

velafrica

Mobility with perspectives

**Creating Jobs and Income
for youth
in the informal sector
in Sub-Saharan Africa**

***The case of a dual track Vocational Training
Program in the bicycle sector in Burkina Faso***

Presentation at the Session TVET in non-formal settings
LELAM International TVET Conference 2024

Michel Ducommun, Co-Director and VET Programms,
Velafrica



Context



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development



1 NO POVERTY



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



5 GENDER EQUALITY



.....one billion people in Africa rely on cycling and walking as their main means of transport to cover their commuting needs, income-generating activities and access to health and social services (UNHABITAT and UNDP, 2023)

Velafrica in a nutshell

...a unique approach and innovative impact model, connecting circular-economy approaches, socio-professional integration in Switzerland/Germany with social bicycle business development, job creation and vocational training in Africa

...supplies 9 Social Enterprises in SSA with 25'000 bicycles per year & skills

...classifies as a social enterprise with a hybrid financing model

...believe in market-based approaches to create triple.bottom impact

...based in Berne, Switzerland, founded 1993, 30 employees

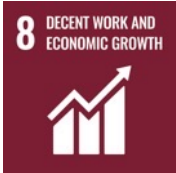




Three Pillar Strategy to Create Triple-Bottom-Impact



Social bicycle Enterprises to improve access to bikes and to create employment and promote entrepreneurship





TVET for sustainable use of bikes and income opportunities and education for youth





Mobility Programms to enable access to schools and income-generating activities





Dual Track VET in Burkina Faso



Mapping the sector

How can the informal sector be characterized and how does this influence strategic decisions on the approach?

Study:

- Interviews of 1'500 bicycle users
- Interviews with 410 micro- and small enterprises
- Interviews with governmental institutions
- Analysing strategic plans on VET of gov and international stakeholders



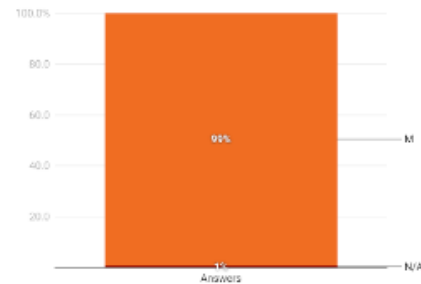
Mapping the informal sector

A typical bicycle workshop in the Central Region of Burkina Faso



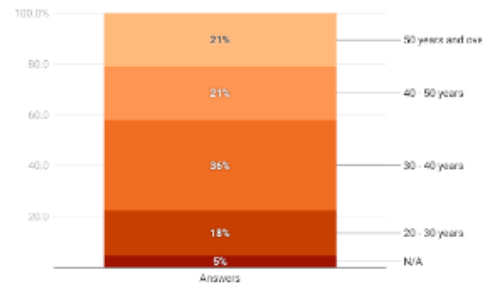
The typical owner is a man aged between 30 and 50, who has chosen this profession. He doesn't have any educational qualifications and hasn't completed any training with a certificate.

Distribution of respondents by gender



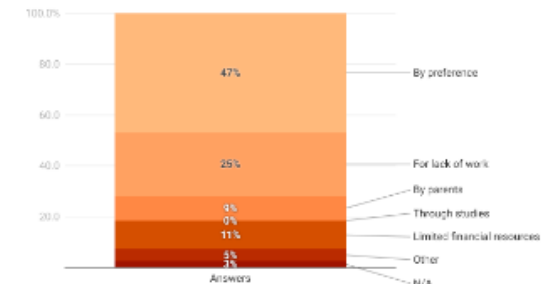
410 answers
Chart: Claudio Brenni - Velafrika - Source: EDRIC - Created with Datawrapper

Breakdown of respondents by age group



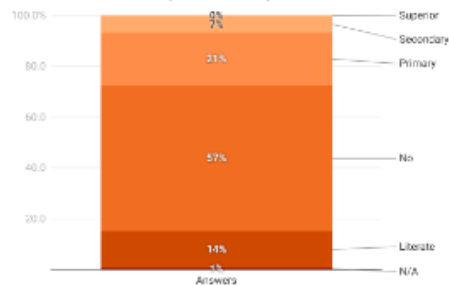
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Breakdown of companies by reason for choice of trade



