Out of earth and rain - Kaolack

"Building resilience of Senegalese rural communities by strengthening smallholder farming to cope with climate change"

Context

The rapid population growth combined with the galloping urbanization of Senegalese cities increase pressures on natural resources and land, compromising ecosystems and rural communities. Out of the 3'805'000 ha of arable land available in Senegal, 2'805'000 ha (66%) are today severely degraded due to poor agricultural practices. There is therefore an urgent need to restore these degraded lands and to foster more positive interactions between agriculture, forests and water resource management, while promoting agro-ecology.

Overall Objective

Building resilience of Senegalese rural communities by strengthening smallholder farming to cope with climate change.

Specific Objectives

SO1: Strengthening stakeholders' capacities on maintaining, restoring and managing natural resources (water, trees, soil).
SO2: Increasing agricultural productivity through the rehabilitation of ecosystems and agricultural land.

Expected results

R1.1: Between 300-400 people are sensitized to environmental problems and the degradation of natural resources.

R1.2: At least 6 village nurserymen are trained in setting up and managing tree nurseries.

R1.3: At least 30 family farming chiefs are trained on techniques for planting and maintaining agroforestry fields, as well as rainwater management techniques.

R1.4: A renaturation strategy conducted at the scale of the intervention area is developed.

R1.5: Reinforcement and support to the constitution an active actors' network in agroforestry and rainwater management.

R1.6: Support to the formulation of an integrated natural resource management policy, particularly in agroforestry and rainwater management.

R2.1: Between 20 -30 ha of degraded land have been recovered for agricultural production, wood, fodder and other wood products.

R2.2: The 30 family farming chiefs undertake their own production of domestic wood and fodder.

R2.3: Between 20 -30 ha of horticultural sites are restored to hedgerows and windbreaks.

R2.4: At least 30 RWH reservoirs have been constructed.

R2.5: At least 3 km of anti-erosive (vegetated) barriers are installed.

R2.6: 1 Pilot demonstration plot (PSST).

Key points

- Duration of the project: **2 years**
- **400** family farming chiefs sensitized to local environmental issues
- **6** nurserymen formed
- **1** agroforestry technical adviser
- **15'000** trees planted in the agroforestry context
- **3km** of anti-erosion and vegetal barrier installed
- **3** trained masons
- **30** RWH reservoirs of 5m^3 installed

Location

The project is located in Senegal, in the Kaolack region, 200 km south-east of Dakar, where 30 family farms are supported.

Partners

The project « out of earth and rain » is implemented in partnership with APAF (Association pour la promotion des arbres fertilitaires), and with the EPFL collaboration (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne).

Donors

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