

COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO		
ECOWAS COMMISSION		COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO
Département Agriculture, Environnement et Ressources en Eau	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources	
ARAA / RAAF		
Agence Régionale pour l'Agriculture et l'Alimentation	Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food	

Social Safety nets for Food Security and nutrition in West Africa

*ToR for a training workshop of potential project
backers*

November 2016



Organisation des Nations Unies
pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture



CONTEXT

Social protection related to food security and nutrition plays a vital role in reducing poverty and improving food security in West Africa. As part of the implementation of ECOWAP, the ECOWAS regional agricultural policy, it appears that several countries in West Africa do not have significant experience in the implementation of projects and programs related to social safety nets in line with a national social protection strategy. This is, among others, the reason why in 2012, ECOWAS has initiated a Regional Program of Support to the National Social Security Nets in West Africa. This program promotes preventive social safety net programs (predictable and enrolled in the duration of interventions targeting people on the basis of vulnerability rather than on the basis of exposure to a shock. This is in opposition to reactive safety nets which aims at responding to shocks and crises.

ECOWAS benefits from the support of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency for Development (AECID) to finance innovative on the ground projects in the area of safety nets for food security. These projects are executed by various development actors in ECOWAS Member States. The selection of projects carriers is done through calls for proposals managed by the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF/ECOWAS). Through a first call for proposals launched in January 2015, 10 projects on social safety nets have been selected for an aggregate grant amount of \$ 2,146,789. A second call for proposal will be launched by the end of 2016.

To overcome the shortcomings identified in the definition of actions and formulation of innovative projects on food safety nets, the RAAF/ECOWAS, with technical and financial support from FAO and the AECID, will organize a regional training of trainers followed by national training/restitution workshops. The regional training workshop will gather delegates from the 15 ECOWAS member states.

Objectives and expected results

The objectives of this training workshop are:

- Allow national actors in ECOWAS member states to have a common understanding of the concept of social safety nets;
- Train potential project backers on the instruments commonly used in the design and implementation of social safety net projects;
- Allow national actors of ECOWAS member States to formulate and implement projects of social safety nets.

The expected results are:

- The concept of social safety nets is understood by all;
- Instruments of social safety nets are known and the conditions of their use;
- A network of national actors is established for the capitalization of projects on social safety net programs.

The training is organized in two phases:

- ✓ On the one hand, it will be organized a regional training workshop of trainers and
- ✓ On the other hand, there will be organized a dissemination workshop in each of the 15 ECOWAS member countries. This workshop will bring together about thirty participants composed of potential project backers: local and international NGOs, producer organizations, state actors, etc.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS IN SOCIAL SAFETY NETS FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE ECOWAS ZONE

Objectives of the training workshop

Objectives of the training workshop are the following:

- Establish a regional network of trainers in social safety nets
- Allow national actors in ECOWAS member countries to have a common understanding of the concept of social safety nets;
- Take stock of instruments commonly used in the implementation of social safety net activities
- Strengthen the capacity in the area of the formulation of innovative projects related to safety nets and food security

Country / participants

Participants in regional training of trainers will be from the 15 ECOWAS Member States. 2 delegates per country will be invited: the focal point of National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP) and a responsible for social safety nets and social protection within the Ministry in charge of this theme. To these national participants will be added 4 participants from regional umbrella professional organizations.

Animators and Facilitators of the training workshop

The training of trainers will be led by 3-5 experienced facilitators and animators in the implementation of projects / social nets programs for food security and nutrition

Dates and duration of the training workshop

The training workshop is scheduled from the **1st to 03 November 2016**.

Venue

The training workshop will take place at Paloma Hotel, in **Accra**, Ghana.

Approach

The training will be organized through plenary session in order to promote the exchange of experiences among participants. Case studies and practical exercises will be presented.

Following this training, suggestions / recommendations of the participants will be incorporated into the training modules that will be used later for the animation of national training workshops.