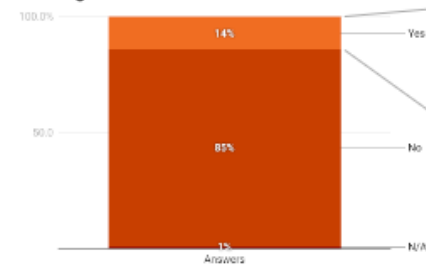
316 answers
Chart: Claudio Brenni - Velafrika - Source: EDRIC - Created with Datawrapper

Distribution of respondents by level of education



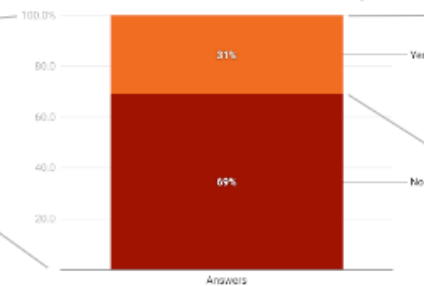
410 answers
Chart: Claudio Brenni - Velafrika - Source: EDRIC - Created with Datawrapper

Distribution of respondents with or without vocational training



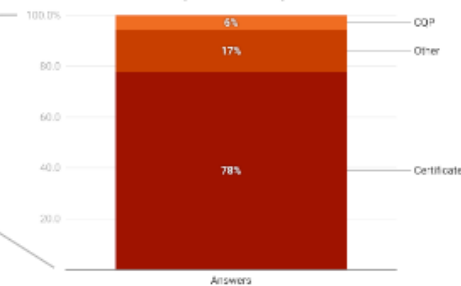
410 answers
Chart: Claudio Brenni - Velafrika - Source: EDRIC - Created with Datawrapper

Distribution of trained and certified respondents



58 yes answers
Chart: Claudio Brenni - Velafrika - Source: EDRIC - Created with Datawrapper

Distribution of respondents by level of certification



78 yes answers
Chart: Claudio Brenni - Velafrika - Source: EDRIC - Created with Datawrapper

Mapping the informal sector

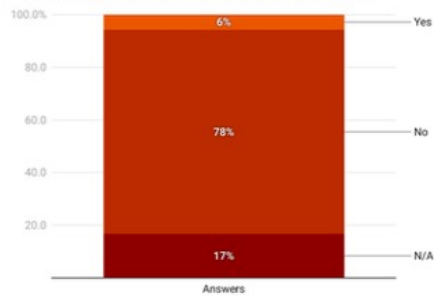
A typical bicycle workshop in the Central Region of Burkina Faso



The Shop

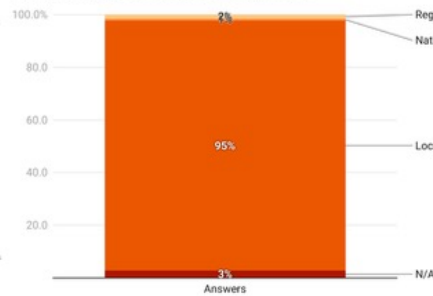
The typical shop is in the informal sector, has a local dimension and has no branches. Bicycles and spare parts are mostly locally sourced. One third sell second-hand bicycles, another third sell only new bicycles. The main customers are young people. Only 1/2 of the shops have employees, usually 1 or 2. They usually have at least 1 apprentice.

