



Country: Burkina Faso
Sector: Integrated Waste Management
Project: NEERE
Grantee: Groupe de Recherche et d'Analyse Appliquées pour le Développement (GRAAD Burkina)
Partner: Cities of Dédougou and Koudougou

Acknowledgements

The SWITCH Africa Green programme was developed by the European Commission (EU) to support African countries in their transition to an inclusive green economy, the main objective being to promote sustainable development. This is based on sustainable consumption and production patterns, while generating growth, creating decent jobs and reducing poverty.

This impact sheet on Project NEERE provides a snapshot of results and achievements of the project under the Green Business Development Component of Phase I (2014-2019) of the SWITCH Africa Green programme. This component supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to apply and adopt sustainable consumption and production practices in their business operations.

The project was implemented by Groupe de Recherche et d'Analyse Appliquées pour le Développement (GRAAD Burkina) in partnership with Communes of Dédougou and Koudougou, and with the support of the SWITCH Africa Green National Focal Point Polycarpe Bationo, Ministry of the Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change (MEEVCC) and National Coordinator Albert Compaoré, MEEVCC, Burkina Faso. The grants were managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and coordinated by Celia Marquez with support from Mercy Gatobu.

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Background

In Burkina Faso, sanitation and waste management responsibility has been decentralized to respective cities. However, there are challenges in waste management where all the waste is disposed of in dumpsites and landfills without being segregated. Worse still, waste is thrown indiscriminately around the cities in the open and ends up in drainage channels, resulting in negative consequences such as spread of disease, land degradation, air and water pollution, as well as increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

The SWITCH Africa Green supported project NEERE, which means clean or pretty in one of the local languages in Burkina Faso, was implemented to address the challenges of waste management. Its aim was to promote clean and sustainable cities in Burkina Faso through integrated waste management (IWM), mainly in Dédougou and Koudougou.

Beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries of the project included: local public administration of Koudougou and Dédougou cities, MSMEs working in waste management, households and farmers.

Objectives

- Contribute to the promotion of cleaner and sustainable cities in Burkina Faso through IWM strategies
- Elaborate and implement an IWM strategy taking in account all the processes – collection, transport, recycling, etc.
- Educate households on good practices in waste management
- Educate farmers on environment conservation and sustainable land management practices

Outputs

Improved institutional coordination on economic, business and environmental policies

The NEERE project facilitated beneficiary MSMEs to establish associations of waste collectors in both cities of Dédougou and Koudougou where the project was implemented. Through the associations, member MSMEs are in a better position to lobby for their interests collectively, fundraise as well as market their services widely.

Linkages between MSMEs, the cities and other stakeholders in waste management strengthened. For instance, Wend Waoga Association, one of the MSME associations established, reported that in Koudougou, the mayor had developed advocacy initiatives, particularly at the central government level, to improve the working conditions of waste collectors. Links between the two cities were also strengthened when a joint committee was established to determine the best use of funds to implement IWM strategies, with support from the NEERE project.



Improved capacities of Business Development Services (BDS) to promote SCP practices by MSMEs

The project supported the 12 beneficiary MSMEs to develop their respective business plans. These plans formed the basis on which the MSMEs will continue to fundraise in order to grow their businesses.

Increased networking among green businesses

GRAAD Burkina participated and presented the NEERE project in the Burkina Faso National Green Economy Academy held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in December 2016 which brought together about 300 participants from different countries (Burkina Faso, Senegal, Mali, USA, France, among others).

GRAAD Burkina organized a workshop in Dédougou city to raise awareness of farmers on the potential of sustainable agriculture. The event brought together about 50 participants including GRET Burkina (also funded by EU), CENABIO (private sector), MSMEs/CBOs, Ministry

of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Environment among other stakeholders.

The grantee also supported the event on sanitation in September 2017 held in Ouarkoye town in which 300 people participated and was graced by the presence of the mayor. The project further contributed to setting up the first waste collection centre in the town.

Improved capacities of workers in green sectors

Through project support, a total of 35 training sessions were organised to enhance the beneficiaries' capacities on different topics: waste management, recycling, marketing, waste sorting and composting among others ,which resulted in the enhanced capacity of 72 people. All 12 MSMEs adopted the proposed SCP practices and they developed business plans. A total of 411 farmers were trained on composting and as a result 39 manure pits were constructed.



Improved awareness by the public on solid waste management

The project reached out to 3,200 households who were directly sensitized on the topic of sanitation, especially on solid waste management, through radio programmes and theatre shows. Furthermore, 10 primary schools and more than 70 teachers were sensitized, trained and equipped on waste sorting and segregation.

