



Centre of Actions for Food Security and Sustainable Development

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

TO COMMIT

AND ACT

WITH RURAL COMMUNITIES

www.casad-benin.org

THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

CASAD-Benin Actions are yearly-based on the achievement of at least one SDG



With CASAD-Benin, achieving a planet where the suffering of communities are mitigated.

www.casad-benin.org



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Acknowledgement

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| Special thanks to the members of the Board of Directors | Mr. Fiacre ADANDONON, President of the Board of Directors Mrs. Christine ADOUNSI, General Secretary of the Board of Directors Mr. Florent ADOUNSI, General Treasurer of the Board of Directors |

Key points of 2018

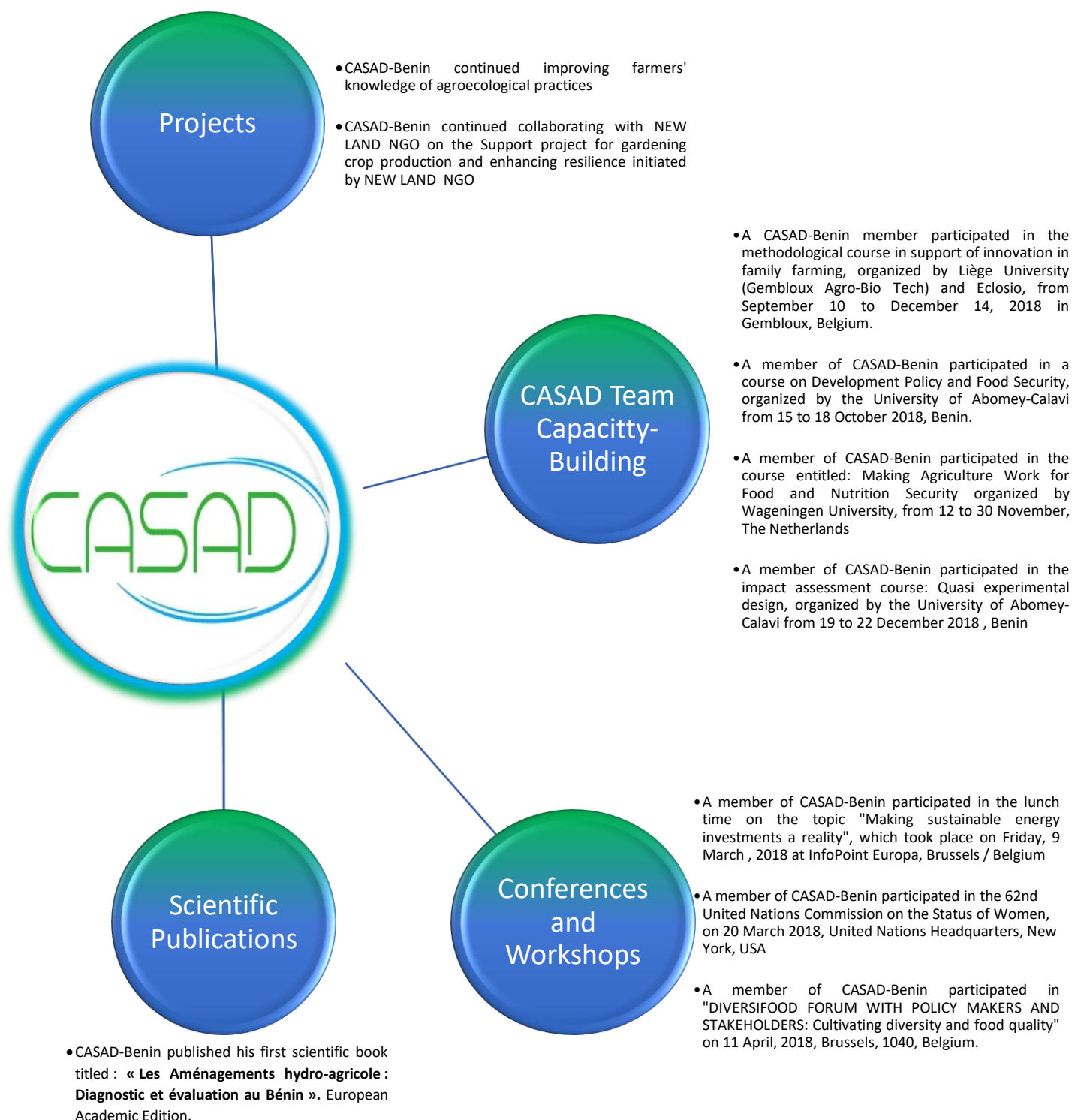


Figure 1: The key points of CASAD-Benin in 2018

Message from the Executive Director



“CASAD-Benin continues to work with rural communities to alleviate poverty and food insecurity in a sustainable way.”



The year 2018 represents the third year of the implementation of the 2016-2020 strategic plan, which is operational and now guides the interventions of CASAD-Benin. This year, CASAD-Benin has continued to build the capacity of women farmers to be more resilient to climate change. Women farmers we train in agro-ecology are planning to celebrate local innovations in 2020. The celebration will be organized in collaboration with the multi-stakeholders platform for the promotion of peasant innovations in ecological agriculture and natural resources management, of which CASAD-Benin permanently provides the Secretariat.

