



## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING N° 4

Rural Development Briefing in West Africa: A series of meetings on ACP-EU development issues

Climate change, land acquisition and food security in West Africa:

New challenges, new opportunities

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<http://acpbriefings.net>

### Biodata of speakers

#### **Mathieu Badolo - IAVS**

Mr Badolo got a Phd at the *Université Libre de Bruxelles*. He was coordinator of the project of regional adaptation to climate change of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). His research focuses on the management of scientific information in the context of the Sahel region and on the articulation between environmental policies and development priorities. He is the author of many publications in international scientific reviews and he is actively engaged in the dissemination of the scientific information.

#### **Faliry Boly - Sexagon**

Mr Faliry Boly became rice producer in 1986. Today he is member and General Secretary of Niger's Agricultural Operators Union, which includes more than 12 000 members. He is also the President of Mali's National Platform of rice producers and the President of the supervising committee of CNOP Mali.

#### **Olivier De Schutter - Special Rapporteur on the right to food, United Nations Human Rights Council**

Professor De Schutter was appointed by the Human Rights Council of the United Nations as Special Rapporteur on the right to food in March 2008, and he inaugurated his mandate on May 1st, 2008. His three- year mandate is to monitor and report on the right to food to the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council. A specialist in human rights, Olivier De Schutter teaches at the University of Louvain (Belgium) and the College of Europe (Natolin Campus, Poland). He is a Visiting Professor at Columbia University and a Member of the Global Law School Faculty of New York University. He was also previously Secretary General of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).

#### **Célia Gautier - GRET**

Célia Gautier is Policy Officer at the Centre for Public Policies and International Regulation of the GRET. She focuses on the linkages between climate change and development. She coordinates the work of the Commission on climate and development of *Coordination SUD*, which gathers various NGOs active in the international solidarity, humanitarian aid, development and environment field. As a result, she is actively involved in national and international summits, contributing to shape the debate over climate change, and participates to seminars on the reinforcement of civil society capacities both in the North and in the South. At the GRET, she works on food security related issues. After obtaining a degree at the London School of Economics and at Sciences Po Aix, she started working on the North-South technology transfer related to Climate Change, focusing in particular on issues concerning intellectual property rights.

### **Dr. Madiodio Niasse - International Land Coalition**

Dr. Niasse, is (since November 2008), the Director of the Secretariat of the International Land Coalition (ILC), a global independent alliance of intergovernmental and civil society organizations working together to improve secure access to land for the poor. The Secretariat of ILC is hosted in Rome based IFAD, an ILC member. Prior to joining ILC, Dr. Niasse served as Researcher Director with the French Institute for Development Research (2007-2008), and earlier as Water Programme Coordinator with IUCN-West Africa based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (2001-2005); and as Senior Policy Advisor with the World Commission on Dams, in Cape Town South Africa (1998-2000). Dr. Niasse is former chairperson of the Roster of Experts (Inspection Panel) of the Independent Review Mechanism of the African Development Bank (2007-2010); and of the West Africa platform of the Global Water Partnership (GWP): 2005-2008. Dr. Niasse is geographer and environmental scientist by training. In the last years his work has mostly focused on land and water governance as well as on climate adaptation. He is a citizen of Senegal.

### **Emmanuel Seck - ENDATM- Energy, Environment Development**

Mr Emmanuel Seck is Programme Manager for the Dakar-based Environment and development NGO (ENDA) where he developed an experience on leading environment (desertification, climate,...), energy and development programmes and as Knowledge Manager. As he has been involved at the national and international levels in the Convention to Combat Desertification - and has considerable experience in networking and managing projects - he was nominated to lead ENDA's desertification program. He published many articles on Desertification and Climate Change issues and was regularly consulted by UNCCD Secretariat and other international institutions. Presently, Emmanuel Seck is a member of the Board of Directors of Climate Action Network International (CAN International), Regional Coordinator of CAN (CAN West Africa), Regional Coordinator of Drynet Project (Global initiative giving future to the drylands) and ENDA Coordinator of the project "Knowledge Sharing Adaptation to Climate Change in Africa". Emmanuel has a Higher Degree in Information and Communication Sciences, Dakar University-UCAD and a Certificate on Leadership in Environment, Lead International-Wye Imperial College, London.

### **Harris Selod – World Bank**

Harris Selod has a Phd in Economics and is senior economist at the research department of the World Bank in Washington. Before joining the WB, he was researcher at the INRA in France and professor at the Economic School of Paris and at the Ecole Polytechnique. A relevant part of his academic works focuses on the land markets and organization of the urban, peri-urban and rural lands. In the WB he is working on the land policies and land governance, and in particular on land titling policies. He contributed to the implementation of an analytic framework of the WB on land governance with the aim of identifying the main challenges that each country faces and the reform priorities. This analytic framework on land policies can also be used for the analysis of country improvements and good practice exchanges between countries. He is one of the main authors to the WB report on large-scale land acquisitions.

### **Abdoulaye Soma - University of Ouaga II, FIAN-Burkina**

Mr Abdoulaye Soma obtained a degree at Ouagadougou University and at the faculty of Law at the University of Geneva. After working for four years as assistant at the department of Constitutional law at the Geneva University, he is currently professor of public law (constitutional law and international public law) at the department of research in juridical and political sciences at the University Ouaga II (Burkina Faso). He is a human rights theorist and a specialist in right to food. His thesis, axed on «Human right to food and to food security in Africa », rapidly became a reference text on issues related to human rights, rights to food and food security. Mr Soma is an expert of the African system of protection of human rights and a right to food specialist within the framework of the programme for education to human rights at Geneva University. He is a member of the Brussels-based Institute Magna Charta. Likewise, he is currently a founder member of FIAN-Burkina, an NGO specialised on the political and juridical defence of right to food both at the international and national level.