



PROJECT NEMASO

STANDING UP TO CLIMATE CHANGE

WHY THIS PROJECT

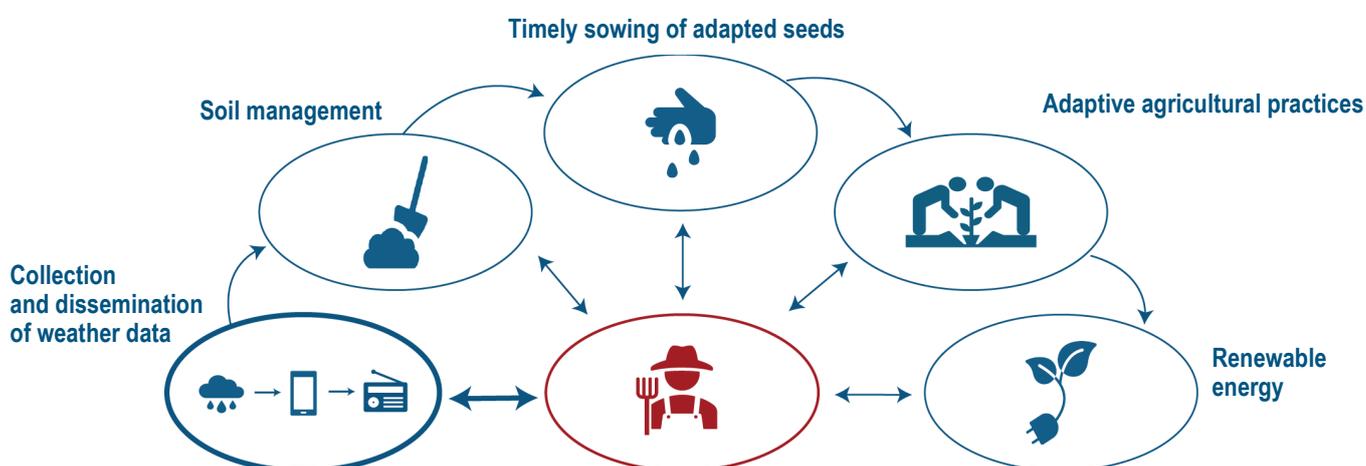
Overall rainfall in **Mali** has been decreasing since the 1970s. It is no longer possible to rely on the rainy season, and when it does rain, it is heavy enough to result in flooding. However, 75 % of Mali's population depend on agriculture and livestock. Whenever possible they try to adapt, but this becomes every year more challenging.

« Previously we would begin sowing in the villages just after the first rains. Now we know that for a harvest to be successful, sowing can only take place once at least 30mm of rain have fallen, so that the soil is moist enough »

Sikidi Coulibaly, rain data collector M'Penesso, Mali

HOW THE PROJECT WORKS

The project **NEMASO** is working with **small-scale farmers and partner organizations in southern Mali** to strengthen their resilience to climate change at different levels. The project is supporting and training producers to **collect and use weather information**, to use and produce **adapted seeds**, to introduce soil management and **adaptive agricultural practices**. Moreover, NEMASO promotes the use of alternative source of energy as way to enhance resilience, **create jobs** and improve farmers' revenues. After the successful piloting, the different practices shall now be upscaled.



Strengthening adaptive capacities of livelihoods, ecosystems and communities in response to climate change



WHAT IS THE PROJECT DOING



COLLECTING WEATHER DATA FOR BETTER HARVEST

Young people from 20 villages across the region were trained by Mali Météo to collect and send data on rainfall to the weather center in the capital via smartphones. In return, these data collectors receive local weather **forecasts together with agronomic advice**. They then pass this information on to the farmers covering the last mile into households.



ADAPTED AND REDISCOVERED TECHNIQUES

Farmers are **trained in agricultural practices** adapted to a changing climate. In particular, adapted **seeds have been introduced** and local producers have started to make them locally available. Farmers are encouraged to turn **changing conditions into an opportunity**: e.g. it is possible to grow fodder and even short cycle crops in the mud of the flooded fields.



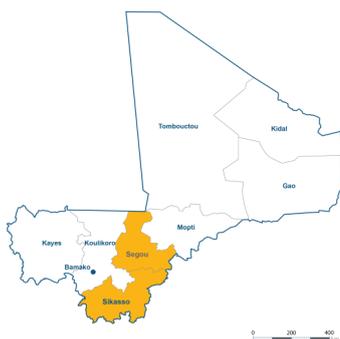
NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GREEN ECONOMY

Alternative technologies are introduced to reduce pressure on forests and to increase the efficiency of product transformation (e.g. solar dryer for shea nut or fish). Furthermore, the use of improved **cooking stoves** (certified by the Renewable Energy Agency of Mali) contributes to improve indoor air quality and a to significantly reduce CO₂ emissions.

MAJOR IMPACTS

- Crop production increased by 30% mainly because farmers started to follow agrometeorological advice and use adapted practices.
- Restoration of degraded land allowed to extend cultivated surface by about 20%.
- Rice harvest has almost doubled thanks to the rehabilitations of dams and channels.
- Vegetable production has increased by 20% thanks to an extended growing season.
- A better management of hydro-agricultural schemes has increased fishing.
- 10 local seed producers are offering their services to farmers in the region.
- The introduction of improved cooking stoves reduced wood consumption by around 30%.
- All the municipalities involved in the project have incorporated climate change considerations into their planning.

THE PROJECT IN BRIEF



- **Areas of intervention:** Sikasso and Ségou
- **Period:** 2017 - 2019 (pilot); 2020-2023 (main phase)
- **Partners:** 10,000 producers from 20 villages across the regions; Mali Météo and State Technical Services, farmers organizations and research institutes

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