

# Burkina Faso: Psychosocial Support for Internally Displaced Women in the Est Region

German development cooperation supports the psychosocial care of internally displaced women and vulnerable host population members in the Est region through community-based and person-centered support.

## Our Challenges

As of March 2023, Burkina Faso recorded more than 2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), nearly 10% of the total population. In the Eastern region, the commune of Fada N'Gourma hosts the majority of IDPs, with a total of 124,367 out of 219,719 in the region.

The large majority of these IDPs (about 83%) are women and children (CONASUR statistics, March 2023). Many had to endure the loss of family members or have been exposed to other deeply traumatic events. Despite these challenges, women are increasingly taking on the responsibility for their families' survival, often under difficult financial and psychological conditions. Their psychosocial burden is aggravated by discriminatory gender norms, social isolation, and insufficient professional support services.

## Our Objective

In this context, the project aims to improve the mental health and psychosocial well-being of displaced women and vulnerable members of the host communities in the commune of Fada N'Gourma.



Project name	Psychosocial Support for Internally Displaced Women in the Est Region of Burkina Faso (ProSPS)
Commissioning party	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementing organization	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project region	Region Est (Burkina Faso)
Project partner	Ministry of Humanitarian Action and National Solidarity (MAHSN)
Runtime	01.12.2024 – 31.03.2028
Value	4,000,000 EUR

## Our Approach

This objective is supported by three areas of action:

1. **Improving access to community-based psychosocial support:** displaced women and vulnerable members of the host communities who experience psychological distress have the possibility to participate in community-based psychosocial support measures to learn how to better cope with experiences of displacement, violence, and trauma.



Left photo: Women's cooperative agri-food processing workshop in Kaya © GIZ

Right photo: Workshop on hygiene and good practices in the agri-food industry © GIZ



**Idrissa OUEDRAOGO**  
Commission Manager  
[idrissa.ouedraogo@giz.de](mailto:idrissa.ouedraogo@giz.de)

*Left photo: Training of members of cooperatives and enterprises on gender equality © GIZ*

*Right photo: Training of internally displaced women on income-generating activities © GIZ*

2. **Improving access to person-centered psychosocial support:** displaced women and vulnerable members of the host communities in particularly severe psychological distress are stabilized through comprehensive and individual support packages that promote their reintegration into social and economic life.
3. **Strengthening the self-determination of women:** displaced women and vulnerable members of the host communities are supported in strengthening their self-determination and social participation. The focus is laid on those individuals who have participated in community-based and individual psychosocial support measures.

## Our Indicators and Expected Results

### Access to community-based psychosocial support:

- **6 local organizations** have improved the quality or expanded the quantity of gender-sensitive psychosocial support offers for internally displaced women and vulnerable members of host communities.
- **1,200 beneficiaries** (including 1,080 women and 960 IDPs), have accessed community-based psychosocial support services.

### Access to person-centered psychosocial support:

- **220 beneficiaries** (including 198 women and 176 IDPs) in severe psychological distress, have accessed person-centered psychosocial support services.
- **220 beneficiaries** (including 198 women and 176 IDPs) in severe psychological distress, have accessed offers and trainings that promote the generation of personal income.

### Skills development for women's empowerment:

- **10 local organizations** have improved the quality or expanded the quantity of empowerment services for internally displaced women and vulnerable members of host communities.
- **120 awareness-raising activities** have been conducted by local organizations to inform the local population about mental health and gender norms.

### These first six indicators contribute to achieving three project level indicators:

- **60 staff members** (including 30 women) from local mental health and psychosocial support organizations report a change in their ability to provide gender-sensitive psychosocial support services.
- **400 beneficiaries** (including 360 women and 320 IDPs) report a change in their psychosocial well-being.
- **70% of 500 female beneficiaries** (including 280 IDPs) report taking decisions for themselves.

### Special Initiative "Displaced Persons and Host Countries"

The project is part of the Special Initiative "Displaced Persons and Host Countries" of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Since 2014, the Special Initiative has supported affected people and countries worldwide with measures in areas such as education, employment, health, and psychosocial support. A particular focus is placed on the empowerment of women.

<b>Published by</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
<b>Registered offices</b>	Bonn and Eschborn, Germany
<b>Project</b>	Psychosocial Support for Internally Displaced Women in the Eastern Region of Burkina Faso (ProSPS), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, <a href="http://giz.de">giz.de</a>
<b>Contact</b>	Idrissa OUEDRAOGO E: <a href="mailto:Idrissa.ouedraogo@giz.de">Idrissa.ouedraogo@giz.de</a>

**Design/layout** Anoussé Adèle Honorine LIMON

**Photo credits** © GIZ/ProSPS

Mandated by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication

**As of** July 2025, Ouagadougou