



**ANNUAL** 20  
**REPORT** 19

# 26 PROJECTS IN 22 COUNTRIES

ACTING  
FOR LIFE



3

AREAS  
OF EXPERTISE

10

NEW  
PROJECTS

47

LOCAL  
PARTNERS

24

EMPLOYEES

19

VOLUNTEER  
BOARD MEMBERS



# EDITORIAL

## Despite the crisis, Acting for Life continues to support sustainable local development

To reflect on 2019 at a time when a health crisis is wreaking havoc on the global economy may seem off-topic. Nevertheless in this report you will find everything you need to know about the projects we are carrying out with our partners in West Africa and Latin America, and you will gain a deeper understanding of what those projects seek to accomplish and why they are important.

The Covid-19 pandemic is affecting the entire world, exacerbating inequality within communities and widening wealth gaps between countries. Will governments, international organisations and corporations take that into account and work towards greater cooperation and solidarity? Or will self-interest and the temptation to let everyone fend for themselves further exacerbate the consequences of the crisis in the most vulnerable communities?

Acting for Life has decided to assist its partners in the South during this difficult period, by offering them our support, skills and resources to help mitigate the consequences of the crisis and push forward with our development projects, which are so vital for the local communities. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic was not the only crisis affecting our work in 2019. Many of our projects last year were carried out in areas where armed conflict is on the rise, particularly Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

Our local partners have proven to be remarkably flexible and resilient, which will be even more important when it comes to dealing with the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This vital continuity in our work would not be possible without the public donors who co-fund our projects, or the steadfast support of our corporate and organisational sponsors, who have also been hit hard by the crisis.

We would like to thank them for their commitment and support. May we continue to prove ourselves worthy of their generosity.



Jean-Cyril Spinetta  
President

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Project to promote market gardening for better food and nutritional security in the Cascades region (PROCUMA)

• 2018 • **BURKINA FASO**

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# 45 years of commitment

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT LOCAL LEVEL

Since 1973, the NGO Acting for Life has been assisting over one million people suffering from poverty or exclusion to help them earn a decent living on their land. Each year, Acting for Life carries out some thirty solidarity projects with fifty local partners in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Acting for Life places local economic development at the heart of its work. Our projects aim to strengthen the economy of indigenous rural communities, improve their skills and create value at local and regional levels. To do so, Acting for Life identifies, supports and strengthens the local organisations that are best able to assist those communities.

With its partners, Acting for Life develops sustainable economic models and offers solutions to issues such as exclusion, poverty, mobility and transitioning to agroecology, all of which are linked to climate change. We are a catalyst, bringing together all local stakeholders in support of shared goals.

Acting for Life works with local partners to help them become truly autonomous so that they can have a lasting impact on poverty reduction.

**1973**

With countries in the South facing major economic and social challenges, airline-industry workers teamed up with company executives to found Groupe d'Aide aux Réfugiés et personnes Déplacés ('group in support of refugees and displaced persons', or GARD). The association carried out projects to promote solidarity in Haiti, Gabon, Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea.

**1979**

Creation of GARD's French branch: an international office to assist budding NGOs in the South in areas such as project support, funding and development engineering.

**1981**

GARD France becomes Groupe d'Aide aux Réalisations pour le Développement ('group in support of development work') and sets up long-term development programmes with its local partners in the South.

**1992**

GARD becomes Groupe Développement ('development group') with the motto: la vie, pas la survie ('not just survival, but life').

**1994**

At the request of ECPAT International (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking), which comprises 90 specialised NGOs, Groupe Développement adds a new social objective to its areas of focus: prevention of sexual abuse and violence against children.

**2002**

Groupe Développement is recognised in France as an association serving the public interest.

**2009**

To boost its visibility at international level, Groupe Développement becomes Acting for Life: la vie, pas la survie.

**2011**

Acting for Life transfers its child-protection projects to ECPAT France (founded in 1997) in order to focus on its projects in support of local organisations and local economic development.

**2019**

After more than 45 years, Acting for Life continues to work with its partners in the South to eradicate poverty through economic and social development that is tailored to local needs.



## OUR 3 AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Supporting the ecological transition for sustainable economic development at local level

### AGROPASTORALISM

For roughly 80 million people in West Africa, raising livestock is a source of income. Most rural communities in the Sahel depend on livestock mobility for their survival. But that mobility currently faces a number of threats, such as extreme climate change, land pressures, conflicts in border regions and a deteriorating security situation. Acting for Life is working to secure herd mobility and facilitate access to agropastoral amenities and market infrastructure through strong collaboration between civil-society organisations and local authorities. Over the past 40 years, Acting for Life has been a key player when it comes to supporting agropastoralism. Acting for Life's strategy involves sustainably integrating agropastoralism into the socio-economic landscape, helping local communities become more resilient and supporting socio-economic development in rural areas using tax revenue from the sector.



### FOOD SYSTEMS & ECOSYSTEMS

Acting for Life works with rural communities and their organisations in West Africa and Latin America to help them gain access to and sustainably manage the natural, human, material and financial resources in their area, while also promoting inclusive economic development. Acting for Life works with smallholder families and producer organisations to encourage diversified production that is tailored to market standards in terms of quality and quantity, while supporting the transition to agroecology and organic production. Priority is given to short marketing channels that are tailored to each type of production. Initiatives promoting "local consumption" are carried out with local communities and institutional buyers, and through partnerships with the private sector. At a time when biodiversity is being massively degraded (which is only exacerbated by global warming), protecting ecosystems and natural spaces is essential to our projects. Acting for Life also works with micro-entrepreneurs to help them strengthen the economic and environmental viability of their work through access to funding that is tailored to rural communities.



### TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

Acting for Life is committed to helping young people overcome the challenges they face when it comes to finding employment. We carry out large-scale initiatives to improve access to decent jobs, expand professional opportunities and boost income. Our work aims to strengthen training systems (degree and certification programmes) in promising sectors such as the energy transition, sustainable construction and solar power. Acting for Life helps training centres and local NGOs create innovative training programmes and develop cross-disciplinary skills, and helps structure training curriculums and establish unique initiatives, such as field-schools. Acting for Life seeks to ensure that institutional purchasing supports local jobs, materials and skills. A refresher course for young people from vulnerable communities, before the start of training, is currently being tested. By closely monitoring trainees and helping them find jobs, Acting for Life assists young people throughout the training and integration process so that they are better able to position themselves in their socio-economic environment and in the job market.





# ACTING FOR LIFE AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2020, Acting for Life is carrying out 23 projects in the field with a focus on four key SDGs

**SDG 1:** End poverty in all forms

**SDG 2:** End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, promote sustainable agriculture

**SDG 12:** Establish sustainable consumption and production patterns

**SDG 13:** Take action against climate change and its impacts

The world today faces unprecedented economic, social and environmental challenges. The international community has come up with a blueprint for change, built around 17 sustainable development goals (SDG). The “2030 Agenda”, adopted by the United Nations in 2015, seeks to create links between local and international initiatives by including all actors and excluding no one. It defines concrete initiatives in all areas of our societies. Indivisibility and universality are the foundation of this new paradigm, which proposes a framework and a common language for everyone involved. As an NGO dedicated to promoting development, Acting for Life is fully committed to achieving these goals. All projects launched in 2019 included the SDGs in their approach. They will allow Acting for Life and other NGOs to engage in better dialogue and better collaboration with financial partners.

Acting for Life proposes projects that are jointly managed by multiple actors, with a partner-based approach and a focus on local development. The projects aim to help producers in vulnerable communities become more resilient to many different

challenges (geopolitical, climate, economic and social), ensure that our work benefits all actors in the value chain of a production system (particularly small producers), propose innovative alternative ways to help communities and local actors in their ecological transition.

As climate change becomes more and more extreme and natural environments are destroyed on a large scale, Acting for Life addresses issues relating to climate and biodiversity in all its projects (SDG 13, 14 and 15). Gender inequality is an obstacle to economic and social development. Acting for Life, working closely with its operational partners, aims to address gender issues in all its projects so that women can play their full part in projects to promote development (SDG 5). Lastly, by supporting the transition to agroecology, which addresses social, economic and environmental issues alike, Acting for Life seeks to help preserve resources and ecosystems, promote inclusive local development, facilitate efforts to adapt to climate change and improve health through high-quality, diversified production.

## Fundación Alma, Colombia

This project was launched in 2019 to preserve and sustainably manage the ecosystem and economic development of the marsh of Zapatos.



### SDG 1 (no poverty):

Strengthen economies that complement fishing, by strengthening the agroforestry systems of 50 families and improving marketing channels for fishing.

**SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 14 (life below water), SDG 15 (life on land):** 14 new family agroforestry systems for food security. 50 already-established and preserved systems are reducing pressure on the ecosystem.

### SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation):

50 hectares of the marsh restored and preserved with local organisations.

**SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production):** At least one initiative supporting an economy that complements fishing.

**SDG 13:** All of these initiatives help combat global warming.

**SDG 15:** Reforestation, family agroforestry systems, restoration of sanctuaries for plants and animals, governance based on the cycles of nature.



## FAPAMI, Togo, Benin

This project was launched in 2019 to establish fair contracts for family farming.

**SDG 1 & 8 (decent work and economic growth):** 1,500 producers and 200 processors are increasing their production volume and tripling their income.

