



WELCOME TO



REGREENING SENEGAL NEWSLETTER



Let's green first, the
harvest will follow!



CONTENTS

4

Editorial

5

Sensitisation meetings

6

Community animators, a strength for the project

7

Introduction of environmental education in schools

8

A local partnership for sustainability

9

Production of radio programmes to raise awareness


















10

ICRAFs contribution

13

Visits and trainings to get the year off to a good start

ABBREVIATIONS

	ASPRODEB - CNCR	Conseil national de concertation et de coopération des ruraux (National Council for Concertation and Cooperation of Rural People)
	DA	DA: Directorate of Agriculture
	DDC	Departmental Development Committee
	DE	Direction de l'élevage
	ELD	Economics of Land Degradation
	FMNR	Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration
	ICRAF	World Agroforestry
	ISRA- CNRF	Centre National de Recherches Forestières de l'Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles
	JRLM	RLM: Joint Reflection and Learning Mission
	LDC	Local Development Committee
	LDSF	Land Degradation Surveillance Framework
	NOCC	National Oversight Coordination Committee
	PMU	Project Management Unit
	RDC	Regional Development Committee
	SHARED	Stakeholder Approach to Risk-informed and Evidence-based Decision Making
	SLM	Sustainable Land Management
	WV	World Vision

Anna Daba Ndiaye Diouf **Regreening Africa Project Manager**



Regreening Africa is a five-year project funded by the European Union and operates in eight African countries including Senegal. It is implemented in Senegal by World Vision Senegal with the technical collaboration of World Agroforestry (ICRAF) and government services. The objective for Senegal is to regreen 160,000 hectares by enrolling 80,000

households to help reverse land degradation. The project operates in three regions (Fatick, Kaolack and Kaffrine) and targets 45 communes.

The technique of Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) is selected among the priority actions of the regreening strategy. FMNR is a simple and inexpensive tree management practice that consists of identifying, materializing and protecting young trees resulting from natural regeneration, thus increasing tree density in the fields.

This first newsletter informs you of the achievements after two years of implementation, as well as snippets from the first quarter of year three.

Just to give you a quick recap, the first year (2017-2018) was marked by a project launch, establishment of a National Oversight Coordination Committee (NOCC), but also baseline studies to provide information base against which activities will be monitored once the project ends. At the strategic level, a first meeting took place in Ethiopia in November 2018 with the country teams and the Project Management Unit (PMU) to harmonize approaches and reorient the country teams for effective implementation of activities in the second year.

The second year (2018- 2019) kicked-off with a courtesy visit from World Vision Australia staff to strategise way forward, based on lessons from Ethiopia. This was followed by information workshops carried out in three levels: regional, departmental and local, where development committees in each sector were in attendance.

Thereafter, field activities commenced, specifically recruitment of facilitators, training of communities on agroforestry, and enrollment of producers. ICRAF also contributed to the mobilization of partners and capacity building of the project team through trainings on Land Degradation and Surveillance Framework (LDSF), value chains, planting techniques and stakeholder engagement through the SHARED (Stakeholder Approach to Risk-Informed and Evidence-based Decision-making) approach.

This third year (September 2019-September 2020), kicked-off with monitoring visits to farmers practicing FMNR and studies by the Economics of Land Degradation (ELD), which implements component 1 of the project. Finally, the flagship event marking this quarter was a learning event in Kenya organized by World Vision Australia in collaboration with ICRAF.

In conclusion, the commitment of communities to restoring their land is to be commended. They may have their own initiatives and approaches to regreening, but they need to be supported to believe in it, because combined effort produces great results. Regreening Africa Senegal, aware of this, has put the focus on community anchoring by maximizing on local resources to create a sense of ownership and sustainability of the project. In addition, the involvement of technical services and administrative authorities is ensuring we achieve the set targets.

At present, the enthusiasm felt should not be broken, because populations are committed to regreening despite challenges related to bush fires and free grazing, among others. Let's green up Senegal together! Happy reading 4

SENSITIZATION MEETINGS



Local Development Committee members and village chiefs meet with the Mbadakhoune sub-prefect. Photo: Donatien Baticane

Sensitization meetings made it possible to share with administrative authorities the objectives and approaches of the project in order to have their support in the implementation process. As the project operates in three regions, three Regional Development Committee (RDC) meetings were held in the presence of the Governors of Kaolack, Kaffrine and Fatick.



Regional Development Committee members pose for a group photo with the Deputy Governor and Prefects. Photo: D. Baticane

Similarly, Departmental Development Committees were set-up in seven departments: Gossas, Fatick, Kaolack, Guinguineo, Kaffrine, Birkelane and Malem Hodar. At the district level, Local Development Committees (LDCs) were established to raise awareness of the same in each community.

