INNOVATIONS FOR SMART FAMILY FARMING IN THE FACE OF

CLIMATE CHANGE IN WEST AFRICA





















GENERAL CONTEXT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE PILOT PROJECTS

The GCCA+ West Africa (GCCA+ WA) project aims to contribute to the West African regional effort to implement the Paris Climate Agreement. This regional project financed by the European Union is implemented by Expertise France, under the political and institutional leadership of ECOWAS, and with the technical partnership of CILSS.

This objective is achieved through capacity strengthening activities for the ECOWAS, its regional partner institutions and its Member States (+Chad and Mauritania), but also through support for the emergence of innovative field solutions to strengthen the climate resilience of agricultural and rural actors.

It is in this context that two calls for project proposals "Innovations for smart family farming in the face of climate change in West Africa – GCCA+ WA" have been launched by Expertise France under the aegis of ECOWAS. They are part of the strategic framework of the regional agricultural policy (ECOWAP 2025) and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of member states in the framework of the Paris Agreement. This activity for ECOWAS has led to the selection of a total of fifteen (15) pilot projects which are being implemented with the aim to capitalise on the results obtained, identifying the potential and conditions for their replication in the ECOWAS-CILSS region.

15 PROJECTS SUPPORTED WITH A BUDGET OF

3,1M€



11 countries in the ECOWAS-CILSS

Benin, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Ghana, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Chad specialised technical assistance project in Liberia





18,000 farmers

applying the measures and approaches promoted by the pilot projects



1,100 hectares

covered by innovative and climate-smart agricultural technologies



Regional capitalisation of 30 projects in the 17 countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS region

The regional capitalisation includes 30 projects, including 15 from the GCCA+ WA project and 15 from the Agro-Ecology Programme PAE. It is centred on the success factors of adaptation and will feed into ECOWAP and the ECOWAS Regional Climate Strategy.

3 learning themes specific to the 15 GCCA+ WA projects are supported



Theme 1:
Good agricultural practices
and resilient agroforestry

Promotion of innovative and resilient good agricultural practices and agroforestry approaches.



Theme 2:
Access to climate and weather information

Processing of climate information to strengthen farmers' resilience.



Theme 3: Innovative and resilient

Optimisation of water resources for agriculture in contexts of variability and scarcity of rainfall and water points.

