

CURRICULUM VITAE

IDENTITY

Surname	AGBAHOUNGBA
First name	Symphorien
Sex	Male
Nationality	Beninese
Marital status	Married
Speciality	<i>Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Biotechnology / Management and conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, Climate change</i>
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PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATION

Years	Institutions/countries	Career paths
From January 2025	Agricultural Research Center of South of the National Institute of Agricultural Research of Benin Republic	Assistant Researcher in Plant Breeding and Biotechnology
From 2024	International Centre for Evaluation and Development (ICED), Ghana	Program Officer and Research Fellow
May-August 2023	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), UMR-DIADE, Montpellier, France	Mission on the molecular genetic diversity of Bambara groundnut and on bioinformatics training
2011-2023	Laboratory of Applied Ecology/ Faculty of Agronomic Sciences / University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Researcher in plant breeding, biotechnology and seeds systems, - Coordinator of the production and dissemination of cowpea foundation seeds - Coordinator of the legumes breeding programmes

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Period	School/Universities/Countries	Diploma and certificates
June-August 2023	UMR-DIADE, IRD, Montpellier, France	Certificate of training on bioinformatics, genetic diversity, GWAS, QTL identification and mapping
2022-2023	UC Davis, African Plant Breeding Academy, Kenya	Certificate of training on cultivar development, molecular plant breeding and statistical analyses
2021	West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana	Post doctorate in the selection of cowpea varieties of their tolerance to drought and extremes temperatures.
2018-2020	University of Abomey-Calavi/ Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, Benin	Post doctorate in plant breeding and biotechnology and seeds systems on orphan crops
2014-2018	College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda.	PhD in plant breeding and biotechnology
2012-2013	University of Abomey-Calavi/ Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, Benin	Master in natural resources management and biodiversity
2010-2011	University of Abomey-Calavi/ Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, Benin	Engineer Agronomist Diploma

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Period	Name and title of the employer, supervisor and contacts	Country	Summary of activities
25th April 2024	Dr David Ameyaw, President and CEO of the International Centre for		Facilitator of the West African regional Convening of the legume's system stakeholders

	Evaluation and Development (ICED) Phone:+233 3016483417 Email: dameyaw@iced-eval.org		
19 th – 28 th February 2024	Prof Waliou AMOUSSA HOUNKPATIN Lecturer and researcher at The University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC) Tel: +229 64052020 Email:waliou2002@yahoo.fr		Evaluation of the diversity of fruits and vegetables in the district of Boukoumbe in Benin (Study supported by Bioversity International, CIAT) - Data collection - Establishment of the manual of procedure for setting a community seeds bank in Boukoumbe in Benin
2022-2023	Dr Youna HEMERY Coordinator of Propulse project, Research Fellow UMR QualiSud - Team 6: Food, Nutrition and Health of Southern Populations Institute of Research for Development (IRD), France Email: youna.hemery@ird.fr	Benin and France	Diversity of cultivated and non-cultivated food legumes in Benin and varietal diversity in cowpea (Vigna unguiculata L. Walp.) in Benin (Research supported by Agropolis Fondation, Propulse project) Role: - Coordination of the data collection, data analyses and reporting - Establishment of the legumes crops identity cards and data base - One manuscript under review at Legumes journal
2020-2022	Prof Brice Sinsin , Director of the Applied Ecology Laboratory, University of Abomey-Calavi Email : bsinsin@gmail.com	Benin	Genome-Wide Association Studies (GWAS) for cowpea resistance to bruchid and carotenoid content in cowpea (Study sponsored by RUFORUM and PARSET) ✓ Roles : - Sequencing with DArT seq (Illumina seq) at SEQART Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, Genome-Wide Association Analysis (GWAS) with the MLM and GAPIT packages in R - Drafting and correction of manuscripts Two articles published
2019-2022	Prof Brice Sinsin , Director of the Applied Ecology Laboratory, University of Abomey-Calavi Email : bsinsin@gmail.com	Benin	Participatory selection of cowpea varieties for resistance to the major biotic and abiotic stress (Research supported by Islamic bank of Development) Role: Coordinator of the multidisciplinary team project
January - July 2021	Dr. John Eleblu Coordinator of francophone African West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana, Legon. Email: jeleblu@wacci.ug.edu.gh	Ghana	Evaluation of the effect of drought and extreme temperatures on cowpea plants and selection of tolerant varieties (Study commissioned by TWAS-UNESCO) - Roles : Development and validation of the methodology for conducting greenhouse and tent experiments; set up of experimental design and data collection on transpiration, water use efficiency and harvest index. Data analysis with R. Preparation and submission of final study report - Two articles are under review in PLOS ONE and Field Crops Research.
October 2019	Kirkhouse Trust Foundation, Dr. Benoit Joseph Batiemo L'Institut de l'Environnement et de Recherches Agricoles du Burkina Faso (INERA) Email: batiemo52@gmail.com	Benin	Organisation of the West African Cowpea Consortium annual meeting in Benin in collaboration with the West African Agricultural Research Institutes and Universities including: SARI (Ghana), INERA (Burkina-Faso), FUAM (Nigeria), ITRA (Togo), INRAN (Niger), IER (Mali) and IITA-Benin. - Roles: Coordinator of the organisation committee

