



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK



GGGI Burkina Faso

Women's Green Entrepreneurship Training— Stories of the beneficiaries

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The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) is an intergovernmental organization founded to support and promote a model of economic growth known as "green growth", which targets key aspects of economic performance such as poverty reduction, job creation, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability. GGGI works with countries around the world, building their capacity and working collaboratively on green growth policies that can impact the lives of millions. The organization partners with countries, multilateral institutions, government bodies, and private sector to help build economies that grow strongly and are more efficient and sustainable in the use of natural resources, less carbon intensive, and more resilient to climate change.

GGGI, with Denmark's financial support, implements a project in Burkina Faso called "Promotion of Solar Irrigation Pumping system and Solar Mini-grids" with a pilot phase covering the years 2021-2022.

GGGI's goal through this project is to lift 24,000 vulnerable people out of poverty, train 1,000 farmers in climate-friendly agricultural practices and natural resource management, create 500 green jobs, and reduce GHG emissions by 536 tCO₂e over 20 years.

The project has recognized the role that women play in agricultural production and livelihoods. The sub-component "strengthening the capacities and knowledge of vulnerable households and ecovillage committees, and maintaining their social and economic trajectories" included a capacity building program for 100 women in green entrepreneurship, organized in 2021.

This green entrepreneurship training targeted the administrative regions of the Center, the Center-West, the High-Basins, and the North.

For the implementation of these activities, partnerships have been developed with state structures such as the General Directorate of Hydro-Agricultural Facilities and Irrigation Development, the General Directorate of Green Economy and Climate Change, and the Support Fund for Women's Income Generating Activities (Fonds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes).

The capacity building of women in green entrepreneurship started with the identification of beneficiary women through a multi-actor diagnosis. To this end, workshops were organized in the targeted regions. During these workshops, selection criteria for women entrepreneurs were discussed and adopted. A list of women entrepreneurs was established in each region following a value chain approach.

A training needs assessment was conducted with the support of a dynamic team of experts and led to the establishment of the training modules. The training in green entrepreneurship took place in a pleasant, constructive atmosphere and above all, in a climate of mutual trust with all the actors. A total of 129 people benefited from the training program. Among them, 109 represented the target group of women entrepreneurs.

These trainings raise hopes for the emergence of truly green businesses led by dynamic women. Emerging initiatives could in the months and years to come propel many of these women into the ranks of businesses that generate new green jobs, and increase the inclu-



Habibou Ilboudo—a leader from Wend la Songda—Saaba Municipality

Habibou is a mother in her forties living in the rural community of Saba, about 15 kilometers from Ouagadougou. Since 2012, Habibou and several other people from this community and surrounding villages have become aware of the degradation of their environment.

The firewood sellers, who cut dead branches and tore up dry trees for selling purposes, are now practicing for nurseries and agro-food processing.

Many reasons encouraged firewood sellers to reconvert their activity:

- ⇒ The sudden decrease of the number of trees in the classified forest of Saba;
- ⇒ The reduction of firewood seller's income;
- ⇒ The hard work required for wood cutting (physical energy)
- ⇒ The threats of arrest and bail from the forestry and water agents, and

The destruction of plant species with all the negative impacts for future generations

The Progress

Since 2012, Habibou has been the leader of women transforming *néré* seed into *soumbala*. *Soumbala* is a natural spice with many virtues, whose national and sub-regional demand is growing. The members of Wend la Songda Cooperative of Former woodcutters are now organizing themselves to regenerate the forest that they previously destroyed.

Since they lack financial resources, all their processing activities are carried out by hand. They also lack storage areas, which makes it difficult to store *néré* seeds during the harvest period, or even to have a consistent capital to increase this activity. The dirty water from the production of *soumbala* after drying can be mixed with soil to naturally enrich the nurseries. It is often solicited by water and forestry agents for reforestation. But since they do not have space to keep this residue, and because of its strong smell, the cooperative just has to

Expectation for GGGI Training:

Habibou hopes that after the entrepreneurship training, they will be able to reorganize their procedures and internal management to access loans. She also hopes to apply the knowledge acquired during the GGGI entrepreneurship training within the cooperative to expand its services by targeting new types of clients.



