



ACECI advocates the human factor in major global stakes such as sustainable development, the fight against poverty, management of the environment, bilateral and multilateral relations.

AT THE CROSSROADS OF GIVING AND RECEIVING

# Activity Reports 2012



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## A WORD FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

**Dear members, volunteers, employees and partners.**



*Ginette Karirekinyana*

In 2012, ACECI celebrated its fifth anniversary and this success was possible because of your involvement. There are more and more of you participating in ACECI's activities, public awareness programs and funding drives.

During these 5 years, the question of ethics in international cooperation, as defended by ACECI, has drawn the attention of all those interested in international cooperation: university students, diplomats, private entrepreneurs, people involved in solidarity organizations as well as the general public. All these people were touched by our message and this interest resulted in new collaborations. So it is because of you that ACECI's mission is getting new attention.

Even though ACECI's influence is growing, the same cannot be said of our financial situation. Compared to 2011 our revenues have gone down 15%. This has the potential to hurt our projects so vital to the populations that benefit from them. We cannot let these people down. We are counting on all of you in order to be successful in our endeavours in 2013. To those of you who have been with us since 2007, I say "Keep up the good work". Our success is a reflexion of your involvement.

**With all my gratitude,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Karirekinyana', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ginette Karirekinyana



## STATE OF ACECI'S PROJECTS

### I) MOD/PRA CAMPAIGN « DEVELOP THE MDOS INTO A POVERTY REDUCTION ACT.»

The MOD/PRA project aims to develop a poverty reduction Act from the Millenium Objectives of the UN. The project is based on a human rights approach and aims to create a participatory process involving parliamentarians governments and the civil society. ACECI has been involved in this project since 2009 organizing many activities.

In 2012, a delegation from Burkina-Faso came to Quebec City from March 25<sup>th</sup> to March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Niger, who was scheduled to also be there, could not send a delegation.

This study session, organized by ACECI with the close collaboration of the Institut d'administration publique du Québec – IAPQ, aimed to familiarize the african delegation with the process and the strategies used in Quebec to achieve such an Act.

Meetings and discussions with representatives of the public service, parliamentarians, university professors and members of the Quebec civil society helped create a meaningful dialogue and strong connections between the parties.



ACECI wishes to thank its partners from Burkina-Faso ( government National parliament,RO-JALNU) as well as the Quebec university professors, Mrs Viviane Labrie, le Collectif Québec sans pauvreté, the government of Quebec for their assistance in accompanying the african delegation.

## II) CATARIA BASED INSECT REPELLANT PRODUCTION FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST MALARIA.

### BURUNDI : Scene of the pilot project

The "catnip" project, initiated in 2010 by ACECI is on course. After the inauguration of the project by the President of Burundi, his Excellency M. Pierre Nkurunziza, the first experimental distillery was built and is operational since April 2011. A first co-operative is at work in the "catnip" fields of Nyabiraba. The first bottles of catnip oil produced here should be available in April-October 2013.

### In 2012, we had other activities related to this project:

- The installation of the Nyabiraba co-operative on International anti-malaria day
- Training of the distillers.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Bujumbura conference relating to this project and a presentation of soap production based on essential oils.
- Analysis of the distilled oils for quality control by the Corporation Lasève
- Signing of a funding agreement between the Embassy of France in Burundi and ACECI.



### LASEVE Corporation :

*"According to the literature, the essential oil of catnip is in fact the first link, which after transformation appropriate, develops insect repellent against the biting insect vector malaria. ... LASEVE Corporation is pleased to support this particular project and to ensure quality extracts establishing certificates of analysis".*  
Collin Guy, Ph.D., Chemist, President of the LASEVE Corporation

ACECI wishes to thank its local partners in Burundi. It also celebrates its partnership with ISABU, the Institut Supérieur d'Agronomie du Burundi with whom we are working in the popularization of the catnip plant in Burundi.

## PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAMS

### I) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION GATHERINGS

**Nased on the success and the experience gained in previous gathrings of this kind, ACECI organized two more gatherings in March and October of 2012 where interested parties could exchange on common themes.**

The first of these gatherings, on March 28<sup>th</sup>, was held at the chapel of the Musée de l'Amérique Française during the study session of the african delegation in Quebec City. Its theme was: « francophone solidarity in favor of an anti poverty Act ? »

Hosted by Pierre Léon Lafrance, the Honorable Kadiatou Korsaga, chairperson of the Burkina Faso parliamentary group for the MODs, Mrs. Viviane Labrie, independant researcher, Mr. Michel Audet, General Commissioner of the World Forum of the Francophonie and Mr. Gazibo Mamoudou, professor at the University of Montreal.



