



A year of impact and innovation for Africa's wetlands!

In 2024, Wetlands International Africa - West Coast and Gulf of Guinea continued its mission of conservation and restoration of wetlands. Our work this year was marked by innovative initiatives, strengthened collaborations with our local and international partners, and tangible results that demonstrate the importance of wetlands in sustainable development.

Through this blog, we share the highlights of the year, the successes that inspire us, and the challenges that motivate us to redouble our efforts for a future where wetlands thrive, benefiting both people and nature.

Dive into the stories of our impact in 2024, where each project tells a tale of resilience, innovation, and hope for future generations.



RESTORATION OF MANGROVE ECOSYSTEMS

Objective : Restore mangrove ecosystems by engaging local communities.

- 15 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Casamance and the Saloum Delta.
- Assisted Natural Regeneration in the National Parks of Cacheu and Canthanez in Guinea-Bissau.



Restored hectares directly



Restored hectares indirectly by the trained actors



Number of mobilized actors



CONSERVATION OF MANGROVE ECOSYSTEMS

Objective : Strengthen the protection of mangrove ecosystems

21426 Ha

concerned with the support for the creation of the AMP of Sokone

8027 Ha

integrated through the community forest model in Mata de Uco

188000 Ha

protected (Guinea-Bissau, Casamance, Saloum)

- Mobilization and awareness of local communities to adopt sustainable management practices



BIODIVERSITY MONITORING

Objective : Assess the impact of activities for the protection of mangrove ecosystems

- **Living species**: Water birds, fish, sea turtles, African manatee, oysters, and arches monitored in 6 MPAs: Saloum Delta, Palmarin, Sangomar, Joal, Gandoule, and Bamboung
- Monitoring of the African Manatee



Sea turtle eggs monitored until hatching



Arches listed in 6 MPAs



Fish observed in 4 MPAs



Water birds recorded in 6 MPAs



Oysters recorded in 3 MPAs



- **211 Trainers trained**
- **118 New Environmental Mangrove Clubs created**
- **4560 Students enrolled in the environmental education program.**



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Objective : Raise awareness among younger generations about the importance of mangroves through educational programs

- Organization of an educational vacation camp bringing together 30 children (ages 7 to 18) from the Fatick and Ziguinchor academies and distribution of environmental education manuals



IMPROVEMENT OF PLANNING, MANAGEMENT, AND REGULATORY TOOLS

Objective : Strengthen institutional and strategic frameworks for mangrove management

- Integration of local actions into global frameworks such as the Global Mangrove Alliance



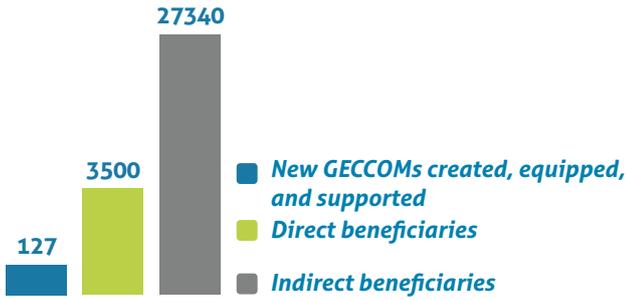
Master plans developed



Law adopted in Guinea-Bissau



Protocol developed



MEANS OF SUBSISTENCE

A SAVINGS AND LOANS

Objective : Promote the economic empowerment of local communities through the Mangrove Conservation Savings and Credit Group (GECCOM) system

- The GECCOMs enable communities to access funds through income-generating activities related to the conservation of mangrove ecosystems



B INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES

Objective : Diversify the incomes of local communities while sustainably valuing natural resources

- Sustainable income-generating activities supported: Market gardening, Processing of non-timber fishery and forestry products, Modern beekeeping, Rice cultivation, and Salt production
- Promotion of ecological technology (solar pumping, bio-digesters)



Supported partners



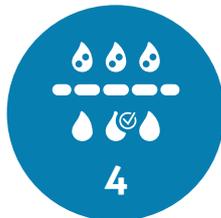
Hectares of rehabilitated or developed agricultural land



Household members affected



Hectares of reclaimed saline lands



Adaptation initiatives



CLIMATE CHANGE

Objective : Encourage sustainable and resilient solutions while strengthening food security and protecting ecosystem

- Saline lands recovered in the valleys of Ndiaye-Ndiaye, Ndour-Ndour, and Mbissel
- 4 hectares of village wood established in Fimela, contributing to carbon sequestration



CAPACITY BUILDING

Objective : Develop the technical and operational skills of local stakeholders

- Training on digital tools ARC-GIS, SURVEY 123, FIELD MAP and GOOGLE EARTH for monitoring ecosystems and utilizing data from the platform Global Mangrove Watch



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Mastered strategic tools



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Local actors strengthened

“To inspire and mobilise society to safeguard and restore wetlands for people and nature.”



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