



ECOWAS Launches ten Innovative Projects on Food Security with AFD Support through PASANAO



Since 2013, the French Development Agency (AFD) has been supporting the ECOWAS Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) through the project that supports food and nutrition security in West Africa (PASANAO) in improving the food and nutrition situation of West Africans. The main objective of PASANAO is to build the capacity of national and regional systems to take into consideration new challenges of food and nutrition security.

With this support, RAAF undertook, among other activities, preparatory works for the operationalization of the regional food security stock, the training of MA level students in food and nutrition security at AGRHYMET/CILSS, the grant of 1,550,565 Euros for seven (7) projects under implementation. These projects were selected following a first Call for proposals in three thematic areas, namely: (i) Food Fortification and Local Production of Nutritional Supplement Products; (ii) Securing Pastoral Activity Systems and (iii) Strengthening Credit Systems and Agricultural Insurance.

Following the first Call for proposals launched in 2014, RAAF placed a second Call to select ten (10) new projects focussing on i) Agricultural Products Storage and Marketing and Market Risk Management, and ii) Eating Behaviours: Challenges for Local Resources Promotion.

For each thematic area, five (05) projects were selected, meaning ten (10) new projects in total. Grant agreements between projects promoters and RAAF were formalized on 13th May 2016.

The regional workshop organized by RAAF on 1st and 2nd August 2016 in Lomé has helped to achieve grant agreements between each of the project promoters and ECOWAS and officially launch project field activities.

The main focus of the workshop was the strengthening of project promoters' capabilities such as efficient management of funds, production of activity or result reports, requests for non-objection, communication and visibility for projects and RAAF, fund requests, monitoring and evaluation.

"I wish to insist on efficient use of funds in compliance with international best practices on the acquisition of goods and/ services by beneficiaries of ECOWAS funding. This is what justifies the organization of this workshop that will allow you to better understand and know the financial procedures to be used for the implementation of your projects. Guidance for funds management, monitoring-evaluation and communication / visibility will be presented to you by RAAF experts. Kindly act accordingly", Mr. Salifou Ousseini, Executive Director of RAAF says in his opening remarks.

The budget allocated for the projects selected from the second Call is about 1,636,823 Euros.

A third Call for proposals of about 800,000 Euros was launched last March and covers two thematic areas: i) Employment and Vocational Training for Rural Youth, and ii) Resilient Agricultural Production Techniques. Other activities will be initiated in the coming months including additional measures to the Common External Tariff (CET) to deal with import price volatility and surge, the impacts of CET and the Partnership Agreement between West Africa and the European Union on the West African agricultural sector, etc.

These projects funded by ECOWAS through Calls for proposals are all carried out by the public and private sector, NGOs and farmers' Associations/organizations of the region. For ECOWAS, it is important that projects that stand as experimentation sites for vast innovative strategies are closely monitored in order to draw the necessary lessons, document them and scale up good practices stemming from their implementation.

List of the ten (10) projects selected following the second Call for proposals

Project name	Grant awarded in Euros	Project promoters	Intervention countries
Thematic area 1: Agricultural Products Storage and Marketing and Market Risk Management			
1. Intelligence économique au service de la gestion du risque prix dans les filières céréales-mil, sorgho, maïs, riz (TG, BF, BJ, ML, NE, CI, GH, SN)	199, 974	Réseau Non-Gouvernemental Européen sur l'Agroalimentaire, le commerce, l'environnement et le Développement / RONGEAD	Togo, Burkina, Benin, Mali, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Sénégal, Ghana
2. Extension d'expérience en matière de commercialisation des produits agricoles par le warrantage comme stratégie	28, 192	Union des Agriculteurs de la	Togo

d'amélioration des revenus des producteurs agricoles des filières riz et soja dans la région des plateaux au Togo		Région des Plateaux / UAR-P	
3. Projet d'Amélioration de la Gestion des Stocks de céréales par les producteurs/trices membres de la FEPAB au Burkina Faso	200, 000	OXFAM Intermon	Burkina Faso
4. Séchage-stockage de fruits et légumes par l'énergie solaire à la Ferme Fakoly au Mali	234, 547	Energie, Environnement, Développement / ENDA Energie	Mali
5. Mise en place d'un système d'information CAPI sur les marchés agricoles au Togo	190, 559	Ministère de l'Agriculture de l'Elevage et de l'Hydraulique/ MAEH	Togo
Thematic 2 : Eating Behaviors : Challenges for Local Resources Promotion			
6. Projet d'Appui à la Sécurité Alimentaire et à l'Amélioration Nutritionnelle (PASAAN)- phase 2 au Bénin	111, 500	Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie / FPGL	Benin
7. Système Alimentaire Durable et lutte contre la Malnutrition à Rufisque (SADMAR) au Sénégal	149, 362	Groupe de Recherche et de Réalisation pour le Développement Rural / GRDR-Migration, Citoyenneté, Développement	Sénégal
8. Improving Food related behavior in value-Added Cassava products in Liberia	149, 994	South East Asia (ZOA)	Liberia
9. Valorisation des produits locaux pour améliorer le comportement alimentaire dans la boucle du Mouhoun et favoriser une bonne transition nutritionnelle à Ouagadougou au Burkina Faso	224, 995	Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges technologiques (GRET)	Burkina Faso
10. Label Bio au Faso: développement d'un système participatif de garantie pour des comportements alimentaires sains et une agriculture résiliente au Burkina Faso	147, 700	RONGEAD - Réseau non gouvernemental européen sur l'agroalimentaire, le commerce, l'environnement et le développement	Burkina Faso

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