Outcomes

Enabling frameworks for Integrated Waste Management (IWM) established in the cities of Dédougou and Koudougou

IWM strategies were developed for the two cities of Dédougou and Koudougou. They adopted the strategies and are using them as a basis for fundraising. Additionally, a joint committee was established to enhance capacity for fundraising in order to support implementation of the IWM strategies.

Uptake of SCP practices by MSMEs

Responsible waste management practices by households improved from 5 per cent before the project to 50 per cent after the project, where more households were sorting, segregating, recycling and composting their waste. All 12 beneficiary MSMEs adopted SCP practices and started generating revenue from the sale of compost. In addition, 45 uncontrolled dumpsites were removed and approximately 3,000 tons of waste transferred to the landfills. These positive changes led to a 32 per cent reduction in the number of uncontrolled

dumpsites, which reduced from 140 before the project to 95 after the project.

Improved business performance of MSMEs supported

Beneficiary MSMEs increased their turnover by 192 per cent from USD1,391 to USD4,062 after implementing the project, as indicated in Fig.1 below.

The local authorities experienced a reduction in transport costs of their waste. A case study of Koudougou shows a 50 per cent reduction in transport costs between 2016 and 2017 as a result of the project.

Diversification of MSMEs economic activities

Before the project, MSMEs were engaged exclusively in waste collection. With the introduction of the NEERE project, 45 per cent of the MSMEs integrated the recovery of household waste as one of their main activities to generate revenue. This was mainly through recycling plastic bags, cast iron for making cobblestones and flowerpots, knitting using plastic bags and composting.

Impacts

Environmental impacts

By diverting waste that was otherwise ending up in the dumpsites, it is estimated that the project contributed to the reduction of GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions by at least 95 tCO₂eq.

Uncontrolled waste disposal was reduced through an increase in the volume of waste collected, implying that less is being disposed of indiscriminately in the open. According to the NEERE project evaluation survey data in April 2018, collection capacities have been improved. Prior to the project, collectors removed an average of about 13.25 tonnes of household waste per week compared to 25.4 tonnes at the end of the project. This represents a significant average increase in removal capacity of 92 per cent.

Economic impacts

There was an increase of net additional income to the MSMEs. About 92 per cent of the MSMEs reported an increase in their number of clients by 74 per cent from 889 to 1,549 after the project was implemented, shown in Figure 2

Fig.1: Change in MSME turnover

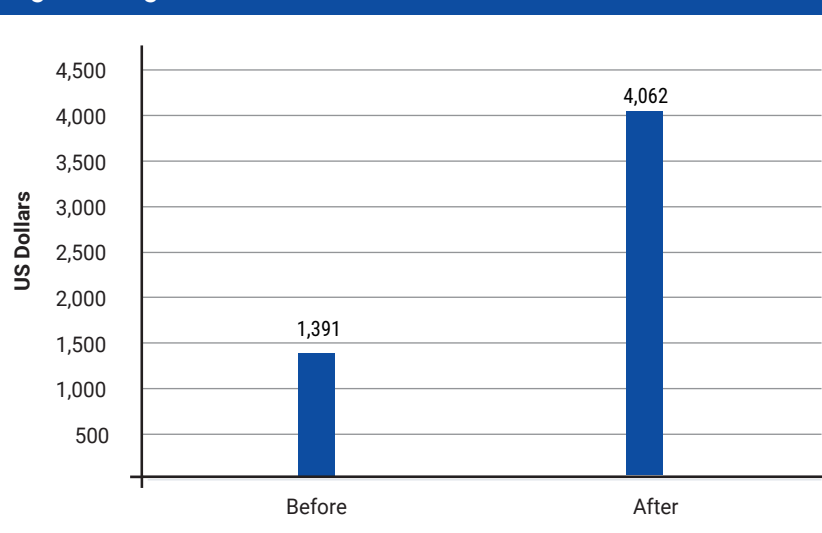
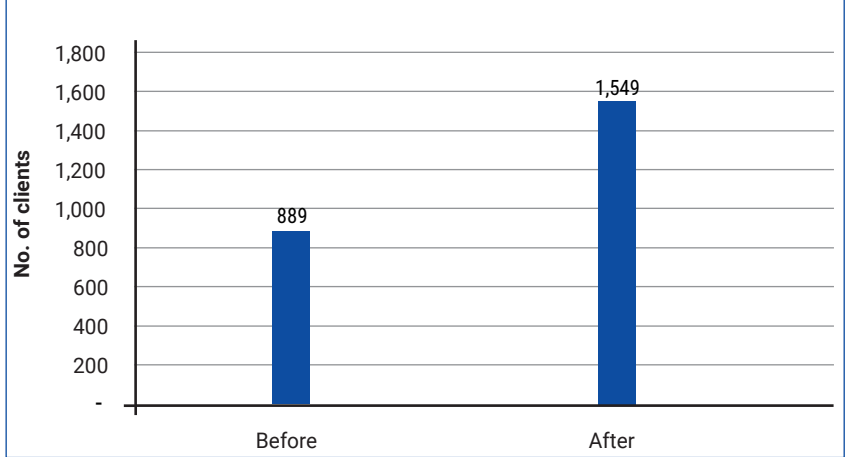




