



# The Newsletter of Inades-Formation

Servir le bien commun Inades-Formation newsletter

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The staff of the General Secretariat visiting the building site of the new headquarters

## EDITORIAL

Contrary to predictions and fears, the Covid 19 pandemic did not progress exponentially in Africa during the second half of 2020.

Thus, most countries have gradually eased their barrier measures to maintain only the most basic ones, i.e. the wearing of nose mask, social distancing and hand washing. Domestic and air traffics have resumed, but with more or less severe restrictions and constraints depending on the country.

In order to contribute to raising awareness among the populations, the General Secretariat has produced a video to raise awareness against COVID19 , which has been made available to the National Offices. The video is also available on the institution’s YouTube page and website.

Inades-Formation teams, convinced more than ever of the rightness of its struggles revealed by the pandemic, are redoubling their efforts, to make up as much as possible for the delay caused by the said pandemic.

Internal and external missions have thus resumed, as well as interNO workshops. Thus, those in charge of the network project «repositioning sovereignty foods» met in a workshop in Abidjan, in October, to develop the participatory action research approach for the monitoring-evaluation of the performance of agroecological inputs.

Moreover, At the General Secretariat, where the construction of the new headquarters continues, progress has been made

on the site.

The staff of the General Secretariat visited the site to see for themselves.

In addition, the General Secretariat has welcomed a new Director of Programmes, whom we will be pleased to introduce to you in this issue.

## In this issue

|  |      |
|--|------|
| <b>Editorial</b>   | P 1  |
| <b>Contribution</b>  |      |
| » Climate change and community resilience: Inades-Formation Burkina in action  | P1-2 |
| <b>Echoes from the National Offices</b>  |      |
| » DRC: Family gardens to fight hunger in Bumba   | P3   |
| <b>Echoes from the General Secretariat</b>   |      |
| » Inades-Formation designs its approach of participatory action-research for the monitoring-evaluation of the performance of agroecological inputs | P4   |
| » Portrait of the New Director of Programmes Mr SAHINGUVU Richard  | P5-6 |
| » The staff of the General Secretariat discover the progress of construction of the new headquarters   | P7   |
| » Recent publications  | P8   |

**A**round the world, one of the major concerns of the moment is climate change-related disasters. Mr Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General, said that climate change is «the greatest emerging humanitarian challenge of our time».

The situation is being taken seriously by the international community. IPoI 13 of the Sustainable Development Objectives has moreover been devoted to climate change and is formulated as follows: «Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts». The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) defines climate change as «those changes in climate which are attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which are in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods».

Droughts, floods and storms, among other things, are increasingly recurring events in many parts of the world. Crises related to these natural phenomena are hardest experienced in developing countries, where conditions are not always right for dealing with them. In a column published on the United Nations website, Mr William Dar, Director General of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) notes: «Developing countries are under stress because of their vulnerability to the effects of weather and climate. The poor in these countries are at high risk due to many factors: their dependence on agriculture and ecosystem services, rapid growth, population concentration and inadequate health services.

The agriculture sector, which is highly dependent on the climate, is obviously being hit hard by the effects of climate change. At the same time, food security is threatened by climate change. Climate change-related disasters create significant damage and losses to crops, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture and forestry, which are important livelihoods for the majority of people in

developing countries.

A 2016 FAO study on the Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security indicates that between 2003 and 2013, a quarter of the total economic impacts of climate-related disasters in developing countries were felt in the agriculture sector alone.

In the face of this worrying situation, efforts are being made here and there to strengthen people's resilience to the effects of climate change, especially in developing countries. Inades-Formation is one of the organisations involved on this front with its structuring programme «Resilience to climate change». In the orientations of this structuring programme, Inades-Formation considers that climate change occurs when extreme and unusual variations in rainfall and temperature patterns are observed. In order to ensure the resilience of communities to the effects of climate change, Inades-Formation works at the level of the different countries where it is present to develop the capacities of communities to maintain a dignified life thanks to the measures taken to enable them to adapt to climate-induced disturbances and mitigate their effects.

