



**REGIONAL MEETING TO PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT
GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN
WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA**

**Cotonou, Benin
16-19 February, 1998**

REPORT

Note

This document includes the main report of the meeting. At present,
appendices and background presentations are not included.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Sub-regional Meeting to promote implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in West and Central Africa was held in Cotonou, Benin from February 16 to 19, 1998. The meeting was organised by the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the National Institute for Agricultural Research of Benin (INRAB), and the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) – on behalf of the System-wide Genetic Resources Programme (SGRP) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), in association with the Committee of Directors for Agricultural Research in West and Central Africa (CORAF).

2. The following countries were represented: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo as well International Institutions (IITA, ICRISAT, ILRI, IPGRI and CORAF).

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

3. The aim of the meeting was to build consensus around the priorities and mode of implementation of the Global Plan of Action (GPA) in the sub-region. The specific objectives were to (1) to review the GPA and decisions of the Leipzig meeting and their implications on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in West and Central Africa ; (2) to identify priority actions for the conservation and sustainable utilization of PGRFA in West and Central Africa and to develop consensus on these priorities, including development of project concepts ; (3) to discuss the contribution and role of the International Organizations in assisting the national programmes in West and Central Africa in the implementation of the GPA, especially in linking conservation to utilization of PGRFA; and (4) to discuss the institutional frameworks for the implementation of the GPA, particularly the role of the sub-regional agricultural research mechanisms such as CORAF.

OPENING SESSION

4. A welcome address was made by Mr. Moise Houssou, Director-General of INRAB. He stressed that INRAB is undergoing deep structural changes in order to face new challenges among which Genetic Resources are a priority. Mr. K Oulai, FAO Representative in Benin, then addressed the meeting on behalf of the Director-General of FAO, welcoming the participation of country representatives, and outlining the main points to be discussed. Mr. Quat Ng, representative of the System-Wide Genetic Resources Programme, pointed out that the CGIAR welcomes the GPA and encourages co-ordination and collaboration with NARS for the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources.

5. The Directeur de Cabinet of the Ministry of Rural Development of Benin then delivered the opening address on behalf of the Minister. He stressed the fact that this forum should draw priorities and identify some project ideas for the sub-region, identify possible funding sources and consider the possibilities of establishing a network on genetic resources for Western and Central Africa. He then declared the meeting opened.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

6. On the proposal of Professor Omaliko from Nigeria, the following participants were elected by acclamation :

Chairman: Mr. Houssou Moise, (Benin)

Vice-chairmen: Mr. S.O. Bennett-Lartey (Ghana) for working group I and Jean-Marie Foundoun (Cameroon) for working group II.

Rapporteur: Mr. Amadou Beye (Senegal) assisted by Mr. Ibrahim Mahamadou (Niger)

7. The programme of the meeting was adopted. Two working groups were established:

- **Group I:** to consider the establishment of a network on genetic resources for the Western and Central Africa sub-region;
- **Group II:** to consider and prioritise the 20 activities of the GPA and identify actions to be executed within the sub-region.

PRESENTATIONS

The Global Plan of Action

8. Mr. David Cooper of FAO presented the background to the GPA, that was adopted at Leipzig, in Germany in June 1996. He stressed that the GPA had been adopted by participating countries and that the focus should now be to set-up a work programme with targeted projects and determine how to finance them. He emphasised the role of the Commission on Genetic Resources which guides and monitors the implementation of the Plan, and within which negotiations are underway to revise the international undertaking.

9. Since Leipzig, the GPA had been endorsed by Heads of States and Governments at the World Food Summit and by the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Role of the SGRP of the CGIAR

10. Mr. Masa Iwanaga of IPGRI outlined the role of the CGIAR centres in maintaining agro-biodiversity for sustainable agriculture. The System-wide Genetic Resources Programme (SGRP) is the backbone of the global effort to study, exchange and conserve agro-biodiversity that includes food crops, livestock and animal resources. He reported on the many activities conducted by the CGIAR centres with the aim of adding value to plant genetic resources, and conserving agro-biodiversity by holding the largest international collections of genetic resources with 600,000 accessions maintained. Other activities include studies of agro-biodiversity through participatory research, sharing of information and specialist training as needed and the establishment of programmes like The System Wide Information Network for Genetic Resources (SINGER) to provide ready access to information in databases. Some of the challenges and opportunities concern activities related to issues considered by the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources. The SGRP needs to be developed by the CGIAR to meet challenges posed by the CBD, Agenda 21 and the Global Plan of Action.

