



Élodie N.

Plumbing in Banfora

Faces of success

Portraits from the READY project

ACTING FOR LIFE

2nd graduating class of the READY project



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PROFILE

- 3rd level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in sanitary plumbing.

SKILLS

- Able to organise projects and carry out digs,
- Able to read and apply plans and diagrams,
- Able to install discharge pipes, supply pipes and sanitary appliances, and put them into operation,
- Able to use tools such as: set squares, levels, drills, etc.,
- Familiar with safety rules and standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

"When I was taking night classes, I wasn't sure I would have a job after completing my studies. I couldn't afford to pay for professional training, and I was even scared that I would no longer be able to continue to attend school, because I didn't have the means to do so."

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project and with support from OCADES, Élodie received high-quality professional training in plumbing as well as a kit to help her get set up after training. The training allowed her to become a plumbing professional: *"I'm now able to install, repair, adjust and maintain sanitary equipment (toilets, bathrooms, etc.) as well as water distribution and evacuation pipes"*.

The of READY

- Training in marketing/social networks
- Technical training in network plumbing
- Training in entrepreneurship
- Training in IT

The READY project – *Raising Employment Access and Development for Youth* – aims to improve access to employment for a better economic development. It is implemented by Acting for Life and its partner OCADES thanks to financial support from NORAD, the AnBer Foundation and the Ditumba Foundation.



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A new life for Élodie

Since she was hired as a plumber, Élodie has become more independent. She works on her own and in collaboration with others, and has developed a network of professionals. In addition to the professional fulfilment generated by this new job, Élodie is now able to provide for her own needs (clothing, hairdressing, etc.) and was able to buy a motorbike, in order to move around more easily and independently. Finally, she confided that she was able to pay for her wedding.



What's next?

I would like to pursue further training abroad to learn other practices so that I can be more efficient and bid on national and international contracts.

Élodie's advice

She encourages young people to always work hard and to persevere in their work. For girls in particular, *"I tell them to take their work seriously so that they can set themselves apart from the rest of the pack and be proud of themselves and their skills"*.



Daouda S.

Electrician in Sindou

Faces of success

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PROFILE

- 3rd level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in building electricity with a focus on photovoltaic electricity.

SKILLS

- Able to install power and photovoltaic generators,
- Able to perform domestic, industrial and tertiary electrical installations,
- Able to maintain electrical installations,
- Able to read electrical-system diagrams,
- Able to locate the source of problems,
- Able to apply safety rules and protection standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

Daouda took general education courses before the READY project, but stopped in 2018. He always wanted to pursue professional training in electricity, but unfortunately his parents were against that idea. He heard about the READY project through a friend. He says: *"I submitted my application before telling my parents. Fortunately my application was accepted, and I am very happy to receive this training"*.

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project and with support from OCADES, he received high-quality professional training in rural electrification as well as a kit to help him get set up after training. The training allowed him to become a professional electrician. He is now able to perform diagnostic analyses, identify and resolve electrical problems, perform electrical installations, etc.

The of READY

- Training in entrepreneurship
- Training in business management
- Exchange trip

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A fresh start for Daouda

After his training, Daouda was hired as a breeder. His new job allows him to provide for his own needs so he is no longer dependent on his parents. Thanks to his new income, he was able to buy a motorbike. He works on his own and in collaboration with others, and has built up a professional network.



What's next?

I would like to become an expert electrician so that I can achieve my dreams.

Daouda's advice

Have courage and persevere in your work.



Charles S. B.

Electrician in Sindou

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PROFILE

- 4th level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in building electricity with a focus on photovoltaic electricity.

SKILLS

- Able to install power and photovoltaic generators,
- Able to perform domestic, industrial and tertiary electrical installations,
- Able to maintain electrical installations,
- Able to read electrical-system diagrams,
- Able to locate the source of problems,
- Able to apply safety rules and protection standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

Charles discontinued his general education courses because he did not have sufficient financial resources. He therefore decided to learn the skills needed to become an electrician. With the help of his parents, he gained 18 months' experience working for someone and receiving on-the-job training in basic electricity skills. Wanting to become a skilled professional, he enrolled with the help of his uncle in training through a certification programme, which led him to the READY project, thanks to a message that was broadcast on the radio.

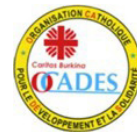
AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project and with support from OCADES, "I was able to start working towards achieving my dreams". With this project, Charles received high-quality professional training in rural electrification as well as a kit to help him get set up after training. He acquired technical skills in electricity and is now able to perform diagnostic analyses, identify and resolve electrical problems, perform electrical installations, etc.

The of READY

- Training in marketing/social networks
- Training in entrepreneurship
- Further training in electricity

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What's next?

