



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission

Empower women and their children in developing countries by working to close the gender gap, teaching valuable new skills, and promoting an environment that will guarantee a better quality of life for themselves and their communities.

A Message for the New Year from Founder & CEO Sophie Lawson-Adigo



On behalf of OFED International's staff, I would like to wish you a happy New Year.

I am proud of all that we have achieved in 2017 in the Republic of Togo. We have empowered many rural women and their children, and I anticipate that 2018 will be even better.

In 2017, OFED:

- Issued 163 national identity cards to women in the regions of Agou, Avé and Vo.
- Set up five Simplified Cooperative Societies (SCOOPS) benefiting 69 women in the village of Kati in the region of Agou providing them with cassava processing equipment, a storage building and two hanging trellises.
- Registered 50 children who now attend the Assiamagble kindergarten on a regular basis.
- Deployed a tricycle mobile library bringing 200 books to the villages of Aképé and Assiamagblé.

We are deeply grateful for the support of our partners, who made our success in 2017 possible:

Foundation R.C Maagdenhuis

Foundation Les Paquerettes

Global Fund for Children (GFC)

Basic Initiatives Support Agency (AGAIB)/ The World Bank Group.

Through the generosity of our partners, supporters and staff, we will build on these achievements in 2018, by improving our internal processes and procedures and by scaling the Rural Women Entrepreneurship Support and the Early Childhood Development projects in the regions of Plateaux and Maritime. We will continue our work to get rural women and their children out of extreme poverty by implementing a new literacy project for cooperative members. We will continue to provide education and childcare for children in order to give them a strong academic foundation that will prepare them for a brighter future.

I look forward to all what we will accomplish in 2018 and in the coming years.

Sophie Lawson-Adigo

Founder & CEO



OFED

Who We Are

The Organization for Women and Development International (OFED) is a non-profit 503 c3 organization that supports women and children by improving their environment through community development.

Our Vision: We envision strong rural communities in West Africa, where women are empowered to take charge of their own economic future through agricultural and rural development, and where children are empowered through early and effective education.

Our Strategy:

Support and assist women at the grassroots level to:

- Increase their agricultural productivity.
- Increase their income from agricultural products.
- Access credit.
- Undertake income-generating activities.
- Improve their health, education, and training.

Contribute to the well-being of their children through projects to:

- Reduce school drop-out rates in rural areas.
- Ensure food security through school canteens.
- Promote literacy through reading.
- End the trafficking of children from rural areas.

Areas of Activity: Agriculture, health, early childhood development, education, food security and nutrition, water and sanitation, and energy and infrastructure.

Target Groups: Rural women, children, and other disadvantaged groups.

Intervention Approach: OFED's intervention and decision making are based on research and action training. It has a participatory approach that respects beneficiaries' views and the equity between social groups.

Area of Intervention: OFED is currently working in the Republic of Togo, with plans to expand to other West African nations.



Networks and Partnerships:

- The Togolese Women's Consultative Council (TFCC)
- The Women's Union of TOGO (UFC / YWCA-TOGO)
- Membership in the Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiIDAF Togo)
- Membership in the International Network of Women of the World Association of Community Radios - TOGO (RIF-AMARC-TOGO)
- Membership in the NGOs from Togo (FONGTO)
- Membership in the Union of Non-Governmental Organizations of Togo (UONGTO).



**Rural Women
Entrepreneurship
Support: National
Identity Cards**

OFED has brought together nine women’s agricultural cooperatives in the regions of Vo, Avé and Agou to facilitate their access to Togolese identity and citizenship documents. It has organized working sessions with the cooperatives’ members and other stakeholders to:

- Share information about the project and the implementation process.
- Ensure the availability of local authorities to support the project.
- Raise awareness of the documentation needed to obtain a birth certificate, a certificate of nationality and a national identity card, as well as the required administrative procedures.
- Follow up with the government administration.
- Obtain identification documents.

Advocacy: OFED staff met with local and administrative authorities (court presidents, clerks, regional council chairman, brigade commanders, administration officials, and traditional chiefs) to seek their support.

Beneficiaries:
163 women,
members of 8
agricultural
cooperatives
Partner:
Foundation
Maagdhuis



Rural Women Entrepreneurship: Capacity Building of Cooperatives

OFED helps rural women's informal groups to migrate into Simplified Cooperative Societies (SCOOPS) and thus have their legal status recognized by local governments.

We assist, facilitate and/or support establishment and growth of SCOOPS by:

- Drafting statutes and rules of procedure.
- Opening bank accounts.
- Facilitating administrative procedures with the government.

