAARF also provides marketing training to women³³.

³³ From interviews with FAARF.

[Mining]

There has been increasing investment in mining sector in Burkina Faso. Since 2009, gold is now the largest export commodity. In the first Strategic Axis of SCADD, “Development of the pillars of accelerated growth,” the mining sector is positioned as one of the priority sectors, and it is expected that mining will be a driver of accelerated growth. On the other hand, although there are no official statistics, there are concerns over growing prostitution at mining sites and the increasing prevalence of sexually transmitted infections, as well as the kidnapping of girls by mine workers³⁴. Therefore, the impact of the mining sector warrants continued attention.

³⁴ From interviews with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Secondary and Superior Education, and donors.

4. Situation of Gender Mainstreaming in JICA Projects/Programmers

4-1 General Situation of Gender Mainstreaming in JICA Project

Based on the priorities set out in the SCADD for 2011-2015, the basic principles of Japan's assistance to Burkina Faso is the promotion of agriculture that can become a driver of "Accelerated growth" as well as "Strengthening human capital," which is essential for economic growth. The priority areas are agricultural development, improvements in the quality of education, and promotion of regional economic integration.

The situation of Gender Mainstreaming in JICA Projects/ Programs was examined through interviews with 4 JICA projects, including a project that has already ended, JICA interviews with specialists, including JOCV, and surveys of project documents..

[General trends]

Although many projects do not contain activities for the "promotion of women's status" and "activities related to gender," those involved in JICA projects understand that the participation of women is necessary in order to conduct the projects efficiently. In particular, concerning education and water-related projects, the beneficiaries are all people without discrimination, and all project members understand the importance of women's participation.

Nevertheless, since there are no specific actions related to gender, the projects themselves are not required to demonstrate specific results in regards to the promotion of women's participation, including collecting indicators. Thus, although some gender issues are incorporated in the course of the project, it is difficult to conduct additional activities to address the issues or collect additional indicators within the framework of the project. It becomes much more difficult to carry out specific activities in other projects aimed at making use of these issues or lessons learned.

In regards to the advisors dispatched from JICA, from the viewpoint of the nature of their work, the advisors themselves do not conduct specific gender-related activities or projects, although they fully understand the importance of gender.

4-2 Examples of Gender-related Activities by Sector

[Education]

In the education sector, those who work for JICA projects have a strong recognition that the education should be provided equally to men and women. Even though the projects do not contain specific gender-related activities, they have a common view on the importance of gender. However, the projects are unable to address the gender disparities in human resources that already exist within the country. For example, if the ratio of female teachers is very small, the project cannot change this ratio. In the construction of elementary schools, the construction of toilets for girls is given consideration. In the Project for the construction of schools for teachers of primary education (Projet de Construction de l'Ecole Nationale des Enseignants du Primaire (ENEP) de Dori), dormitories are constructed for female students who have children.

The School Management Committee Support Project assists the establishment of school management committees based on the functional models of the project. In the executive office of the school management committee, as a focal point for the promotion of girls' education in the community, a position that is "in charge of girls' education" has been created. This position has been established by the project as a model to functionalize the committee, and it will be incorporated in a ministry decree and become an official position.

In addition, the project provides the framework by which a community assembly can adopt an action plan. A number of women participate in the assembly. However, many of them are illiterate and have difficulty in substantially participating in the establishment of an action plan. The question of how to incorporate illiterate members in the decision-making process is a challenge for the project.

In the education sector, in addition to the need to improve girls' education, the question of frequent corporal punishment in schools was pointed out. Physical punishment could lead to gender-based violence towards girls in school. It is of great use to share among the interested parties these points observed during the course of the projects.

[Agriculture / Forestry]

The Project for Participatory and Sustainable Forest Management in the Province of Comoe included a component for the promotion of gender equality. When the project supported the formation of the Forest Management Group (Groupement de Gestion Forestière: GGF), it encouraged women to participate in

executive group. In addition, in regards to revenue-generating activities utilizing non-wood forestry products, the project placed emphasis on the reinforcement of added value for products produced by women, such as shea butter, in order to contribute to the empowerment of women. At the same time, the project paid attention to the balance between men and women, and in this way, it conducted revenue-generating activities for men as well.

[Water]

In Burkina Faso, the government decided to include women in the water user associations, so the participation of women has become a prerequisite in the water sector.

