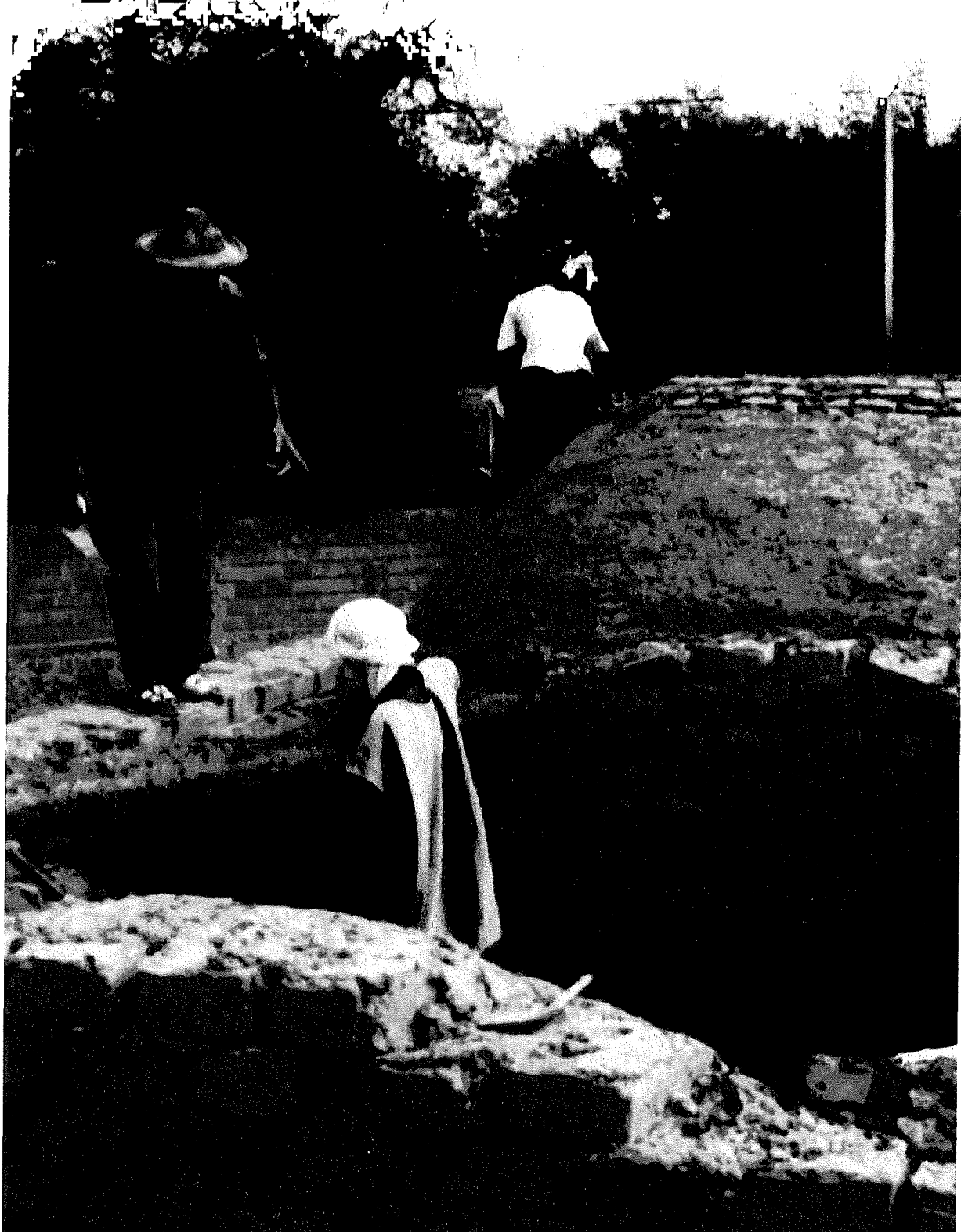


Development **DW**orkshop



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Development Workshop – France

What is DW

Development Workshop (DW) is a non-profit organisation working to improve living conditions for the poor in less-developed communities with a focus on shelter, peri-urban settlement upgrading, water supply and sanitation, primary health care, small enterprise development, and disaster mitigation. DW's strategy is to strengthen the capacity of communities and organisations to act on development problems and opportunities. Founded in 1973, DW has worked with communities, grassroots organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), local and national government authorities and international organisations in more than 30 countries.

