





51 PROGRAMMES



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

1 interaide



198 000 BENEFICIARY FAMILIES



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This report has been validated by the Inter Aide General Meeting of 22 April 2023.

#### **OUR ASSOCIATION**

Created in 1980, Inter Aide is a non-profit organisation specialised in the design and implementation of development programmes for the most disadvantaged populations. These programmes are implemented in rural areas, often isolated, combining high intensity of needs and high population density, in contexts that are stable enough to favour the autonomy of families in the long term.

The objective is to strengthen the desire and the capacities of the most disadvantaged populations to take care of their vital needs in order to improve their living conditions.

#### Our principles of action:

- To focus solely on delivering development programmes that meet the needs of families;
- To apply a pragmatic and professional approach in the solutions proposed to the families;
- To act in the **strictest political and religious neutrality** and in the respect of the convictions of the beneficiary families;
- To always seek to reach the most disadvantaged families;
- Involve the beneficiary families so that they can take care their vital needs.

An "Inter Aide" Charter, to which several other NGOs are signatories, have defined these principles, which are based on a strong presence in the field, family closeness, and a long-term commitment.

Programmes are defined according to the needs of the families and are carried out in coordination with the local communities and public authorities, and whenever possible, in close collaboration with local partners from the civil or private sectors.

#### **OUR 4 AREAS OF EXPERTISE**



# ACCESS TO WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE (WASH) AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES

- Co-construction with users of wells, boreholes and spring catchments
- Support for the construction of family latrines
- Creation of local skills (institutional and private actors, users' associations, local NGOs) for a proposal of management and maintenance services of hydraulic works



#### **FAMILY AGRICULTURE**

- Reforestation with methods adapted to each context: planting of hedgerows (Malawi), reforestation of collective plots (Madagascar), etc.
- Supporting families to improve their food security through new crops or improved technical paths for farming: onions (Sierra Leone), yams (Madagascar), coffee (Ethiopia), etc.
- · Development of private poultry vaccination services (Malawi and Haiti)



#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH**

- Development of **networks of village health workers capable of diagnosing and treating children** for malaria, simple diarrhea and pneumonia
- Construction and equipment of **essential rural health care facilities**: health centres and posts, maternities, village clinics, etc.
- Strengthening of community structures for a better dissemination of prevention and healthcare seeking messages to families



#### **EDUCATION** (Haiti)

- Improve learning conditions in elementary schools: training teachers and directors, mobilizing parents' committees, etc.
- Improve the material available to pupils (textbooks, desks, teaching materials, etc.) and participate in the co-construction or rehabilitation of schools





2021

2022

2023 expectations

#### 50 programmes

193,000 beneficiary families
directly supported for a total cost of
€9,541,000,
approximately €50 per family

#### 51 programmes

198,000 beneficiary families
directly supported at a total cost of
€11,106,000,
approximately €56 per family

Continuing to develop
activities with **52 programmes** targeting
almost **210,000 families benefited**,
with a provisional budget of **€10,260,000**,
approximately **€49 per family** 

None of this would be possible without the support of each of our partners.

A big THANK YOU



## WATER, HYGIENE, SANITATION & MAINTENANCE (WASH-M)

#### 7 countries

107 903

families benefiting from WASH-M activities in 2022

#### 2022 in brief:

- First budgets allocated by Ethiopian water boards to train and monitor water users federations
- The delegation by local authorities to local NGOs offering professional water facilities maintenance services is proving highly relevant in rural Madagascar
- First water points rehabilitated and local private mechanics trained in Guinea
- In 2 districts in Malawi, the collaboration with the local NGO *Base-flow* allows to update the national database on the functionality of water facilities
- Development of a private sector for the construction of private latrine in Haiti
- Nearly half of the communities in the target areas in Sierra Leone are involved in preventive maintenance of their water point

#### Main methodological areas:

- > To develop, in support of local structures (public water services, municipalities), monitoring-management-maintenance services for water facilities, adapted to the capacities of the users:
  - Structuring and strengthening user groups
  - Support for decentralised government water departments
  - Setting up networks of private pumps mechanics and spare parts sellers
  - Delegation of monitoring-management-maintenance services to professional NGOs
- Meet the need for new facilities or rehabilitation in areas committed to maintenance, by systematically enhancing the knowledge and practices of families.



Inter Aide and its local partner RCBDIA are working in 16 mountainous districts spread over 4 zones in the South and South-West regions of Ethiopia. Access to drinking water remains limited, and when facilities do exist, the lack of management and maintenance dramatically reduces their functionality. The challenge is then to put in place a global strategy for the maintenance of water points and to build new facilities in areas capable to ensure the maintenance.

#### IMPROVING ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER, HYGIENE AND **SANITATION**

Inter Aide and RCBDIA have supported communities in the construction of 30 spring catchments to provide gravity-fed water to 59 reservoirs and **81 standpipes** supplying **4,139 families** (25,000 users) and 2 schools (460 pupils).

Hygiene and sanitation awareness sessions carried out by governmental water office staff helps to increase the number of families with latrines from 61% to 96%.

In these mountainous areas, **Federations** that group users representatives of each water points are the interface between the users and the public water services. Transferring technical and organisational skills to these players is a major challenge in terms of maintenance and sustainability of the water service.

Since 2021, Federations are fully responsible of the management infrastructures. contributions, and maintenance, which employ a Water Officer to this purpose.

users Catchment of the spring in the municipality of Zulo Gamo - District of Kucha





### 2 IMPROVED ACCESS TO MAINTENANCE SERVICES

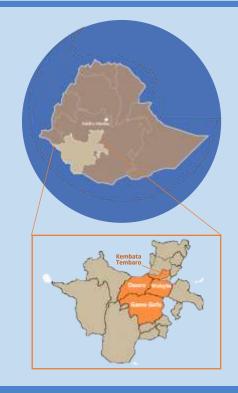
Inter Aide and RCBDIA have supported 145 Federations, which, thanks to the recruitment of a Water Agent, provide the water service in their rural commune and maintain 1,178 water points, serving almost 60,000 families (300,000 users).

Recently, all these Federations have been trained directly by the 16 **District Water Offices**, under the supervision of the project, as part of partnerships aimed at:

- Increasing the number of local authorities whose facilities are managed and maintained by users federations, and develop their capacities more rapidly.
- Training Water Offices by offering them a support protocol and tools based on the experience of Inter Aide and RCBDIA.
- Creating model districts encourage public bodies allocate budgets to support the Federations: for the first time, 10 Water Offices received a specific budget (€8,000) to fund training for the Federations.



Members of the Gorika Doma Federation



**9** 8 programmes in 4 zones (Gamo Gofa, Wolayita, Dawro, Kembata)

22,208 beneficiary families 4.139 + 460 x 15% + 60.000 x 30

1 local NGO partner: **Rural Community Based** Development Initiative Association (RCBDIA)



The programme is implemented in the **Prefecture of Kankan**, in Upper Guinea. This area was chosen following surveys carried out from 2017 to 2019, due to the high level of poverty among rural families, and **reduced access to drinking water**, particularly during the dry season when many facilities run dry. Despite the great need, very few other stakeholders are involved in water and sanitation. The project specifically targets the rural commune of Koumban, which includes 25 villages and 3,500 families (28,000 people).

