

Japan International
Cooperation Agency (JICA)

No.

Ministry of Agriculture,
Hydraulics and
Halieutic Resources
Burkina Faso

**The Study on the System to Alleviate the Land
Degradation in Burkina Faso
Second phase**

**FINAL MAIN REPORT
MASTER PROGRAM**

FEBRUARY 2006

Japan Green Resources Agency (J-Green)

PREFACE

In response to a request from the Government of Burkina Faso, the Government of Japan decided to conduct the Development Study on the System to Alleviate the Land Degradation in Burkina Faso and entrusted the study to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

JICA dispatched the study team headed by Mr. Akira ITO with Japan Green Resources Agency (which had been called Japan Green Resources Corporation until September 2003) to Burkina Faso four times during the period of Phase 1 (from December 2001 to March 2004). JICA dispatched the study team headed by Mr. Yasuo KAMIYA with the same Agency three times during the period of Phase 2 (from July 2004 to March 2006).

The study teams held discussions with the officials concerned of the Government of Burkina Faso and conducted the field surveys in the study area. Upon their return to Japan, the teams conducted further studies and prepared this final report.

I hope that this report will contribute to the promotion of this project and to the enhancement of friendly relationship between our two countries.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the close cooperation and support that the officials concerned of the Government and the people of Burkina Faso had extended to this study.

February 2006

Ariyuki MATSUMOTO
Vice-President
Japan International Cooperation Agency

Mr. Ariyuki Matsumoto
Vice-President
Japan International Cooperation Agency

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sirs,

We are pleased to submit to you the final report on "Study on the System to Alleviate the Land Degradation in Burkina Faso" that has been completed.

This study was conducted by Japan Green Resources Agency (called Japan Green Resources Corporation until September 2003) under the contract with your Agency for a total of 5 years in two phases: Phase 1 (from December 2001 to March 2004) and Phase 2 (from July 2004 to March 2006). The study teams made the studies to survey the actual conditions of land degradation in the study area and investigate the problems with the system to alleviate the land degradation. Based on these studies, we made efforts to formulate the Master Program to recommend how to establish the system to support the local residents facing the land degradation in alleviating the land degradation through their sustainable activities for agricultural, stock-raising and forest production.

In Burkina Faso, the soil is increasingly deteriorated and the land is remarkably degraded especially in the study area, and the residents are suffering frequent droughts and worried about unstable food production. The Master Program that we have recommended relates to the system to support the residents in tie-up of the Administration with NGOs in order to alleviate the land degradation through the agricultural and rural development.

In formulating the Master Program, we intended basically to promote the residents' independent activities, secure the integrity with decentralization, strengthen the mutual cooperation among the residents, the Administration and NGOs, and to make sustainable use of local resources. In Burkina Faso, we selected the villages for the verification study and verified the appropriateness and feasibility of the Master Program through the implementation of the project of residents' participation type.

In this Study, it is recommended to implement the full-scale project in three phases in order to realize the Master Program. We desire that this project will be implemented promptly on our recognition that if the project is implemented, it will improve not only the land conditions of the study area, but it will also be applicable to the entire country of Burkina Faso and further to the wider extent of Sahel Region.

I wish to appreciate very much that your Agency, the Domestic Support Committee and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries rendered us much cooperation and advice during the period of this study.

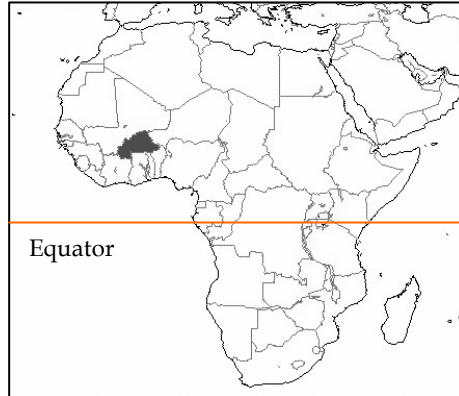
I wish also to express my sincere appreciation of the close cooperation and support that the administrative agencies of Burkina Faso, the related donors and NGOs have extended to our field surveys, and the precious advice and cooperation that JICA Cote d'Ivoire Office, the Japan Embassy to Cote d'Ivoire and other concerned people rendered to our study teams.

February 2006

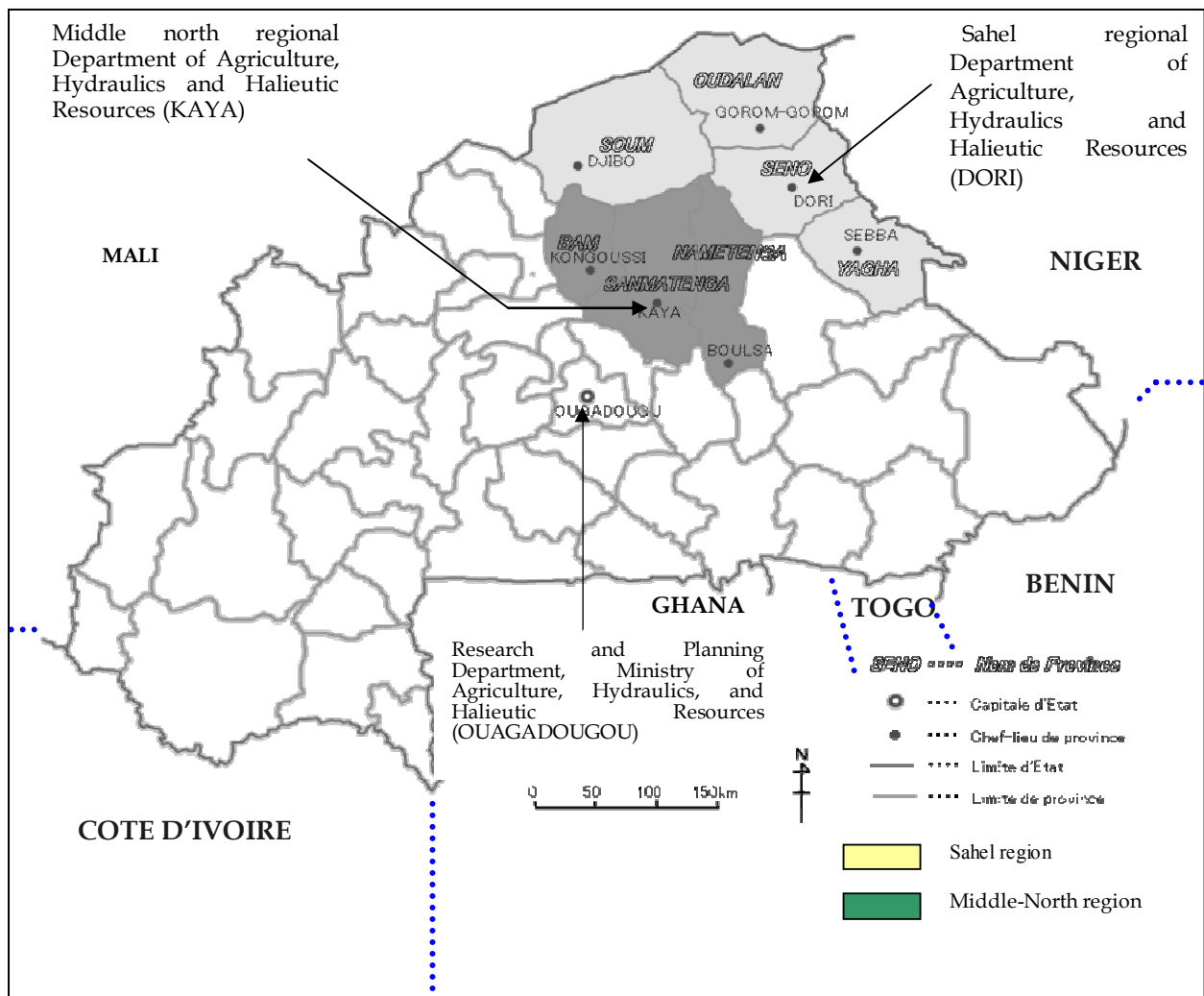
Yasuo Kamiya
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Japan Green Resources Agency

Location Map Of The Study Area

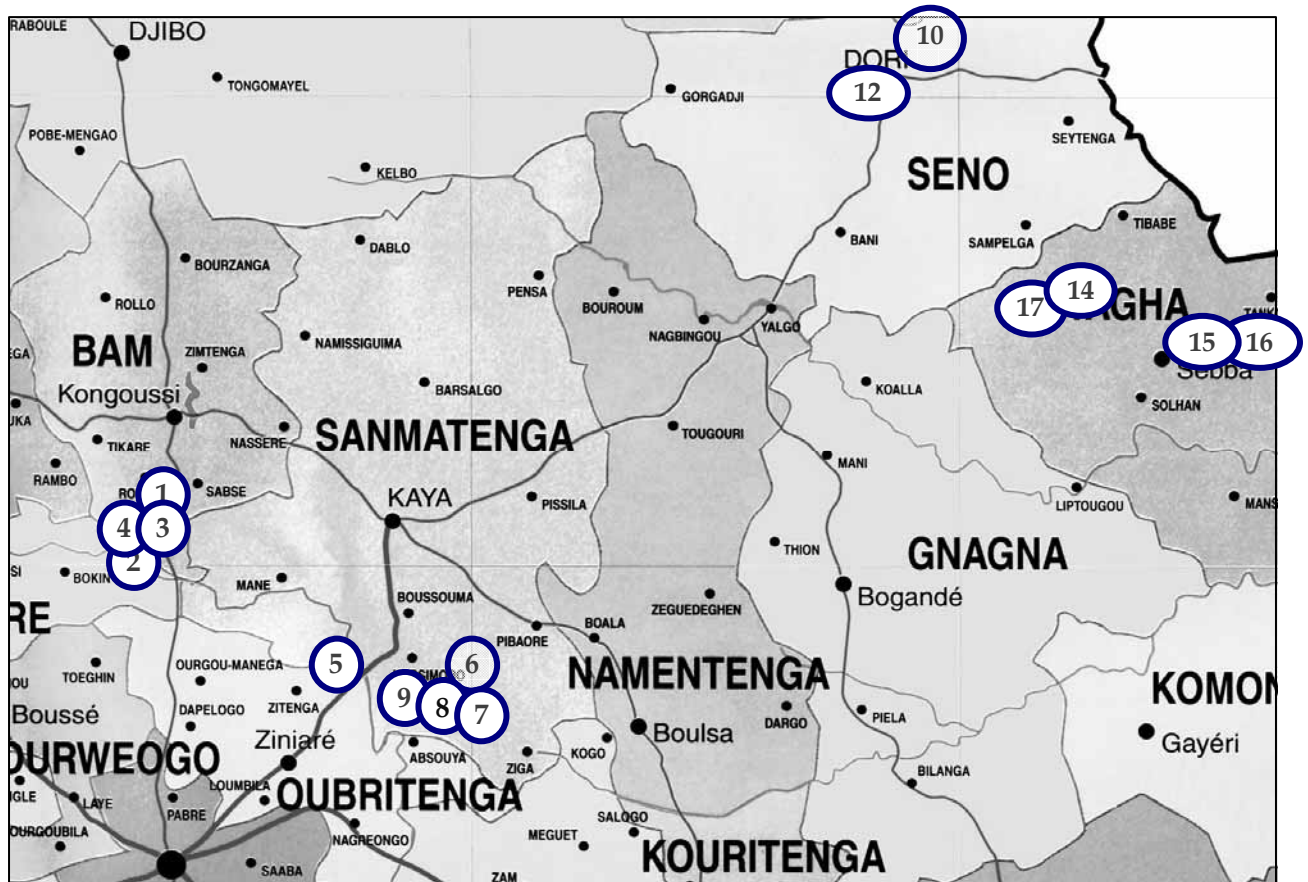
Burkina Faso



Map of the target area of the study (Middle-North region and Sahel region)



Detailed Map of Study Area



THE TARGET VILLAGES TO PILOT PROJECTS

(The acronyms G1, etc., refer to the categories of villages. For more details refer to below page VIII)