On the sidelines of the training, participants will contribute to the validation of the study entitled "Support for the design of a regional framework of exchange on social safety nets in West Africa." The study was conducted by Oxford Policy Management Office as part of the implementation of the Project to Support Food Security in West Africa (PASANAO). The study was conducted in eight ECOWAS Member States: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal. The validation of this study is scheduled on the 4th of November 2016.

Workshop training of trainers on social safety nets for Food Security and Nutrition

Training Modules

Overall Objectives: the overall objective is to provide to participants tools, approaches and practical methods allowing them to make *good projects proposals on safety nets and to implement them with the most appropriate team, beneficiaries well targeted and an efficient monitoring & evaluation mechanism.*

To achieve this goal, the following modules will be used to support training

Module 1, Definition and concepts: This module aims at providing a common understanding of definitions and concepts used in the field of social protection in the broad sense and show links to food security and nutrition, particularly through social safety nets. These definitions and concepts will be centered on the following elements:

- Food Security
- Social protection in the broad sense
- Social safety nets for food security and nutrition
- Relation and links between Social safety Nets / Social protection / food security and nutrition

Module 2, Instruments of Social Safety nets: this module will provide detailed information on each of the four instruments commonly used in projects and programs for food security and nutrition. These instruments are: non conditional cash transfers, conditional cash transfers, community service work (cash for work, food for work and voucher for work) and school feeding. For each of these instruments, it will be detailed conditions for the choice of instrument, the benefits of the instrument relative to other social safety net instruments and risks / problems encountered on the ground in relation to this specific instrument.

The other part of this module will focus on the combinations of instruments (safety net systems, productive safety nets, Cash +) approach as having more impact than the one based on a single instrument (depending on the context implementation).

Module 3, targeting approaches and methods: This module aims at introducing to participants the different targeting approaches (areas of intervention and beneficiaries in these areas). It will also be presented the advantages and disadvantages of the approaches taken individually, which would focus on the combination of targeting approaches for projects to make target "good profit". Examples of Targeting criteria will provided to participants. In addition, quality control mechanisms of beneficiary lists and possible remedies in case of inclusion / exclusion issues will be detailed participants.

Module 4, Formulation of social safety net projects: This module aims to train participants on basic concepts in project formulation (logical framework, implementation timetable and budget). It is also to focus on the analysis of the context of intervention, through classical analysis tools to characterize the environment in which will be implemented in the project to make. The purpose of this environmental scan is able to identify the instruments of social safety nets, would be most suited to the specific context of each project. This section is also intended to remind the participants the importance of monitoring and evaluation of programs / projects of safety nets for food and nutrition security by (i) the distinction of follow-up assessment in the implementation of social safety net programs and (ii) characterization of monitoring and evaluation of a social safety net program.

Module 5, Funding of projects: This module aims to inform participants of the existence of different shops for funding social nets projects for food security and nutrition. Existing machines include development assistance agencies, banks and embassies of some countries.

Emphasis will be placed on the funding of projects by the Regional Agency for Food and Agriculture (RAAF) of ECOWAS, which has a project financing mechanism through calls for proposals. Participants will then be informed about the conditions of access to RAAF financing, eligibility criteria, submission guidelines

Module 6, Preparation and organization of national restitution workshops: In this section, it will conduct participatory discussions with participants on the modalities for the preparation and organization of national training. Indeed, after the training of trainers, they will return these formations in their respective countries. The terms of these refunds, contracting with ARAA least, the national training dates will be anticipated by a consensus approach with all participants.

Cross cutting aspects: Exchange of experiences for the implementation of on the ground social safety nets projects: Participant will have an opportunity to share opinions / advice to ensure proper implementation of projects on the ground. Indeed, the implementation of field activities often face difficulties / operational constraints in recruiting the project management team, in collaboration with partners in the payments of the beneficiaries, the procurement problems markets, cash traceability, security of payments or the actual collection of monitoring and evaluation data.