

Ecl^osio

Activity report

2021



Ecl^osio

THINKING, ACTING AND BUILDING TOGETHER

Editorial

From crisis to crisis, the years go by and humanity seems to be caught up in a whirlwind of unpredictable events, each with more serious consequences than the last. No sooner can we start living together again without worrying too much about the famous virus, than a war breaks out on the European continent. Meanwhile, the effects of global warming are being felt more and more around the world, making the most vulnerable populations even more vulnerable.

What about Eclósio? Well, our NGO maintains its course in this difficult environment. After a long gestation period, the 2022-2026 programme carried by Eclósio and its three partners within the Uni4Coop consortium has been approved by the DGD. This makes it possible to envisage the continuation of activities in Senegal, Benin, Cambodia, Peru and Bolivia, as well as on the Gembloux, Liège and Arlon campuses. DGD funding will also allow the launch of new activities, including a highly innovative inclusive knowledge management project. This new chapter is also the sign of a maturing collaboration within Uni4Coop, which is transforming itself from a simple vehicle for synergies between NGOs sharing the same DNA, into an organisation carried jointly by 4 university NGOs determined to deepen their relationship. For the teams and our partners, this prospect is synonymous with a broadening of horizons and a strengthening of

our capacity for action.

Taking into account this very positive outlook, Eclósio is also reflecting on its mission and its future in the longer term. The strategic plan has been thoroughly revised after a process that involved all the team members. It outlines long-term perspectives: in which areas does Eclósio wish to intervene, what are the objectives we wish to achieve and how to implement them in the coming years? This plan will be presented to the members at the annual general meeting. We hope it will raise questions and allow a dialogue between members and the team !

On behalf of the Board of Directors
Patrick Wautelet



Eclósio

Eclósio asbl

Passage des déportés 2,
5030 Gembloux, Belgique
+32 81 62 25 75
info@eclosio.org - www.eclosio.org

Editor in charge : Patrick Wautelet

Textes & photos :

Eclósio and Sitoé Group

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Cover photo: Beneficiary of the Yessal Sunu MBay project in Senegal (photo: Groupe Sitoé, for Eclósio).

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About Eclósio

Our vision

A world where present and future generations exercise their rights to live in dignity together, in harmonious interaction with their environment.

Our mission

Eclósio: towards the agro-ecological transition, the socio-economic integration of vulnerable populations and a civic commitment to societal and climate issues

Together with the university community and organised civil society, we are driving the agro-ecological transition, the socio-economic integration of populations weakened by exclusion and inequality, and citizen engagement in the face of the societal and climatic challenges of our time. To do this, we implement inclusion dynamics, by creating together skills, knowledge and innovative solutions, and by engaging the public and private sectors.

Our values

Our positioning, actions and operations are based on the ethical principles described therein and summarised below.

Respect for people and communities by valuing the opinions, experience, skills and contributions of others, and respect for the environment by adapting our actions in an interdependent and sustainable manner.

Fairness in relations between people and communities in a logic of honesty, transparency and solidarity, without prejudice.

Integrity of our staff and members by avoiding conflicts of interest and condemning acts of fraud and corruption. We reject any physical, sexual or psychological abuse or mistreatment of one person by another, any discrimination and any behaviour that violates human dignity.

Cooperation with our partners, acting together in a relationship of trust, placing mutual learning at the heart of our relationships.

Self-criticism and empowerment of each individual, embodying the change we want, in line with our values.

Commitment and personal development, by contributing to a working environment where everyone can express themselves, develop their skills and commitment and find joy in their daily work.

Action themes

Eclósio works according to a systemic approach. This means that there are no barriers between our different themes of action: they are permeable, intersect and reinforce each other.



Ecological transition

- **Agroecology and sustainable food systems** : we support the transition to agroecology through training, exchange of experiences, methodological/technical support. We set up participatory action research projects where farming families and researchers experiment together with new practices.
- We support rural communities and vulnerable populations in the development and implementation of **sustainable land and natural resource management plans**. We organise climate change mitigation/adaptation and ecosystem protection actions.
- In our projects, we take into account the concept of **One Health**, which emphasises the interdependence between human health, animal health and the environment.



Socio-economic integration

- **Value chains** : we strengthen and promote Value Added Chains for products from family farming in order to value agroecological and environmental practices.
- **Social protection and inclusion** : we support the development of solidarity-based systems (mutuality and cooperation), in articulation with state interventions and private sector initiatives.
- **Social entrepreneurship, professional integration and employment** : we accompany women and young people in the search for or creation of a job related to food production or processing, through training, personalised follow-up, and support to social economy actors.



Civic engagement in the face of societal and climate challenges

- **Gender and intersectional approach** : we aim for the informed and powerful participation of women in public decision-making, we work to strengthen and secure women's access to factors of production and to quality agricultural plots. In Belgium, our actions aim to raise awareness and deconstruct relations of domination.
- **Migration** : we take a positive view of migration dynamics and take into account the issues at stake in each of our actions, regardless of the country.
- **Civil society and democracy** : we are involved in several initiatives or platforms aiming to empower civil society organisations as actors of development and change with capacities to monitor, analyse, propose and evaluate public policies.

Methodologies for actions



Training and capacity building

We strengthen and support the partners and farmers' organisations with whom we work, particularly in their management capacities, their legitimacy and recognition in their territory. Our capacity-building activities (knowledge, know-how and skills) are intended to be participatory and inclusive, based on the experience and knowledge of the participants. Thus, we favour the exchange of experience between peers, experimentation in the field, or participatory action research, in which the participants are subjects and actors of the research and experiment innovative alternatives.



