

A TIME TO SOW...

Your support of the Bishop's Harvest Appeal will help give families in Burkina Faso and opportunity for a brighter future.

As we reflect during this harvest season, we are reminded that there is a time to sow and a time to reap. For many in Burkina Faso, finding land to plant seeds and a place to live long enough to harvest has been a significant challenge. Internal conflicts have forced 2 million people to flee their homes, their communities, and their land. This displacement has placed immense strain on agriculture, the backbone of the economy, where over 80% of the workforce is employed. These challenges are devastating for rural communities, heavily reliant on crop and livestock production for both income and sustenance.

The most affected areas are the Central North and Sahel regions. However, even amid political instability, security threats, and severe hunger, Christian Aid and its partners have been on the ground responding to this urgent need. Those fleeing conflict are welcomed with open arms, but resources are quickly depleted.

With your support, Christian Aid (CA) and its partners have been able to assist internally displaced communities by helping them acquire land, plant crops, and begin rebuilding their lives. Workshops are commencing to foster community cohesion between host communities and new arrivals, equipping them with the resources to achieve economic independence and thrive with dignity.



One such community is Pensa, located in the Central North. Here, Christian Aid partners have collaborated with the government to secure over 40 hectares of land (approximately 23 football pitches) offering new beginnings for over 2,000 displaced families. Christian Aid is providing training in resilient farming techniques, empowering families to cultivate food for both sustenance and sale, thus aiding them in rebuilding their lives and achieving economic independence.

Throughout this program, over 2,300 households will receive land and seeds to start anew in their communities. This month, seed distribution has commenced with beans and groundnuts, preparing for the upcoming rainy season. This moment represents a powerful symbol of hope and renewal. As we reflect on the harvest, we are reminded that it is not only about the crops that grow, but also about the renewal of communities, the restoration of dignity, and the rebuilding of lives.

PRAYER POINTS

Let us join in prayer for the communities in Pensa .

1. Father God, we pray for your blessing on the land, that the rains will come at the right time, and the harvest will be abundant, providing food security and hope for the future.
2. Father God, may you give them strength, resilience, and healing for those who have lost everything. May they find peace, stability, and strong friendships to help them rebuild their lives.
3. Father God, we ask for wisdom, endurance, and divine guidance as the staff continue their vital work in challenging conditions, responding to the needs of the people with compassion and skill.



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