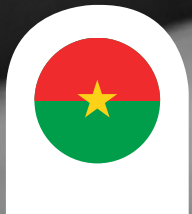




# Key Results in Burkina Faso





# Burkina Faso



The Government of Burkina Faso invested during the period 2011-2016, a total of \$US 21 Million to increase the productivity of fruits and vegetables (tomatoes, onion & mangoes), rice, cereals, cowpea and livestock 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, operational cost (2012 - 2016)

**\$US 3.07 Million**



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

**\$US 0.63 Million**

**219 Young Scientists Trained**

Technologies dissemination between 2012 - 2016

**\$US 12.17 Million**

**191 076 farmers adopted on 273 854 ha**



Major Research & Development activities between 2012 - 2016

**20 Technologies and Innovations Released**

**\$US 2.28 Million**

# Success Stories

## WAAPP Burkina Faso: The symposium on science and technology under the patronage of CORAF

**T**he West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF / WECARD) sponsored the International Symposium on the Science and Technology organized by the National Centre for Scientific and Technological Research ((CNRST) of Burkina Faso from 24 to 28 October 2016. Themed “Putting into use research outputs on key sectors: livestock, meat, corn, mango, millet, cowpeas, onions, rice, sorghum, tomatoes, local poultry” this forum is part of the implementation of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP/PPAAO).

The core objective of the symposium was to present research outputs and technologies generated or introduced by WAAPP/PPAAO in Burkina Faso to the international scientific community. According to Dr. Roger Nebié, General Delegate of the CNRST, “This is to create an exchange and sharing based framework

of WAAPP/BF agricultural commodities and critical analysis of research outputs in order to promote technology transfer from research institutes to stakeholders involved in production, processing, marketing of agricultural products and policymakers to strengthen the adoption of these technologies.”

As patron of this symposium, Dr. Abdou Tenkouano, Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD, thanked the scientific community for the confidence they have placed in his humble person and institution before commending the efforts of the National Centre of Specialization on Fruits and Legumes based in Burkina Faso and supported by WAAPP, which he called a “success story both in terms of achieving the development goals and technology transfer.”

In terms of technology transfer with other beneficiary countries, the NCoS on Fruits and Legumes intro-

duced in Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria, the dried mango technology to support agricultural entrepreneurs. It has also introduced the technology on winter-tomato production in Mali and the Gambia. Similarly, Burkina Faso imported breeds from Niger and plantain varieties from Côte d'Ivoire. The Executive Director of CORAF/WECARD also mentioned the solidarity of Burkina in joining other WAAPP countries to mobilize seeds for Ebola-affected countries.

As potent subregional integration tools in West Africa, National Centres of Specialization for CORAF/ WECARD, the institution also presented at the symposium, models for regional agricultural integration and cooperation towards value chains actors of priority commodities to strengthen mobility of agricultural development specialists, technologies and knowledge sharing within and between countries.

A realization of the Sub-regional solidarity and integration of peoples through the pooling of human and financial resources and infrastructure that would return too expensive for individual countries.





## Burkina Faso relies on Innovation Platforms to fight against poverty of rural women

**O**uedraogo is about sixty years old, but she is rather a vigorous woman. She is the Chairwoman of the group of women known as Union provinciale féminine namagbzanga (UPFN) of the province of Bam, a town located 120 km north of Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina. UPFN which includes two thousand members is the organization managing the cowpea Innovation Platform. Currently, this innovation platform has become a reference in the West African sub-region. In just three years of existence, it has enabled the women producing cowpea to increase their income fivefold, to have the support of their community in terms of access to land but also to financial institutions.

Yet, life was not so easy for those women before the establishment of the innovation platform for women producing cowpea in Bam. They were facing the following four major challenges: lack of awareness on quality seeds; limited access to arable land; poor access to financing sources; and the lack of a functional marketing chain. Mrs. OUEDRAOGO still remembers this hard situation and declared: "These challenges have discouraged many women who abandoned their fields to go to mining sites in search of gold".

The establishment of the Innovation Platform in July 2013 with the support of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP) in Burkina was for those women who were about to lose hope, a true breath of fresh air.

Cowpea varieties that produce 800kg/hectare against 550 kg/hectare for the old varieties

To improve crop productivity, research centers introduced five new high-yield cowpea varieties in the innovation platform. Through guided tours, the female producers adopted and disseminated these varieties which produce an average of 800 kg/hectare against 550 kg/hectare for the old varieties. "These varieties are popular because of their high yield, short cycle and their coarse and white grains" recognized Bakary SEREME, the Provincial Director for Agriculture.

Encouraged by the success of these women, traditional leaders are conducting advocacy to facilitate women's access to arable land and to large surface areas. In the past, arable land granted to each woman was about half a hectare. With this commitment, each woman is granted even three hectares in some villages.

