Key Results in Togo

December 2018
The Government of Togo invested during the period 2011-2019, a total of **$US 22 Million** to increase the productivity of maize, rice, cassava, poultry and small ruminants value chains. The main activities supported were:

i. Research and development infrastructural construction and rehabilitation and equipment procurement;
ii. Training of young scientists and extension agents;
iii. Technologies and innovation (T&I) generation;
iv. T&I dissemination for broad adoption.

**Major Research & Development; infrastructural construction & equipment (2012 - 2016)**

$US 4.759 Million

**Major Renewal of research-development personnel (2012 - 2016)**

$US 1.552 Million

64 Young Scientists Trained

**Technologies dissemination between 2012 - 2016**

$US 3.492 Million

154 197 agriculteurs ont adopté des T&I sur 116 152 ha

**Major Research & Development activities between 2012 - 2016**

$US 0.742 Million

11 Technologies and Innovations Released
With a smile and regained pride, Mrs. KADOKALI Ebiro showed us around her pig farm while telling us her life story. Aged 47, this widow and mother of 4 children highlighted the great and positive impact that the improved steamer offered by the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program in Togo (WAAPP-Togo) has on the grouping of female parboilers of rice known as “Femmes Vaillantes” (Brave Women) and on her own life.

Ebiro is now enjoying freedom from want, but it has not always been the case in her past condition. After the death of her husband, she had to sell sand and coal to meet the needs of her family. However, the revenue earned was insufficient. Therefore, she joined in 2007 the group of women known as “Femmes Vaillantes” (or ‘Brave Women’ in English). This group of women was engaged in rice parboiling, but traditionally. At the time, they were recording a loss of 6 kg per bag of 100 kg of parboiled paddy. They could only parboil 3 bags of 100 kg per day and they could only earn 7,500 FCFA a day.

With the improved parboiling kit offered by WAAPP-Togo in 2014, the group of women called “Femmes Vaillantes” has increased its profits by 211% and diversified its activities. Ebiro is now able to easily pay the school fees of her children. One of her children, a daughter, obtained a Bachelor’s degree in Management from the University of Lomé in 2015. Ebiro began pig farming with her share of profits. Among other things, Ebiro and her family have now improved the nutritional quality of their meals. In rural areas in general, rice is considered as a “festive meal”. But in Ebiro’s house, this is no longer the case. Ebiro and her family eat parboiled rice rather frequently. As the current Chairwoman of “Femmes Vaillantes”, Ebiro and the other women are now harboring the dream of creating a modern rice parboiling center so as to help women and young people have some financial independence by offering them a job.

Since its launching in December 2011, WAAPP-Togo is working to generate and promote technologies that can meet the nutritional needs of the population and ensure food security. In order to accelerate the implementation of its strategy for socio-economic empowerment of women, WAAPP-Togo acquired 10 rice steamers for the benefit of 10 groups of women producing parboiled rice across the entire country.
The mission aimed to build the capacity of the National Coordination Unit and the implementing agencies of WAAPP-To go on the policy, strategy and tools for gender mainstreaming in WAAPP various activities in Togo. The sensitization session put emphasis on the definition of gender concept that considers concerns, needs and expectations of the disadvantaged groups, to improve their socio-economic conditions. Yet, like in the other WAAPP countries, Togo has a Gender Focal Person whose mission is to facilitate an equitable access to resources, opportunities and benefits of WAAPP for the socially excluded groups.

Women and youth accessibility to agricultural productive resources: Togo is on the right track

For a better consideration of gender issues in the activities of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP) in Togo, Dr Mariame MAIGA, Regional Gender and Social Development Adviser at CORAF / WECARD conducted from February 22 to 26, 2016, a support mission in the country.
Since its implementation WAAPP-Togo has made tremendous progress in terms of gender integration in its activities. The latest reports estimate at more than 32% the number of women beneficiaries.

By putting emphasis on gender issues in its actions, WAAPP-Togo demonstrates its commitment towards a sustainable food and nutrition security in Togo, but also for the socio-economic empowerment of the disadvantaged groups such as women and youth.

In the implementation of its strategy for socio-economic empowerment of the beneficiaries of WAAPP-Togo, the rice parboiling project came up as a very good gender responsive project that is source of jobs creation and income generation for women and youth, because of the high demand of parboiled rice in Togo.

To this end, Dr. Maiga Mariame, went to Anié, a district located at 200 km from the capital Lomé (in northern part) to visit the group «femmes vaillantes» (brave women) who benefited from training and technology for rice parboiling, from WAAPP-Benin.

The women group visited expressed their satisfaction with the new technic, as it has easier the parboiling of rice process, and has increased significantly the productivity of parboiled rice. According to the group, while with the previous technic they produced 3 bags of rice per day (300 kg), with the new technic they can now produce 6 bags of rice per day (600 kg), and inhale less smoke and save time during the parboiling process.

To accelerate the implementation of the socio-economic empowerment strategy, WAAPP-Togo acquired and distributed 10 rice steamers across the country, to 10 groups of women producing parboiled rice.
Togolese Agriculture Minister has attributed the country’s growth in agriculture production to the West Africa Agriculture Productivity Program (WAAPP) implemented by CORAF.

Togo experienced an 11 percent growth in cereal production during the past five years. Togolese officials credit this increase to the implementation of the WAAPP and the National Agriculture Investment and Food Security Program of Togo. A revised version of this national plan was launched in late 2017 and runs until 2026.

“A remarkable increase,” said Ouro-Koura Agadazi, Togo’s Minister of Agriculture while speaking at a national event in Lome to present to the public, the country’s main agriculture development drivers and programs.

In the current cropping season, Togo expects a production surplus of more than 24 percent.

Agriculture represents about 30 percent of Togo’s gross domestic product and is the main employment driver.

As part of CORAF’s work in Togo, young scientists benefitted from post-graduate training, the infrastructure of the national agricultural research system notably the Togolese Research Institute was upgraded, and research programs were supported. A three-year additional funding from the World Bank is expected to further strengthen the gains made under the program since 2011.
About WAAPP

The West Africa Agriculture Productivity Program (WAAPP) involves 13 countries. The 10-years program was designed to make agriculture more productive, sustainable and profitable for smallholder farmers in West Africa. Started in 2007, WAAPP also aims to improve the conditions of life of consumers through the provision of agricultural products at competitive prices, build a critical mass of researchers for sound, efficient and collaborative research programs and finally to ensure that technologies generated nationally are available regionally. The WAAPP was established at the initiative of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) as a response to the renewed commitment by African countries to implement the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP). Participating countries fund the USD 500 million program through a loan system obtained from the World Bank. At the regional level, the program is coordinated by CORAF. More than two hundred technologies were released and adopted by almost 4.5 million producers and processors on about 4.8 million hectares. These technologies are available on www.mita.corafo.org. WAAPP financed master degree and Ph.D. studies for 1021 youths. This represents 72% of men and 28% women. These young researchers are expected to replace most the agriculture researchers going on retirement.

The nine national centers of specializations of countries participating in the program benefitted from the renovation of their infrastructure and new research laboratories were constructed. Two of the centers have been upgraded in regional centers of specialization. This includes the Dry Cereals Center based in Senegal and The Roots and Tuber center based in Ghana. By increasing the primary crops yields between 30% for dry cereals and 150% for rice, fruit, and tubers, the program has had a considerable impact on food security and caloric intake. Caloric consumption rose from 2,777 kcals to 2,964 kcals and the “hunger period” reduced by 28 to 55% according to the commodity. WAAPP has also increased by 34% the economic situation of farmers as well as transformed communities.

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