green" irrigation













	Proje	ect			
	Title	Leader	Co-sponsor	Main objective	Main results
Cape V	erde				
Ö	Innovation in the food value chain in Cape Verde for an ecological and solidarity-based economy Total amount of the project: €295,774.50 GCCA+ AO Grant: €230,000.00	Cooperazione per lo Sviluppo dei Paesi Emergenti (COSPE)	COOPAP; Coopermondo; Citi-habitat, Laço Branco; FEDERAGRO SANTA CRUZ	The Terra de Valor (Land of Value) project responds to the challenges faced by Cape Verdean producers in the fruit and vegetable and dairy value chains to become more resilient to the impacts of climate change in a particularly restrictive context in the islands of Santiago and Fogo. The approach is for the community to identify important subsidence activities, associated threats and relevant adaptation strategies. By ranking the severity of the threat and the likelihood of exposure, responses tailored to different gender groups are identified, which will form the basis for the development of effective action plans.	 210 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 210 households directly impacted by the project's actions 210 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
	Agroforestry systems – A smart alternative to combat climate change in Santo Antão Island Total amount of the project: €287,495.04 GCCA+ AO Grant: €229,996.03	ASSOCIAÇÃO DE DEFESA DO PATRI- MÓNIO DE MÉRTOLA (ADPM)	ALVEN, AMUPAL, AJAZPUPN	The project aims to create agroforestry systems in experimental fields to promote food production systems adapted to climate change in the island of Santo Antão. In a context of severe drought, the actions will strengthen the capacities of young farmers in the optimised management of irrigation systems, the restoration of soil fertility and in crop diversification and rotation. Young livestock farmers will also be supported to strengthen the diversification of income sources and cohesion in the management of water resources.	 126 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 248 households directly impacted by the project's actions 0.2137 hectares covered by the project's actions
Ghana					
Š	Building climate change resilience and mitigation by training self-reliant smallholder farmers in the Lake Bosumtwe area Total amount of the project: €208,991.15 GCCA+ AO Grant: €188,100.00	A ROCHA GHANA	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research – Crops Research Institute (CSIR-CRI)	The project proposes to strengthen the capacity of farmers in an approach based on the Lake Bosumtwe ecosystem. The targeted communities will receive training in weather data exploitation with the support of climate services as well as in conservation agriculture and good practices for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.	 8 local communities around the lake 2,000 smallholder farmers organised in working groups around Lake Bosumtwe
	Agroforestry technical innovations to combat climate change and improve the productivity of subsistence farmers in the northern region of Ghana Total amount of the project: €266,718.50 GCCA+ AO Grant: €225,000.00	FRIENDS OF THE EARTH GHANA	Center for Climate Change and Gender Studies (CCCGS)	In the face of rainfall variability and in a context of droughts and floods, the project improves farmers' productivity through capacity building aimed at the appropriation of resilient and low-carbon production methods and approaches. Community radios, schools and de-concentrated agricultural technical services are applied to provide scaling up through sustainable agriculture demonstration farms.	 200 households directly impacted by the project's actions 204 hectares covered by the project's actions 6,000 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Niger					
Ö	Promotion of agro-ecological practices (PAIE) in crop/livestock farming to strengthen the resilience of women and young people Total amount of the project: €267,911.50 GCCA+ AO Grant: €230,000.00	FUSCN MOORIBEN	CIRAD	The project promotes good agro-ecological practices in a context of marked rainfall irregularities through greater integration between crop and livestock farming among farmers and vulnerable individuals who are union members and farmer group members of the Federation. The focus is on the dissemination of enhanced seed and training in assisted natural regeneration in order to restore biodiversity and local agrosystems	 9,917 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 1,466 households directly impacted by the project's actions 842 hectares impacted by the project's actions 4,595 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project





















	Proj	ect			
	Title	Leader	Co-sponsor	Main objective	Main results
Nigeria					
Š	Developing a resilient shea agroforestry farming model Total amount of the project: €244,137.00 GCCA+ AO Grant: €219,637.00	GLOBAL SHEA ALLIANCE	PRI Global Ventures Limited, Raw Materials Research and Development Council; Shea Origin; Salid Agriculture	The project promotes the creation of resilient shea agroforestry farms for the benefit of women farmer communities. Organising the women's communities into groups has enabled them to secure land tenure in the farming areas as well as diversify and increase their sources of income through complementary and climate-smart farming activities.	 441 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 441 households directly impacted by the project's actions 28.4 hectares covered by the project's actions 151 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Sierra	Leone				
	Sustainable Land Management for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (SLM-4- CCAM) in Moyamba District, Sierra Leone Total amount of the project: €230,000.00 GCCA+ AO Grant: €184,000.00	ACTION AGAINST HUNGER	Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute (SLARI)	The project promotes sustainable land management and crop rotation practices that aim to maintain and improve soil fertility and increase yields in a context of high soil leaching due to climate change. The involvement of research will enable the collection of precise scientific data, useful for drawing up publications validated by the scientific community.	 1,260 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 688 households directly impacted by the project's actions 17.8 hectares covered by the project's actions 768 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Chad					
	Organic fertilisers for resilient peri-urban family farming Total amount of the project: €250,000.00 GCCA+ AO Grant: €200,000.00	OXFAM	-	The project promotes the installation of ecological latrines with the aim of collecting biological fertilisers for the benefit of small peri-urban farms in Ndjamena. The involvement of district councils, decentralised water and sanitation services and the private sector should lead to the development of an economically viable model for scaling up at lower cost.	 200 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 200 households directly impacted by the project's actions 1,000 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Gambi	a	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		••••••
	Emergence of robust agri-food chains in a context of climate change Total amount of the project: €229,732.55 GCCA+ AO Grant: €183,786.04	UNITED PURPOSE	Jokalante Sarl, Njawara Agricultural Training Center, Practical Action Consulting Limited Sarl	The project aims to improve access to climate-smart agricultural extension and agricultural market information through ICT tools accessible to smallholder farmers and processors. The objective is to strengthen the appropriation of resilient and low-carbon technologies and good practices in order to transform agriculture towards a more resilient model.	 700 farmers directly trained in agricultural extension work 8,000 farmers and processors applying the extension measures (70% of whom are women)
	Smart farming tools to improve irrigation efficiency in The Gambia Total amount of the project: €287,059.50 GCCA+ AO Grant: €229,647.60	FUNDACION SUSTALDE	NERI	The project proposes the use of a mobile application that converts climate data acquired by miniature weather stations into technical information for the optimisation of irrigation flows on farms. Research, meteorological and agricultural extension services are mobilised to promote scaling up in a context of high pressure on drinking water resources in the Gambia.	 20 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 50 households directly impacted by the project's actions 0.56 hectares covered by the project's actions 50 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project





