These information meetings generally brought together all development actors, thus favoring good dissemination of information in relation to implementation of the project.



Departmental Development Committee members meet with the prefect and sub-prefect of Fatick. Photo: D Baticane

COMMUNITY ANIMATORS, A STRENGTH FOR THE PROJECT



Recruitment session of facilitators by project staff in collaboration members of the European Commission, sub-prefect and the mayor. Photo: D. Baticane

For better implementation of the project, facilitators from the targeted intervention areas were recruited in order to promote sustainability and community ownership. One of the selection criteria was to be a native and permanent resident of the commune, hence aware of environmental history of the area. This contributed to prompt acceptance of the project by community members.

With the involvement of sub-prefects and mayors, the selection was made at commune level. 45 facilitators were equipped with motorcycles to facilitate travel during training and awareness raising activities, and especially for close follow-up with farmers adopting the Regreening approaches. This pool of community agents works in close collaboration with the mayors of the targeted communes.



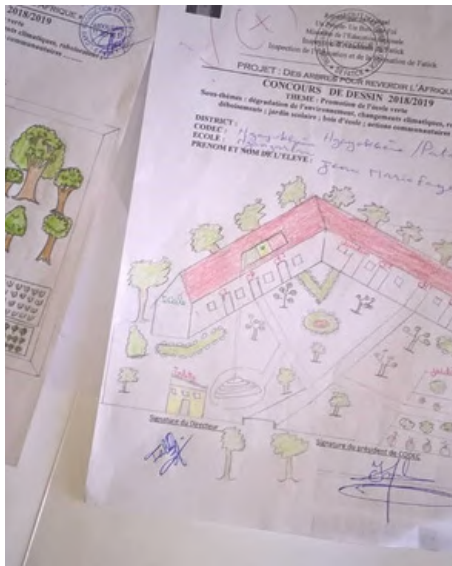
Community animators pose for a group photo with project staff. Photo: D. Baticane



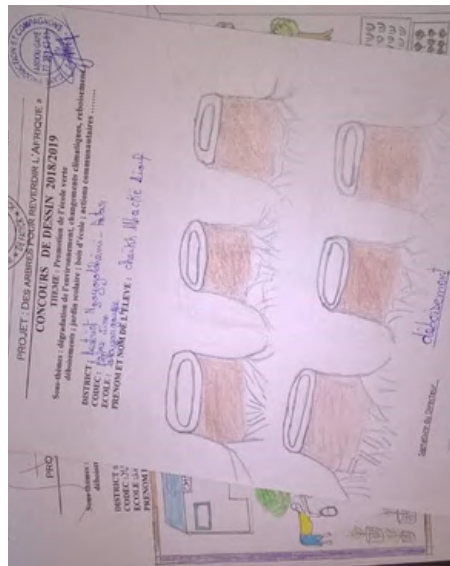
Motorcycles procured for animators. Photo: D. Baticane

The mandate of the facilitators is to train farmers on the technical itinerary of Regreening approaches and to sensitize them on the importance of practicing the same on their plots of land. They are also in charge of training local leaders who will help spread regreening practices on a wider scale given their level of influence and trust cultivated over the years.

INTRODUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS



Sample drawings by the students. Photo: D. Baticane



Equipment for gardening issued to schools. Photo D. Baticane



With 30 school principals, information day on the Regreening and Armonization Project on training modules by inspectors. Photo: D. Baticane

The project initiated a green schools program to increase students' awareness of environmental degradation. In partnership with the Education and Training Inspectorate of Fatick, 30 schools were targeted to host environmental clubs and school gardens to advance this initiative.

Training on tree planting techniques were administered to both students and teachers, and a package of garden maintenance equipment was issued to ensure sustainability after the training.

A drawing competition was also organized for the pupils in order to gauge their understanding of environmental protection, as evidenced in the drawings above. These are based on their observations in their surroundings and their desire to live in greener spaces.

Project staff present reiterated the projects' commitment to accord the necessary support so as to make this a reality.

A LOCAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY

World Vision Senegal in collaboration with a youth association called Moringa, held a reforestation and community awareness activity in Niakhar and Ndiob communes, during the regional citizens' holiday.

A total of 300 species have been planted and monitored by the youth of the Moringa association and site managers. The local nurserymen were the suppliers of seedlings for this operation, which was also supported by the Water and Forestry Department. In addition to the Moringa, fruit trees (mango, papaya) and shade plants such as flamboyant plants were among the seedlings. In spite of some losses, satisfactory results were noted, especially in places of worship, schools, etc., but also in the villages.



