

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**20**

**21**



**ACTING  
FOR LIFE**



# 19 PROJECTS IN 14 COUNTRIES

ACTING  
FOR LIFE

+45 YEARS OF COMMITMENT

14 COUNTRIES ON TWO CONTINENTS  
West Africa and Latin America

## 3 AREAS OF FOCUS



TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION & TRAINING



AGROPASTORALISM



FOOD SYSTEMS &  
ECOSYSTEMS

50 LOCAL PARTNERS  
from civil society: producer groups,  
cooperatives, NGOs, training centres,  
territorial and local authorities

19 PROJECTS IN 2021  
LAUNCHED IN 14 COUNTRIES

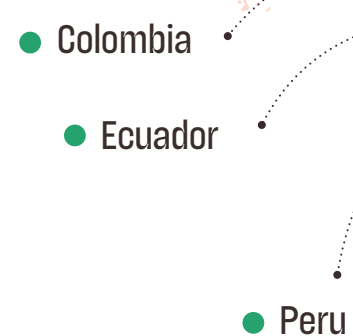
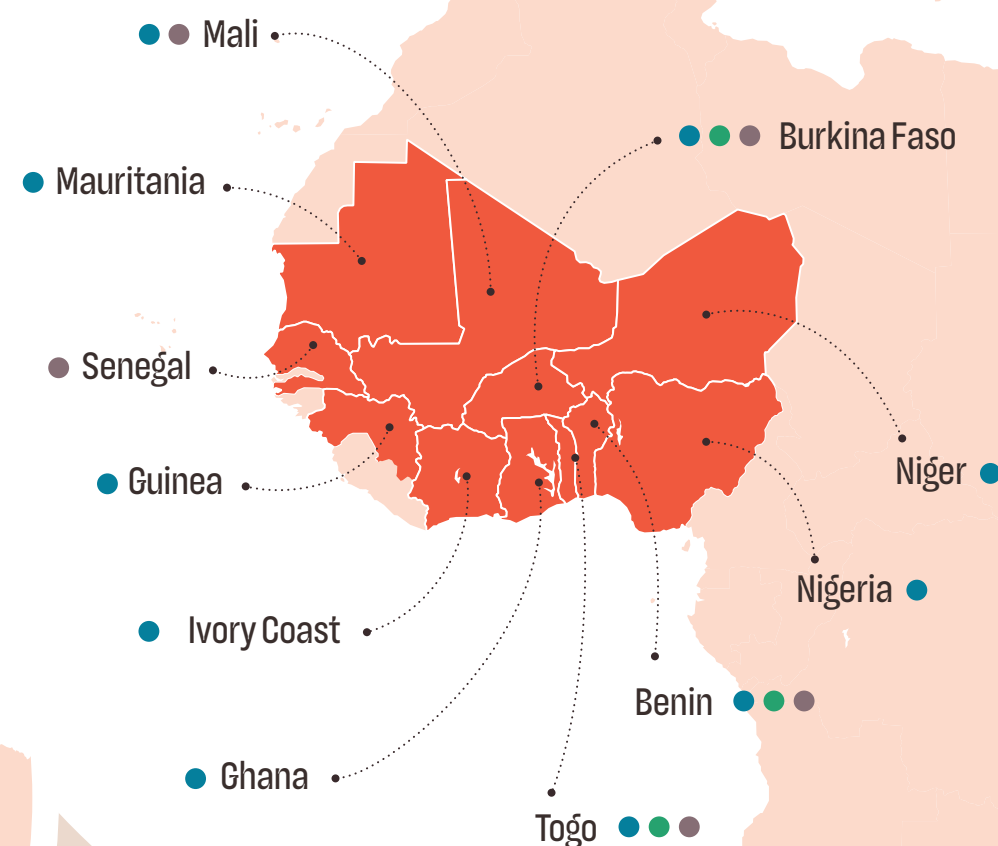
10 NEW PROJECTS  
PER YEAR

1 MILLION  
BENEFICIARIES PER YEAR

26 EMPLOYEES

21 BOARD MEMBERS

€8 MILLION  
ANNUAL BUDGET



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Acting for Life incorporates the UN's Sustainable  
Development Goals in the design of each project.







## REMEMBERING OUR COLLEAGUE

**Arnaud François**, an Acting for Life colleague who worked tirelessly promoting international solidarity over the past 15 years, died on 27 May 2021. Working with our partner organisations in West Africa, he helped build a network of actors dedicated to supporting rural development and agropastoralism.

His intelligence, energy and commitment to supporting an integrated vision of development were often the driving force behind large-scale projects serving communities in the Sahel and West Africa.

Arnaud will be missed by the entire international-solidarity community, by our African partners, with whom he developed strong friendships, by our entire organisation, and by his many friends in the development community.

He will remain in our memory always.



Jean-Cyril Spinetta  
President

# EDITORIAL

## Development is at the heart of what we do.

Last year unfortunately resembled 2020 in a number of ways as health, geopolitical and climate crises had a significant impact on countries and vulnerable communities, leading to greater uncertainty as to whether the UN's Sustainable Development Goals will be achievable by 2030. Despite the unfavourable environment, Acting for Life further strengthened its efforts in support of security and food sovereignty, while also promoting economic development, by offering training tailored to each specific local context, in order to maintain or restore social cohesion within communities severely affected by conflicts, which is essential when it comes to ensuring sustainable economic development.

For nearly 50 years, we have carried out all our actions in partnership with a wide variety of local actors who are in touch with the realities in the field and capable of implementing programmes to reduce economic and social vulnerability, by focusing on the ecological transition and mitigating the effects of global warming. Acting for Life continued to pursue this approach in 2021 by helping its local partners further strengthen their capacities and resources in order to ensure that the programmes produce long-term results, and to address the needs of vulnerable communities in the Andes and in West Africa.

Our programmes seek to strengthen the resilience and adaptability of agropastoral systems in the Sahel crisis by improving infrastructure. Above all, however, they aim to restore and facilitate dialogue between the different actors in order to ease tensions between communities. Our projects in training and professional and social integration help young people become integrated economically and clearly seek to reduce gender inequality.

With over ten years' experience promoting the development of family farming in West Africa and Latin America, Acting for Life also launched a large-scale programme called TERSAA – *Transition of Local Agricultural and Food Systems* –, on those two continents in late 2021. The programme is funded by the French Development Agency (AFD) and seeks to develop access to new markets for family farming.

And finally, I would like to sincerely thank our sponsors and donors, who have continued to support us and our local partners despite economic, social and climate crises, and in doing so have allowed us to expand our work.

## CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	5
OVERVIEW OF ACTING FOR LIFE	6
2021 HIGHLIGHTS	8
AGROPASTORALISM PROJECTS	10
TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING PROJECTS	14
FOOD SYSTEMS AND ECOSYSTEMS PROJECTS	18
FINANCIAL REPORT	22
PARTNERS	24
ORGANISATION & GOVERNANCE	26
PUBLICATIONS	28
LIST OF PROJECTS	30



# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AT LOCAL LEVEL

## In 2021

Nearly 50 years after its founding, Acting for Life continues to work with civil-society organisations (CSO) in the Global South to reduce poverty by promoting local economic and social development in West Africa and Latin America.

## Since 2015

Acting for Life takes action to address four of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): end poverty; end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; establish sustainable consumption and production; combat climate change.

## 11 March 2002

Acting for Life is officially recognised in France as an organisation serving the public interest.

## 1979

GARD (Groupement d'Aide aux Réfugiés et Déplacés) is founded in France. In 1992, GARD becomes Groupe Développement, and ultimately Acting for Life.

## Funded in 1973

GARD (now Acting for Life) is a French non-partisan, non-religious NGO that promotes international solidarity. It focuses primarily on promoting economic development in vulnerable communities.

## ACTING FOR LIFE'S MISSION

Acting for Life is a non-partisan, non-religious NGO dedicated to promoting international solidarity. For nearly 50 years, we have been committed to the same objective: to combat poverty by encouraging the emergence of local organisations that are capable of overcoming the challenges posed by exclusion and economic vulnerability in Africa and Latin America.

## ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES FACED BY RURAL COMMUNITIES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Climate change and biodiversity loss are posing major challenges for the least developed countries. They increase the fragility of the most exposed communities and reduce their ability to utilise and create value from local biodiversity. Acting for Life (AFL) has developed skills, savoir-faire and partnerships in three areas that each play a role in combating economic and social vulnerability while also promoting the ecological transition:

- **Promoting sustainable access to food through the development of agroecology.**

In response to the urgent need to address challenges such as climate change and malnutrition, AFL promotes new agroecological production models, short supply chains, micro-entrepreneurship and local consumption to strengthen food security.

- **Promoting training and professional and social integration for young people.**

To address challenges relating to the employability of young people between the ages of 16 and 25, AFL carries out "TVET" projects (technical and vocational education and training) to facilitate access to professional training for young people in rural areas, help instructors improve their skills and promote the recognition of professional qualifications among institutional actors (ministries) in order to help young people become integrated into the job market.

- **Developing the agropastoral sector.**

The livestock sector plays a vital economic and social role in rural areas. It is an essential source of income and jobs in West Africa. It is also instrumental in combating environmental degradation and promoting family eco-agriculture. AFL therefore supports cross-border transhumance through better access to agropastoral amenities and livestock marketing, in order to strengthen social cohesion between different communities and actors in rural areas.

Through its work in these three areas, Acting for Life is helping combat poverty for sustainable growth in the Global South, while also addressing challenges relating to exclusion and global warming.

## ACTING FOR LIFE'S SAVOIR-FAIRE

- an original and flexible partner-based approach offering bespoke solutions tailored to the needs of each local community;
- a partner-based strategy that aims to strengthen the capacities of civil-society organisations (CSO) in the Global South and their role in local economic development;
- sector-specific expertise recognised by public donors at national and international level, and transfer of professional skills to our partners in the field;
- projects rolled out in response to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

## KEY ACTORS PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS

### Civil-society organisations in the Global South

For nearly 50 years, Acting for Life has been building a strong network of partnerships with civil-society organisations (CSO) that are deeply rooted in their respective localities in the Global South. AFL works closely with over 50 NGOs and professional organisations – producer groups, cooperatives, training centres, etc. – as well as territorial and local authorities.

