



Togo

Living Together

In Lomé, two artists and eighty children collect waste from the streets and beaches to use as the primary material for artistic productions.

🌐 COUNTRY

Togo

📍 LOCALISATION

Grand Lomé

📅 DATES OF THE PROJECT

January 2023 – April 2023

👤 ARTISTS INVOLVED

Yao Bobby and Tesprit

👥 PARTICIPANTS

Young residents of the Lomé metropolitan area

💰 FUNDING

Fonds Metis
District autonome du grand Lomé
Budget 20,000 €

🤝 PARTNERS

Grand Lomé Autonomous District,
local associations

🏠 SECTOR AND SDG'S



OPEN-AIR LANDFILLS

With its 2 million inhabitants – 25% of the country's population – Lomé, the capital of Togo, produces more than 350,000 tons of household waste per year, of which only 10% is recycled. Despite efforts to modernize collection, sorting, and processing systems, these remain insufficient, and much of the waste is abandoned in open-air dumps, sources of pollution and environmental degradation.

THE ART OF WASTE

Metis and the Grand Lomé Autonomous District invited two Togolese artists, musician Yao Bobby and visual artist Tesprit, both of whom place environmental degradation at the center of their work.

The two artists lead six days of workshops with 80 children aged 8 to 15. Together, artists and children discuss the life cycle of waste, pollution, and collect waste from the streets and beaches. The artists then guide the children in creating artworks from the collected materials.

Inspired by this powerful collective experience, Yao Bobby and Tesprit create their own personal artwork.

The children's creations and the works of Yao Bobby and Tesprit are exhibited at the Grand Lomé District Hall.

Beyond these young participants, the initiative has impacted entire families and residents of the neighborhoods. Several associations have embraced this art-and-recycling approach, organizing their own collection and creation workshops.

THEY SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE

"Development requires autonomous thinking, which artistic creation makes possible. With this type of initiative, we are investing in the future generation, making young people better equipped to seize the opportunities of tomorrow."

JILDAZ EVIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AFD TOGO

350,000

TONS OF WASTE PER YEAR
PRODUCED BY LOMÉ, OF WHICH
ONLY 10% IS RECYCLED

6

WORKSHOP DAYS

80

CHILDREN INVOLVED

INSTAGRAM #fonds_metis
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