**SDG 12:** Increase in the number of organic-certified producers. Facilitation of marketing of local agricultural products to institutional buyers.

**SDG 13:** Consuming organic and local products is a tool for combating climate change.

## 4 exemplary projects



## PAMOBARMA, West Africa

This project was launched in 2018 to boost the income of livestock farmers by securing the sector to ensure food security (**SDG 2**), employment (**SDG 1 & 8**) and local economic development. A total of 22 market infrastructures have been built and are being managed inclusively and transparently (**SDG 9**).



## PAMPEC, Benin, Togo, Mali

**SDG 1, 4 & 8:** This project supports stonework professions and sustainable construction, and offers professional training for 180 young people in construction techniques using sustainable local materials.

**SDG 5:** The young women benefit from a special selection procedure, special support to help them complete their training and discussion groups. The young men and the team overseeing the project and monitoring the trainees learn about gender inequality so that they do not repeat the stereotypical behaviour that limits the integration of young women in this traditionally male-dominated sector.



# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

## Discussions on gender issues



Acting for Life's technical & vocational education & training projects often run into gender-inequality issues, particularly in traditionally male-dominated sectors such as construction, where women are highly underrepresented. Women encounter difficulties at each step of the way, whether it's gaining access to training, completing their training or finding a job. So Acting for Life organised discussions to find ways to change the situation and support women through various initiatives before, during and after their training. Women's discussion groups were created to encourage women to talk about the challenges they have encountered and their motivations, and boost their confidence. Listening to those young women and finally taking their perspective into consideration is a first step towards emancipation and equality.

## Training for journalists and creation of the Transverses website



From 7 to 11 October 2019, 16 journalists from 13 West African countries attended a training programme in Accra, Ghana, that sought to raise awareness and provide information about transhumance and the livestock trade in West Africa. After two previous workshops in 2018, Acting for Life and its partners, CILSS and CARE Denmark, wanted to strengthen the capacities of television, radio and press journalists and help them break down stereotypes and negative clichés about pastoralism, transhumance and the livestock trade. The workshop included both theory and practice, with the creation of a mock editorial board, which gave the journalists an opportunity to do some reporting. The journalists' publications were then uploaded to a platform that will hopefully become an important resource for objective information on the realities of pastoralism.

Visit: [www.transverses.org](http://www.transverses.org)

## Organic production in Benin

A trip to Benin was organised from 12 to 15 June 2019, to learn about some of the agricultural-development and agropastoralism projects carried out by Acting for Life and its partners. The delegation included members of Servair Group and representatives of Acting for Life's Board of Directors. They visited producers at the Lake Toho production site (near Ouidah) to observe their progress in person. The delegation was then invited to an organic tasting at Brasserie de l'Institut Français (managed by Servair), where they got to try products from the AMAP. The participants also visited the production centres where Servair Benin's products are processed. The trip was an opportunity to promote an innovative partnership that is essential for the producers in Benin.



## Extension of our partnership with Servair in Togo (after Benin)

The FAPAMI project (facilitating access to institutional markets for local agricultural products), which was first launched with Servair in Benin, is now being expanded to include Togo. An agreement was signed between AMAP Togo (agricultural cooperative with about twenty producers) and Servair, a world leader in airline catering, based in Africa since 1989. The agreement represents a big opportunity for the cooperative and its producers. AMAP Togo will deliver fresh organic fruits and vegetables, all produced using agroecology techniques, to Servair at least twice a week, and will enjoy access to a sustainable market. The farmers will have the opportunity to benefit directly from the income they generate from selling their products.



## Cultural heritage of the nation

Acting for Life is carrying out a project in northern Colombia to manage and preserve biodiversity for the benefit of local communities. The project focuses on restoring the marsh of Zapatos, which is rich in biodiversity but has suffered heavy degradation. Managed sustainably, the regenerated marsh will allow families of fishermen to provide for themselves and protect themselves against flooding from nearby rivers. In 2019, Colombia's National Council for Cultural Heritage officially recognised the knowledge and techniques of the artisanal fishermen of the Magdalena River as part of the country's intangible cultural heritage. It was well-deserved recognition for the ancestral and current practices of those men and women, and for the support and promotional work by civil society and NGOs, including our local partner Fundación Alma.



## Renewal of our project in Peru

Acting for Life has been working for the past six years to revitalise the local economy in the Cusco region. The results have been positive for producers in the region. A new two-year project was launched to strengthen the initiatives that are already underway and ensure their longevity in order to support the development of sustainable farming throughout the region. The idea is to promote high-yielding agroecology systems in three municipalities by structuring and strengthening strategic supply chains. The project will ensure that more attention is given to environmental issues in the economic development of the region, while improving the quality, productivity and profitability of local products and boosting income for family businesses: milk 5%, dairy 10%, guinea pigs 15%. New commercial outlets will be opened, with the objective being to boost the income generated by the company ESS and the brand D'Ausangate.





# OUR PROJECTS



## Supporting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets (PAMOBARMA)

• 2018-2022 • BENIN, BURKINA FASO, IVORY COAST, GHANA, GUINEA, MALI, NIGER, NIGERIA, TOGO

**Budget:** €13,000,000 • **Financial partners:** European Union, French Development Agency (AFD), Air France & local resources

Raising livestock is a pillar of life in rural West Africa, including in the most intensive systems, such as the cotton-growing areas in southwest Burkina Faso, northwest Togo and northern Benin. Livestock farming plays a key role in the agricultural sector and employs many people in rural and urban areas. But the future of agropastoral systems faces a number of big challenges. Agropastoralists have become more vulnerable as a result of conflicts, the security situation, climate change and the liberalisation of international trade. Local sectors need to maintain their market share and become more competitive, while systematically taking into account the cross-border dimension. Acting for Life has been working at sub-regional level since 2010 to gradually launch unique initiatives in the sector, and has surrounded itself with a dense network of operational partners.

This project to support herd mobility and improve access to resources and markets—third pillar of the “PREDIP” project (regional project for dialogue and investment in pastoralism and transhumance in the Sahel and coastal countries of West Africa)—and its extension through additional funding from the AFD, covers cross-border regions in nine countries. Those regions are part of a strategic zone linking the southern parts of the Sahel countries to the northern parts of the coastal

countries. Acting for Life coordinates the project in all of the countries, providing technical support and working to strengthen the administrative and financial capacities of the different partners who are helping carry out the project. The project aims to strengthen the capacities of local authorities, producer organisations and civil-society organisations through informed debates, and to train technical staff in geographic information systems so that they can map out economic data in areas linked to the agropastoral sector. This is a project involving several levels of work made possible thanks to dialogue between the different parties involved. Taking an inclusive approach, the project defines a global and concerted strategy for sustainable and coherent development in the regions in question. Lastly, the project aims to create strong synergies with government initiatives in order to make sure that the different initiatives complement one another. Expected results: Agropastoralist and pastoralist organisations, local authorities and state technical services will co-design cross-border systems, drawing on their shared understanding of agropastoralism issues at local level. Agropastoralists are better able to produce and market their products thanks to new agropastoral and market amenities. Rural communities, and particularly vulnerable groups (such as women, sellers and transporters) who have trouble integrating into the sector, benefit from improved herd mobility, working conditions, access to markets and a better understanding of the economic stakes by all local actors.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

ACAD • AEHRB • AJELAMO • ANOPER • APESH • AREN • CIKOD • ETD • FENAPFIBVTO • FREFBV • GAJEL • GDCA • GEVAPAF • GIC • OPEF • RECOA • URFBV • VSFB

• 2017-2021 • BURKINA FASO

**Budget:** €3,000,000

**Financial partners:** NORAD, Air France, AnBer Foundation, Ditumba Foundation

## READY Raising Employment Access and Development for Youth

One-third of the population in Burkina Faso is between 15 and 35 years old, so pressure on the job market is high. Helping young people find jobs is a huge challenge in a country where only 4% of the active population is employed in the formal sector and where the security situation is dramatically deteriorating (particularly in the Est and Sahel regions). Against that backdrop, Acting for Life is carrying out an ambitious project in Burkina Faso to train young people (16 to 25 years old) and help them find jobs. The project has three objectives: help young people gain access to training, improve the offer of training programmes and strengthen the link between training and employment.

The READY project has been set up in four regions of Burkina Faso: Sahel, Est, Cascades and Hauts-Bassins. It offers training in three priority areas of the economy: agriculture, plumbing and electricity. Since the start of the project, 777 young people (15% women) have been selected to receive training through degree programmes (professional qualification certificate) at eight partner training centres, both public and private. The project partners support those young people in order to minimise the financial and socio-economic hurdles preventing access to training, and to create the right conditions for the training itself. People enrolled in the programme also receive additional training in areas such as sexual and reproductive health, computer science and entrepreneurship. The idea is to round out their technical skills through a cross-disciplinary approach. Through pilot initiatives, the project also aims to provide access to training for young women and young people from non-formal education systems. Since the start of the project, 285 young people (48% women, 39% from non-formal education) have received training in crop and livestock farming through modular certification programmes. Since 2017, the READY project has trained a total of 1,062 young people (24% women) through long-term degree programmes and short-term certification programmes.

During training, the project partners develop partnerships, particularly with local authorities, in order to create field-schools. Those field-schools have helped young people to acquire practical skills and to network.

