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Editorial: Roles of agroforestry parklands in sustainable production of small farms in West Africa.

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The aim of the project *Roles of agroforestry in the sustainable intensification of small farms and food security of societies in West Africa* (RAMSES II, 2018-2022) was to provide different ways of intensification of the four most represented cereal agroforestry parklands in West Africa: *Faidherbia albida* (tree), *Guiera senegalensis* (shrub), *Vitellaria paradoxa* (shea tree), and *Piliostigma* ssp. (shrub). Field works were conducted in Senegal and in Burkina Faso. The project's last meeting was held in Wageningen (The Netherlands) from 13 to 17 June 2022. The main results were shared. They were updated in 2023 and are available in the *Deliverables*, *Publications*, and *Communications* sections of the project website, https://www.ramsesiiagroforesterie.com

This special issue is intended as a reference document providing some of the key research results from all the disciplines cooperating in the project on the three following topics:
– the current state of the parklands in West Africa (Ouoba et al., 2023; Zida et al., 2023);
– the main socio-ecological services these parklands potentially or effectively provide to smallholder productions (Clermont-Dauphin et al., 2023; Loireau et al., 2023; Sarr et al., 2023; Serpantié et al., 2023);
– the description of agroforestry innovation platforms set up in the project's field sites. These platforms aim to raise awareness among smallholders about the intensification of agroforestry practices (Brouwers et al., 2023; Fayama et al., 2023).

This is not an exhaustive compilation of the project results. Partners have also published their works in other journals, among others: Roupsard et al. (2020) on a new spatial analysis method of *Faidherbia albida* impacts on the associated crops; Seghieri et al. (2021) on the use of the Theory of Change (ToC) in the case study of the the RAMSES II project; Leroux et al. (2022) on spatialized assessments of ecosystem service relationships in a *Faidherbia albida* parkland in Senegal; Diongue et al. (2022 and 2023) on the assessment and modelling of the hydrological impact of *Faidherbia albida* in Senegal; Sow et al. (2024) on the STICS soil-crop model used to explore the impact of a *Faidherbia albida* parkland on millet growth in Senegal, and other references displayed in the *Publications* section of the project website. Many communications were also displayed to several international congress (see the *Communications* section of the project website).

We hope that this special issue will provide BASE readers with an up-to-date knowledge on how agroforestry parklands in West Africa can contribute to the sustainable intensification of agricultural production. This is particularly crucial for smallholders in a region that suffers from food and climate insecurity in addition to various sources of instability (political, economic, terrorism).

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