

*DRAFT PROJECT*

**REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY  
(RPFS)**

**IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE**

**ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN  
STATES**

**(ECOWAS)**

*Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana,  
Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal,  
Sierra Leone, Togo*

**Prepared with the collaboration of the Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

**May, 2002**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

								Page
<b>A.</b>	<b>GENERAL BACKGROUND &amp; CONTEXT</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
A.1	Introduction (ECOWAS)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
A.2	Objective of ECOWAS	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
A.3	Agricultural Sector in the ECOWAS Region	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
A.4	Priorities	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
A.5	Food Security	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
A.6	Agricultural Trade	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
<b>B.</b>	<b>PROJECT RATIONALE/JUSTIFICATION</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
B.1	Problems to be addressed in food production and agricultural trade							5
B.2	Challenges facing the ECOWAS Region, in Food Security						..	7
B.3	Actions to address the challenges	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
B.4	On-going Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
B.5	Actions being taken by ECOWAS				..	..	..	9
B.6	The Special Programme for Food Security	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
B.7	Assistance being sought by ECOWAS	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
B.8	Expected Outcome of the Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
B.9	Strategy to implement the project	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
B.10	Institutional Framework	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
B.11	Sustainability of project activities	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
B.12	Reasons for Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
<b>C.</b>	<b>RISKS</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
<b>D.</b>	<b>PROJECT REPORTING, REVIEWS AND EVALUATION</b>							20
D.1	Reports	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
D.2	Reviews	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
D.3	Evaluation	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
<b>E.</b>	<b>INPUTS</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
E.1	Inputs to be provided by ECOWAS				..	..	..	21
E.2	Inputs to be provided by the European Commission					..	..	22
<b>F.</b>	<b>BUDGET SUMMARY</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	25

<b>ANNEXES</b>	27
An. 1. Enhancing harmonization of trade and customs policies in ECOWAS Region .. .. .	27
An. 2. Promoting improved information management to enhance agricultural trade within the ECOWAS Region and outside .. .. .	33
An. 3. Facilitating improvement in the quality and application of technical standards for food safety and quality control .. .. .	40
An. 4. Facilitating the improvement in quality and application of technical standards for phytosanitary norms .. .. .	47
An. 5. Facilitating the improvement in quality and application of technical standards for zoosanitary norms .. .. .	55
An. 6. Promoting private sector initiatives and partnerships for small-scale agro-processing systems .. .. .	64

## **A. GENERAL BACKGROUND**

### **A.1 Introduction**

ECOWAS is an Inter-Governmental Organization that was created by the Heads of State and Government of the 16 countries of the Region when they signed its establishing treaty on 28 May 1975. The Community covers an area of 6142 square kilometers (km<sup>2</sup>), and has a population of 220 million inhabitants, about 50 per cent of whom are in Nigeria.

There are several agro-ecological zones within ECOWAS ranging from the North to the South. These are the Sahelian zone, Sudanese zone, Guinean zone and the forest areas. The Sudano-Guinean and forestry agro-ecological zone of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria and Sierra Leone are very suitable for the production of perennial and root crops. Substantial amounts of rice are also being grown in these zones, albeit with inadequate cultural practices and soil management practices. The sub-humid zones of the Sahelian and coastal member countries of the ECOWAS region possess great potential for producing cereals (sorghum, maize and millet), and groundnuts.

Owing to the presence of several large rivers in this region (Niger, Senegal, Gambia, Volta,) the potential for irrigated agriculture, particularly for rice cultivation, is quite high. Many countries, particularly Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, are successfully exploiting the opportunities for irrigation for the production of high value crops such as garlic, onions, beans and potatoes.

Agricultural production in the countries falling in the Sahelian and Sudanese zones is very dependent on the climate and the climatic variations affect food security of the vulnerable rural people.

### **A.2 Overall Objective of the ECOWAS**

The ultimate goal of ECOWAS is to achieve economic union of its 15 Member States. A number of measures are already in various stages of implementation in this direction.

A programme has been adopted to eliminate all tariff and non-tariff barriers to intra-regional trade, so that West Africa may become a free trade area for all products meeting the ECOWAS rules of origin. ECOWAS has also adopted a Strategy of harmonization of the economic and financial policies of its member states. This strategy includes the adoption of convergence criteria, which includes mandatory operational indicators (primary criteria), and analytical indicators (secondary criteria). To this end, a number of selected macroeconomic indicators or convergence criteria have been set for all the countries of the Community. They include:

- budget deficit/GDP ratio not exceeding 5%,
- annual rate of inflation below 10%,
- margin of exchange rate fluctuation not exceeding 5%,

level of government debt to the central bank not exceeding 10% of total revenue of previous

A number of sector policies are also being reviewed for harmonization, among them statistics, customs, trade and agriculture.