In Burkina Faso, the implementation of the Climate Change Resilience programme by Inades-Formation Burkina is based on community initiatives for the sustainable management of natural resources and the preservation of local biodiversity. Within the framework of projects and programmes led by the Burkina National Office, communities in different localities of the country have been supported in the development of local land charters for the sustainable management of natural resources, the protection of river banks, and the development of action plans for the sustainable management of community forests. In addition, training was provided on the regulations governing natural resource management in Burkina Faso, and on the production of seedlings. Inades-Formation Burkina

has also been involved in initiatives to reclaim degraded land through community support for the creation of stone barriers. It is also involved in the environmental education of schoolchildren in order to raise the awareness of young people about the challenges of climate change and encourage them to develop reflexes that will help reduce its effects.

The work of Inades-Formation Burkina in favour of reducing the effects of climate change is also reflected in its actions to promote agroecology. Several training sessions have been organised for producers on the production and use of natural fertilisers such as bio-thermal compost and organic liquid fertiliser as well as on the production of bio-pesticides. Radio broadcasts, talks and debates are regularly organised to raise community awareness of the importance of agro-ecology in the face of the reality of climate change. Two documents on good agricultural practices have recently been published by Inades-Formation Burkina. These documents provide guidance on the application of agroecological production methods for millet and cowpea. Several farmers' organisations throughout the country have been supported by Inades-Formation Burkina for their positioning in the agro-ecological transition.

Responding effectively to the adverse effects of climate change also requires the commitment of governments alongside civil society actors and communities. This policy commitment could materialise through binding decisions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In a network with other actors, Inades-Formation works to this end through advocacy and communication on the issue to ensure that solutions are taken into account in development policies.

The fight against the harmful effects of climate change is one of the fields of action of Inades-Formation Burkina, a structure resolutely committed to serving the common good.

Severe acute malnutrition remains a major cause of under-five mortality worldwide. In DRC, 4 out of 10 children are stunted. In order to contribute to better child nutrition in the city of Bumba, Inades-Formation DR Congo is supporting households in the creation of family gardens.



Mrs. MANDUNGU Anuarite, a mother beneficiary of the project

In the village of Bokata, located on the banks of the Itimbiri River, 85 km from the city of Bumba (Bumba Territory), Mongala Province, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, lives the small MALONGO Clarisse. She is 5 years old and is the fourth of a sibling group of 5 children. With dry

coloured skin, swollen eyes and greyish hair, Clarisse had been suffering for 2 years from acute malnutrition and had generalised oedemas.

Her parents MANDUNGU Anuarite and EKANGOLA MAMANA are poor and are unable to feed their children properly, like several other families in Bokata.

However, the agricultural potential is important in this village of nearly 8,500 souls, with its vast expanses suitable for food-producing agriculture, the Lokeki brook, which cannot dry up during the dry season and which is favourable for local market gardening and fish farming. Pirogue fishing and palm oil extraction are also important economic activities in Bokata.

Despite this favourable environment, poverty and malnutrition affect the majority of households.

There are at least 4 out of 10 children under the age of 5 affected by protein-caloric malnutrition, 2 of whom are severely malnourished.

The causes mentioned are the lack of dietary diversity and the under-consumption of foods with high nutritional value by the population. The high birth rate, traditional barriers and prohibitions, poor income management and the deterioration of basic infrastructure are also cited as factors aggravating malnutrition.

In its programme «One World without Hunger», the BMZ,

via the NGO MISEREOR, supported Inades-Formation Congo - Bumba Relay Office in the implementation of a food security project in the Bumba Territory from April 2018 to March 2021.

One of the strategies to combat hunger and malnutrition retained in the project is support for market gardening. Thus, Inades-Formation DR Congo has directly helped vulnerable households (with malnourished children and low resilience) to set up family vegetable and soya gardens in order to have vegetables close to the huts.

The family of little MALONGO Clarisse is one of 30 'vulnerable' households in Bokata out of a total of 160 households selected for the entire project.

The families received farming tools and vegetable seeds (amaranth, nightshade, aubergine and spinach) which they sowed in the plots. In addition, they received practical advice on how to set up family vegetable gardens, which were constantly monitored by an endogenous facilitator.

Each household has set up a family garden near the huts with an average area of 0.25 ha, protected by enclosures. These gardens are a source of healthy food and cash income for these families.

After 3 months of dietary advice and close monitoring, little Clarisse has regained her smile, her parents are very confident and the other children will no longer fall into malnutrition (according to Mrs Anuarite).

About 80% of children diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition in the Health Centre are cured.