To ensure that the 777 young people can partake in high-quality apprenticeships, the eight training centres were provided with additional material resources and staff. Just like in all of Acting for Life’s projects, trainees are monitored throughout their training, as well as after their training in order to help them find a job or develop their own business.



### BENEFICIARIES:

- 1,300 young people have received full or partial training
- 20% are women, 30% are from non-formal education
- 3 training programmes have been approved by the authorities

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

**OCADES Bobo Dioulasso:** An OCADES is a Catholic organisation that promotes development and solidarity. There are 15 OCADES in Burkina Faso. OCADES Burkina/ Bobo Dioulasso is based in the Hauts-Bassins region and develops education-related projects, particularly in the areas of hydraulics and agriculture. It has founded its own agricultural training centre.

**TIN TUA:** Since 1989, the Tin Tua Association has been promoting sustainable development through literacy, educational innovation and training. With strong rural roots, it has been active in solar power for over 15 years, has founded an agricultural training centre and has developed its own modules to support entrepreneurship and agricultural training.



# Local agricultural products for institutional markets



## NEW PROJECT

• 2019-2022 •  
**TOGO & BENIN**

**Budget:** €300,691

**Financial partners:**  
Fondation de France, Servair, CFSI

## OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

**OADEL:** Organisation for local foods and development was founded in Togo in 2003. Partnered with Acting for Life since 2015, it promotes the right to food through the consumption of local processed and packaged agricultural products.

**AMAP:** An AMAP is an association for the preservation of smallholder farming. AMAPs connect farmers with consumers through a solidarity-based economic system involving short supply chains. AMAP Benin was founded in 2008 and has a network of 200 producers, 20 processors and 600 consumers. AMAP Togo was founded in 2011 and is a new partner of Acting for Life. It has a network of 175 members, including 17 producers.

**Hortitechs Développement :** Initiatives for the development of agricultural technology, environmentally friendly horticulture and economic and social prosperity is an NGO in Benin that was founded in 2005.

In Togo and Benin, agriculture accounts for 35% of national GDP and provides jobs for at least two-thirds of the active population. But a very high percentage of producers live under the poverty line, and many families suffer from food insecurity and malnutrition. Certain areas of activity within the agricultural sector are unable to find commercial outlets, and competition with imported products is a hurdle to the development of local production. Cities are also growing rapidly (2.8%), and new food trends are taking shape (advantage of processed products, increase in food-away-from-home). In order to encourage people to consume more high-quality local products, Acting for Life supports small family-run agricultural businesses in the Maritime and Plateaux regions of southern Togo, and in the Littoral and Atlantique departments of southern Benin, by helping them establish contracts with institutional buyers.

An initial large-scale partnership was established with Servair, a catering company that serves a number of different restaurants, schools and airlines in Lomé and Cotonou. Servair was identified as the main buyer for fruit and vegetable producers and processors of rice, fruit juice, and other products. That partnership allows local producers and processors to gain access to a sustainable and fair market so that they can reach a large number of consumers. The project aims to improve professional skills in the production, processing and sale of products from family farms in order to meet economic and health standards, as well as cultural and social standards, so that small local producers can maintain stable production in terms of quantity and quality. The projects provides AMAP producers with agricultural and agri-food equipment, as well as training in agroecology and health standards. Hortitechs offers its expertise in fruit and vegetable processing and organic certification to AMAP Benin producers. With support from the Togolese NGO OADEL, the initiative also aims to improve hygiene, quality and packaging at processing facilities, streamline product distribution and teach buyers about the importance of sourcing local products. Thanks to all that support, the women and men who produce and process high-quality agricultural products on a small scale have gained access to new markets of considerable size. Lastly, in addition to the commercial outlets with Servair, the project has a leverage effect in terms of production volume, development of professional skills for producers and processors, and teaching institutional buyers and consumers about the importance of purchasing local and responsibly produced products.

• 2017-2020 • **ECUADOR**

**Budget:** €858,000

**Financial partners:** AFD, AnBer Foundation, Air France & local resources

## BENEFICIARIES:

760 families

# Reviving the local economy after an earthquake



On 16 April 2016, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck the coast of Ecuador. In all, 673 people were killed, over 6,200 were injured and roughly 29,000 were left without shelter. After the crisis, Acting for Life launched a project in 2017 to revive the local economy in the cantons of Muisne and

Atacames, in the southern part of the Esmeraldas province—particularly sectors that were major sources of jobs, such as tourism, cacao and artisanal fishing. The earthquake exposed the limits and weaknesses of the marketing channels for agricultural and fishing products, and the limits and weaknesses of a tourism sector essentially focused on seaside activities. The idea was therefore to address the short-term needs of the local communities, while also undertaking initiatives with a focus on longer-term development, by diversifying the agriculture and tourism markets and what they offer.

This project, which Acting for Life carries out in partnership with CEFODI (Ecuadorian NGO) and the French Development Agency (AFD), supports 760 families in the northwest province of Esmeraldas to help them become more resilient to future disasters. In 2019, the project helped strengthen our local partner by offering training in entrepreneurial manage-

ment and financial education. Fishing and tourism organisations got the help they needed to come up with a marketing strategy (help defining a business plan and putting it into action). They also increased their visibility and their presence in the area by participating in three events to promote products and services at local and national level, and by

## OUR LOCAL PARTNER:

**CEFODI (Comité Esmeraldeña Flandes Orientales para el Desarrollo Integral)** was founded in 1993 and has strong local roots in the province of Esmeraldas. Its work is mainly focused on supporting rural development through family farming, access to water and sewage systems and the development of a tourism system that benefits everyone in the community.

sharing experiences. Savings and credit groups (200 people involved) received technical assistance, and financial-education training was provided. A meeting between those groups resulted in a road map for the creation of a network for discussion and sharing. Micro-entrepreneurs are encouraged to care for the environment. For example, artisanal-fishing organisations—to which the government retroceded the preservation of mangrove forests (ecosystems with extremely rich biodiversity that play a key role in sequestering carbon and combating erosion in coastal areas)—are receiving support to develop sustainable fishing. Reviving tourism activities that showcase the local natural heritage will help diversify economic activities by limiting pressure on natural resources.



# Supporting stonework professions and sustainable construction (PAMPEC)

## NEW PROJECT

• 2019-2022 •  
**MALI, TOGO & BENIN**

**Budget:** €1,050,000

**Financial partners:** AFD, Air France, AnBer Foundation

## OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

**In Benin:** ACAD (association for the regions of Atacora and Donga) has partnered with Acting for Life in a number of agropastoral programmes, and was interested in developing a programme to support training in stonework professions, similar to the programme in Togo. ACAD’s support for local initiatives, through its role in capacity-building and facilitating dialogue between the 13 towns that it comprises, makes it possible to mobilise communities and therefore promote the development of the stonework sector in northern Benin.

**In Togo:** The NGO GEVAPAF (managing the environment and promoting agropastoral and forest products) was founded in 2011 and specialises in sustainable development, agroecology and the promotion of local resources. It has a successful track record in managing projects and organising local initiatives. When it comes to issues such as technical & vocational education & training, GEVAPAF has been recognised as an intermediary body for the implementation of the Programme to Support Basic Development.

**In Mali:** APAPE-PH (association for pastoralism, agropastoralism, livestock farming and human advancement) is dedicated to supporting professional training, local development and sustainable construction, and works in partnership with two private training centres. In addition to supporting pastoralism and the management of natural resources in conjunction with Acting for Life’s projects, APAPE-PH seeks to promote human advancement with a particular focus on supporting young people in a region that faces security problems.

Strong economic growth (5%) in West Africa offers an encouraging outlook. But each year more and more young people are entering a job market where the vast majority of jobs (90% to 95%) are in the informal sector. Options for formal professional training before employment are limited. In addition, the trainees themselves face a number of obstacles: difficulty gaining access to training for financial and geographic reasons, limited number of openings for trainees at training centres, difficulty finding professional opportunities after training.

This project aims to improve the economic and social development of artisans and young people in Mali, Togo and Benin. More specifically, the project seeks to help young people find jobs in the construction sector by developing a new offer of training, creating a system for monitoring the integration of trainees and supporting the development of sustainable-construction sectors in the Mopti region of Mali, in the Kara and Savanes regions of Togo, and in the Atacora and Donga departments of Benin. There are a number of challenges, including: providing access to professional training for vulnerable young people; diversifying and improving the training offered in terms of its content (sustainable construction), format (long-term and short-term, degree/certification programmes) and methods (field-schools) in connection with climate issues relating to sustainable construction; creating a system for monitoring the integration of trainees that favours the acquisition of professional skills and the involvement of private and public players. Lastly, the fact that multiple countries are involved helps facilitate the sharing of skills between actors in the South.

PAMPEC strives to help young people enter the job market in West Africa by creating training and integration systems that go hand-in-hand with local development. Young people are able to improve their professional skills through field-schools and monitoring-integration programmes, and thanks to involvement from public and private actors in integration pathways. Support for artisans (equipment, training, etc.) and local authorities (technical assistance, joint funding) also contributes to the development of sustainable construction. Those local dynamics benefit from the strengthening of our local partner NGOs and from dialogue between countries.