### **A.3 The Agricultural Sector in the ECOWAS region**

Agriculture accounts for 36% of GDP of the Community, and involves 54% of the active population. Its objectives are three-pronged;

- i. Attainment of food security, through increased production and agricultural trade;
- ii. Reduction of poverty by raising agricultural incomes;
- iii. Enhanced productivity within the framework of sustainable natural resource management

### **A.4 Priorities in food and agriculture in the ECOWAS region requiring urgent attention**

Since the early 1990s, the ECOWAS countries have adopted a series of macro-economic and institutional reforms to stimulate economic growth. On the agricultural level, the governments have withdrawn from production activity but continue to coordinate and monitor individual programmes. On the level of social policy and programmes, the governments attach particular importance to upgrading human resources, with a view to attaining sustainable human development. Though the member countries of ECOWAS have achieved considerable success in agricultural production, a large section of the population, mostly in the rural areas, do not have access to adequate food and live in poverty with food insecurity. Besides, the community as a whole imports large quantities of cereals, livestock products, both meat and milk, as well as fish and fish products, though these countries are endowed with huge potential for production of fish. Food security is therefore a priority concern to the Community.

### **A.5 FOOD SECURITY**

#### **Food Demand/Requirements**

Food demand, in aggregate in the region is rising in proportion to population growth: there is an estimated 220 million inhabitants with an annual rate of growth of about 3.0%. Given the varying ecological zones within the ECOWAS region, there are significant disparities in food requirements within the Community. ECOWAS has a structural food deficit (in value) and a staple food trade balance shortfall of about US\$2000 million in 1995-97. Food imports as a proportion to total exports of goods and services have grown steadily since the early 1990s, reaching over 20% for the period 1995-97.

#### **Food supplies**

Average dietary energy supply for 1994-96 came to 2 430 kcal/day per inhabitant. Food supplies in the region are obtained mainly from local production and imports. The main cereals grown within ECOWAS (average 1995-1997) are millet (10 million tonnes), sorghum (10 million tonnes), maize (9 millions tonnes) and paddy rice (6.5 million tonnes). Cassava, Yams and sweet potato are the main root crops grown in the region. Agricultural GDP only rose by 0.3 % per year between 1991 and 1996, while the population increased at an annual 3.0%. Cereal production is essentially for local consumption and is generally sufficient to feed the population in years of normal rainfall. However, nearly all the countries in the region are dependent on imports of rice, wheat and vegetable oils to supplement local production, for their food security, and also in the event of climate irregularities such as drought and flooding. Average cereal self-sufficiency dropped from 93% in 1969/71 to 84% in 1994/96.

### **Food insecurity and poverty**

Despite the increase in dietary energy supply of recent years, food insecurity is a reality for the more vulnerable population groups, such as the rural and urban poor and the displaced and refugee population resulting from conflicts such as those of Liberia and Sierra Leone. Nutritional profiles available for selected countries in the ECOWAS region suggest that about one third of the population suffer seasonal or chronic undernutrition. The inadequate and monotonous diet of the poorer sectors of the population and the inadequate conditions of hygiene in which they live explain the high levels of malnutrition that exist among certain groups, such as children under the age of five.

Cereal food aid varied from 697 700 tonnes to 380 900 tonnes from 1993-94 to 1997-98 for the ECOWAS countries as a whole. These levels of aid were equivalent to 14.5% and 7.1% of total cereal imports, but were proportionately significantly higher in critical years for example, Cape Verde (68.0%), Mali (39.8%) and Liberia (92.3%).

#### **A.6 Agricultural trade**

Agriculture accounts for about 10% of intra-regional trade, which is less than its share of total exports of about 20% (the main export commodities being cotton and cocoa). Agricultural imports account for about 15% of total imports, the two leading import items being rice and wheat, which represent 17% and 12% respectively of total imports. Intra-regional trade in agricultural products, including fresh products (cassava, yam, fruits), processed products (rice, gari) fish and livestock, is currently limited. However, recent studies have shown that such trade could become the potential source of growth in the future.

## **B. PROJECT RATIONALE/JUSTIFICATION**

### **B.1 Key problems to be addressed in food production and agricultural trade**

*Food production* in the ECOWAS region is inhibited by a number of constraints, chief among them are the following:

- Low level of soil moisture, with much greater dependence on rainfall. Out of some 67 million hectares under cultivation in the region, only about 775 000 hectares are under irrigation
- lack of access to improved technologies, especially by the vast majority of small holders who are predominant in the production structure in the region; limited or poorly developed support services and information, as well as inadequate empowerment of the small producers, and relatively low labour productivity
- excessive dependence on a narrow range of products;
- Lack of incentives for raising output and improving sustainability, including insufficient and inadequate infrastructure;
- A poorly developed private sector, as well as limited institutional capacity to manage development

### **Problems with Agricultural Trade**

The key problems inhibiting Agricultural Trade are nearly all but structural, a good number of them having roots in the poorly developed supply structures as indicated in the above paragraph.

With increasing globalization, nearly all West African countries have been affected in some form or the other with the adverse effects of trade liberalization under the WTO process of reform, including, *inter alia* the erosion of preferential market access in developed countries including those of the EU and the US.

Traditionally, the ECOWAS countries established the exports of their agricultural commodities around preferential arrangements with countries of higher value markets that protect them against the vagaries of world market prices. With the adoption of the WTO rules, such Preferential Tariff Margins are falling and preferential market access itself has come under questioning. With the gradual disappearance of such preferential trade arrangements, the West African countries are having great difficulty to sell their products to their previous partners, and to service higher value markets. What has aggravated the situation is that the supply structures of these countries are relatively inefficient, and they lack the ability to adapt to the changing world market conditions. The apparent resulting low level of competitiveness is rapidly transforming these countries to recipient markets.