Kaboré Awa, the secretary of Kiswend-sida cooperative

Tanghin-Dassouri is a rural commune located around twenty kilometers from Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). This rural area, is home to Awa. She and other women from her area are used to meeting and organizing social activities.

From these exchanges came the idea of establishing their association in 2012, and creating a simplified cooperative named Kiswend-Sida in 2021.

Thanks to their French pen friend, they firstly benefited from literacy training since 2012, then from training sessions in Income Generating Activities (IGA), namely the production of soumbala. In addition, they received financial support for the purchase of a market garden, the purchase of equipment for the production of soumbala, and the installation of two water fountains. The 30 women are organized in three groups that rotate from the community garden site to the soumbala production site each week.

The second wave of progress of the cooperative

In 2021, the cooperative received SOS Energy project funding to reforest 3 hectares of land by planting fruit trees including *Sclera Claria Birera*, *Balamites*, *Shea* and other trees. In the long term, the fruit from these trees can be transformed into food products, providing a source of income for the members of the cooperative.

The support they receive from their pen friend is also technical. She helps them to sell their products locally and she has contributed a lot to the packaging of these products. Awa and her friends receive support from their husbands who help them with the delivery of their products. They have been very supportive in the installation of the fence on their community land. Within the cooperative, they face a lack of water despite the two water fountains. They pay monthly contributions for the purchase of raw materials for their activities. From the sale of *Moringa*, *Neem*, *Eucalyptus*, *Shea* and *Jujube* tree nurseries, they manage to earn money to equip themselves with machines for the production of shea butter.

“The tree is at the center of the pharmacopoeia. It helps to heal children. The dead wood is used as a source of energy, those who are intelligent are those who avoid cutting down everything and who protect certain species for future generations”, she said.

Expectation for GGGI training :

Awa hopes to build a network of partners following the GGGI entrepreneurship training, especially for access credit.



Hortense Batiebo Zamané – leader of the Grace and Wonders association – Ouagadougou Municipality

This association is located in Roumtenga, a few kilometers from Ouagadougou. Hortense and the 25 members of her association manufacture essential oils extracted from plant seeds, soaps, ointments and other cosmetic products. They also grow Moringa tree to extract the oil and turn it into cosmetics. The collection of raw material for various transformations is done through 4 groups of partners with a workforce of 200 women. Since her teenage years Hortense has desired to help others, especially the most disadvantaged, and to improve their living conditions. She has mastered the making of layettes, tablecloths, accessories for children and interior decoration for houses. With her sewing certificate, she was recruited as a trainer at the Kologh Naba Association in Saba where she taught sewing and benefited from courses in manufacturing of soaps and other cosmetic products. Following this experience she embarked on the transformation of seeds and nuts into cosmetic products by creating an association. The quality of their products opened the doors to the certification of soaps by the national public health laboratory.

Commitment to the well-being of others

Training and transmission of knowledge require personal commitment. Hortense and her association have trained several poor women, who used to collect sand in the streets, to weave cotton loincloths called Faso Danfani and equipped them with a weaving machine. There's high demand for high quality natural cosmetics. Women must seek to achieve quality when working in a given field to increase their customer base and be an example for next generations. When training others, Hortense emphasizes the preservation of trees, especially those that produce fruit with several virtues.



Income Generating Activities for Autonomy



Barakissa Barro Soulaman –leader of the white honey of Faso cooperative -Komsilga Municipality

Six years ago, Barakissa observed that shea butter was a product neglected by the Burkinabè as compared with oils imported from outside. Yet this product has several properties and is very popular internationally. Barakissa used to have difficulties finding good shea butter in Ouagadougou and had to bring it from the village. The quality of this butter was such that she shared it with her other friends. She came up with the idea of creating an association in 2016, which turned into a cooperative in 2021 with her two friends. They produce and process shea butter. After an initial failure with a small amount to sell, they received a training in the production of shea butter and decided to increase the amount of production to make it profitable. Then they moved on to expanding their range of finished products to meet the needs of market demand. They partner with around 20 associations with almost 300 women contributing to the collecting of shea nuts.

