

AFRICOMPOST PROGRAMME: CAMEROON, TOGO AND MADAGASCAR

AFRICA

Waste sorting and composting help to improve local management of household waste while reducing their impact on the environment. In addition, compost production contributes to the development of eco-friendly local agriculture by providing natural fertiliser and goes hand in hand with job creation for the most disadvantaged populations.

PROJECT CONTEXT

Waste management is a huge challenge for big cities in developing countries, where municipalities have to cope with rapidly increasing waste production due to the growing population and changing consumption habits. Other than the health problems this causes, the breakdown of this waste in the absence of oxygen (anaerobic) has a major impact on global warming due to the release of methane emissions, a greenhouse gas 25¹ times more potent than CO₂.

¹ <https://www.bilans-ges.ademe.fr/fr/accueil/contenu/index/page/giec/siGras/0>

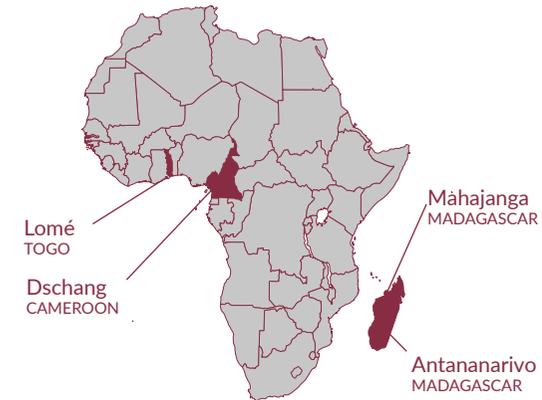
THE PROGRAMME

The Africompost programme, supported by carbon finance, is led by the GoodPlanet Foundation - GRET consortium and its local partners ERA Cameroun, ENPRO and Madacompost. It aims to develop organic waste composting sites in 4 major African cities. Following an initial investment and empowerment phase, the financial sustainability of the composting sites will be covered by:

- > the combined sale of compost
- > the financial support of local government for the waste disposal service
- > carbon finance from greenhouse gas emission reductions

The composting sites form part of the waste management policy set out by the local authority. The latter coordinates waste collection and the provision of land, it owns the facilities and equipment at the composting site.

The local partner manages the composting site, raises awareness among the population and the promotes compost among farmers. These partners become autonomous within 4 to 6 years. They control not only the preparation and sale of quality compost but also the monitoring of methane emissions, required to obtain carbon credits. The transfer of skills (management of the composting sites and budget, progress reports, etc.) accomplished by GRET allows the local partners to replicate their experience in new cities.



KEY INDICATORS

The IPCC estimates that a reduction of 670 million tonnes of GHG emissions can be achieved in the waste management sector on a global level (i.e. around 2% of global emissions).

Prevention and recycling are the main measures in place to alleviate climate change in the sector.



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THE FIRST PROJECTS INCORPORATED INTO THE PROGRAMME

A project identification phase was carried out in 2007. Following this study phase, the consortium chose to incorporate four composting sites in the Africompost programme. These sites met three criteria: sufficient size, adequate activity level, and climatic conditions favourable to composting.

> The first project, run by Madacompost in Madagascar, began in 2008 and ended in 2018. Thanks to the success of the first project, a second waste recovery project, supported in part by carbon finance, was launched in 2021 and will continue until 2026. It aims to create two composting sites in Madagascar, one in Antanarivo and the other in Mahajanga. The aim is for Madacompost to be financially autonomous by the end of this period thanks to the sale of compost, without support from carbon finance.

> The second project, led by the ENPRO association in Lomé, Togo, is a 10-year programme lasting at least until 2023 to develop composting activity in the city.

> The third project in the Dschang province of Cameroon was incorporated into the Africompost programme in 2014 and will run until 2027. Led by the ERA Cameroon association, it provides for the creation of two composting units, in the Siteu and N'gui districts.

Carbon support, allowing funding through a contribution to carbon neutrality, has been established for the various composting platforms.

OPERATIONAL PARTNER

This programme was initially implemented in partnership with the Gevalor association. Since 2019, Gevalor has handed its activities and project portfolio over to GRET. GRET is an international development NGO under French law which works both in the field and in the political sphere to combat poverty and inequality. Its workers intervene in a range of area to provide sustainable and innovative solutions for inclusive development.



MANUAL WASTE SORTING



COMPOST USE



Coordinating partners

Local partners

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LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES



Process **40 000** tonnes of waste annually



Produce **5 000** tonnes of compost annually



Create **500** jobs



Avoid **150 000** tonnes of GHG emissions in 10 years



Sell **5 000** tonnes of compost for sustainable agriculture



ACHIEVEMENTS

Lomé, Togo (since 2011):

- > 25,095 tonnes of waste processed
- > 2,513 tonnes of compost produced
- > 1,633 tonnes of compost sold
- > 27 paid employees (annual average)
- > 8,351 tCO₂eq.

Dschang, Cameroon (since 2011):

- > 16,561 tonnes of waste processed
- > 1,280 tonnes of compost produced
- > 1,387 tonnes of compost sold
- > 28 paid employees (annual average)
- > 8,266 tCO₂eq.

Mahajanga, Madagascar (1st project):

- > 64,380 tonnes of waste processed
- > 3,715 tonnes of compost produced
- > 2,282 tonnes of compost sold
- > 39,991 tCO₂eq.

BENEFITS FROM THE PROJECT

Environmental impacts



Reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG)



Reduction of the negative impacts of a poorly controlled landfill site (human and animal diseases, pollution)



Improvement in soil quality through the use of compost

Socio-economic impacts



Awareness-raising among local populations of more environmentally-friendly agriculture



Job creation



Development of the local economy



EMPLOYEES



COMPOST SIFTING



COMPOST