

# 2011 PEACE CORPS TOGO



## ANNUAL REPORT

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy created the Peace Corps. His vision was to have an organization composed of Americans who would promote peace, friendship, and development. Fifty-one years later, the players have changed, but the goals are still the same:

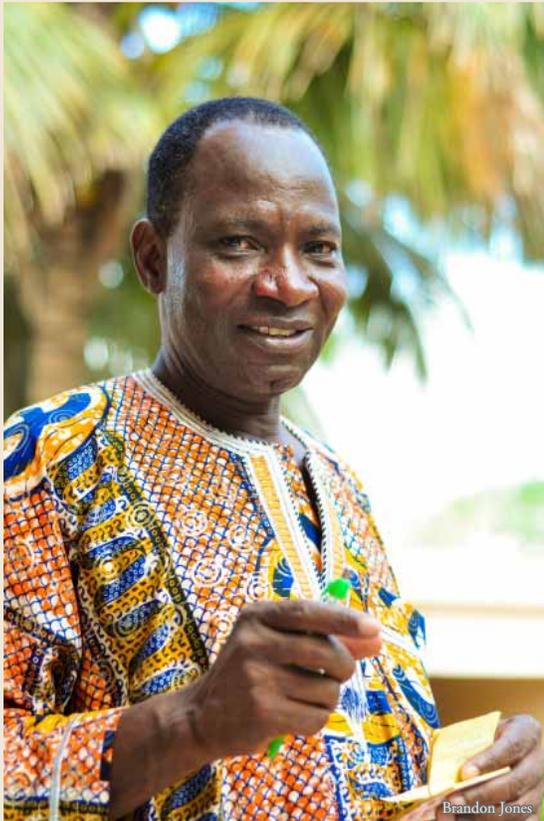


**1. Help the people of interested countries meet their need for trained men and women.**

**2. Promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.**

**3. Promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.**

Peace Corps Togo's program has been in place since 1962. Over 2500 volunteers have served in Togo. Currently there are 94 Volunteers serving in all five geographic regions of the country. They work in the following four sectors: community health and AIDS prevention, girls' education and empowerment, small enterprise development, and environmental action and food security.



Brandon Jones

### Training of Volunteers

Before heading to their sites, new Volunteers receive language (both French and local languages), technical, and cross-cultural training. During the nine weeks of pre-service training, Volunteers live with host families.

In addition, during the course of their service, Volunteers and their Togolese counterparts gather to receive additional training.



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## Summary of EAFS program activities:

A vital sector of the economy, agriculture involves more than 75% of the Togolese population, with small farms producing the majority of Togo's food. The EAFS program focuses on the development of healthy and sustainable habits that will increase the level of national agricultural production without negatively impacting Togo's remaining natural resources. Volunteers in this program work with their communities on agricultural techniques such as introducing nitrogen fixation to the soil to improve fertility and thus to increase yield.

## Program Objectives:

1. Engage youth in environmental clubs to increase environmental awareness/action.
2. Improve producers' natural resource management through reforestation, agroforestry, and improved soil and water conservation techniques.
3. Improve communities' food security through Agricultural Income Generation Activities (AIGAs).

## Principal Activities:

25 Volunteers in this program are working in all five regions of Togo. Through their work they have reached **7,949 people**, **275 stakeholders**, **107 associations** and **84 communities** in the following ways:

- Providing environmental education by creating environmental clubs.
- Promoting sustainable agricultural systems through education and training in areas such as agroforestry, water and soil conservation, composting, and other methods to improve local food security.
- Constructing more efficient and environmentally sound cook stoves and composting latrines.
- Establishing perma-gardens, planting of moringa trees, and encouragement of small-scale animal husbandry.
- Promoting income generating activities: bee-keeping, mushroom cultivation, etc.
- Publishing a quarterly newsletter, Farm to Market, which explains and promotes best practices in sustainable development.

## Outcomes and Results:

- **1,066 primary and secondary school students** have participated in at least two environmental education activities.
- **13,000 moringa trees** have been planted by Togolese women (**700 women** have planted and maintained at least one moringa tree).
- **132 people** have adopted new agroforestry practices.
- **477 host country national trainers** have trained other producers in the use of efficient techniques in agroforestry, soil conservation, seed collection and bee-keeping.
- **365 host country national trainers** have adopted improved forest exploitation management techniques.



## Purpose:

To foster opportunities for business growth, job creation and job security in Togo's small business sector. The target population includes entrepreneurs, artisans, students, apprentices, trade associations and microfinance institutions. Volunteer activities are focused on developing the target population's business, entrepreneurial and management skills.

## Volunteer activities:

- 6 Volunteers implemented village savings & loan association activities that impacted **573 participants**
- 14 Volunteers conducted business skills training workshops for **322 entrepreneurs and artisans**. Participants received training in best practices, including the use of basic management tools.
- 7 Volunteers trained **340 NGO agents** in governance, project management, and business ethics.
- 4 Volunteers trained **110 youth** (boys and girls) in entrepreneurship, creativity, and good business and management practices.

