



**AVSF**

AGRONOMES &  
VÉTÉRINAIRES  
SANS FRONTIÈRES

RÉSEAU VSF INTERNATIONAL

# Reducing pesticide use and accompanying farmers towards agroecological alternatives

*Reducing the use of pesticides in tropical  
agriculture –Montpellier Agropolis 11-12 October*





**AVSF: a technical and economical cooperation to support small scale farming in developing countries**

### **3 main areas of work**

- Building and implementing rural development projects: agriculture and livestock development and services for smallholder farmers.
- **Advocacy** in the North and the South in favor of rural farming.
- **Providing expertise** to North and South actors.

## Key facts and figures about AVSF

### ➤ AVSF in key figures (2020) :

- 20 countries of cooperation in Africa, Latin America and Asia;
- 59 ongoing projects, supporting more than 700 000 beneficiaries;
- 280 staffs, of whom 85% are local professionals;
- A budget of 16,9 M€ in 2020, of which 86% was directly used for projects.

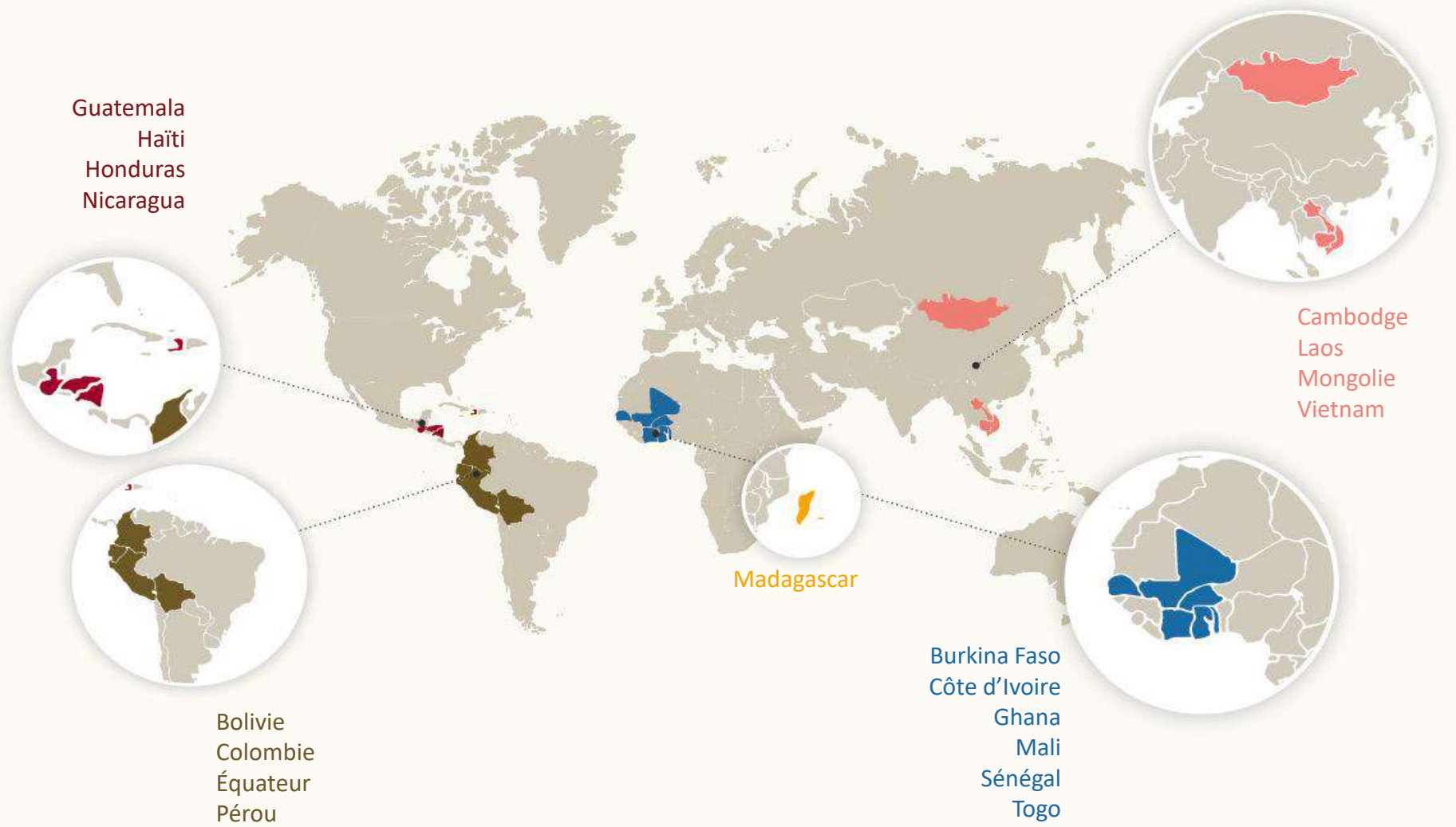
### ➤ AVSF is a founding member of several professional platforms:

- Technical WG in Agro-ecological Transitions ([GTAE](#)), with Agrisud, Gret & Cari.
- A French consultancy cooperative firm (TERO)
- [Fair Trade France](#), [Ethiquable](#) and [SPP Global](#);
- [VSF International](#), a network of 12 professional veterinary NGOs;



GRUPE DE TRAVAIL SUR LES TRANSITIONS AGROECOLOGIQUES





Guatemala  
Haïti  
Honduras  
Nicaragua

Cambodge  
Laos  
Mongolie  
Vietnam

Madagascar

Bolivie  
Colombie  
Équateur  
Pérou

Burkina Faso  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Ghana  
Mali  
Sénégal  
Togo

**LES PAYS DE COOPÉRATION**

## Collaborative Farmers Field School for the co-design of innovative systems

Implementa  
tion of  
group test  
plots



Agroecological  
references  
**locally  
adapted**

Combine  
agronomic  
knowledge and  
**farmers' know-  
how**

**Some results in West african coton zone (coton and horticultural crops):**

- Combination of biopesticide and organic manure → 24% less inputs costs and similar cotton yields
- Collective production groups of biopesticides (N.Togo)

## Co-design of innovative systems Use of local farmers' know-how Case of cotton production in Mali (Kita

Plots  
managed  
by  
farmers  
compare  
d to test  
plots



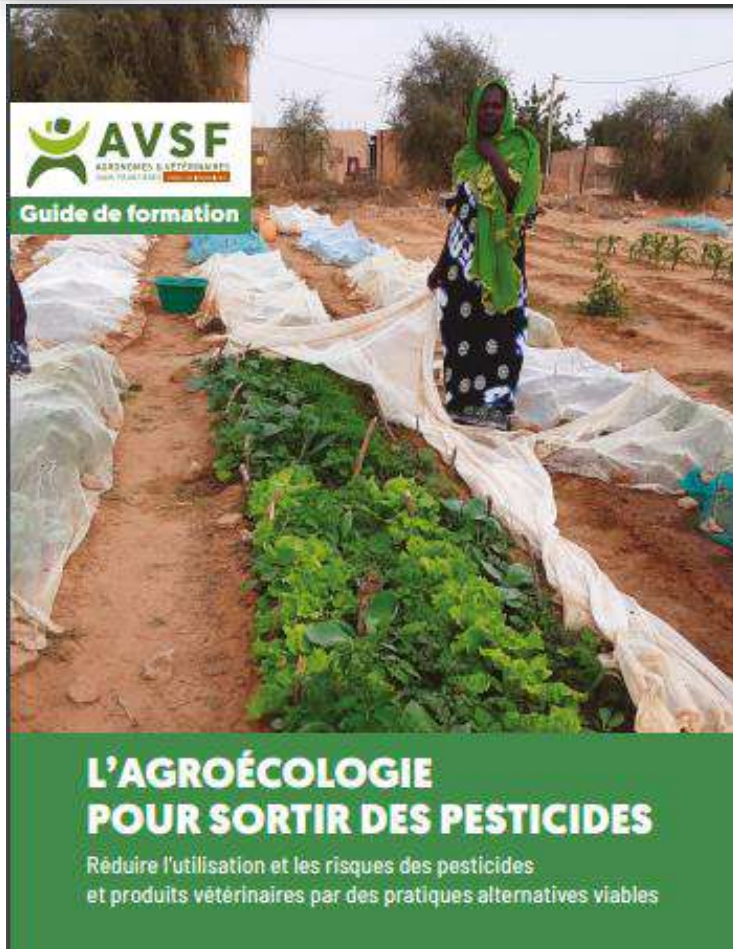
Use of technology for  
learning

Collection of  
knowledge  
regarding use of  
plants / Sharing of  
some « recipes »  
of biopesticides