Collaboration with the Municipality of Niakhar for reforestation activities. Photo: D. Baticane

Let us fight food insecurity by keeping trees in our fields and surroundings. This will be the only way to restore degraded landscapes and improve nutrition and food security in our households"

Anna Daba Ndiaye
Project Manager
World Vision Senegal



Plantation of baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) for the planned comparison in Kaffrine. Photo: Sidy. Diawara

PRODUCTION OF RADIO PROGRAMMES TO RAISE AWARENESS



Radio broadcastser with the animators from Kaffrine region. Photo: D. Baticane

Given that the year started off with community sensitization on FMNR, broader communication was necessary to ensure wider influence which would hopefully translate to increased adoption. To reinforce these interventions, suitable community radios were identified and schedules created for the production of radio programs with theme focus of FMNR and environmental protection. This contributed to wide dissemination of the project in Senegal and specifically in the regions under intervention. Depending on the area, programmes were produced in the dominant local languages, that is, Wolof and Serer.

Visibility

To ensure better visibility of the project, the communication team of World Vision Senegal trained animators on how to capture images and reporting techniques. The project team provided the facilitators with mobile phones to facilitate the practice. Banners and signboards (45 in total) were made to ensure visibility during the meetings and to mark sites where regreening initiatives are being implemented. Also, polo shirts with the project logos were distributed to partners as well as leaflets.



*Radio broadcasts with the hosts of the Fatick region.
Photo: D. Baticane*

ICRAF 'S CONTRIBUTION



LDSF training in January 2019. Photos: Gilberte Koffi

The second year of the project also saw to it that project staff in Senegal as well as partners took part in capacity building activities organised by ICRAF. Trainings revolved around biophysical field surveys using the land degradation monitoring framework. This study was carried out in two stages, first with the training of partners and then data collection in the field.

Another training was by the SHARED team which encouraged the mobilization and influencing of various partners on matters agroforestry.

Additionally, the team organised a webinar later in the year which provided a forum for the eight countries to share ideas and experiences so far. This was eye opening.



Organization of the SHARED workshop in Dakar. Photo: Anna Daba

ICRAF was also instrumental in training 45 project facilitators on grafting techniques. The overall objective of the training aimed at building capacity and creating a knowledge exchange platform for project implementing partners in West Africa from Ghana, Mali, Niger and Senegal.

In addition, to enhance the value of fruit species preserved and protected in the fields, in-situ grafting is recommended. Grafting was also introduced as a technique of vegetative propagation whereby the growth span of a tree species is reduced to allow early fruiting and harvesting.

Facilitators also got training on direct seeding, which is a regeneration technique that consists of sowing seeds into the soil at the desired location, without going through multiplication in a nursery. This technique is useful in diversifying species and rejuvenating trees in agroforestry parks.

These training sessions have been replicated by facilitators in the communities.



Dr. Djalal Arinloye Ademonla facilitating the training. Photo: G. Koffi



Participants pose for a group photo during the Training. Photo: G. Koffi



Anna Daba awarding a certificate to Drissa Gana, Project Manager, Sahel Eco in Mali.
Photo: G. Koffi

"Women have a key role to play in the collection and sale of agroforestry products. The projects' emphasis is placed on species that communities recognize as having an economic impact for them, for the development of these value chains"

Djalal Arinloye Ademonla
ICRAF Representative Sahel/West
and Central Africa Region.

JOINT REFLECTION AND LEARNING MISSION (JRLM)



Like the other countries, the project received a visit from ICRAF at the end of year 2. The objective of this mission was to take stock of the situation and to interact with the project team in order to harmonize the approaches and provide the necessary guidance. The mission was carried out in two main phases including field visits and exchanges. The sites in the three regions were visited in the presence of the various partners and actors in the field.

These outings and discussions enabled a better understanding of the Senegalese context. At the end of the mission, recommendations were made to the project team for better implementation.



Project staff interact with farmers during the field visits. Photos: G. Koffi

Visit of the NOCC President and World Vision's Chief Operating Officer



Mr. Dieng (right), Area Manager at Fatick IREF during the visit of the NOCC Chairman and the Director of Operations of World Vision (left). Photo: A. Daba

This first quarter of the third year was marked by capacity building sessions for facilitators and field visits. Among these visits, was one by NOCC President, Colonel Ba, currently assigned to the Ministry of the Environment. He was accompanied by the Director of Operations of World Vision Senegal.

The purpose of the visit was to get an idea of the achievements, to provide technical support to the field officers (facilitators) and to facilitate collaboration with the heads of the three regional inspectorates in Fatick, Kaffrine and Kaolack.

