

# Reforestation integrated into local life



Annual Report 2025

Dear friends, partners and supporters,

As I write these lines, the voluntary sector is going through a period of profound turmoil.

Environmental NGOs, and more broadly those committed to the common good, are facing a host of difficulties: dwindling public funding, the withdrawal or disengagement of certain major states from international programmes to combat climate change, tougher administrative and accounting constraints, growing mistrust of charitable actions, and a decline in tax incentives for donations.

Furthermore, only 2% of all global charitable funds are devoted to environmental projects.

We are familiar with this context.  
We sometimes suffer from it.  
But it does not discourage us.

Because at Graine de Vie, we have a deep conviction: our efforts are more necessary than ever.



For many years, Graine de Vie has been working to reforest Africa, with an approach that is both our strength and our uniqueness: reforestation integrated into local life, designed not only to restore ecosystems, but also to tangibly improve the well-being and livelihood of local communities.

Reforestation cannot be disconnected from human realities.

Planting trees also means planting hope, dignity and prospects for the future.

Every day, our teams work alongside rural communities in the field.

We provide free forest trees and income-generating trees (fruit trees, food trees, trees that generate income) to strengthen food security, improve economic resources and empower people to live sustainably on their land. In doing so, we are now reaching hundreds of thousands of people, who are becoming the actors and guardians of this reforestation.



Our presence in nine African countries, our 376 nurseries, our national park protection and mangrove restoration programmes, and our vast large-scale reforestation project in the Democratic Republic of Congo — with the ambitious goal of restoring 10,000 hectares — are testament to how far we have come.

But beyond the numbers, it is the faces, smiles and pride of the villagers that give meaning to our work.

In many regions, populations suffer from the consequences of environmental degradation, which they have sometimes contributed to out of necessity, due to a lack of alternatives.

Climate change, desertification, soil depletion and the increasing scarcity of natural resources are now hitting them hard.

By giving them access to trees again and supporting them with sustainable programmes, we are reconciling them with nature and rebuilding a vital bond based on responsibility, transmission and the long term. The increasingly uncertain macroeconomic and political landscape is weakening organisations such as ours, even though we operate close to communities with proven efficiency and measurable impact.



But our determination remains intact.

It draws its strength from the professionalism, commitment and courage of our local teams, who often work in difficult conditions with limited resources, but with remarkable energy and skill. It is also fuelled by the trust and enthusiasm of village communities, who welcome our programmes with gratitude and become our best ambassadors. Finally, it relies on the loyal support of our partners and donors, without whom none of this would be possible.



In a world sometimes tempted by withdrawal, renunciation or short-termism, Graine de Vie continues to believe in the power of concrete, patient and humane actions.

We believe that making the earth greener also makes women and men happier.

We believe that every tree planted is a promise made to future generations.

We believe that ecology cannot be separated from social justice and human development.

Despite the headwinds, we are moving forward. In difficult times, we contribute every year to improving the lives of hundreds of thousands of people and restoring entire territories.

We are sowing, both literally and figuratively, the seeds of a more resilient, more united and more respectful future.

On behalf of the entire Graine de Vie team, I would like to warmly thank those who accompany us, support us and believe in our mission.

Together, let us continue to grow this forest of hope.



With my full confidence and commitment,

Frédéric DEBOUCHE  
Founding President of Graine de vie

# OUR ACTIONS

## Participatory approach and awareness raising

Graine de Vie places local communities at the heart of its work by developing projects that are designed and implemented directly within villages. Working closely with municipal authorities, traditional leaders, and local associations (women, farmers, schoolchildren), our organization supports initiatives led directly by the communities. This participatory approach enables residents to play a central role in the reforestation and sustainable management of their environment.

Graine de Vie supports this dynamic by creating and maintaining nurseries that produce 10,000 cash crop and forest tree seedlings annually, intended for both reforestation and resource production. These seedlings are distributed free of charge to families who commit to their long-term care and growth. By 2025, nearly 80,000 families benefited from this program.



## Inclusive and gender-responsive approach



Aware of the social impact of our projects, Graine de Vie adopts an inclusive approach, with a particular focus on gender equality.



Women play a central role in the implementation and oversight of our initiatives. Their involvement strengthens social cohesion, knowledge transfer, and the sustainability of initiatives. We are convinced that effective reforestation is based on equity, collective participation, and local capacity building.

## Awareness

Awareness-raising is a key pillar of Graine de Vie's work.

Through local exchanges and regular campaigns, we inform communities about the consequences of deforestation on access to wood, water, and food.

By mobilizing all generations, these actions raise collective awareness and encourage a lasting commitment to environmental preservation. More than 200,000 people were directly affected by our awareness-raising initiatives in 2025.



This approach also helps to strengthen the resilience of territories in the face of climatic and human pressures, in particular through the implementation of measures to prevent bush fires. Graine de Vie supports local communities in creating and maintaining firebreaks and protection zones around reforested plots.