#### RAISING AWARENESS AND BUILDING WATER POINTS

The project team developed a number of activities (group sessions, practical demonstrations, home visits, games for children) and raised awareness of good hygiene practices and water treatment in the homes of 6,700 people in the 25 villages of the Koumban commune.

Following the training sessions, the families improved their sanitation: 689 families were equipped with a permanent latrine, without any support from Inter Aide. Sanitation coverage has now reached 70% (compared with 43% at the start of the intervention) and the activity is continuing.

In villages where the latrine equipment rate reached 80%, the project supported the construction or rehabilitation of protected water points. 9 water points were rehabilitated and 3 new boreholes were built, providing drinking water to 720 families (3,600 people).



Home water treatment training (Koumban)



#### 2 MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES

The user groups of the 25 villages of Koumban, known as "Unités de Gestion du Service Public de l'Eau - UGSPE", which manage the water points for the commune, have been trained to set up a system of user contributions and to secure the funds collected via the "Crédit Rural" micro-credit organisation in Kankan.

The team supported the commune in strengthening the communal water point management and maintenance service. A second private artisan-repairer and a local water and sanitation officer were appointed by Koumban town council and then trained by the Kankan regional water authority (SNAPE). The establishment and strengthening of these community actors is continuing: it is an essential element in guaranteeing the future maintenance of the facilities.



Drilling in progress (Koumban)





• 1 programme in Koumban

**2,405** beneficiary families  $720 + 689 \times 50\% + 6,700 \times 20$ 

The project teams are involved:

- In the densely populated rural commune (180 inhabitants/km²) of **Maissade**, where the needs in terms of hygiene training, sanitation and access to drinking water are particularly great.
- On the outskirts of the town of **Hinche**, a rural area in the immediate vicinity of an urban area, to set up private services enabling families to improve their sanitation.

#### **1** ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION

The hygiene and sanitation training sessions, based on participatory workshops in small groups and home visits, have raised awareness among 885 new families. Since the start of the programme, 70% of the 4,733 families initially identified have taken part in the awareness-raising sessions.

The construction of a latrine is generally the first solution, after hand washing, identified by families to limit the risks of spreading diseases. 770 families have built a latrine with support from Inter Aide for the construction of a reinforced concrete slab, which can be moved when the latrine pit is full.



Checking the depth of the latrine

In terms of access to drinking water, work has been completed on the Matika catchment, rehabilitated in 2021, and the Inter Aide team has carried out feasibility studies for several sources. The situation in the country in the second half of 2022 made it difficult to envisage work during the dry season, and at least 2 projects were postponed until 2023.

#### **2** IMPROVING HYGIENE IN SCHOOLS

16 teachers in 3 new schools have been trained to use the hygiene and sanitation teaching tools developed by the team.

**702 pupils** from pre-school to grade 6 were taught about hygiene in a weekly lesson run jointly by teachers and Inter Aide team, followed by in-class reminders from teachers.

## 3 SUPPORT FOR THE PRIVATE RURAL SANITATION SECTOR ("ASPAR" PROJECT)

The ASPAR team has taken up the challenge of offering every family the chance to build a quality, low-cost dry toilet, using an innovative commercial approach and 7 masons trained by Inter Aide. In the current economic climate, succeeding in developing the private sanitation market is guite an achievement!

**261 families**, most of them identified by the 3 "sales representatives", had a latrine built by certified masons. A growing number of families (16% in 2022 compared with 6% in 2021) have called on the masons directly, a sign of the gradual development of a real sanitation market.



Information meeting on latrines





Initial excavation work on the Kalmader spring



2 WASH programmes in the municipalities of Maïssade and Hinche

**1,699** beneficiary families 885 *x* 20% + 770 + 261 + 702 *x* 70

OUR ACTIVITIES

Sustainable improvement in access to drinking water requires the establishment and reinforcement of services for the management, monitoring and maintenance of water facilities.

One model in particular is beginning to prove its relevance, that of delegated management to professional local NGOs: Soakoja in Analanjirofo and Analamanga and Tehyna in the South-East. Their not-for-profit services, targeting cost recovery, are now being systematically promoted to the new communes and to those whose current management methods are proving to be failing. Users pay a very reasonable fee and, in return, have guaranteed access to water.

In small towns and villages with low social cohesion, payments with volumetric meters are set up, making it possible to finance less "profitable" facilities.



Follow-up visit, Tehyna agent -Atsimo Atsinanana region



Soakoja agents - Analamanga region

Full delegation of the management, monitoring and maintenance of water points from the communes to professional local NGOs would now seem to guarantee users access to drinking water at a reasonable cost.



Animation Goose game (Atsimo Atsinanana region)



Catchment area for the large-scale Vohipeno worksite (Analanjirofo region)

**43 municipalities**, including 5 new ones, were supported this year, resulting in the following achievements:

- 4,151 families gained access to drinking water via (i) 14 new and 15 rehabilitated water gravity fed systems serving 104 fountains, and (ii) the construction of 15 wells and the rehabilitation of 14 others, all equipped with hand pumps. Sensitised on the key messages about preventing diarrhoeal diseases, these families have built or rehabilitated 3,019 latrines, resulting in a latrine equipment rate of over 80% in the villages supported.
- In all the communes, 442 water systems serving 40,591 families currently benefit from monitoring, maintenance and repair services provided by communal services, local associations or partner NGOs.





**⋄** 6 WASH and maintenance programmes in 4 regions

**16,328** beneficiary families 4 151 + 40 591 x 30%



**2 local NGO partners**: Soakoja and Tehyna





Cisterns rehabilitated in Morafeno (Analanjirofo region)

In the rural districts where the activities are being implemented, more than 80% of the protected water points are equipped with a hand pump requiring regular maintenance. The maintenance of existing equipment is therefore a key issue in guaranteeing access to drinking water for rural families. For several years, Inter Aide has been providing maintenance services to rural communities in districts located in the densely populated regions of Central and Southern Malawi.



A reseller of Mchinji pump parts, sourcing directly from the company ESS-ESS.

#### AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITIES. CONSTRUCTION/REHABILITATION OF WATER POINTS

After more than 10 years of work, the programme to improve access to drinking water and sanitation has come to an end in the Phalombe district. 5 new boreholes and 2 water point rehabilitations were completed in 2022, providing drinking water to 420 families (1,750 users). The beneficiary villages, sensitised on good hygiene and sanitation practices in 2021, have been trained to ensure the sustainable management of their facilities. In terms of sanitation, 14 Ecosan latrines were built in a primary school in Phalombe (3,800 pupils) with the involvement of families and teachers.



Construction of latrines with pits in a primary school in Phalombe



Maintenance of a water point by a partner private mechanic (Mchinji)

#### 2 MAINTENANCE NETWORKS FOR WATER POINTS

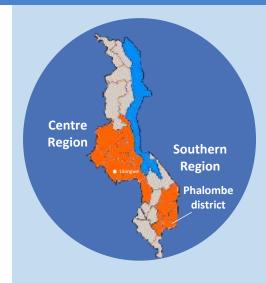
The water point maintenance services developed by Inter Aide now cover 15 rural districts in the Centre and South regions, where there are almost 30,000 hand pumps serving 7.5 million users. A network of 570 private mechanics, including 61 women, and 158 spare parts resellers, certified by the district water departments and supplied directly by private partner suppliers (in particular the company ESS-ESS), enables communities to find local services to maintain their pumps. The mechanics carried out maintenance or repairs on 3,961 pumps, 90% of which were serviced under an annual contract with quarterly preventive technical monitoring. These repairs enabled 237,660 families (990,250 users) to guarantee their access to drinking water.

