

Project title : BEY DIIWAAN YI - Support for scaling up agroecological initiatives to tackle the vulnerability of food systems in Senegal

Project place	Project cost	Role in the project	Technical and financial sponsors	Dates
Senegal	965 000 €	Coordination and technical expertise	Liechtensteinischer Entwicklungs Dienst - LED, CREATES - Centre for Action Research on Ecological and Social Transformations	January 2025 - December 2027

Project's goals and results

Main goals

Enhance the sustainability of local food systems by leveraging and scaling innovative territorial approaches to agroecology

In this context, sustainability refers to fostering food systems that demonstrate resilience to the complex socio-environmental challenges, promote social justice, protect ecosystems, and ensure food security and sovereignty. This goal aligns with LED's strategy promoting sustainable food systems.

Specific objectives

SO1. Strengthen inclusive governance structures to facilitate the integration of agroecology and the just, sustainable use of natural resources into local policies and practices

SO2. Improve the sustainability and productivity of local production systems as farmers and community members collaboratively implement and refine co-developed agroecological infrastructure and agronomic practices

SO3. Strengthen collaboration between food system actors to open new market opportunities for producers and processors, increasing the diversity and quantity of local agroecological products available on the market

Beneficiaries

Results

Inclusive governance of food systems

R1. A territorial diagnostic of food systems is co-produced for each living lab

R2. A shared vision and collective action plans to support the agroecological transition are co-elaborated and ready for implementation at departmental scale

R3. Local and/or traditional citizen organisations are sensitised and trained in inclusive management of resources and agroecological intensification

Agroecological Intensification

R4. Common interest developments are tested with identified communities such as living vegetative hedges or sylvopastoral pasture restoration measures

R5. An integrated Farmer Field School (FFS) mechanism is set up where farmers are at the centre of knowledge co-construction

R6. Learnings from R5. experiments are disseminated through rigorous documentation, communication adapted to various audiences, and innovative multimedia tools

R7. A workshop on integrating agroecological knowledge into educational curricula is held bringing together professionals from diverse backgrounds

Development of markets and alternative value chains

R8. Support for RACINES and DyTAEL network activities strengthens links between producers, traders, and consumers through the organisation of regular local organic markets, digital platforms and social events

R9. A collective reflection is conducted on labelling, quality control, and technical device needs, such as market information systems

R10. A mapping of agroecology actors is created in Bignona and Petite Côte in collaboration with their DyTAEL

R11. Co-identify market opportunities for Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) and support their development, focusing on products like "maad" and cashew apples

Activities

Research and diagnostics

A1. Conduct territorial and value chain diagnostics through field research and multistakeholder events

A2. Map food system actors and create an interactive actors map

A3. Provide data to facilitate multi-actor deliberations

A4. Conduct targeted research on natural resource management and the role of commons

Engaging and connecting stakeholders

A5. Facilitate multi-stakeholder workshops to foster knowledge sharing and build consensus on a shared future vision

A6. Support Village Development Committees and activate their involvement in creating agroecological development plans

A7. Enable scenario co-construction and governance transformation pathways

A8. Collaborate with actors to support alternative value chains and territorial markets by strengthening connections within the food system and improving natural resource management

A9. Establish a Racines Committee in Bignona to coordinate efforts and drive community-led initiatives

Experimentation and technical support

A10. Develop and test agroecological practices through Farmer Field Schools

A11. Support village land-use planning and make community investments in sustainable infrastructure

A12. Explore high-value transformation options (Non-Timber Forest Product -NTFP, cashew apple meat)

A13. Implement agroecological support services tailored to local needs, co-constructing models with community members

A14. Integrate agroecology into Bignona Technical College training programs

Communication and advocacy

A15. Develop multimedia awareness-raising materials (photo, video, and forum theatre) in collaboration with ARTS and AgroVoices

A16. Conduct targeted advocacy efforts with local authorities

A17. Organize youth-focused communication campaigns

A18. Facilitate marketing and advocacy for agroecological products, working with local networks to connect producers with markets and develop sustainable market practices

A19. Capitalize on project outcomes through documentation and knowledge-sharing for scaling