# OUR ACTIONS

## Carbone certification

Carbon certification provides sustainable financing for reforestation initiatives while generating income for local communities.

This financing supports integrated development projects (sustainable agriculture, access to water, education, health) that contribute to preserving natural balances and strengthening the ecological stability of the regions.

Several projects are currently undergoing certification in Madagascar, Cameroon, Benin, and the DRC with our 10,000-hectare planting program in Moba.



## Direct seeding reforestation

Graine de Vie developed this method, which involves selecting, collecting, and processing seeds before planting them directly in the soil at the start of the rainy season.

We use this technique to carry out large-scale reforestation operations. This allows us to quickly restore large areas at a lower cost, while ensuring a high success rate.



## Restoration and protection of protected areas

National parks, special reserves, classified forests, and sacred forests are essential hubs of biodiversity and play a key role in the ecological continuity of landscapes. Their protection and restoration are an absolute priority.

In collaboration with local stakeholders, such as Madagascar National Parks and traditional leaders in Benin, Graine de Vie contributes to the preservation of this natural heritage. Projects include forest restoration within protected areas and the creation of nurseries in surrounding communities, strengthening both biodiversity conservation and the livelihoods of local populations.

These actions also contribute to the fight against climate change by promoting carbon sequestration and ecosystem resilience. They are part of a sustainable approach combining nature protection, local development, and the transmission of environmental knowledge.

## Restoration and protection of mangroves

Mangroves, located at the interface between land and sea, play an essential role in the proper functioning of coastal ecosystems.

They provide key habitats for many species and ensure ecological continuity between terrestrial and marine environments.

By supporting small-scale fishing and improving the quality of fishery resources, they contribute directly to local food security.

They also protect coastal villages from erosion and cyclones, while being among the most efficient ecosystems in terms of carbon sequestration.

To date, Graine de Vie is leading more than 30 mangrove restoration projects, helping to strengthen the environmental and economic resilience of coastal communities.



# 2025 review

9 countries in Africa  
host our projects



4,420,626 trees  
planted from our  
nurseries



780 people  
employed in  
Africa and  
hundreds of day  
labourers



3,328,612  
direct-seeded  
seeds



376  
nurseries



35 volunteers  
in Europe



**Graine de vie**



Since 2009, over 73,000,000 trees  
have been planted in Africa.

# How can you support us in restoring the forest?

## > For individuals

### Neutralize your carbon footprint

Would you like to offset the CO<sub>2</sub> generated by your travel, professional or sporting activities, car journeys, or the construction of your home? It couldn't be easier: visit our website to calculate your carbon footprint and help neutralize it.



### Plant the forest of your life

By planting **5,760 trees**, we neutralize the CO<sub>2</sub> generated by your life. Contribute \$20 per month for 12 years and we will plant the forest of your life.

All the information you need is available at: [www.grainedevie.org](http://www.grainedevie.org)

## Make a donation or bequest for the planet

Throughout our lives, we enjoy the many riches of the Earth. Why not give back a little of what it has given us?

Pass on a better world to future generations?

How? By donating or bequeathing part of your estate to our association, which will plant the trees you have financed.

Talk to your notary.

They will explain that donations and bequests made to associations that have received tax approval, such as Graine de Vie, are taxed at a very favorable rate.



## > For businesses

You can join our movement and reduce your company's impact by creating a nursery or a new forest in your company's name.

It's inexpensive and tax deductible.

This will improve your company's image and unite your employees around a sustainable theme.



We can also help you establish your company's carbon footprint, which will enable you to reduce the impact of your activities on nature and help neutralize the non-reducible part of your carbon footprint.

## OUR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Graine de Vie is a network of non-governmental organizations active in the field of reforestation integrated into local life in Belgium, Madagascar, Togo, Benin, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Cameroon.

Each entity has its own board of directors and is supported by a multidisciplinary team.

### Graine de Vie Belgique

Frédéric DEBOUCHE



### Graine de Vie Bénin - CEDV

Patrice TOFFI



### Graine de Vie Cameroun

Wolfgang OSSOA



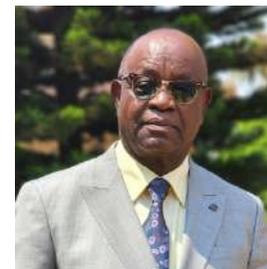
### Graine de Vie Madagascar

Gérard Poncet



### Graine de Vie RDC

Germain KALENGA



### Graine de Vie Togo

Gérard DOGA



## VOLUNTEERS AT THE SERVICE OF A CAUSE

All our members have undertaken to work on a voluntary basis to ensure that all the funds entrusted to us are used entirely for the management of our nurseries and the planting of trees. We sincerely thank them for their vital support.



