Improve plant productivity through the use of compost and bio-pesticides as an amendment to cultivated land and crop processing;

Popularize pedal pumping systems and solar drip (artisanal system) in the area of project;

Develop a circular economy that generates local jobs by promoting products organic farming;

Facilitate the transfer of skills in organic agricultural production techniques.

**Rationale for action**

The regular use of chemical fertilizers depletes and destroys the soil and ultimately lowers agricultural yields and causes lung, epidermal and digestive disorders (stomach, liver, intestines, diarrhea, etc.). The production of composts via biodegradable waste (plants and animals), organic pesticides (from essential oils and manure from certain plants) with new organic farming techniques is becoming a solution since agriculture will constantly have compost and organic pesticides limiting gradually overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides of phytosanitary origin. However, the practice of organic farming, especially market gardening, requires a regular supply of water to water or irrigate crops. This brings us to value the water in the shallows of a river (Boko River) via the pedal pumping which allows not only the practice of irrigated organic farming out of season, but also to fight not only against climate change which affects rain-fed agriculture and therefore agricultural yields in this area, but also against flooding in the shallows.

**Objectives of the initiative**

Promote organic farming through the enhancement of the lowlands of the Boko River by pedal pumping, artisanal solar drip and use of compost and bio-pesticides:

- Improve plant productivity through the use of compost and bio-pesticides as an amendment to cultivated land and crop processing;
- Popularize pedal pumping systems and solar drip (artisanal system) in the area of project;
- Develop a circular economy that generates local jobs by promoting products organic farming;
- Facilitate the transfer of skills in organic agricultural production techniques.
Main stages of the project

- Organization of a project ownership workshop
- Official launch of the project
- Revitalization of the members of the “Dieu Béni” group, direct beneficiaries of the project
- Capacity building and training for group members
- Installation of production platforms for composts, bio-pesticides, pedal pumping systems and irrigation
- Installation of composts production platforms
- Installation of the biological pesticides production platform
- Installation of pedal pumping and irrigation systems
- Acquisition of agricultural / market gardening equipment and safety equipment
- Exploitation of cultivable area: Agricultural / vegetable production activities

Some achievements

Challenges

- Insufficient subsidy for other planned activities
- Lack of awareness of village chiefs
- Lack of willingness on the part of some members of the group

Strengths and lessons learned

This project is a solution to the problems:

- misuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides of phytosanitary origin;
- flooding of crops and habitats;
- water management

Actors involved / project partners

- French Embassy in Togo
- Private company TMSU
- Local group “Dieu Bénit”

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OPED-Togo

Recognized under the receipt of association declaration n° 0484 / MATDCL-SG-DLPAP-DOCA of 03/22/2013 and inserted in the official journal of the Togolese Republic on May 16, 2013, OPED works in the following areas, with competent staff: Climate changes and energy, Agriculture and sustainable land management, Water and sanitation, Management of chemicals and waste, community development and poverty reduction. In view of its contribution to sustainable development in Togo, a certificate of recognition of the quality of development NGO n° 980 / MPDC / 2019 was awarded to OPED in August 2019 by the Ministry of Development Planning and Cooperation of Togo.