Furthermore, while the ECOWAS countries are in the process of adapting domestic policies and practices to the new WTO rules, nearly all of them are experiencing difficulties to maintain a sustainable level of agricultural trade and food security in their countries. This is because the countries are presently not producing competitive products, (e.g. poultry, milk, sugar, vegetable oils and cereals), essential for agricultural trade outside their respective countries and the region, and as such there is an increasing

dependency on competing imported food products, with adverse effects on their domestic production, balance of trade payments, and eventually food security levels.

Customs policies and legislation in ECOWAS countries, except those within the UEMOA zone vary in nature, scope and by commodity. The differences therefore present a variety of requirements to meet, each with its own added cost, value and time, posing in each instance, a major constraint to expansion in trade. These differences in policies also present Governments in the region with serious problems of control from illegal cross border trade in staple food commodities, which in turn undermine food security, and a more regional trade flow in such countries.

The ECOWAS region as a whole lacks solid information and experience on practical alternatives or ways to advance existing production, increase competitiveness, and invest in profitable market changes and developments. They particularly lack the capacity to generate and manage the required information. This has limited greatly the awareness of many entrepreneurs in the ECOWAS counties, their knowledge of the opportunities and requirements to take advantage of the movements in the higher value world markets, and how to plan and invest their resources accordingly.

Government Officials and decision makers in the private sector in ECOWAS countries do not yet possess appropriate levels of understanding of the World Trade Organization Agreements and the impact they will have on the economies of their respective countries. They need technical assistance to improve their knowledge on the implications of the emerging trade environment on their policies and programmes relating to agriculture. More particularly there is urgent need to build their capacities to enable them analyse issues, especially those covered by the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, in respect of provision for support to agriculture, market access and export subsidies. The assistance will also enable them to participate directly in future negotiations for World Trade, fulfill their commitments made and respond to the challenges and benefit from the opportunities being offered by the WTO in the future.

## **B.2 Challenges facing the ECOWAS region in Food Security**

The ECOWAS region faces a number of Challenges to achieve the key objectives of food security (both sustainable production and agricultural trade), chief among them include the following:

- Improving the efficiency of the supply structures in the region, for increased and sustainable agricultural production and trade, and limiting dependence on competitive imports
- Increasing access to food products, agricultural goods and services, as well as information on the supply, demand and pricing situation, as well as opportunities for added value and trade, on a country by country basis on various agricultural commodities and services

- Improving the ability and capacity to adapt to changing world market conditions, and particularly the competitiveness of the region for intra regional trade and to service higher value world markets
- Integrating technical structures and institutions, and harmonizing policies of member countries, and especially those of the major Economic Groupings in the sub region, in particular those of UEMOA and CILSS, directed at food security in general and agricultural trade in particular.

### **B.3 Actions to address the problems and meet the challenges in achieving food security**

The issues to be addressed are complex, multidisciplinary, and above all they transcend national boundaries. The actions therefore would be both national and regional in outlook. A two-track approach is necessary, one directed at national level and the other at regional level. Given that food security is primarily being addressed at household level, national actions will focus mainly on increasing production, basically on improving the efficiency of the supply structures. Regional actions will focus mainly on issues of regional dimensions, particularly improving trade in general, and increasing the region's competitiveness and comparative advantage, which in turn will support national actions and provide incentives to improving them.

#### **Actions at National level**

The actions at national level have been focusing more on strengthening institutional structures such as establishing appropriate policies that will enhance access to vital resources such as financial services, especially savings and credit, infrastructures such as roads, and irrigation, support systems such as technology dissemination, all directed at improving competitiveness. They have also been directed at reinforcing the capacities of economic agents in the sector, rural development practitioners and promoters, through training, transfer of knowledge and skills, in order to improve their efficiency in production, and enable them to take informed decisions that will optimise the benefits from available opportunities from free trade.

#### **Actions at the Regional Level**

The focus has of necessity been directed mainly at actions that will complement those taken at national levels to sustain the achievements of food security, and more especially those actions of regional dimensions. In the circumstances, regional actions have been directed at issues relating to cross-border and sub regional transfer of goods and services, inputs and outputs that will enhance the economic agents in the sector, both private and public. More specifically the actions have been focusing on;

- A series of regional consultations to strengthen collaboration between and among member countries and Economic Groupings in the sub region, into more regional and cohesive entities through harmonization and integration of institutional structures, especially those of Trade, Monetary and Fiscal Policies

- Facilitating collaboration between and among countries to establish common procedures for movement of goods and services, through common travelling instruments such as passports, travelers cheques etc.
- Holding of regional Workshops and awareness meetings to assist member countries to strengthen their capacities to enable them manage International Trade Agreements
- Establishment of regional and sub regional programmes to develop shared natural resources such as river basins, land and soil resources, forests, and joint eradication of pests and diseases, both animal and plants.

