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AFD  
AGENCE FRANÇAISE  
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

# FACT SHEET

## ENVIRONMENT



Project Commencement: 2019

## **AFRICA**

Higher Education Centres of  
Excellence for Development Impact  
(ACE Impact)

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## Regional Centre for Energy and Environmental Sustainability (RCEES)

**University and Host Country:**

University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR), Ghana

**Centre's Website:**

<https://www.rcees.uenr.edu.gh/>

**Centre Director:**

Eric Antwi Ofosu

**E-mail Address:**

[ericofosuantwi@gmail.com](mailto:ericofosuantwi@gmail.com)

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**Primary Thematic Disciplines of the Centre:**

- Energy and Environmental Sustainabilit

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CENTRE

The Regional Centre for Energy and Environmental Sustainability (RCEES) is an African Centre of Excellence committed to providing quality teaching, learning, research to advance the development of future leaders in the disciplines of Energy and Environment.

The Centre provides accredited tailor-made postgraduate programmes in the fields of Energy and Environment with the aim to develop and train expertise geared towards universal energy access, energy efficiency and promoting renewable energy. We are committed to focusing on themes related to climate change adaptation, the environmental impact of energy production and use, environmental sustainability and other relevant areas.

For students and professionals who are passionate about providing solutions to the energy and environmental challenges of the 21st Century, RCEES offers cutting edge Master and Doctoral programmes, and short courses with an unparalleled student-centred learning experience for skills and competencies development. We provide our students with the relevant skills and training to ensure their competitiveness and immense contribution to society through innovative discoveries and applications. Our postgraduate research programs are the hallmark of the RCEES as a centre of excellence.

## KEY CAPABILITIES

- A well-resourced Renewable Energy Laboratory
- Solar PV Installation Training Facilities
- Off-grid solar installation systems (Solar street lights and home systems) for demonstration and training purposes
- Earth Observation and Ground station services at the Earth Observation, Research and Innovation Centre (EORIC)

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The Vision of RCEES is: “to be the leading internationally accredited Centre of Excellence that provides Quality Research and Postgraduate Education in Energy and Environmental Sustainability.

Our mission is to provide Excellent and Quality Postgraduate Education, Discover, Preserve and Disseminate cutting-edge interdisciplinary Research. RCEES also aims, through Training and Capacity Building, Consulting, Professional Development, and securing Grants and Donor funding to enhance the lives of our students, industry and society.

The expected outcomes for the centre include

1. To put up a world class teaching infrastructure
2. To maintain and enhance world-class teaching, research and scholarship.
3. To ensure the financial sustainability of RCEES.
4. To attract, recruit, nurture and retain a diverse staff and faculty that support RCEES’ mandate.
5. To build and sustain strong partnerships with industry and other key stakeholders.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Recruitment of our first cohort of students including 23 regional students (33%) and 24 females (38%)
- Procurement of consultants for Centre Building accomplished. Procurement process for Contractor for the centre building ongoing
- Official launching of the centre in December 2019

## MAIN REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

1. ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
2. Advanced Energy and Material Systems Lab (AEMSLab) - University of Canterbury
3. Strategic Power Solutions
4. Bui Power Authority
5. Sunyani Technical University
6. Brew-Hammond Energy Centre
7. Accra Compost & Recycling Plant
8. Ghana Institution of Engineering

## PRIMARY RESEARCH FACULTY MEMBERS

1. **Prof. Ing. Nana Sarfo Agyemang Derkyi**  
nana.derkyi@uenr.edu.gh  
Energy (Biofuels)
2. **Dr. Samuel Gyamfi**  
samuel.gyamfi@uenr.edu.gh  
Energy (Renewable)
3. **Dr. Ing. Francis K. Attiogbe**  
francis.attiogbe@uenr.edu.gh  
Environmental management
4. **Dr. Amos Tiereyangn Kabo-bah**  
amos.kabobah@uenr.edu.gh  
Environmental management
5. **Dr. Prince Antwi - Agyei**  
prince.antwi-agyei@uenr.edu.gh  
Environmental management
6. **Dr. Eric Effah-Donyina**  
eric.effah-donyina@uenr.edu.gh  
Energy (Policy)
7. **Dr. Ing. Emmanuel Nyantakyi**  
emmanuel.nyantakyi@uenr.edu.gh  
Energy (Petroleum)
8. **Dr. Mark Amo Boateng**  
mark.amo-boateng@uenr.edu.gh  
Environmental (AI, Smart systems)
9. **Dr. Francis Atta Kuranchie**  
francis.kuranchie@uenr.edu.gh
10. **Mr. Felix Amankwah Diawuo**  
felix.diawuo@uenr.edu.gh  
Energy (Sustainable Systems)