AFL's approach is based on joint project development involving multiple partners, an idea which is at the very heart of its strategy. To avoid counterproductive overlap between its expertise and that of CSOs in the Global South, AFL does not have local offices, and coordinates and monitors all projects remotely (exchanges, regular missions in the field, partners' technical and financial reports). The organisation helps its partners strengthen their intervention capabilities and their role for local economic development. For certain specific topics, AFL also draws on the expertise of a network of specialists at national or sub-regional level. AFL wants to help create economic partnerships at local level. This local approach facilitates coordination between the different actors in question, helping create sustainable institutional networks that make it possible for everyone to adopt and independently adapt actions.

The implementation of large-scale programmes has strengthened AFL in its role coordinating all these actors and helping them network with one another, even internationally and on different continents.





## Transhumance in GHANA: official opening of the Gushegu livestock market

Gushegu is a town in the Northern Region of Ghana whose economy is based on agriculture, and livestock farming in particular. As part of the PREDIP project – **regional project for dialogue and investment in pastoralism and transhumance** –, a livestock market was recently built in the town for a total of about 53 million FCFA. The authorities who attended the market's inauguration underscored its economic importance and strategic position in the region, which draws transhumant livestock farmers from Burkina Faso, Mali and Togo. This weekly livestock market supplies animals for several localities in Ghana and is the main supplier of livestock for the region's capital city, Tamale. Thanks to the participation of all actors in the livestock feed sector, the Gushegu market, under the coordination of Acting for Life and with support from Ghana Developing Communities Association (GDCA), is one of the six livestock markets that have been built as part of the PREDIP project. This modern market will help the town generate funds and improve relations between communities and livestock farmers, while also promoting the practice of mobile livestock farming.



## WORKSHOP ON STONEMASON PROFESSIONS AND SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

The mid-project workshop for the PAMPEC – **project supporting stonework professions and sustainable construction** – was held in Grand-Popo, Benin, on 22 and 23 November 2021. It brought together actors from three different countries (Benin, Mali and Togo) who are involved in carrying out the project's activities: local authorities, training centres, young artisan stonemasons supported by the project and other partners, as well as the French Development Agency (AFD). The two-day event was filled with discussion and debate on: assessment of the project's activities, topics relating to the integration of young people, support for artisans in earth and stonework sectors, and challenges with respect to public procurement and including gender in project actions. Future prospects were also discussed: future collaborations between countries and professional training for new activities are to be planned. The next meeting will be held in Togo in July 2022.

## Eight-year partnership with Asociación Jesús – CCAIJO in PERU

For eight years, Acting for Life has been working with its partner Asociación Jesús Obrero – CCAIJO, in Peru's Cusco region to bolster the local social and solidarity-based economy. The TADESS project – **transitioning to sustainable agriculture and a social and solidarity-based economy** – aims to support the development of sustainable agriculture locally by creating areas of agroecological production in the municipalities of Ocongate, Ccatca and Andahuaylillas. For photos of the project by Marco Símla, go to <https://www.flickr.com/photos/acting-for-life/sets/72157720013991620/>



## Training the financial departments of local authorities in BURKINA FASO

In Burkina Faso, as part of the PAMOBARMA project – **promoting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets in West Africa** –, Acting for Life's financial support directors are training the financial departments of local authorities belonging to joint local authority groups. This brief training is offered to six municipalities belonging to ECOPARE (agreement for pastoral cooperation in the Est region) in the eastern part of the country, and six municipalities belonging to EIPC (agreement between joint local authority groups on pastoralism in the Cascades region) in the west. The aim is to provide a workshop on preparing financial statements in order to help the financial departments in those municipalities develop their skills in budget data analysis so that they can present their financial results. During the workshop, each municipality and project partner present their overall data and take an in-depth look at the agropastoral sector. Stakeholders and local elected representatives are invited to the event, which provides a platform for our partners to help them reach a larger audience, comprising local decision-makers in particular, and inform them about issues relating to the agropastoral sector.



## IVORY COAST: meeting to mark the 3rd year of the PREDIP agropastoral programme

A two-day meeting was organised in Grand Bassam, Ivory Coast, as part of our PAMOBARMA project – project supporting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets in West Africa –, which is a continuation of PREDIP – **regional project for dialogue and investment in pastoralism and transhumance** – in the Sahel and in West Africa's coastal countries, covering the period from 2018 to 2022 in eight West African countries. The goal of the project is to create the right conditions to promote access to natural resources and livestock markets, encourage herd mobility and strengthen social cohesion between key actors at cross-border level. Some of the actions that have been carried out include: informing people about livestock marketing in West Africa, offering training in mapping to facilitate consistent amenities in all territories, and creating statistical tools and agropastoral amenities. This was a good example of real coordination between an array of actors to limit conflicts between crop and livestock farmers, secure cross-border herd mobility and encourage better redistribution of profits from the sale of livestock.



## END OF THE REACTIV PROJECT IN ECUADOR

Ecuador was struck by a violent earthquake in 2016, causing many casualties and leaving nearly 29,000 people homeless. In an already weak economic environment, the local economy was severely affected, particularly the main employment sectors, such as tourism, cocoa farming and artisanal fishing. In 2017, Acting for Life launched the REACTIV project – **reviving the local economy in Ecuador's provinces** – with its local partner CEFODI, to encourage the development of those local sectors with a special component on financial management and the sustainable management of natural resources. The project was instrumental in helping structure rural businesses and networks of fishing and tourism organisations. The creation and/or strengthening of 27 savings and loan groups was crucial for communities during the health crisis. CEFODI also strengthened its operational strategy by integrating and formalising methods to help support rural entrepreneurship. The REACTIV project, which ended in 2021, received financial support from the French Development Agency (AFD), Air France and the AnBer Foundation.



## SENEGAL, Diapalante Centre – New training programme in photovoltaic electricity

For the first time ever, a session on Speciality Photovoltaic Certification was held at the Saint-Louis regional professional training centre in Senegal. A total of 21 young electricians received training over a three-month period to learn this essential skill for the development of green energy in Africa.



# AGROPASTORALISM

**€19 MILLION**

**TOTAL BUDGET**  
(Total multi-year budget)

**6 PROJECTS**  
IN 2021

**10 TARGET**  
COUNTRIES

**22 LOCAL**  
PARTNERS

## BACKGROUND

In a context where West Africa is having to adapt to climate change and facing a complex security crisis, pastoralism and agropastoralism – a production technique that combines both crop and livestock farming – represent a solid link between Sahel and coastal countries. This system of livestock farming is a strategic economic sector for West Africa. It is a source of income for over 80 million people, particularly in rural areas where poverty and unemployment are high.

## PROJECTS

Acting for Life has played a major role in supporting agropastoralism for over 45 years and has been officially recognised for its expertise for over 15 years. Our organisation promotes cross-border transhumance, facilitates access to agropastoral amenities and market infrastructure, and develops eco-agriculture, while working to combat environmental degradation. AFL works with civil-society organisations (CSO) and local authorities to coordinate regional-level projects in order to help communities become more resilient and support local development through better redistribution of profits from the sale of livestock:

- **Securing herd mobility:** marking off and mapping corridors for animal transport, securing rest and grazing areas, building watering places and providing services for agropastoralists (livestock health and feed).
- **Developing livestock marketing:** building market infrastructure (e.g. livestock markets).
- **Rolling out social engineering:** collaboration and coordination between civil-society organisations and local authorities, and partnerships between them.
- **Carrying out advocacy initiatives to promote peaceful mobility:** informed debates involving multiple actors, dialogue and experience assessment.



According to Cédric Touquet, head of programmes for Africa at Acting for Life: "In order to support the long-term development of the sector, it is a good idea to work with livestock-farmer groups and the local authorities who own the infrastructure and who are in charge of maintaining it".



**PRECIT:** Project to strengthen harmony and cohesion among communities in the border regions

## Facilitating dialogue between communities and strengthening governance for better social cohesion

2020 – 2022 • MALI, BURKINA FASO • Budget: €1,665,395 • Financial partners: European Union, Air France

The security situation in the provinces and departments along the border between Mali and Burkina Faso has significantly degraded. Over 80% of households in those areas depend on agropastoralism for their livelihood. But a lack of investment in the sector has made it increasingly difficult to access pastoral resources, while pressure on natural resources is already high. The situation has led to a number of conflicts and their exploitation. By creating forums for inter-community dialogue and organising informed debates on the impact of livestock mobility on economic development, PRECIT – *Project to strengthen harmony and cohesion among communities in the border regions* – is helping facilitate dialogue between the different groups of actors involved at local level in order to encourage concerted decision-making and prevent tension and conflicts. The addition of strategic amenities (6 watering places, 2 grazing areas, 70 hectares of regenerated spaces, etc.) has helped limit pressure on resources and tensions regarding their use. As of late 2021, 15 forums for dialogue, 25 local monitoring relays and two information systems for transhumant livestock farmers have been established. A total of 450 agropastoralists were issued Burkinabe national ID cards, which are needed for cross-border transhumance and in the current climate of insecurity. Forty-one village savings and loan associations were created and strengthened with 41 income-generating activities. Three animal-health networks were created. The project has had a direct impact on income levels, food security and social cohesion. It helps young people become more independent and keeps them from drifting towards extremism and radicalisation.

Key figures

**15,000** AGROPASTORAL AND PASTORAL HOUSEHOLDS

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

Association for pastoralism, agropastoralism, livestock farming and human advancement (APAPE-PH).

Association for the promotion of livestock farming in the Sahel and Savanes regions (APESS).

Initiatives-Conseil-Développement (ICD).

Communication network for pastoralism (RECOPA).