## B.4 ON-GOING ASSISTANCE

### B.5 Actions being taken by ECOWAS

Given its comparative advantage as a political and administrative institution in mobilising political consensus among its members, ECOWAS has been taking a number of measures to address the challenges in achieving food security in the region in food security and agricultural trade. Nearly all of them are in line with the proposed activities in the RPFS. They include the following:

- Creation of a free trade zone in the ECOWAS region, and recently holding consultations with other Economic Groupings in the sub region, particularly UEMOA and CILSS, to harmonise efforts in establishing single entity for trade in the sub region
- Drawing up a Programme for the creation of a West African Common Market, with the main objective of establishing an ECOWAS Customs Union. Meanwhile, all the Member States of ECOWAS have adopted a Single Customs Declaration
- Consultative meetings between ECOWAS and UEMOA are far advanced for harmonization of the trade liberalization schemes of the two institutions, and common positions have been arrived at in the process
- The Ministerial Agricultural Commission of ECOWAS has also taken a decision to establish a Common Agricultural Policy for the region, and in the process, has set up a Task Force to prepare the Terms of Reference for the Study for the formulation of the Policy Framework. ECOWAS has approached FAO for assistance to prepare the Framework of the envisaged policy. A TCP project prepared for the purpose is awaiting approval for implementation.
- ECOWAS Governing bodies took a decision to establish a regional food security information system (RFSIS) covering all the ECOWAS countries, based on the existing information systems. RFSIS is expected to constitute a network, operating in close collaboration with national structures and the information systems belonging to other sub-regional and international organisations, such as AGRHYMET, FEWS, GIEWS, WFP/VAM, RESAL, etc. It will also seek to strengthen the analysis capacity of the national agencies involved. Through a **TCP project**, **FAO** is providing support to ECOWAS to lay the foundations for the establishment of the RFSIS, and make it operational. The project is focusing on the strengthening and co-ordination of available information systems on food insecurity, vulnerability and food trade in the ECOWAS countries.
- ECOWAS, in collaboration with the EU has been organising Partnership Forum activities through which entrepreneurs in the region are assisted to interact with investment concerns from the European Union countries, essentially to build partnerships for various investments in various productive sectors in ECOWAS member countries.
- Facilitating consultations at the sub regional level between and among countries essentially on issues of integration of systems and infrastructures such as transport, energy and environment.

Notwithstanding the achievements of the above actions, much still remains to be done at the regional level, and particularly to address issues that require short to medium term actions to enhance agricultural production and trade.

#### ***B.6 THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY***

Pursuant of the World Food Summit Declaration on World Food Security, and Plan of Action, FAO committed itself to extend to all LIFDCs, the outreach of a Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) it developed, and which was endorsed by the World Food Summit.

The SPFS aims at assisting developing countries, particularly LIFDSs to improve their national food security through a multi-disciplinary and participatory approach on an economically and environmentally sustainable basis. The Programme is designed to address in a systematic manner, the consistent major constraints that confront farmers in such countries, which are: low level of soil moisture, lack of access to improved technologies, excessive dependence on a narrow range of products, and lack of incentives for raising output on a sustainable basis. Increasing the net income of farmers, rural employment, social equity and gender sensitivity is at the core of the SPFS.

The SPFS is also expected to position the beneficiaries to latch on to processes that lead to viable agricultural trade within the country, the region and outside the region. Furthermore, the SPFS is being used to facilitate the actions of the member countries to move towards greater harmonization of their economic and agricultural sector policies, and greater integration of systems and institutions with those of their neighbors in the sub region. These actions are expected to contribute measurably to achieving ECOWAS's objective of economic integration of the sub region.

The SPFS is being implemented by all member countries in the ECOWAS region, through FAO TCP projects, South-South co-operation agreements, Trust Funds projects, and support from Regional Development Banks and the World Bank. These projects are in various stages of implementation in all the countries of the ECOWAS sub region.

#### ***THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY FOR ECOWAS COUNTRIES***

While the implementation of the SPFS at national level appears promising, there is an increasing urgency to put in place effective measures of a policy and programme nature at both national and sub regional levels, in order to ensure sustainability of the achievements of the SPFS. The sub regional measures envisaged would involve harmonization of policies, integration of programmes and co-ordination of efforts, strengthening of common institutional structures. In addition, considerable resources would have to be mobilized at sub regional level to provide follow up actions to the SPFS activities at the national level.

***A Regional Programme for Food Security - RPFS***, for ECOWAS countries was considered necessary to consolidate and implement the measures referred to above. It was in this context, and as a follow up to the World Food Summit Plan of Action that FAO committed itself, and with the collaboration of ECOWAS formulated such a Programme,

based on the National Strategies for Agricultural Development. The Council of Ministers of Agriculture of ECOWAS member States gave their political approval to this Programme in 1999. The Programme was adopted by the Council of Ministers of ECOWAS in December 2002, and endorsed by the Authorities of Heads of States of the ECOWAS in the same month of 2001.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE RPFS**

The **RPFS** aims at two key objectives: the primary objective being to strengthen and enhance national food security programmes of member countries of ECOWAS, through increased agricultural production and productivity on a sustainable basis, within the framework of ECOWAS, with a view to ensuring access of all the people of the sub region at all times to adequate food required for healthy and active life. The secondary objective is to facilitate and enhance trade in agricultural commodities among the ECOWAS countries, and between the sub region and the rest of the world.