DW's work is funded on a project basis by grants from non-governmental organisations, national and international development agencies and private foundations. DW is registered as a non-profit group and does not raise funds directly from the public. In addition to its office in France, it has offices in Canada and Angola.

DW France

Development Workshop established an office in France in 1985. Since then DW France (DWF) has managed and provided support to programmes and projects in predominantly French speaking countries in West Africa and Indochina, and to programmes in the Indian Sub Continent. DWF is now a registered Not for Profit Association.

DWF has focuses on:

- Working in partnership with community based organisations, local builders, locally and international NGO's and government agencies;
- Developing capacities for safe, achievable and affordable shelter in rural and secondary urban areas using the resources that are locally and regionally available;
- Resolving the conflicting pressures between habitat and shelter needs and sustainable environment resource management;
- Reducing the impact of disasters on shelter.

In operating its programmes, DWF places an emphasis on working with local partners and in training local counterparts, to both manage their own programmes and undertake further training in their own right to develop local capacities. In 1997, DWF provided ongoing support to the development of programmes in the Sahel, notably through the activities of the woodless construction programmes in three countries, Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso, with several partners, amongst which figure the Red Cross, IUCN and SOS Sahel and the ILO.

In line with a gradual move towards programme operation by locally established NGO's receiving institutional and technical support from DWF, support has been provided to encourage the establishment of a National NGO in Mali emerging out of the woodless construction activities around Mopti, and its members elected to name their organisation DW Mali – Habitat & Environment, thus becoming another member of the DW network. DWF also renewed practical support to DW Angola's activities in the field of shelter rehabilitation and the development of training materials, drawing on past DW experience in the Sudan and Sahelian region.

In France DW has the office and accommodation capacity to receive short-term trainees and to run workshops for groups of 20 to 30 people. DWF draws on a network of professionals who have worked over the years on its field programmes, and has also pursued a policy of providing internship placements for young professionals wishing to work on development issues, both in France and in Africa, and this practice continued in 1997. DW maintains strong links with professional and academic institutions, and these are strengthened by collaboration on publications related to the work that DWF undertakes.

In 1997 Development Workshop France worked on 4 main activities, which included:

- Shelter and natural resource management programmes in Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali, based on the Woodless Construction Programme activities;
- Support to various local organisations for providing cereal banks for food security programmes in the Sahel;
- Programmes focussed on support to small enterprise and artisans;
- Support the rehabilitation of shelter and local infrastructure in Angola in support of DW Angola

Current and recent activities

Woodless Construction Programme, Niger

Location: Niger, nation-wide

Duration: Current phase 1993 – 1997

Beneficiaries: Rural population and masons in rural villages and secondary towns

Budget: USD 1 900 000 (Five year Programme)

Partners: IUCN (World Conservation Union)/ Other local partners, including Peace Corps, Care, ILO

Sectors: woodless construction; affordable shelter; income generation; environmental resource management.

Objectives:

- Reduce pressure on scarce wood resources in the Sahel;
- Develop capacity to construct without using wood or non-local building resources;
- Promote the use of woodless construction using unstabilized hand made mud bricks to build vault and domed roofs.

DW Activities in 1997:

- Monitoring the training of 50 new builders, retraining 320 builders, 95 trainers and site supervisors and 12 technicians;
- Training 28 core team members through in-house workshops to make use of new teaching and building methods in the programme ;
- Design and production of three publications: the 10th version of the trainers' guide, the first illustrated Aide Mémoire for masons, and a technicians' drawing and design handbook.
- Support for the construction of 68 demonstration buildings ;
- Promotion activities throughout the country;
- Development of Phase II five-year programme for 1998.

Development Workshop has been promoting woodless construction through training and awareness raising since 1980 in Niger, and has witnessed a steady increase in demand throughout the country. Woodless construction enables local builders to construct high quality buildings using locally available and familiar traditional earth bricks. Village construction costs can be very low; this is important where wood is very scarce. However, Woodless Construction has also been increasingly used to meet expensive public infrastructure needs, and through this, income and employment generation are important benefits.

1997 sees the end of a five-year period of consolidated training, growing from a handful of trained builders to 500, supported by 95 trainers and building team leaders, and over 30 technicians. Day-to-day running of activities is

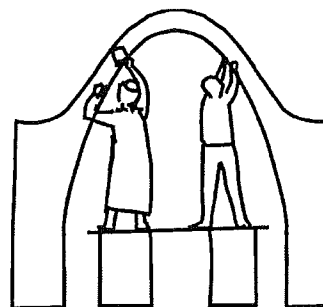
now managed by the Niamey based Woodless Construction Programme.