#### Several major changes:

- Withdrawal, at the end of 2022, from 10 historical districts, and the end of the partnership with BASEDA;
- A start in the districts of Balaka and Mangochi, where a survey of 11,335 water points carried out by Inter Aide revealed a functional rate of only 36%.



Inventory of water points in the new area of the Balaka district



**1 WASH programme** in Phalombe and 3 maintenance programmes in 15 districts in the Centre and South regions

24,186 beneficiary families 420 + 237 660 x 10%



2 local partners: **NGO BASEDA** 



SSE company SSE



Province of

Jampula

Activities are carried out in several districts of Nampula province, where access to drinking water is still very difficult for the vast majority of communities. This year was marked by the passage of cyclone Gombe and the deterioration in the security in Memba district, forcing us to close the project, initially planned for 2023 after 14 years of intervention. The strong commitment of the project teams to maintaining a high level of activity to meet the needs of families in a stressful environment is to be commended.



Checking the stock of a pump spare parts retailer



Partner repairer (Monapo)

# MAINTENANCE NETWORKS FOR WATER POINTS In the 4 target districts, Monapo, Nacala-a-Velha, Memba and Mossuril, 1,800 handpumps (540,000 users) are registered. The teams have continued to strengthen and empower water point

The teams have continued to strengthen and empower water point maintenance services in collaboration with the district water departments and partner company Skytech, which imports and sells spare parts for hand pumps. The partnership with Skytech guarantees a preferential price for resellers in the network.

Today, the network includes **28 private repairers** accredited by Water Services and **18 pump spare parts resellers**, which communities can call on to maintain their pumps. In 2022, the partner repairers repaired **362 pumps**, guaranteeing access to water for **25,340 families** (108,600 people).

At the same time, almost 100 committees have been trained in technical training, financial management, internal organisation, relations with users and local leaders, etc., so that they can manage and maintain their facilities. Qualitative monitoring of repairers and resellers, and satisfaction surveys carried out among users, have confirmed the high quality of the services offered, which are well known to users.

# AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITIES AND CONSTRUCTION AND/OR REHABILITATION OF WATER POINTS

In the districts of Monapo and Memba, hygiene and sanitation training has gradually resumed in the form of participatory workshops in small groups, alongside the door-to-door visits that have become the norm since the Covid-19 pandemic: 4,434 people have been reached.

Following the training, the villages were supported in improving their sanitation through the construction of permanent family latrines: **2,453 households were equipped**, achieving 84% latrine coverage in the villages involved. Among the families supported, 120 identified as very vulnerable have received or will receive specific support in 2023 to equip themselves with a latrine.

At the same time, 14 boreholes (7 in Monapo, 7 in Memba) and 2 protected wells (Memba) were built to supply 1,120 families with drinking water (4,800 people). Village committees have also been trained to manage and maintain their water point.



New borehole in Monapo

# Maputo Maputo Nords Herbridge Magnetia Magnet

♥ 2 WASH programmes and 1 maintenance programme in the districts of Memba, Monapo, Mossuril and Nacala

**8,301** beneficiary families 1 120 + 2 453 x 50% + 4,434 x 20% + 25,340 x 20



1 local private partner:
Skytech



The improvement in methods for collecting reliable data on the field means that we now have detailed knowledge of access to drinking water and can accurately manage the activities intended to provide all the inhabitants of the targeted rural areas with a sustainable solution for access to drinking water.

#### 1 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE TO KEEP HAND PUMPS RUNNING

An annual preventive maintenance campaign for the hand pumps ensures sustainable access to drinking water.

- Local authorities have been more closely involved in enacting local laws gradually making maintenance compulsory in their Chiefdom.
- 47 technicians, certified by the Water Services, offer a preventive maintenance service for less than €10 a year (spare parts & labour maintenance with a 6-month guarantee) to every community in their territory.
- 11 shops provide access to spare parts.
- ➤ 2,391 preventive maintenance operations were carried out during the 2022 campaign, covering 43% of the targeted water points.
- ➤ This ensures that 119,550 families have access to drinking water.
- ➤ 228 repairs were carried out on broken pumps, giving 9,000 families access to drinking water.



S. Conteh and F. Kamara, official technicians on the Biriwa chiefdom

Preventive maintenance, new water points and home water treatment to enable everyone to drink drinking water.

#### **2** CO-CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF WATER POINTS

The team's extensive experience has enabled it to support a large number of communities this year, with a number of key prerequisites: the presence of a technician in the area for future maintenance of the facility, the provision by families of local materials, the supply of labour, the construction of a fence around the water point and improved sanitation.

- 10,753 people were sensitised about hygiene and sanitation to improve their knowledge, in 40 communities where the latrine coverage rate now exceeds 90% (461 latrines improved and 232 built).
- 22 wells and 8 rehabilitations co-constructed for 1,768 families (8,840 users).

#### **3** HOME WATER TREATMENT

In small villages (<150 inhabitants), the construction of a water point is difficult to envisage, especially as the small number of families will not have the capacity to pay for future maintenance. Home water treatment offers a relevant and increasingly accepted alternative.

- **26 shops**, now autonomous in their restocking, offer chlorine in an adapted container and formulation.
- 56 new communities (1,120 families)
   were trained this year, bringing the
   total number of communities
   involved in treating their drinking
   water to 235 (4,700 families).



Each family must filter the collected water and a chlorinator is responsible for chlorinating the water.



Construction underway at Moria (Pakimasbong chiefdom)



Q 2 WASH programmes and 1
 maintenance programme in

 Bombali, Karene, Port Loko and
 Tonkolili districts

**32,776** beneficiary families 1768 + 1 120 + 119 550 x 25%



#### 5 countries

47 798

families benefiting from agricultural activities in 2022

#### 2022 in brief:

- 14,000 families protect their plots of land with anti-erosion structures planted with fodder to feed their livestock in Ethiopia
- Very strong development of reforestation, with more than 700,000 trees planted on collective land managed by lineage groups in Madagascar
- More than 80,000 families in Malawi use the chicken vaccination service against Newcastle disease
- Nearly 140 tonnes of onion produced during the dry season by the families supported in Sierra Leone,
   the vast majority of which are grown by women

#### Main methodological areas:

- 1 Improve food security for families, with rapid and significant changes to better cope with climate hazards and lean periods
- 2 Maintain favourable conditions for family farming in densely populated areas by preserving the environment and natural resources: reforestation, soil conservation, etc.
- 3 Increase income from agricultural production by developing income-generating sectors and appropriate agricultural services: advice, access to seeds, veterinary care, credit, etc.



Anti-erosion mounds planted with forage enables the formation of terraces to reduce soil erosion

Inter Aide teams are working in the South Region to develop:

- A project to scale up **fodder production combining soil conservation and fodder** for livestock, in order to maintain favourable conditions for family farming in densely populated mountainous areas, by involving local stakeholders to appropriate and replicate the most effective solutions for 40,000 families over 4 years.
- A project with the local NGO RCBDIA to enable families living at mid-altitude in Wolayita to develop diversified coffee orchards and improve their income.



