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# *ANNUAL REPORT 2022*

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The MCLD Benin Chapter activities  
&  
The MCLD West Africa Regional  
facilitation

March 2023

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## Introduction

This report reflects the activities implemented by the MCLD Benin Chapter during 2022. It is framed in reference to the Umbrella strategy 2022-2026 with the three (03) following components:

- **Establishment of a strong associations / networks**
- **Resource mobilization (preparedness and readiness for relevant actions)**
- **Capability and actions taken for transformative changes**

The report is extended to the activities from the West Africa Regional Coordination to support National MCLD Chapters where need be.

The perspectives for 2023 are still to be discussed through a co-creation process with the chapter members. Yet, some key relevant perspectives are shared in the conclusion of the report.

## 1- Establishment of a strong associations / networks: to which extent the MCLD Benin

Chapter can describe itself as a strong association / network?

- **Membership:** +1000 including mainly CSO affiliated to the House of the Civil Society, Universities. The Chapter develops also relevant partnership with Ministries (Ministry of Decentralization and Local Governance, Ministry of Health...) During 2022, more than 20 organizations newly joined the MCLD Benin Chapter.
- **Structure:** The Chapter operates with the facilitation role of a Permanent Secretariat working in a co-creation process with the Global Secretariat of the MCLD and specific thematic area groups including:
  - Group for the dissemination of the **introductory presentation on the MCLD:** why the MCLD is needed? - what the CLD is and what the CLD is not? The objectives of the MCLD. The same group is in charge of the dissemination of the **Principles** (characteristics), the **Process** (facilitation) and the **Practice** of the CLD. This applies to: -- the Participatory CLD Assessment Tool, -- Community-Led Worldview of Systems Change and other likewise materials to be developed or adopted / adapted.
  - Groups for the prioritized thematic areas for the implementation of the CLD approach in Benin, knowing that the evidences from there will amplify the implementation of the CLD approach to the overall frame of the Sustainable Development Goals. The five (05) defined prioritized thematic areas are:
    - Governance,
    - Nutrition: The MCLD Benin Chapter aims to contribute to the Food System transformation from farm to fork particularly by promoting the “un-valued” knowledge / assets that are available at the **Community level** as well as in the **academic / scientists’ arena** and engage both of them to collaborate in addressing new challenges. The ultimate objectives here are to make sustainable impact in improving (i) better nutrition and wellbeing for communities, (ii) economic status relative to nutrition value chain and (iii) environment and climate change standards.
    - Health and community wellbeing including Covid-19
    - Climate change and environment
    - Local Economy development

## 2- Resource mobilization (preparedness and readiness for relevant actions)

In this paragraph, we emphasize on intangible resources as well as tangible resources that get the Benin MCLD Chapter prepared, **capable** and ready to **take actions for transformation**.

We focus on the chapter members as the key resources.

We value also the resource mobilization including mutualization about resource available within the chapter.

We would strongly underline the support from the MCLD Global Secretariat through the **MCLD monthly calls**, through the **strategy meetings**, the **trainings** and the materials made available

We highly consider the partnership with other stakeholders who build together with our chapter a collaborative ecosystem to strengthen the growth mindset ability.

### 2.1- Chapter members are the key resources

The chapter members, meaning the different organizations with committed leaders particularly those who are facilitating the different thematic areas groups are the key resources of the chapter. They do intentionally make sure that the community aspirations drive the entire process of the development, and the Chapter members are bounded by mutual trust and are sharing the same vision to build the resilience in the communities.

### 2.2- Resources mobilization and mutualization about resources (in terms of learning within the chapter members)

The 2022 budget for the MCLD Benin Chapter and for the MCLD West Africa Coordination was allocated by THP – Global Office, after the approval by the MCLD Global Secretariat. No additional funds have been raised during 2022. Yet, we experienced trust mutualization and financial resource mutualization. Here is just one example: while we were organizing the **campaign to support the transformation of food systems taking advantage of local available nutritious vegetables and traditional recipes**, particularly at Rund 1: Avrankou (see 3.1.3). MCLD contributed financial resource for 605 000 FCFA while GRABE Benin ONG contributed in kind by preparing the venue and the needed materials for the campaign. GRABE Benin ONG contributed also in cash by matching the total budget of 930 500 FCFA with a contribution of 325 500 FCFA.

