



Long-term EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture

Dialogue for Action and Brokerage in West Africa: Fostering Knowledge, Communication & Innovation Hubs

Virtual Workshop | 28 - 29 October 2020





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For Plant Breeding and
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Project : Push-Pull Method for the Production of Cereals to increase Yields, Protect the Soil and Control Pests and Weeds in Benin, Burkina-Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger





1-TOPIC : WHICH OF THESE TOPICS IS ADDRESSED THROUGH THE BUSINESS / INITIATIVE

Panel 2: Innovation and digitalisation in agriculture

Panel 3: Short value chains

Panel 4: Agroecological transitions of food systems





2 - CRITICAL FACTORS FOR DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS / LIMITING FACTORS.

- **Select** of the best varieties of *Desmodium* and *Brachiaria* adapted to the climatic conditions of Benin, Burkina-faso, Ivory coast, Niger and Mali;
- Produce **seeds** of the best *Desmodium* and *Brachiaria* varieties, from Plant breeding system, in Benin, Burkina-Faso, Ivory Coast, Niger and Mali;
- Identify and train **West African pilot producers or farmers** (rice, corn, sorghum and millet) on the Push-Pull and multiplication of seeds of *Desmodium* and *Brachiaria*;
- Train the **key actors** of the project on the establishment and monitoring of plots or Push-Pull (2P) units;
- Carry out three **exchange visits** (vegetative, reproduction and maturation phase of the target crops of the project) between West African producers and the key actors of the project on the different plots or Push-Pull units;
- Establishment of a mechanism for **knowledge management** and capitalization of project achievements for adoption of innovation by non-pilot producers;
- Establishment of a **planning, monitoring-evaluation** mechanism for the project for measuring objectively verifiable indicators and **finance** the above-mentioned activities of this project.





3 - MOST PRESSING THEMATIC PRIORITY CONCERNING THIS TOPIC.

- ❖ It increases **yields**, protects the **soil**, controls **pests** and **weeds without the use of pesticides** and provides still other advantages such as:
 - ✓ Allows the production of **healthy and sufficient food** for all in a **healthy environment**: this contributes to human health;
 - ✓ *Desmodium* and *Brachiaria* from Push-Pull serve as **nutritious food for livestock**: it also contributes to animal health and to the production of milk and meat;
 - ✓ Push-Pull is also a **circular agricultural practice**: everything is valued at the level of the production system; Nothing is lost, everything is transformed.
 - ✓ Additional benefit: fodder for livestock
 - ✓ **Market opportunities** are therefore emerging in West African countries where agriculture (production of corn, rice, millet and sorghum) and livestock are practiced. These are mainly Benin, Burkina-Faso, Ivory Coast, Niger, Mali.
 - ✓ This will not only promote *Desmodium* and *Brachiaria* **value chains**, but also Rice, sorghum and millet value chains in West Africa





4 - KEY ACTORS, IMPORTANT PLAYERS

✓ West African laboratory for plant breeding and seed production (**VART-LaB**) in Benin, Burkina-Faso and Ivory- Coast;

✓ International Research Institute on Crops of Semi-Arid Tropical zones (**ICRISAT-Mali**);

Unit of Ecophysiology and varietal improvement of forage plants of the faculty of agronomic sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin;

✓ Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) of the university of liege (**Eclosio**) whose representation is in Benin;

✓ EU-AU Long-Term Research and Innovation Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (**LEAP4FNSSA**)





5 - CONDITIONS FOR ENHANCING ACTORS' COOPERATION (CRITICAL FACTORS, ENABLING ENVIRONMENT AND INTERFACES TO ENSURE COLLABORATION)

- ❖ Have a very good **knowledge** of the Critical factors for development success of this project;
- ❖ Sign cooperation or **innovative** partnership agreements between the various key players of this **West-African** project;
- ❖ During the implementation of the activities of this project, set-up a **communication** device or plan between the key actors and the various stakeholders to ensure collaboration;
- ❖ Develop the programming frameworks on which the preparation of the capacity building of key project stakeholders will hinge. To this end, capacity building frameworks will be organized around five major objectives:
 1. **Strengthen the capacity of the various key players to participate in the consultation process;**
 2. **Develop knowledge and information, access and use it;**
 3. **Strengthen the capacity to develop the strategic documents required by LEAP4FNSSA;**
 4. **Strengthen the capacity to manage and apply the directives received from LEAP4FNSSA within the framework of this project.**





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THANK YOU



Push-Pull West-Africa

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Hubs**

- Better health of agro-ecosystems
- Better qualities of life for animals and humans
- Better protection of the environment
- Better harvests

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