# Accompagnement : a key role for agricultural changes

## Training guide



- The result of two years of collaborating work, mainly agronomists and veterinarians with several useful readings and contributions :
  - Michel Havard et José Martin, agronomist from CIRAD, François-Régis Goebel, entomologist from CIRAD, Pierre Silvie, entomologist from IRD
- Now, it's time for dissemination to the field :
  - Mali, (with Thierry Brévault, entomologist) Republic of Cote d'Ivoire (with Régis Babin, entomologist from Cirad)

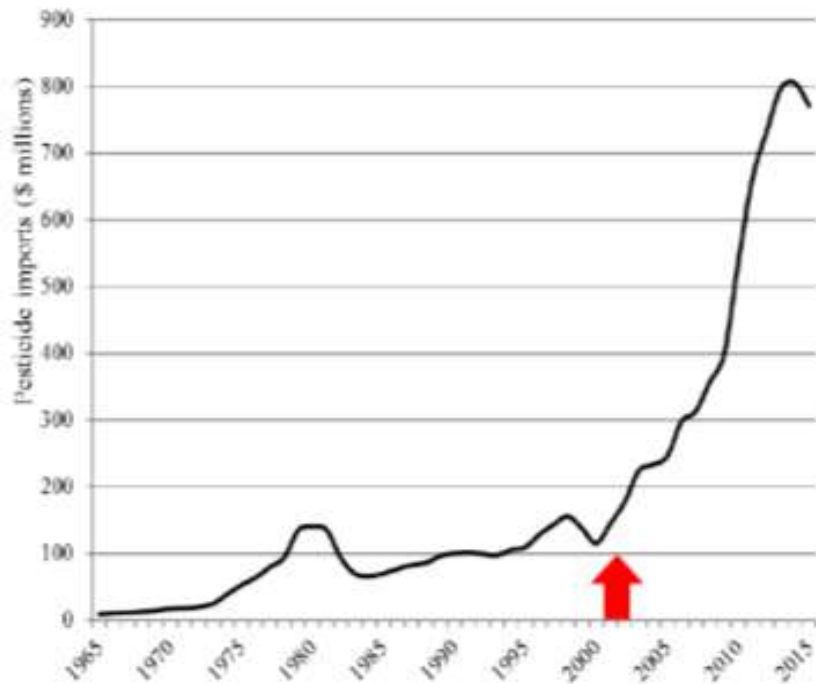
To find and use the guide :

<https://www.avsf.org/fr/posts/2518/full/guide-l-agroecologie-pour-sortir-des-pesticides>

opensource and collaborative writing : send you contributions and questions to

[alterpesticides@avsf.org](mailto:alterpesticides@avsf.org)

## Need of sensitization for farmers and decision maker



FAO stat 2018, pesticide imports in Africa



Milk storage, herbicide and engine oil tanks (Mali)







## Several action levers, from farmers to decision makers

### 1. Farmer practices :

→ Technical support for alternatives (regarding efficacy and economic aspects) such as biopesticides and agronomic method, information on pesticides risks (health and environment)

### 2. Farmer organizations :

→ Financial and technical support to develop alternatives such as collective used of biopesticides (pheromones, macroorganisms, large scale biopesticide manufacturing) and hoeing equipment to limit herbicide

### 3. Policy makers :

→ Supervision of the marketing of the sales of pesticides, vigilance priority on harmful pesticides (CMR pesticides), political support for agroecology (ex : obligation of commitment of exporting production organizations (cotton, coffee, etc))