Breakdown of companies by legal status



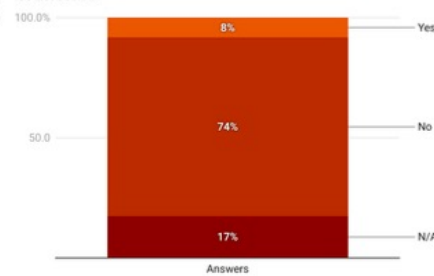
316 answers

Breakdown of companies by size



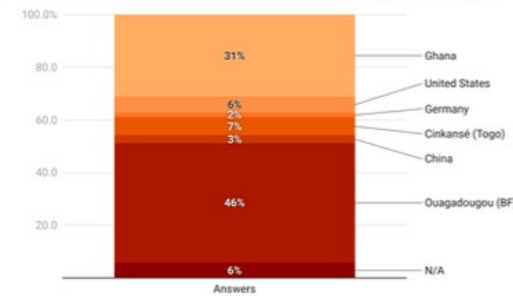
316 answers

Distribution of companies according to the existence of branches



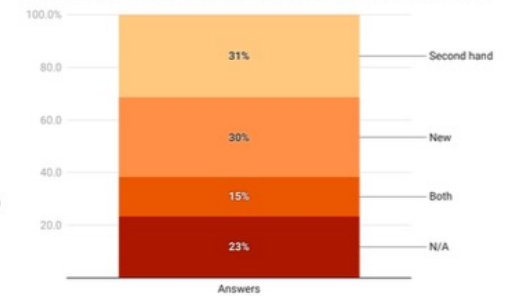
316 answers

Bicycle and spare parts retailers by source of supply



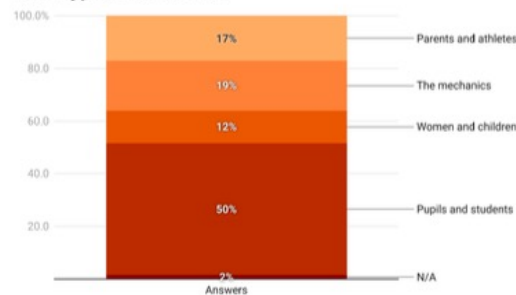
316 answers

Breakdown of companies by condition of bikes sold



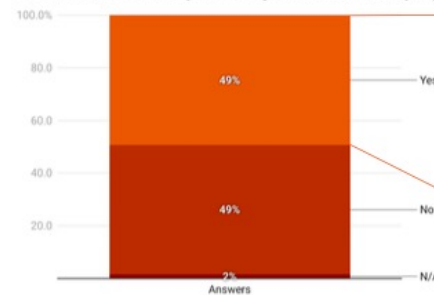
316 answers

Main type of customers



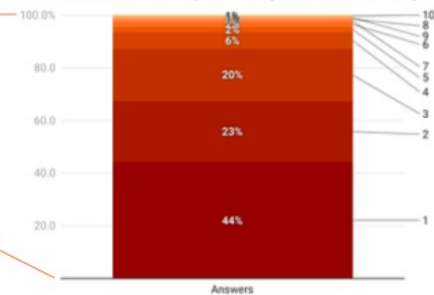
316 answers

Breakdown of companies by number of employees



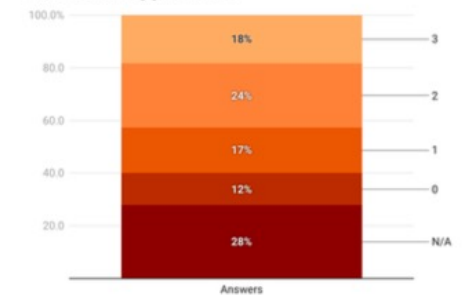
316 answers

Distribution of companies by number of employees



156 yes answers

Number of apprentices



410 answers

Mapping the informal sector

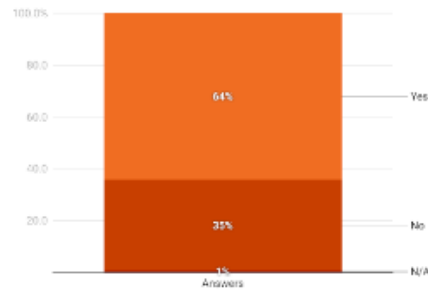
A typical bicycle workshop in the Central Region of Burkina Faso



The Needs and Constraints

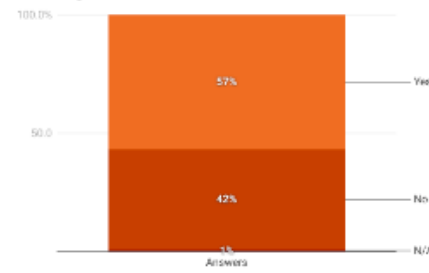
The respondents recognised that they had equipment and training needs, mostly technical, rather than in the administrative or commercial aspects of the business. The main constraints are the high cost of rent, lack of space, lack of manpower, low labour productivity and difficulty in accessing credit.

