Young people aged 15 to 24 currently account for 16% of the world population, a figure that will likely rise to almost 1.3 billion by 2030. The issue of their integration and support is therefore a real challenge, particularly in Africa. In light of this, through the JADE Programme agreement, GRET is working to support young people and facilitate their integration.

With a wealth of experience in the area of economic inclusion of young people, GRET and its partners are promoting better support of young people and contributing to their improved integration capacity so that they can become a lever of change. Launched in July 2020 and funded by Agence française de développement, the JADE programme is a pilot programme introducing reflection on young people as a cross-cutting theme in development. Its objective is to structure a multi-dimensional approach to young people’s integration. The programme designs and tests relevant, innovative methods to support young people in their overall integration (economic and professional, social and civic, environmental and climatic). In this way, young people are considered as stakeholders in change, and no longer as simply beneficiaries of development actions.

A first experimental phase based on recognised professional integration expertise

JADE 1 (2020-2023) laid the foundations of an inclusive strategy to support young people via the implementation of innovative, structural support, favouring their overall integration and their role as stakeholders in sustainable development of their territories over the long term.

Through 11 projects, the programme was conducted in six countries: Guinea, Haiti, Mali, Mauritania, Republic of Congo and Senegal. This phase made it possible to ascertain the extent of the various issues that need to be taken into account to succeed in the comprehensive integration approach, such as a shared definition of youth, the issue of soft skills as a favourable factor for integration, intergenerational relationships, contexts of fragility, and the greening of professions and trades.
Phase 2: indepth thematic work and geographic extension

For its second phase (2024-2026), the JADE programme intends to reinforce its strategy to support young people’s overall integration by transforming the role given to young people as social actors and eco-citizens in their territories.

Taking account of the lessons learned during the first phase, the project teams will implement several systems for training and integration in line with the needs of the local labour market and the challenges of ecological transition. The objective is to support various local stakeholders with their organisation and the roll-out of the approach for overall integration of young people.

The main objectives of this second phase of the programme are:

> consolidation of a common vision of the overall integration approach,
> strengthening inclusion of cross-cutting subject areas in projects (gender, ecological transition, entrepreneurship, active citizenship) through action-research,
> consolidation of projects’ monitoring and evaluation systems.

EXPECTED RESULTS FROM PHASE 2

- 2,310 young people are supported to become stakeholders in their overall integration and the development of their territories.
- 31 guidance, training and integration systems are strengthened to adopt an overall approach to young people.
- 9,107 young people are informed or made aware of cross-cutting subjects applied to territorial issues.
- 50 initiatives related to territorial issues, led by young people, individually or collectively, are supported by the programme.
- 446 young people’s associations and groups are supported to implement social or eco-citizen initiatives.
- 16 local decision-making bodies, forums and frameworks.

Project partners

- BATIK international
- Geres
- Lipob Congo
- AGUIDE Guinea
- VIETNET Vietnam
- Women’Union Vietnam
- Y’EN A MARRE Senegal
- Social Change Factory Senegal

For phase 2, the programme is being rolled out in 9 countries:

- Haiti
- Senegal
- Mauritania
- Guinea
- Congo Brazzaville
- Madagascar
- Vietnam
- Cambodge
- Myanmar

TOTAL BUDGET OF 8,492,307 EUROS (PHASE 1: €4.8 MILLION)
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GRET is an international fair development NGO that has been working for almost 50 years from field to political level to fight against poverty and inequalities.