# **Burkina Faso**

With more than 40% of Burkinabé living below the poverty line, access to healthcare and sound nutrition can both be inaccessible and unaffordable. For more than three decades, Helen Keller Intl has helped communities overcome these challenges by addressing the root causes of malnutrition and child mortality, controlling and eliminating neglected tropical diseases, and empowering women to build agency and financial stability. Working with government, civil society, and development partners, our resilience strategies reach all community members regardless of gender,



Number of staff: **75**People reached annually: **2.8 million** 

age, race, religion, or ethnicity.



Office opened: **1999**Operating budget: **\$4.9 million** 

# **Challenges**



More than 40% of people live below the poverty line making food, especially nutritious food, a challenge.



Child mortality is very high and 55.9 out of every 1,000 children do not get to celebrate their first birthday.



Burkina Faso was once endemic for 4 of the 5 priority neglected tropical diseases: trachoma, lymphatic filariasis, river blindness, schistosomiasis, and intestinal worms.

## Where We Work



- Boucle du Mouhoun
- Cascades
- Centre
- Centre-Est
- Centre-Nord
- Centre-Ouest
- Centre-Sud

- Est
- Haut-Bassins
- Nord
- Plateau-Central
- Sahel
- Sud-Ouest

#### **Our Solutions**



Train women to develop and maintain their own nutrient-rich gardens, champion nutrition, and develop entrepreneurial skills.



Distribute biannual azithromycin to children aged 1–11 months, an antibiotic proven to help fend off disease.



Partner with the Ministry of Health to ensure people receive essential medication to prevent and treat neglected tropical diseases with a goal of elimination by 2030.





# **Our Impact**

- Supported more than 5,000 households in Sissili Province with training on improved technologies for production, storage, and processing of orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, as well as counseling on nutrition best practices.
- Reached more than 319,000 children aged 1–11 months with biannual doses of azithromycin.
- ✓ Distributed more than 1.8 million treatments to protect children and family members through mass drug administration campaigns.

**Key partners:** 

## **About Helen Keller Intl**

Helen Keller Intl partners with communities that are striving to overcome longstanding cycles of poverty. By delivering the essential building blocks of good health, sound nutrition, and clear vision, the organization helps millions of people create lasting change in their own lives. Working in 20 countries – across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States – and together with a global community of supporters, Helen Keller helps to ensure every person has the opportunity – as Helen did – to reach their true potential.

# **Contact Information**

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