Fodder grass plants are multiplied for a year before being transplanted.

#### **1** IMPROVED ACCESS TO FORAGE

Livestock are vital to the agro-pastoral system in the target areas, both for their milk and for the manure essential for the production of Ensete, a plant grown for its roots, hence the **high demand for fodder**. Fodder grasses from nurseries now managed directly by Ministry of Agriculture staff have been supplied to **4,039 families**, who have been trained in how to multiply them. Today, 30,000 families have enough seedlings to extend their fodder resources independently.



A study carried out with 20 women farmers showed that by providing their cows with unlimited fodder and water, **milk production increased by 52%.** They then shared their experience with other women to promote fodder hedges.

#### **2** STRENGTHENING SOIL CONSERVATION

The anti-erosion structures planted with fodder meet the dual challenge of conserving soil and producing biomass. The 1,471 peer farmers trained have supported 14,000 families to build 850 km of structures. In older areas (7,067 families), 69% of needs were covered.

#### 3 INTRODUCTION OF COMPLEMENTARY SOLUTIONS

Peer farmers trained by the project have created 173 nurseries, enabling 1,730 families to plant 400,000 trees and shrubs of various species on their farms. Fruit and coffee trees have also been produced and will be planted in the next rainy season.

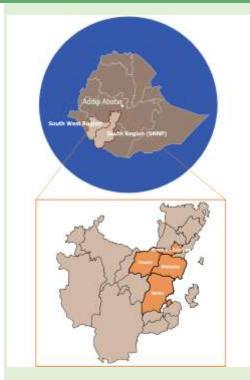
RCBDIA has supported **645 families** in planting 18,630 trees (shade trees, coffee trees and fruit trees) and trained them in pruning and recutting techniques to transform low-yielding plots into genuine agroforestry orchards.

The teams are also supporting **10 coffee cooperatives** to improve the quality of their coffee and sell it through an **organic and fair trade network**. This has enabled the profit generated by the coffee business to be distributed for the first time, enabling some cooperatives to increase their income by 50%. In addition, the Fair Trade premium, paid for the first time this year, has enabled the cooperatives to invest in equipment (drying tables, scales, etc.).





Nurseries managed by the peers and weeding carried out by the family



**♀ 4 programmes** in the Wolayita, Gamo, Dawro and Kembata areas

**20,414** beneficiary families 4 039 + 14 000 + 645 + 1 730

1 local NGO partner: Rural Community Based Development Initiative Association (RCBDIA)



The security situation remains very difficult, with gangs controlling some zones, mainly in the capital but sometimes in the outlying towns, making travel dangerous. The remote rural areas where we operate are still spared by the problems of insecurity, but they are also penalised by the fact that it is impossible to sell certain products in town, and more generally by the sharp rise in the cost of living. In this context, the project's activities are relevant and essential to prevent families from falling into even greater vulnerability. Around 1,720 families live in the mountainous areas of Juanaria and Balandry.



The animals, the key to the families' capital, are sold to cover any

major expenses. To preserve these "savings on legs", the project

• Fodder production: the animals are better fed and the greater

availability of fodder limits animal straying and damage to crops.

By 2022, 19 linear kilometres of fodder had been planted in the

most recent areas, while the spread of fodder in the oldest

areas is taking place on its own, without support from the

which is responsible for the majority of deaths, in response to

very strong demand from families. 551 families regularly

• Campaigns to vaccinate chickens against Newcastle disease,

benefit from this service (7,235 hens vaccinated).

Nurserymen are supported in producing fruit and forestry plants, which are then sold at a preferential price to farmers.



disease



#### Vaccinating a hen against Newcastle

**1** IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY

Access to bean seeds, the backbone of the family economy and the main source of income, is vital for families, who do not hesitate to go into heavy debt with loan sharks in order to gain access. A seed bank, set up and managed by the project, facilitates access to seeds in the form of loans repaid at harvest with an interest rate of 28%, enabling the volume of loans to be gradually increased. 140 new families have been given access to the seed loan, bringing the total number of families benefiting from this loan to 561 by the end of 2022.

> 100 families interested in market gardening (cabbage, leeks, tomatoes) to diversify their income and diet, with the income generated varying from one to three times depending on the area and the involvement of the families.

# At the same time, the project has supported

#### 3 REFORESTATION, RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FERTILITY IMPROVEMENT

In 2022, we noted a very good reforestation dynamic with 55,663 trees planted on the edges of plots or in anti-erosion lines, trees produced in 34 private nurseries initiated by the project. A pilot activity aimed at testing soil protection and rehabilitation practices on individual plots, targeting highly vulnerable families have been launched: 18 plots were protected with dry stone walls, reinforced by the planting of pineapple or banana trees.

focuses on:

project.

2 PROTECTION OF FAMILY SAVINGS



Plot of land with a dry stone wall at Juanaria

Two successive cyclones in February severely affected the populations of the south-east coast, destroying many homes and plantations (banana, breadfruit, yams, etc.). As a result, the hunger gap was particularly intense, leading to a rise in insecurity and numerous thefts of standing crops, making families even more vulnerable.

#### **1** INCREASE IN FAMILY PRODUCTION

**4,085 families** have been supported to improve their food security by growing tubers (30,000 cassava plants, 22,500 yam plants, 108,000 sweet potato cuttings) using innovative production and multiplication techniques (basket compost, etc.). **The women in these families** have received training in nutrition and hygiene and support to diversify their crops: **2,874** on plots grouped together to grow potato peas, a highly prized nutritious legume, and beans, and **1,186** on various market garden crops, emphasising the nutritional value of vegetables. Plantains (2,400), papayas (6,000) and christophines (2,386) were also widely distributed.



267 women (100 families) have benefited from specific support on 27.3 ha of "taninendry" plots, literally "women's land", guaranteeing all women, including the most vulnerable, access to land. This land, purchased by the Madagascan association Taninendry, is made available to women's lineage groups (free long leases of 99 years) to enable them and their daughters, who do not inherit land in this region, to invest in these plots on a long-term basis.

Mrs Gena, Taninendry beneficiary in Bekaraoka, in front of his red bean plantation



Beneficiaries on their reforestation plot

#### 2 REFORESTATION OF DEGRADED HILLSIDES

**3,500** families, belonging to 344 lineage groups, planted **731,000** diversified trees on 457 ha of collective land. **275** families and students from 4 schools reforested 33 ha of individual land with **52,300** trees. 222 anti-erosion structures were built on the 540 ha planted in the previous 2 years. The reforestation initiatives were externally assessed by the Eco-consult consultancy.

→ www.interaide.org/pratiques/download/file/fid/2433

#### 783,300 trees planted

"The impacts have been demonstrated in terms of restoring tree cover and reducing the frequency of fires, as well as in terms of social cohesion and the acquisition of technical skills by reforestation farmers" Eco-Consult evaluation, 2022.

