

## Achille Ephrem ASSOGBADJO (PhD)



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ASSOGBADJO Achille Ephrem is an Agronomist and forester as background with special interest on non-timber forest products. He is Doctor in Applied Biological Sciences with experience in population genetic, ethnobotany, conservation and domestication of forest genetic resources used by indigenous people. Full professor of Forestry (CAMES) ASSOGBADJO Achille Ephrem is belonging more than ten scientific networks (e.g. Medicinal and edible forest plants network of the South Saharan African Forest Genetic Program (SAFORGEN), Society of Economic Botany, IUCN World Commission on Protected Area (WCPA), IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) specialist group on wild crop relatives for which he is a regional leader for Sub Saharan Africa Region. ASSOGBADJO Achille Ephrem has already been granted more than 20 individual research grants (TWAS, IFS, Vavilov, AFP, IITO, British Ecological Society, Rufford SG, ...) and more than 10 regional and international research projects (UE, AU, UEMOA, CORAF/World Bank, RUFORUM, FNRSIT, UAC). As such he has been involved in several projects on ecosystems management, sustainable management of natural resources and/or endangered plant species conservation and domestication. He has participated to more than 70 international conferences and 20 training workshops. To date he has graduated more than 100 BSc, >60 MSc. and 04 PhD students with 12 MSc & 08 PhD currently registered. He has in great demand to sit on committees of under and post-grads (>60), and as external examiner for MSc/PhD (70/12) in Benin, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, South Africa...His scientific research since 2000 up to now has yielded more than 150 scientific publications in peer-reviewed international journals, books and proceedings of scientific conferences. To date, his research activities helped him to win four international prizes: "Ebi Kimanani Memorial Fellowship Award" in 2008 (Peru), "Heinz and Johannes Prize for the best scientific research paper on ecology in Africa" in 2009 (Germany), "Prize of the Belgian development Cooperation" in 2010 and "The name in science award" in 2014 (United Kingdom). All the above mentioned achievement allowed his nomination in 2013 as Young Affiliate of the World Academy of Sciences. In 2014 he has been awarded the honorary title "*The name in Science*" by decision of the Socrates Committee (Oxford, United Kingdom) recorded in the World Register of outstanding scientists of the 21<sup>st</sup> century with awarding a medal of frame for Contribution to World Science.

### Selected publications

1. Savi M.K., Noumonvi R., Chadaré F.J., Daïnou K., Salako V.K., Idohou R., Assogbadjo A.E., Glèlè Kakaï R. (2018). Synergy between traditional knowledge of use and tree population structure for sustainability of *Cola nitida* (Vent.) Schott. & Endl in Benin (West Africa). *Environment, Development and Sustainability*, 1-12.
2. Padonou E.A., Tovissodé F.C., Idohou R., Salako V.K., Fantondji L., Vihotogbé R., Fandohan B. & **Assogbadjo A.E.** (2017). Pilot assessment of locally acknowledged morphotypes of *Irvengia gbonensis* (Aubry-Lecomte) Baill. in southwestern Benin (West Africa). *Fruits* 72(5): 306–316. DOI 10.17660/th2017/72.5.6
3. Akpona J.D.T., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Fandohan A.B. & Romain Glèlè Kakaï (2017). Inventory and multicriteria approach to identify priority commercial timber species for conservation in Benin. *Bois et Forêts des Tropiques* 333(3): 5-16.
4. Gbedomon R.C., Salako V.K., Adomou A.C., Glèlè Kakaï R. & **Assogbadjo A.E.** (2017). Plants in traditional home gardens: richness, composition, conservation and implications for native biodiversity in Benin. *Biodiversity Conservation*, DOI 10.1007/s10531-017-1407-8.

