

## PROJECT N° 62.

**Title:** Integrated agroforestry and school garden projects in Tabacouta.

**Country:** Senegal,

**Organisation:** Coalition Nationale pour l'Education pour Tous au Sénégal (CNEPT)

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 1 200 students in 4 schools and 52 teachers

**Budget:** 62 690 €

**Outside Financing Requested:** 50 912 €

**Outside Financing Received:** 0 €

**Timing:** 12 months.

**Description:** Establishment of a pilot training centre with useful trees and medicinal plants and 4 school gardens with highly nutritious crops and medicinal plants, rainwater collection tanks and energy saving school kitchen equipment.

### *Project.*

Education quality has become a major preoccupation in Africa and for the international community. It has been demonstrated – and confirmed by the World Bank Development Report 2018 - that poor health conditions of the children and teachers is one of the limiting factors to raise cognitive capacities of the kids, reduce school absenteeism, and hence a serious obstacle to better education quality. The project will raise education acceptability by the local population and hence reduce school drop outs, one of the main causes of persisting high levels of illiteracy among the African youth.

The project will establish a 4 ha pilot centre to train local youth and government personnel in the cultivation of useful trees and plants, including medicinal plants like *Artemisia annua*, which combats several tropical infectious diseases and more particularly malaria that is prevailing in these areas and communities. Four nearby schools will establish school gardens with highly nutritious crops and trees as well as medicinal plants supported by the pilot centre. Schools will also be equipped with school kitchens with energy-savings ovens and refuse collectors to reduce wood consumption and costs. The project includes advocacy campaigns with official stakeholders to scale up the project to other schools. The initial schools will to that effect reserve an area for seed and plant production for other schools. Medical tests will verify the health conditions of the children and teachers before and after the project. Finally, the project includes structural support to the local coalitions and the international network as a whole.

### *Expected results*

1 200 students and 52 teachers will be protected against malaria and other tropical infectious diseases and education quality will be improved in the participating schools with significant reduction of school absenteeism and rises and end-of-year school results. Better nutrition standards of the students and teachers will raise cognitive capacities and dynamism of school attendants. Rainwater collection tanks will help save the water collection burden, usually falling upon the responsibility of the girls. Wood consumption – and collection - of school kitchen will be cut by more than 50% as compared to usual open-fire kitchens and hereby also improving voluntary women kitchen aid's health. Health costs of school children and their families will drop significantly, saving money for school attendance. In general, the participating schools will become more « acceptable » among local communities as they will give useful training to children and serve as example of how to improve the daily life of the surrounding communities. The schools will also contribute to reduce CO2 emissions and hence the impact on climate change. Advocacy and extra-seed production will help extend the project benefits to a larger community.

**Make a gift for this project**