Impact Assessment Report
2018 Collections

Key Statistics

- Meters of fabric produced: 413
- 93% women
- 2 Community Groups (see detailed presentation sheets at the end of the report)
- Total number of artisans: 15

Fact File

- In total, 3 artisans working for the “Association des Femmes Tisseuses de Ponsomtenga” (AFEPO) and 12 artisans working for the “Association Zodo pour la Promotion de la Femme” (AZPF) participated in the production of the order.
- Each artisan produced on average 27.53 meters of fabric

Skills used

- Winding
- Warping
- Weaving on small width looms
- Weaving on large width looms

EDUN product development

Thé Minadofini of CABES’ quality control team assisting artisans to set up the loom and learn the order in which the shuttles must be used
Long-term impact

- Orders from EDUN contributed to the steady growth and development of CABES social enterprise and its member ateliers as the regular flow of orders allowed CABES to offer work to an increasing number of artisans, providing them with a steady income and enabling them to lift themselves out of poverty through work.

- The field visits of Edun’s creatives provided artisans with an amazing opportunity to learn about product development, international trends and requirements.
Natacha Nikiema, 22 years old
“I am a mother of one. My child is not yet old enough to go to school. The artisans at the atelier are my new family and what I like most about my work is the mutual aid between us. This order helped me improve my weaving skills on small width looms”

Zalissa Zangré, 38 years old
“I am divorced and have to take care of my mother and my child all by myself. Having a stable income provides us with the financial security we need to move forward and I find comfort going to the atelier. This order allowed me to improve my weaving skills”

Join the Conversation… #WhoMadeMyClothes #NotCharityJustWork #TradeNotAid
The Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI) is a flagship programme of the International Trade Centre, a joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. EFI reduces global poverty by linking micro-producers and artisans to the international supply chain of fashion, facilitating dignified work at a fair wage. By collaborating with social enterprises, the EFI supports local creativity, female employment and empowerment and gender equality. Ultimately, this aims to reduce extreme poverty and increase the export capacities of the region in which it operates.

EFI Compliance
This order was monitored using EFI Compliance scheme: An innovative system from the ITC’s Ethical Fashion Initiative to enable compliance with labour and environmental regulations, traceability for all processes, and a clear measurement of the impact of work on those involved in the value chain.

Discover the artisan groups working with EFI around the world, follow this link.

GIE CABES consists of individual and collective enterprises of artisans in the textile sector in Burkina Faso and Mali. GIE CABES aims to promote artisanal and traditional textiles and create a reliable supply chain that meets international standards of quality, production deadlines and creativity. GIE CABES offers work opportunities for artisans in marginalized communities, especially women, to lift them out of poverty. To achieve its objectives, GIE CABES collaborates with the Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI). EFI enables GIE CABES to consolidate its expertise and resources by providing technical assistance and training as well as facilitating long-term business opportunities with fashion buyers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Groups/artisans involved in production</th>
<th># of artisans involved in the order</th>
<th>% of women</th>
<th>Main skills used in the order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MULTI CHECK WEAVE</td>
<td></td>
<td>AZPF: Zalissa, Christiane</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Winding, warping, weaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXTURED STRIPE WEAVE</td>
<td></td>
<td>AFEPO: The, Augustine, Blondine</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>Winding, warping, weaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALPHABET MUDCLOTH EDUN</td>
<td></td>
<td>AZPF: Evelyne, Bata, Haoua</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Dyeing, winding, warping, weaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ CABES TRY n 553 EDUN BF</td>
<td></td>
<td>AZPF: Natacha, Sarata, Zalissa, Habibou, Haoua, Bata, Zouenabou, Limata, Azèta, Azèta, Evelyne</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Winding, warping, weaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN STRIPE WEAVE</td>
<td></td>
<td>AZPF : Zalissa, Evelyne</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Winding, warping, weaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ CABES ECHARPE 1 n EDUN BF</td>
<td></td>
<td>AZPF : Evelyne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Winding, warping, weaving</td>
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CABES is a social enterprise, which was created with the support of the Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI) to promote the work of marginalized artisans of Burkina Faso and Mali producing handwoven and decorated cotton textiles on international markets. CABES stands for “Commerce et Artisanat pour le Bien Etre Social”, which means “Trade and crafts for social well-being”.