## Volunteer Highlights:

One Volunteer trained small business owners in entrepreneurship and small business management. Participants completed coursework on feasibility studies, basic accounting and budgeting, marketing and SWOT analysis. These students in turn trained 50 apprentices in facilitation techniques.

A group of 7 Volunteers familiar with NGO governance created an NGO toolkit to advance the establishment and best management of NGOs. Volunteers conducted several regional workshops. One of these workshops convened 36 Togolese leaders of different national and local agencies including grassroots associations. In various sessions participants were exposed to new skills and encouraged to review their efforts and activities to focus them for greater success.

The *Farm to Market* quarterly newsletter started in 2005 as a venue for sharing information amongst Volunteers. It has now expanded to a larger Peace Corps audience including other African posts and Washington. *Farm to Market* is written by Peace Corps Volunteers, staff, and Togolese counterparts and edited by Peace Corps Volunteers. The information presents and discusses environmental action and food security along with small enterprise management best practices and other useful information gathered from field experience.

Small Enterprise Volunteers encourage creating perma-gardens to provide the family food and cash (when the farmer or gardener sells the extra harvest in the local market). Eleven Volunteers and their work partners took part in training and created a three-bed permagarden structure.

Many Volunteers work with artisans in developing their businesses. A group of Volunteers along with their counterparts came together to implement an art fair which exhibited and sold each artisan's work. It was a highly successful activity that involved 23 individual artisans and organizations from all over the country.



## Farm to Market

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Improving NGO Organizational Development  
A history of training and resources

Lions, Tigers, and Boutiques, @hMy!  
A biological perspective on Togo's commercial diversity

Les Engrais Chimiques  
Les dangers de l'utilisation



# GEE

# GIRLS' EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT



## Purpose:

Togolese women and girls will have increased access to formal and non-formal education and will have acquired competencies that will allow them to improve their performance. As a result, they will participate more effectively in the on-going development process in their communities.

## Principal activities:

### *“Take Our Daughters to Work” Conferences*

16 Volunteers and their Togolese counterparts organized seven conferences called “Take Our Daughters to Work” in all five regions of Togo for **160 girls from 64 villages**. The objective was to give the opportunity to motivated female students to gain knowledge about careers and other relevant topics including the value and importance of education, self-confidence, and women’s rights (e.g. ending sexual harassment).

### *“Men As Partners” Trainings*

The objective is for men and boys to participate in transforming gender roles in order to reduce the inequalities between men and women and to decrease the rate of HIV/AIDS. 15 Volunteers and their Togolese counterparts have organized more than **15 trainings** with more than **500 participants**: school inspectors and administrators, traditional leaders, religious leaders, community leaders, students, and apprentices.

### *Lève-Toi Jeune Fille Magazine*

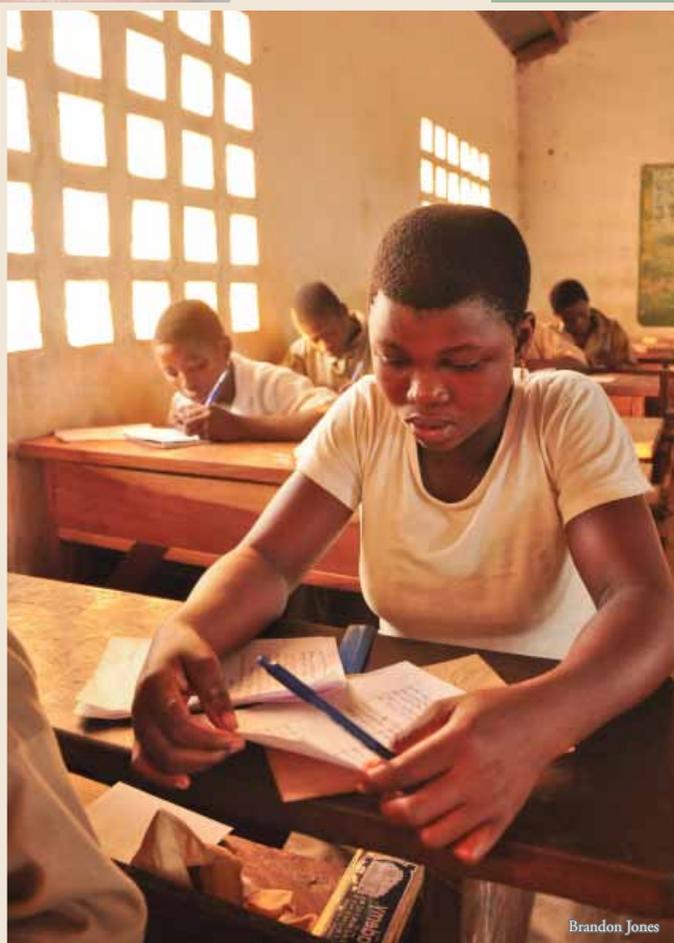
*Lève-Toi Jeune Fille*, or “Arise, Young Woman,” is a publication produced by volunteers and their Togolese counterparts. Each edition has a specific theme (e.g. healthy life skills, girls in science, success in the future) relevant to the education and empowerment of girls.

