

UCONAKO's women's group poultry egg farm

Project funded by SOCODEVI Foundation and Global Affairs Canada through the Program for the development of inclusive and sustainable model cooperatives (PROCED)

As part of the implementation of the Program for the development of inclusive and sustainable model cooperatives (PROCED), the Union des coopératives Nargadenin de Korhogo (UCONAKO), a partner in the project, has received funding from the SOCODEVI Foundation to set up a poultry farm for the women members and husbands of members of the Nongotiénékaha section. This support was provided to improve household living conditions, enhance resilience, and empower the women of the UCONAKO cooperative. In addition, this investment has increased the availability of locally produced poultry eggs, now representing an important source of protein in the community and surrounding area, thereby boosting food security and diversifying incomes and available food.

This poultry farm features a henhouse with a capacity of 500 laying hens, two storage warehouses and a changing room. It also features a solar energy system providing light to the buildings and heating the chicks; a filter drain for wastewater evacuation, and a compost bin for making organic fertilizer from chicken manure and litter from the farm.



To run the farm, women received training courses on implementing a laying hen farm, hens' management, and sanitary follow-up. This enabled the women to produce and market an average of 11,000 eggs per month, corresponding to a turnover of 800,000 FCFA for a profit ranging from 150,000 FCFA to 200,000 FCFA.

Moreover, women who took part in practical compost-making sessions now produce compost for use in the family's cashew nut plantations, as well as in their food crop plots. In addition, they market this organic fertilizer to local producers, hence boosting their farm's monthly income.



To ensure the long-term future of the business, awareness-raising meetings were organized within the community to highlight the importance of the farm and to invite community leaders to support the actions of the women's group.

Women's capacities were also strengthened regarding associative life and income management. In addition, to make farm work easier and give the women time to pursue other occupations, sub-workgroups were set up with team leaders. Then, to manage environmental and health aspects, a committee of three women was set up to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the environmental measures instituted.

Furthermore, as part of the business development strategy, the profits generated are divided into three parts. The first part is used for the development of the poultry egg farm, which will enable the group to plan a possible extension of the henhouse operations; a second part goes to the cooperative's treasury, and a third part is used to compensate (pay) group members.

In short, the financing of the poultry egg farm for the benefit of the women's group, together with all the support and advice provided during the project, have revealed and promoted women leaders, and it has highlighted the ability of rural women to make a significant contribution to improving the living conditions of their communities.