Advocacy

Present in the majority of our intervention strategies, advocacy (political and academic) is addressed in different ways :

- Contribution to the co-construction of knowledge through action research to enrich evidence-based advocacy.
- Accompanying and supporting our partners in their advocacy process.
- Contribution to advocacy campaigns within multi-stakeholder platforms.



Multi-stakeholder partnerships, synergies and networking

Because of our position at the interface of civil society, local expertise and the academic community, we build partnerships, synergies and complementarities with a wide range of actors, in particular through platforms, networks and multi-actor dialogues (in particular academic).



Knowledge management

We stimulate the flow of academic, practical, traditional and innovative knowledge (knowledge, know-how, interpersonal skills) between our various audiences and partners (through capitalisation, training, awareness-raising, debates between our different areas of action and projects, etc.). We want to work with our audiences to receive, deconstruct, mix, reconstruct and appropriate knowledge from other actors, in order to move together towards sustainable and harmonious human development.



Global Citizenship and Solidarity Education (GCSE)

Through information, awareness-raising and mobilisation activities, we aim to make students and members of the university community aware of global issues and their various relations of domination. To this end,

we organise training sessions (on interculturality, sustainable development, etc.), conferences, events and film debates on topics related to global interdependence, sustainable food systems, human rights, We support student groups wishing to implement awareness-raising or mobilisation actions.

Eclosio NGO University

Eclosio
THE NGO OF LIÈGE UNIVERSITY



As a university NGO, Eclosio contributes, through its activities, to the three missions of ULiège: teaching, research and citizenship. More and more, the university's mission integrates all of our actions and projects, both centrally and secondarily.

In 2021, a major effort was made to draft a quality programme within Uni4Coop and to optimise the academic dimension. We have focused on knowledge management (action research, cross capitalisation and learning) and academic collaborations, both at ULiège and at local universities or Uni4Coop. This has enabled us to strengthen our network, increasing our visibility and legitimacy as a university NGO: in Belgium, with ARES, the CSC «Higher Education» and ULiège, but also within European networks via the projects we develop. The academic dimension of our NGO was also reflected in the election of 6 ULiège professors at the 2021 General Assembly (including 3 new ones) and an administrator of the ULiège Board of Directors.

Contribution to the teaching mission of ULiège

Our innovation support course in Family Farming has come to an end in 2021 (see p. 19), leaving room in 2022 for a brand new course, under the promotion of Professor Daniel Faulx: «Understanding and managing the human dimensions of change projects in sustainable development».

Numerous activities involving students and professors were also carried out, either face-to-face and/or virtual: course portfolios in Liège and Gembloux, as well as support for students in designing teaching tools with Daniel Faulx. Activities bringing together students from various Walloon universities, organised by Uni4COOP, were also carried out, such as training on advocacy.

Our portfolio of projects involving students has not only diversified, but some of them are now part of European networks. Our actions in the field of migration with this public have also developed, through exchanges and reflections involving diasporas in particular.

Contribution to ULiège's research mission

Collaboration with academic actors (local or from ULiège) in the field is intensifying. Within ULiège, we can mention in particular Ludivine Lassois, with whom we are developing a research- action project for large-scale production of biofertilisers in Diourbel, Senegal;



or Professor Nicolas Antoine Moussiaux, with whom we are implementing a project: Network for Nutrition and Health in Senegal (Réseau FAGARU). In Benin, we continued to develop a project in 2021 on the popularisation of research results on smoked/roasted products, in collaboration with Professor Marie Louise Scippo (ARES project).

In Peru, the Agroecological Food Systems project funded by the Mac Knight Foundation in Peru includes a very large action research component. In Cambodia, the ASSET project is hosting a doctoral student who will carry out his research under the dual promotion of ULiège and UCLouvain.

Contribution to the ULiège citizenship mission

An important step forward is the Hospitality University motion that was passed at the very beginning of 2022. The aim of this motion is to encourage the university to commit itself to strengthening the reception and integration of migrants and refugees on the various campuses.

We also collaborate more with the Green Office, contribute to the reflection and development of the learning service, and are involved in the «sustainable campus» dynamics developed on the Liège and Gembloux campuses.

The Uni4Coop Consortium

The French-speaking Belgian university NGOs (Louvain Coopération, ULB-Coopération, Eclasio and Fucid) are grouped together in the Uni4Coop consortium. They develop common projects in the four corners of the world and exchange knowledge, experience and expertise for a global improvement of their different missions. The year 2021 has allowed us to take stock of a first joint programme and to build a new one for the next five years.

Review and outlook

On 7 October, we organised an exceptional event, «DisCOOver Uni4Coop», to take stock of the work accomplished over the past 5 years and to discuss the prospects for increased collaboration between the members of the consortium (the fight to preserve mangroves in Africa, inclusive knowledge management, GCSE and international mobility for students, not to mention joint projects in Cambodia, DR Congo, Benin and Latin America). This event was enhanced by the presence and support of Minister Meryame Kitir and the College of Rectors of our 4 French-speaking universities.

Our documentary «Uni4Coop - Behind the Scenes of an NGO» also allowed us to highlight the ambitious cooperation work carried out in each of our projects between 2017 and 2021, and to showcase our links with universities and colleges. External speakers enrich this video, including our Minister for Development Cooperation and Urban Policy, Meryame Kitir, who highlights the added value of our consortium of academic NGOs. To watch it, click here:



Towards inclusive knowledge management

Among the common actions that will be worked on by the four actors is inclusive knowledge management. A key element of our specificity as universities, it was already a central part of our NGOs. On the basis of a diagnosis of our practices, we have together identified two main areas aimed at expanding our action and improving knowledge sharing. On the one hand, this involves identifying, with our partners, relevant innovations co-constructed in the field, debating them through a critical, interdisciplinary and multi-actor approach and producing products. And, on the other hand, the valorisation of this knowledge and innovative practices among the actors of change.

