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Association Sojagnon du Bénin

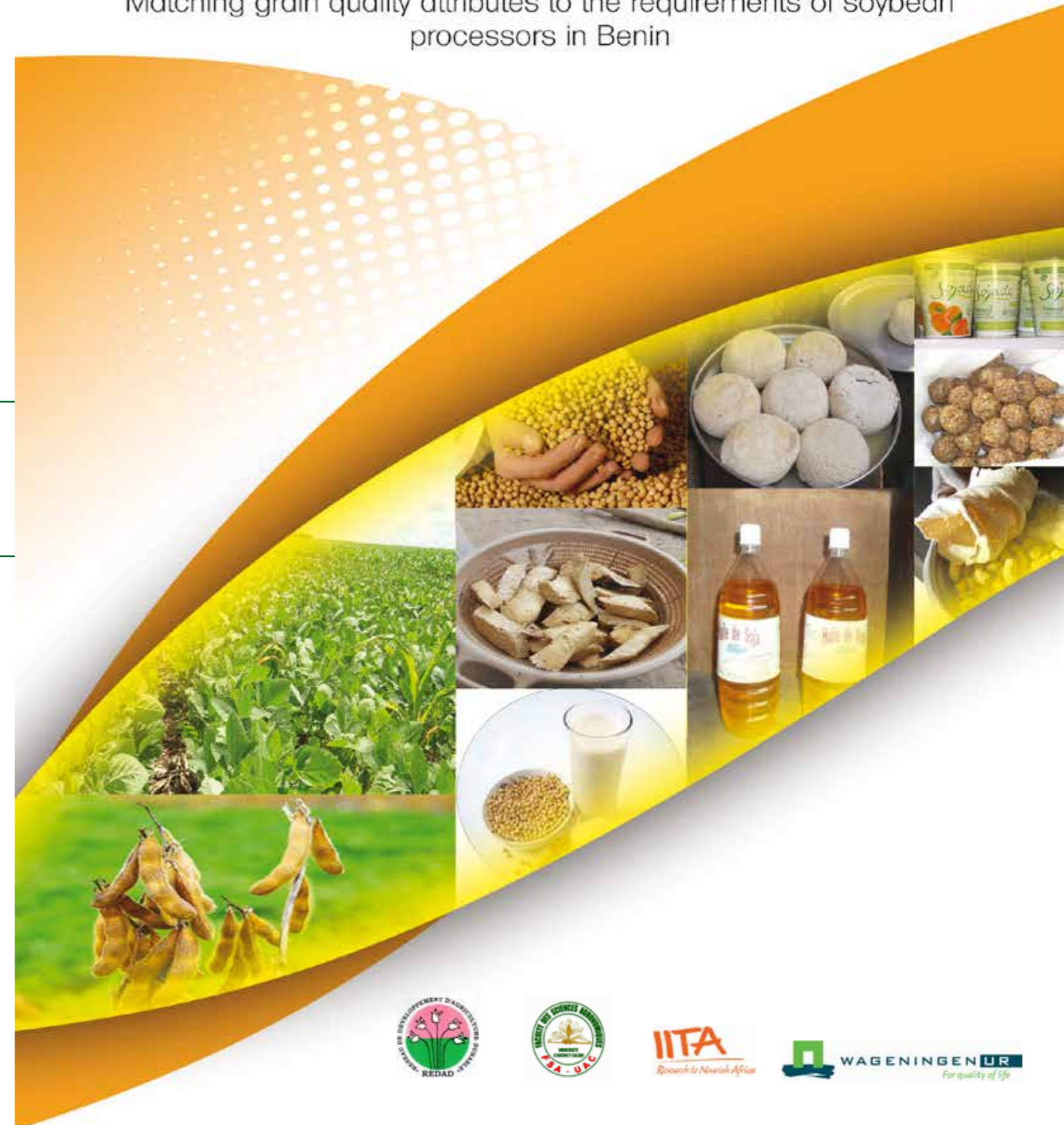
**NWO**  
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

# ProSeSS

Matching grain quality attributes to the requirements of soybean processors in Benin

**SOJAGNON**  
Association Sojagnon du Bénin

Rue des 08 villas Godomey-Togoudo  
01 BP 3051 Cotonou - Recette Principale - Bénin  
Tél. Bureau : (+229) 21. 35. 13. 17  
Mobile : (+229) 97. 72. 37. 00 / 95. 94. 11. 00  
E-mail : sojagnon@gmail.com ; patsewade@yahoo.fr  
Site web : www.sojagnon.org



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# Matching grain quality attributes to the requirements of soybean processors in Benin (ProSeSS)

## Background

The soybean Consortium of Benin (CSB) is a multi-actor platform created in 2011 by a group of actors involved in promoting soybean sector with the technical and financial support from the Platform for African-European Partnership on Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD II) ([www.paepard.org](http://www.paepard.org)).