	Proje	et			
	Titre	Porteur	Co-porteur	Objectif principal	Résultats principaux
Guinea					
	Project for the Introduction of Sustainable Agriculture Practices on Family Farms in Upper Guinea (PIPADEF-HG) Total amount of the project: €282,109.80 GCCA+ AO grant: €224,609.80	TRIAS	CRRAF; RGTA-DI; FUPRORIZ-HG	The project aims to restore soil fertility in order to increase agricultural productivity in the rice sector through climate-resilient and low-carbon good practices. The capacities of communities are strengthened to enable them to be better organised and more efficient in identifying the impacts of climate change and the most appropriate solutions for the local context.	 1,545 households directly impacted by the project's actions 18.3 hectares covered by the project's actions 1,867 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Guinea	Bissau	•••••	•••••		
	Tiban ankaterô. Integration of cultural, agro-ecological, territorial and climatic aspects for climate-resilient family farming in the Urok Islands. Guinea-Bissau. Total amount of the project: €254,894.57	TINIGUENA	Barcelona Super Computing Center Bosque y Comunidad	The project promotes a development and management model for emergent ecosystems capable of improving the incomes of farmers and communities in the Urok Islands protected marine area in the Bijagós Archipelago. Heavily impacted by rainfall variability and rising temperatures, farmers are sensitised to the use of climate data and the application of resilient and low-carbon good agricultural practices.	3,000 farmers applying the good practices on the three islands of Urok (Formosa, Nago and Chediã islands), including 233 women horticulturists and rice field workers and 30 young people
	GCCA+ AO grant: €229,000.00				
	Project to support the sustainable palm oil sector in the Cacheu region Total amount of the project: €250,528.32 GCCA+ AO grant: €200,422.66	GROUPE DE RECHERCHE ET DE REALISATIONS POUR LE DEVELOP- PEMENT	NWO Balolam	The project aims to strengthen the resilience of family farms in the Cacheu region through the development of the sustainable "Cacheu Palm Oil" value chain. Production groups, palm grove managers and traditional authorities are sensitised and trained in climate-resilient soil fertility restoration practices and in the use of basic climate data. Ultimately, the actions will enable a quality label to be offered, aimed at increasing the income of the sector's actors.	 2,198 households directly impacted by the project's actions 2,580 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Benin		•••••	•••••		
	Climate Intelligent Rice Cultivation Project (RIFaC) Total amount of the project: €229,036.86 GCCA+ AO grant: €183,229.49	ECLOSIO	Eco Bénin, TIC ABC	The project proposes a participatory community organisation approach with the aim of strengthening the capacities of local communities in the management of lowland rice fields, optimising water resource management and generalising good sustainable land management practices in a context of high rainfall variability and continuous soil degradation.	 251 individual farmers directly benefited from the project's actions 149 households directly impacted by the project's actions 15.74 hectares covered by the project's actions 447 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project
Maurita	ania	•••••	••••••••••		•••••
	Innovative solar solutions for small-scale irrigation in the district of Boghé (wilaya of Brakna) Total amount of the project: €255,000.00 GCCA+ AO Grant: €228,500.00	TENMIYA	PRACTICA	The project proposes solar powered irrigation solutions for small-scale vegetable farms in rural areas of southern Mauritania. The district council, the de-concentrated agricultural technical services and the private sector are highly involved in the implementation of the project activities and guarantee the durability of the achievements.	 302 households directly impacted by the project's actions 4.25 hectares covered by the project's actions 302 farmers having adopted the smart farming measures promoted by the project





















