



**Forests without Borders**  
**Forêts sans Frontières**

PARTNERSHIP  
**FOREST WITHOUT BORDERS**  
AND  
**ABIOGeT**  
(ACTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY AND LAND MANAGEMENT)

**Project of Community forest plantation in the region of the Far North of Cameroon**  
*Karabiwa, District of Mora (Mayo-Sava)*  
February 2013 - January 2014.

**Progress Report No. 2**  
Period from July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2013



## Summary

The main objective of the community forest plantation project in the Far North region of Cameroon is to provide a direct and significant contribution to improving the living conditions of vulnerable populations through the establishment of community forest plantations on degraded and barren lands in the Mayo-Sava region. On the date of this report, 82% of the project is has been completed.

The content of this progress report describes the highlights of the period from July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 and the time needed to work to achieve effective project success. Thus, this report focuses not only on the activities planned for this period (the final installation of the fence hedge, the first weed removal, replacement of dead plants), but also on specific related activities that have been identified during the project.

*Seventy-four (74) women among three hundred and twenty to six (326) were individually identified, an improved stove that will reduce from 40 to 50% consumption of wood for cooking compared to conventional stoves, helping to cope the scarcity of wood for cooking and destruction of forest formations already fragile.*

Furthermore, other important actions identified during the implementation of the project will need to be undertaken to ensure effective and sustainable project success.

We can see a positive impact of this project within the beneficiary community that increasingly works with the community forest. This success is becoming widely known in the region of the Far North as the members of the project team are observing an increasing demand from other riverside communities near the project site. To date, approximately eight (08) communities have applied to ABIOGeT for support to establish a community forest plantation in their community.

## Project Team



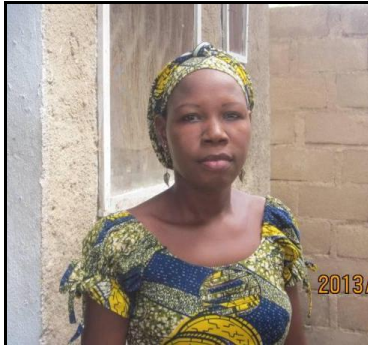
### **Guy Magloire FOKAM**

Project Coordinator.

Guy has worked for ten (10) years in the fields of tree planting and community development in the Sahel in northern Cameroon. He has worked with ABIOGeT since 2008 as the coordinator of reforestation projects.

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Phone: (+237) 96 70 27 91



### **Tapita LA VICTOIRE**

Community organization leader.

Tapita has worked since 2010 with ABIOGeT. She is the secretary and accountant of the organization.

E-mail: lavictoiretapita@gmail.com

Phone: (+237) 90 39 32 10



### **Badzogoum ZELE**

Head of nursery.

Badzogoum has worked for over 30 years in the production of woody plants. He is one of the few people in the region to master production techniques for local species of the Sudano-Sahelian zone. He joined the ABIOGeT team in 2008.

Phone: (+237) 22 05 09 79



### **Moussa BOKI**

Moussa specializes in nursery seedling production techniques and grafting.

He has worked with ABIOGeT since 2009.

Phone: (+237) 93 26 00 25



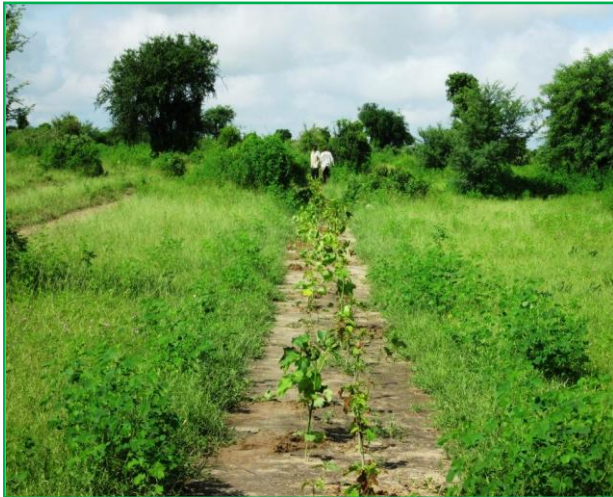
### **Dayé ZAKE**

Daye is the caretaker recruited from the village of Karabiwa by ABIOGeT to monitor the project site

## HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

### 1. Installation of the fence (planting of quickset hedge)

A fence of hedges 1544 meters in length was planted around the perimeter of the site. The purpose of this fence is to prevent any damage from livestock. Given the fragile state of the fence, a guard at the community was hired to monitor the site.



A fence line of hedges (Jatropha)



A fence line of hedges (Acacia nilotica)

### 2. The first weed removal

The first weeding was done and 657 dead plants were replaced.



