



Training Workshop for Young Women on World Day to Combat Desertification 2023

Theme : "Woman : Her Land, Her Rights"

Summary of the Meeting

Saturday, 17 June 2023

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Context :

Desertification is a global problem that impacts the ecological security of the planet, poverty eradication, socio-economic stability, and sustainable development. The rate of land degradation today is estimated to be 30 to 35 times the historical rate, with a more significant impact on women. The celebration of World Day to Combat Desertification provides an opportunity to enhance the capacity of young girls and women regarding their land rights, showcasing innovative agricultural practices for reforestation to combat desertification. A training workshop was initiated for all YILAA partner and non-partner organizations and associations. This facilitated in-person interaction, experience sharing, and the development of collaborative actions.

The celebration took place on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at the "Labs-Gv Center, Cadjehoun, Airport Street in front of the BSS supermarket" in Cotonou. The workshop brought together girls and women from various Non-Governmental Organizations and associations in Benin, totaling 40 participants with diverse trainers forming the training team. The report is structured as follows :

I. Opening of the Workshop

The opening occurred in several stages :

- Introduction of Participants : Mr. Carin KARE, the project manager of JVE Benin, invited participants to introduce themselves. He outlined the rules of conduct and the agenda before handing over to YILAA Coordinator Mr. Innocent Antoine HOUEDJI.
- In his opening speech, Innocent Antoine HOUEDJI thanked everyone involved in the success of the event. He emphasized the crucial role of women in combating desertification and highlighted the importance of their empowerment for food security. The selection of participants from 217 applications in three days was acknowledged as a privilege.
- Mr. Charles BALOGOUN, representing Africa in the panel of accredited NGOs under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CNLCD/UNCCD), expressed joy at participating in the official launch. He commended Coordinator International Innocent Antoine HOUEDJI and emphasized the importance of networking and collaborative actions.

II. Workshop Progress

The workshop proceeded with the following stages : 1. Workshop Objectives, 2. Achieved Results, 3. Summary of Presentations and Experience Sharing, 4. Methodology, 5. Workshop Agenda.

1. *Workshop Objectives*

The workshop aimed to empower young girls and women on land and gender issues, strategies to combat the effects of desertification, and create a platform for interaction among Benin's organizations and associations. Specific objectives included familiarizing participants with women's land rights in Benin, teaching agricultural techniques for reforestation, and imparting knowledge on women's access to rural land.

2. *Achieved Results*

The workshop successfully achieved the following results :

- Participants became familiar with women's land rights in Benin.
- Participants gained a strong understanding of agricultural techniques for reforestation.
- Participants' knowledge was reinforced concerning women's access to rural land.

3. *Summary of Presentations and Experience Sharing*

Three presentations marked the workshop :

- Presentation I : (Women's Land Rights in Benin) by Dr. Charlotte ALLE, covered women's land rights, mechanisms for women's land access, and agricultural techniques for reforestation. Emphasis was placed on the vital role of women in land management, the challenges they face, and the importance of recognizing their rights for economic autonomy.
- Presentation II : (Agricultural Techniques for Reforestation) by Colonel Désiré Ogou HOUNGBO addressed desertification concepts, causes, consequences, and the importance of strengthening women's capacities for sustainable land management.
- Presentation III : (Women's Access to Rural Land Techniques) by Innocent Antoine HOUEDJI showcased YILAA's actions for enhancing women's socio-economic

resilience to climate change effects and various mechanisms for women's access to rural land.

4. Methodology

The workshop organization followed four stages :

- Call for participation in early June 2023 from development organizations working in various fields.
- Identification of girls and women with relevant training in environmental, climate, gender, land, agriculture, and women's promotion.
- Selection of participants based on gender and affiliation with organizations working against the effects of climate change, desertification, and youth and women's land access.
- Coordination team meeting for the final list of participants, supervised by YILAA's International Coordination.

NB : The entire process was supervised by YILAA's International Coordination.

Agenda

Hours	Activities	Responsables
11 may 2023		
8h30 – 8h50	Seetings up of participants	Organizers
9h00 – 9h15	• Welcome address from the international Cordinator • Welcome remarks for the Director of ODD TV ; • Opening speech by the Chair of the Civil Society Organization (CSO) Panel for Africa	International Cordinator Focal Point Yilaa Bénin
9h15 – 9h30	- Participants Presentation; - Presentation of the agenda of the day; - Group photo	Moderator
9h30 – 9h35	Coffee Break (Free Break)"	
9h35– 10h00	Organisation initiative presentation	JVE BENIN, APODD, AFRIQUE ESPERANCE, YILAA
10h00 – 10h40	Formation I (Land right of women in Benin)	Dr Charlotte ALLE & Coffi Donald DOSSOU
10h40 – 10h45	Coffee Break (Free Break)"	
10h45-11h25	Formation II ("Agricultural Techniques to Promote Afforestation")	Colonel Désiré Ogou HOUNGBO

11h25 -12h05	Formation III (Techniques for Women's Access to Rural Lands.)	Innocent Antoine HOUEDJI
12h05-13h00	"General Discussions and Certificate Presentation + Refreshments	Participants + Organizers

"This training was carried out as part of the celebration of the World Day to Combat Desertification in Benin in collaboration with."



ASSOCIATION
POUR LA PROMOTION
DES OBJECTIFS DE
DEVELOPPEMENT
DURABLE



ONG JVE BENIN
JEUNES VOLONTAIRES
POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT
DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE
AU BENIN