Anna Terlizzi



Antoine Debouche



Bernard Saey



Boris Montois



Christian Ledouble



Christophe Gilliard



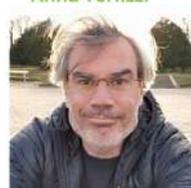
Didier Gelin



Emmanuel Hazard



Eric Van Droogenbroeck



François Grimonprez



Frédéric Berghmans



Gauthier Wittamer



Grégoire Talbot



Jean-Benoit Van Bunnan



Jean-François Barth



Jean-Marc Nicaise



Jean-Marie Henno



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Luc Depré



Marc Pittie



Philippe Blondeaux



Philippe Pigeon



Valérie Blackman



Vanessa Wade



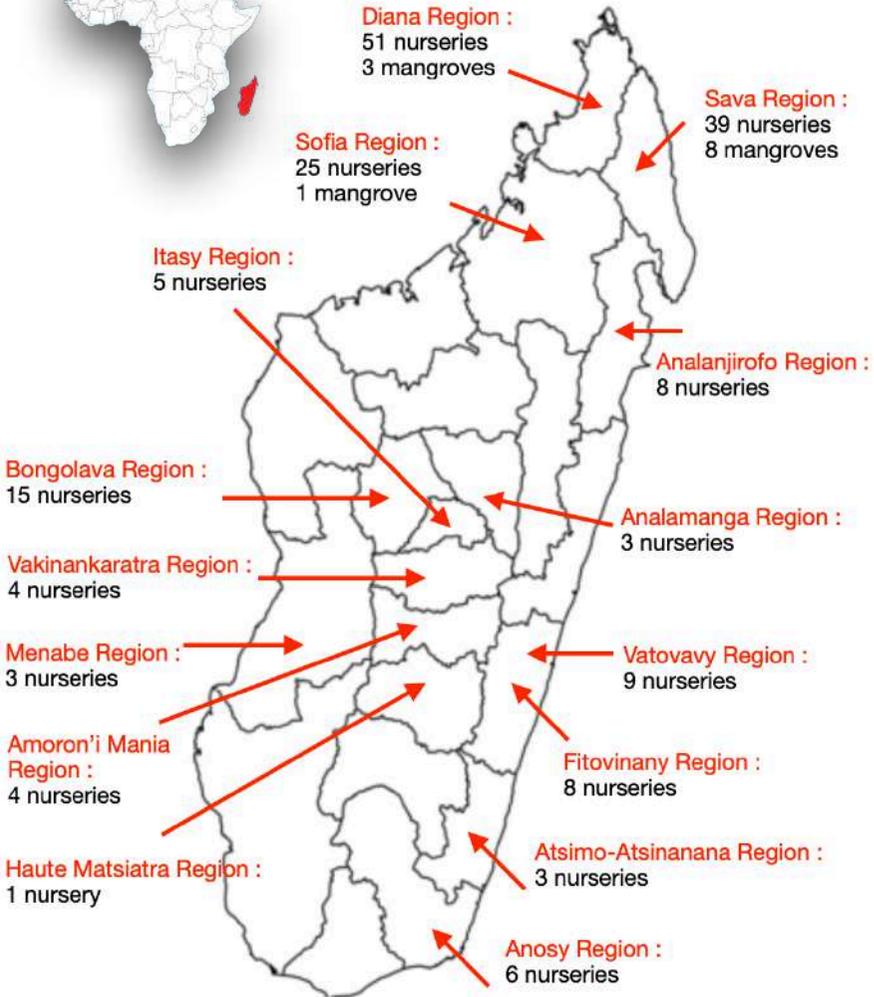
Vincent Truyens



Vincent Vanderveken

Join us!

# MADAGASCAR



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 184 nurseries and 12 mangroves
- 206,2007 trees planted
- 353 people employed
- 412 schools/communities raised awareness
- 4,012 hectares restored
- 386,000 beneficiaries
- Present since 2009

## MAIN TREE SPECIES

- Copalier (timber and reforestation)
- Acacia (reforestation)
- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)
- Soursop (nutrition and income)
- Mango (nutrition and income)



Mobilizing young people to protect mangroves



Central nursery



Reforestation area



Gérard PONCET  
(National Technical director)



Davy BEZARA  
(Financial Director)



Ialy RAKOTOARIVELO  
(Coordinator)

