

In Liberia, helping small-scale farmers adapt to climate change to assure food security and protect environment

LIBERIA



175^e/191

HDI* ranking

50% of the population
is food insecure

84%

of the population, which means 4 million
people, live on less than \$1.25 a day.

SDG** TARGETED



*Indice de Développement Humain - hdr.undp.org/en/countries/

**SDG : Sustainable Development Goals- by UN

FOR WHOM ?



Extremely vulnerable farmers

The agricultural sector contributes 34% of GDP. It employs 2/3 of the population. 80% of farmers are women.

Yet they face severe obstacles: limited access to land, inputs, advice, training and outlets. What's more, the only 2 microfinance institutions operating in Liberia do very little to help farmers.

Finally, extreme weather events have a devastating impact on harvests. In addition, 90% of the population relies on wood, charcoal and palm oil to cover its energy needs. The rudimentary stoves that use this energy cause dangerous inhalation and disastrous tree felling.

WHAT ?



Comprehensive support to empower them

Entrepreneurs du Monde set up the Eili project in 2024 to provide social microfinance services to farmers living near the Wolongozi-Wonegizi forest ecosystem conservation areas in Lofa and Bong county.

The mission of this project is to help these producers to increase their agricultural yields using agro-ecological practices so that they :

- ✓ make a better living from their work
- ✓ improve food security for all
- ✓ no longer need to deforest to expand their farmland



HOW ?

Complete and local support

To bring about a complete and lasting change in the daily lives of the communities it supports, Elili provides farmers with comprehensive, near support:

- ✓ a free savings account
- ✓ individual loans tailored to the harvest cycle
- ✓ training every 4 weeks on:
 - economics (costing, stock management)
 - Technical skills: training in agro-ecology and farm advisory support on their plots
 - health, social and environmental (domestic violence, rights, nutrition, deforestation).
- ✓ access to seeds and clean cooking equipment from local suppliers who are Elili's partners.

WITH WHOM?

A 100% agro team

Entrepreneurs du Monde has recruited a local team whose members all have full agricultural training. This means they can give farmers the best advice on how to use the credit and complementary services.

Based in 2 branches close to the priority communities, they are on the ground 4 days out of 5.

This team is supported by Entrepreneurs du Monde's technical advisers to help them develop their skills in 9 Building blocks: strategy and governance, operational and financial planning, social and environmental performance management, human resources, operations and risk management, management and reporting tools, and financial resources development.

Example of a starting situation



Garmai, farmer in Lofa

Farming makes me strong, it allows me to send my children to school



Garmai lives in Yeala, a community on the Guinean border, with her four children, whom she has brought up alone. She grows rice, vegetables and manioc. In the morning, Garmai walks 30 minutes through the forest to get to her rice plot. When she returns around 5pm, she fries fish to sell in the community.

One day, Garmai cut herself with her machete. 'I had to sell my rice to go to hospital'. Since then, she has diversified her production to provide a cash income for her family. Garmai has never had access to micro-credit.

She wants to borrow 40,000 LRD (€185) from ELILI to pay for labour on her plots and to replace her damaged tools. Garmai is very proud of her eldest daughter, who has just finished high school. 'I'm confident, I'm strong, I can go into the forest and provide for myself and my children.'

EXPECTED IMPACT at the end of 2027



4 000 small farmers



80 % women



16 000 indirect beneficiaries

1 organisation under local law to provide this support on a long-term basis

2 branches near the communities

FIRST STEPS TAKEN



- ✓ Detailed study and prioritisation of beneficiaries' needs
- ✓ Meeting with local players and potential partners
- ✓ Creation of Elili, a social enterprise under local law
- ✓ Recruitment and initial training of a team of 12 people
- ✓ Creation of a procedures module
- ✓ Opening of Gbarnga and Zorzor branches: July 2024
- ✓ First training courses: August 2024
- ✓ First loans granted: October 2024

PARTNERS

En partenariat
avec



CONTACTS



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