The Project for the Enhancement of Water Supply Infrastructure Management and Hygiene and Sanitation in the Central Plateau Region has also promoted the establishment of water user associations. It has been found that some women now play important roles in these associations, such as accounting positions. In order to promote the participation of women and younger generations in discussions, the project first divides the group into men and women. The drivers of the discussion are also a pair of women and a man. For advocacy activities, gender stereotypes are taken into consideration as to not reinforce the differences between the sexes. For example, the project pays attention to the picture cards used by the main advocates of the activities so that illustrations include both women and men.

[Infrastructure]

At present, the African regional organizations (UEMOA, ECOWAS etc.) gives priority to sectorial issues, so cross-cutting issues such as gender are not fully addressed³⁵. The relationship between infrastructure and gender is a relatively new issue. Therefore, it is important to follow the trends in global and regional discussions.

³⁵ From interviews with the TICAD infrastructure advisor.

5. Gender Issues and the Importance of their Consideration When Planning Future Interventions in the Country

[Strengthening gender analysis in development planning and the implementation of activities]

In Burkina Faso, although women play an important role in every sector of society, their status within the family and in society is low. The situation women face is still harsh. To achieve MDGs, development assistance that contributes to an awareness of women's roles in society and to changes in the thinking of men is required. In this regard, it should be noted that the current national machinery in Burkina Faso deals not only with the promotion of women but also with gender.

Special attention is needed when a project will directly address a question related to gender. If a project targets only women as the beneficiary, it could lead to "reconfirming" and "fixing" a socially ingrained role of women. In particular, since there is a deeply ingrained division of labor between men and women, if the traditional role of women is emphasized, it could reinforce the traditional labor divisions. Furthermore, if only women are the beneficiaries and men are excluded from project, the development assistance will not bring about a change in the mindset or behavior of men. The impact of a project on relationships between men and women should be examined prior to starting the project.

In order to achieve gender mainstreaming and promote the participation of women, the above points should be taken into consideration. It is important to conduct preliminary surveys on the gender situation when a program is adopted as well as during the planning stage.

Setting appropriate indicators based on the preliminary analysis is also important. Questions of gender are often related to long-held traditions or customs, which take time to address. Collecting various indicators by sex contributes not only to evaluating the results of the project but also to addressing gender issues in other projects and the overall program.

[Women's economic autonomy and the promotion of women's participation in the decision-making process]

From the standpoint of women's empowerment, it is necessary to promote the economic autonomy of women as well as women's participation in the decision-making process. In all sectors, these two points should be taken into consideration.

In order to respond to gender issues, it is useful to promote to a change in the mindset of people through

specific and substantial ideas, not simply through conceptual ideas. One example is to connect literacy education with revenue-generating activities or technical training in agriculture and other sectors. This will contribute to improvements in women's literacy education.

[Capacity building in gender mainstreaming]

The Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Gender is in charge of planning and implementing the policy for the advancement of women, but it does not have a sufficient budget or human resources.

In many cases, ministries other than the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender are in charge of the specific activities related to gender, as gender issues are cross-cutting. For example, issues related to gender-based violence in schools are handled by either the Ministry of National Education and Literacy or the Ministry of Secondary and Superior Education. If GBV issues are approached from aspect of health, coordination with the Ministry of Health is required. In other words, the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Gender always needs to cooperate and coordinate with other ministries in the execution of its mandate.

In this regard, the role of the Gender Groups established in each ministry takes on increased importance because they could serve not only as the interface for collaborations between the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender and the other ministries but also as focal point for understanding the situation of women in each sector. Therefore, it is important to promote the networking of Gender Groups with the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender, allocate the budget necessary for gender mainstreaming in each ministry, and conduct capacity building for members of the Gender Groups.

When planning JICA projects, it is of primary importance to understand the situation of men and women in the related sectors.

[Exchange of opinions and cooperation with other donors]

There are about 60 ethnic groups in Burkina Faso, each with its own culture, traditions, and customs. Consequently, the social status of women varies in each ethnic group. Preliminary analysis is necessary to understand the needs of women in the target areas. In this regard, it is necessary to cooperate and collaborate with other donors and NGOs that have conducted activities in those areas. In addition, it should be noted that in Burkina Faso, it is essential to have the consent and cooperation of the village chief or religious leaders when implementing a project.

In addition, in Burkina Faso, the Gender Consultation Group (Cadre consultation genre: CCG) was been established as a forum for coordinating and collaborating among bilateral and multilateral donors in regards to gender issues. The activities of the CCG have contributed to the establishment of the National Gender Policy. Thus, these groups play an important role in understanding the gender issues facing the country and orientation of discussions.

