

Systematic integration of crops, shrubs and livestock in the Sahel

Background

In the West African Sahel land degradation and soil erosion severely affect more than 80% of range-/farmlands. Besides social, economic, political and cultural drivers, land is degraded by ecological, agronomic, and biological factors, e.g. heavy soil weathering, short rainy seasons, low and erratic rainfall, low biomass productivity and overgrazing. This heavily affects local agriculture.

Project approach

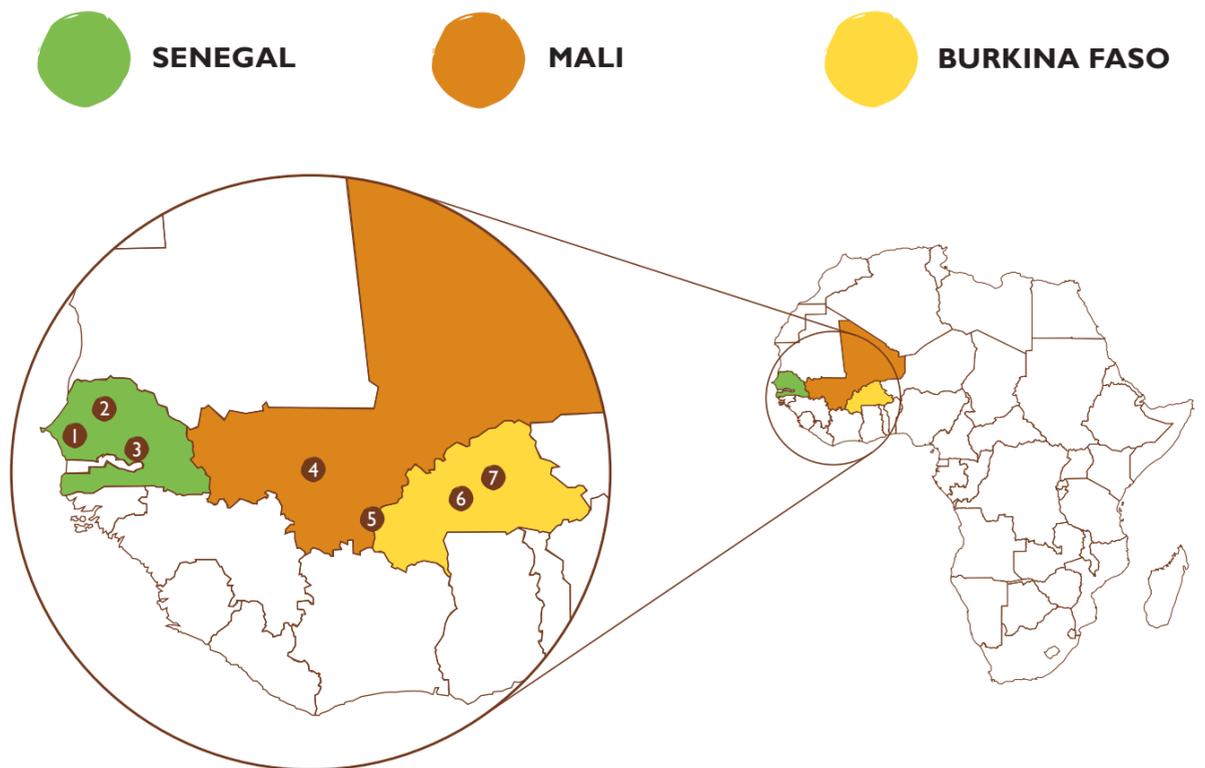
The project combines natural and social sciences with a transdisciplinary approach that brings together researchers and farmers to implement sustainable food systems. Systematic integration of crops, shrubs, livestock and people, as well as practices of organic and conservation agriculture, are the most promising redesign typologies and interventions for sustainable intensification.

Goals

- Bridging science and practice to induce positive change in the local agricultural systems
- Develop and promote 'on-site' solutions which enhance soil quality and yields
- Build resilience towards climate change
- Contribute to food security and better livelihoods
- Female empowerment and strengthening woman's key role
- Knowledge exchange and development of innovation platforms, putting concepts into action

Seven Focus Areas

SustainSahel is working on around seven different sites across the three focus countries. These sites represent various agroecologies of the Sahel region where the annual rainfall ranges from 300 mm to 1200 mm.



1) Niakhar
2) Ouarkokh
3) Tambacounda



4) Koulikoro
5) Sikasso



6) Saria
7) Yilou



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www.sustainsahel.net

Partners SustainSahel has 17 partners from 9 countries, located across the European and African continent.