I would like to become an expert electrician so that I can achieve my dreams.

Charles' advice

Be courageous and keep working hard. Don't rely on other people. Rely on your own work.

A bright future for Charles

Thanks to his training, Charles works as an electrician. He performs his own contracts on his own and collaborates with other professionals, thanks to the professional network he has built up. His earnings enable him to provide for his own needs and his parents'. Indeed, he often provides financial support to them. Finally, he was able to buy a motorbike.

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Timothée Y.
Electrician in Hauts-Bassins

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26 years old

PROFILE

- 3rd level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in building electricity with a focus on photovoltaic electricity.

SKILLS

- Able to install power and photovoltaic generators,
- Able to perform domestic, industrial and tertiary electrical installations,
- Able to maintain electrical installations,
- Able to read electrical-system diagrams,
- Able to locate the source of problems,
- Able to apply safety rules and protection standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

"I discontinued my studies after failing to obtain the BEPC certificate. I didn't have any specific area of activity, and I was always looking for odd jobs". Timothée therefore decided to learn a trade. With the help of his uncle, he learned about the READY project and was able to receive professional training through a certification programme after getting in touch with the ANPE (national employment agency).

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project, Timothée developed skills in electricity and even performed his first contract while he was still in training. Through this programme, he acquired professional skills in building and photovoltaic electricity, and received a kit to help him get set up after training. He says he is now able to perform electrical installations and diagnostic analyses, identify and resolve electrical problems, etc. He is currently training four apprentices: two in Ouagadougou and two in Bobo-Dioulasso.

The of READY

- Training in marketing/social networks
- Training in entrepreneurship
- Further training in electricity

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Timothée's advice

- Always keep improving your skills,
- Work hard and remain humble when learning something new,
- Step outside your comfort zone (look for contract opportunities in far-away places),
- Build relationships with entrepreneurs, and visit project sites to negotiate contracts.



Timothée's new path

Thanks to the skills Timothée has acquired, he is now able to perform his own contracts and works in collaboration with a subcontracting company. He has also developed a network of professionals and trains young apprentices. His income allows him to provide for his own needs and his parents'.



What's next?

I would like to have greater financial resources so that I can cope with payment delays after completing projects and continue to pursue my dream with peace of mind.



2nd graduating class of the READY project



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26 years old

PROFILE

- 3rd level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in sanitary plumbing.

SKILLS

- Able to organise projects and carry out digs,
- Able to read and apply plans and diagrams,
- Able to install discharge pipes, supply pipes and sanitary appliances, and put them into operation,
- Able to use tools such as: set squares, levels, drills, etc.,
- Familiar with safety rules and standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

Before the READY project, Sylvie was unemployed. But she wanted to learn a trade, and chose plumbing. She enrolled in READY after one of her parents told her about the project and helped her put together her application.

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project and with support from OCADES, Sylvie received high-quality professional training in plumbing as well as a kit to help her get set up after training. With her new skills, she won a contract in Guinea and was able to start her own plumbing business. She is now a highly professional plumber.

The of READY

- Training in marketing/social networks
- Technical training in network plumbing
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- Training in IT

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New challenges for Sylvie

Unemployed before her training, Sylvie now owns her own plumbing company. She works on her own or in collaboration with others and even wins some contracts abroad. She also has a network of professionals now. This new professional life allows Sylvie to provide for herself and help cover her family's expenses. She confides: "My parents are proud of me, and I am even more so".



What's next?

She would like to acquire more work equipment in order to avoid the cost of renting equipment for certain projects. She is also requesting support from the READY project to set up a forum for working women in Bobo-Dioulasso.

Sylvie's advice

Have confidence in yourself and in your abilities. Do your work well, don't give up, and always work hard.



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PROFILE

- 3rd level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in agromony with a focus on farming.

SKILLS

- Able to set up an activity in farming, market gardening and animal production,
- Able to develop an agricultural and/or animal-production plan for the year,
- Able to keep all necessary documents for the management of a crop/livestock farm,
- Able to produce cereals, oil crops, tubers and legumes,
- Able to oversee animal production and manage animal/plant health,
- Able to sell agricultural, market-gardening and animal products.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

"Before enrolling in training, I was in third level at school but wanted to raise livestock". His uncle told him that the READY project was looking to train young people in crop and livestock farming.

So he submitted an application. He was admitted to the training programme for crop and livestock farming in 2018, and earned his professional qualification certificate in 2020.