It was also a good opportunity for the project team to get an update on upcoming events related to environmental management at the national level and current policies in preparation for possible collaboration. This is the case as will be witnessed in the forthcoming opening of the National Agency for Reforestation and the Great Green Wall, which will soon be set up in the municipalities where Regreening is already operating.



*Plantation of baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) for the planned comparison in Kaffrine. Photo: S. Diawara*

VISIT OF THE LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME MANAGER AND THE ZONAL MANAGER



Field visit of the Livelihood Manager in the commune of Ngayokhème. Photo: A. Daba

Supervision visits were carried out by the internal team of World Vision Senegal to ensure that the recommendations made during the joint reflection and learning mission were taken into account. At the end of these visits, some progress was noted, but the need for periodic follow-up and evaluation missions to the farmers was stressed, if the set targets were to be reached.



Field visit of the person in charge of World Vision's central zone in Gagnick (Guinguinéo). Photo: A. Daba

CAPACITY BUILDING OF FACILITATORS AND MONITORING OF PLOTS UNDER FMNR

Additional visits were made to facilitators carrying out FMNR activities as well as refresher trainings on the practice. A total of 10 visits were made to different communes

Visits to farmers allow them to better understand the project approach, improve the practice and share the same knowledge and skill to their peers.

Currently there are 1666 geolocalised plots and RNA plots in individual/collective ownership. The dominant species are *Faidherbia*, *Guiera senegalensis*, *Cordyla pinata*, *Balanite egyptiana*, *Andansonia* etc..



Demonstration of the technical itinerary of the FMNR with the technical assistant. Photo: A. Daba

TRAINING ON REGREENING AFRICA APP

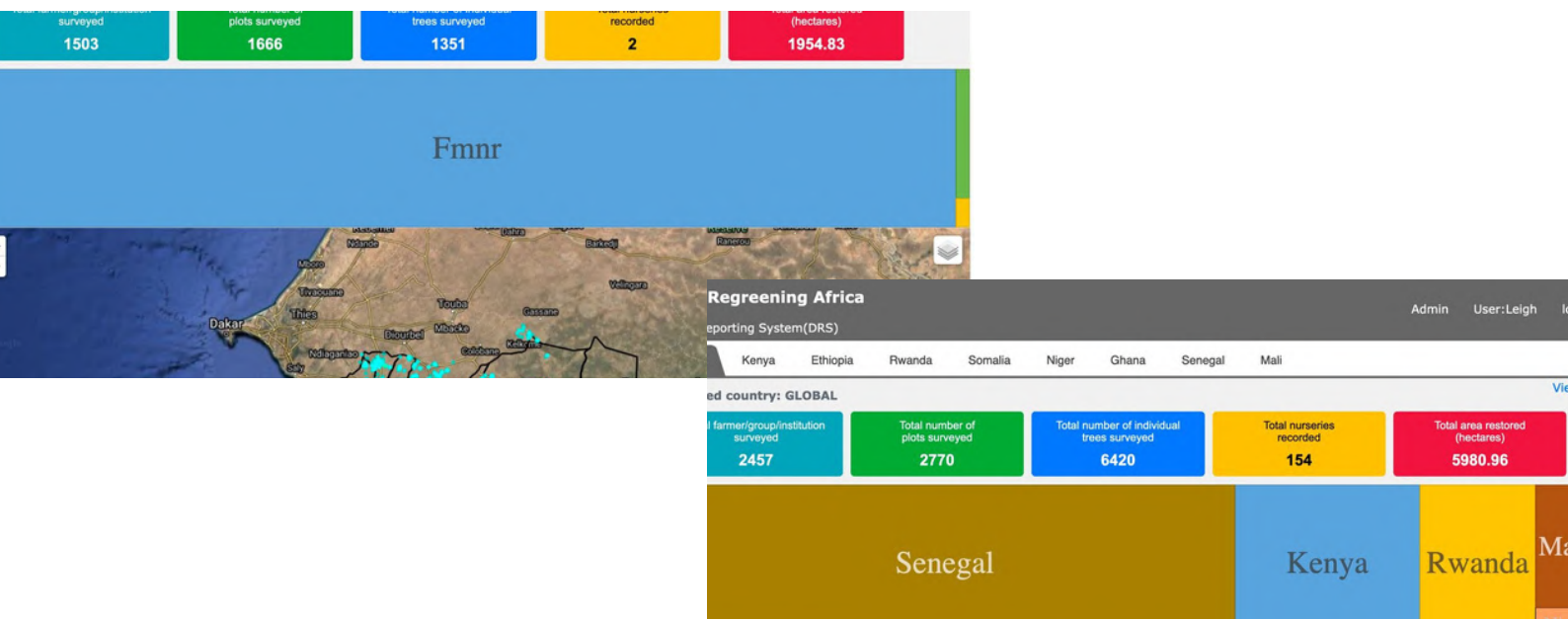


An Android mobile-based application was designed by ICRAF to facilitate reporting and contribute to good data control. To ensure the team was at par with what was required, a training was delivered in the presence of Water and Forestry agents of the Birkelane department who welcomed the team into their nursery for the practical phase of the training (the nursery and plantation sections were tested there).