6. Gender-related Programs and Projects by International and Other Organizations

6-1. Aid Coordination and Concentration

The Gender Consultation Group (CCG) has been established as a framework within which multilateral and bilateral donors participate. Donor participation varies from time to time, but generally around 8 bilateral donors (Denmark, Switzerland, Canada, Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Sweden, France, etc.) and around 8 multilateral donors (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, WB, EU, UEMOA, AfDB etc.) participate. Regular meetings are held where donors can exchange information. The Common Gender Fund (Fond commun genre) was established and finances gender-related projects. In the political sphere, the CCG contributes the establishment of the PNG.

6-2. Projects and Programs by Donors and Agencies

Table: Projects and programs by donors and agencies related to gender issues

Titles	Executing Agencies	Counter-part	Period	Budget	Fields	Contents
International Organization						
Research / Analysis of human rights principles and on children and women s rights	UNICEF	-	2011	90,450 USD*	Human Rights	Research / Analysis of human rights principles and on children and women s rights
Girls' basic education	UNICEF	-	2011	121,309 USD*	Primary Education	Girls' basic education
PMTCT - ARVs for pregnant women	UNICEF	-	2011	2,737 USD*	HIV/AIDS	Prevention of mother to child transmission – antiretroviral project for pregnant women
ARVs for women (not PMTCT)	UNICEF	-	2011	9,694 USD*	HIV/AIDS	Antiretroviral project for women (not prevention of mother to child transmission)
Link parent, adult and female literacy programmes	UNICEF	-	2011	112,909 USD*	Basic Education	Literacy program for women and adult
Health Sector Support & Multisectoral AIDS Project	World Bank	-	2011	2,994,173 USD**	Health	Improve the quality and use of maternal and child health services (including prevention of malaria) HIV prevention and behavioral change, and mitigation of the socio-economic consequences of the

Titles	Executing Agencies	Counter-part	Period	Budget	Fields	Contents
						HIV/AIDS epidemic.
Post-primary education	World Bank	-	2011	7,444,588 USD**	Secondary, Advanced tech. & managerial training, higher education	increase the number, and quality of students graduating from secondary school at reduced costs for parents, with increased equity of access by gender and by area
Access of Young to Sexual and Reproductive Health & Gender	UNFPA	-	2011	666,910 USD**	Reproductive health	Reproductive health and gender for young
Bilateral donors						
Fights against MGF	Denmark	CNLP	2008-2013	27millionDDK	VBG	Capacity building of NGO and local associations for fight against MGF
Man and women equality	Switzerland	Government	-	112,714 USD*	Gender	-
National Gender Policy	Netherlands	Government	-	89,000 USD**	Gender	Support to implement National Gender Policy
Integration of women in army	Netherlands	Government	-	296,758 USD*	Gender	Construction of infrastructure
Sexual Health, AIDS, Human Rights Program	Germany	Public sector	-	52,571 USD*	Human Rights	Reproductive health
HIV Prevention and Promotion of Reproductive Health	Germany	Public sector	-	1,665,927 USD*	HIV/AIDS	Social marketing for reproductive health and HIV prevention and thereby reducing HIV infections, promoting modern contraceptives, and reducing female circumcision.
Construction and Arrangement of a women's centre	Germany	National NGO	-	49,867 USD*	Gender	Construction and Arrangement of a women's centre
Democratic participation and civil society	Sweden	NGO	-	770,511 USD*	Democracy	Participation of women in politics, strengthening of their rights, poverty reduction.
Literacy for a group of women to increase the rural sector development	Italy	NGO, Civil society	-	11,818 USD*	Education	Literacy and training in the production of karitè butter
Defense of the rights for women of Burkina Faso	Italy	Others	-	1,390 USD*	Human Rights	defense of women's rights through a better education and better conditions of living
Pilot project about	Italy	NGO,	-	10,887	Vocational	Development of a local

Titles	Executing Agencies	Counter-part	Period	Budget	Fields	Contents
ceramic production at the center 'Emma Yiri' near Ouagadougou		Civil society		USD*	training	suppliers- and sales-network. Start of production-cooperatives, creation of new income sources and small cooperatives in favor of disadvantaged rural women.
Starting of a toothpaste and soap production in Gorom Gorom	Italy	MISC	-	1,949 USD*	Health	Toothpaste and soap are produced by the Gorom Gorom Female Association to increase personal hygiene and job opportunities in the area
Joint Project of the Province of South Tyrol and FAO to promote the development of the community Dori in northeastern Burkina Faso	Italy	-	-	34,065 USD*	Multisector	Support and improvement of agricultural production and livestock farming, diversification of income and capacity building of local actors, especially women, through investments in water management and public health.
Support to the national health program of health development against malaria	Italy	-	-	2,629,283 USD*	Control of Malaria	To reduce mortality and morbidity due to malaria especially children under 5 and in pregnant women
Empowering the Women in Poverty for Self-sufficiency in Burkina Faso	Korea	National GO	-	119,036 USD*	Gender	dual literacy education(Local&French), Research on the educational status of Prevention of disease
Construction of women promotion center	Spain	National NGO	-	66,066 USD*	Gender	Construction of women promotion center
L'ouvre Léger Programme	CIDA	National NGO	2006 -2012	27,500,000 CAD	Basin education, health, MPE etc	Social integration of excluded people in social, political and economic aspects

(*) Disbursement in 2011(USD Current)

(**)The total amount of disbursements in 2011 of projects according to CRS.