### 2.3- Support from the MCLD Global Secretariat to the National Chapters including Benin

The support from the MCLD Global Secretariat generate resources that could be ranked at three (03) level

- Peer learning and connection to strengthen our movement meaning-making for global impact in terms of resilience in communities (localization, decolonialization, connection with: Collective Change Lab, Collective leadership Institute...)
- Materials intended to support the mindset growth (community-Led Worldview of systems change, the 10 recommendations...) and the overall implementation of the SDGs (Participatory CLD Assessment Tool, Network weaving materials, local resources mobilization materials...)

## 2.4- Preparedness for the dissemination of the participatory CLD assessment tool

The dissemination of the participatory CLD assessment tool includes the following specific activities:

### 2.4-1. Training of trainers (First generation)

‘‘Training of Trainers’’ with the support of the Global Secretariat of the MCLD (the team from the Global Secretariat of the MCLD performs under the leadership of the Director for Collaborative Research, Practice and Policy (Our colleague Gunjan Veda).

### 2.4-2. Developing the Facilitator Workbook for the training on the ‘‘Participatory CLD Assessment Tool’’, March 2022. (Document of 16 pages available)

The purpose: This workbook has been designed to help planning sessions at CLD’s Training of Trainers and for any subsequent trainings that will be conducted on the Participatory CLD Assessment Tool.

It is also designed to help plan how the Tool will be used to strengthen programs.

The favorite quote that our team shared about the CLD in the workbook is this African proverb: ‘‘If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together’’

‘‘Hêfoun-mè wê hê non sou dé’’ (quote in fongbé, a Beninese language spoken in the southern part of the country). English translation: A bird’s plumage bears the best conditions for it to grow

The content of the workbook focuses on:

-Understanding the dimensions - Planning the training segment - Using the tool - Tool use experience

### 2.4-3. Presentation of the purpose and the content of the Participatory CLD Assessment Tool to 07 representatives from:

- the largest platform of the civil society organization (Maison de la Société Civile) – (02 representatives),
- the National Association of the Communes of Benin / Association Nationale des Communes du Bénin (that represents the 77 communes in Benin,) –(02 representatives).
- Youth platform committed to support communities for sustainable development (POJ-DDC) –(02 representatives),
- Ministry for Planning and Development (Ministère du Plan et du Développement) –(01 representative)

The presentation took place during a workshop held in Grand-Popo from 22 to 24 December, 2021.

The main purpose of the workshop is to extend the dissemination of the tool at three major levels including:

- CSO, mainly through the House of Civil Society;
- Ministries, mainly through the Ministry for Planning and Development;
- ANCB, the National Association of the Communes of Benin. The full conclusions of the workshop held in Grand-Popo is available.



2.4.4- Trainings of trainers held by the Benin MCLD Chapter based on the workbook with focus on: --understanding of the tool, --practicing the tool individually, --practicing the tool with peers, --practicing the tool with focus on facilitator skills (Second generation) Two trainings classes have been organized and planned for three sessions each:

- **The first class** took place on May 06, 2022 with the involvement of three persons from the “Plateforme des Organisations des Jeunes pour le Développement Durable des Communautés (POJ-DDC)” who were committed to use the tool to assess to which extend communities they are informed and have voice about the available public health services offered to them by a Swiss Cooperation Project (FoSIR) implemented by Youth Platform, committed to support communities for sustainable development (POJ-DDC). This assessment refers particularly to dimension **A: Participation, Inclusion, and Voice**. The other dimensions were not assessed:

**B: Local Resources and Knowledge C: Sustainability D: Accountability Mechanisms..... I. Facilitation Investment and Intensity**

- **The second class** took place on May 20, 2022 includes seven (07) young people from two organizations (Autonomous Center for Volunteering, Entrepreneurship, Research and Innovations/Centre Autonome pour le Volontariat, l'Entreprenariat, la Recherche et les Innovations (CVERI-UAC) and Youth, Green Jobs for a Green Economy / et "Jeunesse et Emplois Verts pour une Economie Verte" (JEVEV ONG)).