The social impacts

In order to get noticed, they used attractive packaging and produced high quality cosmetic products. Their desire was to convince Burkinabè women to use local shea butter for body care and cooking. This is how they set up women's awareness groups who share information also on issues such as plastic waste or promoting charcoal briquettes made out of the recycled shea nut residues, while also promoting their cosmetics. Barakissa encourages women to excel in entrepreneurship. It helps families financially, and it allows children to learn that they must work hard in life, it allows them to flourish daily and to share the profit with their families around them.

their families around them.

Expectation for GGGI entrepreneurship Training:

The cooperative hopes to receive technical knowledge and information on how to sell their products abroad. They also want to set up partnerships through networking between women during the training.

Agro-business activities for poverty reduction



Ouedraogo Felicity- leader of St Marie- Reine association for family development –Kouritenga Municipality

Felicity and her family moved to Kouritenga, an area on the outskirts of Ouagadougou. In this locality poverty was so severe that eating twice daily was a challenge for children. Her home became a place for neighbors' kids to watch TV and have lunch. She decided to create a women's association in her area to undertake income-generating activities. The goal was to help women have an income in order to take care of their families.

First, they cooked and sold snowball cake, produced shea butter and shea soap. Then, they started producing a local and very nutritious spice called soumbala. Finally they also started to make cotton cloth called Faso Danfani and dyeing loincloths. The association's members' living standards improved. As the word about their success has spread, number of the association's members has kept growing.

Commitment to the well-being of others

Felicity has a French pen friend who is helping with financial resources for training, operating capital and technical expertise. Her association works with many women's groups around Ouagadougou for the collection of shea nuts. They also do their best to protect the environment by raising awareness on the caustic use of soda, in particular how to dispose of its waste after dyeing. They have a space they want to use to plant moringa trees, which produces ingredients with medicinal qualities against hyper-tension, and mango trees for their fruits.

Expectation for GGGI entrepreneurship training :

Felicity hopes to learn from other associations and cooperatives, and increase her knowledge on how to better promote their products to sell them. She is eager to get technical expertise to help the association progress and enter the international market.

Cosmetic products for the good hygiene



Lizéta Mandé Niampa –the Secretary of the Yam Leende Association - Ouahigouya Municipality

The Yam Leende association takes its name from a beautiful wild fruit. They found out that their cosmetic products were in the image of this fruit and decided to give its name to the association. About twenty women of the association make ointment, soaps, vegetable oils and cosmetics from natural plants without added chemicals. The aim of the association at its creation was to help women avoid diseases related to the lack of hygiene. In thirty years of operation, the association is now well organized, and partners with other cooperatives for the purchase of fruit seeds as raw material for their production unit. The association also manages to export its products abroad.

Lizéta retains from this training that it is necessary to work with a long term vision of protecting the environment. She has learnt about the use of renewable energies, especially solar cookers, and the need to ban the use of chemical products in their activities.

According to Lizéta, after the training the association will analyze its production unit and plan actions to make it totally green. It is difficult to be a green entrepreneur but it is possible. “We will always keep the protection of the health of the population in our minds.”

Sarata Savadogo, head of the Wend Guundi association - Ouahigouya Municipality

“I created my association a year ago. This training in green entrepreneurship will allow me to position myself as a promoter of organic products without chemicals. This will make me more competitive because the demand for this type of product is increasing.”



Marie-Madelaine Konkobo - worker at the Bas Néré Center- Ouahigouya Municipality

It is at the age of sixty that I benefited for the first time from a training of this type. I really appreciated the modules on stock management and marketing of green products. I am planning to promote this knowledge by sharing the information with the women I work with.

Promoting shea butter for financial autonomy



Bini PALM – leader of GNOOGON DEMÉ cooperative – Ouagadougou Municipality

I am a person who enjoys working and have been doing so since childhood. When I came to Ouagadougou, I saw that there were many women living in poverty and I was affected by this.

This led me to invite some women to join me to work together in 2011. We were ten when we started our income-generating activities with little resources. Then, we received help for our Shea butter processing activities from Fonds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes (FAARF). The cooperative obtained an approval for the production of organic Shea butter with the support of the ministry of environment. We knew how to make Shea butter from our mothers, who produced it. So, I innovated by packaging the butter in plastic buckets because it is more beautiful, healthy and it preserves its quality.