We provide SCOOPS with equipment and minimum working capital to support agricultural activities.

One of the best ways to increase female entrepreneurship is to improve women's access to credit. Most women need just a small amount of startup capital to execute their business ideas.

Beneficiaries:

**69 women
members of 5
agricultural
cooperatives in 2
townships**

Partner:

**Foundation
Maagdenhuis**



Early Childhood Development

Promotion of a Kindergarten Education

This program aims to promote the participation of children in vulnerable areas in a preschool program. It encourages the inclusive education of children while ensuring their intellectual, psychological and physical well-being. It encourages parents' involvement in their children's education.

Six Key Areas of Intervention:

The program focuses on six main areas to achieve its goals.

Learning and Teaching: Implementing a better educational curriculum for the benefit of kindergarten children in Assiamagble.

Health and Hygiene: Providing children with adequate care, teaching hygiene practices (such as brushing teeth and washing hands), and distributing hygiene kits (toothbrushes, toothpastes, soaps and sponges).

Nutrition: Improving children's diets.

Security: Enhancing security arrangements to improve children's development.

Social Psychology: Encouraging children to fit into a social group.

Parental Support: Establishing a framework that encourages parents to invest in the program's success. Parents are expected to be actively involved in the life of the kindergarten by participating in activities with their children and collaborating with teachers and staff.

Facts:

- 50 children were tested for malaria. 27 had symptoms and were treated.
- Door to door visits and surveys of parents were conducted.
- A first aid kit was purchased.

Partner:

Global Fund for Children (GFC)

PROMOTION DE LA CULTURE
ET DE LA LECTURE EN MILIEU RURAL

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www.ofeddinternational.org

APSONIC

Promoting a Culture of Reading

Key Objectives:

- Facilitating access to books for children in the township of Aképé and the village of Assiamagblé.
- Encouraging reading to enhance academic achievement and for pleasure, to hatch children's reading skills.
- Contributing to children's personal and cultural development.
- Promoting education in general.

Mobile Library

OFED deploys a motorcycle tricycle that carries books to two primary schools in two towns, visiting the schools each Wednesday. Sessions last from 30 minutes to 1 hour and consist of reading, storytelling and Q & A. Students have the choice of reading on site or borrowing books. Several categories of books are offered, including education, novels, dictionaries, comics, and poems.

OFED organizes educational and cultural entertainment events around the project, such as: storytelling sessions with puppet animation, writing workshops, meetings with

Togolese authors, and poetry, theater and cultural activities based on the cultural identities of communities.

Facts:

- 200 books were purchased.
- An average of 23 participants attended each session at the public primary school (EPP) of Assiamagblé, 72 at the Catholic primary school (EPC) of Akepe.

Partner:

Global Fund for Children
(GFC)



Restoration of a Health Unit

OFED helped the Gamé-Séva community to design the project to renovate its medical care unit and to evaluate its costs. It supported the project by:

- Rallying support among the community of Gamé-Séva.
- Reporting on the evolution of the project to our partner, the Government Agency for Support for Basic Initiatives (AGAIB).
- Facilitating collaboration between all stakeholders.
- Organizing training sessions for community.
- Organizing meetings and awareness-raising sessions for the benefit of local authorities and the community.
- Participating in the procurement process.
- Training trainers and the community on transparent management of funds.

Fact:

The health unit was rehabilitated and equipped with medical devices.

Partner:

The government agency for support for Basic Initiatives (AGAIB)

