



SDM PROJECT 2024
«STRENGTHENING THE RESTORATION AND
SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FIVE (05)
SACRED FORESTS OF THE RAMSAR 1018
SITE IN BENIN»



TECHNICAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS
FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES ON SUSTAINABLE
SACRED FOREST MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL REPORT

Training Consultant

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1. Introduction

From April 7 to 12, 2025, a series of workshops aimed at strengthening the technical capacities of local communities living near five (05) sacred forests located in Ramsar Site 1018 in Benin was held in the Municipality of Zè. The overall objective of these workshops was to contribute to the restoration and sustainable management of the sacred forests by enhancing the capacities of local stakeholders. More specifically, the workshops aimed to:

- Present and discuss with local stakeholders the new objectives for the sustainable management of sacred forests (SF);
- Strengthen the skills of forest managers in the silviculture of natural and sacred forests;
- Enhance the capacities of managers in techniques for restoring degraded and bare areas around the sacred forests and in village lands;
- Raise participants' awareness of issues related to vegetation fire management and the protection of forest seedlings;
- Participate in planning future actions collaboratively.

Organized under the SDM Project 2024 (*Strengthening the Restoration and Sustainable Management of Five (05) Sacred Forests of the Ramsar Site 1018 in Benin*), this activity was implemented by the NGO Circle for conservation of natural resources (Ce.Sa.Re.N.), with financial support from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

Divided into three sessions of two days each, the workshops brought together representatives of the Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS), local administration agents from the Water, Forests, and Hunting Department, and members of the NGO Ce.Sa.Re.N. In total, 41 participants, including 10 women, were trained in the sustainable management of sacred forests.

This report presents the implementation of the activity, the methods used, the results achieved, and the evaluation of participant satisfaction.

2. Methodology

2.1 Preliminary Organization

Before the start of the workshops, the CeSaReN NGO team conducted a preparatory mission to inform and mobilize the CLFS. The objectives of this mission were to:

- Explain the goals of the activity and the topics to be covered;
- Conduct a participatory selection of 40 CLFS representatives (8 per sacred forest);
- Specify the logistical arrangements (transport, meals, etc.) ;
- Clarify the roles of each stakeholder (Ce.Sa.Re.N NGO, Forestry Administration, trainer, CLFS).

2.2 Workshop Proceedings

The workshops took place in the Municipality of Zè from April 7 to 12, 2025, organized into three sessions of two days each.

The first session, held on April 7 and 8, began with an official opening ceremony chaired by the Executive Director of the CeSaReN NGO. This marked the launch of the workshops and highlighted the importance of strengthening the technical capacities of grassroots actors in the sustainable

management of natural forests, particularly sacred forests. Following this, participants engaged in discussions on the new objectives for sustainable management of sacred forests. The session also included training on the silviculture of natural forests and techniques for restoring degraded areas, including enrichment and the selection of appropriate species.

The second session, held on April 9 and 10, focused on techniques for restoring bare areas around the sacred forests and in the surrounding community lands. Participants also deepened their knowledge of plantation silviculture and the selection of species adapted to these ecosystems.

Finally, during the third and last session (April 11 and 12), participants addressed forest seedling protection techniques and vegetation fire management. A participatory planning exercise for future activities was conducted, followed by a collective workshop evaluation.

2.3 Pedagogical Approach

The trainer adopted a participatory andragogical approach based on the following methods:

- Interactive presentations illustrated with training materials;
- Group work and feedback sessions to promote participants' mastery of the techniques;
- Plenary discussions allowing participants to share their experiences and traditional practices;
- Practical field exercises to apply the knowledge acquired in a hands-on manner.

3. Results achieved

3.1 Knowledge Acquired

At the end of the three sessions, participants gained theoretical knowledge and developed practical skills in the following areas:

- Definitions and roles of sacred forests;
- Threats and challenges to sustainable management;
- Silvicultural cycles of trees and main silvicultural interventions (weeding, cleaning, thinning, pruning, etc.);
- Techniques for assisted natural regeneration, enrichment through planting, and direct seeding in sacred forests;
- Criteria for selecting species adapted to sacred forests and degraded areas (native species, cultural and ecological value);
- Techniques for restoring degraded areas around sacred forests and reforesting village lands (full-plot plantations, agroforestry: Taungya system, live hedges);
- Methods for seedling protection and vegetation fire management (firebreaks, regular patrols).