PROVINCE (UCADR)	CVGT support establishment villages (G1)		Existing CVGT support villages(G2)	
	First villages(G1-1)	New villages(G1-2)	Additional new villages(G2-1)	Dissemination villages (G2-2)
BAM (Guibaré)	1) Vousnango	2) Sindri	3) Watinoma	4) Nyanguela
SANMATENGA (Korsimoro)	5) Nougou		6) Foulla 7) Bascaudre-Mossi	8) Ouiden 9) Tansin
SENO (Dori)	10) Sèlbo	11) Goudébo	12) Thioumbonga	13) Baféle
YAGHA (Sebba)	14) Diogora		15) Guissindiori 16) Helga	17) Ibbal

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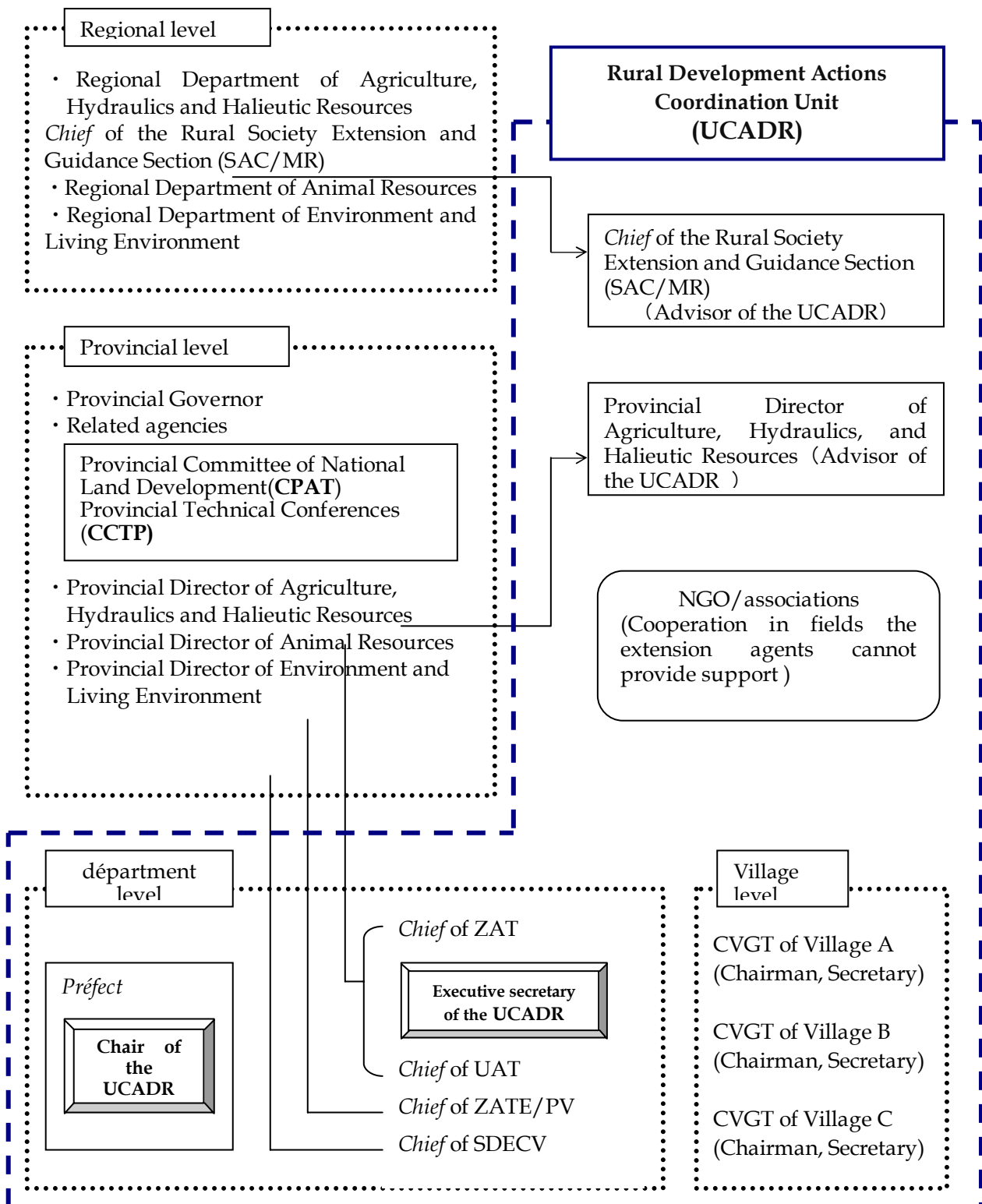
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The promotion system of the study



Categorization of target villages to pilot projects

We have classified the target villages to pilot projects in five categories. We have assigned an acronym to each of these categories, we will use within the body of the report.

CVGT support establishment villages	(G1)	—	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">First villages</div> <div style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">New villages</div> </div>	(G1-1) 4 villages (G1-2) 2 villages
Villages avec soutien à une CVGT existante Existing CVGT support villages	(G2)	—	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">Additional villages</div> <div style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 5px;">Dissemination villages</div> </div>	New (G2-1) 6 villages (G2-2) 5 villages
Verification villages of the dissemination	(G3)			6 villages

1. The first villages (G1-1)

- ① They have target to verify which is the appropriate framework for a residents' support by the basic governmental departments.
- ② The pilot projects are still carrying on in these villages from the first phase (december 2000-march 2004).

2. The New villages (G1-2)

- ① They have target to verify the effectiveness of the UCADR (execution of villages diagnosis, drawing up of the village development plans)
- ② Villages selected during the second phase (april 2004-march 2006), without existence of CVGT or with a non-operational CVGT.
- ③ Neighbouring villages of the first villages selected during the first phase, and covered by the same extension agents.

3. The Additional New villages (G2-1)

- ① They have target to verify if the UCADR can manage the projects implemented in several villages.
- ② Non-operational CVGT villages.
- ③ Selection of easy access villages, allowing a good ripple (vitrine) effect.

4. The dissemination villages(G2-2)

Villages located near to the above-mentioned villages, and selected with the target to develop autonomy of the UCADR and to verify their operational and capabilities reinforcement.

5. The verification of dissemination villages (G3)

Villages subject to the activities of the UCADR which are set up in the provinces of Namentenga, Soum, and Oudalan, as part of the verification dissemination task.

Abbreviation List

ABBREVIATION	English or French, etc.
ACORD	Association de Coopération et de Recherche pour le Développement
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
ADRK	Association pour le Développement de la Région de Kaya
AED	Association Eclésiastique de Développement
AGS	Action for Greening Sahel
AJACS	Association de Jeunesse d'Action de Coopération et de Solidarité
AMRT	Ateliers Mensuels de Revue Technique
AMURT	Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team
ANAR	Association Nationale d'Action Rurale
APESS	Association pour la Promotion de l'Elevage au Sahel et en Savane
ARSF	Antennes Régionales de Semences Forestières
AVD	Association des Volontaires pour le Développement Environnement Auto promotion et Solidarité
AZAP	Agent de Zone d'Aménagement Pastoral
BAD	Banque Africaine de Développement
BHN	Basic Human Needs: Besoins Humains Fondamentaux
BIRD	Banque Internationale pour la Reconstruction et le Développement (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development)
BOAD	Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement
BSONG	Bureau de Suivi de ONG
BUNASOLS	Bureau National des Sols
CAF	Comité d'Assignment du Fonds
CAP	Conseiller Agricole Polyvalent
CC	Cadre de Concertation
CCD	Convention des Nations Unies sur la Lutte contre la Désertification
CCR	Cellule de Concertation Régionale
CCTP	Cadre de Concertation Technique Provincial
CDC	Comité Départemental de Concertation
CDG	Comité Départemental de Gestion
CDH	Centre pour le Développement de l'Horticulture Cambreme (Sénégal)
CEBNF	Centre d'Enseignement de Base et Non-Formel
CECI	Centre Canadien d'Etude et de Coopération Internationale
CESAO	Centre d'Etude Economiques et Sociales d'Afrique Occidentale
CGC	Commission de Gestion des Communes
CGT	Centre de Gestion et Technique
CIGVT	Commission Inter-Villageoise de Gestion des Terroirs
CLC	Comité Local de Concertation
CNSF	Centre National des Semences Forestières
CONAGESE	Conseil National pour la Gestion de l'Environnement
CONEDD	Conseil National pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable
COPOD	Comité de Pilotage des ONG sur la Lutte contre la Désertification
CP	Comité de Pilotage
CPAF	Centre Permanent d'Alphabétisation Formation
CPAT	Commission Provinciale d'Aménagement du Territoire
CPCE/OP	Cadres Provinciaux de Concertation et d'Echange des Organisations Paysannes
CPG	Comité Provincial de Gestion
CPVP	Comité Provincial de Validation des Projets
CR	Commune Rurale

ABBREVIATION	English or French, etc.
CRA	Chambre Régionale d'Agriculture
CRC	Cellule Régionale de Concertation
CRREA	Centre Régionaux de Recherche Environnementale et Agricole
CRVP	Comité Régional de Validation des Projets
CTI	Comité Technique Interministériel
CVGS	Comité Villageois de la Gestion de Site récupéré
CVGT	Commission Villageoise de Gestion du Terroir
DAEP	Direction de l'Approvisionnement en Eau Potable
DAF	Direction de l'administration et des Finances
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DEP	Direction des Etudes et de la Planification
DFR	Direction de la Foresterie Rurale
DGEF	Direction Générale des Eaux et des Forêts
DGEP	Direction Générale de l'Economie et de la Planification
DGH	Direction Générale de l'Hydraulique
DHA	Direction de l'Hydraulique Agricole
DIRH	Direction de l'Inventaire des Ressources Hydrauliques
DOPAIR	Direction de l'Organisation des Producteurs et de l'Appui aux Institutions Rurales
DOS	Document d'Orientations Stratégiques
DPA	Direction Provinciale de l'Agriculture
DPAHRH	Direction Provinciale de l'Agriculture, de l'Hydraulique et des Ressources Halieutiques
DPCLR	Direction de la Promotion Coopérative et de la Législation Rurale
DPEBA	Direction Provinciale de l'Enseignement de Base et de l'Alphabétisation
DPEEF	Direction Provinciale de l'Environnement et des Eaux et Forêts
DPIA	Direction de la Production et des Industries Animales
DPRA	Direction Provinciale des Ressources Animales
DPV	Direction des Productions Végétales
DRA	Direction Régionale de l'Agriculture
DRAHRH	Direction Régionale de l'Agriculture de l'Hydraulique et des Ressources Halieutiques
DRECV	Direction Régionale de l'Environnement et du Cadre de Vie
DRED	Direction Régionale de l'Economie et du Développement
DREEF	Direction Régionale de l'Environnement et des Eaux et Forêt
DREP	Direction Régionale de l'Economie et de la Planification
DRH	Direction des Ressources Humaines
DRRA	Direction Régionale des Ressources Animales
DVA	Direction de la Vulgarisation Agricole
DVTT	Direction de la Vulgarisation et des Transferts de Technologie
E/N	Echange de notes
EMA	Equipe Mobile d'Appui
EP	Equipe Pluridisciplinaire
EWV	Enterprise Works Worldwide
FAO	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et l'Agriculture (Food and Agriculture Organization)
FEER	Fonds de l'Eau et de l'Equipement Rural
FENU	Fonds d'Equipement des Nations Unies (anglais: United Nations Capital Development Fund UNCDF)
FIDA	Fonds International de Développement Agricole
FNGN	Fédération Nationale des Groupes NAAM