- And the third and last session planned for September 2022 has been postponed for the first semester 2023.

Lessons learned so far:

- the tool can be used to respond to specific concerns / issues referring to one or more segments. This implies many possibilities of using the tool depending on the context of question to be solved. The Case of Swiss Cooperation project in Benin is an example.



- facilitation is key to engaging community to participate and to make the participatory assessment tool better serving the purpose it is designed for.

- the tool is new to people. Therefore, the context and the purpose a project/program wants to use it for is to be clarified.

- enthusiasm to learn about the tool is shared by many stakeholders

### 3- Capability and actions taken for transformative changes -- related to the Sustainable Development Goals --

Actions here include:

- Partnership development including resources mobilization (in terms of actions with partners not yet member of the MCLD Benin chapter)
- Dissemination of the CLD characteristics / principles, process and practice through various tools, frames ...to a broader audience
- Community of practice to support the implementation of the CLD tools, frames to: (i) the defined prioritized thematic areas and (ii) the overall frame of the SDGs.

#### 3.1- Partnership development

##### 3.1.1- Participation in "Forum of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations" / "Forum des Missions Diplomatiques et Organisations Internationales"

The purpose of the forum is to share with each participant the commitment and action undertaken to support youth in the field of development, particularly as far as drug addiction, sexuality and terrorism are concerned. The participants include representatives from the US Embassy in Benin, the Council of Israel, a representative from Gabon Embassy, IYF Togo, IYF Benin and representative from CSO and the MCLD Benin Chapter representatives.

The main takeaway from the participation in this 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the forum of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations organized on September 6, 2022 was the mindset change shared by IYF as a crucial foundation for any development activity.

We have agreed to meet with the representative of IYF in Benin, and to further discuss how we could collaborate and share more about that crucial condition of change (mindset change), as this matches the core principle of the MCLD. The meeting with IYF is planned to take place before end September 2022.



Pictures from the "Forum of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations" / "Forum des Missions Diplomatiques et Organisations Internationales"

3.1.2- Campaign about mindset change / growth mindset and social learning experiences to support resilience in communities in Benin.



The MCLD Benin Association has undertaken a multi-years campaign entitled “Campagne multi-acteurs pour une mentalité de croissance et le développement durable au Bénin... / Multi-stakeholder campaign for a growth mindset and sustainable development in Benin”.

The campaign has been launched with a first event organized on October 04, 2022 in partnership with International Youth Fellowship (IYF) - Benin, The Hunger Project – Benin, Louvain Cooperation – Benin and many representatives from the MCLD Benin Association.

During the session, MCLD Benin Association Secretariat presented why this campaign is needed and how it is planned to be going on with stakeholders interested in Benin and in West Africa. (presentation available)

IYF presented Korea experiences in terms of set of metaphoric examples and exceptional men and women who incredibly success while access to success appeared quite impossible to them.



3.1.3- The organization of a campaign to support the transformation of food systems taking advantage of local available nutritious vegetables and traditional recipes

This campaign aims at to revalue disappearing traditional dishes and to promote food sovereignty in Benin,

The MCLD Benin Chapter has developed a “**facilitation framework**” to strategically support the “ localization of the food systems” for resilience purpose.

