

AGORA: fostering solutions to protracted displacement

November, 2023 | Global

KEY FEATURES

- **Identify territories hosting high numbers of displacement affected people** and where displacement is protracted, and understand how the displacement has affected the pre-existing socio-spatial features of the area, to inform assessments, participatory planning, delivery and coordination
- **Transition towards durable solutions to displacement for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)** through longer term recovery and development support that builds on and provides an exit strategy to humanitarian programming
- **Foster community engagement and ownership** by building local actors' capacities and involving them in identifying and supporting context-specific durable solutions, as well as monitoring progress towards their achievement
- **Establish networks** by connecting local with external actors that have the technical and/or financial capacity to support implementation of locally identified response priorities and advocate for policy options for durable solutions

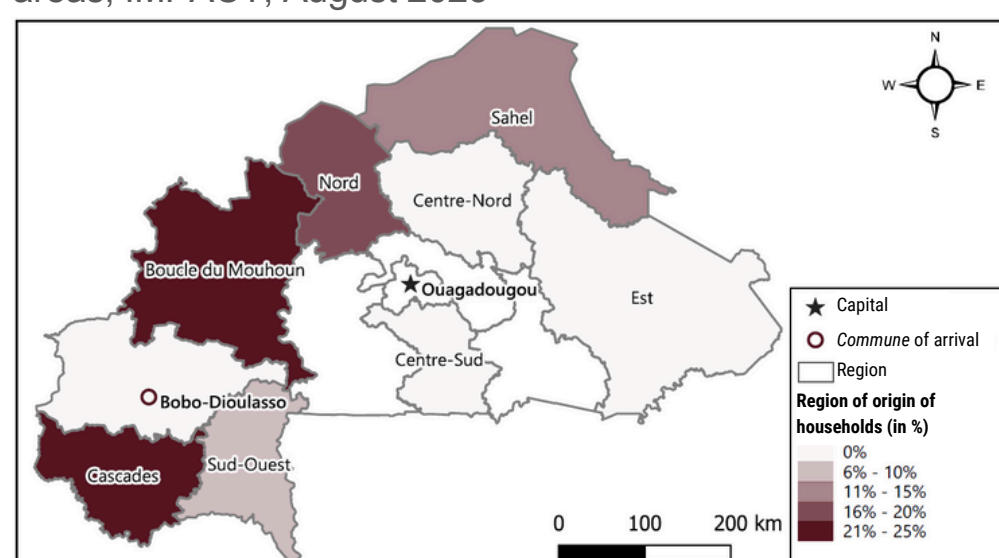
Case studies

Anticipatory action in Burkina Faso



Acted and IMPACT Initiatives (IMPACT) implemented this project in Banfora (Cascades region) and Bobo-Dioulasso (Hauts-Bassins region) to support local authorities and communities to prepare for likely influxes of IDPs within those two urban centres. Based upon area-based assessments (ABA) which focussed on specific locally identified sub-areas with high IDP populations, operational preparedness and response plans were developed through participatory workshops, with a particular focus on areas that would likely receive newly displaced populations. Additionally, local authorities and communities received technical and material support, as well as took part in awareness raising sessions to better cope with massive influxes of IDPs.

Fig 1: Displaced HH region of origin in Bobo-Dioulasso study areas, IMPACT, August 2023



Area-based support towards durable solutions pathways

Acted, IMPACT, JIPS, and the UNHCR-led CCCM Cluster propose an area-based approach to support locally owned solutions through participatory data processes, planning, coordination, and delivery of assistance in displacement settings in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen. Building on sound research methodologies, the approach uses the 8 criteria of the IASC Durable Solutions Framework to assess areas of displacement, origin, and possible resettlement, capturing the challenges that displacement affected communities are facing, their interlinkages between climate risks, access to land and basic services, as well as services and existing policies in place at the level of each territory of intervention. Translating information into planning through participatory processes, this initiative will start with needs-driven CCCM emergency assistance, protection mainstreaming and immediate relief in IDP sites and surrounding communities and transition towards longer-term, locally-owned development and social cohesion programmes designed to foster comprehensive durable solutions. Implementing capacity strengthening for local actors including civil society and governance stakeholders will help ensure a sustainable response after we exit, while advocacy efforts will be undertaken to mobilize external resources for implementation and systematically connect local solutions and lessons to inform higher level durable solutions and displacement relevant policy frameworks and discussions.

CHARACTERISTICS

- **Territorial entry points:** AGORA shifts from a displacement site to a whole-of-territory, whole-of-displacement affected population focus. Territorial entry points can be formal, such as urban neighbourhoods, or based on pre-existing informal socio-spatial features in which displaced populations have settled into.
- **Types of deliverables:** Programmes designed to respond to needs identified across the eight Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) endorsed Durable Solutions Criteria. This includes short term relief such as water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, education, essential relief items, and longer term infrastructure, rural or urban livelihood support through climate smart and nature-based solutions, improved natural resource management, as well as small business development.