Campus in action !

In collaboration with the UMons, the Global Citizenship and Solidarity Education teams of our four university NGOs launched a new project in October 2021: Campus in Action. During a weekend, students from different campuses were able to gather, get information, exchange and train around the theme of food systems. The first edition was a success, with 31 enthusiastic students who co-created various awareness-raising tools to be used during the second semester. Based on the success of this experience, a second edition is already planned for November 2022!



Testimonial

Bénédicte Eïd
Volunteer

My experience as a volunteer in Uni4Coop's communication department was very rewarding. I was able to meet people who were particularly motivated by their work and convinced of the consortium's actions. They trusted me directly and entrusted me with various tasks ranging from the organisation of a large-scale event bringing together personalities from the political, academic and private sectors to the production of visuals and advocacy on communication.

It was also an opportunity to discover the world of international cooperation, which was unknown to me at the time, to understand how it works but also its permanent challenges.

Eclosio in key figures



40.952

Eclosio supports more than 40,000 people around the world*.



35

projects in 7 countries of intervention (Senegal, Benin, Guinea, Cambodia, Peru, Bolivia and Belgium).



84

Eclosio works closely with 84 local partners.



91

A team of 91 employees, 71 of whom are national field staff.

14



volunteers and trainees helped Eclosio to carry out its actions in Belgium.



251

people took part in the 14 training courses delivered by the staff of Eclosio's headquarters in Belgium.



966

people participated to GCSE activities in Belgium

85,45 %



of resources are allocated to projects representing a budget of 3,550,344.61 € (2021 figures).



10 €

Thanks to the support of our institutional backers, each euro donated allows us to mobilise up to €10 for our actions.

** This total figure, as well as the country data in the boxes on the following pages, refers to people who have directly benefited from or participated in our actions. Indirect advocacy and awareness-raising activities are therefore not included in these counts.*

On the following pages, we are pleased to present some of our key projects and actions that illustrate in concrete terms how we apply our work themes on the ground with our local partners. On our website www.eclosio.org, you will find a description of all our current projects.



Senegal

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Andean Zone

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Guinea

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Belgium

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Cambodia

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Benin

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Andean zone Peru and Bolivia

Peru	1486 Beneficiaries	4 Projects	7 Partners	562.504,16€ spent
Bolivia	1214 Beneficiaries	2 Projects	6 Partners	276.176,39 € spent

What is inclusive knowledge management?

Inclusive knowledge management is at the heart of the mission of a university NGO like Ecosio. What is behind these words? This is what we try to illustrate through some of our recent actions in Peru and Bolivia.

The study also shows that agroecology requires a more continuous presence throughout the year, which limits the strategy of multi-activity (circular migration, small jobs in town). Another challenge is access to markets that provide a fair price for organic producers and are accessible to consumers affected by the crisis. This gives meaning to advocacy for policies that encourage agroecology and restrict the conventional model.

Agroecology, where do we stand ?

Together with our partners and collaborators, for some years we have wanted to take a step back from the results of our interventions in favour of agroecology. Thus, in 2018, the IMPAC² project in Peru and the SAF³ project in Bolivia were born, funded by ARES and DGD, with a multi-stakeholder participation: 5 Peruvian, 1 Bolivian and 2 Belgian (ULiège and UCLouvain) universities; 3 Peruvian, 2 Bolivian and 3 Belgian civil society organisations (SOS Faim, Iles de Paix and Ecosio); 300 Peruvian and 700 Bolivian farming families. The SAF study analyses agroforestry systems in coffee and cocoa growing areas on the Amazonian border. It will focus on existing types of production, particularly agroecology, and their contributions. It will provide its results at the end of 2022.

IMPAC provides a comparative analysis between farms of less than 5 hectares that have participated or not in projects promoting agroecology. This was done in three mountainous areas of Peru. The study confirms that the families participating in the projects have a more agroecological production and use fewer synthetic inputs. But they also tend to diversify their marketing channels more (short circuits) and express better food security and self-sufficiency. Not everything is rosy: change is often partial, slow and variable, and many transitions are «truncated», even after 5-10 years of progress. Some obstacles are technical, such as water availability and pests, hence the importance of continued action research.



²IMPAC: Comparative analysis of the economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts of two modes of agricultural production - agroecological and conventional - in Andean family farming conditions.

³SAF : Analysis of agroforestry systems in family agroecological coffee and cocoa production.



Organic marketing Huaraz (Peru)

Let's turn the problems around and study them together !

Based, among other things, on the above findings, the SAMA⁴ action research project (2021-2024) was initiated in Aija, a mountainous area (over 3,000 metres) in Ancash, Peru.

SAMA aims to gain a better understanding of the food systems in which agroecology is developing, by focusing on two issues: access to water for agriculture and the destination of production.

Water !

In the semi-arid Andes, the availability of water for agriculture is often critical, especially in the face of climate change. SAMA asks: How do peasant communities organise themselves around water and what are the consequences for water management ?

What are the effects of 'seeding and water harvesting' strategies (reforestation, protection, sealing and regeneration of highland lagoons, infiltration ditches, etc.)? How can this contribute to the scaling up of agroecology?

In addition to, but linked to SAMA, we are contributing to a multidisciplinary research project with the University of Reading (England), lead of CROPP⁵ (2021-2024), on the challenges and strategies of adaptation to climate change in the southern and northern Andes of Peru. The aim is, for example, to generate climate change scenarios to assess their impacts on water availability in agroecosystems.