3.2 Practical Exercises Conducted

To consolidate theoretical knowledge and enhance participants' technical skills, several practical exercises were conducted under the careful supervision of the expert trainer. A summary of some results from these practical exercises is presented below.

Exercise 1: Identify three local threats affecting each sacred forest and rank them in order of importance.

Result 1

Table 1 : Local threats affecting each sacred forest, ranked by order of importance

Sacred forest	Threat 1	Threat 2	Threat 3
Assanmèzoun	Timber and Utility Wood Exploitation	Overexploitation of medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products (medicinal plants and Wildlife)	Encroachment on the boundaries of sacred forests by neighboring farmers
Domèzoun	Occurrence of Wildfires	Illegal harvesting of woody forest products in the sacred forests	Overexploitation of medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products (snails, wild yam, etc.)
Houédozoun	Windthrow	Overexploitation of medicinal plants	Occurrence of Wildfires
Hounzoun	Overexploitation of medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products	Timber and Utility Wood Exploitation	Windthrow
Zanvozoun	Timber and Utility Wood Exploitation	Occurrence of Wildfires	Overexploitation of medicinal plants and other non-timber forest products

Exercise 2: Participatively, identify the traditional management practices still in place in the sacred forests and determine the threats that undermine this traditional system.

Result 2

The current adherence to traditional management practices is affected by the growing influence of imported religions, which have gradually weakened the adherence to local beliefs and customs. However, despite these socio-cultural changes, some traditional practices still persist today, although their observance varies depending on the community and context.

Among the practices that continue to be respected are:

- **Access restrictions:** Entry into the sacred forests remains forbidden to certain categories of people, notably those accused of adultery or women during menstruation. For all other individuals, access to the forest is conditional upon the authorization of the traditional dignitaries.
- **Prohibition of vegetation fires:** Deliberate fires are strictly prohibited in the sacred forests to preserve their ecological and spiritual integrity.
- **Food and social taboos:** Traditional dignitaries are forbidden from consuming certain foods, such as *Talinum triangulare* (Glassoué) or fish of the genus *Clarias* (catfish), considered impure or incompatible with their customs.
- **Cultural and ritual ceremonies:** Initiates regularly gather to perform rites and offer prayers, often to invoke rainfall or to request the fulfillment of specific wishes, such as women’s fertility, family protection, and other personal or communal concerns.

Exercise 3: You are asked to carry out enrichment in your respective sacred forests. Which technique(s) would you use and why?

Result 3

Table 2: Enrichment Techniques to Use in the Sacred Forests of Zè

Techniques to use	Reasons	Concerned sacred forest
Assisted Natural Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires few financial or material resources. Species are adapted to local environmental conditions (Natural regeneration). Minimizes human interventions. 	Assanmèzoun, Domèzoun, Houédozoun, Hounzoun, Zanvozoun
Enrichment through Planting (in gaps or in rows in degraded areas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The selected species can serve multiple functions. Meet the wood needs for cultural and ritual purposes. Increases the forest's woody potential with valuable species. 	Assanmèzoun, Domèzoun, Houédozoun, Hounzoun, Zanvozoun

Exercise 4: Identify five native species on the field to be used for the enrichment of the sacred forests

Results 4:

Table 3 : Species Identified for the Enrichment of the Sacred Forests of Zè

Forêts sacrées	Species Identified for the Enrichment of the Sacred Forests
Assanmèzoun	<i>Azelia africana</i> , <i>Milicia excelsa</i> , <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> , <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> <i>Adansonia digitata</i>
Domèzoun	<i>Milicia excelsa</i> , <i>Ceiba pentandra</i> , <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> , <i>Senna siamea</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i>
Houédozoun	<i>Milicia excelsa</i> , <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> , <i>Adansonia digitata</i> , <i>Ceiba pentandra</i> , <i>Blighia sapida</i>
Hounzoun	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i> , <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> , <i>Ceiba pentandra</i> , <i>Milicia excelsa</i>
Zanvozoun	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i> , <i>Khaya senegalensis</i> , <i>Ceiba pentandra</i> , <i>Milicia excelsa</i>

Exercise 5: Identify three woody species present in the Assanmèzoun Sacred Forest that, due to their condition, require or could benefit from silvicultural intervention. For each species, describe: (i) the recommended type of intervention; (ii) the reasons justifying this choice

Results 5

Table 4 : Silvicultural Intervention and Justifications for Their Selection in the Assanmèzoun Sacred Forest

