

Title of the project

Planting “*Jatropha curcas*” to provide biodiesel fuel and carbon credits from degraded lands while also reducing the vulnerability of small-scale agriculture in southern Mali



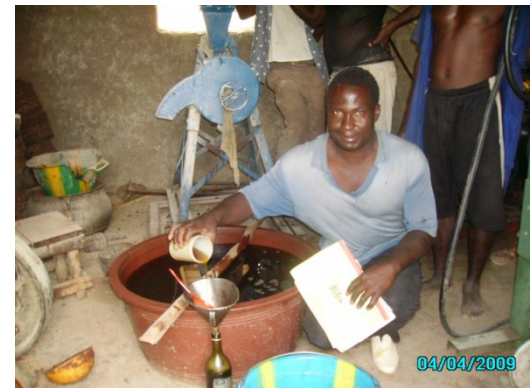
Project developer

Intercooperation – a Swiss Foundation for development and international cooperation with 25 years of experience in the Sahel, working on food security, local economic development, management of natural resources and local governance / civil society.



Key partners

The main actors are two intermediate farmer organisations: (1) UACT in Tominian and (2) ULPP in Koutiala. 3000 rural household members in 10 municipalities are involved

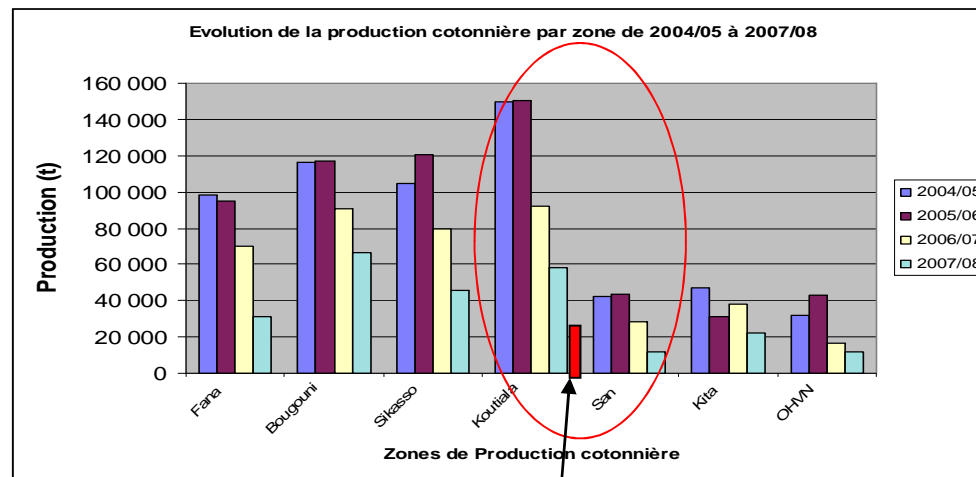


Context

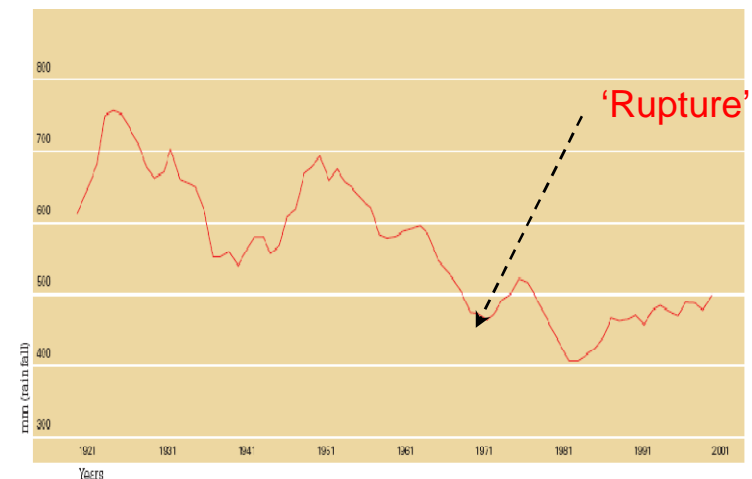
- Semi-arid cotton-growing area ravaged by land degradation and the cotton crisis (i.e., falling prices)
- Dramatic fall in cotton production of 40-70% in 5 years
- Locals are eagerly to identifying alternatives to cotton

Other needs

- Combat progressive desertification and soil fertility loss
- Cope with reduced, erratic rainfall and increased extreme weather conditions (linked to climate change)
- Identify viable livelihood options that stem rural exodus



2009



Evolution de la pluviométrie au Mali, 1921-2001 (DGM)

Project concept

- Community-based afforestation of degraded lands
- Activities include (1) planting live fencing around existing fields and (2) afforesting degraded, infertile fields
- Goals include strengthening existing agricultural systems while creating new revenue streams (biodiesel, carbon credits)

Project characteristics

- Reforestation of 1000 hectares of degraded land in two distinct communities comprising 30 villages involving more than 3000 villagers
- Average estimated sequestration of 18,300t CO₂ per year
- Estimated oilseed production of 1,200t per year
- In time, a follow up project is envisaged whereby developer will further assist communities to produce and market biodiesel fuel from seeds



Special features

- Receives technical support from Winrock International via **inter cooperation** UNEP's CASCADe programme
- Selected by CASCADe via competitive process from amongst 21 projects submitted in response to a national call for projects
- Based in Mali, a stable, multi-party democracy whose government is strongly supportive of carbon initiatives
- Fosters the training of farmers' associations as the major actors in the implementation of the project
- Carbon revenues are passed on in full to participating farmers.

Key co-benefits

- Provides a sustainable alternative income source to poor farmers. Restores soil fertility and increases biodiversity
- Helps farmers adapt to climate change via increasing the resilience of food production and providing marketable products that are able to withstand climate variability
- Learning and sharing about CDM process between the main stakeholders