

Fadel Ndiame: Summary Profile

Fadel Ndiame is a Rural Development Expert with more than 25 years experience in Policy and Program design, Implementation and Evaluation. He has substantive experience and competencies in Organisational Development and Leadership; Capacity-building and Support programs in agriculture, cultural industries and eco-tourism in West, East and Southern Africa; as well as in the Design and Evaluation of innovative rural financing solutions for rural artisans and producers. He is an experienced Analyst and Research Specialist of Rural Development, Cultural Industries Policies and Programs, and is part of a network of farmer organisations, rural entrepreneurs in Southern and West Africa, Europe, and North America.

The experience and competencies were acquired in various leadership and management positions in the public and non-governmental sectors; as well as in international funding organizations. His leadership experience includes:

- Leading the Senegalese Institute of Agricultural Research (ISRA) programme aimed at developing appropriate and affordable technologies for small farmers, especially women, in the Casamance region of Senegal, West Africa;
- Leading the establishment of the West Africa Rural Foundation (WARF) based in Senegal, and serving as its first Executive Director. WARF is an international organization which specializes in providing strategic, technical and financial support to farmers' organizations in West Africa.
- Leading the launch of the Local Organization Support Program (LOSP)- a multi-donor funded initiative aimed at designing and testing a support methodology and a capacity building program for farmer organizations in West Africa. The LOSP developed methodological guidelines, operational procedures and institutional frameworks for providing customized support to farmer organizations in 5 countries in West Africa: Mali, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, the Gambia and Senegal.
- Leading the Community Development as well as the Economic Opportunity Programs of the Kellogg Foundation's Africa Program. The emphasis of this work included supporting selected communities to develop a self drive mindset; and participating in wealth creation through the beneficiation of agricultural and cultural resources.
- Facilitating capacity building and partnership programmes for rural producers and farmer organizations. These have included for NEPAD; the World Bank's Structural Adjustment Program on Agricultural and Rural development (PASOP); CADEF- an agricultural research program in Senegal; as well as for IFAD.
- Leading the creation of a 100 Million USD social venture fund for rural development; the fund aimed at promoting triple bottom line business ventures, in agribusiness, cultural industries and eco-tourism.

He is a published author on rural community empowerment through co-creation of wealth. He speaks and writes English, French, Spanish, Wolof and Mandinka.

He is currently finishing up a PhD in rural development Studies with Wageningen Agricultural University in the Netherlands-focusing on the role of Farmers' organizations in the generation of Technologies for peasant-led rural development trajectories. He holds an MSc. in Economics from Dakar University, Senegal; and an MSc. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan University, USA.