Identified Species	Type of intervention	Justifications
<i>Albizia zygia</i>	Pruning	Tree with a wide canopy providing shade to the existing natural regeneration. Pruning will remove dead and poorly positioned branches, allowing better light penetration and stimulating the growth of young seedlings under its crown
<i>Lecaniodiscus cupanioides</i>	Vine Removal	Young seedling whose growth is hindered by invasive vines. Removing the vines will free the trunk and branches, allowing the tree to develop properly and reach maturity.
<i>Khaya senegalensis</i>	Weeding	Tree whose growth is slowed by neighboring competing plants. Weeding will reduce competition for resources (water, nutrients, light), thereby promoting optimal development of the species

Exercise 6: Identify three priority species for the restoration of degraded areas around the sacred forests, providing justification for your choices.

Results 6

After consultation among the sacred forest managers, the participants identified and selected three priority species for the restoration of degraded areas. These are: *Elaeis guineensis*, *Cocos nucifera*, and *Persea americana*. The reasons guiding their selection are presented below.

Table 5 : Priority Species Identified for the Restoration of Degraded Areas Around the Sacred Forests and Reasons for Their Selection.

Identified Species	Justifications
<i>Elaeis guineensis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Widely cultivated in the area, it is perfectly adapted to the local climatic and soil conditions. - The nuts can be processed into oil and other products, generating income for local communities. Branches and residues can also be used as domestic fuel. - It is integrated into the traditional practices of local communities, particularly in food and cultural rituals. - An operational commercial value chain exists.
<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coconut nuts can be marketed in various forms, generating sustainable income for local communities. - Also well adapted to local conditions.
<i>Persea americana</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Well adapted to local conditions. - Generates sustainable income through the marketing of its fruits. - The leaves are used in traditional medicine.

Exercise 7: Identify three priority species for the restoration of the riparian community lands, providing justification for your choices.

Results 7

Table 6 : Priority species identified for the restoration of riparian community lands and reasons for their selection

Identified Species	Justifications
<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fast-growing species. - Its wood is highly valued for construction and furniture making, making it an important source of income for local communities. - Widely planted in the area, it is perfectly adapted to the local climatic and soil conditions. - Can regenerate after cutting.
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly valued on international markets. Its cultivation can generate significant long-term income for local communities. - Also well adapted to local conditions. - Can regenerate after cutting
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fixes nitrogen in the soil, thereby improving its fertility. - Well adapted to local conditions. - Generates sustainable income through its commercialization as firewood. - Fast-growing species. - Can regenerate after cutting.

3.3 Roadmap

To effectively translate the skills and knowledge acquired during the capacity-building workshop, the participants engaged in a participatory planning of future activities within the framework of the SDM 2024 project. This process allowed for structuring the sequence of actions to be undertaken, identifying the responsible parties and associated stakeholders, and defining realistic timelines and precise indicators to ensure effective monitoring.

Following discussions among the participants, a detailed action plan was developed. This plan aims not only to organize the various project stages but also to ensure optimal coordination among the involved actors, while facilitating implementation and evaluation of the results.

Table 7 below presents the planning of the next steps.

Table 7: Indicative Planning of the Next Steps

Steps	Planned Activities	Responsible Parties	Associated Stakeholders	Timelines	Indicators
Preparatory Step for Planting	Selection of Species for the Enrichment of Sacred Forests and the Restoration of Degraded Areas Around Sacred Forests and in Riparian Community Lands.	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	Forest Administration, CeSaReN NGO, Expert Trainer	May 1–3, 2025	List of selected species for the enrichment of sacred forests and the restoration of bare areas around sacred forests and in surrounding lands
	Identification of nursery sites for seedling production	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	Forest Administration, CeSaReN NGO	May 5 to 10	The names and contact details of the identified seedling suppliers from the local community of Zè
	Identification of gaps and/or priority areas for enrichment and restoration of degraded zones around the Sacred Forests and riparian lands	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	Forest Administration, CeSaReN NGO, Expert Trainer	May 12 to 24	Number of gaps or priority areas identified for enrichment and restoration of degraded zones around sacred forests and riparian lands.
	Cleaning of selected priority sites / Opening of transects and staking	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	NGO CeSaReN	May 26 to July 5, 2025	The sites (cleaned and staked) are ready to receive the seedlings
	Purchase and Transport of Seedlings for Enrichment and Reforestation in Degraded Areas Around Sacred Forests and Riparian Terroirs.	NGO CeSaReN	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	June 1 to 15, 2025	Number of seedlings purchased and available to the CLFS for reforestation
Planting of seedlings	Planting of seedlings for enrichment and reforestation in degraded areas around sacred forests and riparian lands	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	Forest Administration, CeSaReN NGO, Expert Trainer	June 16 to July 12 and September 8 to October 30.	Number of seedlings planted and number of forests covered
Monitoring, Maintenance, and Protection	Monitoring and Maintenance of Planted Seedlings	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	Forest Administration, CeSaReN NGO, CCSI.	September 15 to October 30, with continuation in 2026	Seedling Survival Rate
	Construction of Firebreaks	Local Sacred Forest Management Committees (CLFS)	Forest Administration, CeSaReN NGO, CCSI.	Starting from January 2026.	Length of firebreaks constructed. Number of forests covered.