The next five year phase aims at firmly placing the use and management of woodless construction within civil society, through consolidating autonomous building teams, replacing training by apprenticeship, and assuring an adequate legal framework within which the builders can work.

Support: Danida, local contributors and partners

Construction Sans Bois

Aide mémoire pour maçons



**Règles d'or:
Qualité et entretien**

DW Development
Workshop

Support to woodless construction small enterprise and builder groups

Location: Niger, nation-wide

Duration: 1995 - 97

Development of local builder groups and methods for helping these groups operate in the local market

Partners: Public sector/Niger government; US Peace Corps

Objectives: Strengthen the ability of trained masons to market their skills and manage contracts

Activities: This has been a complementary activity to the woodless construction programme, and has focused on exploring ways in which teams of trained builders can be established, and on identifying the most suitable institutional and operational framework in which semi-literate builders can operate legally. Builder groups

started in several towns. In 1997 a focus has been on encouraging builders and groups of builders to undertake independent Woodless Construction activities, and an encouraging number are now gaining full-time independent employment with their new skills.

Cereal Banks in the context of Co-operative participation for food security and local development

Location: Zinder, Maradi and Tera region, Niger

Duration: 1995 and ongoing

Beneficiaries: Rural population and co-operatives

Partners: International Labour Organisation; Care International; and the PASP Niger (Food Security Programme); others.

Sectors: Food security/cereal banks; resource management; affordable shelter; income generation.

Objectives: Construction of operational cereal banks with community contribution

Activities:

In previous years the support for the construction of cereal banks with woodless construction has featured as specific partnership initiatives. Cereal bank construction in Niger has become more generalised in 1997, with both NGO and state partners using woodless construction, although the ILO remains a major partner. DW and the PCSB (Woodless Construction Programme) provide design and supervision of construction of co-operative cereal banks in desert villages. The community contributes labour, food, water and materials. Substantial costs of trained masons are covered by community contribution as well. The programme is in part remarkable for the very high level of community contribution and mobilisation in often severe conditions of aridity and failed crops. 1997 was the second year of extension activities into villages, and over 30 cereal banks

were constructed.

Support: ILO/ Dutch Government; and other sources

Woodless Construction programme, (A Hope in the Desert Project), Burkina Faso

Location: Northern Burkina Faso

Duration: 1996 - 2000

Beneficiaries: Local builders; local population; village youth groups

Budget: USD 685 000 Five year programme

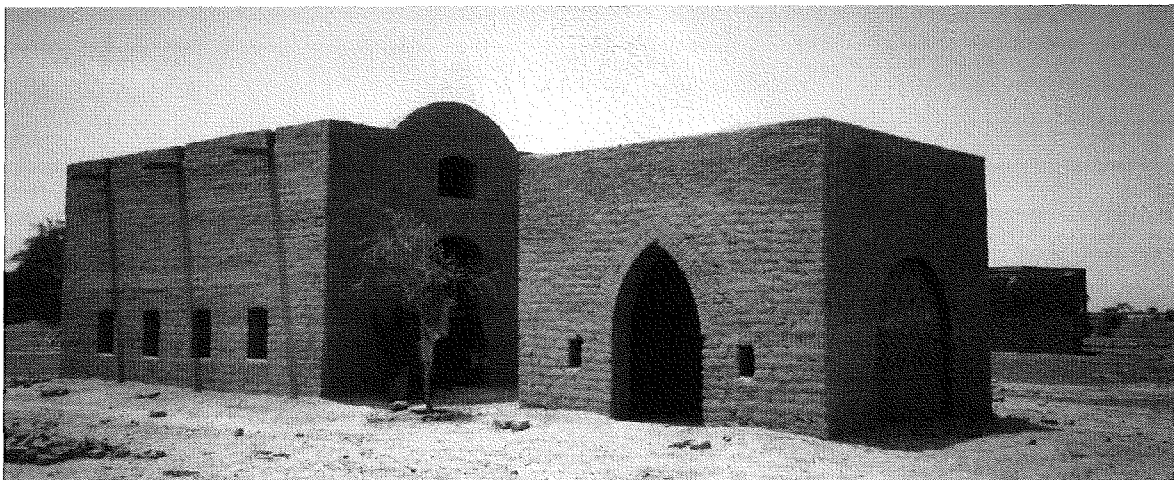
Partners: Burkina Red Cross

Objectives: Demonstrate environmentally viable woodless construction in the region; train builders; develop lasting capacity in target villages