Moussa Boki weeding at the site



Moussa Boki and Dayé Zaké replacing dead trees

### 3. Activity: Distribution of improved stoves



Distribution of improved stoves "Bangui" in the project site to Karabiwa

This activity was implemented to provide an early solution to the problem of fuelwood scarcity suffered mainly by women and children in the project area and surrounding villages. ABIOGeT established an agreement in 2013 with the Regional Delegation of the Environment and Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development of the Far North (DREN-MINEPDED) to provide each household with a Bangui-style improved stove. Some of these stoves were produced through the framework of the Operation "Green Sahel" project by DREN-MINEPDED while the rest will be produced by ABIOGeT and / or through a new agreement in 2014 with the DREN-MINEPDED.

- **Identification of women beneficiaries of improved cookstoves:** Three hundred and twenty-six (326) Karabiwa women were identified by the project team to receive an improved stove.
- **Transportation and distribution of improved cookstoves:** During the month of August 2013, seventy-four (74) "Bangui" cookstoves were distributed to women in the Karabiwa village, resulting in around 444 people as direct beneficiaries. ABIOGeT intends to continue this distribution to several other parts of the project area in order to give out the remaining 252 improved cookstoves.



**Improved Bangui cookstoves**



**Traditional "three-stone" cookstoves**

This table lists six advantages from using an improved cookstove compared to traditional cookstoves

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Improved cookstove Advantages</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Traditional cookstove Disadvantages</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduces by 40 to 50% the consumption of fuelwood compared to the traditional three-stone fire</li> <li>• enriches the households by reducing the budget for the purchase of fuelwood</li> <li>• reduces the time spent by women and children collecting fuelwood in the forest</li> <li>• improves the living conditions of women and children by reducing the risk of burns and fires and significantly decreasing the quantity and toxicity of smoke emissions during cooking activities</li> <li>• creates jobs and provides a source of income for artisans through the manufacture and repair of cookstoves</li> <li>• and finally, helps to preserve areas of natural forests destined for wood harvesting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excessive consumption of fuelwood by households</li> <li>• high cost of fuelwood</li> <li>• hardship related to the distance traveled by women and children to collect fuelwood</li> <li>• problems associated with lung diseases and general health</li> <li>• loss of time and productivity linked to the performance of traditional cookstoves and wood harvesting</li> </ul>

## Progression of project activities

**Table1: Progress level of project activities**

<b>Karabiwa's community forest plantation</b>						
			<b>13-01-10</b>	<b>14-05-21</b>	<b>82,25%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Preparation and implementation of project</b>		<b>13-01-10</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Ended</b>
1.1	Survey of the project site	2 days	13-01-10	100%	100%	Ended
1.2	Production of plants in the nursery	136 days	13-01-15	100%	100%	Ended
1.3	Organization of the project team	2 days	13-02-23	100%	100%	Ended
1.4	Workshop presentation of the project	1 day	13-03-13	100%	100%	Ended
1.5	Planning workshop for the project activities	2 days	13-03-14	100%	100%	Ended
<b>2</b>	<b>Launching of the project activities</b>		<b>13-03-14</b>	<b>13-03-20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Ended</b>
2.1	First touring information and communication to the authorities and community	1 day	13-03-14	13-03-14	100%	Ended
2.2	Meeting for determination of the planting site	1 day	13-03-19	13-03-20	100%	Ended
<b>3</b>	<b>Execution of project activities</b>		<b>13-04-04</b>	<b>14-05-20</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Preparation of the project site</b>		<b>13-04-04</b>	<b>13-06-11</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Ended</b>
3.1.1	Clearing of the site	35 days	13-04-04	13-05-30	100%	Ended
3.1.2	Demarcation and staking of the field	14 days	13-04-26	13-05-20	100%	Ended
3.1.3	Digging of the holes	21 days	13-05-06	13-06-07	100%	Ended
3.1.4	Purchase of the compost	3 days	13-05-14	13-05-17	100%	Ended
3.1.5	Spreading of compost (fertilization of the holes)	15 days	13-05-17	13-06-11	100%	Ended
3.1.6	Second tour to raise awareness of villagers	2 days	13-05-27	13-05-29	100%	Ended
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Community forest plantation</b>		<b>13-05-17</b>	<b>13-07-08</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
3.2.1	Preparation of planting the first tree by the sub-prefect	10 days	13-05-20	13-06-04	100%	Ended
3.2.2	Planting the first tree (World Environment Day, 05/06/2013)	1 day	13-06-04	13-06-05	100%	Ended
3.2.3	Planting fence (quickset hedge) and guarding	5 days	13-06-05	13-06-13	100%	Ended
3.2.4	Third tour to raise awareness of villagers on the importance of trees and forests	1 day	13-06-13	13-06-14	100%	Ended
3.2.5	Exploration for and probing for water in the village	1 day	13-06-13	13-06-14	100%	Ended
3.2.6	Purchase and application of tree protection products	16 days	13-05-17	13-06-12	100%	Ended