TÉMOIGNAGES DES BÉNÉFICIAIRES





N'TCHA PaulinePresident of the
CVPR Benin

"RIFaC has enabled us not only to work in groups to carry out all the activities, but also to receive messages on our mobile phones giving us information on when to carry out a particular activity and describing the activity to be carried out. In addition, the RIFaC is a solution for us women because the approaches promoted by this project have made things easier for women rice growers because it is very difficult for us women to find chemical fertilisers to use on our crops. However, we farmed this season without fertiliser and obtained a better yield. We

saw very early on the advantages of the approaches promoted by RIFaC. This is why we went beyond the 1.5 hectares this season and we are thinking of planting the whole lowland next season. All this support has taken us from less than one ton per hectare to three tons per hectare. So we must thank all the RIFaC implementation partners, which are Eclosio, Eco-Benin and TIC-ABC, not forgetting ECOWAS and our financial partner, the European Union," continues Pauline.





Fatmata Renny Member of the Executive

the Executive Board of the Gbotima Farmers Association, Sierra Leone "We are one of the organisations selected by Action Against Hunger to work on the project's test farm. Our organisation has received training on sustainable land management practices supervised by the Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute (SLA-RI). We were trained on sustainable land management practices in agriculture and sustainable land management practices for the cassava-arachid intercropping system. These training schemes led the Association's farmers to change the inefficient methods (cassava and groundnut monocropping) that were resulting in lower yields.

Today, farmers plant with light tillage, no longer sow in heaps or beds, no longer plant two cuttings on raised beds, and have given up monocropping and charcoal burning. On the other hand, the use of residue-based organic fertilisers and the slowing of deforestation by alternating crops of legumes and tubers are becoming widespread in the region."



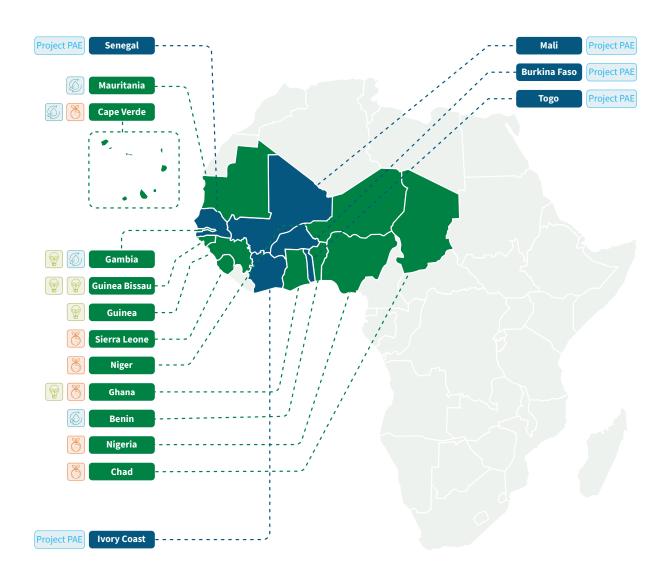








DISTRIBUTION MAP OF GCCA+AO AND PAE PROJECTS IN THE REGION



A regional capitalisation framework including 30 climate-smart agriculture pilot projects in the 17 countries of the ECOWAS-CILSS region focused on the success factors of adaptation to climate change.

Contacts

GCCA+ West Africa Pilot Project Officer

Yohann ZABA | yohann.zaba@expertisefrance.fr

Communications Officer GCCA+ West Africa

Christel KENOU | christel.kenou@expertisefrance.fr

Learn more about the GCCA+ West Africa project: www.expertisefrance.fr | www.araa.org