## West African Centre for Water, Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture (WACWISA)

### University and Host Country:

University for Development Studies (UDS), Tamale, Ghana

### Centre's Website:

[www.wacwisa.edu.gh](http://www.wacwisa.edu.gh)

### Centre Director:

Prof. Felix Kofi Abagale

### E-mail Address:

[fabagale@uds.edu.gh](mailto:fabagale@uds.edu.gh)

[wacwisa@uds.edu.gh](mailto:wacwisa@uds.edu.gh)

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### Primary Thematic Disciplines of the Centre:

- Integrated Water Resources Management
- Irrigation and Drainage Engineering
- Sustainable Agricultural and Food Systems
- Climate Change
- Food and Nutrition Security

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CENTRE

The West African Centre for Water, Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture (WACWISA) was established in 2019 by the University for Development Studies (UDS) as a semi-autonomous Centre of Excellence to undertake cutting-edge research and training in irrigation, drainage, water resources management, sustainable agriculture, climate change and food and nutrition security.

With a tagline “Building Capacities for Sustainable Solutions”, WACWISA undertakes capacity building through certificated short courses in its thematic areas and at Masters and PhD level. Training and research is enhanced through established partnerships with research institutions and industry partners within Ghana, Africa and globally. Its training system emphasizes quality and capacity building for students and places premium on practical skills and solutions to industry problems.

WACWISA is funded by Government of Ghana and the World Bank, under the African Centers of Excellence Impact (ACE Impact) initiative and it also collaborates with other funding agencies to explore new and emerging avenues to advance the frontiers of knowledge.

## KEY CAPABILITIES

- Secretariat and students learning centre
- Established Field Training sites with Nasia farms, Fulla Farms, IWAD, ICOUR within its operational area
- Experienced faculty staff with variety of relevant specialties

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The West African Centre for Water, Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture (WACWISA) has a Vision: “to be a leading world-class academic and research Centre specialized in irrigation, water resources, sustainable agriculture and climate change” and, a Mission of “developing skills and knowledge of young men and women to provide practical and sustainable solutions to challenges of water resources, irrigation, agricultural development and climate change in Africa”.

Specifically, WACWISA build's capacities of trainees and graduate students through short courses, Masters, PhD and post-doctoral level programs, as well as undertakes applied and advanced research and develops sustainable localized technologies in water resources, irrigation, climate change, sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition.

### Expected Outcomes include:

1. Build capacity of students at Masters and PhD level focusing on Irrigation and Drainage Engineering, Integrated Water Resources Management, Climate Change, Sustainable Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Systems.
2. Offer short courses (i.e. certificate and diploma) and programs to mid-career professionals.
3. Undertake applied and advanced research to contribute new and emerging knowledge and technologies to its focus area, with emphasis on improving farming systems in Sub Saharan Africa.
4. Develop localized and sustainable solutions aimed at resolving agricultural production challenges.

## KEY CAPACITIES

- Developed curriculum for three Masters and PhD programmes to date
- Enrolled twenty (20) regional and local students into Masters and PhD programmes from 8 African countries including six (6) females.
- Successfully organised the Second International Conference on Irrigation and Agricultural Development (IRAD 2020) with participants from nine (9) countries across the globe.
- Established Sectoral Advisory Board (SAB) with partners from Industry

## REGIONAL PARTNERS

1. International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE)
2. Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey, Niger
3. Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria
4. Bells University of Technology, Ota, Nigeria
5. Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER) Sikasso in Mali
6. University of Rwanda (UR), Rwanda.