Job creation

Several women from the cooperative have a constant monthly income, some are employees and others are self-employed. What slows down our activities is, the issue of availability of a substantial working capital. At the end of this entrepreneurial training, we want to be able to raise funds to keep on producing our Shea butter on a continuous basis.

Her message:

“We must stop cutting wood otherwise some of our grandchildren may not know what Shea fruit is. It is a cry from the bottom of my heart that I share, especially during the city's subdivisions, they did a lot of tree uprooting. This has been the case in my area in Boassan which was a village on the outskirts of Ouagadougou. It is difficult to see a Néré or Shea tree there.”

Rolande Yameogo - leader of Tilligre cooperative - Ouagadougou

I encourage women to train their children in agricultural processing. Whether there are pupils or students, they should not neglect certain job. Agribusiness allows me to be financially self-sufficient.





Chantal SONGZABRE -leader of Beog naéréé association—Ouagadougou Municipality

Chantal has an accounting degree, she was first employed as an internal auditor before opening her own audit firm which, unfortunately, has not been successful. Then, she decided to go into agricultural production with a papaya plantation. Following the failure of this second initiative, she started the production of moringa combined with lemongrass and market gardening. The strong demand for Moringa and lemongrass has allowed her to increase the production. The idea to produce moringa came from a friend who used Moringa for the production of infant flour. Over time, the cooperative was able to obtain ECOCERT, CENABIO and ABNORM certificates that showed the quality of her products

Commitment to the well-being of others

The association produces a variety of tea, oil extracted from seeds, and soap. They are in the production and processing of agri-food products. They deliver to 40 wholesale outlets, but also retail it to consumers. Their most popular product in the market is Vital Tea. The association work in partnership with an organization of women who produced medicinal plants that supplied them with the raw material, but which is currently facing a defective production site. Her vision is to increase the production to set up an industrial processing unit under the type SARL format. In terms of job creation, about 15 women work at the agricultural production site and the processing unit with an income above the SMIG. This activity enabled her to take care of her family and help other relatives with school fees.

Expectation for GGGI entrepreneurship training :

“If we grow our crops in an environmentally friendly way without the use of chemicals we can make profits because the current trend is towards the consumption of organic vegetables. I encourage you to do so.”



Rokiadou OUEDRAOGO - chairwoman of "Facilitis séchage"- Bobo Dioulasso Municipality

Rokiadou has a Master's degree in Project Management and she decided to become an entrepreneur. According to her, this is a promising field, but it is neglected by the population because of risks of failure.

Perspective

Including the environmental aspect in the curricula of institutes and business schools as part of management and entrepreneurship training would help the country introduce environmental sustainability to the new generations.

After observing and analyzing losses of perishable products, especially fruits and vegetables, in Léguema marketplace, near her house, she decided to solve this problem. Also, she wanted to contribute to food self-sufficiency, to the national agri-business growth and to job creation. Her association, known as Facilitis séchage and created in 2021, operates in the drying process. It employs ten women. Their operations consist in drying market garden produce such as onions, tomatoes and fruits in compliance with hygienic standards.

According to Rokiadou, innovation is the way to achieve her objectives. Being surrounded by other women within the association allows her to deal with difficulties more easily. She organizes awareness training for her sales partners on topics related to hygiene in the drying process, the nutritional values of her products, the cooking techniques to preserve nutrients and many other topics. These partners in turn share the information received during the training with their clients.

Next step:

Rokiadou is committed to sensitizing the group of women who supply her with fruits and vegetables. She affirms: "This sensitization will take some time before we can have totally organic products. However, given the importance to health and environment, I commit myself to it. Finally, the use of solar energy for drying will allow me to pollute less."



Fulfillment through agriculture



Zouma Salimata, chairwoman of Wend-songdo association- Bobo Dioulasso Municipality

Salimata, forty years, is the chairwoman of the Wend-songdo association of Padema in the Hauts-Bassins. She studied until the 9th Grade before getting her first job in a pharmacy. However the salary she got from this job did not allow her to have the standard of living she hoped for. So, in 2009, she created an association working on the production of corn, sorghum, peanuts, tomatoes and onions.