Toward a Plant Genetic Resources. Network in West and Central Africa

11. Mr. Ankon Goli of IPGRI outlined the state of progress in developing a PGR network for West and Central Africa. He described the state of diversity and erosion in the sub-region, and continued by outlining the state of the national programmes, emphasising the need to set-up a well coordinated programme in each country. He stressed that a regional network would be particularly interesting for Western and Central Africa especially in areas of information and germplasm exchange.

12. He then gave a historical background on the subject, recalling the Niamey meeting in February 1994, the Dakar meeting in November 1995 and the Cotonou meeting in February 1997 during which, a regional project on plant genetic resources was progressively developed in order to strengthen the regional capacities through training, improvement of facilities and enhancement of information exchange.

World Information And Early Warning System On Plant Genetic Resources in West and Central Africa:

13. Mr. Jean Marie Fondoun of Cameroon introduced the WIEWS network for the sub-region which was set-up under the auspices of FAO during the Douala Meeting, in Cameroon from 2nd to 4th of June, 1997. Its objectives are:

- To provide national programmes, international institutions, NGOs and private companies with reliable information on the state of the world's plant genetic resources;
- to facilitate the gathering of information on plant genetic resources and the erosion in *ex situ* collections and in the natural environment.

14. A bureau had been established comprising the following officers:

- Coordinator: Mr. Jean -Marie Fondoun (Cameroon)
- Vice coordinator: Mr. Sarumi Mondion (Nigeria)
- General Secretary: Mr. Amadou M. Beye (Senegal)

The role of Crop Networks:

15. Mr. Anand Kumar of the ICRISAT Sahelian Centre presented two commodity networks which are active in the sub-region: the millet network (ROCAFREMI) and the sorghum network (ROCARS). He informed that these are initiatives of the national programmes. Research is organised through collaborative projects based on the priorities identified by the network members. INSAH and INTSORMIL are involved in these activities. ICRISAT gives some support in training, data analysis and seed supply.

Report of the Workshop on Conservation and Utilization of Yam, Cassava and Sweet Potato Germplasm:

16. Mr. Ng of IITA reported on the Nairobi workshop which was held from 11 to 13 November, 1997 to assess the current status of conservation of genetic resources for the cited commodities. The recommendations were:

- To create a network;
- to up-date national inventories of existing collections;
- to identify efficient methods of conservation;
- to duplicate storage of national core collections;
- to assign high priority to characterisation, evaluation and utilization of genetic resources.

Development of National Programmes:

17. Mr. Houssou explained that the activities of NARS are limited because of lack of facilities and funds. He noted that established national programmes exist in only a few countries. Nevertheless, national seminars had been held in the following Western and Central African countries:

- 1993 : Burkina Faso
- 1994 : Cameroon, Ghana, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire.
- 1995 : Benin, Guinea, Niger, Senegal
- 1996 : Democratic Republic of Congo, Togo
- 1997 : Mali

Despite the existence of committees in most countries, it is only in Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal that the national programmes are functioning well. While Ghana and Nigeria have PGRFA centres, most countries have not been able to establish centres due to lack of qualified personnel, lack of funds or lack of awareness of government officials. Mr. Houssou stressed that the establishment of a network for Western and Central Africa would help overcome these constraints.

Establishment of a Network on Genetic Resources for West and Central Africa

Background

18. The necessity of establishing a network on genetic resources was discussed for the first time at the Bouake meeting in 1990. In 1995, the countries which attended the Dakar meeting in preparation of Leipzig Conference set-up an interim steering committee. That committee was made up of seven countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. The Secretariat of the committee was located in Abuja, Nigeria and the Chairperson was Professor C.E.P. Omaliko.

Based on the discussions in the first working group meeting (Chairman: Bennett-Lartey, and Rapporteur: Mr. Ibrahim Mahamadou), the following were recommended:

Name of the network

19. The network shall be known as: Genetic Resources Network for West and Central Africa (GRENEWEC).

Objectives of the network:

20. The six main objectives of the network shall be:
- a. To promote the conservation and the utilization of the genetic resources of the sub-region for agricultural and economic development;
 - b. to promote the sustainable use and exchange of the genetic resources in the sub-region and beyond;
 - c. to strengthen institutional capacity to conduct genetic resources activities;
 - d. to promote the collaboration among country members and beyond the sub-region;
 - e. to raise funds for implementing genetic resources programmes within the sub-region;
 - f. to raise public awareness in the conservation of genetic resources.
21. The network shall focus initially on plant genetic resources, and in particular, on the implementation of the GPA. This will be reviewed by the second General Assembly.