Do local markets and circular migrants mix ?

This is the other component of SAMA: what place should be given to food security, non-monetised food flows (bartering, sending to the family in town) and marketing? What forms of commercialisation should be promoted, based on previous experiences ?

Another question emerged, among others, from a participatory study conducted during the pandemic under the lead of YPARD Perú with 29 rural youth: can young people, those dynamic «circular migrants» who move back and forth between city and mountain for their studies or to earn a living, the same ones who during the pandemic had «returned» by fleeing the city caught in the throes of containment, play a role in strengthening social and commercial producer- consumer linkages or even influencing perceptions of rurality and contributing to more sustainable food systems ?



Final adjustments during the installation of a geomembrane of a reservoir for irrigation (Aija. Peru).

These are all questions we hope to answer by 2024 with 'farmer-researchers' such as Liz Rodríguez (La Merced, Ancash, Peru) : « ***«I am a farmer-researcher. We produce organic eggs and guinea pigs. I sell them at the organic market. Today I'm taking part in Slow Food's Disco-Soup, where we can see how to use some products that are visually unattractive but very healthy. It's important that we become aware of what we eat. Agroecology is the best alternative in these times, for the health of all.»*** ».

Let's research and act

Action research also concerns production. Our partners have established various collaborations that facilitate the bridge between the academy and groups of producers, for example to experiment with the adaptation of a Phalaris «faux-roseau» as a fodder plant in the arid environment of southern Bolivia, the effects of final adjustments during the installation of a geomembrane of a reservoir for irrigation (Aija. Peru).

In the case of the «mountain micro-organisms» in cocoa cultivation in the north of La Paz, or various alternatives for controlling the Andean weevil in potato cultivation in northern Peru, the results have been encouraging. As Sulma Mamani Ticona (Chivo, Taraco, La Paz, Bolivia) says: : « ***As a person I want to move forward, to learn new knowledge to improve our quality of life*** ».

However, let us not deny that the co-construction of knowledge is a permanent challenge, especially to achieve more links between inclusive local learning processes and more 'classical' system has been used since the academy, and it is one in which power relations are embedded.

The 2017-2021 programme also leaves a good number of publications, especially following the final capitalisation process of the various experiences. This opens up new challenges and perspectives towards more inclusive knowledge that contributes to change and advocacy.



Experimentation with a preparation based on mountain micro-organisms (Palos Blancos, Bolivia)

⁴SAMA: Food Systems Market and Water.

⁵CROPP: Climate Resilience and Food Production in Peru.



Senegal

22.717
Beneficiaries

14
Projects

28
Partners

1.497.520,99 €
spent

The IDEAL project, an innovation in support for integration and local development

Access to vocational and technical training remains insufficient in Senegal. Furthermore, the training offer seems to be inadequate because there is a gap between the programmes taught and the needs of formal and informal enterprises.

This is why, since 2020, Eclasio and its partner GRET have been working hand in hand to improve the professional integration of young people aged 15 to 25 in the departments of Saint-Louis, Louga, Fatick and Kaolack as well as in the outskirts of Dakar.

This action, called IDEAL¹ is part of a larger programme² developed by the Ministry of Employment, Vocational Training, Apprenticeship and Integration (MEFPAI) in partnership with LuxDev.

A better match between supply and demand

IDEAL aims to strengthen the vocational and technical training system and to improve support for professional integration and entrepreneurship, so that the offer is better adapted to the economic needs of these regions. To this end, Eclasio and GRET are facilitating consultation between the various actors of civil society and the private sector, assessing the employment prospects of these regions and supporting the existing support mechanisms for professional integration and entrepreneurship.



Training on the project idea

Some results

- **19** Integration Support Units were supported and trained on 6 themes
- **1517** young people monitored by the project, via technical high schools, vocational training centres and organisations receiving cascade grants.
- **346** young people prepared their business plans; 66 of them received funding.



Testimonial

«The learners of our institution, especially the graduates, had difficulties in finding funding to start their activities. With the arrival of the IDEAL component [...], 17 young people from the Vocational Training Centre have benefited of an Entrepreneurship training that resulted in the development of business plans. 11 received funding and started their activities. Since then, not a day goes by without a call from a former student asking to be enrolled in this type of support.

Badji RCAI, of Centre of Training Professional of the commune of Fatick Centre.



Student of the Vocational Training Centre of Diofior in a horticultural farm



¹Integration and Development of Employment through Local Support

²Programme SEN/032 «Vocational and Technical Training and Employability



Benin

9147
Beneficiaries

6
Projects

6
Partners

419.947,52 €
spent

RIFaC: the perfect combination of performance and resilience

The Climate Intelligent Rice Cultivation (CIRC) project, implemented by Eclasio, Eco Benin and TIC-ABC, aims to strengthen the resilience of farmers to environmental constraints amplified by climate change.

An innovative solution for resilient agriculture

Farmers in the communes of Toucountouna and Ouaké in northern Benin have, during this agricultural season, set up their sites using the Smart Valley approach. This approach to lowland development is based on a participatory, sustainable and low-cost approach.

The results

213 beneficiaries **103** of whom were women (48%), used the Smart Valley approach.

Their yield increased by **53 %** (from 1.99 tonnes to 3.05 tonnes per hectare).

Better still, research conducted by a student at the University of Parakou has shown that the approach has improved the human, social and natural capital of rice farmers, strengthened their capacity for anticipation and adaptation, and increased their resilience.

An integrated rice growing system for better water and input management at the plot level

Improving yields in rice-growing areas requires good management of water and inputs. With this in mind, the RIFaC has introduced innovative production methods to its beneficiaries by training them :

- To the intensive rice growing system (SRI)
- The coating of urea with Neem oil: this protects the roots from attack and reduces greenhouse gas emissions from the rice fields.
- To the manufacture and use of biochar, which retains carbon in the soil and improves the growth of the rice plant.



