

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN
DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

BURKINA

Unity – Progress – Justice

A.P.D.C

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Activity report for January to June 2025

**PLEASE NOTE THAT REBEKA USES THE FOLLOWING
ACRONYMS IN HER REPORT. THEY ARE EXPLAINED
HERE :**

AGR – Revenue Generating Activity (these are the activities that the APDC staff has provided instruction for, over the past 18 months – for the villagers forced to flee their homes / villages). The activities include : soap making, peanut or groundnut processing, preparation of local foods, preparation of soumbala, raising 2 pigs. The foods are processed / prepared and then marketed. Each woman who has been trained in one of these activities now has her own personal enterprise.

EPC – Saving for change groups. These are the groups that APDC has helped villagers establish – they have long been a part of APDC activities. Each woman who belongs to an EPC group pays a weekly amount – very small – to the group. The monies saved can be used by a woman – borrowed from the EPC group to cover a great need or to start a business.

QSI – Quality Schools International – this is the organization that Peter and I worked for in Kazakshstan and the one our friends are still teaching with, in Benin. In February the Benin QSI School Student council held a fundraiser and opted to give some of the proceeds to APDC – Fada. The funds were used to allow 8 new women to begin a peanut processing / marketing activity and 4 women to begin to raise 2 pigs (piglets).

Target population:

- **Beneficiaries of the former AGRs of 2024**
- **New beneficiaries of QSI 2025 support**
 - **Populations at the various host sites: participants in EPC groups and various awareness-raising activities**

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

1. Establishment and monitoring of EPC groups

This activity took place from January to June 2025.

It initially involved raising awareness among the participating populations about the benefits and operating rules of EPC groups, followed by the establishment of new groups and, finally, regular monitoring and control of these groups to ensure they functioned properly. In total, we initiated nine (09) new functional groups in the sites hosting displaced women, and the old groups were also visited and refocused (groups 1 and 2 in Kanla Germaine, the group in Kayaba and the two groups in Binadeni). Monitoring and control covered all 14 groups (five old and nine new), enabling us to provide practical advice to these groups and understand their progress and the difficulties they encountered. (See details in the EPC report on the groups.)

a) Financial report of the EPC groups.

Number of groups	Number of women Contributors	Amount of old loans recovered	Total amount contributed	Amount of new loans granted	Total amount in the fund	Total capital of EPC groups: Credit granted + Fund amount
14	2	179	49159	1,566,500	3,528,700	5,095,200

b) Challenges faced

- The poverty of the participants,
- Lack of AGR for many participants.
- The instability of some participants (regular travel to look for work in the outskirts of Fada).

2. Implementation of new AGR activities and monitoring and control of previously established activities

a. Establishment of new AGRs

In February 2025, APDC received financial support from QSI through WNC. This support enabled the establishment of new AGRs in peanut processing and marketing for eight (08) women and pig fattening for four (04) women. These beneficiaries received technical training and complete equipment to start their activities. (See the training report already sent for more details).

b. Monitoring, control and advisory support

In addition to setting up new AGRs, the APDC team continued to strengthen the capacities of beneficiaries through regular monitoring and follow-up. This monitoring enabled us to understand how the AGRs were progressing and to encourage beneficiaries (both old and new) to further strengthen their activities. During these visits, the team provided practical advice to beneficiaries based on the difficulties encountered by some women.

c. Conversion of a few beneficiaries to other AGRs.

Following the difficulties encountered by some beneficiaries (especially those selling soap) during our previous monitoring and control visits, the APDC team suggested that these women learn other activities that are more profitable than soap selling. During our follow-up visits between January and June 2025, some of these beneficiaries impressed us with their transition to peanut processing and marketing.

We should point out that their learning was facilitated by a few former beneficiaries, such as Touampoa Thiombiano. See the provisional assessment of their operations in the AGR assessment file.

NB:

- The average profit from peanut sales is greater than or equal to 1,500 CFA francs per session for beneficiaries.
- Some beneficiaries who have switched to other activities continue to sell soap, but in small quantities.

d. Financial report of the AGRs (January-June 2025)

Groups	Revenue
Soap (10 beneficiaries)	170,000
Soumbala (10 beneficiaries)	481,150
Local dishes (10 beneficiaries)	66,250
Peanuts 1 (5 former beneficiaries)	488,750
Peanuts 2 (08 new beneficiaries)	474
Groundnuts 3 (7 former beneficiaries of soap AGR converted to groundnut AGR)	483,000
Piglet rearing (4 new beneficiaries): Activity ongoing, assessable around November-December 2025	-
Total revenue	2,759,400 CFA

e. Some difficulties encountered by certain beneficiaries

The main difficulty mentioned by several beneficiaries is the high cost of inputs (cereals and néré for local food production and soumbala).

Added to this is the difficulty of accessing firewood (beneficiaries of local dishes and soumbala).

f. Some practical advice

Some practical advice was given to them:

- Set product prices taking into account production costs.
- Pay for inputs and store them when prices are at their best (when input costs are a little lower).
- Be courageous in their activities

- Effective customer management

3. Assessment of fattening enterprises (continuation of the FIT project)

The security situation forced most beneficiaries to leave their villages of origin and seek refuge in Fada (since December 2023). As a result, most beneficiaries of the fattening programme eventually abandoned this activity due to the difficult living conditions associated with their status as displaced persons. A few beneficiaries continue the activity, but only during the winter season, which is considered much easier for fattening animals (availability of grass to feed the animals). In December 2024, most of the beneficiaries in Binadeni had sold all their animals due to a disease that was threatening the area, and many planned to buy new animals at the end of February if the threat of the disease subsided. Unfortunately, before the animals could be repurchased, several terrorist groups began threatening the populations of the villages surrounding Biandeni, which discouraged beneficiaries from repurchasing their animals during this period. The terrorist threat worsened, eventually forcing all the villages surrounding Binadeni, including Binadeni itself, to move to Fada in June for greater security, which was very sad for us. Binadeni is currently also housed in Fada, facing the same difficulties in continuing the fattening programme.

We are waiting until October-November to take stock of the beneficiaries who resumed their livestock farming during the winter season.

4. Awareness-raising activities

In addition to setting up and monitoring the AGRs and EPCs, the APDC team has held awareness-raising sessions for displaced women and their households on:

- The fight against corruption and fraud,
- Hygiene and diarrhoeal diseases,
- Malnutrition

5. Impact of activities on the lives of beneficiaries and their households: Awareness-raising, establishment and monitoring of AGRs and EPC groups.

The various awareness-raising sessions enabled participants to better understand the disadvantages of malnutrition, the importance of hygiene and good practices for better health in their families. They also gained a better understanding of the disadvantages of fraud/corruption and how to avoid falling into the trap of corruption and fraud, especially for the smooth running of EPC groups.

With regard to monitoring and control, support and advice for AGRs and EPC groups, beneficiaries reported that:

- Regular monitoring strengthens their activities in general (EPC groups and AGRs).
- The profits from their AGRs are used for their families' needs, such as buying food, condiments, water, healthcare, and their children's school fees.