3 IMPROVING THE COLLECTIVE ORGANISATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES PRODUCERS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CASH CROPS

738 households (Ambalatany commune) have received support for vanilla cultivation. A promising partnership with the Sahanala company should enable them to sell their green vanilla production at prices well above those offered by local collectors (x7). The Fagnimbogna federation, which brings together 906 families, is in its final year of support for the rice sector before the FIFATA group takes over in 2023.



2 programmes in the south-east regions of Vatovavy-Fitovinany and Atsimo-Atsinanana

**8,787** beneficiary families 4 085 + 100 + 3 500 + 275\*50% + 738 +906\*25%



**3 local NGO partners:** Fagnimbogna Federation



Tsimialonjafy Association



Taninendry Association

Most families have little land (<0.8 ha per household) to produce enough food, and face major constraints in accessing wood for cooking. Heavy deforestation is exacerbating soil degradation and further undermining the livelihoods of families, who are increasingly affected by the impacts of climate change. In this context, our actions aim to: (1) improve the fertility of the land on small farms, (2) diversify and increase the harvests of families and (3) enable them to generate new income.

#### **1** SUPPORT FOR FAMILY FARMING AND REFORESTATION

1,795 families were supported to produce tree seedlings in village nurseries and planted more than 159,400 trees (an average of 89 trees per family). Most of the trees planted are leguminous fertilisers, supplemented by fruit trees (papaya, mango, anone, etc.). In the Lilongwe district, 88% of families who have planted for 2 consecutive years have more than 50 living trees in their plots, and 52% even have more than 150 trees. Pupils from 6 primary schools were also involved in preserving their environment, planting 7,641 trees.



The bocage provides wood production, helps combat erosion and desiccation, improves fertility and provides shelter for biodiversity, even on small plots.

366 families who started reforestation activities in 2020 received support to diversify their crops and improve their production. These families have doubled the area devoted to legumes (soya, groundnuts) using new techniques (interrow spacing, double-row planting) and have thus increased their income from these crops by a factor of 7, equivalent to 2 months' food security in maize for each family.







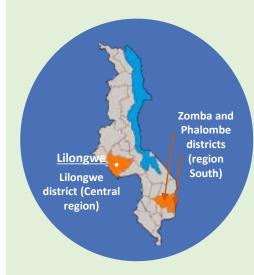
Pupils preparing to plant the trees they have produced (Lilongwe)

## 2 SUPPORT FOR VILLAGE POULTRY FARMING THROUGH CONTROL OF NEWCASTLE DISEASE

Vaccinating chickens is a vital way of preserving savings and improving the nutrition of poorer families. The chicken vaccination service is provided in 3 districts by **495 private vaccinators** (including **115 new ones**), trained in partnership with the local NGO BASEDA and the government, and grouped into 8 associations comprising 50 to 100 vaccinators. These networks were extended to 2 new areas in 2022 and now cover the entire districts of Lilongwe and Phalombe. In 2022, **85,628 families, including 17,651 new families**, used the services of the vaccinators trained by the project, for a total of 2.9 million chickens protected.

Vaccinating chickens is vital to protect the savings of the most vulnerable families.

A number of studies carried out this year have provided a better understanding of the timber industry and **the gender issues surrounding access to land**.



4 programmes in the Lilongwe, Phalombe and Zomba districts

15,738 beneficiary families

1795 + 67 977 x 10%
+ 17.651 x 50% + 115 x 100%.



1 local NGO partner: BASEDA (BASic SErvices development Agency)



The year 2022 confirmed the great success of onion cultivation in the dry season, a crop traditionally grown by women. Onions and associated vegetables (cucumbers, aubergines, watermelons) provide income at a time of low cash flow, enabling school fees to be paid and food and seed to be bought for the rainy season. The project also supports families during the rainy season to improve production techniques and varieties.

#### managed by women, is already forcing us to look at the supply chain to ensure that the produce can be sold at the best price outside the area.

The success of onion-growing, traditionally

Onions are packed in second-hand bags of imported onions and then sold at weekly markets.



#### Training model farmers before the start of the season.



#### • 1 programme in the **Karene** district

2,022 beneficiary families 1 256+ 766



1 local partner: **Good Heart Farmers** 

#### **1** IMPROVING ONION PRODUCTION IN THE DRY SEASON

1,400 farmers (75% of whom are women) from 1,256 pots<sup>1</sup> produced onions for the first time, joining 766 producers still receiving support, including 203 members of our partner "Good Heart Farmers" who have now been producing for several years. Gathered in 106 informal groups, all located in the Chiefdom of Sella Limba, they produced 136.5 tonnes of onions (66 tonnes for the most experienced GHF farmers and 70 tonnes for the new producers), an average of 84 kg per farmer.

First onion harvest for this Sella Limba farmer

<sup>1</sup> The "pot", representing the common dish around which a family nucleus eats, is the unit we use in Sierra Leone to count families.

In the 67 targeted villages, 40% of families started onion production in 2021/22, a strong sign of the enthusiasm for this crop, with the result that local markets are almost saturated. To meet the new challenge of sales, 9 grouped sales outlets have been set up to attract larger buyers from outside the production area.

#### TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVED **VARIETIES IN THE RAINY SEASON**

The dynamic created in the 106 informal groups mentioned above has enabled new techniques, varieties and species to be introduced, by setting up multiplication and conservation methods in the communities:

- 1,256 pots were used to grow white yams, harvested at the start of the lean season when food stocks generally run low;
- 1,016 pots, each headed by a woman, benefited from the introduction of the Malama groundnut variety and a new technical itinerary for its propagation;
- 800 pots benefited from the introduction of plantains, which are in great demand on local markets.



In less than a season, this farmer was able to multiply his banana plants and double their number.



First harvest of white yams for this family



4 countries

32 578
families benefiting from
health activities
in 2022

#### 2022 in review:

- Expansion into two new districts in Madagascar, where initial surveys indicate an alarming mortality rate of 150 per 1,000 for children under five years old and where demand for support is high..
- Training of 18 government health workers in Malawi to establish village clinics dedicated to children's healthcare in local communities.
- Training of 17 health volunteers and 75 traditional matrons in Mozambique, contributing to healthcare access at village level, enhanced support for pregnant women, and dissemination of health information.
- Successful start of activities in Guinea, with over 4,000 families now aware of the importance of prevention and healthcare practices for their sick children, along with the training of 52 village health volunteers.

#### **Key Methodological Focus:**

- Promoting the adoption of better health and hygiene practices:
  - o To prevent major childhood illnesses such as malaria, diarrhoea, and respiratory infections.
  - o To encourage early healthcare seeking for children when symptoms arise.
  - To address family planning and maternal health needs, including pregnancy monitoring, childbirth at health centres, and postnatal care.
- > Improving healthcare provision in existing facilities and bringing it closer to families by encouraging the work of community health workers or volunteers, traditional birth attendants and the setting up of village or mobile clinics.



Aide.