3.2.7	Transportation of trees from the nursery to plantation site	20 days	13-05-27	13-06-27	100%	Ended
3.2.8	Planting of trees	20 days	13-06-05	13-07-08	100%	In progress
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Maintenance of the plantation</b>		<b>13-07-20</b>	<b>14-05-20</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
3.3.1	First weed control and replacement planting	10 days	13-07-20	13-08-05	100%	In progress
3.3.2	Second weed control	10 days	13-09-15	13-09-30	0%	In progress
3.3.3	Drilling of well	10 days	13-07-20	13-08-05	0%	In progress
3.3.4	Watering of plants	145 days	13-10-01	14-05-20	0%	In progress
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Sign development for the project</b>		<b>13-06-17</b>	<b>13-07-02</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
3.4.1	Manufacture of the first project sign	5 days	13-06-17	13-06-24	100%	Ended
3.4.2	Transportation and installation of the first sign for the project	2 days	13-06-25	13-06-27	100%	Ended
3.4.3	Manufacture of the second project sign	5 days	13-06-30	13-07-05	0%	In progress
3.4.4	Transportation and installation of the second sign for the project	2 days	13-07-07	13-07-09	0%	In progress
<b>4</b>	<b>Monitoring Report</b>		<b>13-06-05</b>	<b>14-01-16</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
4.1	First project progress report (Preparation and drafting)	16 days	13-06-05	13-07-01	100%	Ended
4.2	Second project progress report (Preparation and drafting)	15 days	13-09-06	13-09-30	100%	In progress
4.3	Project End Report (Preparation and writing)	15 days	13-12-24	14-01-15	0%	In progress



**Table 2: Activities to be added to increase project's viability (Monitoring and sustainability of the project/Capacity Building)**

<b>5</b>	<b>Common initiative group (CIG)</b>		<b>13-07-08</b>	<b>13-11-16</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b><i>Preparation and organization of villagers as a legal entity in a Common Initiative Group</i></b>	<b>days</b>	<b>13-07-08</b>	<b>13-09-24</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<b><i>Training (Change Management and Capacity Building)</i></b>		<b>13-08-05</b>	<b>13-11-16</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>In progress</b>
5.2.1	Training of villagers on technical management of the forest	3 days	13-09-21	13-09-25	0%	In progress
5.2.2	Training of villagers on maintenance and management of well	3 days	13-08-05	13-08-08	0%	In progress
5.2.3	Training of villagers on technical simplified accounting	3 days	13-11-16	13-11-16	0%	In progress
5.2.4	Training of villagers on the prevention and management of conflicts	3 days	13-10-12	13-10-12	0%	In progress
5.2.5	Training of villagers regarding gender and minority issues	3 days	13-11-08	13-11-08	0%	In progress

**Remarks:**

These activities in table 2 were not initially planned at the beginning of the project. During the planning and implementation of the project, they were identified as key elements that will help to ensure the ownership of the project by the community and its sustainability.

## Recommendations: Actions Needed

To ensure the success of the plantation and the sustainability of the actions undertaken, ABIOGeT emphasizes two important points:

### 1) Installation of modern well

Installation of a drill on the project site will play a dual role for the beneficiary population. First, since the forest was planted in the Sahel region, it will need to be watered during the dry season until October or November for the first year after planting. Providing a well in Karabiwa is a generous gesture that will benefit the entire population, in particular the women and young people who must travel at least 5 miles a day to fetch water from neighboring villages.

According to the results of the initial survey made by a hydraulic engineer who came to the site, traditional hand-dug wells would be impracticable because the depth of the water table in this area ranges from 75 to 80 meters. It would be necessary to install a human-powered drill to ensure the permanent availability of water for the project.

In the region of the Far North, the cost of drilling a well varies from \$ 3,000 to \$ 5000. In our case, the estimates obtained were \$ 3,900 to install a borehole well in the village. This type of installation includes, in addition to drilling, a superstructure which will drain the dirty water to ensure hygiene around the borehole as well as a hand pump.

### 2) Strengthen the capacity of villagers / Training (Sustainability Project)

Capacity building is a process that will ensure the sustainability of investments and results of the project in the village. To achieve this goal, ABIOGeT proposes initially to organize the community into a Common Initiative Group (CIG)<sup>1</sup> legal entity. In a second step, training sessions will be organized in order to create a dynamic community around the management of forest resources. The underlying objective of the creation of the CIG is to strengthen and promote the role of women and youth in decision-making for the sustainable management of resources from the community forest.