Training on the neem oil coating technique

In the 8 villages, **200** rice farmers, including **82** women, were trained. More than **70 %** are satisfied with the water management on the sites.

Digitalisation in the service of agricultural extension

The provision of agricultural advice and climate information is another innovative element of the RIFaC. 511 voice messages translated into local languages were sent to farmers to inform them of the weather forecast, the respect of the cultivation calendar and the technical itinerary for rice production, but also to raise their awareness of agroecological practices and Sustainable Land Management measures. An android application was also designed as a pedagogical tool for monitoring rice production, consolidating the knowledge of the beneficiaries and ensuring the sustainability of the project.



Testimonial

Pauline N'Tcha



[...] RIFaC is a solution for us women because the approaches promoted by this project have eased the pain of women rice farmers. It is very difficult for us to find chemical fertiliser for our crops, but we produced this season without fertiliser and obtained a better yield. We saw very early on the advantages of the approaches promoted by RIFaC. All of this support enabled us to go from less than one tonne per hectare to three tonnes per hectare.





Guinea

2862
Beneficiaries

3
Projects

5
Partners

265.838,83 €
spent

AGIRE for sustainable and profitable pineapple and potato cultivation

Guinea is known as the «water tower of West Africa». And for good reason! With more than 1,300 rivers, it has an impressive reservoir of surface water (188 km³) and underground water (72 km³), as well as more than 6 million hectares of arable land.

Despite these assets, Guinean agriculture is struggling to ensure food security for its population. The approximately 60% of the population who make their living from this sector have difficulty accessing water, seeds, fertilisers and other agricultural materials, or accessing the necessary financing to carry out their activity. To reverse this trend and stimulate sustainable development, the government has initiated a number of policies.

The AGIRE¹ project, which targets small family farms, is in line with these government commitments. It specifically targets the pineapple and potato sectors in the regions of Mamou and Kindia (Middle and Lower Guinea), in order to sustainably improve producers' incomes.

Train, strengthen and share

Through agro-ecological advice and a strengthening of the supply of agricultural inputs and services (such as potato seed multiplication and pineapple sprouts, productive water management or animal traction, which facilitates the ploughing of fields), this project offers relevant solutions to producers, who are confronted with problems of access to and cost of agricultural inputs. Sharing experiences and innovations is also at the heart of the project. Producers meet during exchange visits to experiment, innovate and put into practice what they have learned within the Farmer Field Schools.



Some results

- **6** diagnoses and management plans carried out, aiming at a better management of productive water.
- **20** Farmer Field Schools set up.
- **7** exchange visits organised in potato cultivation.
- **50** training sessions on the training of draught oxen.
- **48** training courses in tooling and draught power.



Testimonial

Abdoulaye Camara

Pineapple planter

As a member of the Sèguèya farmer field school, I participated in the restitution of the results of the AGIRE project's agri-environmental diagnostic study in Kindia. I was among the participants who attended all the stages of compost production until the establishment of the school-field [...].

[For this season, I developed a pineapple field in combination with aubergine, which allowed me to have an income of 15,000,000GNF (about 1620 €) after the harvest of the vegetable crop.

With this income, I planned to buy mineral fertiliser and fuel for watering the pineapple field during the off-season. This income has also enabled me to meet household expenses.



¹Promotion of Agroecology and Integrated Management of Productive Water Resources in the Pineapple and Potato Sectors in Lower and Middle Guinea



Cambodia

2560
Beneficiaries

3
Projects

3
Partners

297.903,44 €
spent

From vision to action: acting to improve local chicken production

The Trapeang Sra Nge Agricultural Cooperative is one of the 6 agricultural cooperatives that have been supported by Eclasio's UPSCALE project in Tramkak district, Takeo province. Chicken farming is a popular practice among the members of this cooperative as it can generate a regular income and be applied within the family's own property. Unfortunately, the high production costs greatly reduce the profits generated by the farmers. To reduce these costs, it is important to have access to high quality, affordable, locally produced feed rather than relying on expensive commercial feed.

A dream...

Starting a chicken feed business has always been a dream for the board members of the Trapeang Sra Nge Cooperative. The idea came from a collaboration with Eclasio under the AFSA project in 2013. This project would enable the cooperative to earn income throughout the year by selling standard chicken feed to its members and the market. In addition, the cooperative members would see their chicken production increase to a semi-commercial scale, thus generating more employment for the local community. However, due to lack of funds and capacity, this project remained a «dream» for 7 long years. Then, in 2020, Eclasio and its partners in the UPSCALE project organised a visit to a model chicken farm in Kampot province, with the aim of inspiring the development of the chicken business. Members of the Trapeang Sra Nge cooperative participated in the visit and learned about modern chicken farming techniques and feed production. This gave them the impetus to go ahead with their idea!



... to action !

In January 2021, the CA board members used 2,000,000 riels (almost €500) from their credit company as seed money to start the chicken feed business, beginning with testing the feed formula. The UPSCALE project played an important role in providing technical and material support during the testing period. To ensure quality, the nutritional values of the formula were tested in a laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), and then an experiment was conducted with three chicken producers before sale in the markets. The cooperative started supplying finished products to local farmers in August 2021. Four months later, it had already sold more than 11 tonnes of feed to local farmers, at a lower cost than other commercial feeds. And without compromising on quality!



Testimonial

M. Ros Tith

member of the Trapeang Sra Nge AC cooperative

He lives in Bravong village, Takeo province. He is an experienced chicken farmer and has tested the cooperative's chicken feed.

