

# West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP)

**West Africa agricultural productivity gains are achievable through increased use of improved agricultural technologies, innovative farm and agribusiness practices.**

**Agriculture continues to play a major role in the economy of the countries of West Africa, contributing more than 40 percent to its GDP and providing income and employment to about 70 percent of the region's population. Therefore, the performance of the sector is important to the economic growth and development of the majority of the ECOWAS countries. In order to significantly reduce poverty in the region, an annual GDP growth rate of at least 8 to 10% is required to be sustained in the countries of the region. Based on this background, the CAADP framework projected the need for agriculture growth to attain at least a 6% rate. Attaining this growth requires substantial increases in technology generation and use; and strengthened linkages between research systems, extension and advisory services to farmers and agribusinesses.**

The West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP), which is CAADP-aligned, is focused on transforming the region's agriculture through the development, dissemination and use of improved agricultural technologies in the 15 member countries of ECOWAS. The WAAPP is part of the World Bank's instrument for the implementation of Africa Action Plan (AAP) aimed at supporting regional integration and making agriculture more sustainably productive. The WAAPP is serving a useful purpose in bring the funding of agricultural research back to the policy agenda. It is also a key tool for the implementation of the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP).



Rice (one of the focus crops of WAAPP) field in the background planted with improved rice seedlings in the foreground

## **Main Beneficiaries**

Farmers will benefit from improved crop varieties and livestock breeds. Agribusinesses will benefit from advanced innovations in agricultural product handling and processing technologies. National and regional research institutions will benefit from state of the art research infrastructure. Consumers will have value for money on agriculture products. Policy makers will benefit from robust scientific research results for decision-taking.

## **Main Regional Benefits**

Agriculture in countries of the West Africa region are expected to be more regionally integrated, with improved sharing of technologies, and research infrastructure.

## **Partners**

This program is funded by the World Bank loan facility to the countries, with ECOWAS playing a pivotal role. This program is regionally coordinated by CORAF/WECARD, and is being implemented in Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Benin, Niger, Sierra Leone, Togo, Liberia, Guinea, , Gambia, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria. Cape-Verde, Guinea Bissau and Mauritania made a request to join the WAAPP community.

Components	Outputs	Outcomes	Impact		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b> <b>Regional Cooperation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common regulations for registration of genetic materials and pesticides at the ECOWAS level established</li> <li>• Conditions for harmonized IPRs between the two systems (French and English) existing in ECOWAS member region created.</li> <li>• Mechanism for facilitating genetic materials and pesticides by national registration committees developed.</li> <li>• CORAF/WECARD's web-based information system on agricultural technologies and research skills at regional level strengthened</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcome 1</b> Improved enabling environment for technology disseminating within participating countries and at regional level</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enhanced and sustained agricultural productivity in the 15 ECOWAS countries.</b></p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b> <b>Centres of Specialization</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core research infrastructure of the selected National Centres of Specialization upgraded</li> <li>• Capacity of researchers strengthened</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcome 2</b> Improved quality research for development.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Improved livelihoods of the rural producing communities.</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b> <b>Technology Generation &amp; Adoption</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research priorities for each domain identified.</li> <li>• Proven technologies for up-scaling and out-scaling identified.</li> <li>• Framework for inclusion of farmers, extension, NGOs, private sector in technology generation and use developed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcome 3</b> Increased alignment of national priorities with regional priorities</p> <p><b>Outcome 4</b> Productivity-focused and transparent agricultural research funding mechanisms</p> <p><b>Outcome 5</b> Increased adoption and use of technologies generated in countries involved in the WAAPP</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b> <b>Management &amp; M+E</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual for WAAPP program coordination and management developed</li> <li>• WAAPP M+E manual developed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcome 6</b> Effective WAAPP Program management</p>			

**For more information**

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