



**Actions pour le  
développement durable**  
*Le Rônier*  
**Tsévié, Togo**



Project Bank

# FONDS ENFANT SOLEIL

**COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND EDUCATION FOR ORPHANS  
AND DESTITUTE CHILDREN IN RURAL AREAS OF TOGO**



Total cost: **402.793€**

External funding requested: **198.950€**

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## I. Background information on the project promoters and stakeholders

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### I.1 Le Rônier (local implementing organisation)

- **Status of the organisation**

Name: 'Le Rônier' - Actions pour le Développement Durable

Date of creation: June 2001

Date of legal recognition: September 2003

Address of head office: Actions pour le Développement durable Le Rônier

213, Maison ESIAKU

4037, rue Monenou

Marché de Tsévié

BP O3 TSEVIE

TOGO

Tel: (+228) 330-46-20 / 935 46 44

Fax: (+228) 221-88-92

Email: [ong@leronier.org](mailto:ong@leronier.org)

Website: [www.leronier.org](http://www.leronier.org)

The NGO Le Rônier - Actions pour le Développement Durable was created on the 1st of June 2001, It was legally recognized as a non-profit organization under Togolese law in 2003 by the Ministry of Home Affairs of Togo (reference N° 0996/MISD-SG- DAPSC-DSC), and as an NGO in 2008 by the Ministry of the Development cooperation and Land Settlement (reference N° 459/MCDAT/2008)

- **Legal representative of the association**

Name: Folly A. Demanya AYIVI

Function: Chairman of the Board of Directors

Email: [ong@leronier.org](mailto:ong@leronier.org)

- **Responsible person for the project**

Name: Dotsè Kodjovi AMOUZOU

Function: Coordinator of Le RONIER

Email : [leronier@yahoo.fr](mailto:leronier@yahoo.fr), [ong@leronier.org](mailto:ong@leronier.org)

- **Other information concerning the organisation**

- ✓ **Main objectives**

1- Promote the concept of sustainable development.

2- Promote and contribute to quality education for all

3- Strengthen the capacities of civil society and help them to organize themselves as actors of their own development

4- Contribute to environment protection in Togo

5- Promote community health and contribute actively to the fight against Malaria, AIDS and smoking

6- Develop and implement methods of rural community and individual development through agricultural programmes requiring high level of participation.

- ✓ **Relation with IDAY**

1- Founding member of the IDAY-International network. Member of the Board of Directors of IDAY-International (2008-2012)

2- Founding member of the IDAY-Togo coalition in 2007. Chair of the Board of Directors of IDAY-Togo

## I.2 IDAY

- **Legal and contact information**

Name: IDAY-International ('IDAY')

Year of creation: 2005

Date of legal recognition: January 2008 as non-profit seeking international association (aisbl) under Belgium law. Registration n°0895.443.325

Address: Rue des Jambes 19  
1420 Braine-l'Alleud, Belgium

Email: [info@iday.org](mailto:info@iday.org)

Tel: (+32) 2 385 44 13

Fax: (+32) 2 385 44 12

Website: [www.iday.org](http://www.iday.org)

Legal representative of the association: Jean-Jacques SCHUL - Chairman of the Board

Email: [jjschul@iday.org](mailto:jjschul@iday.org)

The IDAY network is committed to promoting quality basic education for all children and youth in Africa, with a particular focus on vulnerable and marginalized children. A majority of IDAY members are African civil society organisations that form national coalitions who advocate for the respect of children's rights in their country. Each national coalition chooses its advocacy theme based on local priorities and opportunities. They also participate in IDAY regional programmes coordinated by IDAY-International: Legal recognition and literacy training of domestic workers in East African and in the DRC; Education of juveniles in prison; improvement of the learning environment through improved health in African schools.

In 2012, the IDAY network comprises 18 national coalitions in Africa and members in 4 European countries. IDAY-International is the apex organisation of the network: it coordinates and supports the local coalitions under a strict bottom-up communication system.