2018-2021	<p>Prof Brice Sinsin, Director of the Applied Ecology Laboratory, University of Abomey-Calavi Email : bsinsin@gmail.com</p>	Benin	<p>Selection of cowpea varieties for resistance to aphid and striga in Benin (study supported by Kirkhouse Foundation).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination of the collection and analysis of data on the resistance to aphid and striga from screenhouse and fields conditions. - Two manuscripts under review <p>Study of cowpea genetic diversity, carotenoid content and genetic resistance to <i>Callosobruchid maculatus</i> (Study sponsored by INTRA-ACP and RUFORUM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roles : - Coordination of SNP phenotypic and genotypic data collection and analysis with DArT. ✓ Eight articles published: <p>Agro-morphological characterization, genetic diversity, preference criteria for cowpea, fresh soybean and lentil varieties (Studies commissioned by RUFORUM, ARF, IFS and Nestlé Foundation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Roles : - Coordination of the collection and analysis of growth data, yield components and socio-economic surveys. - Eight articles published
September 2014-May 2017	<p>Prof. Patrick Rubaihayo/ Dr Richard Edema <i>PhD Supervisor / Director of Makerere University's Regional Centre for Crop Improvement (MARCCI),</i> Email : prubaihayo@gmail.com/ redema96@gmail.com</p>	Uganda	<p>Study of genetic resistance of cowpea against flower thrips. (Research sponsored by INTRA-ACP and RUFORUM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roles : Screening of 72 cowpea accessions for resistance to flower thrips in six environments. Evaluation of eight biochemical components responsible for flower thrips resistance in cowpea. Crossing of varieties and evaluation of the mode of transmission of genetic resistance in cowpea against flower thrips. QTL identification and mapping. Collection of resistance data and statistical analysis in R, Genstat and BMS. Drafting and submission of final report. - Four articles published

SKILLS AND EXPERTISES

- Agronomy, Crop Science, Plant Breeding, Gender-responsible plant breeding, Participatory Plant Breeding, Plant Genetics, Biotechnology, Plant Genomics, Bioinformatics, Statistical analysis, Molecular Analysis and Natural Resources Management.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles published in peer review journals

- I have published more than 60 articles, book chapter, conferences papers and data: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Agbahoungba-Symphorien>
- I attended 12 international conferences on legumes production, improvement and stakeholders' engagement in legumes value chains.

NETWORKING AND ASSOCIATION SKILLS

- **From January 2024:** Member of "Rencontres Francophones sur les légumineuses: Innovating with temperate and tropical legumes for sustainable agricultural food systems". CIRAD/IRD.
- **From July 2021:** JR Biotechnology Foundation Fellow
- **From June 2021:** One Planet fellowship laureate of African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD).
- **From February 2021:** Gender-Responsive Researchers Equipped for Agricultural Transformation (GREAT) Fellow
- **From May 2022:** Member of UC Davis African Plant Breeding Academy (AfPBA) and African Orphan Crops Consortium (AOCC)
- **2018-2022:** Member of West African Cowpea Consortium (WACC).

LANGUAGES AND BIOINFORMATICS SKILLS

- **LANGUAGES**

Languages	Speaking	Reading	Understanding	Writing
French	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
English	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Fongbe (Mother tongue)	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

28th August 2025



Symphorien AGBAHOUNGBA

REFEREES

Dr David Ameyaw

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Phone: +233 3016483417

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Prof. Dr. Ir. Brice Sinsin

Full Professor in Ecology, Director of the Laboratory of Applied Ecology, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi, (Benin)

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Dr. John Eleblu

Coordinator of francophone African West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana, Legon.

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