A family garden

The surrounding households that were not selected have also benefited from the project. At least 30% of them have set up gardens with seeds received from project supported households and the supply of vegetables has increased in and around the village. In addition, local resources such as water from the Lokeki stream and rice bran that was once discarded or burnt are being revalued.

## Inades-Formation develops its participatory action research approach for the monitoring-evaluation of the performance of agroecological inputs



Workshop participants in a working session

Agreeing on the protocol for participatory research-action on the performance of agroecological inputs was the aim of the regional workshop organised by the General Secretariat of Inades-Formation from 05 to 09 October 2020 in Abidjan.

A protocol that sets out the methodological approach, the tools to be used, the collection and processing of data and the framework for presenting the results of monitoring and evaluation of the performance of agroecological inputs.

Seven (7) national offices out of the eight (8) expected took part in the workshop, including Inades-Formation Burkina, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Chad, Togo and the delegate from DR Congo who was unable to travel.

Indeed, in a global context where pesticides and other chemical inputs destroy soils and human health, Inades-Formation, in order to meet the challenges of production without risks to nature and humans, has taken a position since 2013 in favour of food sovereignty and promotes food systems based on family farming.

Thus, since 2017, the institution has been implementing a programme to promote food sovereignty, which are local products historically ingrained in food-processing habits. Five products have been targeted under this programme, namely cowpea and beans, millet, sorghum, fonio and local chicken. The programme implemented in eight countries of the network is based on four (4) main components:

- the promotion of sustainable productivity practices;
- the promotion of the value-added chain and the local market;
- the promotion of the consumption of sovereign food;
- the promotion of policy measures conducive to the repositioning of sovereignty food in food systems.

As part of the promotion of sustainable productivity practices, country offices have targeted good practices to be promoted in soil management (biofertilizers), plant protection (biopesticides), seed and crop protection/preservation (biopesticides and conservation tools).

According to Mr. Richard Sahinguvu, Director of Programmes at the SG, «In conventional agriculture, much more use is made of chemical fertilisers and pesticides that have ultimately proven to be harmful to the environment. In our commitment to promote the theory of «produce without destroying», we (Editor's note: Inades-Formation) are working to develop alternatives to enable producers to increase their production without negative impacts on the environment or human health».

Emphasis has been placed on the promotion of «agricultural input» agro-resources,

which promote productivity, the protection of nature, plant health and humans. The experimentation of these targeted agricultural inputs is carried out by farmers and other local actors brought together in the «CILACs» (Local Innovator and Community Learning Circles).

As Mr. Richard points out, most of these were already used in the past by farmers to control pests and diseases.

«...There are producers who have local knowledge on the use of certain agro-ecological products. These are products that have already been tested and used empirically, and whose effectiveness we want to confirm based on action research carried out with a few model farmers, known as local innovators gathered within the CILACs».

At the end of the workshop, five (5) biofertiliser and bio-pesticide experimentation protocols, two (2) biofertiliser experimentation protocols for cereals and pulses, two (2) bio-pesticide experimentation protocols for cereals and pulses, and one bio-pesticide experimentation protocol for crop and seed conservation were selected. Each protocol consists of seven essential points which are: justification, specific objectives of the experiment, expected results of the experiment, material to be used, method, chronogram and data to be collected.

A participatory research-action guide and a research report outline have also been defined for a good documentation of the experiments and their results/impacts.



## Mr. Richard Sahinguvu, passionate about Inades-Formation



Mr Richard SAHINGUVU, Director of Programmes at the General Secretariat

**Mr. Richard SAHINGUVU has taken up a position as Director of Programmes at the General Secretariat of Inades-Formation, after having been Director of Inades-Formation Burundi for about ten years. As he said himself, he is passionate about the work of Inades-Formation and is ready to take up the new challenges that lie ahead.**

It is at the end of August 2020 that the brand new Director of Programmes, Mr. Richard SAHINGUVU arrives in Côte d'Ivoire, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of Inades-Formation, from his native country, Burundi. He takes office on 1st September 2020. One month later, in October 2020, as he gradually settles into his new functions, we meet him to extract a few words from him.

### **Thirteen years with Inades-Formation**

Very comfortable, Mr. SAHINGUVU talks to us about his professional career which began after he obtained his diploma as an agricultural engineer in 2000. His first steps were taken in the world of NGOs where he started working with farmers, in the structuring and support of farmers' organisations. His encounter with

Inades-Formation will take place seven years later, in 2007, through the national office of Inades-Formation Burundi. There he quickly climbed the ladder to the highest position in the national office of Inades-Formation Burundi, which he held for ten years.