## BENEFICIARIES:

- 180 young people between 16 and 25 years old (at least 20% women)
- 120 young artisans
- 3 local NGOs and 6 training centres have improved their practices and tools, and are now better able to mobilise communities through local authorities with regard to technical & vocational education & training



## NEW PROJECT • 2019-2022 • MAURITANIA

**Budget:** €2,000,000 • **Financial partners:** European Union, Air France

# Intercommunity management of the environment to help adapt agriculture, forest and pasture to climate change (GITE)

With three-quarters of its land in the Sahara region, Mauritania is one of the most vulnerable countries to desertification in the Sahel. The impact of climate change can already be seen there. Mauritania’s economy is two-pronged: modern in urban areas, and subsistence in rural areas (essentially based on rain-fed agriculture, livestock farming and artisanal fishing). While 43.2% of the overall population lives below the poverty line, in rural areas that figure rises to 60%. Livestock farming (mainly extensive) is the main activity in the rural sector. It accounts for roughly 80% of rural GDP and over 15% of national GDP. Over the past 20 years, livestock farming has changed profoundly. There are still a number of constraints limiting access to pastoral resources and herd mobility. Producers need to adapt to climate change and to recurring drought-related crises.

This project aims to help at least 8,000 people become more resilient to climate change through efficient joint management of natural resources in Mauritania’s Gorgol, Guidimakha and Assaba regions. GRDR is a leader when it comes to managing projects with multiple actors, offering stakeholders its local knowledge (over 30 years of experience in Guidimakha, and nearly 15 years in Gorgol) and skills acquired through over 20 years of supporting local development, decentralisation and land use for agricultural, fishing, forest and pastoral production. The project’s main focus is to create shared references and establish a local normative and institutional framework for the management of natural resources.

It is expected that professional organisations, local authorities and state technical services will improve their capacities in terms of locally managing natural resources against a backdrop of climate change. Informed debates, training in mapping, and the promotion of cross-border dialogue will help build the capacities of local actors. Joint local projects determined by previous plans and specific to each area will also be implemented: securing routes and rest areas, installing watering places, helping establish and monitor efforts to preserve water and soil, developing and managing surface water, etc.



Lastly, by advising agropastoralists, the project will help secure access to and optimise the joint and fair management of natural resources and agricultural, forest and pasture resources, and adapt pastoral practices: sustainable management of food and local livestock markets, technical and financial support for operators.

## OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

**GRDR (group for research and projects in support of rural development):** Created in 1969 by a group of West Africans living in France, GRDR works to support development in West Africa, the Maghreb and France.

**GNAP (national group of pastoral associations in Mauritania)** was founded in 1990 after a meeting between pastoral associations. It comprises 45 pastoral associations, 2,885 certified cooperatives and 10 regional offices. GNAP works with pastoral associations to supply inputs, perform development work, build pastoral infrastructure and ensure coordination between stakeholders.

## BENEFICIARIES:

- 10,000 households (agropastoralists-pickers-fishermen) in 27 localities in Guidimakha, 16 localities in Gorgol and 7 localities in Assaba
- 18 local organisations in charge of managing natural resources
- 17,000 livestock farmers from 10 pastoral associations
- 14 towns (9 in Guidimakha, 2 in Gorgol, and 3 in the Karakoro basin)
- Decentralised state technical services
- 20 crop/livestock farmers with an innovative approach



# Preserving and sustainably managing the ecosystem

**BENEFICIARIES:**

- This project directly supports 50 families (600 people) in the districts of Cempegua, Saloa and La Mata, by creating and preserving agroforestry systems and developing alternative economies that complement fishing.
- Everyone living in those three districts will benefit from the project’s ecological-restoration initiatives.

In northern Colombia, a new project was identified with Fundación Alma to serve local communities by preserving biodiversity. The project focuses on restoring the marsh of Zapatosa, which is rich in biodiversity but has suffered heavy degradation. The aim is to preserve natural habitats through: reforestation, family agroforestry systems for food security, creation of sanctuaries for plants and animals, and governance based on the cycles of nature. Managed sustainably, the restored marsh will allow fishing families to meet their needs and protect themselves against flooding from nearby rivers. The project therefore aims to strengthen and expand measures for adapting to climate change that are based on ecosystems and that are built around three pillars: ecological restoration, sustainable economic activities and participatory governance—in the Cempegua, Saloa and La Mata districts of the municipality of Chimichagua, in the department of Cesar. The project helps re-establish ecosystem services for communities through the ecological restoration and conservation of 50 hectares along the marsh of Zapatosa, strengthen economic initiatives that complement fishing by bolstering the agroforestry systems of 50 families, and support the creation and implementation of agreements for the sustainable management of the marshland ecosystem through

**OUR LOCAL PARTNER:**

Fundación Alma is an organisation dedicated to protecting and preserving natural resources. For over 30 years, it has been working to sustainably manage marshland, particularly in the Magdalena River basin in northern Colombia.

a joint-management plan involving the project’s three areas of focus. The main objective is to build the capacities and local dynamics that will make the project viable over the long term.

In 2019, a number of sites were given priority and selected for restoration, in conjunction with local organisations. A strategy was defined, and six nurseries and mini-nurseries were created. Eleven new agroforestry systems were also established with families through the project, in addition to the 36 already-established systems, which Fundación Alma continues to preserve. The infrastructure for the seed bank is currently being finalised and will help promote the use of native seeds. A meeting and experience-sharing sessions on “nature-based solutions” involving different organisations were held in December. Families practising agroforestry set up a network in order to develop sales through short supply chains. Lastly, all of those activities are jointly monitored and assessed.



# Transitioning to sustainable agriculture and a social and solidarity-based economy

**NEW PROJECT** • 2019-2021 • **PERU**

Budget: €281,000 • Financial partners: Air France, AnBer Foundation

The Peruvian economy has grown considerably over the past 20 years. But the country’s wealth is concentrated in the hands of a small minority, to the exclusion of most of the country’s population (particularly in rural areas). The two projects led by CCAIJO and Acting for Life in the municipalities of Ocongate, Ccatca and Andahuaylillas have had good results. A real dynamic has been created in a marginalised area. The projects have played a role in stemming emigration and reducing child malnutrition by helping producers boost their income. In this new phase, CCAIJO and Acting for Life are experimenting with the creation of a “social and solidarity enterprise” that brings together producers and CCAIJO as shareholders. This governance model will allow for better redistribution of wealth to producers and will help finance CCAIJO’s technical assistance, which will be internalised, over the long term. The company will also have mechanisms for redistributing wealth to the local community. The experiment will encourage a more general discussion to promote a long-term vision for local development by creating agroecological districts promoted through a local label.

CCAIJO continues to provide technical assistance to producers in order to improve profitability, quality, compliance with health regulations, etc. The transition to organic farming will be continued: 50 milk producers and a family-run cheese company will receive organic certification. Supply chains will be set up for native potato varieties, mushrooms and guinea pigs produced in “clean” regions. A partnership with the company Biopower will strengthen CCAIJO’s team through training programmes on the principles of an efficient circular and eco-friendly economy, and on the implementation of measures to reduce the impact on the environment.



The project will provide assistance in areas such as the legal constitution of companies and the development of business plans as well as marketing and sales plans. A photo essay will accompany the positioning on the market of the local brand “D’Ausangate”. In addition to updating its assessment of actors and programmes in order to fine-tune its advocacy work, CCAIJO will strengthen producers and producer organisations for their participation in discussion forums, and help create a multi-actor space to promote communities producing food through agroecology. Working closely with municipalities will lead to agreements for the development of tools (label or territorial support fund). Lastly, a pilot experiment will be set up to create an innovation fund tailored to the needs of producers, offering them affordable loans so that they can purchase equipment. The project also aims to build on internal discussions on how to better include gender issues in our projects.

**BENEFICIARIES:**

- 1,130 beneficiaries, including:
- 490 family-run milk businesses
- 18 family-run cheese and dairy businesses
- 240 family-run guinea-pig businesses
- 50 families producing mushrooms
- 20 families producing native varieties of potato
- 10 restaurants
- 50 family-run businesses now have access to credit

**OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:**

**Asociación Jesús Obrero (CCAIJO)** was founded in 1971 to improve the living conditions of the people living in Andahuaylillas and Ocongate through technical training. Thanks to its work in the field and its close ties with smallholder communities, CCAIJO thoroughly understands their needs. CCAIJO is an NGO dedicated to development and to promoting economic initiatives to combat poverty in rural areas.



**NEW PROJECT**

• 2019-2020 • **BURKINA FASO**

**Budget:** €195,000

**Financial partners:** CFSI, Air France

**Local products in public cafeterias**

Although agricultural production has increased in Burkina Faso, food and nutritional security remains volatile, and the market for local products has been disrupted by imported foods. School cafeterias currently purchase 91% of their food from commercial businesses, and only 9% from producer organisations (PO).

This project is trying to improve the situation, mainly by ensuring that producers have access to fair and stable commercial outlets, and by strengthening post-production circuits so that they meet all expectations regarding health, food, employment and economic value creation. Those fair and long-lasting partnerships between POs and local authorities aim to improve the food served at public cafeterias by providing them with high-quality, local agricultural products. The objectives include: developing institutional markets in the region; encouraging the creation of networks between actors on the supply side (producers) and those on the demand side (public institutions) for local agricultural products in a given area; improving the quality, availability and accessibility of food (rice, black-eyed peas, market-garden produce); raising

awareness about the importance of consuming local products; encouraging institutions to purchase more of their agricultural products locally. In 2019, local POs produced roughly 20,000 tonnes of rice and 20,000 tonnes of black-eyed peas.

**OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:**

**Confédération Paysanne du Faso (smallholder confederation of Burkina Faso) comprises 14 umbrella organisations in Burkina Faso and supports sustainable, productive and competitive family farming that guarantees access to land and ensures food security and sovereignty.**

**Inades Formation Burkina (African institute for economic and social development) was founded in Abidjan in 1962. The Burkina Faso office opened in 1975 and is now involved in initiatives in the fields of agricultural development, decentralisation, management of natural resources, rural funding and smallholder communication.**

The project will also improve access to food for young people by helping POs process and store agricultural products. Producers are trained and monitored with regard to quality standards, the tendering process, establishing contracts and negotiation, and grouped delivery and storage. Towns (institutional buyers) are also trained and monitored: discussion about issues relating to public procurement and what defines a local product, information about local suppliers, grouped purchases, quality control, discussion about cooperation between

multiple communities, etc. To encourage the authorities to purchase more local products through public procurement, economic data and communication tools will be shared, and advocacy initiatives targeting local elected officials will be carried out. Lastly, events will be organised at schools to teach young people about the right to food.

**BENEFICIARIES:**

- 1,000 producers
- 50 processors
- 17 towns in the provinces of Comoé and Léraba (Cascades region)
- 10 associations for mother-educators
- 5,000 primary-school children
- 50 students from the Sindou training centre



**Saint-Louis Training Employment Development and Integration**



**BENEFICIARIES:**

- 71 young people from the Saint-Louis department who are not enrolled in school
- 1 partner training centre
- 1 local NGO

With a population of nearly 15 million and growth of over 6% in the past three years, Senegal has one of the best-performing economies in West Africa. But the country has high unemployment, and its youth has limited opportunities when it comes to entering the job market. The professional-training sector is struggling to integrate all the country's young people and bridge the gap between training and employment, particularly in innovative sectors. In the Saint-Louis region, young people make up nearly half the population, and 30% of them are unemployed. And yet, the region has great potential thanks to its agricultural resources, local natural resources for construction and the development of renewable-energy use (particularly solar).

The project aims to facilitate access to professional training for vulnerable young people. The overall objective is to improve the socio-economic conditions of young people in Saint-Louis. More specifically, the project aims to facilitate training and professional integration for vulnerable young people by taking advantage of local economic opportunities, particularly in sectors such as renewable energy, sustainable farming and sustainable construction. The project has targeted several groups of beneficiaries. After earning a 'CAP' certificate of professional competence in electricity, about twenty young people (30% women) will be admitted to an innovative training programme on photovoltaic electricity in connection with CRFP (partner training centre), whose capacities will also be strengthened. A group of 50 vulnerable young people (40% women) will begin a training-integration programme. They will receive cross-disciplinary training in labour law and entrepreneurship. Initiatives to raise awareness about gender inequality will be offered. Among those 50 young people, about fifteen (30% women) will also be assisted and brought up to a level where they can join a CAP programme in one of the following four sectors: electricity, plumbing, masonry and mechanical carpentry.

The project will also help bridge the gap between the job market and training by monitoring trainees. As part of an assisted-integration system, Diapalante will participate in local committees on training and integration to help build synergies at local level.

By the end of the project, we hope that the training offered by Diapalante will be improved in order to best meet the needs of vulnerable young people admitted to the integration programme. The association will then be identified as a key training and integration actor in Saint-Louis.

**NEW PROJECT**

• 2019-2021 • **SENEGAL**

**Budget:** €150,000

**Financial partner:** Air France, AnBer Foundation

**OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:**

**Diapalante** works with young people in difficult situations to help them find jobs in fields such as the environment and sustainable development through a training and integration programme and entrepreneurial assistance.

# Supporting stabilisation in the Sahel, Nord and Est regions of Burkina Faso by strengthening agropastoralism and pastoralism (PASRAP)



**NEW PROJECT • 2019-2021 • BURKINA FASO**

**Budget:** €843,000 • **Financial partner:** European Union, Air France

### BENEFICIARIES:

10,000 pastoral families among those most affected by the security and climate crisis

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

**APESS (association for the promotion of livestock farming in the Sahel and Savanes regions)** is an international livestock-farmer organisation, under Burkinabe law, with a presence in 13 countries in west and central Africa. Its vision is to promote modern family livestock farming for a society of well-being. APESS is the lead entity for this project.

**RECOPA (communication network for pastoralism)** is a Burkinabe livestock-farmer organisation with over 50,000 members, active throughout Burkina Faso. Its goal is to help herdsman take action in order to reverse the trends that are challenging the very future of pastoralism in Burkina Faso and in the Sahel countries.

According to most analyses, there are three main observations that help explain the rise in violent extremism in the border regions of northern Burkina Faso: local tensions and conflicts (particularly concerning the use of resources) are being instrumentalised by violent extremist groups; it is often economic and social circumstances that push young people towards extremism, much more than adherence to an extreme religious ideology; while agropastoralism is the primary activity for most communities in these areas, the pastoral component is not always taken into account in development projects.

The PASRAP project is based on those three observations. Its main objective is to strengthen social cohesion and socio-economic stability in strategic cross-border areas that have been weakened by the security and climate crisis, in order to limit the instrumentation of local conflicts, reduce tensions concerning resource use and develop the local economy. The project has a direct positive impact on income, food security, nutrition and social networks, and therefore helps prevent the slide into radicalisation. The idea is to encourage dialogue between communities and actors in order to prevent and peacefully resolve disagreements. The initiatives improve the resilience of at least 10,000 pastoral and agropastoral families by increasing the productivity of their livestock.

The methods used include capacity-building through informed debates involving multiple actors. PASRAP aims to strengthen actors in pastoral and agropastoral sectors as well as all producers and local authorities. Tensions and conflicts involving access to resources are calmed through the installation of strategic amenities (secure and improved routes, hydraulic installations, systems for jointly managing the amenities, improved access to livestock markets, etc.).

Through this project, we hope to: strengthen social cohesion by organising informed debates between key actors in the sector; train the technical staff of civil-society organisations, local authorities and technical services; and support forums for inter-community dialogue and community monitoring of social and economic issues at local level.

**NEW PROJECT • 2019-2021 • JORDAN**

**Budget:** €1,700,000

**Financial partner:** Air France, Impact Hope Foundation

# Resilience, integration and education of refugees

In the heart of an unstable region, Jordan has become an important place of refuge for thousands of people fleeing the crises in Syria, and continues to receive a large number of displaced persons from Iraq, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen, who are becoming more and more forgotten amid the emerging crises in the region. According to HCR, 664,330 Syrian refugees are registered in Jordan, 196,068 of whom reside in or near Amman. Other refugees living in Jordan are from Iraq, Yemen and Sudan. It has been noted, however, that the number of refugees in the country is actually much higher, because most of them are not registered with HCR, and that the Jordanian government recently stopped accepting new registrations for non-Syrian refugees through HCR. Responding adequately to their needs is a major challenge. It is impossible to deny the economic and social problems caused by the large influx of refugees into Jordan. High unemployment among young Jordanians is giving rise to fears that the presence of refugees may make it harder for them to find a job and earn a decent income.



Against that backdrop, the project aims to help refugees become more resilient, regain confidence in themselves and grow both humanly and intellectually. It also aims to help them “live together” with the Jordanian population. Learning how to live together and be open with others is a priority for the Middle Eastern society of tomorrow. This project works towards achieving that priority by promoting learning and organising cultural and sporting events where young people can assert themselves, find fulfilment and rebuild a new future. Activities are chosen that complement one another with a view to providing full and efficient assistance and training to all project beneficiaries:

- A cultural programme (singing, dancing, theatre, cinema, plastic arts) allows participants to be recognised for their talents and individuality, regardless of status or origins.
- Athletic activities encourage young people to surpass themselves and respect others, regardless of their cultural, ethnic or religious background.
- Certain refugees have access to online courses offered by Western universities and led by local tutors. The project helps orient post-secondary studies offering quick opportunities in their country of origin.
- English courses of varying levels are offered. These courses are designed to meet the immediate needs of the communities in question, and participants earn a certificate at the end of the course.
- Home visits are carried out year-round in and around the city of Amman. During these visits, specific needs of families and individuals are identified, psychological and social support is offered, and people are informed about the services provided through the project or are referred to other entities.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

**Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)** is an organisation with a mission to accompany, serve and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced individuals, so that they may heal, learn and determine their own future.

### BENEFICIARIES:

1,000 young people from Iraq, Sudan, Eritrea, Syria, Yemen and Somalia, and 600 families outside the camps



# Ethical tourism and development

• 2018-2020 • CAMBODIA, CHILE, DJIBOUTI, GUINEA, HAITI, LAOS, MOZAMBIQUE, RODRIGUES

Budget: €94,151 • Financial partner: Air France



### BENEFICIARIES:

Tourism associations and the public and private sectors (SMEs and micro-enterprises) in developing and least-developed countries

Although the tourism industry is expanding in developing countries (and least-developed countries in particular), disparities in development in those countries are high. The situation is generating substantial inequality and keeping a large part of the population mired in poverty. Acting for Life's tourism unit has responded by working with several of the world's least-advanced countries, at their request, to help them in their tourism-development policy in support of sustainable development that takes into account the needs of local communities, particularly small and very-small businesses in tourism and hospitality. Those programmes directly benefit over one hundred businesses and community organisations in each country.