The Programme makes provisions for a number of key activities including the following:

- Establishment of a Single Common Market in the region
  - Establishment of Common Sector Policies, particularly in Agriculture and Trade
  - Harmonizing legislations, regulations, procedures in Trade, Monetary and Fiscal matters and improving the relevant capacities to manage the harmonized policy instruments
  - Improving Technical Standards in quality control of food products, phytosanitary and zoosanitary norms
2. Mobilizing National and International efforts for improved and functioning physical structures to utilise the harmonized policy instruments, integrated systems and structures, and improved technical standards, particularly:
    - laboratories for food quality control, phytosanitary and zoosanitary norms
    - processing, packaging, storage, transportation infrastructures
  3. Promoting the integration of structures and systems to improve knowledge in and widespread accessibility of inputs/outputs markets; promote also partnerships that will increase investment in resources, and enhance competitiveness in agricultural production and trade
  4. Facilitating the sustainable use and management of shared natural resources and environmental protection between and among neighbouring countries in the region.

FAO is providing support through a TCP project TCP/RAF/2805 to assist ECOWAS to identify and prepare projects and actions through which to implement the RPFS.

#### **B.7 ASSISTANCE BEING SOUGHT BY ECOWAS**

In its programme of cooperation in the sector of Agriculture for the year 2002 and beyond, ECOWAS has decided to be more involved in the implementation of the Regional Programme for Food Security, (RPFS) endorsed by the Authority of Heads of States of the Community in December 2001. Within the Framework of this Programme,

ECOWAS has identified a number of areas in which short to medium term activities could be developed, directed at regional integration. These areas aim mainly at improving trade within the region and enhancing its competitiveness in producing highly demanded agricultural products both within the region and outside. Furthermore, the activities envisaged to be carried out fit more appropriately with ECOWAS's mandate, experience and comparative advantage, especially co-ordination of activities among member states, facilitating inter-country dialogues, promoting integration and mobilizing resources. The areas identified by ECOWAS from the Regional Programme for Food Security to start up the implementation of the Programme include, but not limited to the following:

- Establishment of Common Sector Policies, particularly in Agriculture and Trade
- Harmonizing legislations, regulations, and procedures in Trade, Monetary and Fiscal matters and improving the relevant capacities to manage the harmonized policy instruments
- Mobilizing resources for, and facilitating the improvement of technical standards and capacities in member countries, in order to enable them improve and manage food quality control measures, phytosanitary and zoosanitary norms for agricultural trade; facilitate the co-operation of member Governments and other Economic Groupings in the region in harmonizing the policies, systems and regulations in these norms
- Promoting the establishment of regional structures and systems through which appropriate information, data and advice are available and disseminated on a continuous basis to member countries, on the requirements of trade in agricultural commodities, both within and outside the region. Also, monitoring of movements of competitive products that compete with domestic sectors and pose threats to food security in member countries.
- Facilitating efforts of member countries to create the awareness of, improve skills and strengthen capacities in member countries to operate within the changing global terms of trade (WTO), and particularly the EU and US.
- mobilise support for investments and private sector initiatives, in ECOWAS countries to improve inputs and outputs markets and delivery systems in the sub region
- Promoting and co-coordinating regional consultations for establishing/strengthening essential services and systems that will enhance availability, and improve distribution of essential inputs such as seeds, agro-chemicals, fertilizers, small-scale equipment region-wide.

Given the nature and scope of the action areas identified and indicated above, and ECOWAS's inadequate technical capacities to implement such complex undertakings, the assistance being sought by ECOWAS is mainly technical, both advisory and supervisory to handle the activities involved in the RPFs. Such assistance will be directed at carrying out analysis of policies and situations, institution and capacity building,

dissemination of information, and facilitating consultations for harmonization activities. ECOWAS is also seeking assistance in the form of direct support for capital inputs activities, directed at using the capacities built for investment in enhancing competitiveness in production and trade.

These action areas identified for assistance have been developed into undertakings which ECOWAS considers could contribute measurably to the successful implementation of the RPFS, and for which support is being solicited from Donors, particularly the European Union. They are mainly capacity building in nature and scope. Other action areas of a more capital inputs and investment nature have also been identified. They are being developed into project undertakings under the implementation of an FAO/TCP project - TCP/RAF/2805, approved to assist ECOWAS in preparation of the implementation of the Regional Programme for Food Security.

#### **B.8 EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BEING SOUGHT**

##### ***Harmonization of Common Policies***

The assistance being sought will accelerate the actions being taken by ECOWAS to harmonise policies, structures and procedures between ECOWAS and UEMOA, (the other major Economic Groupings within the West African sub region), directed at economic integration of the member states of the sub region. More particularly, the assistance will contribute to carrying out activities that will lead to:

- A Common Market for the region
- Establishment of Common Trade policies, single Common Customs Union, single Common External Tariff (CET instead of one for each Economic Grouping in the region.). The assistance is expected to facilitate the speedy finalization of the harmonization of the Trade Liberalization Schemes of both ECOWAS and UEMOA.

##### ***Improved technical standards and harmonized systems in food quality control, phytosanitary and zoosanitary norms***

The envisaged assistance will result in greater awareness in, and more effective application of the systems and norms for food safety and quality control, phytosanitary and zoosanitary, through:

- Sensitization and campaigns on the application of these standards
- Upgrading Legislation, Regulations and Procedures to bring them in conformity with International Agreements governing technical standards in food quality control, zoosanitary and phytosanitary norms. Ensuring significant reduction in the risks in food products, much greater awareness of the need for and standards of quality of food, animal and plant products and commodities, both for trade and for public health
- Increased capacity of ECOWAS Member States to update national regulations in line with those of international standards (IPPC and SPS/TBT, WHO, IOE, Codex Alimentarius) Agreement, and to manage food quality control measures, phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems using modern procedures and equipment;

- Support to Regional Referral laboratories for the analysis of food products, and items of phytosanitary and zoosanitary requirements would have been improved significantly or established and made functional.