*These events brought together many participants from universities, international cooperation organizations and governmental institutions. These gatherings are for ACECI important opportunities to meet and discuss with a diversified public. Our thanks go out to the Musée de la Civilisation de Québec for its support in the organization of these events.*

The second gathering was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Its theme: humanitarian aid, solidarity, international economic development... wagt's the difference ?

Mr.Gervais l'Heureux, Managing Director AQOCI (Association Québécoise des Organismes de la Coopération Internationale), Ginette Karirekinyana, Managing Director of ACECI, Pierre Léon Lafrance, Director of ACECI in Montréal and Charles Moumouni, professor st Laval University.







## II) ACECI PARTICIPATION IN PROMOTION, AWARENESS AND INFORMATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC

### International Development Week

ACECI participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of Carrefour International, organized by Managers without borders, during International Development Week held at Laval University from February 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2012.



### World Forum on the French Language

The first World Forum on the French Language was held in Quebec City from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> 2012. ACECI's participation permitted us to meet and discuss with a wide number of participants from different backgrounds.

### CIVICUS World Meeting in Montréal

The CIVICUS World Meeting was held in Montreal from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. ACECI was thus part of a large gathering of representatives of the civil society, governments and researchers working on the strengthening of civil action throughout the world.

### JQSI 2012

As a member of the organizing committee of the journées québécoises pour la solidarité internationale, under the patronage of AQOCI, ACECI participated in a number of activities offered to the public. For the first time in the province of Quebec, ACECI organized in november, a month long photo exhibition at the NINKASI bar, on the field work being done by ACECI in the catnip project.

During the November 7<sup>th</sup> discussion panel, ACECI presented a conference on the co-operatives involved in the catnip plant project against malaria, and favoring local sustainable development.

ACECI also put up a stand for the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the North-South day, on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2012.

These events are an occasion for ACECI to meet and discuss its actions with the public, to explain its mission and to recruit volunteers and new members.

### AÉDAUL seminar, (Association des étudiants au doctorat en administration de l'université de Laval)

ACECI looks forward to participating in debates and discussions with scientific groups in order to share different experiences. During this seminar we discussed the ethic imperatives of sustainable development from the conception of a project to its execution.

## INTERNSHIPS IN QUÉBEC AND OVERSEAS

Since 2010, ACECI offers internship programs on studies in the field, training, information and community involvement with ACECI's partners.

In 2012, we had two interns, Mrs. Najat Salmi et Mr. Thibault Soula-dié (France).

### INTERNSHIP IN QUEBEC CITY

Najat Salmi, already holder of a Masters Degree in Political Sciences from Laval University, did excellent work during her internship, researching many aspects of the development of international cooperation. She also lent a helping hand to the Agency's public awareness programs.



**Najat Salmi,**

*"The opportunity to work for ACECI immediately seduced me because I adhered to the values of the organization (fight against poverty, strengthening the capacity of people and institutions South countries for sustainable development). In my academic research, I am interested in political transitions and the promotion of citizen participation decision-making, especially for women and the poor ... "*

*"Research is one of the strategic concerns the ACECI. The mandate that was given to me by being responsible for project is to prepare a manual on guide lines: Humanitarian Action solidarity and international development".*



## INTERNSHIP IIN BURUNDI

Thibault Souladié, holder of a baccalaureate degree in Economy and Finance from the HEC in Montreal and studying for his Masters et La Sorbonne in the field of agricultural development in developing countries, spent his four months of internship at ACECI's office in Burundi. There, he worked on the development of insect repellants produced from cataria, the catnip plant. He mostly worked with the Batwa community in its efforts to fight malaria.

### Thibault Souladié,

*"My experience in the ACECI was above all an adventure human and the discovery of a many faces. In Catnip project, I was able to go to the contact of the population most disadvantaged and work for their development ... "...*

*"During my worked for five months I learned to be more enterprising and take initiative to carry out the project. The ACECI has provided me training and maturity. No doubt that thislife experience is never forgotten"*



## FUNDING

### FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN BURUNDI AND ACECI



The Embassy of France in Burundi has supported the catnip plant project since its launch.