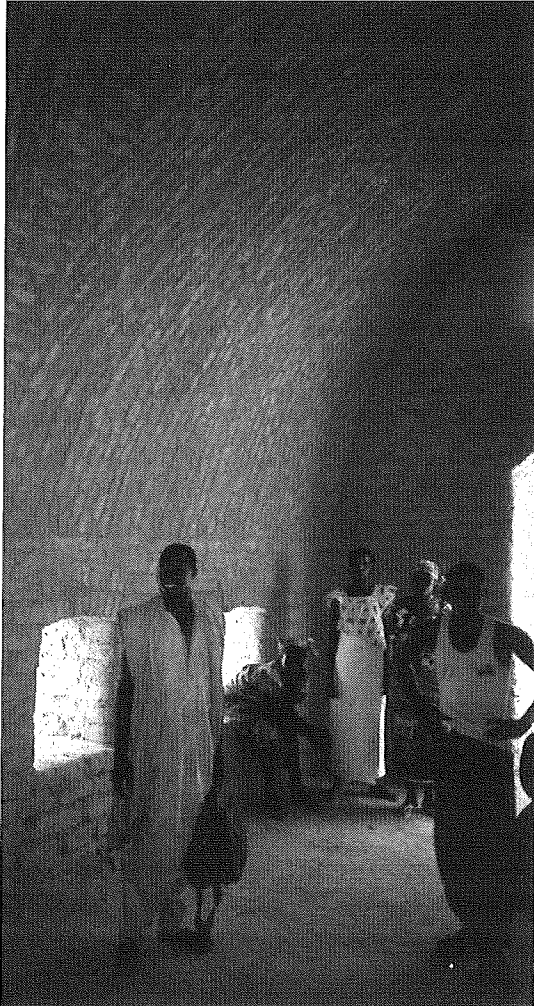
Activities: This programme targets the six provinces in the north of Burkina Faso, in the context of the Danish and Burkina Red Cross programme "A Hope in the Desert Project". DW oversees the training of over 100 builders to constitute a highly skilled capacity to undertake woodless construction in the villages of the north of Burkina, serving the needs of youth groups in the villages. In time, this will provide a capacity for local training and apprenticeship. Training is complemented by local awareness raising on the dangers to the environment of over consuming wood. All the village buildings are selected by the youth groups, who also contribute the materials and labour. Village infrastructure ranges from stores, literacy centres, animal shelters, and soap production units.

Support: Danish Red Cross/Danida)

Literacy and womens meeting centre, Burkina Faso, typical building chosen by local groups.



*Large vault roofs for cereal banks & literacy centres –
Niger/Burkina Faso*



Support for the development of DW Mali, Habitat and Environment, a local NGO, and the transfer of DWF day to day activities.

Location: Mopti region, Mali

Duration: 1997 and ongoing

Beneficiaries: Local Woodless Construction team members, local population of builders.

Overall funding in 1997: 115 000 US\$ in 1997

Partners: DW Mali – Habitat and Environment.

Sectors: Institutional development, local capacity building. Woodless Construction; environmental resource management; builder training.

Objectives: Transfer of day-to-day responsibility and running of Mali DW activities to Development Workshop Mali, Development of Woodless Construction in the Mopti region, Mali

Activities:

Through discussion with local woodless construction team members in 1997, preparations started at the beginning of the year

to establish a local NGO, and the registration took effect in October 1997. An increasing proportion of both management and fund raising has progressively been handed over to the local team. DWF provides regular support that will continue as the local NGO strengthens its own capacity.

In 1997 training and promoting woodless construction remained the main activity, with 61 builders trained, 17 retrained, 14 training and technical staff developed and 26 demonstration buildings constructed, including 23 rural cereal stores and tool depots.

With the creation of a local NGO, the portfolio of activities should gradually widen in 1998.

Support: Core support through Lutheran World Relief, and The Danish Red Cross, SOS Sahel and European Development Funds, Peace Corps / Other local sources

Training Burkina artisans for woodless construction.

Location: Koudougou, Burkina Faso and Mopti, Mali

Duration: 1997 and ongoing

Beneficiaries: Local masons and technicians

Partners: Programme for the promotion of artisan skills in Burkina Faso.

