ADER-COV

ADER-COV *News*

Action for Ecological Development and Resilience of Vulnerable Communities



Cooperative members and ADER-COV staff gather for a community event in the Ségou region.

LEAD STORY · CLEAN ENERGY

After 33 years in the dark, Pelengana's health centre runs on the sun

A 75 kWh solar system now gives 85,000 people a clinic with power around the clock.

On 13 December 2025, ADER-COV commissioned a 75 kWh solar power system at the Pelengana Community Health Center. For 33 years the centre had no reliable electricity. Today it has clean, dependable power 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The system keeps vaccines refrigerated and supports neonatal care, laboratory diagnostics, digital records, lighting and climate control — the basics of safe care that were out of reach before.





Retiring the diesel generator cuts emissions and saves about **USD 14,850 a year** in fuel. Eight more community health centres urgently need the same solution — with donor support, ADER-COV aims to expand clean energy across Mali in 2026.

2005
Working with rural communities since founding

500,000+
People with improved living conditions

200
Women in the Sebougou shea cooperative

2
International awards — UK 2019, USA 2021

INSIDE · Sebougou garden & shea unit, p2 · Our programmes, p3 · Join us, p4

From the field

News from Sébougou and the Ségou region



FOOD SECURITY · APRIL – JUNE 2026

A new market garden takes root in Sébougou

Rising food and fuel prices, climate stress and insecurity are straining livelihoods across Mali. In response, and with funding from supporters in Mali, ADER-COV broke ground on a new market garden near the village of Sébougou.

Local women will grow potatoes, sweet potatoes, peppers, onions, watermelons and melons — improving what their families eat and selling the surplus at nearby markets for income.

BUILD DIARY

26 Apr	Ground broken: solar-powered borehole and a 5,000-litre gravity-feed tank
May	Pump completed; fencing, cement, bricks and fertiliser arrive on site
June	Chain-link fence and storage room finished; first crops sown
Next	Mango, orange, avocado and mahogany trees, plus a small cattle herd whose manure feeds the soil



WOMEN-LED VALUE CHAINS

Sébougou's shea processing unit opens its doors

On 13 July 2025 a government representative inaugurated the long-awaited unit, serving a cooperative of 200 women. It creates local jobs, improves food and natural-cosmetic quality, and reduces pressure on the region's trees.



SOLIDARITY MICROCREDIT

Small loans, real equipment, lasting income

Large banks rarely lend in rural Mali. ADER-COV pairs small loans with entrepreneurship training for women's groups, smallholders, fishing and dairy cooperatives — funding gardens, poultry, goats and processing machinery.

Our programmes

Four pillars, one mission

ADER-COV works toward a just world for all living beings — with women and young people leading every project so the change lasts.



FEATURE · ANIMAL WELFARE

Saving the donkeys rural Mali depends on

For generations, donkeys have carried goods between farms, villages and markets — many women still sell their produce from donkey carts. Today that way of life is under threat as desperate communities slaughter donkeys for the skin trade.

Donkeys breed slowly, so each one lost is a heavy blow. ADER-COV disrupts the trade by offering families other incomes, such as community gardens, and runs veterinary care and humane-handling workshops for children and farmers.

2018
Young people mobilised against the donkey-skin trade

2020
50 dog-meat traders moved into farming; 3 markets closed



PROGRAMME 1

Education of vulnerable children

School kits, food, tuition fees and sanitary towels for girls; bicycles for children far from school; solar lamps for study after dark; and school gardens for fresh fruit and vegetables.



PROGRAMME 3

Agroforestry & biodiversity

Planting deep-rooted trees among cereal crops to hold soil moisture and halt erosion, re-greening degraded land, and bringing off-grid solar to cut the need for firewood.



PROGRAMME 4

Empowerment of rural women

Rural women raise six children on average, yet most have no income of their own. Family agroecology, small-ruminant rearing, local processing, savings groups and health funds change that.

ALSO IN OUR WORK Reproductive health · WASH (water, hygiene, sanitation) · literacy · local governance · support for community organisations · North–South volunteering

Why your support matters

Recurring drought, desertification, erratic rainfall and rising heat have devastated the crops and livestock that millions of rural Malians live on. Families are forced to choose between food, water, schooling and survival. This is no longer only an environmental crisis — it is a human one.

80%
of the rural population struggles to secure one meal a day

100K ha
of arable land lost every year to degradation

+2°C
projected by 2040 — 1.5× the global average

82%
of forest lost since the 1960s — 4.4M to under 800K ha



JOIN OUR JOURNEY

Help turn survival into self-sufficient thriving

1. **Power a health centre.** Eight more community clinics are waiting for solar like Pelengana's.
2. **Partner with us.** Foundations and CSR partners can scale our climate, education and animal-welfare models.
3. **Visit, volunteer or intern.** Share your skills through our North–South exchange in Mali.

OUR TEAM

Issiaka Konaté — Managing Director
Assitan Coulibaly — Senior Advisor, Environment
Oumar Toulema — Project Coordinator
Hamidou Fongoro — Accounting
Barande Ouologuem, **Adiaratou Niamba** — Community Development

MEMBER OF

Regeneration International · Re-Alliance · Aquatic Animal Alliance · Animal Interfaith Alliance

CONTACT

Issiaka Konaté, Managing Director

BP 130, Ségou, Mali

Mobile: +223 76 22 55 60
Office: +223 21 73 95 30

arafplateaudogon@gmail.com

ader-cov.org · facebook.com/arafplateaudogon