In south-eastern Madagascar, the combination of a hot and humid climate, frequent cyclones, challenging socio-economic conditions, and low education levels contributes to the prevalence of infectious diseases like malaria and diarrhoea. Limited access to healthcare is further compounded by long distances to health centres and weaknesses within the healthcare system, such as staff absenteeism and drug shortages. Our intervention strategy focuses on tackling these main diseases by promoting improved family practices and establishing local healthcare services at the village level, working in collaboration with health centres. After two decades of intervention in Manakara district, which resulted in a halving of under-five mortality rates, we have concluded our activities there and started a deployment in Vangaindrano and Vondrozo districts. Initial surveys in Vondrozo, a highly isolated area, revealed significant needs with a mortality rate for children under five years old at 150 per thousand births. Discussions with local health services in these districts aim to propose an innovative approach, allowing them to take the lead with minimal intervention from Inter

#### **1** IMPROVING HEALTH PRACTICES

This year, we targeted six new communes in Vohipeno with sensitisation activities, reaching 16,673 people, including 5,829 women. Our goal is to cover the entire district by early 2023.

In four communes of Manakara and Farafangana, we organized 167 mass awareness sessions attended by 10,851 people (38% of the population) to emphasize the importance of seeking timely care for young children. In Farafangana, we adopted a new approach by delegating this action to Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) and training 160 CHVs.



Home visit by a community health volunteer from Farafangana



A community health volunteer consults a child under the supervision of the health centre director, as part of a survey on the quality of care in Farafangana.

The latest mortality surveys in Farafangana demonstrate a significant 52% reduction in under-five mortality, dropping from 177 deaths per thousand to 85 per thousand in 11 communes surveyed.

#### 2 SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY HEALTH VOLUNTEERS (CHVs)

Community Health Volunteers in Manakara, Farafangana, and Vohipeno conducted **156,947 consultations** this year, enabling the rapid treatment of 80% of illnesses at village level. However, 20% of consultations still required referrals to the health centre due to drug shortages. Efforts are ongoing to improve the supply of tests and treatments for Community Health Volunteers through collaboration with public health services.

In Farafangana, a proper level of consultations was observed in 2022, despite a small decline after the remarkable achievements of 2021. Meanwhile, in Vohipeno, the consultation rates, although initially low, are showing positive signs of improvement. The average consultation index at CHV level in these districts stands at 1.15 consultations per year and per child, compared to the pre-intervention rate of approximately 0.3.

With the growing engagement of health centre directors and the district team, a gradual shift is underway in the monitoring of CHVs and the facilitation of their drugs supply. This collaborative effort aims to enhance the efficiency of CHVs while ensuring their seamless access to medicines.



Practical workshop on malaria prevention and repairing mosquito nets



**♀** 3 programmes in the districts of Vohipeno, Farafangana, Vangaindrano and Vondrozo

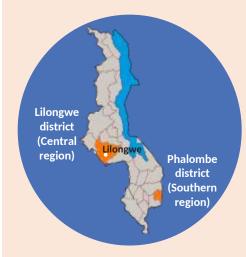
8,132 beneficiary families

The pressure on healthcare services in Malawi, fuelled by a high population density and the improvement of care-seeking behaviour among families, have prompted Inter Aide's teams to harness community dynamism. They aim to foster local initiatives that wield a profound impact on the well-being of women and children while providing support to healthcare personnel in enhancing the quality of care rendered in the districts of Lilongwe (Central region) and Phalombe (Southern region).

Consultation in a village clinic by a health worker trained this year with the support of Inter Aide



Supervision of door to door visits to pregnant women by government workers



**Q** 2 programmes in Lilongwe and Phalombe districts

7,220 beneficiary families 1 171 + 6 049

#### 1 IMPROVING FAMILY PRACTICES

The project's teams have concluded their work in the villages served by six health centres and posts (Chiunjiza, Chiwosa, Nazombe, Nambiti and Waruma), which have been assisted since 2020.

The village health committees in these areas underwent a final comprehensive training to empower them with full autonomy. Out of the initial 1,246 members involved, a remarkable 1,171 volunteers were trained in 2022, demonstrating an active engagement rate of 94% after three years. Assisted by Inter Aide facilitators, the volunteers conducted 342 meetings involving 11,408 participants and carried out 17,061 home visits.

Estimates suggest that at least 6.049 families actively participated in these initiatives, focusing on critical project themes such as malaria and diarrhoea prevention. healthcare accessibility, and reproductive health.



and her partner

#### 2 SUPPORT TO THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Many activities have been implemented to bolster healthcare services, especially thanks to the arrival of skilled health professionals as part of the Inter Aide teams. As they are able to deliver care at partner health centres, they provide onsite training to the existing health centre personnel in order to improve practices, following official protocols.

- 18 government health workers have received a specific training to provide diagnosis and treatment for young children at community level, facilitating the establishment of new village clinics. Over three years, the number of clinics has surged from 17 to 41 in Mitundu (Lilongwe) and from 11 to 18 in Phalombe.
- A management committee has been established for three health centres in Phalombe, and a comprehensive training has been done for the staff responsible for data collection and reporting. This collaborative effort is conducted in partnership with the district health authorities.
- Infrastructure enhancements have been realized, including the construction of a house for healthcare personnel at Chiwosa health centre to accommodate a new nurse midwife. Additionally, a placenta pit has been built at Nambazo health centre to address the specific needs of the facility.



In the rural districts of Nampula province, where population densities surpass other regions, the dire lack of adequate healthcare infrastructure remains a pressing concern. Compounded by socio-economic and cultural factors, existing facilities often go underutilized. This has resulted in alarmingly high rates of infant, child, and maternal mortality. Over two-thirds of births occur at home without the presence of qualified medical personnel, and a mere 40% of women in need of contraception have access to it.

Following five years of support rendered to four rural health centres in Monapo and Memba districts, our dedicated teams embarked on an extension to Murruto (Monapo) and Pavala (Memba). Regrettably, **terrorist attacks** linked to the neighbouring province of Cabo Delgado abruptly interrupted our operations in September, despite initial surveys confirming the dire extent of the needs. Consequently, the project was permanently closed in Memba, as the prevailing conditions no longer provide a conducive environment for the implementation of a development program. In Monapo, the team has since redirected their efforts toward prospecting in a more southern region.

#### **1** IMPROVING FAMILY HEALTH PRACTICES

In Memba (Chipene), the focus has been on raising awareness in schools, as children could not be targeted due to the closure of schools throughout the Covid-19 period. As a result, we developed five classroom sessions on malaria and diarrhoea prevention, that reached 5,196 pupils. Additionally, our project-trained village health committees diligently carried out 11,534 home visits to 7,404 families, to strengthen their knowledge on disease prevention and empower them to seek proper medical care. 350 families significantly improved their sanitation standards by constructing improved latrines with reusable concrete slabs.

The community health volunteers and traditional birth attendants were integrated into the strategy this year, as long-term and recognized actors who are best placed to provide local healthcare services while disseminating essential messages. A total of 32 health volunteers (Monapo and Memba) and 116 traditional midwives (Monapo and Memba) underwent comprehensive training on sensitisation.

**In Monapo**, we conducted 429 awareness sessions and made 920 home visits, gathering **14,482 individuals** and providing crucial support to 190 expectant mothers throughout their pregnancy and childbirth experience.

#### **2** SUPPORT FOR THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

To improve the management of medicines, Memba district health services organized a training session for 12 pharmacy managers of rural health centres. A shelter was constructed in front of Caleia health centre's pharmacy to facilitate the sale and donation of medicines, particularly during the challenging rainy season.

The motorbike ambulance supplied to Chipene health centre (population 30,000) was used to **transport 57 people**, **including 25 women about to give birth**, before being burnt during the terrorist attack.