During the year, we continued to work on the environmental implications of irrigation facilities. For this purpose, a research study was carried out by the CASAD-Benin team and was the subject of research for a trainee graduate student from CASAD-Benin at the final year of Risk and Disaster Management field. The study entitled « Hydro-agricultural development: diagnosis and assessment of environmental risks in Benin » has been successfully carried out, providing a better understanding of the characteristics of hydro-agricultural developments and associated environmental risks. It has been published in the European Academic Edition. CASAD-Benin has also worked hard to build the capacity of its team to be more technically professional serving rural communities to fight food insecurity, an ever-growing phenomenon in rural households in Benin. To this end, two members of the team CASAD-Benin participated in international methodological courses in the Universities of Gembloux and Wageningen. We have also strengthened our collaboration with other international institutions such as Agri Sud International of Senegal to cooperate on joint projects. During the year 2019, CASAD-Benin will develop activities that fall within the framework of the implementation of its Strategic Plan. Some previous projects will be relaunched in other areas of the country, namely the training and insertion of youth in agribusiness project. Similarly, new projects will be launched on miscellaneous fields such as capacity building for sustainable development actors in participatory action research, biogas, Health (HIV / AIDS), gender, education, climate change, ICT, etc.

Ambaliou Odountan OLOUNLADE
Executive Director

Our activities in 2018

ENVIRONMENT FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

CASAD-Benin continues helping rural communities to enhance their resilience

120

Million

120 million people could fall into poverty by 2030 if nothing is done to fight climate change.