***Availability, management and use of information to enhance trade within and from the ECOWAS region***

By the end of the technical assistance to be provided, it is expected that a comprehensive market information system for enhanced and sustainable agriculture trade development would have been established within the ECOWAS region, involving its member states and beyond. The database will include information on the supply, demand and price situation for the major tradables, including the following: staple food agricultural products in all the member states; market opportunities for exportable commodities produced in ECOWAS member states, and for those imported from countries under preferential and non-reciprocal trade agreements; tariff and non-tariff barriers in all member states; investment policies and opportunities in each member state, etc.

An ECOWAS Web-site on Trade would have been set up, and or any existing one upgraded or improved to include a market and investment information system, and made functional. Member countries will be receiving assistance to establish or upgrade their own web-sites on the same subject. There would have been much greater awareness by entrepreneurs in the region on where opportunities offer themselves, and how to take advantage of such opportunities to increase their economic well being. There would also be a noticeable, gradual but steady mobility of capital and human resources from one Member State to another in agricultural trade and production.

Further more, trade monitoring would have been strengthened among Member States, and the capacities of these countries would have been enhanced in the area of early warning, market and price policy analysis, demand and supply projections as well as in the development of market information system and reporting.

***Promoting private sector Initiatives, and partnerships***

By the end of the assistance, significant number of entrepreneurs in the ECOWAS region would have been given the opportunities to interact with investors and form partnerships in critical areas of food production and increased competitiveness for trade. Specifically, interactions and partnerships would be seen in the further development of best practices/technologies, particularly for post production activities. Essential small-scale equipment and products vital to product development, added value would now be more easily accessible at sub regional level.

**Target Beneficiaries of the Assistance**

The ultimate and main beneficiaries of the assistance are the peoples in the sub-region and especially those who depend on agriculture for their basic livelihoods. These include commercial and small holder producers, private traders, agro-processors, consumers,

artisans and other economic agents in the agricultural and rural sector. However, national institutions will also be strengthened, through training, in the establishment of market information systems, improvement in the quality and application of technical standards in sanitary, phytosanitary and food norms, participation in multilateral trade negotiations in the framework of WTO, collection, dissemination and use of market information and trade statistics. The ECOWAS Secretariat will also benefit from improved skills in co-ordinating and monitoring multi-disciplinary activities for integration in the Community.

## **B.9 Strategy to implement the Project**

The project does have a strong political base, firstly because it will provide an occasion to strengthen the collaboration between the European Commission and the ECOWAS, and secondly, because it will involve decisions to be taken by member states of ECOWAS. In view of this, and the growing importance of ECOWAS as a major co-ordinating mechanism in the West African region, ECOWAS will be the Executing Agent for the project. This will enable the Organization to use all its experience in facilitating interactions between and among member states in political and economic activities. More specifically it will enhance ECOWAS's efforts in strengthening its capacities to carry out its mandate in advancing regional co-operation and integration. Besides, the activities of the project will require co-ordination, consultations among member states, advocacy and mobilization of resources on behalf of member states, actions in which ECOWAS has demonstrated long experience and comparative advantage over other Economic Groupings in the region..

Given the varying areas of concentration identified by ECOWAS to start the implementation of the RPFS, the project will consist of six components as follows:

- 1. Enhancing Harmonization of Trade and Customs Policies in the ECOWAS Region (Annex-1);**
- 2. Promoting improved information management to enhance agricultural trade within the ECOWAS region and outside (Annex-2);**
- 3. Facilitating the improvement in quality and application of technical standards for Food Safety and Quality Control (Annex-3);**
- 4. Facilitating the improvement in quality and application of technical standards for phytosanitary Norms (Annex-4);**
- 5. Facilitating the improvement in quality and application of technical standards for Zoosanitary Norms (Annex-5);**
- 6. Promoting Private Sector Initiatives, and partnerships for disseminating best practices/technologies in Small-Scale Agro-processing systems (Annex-6);**

A Programme Management Unit will be established in the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat, in order to manage the execution of the project. This will allow for more coherent planning, implementation and monitoring of the activities of the project's components.

In view of the inadequate technical capacities and experience of the ECOWAS Secretariat in development activities of this nature, FAO will be used as Technical Adviser to ECOWAS through the PMU, and to some extent supervisor, in the implementation of the project's activities.

The project outputs will be largely harmonised and integrated structures and systems, some of which had already been produced or are in various stages of existence or production in individual Economic Groupings in the region. The project's strategy will therefore include series of consultations between and among all relevant Economic and Scientific Groupings, particularly UEMOA and CILSS essentially to determine the nature and extent of harmonizing existing and new structures.

A number of policies are in various stages of operation in the member countries and Economic Groupings in the sub region. In order to ensure that the appropriate mix of policy elements is arrived at, and used to produce harmonized structures, the project strategy will include detailed analysis of key policy instruments at country and sub regional levels, essentially to determine their consistency with global trends, identify their weaknesses, complementarity and appropriateness of purpose. Such analysis will be carried out by national experts, supported by international specialists.