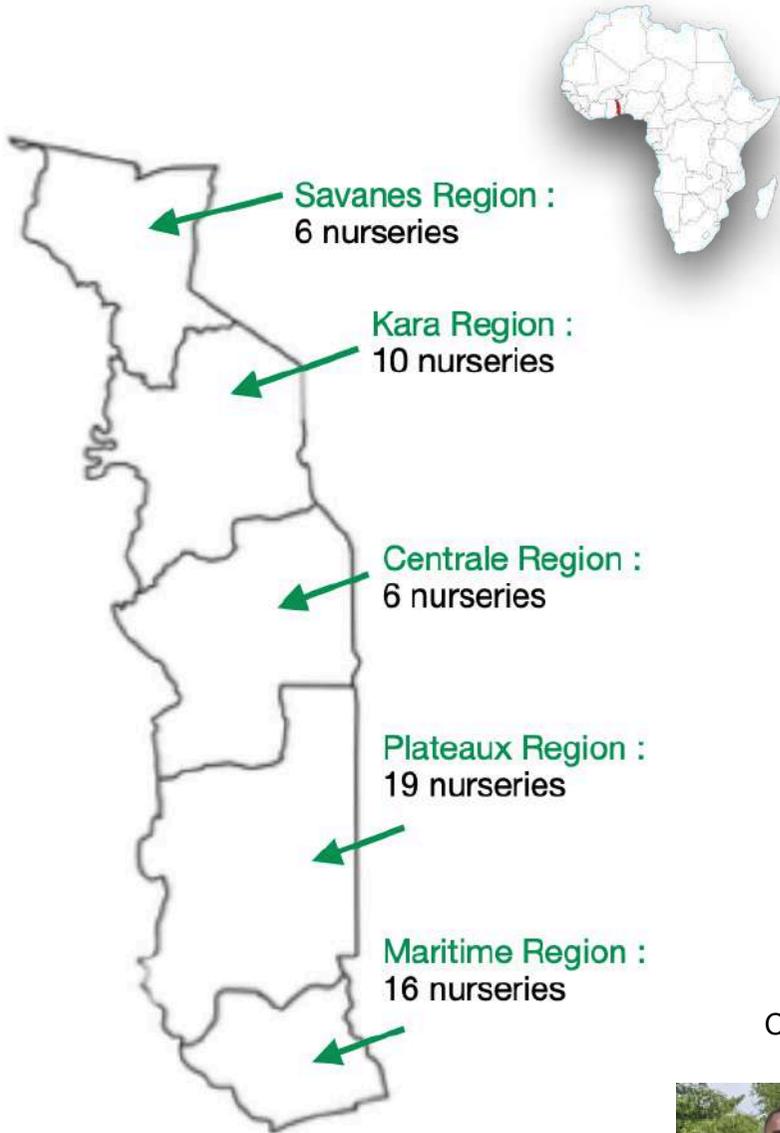


Hervé BAKARIZAFY  
(Projects Director)



Discover all our nurseries

# TOGO



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 57 nurseries
- 798,400 trees planted
- 91 people employed
- 124 schools/communities raised awareness
- 1,150 hectares restored
- 114,600 beneficiaries
- Present since 2019

## MAIN TREE SPECIES

- Cocoa (nutrition and income)
- Cashew (nutrition and income)
- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)
- Avocado (nutrition and income)
- Kahya (timber and sustainable reforestation)
- Fraké (forestry)



Central nursery Kpalimé (100,000 plants)



Awareness-raising and distribution in a school



*“The birdsong has returned.  
It's as if the forest has come  
back to life.”*  
An elder from the village

Discover all our  
nurseries



Gérard DOGA,  
Director



Jean Paul DOGA, Félicité SAGA,  
Jerôme ADIKA et Marc AMEDOMÉ  
Seed research's team

