

**OECD/DAC Donor-Developing Country Dialogues on National Strategies  
for Sustainable Development**

*DRAFT: 31 May 2000*

**REPORT OF THE  
FIRST PLANNING WORKSHOP, ARUSHA  
AND  
SUPPLEMENTARY FIRST PLANNING WORKSHOP, LONDON**

## **APPENDIX 6**

### **Burkina Faso: Summary of Draft Work Plan**

In Burkina Faso, it is well accepted that there is weak synergy between the various plans and programmes - a concern shared by the principal ministries. An initiative has been launched to address this problem and will be presented to the political leaders at the highest level. A workshop was held on 11 April 2000 which convened a steering committee to start the process. However, this steering committee suffers from two key limits: its current members represent mainly frameworks of the S/P CONAGESE (National Council for Management of the Environment); and it does not involve sufficient representatives of NGOs and civil society.

The initiative has four main phases as described below:

#### **Phase A: Sharing information and enlarging the steering committee**

Urgent tasks include:

- Inform the principal government departments about the initiative (the Minister of Environment has officially asked the Prime Minister to do so);
- Expand the steering committee to include individuals representing the following institutions (responsible for key development policies) and programmes: DGEP (Directorate General of Economy and Planning) and DGCOOP (Directorate General for Cooperation) of the Ministry for Economic Affairs and of Finance, DEP (Department for Studies and Planning) and CC/PASA (Agricultural Sector Adjustment Programme co-ordinating unit) of the Ministry of Agriculture, CND (National Commission for Decentralisation), the DEPs of the Ministry of the Livestock-farming, Ministry in charge of women and the Ministry of Territorial Development (for the aspects connected with the good governance and implementing decentralisation). There will also be co-operation with other ministries.

A full-time project team leader has been appointed (Daniel Thiéba from Groupe Recherches Formation & Conseil - GREFCO) to assemble the basic skills and lead the process. Part-time consultants will provide support as needed, including Oussouby Touré from Senegal.

#### **Phase B: Review of the current situation and proposing mechanisms for dialogue**

Many existing studies have taken stock of the weak synergies between development policies, e.g. a review of development policies in rural environment (led by an initiative of the Club of the Sahel), and evaluations of the CCD (UN Convention to Combat Desertification) processes at regional and national levels.

The S/P CONAGESE is aware of the difficulties of taking into account the environmental policies in the various economic development policies and pre-existing plans.

In essence, the National Action Plan to implement the Convention to Combat Desertification (PAN/CCD) is a rural development strategy which closely approaches many of the principles and approaches for an nssd, e.g. it was developed through a process of broad co-operation involving state services, various policies and programmes as well as civil society organisations.

A priority of the S/P CONAGESE is to define a strategy, which will encourage and enable sectoral development policies to take into account environmental and social concerns. The Earth Council is providing financial support for this initiative.

During this phase, research will focus on simplification and broad awareness raising about commitments and roles in relation to the Rio conventions (Desertification; Biodiversity; Climatic Change). Attention will be paid to synergy in their implementation.

Various existing studies and recommendations on the harmonisation of sectoral development policies will be summarised. Mechanisms will be developed for institutional cooperation and dialogue about integrating environmental and social aspects in development policies, as well as for harmonising interventions at sub-national levels. The experiences of other countries in developing and implementing nssds will be sought. National financing mechanisms will also be examined.

S/P-CONAGESE has taken the lead in articulating principles for sustainable development and of the PAN strategy with other ministries and in national development programmes, e.g.

- with the CC/PASA (but the results of this co-operation have been timid);
- with the PNGT (national programme for the management of natural resources) - the major rural investment plan) – but whilst the results here have been encouraging, this is not yet the case with other similar programmes.

There has been no success so far in securing the cooperation of the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Finance. This is where the greatest challenge lies, particularly as this Ministry also controls, through the DGEP, the document framework of the strategy for growth. It also leads the fight against the poverty which has similarities with the PAN strategy. Moreover, the senior staff in key departments of this ministry (DGCOOP and DGEP), with senior staff in the Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for leading the process to formulate the policy for decentralised rural development. In support of this decentralisation process, and within the framework of the operationalising the PAN strategy, S/P CONAGESE is working to harmonise local development approaches as part of its efforts to implement Convention to Combat Desertification in Burkina Faso.

### **Phase C: Validation and building consensus to adopt a strategy and work plan**

All analyses undertaken in Phases A and B and all proposals will be brought together in a draft document and will be presented at a small workshop. About 20 participants will be invited, including:

- Individuals responsible for government departments, EPD and DAF;
- The DGEP and the DGCOOP of the Ministry for Economic Affairs and of Finance;
- The principal donors
- Key representatives from civil society.

The resulting proposals will then be examined further and final recommendations for new procedures and mechanisms adopted. An action plan for experimenting with these new approaches will be prepared with a timetable for implementation.

### **Phase D: Implementation of the action plan**

The team leader will lead the process of experimentation and initial lessons will be synthesised in the period up to February 2001. Those activities or innovations which

cannot be tested before this date will be the subject of a protocol of implementation and funds to implement them will be sought.

### **Schedule of activities**

#### *May 2000*

- Providing information to participants, contacts and discussions with actors to review cooperation
- Enlargement of steering committee

#### *June 2000*

- Status review and assessment of experience (national and foreign)
- Develop proposals for a strategy (to build synergy and harmonisation between various plans and programmes)

#### *July – September 2000*

- Mid July: Workshop on proposals and previous questions, drawing preliminary lessons on responsibilities (cooperation, national) and on the limits of an nssd
- Mid July – Mid September: Development of operational approaches (methodology, activities, mechanisms) capable of operationalising an nssd (at national and decentralised levels and for financial backers).

This will involve review of documents, research, and external experiments; and consultations with those involved.

#### *October 2000*

- 5th October: Technical workshop: on proposals for coordination/harmonisation
- 20<sup>th</sup> October: Finalisation of strategy (action plan)
- Distribution of strategy, communication and enrichment of strategy

#### *October 2000 – February 2001*

- From 20<sup>th</sup> October: Commence testing the strategy approach (methodology of harmonisation of interventions) at local and national levels
- By end February 2001: Build on lessons and produce final document.