The Project Bank is a facility that was created in 2009 to champion locally-owned education projects supportive of the IDAY coalitions' advocacy campaigns. They are vetted collectively by each coalition and published on the Project Bank for co-funding. These projects must comply with a number of criteria. They aim to demonstrate approaches that are locally-driven, low-cost and well-integrated into the local socio-economic context.

## I.3 IDAY-Togo

IDAY-Togo is a coalition of Togolese civil society organisation committed to promoting quality basic education for all in Togo. IDAY-Togo is a member of the IDAY network. Its membership is 36 organisations throughout the 6 regions of of Togo.

- **Legal and contact information**

Date of creation: 2007

Date of registration: 2009

Address: 4037, rue Monénou -Marché Tsévié  
89, Maison VOVOR Kokou  
BP O3 Tsévié – Togo

Email: [secretariatidaytogo@gmail.com](mailto:secretariatidaytogo@gmail.com)

Tel: (+228) 23 35 43 36

Staff: 1 full-time employee, M. Koffi YAKPE. Function: Executive Secretary. Background and training: sociologist; project management.

## II. Project description

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### II.1 Project goals

The project aims at securing the schooling and community integration of orphans and abandoned children in rural areas in Togo, so as to prevent that they miss out on education and end up on the street or in delinquency. The system builds on the core social values of family and solidarity and focuses on education as a key to these children's future and to the development of their community. Contrary to orphanages and other institutions, the FES programme is designed to maintain and build on the social bond between the children and their social environment; it is also much cheaper than institutionalising abandoned children, and relies on the mobilisation of local resources and creativity.

#### **Overall goal:**

Foster the strengthening of the social fabric through grassroots initiatives and creativity that enable rural communities to contribute actively to quality education for all and local development.

#### **Specific goals:**

- Identify and enable foster families in rural areas to care for orphaned or abandoned children who live on the street and are deprived of education.
- Promote education of children from destitute families in rural areas.
- Mobilise local and national resources and stimulate grassroots initiatives contributing to self-development and the realisation of quality basic education for all children.

In terms of qualitative goals, several project components are of importance. First, the project reinforces a feeling of collective responsibility towards quality basic education for all and local development in the participating villages. Second, the encouragement of income-generating activities (individual and collective ones) enhances creativity and a sense of self-development among the villagers who are enticed to mobilize local resources rather than rely solely on external aid.

Finally, the focus on education and social integration demonstrates a deep collective will to invest in the future of the children and in a strong society.

### II.2 Expected results

#### **Immediate results**

- Awareness at community level about the importance of child care and education
- About 1000 families (foster and destitute families) participate in the programme
- More than 1000 orphan and vulnerable children of age 5-14 are schooled and integrated into foster families
- FES Village Committees are created and trained in each participating village.

#### **Mid and long term results**

- About 1000 participating families are self-sustainable and able to take care of orphans and vulnerable children
- More than 1000 orphan and vulnerable children access and complete primary education
- 60% of village population participates in the FES activities.
- Each FES Village Committee is financially autonomous and self-managed.
- The FES Fund is strengthened and guarantees schooling opportunities for all orphans and vulnerable children in each village.
- FES Village Committees are federated in a microfinance network.

- Strengthened sense of collective responsibility and initiative in participating villages.
- The FES approach disseminates at national and international level through the action of IDAY-Togo and the IDAY network.
- The government's contributes increasing support to the programme.
- Multi-stakeholders partnerships are established at all levels to further and expand the programme.

### II.3 Target groups

#### **Direct target groups:**

- 1100 orphans and vulnerable children who live on the street or are from destitute families, of age 3 to 15, in 15 villages: through the programme, they are fostered and catered for by their extended family and schooled.
- About 1000 foster families: supported to develop income-generating activities so that they can foster the child.

Poverty in rural areas and the HIV/Aids pandemics cause many children to be abandoned or orphaned from one or both parents. An initial assessment conducted at the beginning of the programme established that only 1/5 of them was looked after by their extended family or the community. The others either work to survive or end up on the street. This means that most of them are unable to access school or drop out. The FES programme aims at preventing that these children become abandoned and socially marginalized by guaranteeing their socio-educational integration. They are therefore placed in the care of their extended family, which receives support to cater for the needs and education of this extra child.