CABES is composed of artisan groups (”ateliers”, cooperatives, associations) working along the whole handwoven textile value chain, from cotton ginning to finished fabrics. Through CABES, these artisans become suppliers of international fashion and lifestyle brands and this contributes to poverty reduction and to the empowerment of artisan communities.

CABES acts as a central coordination unit (”hub”) and is responsible for engaging with the market and international clients whilst also managing all aspects of production: product development, the purchase of materials, trainings, the organisation of production, quality control, packaging, administrative procedures, shipping and payments, etc.

EFI COMPLIANCE*
CABES Social Enterprise
Ouagadougou

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EFI Code of Conduct principles</th>
<th>Compliance in 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 No forced labour</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Right to freedom of association and collective bargaining</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 No harassment, abuse or discrimination</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 No underage labour</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Reasonable hours of work</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Payment of a living wage</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Safe and healthy working conditions</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Women’s rights guaranteed</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Minimized impact on the environment</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Respect for community values</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key facts
- **Year of creation:** 2016
- **Number of members:** 475 artisans
  9 founding ateliers and cooperatives
- **Location:** HQ in Ouagadougou. Hubs in Bobo-Dioulasso, Pissy, Fada N’Gourma
- **Activities:** Production and promotion of traditional handwoven and decorated cotton textiles from Burkina Faso and Mali produced by disadvantaged artisans.

![ EFI Compliance Table ]

![ Map of West Africa with Cabes locations ]

![ Diagram of CABES structure ]
CABES’ activities are organised around three hubs in Ouagadougou, Bobo Dioulasso and Fada N’Gourma to ensure a good geographic coverage and provide reliable and qualitative supports to the ateliers. CABES is also responsible for directly managing a yarn preparation centre in Ouagadougou, the Pissy II centre, which benefits all the ateliers part of CABEs’ network by semi automatizing a few preparation steps that are very time consuming and hard physically: the bobbin preparation and the positioning of the yarn on warping beams.

CABES’ ateliers produce two types of fabrics:

Faso Danfani, beautiful handwoven patterned textiles

Fabric development for EDUN – the technical team trains artisans on understanding and using technical sheets.

CABES team is made of professionals of the sector and new recruits come from textile and engineering schools of Burkina Faso and Mali. New recruits go through a specific training programme designed with the help of international experts, which then enables them to work hand in hand with ateliers at the artisan level while incorporating methodologies and best practices of the industrialized sector.

Apart from production coordination, quality control and product development and, as part of EFI’s core project activities, are involved to deliver managerial and technical trainings to ateliers. Trainings enable quality and productivity improvements and, most importantly, enable the inclusion of more and more artisans in the production chain.

*These scores were calculated using EFI’s compliance monitoring tool, which assesses EFI’s partners’ compliance with the various standards of EFI’s code of conduct. When a partner does not get 100% for one of the principles, a corrective actions plan is defined in collaboration with its head(s) to help it reach full compliance. The implementation of this corrective actions plan is then monitored and regularly evaluated.

The aim is to motivate partners to progressively reach full compliance with the code of conduct, by making them understand all the benefits associated with doing so and not to punish them if they are not compliant on day one. EFI works with its partners, hand in hand, to improve working conditions and raise workers’ living standards in the long term.
The Association of Women Weavers of Ponsomtenga, “Association des Femmes Tisseuses de Ponsomtenga – AFEPO” (in French), is an association that aims to contribute to poverty, unemployment and social marginalization reduction by promoting Faso Dan Fani weaving and by contributing to the development of a recognized social status for artisan weavers.

AFEPO currently has 54 members, all of which are women. Many of them already practiced weaving and dyeing before joining AFEPO, but they were doing so in basic and sometimes dangerous conditions. By joining the association, artisans get access to a decent work environment, training possibilities and a space where they can gather and express themselves. They can formalize their activities and stabilize their income; this allows them to have decent living standards and to pay for their children’s education.

