

## Working Document

### WP4:

# MAPPING OF STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN AGROECOLOGY IN BURKINA FASO

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The CGIAR Initiative Transformational Agroecology across Food, Land, and Water Systems develops and scales agroecological innovations with small-scale farmers and other food system actors in seven low- and middle-income countries. It is one of 32 initiatives of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future, dedicated to transforming food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis.

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### Introduction

This document synthesises different maps of actors involved in the development of agroecology in Burkina Faso.

The gathering and synthesis of existing data on agroecology stakeholders has become a real challenge for the accumulation of knowledge. Research and development projects on agroecology have flourished in recent years, and several stakeholder maps have been produced, often as a prerequisite for the establishment of consultation frameworks between stakeholders.

### Methodology

This synthesis was based on the following three maps of agroecological actors in Burkina Faso: Répertoire des acteurs agroécologiques au niveau national, March 2022, study carried out by the Laboratory for Rural Studies on the Environment and Economic and Social Development with the participation of the Confédération Paysanne du Faso within the framework of the « Intensification et Vulgarisation des pratiques Agroécologiques dans les régions du Plateau-Central et du Centre-Ouest au Burkina Faso » project (PIVA/BF) (PIVA report) ; Cartographie des initiatives et stratégies des acteurs de l'agroécologie au Burkina Faso, April 2022, study carried out by N. Zankone for the Biovision Foundation and the Centre Écologique Albert Schweitzer (CEAS) (Biovision report) ; Analyse de la dynamique institutionnelle autour de l'agroécologie au Burkina Faso. État des lieux des politiques publiques, acteurs et discours, July 2022, report by C. Midena in the framework of the projects "Promoting Agroecological Intensification of Agriculture for Farm Resilience in the Sahel" (FAIR Sahel) and "Agroecological Transitions for Sustainable Food Systems: Arguments for Public Policies" (TAFS) (FAIR & TAFS report).

The focus here is on the main actors involved in agroecology and their conception of agroecology. For more detailed information on these actors, the reader can refer to the annexes of the PIVA, Biovision and FAIR & TAFS reports, which contain directories of actors with their names and contact details.

### Stakeholders involved in agroecology in Burkina Faso

An exhaustive census of all agroecological actors in Burkina Faso seems unrealistic, especially in a difficult and evolving security context. However, the reports on which this synthesis is based make it possible to identify the main actors.

The reports suggest different ways of categorising these stakeholders. The PIVA report lists 325 actors promoting agroecology in Burkina Faso. It distinguishes between individual and collective actors, those belonging to the public sector and those belonging to the private sector (associations and NGOs, companies, cooperatives). The Biovision report, which lists 227 agroecology actors, lists the following categories of actors: cross-sectoral service and support providers (organic input manufacturers, agricultural extension, certification, research, promotion and marketing actors), producers (individuals and groups of producers), actors from civil society and international NGOs (e.g., advocacy), funders (who

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support the maintenance of public action through projects), and political, administrative, national and local authorities. The FAIR-TAFS report goes into more detail about the dynamics of the actors around agroecology to propose a diachronic and synchronic analysis of their relationships to agroecology.

Among the public actors involved in agroecology support policies, for example, the General Directorate of Plant Production (DGPV) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Hydraulic Development (MARAH) occupies an important place, as it piloted the development of the National Strategy for Agroecology (SNAE). Two positions have been created to strengthen the support of this strategy by the State services: that of the ECOWAS National Agroecology Focal Point created in 2017 to manage and implement the Programme d'Appui à la Transition Agroécologique (PATAE) - this position is endorsed by the Director of the Department of Agricultural Production Development (DDPA) - and that of "Focal Point 'Agroecology and Organic Agriculture'" created in January 2018 following a plea from the CNABio to facilitate communication with agroecology actors by offering them an entry point to the Ministry - this position is held by the director of the market gardening service at the DDPA, who is now the director of the Department of Agricultural Production Development. Other government departments play an important role in promoting agroecology. Agents from the MARAH's Department of Processing, Food, Promotion of Standards and Nutritional Quality of Agricultural Products (DTAN) and agents from the Ministry in charge of the Environment train producers to reduce the use of synthetic pesticides and raise awareness of their danger to the soil. In addition, the DTAN implements training on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and encourages crop diversification and crop-livestock association. Other structures such as the Permanent Secretariat of the National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development (SP-CNDD), which is part of the Ministry of the Environment, subsidise the purchase of equipment to support the development of agroecological practices.