**+ 60** FORUMS FOR DIALOGUE

targeting 2,000 people from different communities

**334** TONNES OF LIVESTOCK FEED

**PAMOBARMA:** Project promoting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets in West Africa

## Preserving livestock mobility for better economic development

2018 – 2022 • BENIN, BURKINA FASO, IVORY COAST, GHANA, GUINEA, MALI, NIGER, NIGERIA, TOGO • Budget: €13,000,000  
Financial partners: European Union, Air France, Agence française de développement (AFD)

The livestock sector is a powerful generator of financial resources for agropastoralists and actors in the sector, and also generates tax resources that can be used for developing and managing areas, providing training, creating jobs, and local development. Livestock farming generates income year-round for economic agents (producers, operators) as well as for decentralised authorities and the people they serve, thanks in particular to livestock markets. Municipalities receive social/community reinvestment from tax revenue generated through market amenities. This fourth year of PAMOBARMA – *Project promoting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets* – was marked by degradation in the security situation, and by restrictive measures implemented at country level, particularly the closing of certain borders. The programme nevertheless continued in all eight project countries. Training was offered for informed-debate leaders and on topics such as GIS (geographic information systems) and mapping. The main infrastructure installations to improve access to resources and cross-border markets were also completed. Major amenities were added over the course of the year: 398.4 km of routes were secured, 14 watering places were built, 6 rest areas were marked, 4 grazing areas were marked, and 2 livestock markets and 6 loading platforms were built. 2 veterinarian jobs were also created. The monitoring and evaluation process implemented three years ago has facilitated data assessment and analyses at local level in each territory. It has been a source of strong support for our operational partners, who as a result were able to share their results in 2021.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

RECOPA, URFBV, AREN, GAJEL, OPEF, AEBRB, AJELAMO, GDCA, CIKOD, GEVAPAF, FENAPFIBVTO, ANOPER, APESS, VSFB, ACAD, ETD, GIC, FREFBV-K

Beneficiaries

**980,000** RURAL AGROPASTORALISTS

**140,000** HOUSEHOLDS

**+ 100** REGIONAL AUTHORITIES



**PAP-Bio Comoé:** Project promoting sustainable, participatory and integrated management in order to preserve biodiversity in the regions along the periphery of the Comoé National Park

## Preserving the biodiversity of the Comoé National Park in Ivory Coast

2019 – 2023 • IVORY COAST • Budget: €2,220,000 • Financial partners: European Union, Air France

Key figures

**10** PARA-VETERINARIANS  
TRAINED AND EQUIPPED

5 PASTORAL DAMS  
8 GRAZING AND REST AREAS  
2 VACCINATION STATIONS

**170 km** OF LIVESTOCK  
ROUTES



### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**Nitidæ** designs and carries out projects that seek to promote environmental preservation and strengthen local economics in Madagascar, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Ivory Coast.

The **professional Organisation of livestock farmers in Ferkessedougou (OPEF)** helps improve living and working conditions for livestock farmers, transhumant livestock farmers and other actors in the livestock-meat sector by raising awareness about best practices in livestock farming.

**Cross disciplinary partner:**  
**Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF-B)** helps people improve their livestock farming through political advocacy, emergency aid, water-management assistance and improvements in animal health.

Rural areas in northern Ivory Coast are suffering from growing human pressure. Forest reserves and protected areas around the Comoé National Park are seeing a rise in tensions. To ensure sustainable and inclusive economic development for local communities in this region, Acting for Life belongs to a consortium – comprising the professional organisation of livestock farmers in Ferkessedougou (OPEF), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium (VSF-B) and Nitidæ – that is working to promote the sustainable, joint and integrated management of pastoral routes in connection with the preservation of biodiversity. The idea is to make this area a model for local land management in order to reduce conflicts and inequalities between users from the agricultural, forestry, pastoral and tourism sectors, address land insecurity, promote new economic activities and preserve biodiversity. More specifically, agro-sylvo-pastoral amenities – such as watering places, rest and grazing areas, cattle tracks – and animal-health services are helping secure herd mobility and preserve the national park's ecosystems. The project's seventh informed debate was held in early 2022, involving more than 170 key actors and helping dispel prejudices and better understand the issues and difficulties faced when it comes to herd mobility. The Local Private Veterinary Service is a grassroots approach to animal health developed by VSF-B in other countries in the sub-region. This approach also offers solutions to the livestock-farming needs of mobile livestock farmers and local communities.

**PASRAP:** Project supporting stabilisation in the Sahel, Nord and Est regions of Burkina Faso

## Strengthening social cohesion and economic stability

2019 – 2021 • BURKINA FASO • Budget: €843,000 • Financial partners: Air France

International analyses have linked the rise in extremism in the border regions of northern Burkina Faso to: local tensions and conflicts concerning resource use, which are being exploited by violent extremist groups; economic and social circumstances that are pushing young people towards extremism, much more than adherence to an extreme religious ideology; and the fact that the pastoral component is not always taken into account in development projects even though agropastoralism is the primary activity for most communities in these areas. PASRAP – *Project supporting stabilisation in the Sahel, Nord and Est regions of Burkina Faso* – is based on this three-pronged observation. The project seeks to strengthen the social cohesion and socio-economic stability of strategic border areas that have been weakened by the security and climate crises. Inter-community dialogue between key actors in the sector – pastoralists and agropastoralists, producers and local authorities – will be tangibly encouraged through the organisation of informed debates and community monitoring of social and economic issues at local level. The installation of strategic agropastoral amenities – secure routes, wells, livestock-feed bank, etc. – and the joint management of those amenities will also help reduce tensions and conflicts. The project will help actors in the sector boost their income, while also promoting food security, nutrition and a calmer social climate, and will therefore prevent people from drifting into radicalisation.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**APESS (association for the promotion of livestock farming in the Sahel and Savanes regions):** international organisation of livestock farmers from 13 African countries, promoting modern family livestock farming for a healthy society.

**RECOPA (communication network for pastoralism):** livestock farmers' organisation with 50,000 members operating in Burkina Faso to foster relationships between pastoralists, rural communities and local authorities for discussing issues relating to pastoralism.

Beneficiaries

**10,000**

PASTORAL AND AGROPASTORAL HOUSEHOLDS  
most affected by the security and climate crisis



**GITE:** Intercommunity management of the environment to adapt agriculture, forest and pasture to climate change

## Sustainable joint management of natural resources

2019 – 2022 • MAURITANIA • Budget: €2,000,000

Financial partners: European Union, Air France

Beneficiaries

**10,000** HOUSEHOLDS  
agropastoralists, pickers, fishermen

**17,000** LIVESTOCK FARMERS  
from 10 pastoral associations

**18** LOCAL ORGANISATIONS  
in charge of managing natural resources (OGRN)

As the climate changes, Mauritania is one of the most vulnerable countries to desertification in the Sahel. In rural Mauritania, the economy is a subsistence economy based on rain-fed agriculture, artisanal fishing and, above all, livestock farming. Roughly 43.2% of the population lives below the poverty line, and in rural areas that figure is as high as 60%. This project aims to help at least 8,000 people become more resilient and improve their food security, and to combat environmental degradation through efficient joint management of natural resources in three regions: Gorgol, Guidimakha and southern Assaba. The idea is to create shared references and establish a local normative and institutional framework for the management of natural resources. Our partner GRDR has extensive experience managing projects with multiple actors and specialises in local development, decentralisation and land use for agricultural, fishing, forest and pastoral production. In 2021, four informed debates were organised, 80 km of routes were marked, one rest area was developed and three watering places were renovated. A total of 317 tonnes of livestock feed were distributed, and three storehouses were built. Since the start of the project, three GIS training/retraining sessions have been held. Some of the activities planned as part of the project (for instance, supporting cross-border dialogue) had to be cancelled because of the pandemic.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**GRDR (group for research and projects in support of rural development)** was created in 1969 by a group of West Africans living in France. The organisation supports development in West Africa, the Maghreb and France.

**GNAP (national group of pastoral associations in Mauritania)** works with pastoral associations to supply inputs, perform development work, build pastoral infrastructure and coordinate between actors.

**RUFSTA:** Responding to emergencies and helping stabilise agropastoral communities in the Sahel and Est regions of Burkina Faso

## Providing emergency aid to help vulnerable communities become more resilient

2020 – 2021 • BURKINA FASO • Budget: €479,532

Financial partners: Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS) of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE)

Beneficiaries

**20,000** AGROPASTORALISTS  
AND PASTORALISTS

**13** WORST-AFFECTED  
MUNICIPALITIES

Burkina Faso's Sahel and Est regions were hit by a wave of violence with repeated terrorist attacks targeting civilians, government officials and law enforcement. Those attacks have consequences for the entire community: they restrict travel and result in the destruction of public infrastructure and the closing of schools. Pastoral communities in rural areas are particularly affected, as their livelihood requires mobility: transhumance routes are modified, and livestock-market activity is disrupted by significantly lower attendance and a drop in animal prices. Transhumant livestock farmers and livestock transporters are sometimes mistaken for terrorists and subjected to extortion and mistreatment by soldiers. The Crisis and Support Centre of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs granted funding to Acting for Life in order to act urgently to help vulnerable households become more resilient through social cohesion and by facilitating access to water and livestock feed. In the space of one year, forums for dialogue were organised between local non-governmental actors, local and religious authorities, law enforcement and journalists to help people better understand the sector and avoid confusion between pastoral mobility and terrorism. The organisation of seven dialogue sessions to identify amenities, and eight steering committee meetings and meetings for putting in place emergency funds also helped place local CSOs as well as decentralised and delegated authorities back at the heart of aid work. A total of 250 first-aid kits, 302 tonnes of millet and 50 tonnes of fodder were distributed, 210 tonnes of livestock feed was positioned, and two boreholes were dug at strategic points along transhumance corridors.



### OUR LOCAL PARTNER

**RECOPA (communication network for pastoralism),** aims to form bonds between pastoralists, rural communities and local authorities for discussing issues relating to pastoralism.