300

People

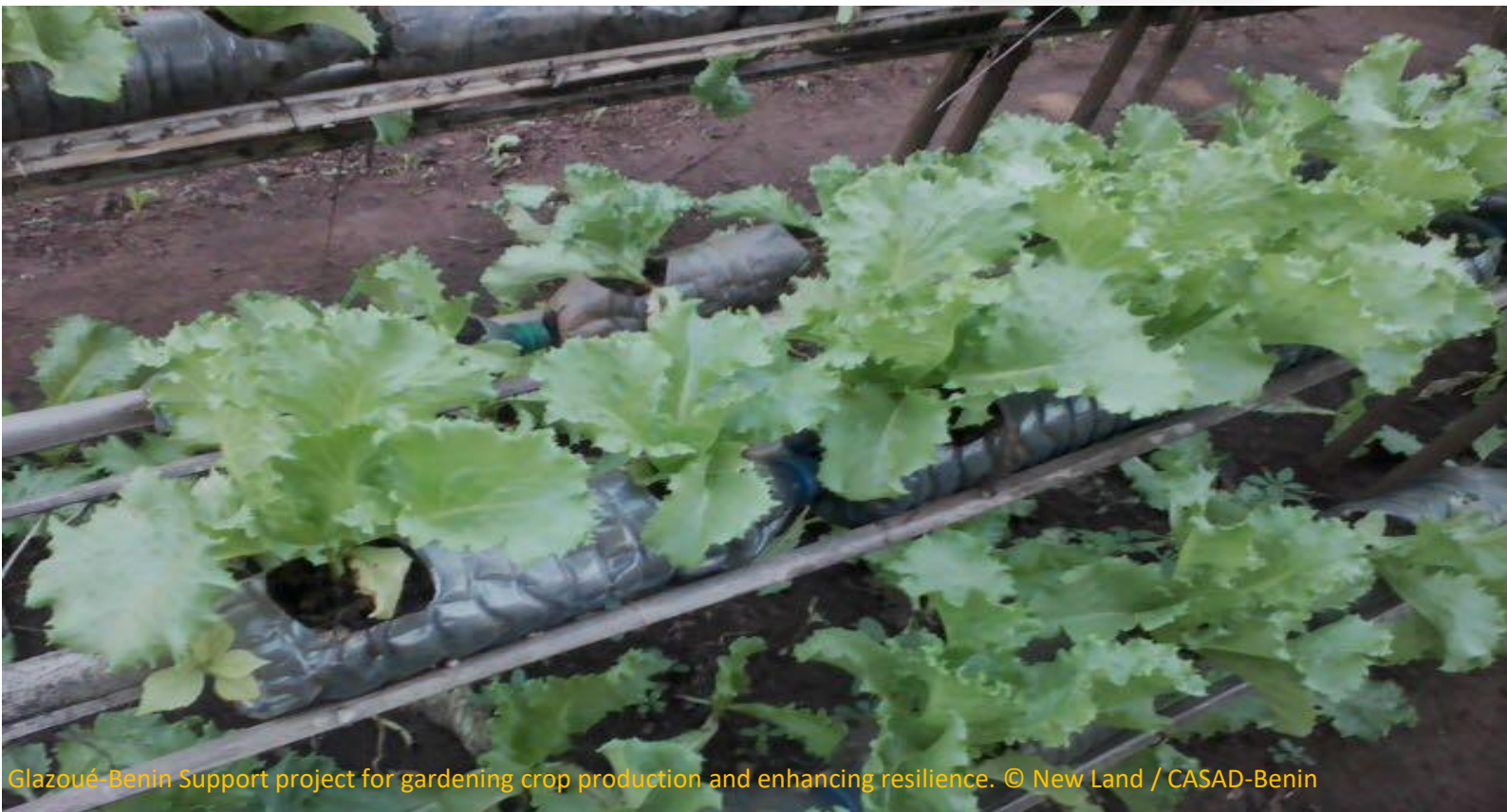
CASAD-Benin has helped 60 households (with an average of 5 people per household), or more than 300 people through its Environment and Climate Change programme.

Improving the resilience of rural communities

Climate change is already under way. CASAD-Benin helps rural communities better understand and adapt to climate change that is undermining their livelihoods.

Our approach is to help communities better manage natural resources over the long term and move toward more resilient agroecological practices based on their endogenous knowledge.

CASAD-Benin continued to implement its training schedule for women farmers on other agroecological practices not addressed in 2017.



Glazoué-Benin Support project for gardening crop production and enhancing resilience. © New Land / CASAD-Benin

Glazoué- Benin

IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE ON AGROECOLOGY

📅 JUNE 2016 – DECEMBER 2018

👥 120 BENEFICIARIES

In Benin, agroecological practices are now part of farmers' farming practices. This allows farmers to cope with the constraints of agricultural production.