## GLOBAL PARTNERS

1. International Water Management Institute, Columbia
2. Societe du Canal de Provence (SCP), France
3. Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands
4. Vrije University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
5. United Nations University - Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), Japan
6. University of British Columbia, Canada

## PRIMARY REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

1. Water Resources Commission (WRC)
2. Water Research Institute (WRI)
3. International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
4. Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)
5. University of Cape Coast (UCC)
6. Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet)
7. Conservation Alliance International (CAI)
8. Kukobila Nasia Farms Limited
9. Fallu Farms Ghana Limited (FFGL)
10. Arima Farms Ghana Limited (AFGL)
11. HydroFarm Ghana Ltd
12. Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA)
13. Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI)
14. Integrated Water and Agricultural Development (IWAD)



## PRIMARY RESEARCH FACULTY MEMBERS

1. **Prof. Saa Dittoh**  
saaditt@gmail.com  
Irrigation Systems Economics, Natural Resources Management
2. **Prof. Abdul-Ganiyu Shaibu**  
sganiyu@uds.edu.gh  
Hydrology, Soil-Crop-Water Relations, Irrigation Infrastructure and Management, Water Resources Management
3. **Dr. Samuel J. Cobbina**  
scobbina@uds.edu.gh  
Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment, Environmental health Risk Assessment
4. **Dr. Sylvester N. Ayimbila**  
sayambila@uds.edu.gh  
Irrigation Innovation Management
5. **Dr. Mammud A. Akudugu**  
makudugu@uds.edu.gh  
Design and implementation of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) frameworks
6. **Prof. Abdul-Halim Abubakari**  
ahalim@uds.edu.gh  
Climate Smart Agriculture
7. **Dr. Dzigbodi A. Doke**  
ddoke@uds.edu.gh  
Climate Change, Water Resources and Gender Conversations
8. **Prof. Israel K. Dzomeku**  
ikdzomeku2009@yahoo.com  
Irrigation Agronomy, Weed Science and Management and Crop Science
9. **Dr. Bernard N. Baatuuwie**  
bbaatuuwie@uds.edu.gh  
GIS Modelling and Remote Sensing
10. **Dr. Raymond A. Kasei**  
rakasei@gmail.com  
Hydrology, Climate Change, Gender and GIS Modelling and Surveying

## Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR)

### University and Host Country:

University of Cape Coast, Ghana

### Centre's Website:

<https://acecor.ucc.edu.gh>

### Centre Director:

Prof. Denis Worlanyo Aheto, PhD

### E-mail Address:

[daheto@ucc.edu.gh](mailto:daheto@ucc.edu.gh)

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### Primary Thematic Disciplines of the Centre:

- Coastal Geomorphology and Engineering
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
- Blue economy, Governance and Social Resilience
- Disaster Risk Management and Migration and
- Ecosystems and Biodiversity.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CENTRE

The Centre for Coastal Management (CCM) which was established in December, 2013 in the School of Biological Sciences of the College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences (CANS) of the University of Cape Coast (UCC) responded to the call for application.

CCM was competitively selected to establish the Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR). ACECoR is, therefore, the new image for CCM which has as its vision: To become a Centre of Excellence in coastal management contributing to global efforts to safeguard healthy coastal ecosystems for sustained provision of goods and services.

Recognizing that Coastal Degradation is a complex and multifaceted problem, the overall research strategy for the Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR) will be a systems-based approach where smaller research projects that are multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary are being developed to eventually feed into a broad goal of addressing the challenge of Coastal Degradation. The main aim of the research plan of ACECoR is to provide data and information to support development of policies to address coastal degradation. In this regard, ACECoR seeks to train 120 graduates at the postgraduate (PhD and Masters) levels in addition to 260 professionals (in short courses) across Africa.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- Completion of Institutional Readiness (DLI 1.1, DLI 1.2)
- Admitted First Cohort of Students (30 MPhil; 15 PhD) and trained 56 individuals in Professorial Short Courses
- Refurbishment of a four classroom facility with offices for teaching and learning
- Acquisition of land/space and development of impressions for ACECoR multipurpose building
- Completion of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The objective of ACECoR is to support the development of technical and scientific capacity of young African professionals to develop integrated solutions to address coastal degradation in the countries of intervention through short- to long-term professional and academic training programmes.

ACECoR seeks to carry out education, research and outreach programmes while focusing on regional participation and the inclusion of female, all geared towards the advancement of sustainable use and management of marine and coastal assets in the partner countries to be involved. This is expected to be achieved through collaboration with academia, research institutions and industry, locally as well as international partnerships.