DISTRIBUTION OF 250 FIRST-AID KITS

DISTRIBUTION OF 562 TONNES OF LIVESTOCK FEED AND FODDER

REALISATION OF 2 BOREHOLES AND 3 WELLS



# TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

€5,113,661

TOTAL BUDGET

(Total multi-year budget)

5 PROJECTS  
IN 2021

5 TARGET  
COUNTRIES

8 LOCAL  
PARTNERS

## BACKGROUND

Despite strong economic growth in the region, West Africa faces the challenge of facilitating the professional integration of young people who are entering a job market dominated by informal employment (90% to 95% of jobs), which often means that people are underemployed and earning low incomes. The offer of training is limited and focuses more on trades in the services sector and less on trades in the secondary sector, which, paradoxically lacks skilled labour. Young people also have trouble gaining access to training for financial and geographic reasons, particularly trainees from rural areas and young women in trades in the secondary sector.

## PROJECTS

To address these challenges with regard to training and professional integration, Acting for Life is developing its expertise in the social approach to the integration and training of young people through several large-scale programmes for the development of training in the primary and secondary sectors. The actions undertaken aim to improve access to high-quality training and expand professional opportunities and boost income for young people by:

- **Improving training formats** (long programmes, short programmes, diversification of curricula, implementation of field schools, etc.) and creating original systems for monitoring the integration of trainees based on synergies between actions and actors, such as the development of institutional procurement. In 2021, Acting for Life supported nine training entities and local NGOs in five West African countries.
- **Strengthening training programmes** (degree and certification programmes) in traditional or “green” sectors, masonry, plumbing, electricity, and crop and livestock farming. The programmes are accessible for 2,500 young people who are vulnerable or at risk of becoming vulnerable, or who are isolated from training or schooling. Special attention is paid to ensuring that young girls can access these training programmes, in order to encourage diversity among trainees and thus promote gender equality.
- **Supporting the social integration of young people:** by covering trainees’ school fees throughout their training, tutoring trainees, and developing cross-disciplinary skills in areas such as entrepreneurship, IT, the environment, gender equality, marketing, etc.

Lastly, Acting for Life and its partners have been examining ways to help young people become drivers of their own lives and get involved in their community by working on aspects such as citizenship and social cohesion.



## PROFIL: Project supporting the socio-economic integration of young people in the Est region of Burkina Faso Supporting the economic integration of young people through professional training

2017 – 2021 • BURKINA FASO • Budget: €1,070,000 • Financial partners: Agence française de développement (AFD)

Burkina Faso's Est region, which borders the Sahel region and Niger, has seen a degradation in the security situation and a rise in food insecurity. A third of the population is between 15 and 35 years old, and half of the inhabitants are under 15 years old. The region faces many challenges, including high population growth, high rural migration and low enrolment in school. Acting for Life created a regional training and integration system targeting young people not enrolled in school. Promising sectors linked to important local aspects, such as agroecology and livestock mobility, were identified with local actors. Short, practical training programmes in agriculture, forestry and pastoralism (field schools, agroecology, livestock fattening, etc.), and in rural-tisanry (masonry, mechanics, carpentry, etc.), help trainees strengthen their existing economic activities or start new ones.

The programme's strong local roots, the participation of renowned local NGOs, strong cooperation with public authorities, and Acting for Life's

expertise in training and integration were all keys to its success. Each of the three recruitment sessions drew over 1,000 applications, which is a sign of how much interest there is in the programme. In all, 1,040 young people (more than half of whom are girls) have received training. The training consists in

a common core curriculum, plus modules. The second phase of the PROFIL – *Project supporting the socio-economic integration of young people in the Est region of Burkina Faso* – began in early 2022 and will last three years. The main objectives are to strengthen the training and integration approach, scale up the project (5,000 trainees in 17 municipalities) and develop an approach to strengthening social cohesion by creating inclusive forums for dialogue and coordination.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**ARFA (association for agroecological research and training)** aims to promote agroecological practices and protect the environment. It was instrumental in helping create the national organic farming council (CNABio), which is an umbrella entity grouping together actors in organic/ environmentally friendly farming.

**RECOPA (communication network for pastoralism):** operates in Burkina Faso to help pastoralists, rural communities and local authorities discuss issues relating to pastoralism.

**Association Tin Tua (TIN TUA)**

Beneficiaries

**1,040 YOUNG PEOPLE  
RECEIVED TRAINING**  
50% male and female

2017 – 2021 • BURKINA FASO  
Budget: €3,100,000  
Financial partners: NORAD, Air France

**READY: Raising Employment Access and Development for Youth**

## Improving access to jobs for young people for better economic development

As in other countries in the sub-region, professional training centres in Burkina Faso are still under-equipped, and programmes are often poorly adapted to the innovations and needs of the market. Against this backdrop, Acting for Life is carrying out a large-scale project to offer professional training for young people in four regions of Burkina Faso (Sahel, Est, Cascades and Hauts-Bassins) and help them find jobs. The READY project – *Raising Employment Access and Development for Youth* – aims to train 1,300 young people in electricity, plumbing and agriculture, improve training programmes and help programme graduates seek employment. The project offers two-year certification programmes, as well as shorter programmes focusing on specific topics in agriculture for young people in rural areas with little qualification or schooling, and little resources. The 812 trainees in the long programme were fully taken charge of (school fees, lodging, food, health, kits/ equipment needed for the programme and for work). A total of 413 people (nearly half female) participated in shorter modular training programmes in agriculture. Training centres were provided with additional material and human resources – particularly instructors – in order to create the best possible conditions for learning, while minimising absences and drop-outs. As part of the professional integration process, trainees also participate in training sessions or workshops on entrepreneurship, “soft skills” and IT skills. The project also seeks to increase the number of girls enrolled in training (currently about 30%).

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**OCADES Bobo Dioulasso, Organisation promoting development and solidarity,** is based in the Hauts-Bassins region and develops education-related projects, particularly in the fields of hydraulics and agriculture.

**Association Tin Tua (TIN TUA),** With strong rural roots, it has been active in solar power for over 10 years, has founded an agricultural training centre and has developed its own modules to support entrepreneurship and agricultural training.

**Training centres:** Centre Fa-Tien, Centre CAPE, ANPE Hauts-Bassins, ANPE Cascades, ANPE Fada N'Gourma, ANPE Dori, CPFL Louis Querbes (professional training centre).

Beneficiaries

**1,192 YOUNG PEOPLE  
RECEIVED TRAINING**  
812 young people enrolled in long training programmes and 380 young villagers participated in short training programmes



**FEDI:** Project supporting training, employment, development and integration

## Promoting better socio-economic development: training and professional integration of young people

2019 – 2021 • SENEGAL • Budget: €150,000 (pilot project)  
Financial partners: Fondation AnBer, Air France

Senegal is West Africa's top-performing economy, but unemployment remains high and young people face many challenges when it comes to seeking employment. The Saint-Louis region has valuable agricultural and natural resources, but 30% of young people are unable to find jobs there. The FEDI project – *Project supporting training, employment, development, and integration* – aims to improve and adapt the offer of degree programmes in areas linked to the ecological transition – renewable energies, sustainable agriculture, sustainable construction – and in promising sectors of the local economy.

The project targets vulnerable young people with little schooling, who also receive technical and cross-disciplinary professional training in labour law and entrepreneurship. Acting for Life and its local partner, Diapalante, are working to adapt the offer of training to meet the needs of young people and the locality, and to suit their professional integration. Initiatives were carried out to raise awareness about issues relating to discrimination at work. Lastly, by strengthening the local partner, that partner is now able to engage in dialogue on training issues at regional level with economic and institutional actors.

### Beneficiaries

**71** VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH LITTLE SCHOOLING

**40 %** WOMEN

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

The **Diapalante association** serves as a training centre and "incubator" for artisans and local businesses in sectors linked to the environment and sustainable development.

**CRPF** for training in photovoltaic electricity.

**PAMPEC:** Project supporting stonework professions and sustainable construction

## New challenge: to build on the current momentum of sustainable construction

2019 – 2022 • MALI, TOGO AND BENIN • Budget: €1,050,000 • Financial partners: Agence française de développement (AFD), Air France

### Beneficiaries

**180** YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 16 AND 25 YEARS OLD

**120** YOUNG ARTISANS

**20 %** WOMEN

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**Benin:** **ACAD (Association of the Atacora and Donga regions)**, through its role in capacity-building and facilitating dialogue between the 13 towns that it comprises, helps mobilise communities and promote the development of the stonework sector.

**Togo:** The **NGO GEVAPAF (managing the environment and promoting agropastoral and forest products)**, specialises in sustainable development, agroecology and the promotion of local resources.

**Mali:** **APAPE-PH (Association for pastoralism, agropastoralism, livestock farming and human advancement)** is dedicated to supporting professional training, local development and sustainable construction.

Each year, more and more young people in West Africa are entering a job market where over 90% of jobs are in the informal sector. The offer of professional training is highly limited and largely insufficient. To improve the economic and social development of artisans and young people, Acting for Life and its partners are working to help young people integrate professionally into the building sector. New training opportunities, monitoring and integration systems, and support for the development of sustainable construction through institutional procurement have been introduced in Mali's Mopti region, Togo's Kara and Savanes regions, and Benin's Atacora and Donga departments. The training programmes have been diversified and strengthened, and new course modules have been integrated (sustainable

construction, the environment, entrepreneurship, marketing). Three field schools were organised, and 180 young people are being monitored through monitoring and integration programmes. Those programmes help professionalise young people just as much as efforts by public and private actors to assist with professional integration. An advocacy initiative encouraging local authorities to use local materials in their buildings is helping promote the development of the earth/stonework sector and preserve the environment by making use of local natural resources. Artisans, training centres and local authorities are directly supported through the provision of equipment, training of instructors and technical assistance. Lastly, the fact that multiple countries are involved helps facilitate the sharing of skills between actors in the South.

# GROUPE FIP

Groupe FIP – *Formation et insertion professionnelle* – (TVET Group: Technical & Vocational Education and Training) was created in 2013 and comprises five French organisations that are dedicated to promoting international solidarity and that are engaged in professional training: Acting for Life, Apprentis d'Auteuil, Essor, Gret and IECD. The members of the Group operate in over 41 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. The Group's main objective is to improve access to jobs for young people and help them become economically integrated.