Whether public or private, the actors involved in promoting agroecology belong to different types of stakeholder networks. The networking of these actors is organised, for example, through umbrella organisations. At the national level, agroecology actors are grouped around organisations such as the National Council of Organic Agriculture (CNABio), the Confederation of Peasants of Faso (CPF), the Cooperative Society of Distributors of Organic, Ecological Inputs and Adapted Agricultural Materials (SCO/DIBEMAA), the National Federation of Peasant Organisations (FENOP), the Citizen's Collective for Agroecology (CCAÉ), the Burkinabe Council of Community Development Organisations (BURCASO), the Network of Burkinabe Civil Society Organisations for Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security in Burkina Faso (ROSSAND), and the Collective of Organisations and Associations for Farmers' Seeds (COASP-Burkina). At the international level, agro-ecological actors can be found in networks such as the Network of Burkinabe Agroecological Initiatives (RBIA), the Alliance for Agroecology in West Africa (3AO), the Network of Farmers' and Producers' Organisations of West Africa (ROPPA), the West African Organic Network (W AfrONet), or the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM).

Agroecological stakeholders are also put into networks through research and/or development projects involving different partners. Increasingly, development programmes and research projects aim to network different actors to promote the sharing of experiences and the dissemination of agroecological "good practices". This is the case of the PRIVA/BF project launched in February 2022, which aims to

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bring together different agricultural actors to disseminate agroecological practices used and tested effectively by small-scale farmers at municipal, regional and national levels. Before it, the " Programme for Assistance to Economic Initiatives " (PAIES), the project " Transition towards a peasant agro-ecology for food sovereignty " (TAPSA Sahel), or the " Support Project for the Innovative Dissemination of Agroecological Techniques " (PADITA) also had the objective of creating networks.

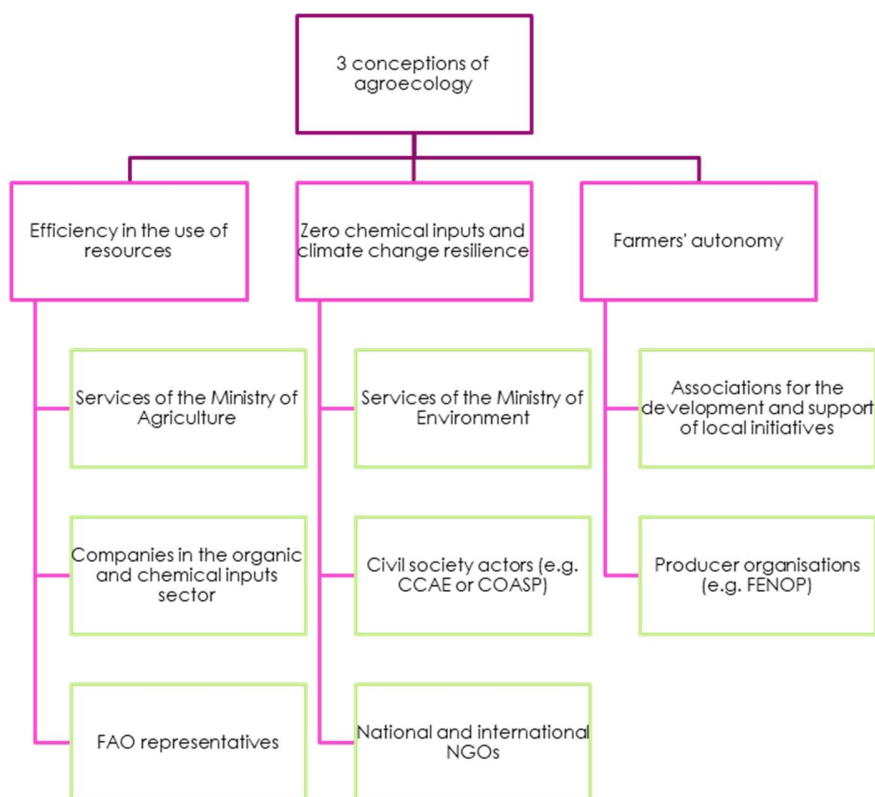
This plurality of actors corresponds to a plurality of conceptions of agroecology. According to the FAIR & TAFS report, there are three main conceptions of agroecology that are unequally defended.