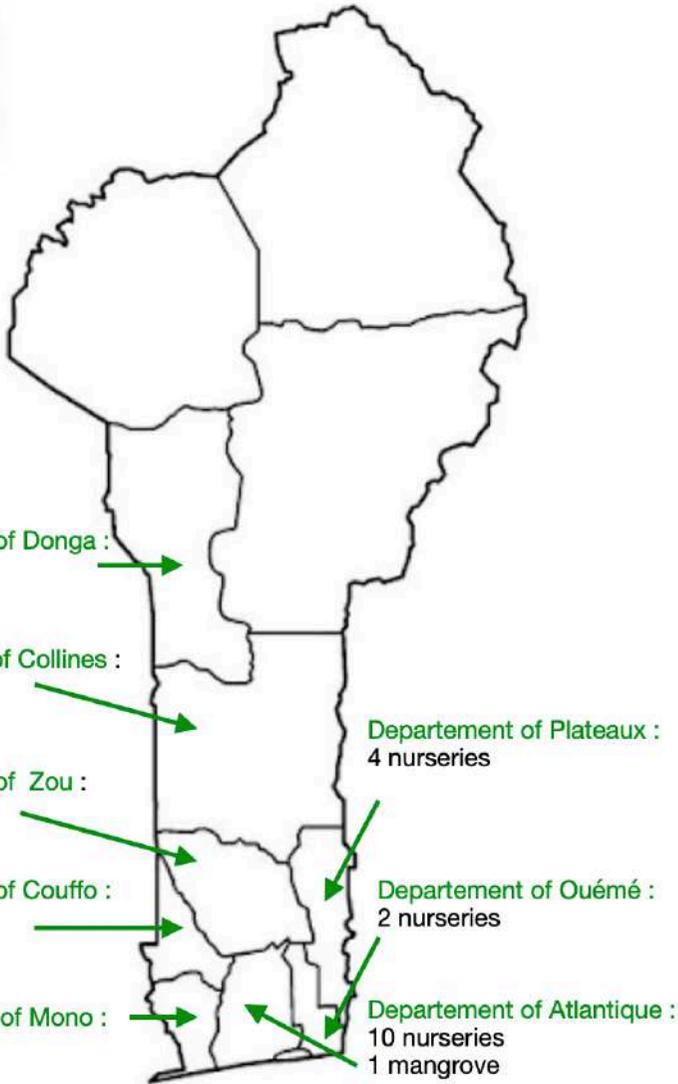


Blaise MESSAVI,  
Head nurseryman  
northern zone



Kevin DEKASSI,  
Head nurseryman  
southern zone

# BENIN



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 🌱 39 nurseries and 1 mangrove
- 🌳 596,067 trees planted
- 👤 102 people employed
- 🏠 96 schools/communities raised awareness
- 💧 802 hectares restored
- 👥🌱 78,000 beneficiaries
- 📍 Present since 2020

## MAIN TREE SPECIES

- Citrus trees (nutrition and income)
- Wild apple trees (agroforestry)
- Mango trees (nutrition and income)
- Caicédrat trees (timber and sustainable reforestation)
- Melina trees (timber and sustainable reforestation)



Distribution of seedlings



Nursery Abomey Calavi (65,000 plants)



Ignace DJOSSA (Head of reforestation)  
 Patrice TOFFI (Founding President)  
 Angèle HOUEDANOU (General Secretary)

*“These trees not only protect our village from the sea, they also give our families a new lease of life.”*

Fisherman and mangrove planter



Discover all our nurseries

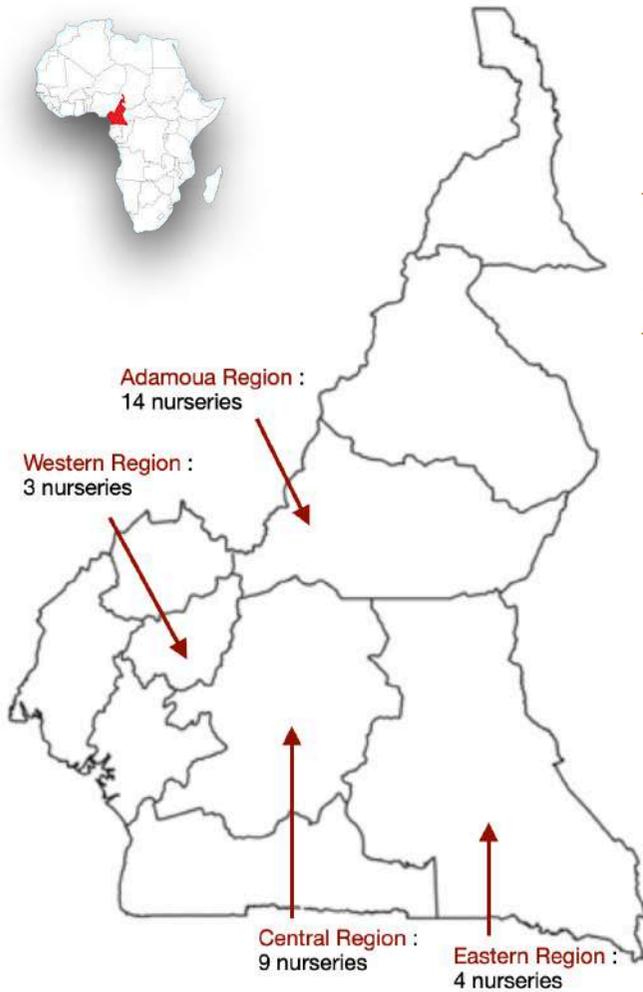
# CAMEROON



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG  
Ministère de l'Environnement, du Climat  
et du Développement durable



*“Despite difficult weather conditions, planting is progressing. The techniques we have mastered help us to better manage water and protect young plants.”*  
Nursery worker



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 47 nurseries
- 367,777 trees planted
- 59 people employed
- 132 schools/communities raised awareness
- 2,400 hectares restored
- 56,800 beneficiaries
- Present since 2021

## MAIN TREE SPECIES

- Moringa (nutrition and income)
- Cocoa (nutrition and income)
- Tali (timber and reforestation)
- Cashew (nutrition and income)
- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)



