

# CURRICULUM VITAE

November 30, 2023

## NAMES

**Abdou Mouizz Salaou (MSc), Agronomy – Biotechnology and Plant Breeding**

## TITLE, RESPONSIBILITY, AND ACADEMIC AFFILIATION

### Research assistant

Genetics, Biotechnology, and Seed Sciences Unit, (GBioS / PAGEV / FSA)

## CONTACT DETAILS

Genetics, Biotechnology and Seed Science (GBioS) Unit, Laboratory of Plant Production, Physiology and Plant Breeding (PAGEV), Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (FSA), University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), 01 BP 526 Abomey-Calavi, Republic of Benin. Tel. (+229) 63 33 9495 / 96 07 8187

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## EDUCATION / QUALIFICATION

**2018 – 2020:** Master of Science, Agronomy, Plant science. Option: Biotechnology and Plant Breeding, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences (FSA), University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Benin.

**2013 – 2016:** Bachelor of Science, Plant and seed management and production, School of Plant and Seed Management and Production (EGPVS), National University of Agriculture (UNA), Benin.

## MOST RECENT SPECIFIC TRAININGS

**September, 2023:** Writing and publishing a scientific article: Scientific writing - Bibliometric analysis - Systematic review - Artificial Intelligence tools to assist in scientific writing. Organized by the School of Tropical Forestry of the National University of Agriculture, online training, Benin.

**August - September, 2023:** Foundations of Project Management. Google, Online training on Coursera.

**February – March, 2022:** Food Systems e-course. Organized by Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation & Netherlands Food Partnership, Online, The Netherlands.

**November, 2021:** Vegetable genetic resources conservation and use, with focus on Germplasm collecting, genotyping, conservation and information management. Organized by Taiwan Africa Vegetable Initiative (TAVI) that contributes to the rescue, conserve and use vegetable biodiversity in sub-Saharan Africa., Online training course, Arusha, Tanzania.

**July, 2021:** Scaling on-farm trial networks for improved breeding decisions organized by Bioversity International, Online, BMZ-Choose, Grow, Thrive Project. Benin.

**August, 2020:** Virtual Reach and Teach Science in Africa: Molecular Plant Breeding and Data Analysis. Organized by the JR BIOTEK Foundation. Online training.

**October, 2019:** Training on Genomic Selection (GS). Organized by Integrated Genotyping Service and Support (IGSS), Biosciences Eastern and Central Africa (BeCA), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana, Ghana.

**April, 2019:** Molecular Biology Training & Open Labware Building Workshop. Organized by JR BIOTEK Foundation, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**October – December, 2023:** Associate consultant, Fruits and vegetables for healthy diets (FRESH project), Work Package 4. Applied Horticultural Research (AHR), Australia, GBioS Unit, Benin.

**Tasks:** Generation of evidence by an assessment of postharvest losses (quantitative and qualitative) along the tomato value chains in Southern Benin.

**July – August, 2023:** Activity leader - African vegetable fair, Choose, Grow, Thrive project: Using citizen science in expanding West Africa's food basket with African vegetables to tackle malnutrition

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(BMZ-CGT). **Tasks:** Planning of the fair and lead the organizing committee; Designing and budgeting activities to be carried out during the fair; Communication with key stakeholders involved in the organization and implementation.

**October – December, 2023:** Associate consultant, Fruits and vegetables for healthy diets (FRESH project), Work Package 4. Applied Horticultural Research (AHR), Australia, GBioS Unit, Benin.

**Tasks:** Characterization of fruits and vegetables value chains in Benin to identify entry points for interventions that reduce postharvest losses and improve food safety; Literature review on post-harvest and food safety issues in the fruit and vegetable sector in Benin.

**May 2021 – May 2022:** Co-Manager - Choose, Grow, Thrive project: Using citizen science in expanding West Africa's food basket with African vegetables to tackle malnutrition (BMZ-CGT), UAC Benin, IPR/IFRA Mali and World Vegetable Center, Funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

**February 2019 – August 2022:** Lab technician, molecular biology platform. GBioS Unit, UAC, Benin. **Tasks:** Planning and management of the molecular biology unit activities (genotyping sampling, DNA extraction, PCR amplification, agarose gel electrophoresis, database construction and molecular data analysis); Molecular characterization and genetic diversity analysis within plant species populations such as maize, rice, fonio, Kersting groundnut, sesame, sweet potato, etc.; Organization of hands-on and training of students in laboratory activities.

**February 2018 – Present:** Research Assistant, Biotechnology and plant breeding. GBioS Unit, UAC.

**January – March, 2022:** Translator & Proofreader of UNDP MOOC entitled "Ecosystem restoration" from English to French, United Nations Volunteer - UNDP Global Programme on Nature for Development, USA.

**November 2021 – June 2022:** Translator & Proofreader of innovations and technology toolkits catalogues from English to French, Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) Clearinghouse program, IITA Benin. Benin.

## KEY RECENT MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

**October 25-29, 2021:** Second conference of APBA. Accelerating genetic gains in plant breeding for resilience, transformative food systems and economic growth in Africa, October 25-29, 2021, Kigali, Rwanda.

**January 25-28, 2021:** Power on your plate: All-Africa Summit on Diversifying Food Systems with African Traditional Vegetables to Increase Health, Nutrition, and Wealth, January 25-28, 2021, Arusha, Tanzania. Oral presentation. **Salaou A.M.**, Soulemane N., Sossou E.B., Bodjrenou G., Nouletope H., Akita N., Korogone C., Vigninou M., Adje C.A.O., Afokpe P., Fassinou-Hotegni N.V., N'Danikou S. and Achigan-Dako E.G., 2021. Collection of genetic resources of selected traditional African vegetables in agroecological zones of Benin.