**Agroecology as a vector for efficiency in the use of resources:** Agroecology as a vector for efficiency in the use of resources: agroecology is seen above all as a means of making the use of resources more efficient with the aim of sustainably intensifying agricultural production in order to combat poverty and consolidate or even increase producers' incomes. Policies supporting agroecology focus on the rational use of chemical inputs and their complementarity with organic inputs. This concept is supported in particular by public authorities in the agricultural sector, companies in the organic and chemical input sector and FAO representatives.

**Agroecology as a vector of resilience to climate shocks:** Agroecology as a vector of resilience to climate shocks: the potential contribution of agroecology to adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, particularly through the recovery and preservation of degraded land, is emphasised without strictly proscribing the use of chemical inputs. This concept is supported by the Ministry of the Environment, some civil society organisations and NGOs.

**Agroecology as a means of farmers' autonomy:** Agroecology should enable farmers and the country to become more independent of chemical inputs, improved seeds and imported agricultural products. Some associations for the development and support of local initiatives and farmers' organisations wish to rehabilitate local seeds and varieties that are better adapted to the climate of Burkina Faso, to promote a cultural identity and a local diet, to enhance the value of farmers' knowledge and know-how, and to demonstrate the advantages of agroecology by example and by peers to public authorities and producers, with particular emphasis on the involvement of young people and women in its development.

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**Figure 1: Three conceptions of agroecology according to the actors**

These three conceptions of agroecology sometimes overlap. The third, for example, appeals to institutional actors in a context of worsening food insecurity following the war in Ukraine. A relocation of the agricultural system would make it possible to respond to economic, environmental and food and nutritional security issues. Furthermore, a consensus is emerging on the interest of agroecology in preserving the health of consumers and, more marginally, of producers, by reducing the risks of consuming products contaminated by pesticides or the risks of contaminating groundwater and therefore water intended for household consumption or for agriculture.

## Avenues for further study

In order to achieve a more analytical mapping of agroecology actors in Burkina Faso, the relationships of the different actors to agroecology, as outlined in the FAIR & TAFS project, could be more precisely defined. The relationships between actors (alliances, oppositions, power relations) and their levels of involvement and influence in the promotion of agroecology could also be the subject of a study, the results of which would perhaps be weighted according to the territories.

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### Appendix 1. Bobo-Dioulasso DIP members and partners

Sectors	Stakeholders
Members	Farmers (9 dairy cooperatives)
	Processors (20 DPUs)
	Collection centres (10 MCCs)
	Dealers/Distributors (57)
	Consumers
Partners	
Public sector (support partner)	Direction régionale de l'agriculture, des ressources animales et halieutiques (DRARAH)
	Direction provinciale des ressources animales et halieutiques (DPRAH)
	Direction régionale des services d'hygiène
	Chambre régionale de l'agriculture (CRA)
TFP	Caisse Populaire Bobo-Dioulasso
	Express Bank
	Microfinance plus
Local businesses	AGRODEV Services
	AgriGrowth Management
NGOs	SNV Helvetas
	GRET
Industry bodies	Fédération des éleveurs du Burkina (FEB)
	RECOPA
	Interprofession lait
Research bodies	UNB
	INERA
	Centre Muraz
	CIRDES
	CIRAD
Input suppliers	SOGEA Faso
	SN-CITEC
	Entreprise Kaboré
Political players	Bobo-Dioulasso City Council
	Regional Council
Association	Association des vendeurs d'herbes fauchées