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## Dry rice cultivation: a food security and climate change adaptation strategy for women

### Experience by OFAD/Nafoore in Saré Moundé, Kolda, SENEGAL

**Context:** Women, who traditionally grow water-immersed rice in the valleys and lowlands, have seen their rice production plummet from year to year due to the lack of rainfall. The State of Senegal launched the national rice self-sufficiency programme (PNAR), which affected more developed areas such as the Anambé basin in the Kolda region. In this regard, OFAD/Nafoore has accompanied, among others, the women of the village Saré Maoundé to initiate dry rice cultivation (also called upland rice or pluvial rice) in order to increase rice production and contribute to the improvement of the community's food security.



**The solution:** Promote dry rice cultivation among women. The practice has been to identify a large area of flood-prone valleys and introduce women to agroecology in dry rice cultivation with organic fertilisers from their household waste and the waste of their small ruminants. Ash and Neem leaves are used for phytosanitary treatment



## Description of the experience

To implement the strategy, several meetings were held and resulted in the following proposals: initiate pilot plots, look for adapted seeds (short cycle), technical training of women on organic fertilisation, and advocacy for men to lend them farming and ploughing equipment.



15 plots of 1/4ha were started with the sahel108 variety. A rich and varied training package was included. Resilient techniques were developed for: sowing, collection and application of organic manure, phytosanitary treatment using local products, harvesting and post-harvest management.



- 2020: 155 women, 55T of rice produced
- 2021: 306 women, 76T of rice produced

## Other characteristics



### Impacts

- Better coverage of household food needs
- Better protection of women's livelihoods
- Women's socio-economic empowerment



### Challenges

- Improvement of yields in agroecology
- The inclusion of rice-related activities in the household's cropping calendar
- Transfer of agricultural risk through adapted and accessible mechanisms
- Access of women to means of production (land, equipment, quality inputs)



### Lessons learned

- Dry rice can be a solution to improve women's access to land
- Agroecology feeds the farmer in a sustainable way
- Dry rice is a food security strategy



**Area:** Rural Development - Natural Resource Management  
**Period:** (2016 - 2021)

**Further Documentation:** -  
**Contact:** Amady Sow [ofadkolda@gmail.com](mailto:ofadkolda@gmail.com)