For this third year, the Regreening APP will be used as the farmers have already been sensitized on the process and additional training on the same is ongoing.

During this last quarter, the team focused on the geo-location of the plots put under RNA and the capitalization of the training data via the Regreening App. To date, the team has a database accessible to all to visualize the number of people trained, households reached and hectares under restoration. When Badara Ndao, focal point facilitator from Kaffrine region was asked about usage of the App so far, this is what he had to say, "The geo-location of plots is a strong moment of communion between the producer and the facilitator. It is an ideal moment for learning and exchange".

So far, Senegal is the leadign country in collecting data using the App as evidenced in the image below.



ORGANISATION OF THE NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (NOCC) MEETING



Meeting of the national project supervision committee on 21 November 2019 in Dakar. Photo: A. Daba

The first NOCC meeting for this year (3) took place in Dakar last November. It was an opportunity to update them on the project and to share with them the planned activities in order to gather their expert opinion. This meeting was attended by representatives of: DEFCCS, INP, DE, DA, ASPRODEB- CNCR (National Council for Concertation and Cooperation of Rural People), World Vision and the ELD. The team then took part in a workshop to reconstitute ELD studies on the economic benefits of sustainable land management (SLM).

The last strategic activity was the signing of a protocol between ICRAF Sahel and ISRA -CNRF represented by Dr. Diaminatou Sanogo, who is now the ICRAF focal point for the Regreening Africa project in Senegal.



*Direct sowing of baobab (*Adansonia digitata*) and dim (*Cordyla pinnata*) for the planned comparison. Photo: S. Diawara*

REGREENING AFRICA WORKSHOP



Anna and Dr. Diaminatou engaging in discussions with the LDD team during a clinic session. Photo: Leigh Winowiecki

ICRAF organised a two-day workshop in Nairobi, Kenya where all project managers across the eight countries were present. With the aim to delve into deeper discussions on scaling strategies, leveraging opportunities and approaches, the Regreening App as well as other outstanding issues, the SHARED team organised round table discussions with each component. This provided an opportunity to all country teams to discuss challenges in detail, get clarifications as well as share their experiences on what has been working well or not, and the opportunities the project should leverage on going forward.

The wealth of knowledge that came across from these discussions and one specific to cross-country discussions, stirred up motivation in all managers to implement suggested recommendations in their own countries. The workshop culminated with a field visit to various farms in western Kenya, where World Vision Kenya is currently implementing activities. Despite the great distinction in contexts, there were great lessons that all picked out from the visit and in the case of Senegal, we have already started to put this into practice.

For instance, courtesy of this initiative by ICRAF, Senegal tested the App during the workshop and has really progressed on this, causing us to emerge as the top country in data collection.



Participants pose for a group photo. Photo: May Muthuri



A farmer supporting Anna planting a Gliricidia tree seedling during the field visit to western Kenya. Photo: M. Muthuri

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Restitution of the results of value chain studies - May
- Training sessions and enrolment of farmers for year 3 in the 45 communes - May
- Meeting and field visit of NOCC members in Kaffrine, Fatick and Kaolack - June
- Participation of the Regreening project in the annual meeting of the operations department of World Vision Senegal in Kaolack - June
- World Environment Day Celebration - June



Producer from Ndiago (Guinguiné) Sharing his FMNR experience. Photo. S Diallo

Newsletter Compilation

Anna Daba Ndiaye - Project Manager, WV
Alexandre - Communications Officer, WV

Gilberte Koffi - Communications Officer, ICRAF
May Muthuri - Communications Assistant, ICRAF
Catherine Dembele - Associate Scientist, Systems and trees, ICRAF

Protection of the environment should be everyone's business but unfortunately not all have the same level of information or expertise regarding the evils our planet is grappling with. It is our role to bridge this gap ~ Anna Daba



[@RegreenAfrica](https://twitter.com/RegreenAfrica)



[@Regreen Africa](https://www.facebook.com/RegreenAfrica)



R.Africa@cgiar.org

www.regreeningafrica.org

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the official views of the European Union.