This includes :

- Promotion of local available nutritious vegetables and local traditional recipes.
- Promotion, among other crops, of local available trees that produce vegetables and/or fruits, nuts.... in the long term (Climate mitigation purpose )

- Local economy development: promotion of the consumption of local produced foods via local traditional recipes and promotion of a larger consumption of local super food on the market

In that regard, the following events have been organized :

- **Rund 0:** Workshop to share a draft of a **facilitation framework** to design a campaign to promote local available nutritious vegetables and local traditional recipes. Inputs have been grasped from participants and a co-created facilitation framework is available. The workshop took place in Grand-popo from December 27 to 29, 2021. The participants include representatives from: - 02 CSO (GRABE Bénin, JINUKUN), - the University of Abomey-Calavi, - The ‘National Council of Nutrition’ / ‘National Council for Food and Nutrition / Conseil National de l’Alimentation et de la Nutrition (CAN)’, - 01 private sector (Saveurs du Bénin).
- **Rund 1:** campaign to support the transformation of food systems taking advantage of local available nutritious vegetables and traditional recipes and Celebration of the International Women's Day  
On March 31th,  
The MCLD - Benin Chapter participated in a catching up celebration of the International Women's Day 2022.



The celebration took place in a forest and was jointly organized by the community of Kotan (in the commune of Avrankou), GRABE BENIN ONG and the MCLD Benin Chapter.

The theme of the celebration was "Egalité des sexes et la gestion des ressources naturelles pour un avenir durable" - "Gender Equality and Natural Resource Management for a Sustainable Future" with emphasis on nutritious natural resources assets.

The celebration was attended by more than hundred women joined by:

- 04 representatives from the local government (Conseil Communal)
- 02 representatives from two platforms, actively involved in the MCLD Benin Chapter (the House of Civil Society and - the Youth Organizations for the Sustainable Development of Communities POJDDC).

- the Coordinator for the MCLD - West Africa & Permanent Secretary for the MCLD Benin Chapter

The added values brought in by the MCLD Benin Chapter were:

- Innovation in term of the venue of the celebration (Forest),
- the focus on the participants (rural women),
- the theme of the celebration "Egalité des sexes et la gestion des ressources naturelles pour un avenir durable"
- "Gender Equality and Natural Resource Management for a Sustainable Future" with **emphasis on nutritious natural resources assets and recipes.**

- the "voice" of women who have spaces through breakout groups to share their aspirations, and to identify the actions they would like to take to preserve and value the available forest products for nutrition and incomes purposes for the community.

It is worth mentioning that the theme of the celebration is accordance with the one for the celebration at the national level which is "L'égalité des sexes aujourd'hui pour un avenir durable" - "Gender equality today for a sustainable future".



- **Rund 2: Campaign to revalue disappearing traditional dishes and to promote food sovereignty in Benin, 1st edition June 2022 - Stage Dannou (Municipality of Adjohoun ) -** (the full report is available in appendix....).

### Objectives of this stage of the campaign



The ultimate goal of the MCLD in general and the MCLD Benin Chapter in particular is **to support communities to develop, to live and promote a reality of resilience in all aspects of their lives.**

Here, the event aims to support the food and nutrition resilience of communities and therefore to strengthen food sovereignty.

It also specifically aims to:

1. Collect traditional dishes within the communities as well as the knowledge and the know-how associated to them.
2. Display some "Super Foods" samples (particularly those preferred by some specific groups in communities) of traditional dishes to be tasted and widely adopted or adapted.
3. To support the will of the communities to consume local dishes and to promote them through development activities of the local economy
4. to promote actions for the conservation of cultivars which allow agricultural diversification and the revaluation of the traditional dishes.



The content of the 1st edition of the campaign was focused on the traditional dishes identified, prepared, displayed and tasted below

N°	Local name of the dish	Composition	Comments
1	Peanut djongoli	Peanut, chilli, garlic, ginger, onion, pepper, tomatoes, salt, palm oil, *crushed fish/shrimp (depending on means), corn flour	
2	AGNAN (mashed sweet potato)	Sweet potato, red oil, tomato, salt, pepper	<p data-bbox="1038 517 1394 584">Agnan is a sweet mashed potato puree</p> 
3	Mangnignan	fried or smoked fish, local mustard (afitin), onions, green pepper, salt, baking soda, garlic, ginger, red oil	<p data-bbox="1038 831 1394 943">Mangnignan can be made with one or more combined vegetables</p> 
4	ZANKPITI made from beans	beans, chilli, garlic, ginger, onion, pepper, tomatoes, salt, *crushed fish/shrimp (according to means), palm oil, corn flour	
5	ABLO YOKI	Cassava, salt	
6	Magni Magni	white beans, onions, red palm oil, ginger, pepper, salt, garlic, chilli.	

