



## PRESS RELEASE

**The Global Convergence of Struggles for Land and Water – West Africa (CGLTE-OA) is committed to community mobilization in defense of communities' rights. For the fifth consecutive time, it is organizing the West African Caravan from July 19 to August 9, 2026.**

Convinced that only through mobilization and constant vigilance regarding rural communities' rights to land, water, farmers' seeds, peasant agroecology and all natural resources and common goods can these struggles achieve concrete results, organizations, movements, and human rights defenders are maintaining their fighting spirit.

This year, the Caravan aims to strengthen African communities in their struggle for equitable and sustainable access to natural resources, to ensure massive participation in **the 2026 Cotonou World Social Forum**, and to share experiences from the 10-year history of the West African Caravan, a true model of popular mobilization and civic and activist education.

This 5th edition comprises two axes: **the Sahel axis** (Mauritania, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger), which begins in Senegal, passes through Mali, Burkina Faso, and Togo, and ends in Cotonou, Benin; **the coastal axis** (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo) starts in Guinea, crosses the Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Togo, where it will join the Sahelian axis to travel together to Cotonou. The innovation of this edition is that it will be joined at its destination by **the Central African caravan**

(Gabon, Central African Republic, DRC, Congo, Cameroon, Chad), which departs from Cameroon for Cotonou via Nigeria. These two social movement caravans will be welcomed by Benin's national caravan.

With the participation of delegations from North Africa, the 2026 West African Caravan is part of the social mobilization effort for the 17th World Social Forum, scheduled to take place in Benin, Africa, from August 4 to 8, 2026 - hence the name **"On the Way to the 2026 Cotonou WSF."**

This edition marks the 10th anniversary of the West African Caravan and has a dual purpose: to anchor local resistance movements within a continental process of transformation and to amplify their impact through an active presence at the WSF Cotonou 2026, as the driving force behind this edition of the Forum.

This edition thus aims to continue strengthening local struggles and citizen-led innovations regarding alternatives to the pressure on natural resources, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, to support the creation of bridges for dialogue between local authorities, communities, researchers, and decision-makers to develop local and regional responses adapted to the challenges of the moment.

### BY THE NUMBERS :

**A 22-day journey, 10 countries traversed in West and Central Africa, 18 activity stops, over 500 participants, and over 20,000 people involved.**

**Land, Water, and Farmers' Seeds: Same Damage, Same Fight !**

*Bamako, le 21 mai 2026*



### CONTACT:

+223 76 41 55 86  
+224 628 30 53 43  
+226 76 69 42 40  
infosmat@gmail.com

caravaneterreeau.info  
@caravaneterreeau  
@caravanecgltea

**Let's mobilize  
for the 2026 WSF  
by signing up in large numbers**

<https://fsm2026benin.org/inscription/>