

WAMAYE



Supporting the ecological and economic transition of Casamance's regions through the development of new environmentally friendly services in Senegal.

Project dates	2025 - 2028
Total budget	€ 724,803
Project area	Ziguinchor and Sédhiou regions



CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

“ In Casamance, women are the primary victims of the harmful effects of climate change. However, they are also key players in the resilience of their community. This is why we wanted to support them. ”

— Diery Sene, director of FANSOTO

FANSOTO, a Senegalese social microfinance institution founded in 2016, sought to support these women producers in the face of climate change to increase their resilience. In February 2025, 83% of surveyed beneficiaries reported noticing the effects of climate change, and 47.4% stated that these changes impact their income-generating activities.

The WAMAYE project, launched in February 2025, combines training, loans, and technical support for female farmers in the Ziguinchor and Sédhiou regions.

By facilitating the acquisition of techniques and equipment, the project aims to **reduce these women's environmental footprint** and **strengthen their resilience to climate change**, thereby securing their income and food security.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

after 1 year

1,570 individual agroecology advisory sessions

577 families purchased improved cookstoves to limit wood consumption

1,805 individual farm visits conducted by technical agricultural advisors

880 farmers attended a **farmer field school** on compost and natural pesticides



Farmer field school on biopesticide production.
Ziguinchor - November 2025

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ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the past year, **1,570 beneficiaries (96% women)** have been supported in their agroecological practices through FANSOTO's agricultural advisory service.

135 training sessions on beneficiaries' plots and 1,805 individual advisory visits were conducted. Thanks to this support, 41% of the supported female farmers now produce their own compost.

41% of the supported female farmers now produce their own compost

The FANSOTO agricultural advisory team is highly appreciated by the beneficiaries (97% satisfaction rate). Trained in the gender-sensitive approach, the team adapts its approach to beneficiaries' individual circumstances. They also regularly receive training in agroecological practices, climate-sensitive counseling, and a holistic approach to farming within its social and cultural environment to **continuously improve the service provided.**



Individual advisory visit by the technical agricultural advisor.
Ziguinchor - February 2026

To reduce deforestation, harmful smoke, and cooking costs for beneficiaries, FANSOTO facilitates access to improved cooking equipment that reduces charcoal and/or wood consumption. In one year, 577 improved cookstoves were acquired through loans granted by FANSOTO. These allow households to save money while reducing their environmental footprint.

577 improved cookstoves were acquired through loans granted by FANSOTO

The project also aims to disseminate information and create opportunities for dialogue on climate change. A documentary screening followed by a debate was held with women from Ziguinchor around the film "Aakimo" (produced by Oceanium in Casamance), which highlights deforestation practices in the region. The screening led to engaging discussions, participant testimonies, a "moving debate" (a participatory format where participants physically position themselves to express their views) on the ethical issues

of deforestation, and collective reflection on solutions. Four "Climate Fresk" workshops were organized for 31



Climate Fresk workshop with FANSOTO staff.
Ziguinchor - January 2026

FANSOTO employees to encourage deeper reflection on the institution's role in the face of climate change.

Finally, a study on the fisheries sector and its value chains was conducted to better understand the constraints related to resource scarcity and to formulate recommendations to improve support for beneficiaries active in this sector.

PERSPECTIVES

- The introduction of a **green loan with subsidized interest rates** is planned for 2026 to encourage the use of compost, biopesticides, and sustainable agricultural practices. This scheme is intended to support the agro-ecological transition of farms.
- A **credit dedicated to motor pumps** is being designed to reduce labor drudgery and respond to the scarcity of rainfall.
- Female farmers will receive **salt-tolerant rice seeds** and support from ISRA (Senegalese Institute of Agricultural Research) to cope with the salinization of rice fields. In parallel, the partnership with ISRA will enable training for farmers in vegetable seed multiplication.
- A **community reforestation initiative** will be organized following the cine-debate on deforestation.
- **Awareness-raising talks** will be held on climate change, biodiversity, and human/environmental health. Educational materials are currently being developed.
- A **study on agroforestry** will be conducted in the Ziguinchor and Sédhiou regions to evaluate the feasibility of agroforestry projects for FANSOTO beneficiaries and how these could be implemented.