- **Rund 3: Celebration of the International Days of Rural Women and Food 2022 – Seed fair and tasting of local dishes in partnership with JINUKUN**

Tori stage event (Atlantic Department). October 21 to 22, 2022.



The objective of this celebration is to promote the local / traditional seeds. A total of 254 people (men and women) participated in the event.

The organizations / structures represented at the celebration include: Centre Emmaüs, Nature Tropicale, Movement for Community-Led Development (MCLD) Benin Chapter, Centre d'Expérimentation, de Valorisation de l'Agroécologie, des Sciences et Techniques Endogènes (CEVASTE), Réseau pour l'Intégration des Femmes des Organisations Non Gouvernementales et Associations Africaines (RIFONGA-Benin), GIZ / ProSol, Cercle d'Autopromotion pour le Développement Durable (CADD), Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF), and 14 structures by Fédération AgroEcologique du Bénin (FAEB)

Thirty (30) exhibition stands allowed participants to discover a wide variety of traditional seeds (fifty) and various prepared meals (thirty) based on local products.

The specific contribution of the MCLD Benin Chapter is presented in the video below (see link)

### 3.1.4- Participation in the celebration of the 42nd International Food Day.



Picture of the celebration: the Representative of the MCLD Benin Association (Pascal Djohossou) on the right side of the Resident Representative of FAO in Benin (Angue Isaïas Obama Oyana)

The Benin MCLD Chapter participated in the celebration of the 42nd International Food Day, jointly organized by many stakeholders including the FAO representation in Benin, the Nutrition Society of Benin / Société de Nutrition du Bénin (SNB), and the NGO ‘Vie en Harmonie avec la Nature (VHaN)’.

During that celebration held on October 19, 2022 (instead of October 16, 2022), the Benin MCLD Chapter presented on the theme: ‘Development through

the inclusive promotion of local knowledge (case of the MCLD Benin Chapter) – October 19, 2022. Presentation available”.

The purpose of this presentation was to share how relevant it is to build on local resources to support the trend to resilience in communities.

## 4- Community of practice related to agriculture, climate change and nutrition

The purpose of the community of practice is **to collect and disseminate the methodologies and best practices utilized by the MCLD Benin Chapter members to mobilize and empower communities to take charge of their own development and end hunger and extreme poverty.**

On the basis of the Terms of Reference in appendix . . . ., two (02) CSO, members of the MCLD Benin Chapter were visited with the purpose of “knowing each other deeply and caring about each other” particularly in terms of mutualizing experiences and resources.

- Jeunesse et Emplois Verts Pour Une Economie Verte – “Youth and Green Jobs for a Green Economy” (JEVEV) ONG
- Centre Africain pour la Solidarité et l’Entraide entre les Communautés – “ African Center for Solidarity and Mutual Aid between Communities ” (CASEC - ACSAC) ONG

Here are the major takeaways from the visits:

### 4.1- Visits to JEVEV ONG,



The visits took place on 26 and 27 April, 2022 - - and on 6 and 7 June, 2022. (the full report is available in appendix....).

We have noted a major contribution in terms of innovation from JEVEV ONG to support agriculture sectors and particularly to manage the effects of climate change through the “magic fertilizer” based on water hyacinth. JEVEV ONG is also known for a book already available on line which needs to be largely known among the MCLD Benin Chapter members (youth and women Civil Society Organization) in other to put more emphasis on the “green entrepreneurship”

<https://my.editions-ue.com/catalogue/details/fr/978-620-2-28169-0/jeunesse-et-entrepreneuriat-vert?search=La%20m%C3%A9thode%20ADN> .

A comprehensive capitalization note of JEVEV ONG innovation’s is made available and received the attention of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Government of Benin. Those innovations are being widely disseminated by the MCLD Benin Chapter in close partnership with JEVEV ONG.