She and her associates, about twenty women, were able to organize a plea that resulted in gaining two hectares of farmland from the village chief. They are able to provide for their needs, organize social activities, save money for future and pay for equipment.

Commitment to the well-being of others

This training in green entrepreneurship has made Salimata more aware of the health dangers of consuming non-organic products. She is now committed to green production in her business. Sensitization of members of the association and other women of her village will be her next step. Her opinion of the training: "The experience sharing, the advice and the new knowledge received are an added value that we will apply to be the leader in our locality".

Message to young people :

"Success does not come only from working in an office, many youths think so and they have difficulty finding jobs. I take good care of my agriculture field and I haven't lost any of my investment. Farming the land in an organized way allows me to have a better life instead of relying only on a monthly salary. As a farmer, I can provide food for my family and after the harvest I have enough money to invest in other areas. Manual labor is good, if you are unemployed, don't neglect working as a crop producer".



BOLOGO LEGA Zarra—chairwoman of “Ben kelema’ association—Bama Municipality

Zarra is a rice farmer from Bama, which is a rural municipality located in the province of Houet and the Hauts-Bassins region. She created the ‘Ben kelema’ association of Bama in order to allow her and her female colleagues to be better organized in the promotion of the crop they grow. Thanks to the association, they are able to apply for tenders to supply the government school canteens with rice, and supply to some rice wholesalers in the country.

There are 25 women in this association, who have been cultivating rice fields for more than 15 years.

Perspective

The quality and quantity of rice that the association delivers is such that they have been able to win the loyalty of wholesalers who buy rice in the region.

The training module on green marketing has given Zarra new ideas that she is planning to put into practice. Zarra often collects debts from clients on behalf of the association, and the information on accounting will enable her to be more vigilant in the future.

With regard to rice storing, she is considering using the good practices she has learned in order to preserve the quality of the stored rice. In the past, she sometimes neglected the storage because she did not know the technique, but now she is well trained for better preservation of stocks. She also has plans to use stock registration techniques to avoid wholesalers confusing her stock with that of other rice growers.

Her message:

“I encourage the women who benefitted from the training to put the knowledge on green farming into practice in order to protect the health of the population. I encourage all farmers to adopt green financial planning because it takes all angles of the green production into account”.



Green food processing



Germaine Korgo Belem , the president of women and social development Association

Green food processing

Germaine of the “Femme et Developpement Social Association” is a mother of 6 children. In the association there are 15 women who are struggling to improve their economic situation. These women, who were trained in a technical school, have come together to work on agricultural processing.

They transform cereals into couscous and grits for porridge. They make potato-based cookies, transform néré into soumbala and other recipes. Throughout the transformation process, they do not use any chemical products and preserve the maximum nutritional values of the products.

Green environment training

This training on green entrepreneurship allowed them to realize that they were already applying certain elements of green and environmental friendly processing, without emphasizing these elements in the promotion of their products. Now, Germaine’s intention is to share the knowledge she has received of the 8 training modules with the members of the association.

"I am committed to training female farmers on green production and encouraging them to remain in organic farming and avoid using chemical products. Vegetables containing chemical products rot very quickly and there is nothing to gain by using chemicals", she affirmed.

Message to young people :

Young unemployed people should organize themselves in groups. They can for example start with the production and sale of compost for plants. In the agricultural field there are many initiatives that can be undertaken.



Fatemata Sawadogo—chairwoman of the Diaspo association - Ouahigouya Municipality

Fatemata has a certificate of professional qualification in agricultural processing from the Bas-Néré training center. She worked for a while in this center as a human resource manager before deciding to create her association. She started the Diaspo association 15 years ago. The term Diaspo is a nickname referring to people who have returned to their homeland after having spent some time elsewhere. Fatemata lived for several years in Ivory Coast before returning to Burkina Faso.

Perspective

Through her association, Fatemata seeks to allow the women of the northern region to know how to increase the value of the regional products, especially potato. This tuber is farmed in the region but a large amount of its harvest rots as a result of lack of processing. She makes cookies, couscous, grits and flour out of potatoes. The potato of Ouahigouya is very popular in the country because of its good quality.

Green entrepreneurship training:

“During the training on green entrepreneurship, some difficulties, which I was confronted with in the field, have been addressed and the solutions will help me save money.”