### *Camp ScientiFille*

In order to increase the success rate of girls in scientific careers, the “ScientiFille” (“Science-Girl”) camp was held for **35 girls and 15 science teachers from 13 villages**. Camp ScientiFille offered participants experiences in scientific experiments, sessions on the importance of science, and strategies to motivate girls to enjoy science. At the end of the camp, the participants created action plans to support girls in science classes during the school year.

### *Camp UNITE (Unification de la Nation: Initiative-Travail-Education)*

Since 2001, the objective of Camp UNITE is to give knowledge to young people so they can lead responsible lives as well as serve as role models. This year 48 Togolese trainers and Volunteers worked with **130 young girls and boys** (including both students and apprentices).



## Program objective:

The CHAP program's objective is to aid the Ministry of Health and other partnering agencies in carrying out national health policies, by developing and expanding community health activities (especially in rural areas) and increasing the success of individuals, service providers, and NGOs and associations that promote reproductive health and family planning in host communities.

## Principal activities:

19 Volunteers and their health worker counterparts organized and led sessions on vaccinations, nutritional counseling and monitoring infant growth. They also conducted health education talks and home visits. Each week **760 mothers and their children** (or an average of 40 mothers and their children in each community served) benefited from Volunteers' service.

As members of monitoring teams, 27 Volunteers participated in multiple national polio vaccination campaigns throughout Togo.

To achieve positive and lasting behavior change—i.e., through an on-going health education and personal follow-up system in local communities, each of five Volunteers trained 30 "Mother Leaders." On average, each Mother Leader was responsible for sharing information that she learned with 10 other households. In total, **more than 1500 households** were reached.

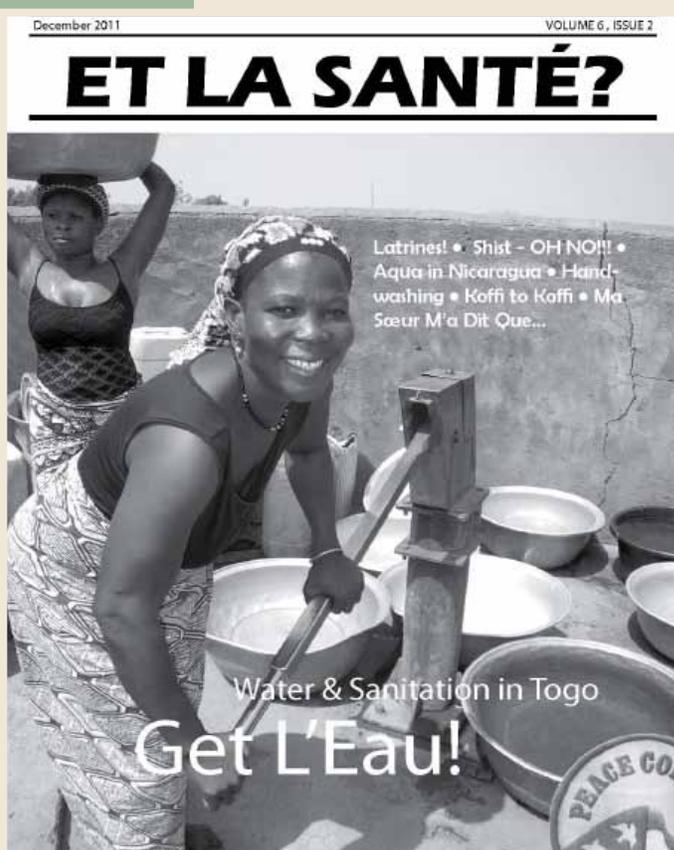
With the aid and participation of their host communities, three Volunteers carried out pilot projects for family latrines. In total, **30 latrines** (10 in each community) were constructed.

A team of six Volunteers organized a women's health conference, the first ever held in that region. **Twenty-seven women** participated. One highlight was the availability of a private gynecological consultation to each of the women.

Five Volunteers, in collaboration with local authorities in their host communities, carried out two trash-collection projects: one in Sotouboua and the other in Guérin-Kouka. The beneficiary population was estimated to be at least **7,000 people**.

12 Volunteers organized camps to support children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Approximately **200 children** from all five regions of Togo were instructed on life skills, sex education, and managing problems caused by stigmatization. They also participated in educational games.

Nine Volunteers organized a camp for **55 children living with disabilities**. Camp sessions included life skills, sex education, managing difficulties related to discrimination, as well as recreational activities.





Brandon Jones

DESIGN AND LAYOUT  
Ryan Dalton  
Volunteer, 2010-2012

**THANK YOU!**