

Message from the Coordinator

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear sympathizers and supporters of our Association,

A positive change often comes from a dream, a commitment and the courage of an individual or a group of individuals. Thus, 16 years ago, at the initiative of one person, a group of nationals from the Bodo former Sub-Prefecture, now the Kouh-East Department, met at *Le Pélican* Restaurant in N'Djamena, in a constitutive General Assembly of an Association called "*Les Groupements J'INTA*" in 2002.

This association received an authorization to operate two years later under Folio No. 1934 of 27 December 2004. But, soon after, it was confronted with two major obstacles that hampered its actions in the field, namely, i) the sudden and premature deaths of its Secretary-General and the Chairman of its Central Bureau in Bodo, the area of operation of the Association and ii) the transfer of its Coordinator for professional reasons, to the WHO Regional Office for Africa in Brazzaville where he lived for nearly seven years.

In making this choice, we pledged to be closer to the parents in the rural area in order to assist them, by equipping them to combat poverty. In other words, help them to create the conditions for endogenous development and take the lead in decision-making.

We are aware that the road is long and full of obstacles, but the mission is exciting and we firmly believe in its considerable success in the medium term.

When in April 2018, we brought together in Bodo about forty members from seven villages to be trained on the basic text of the Association and develop action plans to start the activities on pilot basis, we observed their passion and high-level commitment to take ownership of the objectives of the *Groupements J'INTA*, and this further encouraged us in our determination to move forward.

In addition to the training organized, the Association had already funded a 40m-deep bore hole on a plot of more than 4ha previously acquired by the Association at the outskirts of Bodo which it parcelled out with a cadastral plan to host its headquarters as well as that of the Community Development Training and Research Centre. This proves that things are moving slowly perhaps but surely towards the objectives set.

We are therefore calling on well-wishers and all those who are concerned by the living conditions of miserable people in rural areas, to accompany us in this experience which is intended to be original and participative with the ambition of covering the whole of Chad and beyond.

With my very best regards,

Morbé Ngartelbaye