Furthermore national and regional consultations will be held to verify a large number of the outputs. This approach, in addition to participation of beneficiaries in the planning and implementation of the undertakings, will allow for involvement of member states in all aspects of implementation of the project, which in turn, will ensure ownership of the assistance to be provided. Specific consultations will be organised between ECOWAS and UEMOA, and CILSS, the other two major Economic Groupings in the sub region, on a number of activities directed at producing single institutions or policy instruments for the region.

Upgrading the skills of key personnel and technicians, and improving capacities in selected disciplines directly involved with policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation of domestic and global issues related to food security and trade, will be a prominent aspect of the strategy. This will add to sustainability of the achievements of the project. Besides, such improved resources will enable the ECOWAS countries to possess the capacities with which to manage the processes through which food security and agricultural trade could contribute measurably to economic integration of the ECOWAS region.

The strategy will allow for use of International specialist services and advice, mainly to complement the inputs from national expertise in ECOWAS countries, and share experiences from other regions, and skills to ensure quality of the outputs of the project.

Several of the undertakings will be designed to include a second phase. This period is expected to be directed at identifying areas requiring direct support, and preparing and implementing medium to long term investment projects through which to utilise in a sustainable way, the capacities developed in the first phase. Such investment projects will include support to cost recovery services, systems, facilities, and structures that will bring remunerable returns to the private sector in the ECOWAS countries, especially in food products and tradable agricultural commodities.

The project will have duration of three years for implementation with the possibility of extension.

### **B.10 Institutional Framework**

The activities to be carried out under the assistance being sought vary in discipline, methodology, scope and time frame. They will be carried out mostly in Member Countries of the Community, and will require a combination of political and technical interventions for them to be successfully carried out. Consultations among countries will be a key strategy in the implementation of the projects identified for assistance, essentially to ensure participatory involvement in the implementation process, as well as collegial responsibility and sustainability of the results from them. In the circumstances, and given the comparative advantage of the Organization in the co-ordination of political entities in the sub region, ECOWAS will execute the projects for which assistance is being sought, through its Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (**DARE**) in the Executive Secretariat. This will facilitate greatly the successful interactions with member countries for political decisions, which will be required in almost every project to be implemented.

However, the DARE is not presently adequately equipped technically, to undertake effectively the technical responsibilities required for the successful implementation of the projects. A Programme Management Unit (PMU) will be established in the DARE to co-ordinate, plan and monitor the implementation of all the projects for which assistance is being sought. At least the Co-ordinator of the PMU will be a member of staff of the Secretariat, preferably from the DARE. Other members of the Unit will be drawn from the Secretariat's Staff Resources. An international Programmer (Consultant) will be funded from the Projects to provide technical support to the delivery responsibilities of the PMU.

In view of its long experience and technical competence in operational matters of information transfer, FAO will serve as a Technical Adviser/Agency to provide technical services to the PMU and other expertise involved in the implementation of the projects.

ECOWAS will, with their own resources and those of the projects, establish linkages with the Governments of member states and relevant institutions for the implementation of the projects. Such linkages will be mainly Focal Points established with the collaboration of Governments to co-ordinate in-country activities of the projects. Guidelines and procedures for interactions between these linkages and the ECOWAS Secretariat will be established.

Other institutions and NGOs will participate through contracts in the implementation of the project's activities.

### **B.11 Sustainability of Project Activities**

Sustainability of the achievements of the projects will be assured through the following means:

- The projects will be owned by ECOWAS and member countries. The ECOWAS Executive Secretariat participated in the identification and formulation of the projects. The Secretariat and member countries will also be directly involved, and largely in full control of co-ordinating the implementation of the projects, especially the consultations among members which will ratify the results from the projects. Furthermore, member countries and ECOWAS will fully participate in the implementation of the projects, and member countries will hold in-country workshops and consultations to take decisions that will lead to project results.
- Establishment and use of Focal Points and national experts in member countries to participate in the formulation of projects, co-ordinating the in-country activities for implementing the projects. This action will establish country institutional memory, and allow for proper advice from nationals to issues involving their future
- High emphasis has been placed in the projects to capacity building, including training of trainers;
- ECOWAS staff will also be directly involved in the implementation of a number of project activities
- Provisions have been made in the projects for establishing or strengthening formal and informal networks linking and involving various categories of specialists and economic agents in ECOWAS member states, in the technical areas covered by the projects, and in producing the results.

### **B.12 Reasons for the Assistance**

#### *Weak Technical and Financial Capacity of ECOWAS*

ECOWAS does have the political and administrative comparative advantage to organise actions that will be directed at integration. It however does not have adequate technical expertise and experience in putting together and managing technical inputs that will be required for setting up technical structures and systems for such inter-disciplinary instruments necessary for economic integration in ECOWAS region. Furthermore, ECOWAS's efforts in meeting its responsibilities are constrained by limited financial and other resources, and could not adequately address the constraints impeding the flow of goods, services and factors of production across the borders of its member states. Given

the urgency of food security matters in the region, external support, particularly from the EU, a major trading partner is considered invaluable to address its capacity limitation.