5. Gbedomon R.C., Salako V.K. , Fandohan A.B., Idohou A.F.R., Glèlè Kakai R. & **Assogbadjo A.E.** (2017). Functional diversity of home gardens and their agrobiodiversity conservation benefits in Benin, West Africa. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 13:66. DOI 10.1186/s13002-017-0192-5
6. Mensah S., Veldtman R., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Ham C., Glèlè Kakai R. & Seifert T. (2017). Ecosystem service importance and use vary with socio-environmental factors: A study from household-surveys in local communities of South Africa. *Ecosystem Services* 23: 1-8.
7. Cron G.V., Karimi N., Glennon K.L., Udeh C.A. Witkowski Ed T.F., Venter S.M., **Assogbadjo A.E.** & Baum D.A. (2016). One African baobab species or two? Synonymy of *Adansonia kilima* and *A. digitata*. *Taxon* 65 (5) : 1037–1049
8. Idohou R., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Azihou F., Glèlè Kakai R. & Adomou A. (2016). Influence of the landscape context on stand structure and spatial patterns of the doum palm (*Hyphaene thebaica* Mart.) in the Republic of Benin (West Africa). *Agroforestry Systems* : 90:591–605.
9. Idohou R., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Glèlè Kakai R. & Peterson A.T. (2016). Spatio-temporal dynamic of suitable areas for species conservation in West Africa: eight economically important wild palms under present and future climates. *Agroforestry Systems*. DOI 10.1007/s10457-016-9955-6
10. Agbahoungba S., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Chadare F.J., Idohou R., Salako V.K., Agoyi E.E., Glèlè Kakai R. (2016). Ecological diversity and conservation of wild edible fruit trees species in the Lama Forest Reserve in Benin *Bois et Forêts des Tropiques*: 329 (3): 53-65.
11. Idohou R., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Houehanou T., Glèlè Kakai R., & Agbangla C. (2015). Variation in *Hyphaene thebaica* Mart. fruit: physical characteristics and factors affecting seed germination and seedling growth in Benin (West Africa). *Journal of Horticultural Science & Biotechnology* 90 (3) : 291–296
12. Boedecker J., Termote C., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Van Damme P. & Lachat C. (2015). Dietary contribution of Wild Edible Plants to women's diets in the buffer zone around the Lama forest, Benin – an underutilized potential. *Food security* 6 (6): 833-849 DOI 10.1007/s12571-014-0396-7
13. Padonou E.A., Kassa B., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Chakeredza S., Babatoundé B., Glèlè Kakai R. (2013). Differences in germination capacity and seedling growth between different seed morphotypes of *Azizelia africana* Sm. in Benin, West Africa. [\*Journal of Horticultural Science and Biotechnology\*](#) 88 (6) 679–684. **IF<sub>2012</sub> = 0.637**
14. **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Chadare F.J., Glele Kakai R., Fandohan B., Baidu-Forson J.J. (2012). Effects of physicochemical constituents of the soil and geographic provenance of individuals on variation in biochemical composition of baobab pulp, leaves and seeds. *Agriculture Ecosystems & Environment* 157: 94-99. doi:10.1016/j.agee.2012.01.021. **IF<sub>2012</sub> = 2.860**. Elsevier, ISSN: 0167-8809
15. **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Glèlè Kakai R., Vodouhè G.F., Djagoun C.A.M.S., Codjia J.T.C. & Sinsin B. (2012). Biodiversity and Socioeconomic Factors Supporting Farmers' Choice of Wild Edible Trees in the Agroforestry Systems of Benin (West Africa). *Forest Policy and Economics* 14: 41-49. doi:10.1016/j.forpol.2011.07.013. **IF<sub>2012</sub> = 1.482**. Elsevier, ISSN: 1389-9341
16. Dadjo C., **Assogbadjo A.E.**, Fandohan B., Glèlè Kakai R., Chakeredza S., Houehanou T.D. & Sinsin B. (2012). Uses and management of black plum (*Vitex doniana* Sweet) in Southern Benin. *Fruits* 67(3):173-187. **IF<sub>2012</sub> = 0.764**. EDP sciences, ISSN: 0248-1294

## Selected funded projects

1. **Enhancing nutritious food availability through promotion of native edible tree/shrub species in Sub-Saharan Africa (TREEFOOD)** (Benin-Niger-Burkina Faso-Mali-Danemark-Belgium) [AGROPOLIS FOUNDATION: 2017-2020 — 500000 Euro]. **Role:** Coordinator for Benin.
2. **Enhancing kersting's groundnut (*Macrotyloma geocarpum*) production and marketability in Benin (Project Doyiwé)**. [NWO-Applied Research Fund: 2017-2020 — 300000 Euro]. **Role:** Scientific coordinator
3. **Promoting environmentally friendly practices for sustainable baobab leaves production for food and nutritional security in smallholders farming systems in Benin (West-Africa)**.

**[RUFORUM Graduate Research Grant: 2015-2017 — 60000 USD].Role:** Principal Investigator.

- 4. Improving the resilience to climate change of agricultural ecosystems along watersheds through the participatory development of anti-erosion agroforestry and fertilizer systems in six West African countries(Benin – Burkina – Faso – Mali – Guinée-Côted’Ivoire). [CORAF/WECARD/World Bank 2013-2015 — 1000000 USD]. Role:** Coordinator for Benin
- 5. Les palmiers sauvages du Bénin: utilisation, biodiversité, écologie, importance économique, et conservation [Scientific council of University of Abomey-Calavi. 2012-2015, 100000 euro]. Role:** Scientists
- 6. Domestication and development of baobab and tamarind : UE- DADOBAT research project; [European Union. 2006- 2010 — 3000000 Euro] Role:** Principal Investigator for Benin