Groupe FIP discusses cross-disciplinary issues encountered in the development projects carried out by the five NGOs. The approaches, territories and context are different for each association, which leads to fruitful debates, discussions and experience-sharing. The Group has been supported by the Agence française de développement (AFD) since 2015, and meets several times a year to find solutions and share tools in order to improve the quality of projects.

The Group's initial focus was on entrepreneurship for young people. The Group's members then engaged in joint discussions on information and communications technology (ICT) and its uses in technical and vocational education and training activities. Lastly, the Group decided to focus on gender and came up with concrete actions to incorporate gender equality into projects to improve training and access to jobs in developing countries: combating stereotypes, preventing drop-outs during training, career development for women after completion of training.

The members of Groupe FIP work together on a regular basis to draft and publish experience-assessment documents, articles and an inventory of tools and best practices.

### To learn more:

Two publications drafted (in french) by Groupe FIP members on the contextualisation and methodology of TVET projects were published on Acting for Life's website:

<https://acting-for-life.org/app/uploads/Note-contextualisation-Genre-FIP-2020.pdf>

<https://acting-for-life.org/app/uploads/Note-methodologique-Genre-FIP-2020.pdf>



The first step is to break down the monitoring and impact indicators by gender, but that isn't enough. For example, if the professional integration of a graduating class one year after completing the programme is 80% for males and 20% for females, that indicator alone doesn't help us understand why such a gap exists. We need seek out the different actors involved (project managers, instructors, employers, beneficiaries, etc.) to explore the possible causes.

Note Contextualisation Genre-FIP, Groupe FIP, 2020

ACTING  
FOR LIFE

APPRENTIS  
D'AUTEUIL

ESSOR  
Association de Solidarité Internationale

iecd  
semeurs d'avenir

GRET



# FOOD SYSTEMS & ECOSYSTEMS

€6,050,042

TOTAL BUDGET  
(Total multi-year budget)

## WEST AFRICA:

5 PROJECTS  
IN 2021

3 TARGET  
COUNTRIES

8 LOCAL  
PARTNERS

## LATIN AMERICA:

4 PROJECTS  
IN 2021

3 TARGET  
COUNTRIES

5 LOCAL  
PARTNERS

## BACKGROUND

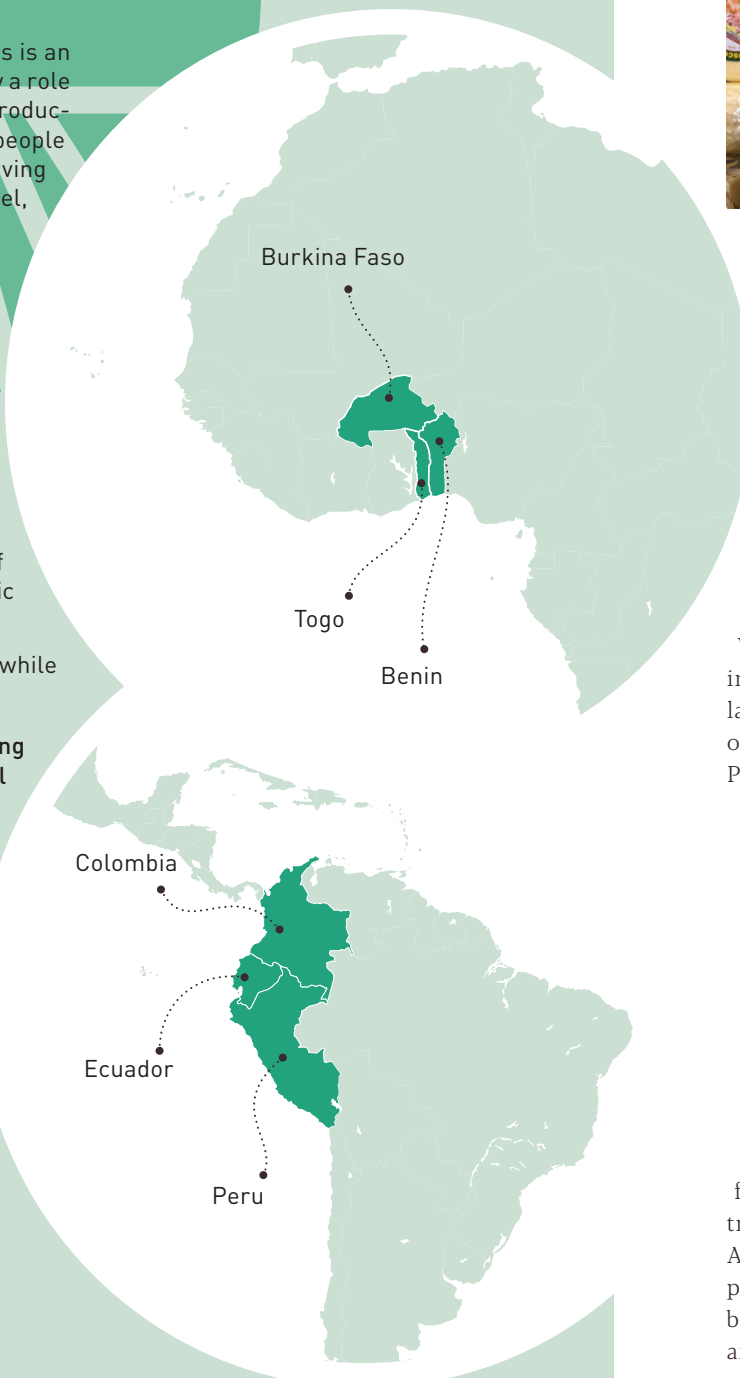
Shifting agricultural and food systems towards sustainable and resilient models is an important issue. Long marginalised in political agendas, family farming can play a role in the transition of agricultural and food systems. It accounts for 80% of food production worldwide and is a source of jobs in rural areas, where more and more people are leaving and moving to urban centres. It is also more suitable for preserving biodiversity, and stands out in this sense from the intensive production model, which weakens ecosystems and exacerbates the effects of climate change.

## PROJECTS

Acting for Life works with agrarian communities in West Africa and Latin America to help them gain access to and sustainably manage the natural, human, material and financial resources available in their locality, in order to generate an economic activity. AFL carries out actions to help preserve/restore the ecosystems that rural communities depend on, and works with peasant-farming families and organisations of producers, processors and micro-entrepreneurs to encourage diversified production that meets market standards in terms of quality and quantity, while supporting the transition to agroecology and organic production.

To address these challenges and help transform agricultural and food systems while promoting greater equity, Acting for Life focuses on the following priorities:

- **Developing resilient, environmentally friendly practices:** by facilitating ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change (protecting natural ecosystems and biodiversity); and by strengthening environmentally friendly practices across all segments of agricultural value chains.
- **Improving the downstream segment of value chains (agricultural or other) and promoting market access for peasant-farmer production:** by strengthening short supply chains, access to institutional markets and contractual farming through private buyers; by promoting product certification and local labels; by pooling downstream value-chain functions (such as storage and distribution); by strengthening capacities for better access to markets; and by developing entrepreneurship in the social and solidarity-based economy.
- **Facilitating local cooperation between multiple actors and creating local public policies to facilitate the transition of agricultural and food systems:** by promoting local consumption and advocating for public procurement.



## Promoting sustainable food by supporting the development of agroecological production and local consumption

2021 – 2024 • BENIN, BURKINA FASO, TOGO, COLOMBIA, PERU • Budget: €3,666,400 (€2,100,000 from AFD) • Financial partners: Agence française de développement (AFD), Air France, Servair and the Communauté d'agglomération Roissy-Pays de France

Beneficiaries

7,405 PRODUCERS AND PROCESSORS  
in family-farming settings (54% women)

175 YOUNG PEOPLE TARGETED  
for training and integration

270 SHOPKEEPERS AND  
RESTAURATEURS

100 REPRESENTATIVES OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS  
hospitals, health centres, schools



1,820 ha OF PASTURE AND CULTIVATED LAND IN  
THE PROCESS OF ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

Family farming plays a major role in agricultural production, accounting for 80% of food production worldwide. It is also a source of jobs in rural areas where people are leaving and moving to urban centres. It is hindered, however, by poor access to lucrative and sustainable commercial markets. As the climate changes, it is also important to make these agricultural and food systems more resilient.

With over ten years' experience supporting rural development in Latin America and West Africa, Acting for Life launched a large-scale programme in late 2021 in five different countries on both continents (Benin, Burkina Faso, Togo, Colombia and Peru).

The TERSAA programme – *Transition of local agricultural and food systems* – aims to improve food security and food sovereignty while guaranteeing access to high-quality, locally produced foods for all by improving coordination between family farming and local markets through greater control over the downstream segment of agricultural and agrifood sectors.

Sustainable and resilient practices are disseminated and adopted in order to make production and processing systems more sustainable: training in agroecology, environmentally friendly agricultural developments and agrifood equipment, training in quality assurance and product certification. Acting for Life and its local partners are committed to helping producers and processors transition to agroecology and boost their productivity. Producers will also receive training and assistance in entrepreneurial management – marketing, promoting and distributing products – in accordance with the

principles of the social and solidarity-based economy. Special attention is paid to making sure women and young people are included, particularly through the creation of training and integration programmes.

Local actors – farmers, processors, distributors, municipalities, buyers from the public and private sectors, consumers – are informed about local issues in order to facilitate commercial partnerships favouring sustainable value chains and the implementation of local public policies supporting better food. A joint experience assessment analysing the marketing strategies used by farmers' organisations is conducted on both continents in collaboration with the IRD (French national research institute for sustainable development).