#### **Indirect target groups:**

- Children from the participating families, as the living standards of these families improve with the income-generating activities while they become increasingly aware of the importance of education. (ex: increased enrolment in schools)
  - Children from the participating villages through improved schooling conditions.
- The programme estimates that over 200 other children from the participating families benefit indirectly from the action through the provision of school equipment, assistance with birth certificate, participation in recreational and educative extracurricular activities, etc.
- The whole villages participating in the FES programme: 15 villages.



*Awareness-raising in the village Wli*



*Awareness-raising in the village Kpévégó*

### II.4 Project activities

The FES programme provides initial support to participating families – either foster families for an abandoned child,



or destitute families facing difficulties to take care of their children – to enable them to take care of the child. They receive a grant to pay for first 3 years of schooling and to purchase small livestock (goats, rabbits, chicken) intended to help them become autonomous from the programmes' Fund and cover the school expenses themselves after 3 years. The benefitting children are required to help take care of the livestock given to their (foster) family. After 3 to 4 years, part of the livestock reproduction is repaid by each family to the Fund so as to support more families and children.

Besides the individual income-generating activities of the families, the fosters the development of collective fields and livestock by village communities. The revenues are paid into the FES Fund in support of children education, and in a savings and credit system for the development of income-generating activities and collective investments level (ex: supplement the teachers' salaries who are underpaid by the Government; invest in the building of a child nursery). Each family has to man-day of work per month to the collective activities (Cfr. Annex 1).



programme  
vulnerable  
at village  
provide one



Thanks to this revolving Fund and the collective involvement of the village, the system is designed to become self-sustained after 5-6 years.

*FES Fund village boxes*

To be eligible to the programme, villages must set up FES Village Committees composed of representatives of the participating families, the teachers, the villagers and local authorities. These Village Committees are self-managed.



*Village Committee meeting in Kolo*



*Village Committee meeting in Atsanvé*

The FES General Assembly is composed of all Village Committees who regularly review the progress made, the management and programme expansion strategy, and exchange experience and best practices. The NGO Le Rônier is in charge of the Executive secretariat of the Central Executive Committee, which assumes coordination and general management of the programme. Among others, it assists Village Community in developing and managing their activities and in building up their capacity. It also raises external funds needed to kick-start and support the programme in its beginning.

In the first stages of a village's participation in the FES programme, all villagers and local authorities are sensitised about the guiding principles of the programme, e.g. the well-being and rights of the child and self-development. Village Committees are formed and trained to monitor how the children in the participating families are being taken care of, particularly foster children. They are the guarantors of the families' compliance. The NGO Le Rônier keeps regular oversight and organises meetings with the children to assess how they are taken care of and detect misconduct or abuse. Training and debate sessions, including discussions about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and related topics, take place every trimester as a way to further help the families and villages build a strong child-friendly environment.

The project started in 2007 with the financial support of a Dutch-Swiss bank through the Fund Message of Yaguine & Fodé at the King Baudouin Foundation. It was aiming at schooling 100 orphans and vulnerable children in 3 villages. Considering the success of this pilot phase, a 5-year programme was developed in 2010 with a view of schooling 1 000 children in 15 villages. So far, 8 more villages have registered into the scheme in addition to the 3 initial ones. In 2010, the Dutch-Swiss bank provided additional funding for the schooling 100 additional children in 1 more village. Collective fields have generated some income to the villages for various investments, such as the purchase of land by a community to build a child-nursery. The progression of the programme is however dependent on funding, and it awaits adequate funding to further develop. Responsible authorities are regularly engaged to support the programme, which they have not done up to this day.

## **II.6 Project planning**

Pilot phase: 2 years, completed (2007-2008).

2009: reduced pace of activities of the project due to the lack of outside financial support.

Extension Phase: 7 years, ongoing (2010- 2016).

