Come take part in sharing agricultural knowledge through the creation of #Academies of Sahelian expertise and experience.

SOS SAHEL is actively involved in the design of innovative solutions and the construction of a dynamic technological ecosystem which will modernize agricultural production and strengthen food value chains for the economic inclusion of family farmers in the Sahel.

Collaborative problem solving, and the development, application and sharing of technological solutions will be concentrated and brought to life within the framework of an annual AGRI-HACKATHON.

SPARK2050, the broader platform, will serve as the base for these processes until 10 innovative agricultural technologies are identified to be deployed over 30 years, thus transforming the lives of 300 million Sahelians.

The Africa Camp aims to bring together all players - producers, leaders of cooperatives, economic operators, social enterprises, NGOs, local elected officials, leaders of civil society, communications advisors, development agents, researchers, instructors – to identify their needs and conceptualize innovative solutions that will modernize, adapt and scale up African agriculture processes.

Among other things, these solutions will help stakeholders across the region, support local initiatives, structure an inclusive economy for young people and women, link actors to one another, disseminate knowledge, support development policies, and strengthen and enhance skills to ensure local action is more effective.

THREE CORE THEMES OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

The objective of the Africa Camp is to share thoughts and ideas about innovative solutions that could aid in the dissemination of knowledge as it pertains to development issues in the Sahel. This work will be entrusted to six small groups of people from different backgrounds. Each group will work on one of the three themes below. These ideas and concepts will then be assigned to the participants of SOS SAHEL’s Agri-Hackathon who will be tasked with developing the technological solution. The Agri-Hackathon will take place in May 2020.
Theme 2: How to integrate knowledge in the piloting of the territories of the municipalities to support the decentralization in the Sahel?

Decentralization lies at the heart of most development strategies in African countries. It ensures that land and resources are carefully managed with the local citizens’ best interest in mind. But after we delegate this authority, what resources and tools are available to accomplish this goal?

How do we prioritize investments in land restoration? How do we ensure proper management of water facilities? How do we plan road maintenance? How do we remain aware of changing market conditions? How do we track and record cattle inventory from year to year? How do we locate the local water points, farms and producers in each municipal territory? How can we share information with the farmers of each municipality concerning natural resources, means of production, risks, technical advice, etc.? How do we highlight the innovative experiences carried out in each municipality? So many of these questions periodically arise for the heads of each commune, often dispersed over a vast territory. While this information is available, it is not aggregated, analyzed, or used.

The development of a tech application for these municipalities, which could use a range of different media formats, would make it possible to regularly share this data and knowledge between the commune administrations, economic operators, citizens, and others.
The Various Actors

- State technical services
- Infrastructure, Equipment
- Basic social needs
- Security
- Energy
- Capital of agricultural production
- Capital from natural resources
- Local market
- National market
Solution 4 Brief: “Cakanam”

Theme 2: How do we share knowledge as we pilot decentralization across municipalities in the Sahel?

Why do we need an innovative solution?

We live in a municipality in the Sahel with a concerned mayor, who has to manage urgent issues such as the training of young people, basic infrastructure, management of natural resources and energy.

This mayor is concerned about the impacts of climate change, insecurity and the massive migration of young people to other cities.

After reflection, the mayor finds a way to solve these problems thanks to technology which is a kind of toolbox, despite limited resources, poor network coverage and the prevalence of illiteracy in the mayor’s team. This solution has the tools to solve all the problems of the municipality.

With this technology in place, the mayor will be able to sensibly manage and guide his municipality. The solution found is called “Cakanam”, which in Wolof means “Moving Forward”!

What is the “Cakanam” solution for?

The main objective of the Cakanam solution is a significant improvement in land management with a permanent exchange between the people and government employees.

The objectives of the solution are to:

- Offer training and employment to young people;
- Allow the establishment and maintenance of basic infrastructure (though exchanges with experts);
- Manage the natural resources of the region;
- Anticipate and prevent growing insecurity in the region;
- Anticipate the impacts of climate change;
- Allow access to energy resources;
- Curb rural migration to cities;
- Share the opportunities of decentralized cooperation;
- Share information and offer training on income-generating activities (IGAs);
- Inform the local people about taxes;
- Manage the human and financial resources of the municipality.
**Who will use the solution and on what scale?**

The platform (Cakanam solution) accepts a certain number of users:

- The mayor and members of his team;
- The local people;
- Authorized employees.

The solution works at the municipality level but must allow interaction with neighboring municipalities. It would be good to allow certain privileged users, such as the mayor, to have access to the solution in the event of travel (even internationally).

**How does the intended end user imagine the proposed solution will work?**

The solution must be adapted to the user, taking into account the following constraints:

- Poor network coverage in certain municipalities;
- Prevalence of illiteracy among members of the municipal team and among the local population;
- Limited human and financial resources.

The Cakanam solution could be a platform for interaction with the local people with a digital space for each specialized committee. For better management of a region, there are specialized committees in each municipality (environment, training and employment, IGA committees, etc.). It includes:

- A knowledge-sharing forum, between the various committees but also with neighboring municipalities;
- An open forum for the local people;
- A centralized database for the entire municipality;
- A digital center with specialized services;
- Three essential tools:
  - Decision support tool
  - Planning tool
  - Monitoring/evaluation tool