The TERSAA programme was officially launched at two multi-actor workshops, in Colombia late 2021 and Togo early 2022.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**BURKINA FASO:** CCPF (Burkina Faso farmers' confederation) and OCADES Bobo-Dioulasso

**BENIN:** GIC (intermunicipal group of the Collines department)

**TOGO:** Entreprises Territoires et Développement (ETD) and OADEL (Organisation for local foods and development)

**PERU:** Asociación Jesús Obrero (CCAIJO)

**COLOMBIA:** Instituto Mayor Campesino (IMCA) and Asociación de Productores Ecológicos de Planadas (ASOPEP)



AMIAGRI – RESIST: Supporting actors on institutional markets for agricultural products

## Combating food and nutrition insecurity

2019 – 2021 • BURKINA FASO • Budget: €264,771 (pilot project) • Financial partners: Air France, Comité Français pour la Solidarité Internationale (CFSI) / Fondation de France

Since 2016, local authorities in Burkina Faso have been in charge of placing orders for the purchase of raw foods for school cafeterias. The objective of the AMIAGRI – *Project supporting actors on institutional markets for agricultural products* – is to promote sustainable and fair partnerships between producer organisations and local authorities in 17 municipalities in the Cascades region of Burkina Faso, in order to increase the amount of high-quality local agricultural products supplied to public cafeterias. Acting for Life and its partners train farmers in the following areas to help them submit competitive bids in response to tender calls: increasing the quantity and quality of production, complying with standards, improving product shelf life, etc. Farmers’ organisations gained access to new sales outlets through public institutions and private entities. They also formed a supply and distribution network comprising farmers’ organisations, processors’ organisations, shopkeepers, restaurateurs, hotel operators, transporters, etc., to share information and pool agricultural production, infrastructure and means of transport. In the wake of the pandemic and its consequences – rising food prices as a result of inflation, postponement of activities –, the AMIAGRI project has been extended in Burkina Faso thanks to support from CFSI. The project is now called RESIST – *Resilience of local food systems*.

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**The Confédération Paysanne du Faso** (smallholder confederation of Burkina Faso) comprises 15 smallholder organisations and supports sustainable, productive and competitive family farming that guarantees access to land and ensures food security and sovereignty.

**Inades Formation Burkina:** The African institute for economic and social development is involved in initiatives in the fields of agricultural development, decentralisation, management of natural resources, rural funding and smallholder communication.

FAPAMI: Facilitating access to institutional markets for local agricultural products

## For healthy food, buy and consume locally

2019 – 2022 • BENIN, TOGO • Budget: €300,691 € (pilot project) • Financial partners: Air France, Servair, Comité Français pour la Solidarité Internationale (CFSI) / Fondation de France, Fondation AnBer

In response to the rapid growth of cities, the FAPAMI project – *Facilitating access to institutional markets for local agricultural products* – aims to improve living conditions and food security in Benin and Togo by professionalising family farming, developing sales outlets for local agricultural products (particularly agroecological products), and offering farming families a stable and sustainable income. The project provides market gardeners with irrigation equipment and training in agroecological production standards. The fruit and vegetables grown are certified “organic quality” by a participatory guarantee system (PGS). Training was also offered in hygiene and quality, and equipment was provided to agrifood processing facilities. The project also aims to improve distribution, sales and contracting with private entities. A distribution centre for processed food products was created in Togo to pool the farmers’ supply. Lastly, communications initiatives promoting massive consumption of healthy local products were launched. Despite the negative effects of the pandemic, farmers’ organisations (AMAP) and processors’ organisations have become more resilient by stabilising their production (large volumes, quality and consistency) and developing fair commercial partnerships with the private sector, and in particular with the company Servair in Togo and Benin.

### Beneficiaries

1,050 PRODUCERS AND PROCESSORS

350 WOMEN belonging to associations for mother-educators

5,000 STUDENTS

35 SHOPKEEPERS

1 MILLION CONSUMERS



### Beneficiaries

100 PRODUCERS

250 SHOPKEEPERS points of sale, restaurants, hotels, supermarkets, 3 schools

40,000 CONSUMERS

### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

**OADEL (organisation for local foods and development)** has been partnered with AFL in Togo since 2015 and promotes the right to food through the consumption of local processed and packaged agricultural products.

**Hortitechs Développement** is a Beninese NGO dedicated to strengthening family horticulture that is resilient to climate change and environmentally friendly.

**AMAP Benin and AMAP Togo**



TADESS: Transitioning to sustainable agriculture and a social and solidarity-based economy

## Incorporating environmental objectives into economic and solidarity-focused development

2019 – 2021 • PERU • Budget: €281,333 • Financial partners: Air France

### Beneficiaries

730 PRODUCERS of milk and guinea pigs

40 FAMILY BUSINESSES gained access to financial credit

88 FAMILIES AND FAMILY BUSINESSES producing dairy products, mushrooms and native potato varieties

10 ASSOCIATIONS of producers received training

The TADESS project – *Transitioning to sustainable agriculture and a social and solidarity-based economy* – aims to boost income for rural communities in the Cuzco province (Ocongate, Ccatca and Andahuaylillas) by structuring strategic production sectors and constructing agroecological districts with help from local actors. The project has four pillars – production, marketing, local cooperation and access to loans – and offers technical support to family businesses to help them improve the quality and profitability of their production. Milk and guinea pig producers were trained in entrepreneurial management and received marketing assistance at local and national level. New value chains were developed and structured, and diversified agricultural production was encouraged in order to secure the area’s food sovereignty. The local partner, CCAIJO, buys some of the cheese production above market price, which it matures and sells under the “D’Ausangate” brand in accordance with the principles of the social and solidarity-based economy, which involve redistributing the proceeds throughout the locality. Farmers’ organisations were strengthened and participated in local discussion forums with CCAIJO to promote a policy for the development of agroecology and a local label.



### OUR LOCAL PARTNER

**Asociación Jesús Obrero (CCAIJO)** aims to improve the living conditions of the people living in the rural province of Quispicanchi (near Cuzco), an area that has a long history of poverty and marginalisation.

ALMA: Preserving and sustainably managing the ecosystem of the marsh of Zapatos

## Restoring the Zapatos marsh ecosystem to improve food security

2019 – 2021 • COLOMBIA • Budget: €428,000 • Financial partners: Air France, Fundación Alma, TNC The Nature Conservancy

### Key figures

300 BENEFICIARIES

50 FAMILY VEGETABLE GARDENS

50 ha RESTORED AND PROTECTED

1 COMMUNITY SEED BANK

The ALMA project coordinates the participatory ecological restoration of the Zapatos marsh, a wetland area rich in biodiversity, whose socio-ecosystems are vulnerable to climate change. The project has launched a number of initiatives, such as reforestation and the creation of networks of family agroforestry systems, resilient high-production vegetable gardens, community nurseries and a seed bank to ensure the locality’s food security. Thanks to sustainable management, the restored marsh now allows fishing families to meet their needs and protect themselves against flooding. The project also aims to implement governance that promotes integrated local management with multiple actors covering the project’s three areas of focus: the Sempegua, Saloa and Mata communities (municipality of Chimichagua, Cesar). The project is continuing in 2022 to improve the environmental resilience, security and food sovereignty of communities suffering from the impacts of climate change, with a view to conserving and restoring ecosystems and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic development.



### OUR LOCAL PARTNER

For over 30 years, **Fundación Alma** has been working to protect and preserve natural resources, particularly in the Magdalena River basin in northern Colombia.



# FINANCIAL REPORT 2021

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 Journal Officiel (government gazette) 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.

## Reminder

In 2020, the application of ANC regulation no. 2018-06 brought about changes to the accounting methods.

The new regulation affects how Acting for Life’s balance sheet and income statement are presented, and a few changes de tables in the appendix.

Moreover, flows of dedicated funds were reallocated to operating earnings, which offers greater clarity for operating earnings.

The last significant change involved splitting financial contributions from public assistance and other grants and subsidies.

## 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 12% versus 2020, which means that grants received in 2021 were less than grants consumed. Certain projects nearing their end date are renewed over longer periods (READY with NORAD, PROFIL with the AFD, etc.).

Cash and cash equivalents decreased 12% to €9,732,000: a portion of the grants receivable is expected in 2022.

## Liabilities

Dedicated funds and deferred income were stable overall in 2021: -13% for dedicated funds, and -14% for deferred income. Smaller-scale “hungry gap” projects, such as PROFIL Jeunes and RESIST, were carried out. Funding for two projects, however, was confirmed at the end of the year:

- the TERSAA programme (transition of local agricultural and food systems) covering six countries in Africa and Latin America, co-funded by the AFD for €2,100,000,
- the BIDA project (biodiversity, inclusion, sustainable development and water) for Ecuador, co-funded by the European Union’s local delegation for €845,000, scheduled for launch in 2022.

## Balance sheet

The balance sheet presents Acting for Life’s situation at 31 December 2021.