«The quality of the feed is excellent. The chickens grow quickly, and they are beautiful and healthy, which is good for the markets. If other farmers use this feed in their chicken production, they will save production costs and make more profit.»



	<h1>Belgium</h1>		
<p>966 Beneficiaries</p>	<p>3 Projects</p>	<p>29 Partners</p>	<p>230.453,28 € spent</p>

Campus in Action: a weekend of inter-campus mobilisation

From 29 to 31 October, the first edition of Campus in Action took place in Louvain-la-Neuve, bringing together some thirty students from Uni4Coop campuses.

The aim?

Encourage relay actors to make their understanding of our food systems more complex and to mobilise by creating awareness-raising tools for other students on their campuses.

The programme

Exchanges, educational games and a film-debate to learn about the theme. In particular, we talked about the relationships of domination in international trade by playing the role-playing game Navatane. We had fun testing our first virtual educational escape game. And we were lucky enough to welcome Brigitte Grisar from the FdSS (federation of social services) for her gesticulated conference Faim de vie, which talks about food insecurity and access to sustainable food for all.

«The gesticulated lecture [was the activity I enjoyed the most, as] I found it strong, relevant and full of meaning.»

- a participant.



Creative workshops in sub-groups were also organised to set up awareness-raising actions in public spaces. On campus, participants brainstormed following our training in creating awareness-raising activities. Together, they created tools to engage their campus communities on issues related to food systems.

Each group then enthusiastically tested their animation on Sunday afternoon on the Louvain-la-Neuve campus. While some of them attracted passers-by with pancakes spread with organic chocolate, others offered them a drink, or a coloured paintbrush to discuss with them the issues of the Common Agricultural Policy, access to sustainable food or toxic substances in our environment. And of course, meetings, ice-breaking games and convivial moments to unite and energise the group!

«I liked the creation of a campus animation because it was an opportunity to act in a concrete way and to project ourselves in our different projects »

- a participant.

What next?

The student groups continue to mobilise on the issue by raising awareness among other students on their campuses with their tools created during the weekend ! And of course, the second edition of Campus in Action is being prepared for November 2022, this time on the links between racism and gender discrimination. Stay tuned!

From the perspective of Continuing Education

Thanks to its adaptation to carry out virtual activities, Eclasio continues to train in methodologies and themes to accompany the search for solutions to local and global problems, both virtually and in person. A reinforced attention to the public sent back to the margin by the inequalities amplified by the crisis of the Covid-19 is maintained. Eclasio always builds on the considerations and concerns of the participants. In this context of multifactorial crises, faced with the inequalities amplified by the Covid-19 pandemic, Eclasio participates in increasing the citizenship of the participants through the activities it organises with its partners: by inducing an awareness and a critical knowledge of the realities of society, by increasing the capacities of analysis, choice, action and evaluation, and finally by developing attitudes of civic responsibility and active participation in the social, economic, cultural and political life of the society.

The Campus in Action group



Training

In 2021, the international courses were finally able to take place, after an interruption of almost two years due to the Covid epidemic. From September to December, 20 professionals (12 men and 8 women) from, among others, Cameroon, the DRC, Madagascar and Senegal came to Gembloux to strengthen their skills in the framework of the «Methodological course in support of innovation in family farming», financed by the Académie de Recherche et d'Enseignement Supérieur (ARES). The team in Belgium also provided other training courses on advocacy, interculturality, sustainable food systems, agroecology, etc. for professionals and students. Together with our colleagues from Uni4Coop we also organised 5 pre-departure trainings for students receiving an ARES grant, before their departure for an internship, thesis, TFE or micro-project in a cooperation country.

Academic advocacy

The working group (WG) Sensibilisation of Gembloux Campus Durable (of which Eclasio is co-pilot) has created a charter containing the commitments aimed at making the faculty of Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech more sustainable. The WG is now advocating that various groups within the faculty (department, student groups, doctoral students, technical and working staff, etc.) register as candidate cells for the «Gembloux Campus» label Sustainable». This is a two-year process at the end of which a cell can be awarded several petals of the label according to the efforts made, depending on the programme in which it is involved. Today, 5 cells are already registered, including Eclasio!



Another important advocacy issue is the Hospital University motion. This motion aims to contribute to ULiège's commitment to strengthening the reception and integration of migrants and refugees in the university community. After several aborted attempts, work continued in 2021 so that this motion could finally be presented to the ULiège Board of Directors.

Political advocacy

In the continuity of the campaign: www.yes2agroecology.be carried out in 2020, which allowed for political reactions and a dialogue with government officials, the work undertaken between the CCF (Coalition Against Hunger) and the administration to integrate agroecological transition indicators into cooperation programmes continued in 2021. The most significant moments in 2021 were the exchanges with the new Minister of Cooperation, whose position in favour of a transformation of food systems based on the agro-ecological transition was translated into the publication by the DGD of the «emphases within the strategy for agriculture and food security».

International course participants visit a plot at Gembloux AgroBio-Tech



Highlights

2021



Andean zone (Peru & Bolivia)

Peru

SAMA project launch workshop

On 25 August 2021, in Aija (Ancash), in a hybrid modality allowing for the connection of additional actors due to the restrictions of the pandemic, the SAMA (Food Systems, Markets and Water) project, funded by the McKnight Foundation and implemented by Eclósio and two Peruvian partners, DIACONIA and Slow Food Perú, was launched; an action research project that will explore two of the priority aspects that are hindering the scaling up of agroecology: access to water for agriculture and access to markets.

The event was attended by around 40 people, producers and allied organisations.