### The expected outcome are as follows:

1. Highly skilled postgraduate (PhD and MPhil) students, post-doctoral fellows and professionals trained
2. Applied research on cross cutting issues on marine and coastal degradation conducted
3. Access to data or information for management of coastal degradation enhanced
4. Effective integrated coastal zone management policies developed
5. Marine and coastal resources are managed in a sustainable manner

## KEY CAPABILITIES


- Fisheries and Coastal Research Laboratory
- Field Equipment
- Workstations for students
- Libraries
- Accommodation for Students and Visiting Lecturers

## MAIN REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

1. University of Rhode Island, USA
2. Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
3. University of Abomey, Calavi
4. University of Calabar, Nigeria
5. The Development Institute, Ghana
6. Friends of the Nation, Ghana
7. Hen Mpoano, Ghana
8. University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

## PRIMARY RESEARCH FACULTY MEMBERS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <b>Dr. Precious A. D. Mattah</b><br>pmattah@ucc.edu.gh<br>Environmental Science                                    | 6. <b>Dr. Samuel K. Tulashie</b><br>stulashie@ucc.edu.gh<br>Environmental Chemical Engineering             |
| 2. <b>Dr. Noble K. Asare</b><br>nasare@ucc.edu.gh<br>Marine Biogeochemistry; Aquatic Microbial Ecology and Pollution  | 7. <b>Dr. Samuel K. M. Agblorti</b><br>sagblorti@ucc.edu.gh<br>Geography, population and Migration         |
| 3. <b>Dr. Isaac Okyere</b><br>iokyere@ucc.edu.gh<br>Fisheries Science, Coastal Management, Coastal Ecosystems ecology | 8. <b>Dr. Emmanuel Acheampong</b><br>emmanuel.acheampong@ucc.edu.gh<br>Oceanography and Limnology          |
| 4. <b>Dr. Donatus Angnuureng</b><br>donatus.angnuureng@ucc.edu.gh<br>Oceanography, Coastal hydrodynamics              | 9. <b>Ms. Elizabeth Effah</b><br>elizabeth.effah@ucc.edu.gh<br>Climate Change and Adaptation               |
| 5. <b>Dr. Michael Miyittah</b><br>m-miyittah@ucc.edu.gh<br>Soil and Environmental Chemistry; Toxicology               | 3. <b>Ms. Ivy Gyimah Akouko</b><br>ivy.akuoko@ucc.edu.gh<br>Blue Economy, Governance and Social Resilience |



## Centre of Excellence in Agriculture, Environment and Health (CEA- AGIR)

### University and Host Country:

Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar. Senegal

### Centre's Website:

[www.cea-agir.ucad.sn](http://www.cea-agir.ucad.sn)

### Centre Director:

Professor Babacar Faye

### E-mail Address:

[bfaye67@yahoo.fr](mailto:bfaye67@yahoo.fr)

[babacar2.faye@ucad.edu.sn](mailto:babacar2.faye@ucad.edu.sn)

[cea-agir@ucad.edu.sn](mailto:cea-agir@ucad.edu.sn)

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### Primary Thematic Disciplines of the Centre:

- AGIR was built as an integrated center for observation, measurement, training and development in the environment, health and society. It is organized around a set of infrastructures, equipment and human resources which will be used in a nested fashion for training, research and development. Four themes have been identified:
  - Air quality and human health
  - Resources, Water Quality and Human Health
  - Transitions and new health challenges
  - Restoration of degraded environments for well-being and health

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CENTRE

CEA-AGIR focuses on Environment-Health-Society interactions. The development challenge that the center wishes to take up is entitled “Acting on the socio-environmental system to improve the health and well-being of populations” in West Africa.

By ACTING, we have to understand a set of actions going from the knowledge of the systems in which the center fits and their dynamics to a wide range of measures to manage them and support them in their evolution, set of measures that we can summarize under the terms of “understanding / adapting / enhancing / protecting / restoring”.

AGIR means taking up the challenge of Ensuring human well-being in an environment with a balanced balance, Managing human resources, risks and impacts, Integrating the challenges of socio-economic transition ecological to the necessities of development, and finally Restoring socio-ecosystems and making them resilient.

## KEY CAPACITIES

CEA AGIR is a Consortium of 5 universities and 5 African and European research institutions.