AFEPO is located in the village of Ponsomtenga, 25 km south of Ouagadougou. Despite its proximity to the capital, infrastructure in the village is very basic. Most houses have no electricity, no running water and living conditions are precarious. Agriculture is the villagers’ main livelihood and most weavers have to take part in subsistence farming activities. This was the case of the weavers working for AFEPO before they joined the association. Now, thanks to the regular weaving work provided by AFEPO, they have enough income to hire workers to work in their fields in their place. The association therefore also contributes to creating jobs indirectly within the weavers’ communities. Families in the village consist on average of 7 members so the activities of the centre benefit approximately 378 people.
In 2013, when EFI started working with AFEPO, it only had 18 members. With the support of EFI and other development actors, the association developed steadily over the years to reach 54 artisans in 2018. The association will welcome more artisans with the support of EFI’s project, which provides training, equipment and most importantly market access support. The involvement of EFI has also enabled AFEPO to attract other actors (NGOs, development agencies) who supported the development of the association in other areas such as literacy by providing basic occupational literacy trainings.

The atelier is very well organised with different areas specifically dedicated to certain activities: one for wide looms, one for small looms, one for trainees, one for yarn preparation, a closed building for stocks and the showroom and a cooking area as well as a well.

Artisans joining AFEPO usually learn weaving on small looms and then progressively learn how to weave more intricate and wider fabrics on looms with four pedals that can make fabrics 50 m long and 1.5 m wide!

Weaving large width fabrics is physically demanding. This is why EFI supported AFEPO in getting high quality looms and organising the weavers to work in teams: when one artisan is weaving, the other is preparing the shuttles. This improves the quality of the final product, increases productivity and ensures that there are no delays in production, especially when social events such as weddings or funerals occupy artisans for weeks!

Most artisans working for AFEPO on the orders brought by EFI have made very positive changes in their lives through their work. For instance, Joséphine Nikiema was in a precarious situation before joining AFEPO. A widow and mother of three, she was trying hard to provide for her family, collecting wood and pebbles to sell them. Now aged 38, she can finally breathe: “before it was difficult, but now it’s really okay. I earn money to send my kids to school, to provide food for them and to take care of their health. I am a widow; I am both the man and the woman of the house. Thanks to the work provided by AFEPO, everything is much better”.

Most artisans did not have the opportunity to complete their primary education but they can weave intricate fabric designs.
AZPF - Bilinga

Key facts

- **Year of creation**: November 2015
- **Number of members**: 31
- **Percentage of women**: 100%
- **Location**: Bilinga
- **Activities**: Cotton spinning, natural dyeing, weaving on vertical, small and wide horizontal looms

The **Association for Zoodo Women Promotion** (AZPF) was created in 1996 under the initiative of Mrs. Mariam Maiga to contribute effectively to the promotion of rural communities and women in Burkina Faso.

Bilinga is a small village in the region of Yatenga (north of Burkina Faso – just south of the big city Ouahigouya – see red square on the map) and is part of AZPF’s network. It is located in the countryside, where there is no electricity and no running water. Agriculture is the villagers’ main livelihood: they grow grains (sesame, groundnuts, niébé, mil), rice and vegetables. In this region, the soil is not very fertile and living conditions are precarious.

The opening of AZPF’s centre was therefore welcomed by villagers as activities related to hand-weaving can provide an alternative and reliable source of income for families. Families in the village consist on average of 7 members so the activities of the centre benefit approximately 217 people. An increasing number of women want to join the association and learn new skills.
Before the opening of the weaving centre, AZPF already provided learning support for children, basic literacy lessons for adults (as the school was only opened 20 years ago in the village), contributed to the opening of the secondary school and hired a traveling nurse to go around villages. In 2018, the association managed to raise funds to drill a new well that benefited the whole village!

AZPF Bilinga is one of CABES Gie’s suppliers, the social enterprise supported by the project. Several artisans have already benefited from technical trainings on weaving and natural dyeing. The artisans of the centre will receive further training on weaving, dyeing and cotton spinning as well as equipment to ensure safe and adequate working conditions.

The process of cotton spinning is currently done by hand, using small “quenouilles”, little pieces of wood used to spin the yarn. EFI is introducing spinning wheels to facilitate the work of the artisans.

The women artisans of AZPF Bilinga are specialized in natural dyes.

Artisans combing the cotton (initial stage of spinning)