Peru & Bolivia

Binational programme meeting «Interacting with Living Territories »

From 11 to 13 October, the second bi-national meeting of the programme took place, this time in a hybrid face-to-face format (from La Paz, Oruro and Taraco in Bolivia, Aija and Pamparomás in Peru) and virtual, due to the pandemic. 90 people, producers, local authorities, members of the partners' teams and local collaborators, representatives of Belgian and foreign allied NGOs, were able to exchange on the various experiences of the programme in territorial management, agroecology, healthy food, gender, advocacy, etc., and to reflect together on the lessons learned.

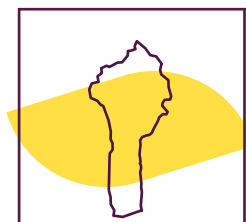


Guinea

KiMaLaKan project : 46 facilitators trained in entrepreneurship

Within the framework of the KiMaLaKan project, which supports Guinean women and young people in their search for employment, 46 endogenous facilitators (animators or trainers appointed for the project), mainly from civil society organisations benefiting from the project, have received training in the conduct of the entrepreneurship pathway.

In this way, they will be better equipped to accompany women, young people and people with physical disabilities on their way to (self-) employment.



Benin

Smart Valley at the heart of a visit by the Belgian Embassy and the European Union Delegation

In November and December, in the framework of two missions, the Agriculture Officer of the European Union Delegation in Benin and the Belgian Embassy's Liaison Officer in Benin visited the Tampégré site in the commune of Toucountouna.

They were able to see the developments carried out according to the Smart Valley approach. The Tampégré cooperative in the commune of Toucountouna is made up of 50 producers, 94% of whom are women.



Belgium



One Health, the interdisciplinary outdoors

On 26 March 2021, during the One Health Day co-organised by Eclasio, VSF and several professors from Uliège, students in entomology, oceanography, public health and natural risk management as well as students from the One Health club met to discuss issues related to food and precariousness from a One Health perspective. In order to respect the health rules in force while stimulating exchanges, an original solution was found. The day took place outdoors and the groups communicated via walkie-talkies. The results of this collective creation are available on an online platform.



Cambodia

Improving knowledge through capitalisation events

Collective sharing events are an effective tool for exchanging knowledge between farmers from different regions.

In December 2021, 10 of them, from 5 farmer cooperatives in 3 provinces and 5 NGO partners joined a session organised by Eclasio's UPSCALE project. The objective: to share and learn more about fertiliser value chains and market access, participatory guarantee systems (PGS), chicken production and farmer-led extension systems.



A woman shares her experience of agroecology with other participants



Senegal



Global Entrepreneurship Week

Each year, during Global Entrepreneurship Week, more than 10 million people around the world participate in tens of thousands of activities, competitions and events that inspire them to take action and provide them with the knowledge, experience and connections they need to succeed. Eclasio and its partners took advantage of this great event to organise moments of meeting and sharing to stimulate the entrepreneurial culture of the participants.

This event could not have taken place without paying a vibrant tribute to our late Ndiaga Fall Diatta, former referent in entrepreneurship of Eclasio.

Perspectives

2022



Andean zone (Peru & Bolivia)

Peru - Bolivia

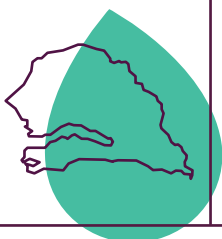
Launch of the new five-year impulsAD programme

impulsAD - driving sustainable food systems with a human rights-based approach - starts in 2022 and opens up new perspectives and challenges, including the integration of new territories of action (in Bolivia: on the outskirts of La Paz and in the Amazonian area of San Buenaventura; in Peru: on the Amazonian border in the centre of the country) and new partners (the Alternativas Foundation in Bolivia and Slow Food Perú, Central Café y Cacao and Conveagro in Peru). This is a joint programme with Louvain Cooperation, marking a new stage in the integration within Uni4Coop (common logical framework and results).

Peru

New challenges for policy advocacy

In the national political context, already complex with 6 presidents since 2016, and even more polarised since Pedro Castillo came to power, advocacy sometimes looks like a balancing act... Which our local partners, especially our new partner Conveagro, usually try with some brio and results. ¡Adelante!



Senegal

Implementation of the GOYN initiative in the Thiès region

Thanks in particular to its successful experience in supporting young people, Eclasio has been selected in 2021 by the CRS (Catholic Relief Service) to implement the GOYN (Global Opportunity Youth Network) initiative. This initiative aims to develop youth employment by matching their needs with the employment and training market in Thiès. 2022 will be the occasion for Eclasio to start this beautiful initiative, which already arouses a strong interest among young people, the main actors of the reduction of their unemployment.





Benin

Start of the DiGICLA project

The DigiCLA project is proposed by the consortium composed of the University NGO Eclasio, the ICT company Agro Business Center and the University of Parakou, which will be the lead partner. The project aims to promote the large-scale sustainable adoption of digital and agroecological practices by young men and women maize producers in order to increase yields and production in northern Benin. The project is funded by the European Union through a consortium of organisations led by Icipe.



Belgium

Story maps

During this summer, the Recit'Maps project will take place, a 5-day intercultural meeting in Paris where 20 young people from Morocco, Tunisia, France and Belgium will create an awareness-raising tool on privilege. This exchange will allow to cross the views of different regions of the world and to share an enriching experience, discussing and deconstructing the notion of privilege!



Guinea

In January 2022, a new project was launched to support a group of women producers of fonio, ginger and groundnuts. These women, all members of the Union des Groupements AgroBusiness de Mamou, will be supported in improving the processing, conservation and marketing of their products. The aim is to bring producers closer to the final consumer, by reducing the number of intermediaries and enabling them to control all links in the production chain. A great opportunity for the empowerment of women in the Mamou region!