Nursery Moinkoing

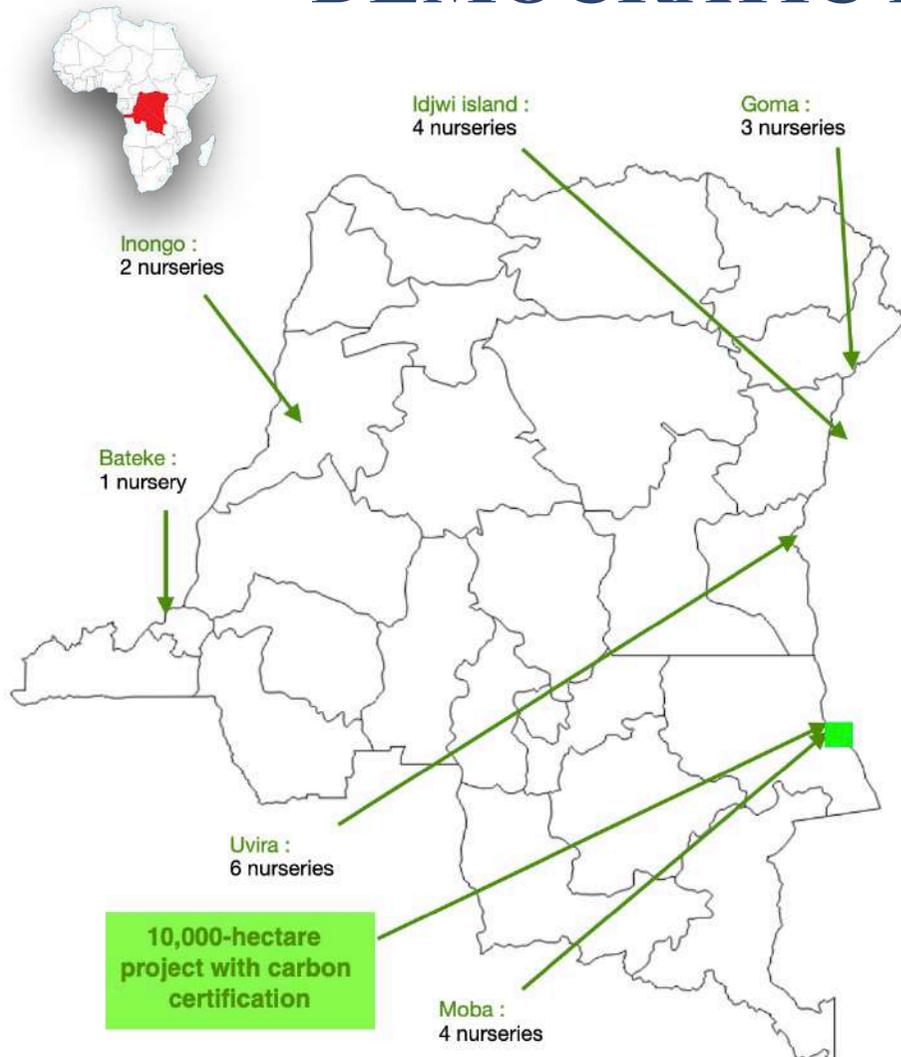


Discover all our nurseries



Siméon AKONO (National Technical Director),  
Esther Léa NDONGO (Technical Assistant),  
Raoul ZINGUI (Technical Assistant),  
François YOBOH (Coordinator),  
Lionel MBALLA (Technical Assistant),  
Stéphane ABESSOLO (Administrative and Financial Manager)

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 20 nurseries
- 300,593 trees planted
- 74 people employed
- 53 schools/communities raised awareness
- 1,640 hectares restored
- 54,200 beneficiaries
- Present since 2022

## MAIN TREE SPECIES

- Moringa (nutrition and income)
- Grevillea (agroforestry and crop protection)
- Cedrela (timber and sustainable reforestation)
- Avocado (nutrition and income)
- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)



*“The establishment of local nurseries has strengthened the community's commitment. The plantations contribute to soil protection and the preservation of our environment.”*

Community leader



**GOMA**  
Jean-Philippe BYAMUNGU



**BATEKE**  
Samuel MBUTA



**IDJWI**  
Simba SENDOVER  
Léonce KINYUNYI



**INONGO**  
Raphaël NAKABAKA  
KYABA



**UVIRA**  
Bienvenu DEBABA SANG



**MOBA**  
Constantin MBOLYO  
Urbain KABEZYA



**MOBA**  
Guillaume MUNDELE  
MAZOMBWE



**MOBA**  
Christian ORITUA  
DUDU



Discover all our nurseries

# BURKINA - FASO



Hauts-Bassins Region:  
15 nurseries

Cascade Region:  
5 nurseries

## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 🌱 20 nurseries
- 🌳 173,878 trees planted
- 👤 81 people employed
- 🏫 61 schools/communities raised awareness
- 💧 378 hectares restored
- 👥🌱 41,300 beneficiaries
- 📍 Present since 2022

## MAIN TREE SPECIES 🌳

- Adansonia Digitata (timber and reforestation)
- Acacia Mangium (reforestation)
- Cashew tree (nutrition and income)
- Acacia Nilotica (timber and reforestation)
- Moringa (nutrition and income)

*"Thanks to Graine de Vie, I have found a new path and true independence."*  
Nursery worker (Céline)