Activities:

22. The following activities will be conducted through the network:
- To establish and strengthen well coordinated national programmes with the involvement of the stakeholders;
 - to strengthen linkages between conservation and use of genetic resources within the sub-region;
 - to promote collaboration and coordination of activities of the network with other international networks;
 - to facilitate exchange of information within the network and with interested groups;
 - to create awareness on genetic resources at all levels;
 - to develop human resources through training and capacity building.
23. The stakeholders of the network will include the following institutions:
- The national programmes of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Cape Verde, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.
 - International institutions, Non Governmental Organisations, seed companies, and other interested groups (with no voting rights).

Governance

24. The governance of the network shall be assured by two organs: the General Assembly and the Steering Committee.

I. The General Assembly

25. The General Assembly shall comprise two members per country including the chairperson of the country's national committee and/or the co-ordinator of the national programme.

26. The international organisations working in the sub-region shall be members of the General Assembly and will be represented by one person per organisation with no voting rights.

27. The General Assembly shall meet at least once every three years.

II. The Steering Committee

28. The Steering Committee will be comprised of seven members who will elect their Chairperson. The frequencies of meetings will be once a year. The Steering Committee shall serve for 3 years, after which, 2/3 of the members will be renewed. A permanent Coordinator will take care of the day-to-day administration of the network. For the interim, IPGRI will take care of the co-ordination.

29. FAO, IPGRI and one other representative of CGIAR Centres from the System-wide Genetic Resources Programme operating in the region (ICRISAT, IITA, ILRI, ICRAF, WARDA) will also be invited to be members of the steering committee.

30. To ensure an effective and rapid take-off of the network, an interim working group was set-up with the following composition:

- Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal;
- FAO, IPGRI, One Representative of SGRP

31. In conjunction with IPGRI, the group shall:

- Prepare for the first General Assembly;
- identify possible sources of funds;
- propose a first draft of the constitution;
- publicise the network;
- propose a strategic plan to be executed within the next 2 to 3 years.

III. Information Networking

32. A comprehensive information system including newsletters and/or journals should be organised. IPGRI's newsletter for sub-Saharan Africa, IPGRI's database on each country, and "CORAF ACTION" should be used in the meantime. Researchers of the sub-region are encouraged to supply information to these publications.

33. The network on the World Information and Early Warning System established for West and Central Africa shall be considered as a major component to handle and develop information systems on genetic resources within the sub-region. It is recommended that the network should launch a bulletin to be published twice a year and develop an early warning component.

34. The System Wide Information Network for Genetic Resources (SINGER) provides interesting information and should be utilised within the sub-region.

35. The use of electronic mailing and the Internet should be encouraged to supplement the existing systems. On that matter, Africa Link - a collaborative programme executed by WARDA, would be useful to national programmes in accessing the Internet.

IV. Relationship with CORAF

36. The network shall operate under the umbrella of CORAF and is expected to report to its Committee of Directors at the yearly board meeting. It is noted that CORAF places a high priority on the development of genetic resources programmes within the sub-region.

V. Relationship with other networks

37. The network should develop in-depth relations with existing networks and institutions which are interested in genetic resources. These include:

within the sub-region

- Crop networks on peanut, cassava, maize, rice, cotton, millet, sorghum, yam, banana and plantain;
- Thematic networks on drought resistance, forestry, livestock, garden, horticultural crops, cowpea and nodes of Bionet-International (represented by WAFRINET in West Africa);

beyond the sub-region:

- Genetic Resources Centres for Coconut, African Coffee, Mushroom and Tropical fruits;
- SARNET, EARRNET, East and South Africa Gene Banks.

38. In addition to the above named networks, it is noted that some collaborative efforts, taking the form of consortia, are being developing in the sub-region. These include :

- The Humid Forest Consortium in IITA, Ibadan, Nigeria;
- The Inland Valley Consortium in WARDA, Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire;
- The Moist Land Consortium in IITA, Ibadan, Nigeria;
- The Desert Margin Programme ICRISAT in Niamey, Niger.

The first three consortia have already set-up the Ecoregional Programme for the Humid and Sub-humid tropical zones EPHTA) which is based in IITA.

39. IPGRI is mandated to contact other relevant organisations which may co-operate with the network.

Identification of priorities and main activities to conduct within the sub-region.

40. The second working group (Chairman - Mr. Jean Marie Foundoun, Rapporteur - Mr Amadou M. Bèye) made an in-depth review of the 20 activities of the GPA and identified priorities for collaboration within the countries as well as at the regional level. The discussions focused on:

- the identification of major constraints to develop activities within the sub-region;
- case studies of successful activities;
- opportunities for collaboration;
- activities to develop in the meantime.

