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

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Which problems are we tackling?

- Low soybean yield (1 t/ha) on average
- Mixture of soybean grain on the markets
- Low quality of soybean derived products
- Low productivity of soybean processing units (being addressed by ProSAM)
- Need to match varieties with end products

The project objectives

- The 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.

Workpackages

- Analysis of the soybean seed supply system (WP1);
- Analysis of the soybean marketing system (WP2);
- Characterization of soybean varieties (WP3);
- Pilot production from adequate varieties (WP4) (start in year 2)
- Project coordination, dissemination and visibility (WP5).

Research results: WP1


- IITA: develops varieties and provides breeders’ seeds to INRAB
- INRAB: CRA-Nord, one of INRAB centres, is in charge of producing foundation seeds
- Farmer’s organisation FUPRO and NGOs (DEDRAS, RAPIDEL, CRADB, OROUKOUTOUKOU etc...) provide technical and financial support
- Farmers: they are the end users of produced seeds.

Research results: WP1


- Aim: to analyze soybean seed systems in Benin
- There is no functioning formal soybean seed system in Benin
- Farmers rely on informal system and on an emerging community based seed system (CBSS)
- Both systems are still ineffective in the timely supply of quality seeds of desired soybean variety to farmers.
Research results: WP2 (completed)

• Soybean size, yield and maturity are the most important quality attributes for producers
• Size and colour are the most important quality attributes for traders and processors
• Processors are complaining with the mixture of varieties
• Lack of trust among producers and Fludor (biggest oil industry in Benin)

Research results: WP3

• Soybean accessions in use in Benin are collected
• A set of 10 soybean varieties are obtained from IITA Ibadan
• 8 varieties are identified as the well-performed ones
• Assessment of known varieties is completed but ongoing for accessions

Research results: WP3

• Some of the varieties

Research results: WP5

• Launching workshop

ProSeSS got Benin’s agricultural Minister Audience
• Dr. Delphin KOUDANDE recently received representatives of Sojagnon to present the ProSeSS Project. An advocacy was made for the Ministry to develop a strategic plan for the soy seed system.

Research results: WP5

• ProSeSS poster presented in the 2nd Conference of African Agribusiness Incubation Network (AAIN) in Accra, Ghana from 4-6 October, 2016
• ProSeSS poster presented in the Ruforum meeting in Cape Town from 14-21 October 2016
• ProSeSS poster presented in the ARF Regional and Country Workshop in Cotonou, Benin from 25-29 October 2016
• Publication of project description, poster and leaflet on the Platform website
Approach to reach ultimate target groups

- Target groups: soybean seed producers, soybean farmers and processors
- Collaboration with the targets groups during data collection, results validation
- Consortium is capitalizing on the long experience of its members to work with grassroot population
- Involvement of governmental agencies to turn outputs to outcomes especially on policy related to outputs such as strategic plan on soybean seed system

Thank you