

**REGIO NIOU, Burkina Faso (1988 & 1990)**

**PROJECT - BOIS DE L'AMITIÉ I & II (Vriendschapsbos I & II)**

**regio Kourvéogo, Centraal Plateau – Burkina Faso**



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

In cooperation with the Committee Maastricht-Niou (started in 1988), planting of trees with TerraCottem in the Niou Department, north of the capital Ouagadougou, in the Kourweogo Province.

In August 1988 the first part of the Wood of Friendship (Bois de l'Amitié I) was realized: about 2000 trees, mostly belonging to 10 African species, were planted on extremely infertile and very hard lateritic soil. The main objective was to study the effect of TerraCottem on tree development and to determine the optimal dosage of it under Sahelian conditions.

Survival rates were significantly higher (70-80 %) than the average in the Sahel region.

In 1990, on a neighboring piece of lateritic soil, the second part of the Wood of Friendship (Bois de l'Amitié II) was planted. Here are growing now "Neem"-trees (*Azadirachta indica*) and *Cassia siamea*, because these were found to be the best adapted species.

This part of the project was realized in cooperation with a group of sponsors, called "The Green Wave".

The Wood of Friendship is now in excellent condition: a lot of trees reached a height of 6-7 m and the full surface is covered with a dense vegetation layer with grasses and flowering weeds, visited by a large number of insects, birds, mammals and many invertebrates. Consequently, reforestation with TerraCottem contributes to nature restoration and improvement of biodiversity in desertified areas.