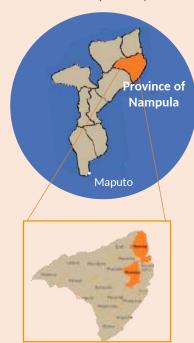
Our team rallied to restore the partially damaged maternity unit : painting, donating furniture. providing and essential medical equipment. These efforts ensured the reopening of the prompt facility. safeguarding the provision of critical maternal healthcare services.



Awareness session by a Monapo community health volunteer



Awareness-raising session in a school (Memba)



2 programmes in Memba and Monapo districts

**15,054** beneficiary families 32+116+12+57+190+7404+14482×50%

#### **GUINEA**

The selection of Tinti Oulen and Mamouroudou communes in Kankan prefecture was driven by the urgent need to address the dire health situation for children in this region. With limited local resources and weak village-level initiatives, access to healthcare remains very poor. Only 32% of women give birth in proper health facilities, leading to alarmingly high rates of perinatal deaths. To combat this situation, a local team of 10 staff was assembled this year, including a program manager, supervisors, facilitators, a driver, and an accountant.



Community relay during a home visit

Training community relays in Tinti Oulen

# oer Guinea Region

#### **♀** 1 programme in the prefecture of Kankan

2,172 beneficiary families 1437 + 57 + 848

#### 1 IMPROVING FAMILY HEALTH PRACTICES

The team has set up a partnership with the local association AUDICO to disseminate crucial messages to families. The aim is to enhance preventive practices and encourage the utilisation of healthcare services. From July 2022 onwards, AUDICO facilitators swiftly targeted 11 villages, conducting 1,760 home visits and engaging in informative talks that reached 8,059 participants. It is estimated that approximately 4,311 individuals - 1,437 families, directly benefited from these awareness sessions. Surveys planned for 2023 will gauge the impact of these interventions on knowledge and practices.



The initial mortality survey carried out exhaustively among 7.326 households in the 2 target communes confirms a catastrophic situation: 27% of children do not reach the age of 5.

Mortality and practices survey in Mamouroudou

This remarkable progress serves as a testament to the untapped potential of CHVs in expanding healthcare access across these rural areas.

2 SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH VOLUNTEERS (CHVs)

effective implementation.

as well.

Community health volunteers, known as "community relays," have a

strong potential to serve as vital links in the healthcare chain due to

their close proximity to families. While their roles are clearly defined in

the new national policy, limited resources pose challenges to their

To bolster the capacity of these community relays, a memorandum of

understanding was signed this year with the Kankan Prefectural Health

Department. As part of this initiative, the project successfully trained

52 community relays (CHVs) and 5 supervisors from the two

Following their training, 848 children received attention from the

CHVs, with 39% presenting a suspected case of malaria. 85% of these

children received treatment right in their own villages. The work of the

CHVs in Tinti Oulen started only in June, but accounted for an

impressive 29% of all children consultations in the commune

throughout 2022, when considering consultations at the health centre

communes in providing essential care for sick children.



#### 1 country

9 461

families benefiting from school activities in 2022

#### 2022 in brief:

- School programs continue to progress despite challenging socio-economic circumstances, with over 13,000 children actively enrolled.
- In the commune of Marmelade (Artibonite department), we provided support to schools for the first year, with a high enrolment rate for children aged 6-11. However, their performance in knowledge tests was disappointingly low.
- Our local partner, Concert Action, initiated their support for schools in the commune of Bainet (South-East). A total of 574 teachers underwent comprehensive training to enhance their skills and effectiveness.
- Supported schools in Grand Goâve (West) achieved an impressive 80% success rate in reading tests, outperforming other schools in the area where the rate stood at only 33%.

#### Main methodological focus:

- Comprehensive training for all members of the education community, including parents, teachers, school management, and committees. This partnership is based on a time-bound support package, with shared annual objectives aligned with the guidelines set by the Haitian Ministry of Education.
- **Enhancing the learning environment** for pupils through the provision of teaching materials, school furniture, and the construction of classrooms in partner schools, based on their progress.
- Regular **assessment of pupils' learning progress** through standardized tests conducted during their third year of primary school.





The 2021/22 school year came to a relatively calm end, but the start of the 2022/23 school year faced severe disruptions fueled by soaring inflation, fuel shortages, increasing crime rates, and social demands. The school year was postponed until October and then January 2023, highlighting the fragile state of Haiti's institutions. It is now more crucial than ever to rally parents and teachers together to ensure that schools function smoothly and provide quality education.

Municipality	Schools	Pupils 2021/22
Lamielle	27	3 330
Verrettes	16	3 461
Grand-Goâve	20	1 701
Marmalade	32	3 457
Bainet	21	1 566
Total	116	13 515

In Lamielle, Inter Aide's support concluded as planned in July 2022. However, some team members took the initiative to establish a local association, committed to providing ongoing educational support to 17 schools. Inter Aide has partnered with them to offer support throughout the 2022/23 school year. A similar initiative is being backed in Petit-Goâve and Côtes de Fer, with three associations receiving support from our partner Concert' Action.



Preschool in Rosinette, Grand-Goâve

In **Verrettes**, the results of the 2021/22 school year showed an **improvement in school performance**. The teacher attendance rate increased from 77% at the beginning of the project to 90%. Unsurprisingly, there has been a direct correlation between pupil performance and teacher attendance.

In **Grand-Goâve**, the building of 2 new schools have been completed, and a third is currently under construction. The schools that demonstrated a stronger ability to foster pupil progress achieved an impressive **80% success rate in the reading test, compared to the overall 33% rate for all schools in the area. Through parent training, their engagement has increased, and <b>the rate of school fee payments has doubled**, which contribute to teacher salaries.

A new project has been launched in the commune of Marmelade, encompassing 4,000 families, with a fresh team of educational advisors and facilitators. In this commune, 90% of 6-11 year-olds attend school, but the educational standards are disappointingly low, with only 37% of pupils passing the reading test in the third year.

Concert' Action has started a new program in the commune of **Bainet**. Twenty-one schools have partnered for the 2021/2022 school year. The training courses organized have



benefited 574 teachers, enhancing their teaching practices.

Furthermore, we have delivered 176 desks and 667 chairs for pre-school, significantly improving the learning environment for 1,195 pupils.

École de Corail, Marmelade



New school building at Kikitte (Grand-Goâve)



4 programmes
 in the communes of Lamielle,
 Verrettes, Grand-Goâve and
 Marmelade

**9,461** beneficiary families 13 515 x 70%

### **CAPITALISATION**



The "Pratiques" experience and methods exchange network (<u>www.interaide.org/pratiques</u>) freely shares all the publications produced by Inter Aide, ATIA and ESSOR teams, as well as summaries of the evaluations carried out on the projects.