The objective is now to make sure that the economic impact of tourism (the proceeds of which are currently concentrated in certain geographic areas, and in the hotel and restaurant sectors) benefits the entire country and plays a greater role in reducing poverty.

The project objectives are to:

- Provide the authorities and local services with tools for managing sustainable tourism, and make sure they are able to use them to develop cooperation, partnerships between multiple actors, and programmes to reduce poverty;
- Create reference documents from tourist companies of chosen sites

to help boost sales of tourism products on international markets, in order to promote socially and ecologically responsible products of the highest quality that are in line with the expectations of international customers;

- Train managers and professionals so that they can then teach local actors at other tourist sites in each country about the approach and tools.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS:

Ministries of tourism, national tourism administrations, and professional and educational associations and NGOs.

Building capacities at local and national level to improve assessment and cooperation between the public and private sectors and civil society for the development of tourism, has proven to be a key factor when it comes to improving the impact of tourism on the local environment.

Acting for Life has developed tools for joint local management of the development of tourism. Those tools are based on sustainable-tourism and poverty-reduction indicators (methods and best practices). They are tailored to each country and region in terms of environmental protection, decentralisation and social advancement.

# LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

To ensure that its international solidarity and development programmes run smoothly, Acting for Life has been working in partnership with GARD Canada\* for over 30 years to provide human, financial and logistical support to its permanent partners, which include:

ACCIR SAHEL	BEN'ENFANCE	INDE ESPOIR
ACTION SOLIDARITÉ DES PAYS OUBLIÉS	CALAO	INTER AIDE
ADIE France	CLAIRE AMITIÉ – AMICLA	LACIM INDE
ADRP Bénin	CODEGAZ	LATITUDE FILM 16/35
AFDI	COMMUNAUTÉ DE L'AGNEAU	LES TROIS QUARTS DU MONDE
AFRIQUE VERTE	CONGRÉGATION DES SŒURS DU CHRIST	LOUVAIN DÉVELOPPEMENT
AGIR ABCD	CPAL	O I P R
AGRO ACTION	DÉLÉGATION CATHOLIQUE POUR LA COOPÉRATION	PAFFA
ALLEMANDE - DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE	EAU VIVE	PLANÈTE URGENCE
AGRONOMES ET VÉTÉRINAIRES SANS FRONTIÈRES	EMMAÛS INTERNATIONAL	PRISONNIERS SANS FRONTIÈRES
AIDE MÉDICALE ET DÉVELOPPEMENT	ENFANTS DU MEKONG	PS EAU
AIDER	ÉLECTRICIENS SANS FRONTIÈRES	RAFOD
À LA CROISÉE DES CHEMINS	ESSOR	SANTÉ ET DÉVELOPPEMENT
ALAD MALI	FERT	SCI AFRIQUE
ALDEFI	FIDESCO	SOLTHIS
ALTER SANTÉ	FONDACIO	SOS SAHEL
ALTERNATIVES SUD	FONDATION DE L'ARCHE	TECHNAP AFRIQUE
ASAPAC	GRDR AFRIQUE	TOLÉRANCE
ASHALAYAM	IMPACT HOPE	
ATD QUART MONDE	INSTITUT EUROPÉEN DE COOPÉRATION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT	

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G.A.R.D. CANADA 













« TO FLY... TO SERVE »













30 YEARS OF SOLIDARITY

\*Groupe d'Aide aux Réalisations pour le Développement (Group in support of Development work)

# LIST OF PROJECTS



	COUNTRY	YEAR	PROJECT	LOCAL PARTNERS	PAGE
	<b>Multi-country</b> Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Togo	2018-2022	PAMOBARMA - Project supporting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets in West Africa	ACAD, AEBRB, AJELAMO, ANOPER, APESSE, AREN, CIKOD, ETD, FENAPFIBVTO, FREFBV, GAJEL, GEVAPAF, GDCA, GIC, OPEF, RECOPA, URFBV, VSFB	12
	<b>Multi-country</b> Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal	2018-2019	BRACED-X - Implementation and policy widow (follow-up to the Programme for better resilience and adaptation to extreme climate events and disasters)	APESSE, AREN, CILSS, CISV, ENDA-PRONAT, GAJEL, GNAP, ICD, RBM Senegal, RECOPA, TASSAGHT, URFBV, VSFB	
	<b>Multi-country</b> Benin, Togo	2017-2019	FIPEC - Training and professional integration through sustainable construction	ACAD, GEVAPAF	
	<b>Multi-country</b> Benin, Togo	2018-2021	PARMI - Promoting local products through catering in mass and institutional markets	GIC, OADEL	
	<b>Multi-country</b> Benin, Togo	2019-2022	FAPAMI - Facilitating access to institutional markets for local agricultural products	Hortitechs Développement, AMAP Benin, AMAP Togo, OADEL	14
	<b>Multi-country</b> Benin, Mali, Togo	2019-2022	PAMPEC - Project supporting stonework professions and sustainable construction	ACAD, APAPE-PH, GEVAPAF	16
	<b>Multi-country</b> Cambodia, Chile, Djibouti, Guinea, Haiti, Laos, Mozambique, Rodrigues	2018-2020	Ethical tourism and development	Ministries of tourism, national tourism administrations, and professional and educational associations and NGOs	24
	<b>Benin</b>	2018-2019	FRAIBIO - Helping producers supply certified fruits and vegetables to Servair	Hortitechs Développement, AMAP Benin	
	<b>Burkina Faso</b>	2019-2020	AMIAGRI - Supporting institutional procurement for local agricultural products	INADES, CPF	20
		2017-2021	READY - Raising Employment Access and Development for Youth	OCADES, TinTua	13
		2019-2021	PASRAP - Project supporting stabilisation in the Sahel, Nord and Est regions of Burkina Faso	APESSE, RECOPA	22
		2018-2019	PURE - Project to provide urgent aid to agropastoral communities in the Est region	RECOPA	
		2018-2020	PSAE - Project supporting the socio-economic integration of young people in the Est region of Burkina Faso	TinTua, RECOPA Est, ARFA	

	COUNTRY	YEAR	PROJECT	LOCAL PARTNERS	PAGE
	<b>Colombia</b>	2017-2019	Strengthening family farming and multicultural cohesion in the Cauca region	Fundación Colombia Nuestra	
		2019-2021	Preserving and sustainably managing the ecosystem of the marsh of Zapatos	Fundación ALMA	18
		2017-2020	Solidarity-based economy for building regional peace in the Cauca Valley	Instituto Mayor Campesino	
	<b>Ecuador</b>	2017-2020	REACTIV - Reviving the local economy in the Manabi and Esmeraldas provinces of Ecuador	CEFODI	15
	<b>Jordan</b>	2018-2021	Project supporting the resilience, integration and education of refugees	Jesuit Refugee Center	23
	<b>Mali</b>	2019-2020	PRECAREP - Project to improve resilience in pastoral communities	ICD	
		2018-2019	T.PAMP - Transition Project supporting stonework professions	APAPE/PH	
	<b>Mauritania</b>	2019-2022	GITE - Intercommunity management of the environment to help adapt agriculture, forest and pasture to climate change	GNAP	17
	<b>Peru</b>	2019-2021	TADESS - Transitioning to sustainable agriculture and a social and solidarity-based economy	Asociación Jesús Obrero (CCAIJO)	19
	<b>Senegal</b>	2019-2021	SL FEDI - Saint-Louis Training Employment Development and Integration	Diapalante	21
	<b>Togo</b>	2018-2020	PROMECCO - Promoting agricultural products for local economic development	CONGAT, OADEL	
	<b>Multi-country</b>	2017-2019	PAMOC 3 - Supporting the mobilisation of French NGOs on climate	AFD, GERES	
	<b>Multi-country</b>	2019-2021	Focus on gender in TVET projects	TVET partners	



# 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

Acting for Life’s financial statements are audited each year by a statutory auditor. Since 2018, the auditing firm Deloitte has been auditing Acting for Life’s financial statements. The certified financial statements are then published in the government gazette (journal officiel) of the French Republic. The following is a summary of those statements. Projects co-funded by institutional donors are also audited on a regular basis to verify spending. In accordance with the accounting rules for non-profit organisations, and in order to better reflect the activities of Acting for Life, which manages projects that are carried out over several-year periods, a system was set up to monitor commitments given and received on a project-by-project basis. The financial statements reflect the activity for the year and the position of commitments at the end of the year.