PAEPARD supported CSB and its partners RUFORUM ([www.ruforum.org](http://www.ruforum.org)) and ICRA (<http://www.icra-edu.org>) by organizing a writing workshop in Entebbe/Uganda in order to respond to the call for proposals, Food & Business Applied Research Fund (ARF), of NWO/WOTRO (The Netherlands) (<http://www.nwo.nl/en>). This writing workshop equipped CSB members with skills to write and submit the project entitled Matching grain quality attributes to the requirements of soybean processors in Benin (ProSeSS), which was selected by the selection committee because of its quality, but also the significant impact it will have on the actors of the soybean sector in Benin.

ProSeSS aims to promote the production and use of seeds of good quality through the elaboration



Workshop on how to draft a successful proposal

of a strategic plan for the soybean seed sub-sector and provide actors of the sector with a range of soybean varieties adapted to different end-products (cheese, *afitin*, milk, oil, cake, cookie, etc.). Added to ongoing projects such as Project Soybean, *Afitin*, Milk (ProSAM) of CRF/PAEPARD, Soybean Seeds Project (ProSeSS) will contribute to the development of soybean value chains in Benin. (<http://paepard.blogspot.be/2014/10/re-engineered-soybean-milk-processing.html>)

**SOJAGNON NGO**, Leader of the Consortium, ensures the coordination of these two projects and Patrice Lagnon SEWADE is the Coordinator.

## Role of organizations involved in the project

**Association for the development of soybean in Benin (SOJAGNON-NGO)** : It will be responsible for the diagnostic study, apart from the administrative and financial management. It will bring to the other partners its experience for mobilising actors, especially farmers and processors who will take part in the diagnostic and marketing surveys and for running practitioner-oriented surveys ([www.sojagnon.org](http://www.sojagnon.org)).

**Sustainable Agriculture Development Network (REDAD)** : It is responsible for results' dissemination and project visibility. It will use its network of many agricultural NGOs to disseminate information among farmers and processors ([www.redad-benin.org](http://www.redad-benin.org)).

**International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA-Benin)** : It will provide soybean accessions and varieties from its repository. Later on, IITA will ensure the multiplication of varieties that have been identified to be appropriate to each soybean end-product ([www.iita.org/iita-benin](http://www.iita.org/iita-benin)).

**Faculty of Agronomic Sciences (FSA/UAC)** : It will run nutritional and technological characterisation of soybean varieties identified by IITA. The suitability of previously identified soybean varieties that match with each end-product will be assessed at processing units' level by FSA ([www.fsa-uac.org](http://www.fsa-uac.org)).

**Wageningen University/ Marketing and Consumer Behaviour Group (WU/MCB)**: It will contribute in studying the marketing system of the soybean supply system ([www.wageningenur.nl/en/wageningen-universit](http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/wageningen-universit)).



## Why this project ?

Soybean is an important legume with high nutritional, agronomical and economic value. Unfortunately, soybean production and processing are constrained by numerous factors. Farmer organizations complain about the unavailability of certified soybean seeds. The use of soybean seeds which quality is not ensured in terms of purity, germination and vigor

results in low yields and low income. Soybean oil, cheese and milk producers are also unsatisfied with the quality of the soybean available on the market. Available soybean varieties, usually mixtures, are processed regardless the targeted end-products. Such practice partly explains processors' complains while using soybean purchase from the market.

## Objectives of the project

The overall objective of this project is the improved quality and yield of soybean produces. More specifically, the project targets:

- ✓ Availability of soybean seeds on the Beninese market;

- ✓ A better understanding of the needs and constraints of the soybean marketing actors;
- ✓ A selection of soybean varieties adapted to specific end-products and approved by processors.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Benin (West Africa)</b>
<b>Funding source</b>	<b>ARF/NWO- Wotro/ The Netherlands</b>
<b>Duration of the project</b>	<b>From 1/10/2015 to 1/09/2018 (36 months)</b>
<b>Project team</b>	<b>Project coordination 14 researchers and practitioners</b>
<b>Beneficiaries of the project</b>	<b>Farmers, processors and traders</b>

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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