Marie Ouédraogo- leader of the Wassa group -Ouahigouya Municipality

Work with passion to progress

Marie is the leader of the Wassa group, which means having the strength to work. She works in agricultural food processing in Ouahigouya.

I encourage the agricultural transformers of Burkina Faso to excel in transformation in order to increase their sales and be able to export their produce. I appreciate the accounting and stock management course during the green entrepreneurship training and I am planning to put it into practice.



Hope from agricultural processing



Bintou Kagoné - Leader of the association Widows of the municipality – Titao Municipality

Bintou is a 54- year-old widow with 6 children. In the province of Loroum she has created an association gathering more than thirty-eight members, all of whom are widows and mothers of several children. Together they do food processing of flour for infants, process moringa into several derivative products and sell cereal and dried fruit flour. The goal of the association is to allow the members to support their families and to be able to support the members morally in case of troubles. Their wish is to be able to feed their children, pay for their school fees, clothe them and see their families flourish. They also adopt babies from mentally ill mothers to feed and educate them.

Green entrepreneurship training

“Through this training, more specifically the module on cost calculation, I know now how to calculate the spending of the association and I am planning to put this knowledge into practice to avoid selling our products at a loss. The personnel management knowledge in a green business will allow me to better organize the association. I will make job description sheets for the members of the association so that everyone can know their roles and responsibilities. As soon as I return to Titao, I will hold a general assembly to share the knowledge received before we start putting it into practice.

Any training is profitable provided that you put the knowledge into practice. I encourage women entrepreneurs to seek knowledge and put it into practice.”

Josephine Ouedraogo Sanou –chariwoman of the cooperative Beogo Neere- Ouagadougou Municipality

“The shea tree is the green gold of the women of Burkina Faso. Shea trees deserve care. It is a tree whose bark and leaves are used for care. The ash is used to extract potash.

The women of the cooperative are carrying out reforestation in the forest of Doulgou and Pa. I invite you to protect the trees as much as you can.”





Agriculture for financial autonomy



Haoua Ouédraogo - leader of the association Neema Na- Ouahigouya municipality

Haoua is the leader of the association Neema Na - Ouahigouya. She does market gardening, agricultural processing and weaving. She stopped school at the age of 15 and was sent by her mother to a nearby village to avoid being married early. In this village she learned weaving and dyeing. Despite her mother's efforts, she was married a year later.

In her association, Haoua trains several women in weaving and agricultural processing. The twenty women of the association are women who were married early and orphans who did not know what to do to be financially independent.

From this training, Haoua learned how to crop vegetables without destroying the soil or using any harmful chemicals. She learnt how to do financial planning and purchase inputs before the growing season in order to reduce the cost of production, and how to manage the members of the association to get the best performance from each of them.

She hopes that within the next 5 years, no one in Burkina Faso will buy

Minata Nabassaga- chairwoman of Sougri Nooma cooperative- Ouahigouya Municipality

Minata from Ouahigouya works in rice processing. She is the-head of the Sougri Nooma cooperative.

“ I encourage young people to get trained in accounting in order to apply this knowledge and succeed in business. Cooperatives and associations also need people with accounting knowledge to support them in their activities.”



Alimata Sawadogo - Chairwoman of Songab Waoga association- Bokin municipality

Alimata is from Bokin municipality in the province of Pasore. She practices market gardening in the Songab Waoga association where she is the chairwoman.

“From now on, we are going to keep a record of all the expenses of market gardening in order to know the exact production costs. We will no longer sell our vegetables without knowing the total production costs.”





A solution oriented training



Kotim Koogouindiga- Vice-president of the Benim Wende group-municipality of Kirsi

“I have learned from this training in green entrepreneurship the techniques to preserve the harvest to keep it from rotting and I know the health benefits of using natural fertilizers.”

*Salamata Belem—chairwoman of Groupement Noam
Taba- Barga municipality*

“Before, I had difficulty preserving bean seeds and termites attacked a huge amount of it. Thanks to the knowledge which I have received, I will use natural plants to fight against termite attacks and I will also condition the beans well before conservation.”



