Due to population growth and the fragile economic environment, the professional integration of Vulnerable Rural Youth / VRYs is a major challenge for Sahelian societies and economies. VRYs are the core target of the dual training courses offered by AVN (on-site training coupled with inclusive academic modules). The resources offered by AVN promote:

- an essential and concomitant link between professional training and remuneration;
- off-season agricultural jobs (construction work carried out during the dry season);
- the articulation of the informal and formal sectors within a "green" eco-construction sector.

These innovative approaches contribute to consolidating rural families, promoting the socio-economic stabilisation of communities and the strengthening of food security.

In order to offer VRYs opportunities for economic integration, AVN proposes the deployment and/or strengthening of its system linking adapted vocational training and employment, on different scales, and its possible integration into projects with multiple components.

**STRONG POINTS OF THE PROPOSAL**

- A construction technique mainly using raw earth and part of the traditional know-how of the rural populations of the Sahel;
- Dual training courses (85% on-site training, 15% academic modules) and an inclusive andragogical approach adapted to the needs of VRYs;
- Training courses carried out by endogenous trainer masons (training by peers) deployed at municipal and regional level by local operator partners (CBOs etc.);
- Trainees financially compensated during training periods;
- Trainees obtaining, through working on training sites, their own NV houses, at the same time enhancing their future marketing capacity;
- Inclusive academic training modules: technical training, training in site management, entrepreneurial initiation, continuing education, etc.;
- Initial two or three-year training courses (e.g.: apprentice = 1 season, mason = 2 seasons, artisan mason = 3 seasons);
- A systemic connection between the training programme and the emergence of a demand for the opening of NV eco-construction sites.

**EXAMPLES OF INSERTION IN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS**

- Rural development
- Vocational training and employment
- Water, sanitation and hygiene
- Gender
- Internally Displaced Populations response
- Support for entrepreneurship
- Peace and social cohesion
- Public policies

**DOCUMENTATION**

The vocational training (FR)
Results and impacts
Testimonies