

**THIELLAL project****“Contributing to better human, animal and environmental health”**

Acting on determinants of populations, animals and environmental health for an agro-ecological transition and better health for all

Context

As the recent Covid-19 pandemic has confirmed, human health determinants are more than ever linked to animal and environmental health issues, both in the field of infectious and emerging diseases and through exposure to various chemical substances. To reduce these risks and be effective in a sustainable manner, we must work at the interface of these fields and propose innovative solutions. This is the ambition of the **"One Health" approach**: to better understand these interactions, to develop capacities to identify, prevent and respond to these emerging issues in order to contribute to the resilience of populations and systems to these challenges.

The Thiellal project is part of this approach and will be implemented in Senegal, in the city of Vélingara (Kolda region) and 4 communes of its department, an area with a diversity of ecosystems, agricultural and pastoral systems, and a diversity of production recognised as being highly consumptive of chemical inputs. Indeed, the department of Vélingara is bordered to the north by Gambia and to the south by the two Guineas. This border location and the presence of the international market of Diaobé, makes it a territory of high population, animal and chemical product circulation and as such, makes it particularly vulnerable in terms of health.

KEY DATA

**Project duration:** 2021 - 2023**Beneficiaries:** Producers' organizations, health professionals (animal and human), agriculture and the environment, community relays and the population of the targeted communes**Source of funding:** AFD**Partners:** AVSF, CASADES, SOLTHIS**Country of intervention:** Senegal : Upper Casamance, Vélingara

OBJECTIVES

In a multidisciplinary approach, the Thiellal project aims to contribute to the empowerment of communities and stakeholders in human, animal and environmental health to enable them to identify and act on One Health determinants at the territorial level for an agro-ecological transition and better health of populations, animals and the environment.

The project puts forward a participatory and integrative approach involving a wide range of local stakeholders from different sectors (agriculture, farming, human and animal medicine, environment) to enable the emergence, prioritization and sustainable treatment of community health issues.

The project was built on Senegal's experience in the area of "One Health" on zoonoses to target dimensions that are still absent from the strategies, among others, the consideration of the use of "chemical products", including pesticides and antibiotics, which are challenges faced by the region.



EXPECTED RESULTS

- A shared vision of the problems and issues related to the use of chemicals is built within the communities and their representatives;
- Multi-stakeholder frameworks for consultation and action on One health, favoring the equal representation of men and women, are put in place or revitalized at the various levels of the territory (community, municipal, departmental);
- The capacities of professional actors (decentralized services, human and animal health professionals and agricultural advisors, community relays and traditional practitioners) and local groups (community relay associations, farming aids, environmental protection, etc.) are strengthened and they set up endogenous actions aimed at protecting the health of populations (human and animal) and their environment;
- Farmers, breeders and consumers are sensitized on the risks associated with the use of chemicals and experiment with practices to reduce them;
- The results obtained are evaluated, capitalized on and disseminated in conjunction with the research actors to stakeholders in order to improve their health management at the various territorial levels (community, municipal, departmental and national).