CASAD-Benin has improved farmers' knowledge of agroecological practices through the organisation of citizen debates around agriculture with ecologist farmers of the Multi-stakeholder Platform for farmers 'innovation Promotion in Benin. This debate, referred to as « La nuit de l'agro-écologie » was an opportunity for farmers to explain the meaning of their commitment and for citizens, to meet those who daily practice agro-ecology, to discover their practices and to discuss them.

Glazoué- Benin

RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

📅 FEBRUARY 2017 – NOVEMBER 2018

👥 60 DIRECT BENEFICIARIES AND 300 INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES

The rural community in the hilly area "les collines" lives mainly on agriculture and livestock. However, farmers are no longer able to meet their basic needs because of the upsurge of climate change crisis. CASAD-Benin helps reduce food and nutrition insecurity of the most vulnerable populations. Under the initiative of the Support project for gardening crop production and enhancing resilience « Projet d'Appui à la Production Maraîchère et de Renforcement de la Résilience (PAPMaRR) » of New land NGO, CASAD-Benin has been associated in the Agroecology component. CASAD-Benin, with its team of experts in Agroecological practices, has enhanced the adaptation abilities of gardening crop women farmers to climate hazards by training on more resilient agroecological practices based on their traditional knowledge. This year, CASAD-Benin continued to implement its training schedule for women farmers on other agroecological practices not addressed in 2017.



DECENT WORK

ACCESS TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

CASAD-Bénin renforce les capacités des jeunes en entrepreneuriat agricole

600

Million

600 million jobs will have to be created over the next 15 years to maintain employment rates.

19

Young

CASAD-Benin has improved the employability of 19 young Beninese graduates through trainings on personal development, CVs writing and cover letter.

Youth employment the fastest way out of poverty

Youth unemployment remains high and the quality of jobs is worrying. CASAD-Benin improves the employability of youth and gives them better access to contribute to businesses through the promotion of employment in miscellaneous sectors.

Our approach is to :

- Train young job seekers in personal development, writing CVs, cover letter ;
- Promote the spirit of entrepreneurship among youth ;
- Train youth on writing a bankable business plan;
- Encourage and guide young project leaders towards project financing structures such as FNPEEJ Benin, ANPE, ANPME and Alidé Microfinance
-

Conferences and workshops



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CASAD-Benin participated in several conferences and workshops at the national and international levels to contribute to the debates on policies related to poverty alleviation and food security.



© CASAD-Benin

Mr Aristide AKPA, member of CASAD-Benin participated to the lunch time on the topic "Making sustainable energy investments a reality", which took place on Friday, March , 2018 at InfoPoint Europa, Brussels/Belgium

Mr. Ambaliou O. OLOUNLADE, Executive Director of CASAD-Benin, participated to the 62nd United Nation Commission on the status of women, March 20, 2018, headquarters of the United Nations, New York, USA