### BALANCE SHEET

In thousands of euros	2019 gross	Amt & Prov	2019 net	2018 net	Change
ASSETS					
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	14	12	2	8	- 6
Tangible assets	51	36	14	11	+ 3
Financial assets	0	0	0	0	0
Current assets					
Accounts receivable	0	0	0	0	0
Other receivables	11 095	0	11 095	14 994	- 3 899
Treasury investments	18	0	18	18	0
Cash and cash equivalents	9 142	0	9 142	7 501	+ 1 641
Cash on hand	0	0	0	0	0
Prepaid expenses	12	0	12	14	- 2
TOTAL ASSETS	20 332	48	20 283	22 546	- 2 263
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Own funds					
Association funds	2 146	0	2 146	1 987	+ 159
Net income	2	0	2	50	- 48
Provisions for liabilities and charges	0	0	0	0	0
Dedicated funds	4 792	0	4 792	5 600	- 808
Liabilities					
Loans and similar debts payable	532	0	532	0	+ 532
Accounts payable	87	0	87	146	- 59
Tax and social debts	267	0	267	309	- 42
Other liabilities	7	0	7	162	- 155
Deferred income	12 450	0	12 450	14 294	- 1 844
TOTAL LIABILITIES	20 283		20 283	22 546	- 2 263

The balance sheet presents Acting for Life’s situation at 31 December 2019.

### ASSETS

The assets side of the balance sheet shows the association’s resources, which mainly include grants receivable (“other receivables”) and cash. Grants receivable decreased by 26% versus 2018, which means that grants received in 2019 were less than grants consumed, which is logical in the association’s projects cycle. Agreements for new projects involving public grants were signed in 2019: the PAMPEC project for training and professional integration, co-funded by AFD; and the PRECIT project (to strengthen harmony and cohesion among communities in the border regions of Mali and Burkina Faso), co-funded by the European Commission. The GITE project (intercommunity management of the environment to help adapt agriculture, forest and pasture to climate change), co-funded by the European Commission through the NGO GRDR, was also signed this year.

### LIABILITIES

Dedicated funds and deferred income were stable in 2019. Despite the finalisation of the BRACED project, co-funded by DFID, deferred income remained stable (-13% vs 2018). Among the ten new projects launched in 2019, the following projects help explain why deferred income was stable: - project to strengthen harmony and cohesion among communities in border regions, co-funded by the European Union for €1,500k (agreement signed in late 2019 for a duration of 30 months); - project for intercommunity management of the environment to help adapt agriculture, forest and pasture to climate change in Mauritania, co-funded by the European Union for €512k (Acting for Life is not the lead entity); - project to support stonework professions and sustainable construction in Mali, Togo and Benin (co-funded by AFD for €500k).

### INCOME STATEMENT

In thousands of euros	2019	2018	Change
INCOME			
Operating income	0	0	0
Sales (of goods and services)	0	0	0
Grants and subsidies	6 124	6 499	- 375
Write-backs on provisions, transfer of costs	179	62	+ 118
Donations	52	52	0
Financial revenue	3	4	- 1
Total (I)	6 358	6 616	- 258
Extraordinary income (II)	0	5	- 5
Carry forward of funds not used in previous years (III)	5 600	2 162	+ 3 438
Total income (I+II+III)	11 958	8 783	+ 3 175
COSTS			
Operating costs	0	0	0
Other external costs	1 145	1 448	- 303
Taxes and duties	97	89	+ 8
Staff costs	1 082	1 051	+ 31
Social-security costs	427	462	- 36
Amortisation expense	7	6	+ 2
Provisions	110	0	+ 110
Grants awarded by the association	4 273	4 520	- 247
Interest expense	0	0	0
Total (I)	7 140	7 575	- 435
Extraordinary costs (II)	25	0	+ 25
Commitments to be discharged against allocated resources (III)	4 792	1 159	+ 3 633
Total costs (I+II+III)	11 957	8 734	+ 3 223
NET INCOME			
	2	50	- 48

The income statement presents the year’s activities, highlighting the main income and cost items.

### FUNDS

At 31/12/2019, funds amounted to €11,958k and can be broken down into two items: operating and financial revenue of €6,358k, and carry forward of funds not used in previous years of €5,600k. Public grants recorded for our projects totalled €4,215k at 31/12/19, and that figure was in line with public grants consumed in 2019. 2018 was a transition year in terms of account-keeping. With the new method of accounting for multi-year grants, the level of funds not used in the previous year naturally decreased last year. In 2019, that heading corresponded to dedicated funds recognised at 31/12/2018. The amount of cost transfers sharply increased in 2019. That increase was due to the fact that the deferred income for the projects managed by ECPAT France (projects whose finances are monitored by Acting for Life) is considered as a cost transfer. That specific deferred income amounted to €121k in 2019.

### USE OF FUNDS

Grants awarded by the association accounted for 60% of operating costs, which is the same as in 2018. Those were mainly transfers of funds to local partners working on our projects. In 2019, grants transferred to our local partners were mainly for the PAMOBARMA project (€1,790k), the READY project (€531k) and the last year of the BRACED project (€419k). Funds allocated to projects accounted for 86% of operating costs. Commitments at 31 December 2019 to be discharged against allocated resources of €4,792k corresponded to dedicated funds recognised at 31/12/2019.

**Events after closing:** The Covid-19 health crisis has already had an impact on all our projects and may have significant financial consequences for our association. One immediate consequence of the crisis was a sharp reduction in activity, creating a squeeze effect: increase in fixed costs (human resources not attributed to the projects) and decrease in funds (administrative costs). For each project, Acting for Life has worked with our partners in the South to re-plan activities in order to reduce the impact of the crisis. Operating expenses were revised in order to reduce fixed costs for 2020. The 2020 budget was therefore amended based on conservative assumptions in order to avoid affecting assets and provisions as presented in the financial statements at 31/12/2019. We have also been responding to calls for proposals (even during the crisis) in order to keep our project portfolio at a satisfactory level.

# FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Acting for Life could not carry out all of its projects without the help of its loyal financial partners. They help us considerably boost the impact of our work in the field. So here's a big thank you to all of our loyal partners for their past, present and future support!



A public institution at the heart of France's development-aid system, the French Development Agency (AFD) has been working since 1941 to reduce poverty and promote development. AFD is a long-standing financial partner of Acting for Life in Africa and Latin America. Thanks to its support, AFD helps bring to life large-scale regional and national programmes in strategic areas for Acting for Life. These include creating training programmes and focus on issues relating to local economic development in line with the agropastoral sector in the Sahel region.



The European Union's EuropeAid programme develops policies to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development, democracy, peace and security. The European Union has been a partner of Acting for Life for several years, supporting projects in Africa and Latin America covering all of our areas of expertise.



The Department for International Development (DFID) is a UK mechanism for administering humanitarian and development aid. It is committed to supporting sustainable development and reducing poverty around the world. Renowned for its expertise in the Sahel region, Acting for Life has been receiving support from DFID since 2013 for its livestock-mobility projects in West Africa.



Air France has been a partner of Acting for Life for over 40 years. Its long-term partnership in Africa, Latin America and Asia has been focused on setting up programmes to support economic and local development, small crop and livestock farmers, and training and professional integration in the communities that need it most. Through its generous support, Air France has made it possible to conduct studies and launch local projects with innovative approaches allowing for bigger programmes to be launched subsequently with public institutional partners.



The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) is part of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its main areas of expertise are education, the environment, adapting to climate change, promoting democracy, access to health and renewable energies. NORAD has been supporting Acting for Life since 2017 for its projects to promote technical & vocational education & training in Africa.



As the French leader in catering and airline logistics, SERVAIR has been supporting Acting for Life for several years. In 2019, this company of 10,000 employees strengthened its commitment to supporting Acting for Life's work to promote development, particularly sustainable agricultural development in Africa.



Groupe ADP is a world leader in the design, construction and operation of airports. A long-standing partner of Acting for Life, Groupe ADP supports the team and its projects by providing office space at the Bourget airport. This partnership is very important for the stability and longevity of our work.



Fondation AnBer is a loyal, long-standing partner of Acting for Life. This private foundation, recognised as an organisation serving the public interest, is dedicated to reducing poverty by supporting projects in health, education, work and reducing destitution. Its founders are always open to supporting innovative approaches to job creation and local entrepreneurship for marginalised communities, and have supported many projects in Africa, Latin America and Asia covering all of our strategic areas of focus.



Acting for Life receives financial support from Fondation de France through the «Programme to Support Family Farming in West Africa» for projects in Togo, Benin and Burkina Faso. Fondation de France, in partnership with the French Committee for International Solidarity (CFSI), promotes the initiatives of African and international organisations aiming to develop sustainable and dynamic family farming to feed West Africa's fast-growing cities.



The Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS) of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs coordinates France's response to crises in other countries affecting French nationals, and emergency humanitarian operations. It has been supporting Acting for Life since 2019 to help vulnerable families through a project providing urgent aid to agropastoral communities in the Est region of Burkina Faso (PURE-BF).



In 2017, the Roissy Pays de France Agglomeration Community (CARPF) and Acting for Life decided to team up for a multi-year partnership. The geographic proximity of the two entities and their shared vision of the issues of international solidarity contributed to the birth of this partnership. CARPF is committed to supporting the economic and local development of the most vulnerable communities in Latin America and West Africa.



The Caritas France Foundation has been dedicated to reducing poverty and exclusion since 2009. It has supported a number of Acting for Life's projects, particularly in Africa, on issues such as technical & vocational education & training. It has a particular interest in this area, and works with Acting for Life in its efforts to improve training programmes in West Africa.