Breakdown of companies by equipment needs



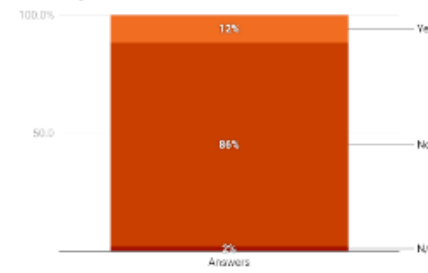
410 answers

Distribution of respondents according to their technical training needs



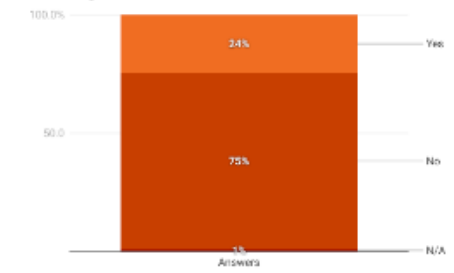
410 answers

Distribution of respondents by administrative management training needs



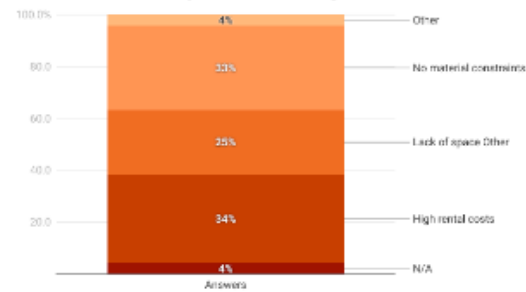
410 answers

Distribution of respondents according to their commercial training needs



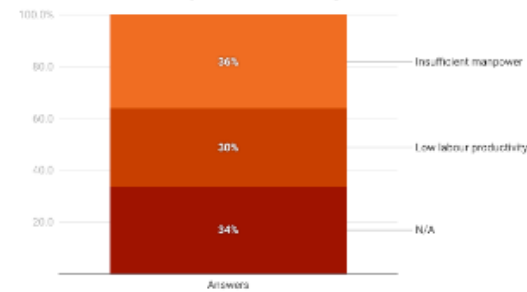
410 answers

Distribution of companies according to material constraints



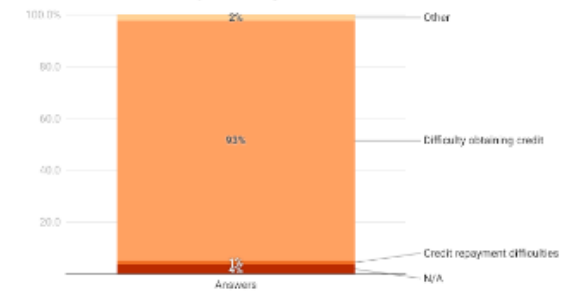
316 answers

Distribution of companies according to human constraints



316 answers

Distribution of companies by financial constraints

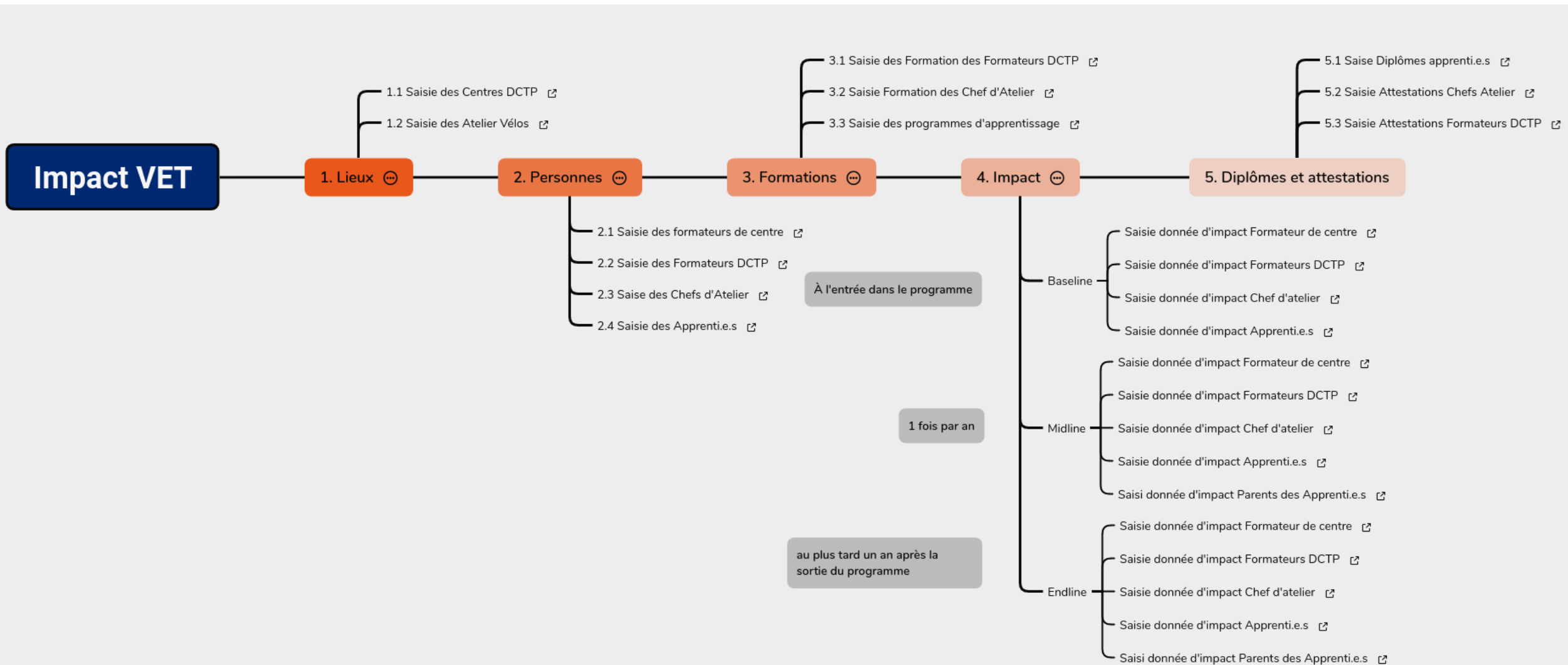


316 answers

Objective Framework