Fig 2: HH reasons for displacement in Bobo-Dioulasso study areas, IMPACT, August 2023

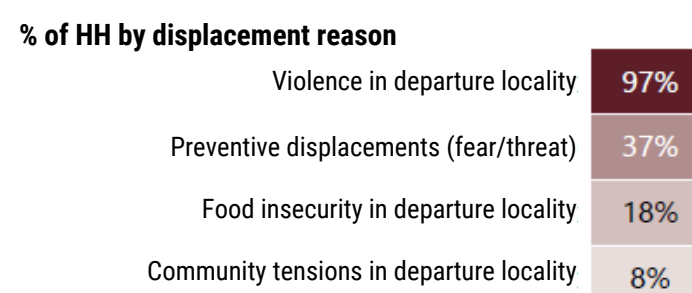


Fig 3: Factors motivating move to their neighbourhood in Banfora study areas, IMPACT, August 2023

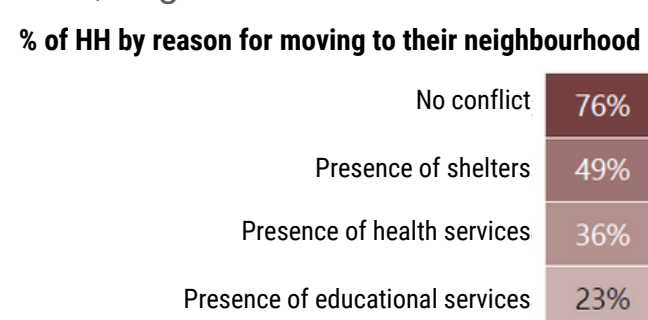


Fig 4: IDP HH intentions in Banfora study areas, IMPACT, August 2023

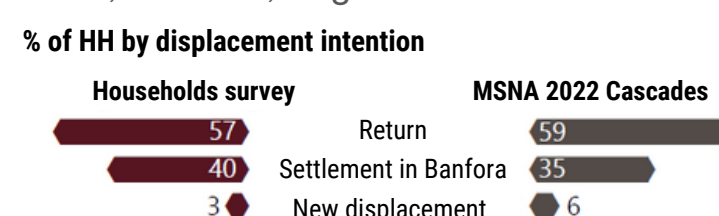


Fig 5: Evolution of built up area in studied areas of Banfora (2012-2022), IMPACT, August 2023

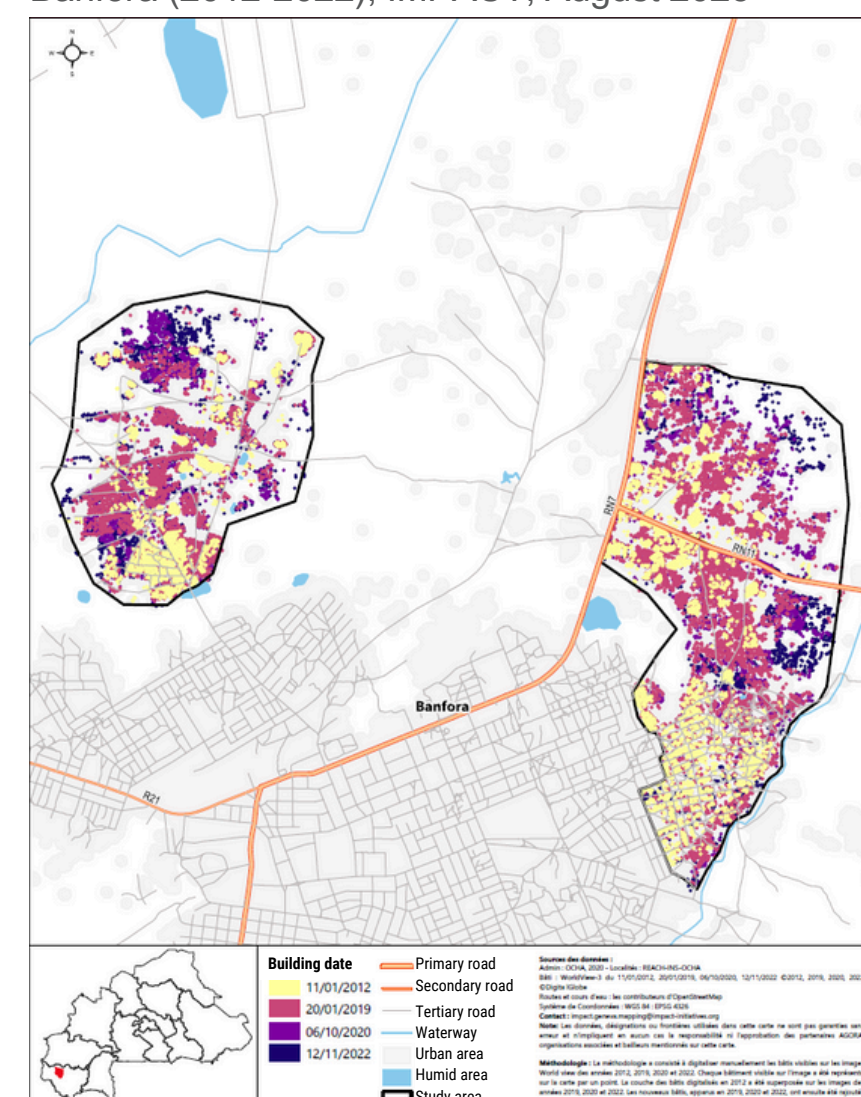


Fig 6: Schematised project structure 'From data and analysis towards area-based solutions'