Cotime Nokre- chairwoman of the Zems Taab Noma group- Passore Municipality

“I have worked in a disorganized way before. I am planning to keep a record of all my expenses, to have a detailed account to calculate my production costs. I don't want to sell small ruminants at a loss without realizing it.”

Pousnoaga Sankara- head of the Maneg kondo group -Arbole Municipality

“I have plans to improve the nutrition of the poultry by giving it cereals full of nutrients. Then I will be able to sell it at a good price. Also, I will not neglect the cost calculation that is helpful for the pricing and allows me to get a return on my investment.”





Environmental protection

Fatimata Ouédraogo worker at the Bas Néré association-Ouahigouya

“As a new company, with 2 years of operation, we organize reforestation activities to set the example. Organic production and environmental protection is the best gift we can leave for the future generations.”



Azara Ouédraogo - worker at the Bas Nere Association - Ouahigouya

“Thanks to agricultural processing, I am able to feed, educate and care for my children. As a mother, I opt for quality products and choose products without chemicals to preserve my clients’ health.”

Adjaratou Guindo Ouédraogo, chairwoman of CEPROFEM - Ouahigouya

“Thanks to this training in green entrepreneurship, we are going to change our consumption ways and work by making sure that we use organic products without pesticides. There is a market for this type of products at the national and international level that we want to conquer it by organizing ourselves.”



tou Roamba, self-employed women in processing- Ouahigouya

“I will focus on production planning and storage upstream to avoid stock-outs during processing.

I am planning to manage my resources more efficiently in the coming seasons by planning expenses and calculating costs.”





Financial skills for good entrepreneurship



Salamata Ganamé - member of the association Wend Managré- the municipality of Bara-ga

“I will focus on production planning and storage upstream to avoid stock-outs during processing.

I am planning to manage my resources more efficiently in the coming seasons by planning expenses and calculating costs.”

Aguiratou Porgo, Owner of Wend Kuuni company - Ouahigouya

“I have learned a lot during the experience sharing on the personnel management module. The difference between my saleswomen and my juices with regards those of my competitors will be seen in the sales places in the future.”



Bernadette Tontepambo, chairwoman of the Rel Wende group- of Latore



“I am going to stop the extensive breeding which causes me to have conflict with farmers. In addition, I sometimes lose animals. After this training, my intention is to shift to an intensive breeding which will allow me to better follow the feeding of the animals and to collect their excrement for sale as manure.”

Lossané Savadogo, worker at Faso Risongo - Ouahigouya

“Working with passion and striving for perfection has allowed our company to exist for over 30 years. I encourage cooperatives not to neglect planning in their production. The consideration of environmental protection must be an obligation for all. We are planning to adopt renewable energies in our activities.”





Hélène NANA- leader of the Namanegzanga cooperative -Ouahigouya Municipality

Hélène is an internally displaced person because of the security crisis in the north of the country. She lives in Ouahigouya where she is a rice producer and leader of the Namanegzanga cooperative. She has more than seven family members to support. Her dream has always been to engage in the processing of rice into various agricultural products. At the end of the training in green entrepreneurship, she has learned how to increase her rice sale turnover. She has acquired the basics that can allow her to improve her business, especially through the practice of organic farming. She has been using a small amount of urea-based fertilizer in the production of rice in her cooperative and now she is planning to stop using chemical fertilizer altogether, and use natural plants against insects and manure to enrich the rice stems. Her only concern is that many farmers around her use chemical pesticides, so there is the risk that water flowing between plots can affect her plants.

“I encourage all farmers to engage in green entrepreneurship by not using agricultural practices that can be harmful to the environment. Let's refrain from overexploiting the land, polluting the environment and growing vegetables and grains that will make the consumer sick.”



Constance NANEMA- leader of the RelWendé cooperative- Yako Municipality

Constance is the leader of the RelWendé cooperative in Yako. She is involved in market gardening and agricultural processing. Her cooperative has existed since 2007 and by now the number of members has tripled. Regarding green entrepreneurship, she previously had little information about it and neglected its importance. Constance has discovered the health and environmental benefits of pesticide-free farming, of organic production and opportunities to recycle agricultural waste. She and her cooperative planted species like Moringa in addition to vegetables. Constance cultivates 1 ha of onion during the dry season.