ABBREVIATION	English or French, etc.
FNLD	Fonds National de Lutte contre la Désertification
FT	Projet Front de Terre / Ceinture Végétale
GRN/SP	Gestion des Ressource Naturelles / Secrétariat Permanent
GTZ	Coopération Technique Allemande (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit)
IDA	Association internationale de développement (International Development Association)
IGB	Institut Géographique du Burkina
INERA	Institut de l'Environnement et des Recherches Agricoles
INRAN	Institut National de Recherches Agronomiques du Niger
IRSAT	Institut de Recherche en Sciences Appliquées et Technologies
J-Green	Société Japonaise des Ressources Vertes
JICA	Agence Japonaise de Coopération Internationale (Japan International Cooperation Agency)
JOCV	Service des Volontaires Japonais pour la Coopération à l'Étranger (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers)
LPDA	Lettre de Politique de Développement Agricole
LPDRD	Lettre de Politique de Développement Rural Décentralisé
M/M	Procès verbal de la réunion (Minutes of the Meeting)
MA	Ministère de l'Agriculture
MAHRH	Ministère de l'Agriculture de l'Hydraulique et des Ressources Halieutiques
MARP	Méthode Active de Recherche et de Planification Participative
MEBA	Ministère de l'Enseignement de Base et de l'Alphabétisation
MECV	Ministère de l'Environnement et du Cadre de Vie
MED	Ministère de l'Économie et du Développement
MEE	Ministère de l'Environnement et de l'Eau
MRA	Ministère des Ressources Animales
OCADES	Organisation Catholique pour le Développement et la Solidarité
ODE	Office de Développement des Eglises Evangéliques
OJT	Formation "sur le tas" (On the Job Training)
ONG	Organisation Non Gouvernementale
OP	Organisation Paysanne
PADAB	Programme d'Appui au Développement de l'Agriculture au Burkina
PAN	Programme d'Action National
PANE	Programme d'Action National de l'Environnement
PANLCD	Programme d'Action National de Lutte Contre Désertification
PAPEM	Point d'Appui des Essais Multi-locaux
PAPISE	Plan d'Actions et Programme d'Investissement du Secteur de l'Elevage
PAPNA	Projet de développement des Ressources Agro-pastorales de la Province de Namentenga
PASA	Programme d'Ajustement Sectoriel Agricole
PATECORE	Projet d'Aménagement de Terroirs et de Conservation des Ressources dans le Plateau Central
PCM	Gestion du cycle de projet (Project Cycle Management)
PDL/S	Programme de Développement Local du Sanmatenga
PDM	Matrice de Conception de Projet (Project Design Matrix)
PDRD	Programme de Développement Rural Durable
P-EA/PFNL	Service Promotion des Energies Alternatives et des Produits Forestiers Non Ligneux
PGFMR	Projet Gestion des Feux en Milieu Rural
PGRN	Programme Gestion des Ressources Naturelles

ABBREVIATION	English or French, etc.
PISA	Programme d'Investissement du Secteur Agricole
PISE	Programme d'Investissement du Secteur de l'Elevage
PLA	Apprentissage Participatif et Action (anglais: Participatory Learning and Action)
PLCE /BN	Programme de Lutte Contre l'Enselement du Bassin du Niger
PNAF	Programme National d'Aménagement des Forêts
PNDSA	Programme National de Développement des Services Agricoles
PNFV	Programme National de Foresterie Villageoise
PNGT	Programme National de Gestion des Terroirs
PNLCD	Programme National de lutte contre la Désertification
PNUD	Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement
PRPR	Projet Réhabilitation des Pépinières Régionales
PSB	Programme Sahel Burkinabé
PS-CES/AGF	Programme Spécial de Conservation des Eaux et des Sols et d'Agroforesterie dans le Plateau Central
PSO	Plan Stratégique Opérationnel
PSSA	Programme Spécial pour la Sécurité Alimentaire
R/D	Record of Discussion (compte-rendu des discussions)
RAF	Loi portant Réorganisation Agraire et Foncière
RAV	Responsable Administratif Villageois
RECIF	Réseau de Communication d'Information et de Formation des Femmes
RNA	Régénération Naturelle Assistée
S/W	Scope of Works (Convention sur l'étendue des travaux)
SAC/MR	Section d'Appui-Conseil au Monde Rural
SAC/POPA	Service d'Appui-Conseil aux Producteurs et aux Organisations Professionnelles Agricoles
SDECV	Service Départemental de l'Environnement et du Cadre de Vie
SDEEF	Service Départemental de l'Environnement et des Eaux et Forêts
SG	Secrétaire Général
SP/CONAGESE	Secrétariat Permanent du Conseil National pour la Gestion de l'Environnement
SPONG	Secrétariat Permanent des ONG
SPRA	Service Provincial des Ressources Animales
SPS	Service Planification et Statistique
SRPRN	Service Restauration et Protection des Ressources Naturelles
SVTF	Service Vulgarisation des Techniques Forestières
TAA	Taux d'Adaptation Absolu
TDR	Termes de référence
TS	Technicien Spécialisé
UAA	Unité d'Animation Agricole
UAT	Unité d'Animation Technique
UBT	Unité de Bétail Tropical
UCADR	Unité de Coordination des Actions de Développement Rural
UE	Union Européenne
UFC-DORI	Union Fraternelle des Crovants de DORI
UNSO	Bureau de Lutte Contre la Désertification et la Sécheresse (UNDP Office to Combat Desertification and Drought, anciennement " United Nations Sudan Sahelian Office")
ZAP	Zone d'Aménagement Pastoral
ZAT	Zone d'Appui Technique
ZATA	Zone d'Appui Technique Agricole
ZATE	Zone d'Appui Technique en Elevage

Photographes

1.1 Present state of the survey area (Extracted)



Soil erosion in the Middle-North Region: roots are exposed due to erosion by water.



Soil erosion in the Sahel Region: on the glassified plateau where the soil has been removed by heavy rains.

2.1 Promotion System Establishment Progra



Sebba UCADR Meeting (Sebba)



Meeting of Exchange between UCADR, Middle-North Region (Kaya)



Technical Exchange Meeting, Sahel Region (Dori)



Middle-North Region Cooperation Promotion Workshop (Kaya)

2.2. Pilot projects and the activities of local residents



Study of resources in a village (Implemented with the joint purpose of providing extension agents with OJT in PRA, Village of Sindri)



Meeting for natural resource management (Village of Selbo)



Improvement of cultivation in rainy season ; Sowing seeds (Village of Baskoudre-Mossi)



Sheep fattening (Village of Nougou)



Residents' participation in drilling a well (Village of Goudébo)



village people's nursery field (Village of Foulla)

SUMMARY (Master Program)

CHAPTER ONE : INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

- 1.① Burkina Faso is located at the centre of West Africa. The deteriorating desertification has been a factor to impoverish residents' life since 1968.
- ②The effectiveness of participative rural development for the promotion of measurements of fight against the land degradation in West Africa has been demonstrated. Nevertheless, until these last years, the support for people has been in the form of "downward" methods (top-down).
- ③In Burkina Faso, many actions of rural development are implemented with the support of the organizations and the ministries concerned. However methods of these organisations and projects do not allow official services and people to make synergy and to function in order to manage and implement the actions of development by themselves. Then the system to promote anti-desertification by initiatives of residents and officials is not yet established.

To leave this situation, the government of Burkina Faso addressed a request to Japan for cooperation to implement a study. The main objective of the study is to verify a system of support for the sustainable actions to combat against the soil degradation. Answering to this request, a "convention on the extent of work" was passed in September 2001. The first phase of the "study on the system to alleviate the land degradation" was carried out in three years from December 2001, in the areas of the Northern Center and the Sahel. A draft master program of the system to alleviate the soil degradation (draft M/P) was established. In the draft M/P, Units of Coordination for the Actions of Rural Development (UCADR), is at the centre, allowing synergy and collaboration between the official services, NGO and the people.

Here contents of the UCADR proposed in the project of the M/P.

Units of coordination of the actions of rural development (UCADR)	
Objectives	The UCADRs are structures which give to the communes a technical support for the activities of rural development, contributing to methods of fight against the impoverishment of the soil such as the agro-sylvo-pastoral development, the stock management, the improvement of the life of the people. They are organisation at the level of department (it is expected to be altered as the commune after 2006)
Composition	The prefet is a president of the UCADR. Other members are extension agents (of agriculture, breeding, and forestry), the representatives of people (CVGT members), the persons from NGO /associations who are carrying out the CVGT support in villages in the UCADR area, and the

	provincial directors of agriculture.
Roles	<p>① The UCADR supports and promotes initiatives for development of the people. For that, it make use of the people’s organizations such as the CVGT, and at same time, contrarily, the UCADR supports the CVGT and people’s organisation when it is needed.</p> <p>② The prefet (the head of department, or canton) is a president of the UCADR. S/he assumes a role of connection between the official services of agriculture, the breeding and the forestry that are usually vertically-separated in the administrative structures.</p> <p>③ Extension agents in agriculture and breeding, as well as the forest agents assume a role of principal interlocutors connecting the people to the official services.</p> <p>④ For activities that extension agents cannot ensure the support for people are completed by the help of NGO or local associations.</p>

2. The objective of the second phase of the study, from year 2004 is as follows:

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| <p>① Through the revision and the reinforcement of the “program of the system to promote measurements of fight against the impoverishment of the soil” (M/P), the study clearly suggest the methods to build a system of promotion integrated and, allowing to fight against the turning into a desert due to the impoverishment of the soil.</p> <p>② By the execution of the pilot study, to reinforce the capacities as regards implementation of actions of fight against the impoverishment of the soil of the agents of the official services, NGO , and the leaders of the people implied in the achievements</p> |
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3. The area of the study consisted of the two areas of the Northern Center and the Sahel, where the impoverishment of the soil is most advanced in Burkina Faso. It includes/understands the three provinces of the Northern Center: Bam, Sanmatenga and Namentenga, and four provinces of the Sahel: Soum, Oudalan, Séno and Yagha, have a population of some 1.630.000 inhabitants and a surface of approximately 570.000 km². The two areas belong to the climatic zone sahélienne and have an average annual pluviometry ranging between 300 and 600 millimetres.

CHAPTER TWO: SITUATION PRESENTS ZONE OF THE STUDY

2.1 Nature, the society, economy of Burkina Faso

4. Natural environment

- (1) In Burkina Faso, wind of harmattan breath coming from the Sahara in January and February, and monsoon blows coming from the Gulf of Guinea from June to August. The central part of the country which occupies half of the territory is of climate soudano-sahélien, the annual average of pluviometry goes from 600 to 900 mm, and the

wintering hard from 4 to 5 months. The northern part which occupies 25 % of the territory is of climate sahélien, with an annual average from 150 to 600 Misters. The study of the weather data shows that annual pluviometry is falling in the whole of the country, and that the limits of the climatic zone sahélienne go down towards the south. One can note that compared to situation before 1970, the 30 years averages recent present a reduction in a hundred Misters.

(2) The forest resources are exploited by the local people for many needs: drink of heating, food, condiments, traditional pharmacopeia, etc. These resources constitute one of the essential components of their existence. However, mainly because of the cuts for the clearing of new grounds under the effect of the demographic pressure, the surface of the natural forests of Burkina, which get these resources mainly, passed from 15.420.000 ha in 1980 to 14.160.000 ha in 1992, thus losing of more than 100.000 hectares per annum.

5. Society

(1) According to the national census of 1996, the population of Burkina Faso was of 10.312.609 inhabitants, and, if one refers to the census carried out in 1975 which gave a population of 5.639.203 inhabitants, this population almost doubled in the 21 years space with average annual rate of increase in 2,7 %. The birth rate in Burkina Faso is 4,7 %, mortality is 1,7 %, but it reaches 9.7 % in the infants. 90 % of the working population practice agriculture.

(2) Mossi represent about 50 % of the population. One finds then Peuhls (approximately 8 %), Gourmantché, the Sore, Gourounsi, and there is more than thirty different ethnics groups. It is said that there is an about sixty languages spoken in the country, which represents an important obstacle, not only with primary education teaching and the diffusion about French which is the official language, but also with the daily communication between the people.

(3) The age of compulsory schooling is 6 years to 12 years, and the rate of schooling in 1970 reached hardly 10 %. It passed to 29 % in 1990, and exceeds 40 % today.

The actions of elimination of illiteracy depend on the support of the financial backers or on deprived, and programs of actions was the subject of a handbook. It is difficult to have a precise idea of the rate of elimination of illiteracy, even while referring to the official statistics, but one estimates it at approximately 20 % for the whole of the country (According to the report/ratio of UNESCO of November 2005, the rate of elimination of illiteracy of the adults is 12,8 %, and this figure is lowest in the world).

