



- COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE -

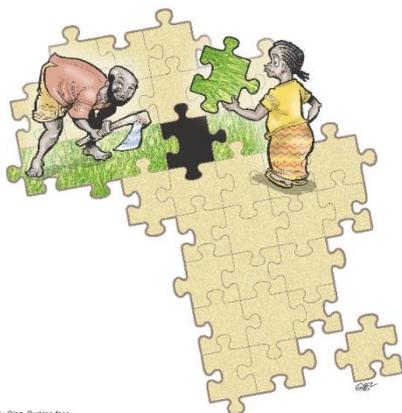
## Draw me the Great Green Wall!

### International cartoon competition as part of the Désertif'actions Summit

More than 30 international artists have responded to the call of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the CARI association and SPONG, organisers of the Désertif'actions summit to relay a message of hope around the Great Green Wall initiative.

On the occasion of the World Day to Combat Desertification, celebrated every year on June 17, the organizers of the 2019 Desertif'Actions Summit are pleased to announce the two winners of the international drawing competition. The contest was launched in parallel with this unique civil society event on land, biodiversity and climate issues.

#### FIRST PRIZE WINNER : Glez



**D'a**  
désertif'actions  
Cartoonist : Glez, Burkina faso

*This Franco-Burkinabe artist has been working as a press cartoonist in Burkina Faso for nearly 30 years. A lyricist, television screenwriter, teacher at the University of Ouagadougou and author of the comic strip "Divine Comedy", Damien Glez was also deputy editor of the satirical weekly Le Journal du Jeudi. In 2014, he produced a drawing documentary for the Arte channel on a Darfur refugee camp. He is a member of the "Cartooning for peace" foundation.*

#### SECOND PRIZE WINNER : El Marto



**D'a**  
désertif'actions  
Cartoonist : El Marto, Burkina Faso

*El Marto is a multidisciplinary artist, sometimes an urban painter, illustrator, tattooist specialised in resin masks... His unique schematic style, a mix between press drawing and comic strip is at the heart of all his projects. Since he settled in Ouagadougou, El Marto has been working on a series of projects in the capital and artistic residencies. He draws his inspiration from the Burkinabe culture he is immersed in daily and from the different cultures he has encountered during his travels.*

### THIRD EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DRAWING COMPETITION DEDICATED TO LAND

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, CARI and SPONG, in collaboration with the Institut français de Ouagadougou, organized the third edition of the international drawing competition on the theme: **the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative, a line of life and hope.**

Originally conceived as a massive plantation of trees crossing the African continent from West to East, the Great Green Wall has evolved into a series of restoration projects aimed at environmental and human well-being.

The jury, composed of personalities from the press, artistic professions and organisers, selected some twenty drawings, all exhibited at the French Institute in Ouagadougou in parallel with the 2019 Desert Action Summit. This exhibition also presents 25 drawings from the two previous editions of the International Press Cartoon Competition, related to the Desertif'actions 2015 and 2017 editions.

Jury President: Timpous Kabore, Burkinabe cartoonist and journalist.

Structures represented in the jury: United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, CARI association, SPONG, Institut français de Ouagadougou, Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel, ReSaD, African Union.

#### SEE ALL THE DRAWINGS SELECTED FOR THE EXHIBITION ON FACEBOOK

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/DesertifActions/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1027086040814305](https://www.facebook.com/pg/DesertifActions/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1027086040814305)

#### What is Désertif'actions 2019 ?

NGOs, Scientifics, local communities, international institutions, private and public sector... every layers of civil society is gathering at Ouagadougou to debate and share their respective positions on land degradation through desertification combat, biodiversity protection, adaptation to climate change and the consequences that come from these challenges in every part of the world.

For the first time in Africa, this unique multi-actors manifestation brings together 300 participants from all around the world during 4 days.

#### Contact

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