

# BENIN

Ecosystem-based Adaptation  
2019-2024



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Increasing the food security of local populations by adopting climate-resilient agricultural practices in 3,000 hectares of agricultural lands



Taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by training 4,550 community members, local government officials and other stakeholders in ecosystem-based adaptation techniques



Protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems by developing, revising and implementing 7 forest management plans

## PROJECT TITLE:

ENHANCED CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF RURAL COMMUNITIES IN CENTRAL AND NORTH BENIN THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION IN FOREST AND AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES

## EXECUTING ENTITY:



General Directorate for Environment and Climate, Ministry of Livelihood and Sustainable Development

## KEY TARGETS:

**3,600**

Hectares of land ecologically restored to provide ecosystem services to improve local livelihoods

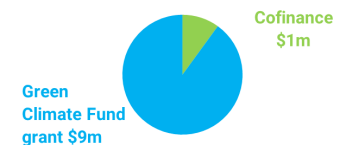
**1.1 million**

Number of direct and indirect beneficiaries from new climate-resilient livelihoods

**3,000**

Hectares of agricultural land with improved climate resilience

## FUNDING:



## PROJECT PARTNERS:

Ministry of Livelihood and Sustainable Development (MCVDD); Ministry of Infrastructures and Equipment (MIE); Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAEP); Ecosystem-based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA)



## INTRODUCTION

- Benin is a West African country with a rapidly growing population of over 12 million people, the vast majority of whom live in rural areas. It is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 150th out of 175 countries in terms of GDP per capita.
- Agriculture currently supports about 70% of the population's livelihoods, but the strong dependency on this sector is heavily impacted by climate change and ecosystem degradation.
- A project is aiming to build the climate resilience of local communities in central and northern Benin by using climate-resilient agricultural techniques and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA), a strategy that uses ecosystems to reduce negative climate impacts on people.
- The project activities will be implemented in seven municipalities of Benin (see Project Location)

## TECHNOLOGIES & METHODS

- The objective of the project is to use an **ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA)** approach to build the climate resilience of local communities in central and northern Benin.
- This involves **restoring 3,600 hectares** of forest ecosystems, especially riverine forests, to buffer against the impacts of climate change impacts like floods and soil erosion, and to increase the supply of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) such as fruits, medicines, nuts and fuelwood.
- In addition, **7 forest management plans** are being revised and/or developed, and then put into practice by Community Forest Management Committees established by the project. These plans are incorporating EbA

## CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Climate change is increasingly detrimental to the livelihoods of rural agricultural communities in Benin, whom are threatened by shorter growing seasons, increased prevalence of extreme heat, and more frequent and severe droughts.
- These climatic changes have caused marked reductions in agricultural productivity, largely as a result of drought and flooding.
- Climate change models indicate these effects are likely to intensify considerably in the decades ahead, with the mean annual temperature predicted to potentially rise by ~2.7°C by 2100 in the central and northern parts of the country.
- The unsustainable use of natural resources (e.g. charcoal production and agricultural expansion) and the resulting degradation of ecosystems compounds the climate change challenge due to the ways in which ecosystems provide adaptation benefits for local communities.

## PROJECT LOCATION



The project interventions are taking place in seven municipalities: Dassa-Zoumè, Tchaurou, Djougou, Ouaké, Boukoumbé, Coby, and Banikoara.

## RESOURCES

- [UNEP project page](#)
- [Green Climate Fund project page](#)
- [Climate adaptation resources & multimedia](#)
- [Press release: Green Climate Fund Board approves USD 9 million project in Benin to increase resilience of rural communities](#)

approaches and climate-resilient sustainable forest management practices.

- The project is establishing 7 climate-resilient communal woodlots to produce **sustainable fuelwood**, and a further 7 orchards composed of climate-resilient tree species to supply **nuts and seeds**.
- To enhance agricultural productivity near the targeted sites, the project is promoting **climate-resilient agriculture techniques** and interventions, aiming to increase agriculture yields on at least 3,000 hectares.
- Furthermore, the project is improving the **market access** for local climate-resilient crops, and establishing **trade agreements** between

farmers' cooperatives and relevant national and regional companies.

- **National policies and strategies** are being strengthened, aided by the development of new adaptation tools, instruments and strategies that seek to improve the government's technical and institutional capacity for adaptation action.
- Finally, an **awareness raising** and knowledge exchange initiative is helping the government and local communities by establishing a **national knowledge hub** to disseminate lessons learned from the project.

## CONTACTS

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