

# **INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

## **With the “Wa Nyè U Saalu Zie” Union**

**NGO:** Celim Bergamo  
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24125 Bergamo

**COUNTRY:** Burkina Faso (Africa)

**DISTRICT:** Dissin

**LOCAL PARTNER:** Diebougou Diocese

**PROJECT FOCUS:** Health, Agriculture and breeding

The integrated development project with “Wa Nyé U Saalu Zie” Union of Dissin, in Burkina Faso was a rural and social-health project which involved the co-operative society “Wa Nyé” members to improve life conditions by increasing productions and strengthening social health conditions.

## **BENEFICIARIES**

Project beneficiaries were the “Wa Nyé U Saalu Zie” Association members, dislocated in 20 villages of Ioba Province, in the south-west of Burkina Faso; which includes 8 departments of 149 villages.

Most of the population is Dagara, but there are also Mossi and Peuls.

### **“Wa Nyé U Saalu Zie” Association**

“Wa Nyé U Saalu Zie” is an Association of people whose focus is to empower traditional activities in a modern and new reality.

The members pursue an individual and collective self-promotion by education and training activities, as well as economic, social and health activities..

The methodology adopted is based on research-action.

The Association was born in the 1964 in Dissin area and initially named as “Female Rural Promotion Centre” (C.P.F.R.). In 1983 the Diocese decided to extend the Centre activities to all the population and to change the name in “Wa Nyé U Saalu Zié” which in Dagara tongue means “ let the orphan come to see the place of human promotion”.

## **PROJECT’S STRATEGY**

The main objective of the project was to encourage a integrated and sustainable community development, from the social, cultural and environmental point of view.

The project’s strategy was based on the active participation of the members to the consolidation of their Union and to the economic and technical administration of project activities.

The project promoted 3 areas:

- agricultural and breeding sector: increasing and improving of rural activities;
- health sector: improving of health and nutrition conditions;
- social sector: improving and strengthening of the Association “Wa Nyé”.

Work in the rural area was focalised on two main focus declinable on different points based both on ”Wa Nyé” Association needs and on development Region needs.

All actions were characterized by a path of sensitize-animation-research-education-realization guaranteed by an équipe of two volunteers and two trainers.

#### 1) strengthening of agriculture and horticulture productivity:

- increasing of quality and quantity of agriculture products;
- diversification of agricultural techniques;
- improving and strengthening of pig and sheep breeding both to an individual and collective level.

#### 2) No formal education for rural people:

Education was based both on theoretical and practical subjects organized by Dissin, Bobra and Nawripkwe Centres by trainings, reflection days, villages tours, visiting others projects and visioning different documents.

Especially was provided a specific training for 2 trainers for each village, who had the responsibility of economic and social-health activities.

The technical training was an answer of a specific need of the Association's members, as there were few agronomist trainer available to organized training session on basic agricultural techniques.

Previous experiences showed improvisation and lack of means and developed distrust on the population towards who tried to introduce new elements in an agricultural reality strongly based on tradition.

Therefore considering:

- agriculture was dominated by traditional techniques which have low productivity;
- big parts of population, especially women, had never received a proper education due also to lack of qualified teachers;
- popularizing strength of modern agricultural techniques was aimed almost exclusively on cotton production leaving out cereals sector,

the five years plan aimed to:

- a) re-organization of popularizing agents trainings;
- b) supplied literacy sessions for young farmers;
- c) supplied agricultural production training for young farmers;

## PREVIOUS FORMATION EXPERIENCES

Dissin centre from 1967 had prepared many adults and also young girls coming from near villages, by adopting different training pattern.

Evaluation of these different attempts showed discouraging results. The Centre had prepared many people, but it didn't provide to follow them and to link the curriculum to the local environment. The causes of the negative impact of the previous no formal education attempts were:

- little consideration of the educational system of Dagara society;
- the kind of the education and programme were completely not linking to the environment.

Considering the results of this evaluation, the Celim project organized no formal education sessions on three areas, in addition to sustain literacy actions in Dagara and French languages provided by the Centre.

The agriculture and breeding training sessions organized in the first three years were:

- training of 20 agricultural divulggers;
- Training session on bird-rearing;
- Training session on pigs breeding;
- Training session on animal traction techniques;
- Training session on horticulture techniques;
- Training session to build metallic networks;
- Training of two teachers of agricultural and breeding activities.

Training sessions were programmed together with the Association and the Dissin people and realized by:

- volunteers,
- local trainers found in the area,
- Cesao<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> CESAO Socio-economic study centre of West Africa. The Celim Bergamo project had required the Cesao's experts to organize, manage and to value the general session provided each year

Education beneficiaries had been village people, man and women, always selected by the village population which assumed the responsibility and followed the development. This was done in order to provide benefits to all community and to contribute to increase competence level.

## EVALUATION

Two missions a year were led by two Celim Bergamo members to properly follow the activities development and to connect the project to local institutions and regional centres, providing an evaluation also with authorities and politic responsables.

Evaluation were conducted by all project actors with a professional support of Cesao.

The aim was to do a participated evaluation which helped project actors to earned awareness of their work, to critic value choices which involved Celim.

## RESULTS OBTAINED

The Projects concluded in December 2003 had registered results both in education area than in agriculture area.

### NO FORMAL EDUCATION

20 January 2003 the Union has opened 6 literacy centres and 2 complementary education centres. The opening of such great number of centres had been possible thanks to a bigger financial involving of the Celim Bergamo project which from 2002 had decided to increase the support to the Union campaign for the literacy of its members.

The project aimed to a comprehensive approach to education for rural development, in order to obtain a broader range of life skills rather than simply agriculture. Literacy contributes to empower people by providing them with knowledge and skills that help them better market their products and protect their rights. The hope of this initiative is to provide the Union with members more prepared and capable to manage the Union activities and to become the new responsible of villages cooperative.

The project supplied also several training sessions for female organizations to create and develop female activities. The main aim was to provide basic skills to develop income-generating activities, such as: tailoring, sewing, tincturing and soap production in order to ensure them economic independence.

At the end of the project tincturing activity and soap production resulted well settled.

### AGRICULTURAL AND BREEDING ACTIVITIES

At the end of the years 2003 ( last year of the project) the project registered the follow results:

- Agricultural activity was going on by field rotation system, organic dunging etc.;
- Cereals bank kept stocking rice and sorghum;
- Pig rearing was proceeding and hens rearing had a good egg production.

### GENERAL RESULTS ACHIEVED:

- a) Wa Nyé responsible members had increased and improved their organizing and administration autonomy;
- b) In Dissin and in other 16 villages remained resource people trained with the project actions: project animators, Graap trainers, rural and village trainers;
- c) The revolving fund was working properly and the loans were given back in time.
- d) Thanks to the Celim help, the Union could establish relations with different structures which operate on the national territory such as: CESAO, GRAAP of Bobo Dioulasso, INADES, ROPPA project, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Cooperation.

These contacts will permit at the Union to obtain in the future technical, economic and educative support.