4- Conclusion and Workshop Evaluation

The series of workshops held from April 7 to 12, 2025, in Zè as part of the SDM 2024 Project, “Restoration and Sustainable Management of Five (05) Sacred Forests of the RAMSAR 1018 Sites in Benin,” successfully achieved its objectives. Over six days, participants benefited, in a friendly and collaborative atmosphere, from both theoretical and practical knowledge transfer on the silviculture of natural and sacred forests, enrichment of degraded areas, restoration of bare areas around sacred forests and riparian lands, and management of vegetation fires.

At the end of the three sessions, an evaluation was conducted. The results indicate:

- A high overall satisfaction rate (>90%) among participants regarding the relevance of the topics, the quality of the presentations, and the logistical organization (transport, meals, venue);
- Very positive feedback on the practical demonstrations, which helped participants better understand and integrate the techniques presented;
- A strong commitment from participants to share the key knowledge gained with other members of their communities and to support them in practical planting activities.

To ensure the effective implementation of the skills acquired and the work plan, it was agreed that technical follow-up would be provided by Ce.Sa.Re.N NGO, the local Forest Administration, and the Communal Committee for Monitoring the Integration of Sacred Forests into the Protected Areas System (CCSI). These actors will play a key role in supporting local communities and supervising planned activities, thereby ensuring the sustainability of the restoration efforts and the sustainable management of sacred forests.

5. Annex

Annex 1: Participants attendance list



SDM PROJECT 2024
 «STRENGTHENING THE RESTORATION AND
 SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FIVE (05)
 SACRED FORESTS OF THE RAMSAR 1018 SITE IN
 BENIN»



Activity: Technical Capacity-Building Workshops for Local Communities for Sustainable Sacred Forests Management.

Date: April 7 to 12, 2025.

Place: Commune of Zè.

List of participants

Order number	First name & last name	Position / Organization	Origin	Phone number	Signature					
					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
01	HIS Majesty HOUNTOMANBOUGNI	King of Kandakpa	Sacred Forest Zoungoum	-	HE	HE	HE	HE	HE	HE
02	ATHEBEJI Lissani	Chair of management committee	Sacred Forest Houngoum	-	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
03	ABONGLE Robert	Chief of Tangoumou village	Sacred Forest Zoungoum	09553946	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

Order number	First name & last name	Position / Organization	Origin	Phone number	Signature					
					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
04	ANONTON Kpasson	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Zanwozoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
05	SIHOU Victorin	Technical and religious officer	Sacred forest Assanwezoum	0166374900	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
06	GANGNI AVO Akhadé	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Zanwozoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
07	GANGNONOU Christine	Non-timber forest product collector/user	Sacred forest Zanwozoum	-	*	*	*	*	*	*
08	MEDJAGNON AVOC	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Houngoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
09	ANIGLA Marie	Non-timber forest product user	Sacred forest Assanwezoum	0161830949	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	HOUNSOU Valérie	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Zanwozoum	0169304574	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
11	AGOUNLI Nassim	Traditional Healer	Sacred forest Houngoum	0164458511	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	ZANNOU Bruno	Farmer bordering forest	Sacred forest Houngoum	0165523658	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

Order number	First name & last name	Position / Organization	Origin	Phone number	Signature					
					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
13	DENOU Jacques	Forest Management Office within Management Committee	Sacred forest Houngoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
14	SEKO Houngjessi	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Zanwozoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
15	ABADE Hounguibin	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Assanwezoum	0163792040	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
16	AMABE Delphin	Representative of landowners	Sacred forest Eanwozoum	0135497656	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
17	HOUESSINON Djanda	Traditional Chief	Sacred forest Houngoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
18	AGOUNLI Latifou	Chair of Management Committee	Sacred forest Houngoum	-	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
19	ABAITO Lion	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Houngoum	0166084674	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
20	AMABE Braice	Farmer bordering forest	Sacred forest Houngoum	0165385570	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
21	DAH JATIN KPOUTO Pogon	Traditional Healer	Sacred forest Assanwezoum	0167445431	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