Distribution of seedlings



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Director  
David SANOU



Coordinator  
Luc SANOU



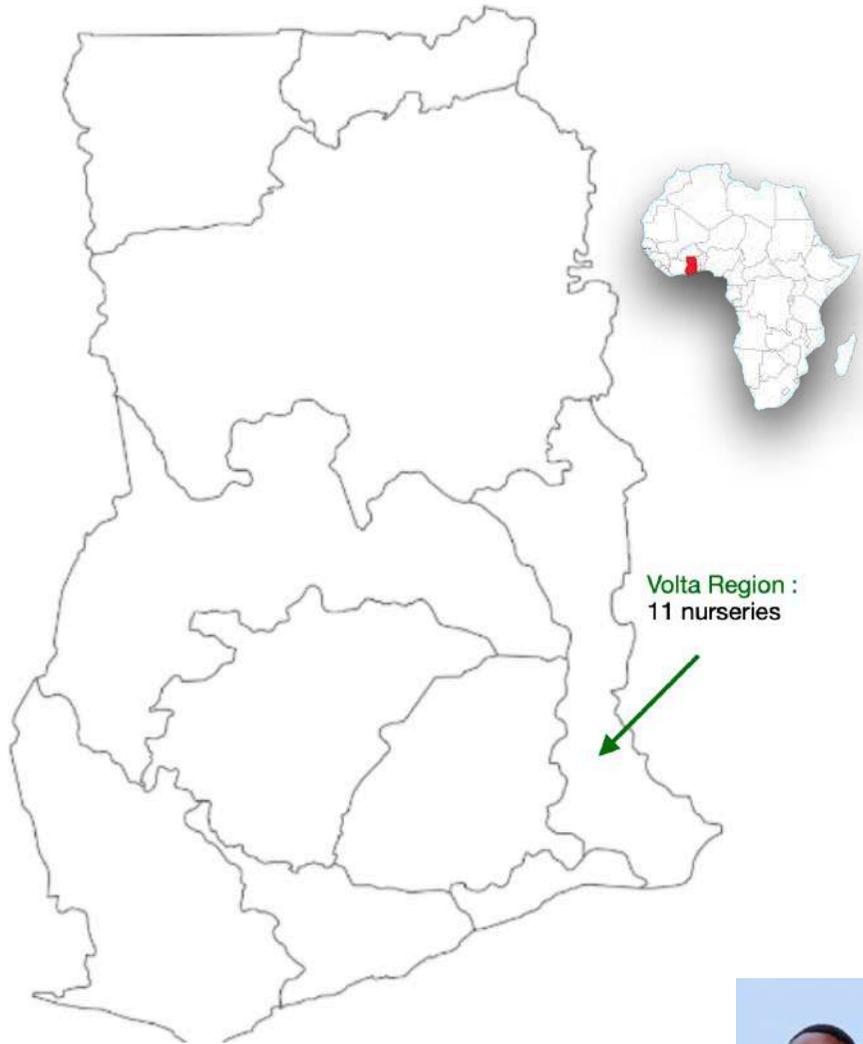
Seeds manager  
Arouna  
SANOU



The team of nursery workers



# GHANA



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 🌱 11 nurseries
- 🌳 107,457 trees planted
- 👤 13 people employed
- 🏠 25 schools/communities raised awareness
- 💧 220 hectares restored
- 👥🌱 24,400 beneficiaries

## MAIN TREE SPECIES 🌳

- Cocoa tree (nutrition and income)
- Cedrela (timber and sustainable reforestation)
- Terminalia superba (timber and sustainable reforestation)
- Khaya (timber and sustainable reforestation)
- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)

*“The trees integrated into our fields protect crops and improve soil quality. We are already seeing positive effects on our harvests.”*  
Partner farmer