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project, Boniface acquired professional skills in livestock farming and agricultural techniques. With his new skills, he says: *"I returned to the village where I had two-and-a-half hectares of land. I sowed maize, black-eyed peas and soy".* He discontinued the traditional methods for raising hens and instead adopted the highly advantageous techniques he learned during the training programme. Doing so has allowed him to efficiently monitor his hens, while also providing manure for his crops: *"I now have a piggery with six pigs, 42 rabbits and 37 chicks, in addition to my crop-production activity".*

The **+** of READY

- Training in beekeeping
- Training in biopesticides
- Modular training in fattening cattle

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Boniface's promising future

In addition to becoming an accomplished farmer, Boniface is his own boss. As a professional crop and livestock farmer, he has developed a network of professionals. Today, he is financially independent and provides financial support to his parents.



What's next?

He would like to have greater financial resources so that he can cope with difficulties paying for agricultural inputs and water-pump pipes. Also, *"I would like to expand my chicken coop so that I can raise different breeds, such as North Holland Blue and improved chicken breeds".*

Boniface's advice

Don't give up, devote yourself entirely to your work, and have the courage to keep going even when things seem like they're not going well.



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Leticia K.
Electrician in Ouagadougou

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PROFILE

- 4th level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in building electricity with a focus on photovoltaic electricity.

SKILLS

- Able to install power and photovoltaic generators,
- Able to perform domestic, industrial and tertiary electrical installations,
- Able to maintain electrical installations,
- Able to read electrical-system diagrams,
- Able to locate the source of problems,
- Able to apply safety rules and protection standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

Before the READY project, Leticia spent about three years with no activity after having discontinued her fourth-level studies. She was repairing radios with her friends, but without any professional training it was very difficult for her to win contracts. The READY project therefore presented a big opportunity for her and allowed her to acquire skills and a certificate so that she could pursue her dream.

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project, she received high-quality professional training in electricity as well as a kit to help her get set up after training. She participated in field-school projects and did two internships (nine months) at an electricity company. With her new skills, she now works for a company in Ouagadougou that specialises in photovoltaic electricity. She is also pursuing "her own independent work on the side during her free time".

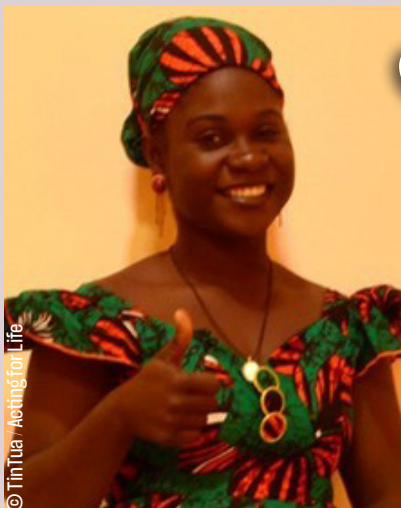
The of READY

- Training in IT
- Training in entrepreneurship

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What's next?

Leticia would like to start her own business.

Leticia's advice

Her keywords for motivating young people, and particularly young girls: "confidence, patience, courage and determination".

Great success for Leticia

The professional training Leticia underwent was successful. Today, the young woman has found a job in a company, where she works on her own and in collaboration with others. She has developed a network of professionals. This job allows her to provide for herself and her family.



Nasser T.

Electrician in Sahel

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27 years old

PROFILE

- 3rd level basic education
- Holder of a Professional qualification certificate in building electricity with a focus on photovoltaic electricity.

SKILLS

- Able to install power and photovoltaic generators,
- Able to perform domestic, industrial and tertiary electrical installations,
- Able to maintain electrical installations,
- Able to read electrical-system diagrams,
- Able to locate the source of problems,
- Able to apply safety rules and protection standards.

BEFORE THE READY PROJECT

"I discontinued my studies after failing to obtain the BEPC certificate. I didn't have any specific area of activity, and I was always looking for odd jobs". Nasser therefore decided to learn a trade. By searching, he learned about the READY project and received professional training in electricity through a certification programme.

AFTER THE READY PROJECT

Thanks to the READY project, Nasser developed skills in building and photovoltaic electricity, particularly by working on field-school projects: electrical installations, diagnostic analyses, identification and resolution of electrical problems. He also received a kit to help him get set up after training. With his new skills, he started his own company *NAS Energie* in Ouagadougou in 2020, specialising in the sale and installation of electrical equipment.

The of READY

- Training in entrepreneurship
- Training in IT

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Nasser's success story

Thanks to his dedication and motivation during his professional training, Nasser became his own boss by starting his own company called *NAS Energie*. He works on his own and in collaboration with others, and has built up a network of professionals. This great success allows him to provide for his own needs and financially support his parents.



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Nasser's advice

"Be determined in your projects, and offer high-quality services with high-quality equipment."



What's next?

Nasser would like to have greater financial resources so that he can increase his shop's capacity.