This partnership has evolved and now the Embassy of France gives a financial support to the project. The agreement was signed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of Bujumbura.

#### The Ambassador of France in Burundi said:

*"Through this support, France wishes to accompany the implementation of a local development project multi-stakeholders, which one of objectives is, according to the Director General ACECI: "Investing in people by empowering, promoting integrated rural development through agriculture, fight against poverty through job creation and income support technology transfer, encouraging entrepreneurship and growth. "*

*On this occasion, the french ambassador points that "France is the second contributor to the Global Fund to fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, with a total contribution of € 360 million each year to contribute to the fight against these pandemics."*

### FUNDING ACTIVITIES: THE MONTREAL GALA

For the second year in a row, ACECI organized a Gala in Montreal on June 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a big success as impromptu meetings between participants gave way to interesting exchanges.

Nevertheless the results of our funding activities were not up to our expectations. Our revenues were down 15% in 2012.



Our thanks to our members for their generosity and to the Government of France for its support. Our thanks also to the ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité du Québec for its administrative grants that benefited our administrative staff composed Romuald Somda et Awo Idriss Omar.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012

DATES	ACTIVITIES
<b>January 19th</b>	<b>ACECI's Annual General Meeting</b>
Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup>	ACECI present at the Chemical Engineering week at École Polytechnique de Montréal.
Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	Participation in carrefour de la coopération internationale during the week for international development.
<b>Feb. 25th</b>	<b>Regular meeting of the Board</b>
March 25 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup>	African delegation in Quebec City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work sessions with the Departments of International Relations and Employment.</li> <li>- Discussions at Laval University on the Poverty Reduction Act</li> <li>- International cooperation gathering discussing the solidarity in the Francophonie of such an Act.</li> </ul>
<b>April 7th</b>	<b>Regular meeting of the board</b>
April 25 <sup>th</sup> to May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mission in Burundi during the international day against malaria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishment of the community groups for the production of cataria based insect repellants.</li> </ul>
June-July-August	Supervision of M.Thibault Souladié's internship in Burundi
June 20-22	Participation in the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Conference on development in Rio.
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Gala in Montréal for the fight against Malaria
<b>June 30th</b>	<b>Regular meeting of the Board</b>
July 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup>	World Forum on the French Language in Quebec City.
August	Evaluation of the internships
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> of September	Participation in the world Meeting of CIVICUS in Montréal
<b>September 7th</b>	<b>Regular meeting of the Board</b>
October 6 <sup>th</sup> to november 4 <sup>th</sup>	Third international conference of Bujumbura <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signing of a funding agreement with the Ambassador of France</li> <li>- Participation in the 14<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Francophonie in KINSHASA</li> </ul>
November 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup>	Participation in the 16 <sup>th</sup> edition of the JQSI : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion panels</li> <li>- Photo exhibit</li> <li>- Participation in the North-South day .</li> </ul>
December	Participation in the Day for Human Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual report and planning for 2013</li> </ul>



## PARTNERS

### In Canada



### In Africa and elsewhere:

In the MDG/LRP campaign, ACECI works directly or indirectly with the partners below:

- AFARD: Association of African Women for Research and Development
- CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
- COCAFEM/GL: Collective Consultation of the Association Working to Promote Women in the Great Lakes Region
- CONGAFEN: Coordination of NGOs and Women's Associations in Niger
- CRAG: Centre for Research and Analysis on Gender in Africa
- FEMNET: Network Development and Communications for African Women
- Gender in Action: Francophone Network
- GRAPAD: Group Research and Action for the Promotion of Agriculture and Development
- FCD: The Institute for Training and Development Cooperation
- The World according to Women
- NAVTI Fondation Canada
- OTM: Organization for Tunisian Mothers
- REPAOC: Network of Platforms of NGOs in West and Central Africa
- RIFONGA Benin: Network for the Integration of Women in NGOs and African Associations
- ROFAF: Network of Women's Organizations in Francophone Africa
- RSP: Rebalance Overconsumption Poverty
- WIL DAF: Woman in Law and Development in Africa
- AFRIC'FORUM



### For the success of the catnip project, the most active partners are:

- ABEM: Burundian Association of Medical Students
- ABR: Burundian Association of Broadcasters
- COMMUNITY FOR BURUNDI
- ALUMA/ACVE
- AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
- ISABU
- INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

