

Eliminating gender-based violence in Mali

Pro-ARIDES takes part in the global 16 Days of Activism campaign against gender-based violence in Mali



As part of the implementation of its Trajectory 4 entitled “Integrating Gender, Youth and Inclusion for the Development of Resilient Food Systems”, the Pro-ARIDES program carried out a significant action on December 10, 2024 in San. a commitment that is part of the global 16 Days of Activism campaign against gender-based violence (GBV), with the aim of raising awareness and encouraging communities to play a central role in eliminating such violence.

An engaging national theme: the responsibility of families and communities

Faced with the worrying prevalence of Gender-Based Violence in Mali, with 45% of women aged 15-49 having experienced physical or sexual violence (EDSM-VI 2018), the national theme chosen for the 2024 campaign, “*Roles and responsibilities of the family and community in promoting values for the abandonment of violence against women and girls*” emphasizes the importance of collective involvement.

Pro-ARIDES has therefore aligned its efforts with this theme, working to raise awareness in the communities of San and Tominian, in partnership with the Programme de Gouvernance Locale Redevable (PGLR+), a program of SNV Mali.

An inclusive, targeted approach

The event brought together a wide range of players to reinforce community and institutional commitments. Participants included the Prefect and Mayor of San, women's and youth organizations (CAFO, OJ, OF), religious and traditional leaders, community relays, as well as members of multi-stakeholder platforms (PMA) and producer organizations (OP).



View of the room

By participating in this event, Pro-ARIDES is pursuing several objectives, including:

- Inform participants about the types of GBV and their consequences.
- Raise awareness of prevention and warning mechanisms in the event of violence.
- Promote women's and girls' rights through interactive exchanges.
- Highlight local support services available to survivors.

Concrete actions for lasting impact

The day was marked by dynamic activities such as conferences and discussion forums. These moments of exchange made it possible to: Discuss the challenges of GBV and its repercussions on communities; Share poignant testimonies and, above all, encourage local men and leaders to become actively involved in the fight against violence.



Discussion by participants in working groups

Discussions also highlighted the local support structures available, to improve access to services for survivors and raise community awareness of the values of respect and equality.

A call to community action

Through this activity, Pro-ARIDES recalled the importance of a collective effort to build inclusive communities that respect the rights of women and girls. By supporting families and community structures in this fight, the program is helping to reduce inequalities and lay the foundations for a more equitable and resilient future.

Pro-ARIDES will continue its efforts in collaboration with local stakeholders and women's organizations to strengthen GBV prevention and promote effective support systems, while continuing to integrate the gender dimension into all its interventions.