(4) In 1991, the population was made up for more than 60 % of Moslems, the proportion of those exceeding 90 % in the provinces of the area of the Sahel (Séno, Soum, and

Oudalan). The proportion of Christians had passed from 4 % in 1960 to 20 %. The animists presented 26 % of the population. The religious conflicts are rare, and the religious tolerance makes it possible believing of a religion to take part in the religious festivals and the funerary ceremonies of another religion.

(5) The habits of the Mossie ethnos group which is most important in terms of population strongly influence the rural society in Burkina Faso. The traditional cheffery which govern the human ones and the system of the "chiefs of ground" who govern the attribution and the management of the rights of user of the ground are practiced in the majority of the villages. These systems were rejected by the revolutionary government of 1984-1987, but of many villages are in fact in the situation of before the revolution

6. Economy

(1) The GDP per capita of Burkina Faso is 202.896 frank CFA (approximately 41. 900 yens), which is very low. Concerning the distribution of the production in 2002, the primary sector occupied 34,9 % of the total of added value, the secondary industry 21,7 %, and the tertiary sector 43,4 %. Cotton, with 72.191 million frank, represents 61 % of the total amount of the exploitations (for 2002). If one adds the cotton seed oil to it, one reaches 63 % with 73.918 million frank.

(2) Burkina Faso is in the course of decentralization. However, the reform of the taxation necessary to ensure the local financial resources is not completed yet. The farmers are not imposed on the production of cereals etc the breeding gives place to imposition of various taxes to the level of the exchanges, but there is no direct imposition on the level of the producers. Thus the peasants are not in a situation allowing them to claim a redistribution of the financial resources of the state to which they do not contribute.

2.2 Plans and official programs in connection with the fight against the impoverishment of the soil

7. The government of Burkina Faso works out a strategy of fight against poverty. Within the framework of this strategy, need for guaranteeing food safety, and that to protect the environment are quoted like important points. The National Action plan of Fight Against Turning into a desert (PAN/LCD 1999), the National Programme of Action for the Environment (1991 BREAD), the Strategic Agricultural Research Plan (PSRA), the National Pastoral Policy of the Breeding, the National Forest Policy (the NFP, 1998), were implemented, as hot lines to act vis-a-vis such a situation.

2.3 System of promotion

8. Among the principal official organizations which are in connection with the actions on the level village concerning the fight against the impoverishment of the soil, one can quote the Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and of the Resources Halieutics (MAHRH), the Ministry for the Animal Resources (MRA), and the Framework Department of the Environment of Life (MECV), the Ministry for the Economy and Development (MEDEV), etc It happens that the extension agents of the various ministries are gathered as counterparts of the projects of international organizations, but basically, it is frequent that they act each one on their side according to vertical official channels: ministry → regional direction → provincial direction → service of the agent of extension . That is due so that the ministries underwent repeated regroupings and dismemberments which led to a clarification of the dividing line of the roles between the official services.

9. The state of the ministries concerned is as follows:

(1) The decentralized services of the MAHRH comprise Regional Directions of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Resources Halieutics installation in the 13 areas, and of the Provincial Directions of Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics in the 45 provinces of the country. Since the reorganization of 2002, the regional directions have each one three services, and the organization of the services is installation, but much of stations do not have affected agents, and in reality, it is difficult to compensate for these holidays of stations. This established fact is pronounced more on the level of the provincial directions.

(2) The decentralized services of the MRA comprise Regional Directions of the Animal Resources (DRRA) installation in all the areas, and of the Provincial Directions of the Animal Resources (DPRA) which depend on the DRRA, in all the provinces of the country. Since the reorganization of 2002, the adjustment of the services is done gradually, but the organization is fragile in the two aspects of the personnel and the equipment. For example, in 2001, there were 7 directions, but their total personnel was only of 21 agents. The system of extension is him also confronted with the problem of the nonaffected stations, and does not function always effectively, the actions being limited according to the personnel available.

(3) The decentralized services of the MECV comprise Regional Managerial staff of the Environment and Executive staff of Life (DRECV) installation in each area, and of the Provincial Directions of the Environment and the Framework of Life (DPECV) which

depend on the DRECV, in each province of the country.

(4) The Ministry for the Economy and the Development is in charge to play the part of body of coordination of the execution of the projects. It ensures the secretariat of the Provincial Technical Executives of Dialog (CCTP) and of the Provincial Commissions of Regional planning (CPAT), as a coordinator of the regional projects such as the National Programme of Management of the Soils, phase 2 (PNGT II).

• The creation of Commissions of Regional planning at the national, regional, and provincial level is prescribed by law carrying RAF. The Provincial Commissions of Regional planning (CPAT) examine and authorize the action plans of development, and make coordination between the various actions. However this coordination consists in checking during the establishment of the plans that, those are not in contradiction or overlapping compared to the laws, in the plans of development which preceded them. The CPAT are not implied directly in coordination on the level of the execution of the actions. The plans of development of village (PDV) require for each one of them, an authorization of the CPAT.

• the CCTP are positioned as consultative bodies of the CPAT and their principal functions are to examine the plans of development inside the province and to ensure coordination between the various projects of development. Concretely, the CCTP holds of the periodic general assemblies, carries out the examination of the plans of rural development and carries out necessary installations to obtain the funds necessary, with the implementation of the projects once those were planned. However, as it is not easy to ensure the financing of the activities, it is difficult to say that they function in a satisfactory way.

10. As institutes of research and experimentation related to the activities of agricultural production, there is the Institute of the Environment and Agricultural Research (INERA), the National Office of the Grounds (BUNASOLS), and the National Center of the Forest Seeds (CNSF).

(1) The INERA is a national institute established for research concerning the agro-sylvo-pastoral activities and the natural stock management. Until 2001, within the framework of the National Programme of Development of the Agricultural Services (PNDSA II) were held of the monthly workshops and of the transfers of technique and the exchanges of information were operated with the extension agents, but since 2002, these workshops are not held any more, fault of financial means.

(2) The National Office of Grounds (BUNASOLS)

The BUNASOLS is a publicly-owned establishment in administrative matter depend on the Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and Resources Halieutics. Just like the INERA, it sends if it is asked to him specialists in the regional directions, and it happens that they form the extension agents of these regional directions, but that is not done systematically.

It delegates teachers in the schools of technical training agricultural etc, and thus contributes to the reinforcement of the capacities of the new extension agents through courses on pedology, the cartography, the experiments of analysis of the grounds, etc

(3) The National Center of the Forest Seeds (CNSF)

The CNSF aims to contribute to a sustainable management of the environment through activities of production, seeks, and extension relating to the forest seeds. Its principal activities are: ① production of seeds, ② the extension of the assets of research on seed-bearer production, and ③ research to cure the problems of the seed-bearer production.

11. The system of extension of the ministries concerned is as follows:

(1) For the Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and Resources Halieutics, it is the Section of Support the Council in the Rural World (SAC/MR) of the Regional Directions of Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics which is in charge of the support for the extension of the agricultural technique. The SAC/MR, through the heads of department trainings and extension and the Technicians Specialized who belong to the provincial directions, exerts a support for the framing and the extension of the agricultural techniques near the Zones of Agricultural Support (ZAT) located at the departmental level and of the Units of Agricultural Animation (UAT) which cover a certain number of villages, these two structures depending on the provincial directions.

The TS (specialized technicians) are technicians in 4 fields: ① conservation and rehabilitation of the grounds, ② trainings of the country organizations, ③ market-gardening productions, ④ food techniques, but there is lack of agents due to the absence of human resources. The extension agents affected in the ZAT and the UAT are called Chefs ZAT and Chief UAT, and they take actions of support for extension and the agricultural technical framing near the residence. The chiefs ZAT and chiefs UAT are from an institutional point of view a structure on double level, but in the facts, because of the lack of agents, often chiefs ZAT cumulate their functions with those of chief UAT. Moreover, because of the problem of means of displacement, the activity of support is limited to the villages in which they live, and with many villages are not covered by their technical framing.

(2) For the Ministry for the animal Resources, they are the Technicians Specialized (TS) in livestock production affected in the provincial directions, and the chiefs of Technical Zone of Support in Breeding (ZATE) which are in charge of extension near the

population. However there are almost no really affected TS. Moreover, in the departments, chiefs of veterinary station (statement) in charge of animal health are in theory affected, but in the facts, there is generally an agent by department, which cumulates the functions of chief ZATE and chief statement. There are in the whole of the country 100 posts of chief statement and 300 posts of chief ZATE, but only 200 stations in all are provided. That wants to say that a many departments do not have an affected agent and that it is frequent that a chief ZATE or chief statement covers several departments.

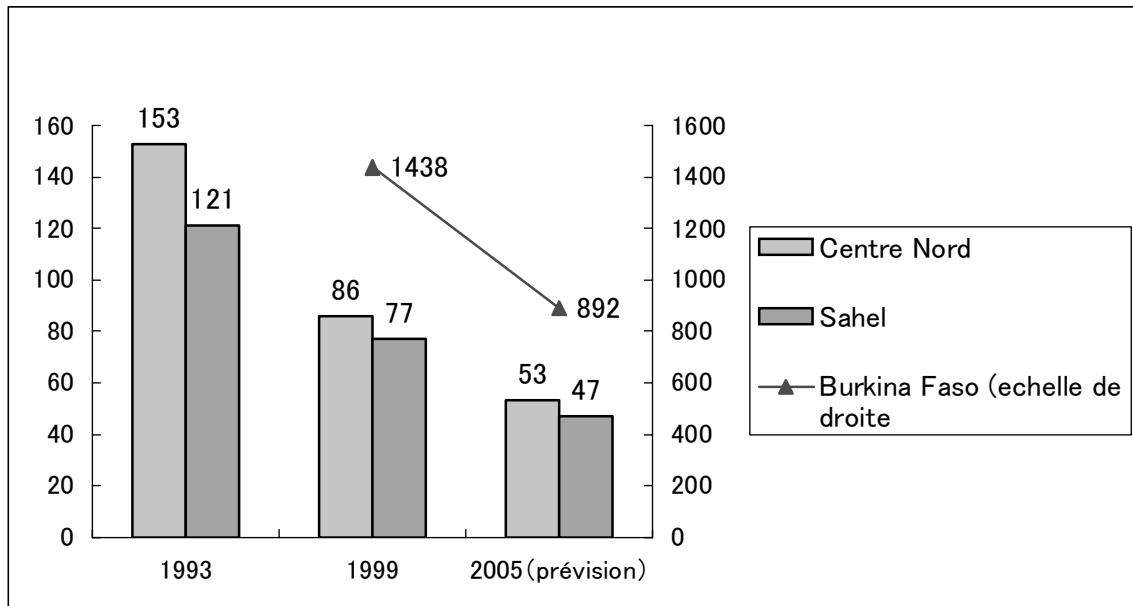
(3) For and the Framework Department of the Environment of Life, these are chiefs SDECV (forest agents) affected in the provinces or the departments which assume the responsibility for extension . Parallel to their role of sensitizing/extension as regards forestry and environmental protection, they play also that of police force of the forest by repressing the illegal cuts and the poaching. At the time of the investigations by interviews near people, certain village the forest agents like repressive agents perceive, say that they did not have contacts with them as regards sensitizing or extension , and that they avoid them as much as possible. The SDECVqui chiefs work on the level of the departments are 19 in the Northern Center and 23 in the Sahel, and if a simple calculation is made, these agents on average cover more than 30 villages each one.

(4) If a synthesis of the assignments of the agents of the provincial directions and extension agents are made, etc in the zone of the study, one makes the following report: the extension agents in agriculture cover on average with 5 to 20 villages, the forest agents some 30 villages, and the extension agents in breeding from 20 to 40 villages.

If one considers in particular the number of villages covered in the zone of the study by the extension agents in agriculture which are the central axis of extension , in the majority of the provinces, they cover each one more than 10 villages. If it is considered that an agent of extension can approximately carry out an effective framing only for 4 to 6 villages, it will be understood that the number of extension agents is very insufficient.

