



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Success Story

BOGUEL: MEETING BILALY BALDÉ

THE DUNDËL SUUF PROJECT CHANGED MY LIFE

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*For the first time, I got
12 metric tons of rice
on 2 hectares of land*



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Born in Kolda, Bilaly Baldé is a 37-year-old married man and father. Although he had been a good student, he had to interrupt his studies to try to emigrate to Spain via Morocco in 2004. Returning in 2008 after four years of wandering in the woods of Tangier (Morocco), Baldé devoted himself to growing rice in his native region. With yields of around 3 metric tons per hectare, he found it difficult to feed his family all year round.

As a beneficiary of the Feed the Future Senegal Dundël Suuf project in 2020, Baldé harvested a record 12 metric tons of rice from the 2 hectares he planted using Urea Deep Placement (UDP) technology. Satisfied with his results, he managed to mobilize 80 young people in his commune around an initiative called “One young person, One hectare of UDP”.

Everyone is now a fan of UDP technology.

From the failure of the migration project to the rebirth with Dundël Suuf

In Boguel, a short distance from Kolda, Baldé is now a recognized leader in the farming community. He regularly tours agricultural plots to advise producers on the performance of UDP technology.

“For almost a year I have been working with Dundël Suuf and SODAGRI. Alhamdulillah, what I have seen in terms of yield, I have never seen in terms of production,” says Baldé. Last year with the Dundël Suuf project, the former immigrant explains, “During the off-season, I sowed 2 hectares and obtained 12 metric tons of rice. This is something I have never had in terms of yield.”



This exceptional production is due to the Dundël Suuf project, which introduced UDP technology to the area through SO-DAGRI. It has been a revolution for Baldé and the farmers working in the Boguel valley.

"Before the Dundël Suuf project, we used to work in this valley, but we had low yields of around 3 metric tons per hectare, or sometimes 4 metric tons," he explains.

The exceptional production achieved with Dundël Suuf has had a strong impact on the lives of Baldé and other rice producers in this area.

Food self-sufficiency is ensured with UDP. "Since the arrival of Dundël Suuf, we no longer have problems with rice in my locality. Sincerely, since last year until now, I have enough to feed my family," says the young farmer.

With his food needs covered throughout the year, he has found the economic stability he thought he would find in Spain. "Before, if I had 10,000 CFA francs, I would run straight to the shop to buy food for my family. But now, thanks to DundëlSuuf, I save the same 10,000 CFA francs," he says.

"Sincerely, the Dundël Suuf project has changed my life," says Bilaly. And he adds, "I will never migrate again."

In the Boguel valley, the radiant faces, smiles and applause of the women in the middle of the yellow rice fields speak volumes about the positive impact that the Dundël Suuf project has had on many small producers.

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