- Partnership with the private sector of companies, local authorities and public entities whose activities are linked to the theme of the CEA.
- The promotion of self-employment by the creation of startups from training and research results in the themes of CEA
- Well-targeted short-term training for active professionals
- Foster innovation processes, the appropriation of know-how and the use of innovative technologies stemming from research on CEA themes with the aim of stimulating economic development

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

AGIR aims:

- to offer the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian sub-region the means to increase the level of excellence in the training of students and young professionals on the themes of the challenge,
- to stimulate interdisciplinary research and to strengthen the resources dedicated to it (equipment, doctoral and postdoctoral grants) thanks to the international training and research programs that the strengthening of our structure will allow us to win,
- to stimulate innovation thanks to the multiple forms of applications arising research that the laboratory conducts,
- to offer businesses, institutions and sectors linked to the challenge and its themes advice and services to help the countries of the sub-region and their populations to better experience the multiple transitions underway .

AGIR intends to meet these challenges through training, applied research and development, based on a strong partnership with academic structures and with the socio-economic sectors.

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

### CEA AGIR Official Launch Meeting

- Recruitment of 116 master and PhD students in CEA fields in 2019
- Organization of the first summer course in Ecohealth from 05 to 09 August 2019
- Establishment of a distance learning platform as part of the response to Covid-19
- Creation of a website



## PRIMARY REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

1. CNRST Burkina Faso
2. MRC the Gambia
3. USTTB Mali
4. Stockholm Resilience Center Denmark
5. CNRS France.

## PRIMARY RESEARCH FACULTY MEMBERS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <b>Prof. Aboubacry Kane</b><br>aboubacry.kane@ucad.edu.sn<br>Environment / Plant Biology | 7. <b>Prof. Adama Faye</b><br>adama.faye@ucad.edu.sn<br>Public Health / Epidemiology |
| 2. <b>Prof. Mouhamadou F Kébé</b><br>cmkebe@gmail.com<br>Environment and Renewable Energies | 8. <b>Prof. Enguerran Macia</b><br>enguerran.macia@cnrs.fr<br>Sociology Anthropology |
| 3. <b>Prof. Mamadou Fall</b><br>madoufal@gmail.com<br>Toxicology                            | 9. <b>Prof. Mouhamadou Mawloud DIAKHATE</b><br>mdiakhate10@yahoo.com<br>Environment  |
| 4. <b>Prof. Abdoulaye Samb</b><br>abdoulaye1.samb@ucad.edu.sn<br>Physiology                 | 10. <b>Prof. Fatou Bintou Sarr</b><br>fatoubin.sarr@gmail.com<br>Physiology          |
| 5. <b>Prof. Sidy Mohamed Seck</b><br>sidy-mohamed.seck@ugb.edu.sn<br>Nephrology             | 11. <b>Prof. Lamine Gueye</b><br>lamine.gueye@uadb.edu.sn<br>Physiology              |
| 6. <b>Prof. Lamine Ndiaye</b><br>lamine.ndiaye@ucad.edu.sn<br>Sociology Anthropology        |  |



## Centre of Excellence in Environment and Mining (CEA-EMIG)

**University and Host Country:**

School of Mines, Industry and Geology (EMIG)

**Centre's Website:**

[www.cea-emig.ne](http://www.cea-emig.ne)

**Centre Leader:**

Dr-Ing Ousman Mahamadou

**E-mail Address:**

[nabourkou@yahoo.fr](mailto:nabourkou@yahoo.fr)

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**Primary Thematic Disciplines of the Centre:**

The primary thematic disciplines are: mining, geology and environment with as priority themes of the training programme: environmental management tools, impact studies, management of water, air, waste, soil, noise, odour, vibrations, site restoration and rehabilitation, safety manner.



## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CENTRE

The CEA\_EM-EMIG Centre is dedicated to specialised training at Bachelor and Master's level in Mining Environment, Mining Safety and Mine Site Rehabilitation. It is a major challenge that the centre intends to take up in order to overcome the lack of qualified personnel in the UEMOA area and beyond, in this speciality.

In addition to this specialised training, the centre provides for short courses, applied research work and doctoral training from the third year onwards.

These actions are in line with the orientations of national and regional policies which provide for capacity building of actors in the field within the framework of the African Mining Vision (AMV).