The support of the MCLD Benin Chapter hangs on a contribution to print hard copies of JEVEV ONG’s innovations documents (02) and make them accessible to the MCLD Benin Chapter members and other stakeholders that will be willing to take advantage of them.

**Pictures of the visit to JEVEV ONG:**



Picture while visiting a village preserved forest managed by representatives of the village led by the tribute chief. The picture includes the representatives of: -the village, -the team of JEVEV ONG and -the team from the MCLD Benin Chapter.



Presentation on the liquid fertilizer made available by JEVEV ONG during the visit to them by the MCLD Benin Chapter.



Magic compost packaging developed by JEVEV ONG

## 4.2- Visit to CASEC ONG



The visit took place on April 29, 2022. We agreed to organize a national forum for the MCLD which will allow to diversify the profile of the MCLD Benin Chapter members. We agree on the need to enhance the participation of the government bodies, the private sector within the chapter which should also receive more attention from bilateral and multilateral funding agencies.

CASEC ONG shared two documents:

- The 2018 – 2021 consolidated report has been disseminated with the mention of the MCLD as a partner (www.casec-acsac.org )
- The report entitled “We have dreams - 201 countries, 201 dreams with SDGs” developed with the involvement of CASEC ONG on behalf of the youth CSO in Benin. This report is being disseminated among the MCLD Benin Chapter to inspire actions matching with youth aspirations. Book available on <https://www.amazon.com/HAVE-DREAM-Countries-Sustainable-Development-ebook/dp/B0952S549J>



## 5- West Africa region activities in addition to the MCLD Benin Chapter activities

### 5.1- Widening the horizon for the CLD practices to be adopted

5.1.1- Participation in a workshop organized by SAFE Locally-produced VEGetables for West Africa’s consumers (SAFEVEG).



*MCLD West Africa Coordinator participated in the Experts consultation Workshop organized by SAFE Locally-produced VEGetables for West Africa’s consumers (SAFEVEG) on January 27, 2022. The purpose of the workshop was to validate research results documentary on consumer behavior in Benin prior to design the scaling up of interventions on improving vegetables consumption in urban*

**and peri-urban areas in Benin.**

SAFEVEG project aims to improve the accessibility of healthy locally produced vegetables and their consumption in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali and Côte d’Ivoire**

The main input from the MCLD West Africa Region Co-Ordination during this *Experts consultation Workshop* was about the *Local Super Food* concept that need to be made a reality by a co-creation process, taking advantage of the traditional recipes (or improved traditional recipes) based on local crops.

More information on the SAFEVEG project is available on:

<https://avrdc.org/safeveg-local-production-of-safe-vegetables-for-west-african-consumers/>

#### 5.1.2- Participation in the workshop organized by the BENKADI regional project (Benin Section) on the governance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

This is an experience sharing workshop involving Civil Society Organizations and the Ministry of the Living Environment and Sustainable Development (MCVDD) on the governance of Marine Protected Areas (MPA)....

Participants of the workshop (see **picture**) include the deputy of the ‘Ministry of Housing and Sustainable Development (MCVDD)’, **BENKADI project staff**, representatives of the local government, and many CSO affiliated to PASCiB (Plateforme des Acteurs de la Société Civile au Bénin).



The main takeaway from this workshop is that the regulatory management documentation about the environment in general and, particularly about the Marine Protected Areas (AMP) do not specify a clear role / involvement of the CSO. **Need is to keep this in track and strongly advocate to make a shift and ensure for CSO a clear role, particularly in term of “whistle blower” for actions to be inclusively taken based on community aspiration and commitment.** PASCiB through BENKADI project will keep watch over this and the Benin MCLD Chapter will follow up and will encourage to extend the dialogue with the government to other relevant issues, particularly those related to the Benin MCLD prioritized thematic areas.

### 5.1.3- Cross learning workshop involving the MCLD Togo Chapter and the MCLD Benin Chapter

The purpose of the workshop is to share the experience of the MCLD Benin Chapter with the MCLD Togo Chapter representatives, for it could inspire in developing their own initiatives that could strengthen the dynamic of the MCLD Togo Chapter.