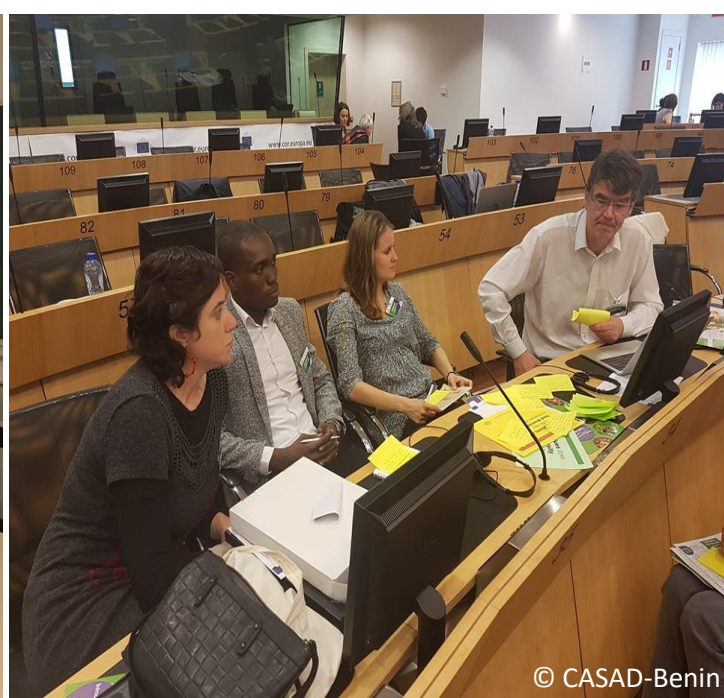
Conferences and workshops



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Presentation of CASAD-Benin Project by Mr. Ambaliou O. OLOUNLADE at the methodological course in support of innovation in family farming, organized by Liège University (Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech) and Eclodio, from September 10 to December 14, 2018 in Gembloux, Belgium.

Mr Aristide AKPA, Member of CASAD-Benin, participated in the "DIVERSIFOOD FORUM WITH POLICY MAKERS AND STAKEHOLDERS: Cultivating diversity and food quality" April 11, 2018, Brussels, Belgium.

Conferences and workshops



© CASAD-Benin



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Mr. Moïse SODJINOÛ, active member of CASAD-Benin, participated in a course on policy development and food security, organized by the University of Abomey-Calavi from 15 to 18 October 2018.

Miss Adikath ABIOLA, active member of CASAD-Benin, participated to the short course: "Making Agriculture work for Food and Nutrition Security" organized by Wageningen University, from November 12 to November 30 in the Netherlands.



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Scientific publications

Cet ouvrage intitulé "Aménagements hydro-agricole : Diagnostic et évaluation des risques environnementaux au Bénin" est un projet de recherche action participative du programme "Environnement et Changement Climatique" du Centre d'Actions pour la Sécurité Alimentaire et le Développement Durable (CASAD-Bénin). Il fournit une meilleure connaissance des caractéristiques des aménagements hydro-agricoles et des risques environnementaux associés. Après avoir identifié les différents types d'aménagements hydro-agricole (aménagement hydro-agricole par gravitaire, par pompage et par arrosage manuel) ; les sources des risques environnementaux que présente leur développement ont été identifiées et analysées. Il ressort que les différentes pratiques ont induit une dégradation du couvert végétal provoquant ainsi sa régression et une baisse de la fertilité des sols. L'ouvrage propose des mesures de gestion durable pour réduire les risques des aménagements hydro-agricoles sur l'environnement.

Alice Mahougnon Sakou est une ingénieure en Gestion des risques et Catastrophes. Titulaire d'une Maîtrise en Sciences naturelles, et d'un Master d'Intégration Régionale et Développement, elle est beaucoup plus préoccupée par les problèmes environnementaux. Travaillant avec passion et rigueur, elle se bâtit une solide réputation environnementale.



978-613-8-42402-4

EUE ÉDITIONS
UNIVERSITAIRES
EUROPÉENNES



Alice Mahougnon Sakou
Ambaljou O. Olounlade
Euloge Ogouwale

Les aménagements hydro-agricoles: Diagnostic et évaluation au Bénin

Aménagements Hydro-agricoles, Risques environnementaux, Bénin

This book entitled « Aménagements hydro-agricole : Diagnostic et évaluation au Bénin » is a participatory action research project of the Programme "Environment and Climate Change." implemented by The Actions for Food Security and Sustainable Development Centre (CASAD-Bénin). It provides a better understanding of the characteristics of hydro-agricultural facilities (hydro-agricultural facilities by gravity, pumping and manual watering); the sources of the environmental risks associated with their development have been identified and analysed. It appears that the different practices have led to a degradation of the vegetation, causing its regression and a decline in soil fertility. The book suggests sustainable management measures to reduce the risks of hydro-agricultural development on the environment.

Cite this book: Sakou, A. M., Olounlade, O. A., Ogouwale, E. (2018). Les aménagements hydro-agricoles : Diagnostic et évaluation au Bénin. Editions Universitaires Européennes- ISBN : 978-613-8-42402-4.

