



## ACTION AGAINST DESERTIFICATION

# EXPANDING AFRICA'S GREAT GREEN WALL

Desertification and land degradation are very serious challenges. They lead to hunger and poverty, drive unemployment, forced migration and conflict, while increasing the risk of extreme weather related to climate change. But recent achievements in restoration and sustainable land management show that these problems are not insurmountable. Bold action and investments are needed to boost food security, improve livelihoods and help people adapt to a changing climate. Action Against Desertification's successful approach has paved the way for large-scale restoration in support of small-scale farming. Now, it is being expanded in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

Action Against Desertification supports local communities, government and civil society in six African countries - Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal – as well as in Fiji and Haiti to restore degraded land and to manage fragile ecosystems in a sustainable way. It is using a mix of the following activities:

- **LARGE-SCALE RESTORATION** of degraded agrosilvopastoral systems, putting local communities at the centre of restoration by focussing on native species that are useful for their environment and livelihoods.
- **DIVERSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC** activities by reinforcing value chains of non-timber forest products with a direct link to restoration in order to stimulate job creation and income generating opportunities, particularly for women and youth.
- **STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES** of individuals, communities and organizations in the sustainable management of degraded land.
- **MONITORING AND EVALUATION** to track progress made by the project and measure its bio-physical and socio-economic impact.
- **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE** and raising awareness about the causes of land degradation and desertification, and the best ways to combat and prevent them.





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is an initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) in support of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative and UNCCD national action programmes to combat desertification. It promotes sustainable land management and restoration of degraded land in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Action Against Desertification is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union in the framework of the 10<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF).

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Action Against Desertification is a key partner of the Great Green Wall initiative, Africa's flagship programme to combat the effects of climate change and desertification. It aims to transform the lives of millions of people by creating a great mosaic of green and productive landscapes across North Africa, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.

Action Against Desertification strongly promotes South-South cooperation. Lessons learned from the Great Green Wall experience help partners across Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific to tackle the detrimental social, economic and environmental impact of land degradation.

### In close collaboration with:

- Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
- African Union Commission
- European Union
- Global Mechanism of the UNCCD
- Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall
- Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji
- Royal Botanic Gardens of Kew
- Wallonie-Bruxelles International
- National Coordination Unit for the Great Green Wall, Ministry of the Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change, Burkina Faso
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ethiopia
- Department of Forestry, The Gambia
- National Agency for the Great Green Wall, Niger
- National Agency for the Great Green Wall, Nigeria
- National Agency for the Great Green Wall, Senegal
- Ministry of Fisheries and Forests, Fiji
- Ministry of Environment, Haiti
- Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium

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