Fig.2: Increase in number of clients of the MSMEs



- Effective sensitization on IWM is needed to address the challenge of the communities resisting waste landfills within their neighborhoods. Sensitization is also needed to make the public aware of the benefits of proper waste management in collectively identifying suitable locations for waste disposal sites

Social impacts

Through the project, about 52 new jobs were created, mainly focused on waste collection. Today all the supervised MSMEs are engaged in composting and transforming plastic waste into useful items such as key-holders, purses, loincloths and hats among others.

Before the project, collectors generally worked without adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) which made them vulnerable to accidents and illnesses such as diarrhoea and respiratory problems. Through training on good practices and PPE provided, there was an 80 per cent increase in the number

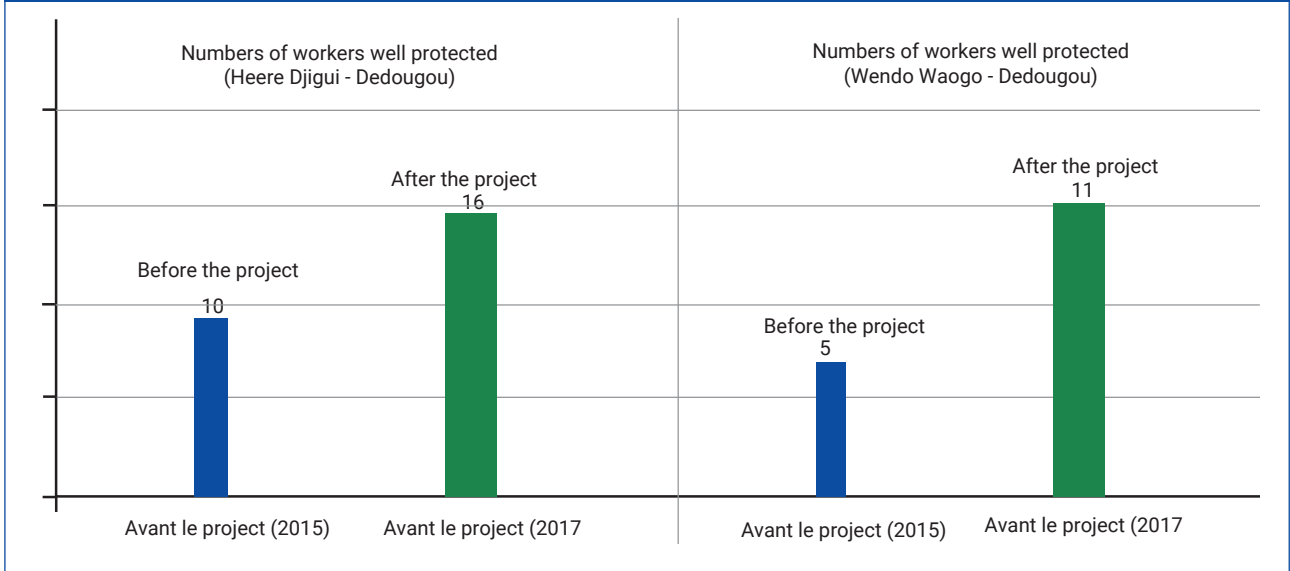
of workers with PPE, which improved protection and health at work significantly, see Figure 3 below.

Lessons learnt

- Effective integrated waste management needs to be complemented by provision of adequate infrastructure
- Collaboration among relevant actors enhances project implementation and wide replication of results. The project partnered with another EU funded project, GRET Burkina, to construct compost pits

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Fig. 3: Increase in workers with PPE



“Thanks to NEERE project, ABJ created five new jobs. This result is a great pride.... before we were not respected and even insulted in the streets ... since the NEERE project sponsored us, now if we denounce the bad practices, the people listen ... during collections, in households we are offered water to drink ... sometimes if our carts are blocked in the middle of the road, we are helped to push”

Madame Yaméogo Regma, Association Burkina Journalier (ABJ), Dédougou.



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