Honoré KORADZA & Charles TORDZRO



Distribution of seedlings



Nursery Anfoe

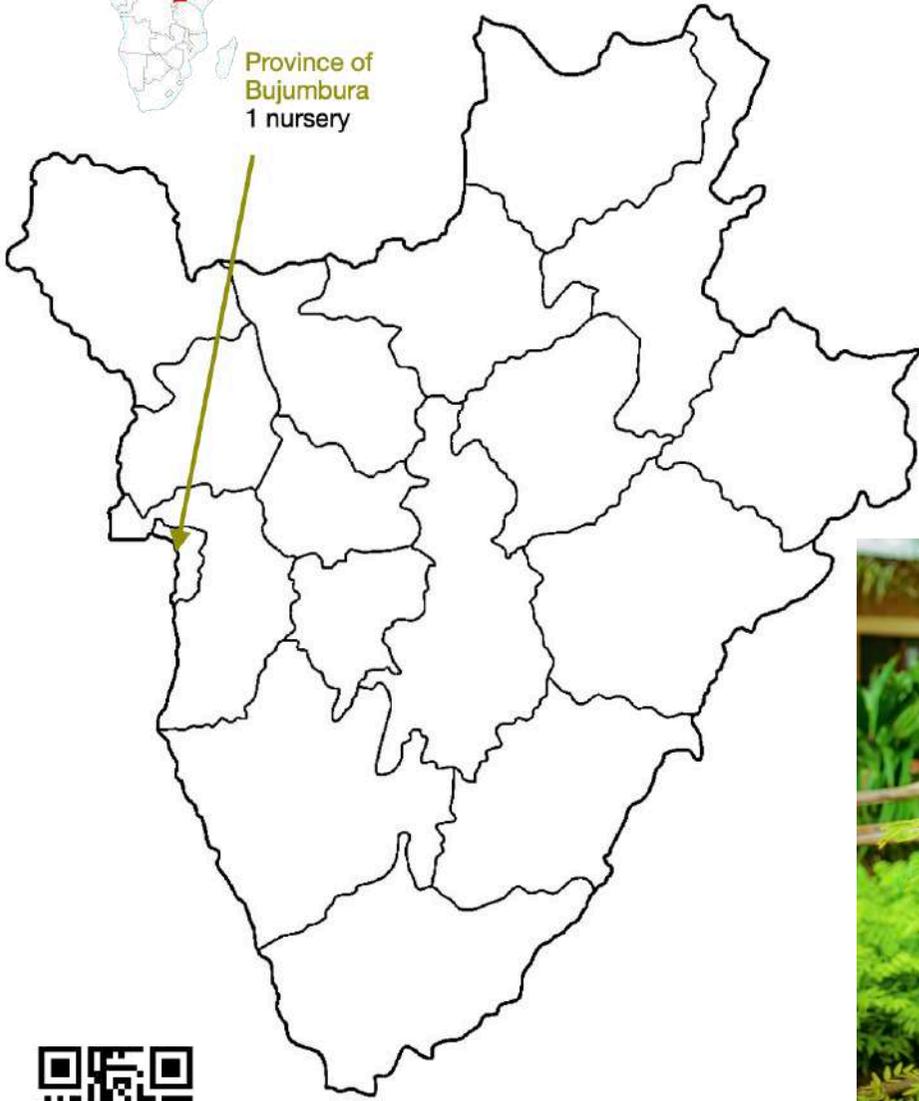


Discover all our nurseries

# BURUNDI



Province of Bujumbura  
1 nursery



## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 🌱 1 nursery
- 🌳 14,447 trees planted
- 👤 4 people employed
- 🏫 6 schools/communities raised awareness
- 💧 26 hectares restored
- 👤🌱 2,600 beneficiaries
- 📍 Present since 2024

## MAIN TREE SPECIES 🌳

- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)
- Maesopsis (reforestation)
- Avocado (nutrition and income)
- Grevillea (agroforestry and crop protection)
- Leucena (timber and sustainable reforestation)



Distribution of seedlings



Lewis NIYONSABA

*“The plantations help stabilize the soil and reduce the impact of wind on our crops. Trees have become an essential resource for the village.”*

Beneficiary



Discover all our nurseries

# SENEGAL



Departement of Ziguinchor :  
1 nursery

## 2025 IN NUMBERS

- 🌱 1 nursery
- 👤 3 employees
- 🏫 4 schools/communities raised awareness
- 📍 Present since 2025

## MAIN TREE SPECIES 🌳

- Citrus fruits (nutrition and income)
- Kadd (timber and reforestation)
- Bougainvillea (income)
- Pomegranate (nutrition and income)
- Mango (nutrition and income)

*“Seeing Graine de Vie plant trees here gives hope back to our land and our children. Together, we are protecting our future and bringing life back to Senegal.”*

Nurseryman



Pape, station manager  
Assoua, nurseryman



Discover all our nurseries

## Thank you for your support !

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all our donors for their valuable support. Whether they are the many individual supporters or companies committed to our cause, each one makes an essential contribution to the success of our actions.

As we cannot mention them all individually, we would like to give a special mention to our EcoPartners for their commitment and trust.

**3R, REVISEURS  
AKABI  
ALTER EGO  
ANESVAD FOUNDATION  
AUTOBUSSEN CANNAERTS  
BANK VAN BREDA  
BERSACO  
BIORGANIC EVENTS  
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SAVING OUR PLANET  
SLEEP WELL  
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STORY LIFIC  
TARGAT VIASAT  
TONNELLERIE BARON**

**The institutions :**

**FONDATION GUNVOR  
FONDATION PRINCE ALBERT II  
DE MONACO  
GEMEENTELIJK HULPKOMITE  
KNOKKE-HEIST**

# The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which we actively support



Graine de Vie  
28 Grand Place  
7070 Le Roeulx  
(Belgique)

Graine de Vie Cameroun  
Fes Enying  
Place de la gare routière  
Mbandjock

Graine de Vie Benin -  
CEDV  
03 BP 1181 Cotonou  
Abomey-Calavi



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Lubumbashi

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Agomé kpodzi,  
rue kpalimé - Atakpamé  
Kloto 1 – Kpalimé

We are working for  
their future

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**Graine de vie**



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