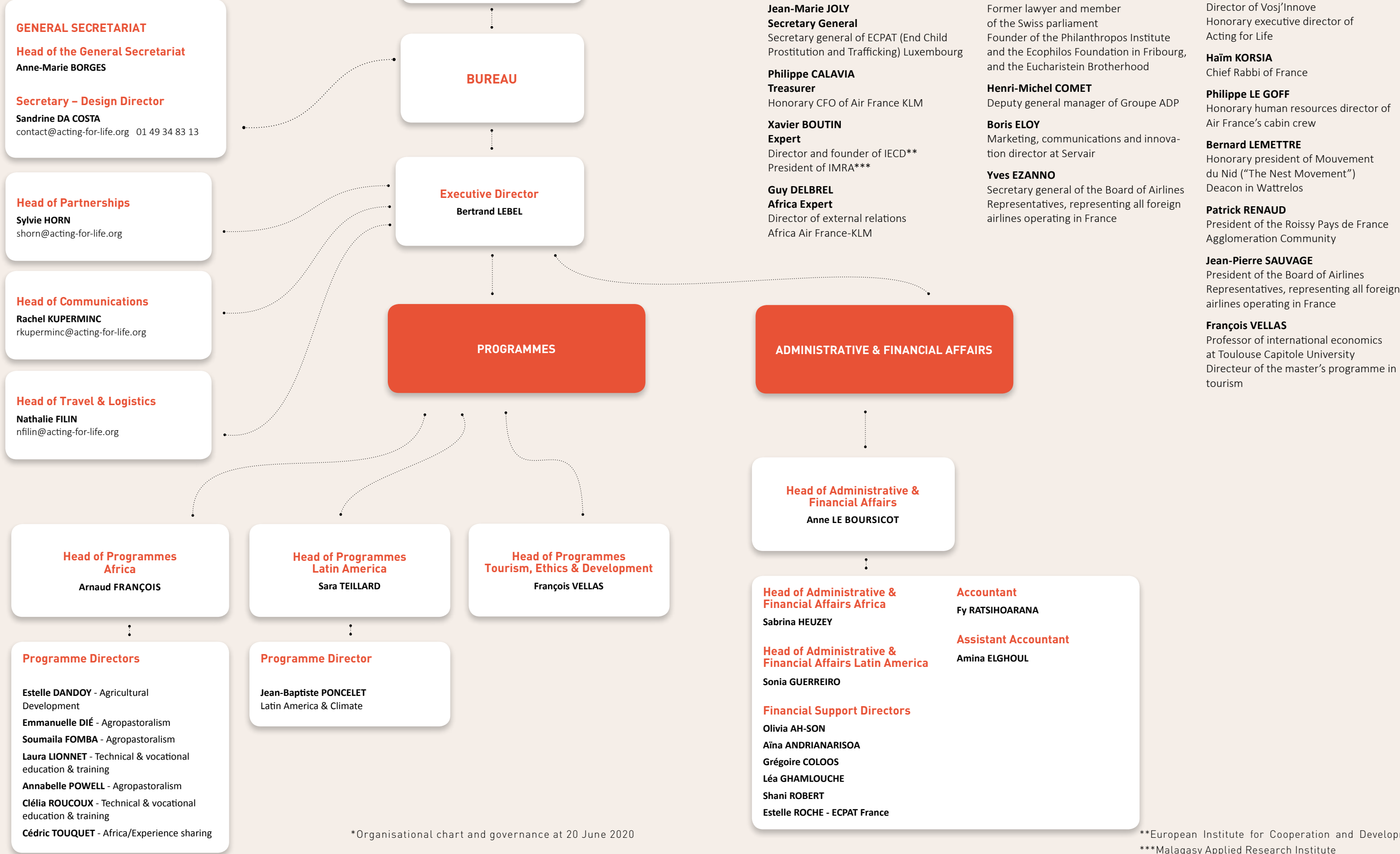
The Ditumba Foundation provides funding for the professional training of disadvantaged young people, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa (Burkina Faso). Since 2017, it has been supporting Acting for Life's project to improve professional training and integration for young people in Burkina Faso, in three key sectors of the local market: solar power, plumbing and farming.



The Motul Corazón Foundation was founded in 2011, under the aegis of Fondation de France, to help young people who are disadvantaged or who are in difficult situations. Since 2016, the Motul Corazón Foundation has been supporting a project in Mali that offers training in stonemasonry and helps the trainees find jobs.



# GOVERNANCE & ORGANISATION\*



# ARTICLES IN AIR FRANCE MAGAZINE

For several years, Air France has given Acting for Life the opportunity to publish articles in Air France Magazine about our projects, partner organisations and important issues relating to our work. More than 400,000 copies of the magazine are distributed to air travellers each month.



## Du soleil pour l'emploi

Acting for Life, grâce au soutien d'Air France, apporte aux jeunes Burkinabés une formation en énergie solaire, un secteur très porteur localement.

## Former pour dé- senclaver

Au Burkina Faso, avec l'appui d'Air France, Acting for Life favorise la qualification professionnelle des jeunes de communes rurales touchées par l'insécurité alimentaire.

Enclavée, la région de l'est du Burkina Faso souffre de l'un des plus faibles taux du pays pour l'accès aux services sociaux de base. En cause, la désertification à l'origine d'une forte dégradation des terres accompagnée d'une détérioration de la sécurité alimentaire. Forte de ce constat, Acting for Life et ses partenaires locaux, avec le soutien d'Air France et de l'Agence française de développement, lancent un projet de formation et d'insertion pour les jeunes des 12 communes marginalisées les plus touchées. L'objectif ? Intégrer 1 000 d'entre eux à des programmes de formations techniques courtes et qualifiantes à l'agrosylvopastoralisme (culture locale de niébé, sésame, riz, maraîchage, production fourragère pour le bétail), mais aussi à la maçonnerie et à la menuiserie, vecteurs d'emploi durable. ➤



## Relancer l'économie locale

Soutenue par Air France, Acting for Life est présente en Équateur depuis 2009. L'ONG y a renforcé son engagement dans la province d'Esmeraldas, une région fortement touchée par l'activité sismique.

Le projet d'Acting for Life, mené en partenariat avec l'ONG équatorienne Cefodi et l'Agence française de développement, vise à consolider le tourisme et la pêche artisanale, filières porteuses d'emplois avant le séisme de magnitude 7,8 qui a secoué la région le 16 avril 2016. L'objectif premier est d'encourager ces microentrepreneurs à porter une attention particulière à l'environnement en cas de nouveau choc. Quelque 760 familles de la province d'Esmeraldas (nord-ouest du pays) sont concernées. Les pêcheurs artisanaux sont formés à des pratiques respectueuses de la mangrove (un écosystème riche qui capte le CO2 et aide à lutter contre l'érosion des côtes). Des services de tourisme sont épaulés pour valoriser le patrimoine naturel, source de revenus locaux, en limitant la pression sur les ressources naturelles. ➤

**Boosting the local economy** Supported by Air France, Acting for Life has been present in Ecuador since 2009. The NGO has increased its activities in the province of Esmeraldas, a region severely affected by earthquakes. The Acting for Life project, carried out in partnership with the Ecuadorian NGO Cefodi and the Agence Française de Développement, aims to boost tourism and small-scale fishing, fields that provided numerous jobs before the magnitude 7.8 earthquake hit on April 16, 2016. The main goal is to incite micro-businesses to pay particular attention to the environment in the event of a new quake. Some 760 families in Esmeraldas (in northwest Ecuador) are involved. Small-scale fishermen are taught practices that protect the mangroves (a rich ecosystem that traps CO2 and helps fight coastal erosion). Tourist organizations are encouraged to showcase the natural heritage, a source of local revenue, by limiting pressure on natural resources. ➤



## Filières durables

Au Burkina Faso, avec le soutien d'Air France, Acting for Life et Inades-Formation encouragent la sécurité alimentaire en reliant production locale et restauration scolaire. Une alliance gagnante.

Au sud-ouest du Burkina Faso, dans la région des Cascades, approvisionner les cantines scolaires en aliments locaux de qualité est un défi. Pourtant, ce marché est source de larges débouchés pour les producteurs de la région. Fort de ces constats, Acting for Life et son partenaire local Inades-Formation travaillent avec 17 communes pour encourager la création de partenariats équitables et durables entre les organisations de producteurs régionaux et les mairies. L'objectif ? La vente de près de 5 000 tonnes de riz et de niébé aux collectivités, avec pour objectif premier l'amélioration des revenus locaux et une alimentation saine et équilibrée à l'école. ➤



## 2019 PUBLICATIONS

### ARTICLES

- Supporting herd mobility in West Africa - Acting for Life •
- Technical note on Ranching in West Africa - Acting for Life •
- Measuring integration and lessons on the strategies of young people - Acting for Life •
- Study on the supply and demand of local agricultural products on institutional markets in Togo and Benin – D. Sexton / Acting for Life •

### VIDEOS

- Improving the food served at cafeterias in Burkina Faso - Rasca Production •
- The private sector is turning to organic to feed cities - Afrikafun •
- A territorial approach for the development of agropastoralism - Wipix •

All publications, news and videos are available on our website:  
[www.acting-for-life.org](http://www.acting-for-life.org) and on social media:





## OUR 3 AREAS OF EXPERTISE



Food systems &  
ecosystems



Agropastoralism



Technical & vocational  
education & training

Acting for Life is a proud member of:



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