All of its training and action research actions will be implemented with the collaboration of the targeted renowned educational partners, space mining companies and key government departments, which will play a decisive role in achieving the objectives set by the project.

The centre will benefit from all the educational and research infrastructures of EMIG and from the full support of its teaching Technologists and Researchers who already have a long experience.

The industrial and institutional partners will support EMIG in welcoming, accommodating, supervising and caring for the trainees. They will also play a decisive role in the revision of curricula, applied research activities and the professional integration of young graduates.

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The African Centre of Excellence for Mining Environment has set as its main objective the training of specialists in prospecting, exploitation, mineral processing, mining safety and rehabilitation of mining sites.

Aspects such as continuing education, short courses and applied research will also be taken into account.

The reinforcement of the equipment of the centre and its partners in relation to the training programmes, of the capacities of teachers and laboratory technicians in order to increase the quality of the supervision, will be implemented.

### The main expected results are as follows:

- The implementation of specialized bachelor's and master's degrees;
- An improvement in the quality of initial training programmes ;
- The implementation of short training modules;
- An increase in the number of students enrolled and graduating from bachelor and master programs;
- The provision of specialist managers from the short-term training course;
- Further development of the school-business partnership;
- The effectiveness of the training of trainers;
- The acquisition of workshop and laboratory equipment;
- Improved service delivery;
- The development of applied research.

## KEY CAPABILITIES

The EMIG which houses the Emerging Centre CEA\_EM-EMIG. It is a building complex of 25,000 m<sup>2</sup> of buildings on a 20-hectare plot of land located on the right bank of the Niger River in Niamey, comprising: a "teaching" zone housing industrial halls, laboratories, amphitheatres, classrooms, administration; a "living" zone with a housing estate, a restaurant, recreational and sports facilities, and an infirmary.

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE


1. Setting up the project team and the various advisory committees;
2. Writing the PMO;
3. Team and Committee Appointment Decisions;
4. First meeting of the Sectoral Advisory Committee;
5. Setting up the website;
6. Drafting of manuals (purchasing, administrative and financial procedures manual, student guide, sexual harassment policy, CGES document);
7. Scholarship Policy;

## MAJOR REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

### The partner educational institutions are:

1. Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey (Niger);
2. Saint Jerome's Polytechnic Catholic Institute of Douala (Cameroon);
3. University of EXETER (England);
4. University of Lomé (Togo);
5. Institut National Polytechnique Félix HOUPHOUET BOIGNY;
6. National School of Mineral Industries of Rabat (Morocco);
7. International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering 2iE; - Ecole Polytechnique d'Abomey-Calavi (Benin).

## PRIMARY RESEARCH FACULTY MEMBERS



## Center for Studies, Training and Research in Social Risk Management (CEFORGRIS)

**University and Host Country:**

Joseph KI-ZERBO University (UJKZ) Burkina Faso

**Centre's Website:**

<http://www.ceforgris-ujkz.org/>

**Centre Leader:**

Dr. Seindira MAGNINI

**E-mail Address:**

[mseindira@yahoo.fr](mailto:mseindira@yahoo.fr)

**Centre Leader:**

Dr. Natéwindé SAWADOGO

**Email Address:**

[natewindesawadogo@yahoo.fr](mailto:natewindesawadogo@yahoo.fr)

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**Primary Thematic Disciplines of the Centre:**

- Management and Assessment of Risks and Social Impacts
- Environmental and Social Safeguard
- Research Methods in Social Sciences
- Health and safety at work
- Natural resources, societies and risk
- Educational engineering
- Expropriations, resettlement and rehabilitation
- Water-based environmental and social assessments and safeguards
- Environmental and social assessments and safeguards focused on the agricultural sectors
- Natural resources, societies and risk
- Community Health
- Social and Gender Risk Assessment
- Social risk assessment

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CENTRE

CEA-CEFORGRIS was born out of the will of academic (Joseph Ki-Zerbo University and Ouaga II University) and sectoral (BUNEE and EXPERIENTS) partners, private and public, to pool their scientific and technical skills and coordinate their leadership in the fields of environmental and social safeguarding, the engineering of initial and continuing professional training, and the management of research and expertise, with the aim of providing the French-speaking region with a Center on environmental and social safeguards.

In its implementation process, CEA-CEFORGRIS is part of a continuous process of regionalization, extension of its training programs, continuous improvement of the quality of training and staff management in order to be able to ensure an optimal supervision of students.