**September, 25-28, 2019:** The Launch of the African Plant Breeders Association and Maiden International Conference, October 23rd – 25th, 2019, University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana. Poster presentation. Houdegbe C.A. Rago D.E., **Salaou M.**, Sibiya J., Sogbohossou D.E.O., Odindo A.O., Schranz E.M., Achigan-Dako E.G., 2019. Quantitative analysis of leaf yield and related traits in *Gynandropsis gynandra* (L.) Briq. for speeding up improved cultivars development.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Member of African BioGenome Project (AfricaBP)

## MOST RECENT GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

**2023:** Contribution to funds mobilization at GBioS/UAC for **PATH project: Capacity building of young African scientists in the field of precision agriculture through interregional academic mobility to improve climate-smart agri-food systems.** Funded by European Education and Culture Executive Agency under NDICI-2023-MOBAF. **Partners:** University of Abomey-Calavi, University of Cape Coast,

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University of Eswatini, University of Rwanda and Institut AGRO. **Duration:** 4 years (2024-2027). **Budget:** 1,796,820 Euros. **Role:** Member of the project writing team.

**2023:** Contribution to funds mobilization at GBioS/UAC for **ORPHAN project: Mobility for high skilled scientists and entrepreneurs on orphan crops in higher education for accelerated climate change solutions in Africa**. Funded by European Education and Culture Executive Agency under NDICI-2023-MOBAF. **Partners:** University Nangui Abrogoua, University of Abomey-Calavi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Ebonyi State University, University of Zimbabwe and Catholic University of Louvain. **Duration:** 4 years (2024-2027). **Budget:** 1,796,820 Euros. **Role:** Leader of the project writing team.

**2023:** Contribution to funds mobilization at GBioS/UAC for **GENES II project: Mobility for Plant Genomics Scholars to Accelerate Climate-Smart Adaptation Options and Food Security in Africa II**. Funded by European Education and Culture Executive Agency under NDICI-2023-MOBAF. **Partners:** Ebonyi State University, University of Abomey-Calavi, Jimma University, Egerton University, Noordwes-Universiteit, University of Zimbabwe and Wageningen University. **Duration:** 4 years (2024-2027). **Budget:** 1,796,820 Euros. **Role:** Member of the project writing team.

**2021:** Contribution to funds mobilization at GBioS/UAC for **Safe-PGR project: Safeguarding Plant Genetic Resources of Benin for a sustainable future use**. Funded by Global Crop Diversity Trust (Crop Trust) under the BOLD (Biodiversity for opportunity, Livelihoods and Development). **Duration:** 2 years. **Budget:** USD 84,850. **Role:** Member of the project writing team.

**2013 :** Beninese government scholarship for Bachelor's degree at the National University of Agriculture, Benin. **Duration** 3 years.

## MOST RECENT PUBLICATIONS

1. Nicodeme V. Fassinou Hotegni, Natacha Agbo, **Mouizz A. B. Salaou**, Sylvanus Odjo, Aimé Bokonon Ganta, Enoch G. Achigan-Dako, 2023. Granaries used in maize storage and conservation across agroecological zones of Benin Republic: distribution, characteristics and associated postharvest losses. *Journal of Stored Products Research*. Elsevier. (Submitted and under review)
2. Fassinou Hotegni, V. N.; Godonou, L. Y.; and **Salaou, M.**, 2022. Fruit and Vegetable Value Chains in Benin: Identification of Intervention Entry Points. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/128531>
3. Enoch G. Achigan-Dako, Dêêdi E.O. Sogbohossou, Carlos A. Houdegebe, **Mouizz A. Salaou**, Fernand S. Sohindji, Jelila Blalogue, Bartholomew Y. Chataika, Herbaud F. Zohoungbogbo, Charlotte A.O. Adje, Nicodème V. Fassinou Hotegni, Rachidi Francisco, Mary O. Abukutsa-Onyango, Eric M. Schranz, 2021. Ten years of *Gynandropsis gynandra* research for improvement of nutrient-rich leaf consumption: lessons learnt and way forwards. *Annual Plant Reviews* 4, 1-44. <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781119312994.apr0774>
4. Aglinglo L.A., Sidibe A., N'Danikou S., Legba E.C., Nantoume Dolo A., Coulibaly H., Cissé Diallo F., Sidibe A., **Salaou M.**, Achigan-Dako E., Honfoga Faton J., Yarou B.B., Tignegre J.B., 2022. Guide pratique de culture de l'amarante et de multiplication des semences. World Vegetable Center. Shanhua Taiwan. Publication No. 23-1059
5. Aglinglo L.A., Legba E.C., N'Danikou S., **Salaou M.**, Achigan-Dako E., Sidibe A., Nantoume Dolo A., Coulibaly H., Diallo Cissé F., Sidibe Ab, Honfoga Faton J., Yarou BB, Tignegre JB., 2022. Guide pratique de culture de la corète potagère et de multiplication des semences. World Vegetable Center. Shanhua Taiwan. Publication No. 23-1060
6. Aglinglo L.A., Legba E.C., N'Danikou S., **Salaou M.**, Achigan-Dako E., Sidibe A., Nantoume Dolo A., Coulibaly H., Cissé Diallo F., Sidibe A., Honfoga Faton J., Yarou B.B., Tignegre J.B., 2022. Guide pratique de culture du gombo et de multiplication des semences. World Vegetable Center. Shanhua Taiwan. Publication No. 23-1058