«I joined Inades-Formation Burundi in 2007 first as an executive trainer, before being promoted to head of pedagogical service in 2009 and Director of the national office of Inades-Formation Burundi in March 2010. Mr. SAHINGUVU Richard is also an associate member of Inades-Formation Burundi since 2009 and a member of the international association since 2017». The love story between him and Inades-Formation

**I continue with Inades-Formation because I like the work of Inades-Formation.**

has been going on for thirteen years now.

### **A satisfying career at Inades-Formation Burundi**

He leaves Inades-Formation Burundi, proud to have completed and successfully completed his mandates as Director. Mandates with positive results as he reveals «All my evaluations were conclusive». A success also due to the commitment of his team. «I am proud to have maintained and improved the financial position of the national office through fundraising for projects that benefit the community. I am also proud to have worked with a motivated and professionally conscientious team. A team that he leaves in good hands, one might say, since Mr. SAHINGUVU is absolutely confident in his successor: «I am happy to have been replaced by a person with whom we have worked throughout my career at Inades-Formation Burundi. I am confident

that he will continue with abnegation to take up the challenges, especially those we were unable to face during my mandate. I am confident that he will keep the office on the same track and take it even further».

### **Passionate about working at Inades-Formation**

One would have thought that after all these years, and after having brilliantly led the national office of Inades-Formation Burundi, Mr. SAHINGUVU Richard would have turned to another universe for his professional life. But no, he decided to pursue the path with the institution. Why? he tells us so himself.

«13 years at Inades-Formation is certainly a lot. I continue with Inades-Formation because I love the work of Inades-Formation. I really like its philosophy, the spirit in which we work, the spirit of serving the common good. I have seen that at Inades-Formation, we are passionate about solidarity with underprivileged populations, with a view to improving their living conditions. I have always been proud when I meet a farmer or a person who testifies that he has improved his life thanks to the training he has received from our institution.

But also, at Inades-Formation, I have found a culture of permanent learning. We continue to learn with the different strategic reflections, which allows us to adapt products and services to the needs of the beneficiaries».

### **From the national office to the General Secretariat, a change of scale that it is ready to assume**

For Mr. SAHINGUVU, leaving the National Office for the General Secretariat of Inades-Formation, is really a change of step for which he counts on everyone's help. «It is another context, another working environment and I would like to

renew my commitment to redouble my efforts to face this new challenge». His ambition for the network in accepting this new challenge is expressed in these words: «I want the General Secretariat to benefit from my experience gained not only as Director of a national office, but also from my experience gained throughout my professional career. I would say that, by being Director of the national office of Inades-Formation Burundi, I have already contributed to the network by contributing to the different reflections through the spaces in which I participated, notably the general assemblies, the meetings of directors, which led to the recent evolutions in

the work of Inades-Formation. Now, as programme director, it will be much more a question of contributing to the operationalisation of the results of these reflections. More concretely, I intend to approach the different directors of the national offices and their teams to analyse together the modalities of more collaboration in the setting up of projects in accordance with the structuring programmes and the strategic orientations of the Inades-Formation network. This will enable the General Secretariat to work together with the national offices and to better ensure its role of coordination and support of the national offices, especially by increasing

the number of federating projects and multi-country projects.

To achieve this, Mr. SAHINGUVU does not intend to go it alone. He is counting on everyone's help. «I am counting on the collaboration of my colleagues at the General Secretariat, the Directors of the national offices and their teams to help me better face the challenges». But of course, he already knows that he can count on everyone, «And as I know the spirit of work at Inades-Formation, I am already reassured on this aspect». he concludes.

## Inades-Formation and GRET, a new partnership for joint actions in favour of development in Africa

**Inades-Formation** and the association **GRET** have decided to pool their efforts in order to offer better support to vulnerable populations. The two institutions met on the sidelines of a training session on advocacy in general and the issue of Interim Economic Partnership Agreements in Côte d'Ivoire, for the benefit of the CSCI to discuss areas of collaboration in the framework of a future partnership.

It is thanks to this nascent partnership that Mr. Sena Kwaku Adessou, Secretary General of Inades-Formation, received Mr. Laurent Levard, Programme Manager - Food and Rural Economy Department of GRET.