Therefore, the increase of arable land granted to women encouraged financial institutions to support them. "Our participation in the guided tours on cowpea production plots contributed to convince us of the quality of the work and potential yields. As a result, we decided to increase our loans to women for cowpea production", recognizes Aminata CISSE, a manager of a microfinance institution which is a member of the platform just like researchers and traditional leaders.

465 tons of cowpea sold in 2014 against 280 tons before the establishment of the innovation platform

In 2014, the support was used to grant a credit of 165 million CFA francs (330,000 US dollars) to 800 members of the innovation platform against 75 million CFA francs (150,000 dollars) before the establishment of the innovation platform, which represents an increase of over 100%.

This involvement of the microfinance institutions in the operation and running of the innovation platform, coupled with women's access to quality seeds and agricultural land, increased the income of producers as follows: 465 tons of cowpea sold in 2014 for an amount of 120 million CFA francs (240,000 dollars) against average annual sales of 280 tons for a total of 72 million CFA francs (144,000 dollars) before the implementation of the innovation platform.

Those increased volumes of production have been sold through the improvement of the marketing system with a firm purchasing commitment of the National Company for the Management of Food Security Stock (SONAGESS).

"In 2014, I generated a net profit of 665,000 CFA [(1,350 dollars)] by selling 5,400 kg of cowpea to SONAGESS" said GANSORE Binta, a woman aged 52 and producing cowpea in the Province of Bam; she is married with six children. This is a significant amount given that in 2014, the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INSD) of Burkina estimated the absolute threshold of poverty at 154,000 CFA francs (310 dollars) per adult and per year in Ouagadougou, the capital. The income generated by Mrs. GANSORE is especially significant because INSD also reveals that in Burkina in 2014, nine out of ten poor people were located in rural areas.

Therefore, it is not a coincidence that the cowpea innovation platform obtained in November 2015 in

Dakar, the best West African innovation platform award. The West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD, an institution coordinating WAAPP at regional level), in collaboration with the World Bank, granted this award with an amount of six million CFA francs (12,000 dollars). The innovation platform has decided to use this money to build a cowpea storage warehouse whose first foundation stone was laid on April 22, 2016 in Kongoussi (capital of the Province of Bam).



## Nafaso, a Beacon of Hope

**A**bdoulaye Sawadogo, formerly a worker in a tire company is about to conquer West Africa with his seeds. After close to 13 years working as a laborer, he was terminated in the 1980s with just 300,000 FCFA (USD 600) as compensation.

Uncertain about what to do with this sum, he decided to go into agriculture by cultivating a hectare of a banana plantation. His first harvest earned him 1,200,000 FCFA (USD 2400). This is four times the amount he received as his severance package for 13 years of work. In the second planting season, he cultivated maize and the harvest generated 750,000 FCFA (USD 1500). These encouraging results convinced him that he had indulged in a sector where the outcome could only be wealth creation.

In 2002, Abdoulaye sowed 65 hectares. His harvest worth about 279 tons were sold to a company partly associated with the state for about 65 million FCFA. He hasn't been paid as of today. A year later, he suffered another major setback. In under 24 hours, torrential rains flooded his farm almost killing any hopes he had. Still confident, he obtained a loan of 8 million FCFA (USD 16000) to restart his activities the following year. With all the experience accumulated, he created his firm in 2008 and opted for the production of off-season seeds. This was a winning strategy as Nafaso is today the leading company in West Africa specialized in the production and marketing of improved seeds.

Based in Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, Nafaso is active in rice, maize, sorghum and cowpea seeds. The new warehouse and machines and evidence of the company's growing success. It has 40 permanent employees, ten executives, nearly 1,500 seasonal and more than 1,200 temporary workers.

« Our goal is to bring the seeds closer to their users and the small producers, » says Abdoulaye Sawadogo.

With more than 50 shops and nearly 450 retailers, Nafaso, which makes 5,500 tons of seeds per season, has an annual turnover of 2.5 billion FCFA (USD 5 million). Thanks to West Africa Seed Program (WASP), a program of CORAF, the company that operated mainly in Burkina Faso currently sells its seeds to Senegal, Nigeria, Guinea and across West Africa.

« Coraf accompanied Nafaso to obtain pre-basic seeds, from AfricaRice. Today we produce certified seeds » recalls Abdoulaye Sawadogo

« Nafaso is well positioned in the sub-region market thanks to CORAF, WASP, and WAAPP. They facilitated our access to the regional market,» says Abdoulaye recalling the 2014 initiative to supply critical seeds to countries hit by the Ebola disease.

During that period, Nafaso sold nearly 3 billion FCFA (USD 6 million) of seeds to the affected countries.



## 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.coraf.org](http://www.mita.coraf.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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