



Samaritan’s Purse

USAID/FFP/EFSP

Food Assistance to Build Resilience in Communities (FABRIC)

Republic of Niger

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To: USAID-FFP-EFSP

By: Samaritan’s Purse

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Project Overview

Launched in September 2012, FABRIC is a one-year Emergency Food Security Program under USAID’s Food for Peace initiative, implemented in partnership with Samaritan’s Purse (SP). It is decreasing household vulnerability to food insecurity in four communes (Ayorou, Banibangou, Goroual, and Dingazi) in the northern Tillabéry Region of Niger, targeting 40 communities and 8,100 direct beneficiaries. Through food for work (FFW) activities, off-season gardening, nutrition and environmental awareness education, and water point installation and rehabilitation households will have increased year-round availability of food and improved dietary diversity.

Project Summary

Sector:

Food Security

Objective:

Decrease household vulnerability to food insecurity in 40 communities in the northern Tillabéry Region of Niger through increased year-round availability of food at the household level and improved dietary diversity

Number of Targeted Beneficiaries Planned (Entire Project):

8,100 direct beneficiaries/participants; 30,600 total beneficiaries

Total FFW participants: 3,500

Total gardening direct beneficiaries: 4,600

Number of Beneficiaries Reached to Date:

8,100 direct beneficiaries/participants from 7,603¹ households (HHs); 89,715² total beneficiaries

Total FFW participants: 3,500 (883 female; 2,617 male)

Total gardening direct beneficiaries: 4,600 (3,607 female; 993 male)

Cost per Beneficiary to Date:

\$ 308.65 per direct beneficiary/participant

\$ 27.87³ per beneficiary

Accomplishments:

As projected in the previous quarterly report, in October, Samaritan’s Purse purchased and distributed gardening seeds (lettuce, tomato, cabbage, okra, onion, carrot, potato, and corn) and other gardening inputs to 4,600 off-season gardening beneficiaries to improve next year’s food security. Garden nurseries were established, and FABRIC beneficiaries started to grow vegetables in November on gardening sites.

In November, work was completed on the final three hand-dug irrigation wells. Through FABRIC, Samaritan’s Purse installed a total of 19 water points at gardening sites.

Additionally, in November, four water point committees were trained on manual rope pump maintenance. Seven shallow boreholes were installed earlier in the project and equipped with manual rope pumps. This training for water point committees will ensure the sustainability of these seven water points.



Well in the village of Soudjedo, Commune of Dingazi, before rehabilitation (left) and after rehabilitation (right).

¹ 497 households were involved in both gardening and FFW activities.

² Total beneficiaries were calculated using 7,603 households with an average household size in the target communes of 11.8, as shown in the baseline assessment; no duplication. (Total targeted beneficiaries were calculated using the national average of seven members per household and assuming duplication of numerous households involved in both activities.)

³ Amount was calculated using the total direct and indirect USAID cost-share expenses through the end of the project (\$2,500,041) divided by the total number of beneficiaries reached to date (89,715).

Final improvements, such as installing cement wall closures, on four rehabilitated wells were completed in October. A sanitary risk score⁴ assessment that was carried out in October revealed that all five rehabilitated wells had achieved a sanitary risk score of less than two, thus reaching the project’s target.

Issues, Concerns, and Adaptations:

During the raining season, unexpected floods and heavy rain caused minor damage to some of the project’s gardening fences and damaged two water storage basins. In the village of Wanzerbe (Commune of Goroual), for example, the gardening site flooded completely and the flood water’s current was so strong that it broke the concrete basins. The majority of damaged gardening fences were repaired and reinforced to prevent future damage.

In the project proposal, it was planned that twenty shallow boreholes would be installed in the first months of the project. Yet, after further research, it was found that it would not be feasible to install shallow boreholes at all of the gardening sites due to the depth of the water table. It would only be possible to install seven shallow boreholes. Thus, Samaritan’s Purse’s water, sanitation, and hygiene technicians proposed alternative water sources according to each site’s possibilities. In total, five Californian irrigation systems, seven hand-dug irrigation wells, and seven shallow boreholes were installed. Thus, 19 of the planned 20 water points were installed at gardening sites. No other options were found to construct wells or shallow boreholes at the targeted sites.

In order to provide adequate irrigation for gardening sites where water points could not be constructed, four water distribution systems were installed in the villages of Banimate, Tchigo, Tizegorou, and Agoudoufoga Foga.

Shallow boreholes can be drilled in a short amount of time, while hand-dug irrigation wells and Californian irrigation systems take several months to install. In addition, hand-dug irrigation wells and Californian irrigation systems are significantly more expensive than shallow boreholes in Niger. Thus, the project’s water point installation expenses were higher than originally planned.

Performance Indicators

The end-of-project evaluation data has been analyzed and will be included in the final results report.

