

**NIOU, Burkina Faso (1994)**

**PROJECT - GUESWENDE**

**Aanleg van een gemeenschapstuin voor de vrouwenorganisatie van Niou**



**Partner : Comité Maastricht Niou (Nederl)**

In dryland countries, women and children have to work hard on their land in very harsh conditions. They live in close contact with the environment and regularly, in their search for firewood or new arable land, they even have to destroy parts of the scarce natural vegetation. Therefore, every improvement in the daily situation of women and children means also a positive contribution in the combat of desertification.

TC-Dialogue Foundation wanted to help the Women's Association of Niou, called GUESWENDE, in improving the soil of the community garden so that production of vegetables during the dry season of 8-9 months (October-May) was significantly enhanced. More vegetables mean more food and more vitamins, but also more income for the women (and their husbands!). As a part of the vegetables produced is sold at the local market and the profit goes to the Women's Association, it can provide fertilizer and tools to the members. At the end of the day, the Community Garden can gradually expand and the women can produce even more vegetables.

This is stimulating the local economy and the women are getting more possibilities to send also their girls to school, instead of only the boys because of lack of income.

<https://desertification.wordpress.com/2015/11/22/community-garden-for-women/>