41. Based on these discussions, the meeting agreed on a Programme of Action for the sub-region of West and Central Africa (Table 1). The Programme is based on the valorisation of diverse local competencies (national and/or regional) and represents an new approach in the management of PGRFA. Its implementation will depend more on the Commitment of countries than from funds mobilized from outside. Indeed, it will necessitate that countries create the conditions of its success by:

- establishing national co-ordinating committees;
- recognising them through a minister's order, or other formal status;
- ensure commitment of focal points.

42. The discussions revealed the followings general points:

- The important role of women in the management of PGRFA, in particular, their contribution to maintain the genetic diversity and traditional knowledge has been recognised;
- the need to involve more NGOs and Farmer Organisations in the management of PGRFA at local level, to help particularly in the improvement, production and distribution of farmer-saved seed.
- the important role of national committees in setting-up programmes and strategies adapted to local conditions;
- the predominant place for training in the valorisation of traditional PGRFA with links between conservation and utilization of PGRFA.
- the need to raise public awareness on the importance of PGRFA to farmers and their cultural and scientific values.
- the importance of strengthening collaboration at the regional level in order to integrate major activities which are conducted in similar ecologies thereby avoiding redundancy of activities, dispersion of funds and dilution of efforts.
- the importance of national legislation in regulating access to and exchange of PGRFA.

- the need to establish a newsletter to provide regular information about activities conducted in the sub-region and about the status of PGRFA aiming to sensitise people, at national and regional levels, to the consequences of an inadequate PGRFA management.

43. The importance of full involvement of FAO and IPGRI as well as the Commitment of the different countries of Western and Central Africa for the success of the programme was emphasised.

Table 1: Plan of action elaborated for the sub-region for the short and medium terms

	Actions	Resource-Person / Structure identified	GPA Activity concerned *	Year
1. Establishment of an integrated system of information	<p>Short term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of PGRFA within the countries • Assessment of needs • Establishment of a Newsletter • Identification of national correspondents • Use of existing local competence <p>Medium term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of a project to equip countries with tools of communication within the network 	J. M. Foundoun / A. M. Bèye	17, 18	1998
2. Development of national programmes in RPGFA (conservation <i>ex situ</i> and <i>in situ</i>, utilization)	<p>Short term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of infrastructures • Encourage conservation and utilization of PGRFA by breeders and by local communities <p>Medium term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of national programmes (training, infrastructures,..) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Committee • National Committee 	GPA	Accor count
3. Structure development or reinforcement for conservation and management of PGRFA	<p>Short term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of functional mechanisms • Capacity building • Valorisation of existing local competence <p>Medium term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-regional mandate to give to some national structures 	National Committee National Committee	15, 17, 19, 20	1999 (execut

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	Actions	Resource-Person / Structure identified	GPA Activity concerned	
4. Training	<p>Short term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of scientific personnel (Scientists, Technicians) • Training on legislation, socio-economic aspects, taxonomy <p>Medium term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of trainers • Training of PGRFA users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities of Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, , Cameroon and Ghana • NGOs, FO 	5, 19, 20	• •

Table 2: Status of PGRFA and principal recommendations

Activities	Progress of activities and constraints	Examples	Opportunities	
<p>1. Surveying and making inventories of PGRFA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of qualified personnel • Moderate utilization of Geographic Information System (GIS) • Lack of appropriate facilities • Moderate utilization of new biotechnology methods such as gene mapping 	<p>Burkina: 3 national projects are executed. They concern a multidisciplinary team of Agronomists, Anthropologists, Sociologists, Economists, Entomologists, etc.)</p>	<p>Nigeria – offers training possibilities in diverse areas like taxonomy and ethno-botanical surveys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To set-up • To train • To ensure PGRFA • To sensitize • To encourage management • To record • To consolidate knowledge
<p>2. Supporting on-farm management and improvement of PGRFA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressive loss of landraces and, with them, traditional knowledge. • Low level of taking into account minor crops with economic value. • Difficulties to ally breeders' with farmers' criteria in selection • Difficulties for dynamic conservation of PGRFA at on-farm. • Difficulties to reconcile farmers' needs with immediate projects aims. • Farmers are excluded from the whole process of development. 	<p>Sierra Leone, Burkina – Different Biodiversity Projects (rice, sorghum and millet)</p> <p>Nigeria – Decentralised system of research</p> <p>Niger : CRRRA and ONVPE Projects</p> <p>Mali : IER</p> <p>Senegal : ISRA</p>	<p>Share of experiences, exchange of methods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To invest • To train • To encourage management • To decentralize • To promote methods • To encourage better • To readapt • To specialize management