<https://casad-benin.org/amenagements-hydro-agricole-diagnostic-et-evaluation-des-risques-environnementaux-au-benin/>

2019 Outlook



👉 Mise en œuvre de l'année 4 du plan Stratégique de CASAD-Bénin

CASAD-Benin is entering the fourth year of the implementation of its 2016-2020 strategic plan. CASAD-Benin will continue to focus on defined themes and priorities. The actions of CASAD-Benin will mainly focus on small-scale farmers while working on the external factors that influence the efficiency of their production systems. During the third year, we will also work to strengthen our partnerships. We focus on long-term partnerships that contribute more to the achievement of our strategic objectives than to the specific objectives of a project.

👉 Youth access to employment

CASAD-Benin will continue to build the capacity of youth in agribusiness through its projects; with a particular emphasis on young women. CASAD-Benin will work with partners to support and installation of youth trained in agribusiness. In the same perspective of youth capacity building, CASAD-Benin will operationalize the OpportunitYoung platform to not only provide information, training opportunities, internships and conferences in the agricultural field, but also develop various themes such as agricultural entrepreneurship, agro-ecology, successful examples of peasant innovations and the drafting and management of a business plan. CASAD-Benin wants to develop through the OpportunitYoung Platform, training modules focused on specific capabilities.

👉 Improvement of farmers' resilience in Benin

CASAD-Benin will continue to support farmers in Benin. By capitalizing on farmers' innovations, our experiences and results of participatory research, new partnerships will be established to better enhance the resilience of farmers to environmental, climatic and anthropogenic pressures. Farmers' innovations will be emphasized to capitalize on them and promote sustainable family agriculture.

CASAD-Benin team in 2018

• Board of Directors

| Position / Function | Name | M / F |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| President | Fiacre Dègbégnon ADANDONOU | M |
| Secretary | Christine ADOUNSI | F |
| Treasurer | Florent ADOUNSI | M |

• Executive direction

| Position / Function | Name | M / F |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Executive Director | Ambaliou O. OLOUNLADE | M |
| Director of Programs | Koffi Moïse B. SODJINOU | M |
| Deputy Director of Programs | Adikath ABIOLA | F |
| Program Manager and Communication | Alidou IMOROU ASSOUMA | M |
| Deputy Program Manager and Communication | Alice Mahougnon SAKOU | F |
| Accountant | Houéffa Marietta Andréa GNIMAGNON | F |
| Secretary | Waliatou Anikè BADAROU | F |
| Animator | Damien ADANDONON | M |

• Auditors

| Position / Function | Nom | M / F |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| 1 st Auditor | Kifouli OLOUNLADE | M |
| 2 nd Auditor | Elie Bohiki ISSIOTAN | M |

Partners in 2018

- Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi (FSA/UAC)
- French Ministry of Agriculture, agri-food and forest.
- New Land ONG
- Union of young modern farmers NGO (UJAM-Benin)
- PUXIN
- Francophone network against the commodification of education

We are grateful to all the partner institutions we keep working with.



About CASAD-Benin

The Centre of Actions for Food Security and Sustainable Development (CASAD) is a non-profit organization focused on Participatory Action Research and working for poverty alleviation and the promotion of food security. In 2015, CASAD-Benin adopted a strategic plan (2016-2020) which guides its actions.

Vision: To be a recognized institution of public utility, efficient and undeniable in terms of rural communities' capacity building to increase food security and promote sustainable development.

Mission: To improve food and nutrition security and support sound management of natural resources through knowledge management, facilitation, capacity building and; the empowerment of rural communities and professional farming organizations.

Our programs

- **Agriculture and Food Security:** Experimenting and innovating with smallholders for sustainable family farming;
- **Environment and Climate Change:** Improving people knowledge on the adoption of sustainable biodiversity management practices;
- **Education:** Improving the quality of children's education by strengthening the material resources of public institutions;
- **ICT and Agriculture:** Supporting smallholders in agricultural knowledge management using ICTs.

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