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

### Vision of the Center:

The vision of the Center for Studies, Training and Research in Social Risk Management (CEFORGRIS) is to make the higher education and research system a tool for sustainable development.

### Objectives of the Center:

To train competent professionals and create expertise services in the field of social risk assessment and management.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

- Strengthening the skills of the CEFORGRIS coordination team and teachers;
- Development of a doctoral program in social risk assessment and management;
- Offer of short courses on predefined themes
- Creation of an environment favorable to research and training;
- Support for applied research;
- Dissemination of the results of the Centre's work;
- Development of academic and industrial partnerships and creation of a communication system;
- Development and supply of expertise services in social risk assessment and management.

## KEY CAPABILITIES

- Administration office rooms;
- Classrooms ;
- Site for building center infrastructure;
- Provision of a 32-seater transport bus.

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- Implementation of a Master program
- Student recruitment
- Validated preparation documents
- Appointment of members of the coordination team
- Management training for members of the coordination team

## MAIN REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERS

1. **Gretchen WALTERS**  
 Université de Lausanne  
 Research and Training in Environmental and  
 Social Assessment and Safeguarding  
 Tel: +41 021 / 692 30 72  
 Email: gretchen.walters@unil.ch
2. **Bernard COULIBALY**  
 Université Haute-Alsace  
 France  
 Training and Research in Educational Science  
 Tel:  
 Email:
3. **Chuckzumerijé OKEREKE**  
 University of Reading  
 United Kingdom  
 Education or Research in Environmental  
 Assessment and Safeguarding  
 Tel: +44 7986 757 545  
 Email: c.okereke@reading.ac.uk
4. **Abou-Bakari IMOROU**  
 Department of Sociology  
 University of Abomey Calavi  
 Cotonou, Benin  
 Education or Research in Environment and Local  
 Development  
 Tel: +229 97 00 77 33  
 Email: aimorou@yahoo.fr
5. **Romarc OGOUWALE**  
 Department of Geography  
 University of Abomey Calavi  
 Cotonou, Benin  
 Environmental Education or Research and  
 Environmental Safeguard  
 Tel: +229 97 478 169  
 Email: ogou25@yahoo.fr
6. **Stephan ROCHE**  
 Faculty of Forestry, Geography and  
 Geomatics  
 LAVAL University  
 Canada  
 Système d'information géographique et  
 environnementale  
 Tel: +41 866 562 13, Poste 2146  
 Email: Roche@scg.ulaval.ca
7. **Ibrahim Si ZAKARI**  
 Abdou Moumouni University  
 Niamey, Niger  
 Education or Research in Computer  
 Engineering Applied to the Environmental  
 Information System  
 Tel: +22 789 131 415  
 Email: sidizakariibrahim@gmail.com
8. **M. AKA Bédia, F.**  
 Economic Policy Analysis and Modeling  
 Laboratory (LAMPE)  
 Alassane Ouattara University  
 Cote-d'Ivoire  
 Education or statistical research, modeling,  
 surveys on household living conditions  
 Tel: +22 507 121 065 / 02 200 465  
 Email: akabdia@yahoo.fr



## PRIMARY RESEARCH FACULTY MEMBERS

- 1. André Soubéïga**  
soubeikam@gmail.com  
Community Health, Societies
- 2. Valérie Rouamba/Ouédraogo**  
claudvale@yahoo.com  
Gender, Education and Development
- 3. Jean Marie DIPAMA**  
imdipama@yahoo.fr  
Rural Geography; layout
- 4. Fatoumata BADINI/KINDA**  
fkindabadini@gmail.com  
Gender and Social Protection
- 5. Oumarou OUEDRAOGO**  
ouedraogooumar@yahoo.fr  
Ecology, Environment
- 6. Yacouba BANHORO**  
yacou@gmx.net  
Environment, Health, Social Services
- 7. Alexis KABORE**  
alexiskaboresocio@gmail.com  
Environment, Community Engagement
- 8. Augustin PALE**  
Paleau2000@yahoo.fr  
Community and Political Health
- 9. Ousséni OUEDRAOGO**  
ousseno@yahoo.fr  
Environment
- 10. Ramané KABORE**  
ramaneka@hotmail.com  
Development Policies



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