## Fruits and vegetables no loss innovative Lab Work to save Fruits and Vegetables post-harvest losses

Nestor Alokpaï, Coordinator

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Thousands of farmers are involved in fruits and vegetables growing in Benin. High post-harvest losses up to 60 to 70% is a strong bottleneck which can be saved through a relevant technology and help to make economy

Promote affordable solar-energy-based cold warehouses and equipment for village farmers' cooperatives to store their F&V products

## MEET THE TEAM

#### Nestor Alokpaï (PhD), Coordinator

Nestor is agronomist, lecturer and researcher at the National University of Agriculture, specialized in agricultural extension. He has more than 18 years of professional experiences

Members (Students) Thierry Adjibola Leocardie Noumonvi Prudent Dossou Ange Afouda Aïna Modeste Khalifath Latifou Linda Samba

## DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS IDEA Why it is innovative and sustainable?

Since some decades, fruit and vegetable farmers are facing in Benin some very high post-harvest losses with no relevant solution so far. Sometimes, they lose up to 70% of their total production. The main cause of this situation is that Fruit and vegetable are highly perishable and there is no cold chain facilities or equipment and most of the big production areas are no connected to electricity network. There is also a weak organization of the farmers to facilitate group sales. Another cause is the high cost of electricity if this existed and not affordable for farmers even in cooperatives. There is also a high price volatility with a period of abundance during which supplies are very high compared to the demands which led to very low prices and bad sales and a high rate of losses.

But, one month later, the prices of the same products can go up to ten times higher, with scarcity and not affordable for consumers. Then, adequate and affordable storage facilities and devices can help farmers to save their products and control their supplies can lead to the improvement of their living conditions, gage of these subsectors' sustainability. Mini or mediumsized solar-based-energy cold storage equipment or warehouse is seen as a strong solution

#### **NEW PRODUCTS and Services**





**Costs:** To be determined and adapted to each size and need Services: Training on operating, and maintenance. Training on group sales rules, and good harvesting practices

#### **COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS AND SIZE OF MARKET**

No company registered so far in this business. Many thousands of F&V farmers in many villages in Benin are looking for a relevant and sustainable solution to overcome high post-harvest loss issues

### **OUR NUMBERS**

#### 1 year in operation

Save 1000 tons of fruits and vegetables

#### 5000 subscribers

F&V farmers

#### 200000 USD raised



10 direct employees and 20 occasional

# Join us in revolutionising access to ideas and emerging technologies to save F&V farmers' effort.

# Thank you!

Nestor Alokpaï