Impact Assessment Framework

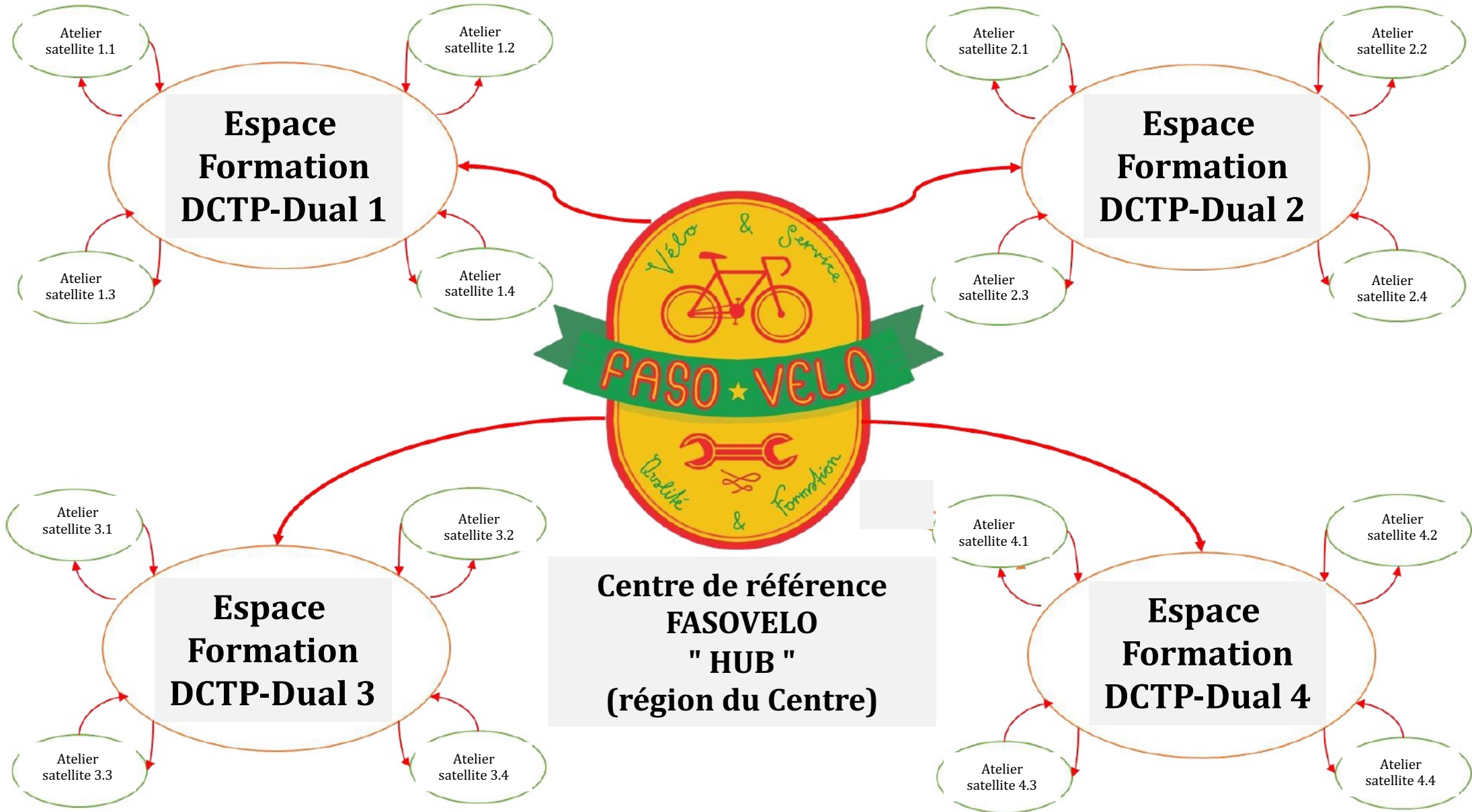


Vocational Training in Bicycle Mechanics

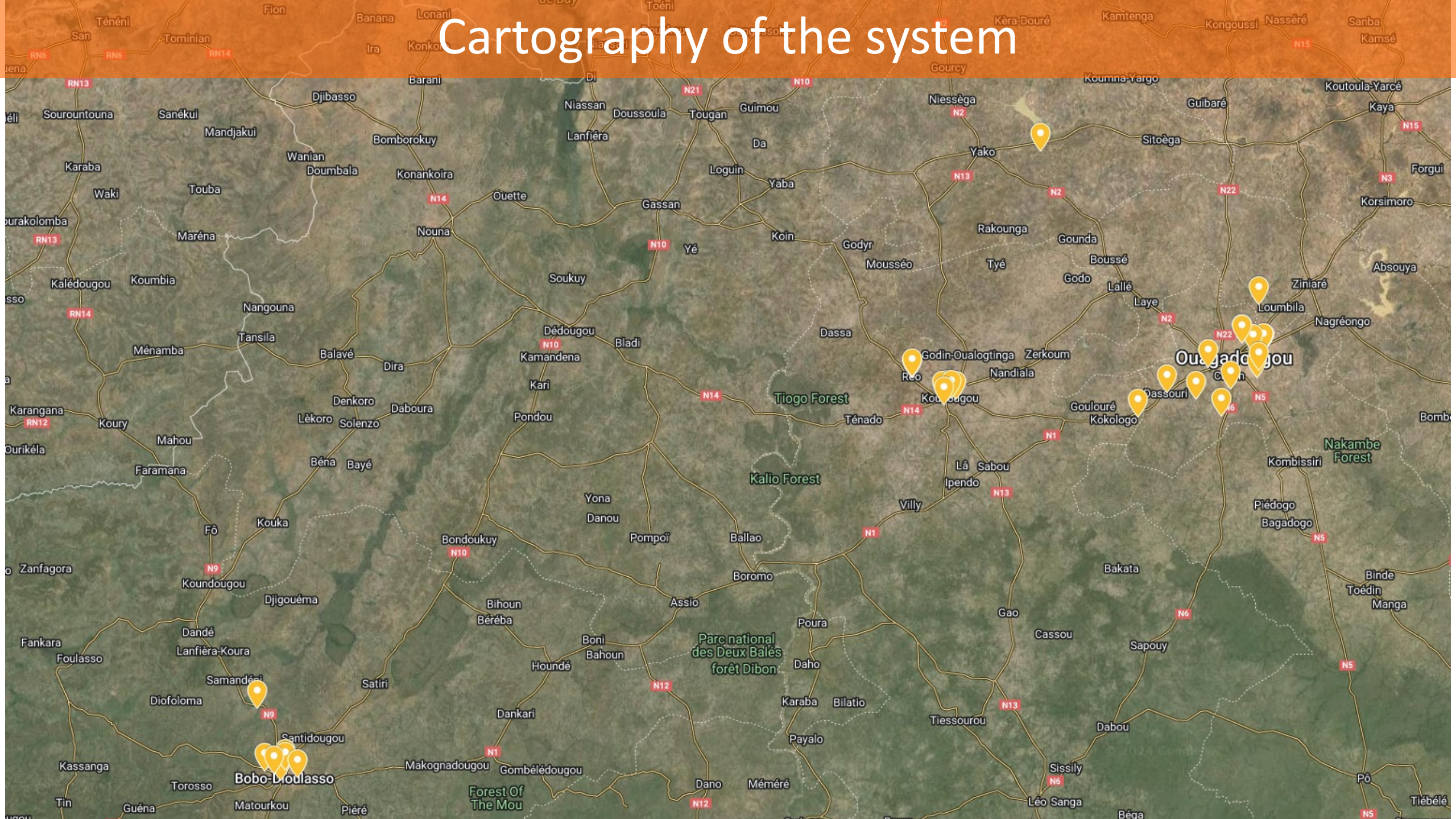
The project in a nutshell

Country & Region	Burkina Faso. Regions: Boucle du Mouhoun, Center Region, Western Central Region and the Hauts-Bassins
Start/End Dates:	<p><i>1st Phase:</i> July 2020 to December 2021 - Feasibility studies, curriculum development.</p> <p><i>2nd Phase:</i> 2022 - Launch phase with 350 youth.</p> <p><i>3rd Phase:</i> 2023 to July 2024 - Program expansion with an additional 100 to 150 youth, certification of vocational trainers and learners according to regulations of education authorities, socio-economic integration of trained youth, and impact measurement.</p>
