



Aquaculture: A Game Changer for Market Gardens

After two years of diligent work on our pilot aquaculture project, our team and partners agree: it is an absolute game changer for market gardens! We went into this project with high hopes but a healthy dose of skepticism. Would we be able to sustain perpetual production, could we develop sustainable supply chains for fish feed, and what would the impact be on the gardens' precious water resources?

Watching our partners master the process and slowly answer these questions over the past two years has been incredible. The hard data shows the success in numbers; each of our pilot gardens have increased their yields and profits dramatically, all with zero net increase in water use.

More importantly though, the participant testimonials show the real impacts:

"Our children and everyone in the house eats fish from the project now. We get money from the fish, and we use the water to irrigate our crops which helps them to grow. We really see the effect in the garden." – Koumba Daga, Irasso Garden participant

"We don't trust the fish from the market. It comes from the ocean, and we don't know how old it is. Now we have our own fish right here. We can go now and have it right away and cook it immediately. We thank god for this." -Racky Ndiaye, Lamaram Garden participant

Keur Soce High School joined the

project as well this year with two fish basins in their new STEM teaching garden, and due to their quick success and all the benefits we've seen, Andando is now seeking to integrate fish farming into all of our gardens over the next several years.

Thanks to a generous grant from The Tomberg Family Philanthropies, we are taking our first steps in this direction by extending the project to two gardens in our Podor region this year. With your support, we can expand even further and help our partners to gain greater food security, nutrition, and financial stability.

Lead photo: Students learning hands-on aquaculture skills at the new STEM teaching garden at Keur Soce High School.



The members of our pilot gardens have mastered the aquaculture process, from fish breeding all the way through to harvest.



Carefully tracking the number, weight, and health of the fish enables participants to maximize growth and use fish feed most efficiently.



A member of the Keur Wack garden shows off her lettuce seedlings. All of our pilot gardens have increased their production of fast growing high value crops.

From the Director

Greetings from Senegal! I am currently here working with the our team to finalize our projects for 2024, so stay tuned to hear about all the exciting new partnerships that your support is making possible!

In the meantime, we have some incredible news out of Podor where we have broken ground on our 15th health post in the remote village of Mdiba! This project has been in the works for a long time, and thanks to your incredible support during our year-end giving campaign, along with the continued generosity of Hub City Church, we were able to say yes to this community! We gave them the good news over the phone, but the conversation didn't get very far as everyone started cheering and celebrating.

Andando's newest partner garden in Wouro Kelle is off to an incredible start harvesting over 5,000 lbs. of produce already in their very first season! Their dedication and hard work is proof of how much our partners value this opportunity and why we must keep pushing into more remote and underserved areas where few if any other NGO's are operating.

"We are really happy with this garden. We grow so many vegetables and all organic. We notice now our health is improving." – Fatou Ibra Sékke

Lastly, thanks to the help of Rick Steves Climate Smart Commitment, our tree nurseries in both Podor and Keur Soce are starting to produce tens of thousands of native tree seedlings to support our gardens and regional reforestation efforts. Climate change is hitting Senegal hard, and our partner communities have asked us to help them to regreen the Sahel. We could not be happier to be able to support them in this ambitious goal.

Thank you for everything that you are doing to help our partner communities to thrive.

"Jéréjéf!" – Thank You!



-Garrison Harward, Executive Director
Garrison@Andando.org



Thiam, Andando's Podor Programs Manager, meeting with the village of Mbida to formalize our partnership to build a new health post.



Fatou Sékke shows off her harvest for the day. Over 5,000 pounds of produce has already been harvested by the women of Wouro Kelle in their very first season!



All of Andando's partner communities are coming together this year with the goal of planting 100,000 trees!

Water for Aida

“It takes a village” might be a phrase which originated in Africa, but it’s become an accepted sentiment in our modern society: no matter where you call home, everyone depends on a vast ecosystem of support for all aspects of our lives. Personal effort makes a difference, but when one or more societal infrastructures are lacking it’s all too easy for any amount of effort to fail to lift people out of poverty.

This is exactly what the village of Seno Bowal is facing. You may recall that last year we constructed a vitally needed health post here which was an immediate success... that is until their water tower broke down. A health post without clean running water isn’t much help. Thankfully they were able to find a temporary solution, but their water situation remains perilous.

“Here we are in a dry area, a very dry area. We do not have enough water. It’s very dry. We are not



Aida Mbaye has served as the midwife in her village of Seno Bowal for over 25 years.

close to the river, we are not close to anything. We are depending on the rainy season.”

– Aida, Midwife at Seno Bowal

Lack of water prevents Aida from serving her community, but an even bigger problem is that the community cannot survive without water. Water is life!

Seno Bowal is the water source for 10 villages and over 5,000 people, along with an additional 30,000 livestock! It is a vital regional resource, but unfortunately, they have struggled with insufficient

water and breakdowns for years. The good news is that the problem is solvable! The constant breakdowns stem from piecemeal temporary fixes which never addressed the root cause of the problem: an undersized well which simply can’t meet the demand.

We need your help to get water for Aida and her community.

We can drill a new deep borehole well which will solve this problem once and for all! Once the water problem is solved, we can then install a market garden which will not only provide year-round food for all 2,200 residents of Seno Bowal, but also help them remain on their ancestral lands.

We need to raise \$50,000 to fix the water problem and install a new market garden. [Will you walk alongside Aida so she can continue to provide quality medical care to her village and not have to worry if the water will turn on?](#)

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For nearly a year residents of Seno Bowal had to rely on water brought in by donkey cart from a well six miles away.



Bodiel Fall (left), representative of the village chief, first alerted Andando to the issue and helped to develop our planned intervention.



Seno Bowal’s water tower, which has the potential to provide water for 10 villages and over 5,000 people!



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