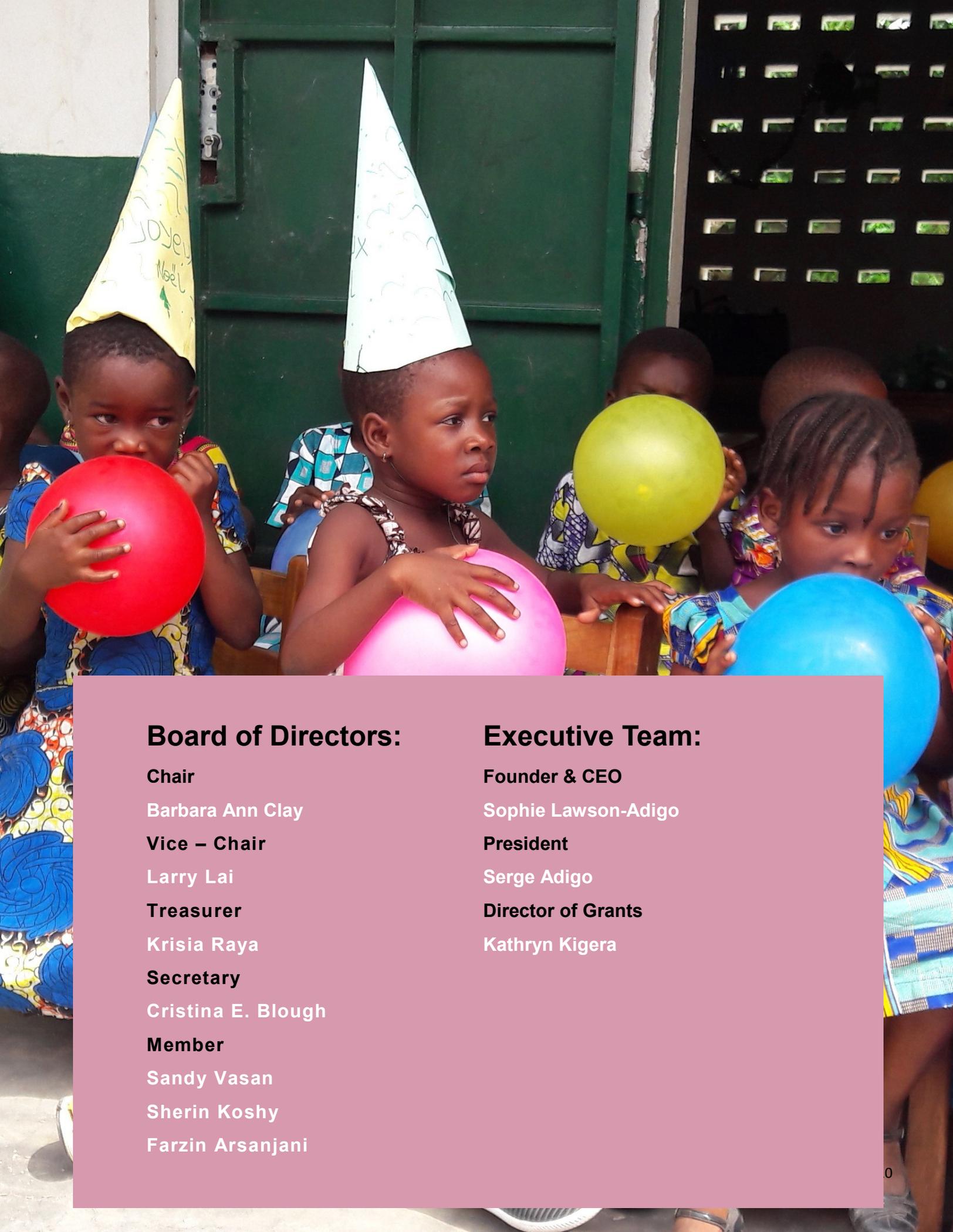


2018

In 2018, the Organization for Women and Development International will pursue its mission in support of women and children, and looks forward to the successful completion of projects started in 2017.

It will build on these successes to launch new projects, such as an Adult Functional Literacy project to support women members of the cooperative in Agou. The project will enable rural women to acquire basic reading, writing, and numeracy skills and to adequately manage their cooperatives and income generating activities.

OFED is dedicated to improving the lives of the women and children of the Republic of Togo and to helping them to help themselves. We look forward to another year of success in 2018.



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2017 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

	2017		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Revenues			
Contributions & Individual donations	1,131	-	1,131
Grants		39,923	39,923
In-kind contributions	5,304		5,304
Investment income	-	-	-
Interest income	-	-	-
Unrealized gain (loss)	-	-	-
Realized gain (loss)	-	-	-
Net assets released from restrictions	39,923	-39,923	0
Total support and revenue	\$46,358	\$0	\$46,358
 Expenses			
Direct program costs	19,771		19,771
General & administrative	15,287		15,287
Fundraising	-		-
Total expenses	\$35,058	\$0	\$35,058
Change in net assets	11,300		11,300
Net assets at the beginning of the year	\$47,675		\$47,675
Net assets at the end of the year	\$58,975		\$58,975

ASSETES, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSET SUMMARY

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalent	9,459	6,005
Contributions and grants receivables	49,328	41,235
Non-Current As- sets:		
Property, Plant and Equipment	715	915
Total Assets	\$59,502	\$48,155
Liabilities		
Accrued expenses	527	480
Total Liabilities	\$527	\$480
Net Assets		
Temporarily Restricted		
Unrestricted	\$58,975	47,675
Total Net Assets		
Total liabilities and net assets	\$59,502	\$48,155