



Country card

**Benin**

**(SAHA Programme)**





# HI's team and where we work

There are 22 staff members on HI's team in Benin.

**Benin**





# General country data

## a. General data

Country	BENIN	Neighbouring country TOGO	France
Population	12,123,198	8,278,737	67,391,582
HDI	0.545	0.515	0.809
IHDI	0.855	0.822	0.98
Maternal mortality	397	396	10
Gender Related Development Index	47.8	43.1	31.6
Population within UNHCR mandate	1,174	12,336	368,352
INFORM Index	4.1	4.6	2.2
Fragile State Index	72.5	85.8	30.5
GINI Index	4.2	2.6	31.7
Net official development assistance received	360.6	345.1	0

## b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	ratified in 1998
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratified on 10 July 2017
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	ratified in 2012



## **d. Geopolitical analysis**

### **1. Social, cultural and demographic context**

The Republic of Benin is a West African country located in the Gulf of Guinea. Its political capital is Porto-Novo, and the economic capital is Cotonou. The country covers a surface area of almost 114,000 sq.km and has 2,123 km of borders. It is surrounded by Togo to the west, Nigeria to the east and Burkina-Faso and Niger to the north.

### **2. Political situation**

Benin has been a stable democracy since 1990. Parliamentary elections were held in April 2019. A new electoral code banned opposition parties from taking part, leading the opposition to challenge the outcome of the elections.

### **3. Economic situation**

Benin's economy is heavily dependent on informal re-export and transit trade to Nigeria, which accounts for about 20% of GDP, and agriculture. More than 90% of the working-age population is engaged in the informal economy which is estimated to account for 65% of total activity.

Prior to the coronavirus epidemic, which has had a negative impact on economic activity and government revenues, Benin recorded a strong economic performance between 2016 and 2019 with an average real GDP growth rate of 5.5 percent.



# Summary of HI's work in the country

The Benin programme was launched in 1999 in response to a request to train orthoprosthesis technicians at the CNHU (national hospital and university centre) in Cotonou. In 2003, the Benin programme closed due to a lack of funding.

From 2003 to 2010, HI strengthened contact between the national Buruli ulcer control programmes in Togo, Benin and Ghana. During this period, HI only deployed short missions to Benin.

In 2010, the HI office in Cotonou was reopened at the request of the Ministry of the Family and National Solidarity. HI then implemented several projects, including a lymphatic filariasis control project, a project to promote the rights of people with disabilities, a road safety project, and an inclusive local development (ILD) project. The DECISIPH project to promote the rights of people with disabilities re-energised the not-for-profit sector in Benin and became a trusted, reliable contact for the government.

From 2013 to 2017, HI implemented three projects on inclusive education, inclusive local development, and the management of the physical security of weapons and munitions. The local and inclusive development project has had a real impact in Cotonou with the development of notes for minimum accessibility standards for municipalities and the relaunch of the inclusive building code development process. HI is now considered an authority on accessibility.

In 2018, HI launched socio-economic inclusion, road safety and inclusive education projects. These were followed respectively in 2019 and 2020 by a humanitarian mine action (HMA) project and an inclusion project to improve the political and socio-economic situation of people with disabilities.



# Overview of current projects

Sectors where HI implements projects, focusing on beneficiaries and partners

Main sectors	Project goals in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries at the end of the project	Partners	Location	Project start and end date and funding bodies
<b>Safe and Inclusive Mobility Project</b>							
<b>Safe and inclusive transport</b>	Improve conditions for road users based on effective road safety management in Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft and adopt a new highway code</li> <li>• Empower and engage road safety actors to implement a national road safety action plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26,000 vulnerable young road users</li> <li>• 25 representatives of Civil Society Organisations and Disabled People’s Organisations working in the field of road safety</li> <li>• 20 managers and officers from the National Road Safety Centre (CNSR)</li> <li>• 10 trainers and 1,000 police recruits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road users including vulnerable young road users (15-29 years old)</li> <li>• Ministries and technical departments in charge of transport and health</li> <li>• Professionals in the road safety sector</li> <li>• Public and private companies</li> <li>• Disabled People’s Organisations and Civil Society Organisations including those working in the field of road safety</li> <li>• The gendarmerie and national police force</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MTPT)</li> <li>• National Road Safety Centre (CNSR)</li> <li>• National Network of Road Safety Associations (RENASER)</li> <li>• Networks of Journalists and Road Safety Facilitators (REJASER), and the Network of Road Safety Partners (REPASER)</li> </ul>	Littoral and Atlantique départements	01.2018-12.2021  <b>DGD</b>



Inclusive Employment Project							
<b>Economic inclusion</b>	Develop an inclusive economy and employment for people with disabilities in Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local employment access assessment for people with disabilities</li> <li>Capacity-building for the National Employment Agency (ANPE) and training centres</li> <li>Disability awareness-raising for companies</li> <li>Implementation of a support fund for companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>620 young people with disabilities</li> <li>3 training and social development centres</li> <li>40 company executives</li> <li>10 companies</li> <li>5 inclusive employment service providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young unemployed people with disabilities (15-34 years old)</li> <li>Inclusive employment service professionals including training centres, Micro Finance Institutes and banks</li> <li>Public, private and specialised companies</li> <li>Public institutions including job centres</li> <li>Social partners</li> <li>Disabled People's Organisations and Civil Society Organisations including those working in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility</li> <li>Local and national public authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National employment agency (ANPE)</li> <li>Federation of Disabled People's Organisations in Benin (FAPHB)</li> <li>Training and social development centres</li> </ul>	Littoral and Atlantique départements	01.2018-12.2021  <b>DGD</b>
<b>Project: Health, education and livelihoods in Africa: a sustainable inclusion approach</b>							
<b>Inclusive governance</b>	Improve disability policies and the socio-economic conditions of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the capacities of Disabled People's Organisations</li> <li>Participatory local assessment:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>180 members of 12 networks of Disabled People's Organisations will be trained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people with disabilities</li> <li>Disabled People's Organisations and Civil Society Organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federation of Disabled People's Organisations in Benin (FAPHB)</li> </ul>	Cotonou and Parakou municipalities	01.2020-12.2022  <b>NORAD</b>