(5) However, the number of extension agents in agriculture fell within the framework of the Program of Structural Adjustment. The situation of reduction in the number of popularizers, arises as follows:

Evolution of the number of extension agents in agriculture



(6) The state of the activities of the extension agents is summarized as follows:

- Like the recruitment of the agents is done at the central level, it happens that agents are affected whereas they do not understand the principal language of their place of employment (for example the fulfulde in the Sahel), and in this case, the communication with the people poses problem.
- On another side, when people want to ask for an unspecified support for the official services, it clearly do not know with which to address itself to obtain the realization of their wishes, and it would be desirable that the extension agents can fulfill the role of “counter of reception” of the support for people.
- The means of transport and the expenses for the extension agents are them also limited. Until 2001, the PNDSA II (National Programme of development of the Agricultural Services, phase 2) implemented by the World Bank (BIRD), of the motor bikes was provided to the extension agents. Moreover chiefs UAT touched a premium of 35.000 frank CFA per month, but thereafter, the amount in was reduced. Then the PNDSA II ended in June 2003, and the premiums ceased. In such a situation, the rounds of framing of the agents in the villages became problematic, and, in the facts, the framing is done only when the villagers come to find the agent.
- Thus, because a project pays premiums with the agents, the agents lose the initial concept of a project implemented for people, or for the development of a village, and tend to carry out the project to receive premiums.
- The extension agents carry out the technical framing and the actions of extension while

being based on knowledge which they acquired in the handbooks of the vocational school through their participation in the seminars organized by the projects of the various financial backers, as on the experiment that they acquired on the various grounds. However, currently available handbooks etc expose old techniques, are not adapted to the zone, and are not used largely on the level of the extension agents.

- The importance of the ascending approach by which people take part in the actions as a principal actor was underlined, and it is considered that the extension agents need them also capacities to sensitize and organize people. However, the extension agents are not very favoured as regards occasions to follow formations to these tools.

12. The factors which make obstacle with the system of promotion are summarized as follows:

- ① To carry out an effective fight against the turning into a desert, one needs a coherent step at the national level. However, at the present time, agriculture, the breeding, and the forestry are separate in 3 different ministries, and the extension agents etc act each one on their side while conforming to the orientations of their ministry. In the goal to integrate, to coordinate and of synergiser their actions, the Ministry for the Economy and Development set up at the provincial level of the structures such as the CCTP and the CPAT, but in consequence of problems, in particular of financing, it is difficult to say that these structures function adequately. Moreover these structures are not in measurement to contribute to synergy and coordination at the departmental level.
- ② The Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics was restructured following the rehandling, but in consequence of budgetary problems, certain stations are not provided, and the adjustment of the system in order to ensure the service people while passing by the private sector is late. For these reasons, people do not profit sufficient the engineering department which they hope for.
- ③ Because of the problem of the language used for extension , and of the problem of the lack of agents, the extension agents are not able to fully assume the role of counter of reception of people.
- ④ Even if they are insufficient, there are motor bikes, but the fuel is not dealt with.
- ⑤ The tools for extension (manual, audio-visual material, etc) insufficient, and that are made barrier to the effectiveness of the actions of extension .
- ⑥ It is frequent that the extension agents are in charge of the implementation of projects implemented with the support of financial backers or NGO , but often, they attach importance only to the premiums poured by the project and do not include/understand the true significance of the project.

- ⑦ Until now, the projects of development of downward approach, and were carried out under the control of the official services. Therefore the extension agents have an insufficient perception of the importance of sensitizing and organization of people for a sustainable rural development.
- ⑧ The technical trainings are not organized regularly, and one cannot say that the extension agents have sufficient technical capabilities.
- ⑨ The institutes of research are to be considered structures which carry out research on the technical problems, and of common research with other countries. However, they do not have to know to make as regards techniques adapted to people and of methods of extension. It is necessary to arrange methods of extension .

13. For the various projects led to Burkina Faso, one passed to the ascending approach centered on the participation of people. For the appearance of sustainable effects of the actions, one needs at these populations they also a change of perception and a reinforcement of the capacities on the points below:

- ① As people were accustomed since long years to the downward approach, their general attitude, rather than to develop their villages of their own hands, is to await an external support, insofar as the development for them is implemented by the government and the projects of support. To take an extreme example, people of a certain village asked for copies of the basic plan of development of the village which had been established within the framework of the process of creation of the CVGT, and explained that was "to show them at the organizations of assistance and to ask them a support".
- ② An organization which makes it possible to collect the opinions of the whole of the population and to form a consensus makes gradually through the creation of the CVGT based on programs such as the PNGT, but the results, to start with the effect of diffusion in chain towards the other zones, are still insufficient.
- ③ In the villages of the zone of the study, one finds discriminations based on the complicated historical plane backs (relations of Masters and prisoners, etc), the conflicts between populations sedentary and wandering, the groups based on the trades, the traditional vision of the world, the kind, etc to solve these discriminations and to support the communication of the whole of the population, the capacities organisational and in reading and writing of people are important, but very few are the villages in which methods to reinforce these capacities are taken.
- ④ One finds cases of projects which install equipment which exceeds the capacities of people in terms of management or assumption of responsibility of the expenses of maintenance of this equipment. In a general way, capacities of people in management of

the equipment, as well in their material aspect (way of operating, to repair the equipment) as immaterial (collection and use of the overheads, etc), are insufficient, and it is necessary during the execution of the project to take into account the capacities in management of people, but also to reinforce these capacities, and to consider a follow-up after the end of the project.

2.4 Decentralization

14. Burkina Faso started in March 1991 with the support of the IMF and the BIRD a program of structural adjustments. Within the framework of this program decentralization is organized.

The “area” must remain as an administrative unit but, in parallel to become also a local community, at the latest in 2008. The two local communities will be thus the areas and the communes, these communes being of three types: common urban to particular statute, urban communes, and rural communes. With the local elections envisaged in March 2006 will see the day some 300 new rural communes.

The transfer of competences within the framework of decentralization must proceed as follows:

- ① The decentralized services of the ministries concerned transmit to the local community concerned 11 competences relating to the grounds, the environment, the natural stock management, the plans of economic development, etc
- ② For the sectors of education, culture and health, parallel to the transfer of competences, the civils servant concerned are transferred from the state to the local communities.
- ③ For the other sectors, competences are transferred without movement from the agents, but of the government officials can be assigned to the local communities to frame them. The agents of the Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics, the Ministry for the Animal Resources, and and the Framework Department of the Environment of Life, will not see their statute of “government official” to change it, but if the rural communes and other local communities are installation little by little and start to function, one can think that it will be asked to them to carry out a policy based on the wishes of the local communities.

2.5. Systems of intervention of the projects of international organizations etc

15. The government of Burkina Faso with the support of FAO, the BIRD, the GTZ, etc implements of many programmes and projects of increase in the food production, management of the grounds, development of the resources, etc

The systems of intervention of the projects intervening in the zone of the study were put

in order as follows:

- ① The official services on the level department and village, in particular the bond between the extension agents and people are fragile. Concretely, the means of transport for the extension agents (motor bikes, fuel) are insufficient.
- ② The official services functioning in a vertical way, there is an insufficiency of synergy between the fields of agriculture, the breeding and the forestry, and successes and the failures of the preceding projects are not the subject of an information feedback which can be used as teaching.
- ③ At the level village, on the basis of joint decree of February 2000, of the Village Commissions of Management of Soils (CVGT) were installation, and numbers financial backers regard these CVGT as their interlocutors for the dialogs concerning the activities of their projects (like member elects of the support)
- ④ The PSB set up departmental cells of dialog (CDC) at the departmental level, but for reasons holding with the lack of coordination with the structures concerned at the time of the installation, with the indetermination of the responsibilities due to the absence for statutes, the payment of the expenses of participation, etc, their activity sank in lethargy.
- ⑤ It was noted that “when the support finishes, the activities of the same type are not enraccinent in the villages, and do not perdurent”. In fact, the financial backers who intervene over long periods pain to find the system of suitable intervention and to maintain activities sustainable .

2.6 As-used condition of NGO and associations

16. Collaboration between NGO active in Burkina Faso and the burkinabé government is authorized legally by conventions binding the two parts. The Office of Follow-up of NGO (BSONG) was created into 1984 within the old Ministry for the Economy, Finances, and Planning (currently the Ministry for the economy and the development) as a body of communication between the government and NGO on the one hand and between NGO on the other hand. In 2002, it recorded 295 NGO , among which 193 are from NGO international and 102 of NGO main roads. Among them, 27 NGO international main roads and 30 NGO have a zone of activities including the area Center-North and/or the Sahel. There is also of NGO active in all the country which works in the area Center-North and/or the Sahel.
17. Thanks to the measurements taken for the development of human resources, the reinforcement of the position of the woman, the elimination of illiteracy, inter alia measurements, NGO , with this participative approach, have many know-how as regards village organization and awakening of the population. However, in the field of

the technical framing in the agro-sylvo-pastoral field, one finds few sufficiently qualified technicians, and it happens that NGO cannot alone meet the need satisfactorily.

18. NGO put aside, there are also associations which take actions of rural development. The conditions to create an association are relatively more flexible, since it is enough for them to obtain an authorization at the provincial level. Their fields of activity is often concentrated at the provincial level, their overheads are reduced, and one can call upon them at a price less low than NGO . However, there is among these unquestionable associations which have neither telecopier, nor telephone at their office and are thus not easily reachable, others which do not have vehicle, etc, and it is necessary to be attentive during the selection of associations.

CHAPTER THREE

3.1 Basic design

19. The major problem of the turning into a desert is that people of the villages disseminated in the zones where the turning into a desert advance are able any more to support neither to develop their life nor their daily activities in the villages, and, to fight against that, it is necessary for very that these populations carry out of their own will of the actions of agricultural and rural development sustainable . The M/P that we propose here is a system by which, to promote measurements of fight against the impoverishment of the soil through the agricultural and rural development, the official services and NGO /associations who support them, acting as synergy, people support.

In this M/P, by keeping in mind the important evolutions as regards decentralization scheduled for March 2006, we propose a mode of development by which units of coordination of the actions of rural development (UCADR) are installation as structures depending on the communes which will be launched, and which these UCADR support the achievements of rural development in the villages of their commune. Then, by making carry out the achievements by people in a participative way, the UCADR carry out a trainings “on the heap” aiming so that the village organizations (village councils of development (CVD) or CVGT) acquire the capacities enabling them to manage the actions in an autonomous way.

In this M/P, the achievements undertaken are positioned like “exercises” of trainings “on the heap” for the trainings of the village organizations. It may be that the direct effect of the achievements integrated in the M/P on the fight against the impoverishment of the soil does not appear great. However, when the UCADR which draw the rural development from the communes and the country organizations become able to carry out the achievements of their own will will act as synergy and will undertake activities of

fight against the sustainable impoverishment of the soil, of great effects will appear. The basic ideas which govern the establishment of this M/P are as follows:

- ① To incite people to take part of themselves.
- ② To implement measurements of fight against the impoverishment of the soil by the means of activities of production agricultural, pastoral and forestry sustainable , adapted to the natural and social conditions of the zone.
- ③ To develop to the maximum current competences of the official services, the institutions, and NGO burkinabé.
- ④ To conform to the evolutions of decentralization.
- ⑤ A systematic collaboration enters the official populations, services, and the organizations of assistance.

3.2 Basic Structure of M/P

20. The Table below shows, among the factors obstacles presented in the chapter two, those which can be treated within the framework of our study, the methods suggested thus that their taking into account within the framework of the project of M/P:

Factors obstacles and taking into account in the project of M/P

	Factors obstacles	Measures suggested	Taking into account in the project of M/P
Problems of the official services	Miss synergy between sectors	Establishment of a system of extension implying synergy enters agriculture, the breeding, and the forestry	Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development
Problems of the extension agents and the system of extension	Miss agents popularizers	The reduction of the number of the agents popularizers is a governmental measurement which follows the program of structural adjustment, and it is difficult to cure this lack. → installation of a framework to supplement the action of the agents popularizers	Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development
	Miss of technical capacities of the agents popularizers	To give to the agents opportunities to acquire the techniques: formations etc.	Technical meetings of exchanges
	Miss communication between the extension agents and people	Tally to supplement the action of the agents popularizers	Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development
		Introduction of the participative development tools	Formations with the methods of participative development
	Miss of capacities as regards sensitizing	Reinforcement of a state of mind directed towards the resolution of the problems	Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development
		To give to the agents opportunities to acquire the techniques: formations etc.	Technical meetings of exchanges,
		Introduction of the participative development tools	Formations with the methods of participative development
	Miss supports for extension	Development and diffusion of teaching supports	Installation of the tools of support
	Miss means of transport	Tally to supplement the action of the agents popularizers	
	People in search of support do not know with which to address itself	Creation of a counter of support for people	Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development

	Factors obstacles	Measures suggested	Taking into account in the project of M/P
	Miss knowledge of the situation	Tally to supplement the action of the agents popularizers	
		Introduction of the participative development tools	Formations with the methods of participative development
	Need for passing from actions carried out under the control of the official services to actions carried out under the control of people	Introduction of the participative development tools	Formations with the methods of participative development
Problems of the system of implementation of the projects	Defects of coherence of the system of execution and management of the actions	Taking into account and systematization of knowledge as regards execution and management of the actions	Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development
Problems of people	Change of state of mind as regards implication	Sensitizing by the tools for participative diagnosis	Implementaiton of pilot projects
	Capacities of consensual decision-making	Organization of people	
	Communication between populations and catch of files	Elimination of illiteracy	
	Capacities of management of the equipment	Reinforcement of the capacities by a trainings "on the heap" within the framework of the actions carried out.	

We proposed, by taking of account the problems of the system of support for people and the methods suggested, the three following programs like three elements of the M/P. During the study, we asked the UCADR to carry out the pilot achievements while conforming to the project of M/P, and took into account in the M/P the encountered problems and the solutions brought. We have in same time, in particular through the on-the-job training of the execution of the pilot achievements, carried out a reinforcement of the capacities of the executives and agents of the official services.

- | |
|--|
| ① The programme of adjustment of the system (construction of a system of support by the official services) |
| ② The programme of reinforcement of the capacities |
| ③ The programme of installation of the tools of support (installation of the tools of support used by the executives of the official services, the extension agents, and people (books of framing, etc |

3.3 Program adjustment of the system

21. Program of installation of system has for main goal to create Units of Coordination of Actions of Development Rural (UCADR) which exerts a direct support near people, and also sets up the meetings of exchanges between the UCADR as a body of dialog at the provincial level, as well as the workshops of promotion of collaboration which make coordination at the regional level (steering committees at the regional level).

3.4 Program reinforcement of the capacities

22. The programme of reinforcement of the capacities is composed of formations allowing the agents extension to acquire the methods of participative development in order to reinforce the operation of the UCADR, and technical meetings of exchanges to promote the reinforcement of the technical capabilities of the extension agents and synergy with the institutes of research.

3.5 Program installation of the tools of support

23. The programme of installation of tools of support consists of the installation of a handbook indicating the methods to manage the activities of the UCADR on the basis of M/P (manual of operations), and the adjustment of teaching supports to use in the activities of extension near people (cards of framing and supports of extension), to come in support to a good execution from the activities from the UCADR.

3.6 Plans of execution of the achievements

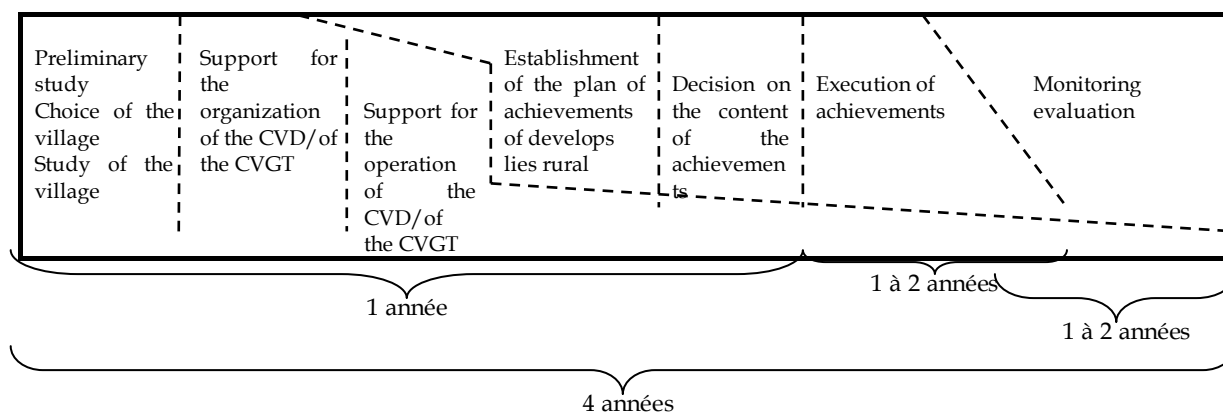
24. The objectives to reach M/P are as follows:

- New UCADR are installation in 26 communes of the zone of the study (12 communes in the Northern Center and 14 communes in the Sahel), and the system of support for the rural development of the communes is developed
- The UCADR fulfill their functions well of synergy between the various specialized fields of their members, and between the official services and NGO /associations, they function as a focal point of the support for people.
- Extension agents which is members of the UCADR acquire techniques basic as regards methods of development participative, support organization of populations, and in approximately 500 villages (among which approximately 160 villages in which a support for the organization of the CVD/CVGT is brought), are carried out achievements of agricultural and rural development by people as principal actors.
- The village organizations acquire on the heap through the execution of the achievements the methods of management of the achievements, and people become able to undertake by themselves an agricultural and rural development sustainable .
- The UCADR, in collaboration with the organizations of people require of the partners a support for the development, and the system of promotion of the fight against the impoverishment of the soil is well established.

25. We selected the villages objects of the M/P according to the degree of priority of development allotted to the villages starting from the situations of installation of the CVGT, preparation of plan of rural development and intervention of financial backers etc

Province	Departments at strong priority	Villages requiring a support for the organization of the population	A number of UCADR to be set up			Villages object of the pdx		
			New villages principalement	Brought only gemmate secondary	Total	New développement	Brought gemmate secondary	Total
Bam	7	169	7	0	7	64	66	130
Sanmatenga	0	0	0	2	2	0	36	36
Namentenga	1	21	1	2	3	12	49	61
Total Center Northern	8	190	8	4	12	76	151	227
Seno	4	84	4	0	4	36	45	81
Yagha	2	30	2	1	3	22	35	57
Oudalan	0	0	0	2	2	0	36	36
Soum	5	35	5	0	5	31	54	85
Sahel total	11	149	11	3	14	89	170	259
Total	19	339	19	7	26	165	321	486

26. We posed as a standard duration of adjustment of the system and execution of the actions by the UCADR one duration four years if the CVD /laCVGT is not organized, and two to three years if it is organized.



Among the achievements of rural development, those which are in bond with the basic needs human such as the development for the water resources, the elimination of illiteracy, etc, those of which one can expect an important effect if they are carried out of connection with the support for the organization of people, will be carried out the first. Moreover, as the achievements related to the improvement of the incomes are effective to give an impulse to the will of work of people, and to raise their degree of implication in the actions of rural development, they will be implemented in first half of the process of execution. It is more adapted to take the actions of natural stock management and of stock management

forest etc at the stage or perception by the villagers of the problems of the conservation and the improvement of their own life and their own village is sharper, and these actions will thus be carried out in second half of the process of execution.

	2006	07	09	11	13	15	17	19	21	23	25	27
1st stage												
2nd stage												
3rd stage												

1st stage: End of the study to the implementation of a pilot scheme

2nd stage: Execution of a pilot scheme

3rd stage: Implementation of a true project

27. The process of the realization of the M/P is divided into three stages as shown in the figure following:

28. The first stage corresponds to the action plans of the end of the Study to the realization of a project. These action plans are methods suggested by the UCADR during the last meeting of exchanges between the UCADR whose contents are as follows: the 4 existing UCADR will support the continuation of the achievements by using the village contributions, will ensure the financing for the execution of the new achievements, will make the request for support near the organizations of projects etc, will regularly organize the meetings of the UCADR for these activities and the follow-up.

29. The second stage is the execution of the pilot scheme with the use of the counterpart funds KR2 etc 7 new UCADR will be installation and the actors of the 4 existing UCADR will play the part of facilitator to give a framing on the execution, the management and the evaluation of the projects. For the execution of the projects, one will use inter alia the handbook of operation established in the M/P and will endeavor to carry out the achievements effectively. We present the process of execution of the pilot scheme in the following table:

		1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year
Activities UCADR	1. Installation of UCADR (7 departments, 7 UCADR) 2. Formations of the extension agents to the management of the UCADR 3. Program reinforcement of the capacities of the extension agents ① Technical meetings of exchanges ② Formations Participative Dev. 4. Meetings of exchanges between UCADR 5. Trainings in local language (UCADR of the Sahel)				
Execution of the achievements	1. Preliminary study 2. Selection of the villages 3. Study of the villages 4. Support for the organization of the CVD/CVGT 5. Sout. operation CVD/CVGT 6. Development of the plans of achievements of rural development 7. Decision on the achievements 8. Execution of the achievements 9. Evaluation				

30. The third stage, in the continuation of the pilot scheme, consists of two 8 years phases each one. During the first phase, 5 UCADR in the Northern Center and 5 UCADR in the Sahel will be installation, then, during the second phase 4 UCADR in the Northern Center and 5 UCADR in the Sahel. For the provinces of Sanmatenga and Oudalan whose priority is centered on the adjustment of the second stage, 1 UCADR by province and phase will be installation, and those will carry out the achievements by using the organizations of existing populations.

3.7 Investments necessary for the execution of the M/P

31. The funds necessary for the execution of the M/P are basically released by the government of Burkina Faso, in particular the Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics (support by the financial backers included).

The estimated amount of the investment is 9 billion 995 million frank CFA.

32. The evaluation of the achievements of the M/P will concentrate on the important points of the M/P and will be done on the two following points:

- ① Establishment of the system of support for the promotion of the development of the villages of the commune.
- ② The carrying out of the methods of fight against the turning into a desert

(measurements of fight against the impoverishment of the soil) (the trainings of the organizations of people includes)

33. Comparison relating to the establishment of the system of support

For the support for the communes after the end of the project, we made the comparison over one 5 years period after the project. We considered the expenditure necessary for intensive formations intended for all the extension agents and for the support for the communes by local consultants (stimulating).

For the estimate of the proposal of the M/P we calculated in addition to the expenses of meetings of the UCADR, those of the workshops of promotion of collaboration, and the meetings of exchanges between the UCADR. The alternative proposal reaches an amount of approximately 4 times and half that of the proposal of the M/P.

Unit: Frank CFA

Heading	Expenditure	Proposal of program directing	Proposal alternative
Support for the communes			
	Expenses of meetings	10.920.000	
	Expenses of trainings	0	60.320.000
	Personnel costs	0	62.400.000
	Fuel expenses, per diem	16.640.000	0
Total		27.560.000	122.720.000

In addition, the advantages and the disadvantages of the two proposals for the establishment of the system of support are as follows:

Establishment of the system of support		
	Proposal of the M/P	Alternative proposal
1. Approach	Approach execution based on the UCADR	Trainings of the extension agents and support for the communes by the extension agents
2. Summary description	While training the executives and agents of the official services on the job, we build a system of support for the development of the villages on the level of the communes, and carry out the achievements	To reinforce the capacities of the extension agents we carry out an intensive training. In addition, we make take part local consultants in the activities of development of the communes to give a technical support to them.
3. Advantages	Even after the achievements, the system of support remains in place and continuous to undertake the development of the villages in the commune. The basic structures official function as a focal point of the support for people, which is in conformity with the policy of decentralization of Burkina Faso and form the base of the construction of the future organization of the basic official services.	By implementing the intensive formations in the existing establishments, one can train experts as regards extension of the specialized fields
4. Weak points	Like the development of the capacities of the executives and extension agents is done by training courses and on-the-job trainings, one needs a little time to form them.	Because of the constraints in term of capacity of reception of the centers of trainings, it takes time to form all the agents and the costs are high. There are great chances that the listeners

Establishment of the system of support		
	Proposal of the M/P	Alternative proposal
		<p>go up in rank and do not fix themselves at the level of the communes, and it is to be feared that that does not contribute to the reinforcement of the system on the level of the communes.</p> <p>The quality of the consultants in charge of the support for the communes exerts an important influence on the results.</p> <p>One can envisage reactions of rejection on behalf of the official services if they have to receive the councils of consultants.</p>

34. Comparison relating to the execution of the achievements

The expenses of the alternative proposal are approximately 2,5 times higher than those of the M/P, and one can allot the reason of it to the high amount of the personnel costs. The personnel costs at the provincial level occupy an important place in the whole of the personnel costs.