#### Support for family farming

A number of studies and documents were carried out in 2022:

- We delved deeper into the **vanilla sector in Madagascar** and the **coffee sector in Ethiopia**, conducting extensive research and gathering valuable insights to drive growth and improvements.
- Our study in Malawi's Lilongwe district uncovered opportunities for families to generate income through hedgerow planting for **firewood production**. We identified specific conditions under which this can thrive, offering families a promising avenue for economic empowerment.
- To improve **food security in Madagascar**, we developed informative fact sheets documenting effective techniques and practices. These resources serve as valuable references for activities aimed at ensuring the food security of communities.
- In collaboration with AVSF in Ethiopia, we conducted a comprehensive study that explored the effects of water availability and protein-enriched cattle feed rations on milk production. Our findings shed light on strategies to enhance productivity and support dairy farmers.
- To assess the impact of our reforestation initiatives in Madagascar, we enlisted the expertise of Eco-Consult for an external evaluation. This evaluation provided valuable insights to guide future efforts and improve the effectiveness of our reforestation projects.

#### **Community health**

Capitalisation on health is in the process of being launched, thanks to the creation of a dedicated part-time post. This will help to improve the quality of actions developed in 4 different countries (Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and Guinea) using a similar model, adapted to each context.

- Initial work has begun on **mortality survey methods**, enabling teams to share best practice. A note on the protocols used will be finalised and published shortly.
- An exchange mission was carried out by the health programme manager in Guinea, who was responsible for opening up the action. She visited the various intervention sites in Madagascar, where methodologies have made considerable progress over the years. Several changes were proposed in Guinea following this visit.
- Finally, a diagnostic mission on the topics of nutrition and support for health centres was carried out in 2022 in the Farafangana district of Madagascar, as part of a partnership with the agricultural programme.

#### Water, hygiene, sanitation and maintenance

To share our expertise in improving access to water in rural areas, we produced three capitalization documents:

- A comprehensive guide on **designing and implementing** "**Ecosan**" **latrines** in isolated rural areas of Malawi. This sustainable infrastructure model addresses flooding challenges exacerbated by climate change.
- A comprehensive "toolbox" for **promoting hygiene and sanitation in Haitian schools.** We developed guides for teachers and students, along with effective survey and monitoring methodologies, to enhance children's hygiene conditions.
- A best practice guide for constructing wells with monolithic casings in southern Madagascar. This guide addresses silting issues caused by poor design, ensuring reliable access to clean water.

Our commitment to **gender equality** remained strong, and in collaboration with the consultancy *Prospective et Coopération*, we conducted a study in Malawi and Ethiopia. This study highlighted our achievements, identified areas for improvement, and initiated action plans to ensure women's increased representation in decision-making processes regarding water access.

With the support of pS-Eau, we conducted a comprehensive crossfunctional analysis of our maintenance and WASH programs. This analysis aimed to enhance recognition and understanding of maintenance practices among local stakeholders in the seven countries where we operate. ETHIOPIA → Agriculture: Our teams are dedicated to empowering farmers by establishing a dynamic network of peers to enhance advisory services and livestock practices. We also aim to successfully wrap up the remaining soil conservation projects in the older intervention areas. WASH/M: One of our key objectives this year is to provide comprehensive training to the members of the Zonal and Regional Water Offices. They will be equipped with the necessary skills for maintaining hydraulic structures and disseminating the technical model of a gravity-fed network tailored for community management, a model developed by Inter Aide and RCBDIA.

SIERRA LEONE → Agriculture: The success of onion cultivation and the thriving local markets present us with an opportunity to invest in the downstream segment of the supply chain. By providing access to more profitable markets, we enable families to expand their production and extend the benefits to other villages. WASH/M: Our primary focus remains on collaborating with water authorities and local leaders to ensure access to clean drinking water for all. We prioritize interventions in areas where facility management and preventive maintenance have become top priorities. Strengthening the network of pump technicians, who play a vital role in maintenance, is a key objective. We are exploring strategies to structure and supervise these private operators effectively.

HAITI > WASH/M: Our team in Maïssade continues to raise awareness about hygiene and sanitation among new families and supports the construction of two new water points. The ASPAR project team will be reinforced with two additional staff to expand the offer of building dry latrines in new areas. Agriculture: Despite the challenging security and economic conditions, we remain committed to supporting the families in Juanaria. Our program will extend to new areas, benefiting 100 additional families, and we will continue the very successful tree replanting activities. Additionally, we are working on an autonomous management model for the seed bank. Education: We will provide ongoing support to partner schools in the communes of Marmelade, Verrettes, Grand Goâve, and Bainet (in collaboration with Concert'Action). Special attention will be given to educational support initiatives in former zones such as Petit-Goâve, Côtes-de-Fer, and Lamielle, led by our former experienced staff. Health: Our partnership with the Sant Soley dispensary in Port-de-Paix will continue as we aim to reduce consultation costs, organize mobile clinics in disadvantaged areas, and enhance the centre's management.

**GUINEA** WASH/M: Our team will continue its work in the commune of Koumban, and we plan to expand our efforts to the commune of Moribaya. Our focus remains on improving water and sanitation access while supporting the establishment of a communal water service. **Health**: We will continue to support community health volunteers in the rural communes of Tinti Oulen and Mamouroudou. Expanding our collaboration with the local NGO AUDICO, we will raise awareness among families in these two communes. In partnership with health authorities, we will define and implement measures to reinforce health posts, ensuring increased access to and quality of care.

MALAWI → WASH/M: We are expanding our water point maintenance services to the Balaka and Mangochi districts, focusing on developing a network of skilled artisans and spare parts dealers. Village committees will be trained in water point management, ensuring sustainable operations and restoring non-functional equipment. In agriculture, we are expanding chicken vaccination services to new areas in the Zomba district. Our goal is to establish a larger-scale network of vaccinators and increase local vaccine production. We'll also extend agricultural and agroforestry initiatives to new villages, promoting the link between income generation and optimized plantation management. Health: Our program will reach a new health area in Phalombe district, supporting the care of nearly 237,000 individuals. We are completing our action in Mitundu and are considering to launch in a new intervention district, potentially Mchinji, given the significant needs in this rural area.

MADAGASCAR → WASH/M: We are continuing our efforts to expand delegated facility management services, led by local NGOs Tehyna and Soakoja. This approach aims to gradually integrate all existing and future facilities in partner municipalities. In communes committed to maintenance, we'll construct new facilities with the involvement of beneficiaries, addressing their needs while promoting hygiene and sanitation practices. Health: We will sustain our actions in Vondrozo, Vohipeno, and Farafangana districts, and initiate activities in Vangaindrano district. Each area presents unique challenges, requiring tailored strategies to maximize the engagement of health services and enhance local healthcare provision. Agriculture: Empowering women remains a key focus, enabling them to adopt farming practices that enhance food security. We will support vanilla growers to sell their first harvest and significantly improve their income. Moreover, reforestation efforts to restore degraded hillsides will continue, with more families seizing the opportunity to rejuvenate their environment for future generations.

**MOZAMBIQUE** WASH/M: We are continuing the Monapo program in the southern part of the district. While maintaining support for maintenance services in the four covered districts, we're adapting our approach in high-security areas to ensure sustained operations. Additionally, we will conduct a needs assessment in neighbouring districts in Nampula province, with the aim of expanding maintenance networks to new areas before initiating water, hygiene, and sanitation activities. **Health:** Our teams are analysing needs in the south of Monapo District and Mongingual District to identify priority areas for partnership development with health centres, thereby improving healthcare access for families. **Agriculture**, we are continuing the prospecting work that started in late 2021, albeit at a slower pace due to the security situation.

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