	<p>people with disabilities in Africa through their meaningful involvement in the development and implementation of local, national and regional policies and programmes to advance their rights</p>	<p>community involvement of People with Disabilities and clearing obstacles to accessing basic social services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisational empowerment</li> <li>• BRIDGE training (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, disability diversity, public policies, sustainable development goals)</li> <li>• Advocacy by Disabled People’s Organisations and Civil Society Organisations</li> <li>• Accessibility work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 young people will be helped to express their personal needs</li> <li>• 2 social development centres will be provided with support and assistance to refer and advise young people with disabilities</li> <li>• 25 service providers and heads of municipal services</li> <li>• 10 service providers assisted on the quality of services provided to people with disabilities</li> <li>• Members of the Federation of Disabled People’s Organisations will be trained on BRIGDE</li> <li>• 20 local elected officials trained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and national public authorities</li> <li>• Service providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cotonou and Parakou town halls</li> </ul>		
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Inclusive Education Project							
<b>Inclusive education</b>	Improve tangibly the living conditions of people with disabilities and vulnerable people based on an inclusive and participatory approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy to include children with disabilities in the country's education policies and strategies.</li> <li>• Organise consultations with care providers for children with disabilities</li> <li>• Provide teachers with inclusive education training and support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 children with disabilities</li> <li>• 238 teachers</li> <li>• 4 special schools</li> <li>• 10 decentralised technical service officers</li> <li>• 2 NGOs</li> <li>• 5 community-based rehabilitation centres</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children with disabilities and their families</li> <li>• Disabled People's Organisations</li> <li>• Education actors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Social Affairs and Microfinance</li> <li>• NGO La Colombe - Hibiscus</li> <li>• NGO Equilibre Bénin</li> <li>• Ministry of Nursery and Primary Education</li> </ul>	Littoral and Atlantique départements	01.2018-12.2021  <b>AFD</b>
CAPAF SEC Project: "Capacity-Building for African Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA), Weapons and Ammunition Risk Management (WRAM) and the Promotion of Safe Environments"							
<b>Armed violence reduction</b>	Improve the physical security of African populations through capacity building in humanitarian mine action and the management and destruction of weapons and munitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the training services and quality of the Post-conflict mine action and clearance development centre</li> <li>• Build technical capacities in the quality management of mine actions and weapons and munition stockpile management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The post-conflict mine action and clearance development centre</li> <li>• State actors (National Mine Action Centres - CNLAM)</li> <li>• National Commissions for Small Arms Non-Proliferation (Com.Nat)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities directly affected by the threat of mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices in targeted areas</li> <li>• Team members and partners in the countries where HI works</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CPADD (Post-conflict mine action and clearance development centre)</li> <li>• National commissions for small arms non-proliferation (Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Benin, Niger and Chad)</li> <li>• National Mine Action Commissions (Senegal and DRC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benin</li> <li>• Guinea Bissau</li> <li>• Niger</li> <li>• DRC</li> <li>• Senegal</li> <li>• Chad</li> </ul>	07.2020-12.2021  <b>CDCS</b>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist armed violence research</li> </ul>					
<b>SIGNAL project</b>							
<b>Build the capacities of the supply chain and strengthen access to humanitarian actors and the market</b>	Improve the impact of assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify areas for field assessments</li> <li>• Gather secondary data</li> <li>• Market/transport and road network assessments</li> <li>• Analysis report &amp; creation of Logistics Vulnerability Index maps</li> <li>• Data analysis and mapping</li> <li>• Presentation of reports and maps</li> <li>• Feedback with humanitarian organisations and authorities on the usefulness of the Logistics Vulnerability Index</li> </ul>	Humanitarian and development actors	Local communities falling within the scope of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PONGIB</li> <li>• Town halls within the scope of the project</li> <li>• Carrier unions</li> <li>• National Districts Association of Benin (ANCB)</li> <li>• Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (MIT)</li> <li>• National Civil Protection Agency (ANPC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alibori</b> (Malanville, Karimama, Banikoara, Gogounou, Kandi and Segbana)</li> <li>• <b>Borgou</b> (Parakou, Tchaourou, Kalalé, Pèrèrè, N'Dali and Bembèrèkè)</li> </ul>	03.2021-10.2022  <b>OFDA</b>
<b>MAKING IT WORK project</b>							
<b>Inclusive governance</b>	Strengthen the advancement, protection and exercise of the rights of people with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify organisations with best practice on violence against women with disabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled people's organisations</li> <li>• Women's organisations</li> <li>• Civil society organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled People's Organisations</li> <li>• Beneficiaries of Disabled people's organisations</li> </ul>	Identification underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cotonou</li> <li>• Borgou</li> <li>• Atlantique region</li> </ul>	08.2020-07.2023



	with a focus on discrimination and violence towards women and young girls with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement a capacity-building plan for the identified organisations</li></ul>					
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## Donors

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DGD</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Belgique</b> partenaire du développement</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NORAD</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Norad</b></p>
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