### **Staff:**

1 sociologist and project manager

1 primary education specialist

1 agronomic engineer

1 livestock specialist

1 accountant secretary



## II.9 Budget and financial plan

### **Total cost**

The costs detailed in Annex 1 have been revised in the light of recent experience.

Year	Total cost (€)	Local contribution	Total external funding	External funding received	Net external funding required	% of total annual costs
<b>2007-2012</b>	117 853	11 884	105 970	62 170	43 800	37
<b>2013</b>	84 177	12 325	71 852	0	71 852	57
<b>2014</b>	65 585	18 209	47 376	0	47 376	61
<b>2015</b>	83 902	61 407	22 494	0	22 494	27
<b>2016</b>	51 275	37 847	13 428	0	13 428	26
<b>Total</b>	402 793	141 672	261 121	62 170	198 950	49

Cumulated costs for years 2007-2012 (pilot and beginning of Extension phase) have been lumped together for readability purposes and as they correspond to the schooling of the first 450 children.

The breakdown of the funding already obtained for these first years is as follows:

Sources of funds	Years	Amount (€)
Fund Message of Yaguine & Fodé	2007	19 416
Fund Message of Yaguine & Fodé	2008	19 001
NIF Trust	2010	23 753
<b>Total</b>		<b>62 170</b>

The net financial requirements for each year are obtained by subtracting the income from FES collective activities and the recovery of livestock from the total costs. As indicated in the summary budget table above, the net financial requirements drop to 26 % in the last years. The FES programme is expected to become financially self-sufficient afterwards.

For the total project period, total net financial requirements are thus 198 950€ equivalent to 49% of total project costs.

Specific project costs are increased with a 5% physical contingency charge as from 2013 and a provision for inflation of 2% per year. A 10% commission charge is factored-in to cover IDAY-Togo's project supervision and advocacy expenses.



### **Costs per schooled child**

The unit cost per schooled child decreases progressively as more pupils are being registered in the scheme and as progressively, the costs for fostering new children are being covered by the recovery of livestock given to the first benefiting families. Over the 5 first years, investment costs drop from 262€/child in year 1 to an average 82€/child/school year. These costs include an allowance for first 3 years of schooling and initial investments; they exclude expected government contributions such as salary of the school director, core teachers' salaries and training. Since the schools are largely maintained by the local community, these costs can be considered to be relatively representative of the real annual costs.

The external support per schooled child will drop over the project years from 235 €/child to 52€/child/school year. Eventually it should not be necessary as the FES revolving fund and collective income-generating activities are fully operational:

### **Financial sustainability**

The FES Programme builds on the improvement of income generation and a revolving fund mechanism, which should allow it to become financially self-sustainable.

- At family level: each participating family receives small livestock (ex.: 3 goats) as they step in the programme and once they have completed the construction of a shed. During the first 3 years, they let this herd grow and use the income for schooling and catering for the children. As from year 3, they gradually reimburse the initial grant by returning the equivalent amount of livestock plus a small interest (ex. 1 additional goat) to the FES Fund from their own reproduction. The returned livestock may then be granted to additional families. With this system, participating families are expected to become financially self-sustainable by the end of the 5 years.
- At programme level: the revenues from the collective income-generating activities will be used to sustain the Village Committees and for education-related expenditures and investments at village level. As a network of Village Committees is put in place, this structure will also be managed with locally-generated funds

## **II.10 Results from Pilot phase & year 1 of Extension phase**

As informed by the 2009 and 2011 reports on the implementation of the FES programme, the main achievements so far are:

- 450 orphans and vulnerable children have been schooled and taken in by foster families in 13 villages.
- 226 children from foster families have indirectly benefited from the programme.
- Collective plantation (maize, rice, pineapple) and livestock activities have been developed by each Village

Committee. Some productions are exported (pineapples).



*Collective maize plantations (Kolo and Kpomé villages)*



*Collective pineapple plantation (Hové)*



*Collective rice plantation (Assomé and Kovié villages)*

- Each village has opened a bank account where the proceeds of the sales of the collective fields, including export of pineapple, are saved.
- School expenditures, including part of teachers' salaries, are paid out of these accounts, which are controlled by the Village Committees.
- Savings and Credit Unit are operational in each village. A total of 3.759.210 FCFA (€) in savings and 3.477.370 FCFA (€) in credit has been recorded.
- A network of FES Village Committee is being put in place.

### III. Monitoring and evaluation

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#### ***Monitoring Process***

In compliance with its bottom-up approach, decision-making and accountability in IDAY rest as much as possible with the people and organisations at grassroots level so that they truly own the development process. In this view, IDAY national coalitions bear collective responsibility not only for their collective advocacy actions, but also for the projects of their members that are funded through the IDAY Project Bank. Indeed, the good implementation of these projects serves to confirm the validity of local initiatives and the seriousness and competence of their local implementers, thereby giving more credit and legitimacy to African civil society in the eyes of both their government and the donor community.

The selection and monitoring process follows these principles:

- Any project published on the Project Bank must have been assessed and vetted by the IDAY coalition to which the project promoter is affiliated. This assessment also concerns the competence and seriousness of the project promoter. Approval by the coalition means that it agrees to being held accountable for the good implementation of the project. Once vetted, the project is submitted for review to IDAY-International, who provides technical support on the project so that it complies fully with the Project Bank selection criteria. Only then is the project published and up for funding by external donors. Should any inconsistency or gaps remain, IDAY-International reserves a veto right on publications.
- Each IDAY coalition is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the projects of its members that are funded through the Project Bank. To do so, IDAY-Togo will review and evaluate the project implementation and financial management by the implementing organisation (Le Rônier) on a regular basis. The monitoring calendar usually follows the project's benchmarks as well as the schedule of installments and reports agreed between IDAY and the financial partners. A convention spelling out the reporting and installment calendar is signed between IDAY-International, the IDAY coalition and the project implementer to this effect. Every external evaluation report of IDAY-Togo will be shared with IDAY-International and with the financial partner(s) to the project. It will inform joint decisions as to any adjustment in the project implementation or management that could be required.
- A final evaluation against the objectives and outcome indicators of the project will be carried out at the end of the project, building on previous evaluations and findings. Narrative and financial reports will be made available to all stakeholders. A comprehensive external evaluation is also run by IDAY-Togo at the end of the project.

IDAY-International oversees all the projects published on the Project Bank. It reserves the right to make queries at any time to the responsible IDAY coalition and project implementer as to the implementation of the project and monitoring process. When on mission in a country (each national coalition is visited once every 2 years) where projects are being implemented, field visits are organised for IDAY-International staff to take stock of the implementation and/or results of these projects. IDAY-International does not arrange specific field visits before or during the project, unless deemed necessary. This would be too costly and in contradiction with the network's grassroots accountability principle.

#### ***Quarterly self-evaluation***

Every quarter, the participants and beneficiary of the programme engage in self-evaluation and a review of all ongoing activities and results, with assistance of Le Rônier. This process allows them to adjust their practices and objectives on a regular basis and to increasingly own the programme.

#### ***Intermediary evaluation***

Comprehensive and participative intermediary evaluations led by Le Rônier take place every second year of the project implementation. The findings of the self-evaluations are used to inform conclusions and adjustments in

terms of strategy and activities to be carried out in the following project year.

Complementary monitoring and evaluation is carried out in relation with IDAY. In accordance with the IDAY Project Bank principles, IDAY-Togo assumes collective responsibility and oversight over the projects of its member organisations that receive funding through this facility. Therefore IDAY-Togo reviews and evaluates the project implementation and financial management on a yearly basis. This external evaluation report is shared with IDAY-International and with the financial partners, and informs joint decisions as to any adjustment in the project implementation or management that could be required.

***Final evaluation***

A final evaluation against the objectives and outcome indicators of the programme will be carried out at the end of the project, building on previous evaluations and findings. Narrative and financial reports will be made available to all stakeholders.

A comprehensive external evaluation is also run by IDAY-Togo at the end of the project.