Table 1: FABRIC Activity Monitoring Table						
Strategic Objective	Intermediate Result	Activity Indicators		Current Quarter	Cumulative to Date	Total Target
<i>Increased year-round</i>	Increased availability of food for	# of MT of commodities	Planned	0	1,107	1,107
			Actual	11.507	1,182.193	1,182.193

⁴ Sanitary risk scores were calculated according to 12 different criterion including location of a latrine and other sources of pollution at least 30 meters away from the well, adequate well protection (absence of cracks or damage, and at least one meter diameter), absence of stagnant water surrounding the well, height and condition of the well closure, whether or not animals can enter/access the well, etc.

<i>availability of food at the HH level</i>	beneficiary HHs	purchased & distributed	% Achievement	-	107%	107%
		# ha of land rehabilitated through FFW	Planned	0	1,360	1,360
			Actual	0	1,264	1,264
	% Achievement		-	93%	93%	
	Increased local food production from gardening	# of beneficiaries receiving seeds, tools, and inputs	Planned	0	4,600	4,600
			Actual	0	4,600	4,600
			% Achievement	-	100%	100%
		# of garden water sources established	Planned	0	20	20
			Actual	3	19	19
	% Achievement	N/A	95%	95%		
	Increased knowledge of sustainable environmental practices	# of FFW participants attending sessions on all training topics	Planned	0	3,500	3,500
			Actual	0	3,447	3,447
% Achievement			-	98%	98%	
<i>Improved dietary diversity</i>	Rehabilitated wells are functioning and well maintained	# of wells rehabilitated	Planned	0	5	5
			Actual	0	5	5
			% Achievement	-	100%	100%
		# of water point committee training sessions	Planned	0	10	10
			Actual	0	25	25
	% Achievement	-	250%	250%		
	Increased knowledge of HH nutrition practices; increase in HHs consuming vegetables	# of gardening participants attending sessions on all ten nutrition topics	Planned	0	4,600	4,600
			Actual	0	3,237	3,237
			% Achievement	-	70 %	70 %

Table 2: FABRIC Water Sources

Commune	Gardening Water Points Established					Rehabilitated Wells	Water Storage Basins
	Shallow Boreholes	Californian Irrigation Systems	Hand-Dug Irrigation Wells	Total Water Points	Distribution Systems		
Ayorou	0	5	0	5	0	0	0
Banibangou	1	0	3	4	2	1	10
Dingazi	0	0	0	0	2	4	8
Goroual	6	0	4	10	0	0	9
TOTAL	7	5	7	19	4	5	27

In the Commune of Ayorou, water from the Niger River is distributed throughout each of the five gardens through five Californian irrigation systems. Gardening beneficiaries in the Commune of Banibangou now have three hand-dug wells, one rehabilitated well, one borehole, and two water distribution systems. In the Commune of Dingazi, water for irrigation is provided by four rehabilitated wells and two water distribution systems. In the Commune of Goroual, gardening beneficiaries have access to water from six boreholes and four irrigation wells. Water, sanitation, and hygiene activities have been an essential component of the FABRIC project.

Table 3: Rehabilitated Wells' Sanitary Risk Scores

Commune	Village	Sanitary Risk Scores				Target Reached?
		Baseline	Target	Mid-Term Evaluation	End of Project Evaluation	
Dingazi	Soudjedo	8	< 2	4	0	Yes
Dingazi	Fourmey 2	8	< 2	4	0	Yes
Dingazi	Sabarara-Dareybangou	9	< 2	4	1	Yes
Dingazi	Dareybangou	9	< 2	4	1	Yes
Banibangou	BazeizeKoira	4	< 2	4	1	Yes
% of wells with a sanitary risk score of less than 2					100 %	

The baseline sanitary risk score average was 7.6 in 2012. At the end of the project, the average sanitary risk score is 0.6.

Success Stories

Aissata Moumouni is a 43 year old widow from the village of Yatakala. She was one FABRIC's off-season gardening beneficiaries. At Aissata's gardening site, the project installed a shallow borehole with a manual hand pump to be used for irrigation.

“The installation of this pump has been a true blessing for our village, especially for the women. Before, in order to water our crops, we had to cross a very difficult landscape to obtain water from a seasonal pond. When the water from the pond began to dry up, we were obligated to seek financial contributions from the community to rent a motor pump, purchase fuel, and hire someone to operate the pump. Each time we watered our crops, we would spend at least 6,000 FCFA (\$12 USD). For one gardening season, we became accustomed to spending around 45,000 FCFA (\$90 USD). It was very difficult,” said Aissata.

“Today, however, that difficulty is only part of our memories. As you can see, the pump that was installed by the project allowed us to increase our off-season gardening activities, since we now have water at our gardening site!” she continued, “Only God can repay you for how you have helped us. We thank Samaritan's Purse and we thank USAID.”



Aissata Moumouni using the shallow borehole with manual hand-pump installed by FABRIC