Objectives: Developing woodless construction skills

Activities: In 1997 DW developed a new partnership with the Burkina based Programme for the Development of Artisan Skills (PAB), through initial pilot training programme for their builders and staff held in Mali. This is the first step towards developing trained builders and technicians.

Support: Swiss Government via PAB

Training materials for community based Rehabilitation and Shelter Programme

Location: France and Angola

Duration: 1997

Beneficiaries: Local NGO's and CBOs, Angola

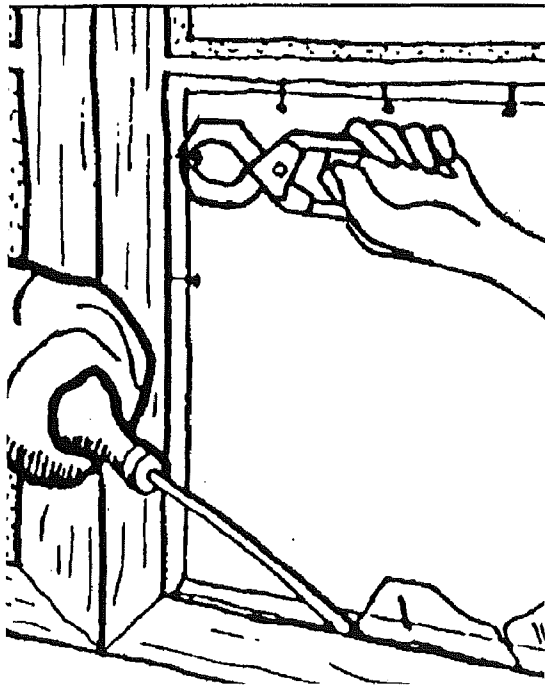
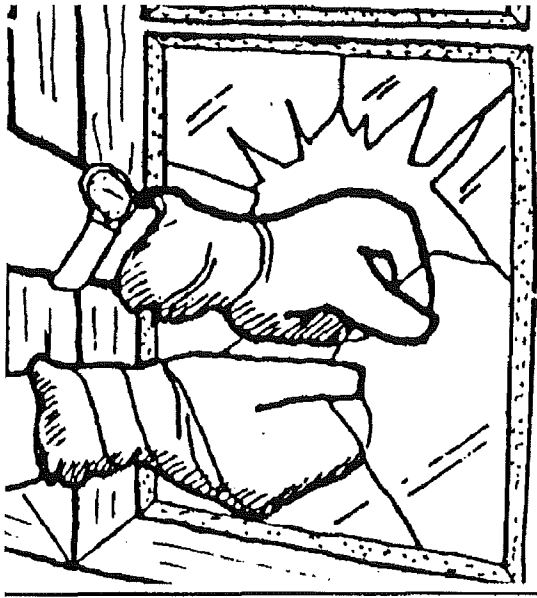
Budget: for DWF : 13 000 \$USD

Partners: Development Workshop Angola

Objectives: Development of training materials for community-based shelter and infrastructure rehabilitation

Activities: DW Angola requested support from DW France to develop training materials making use of previous experience in community facility construction and rehabilitation programmes undertaken by DWF in Senegal, Sudan, Niger and Mali. As well as producing technical information sheets and the first version of training modules, DWF reviewed its own computer models developed for assessing

« mending windows » Illustrations for
rehabilitation support, Angola



rehabilitation needs in buildings, with a view to adapting these for the Angolan context.

Support: European Community/One World Action/ Development Workshop Angola

Rehabilitation and construction, Boncoucou Maternity Centre

Location: Boncoucou, North West Niger

Duration: 1995 - 97

Beneficiaries: Local masons and health staff

Budget: USD 152 184 (2 years)

Partners: Sahel Tech

Objectives: Reconstruction of maternity and health care complex

Activities: DW finished the renovation of a badly designed health centre and reconstruction with woodless construction techniques. The project provided the opportunity to train builders in high quality finishing of buildings, and has presented a high prestige example of health facilities using local materials and woodless construction in the north west of Niger.

Support: Belgian Government/Ninafri NGO

Publications and editorials

- Publication of 2nd Edition of 'Building with Earth – a handbook' J. Norton, Intermediate Technology Publications
- Preparation of 'Building issues - Woodless Construction' J. Norton, Lund University
- Preparation of key note chapters on Development Workshop research in Oman in 1973 on the potential of Indigenous Building Methods, for inclusion in forthcoming publication on Oman's Habitat
- "Construction sans Bois - Aide mémoire pour maçons" Development Workshop