Order number	First name & last name	Position / Organization	Origin	Phone number	Signature					
					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
22	AGBODE Fabé Arsène	Management Committee Secretary	Sacred forest Houédogbo	0167417205						
23	HOUNSOU Avadjio	Management Committee Treasurer	Sacred forest Doméjoun	0167447768						
24	ZANNOU Gilbert	Forest management officer within Management Committee	Sacred forest Doméjoun	0163077073						
25	SEKO Sagbaho	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Doméjoun	-						
26	HANTO Anannon	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Assaméjoun	0166097445						
27	DSESE Daniel	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Houédogbo	0164112284						
28	AZONISO Germain	Representative of landowners	Sacred forest Zanvojeun	0164528491						
29	HOUEVIN Ardeline	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Zanvojeun	0166242860						
30	DAH LANSE Sadjio	Notable	Sacred forest Assaméjoun	-						

Order number	First name & last name	Position / Organization	Origin	Phone number	Signature					
					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
31	SOUNAN Mabardan	Representative of landowners	Sacred Forest Houédogbo	0164161999						
32	KAKPO Albert	Management Committee member	Sacred Forest Doméjoun	0195369630						
33	TCHETONGBE Noire	Forest neighbors	Sacred Forest Houédogbo	0164306167						
34	MEJAGBONON Paulin	Management Committee Secretary	Sacred Forest Houédogbo	0164309973						
35	JASSI GLI Tosé	Vodoun devotee	Sacred Forest Assaméjoun	0161563290						
36	HOUNSOU Ogoke	leader of the Vodoun community	Sacred Forest Assaméjoun	0166458414						
37	SEKO Nitchango	Management Committee member	Sacred Forest Doméjoun	0160057807						
38	KAKPO Nathias	Chief of village	Sacred forest Doméjoun	019688915						
39	ADJAGBE Padoue	Management Committee treasurer	Sacred forest Zanvojeun	0164789745						

Order number	First name & last name	Position / Organization	Origin	Phone number	Signature					
					Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
40	DJEJE Brouse	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Houngoun	-						
41	MEJJAIBONOU Etienne	Management Committee Member	Sacred forest Houngoun	-						
42	AGBANGLA Marcel	Facilitator CeSAR/NGO	Cotonou	0197056105						
43	AKPO Blasson A-Y. Amoud.	Local head of the forestry administration of ZE	Ze	019701198						
44	BOSSU Binven	Executive Director CeSAR/NGO	Cotonou	0197056927						
45	AGBANGLA DOGO Gaetan	Independent Consultant	Cotonou	0197590788						

Annex 2: Selected Photos Illustrating Data from the Capacity-Building Workshop



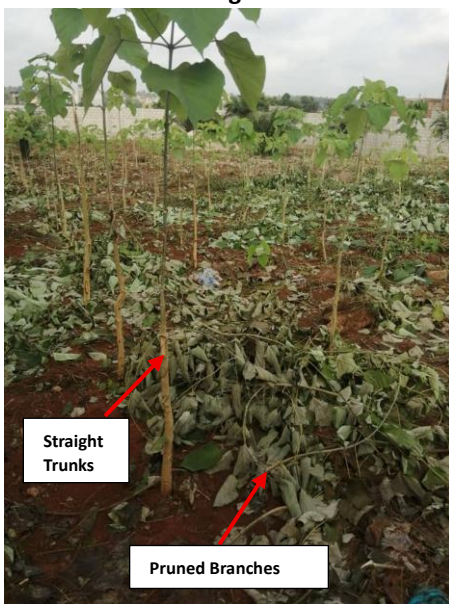
Partial view of participants at the capacity-building workshop



Identification and Removal of Competing Vegetation Around a Natural Regeneration



Enrichment in Gaps



Six-Month-Old *Gmelina arborea* Seedlings Pruned to Ensure Timber or Utility Wood Production (Straight Trunks) in the Riparian Lands



Demonstration of Firebreak Construction.



Example of a *Gmelina arborea* Plantation Managed as Coppice Regrowth (Regeneration from Stumps After Harvest, Demonstrating the Sustainability of Plantations in the Riparian Lands).