This does not include general public financial assistant and finance for common funds such as FCG.

Source: Produced from OECD CRS Database, FTS (Financial Tracking Service), and interviews.

7. Gender Information Source

7-1 List of Organizations Related to Gender

Name of organization	Areas of specialization	Activity	Contact
Government Organizations			
Ministry for Promotion of Women and Gender	Gender	Gender Mainstreaming and empowerment of women	Tel: 50 50 53 62 01 BP 303 Ouagadougou
Ministry of Human Rights and Civic Promotion	Human Rights	Promotion of Human Rights and civic promotion	
Ministry of National Education and Literacy	Education	Promotion of girls' education in primary education and literacy education for women	
Ministry of Secondary and Superior Education	Education	Promotion of girls' education in secondary and superior education	
Ministry of Water, Agricultural Hydraulic and Sanitation	Water, agricultural hydraulic, sanitation	Water, agricultural hydraulic, sanitation	
Ministry for Agriculture and Food Security	Agriculture, food security	Agriculture, food security	
Ministry of Health	Health	Maternal health, Reproductive health, HIV/AIDS	
International Organizations			
UNFPA	Gender	HIV/AIDS, reproductive health	Immeuble des Nations Unies 01 BP 3420, Ouagadougou 01
UNICEF	Children, and mother	Education, Health, Water/sanitation, nutrition 教	Tel 50 30 14 65/66 Immeuble des Nations Unies 01 BP 3420, Ouagadougou 01
Others			
Fonds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes	Economic activities	Support for women's revenue generating activities, loan	01 BP 5683 Ouagadougou
CCG	Gender	Donor group for gender issues	

7-2 List of Reports and References Related to Gender

Title	Author	Publisher/Source	Year
Stratégie nationale d'accélération de l'éducation des filles 2012-2021	MENA	MENA	2012
Programme Nationale d'Accélération de l'Alphabétisation (PRONAA) 2011-2015	MENA	MENA	2012
Tableau de bord de l'éducation de base, Année scolaire 2010/2011	MENA	MENA	2011
Statistiques de l'éducation non formelle campagne 2011	MENA	MENA	2011
Annuaire Statistique de l'enseignement secondaire 2011-2012	Ministère des enseignements secondaire et supérieure	Ministère des enseignements secondaire et supérieure	2012
Annuaire Statistique Santé 2006	Ministère de la santé	Ministère de la santé	2007
Annuaire Statistique Santé 2007	Ministère de la santé	Ministère de la santé	2007
Annuaire Statistique 2008	Ministère de la santé	Ministère de la santé	2009
Annuaire Statistique 2009	Ministère de la santé	Ministère de la santé	2010
Annuaire Statistique 2010	Ministère de la santé	Ministère de la santé	-
Annuaire Statistique 2011	Ministère de la santé	Ministère de la santé	2012
Etude pour la Formulation de la Politique nationale Genre du Burkina Faso Draft 3	Ministère de l'économie des finances	Cadre de concertation de genre	2008
Bilan de la mise en œuvre du programme d'action de la conférence internationale sur la population et le développement quinze ans après (CIPD+15)	Ministère de l'économie et des finances	UNFPA	2009
WD(2012) 2012 Report on the Implementation of EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development 2010-2015	Union européenne	Union européenne	2012
Enquête nationale sur l'accès des ménages aux ouvrages d'assainissement familial- 2010 Monographie Nationale	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Hydraulique	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Hydraulique	2011
Analyse de la situation de la pauvreté et de la vulnérabilité de l'enfant et de la femme au Burkina Faso	UNICEF	UNICEF	2010
Stratégies nationales pour le renforcement du rôle des femmes	Ministère de la Promotion de la	MPF	