Beneficiaries	<p><i>Direct Beneficiaries:</i> Up to 500 youth and 300 vocational trainers, workshop owners, and vocational education commissioners.</p> <p><i>Indirect Beneficiaries:</i> Families of the students, bicycle users.</p>

Systematic Approach

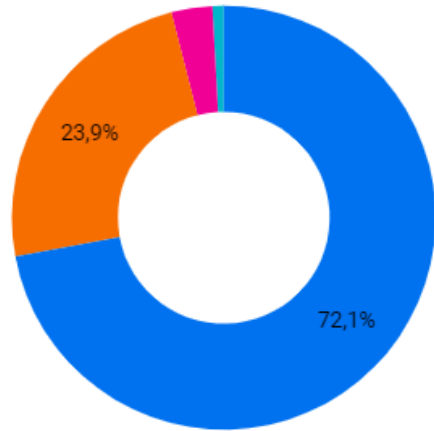


Cartography of the system

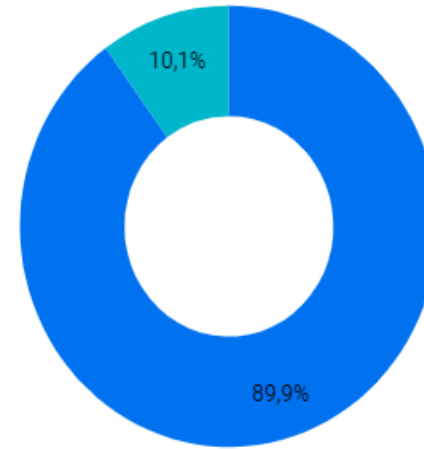


The apprentices – According to the baseline

Dernière formation

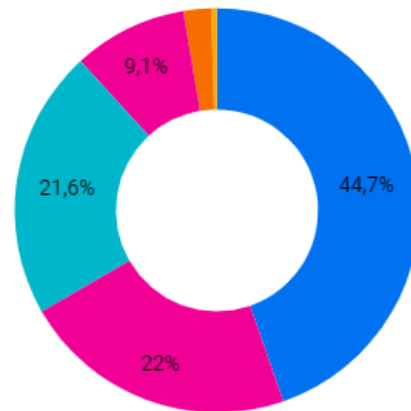


- Aucune
- Certificat Études Primaires (CEP)
- Brevet d'Études du Premier Cycle (BEPC)
- Baccalauréat de l'enseignement général
-



- Homme
- Femme

Pourquoi avez-vous décidé de participer au programme?



- Acquérir des compétences en mécanique vélo
-
- Améliorer mes perspectives professionnelles
- Intérêt personnel pour les vélos
- Réaliser une formation officiellement reconnue par l'État
- Autre



Results on operational level:

- 33 DCTP-Dual Track Training Workshops created
- Training-plans and -contents developed on velomechanics and pedagogy
- 31 ToT Vocational Trainers trained
- 400 young people in dual apprenticeships
- 250 owners of small bicylce workshops trained
- Literacy training in 5 centers



Results on institutional Level:

- Validated curriculum at CQB and CQP level
- examination regulations for CQB and CQP signed
- Partnership agreement signed with ministry of education
- Examination session for 30 candidates as future Vocational Trainers



Challenges Encountered

Context of Burkina Faso :

- **Security situation**, changing conditions, fragile conflict-prone environment.
- One of the world's poorest countries. More than **40% of the population lives below the poverty line**

Realities of informal sector:

