



# FEED THE FUTURE

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

## Success Story

**DIOULACOLON: MEETING HALIMATOU KANDÉ  
AND FATIMATA BALDÉ**



**DIGNITY AND PRIDE  
REGAINED THANKS TO  
DUNDËL SUUF**

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*We received very good  
seeds from the  
Dundël Suuf project*



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Developing Agriculture from the Ground Up





Married in the same compound, Halimatou Kandé and Fatimata Baldé have shared almost the same fate. Both women are in their fifties and have five children, two girls and three boys each. They are members of the Kawral economic group of Sare Demba Sy, a locality in the district of Dioulacolon, in the region of Kolda, in southern Senegal. The lives of these two women have changed enormously since they began receiving support from the Feed the Future Senegal Dundël Suuf project.

### **A real impact on their lives**

Kande and Baldé's appreciation for Dundël Suuf and its microdosing technique is matched by their immense happiness. It took only one off-season campaign in 2020 for their lives to change since their encounter with the Dundël Suuf project.

They have become more fulfilled and feel increasingly independent.

"The project gave us okra, chili, eggplant and tomato seeds and fertilizers to apply with the microdosing technique, which helped us a lot," explains Kandé.

"We got very good seeds from the Dundël Suuf project," adds her neighbour. "When we sowed them, the chili, okra and tomato sprouted very well," says Kandé.

After receiving training from the project, both women had immediate results from the application of microdosing. "I had a very good tomato production. With the income from the sale of tomatoes alone, I was able to provide health care for one of my daughters who was seriously ill," says Kandé.





The substantial income generated by an excellent horticultural production has had a considerable impact on their households. "I didn't have to ask my husband for money to contribute at weddings and baptisms," says Kandé with a smile.

"This financial autonomy has enabled me to cover all the expenses related to my children's schooling, clothes and supplies.

Every morning, I am able to give each of my children 200 CFA francs so that they can buy food at school. I am also able to provide assistance to close relatives, which I had never been able to do before," she emphasizes.

This sentiment was shared by Baldé, who had been deeply in debt and had trouble meeting her expenses.

### **Regained dignity and pride**

With the profits made last year, thanks to the microdosing technique introduced by Dundël Suuf and its partners, such as ANCAR and SODAGRI, the two women have equipped themselves. "I also bought a bedroom (wardrobe, bed, dressing table) worth 200,000 CFA francs", says Kandé.

Baldé was also able to purchase new furniture at a cost of 300,000 CFA francs.

Contact IFDC : Feed the Future Senegal Dundël Suuf Project

IFDC Senegal - Immeuble Sérigne Saliou Mbacké, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, face to the Shell Oil Station

Route des Almadies, Ngor-Dakar Bureau : +221 33 825 18 34





Bought with their hard earned income, the bedroom furniture is a symbol of a new-found dignity and pride and proof of the beginning of a change in the standard of living for Kandé and Baldé: "Before, I could not receive visitors in my room. Now I am proud to invite them in," explains Baldé.

"I am even prouder because I was able to buy a bedroom without my husband's help," she says, adding that this gives her "a special feeling of self-esteem".

The Kawral economic interest group, of which both women are members, operates a market garden of about 1.25 hectares. It has 32 people, including two men.

After a successful first season, Kandé, Baldé and the other members of the group have already started getting ready for the 2021/22 season. Preparation of the beds has begun and the growth of the first seedlings herald a second market gardening season that they hope will be as good as or even better than the previous one.