In thousands of euros	2021 gross	Amt & Prov	2021 net	2020 net	Change	Change %
ASSETS						
Fixed assets						
Intangible assets	14	9	5	6	(1)	-16%
Tangible assets	55	51	4	8	(4)	-48%
Current assets						
Other receivables	4,988		4,988	5,701	(712)	-12%
Treasury investments	18		18	18		
Cash and cash equivalents	9,732		9,732	11,024	(1,292)	-12%
Prepaid expenses	14		14	9	5	59%
TOTAL ACTIF	14,821	60	14,761	16,766	(2,004)	-12%

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY						
Own funds						
Funds with right of recovery	15		15	15		
Funds without right of recovery	2,052		2,052	2,023	29	1%
Other reserves				110	(110)	-100%
Net income	2		2	29	(26)	-92%
Provisions for liabilities and charges						
Dedicated funds	3,744		3,744	4,318	(574)	-13%
Liabilities						
Loans and similar debts payable	1,348		1,348	1,452	(105)	-7%
Accounts payable	154		154	190	(36)	-19%
Tax and social debts	109		109	58	51	+87%
Other liabilities	15		15	31	(16)	-52%
Deferred income	7,322		7,322	8,539	(1,217)	-14%
TOTAL LIABILITIES	14,761		14,761	16,766	(2,004)	-12%

## Income statement

In thousands of euros	2021	2020	Change	Change %
OPERATING INCOME				
Grants and subsidies	1,310	1,133	177	16%
Financial contributions	4,249	4,889	-639	-13%
Write-backs on provisions	267	173	93	54%
Use of dedicated funds	1,621	1,456	165	11%
Other income	18	41	-23	-56%
Total income (I)	7,465	7,692	-227	-3%
OPERATING COSTS				
Other external costs	796	578	218	38%
Taxes and duties	73	88	-15	-17%
Wages and salaries	942	974	-32	-3%
Social-security costs	354	368	-14	-4%
Amortisation expense	5	6	-1	-13%
Provisions				
Carry forward of dedicated funds	1,047	982	65	7%
Other costs	4,246	4,669	-423	-9%
Total costs (II)	7,463	7,665		
1 - OPERATING EARNINGS (I-II)	2	28		
FINANCIAL REVENUE (III)		1	-1	-95%
INTEREST EXPENSE (IV)				
2 - NET FINANCIAL INCOME (III-IV)		1	-1	-95%
3 - PRE-TAX INCOME (I-II+III-IV)	2	29	-26	-92%
EXTRAORDINARY INCOME (V)				
EXTRAORDINARY COSTS (VI)				
4 - EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS (V-VI)				
TOTAL income (I+III+V)	7,465	7,694	-227	-3%
Total costs (II+IV+VI)	7,463	7,665	-201	-3%
5 - SURPLUS OR DEFICIT	2	29	-25	-92%



## Funds

At 31/12/2021, funds amounted to €7,466,000 and were stable compared with 2020.

Public grants recorded for our projects totalled €4,089,000 at 31/12/21. That figure was in line with public grants consumed in 2021: €1,309,000 for French public funding, and €2,780,000 for EU public funding: EU and Norwegian development cooperation (NORAD).

## Use of funds

Grants awarded by the association accounted for 57% of operating costs, which was on par with 2020 (60%). Those were mainly transfers of funds to local partners working on our projects. In 2021, transfers to our local partners were mainly for the PAMOBARMA project (€1,658k), the PRECIT project (€473k) and the READY project (€363k).

Funds allocated to projects accounted for over 90% of operating costs.

## Events after closing :

The worsening of the geopolitical and security crisis in the Sahel – particularly in Mali and Burkina Faso – could have an impact on the organisation’s activity in 2022. Projects that are currently in progress or scheduled to launch in those two countries may be delayed or interrupted. Such a reduction in activity could negatively affect the organisation’s accounts in 2022. This risk is being monitored on a regular basis, and protective measures have been provided for to reduce the potential impact.



# INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

Thanks to the generous support of its financial partners, Acting for Life is able to draw on its renowned expertise in economic and local development in the Global South to implement its programmes, ensure their long-term success, and contribute towards achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). On behalf of all the civil-society organisations working with AFL, thank you for your support.



A public institution at the heart of France's developmentaid system, the Agence Française de Développement (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. AFD's support 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 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.



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 importance of international solidarity led to their decision to launch the partnership. Roissy Pays de France is committed to supporting the economic and local development of vulnerable communities in Latin America and West Africa.



Through the European Commission's department for international partnerships, the EU 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 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 in its projects to promote technical and vocational education and training in Africa.



The Economic Community of West African States is an organisation that seeks to promote economic and political cooperation between its fifteen member states. ECOWAS partners with Acting for Life in its actions in West Africa to help ensure long-term economic and social development and improve people's standard of living.

## PARTNERSHIPS WITH EXPERTS AND RESEARCH CENTRES

For years, AFL has partnered with experts and research centres in Europe, and is a member of French and international "trades" networks.

- CIRAD (French agricultural research and international cooperation centre for development), ARED (Associates in Research and Education for Development), NCG (Nordic Consulting Group), Alliance of Lawyers for Human Rights, ESSEC, Toulouse Capitole University, Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium).
- Coordination Humanitaire et Développement, Coordination Sud, Microinsurance Network (risk management), Pastoralist Knowledge Hub of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

# PRIVATE FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Over the past several years, Acting for Life has developed strong relationships with its private financial partners, which include companies, corporate foundations, family foundations and large donors. The support from our sponsors is instrumental in allowing us to launch pilot projects and trial new approaches that can be subsequently scaled up and co-funded by public funding agencies.



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 technical and vocational education and training 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.



Acting for Life receives financial support from Fondation de France for projects in Togo, Benin and Burkina Faso through the PFAFO – *Programme to Support Family Farming in West Africa*. 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 fastgrowing cities.



GROUPE ADP

Groupe ADP is a global leader in designing, building and operating airports. A long-standing partner of Acting for Life, ADP supports us and our projects by providing office space at the Paris - Le Bourget airport. This partnership is vital to the stability and longevity of our work.



As the French leader in catering and airline logistics, SERV AIR 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.



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.



The Caritas France Foundation is the first umbrella foundation dedicated to reducing poverty and exclusion since its founding in 2009. It has supported a number of Acting for Life's projects, particularly in Africa, on issues such as technical and vocational education and 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, under the aegis of the Caritas France Foundation, funds professional training for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2017, it has been supporting Acting for Life on a project to strengthen technical and professional learning programmes and to help young people in Burkina Faso who are isolated from the job market integrate professionally in three key sectors of the local market: solar power, plumbing and farming.



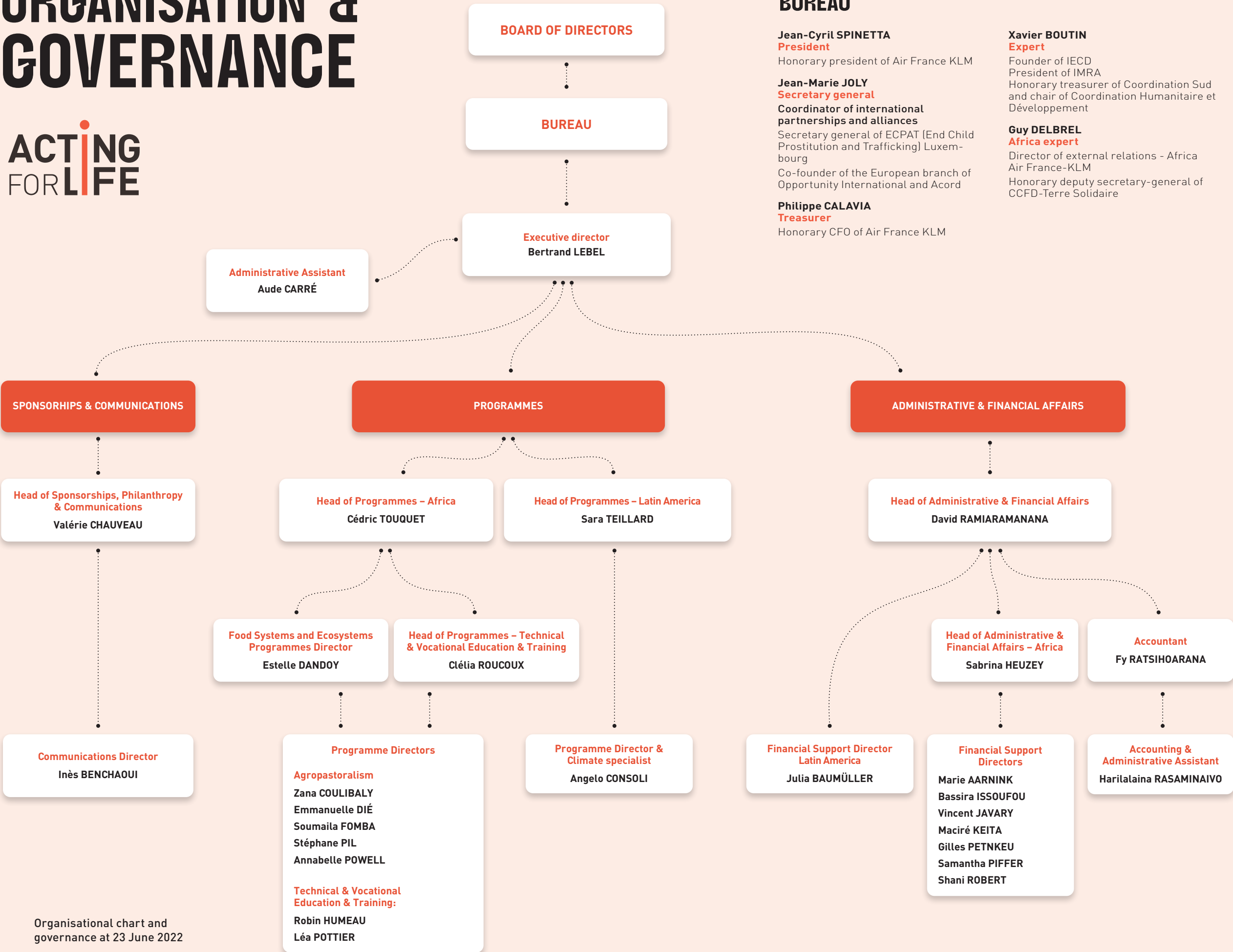
The Motul Corazón Foundation was founded in 2011, under the aegis of Fondation de France, to help young people who are disadvantaged or who are in difficult situations. Since 2016, the Motul Corazón Foundation has been supporting one of our projects in Mali that offers training in stonemasonry and helps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

We would like to thank all our partners for their past, present and future support to help combat poverty and exclusion in Africa and Latin America.

We have been officially recognised in France as an organisation serving the public interest since 11 March 2002, so your donations to Acting for Life are tax deductible.



