

2026-04 | Integration of Emergency Transport Coverage into Community-Based Health Insurance Schemes, Burkina Faso

Financial Sector Partner (FSP):	Community-Based Health Insurance Schemes of BF	SCBF Contribution:	CHF 137,134 (73%)
Grantee:	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) & ASMADE	Matching Contribution:	CHF 5,500 (3%) – FSP CHF 23,434 (13%) – Grantee CHF 20,960 (11%) – Third party
Country:	Burkina Faso	Duration:	Nov 2026 – Jan 2028
Potential Outreach:	8,800	Product:	Embedded Emergency Transport Insurance (integrated with Community Based Health Insurance)
Thereof Women:	65%	Target Group:	Low-income individuals

PURPOSE AND VISION

In Burkina Faso, Community-Based Health Insurance (CBHI) remains a key option for rural and informal households, but coverage remains low due to persistent access barriers. Over 37% of the population lives more than 5 km from a health centre, with limited and costly transport often preventing insured households from accessing timely care. This weakens the perceived value of insurance and contributes to low CBHI enrolment. The project addresses this gap by introducing emergency transport as an insurable benefit, strengthening the value of CBHI membership and generating evidence for wider adoption through the CBHI federation and future RAMU scheme.

PROGRAMME DESIGN AND DELIVERY

The project uses a strategic partnership model involving Swiss TPH, ASMADE and 10 participating CBHIs to design and roll out, over 15 months, an embedded emergency transport benefit reaching 400,000 people in the Bankoui and Oubri areas. Integrated into existing CBHI packages, the benefit will provide cashless emergency transport through pre-contracted providers, 24/7 community-based activation, and continuity to health facilities. Existing CBHI enrolment channels and community infrastructure will be strengthened through capacity building, social marketing and targeted outreach to women and vulnerable households, leveraging trusted community liaison points to build awareness and accelerate uptake.

OUTCOMES, IMPACT AND LEARNING

The project aims to increase enrolment across ten schemes from 3,199 to 12,000 members by project end, reaching around 8,800 clients during the project period, of whom approximately 65% will be women, 95% rural and 60% under 35. The longer-term target is to benefit 24,000 members by year five, while creating local income opportunities for transport providers. Beyond enrolment, the project will assess access to care, financial risk protection and institutional sustainability through utilisation, response times, retention, management capacity and policy engagement. Evidence will be generated through scheme data, mixed-method evaluations, participatory reviews and competency assessments. The project will also fill key evidence gaps in Burkina Faso on the cost, utilisation and impact of emergency transport coverage, providing a basis for pricing, a replicable implementation model for other CBHIs, and evidence to support potential integration into national health insurance (RAMU), building on experiences from Tanzania and Cameroon.

Partnering with:

