

BIOGRAPHY

FÉLICITÉ AHOÉFA ADJAHOUINOU

Félicité A. Adjahouinou
Founder and Chair of the Board
SODEV International
Washington, D.C., USA



Félicité Ahoéfa Adjahouinou was born in Cotonou, Benin. She attended primary school in Allada, secondary in Ouidah, and university in Abomey-Calavi. After three years of studies at the National School of Administration of the National University of Benin, she obtained her license. Having experienced deprivations and difficulties like any child generally from a modest family, she took her studies very seriously. She had realized early on that her future depended on herself.

After completing her university studies, Ms. Adjahouinou did a practical internship at the Autonomous Port of Cotonou. A few months later, she was recruited as a receptionist-typist by the Peace Corps, Volunteer Service. In February 1989 she was hired by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture as Bilingual Secretary. In December 1999 she emigrated to the United States of America. Through a staff placement agency, she worked in several divisions of the World Bank, Africa Region until June 2003. In July 2003, she joined the International Monetary Fund as Administrative Assistant. Motivated by her passion, Ms. Adjahouinou pursued studies and in May 2017, obtained her master's degree in the Non-Profit Organizations and Associations Management Branch of the University of Maryland University College.

Aware of the precarious living conditions of marginalized communities in her home country, Ms. Adjahouinou made the firm resolve to become a voice for them by working for the improvement of their situations. So, in 2000, Ms. Adjahouinou founded SODEV International and since then, she has been working hard to help the victims of poverty get well prepared to fight for better living conditions.

The path, Ms. Adjahouinou recognizes, is full of pitfalls, and that only faith, dedication, commitment, and perseverance can help those SODEV works with to make real progress as full citizens fully prepared to take charge of their own lives and move forward.