“I urge everyone to seek to expand their knowledge in their field of activity and to desist from working without knowing the good practices that are promoted in their field.”



Financial skills for good entrepreneurship



Aminata Ouedraogo - chairwoman of the Relwendé cooperative- Tema Municipality

Aminata worked with her family members at the beginning. Then, she was trained and encouraged by FAARF to create a cooperative in order to benefit from technical support and loans. In the past, after harvest she had difficulty preserving onions to keep them from rotting. Together with the thirty members of her cooperative, she can store the onions for 5 months and sell them when the prices become high. She says she has acquired a lot of knowledge on entrepreneurship during this training. She appreciated the training on financial management and cost calculation which she plans to apply immediately.

Aminata affirmed: “My vision for agriculture in Burkina Faso is that all women should use the land for agriculture in a way that when they retire, their children can find fertile and cultivable land that they can exploit in turn. For my part, I can confirm that market gardening, especially that of onions, is very profitable. Thanks to it, I have been able to pay my children's school fees, many of whom are now at university.”



Minata RAMDE- chairwoman of the Nabonswendé association- Dourou municipality

Minata is involved in animal breeding, particularly the fattening of small ruminants, and to a certain extent in animal reproduction. For fattening, she buys animals that are not very well tended and provides them with care so that their price goes up. Her husband takes care of selling the animals on market days. From now on, she will be interested in the questions of sales and will share the ideas she received during the training with her husband. In her cooperative, all women do cattle fattening and they use Fonds d'Appui aux Activités Rémunératrices des Femmes (FAARF) loans. Being organized as an association allows them to have bank loans and to easily support their members to increase their annual production. Marketing, she says, is a key to increasing her sale.

Once back home, she is planning to gather her association members in order to share with them what she has learned during this training.



Environment protection



ZOURE Denise Odette- chairwoman of AFUP association- Ouagadougou Municipality- Néré association-Ouahigouya

“Shea is our future, let's avoid cutting down shea trees so that we can benefit from their fruits in the long term.

I invite other associations to follow our example in reforesting forests by planting shea trees for next generations.”

Elize Sabo Compaore- chairwoman of Association Tee-bo espoir- Ouagadougou Municipality

“Many of the women in the association are able to take care of themselves through agro-food processing. We invite others to consider all the environmental aspects in their activities for the sustainability.”



Rose Guissou Baky, chairwoman of SANABUR- Ouagadougou Municipality

“In the production of fruit juices and other processing, I do not use chemicals. The natural methods of preservation of cereals are a guarantee for a final product with high added value. My wish is to treat the waste water after the juice production and to be able to use solar energy for my factory.”



Ouedraogo Judith - Association Baobab du Faso- Ouagadougou Municipality

“The occurrence of the Corona Virus disease (COVID 19) has decreased my sales, because I can no longer participate in fairs outside the country. More seriously, the imported products are now flooding the local market and that makes our sales drop.”





Financial skills for good entrepreneurship



Isabelle Ouédraogo- chairwoman of Sougre-Nooma association -Ouagadougou Municipality

“The protection of the environment is essential for the continuity of economic activities. We hope to be more united to advance in our activities. We encourage other women in entrepreneurship to respect the statutes of their association and to communicate a lot among themselves.”



Azeta Savadogo- leader of the Benewende cooperative- Dourou municipality

More than twenty years ago, the elderly women of the cooperative used to get together to till crop land. In this practice, the women had the idea of producing and selling their harvest together and sharing the profits. Azeta and female colleagues inherited this experience from the elderly women. Given the current level of their production, they are confronted with storage difficulties that lead them to sell a large part of their production early. In their current practices they have transitioned from the use of gasoline motor pumps into gas motor pumps.

Azeta has learned a lot of new methods on vegetable storage during the green entrepreneurship training but also on sustainable management of land and she is committed to putting the knowledge into practice. She has also learned that there are solar-powered motor pumps for irrigation. As a mother with 5 children, her activity allows her to help provide for the family.



NORTH REGION – Ouahigouya.

CENTER REGION - Ouagadougou



CENTRAL WEST REGION - Koudougou



HAUTS-BASSINS REGION - Bobo-Dioulasso





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