

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

SOJAGNON
Association Sojagnon du Bénin

NWO
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

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

Seeds- Production- soja grains-Market- Processing

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IITA
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY
WAGENINGEN

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

Identification of actors of the soybean seed supply system

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

Research results: WP1

Diagnostic study of the soybean seed supply system

- 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 on-going for accessions

Research results: WP3

- Some of the varieties



Research results: WP5

- Launching workshop



Research results: WP5

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