Title	Author	Publisher/Source	Year
dans le processus de développement	Femme		
Document de la politique nationale genre du Burkina Faso	MPF	MPF	2009
Groupe de Travail sur les Violences Faites aux Femmes, Etude de base du Programme conjoint « Violences à l'égard des femmes au Burkina Faso »	Réseau Inter Agences sur les Femmes et l'égalité des genres		2008
Analyse de l'évolution de la pratique de l'excision au Burkina Faso	Population Council	Population Council	2006

8. Definitions

<Technical Terms>

Terms	Definition
Gender	Gender means social and cultural differences between men and women. Sexual differences in biological terms basically cannot be changed, but gender differences which mean social disparity in roles and relationships between men and women vary depending on time and place and they can change, since they are defined by people's way of thinking and sense of values. The word "gender" is used in phrases such as gender equality, gender role, gender analysis and gender balance, etc.
Gender mainstreaming	This is a strategy to involve women's participation in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs on any political, economic and social occasion just as men's are involved, so that both men and women can gain equal benefit from the activities. The ultimate goal for gender mainstreaming is to achieve gender equality.
Reproductive health /rights	This means healthcare and rights that are related to gender and reproduction. The aim is to allow people to enjoy safe and satisfying sexual lives and the freedom to decide whether to have children or not and when and how many
National machinery	This is a national-level administrative entity in charge of issues related to women to promote gender equality. It develops and implements women-related policies and promotes implementation of measures with gender equality in mind in government ministries.
Women's empowerment	Empowerment means paving the way for women who have been eliminated from decision-making and disempowered because of gender discrimination. Opportunities for them to participate in decision-making are provided so that they can achieve self-empowerment and be aware of gender issues and, hence, transfer such awareness into action. The word is also used in the phrase, "economic empowerment of women."
Affirmative action	Prioritized positive measure to promptly correct the difference, in the case that discriminated groups are placed in extremely unequal conditions to other groups, due to the discrimination accumulated in the past.
access / control	Access means availability of resources or services for performance of economic activities, such as land, labor and wages. Control means the right to make decisions on how to manage resources or services or the right to own them.
Reproductive activities	This means activities to bear and raise children, or in other words, activities to "Reproduce the next generation." It includes activities of families to

Terms	Definition
	maintain their daily lives such as laundry and cooking and to reproduce labor power.
Informal sector	Part of economy consisting of small competitive individual or family firms listed in the labor indicators. According to the definition of ILO, those engaged in this sector have simple technology, insufficient amount of capital, unidentified business location, minimum number of employees (or none of them), lack of legality and registration, and no capability of bookkeeping.
Microfinance	This is a small-scale financing system for low-income people and small businesses to increase the income of the poor through provision of opportunities to enjoy financial services such as petty loans, savings and insurance. It is often targeted at female farmers in rural areas as typified by the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh .
Non-formal education	This refers to educational activities developed to provide lifelong learning opportunities, literacy education and life-skills education in addition to formal school education. Normally, it targets people, whether adults or children, who have not received any school education or insufficient education (in quality). Typically, the content, scale, target and implementation methods vary
Millennium development goal	The MDGs are composed of 8 goals. These goals were established by incorporating the UN Millennium Declaration and international development goals adopted at major international meetings and summits held in 1990s into a larger common framework. The Millennium Declaration was adopted at the UN Millennium Summit held in September 2000 to present a clear vision of the role of the United Nations in the 21st century on the themes of peace and safety, development and poverty, the environment, human rights, good governance and special needs of African countries.

<Indicators>

Terms	Definition
Gini index	Aggregate numerical measures of income inequality ranging from 0 to 100. A Gini index of zero represents absolute equality, while an index of 100 implies absolute inequality.
Total fertility rate	The number of children that would be born to each women if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and bear children at each age in accordance with prevailing age-specific fertility rates in a given year / period, for a given country, territory or geographical area.
Infant mortality rate	The probability of a child born in a specific year or period dying before reaching the age of one, if subject to age-specific mortality

	rates of that period. It is a probability of death expressed as rate per 1000 live births.
Under-five mortality rate	The probability of a child born in a specific year or period dying before reaching the age of five. It is a probability of death expressed as rate per 1000 live births.
Rate of births attended by trained personnel	The percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel. A skilled birth attendant is an accredited health professional, such as a midwife, doctor or nurse, who has been educated and trained to proficiency in the skills needed to manage normal (uncomplicated) pregnancies, childbirth and the immediate postnatal period, and in the identification, management and referral of complications in women and newborns. Traditional birth attendants, trained or not, are excluded from the category of skilled attendant at delivery
Children under weight for age	The rate of newborn children of which the birth weight is less than 2,500 grams
Oral re-hydration therapy use rate	The rate of using oral rehydration salt or substitute solution for infants having diarrhea.