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<sup>1</sup> The Common Initiative Group (ICG) in Cameroon is one of the legal entities in which a community or group of people can come together to legally operate their business. The CIG is governed by Law No. 92/006 of August 14, 1992, relating to cooperative societies and Commons Initiative groups and its implementing Decree No. 92/455/PM of November 23, 1992.

**Table 4: Summary of requirements for well drilling and capacity building**

No	Activities	Specific objectives	Quantity	Cost (\$)
<b>Drilling</b>				
<b>Overall objective</b> Ensure the growth of trees and provide potable water				
1	Install well	Produce water for the trees and the people in the village	1	3200
2	Construct the superstructure	Ensure hygiene and prevent disease caused by the consumption of non-potable water	1	700
	<b>Total 1</b>			3900
<b>Capacity building / training (Sustainability Project)</b>				
<b>Overall objective:</b> Ensure the success of the forest plantation and the sustainability of the activities and results of the project				
1	Organize and structure the community as a legal entity (Common Initiative Group)	Provide a legal framework for the community to manage their forest	20 people to train	200
2	Train community members on technical management of a forest plantation	Develop and implement a management plan for the forest	10 people to train	450
3	Train community members on the maintenance and management of a well	Ensure repairs and management of the well	10 people to train	450
4	Train community members on simplified accounting	Manage financial resources from the forest	10 people to train	450
5	Educate community members on the prevention and management of conflicts	Anticipate, prevent, and manage conflicts in the management of forest resources	25 people to train	550
6	Train community members on gender and minority issues	Empower minority groups (women and youth) and take into account their views in the decision-making process	25 people to train	550
	<b>Total 2</b>			3 000
	<b>TOTAL (Total 1 + Total 2)</b>			<b>6550</b>

**APPENDIX: List of the 74 women who received Karabiwa improved stoves****1- BLAYAYINE QUATER**

- |                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1- AÏSSATA KOUMBA           | 11- KAKA FADI    |
| 2- YAKOURA ZAKE NANA ABBA   | 12- FANTA ALI    |
| 3- WALI DEPPE MALOUM AMADOU | 13- KAKA ISSA    |
| 4- HADJIDJA MALOUM AMADOU   | 14- ZARA MALOUM  |
| 5- DIDJA KADI               | 15- KOTCHA DOUWE |
| 6- AMIRA DAOUDA             | 16- MAÏDOUKA     |
| 7- HALI CHETENE             | 17- MAÏDANG      |
| 8- KATALA FADI              | 18- GANA         |
| 9- DOUDOU                   | 19- GOUSSANDA    |
| 10- TCHANGE                 | 20- LYDIA        |

**2- MOKOYA QUARTER**

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1- MAÏWARI       | 12- AISSATA GAPTIA |
| 2- ACHI GAMBO    | 13- AMAYA MAINNA   |
| 3- KAKA          | 14- YAGANA HAMAN   |
| 4- KELLA BELLO   | 15- YAGANA MAINNA  |
| 5- GAMBO OUMATE  | 16- FIDA           |
| 6- KATIMI GIGLA  | 17- IZA BOUKAR     |
| 7- AÏSSATA       | 18- SOUMAINDA      |
| 8- PANA GAMBO    | 19- MINMAMBA WOULD |
| 9- MARIAM OUMATE | 20- SOURI KOKOLE   |
| 10- FADI HOUSSA  | 21- ACHI MOKOYA    |
| 11- KATALE       | 22- WOUYIMTCHA     |

**3- ABOUTADJA QUARTER**

- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1- NGOUDJA ABBA       | 19- FANNE MALOUM          |
| 2- KOUROUNGOU         | 20- HADIDJA DADA KARABIWA |
| 3- HEWA DJIDOU        | 21- HEWA IDRISSE          |
| 4- SALMAT EMAT        | 22- FANNE ABDOURAMAN      |
| 5- YDE ABOUTADJA      | 23- DJONABA MAHAMAT       |
| 6- ACHE KORE          | 24- AMSSA LAMINE          |
| 7- FANNE YOUSOUF      | 25- FANNE MOHAMAT         |
| 8- AMA FANNE          | 26- TIME MOHAMAT          |
| 9- FALTA              | 27- ASTA SEYAR            |
| 10- NGOUDJA ABOUTADJA | 28- DJIRITTE              |
| 11- GAMBOYA           | 29- HADIDJA ELOUAN        |
| 12- FANNE ALI         | 30- HACHE ADOUM           |
| 13- SEIDE             | 31- ALBOURA BRAHIM        |
| 14- HEWA              | 32- ADOUM NDOUBO          |
| 15- KALTOUMI          |                           |
| 16- MARIOMA           |                           |
| 17- MAISSA MALOUM     |                           |
| 18- CHEMIRE           |                           |