Cambodia

Agroecology and Safe Food System Transitions (ASSET) is a regional project operating over five years, from 2020 to 2025, in four target countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. As part of this project, Uni4Coop is participating in 2022 in the methodological framework for evaluating the performance and impacts of agroecological innovations and transitions. This year, a local PhD student will also be mobilised by Uni4Coop-Cambodia to fully participate in the monitoring, evaluation and learning processes in the project's core area Preah Vihear province.



Young women volunteers participating in reforestation in Cochacancha, Bolivia



THE TEAMS



Evolution of the board and teams

This year 2021 has been another busy one for the pace of telework and the COVID crisis.

Zoé, Rachel and Marine temporarily joined the citizenship education team and Alice temporarily took over the communication and fundraising function. Didier came to support Martin (administrative and financial manager) and Marc took part in the implementation of the last course on methodological support to family farming. Thanks to them for their contributions!

The programme support unit has evolved: Cybill left us at the beginning of the year to move on to other horizons and Clémence, a former junior expert in Senegal, joined us at headquarters and shares her time with ULB-Cooperation in the framework of Uni4COOP. Conversely, Anne Depret, from ULB-Cooperation, supports us specifically on monitoring and evaluation. Pierre Rouschop, former regional coordinator in Peru, has strengthened the team and is particularly involved in training.

In June 2021, the entire Board, with the exception of the

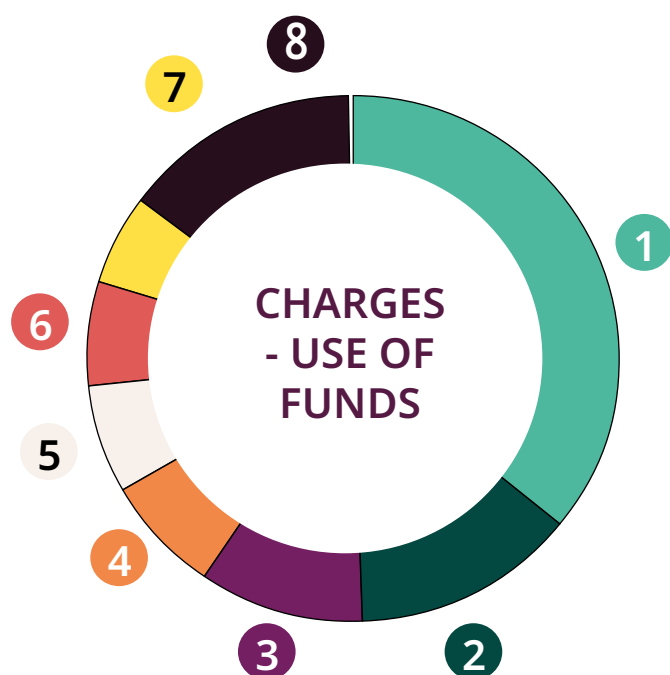
one Jean-Marc, a director, reached the end of his term of office.

6 directors stood for re-election (Patrick Wautelet, Jean Luc Hornick, Nicolas Antoine Moussiaux, Nathalie Fagel, Anne Totté and Raphael Coppin). Six new directors joined them (Cybill Nion, Felix Scholtes, Marie-Louise Scippo, Jean Danis, Marième Kaba and Thierry de Waha Baillonville). A dynamic board of directors ready, with the teams, to make Eclasio progress towards its vision and the achievement of its missions.

Trainees

In 2021, Eclasio hosted 14 trainees/volunteers in Liège and Gembloux. They participated in the organisation of activities and workshops (Jagros Day, One Health, Forum Theatre, . . .), the writing of reports, articles for Cultivating the Future! or supported our training component (course «Food System: reflections and alternatives»). 3 trainees also went to our countries Jean-Baptiste and Sarah worked on knowledge management and training in Benin, and Mira supported the DEMETER project in Senegal.

Financial statement 2021



Projects :		€	%
1	In Senegal	1.497.520,99	36,04
2	In Peru	562.504,16	13,54
3	In Benin	419.947,52	10,11
4	In Cambodia	297.903,44	7,17
5	In Bolivia	276.176,39	6,65
6	In Guinea	265.838,83	6,40
7	In Belgium	230.453,28	5,55
8	Project support	604.475,04	14,55
Total		4.154.819,65 €	

Sources		€	%
1	DGD (programme AR 2016 et Fund Belgian Food Safety Agency)	1.797.717,46	43,06
2	European Union	847.191,24	20,29
3	Enabel	379.367,66	9,09
4	Miscellaneous	359.768,37	8,62
5	Contributions and donations (Individuals, associations, foundations)	252.374,08	6,04
6	Federated entities Belgian	203.415,17	4,87
7	ULiège subsidies	113.400	2,72
8	Contributions from partners	85.148,64	2,04
9	Aid to employment	74.507,23	1,78
10	Training and services	62.162,43	1,49
Total		4.175.052,28 €	

They support us



Want to...

Take the microphone for one of our podcasts

Raising awareness on your campus

Take the pen to our magazine **Cultivating the Future**

Putting your skills to work for international solidarity

To train and exchange on social and environmental issues

Contact us!

alienor.pirlet@eclosio.org [for Gembloux]
claire.wiliquet@eclosio.org [for Liège]

Would you like to support us?

Make a donation! Thanks to the support of our institutional donors, every euro you donate allows us to raise up to €10 for our actions. Your financial support is essential for the realisation of our projects.

Contribute to our actions by making a donation on the account BE04 5230 8027 2831 (tax certificate for all donations from 40€).

Thank you for your support!

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