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Activities	Progress of activities and constraints	Examples	Opportunities	
<p>3. Assisting farmers in disaster situations to restore agricultural systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular threats of natural catastrophes • Bad working production system and distribution of improved seeds • Distrust of improved varieties 	<p>Sierra Leone /Nigeria : Strategic seed reserve</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve • To improve other countries • To improve term • To reintroduce stored in • To reinforce • To ensure targeted

<p>4. Promoting <i>in situ</i> conservation of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food production</p>	<p>Genetic erosion of wild crop relatives, wild plants and traditional knowledge</p>	<p>Nigeria - Tchad Basin: Existence of a project for safeguarding local cultivars, notably rice</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encouragemanagen • To encourvironn • To train : wild plar • To invol: in conser
<p>5. Sustaining existing <i>ex situ</i> collections</p> <p>6. Regenerating threatened <i>ex situ</i> accessions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispersion of efforts in collection management • Redundancy of activities in PGRFA management 	<p>Togo : Loss of a big collection of cereals, leguminous and vegetables</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop adapted methods of conservation • To give sub-regional mandate to certain national centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To collec genebanl • To identi • To study appropri • To build

Activities	Progress of activities and constraints	Examples	Opportunities	
<p>7. Supporting planned and targeted collecting of PGRFA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many collecting were not well targeted.. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To up-date the list elaborated by Professor Ake Asi • To exploit data from national monographs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identi • To revive
<p>8. Expanding <i>ex situ</i> conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of genetic diversity • Dispersion of efforts at national level 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To begin at a small scale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To offici to avoid • To set-up • To share • To better • To encour
<p>9. Expanding the characterization evaluation and number of core collections to facilitate use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low percentage of characterised material 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the role of the universities within the sub-region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reinfc complete • To stand • To incor • To find f

<p>10. Increasing genetic enhancement and base-broadening efforts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of activities • Genetic erosion of cultivated crops (exp. soya, cassava, sweet potato, banana plantain,..) 	<p>WARDA has obtained interesting results from interspecific crosses. These results are available for any country which would make a request.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To broad introgres • To Reinf • To sensit funding • To devel • To encou program be broad • To reinfc internatic
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Activities	Progress of activities and constraints	Examples	Opportunities	
<p>11. Promoting sustainable agriculture through diversification of crop production and broader diversity in crops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intercropping 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encou • To prom
<p>12. Promoting development and commercialisation of under-utilised crops and species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existence of numerous under-utilised and neglected species which are important to the daily livelihood of local populations 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inven • To elabo • To devel • To give 1 PGR in under-uti valorisat networks • To incor utilised s
<p>13. Supporting seed production and distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor performance of seed production and distribution (quarantine, distribution) • Projects dependence from outside funding 	<p>Nigeria: On-farm seed production</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To sensit seed proc • To enc tradition; • To encou • To ensur • To contr • To ensu deliverin

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Activities	Progress of activities and constraints	Examples	Opportunities	
14. Developing new markets for local varieties and “diversity-rich” products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of information about local commodities 	<p>Nigeria : Safeguarding of indigenous fruit cultivars</p> <p>Nigeria Establishment of markets for the commercialization of local commodities</p> <p>Mali : Successful transformation and marketing of fonio and sesame</p> <p>Côte D'Ivoire/Togo: Existence of large yam and cassava collections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inventory and exchange of methodologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage To invest To deliver commodities ensure growth
15. Building strong national programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non existence of co-ordinating committees in some countries Lack of official recognition of many national committees Ineffective committees in most countries 	National workshops have been organised in several countries		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To nominate To officiate IPGRI as committee To assist implementation To build countries To make watch over they will

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Activities	Progress of activities and constraints	Examples	Opportunities	
16. Promoting networks for PGRFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of communication equipment 		To establish crop networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To quick (compute subscript) To organize To establish To officiate To harm critical w

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<p>17. Constructing comprehensive information systems for PGRFA</p> <p>18. Developing monitoring and early warning systems for loss of plant genetic resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low exploitation of integrated systems of information (GIS, WIEWS) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop as Food • To elaborate infrastru
<p>19. Expanding and improving education and training</p> <p>20. Promoting public awareness of the value of PGRFA conservation and use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs in training • Needs in good information circulation 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To translate (for ex. I Edition c • To train training c • To give Benin an • To give 1