The workshop involved 03 representatives from MCLD Benin Chapter and 02 representatives from MCLD Togo Chapter. (see pictures)



The experience sharing focuses on: **the MCLD Benin Chapter report for January – August 2021** (report available), and **the MCLD Benin Chapter study case – October 2021** (study case available)

### 5.1.4- Support to the POJ-DDC Togo (Youth Platform) establishment to bring a new dynamic to the MCLD Togo Chapter

A youth platform leader (Alexandre AGBOZOH-GUIDIH) from MCLD Togo Chapter visited the POJ-DDC Benin, an active CSO, member of the MCLD Benin Chapter for the purpose to share experiences.



The Benin case inspires him and he enthusiastically mobilized 14 likeminded youth organizations who got ready to form the youth platform Togo to support the dynamic of the MCLD Togo Chapter. The launch ceremony of the platform (POJ-DDC Togo) took place in December 2022.

### 5.1.5- Support to the MCLD Central African Republic Chapter establishment



The MCLD West Africa Co-ordination supported the leadership of the National Coordinator of the “SOS Civisme” in the Central African Republic (Emmanuel SINGA) who contributed time and facilitation skills in mobilizing CSO to form the Central African Republic MCLD Chapter.

A budget has been developed for that purpose and the launch ceremony of the Chapter took place in November 2022.

## 6- Presentations developed

- Amplifying sustainable development impacts and sustaining community resilience through the MCLD – Benin Chapter case as an example of the MCLD trend in West Africa - March 2022 (Presentation available).
- Experience sharing on the Participatory CLD Assessment Tool – July 20, 2022 (presentation available).
- Introductory presentation to the workshop on mindset changes tools for sustainable development. - Workshop held on October 04, 2022. / Présentation introductive à l’atelier sur des outils de changement de mentalité pour le développement durable – 04 Octobre 2022.
- Development through the inclusive promotion of local knowledge (case of the MCLD Benin Chapter) – October 19, 2022. Presentation available / Développement par la promotion inclusive du savoir local (cas du Chapitre MCLD Bénin) – 19 Octobre 2022.

## 7- Other accomplishments

### 7.1- MCLD West Africa Coordinator featured in Etienne and Beverly Wenger-Trayner's book launched in September 2021, entitled "Systems Convening - A crucial form of leadership for the 21st century".

The MCLD West Africa Co-ordinator, Pascal Djohossou featured in the book as follow:



**Pascal Djohossou**  
**Community-led**  
**development in**  
**West Africa**

Pascal is the Regional Director of The Movement for Community-led Development in West Africa, who works on mobilization for sustainable development. He has moved away from the more traditional approach of managing projects for development to framing the bringing together of people with different perspectives to help them discover what values in common are driving them at a deeper level.

*"A long time was focused on how to manage projects. We need to frame it differently. We mobilize by focusing on intangible resources, on fundamental values, not just projects. Governments and Civil Society Organizations and other stakeholders have different notions of sustainable development, but common fundamental values are driven by what people value at a deep level."*

2. Portraits of systems conveners | Pascal Djo

<https://www.wenger-trayner.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Systems-Convening.pdf>

## Conclusion and perspectives for 2023

The report reflects the activities implemented by the Benin MCLD Chapter and some national West African MCLD activities implemented through the lens of the MCLD Umbrella Strategy 2022 - 2026.

The perspectives for 2023 are being discussed and co-created with chapter members during an upcoming meeting (April 2023). However, the following activities are in the 2023 planning loop.

- Registration of the Benin MCLD Association (planned for end September 2023)
- Continue supporting the bases for a strong Benin MCLD Chapter / Association especially by extending it to other key stakeholders including la Mediation de la République / the Mediation of the Republic, la Direction des ODD/ the Directorate of SDGs, le Conseil de l'Alimentation et de la Nutrition / the Food and Nutrition Council.
- Resource mobilization including finance, capacity development, resource mutualization...
- Actions for social transformation that support resilience in communities, based on the chapter experiences, the learning from the community of practice, and any specific community aspirations that will be shared by the MCLD Association members.