- **99%** of businesses are **organized informally**.
- project needs to win the confidence of the informal sector (no lobby or minimal associative structures)
- **Infrastructure and equipment** very basic
- broad distribution of the skills and competencies of the stakeholders

Quality of basic education:

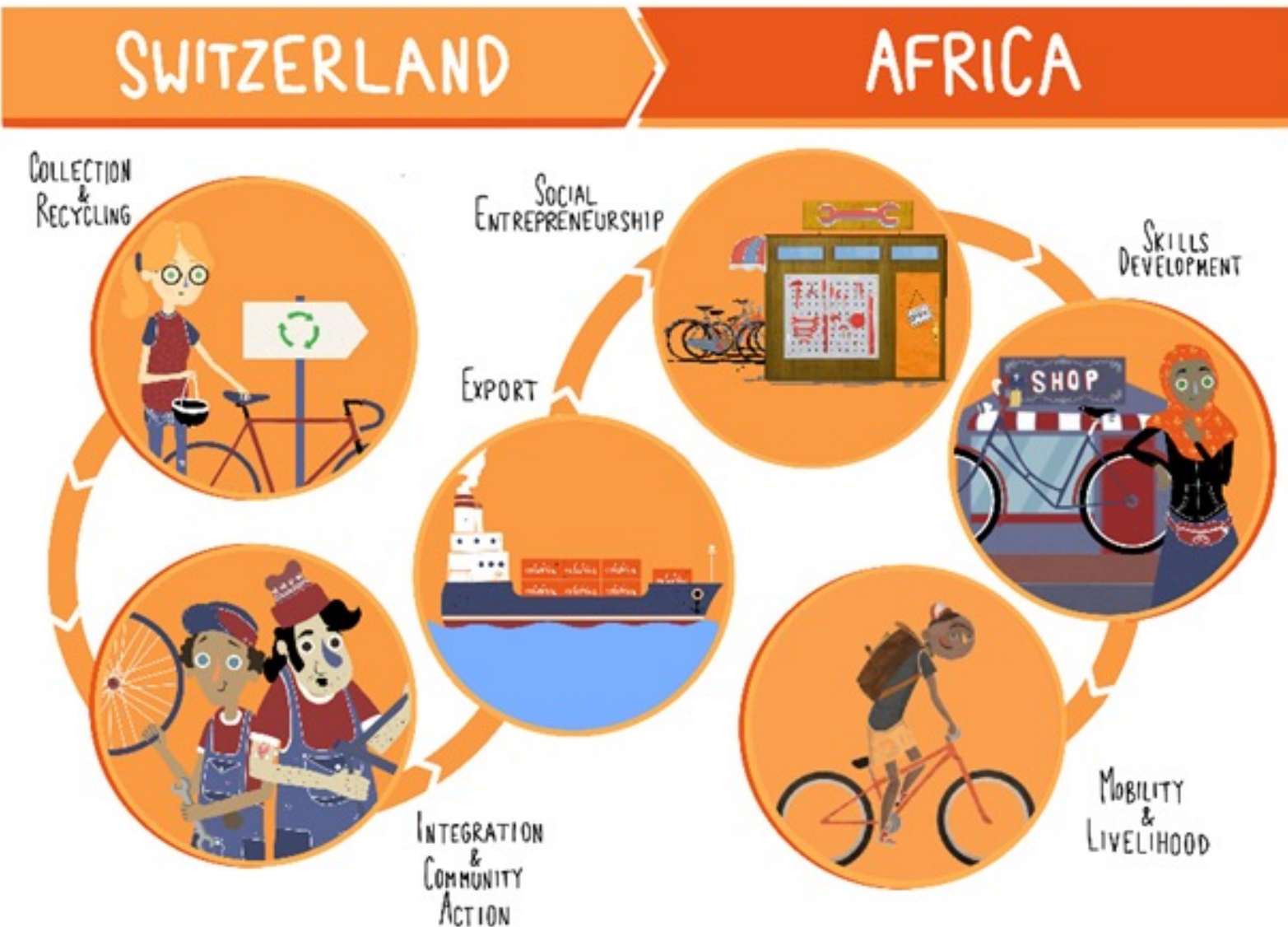
- Many young people **lack access to formal basic education** and basic literacy skills





Merci beaucoup pour votre attention

Velafrica's Impact Value Chain



Our vision

Velafrica's vision is a world where all people can reap the benefits of cycling mobility to improve their lives.