# ORGANISATION & GOVERNANCE



Organisational chart and governance at 23 June 2022

## BUREAU

- Jean-Cyril SPINETTA**  
**President**  
Honorary president of Air France KLM
- Jean-Marie JOLY**  
**Secretary general**  
Coordinator of international partnerships and alliances  
Secretary general of ECPAT (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking) Luxembourg  
Co-founder of the European branch of Opportunity International and Acord
- Philippe CALAVIA**  
**Treasurer**  
Honorary CFO of Air France KLM
- Xavier BOUTIN**  
**Expert**  
Founder of IECD  
President of IMRA  
Honorary treasurer of Coordination Sud and chair of Coordination Humanitaire et Développement
- Guy DELBREL**  
**Africa expert**  
Director of external relations - Africa  
Air France-KLM  
Honorary deputy secretary-general of CCFD-Terre Solidaire

## BOARD MEMBERS

- Emile BOURDIN**  
President and founder of development NGOs  
Honorary president of the Catholic University in Angers
- Nicolas BUTTET**  
Former lawyer and member of the Swiss parliament  
Founder of the Philanthropos Institute and the Ecophilos Foundation in Fribourg, and the Eucharistein Brotherhood
- Henri-Michel COMET**  
Deputy general manager of Groupe ADP  
Board member of the Belem Foundation
- Boris ELOY**  
Marketing, communications and innovation director at Servair  
Honorary president of Communication et Entreprise
- Yves EZANNO**  
Secretary general of the Board of Airlines Representatives  
Honorary director of UTA
- Michel ENNESSER**  
Honorary CEO of Servair
- Bernard-Marie GEFFROY**  
Director of "Aux captifs, la Libération"  
Spiritual counsellor
- Lorraine KIHL**  
Director of Vosj'Innove  
Honorary executive director of Acting for Life
- Haïm KORSIA**  
Chief Rabbi of France  
Member of the French Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques
- Philippe LE GOFF**  
Honorary human resources director of Air France's cabin crew
- Bernard LEMETTRE**  
Honorary president of Mouvement du Nid ("The Nest Movement")  
Deacon in Wattrelos
- Jean-Pierre SAUVAGE**  
President of the Board of Airlines Representatives
- François VELLAS**  
Professor of international economics at Toulouse Capitole University  
Head of international relations at the University
- Pascal DOLL**  
President of the Roissy Pays de France agglomeration community
- Pascal ZADIKIAN**  
Head of Purchasing & Logistics for Servair's Africa network
- Komi ABITOR**  
Managing director of Entreprises Territoires et Développement (ETD)



Keep up to date with **Acting for Life's** publications and news

# ACTING FOR LIFE'S PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS



Creation of a livestock market: study focusing on needs, impacts on rural land and socio-economic development

Monograph on the Glazoué livestock market in Benin. PREDIP Project.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/app/uploads/Monographie-MAB-Glazoue%CC%81..pdf>



Partnership with farmers' organisations and joint local authority groups for the livestock-meat sector in northern Benin

Article by Cédric Touquet, head of agropastoral programmes, in the magazine *Grain de Sel*. December 2021.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/organisations-producteurs-intercollectivites-filiere-betail-viande/>



Initial assessment of the READY project on training for young people: very encouraging results

Results of post-training follow-up for the first group of graduates.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/bilan-suivi-post-formation-ready/>



Supporting public procurement for agricultural products

Advocacy brochure on institutional markets for sustainable local food systems in Burkina Faso's Cascades region. AMIAGRI project.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/soutenir-la-commande-publique-de-produits-agricoles/>

# VIDEOS AND INTERVIEWS



Supporting sustainable family farming to offer high-quality foods

Taking action in local food systems. PARMII Project. ©Agridigitale

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/alimentation-locale/>



Developing milk and guinea-pig value chains in Peru

Encouraging the construction of high-production agroecological areas. TADESS Project. ©Marco Simola

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/territoires-productifs-agroecologiques/>



Focus on the new TERSAA programme and Acting for Life's added value

Interview with Pedro Ojeda, project director of our partner IMCA.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/interview-pedro-ojeda-imca/>

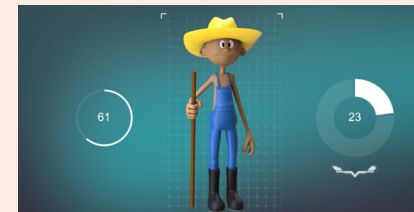
## PUBLICATIONS IN THE NATIONAL AND FOREIGN PRESS



This ancient production system has always proven to be resilient and adaptable

Article by Delphine Bousquet, an independent journalist in Benin, on the results of the PREDIT project.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/bilan-projet-predip/>



A local approach for the development of agropastoralism

Animated video on the local approach involving collaboration between professional organisations and joint local authority groups as part of the PAMOBARMA project.

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/une-approche-territoriale-pour-le-developpement-de-la-filiere-agropastorale/>



Testimonial by Adama Dicko, a young graduate who has become an expert in electricity for buildings

Filmed as part of the READY project in Burkina Faso. Hats off to her!

→ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJqSWNG9Eec&t=418s>



Official launch of the TERSAA programme

Article by E.H.M. Boukari appearing in Togopresse, a major national daily newspaper.

→ <https://togopresse.tg/le-programme-tersaa-officiellement-lance/?fbclid=IwAR1G6QfmPsp0TCU6EnPiX1bJlMab2MSs8190CYVUJtFbhdhmfCE08hFxN5M8s>

## ARTICLES IN AIR FRANCE MAGAZINE



Air France Magazine, Food System & Ecosystem Article, january/february 2021

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/manger-mieux-et-local/>



Air France Magazine, Agropastoralism Article, september 2021

→ <https://acting-for-life.org/renforcer-la-cohesion-sociale/>

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

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# LIST OF PROJECTS



TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION & TRAINING



AGROPASTORALISM



FOOD SYSTEMS AND  
ECOSYSTEMS

COUNTRY		YEAR	PROJECT	PARTNERS IN THE FIELD	PAGE
Burkina Faso		2019-2021	<b>AMIAGRI</b> - Supporting institutional markets for local agricultural products	INADES, CPF	20
		2019-2021	<b>PASRAP</b> - Supporting stabilisation in the Sahel, Nord and Est regions of Burkina Faso	APESS, RECOPA	12
		2018-2021	<b>PROFIL</b> - Supporting the socio-economic integration of young people in the Est region of Burkina Faso	TinTua, RECOPA Est, ARFA	15
		2017-2021	<b>READY</b> - Raising employment access and development for youth	OCADES, TinTua	15
		2021- 2021	<b>RESIST</b> - For greater resilience of local food systems in Burkina Faso	CPF	20
		2018-2021	<b>RUFSTA</b> - Responding to emergencies and helping stabilise agropastoral communities in the Sahel and Est regions of Burkina Faso	RECOPA	13
Colombia		2019-2021	<b>ALMA</b> - Preserving and sustainably managing the ecosystem of the marsh of Zapotosa	Fundación ALMA	21
Ivory Coast		2019-2021	<b>PAP-Bio Comoé</b> - Promoting sustainable, participatory and integrated management to preserve biodiversity in the periphery of the Comoé National Park	Nitidae, OPEF, VSFB	12
Ecuador		2017-2021	<b>REACTIV</b> - Reviving the local economy in the Manabi and Esmeraldas provinces of Ecuador	CEFODI, SOS FAIM	9
Mauritania		2019-2022	<b>GITE</b> - Intercommunity management of the environment to adapt agriculture, forest and pasture to climate change	GNAP, GRDR	13
Peru		2019-2021	<b>TADESS</b> - Transitioning to sustainable agriculture and a social and solidarity-based economy	CCAIJO	21
Senegal		2019-2022	<b>FEDI</b> - Supporting training, employment, development and integration in the Saint Louis department	Diapalante	16

COUNTRY		YEAR	PROJECT	PARTNERS IN THE FIELD	PAGE
Multi-country Benin, Bukina Faso, Togo, Colombia, Peru		2021 - 2024	<b>TERSAA</b> - Transition of local agricultural and food systems	CCAIJO, ASOPEP, CPF, ETD, GIC, IMCA, OADEL et OCADES Burkina/Bobo-Dioulasso	19
Multi-country Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Togo		2018-2022	<b>PAMOBARMA</b> - Supporting herd mobility to improve access to resources and markets in West Africa	ACAD, AEHRB, AJELAMO, ANOPER, APESS, AREN, CIKOD, ETD, FENAPFIBVTO, FREFBV, GAJEL, GEVAPAF, GDCA, GIC, OPEF, RECOPA, URFBV, VSFB	11
Multi-country Benin, Togo		2017-2022	<b>FIPEC</b> - Technical and vocational education and training through sustainable construction	ACAD, GEVAPAF	NP*
Multi-country Benin, Togo		2018-2021	<b>PARMI</b> - Promoting local products through catering in mass and institutional markets	GIC, OADEL	NP*
Multi-country Benin, Togo		2019-2022	<b>FAPAMI</b> - Facilitating access to institutional markets for local agricultural products	Hortitechs Développement, AMAP Benin, AMAP Togo, OADEL	20
Multi-country Benin, Mali, Togo		2019-2022	<b>PAMPEC</b> - Supporting stonework professions and sustainable construction	ACAD, APAPE-PH, GEVAPAF	16
Multi-country Burkina Faso, Mali		2020-2022	<b>PRECIT</b> - Strengthening harmony and cohesion among communities in the border regions	APAPE-PH, APESS, ICD, RECOPA, VSF-B	11
Multi-country	TRANSVERSAL	2019-2021	<b>PAMOC 3</b> - Supporting the mobilisation of French NGOs on climate	AFD, GERES	NP*
Multi-country	TRANSVERSAL	2019-2021	Focus on gender in TVET projects	TVET partners	NP*

\*NP: Not provided in this report. For more information, visit [acting-for-life.org](https://acting-for-life.org)



# OUR 3 AREAS OF FOCUS



## FOOD SYSTEMS & ECOSYSTEMS

Supporting sustainable access to a sufficient supply of food, and an ecological transition at local level



## AGROPASTORALISM

Supporting the mobility and marketing of livestock in West Africa



## TECHNICAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

Supporting employment and entrepreneurship

**ACTING**  
FOR **LIFE**

40, avenue de l'Europe  
93350 Le Bourget Aéroport  
Tel.: +33 (0)1 49 34 83 13  
[contact@acting-for-life.org](mailto:contact@acting-for-life.org)  
[acting-for-life.org](http://acting-for-life.org)