If one carries out achievements in a great number of communes of the same province, the load at the provincial level becomes relatively less important, but if, contrary, the number of common targets in the province is relatively low, the expenses at the provincial level represent an important load.

In the traditional approach of project, it is common to limit the number of target provinces to develop the achievements inside or of the target provinces. In this approach, the installation of an office at the provincial level does not represent a load, but if the achievements are carried out only in part of the communes of the province, the provincial office is not profitable.

Unit: Frank CFA

Heading	Expenditure	Proposal of program directing	Proposal alternative
Execution of the achievements		0	2.206.080.000
	Personnel costs	0	1.536.480.000
	Provincial level	0	669.600.000
	Level communes	221.970.000	
	Expenses of meetings	318.732.000	213.425.000
	Expenses of material	703.173.000	1.070.726.000
	Fuel expenses, per diem	0	475.200.000
	Operating expenses Office	301.441.000	0
	Expenses of formations	1.545.316.000	3.965.431.000
Total		0	2.206.080.000

The advantages and the disadvantages of the two proposals for the execution of the achievements are as follows:

Implementation of the achievements		
	Proposal of the M/P	Alternative proposal
1. Approach	Execution of the actions by approach UCADR	Execution of the actions by the approach project
2. Summary description	The UCADR plan the achievements of agricultural and rural development, the extension agents support people in their fields of specialization, but carry out also achievements in the other fields in synergy with of NGO /associations	A coordinator of project is set up at the provincial level, and the coordinators set up common at the level alone ensure the sensitizing of people and the achievements.
3. Advantages	The UCADR remain as a focal point of the support for people after the end of the M/P. As the extension agents directly support the achievements in their fields of specialization, the costs are reduced. Synergy between the basic official services is promoted and one can hope that agriculture, the breeding and the forestry act as beam for the rural and agricultural development.	The actions can be implemented profitable of way insofar as the actuated organizers carry out the execution of the achievements in a concentrated way, which makes it possible to reduce the execution time of these achievements. As the focal point of the support is limited to only one organizer, a relation between confidence and people is established more easily.
4. Weak points	As the reinforcement of the capacities of the executives and extension agents is carried out on the heap, one needs a little time to form them. There can be achievements which the UCADR cannot ensure, like public works of scale or the supply of materials.	The executives and extension agents do nothing but take part in position to direct the execution of the achievements in their fields of specialization, and there is no intersector synergy. After the end of the achievements, the actors of the project withdraw all and there does not remain system to undertake the rural development of the commune.

35. Total evaluation

From the point of view of the establishment of the system of support, if one considers the relations maintained until now between the official services and the local consultants,

one can envisage very hostile reactions on behalf of the official services to a device in which the local consultants advise the communes for their activities of development. The intensive drive of the extension agents poses also problem on the level of the equipment and the cost. It is not in addition guaranteed that synergy between extension agents of the various fields is ensured following the trainings. Within the framework of the construction of a future organization of the basic official services, it is more realistic and sustainable to train the extension agents on the job while implementing synergy between the agents of agriculture, the breeding and the forestry.

If the achievements are carried out in a concentrated way, one will be able to make profitable the advantages traditional modes of project. If one places oneself in a development prospect at length or medium term, or for a development in a vast zone, the approach of the project type implies in particular important personnel costs for the offices set up at the level of the provinces.

The fact that a many projects do not have until now step of device of follow-up after the execution of the achievements has as a result a stagnation of the activities of people.

It is thus necessary to build an optimal procedure of the achievements by integrating in the approach of the UCADR the advantages of the approach project.

The projects of the past set up committees and executives of dialog on the levels provincial and departmental, to promote synergy with the official services, but, as the extension agents were not in position to deal with the rural development, and were satisfied to give a technical support in their own fields, that did not allow an intersector synergy and did not contribute to durability. The reflection on this point leads us to think that the introduction of the UCADR into a system of intervention of the project type not only makes it possible to ensure synergy and durability, but also to reduce the expenses of achievements through the direct execution of the achievements by the extension agents.

From now on, like competences as regards activities of development social, economic, cultural, environmental, as of regional planning in their zone deal with the communes, it is not difficult to imagine only the UCADR, which are structures of support for the rural development depend on the communes, in a future close relation, could be repositioned as basic official structures.

The dynamization of the basic official services and the trainings of the organizations of populations are essential for an autonomous development of Burkina Faso, and they facilitate also a socio-economic approach in the implementation of measurements of fight against the impoverishment of the soil, which is not limited to the technical aspect of the fight, but also takes into account education, the limitation of the demographic pressure, employment etc

The UCADR have a great role to play in the promotion of integrated measurements of fight against the impoverishment of the soil.

CHAPTER FOUR: THE CONSIDERATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY CONTROLS IN THE M/P

36. For the programme of adjustment of the system, we, through the execution of the pilot study, checked the problems and recapitulated the points to be taken into account in the M/P as follows:

	Points taken into account in the M/P
Composition of the UCADR	<p>① The President: During the pilot study, the presidency passed from the Provincial Director of Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics to the Prefect. We could check that the Prefect is in position administratively to coordinate the extension agents of the fields of agriculture, the breeding and the forestry, and that the authority which it exerts makes it ready to ensure this post of President of the UCADR. As it is the Prefet who, in the texts relating to decentralization, has competences to carry out the budgets, in particular considering the opinions delivered by the Ministry for the Territorial Administration and of Decentralization, we recommend that the presidency of the UCADR is taken by the prefects, in preparation for the launching of the new rural communes in March 2006. However, in the handbook of operation, we took guard so that it is possible to manage the UCADR in a flexible way, in particular by having recourse to a framing by the prefects, insofar as it is to be provided that the new prefects will have difficulties in manage the UCADR.</p> <p>② The executive Secretary: This function is provided by Chief ZAT.</p> <p>③ Advisers: It is Chief SAC/MR and the Provincial Director of Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics.</p>
The management of the UCADR	<p>① In the 1st phase, the achievements control were carried out in four villages, each UCADR managing 1 village. In the zone object of the study, the departments have on average from 18 to 40 villages. To see the things from the point of view of the execution of the achievements, it is necessary that the UCADR can manage several villages. During the 2nd phase, we extended the number of the villages until reaching that of 17, and tested which was the number of villages which a UCADR can</p>

	<p>treat. We have in result of that checked that each UCADR could manage some 4 to 5 villages.</p> <p>② We allot one four years period for the process which starts with the installation of the CVGT, and continues with planning, the execution of the achievements to end in the evaluation. During this period, we add 1 village each year, until reaching the number of 4 villages once the stabilized things.</p>
<p>Clarification of the distribution of the roles between the members of the UCADR</p>	<p>① Clarification of the distribution of the roles between extension agents as of the stage of the preparation of plans of achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is necessary to decide which agent of extension will be the principal person in charge and to thus clarify the responsibilities. • The achievements which leave the field of specialization of the extension agents and achievements with which several extension agents are in close link, tend to induce a blur in the responsibilities, and it is particularly necessary to clarify them. • For the choice of the person in charge, one will take into account the volume of work of the agents in the UCADR, their experiment, the communication with people (local language), etc <p>② Synergy enters the extension agents and NGO /associations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To clarify the distribution of the roles between the extension agents and NGO /associations realization by realization, through the terms of reference, etc • As regards selection of NGO /associations, one should not be limited to the economic aspect, but also study capacities (competence of the personnel, experiment of the structure, etc) • For the obstacles with the communication between extension agents and populations due to the difference in language, in addition to synergy between extension agents, one will call also upon NGO /associations. <p>③ The way of treating the holidays of stations of extension agents and the good passages of relay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the case of a vacancy of station of an agent of extension or a mission of long duration, while considering, in bond with the provincial direction concerned, from measurements such as the delegation of temporary, one will obtain that the agent submits an exhaustive report/ratio with its superior. • In the case of a change of agent following changes in staff, the passage of relay between the outgoing one and entering it will be made in an exhaustive way, and the other members of the UCADR will exert a particular support so that the new one arrived includes/understands the activities of the UCADR quickly. • The documents concerning the technical meetings of exchanges and the formations with the methods of participative development in which the outgoing agent took part will be put in order in such a way that they can be used by the newcomer.

Examination of a system adapted to the natural resources and sociology local	<p>① It was put at light that the performances of the different UCADR enters the Northern Center and the Sahel. One can think that the differences as regards situation of the natural resources, and society, in particular the languages and the ethnos groups, have an important impact on the performances.</p> <p>② In the Sahel, one will include in the plans of execution of the achievements the expenses of use of an interpreter in local language to accompany the agents. Chief SDECV will not spare any effort for the publicity campaigns of people as regards management and conservation of the natural resources.</p>
The positioning of the UCADR within the institutional framework of Burkina Faso	<p>① To guarantee the effectiveness of the M/P, it is necessary to integrate the UCADR within the institutional framework of Burkina Faso.</p> <p>② To put at light the institutional positioning of the UCADR through the decrees of the High-Commissioners, and the competences recognized with the UCADR.</p>
Synergy with the official structures concerned	<p>① The achievements such as the repair of tracks or the development of the water resources require techniques which leave the field of specialization of the extension agents, and it is necessary to establish a device by which a collaboration is installation with an agent responsible for the official service concerned, or a specialized technician of a publicly-owned establishment, to profit from a regular framing, since the stage of the plan of realization until that of maintenance after completion of the work.</p>

The management of the meetings of the UCADR and the responsibility as regards explanations	<p>□ It is important as regards management of the meetings which the CVGT include/understand the contents of the discussed points and take part in the debates to the methods to take. One can make the management of the meetings more effective by reinforcing the capacities of explanations with the CVGT.</p> <p>□ According to the points of about a day, one will be able to give explanations preliminary to the representatives of the CVGT, to improve their comprehension of the contents of the debates. One will decide also extent of the participants according to the contents of the meeting, inviting all the villages in certain cases, and other cases holding a meeting by village.</p>
Execution of the achievements	<p>□ The direct execution by the extension agents of achievements in their field of specialization makes it possible to lower the costs and to reinforce the autonomous character of the rural development. However, when the volume of work for these achievements is important, it happens that a support by of NGO /associations is necessary.</p> <p>□ It is necessary that for the not succeeded parts of the terms of reference and the evaluations, Chief SAC/MR and the Provincial Director of Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics exert a framing.</p>

Requests with the financial backers	<p>□ To draw up a convincing project of realization, on the basis of comprehension good of the situation of the village candidate to the realization, in particular in terms of volume of the resources, and to make the request with the financial backers. To facilitate the development of this project of realization within the framework them UCADR, to present a model in the handbook of operation. To integrate fascinating contents of account the transfer of techniques of peasant to peasant and seminars of diffusion near the surrounding villages.</p>
Synergy enters the UCADR	<p>□ To contribute to the sustainable development of the activities of the UCADR by the meeting holding of exchanges between the UCADR in the objective of an exchange of information, and a mutual sensitizing enters the UCADR of the same province. These meetings are positioned as a space of resolution of the problems and exchange of information, in which the members of several UCADR gather and make coordination between the UCADR. It is the Provincial Director of Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics who ensures coordination as a president of the meeting.</p>

37. For the programme of reinforcement of the capacities, we, through the execution of the pilot study, checked the problems and recapitulated the points to be taken into account in the M/P as follows:

Trainings with the methods of participative development	<p>① It is effective to hold the hands-on trainings of ground in the villages where the extension agents work or in the neighbouring villages.</p> <p>② The fact of holding these formations at the departmental level, which is the level where the extension agents really work, allows hands-on trainings adapted to the situation and local human resources.</p> <p>③ To pass from a support interventionist for undertaken activities mainly by people (acquisition of the methods of participative development) it takes about two years.</p> <p>④ Rather than of individual trainings, it is easier for the extension agents to make profitable knowledge as regards participative methods within the framework of a trainings where the agents go in group in a village.</p> <p>⑤ The improvement of the communication between the agents and the agents and people contributes to the development of the capacities of the UCADR.</p>
Technical meetings of exchanges	<p>① To take into account the opinion of all the members of the UCADR for the selection of the topics of the technical meetings of exchanges.</p> <p>② Chief SAC/MR ensures the preparation, management, and the synthesis of the meetings.</p>

	<p>③ Through the communication of the assets of research on a level close to the ground, one contributes to a extension of a type more enraciné in the ground. (the formations in the regional stations of the INERA are they also effective)</p> <p>④ To set up two courses according to the difficulty of the topics (technical general and technical special)</p> <p>⑤ One can reduce the expenses of organization by the use of NGO advanced and vidéos.</p>
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38. For the programme of installation of the tools of support, we, through the execution of the pilot study, checked the problems and recapitulated the points to be taken into account in the M/P as follows:

The handbook of operation (revised version)	<p>① We reflected the results of the pilot study concerning all the components of the M/P in the revised version. The guide of installation of the UCADR and the process of execution of the achievements were put in agreement with the evolutions of decentralization. However, even if the texts on decentralization came into effect, as the details of the decree of application are not yet given, certain aspects are still mobile. We thus made so that the use of the handbook can be elastic.</p> <p>② The process of execution of the achievements takes into account the assets of the checks through the pilot achievements. We integrated concrete examples for the method of the study of the resources, the points asking for a detailed attention during the preparation of plans of development, the contributions of people, the conclusion of protocols of achievements, the establishment of contracts and terms of reference in the process of execution of the achievements, the principal points of the management of the achievements, etc</p>
Educational Materials (revised version)	<p>① We made so that the cards of framing can be used by nonspecialists in the field concerned.</p> <p>② In the supports of technical extension , for the titles of sketches etc, we added with French the translation in morey and fulfulde.</p>

CHAPTER FIVE: SUGGESTIONS

39. The collaboration of the ministries concerned for the promotion of the fight against the impoverishment of the soil.

At the central level, we set up a steering committee made up of the ministries concerned including the three above mentioned ministries, which reflects on the system of execution of the projects. At the regional level also, we use the workshops of promotion of collaboration to establish a system of collaboration between the ministries concerned.

For the mobilisability of the UCADR, it is necessary to take the option to limit their composition at least necessary, and to ask the participation of the other services concerned according to the needs.

40. The operation of the Units of Coordination of the Actions of Rural Development (UCADR)

Within the framework of the study, the Prefects were presidents of the UCADR. We propose in the M/P the Prefets as presidents of the UCADR, in order to conform us to the evolutions of decentralization. It is necessary for us to think of the operation of the UCADR by keeping our attention fixed on the evolutions of decentralization after the starting of the communes. It is necessary to keep in mind the fact that the Prefects will support for a time the activities of the UCADR.

41. The institutionalization of the UCADR

Throughout study, 3 UCADR were institutionalized by decrees of the High commissioners. It is necessary to institutionalize the UCADR by a development at the national level, for example through a decree united in collaboration with the Ministries for Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics, the Animal Resources, and the Environment and the Framework of Life.

42. The training of the language by the agents of the official services of the Sahel

During the study, we observed in the area of the Sahel of many cases where extension agents in their contacts with people, could not communicate in fulfulde which is the local language of the area. It is necessary that the official services arrange an environment making it possible the agents studied voluntarily the local languages.

43. The use of NGO /associations

The UCADR are spaces in which the official services and NGO exchange in position of equality. Collaboration between the actors according to the repair of the roles indicated in the M/P being essential to ensure the feasibility of the projects, we propose that the official services and NGO /associations take the actions in synergy.

The recourse to of NGO /associations having a high cost, separately the achievements such as the support for the CVGT for which the recourse to NGO /associations is judicious, it is more suitable than in fact the extension agents carry out the achievements than they can ensure by themselves.

44. Modes of planning and execution of the achievements

We propose that for the projects the needs for people are studied and analyzed on the level for the areas, and that these projects are planned and carried out by the areas and people in synergy.

45. The planning of the movements of the agents of the official services concerned

it is desirable for a good implementation of the M/P that the duration of presence in the same post of the Prefects, Chefs ZAT, Chefs ZATE, Chefs UAT, Chefs statement, chiefs SDECV who form the core of the UCADR, is at least four years. If we pose four years, it is that the process of implementation of the projects requires four years if there is no CVGT. It is necessary, when a movement of agents cannot be avoided, to ensure one period of passage of relay of one to two months.

46. Financing

It is necessary that the Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics does not spare its efforts to ensure the financing until the starting of the pilot scheme, and financing of the local costs in the pilot scheme. If with the projection of decentralization, competences and the funds are transferred at the local level, the UCADR could undertake their activities in a more effective way. The Ministry for Agriculture, Hydraulics and the Resources Halieutics must make an effort, possibly in collaboration with the Ministry for the Territorial Administration and Decentralization to ensure the financing of the operation of the UCADR at the communal level.

CHAPTER ONE : INTRODUCTION

1.1 The background of the study

① Burkina Faso is located in middle of West Africa. Desertification has been deteriorating since 1968, and it is a factor to impoverish residents' life. Desertification can be considered as land degradation phenomenon due not only to natural factors such as droughts caused by the decrease of the rainfall, but also to exploitative production, which exceeds the capacities of local resource regeneration, such as expansion of farming lands, increasing agriculture activities, overgrazing, excessive cutting of wood, etc.. All these are caused by the increase of the population. In Burkina Faso, the deterioration of land degradation due to these activities appears an serious problem.

② For the promotion to alleviate land degradation in West Africa, the « program to combat desertification in the southern part of Ségou » in Mali, implemented by JICA, and the « Technical development survey to combat desertification » in Burkina and in other countries, undertaken by JGRC, clearly show the effectiveness of the participatory-type rural development taking into account the local features such as use of resources, the farming technical operation, the natural environment, etc. Nevertheless, up to these last years, the related parties of cooperation do not sufficiently understand the importance of people's participation, and in fact the support for people has been implemented by top-down methods. The interventions based on these methods have harmful effect: residents cannot free themselves from the idea that the project is brought to them "on a tray", and then when the support stops and the donor withdraws, residents do not continue the activities by themselves. Now, this baneful influence can be seen in a number of villages.

③ In Burkina Faso, many development actions are implemented with support of organizations, related ministries, as well as NGOs. However, tools and system which would allow the governmental departments and residents to manage by themselves development actions are not established, cooperation does not work and people do not reach coherent measures to alleviate land degradation. Furthermore, the decrease of the number of state agents these last years because of structural adjustment policy under the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank has made more difficult for the governmental agents to assure service at the village level.

To solve these problems, the government of Burkina Faso addressed a request to the government of Japan for a study of sustainable support system to alleviate the land degradation.

This request was accepted, then an agreement on the scope of work (S/W) was signed in

September 2001. The first phase of the « study on the system to alleviate the land degradation » was implemented during three years from December 2001 in Middle North and Sahel regions. A program on the system to alleviate land degradation (draft master program, hereinafter draft M/P) was planned based on the establishment of the Rural Development Actions Coordination Units (hereinafter UCADR), which allowing cooperation between governmental departments, NGOs and residents. In order to facilitate the implementation of this draft program, the draft versions of the Handbook of Operation, and Educational Materials, Technical Extension Tools were edited.

The rural development actions coordination units(UCADR)

Objectives : The UCADR is a structure which brings technical support to rural development activities contributing to alleviation measures of land degradation such as agricultural, sylvicultural, pastoral development, resources management, and improvement of residents' living conditions. The UCADR is set up at the *department* level (*commune* level from 2006).

Organizational structure : The chairman of the UCADR is *Préfet* of *department*. Other members of the UCADR are agricultural, forest, pastoral extension agents, the representatives of the residents (CVGT), and the persons in charge of NGOs/associations who are carrying out the projects, and the provincial directors of agriculture.

Roles :

- ① The UCADR supports and promotes the residents' initiatives of development. For that, it uses the residents' organizations such as the CVGT, and in the same time the UCADR supports the operation of the CVGT, when it is needed.
- ② The *Préfet* who is the chairman of the UCADR carries out a role as a connector between the governmental services of agriculture, stock raising and forestry.
- ③ The extension agents in agriculture, stock raising and the forest agents carry out a main role of connecting the residents to the governmental services.
- ④ As far as the villages development is concerned, the items for which the extension agents, cannot support are completed by the use of NGOs/associations.

1.2 The objectives of the study

The first phase of this study began with two objectives: ① To establish a system which allows to carry out effective measures for alleviating the land degradation in Burkina Faso, and to take the results into the elaboration of an M/P, and to propose the M/P, ② Through the elaboration of the M/P, to reinforce the capacity of concerned persons and to carry out a technical transfer.

Based on the results acquired during the first phase, the objectives of the second phase of the study for two years from year 2004 are as follows:

- ① Through the review and reinforcement of the « program of the system for the promotion to alleviate the land degradation » (master program, hereinafter M/P), to identify the method for building sustainable and integrated promotion system, allowing to combat desertification due to land degradation.
- ② Through the implementation of pilot projects, to reinforce the capabilities of state departments, NGOs, and residents' leaders who are involved in the projects to alleviate land degradation.

1.3 The study process

Within the framework of the first phase of our study, pilot projects have been implemented in four villages with the objectives; ① to make a diagnosis of the study area and to put in order the problems of the promotion system to alleviate land degradation, ② to propose the draft M/P for curing the problems, and ③ to evaluate the effectiveness of the draft M/P.

The draft M/P during the first phase consists of three directions as follows:

- ① Improvement of the support system for people through the establishment of the UCADR,
- ② Reinforcement of the extension agents' capabilities in support of village residents through the reinforcement capabilities program,
- ③ Reinforcement and improvement of the effectiveness of the support activities to village residents.

NB : One can combine the directions ① and ② under the term «system establishment and capabilities reinforcement program»

However, there are still remaining problems to be dealt with over the following points: ① Compatibility with the political framework, in particular the decentralization process of the Burkinabé government, ② Reinforcement of the UCADR activities, and of the UCADR's members capabilities, in particular of the extension agents, ③ Effectiveness and dissemination of the M/P. Therefore in the study of the phase two, we have carried out the verification study according to the following basic trends:

- ① To revise and to reinforce the draft M/P into more sustainable and effective.
- ② To reinforce the capabilities of governmental agents, NGOs, and village leaders.

1.4 The study area

The study area consists of both Middle-North and Sahel regions, where land degradation is more proceeding in Burkina Faso. The study area is made up of the three provinces, Bam, Sanmentenga, and Namentenga in the Middle-North region, and the four provinces, Soum, Oudalan, Séno, and Yagha in Sahel region. The two regions are occupied by the population of about 1,630,000 and cover an area of about 570,000 km². Both regions belong to the sahelian climatic zone and the average annual rainfall lies between 300 and 600 mm.

1.5 The support system to the study

The study has been implemented with help of a support system established in Burkina Faso and in Japan and made of the two following committees:

① The steering committee

The steering committee consists of the related Burkinabé governmental agencies, with the director of the Research and Planning Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Halieutic Resources as the head, and members of the Study Team. It aims at facilitating the process of the study. In general, the committee is held on the occasion of presentation of each report of the study, and in the field if possible.

② The support committee in Japan

The support committee in Japan consists of experienced scientists selected by JICA. It provide advice on the methods and the content of the study, as well as field control visits by necessity.

1.6 Structure of the final report

This report is made of the main report and the annexe which is subdivided in the following way:

(1) The main report

① The M/P

Background, objectives, and support system of the study, etc.

Present situation of the nature, society and the economy of Burkina Faso, and alleviation actions of land degradation, etc.

The Basic structure of the M/P, the content of the planning activities, etc.

②The verification study

The volume deals with the plan, the results, and the evaluation of the verification study.

(2) The annex

The annex includes the data of the M/P, the summary of the monitoring carried out within the verification study and pilot projects, and data of the quantitative survey, etc..