At this meeting, it was a question of getting to know each other better, presenting the areas of work and discussing the possibilities of collaboration. At the end of the exchanges, which lasted almost 2 hours, it was agreed to continue the exchanges with a view to materialising the partnership that will enable the 2 institutions to collectively develop multi-country initiatives to support rural communities and influence development policies and practices.

The strength of the two institutions lies in the joint work of its members with the populations, with the persistent objective of equitable development for all.

It should be noted that GRET is an international development organisation under French law that has been working since 1976 to provide sustainable and innovative responses to the challenges of poverty and inequality.

Like Inades-Formation, GRET seeks to create a fairer and more sustainable world. GRET works in 26 countries, including nine (09) covered by Inades-Formation, namely: Burkina Faso, Burundi, DRC, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Chad, Tanzania and Togo, and addresses seven (7) expertise themes in particular: - Agriculture: agricultural sectors and policies; - Citizenship and democracy - Drinking water and sanitation and waste - Natural resource management and energy - Microfinance and professional integration - Health: nutrition and social protection - Cities for all and decentralisation.

It thus shares with Inades-Formation a concern for the challenges of sustainable agriculture, inclusive governance, sustainable management of natural resources and community-based microfinance.

We can only wish both organisations a fruitful partnership.



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## The staff of the General Secretariat discover the progress of construction of the new headquarters

Wednesday 11th September 2020, the morning is well advanced when the staff of the General Secretariat disembark at the construction site of the new headquarters, located in Abidjan, Angré. The 18-person delegation, led by the Secretary General, Mr. Sena ADESSOU, came to discover the progress of the works. Several important installations have been made in recent months, including the drilling and the water tower, the installation of the framework and the roof.

In a good-natured atmosphere, the site foreman gave them a tour, from the main entrance to the offices and rooms on the first floor via the back courtyards. In this way, they visited the three blocs that make up the building. From the ground floor to the ground floor, the staff were given a concrete overview of the offices and rooms and their probable uses. During the visit they exchanged their impressions and opinions on the work and made proposals for a better use of the premises. The building, although still unfinished, already offers us a majestic view.

Before ending the visit, the staff shared a frugal meal on site with some of the operation managers.

While waiting for the final delivery of the headquarters and the move to the new premises, scheduled for early 2021, let's share the images of the visit.

*The headquarters under construction, stage of the roof structure*



*View of the water tower*



*Visit of the interior of the building*



*Start of the visit*



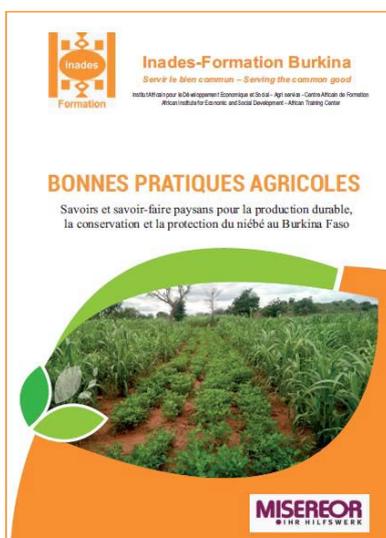
*Side view front left*



*Main entrance*

# RECENT PUBLICATIONS

## GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICE BOOKS



These two booklets on good agricultural practices were produced by Inades-Formation Burkina to help producers produce without destroying.

The booklets present the knowledge and know-how held and experimented by the accompanied producers, in terms of sustainable production and conservation of cowpea on the one hand and millet on the other hand.

The books are available in French, free of charge, from Inades-Formation Burkina.

## MEALS AND DRINKS BASED ON SOVEREIGNTY FOOD

The recipe booklet «Meals and drink based on sovereignty food» is a publish by the Inades-Formation network for the promotion of sovereignty food.

It is a compendium of recipes based on millet, sorghum, fonio, beans and African chicken to help people rediscover or discover the richness of our African culinary cultures.

Let yourself be inspired by the dishes, for a return of the food of sovereignty to our plates. Available in all National Offices and at the General Secretariat of Inades-Formation.



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**In the next issue :**  
**A report on the**  
**launch of the**  
**campaign**  
**«Conscience Alimen-**  
**TERRE»**

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The following prevention measures should be adopted against

## COVID-19