*Priority Area for EU Co-operation with Regional Groupings, and ECOWAS*

In its Concept Paper on food security, prepared in 2000 the EU Commission states: “Many of the critical elements of poverty reduction strategies and the promotion of food security have regional dimensions, including, among others:

- Macro-economic reforms and the promotion of sustainable growth;
  - Reducing barriers to trade, as a way of promoting integration of countries into the wider economy;
  - Assuring the availability of secure food supplies, and managing shocks through increased regional trade;
  - Strengthening good governance through the promotion of political integration at the regional level;
- Improved management of shared regional natural resources;  
Capturing economies of scale by creating regional capacity for research and human resource development.”

The EU therefore appears to put emphasis on the key links between regional economic integration and food security operating through

- a. macro-economic policy reforms promotion of political co-operation in the region,
- b. trade and market integration, and
- c. regional co-operation through joint institutions in areas where there are clear spillovers or economies of scale. These considerations and emphasis are well reflected in the projects identified for EU support.

ECOWAS is now directing its efforts and making progress in advancing consultations with other regional Groupings, particularly UEMOA and CILSS in harmonizing policies and integrating structures that will lead to economic integration of countries of the region.

### **C. RISKS**

The main risks, which may impede the effective application of the assistance, are the following:

*Political Instability in the Region*

The ECOWAS sub-region has been unstable in the immediate past years. A number of countries are involved in armed civil conflicts with their neighbors, and even with rebel groups internally. Added to this are serious internal political differences in some of the countries, all of which may create political instability. Such situations may have serious limitations on arrangements of consultative meetings, carrying out region-wide surveys and studies on specific issues requiring data and information on regional matters. There

may be difficulties in co-operation between and among countries in the sub region to reach consensus in integrating their policies, services, systems and procedures. Security restrictions between and among countries may also restrict the flow of goods and services across the borders.

*ECOWAS Co-operation with UEMOA and the European Commission:*

UEMOA

ECOWAS and UEMOA have been engaged in structured consultations on harmonization of policies. Noticeable progress has been made in a number of areas, notable macro-economic policies. A number of projects identified for EU assistance have made provisions for consultations in harmonizing a number of national policies and integrating systems that will enhance trade and production. Progress in carrying out some of these activities may be contingent upon the rate of progress in the consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA, in narrowing down the differences between UEMOA countries as a block Economic Group and those of the non EUMOA countries.

*European Union (Commission)*

The European commission is far advanced in the preparation of the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF Indicative Regional Programme. The nature and scope of the areas of concentration for the programme are yet unclear. The final decision on the IRP may have implications for the acceptance of the projects identified for funding by the Commission.

*ECOWAS Contribution*

The ECOWAS Executive Secretariat will have a major role to play in the implementation of the projects. In particular, the Secretariat is expected to establish a Programme Management Unit that will plan and co-ordinate all the activities for the implementation of the projects. At least the Co-ordinator of the PMU will be a member of staff of the Secretariat, preferably from the DARE. Other members could be drawn from staff within the Secretariat. There may be delays by the Organization to provide such inputs and other administrative support services, and this may affect the start up of the implementation of the projects.

## **D. PROJECT REPORTING, REVIEWS AND EVALUATION**

### **D.1 Progress Reports**

Six-Monthly Progress Reports will be prepared for each project by the Programme Management Unit based in ECOWAS Secretariat, using a format to be decided on at the start of the implementation of each project. These reports will contain:

- Actual implementation of activities compared to that scheduled in the work plan;
- Problems and constraints (technical, human, financial, etc.) encountered during implementation, if they were resolved and how, or why not

- Recommendations for corrective measures;
- Outputs still to be produced and detailed work plan for the following reporting period.

The Progress Reports will be submitted by the PMU to FAO for comments, finalization and submission to ECOWAS and subsequently to the donor.

#### *Technical Reports*

Technical Reports will be submitted by each technical expertise working in each project, to the PMU and FAO for comments and finalization and subsequent submission to the European commission. In addition all professional staff of the programme and international consultants will be submitting end-of-assignment reports.

#### *Terminal Report*

Towards the end and not later than six months before the end of each project, the PMU, in collaboration with relevant technical expertise in each project will prepare a draft Terminal Report for technical clearance by FAO, finalization and submission to the European commission. The report will assess, in a concise manner, the extent to which the scheduled activities of the project have been carried out, its results achieved, and progress made towards the attainment of its purpose and related development objective. It will also present recommendations for any future follow-up action arising out of the programme.

### **D.2   Reviews**

There will be periodic reviews of the progress in the implementation of the project. Such reviews will be carried out jointly by Representatives of ECOWAS, the European Commission, and FAO as Technical Adviser, at least once a year. Specifically a mid-term Review of the project will be held. A Terminal Tripartite Review of the project should also be carried out, essentially to assess the achievements of the project as against the envisaged expectations, and decide on eventual follow-up activities. The details of these review exercises, including their Terms of References, Timing and locations will be determined in consultation with ECOWAS, the European Commission and the FAO.

### **D.3   Evaluation**

An in-depth evaluation of the project will be carried out in a tripartite way, by representatives of ECOWAS, the European Commission and the FAO, essentially to examine the appropriateness of the project's design, implementation modalities, achievements, outputs, impact and lessons that could be learned from it. The details of the exercise, including the timing, terms of reference, composition will be determined in consultation with ECOWAS, the European Commission and the FAO.

## **E.     INPUTS**

### **E.1    INPUTS TO BE PROVIDED BY ECOWAS**

ECOWAS will provide office facilities for the programme staff and its consultants, as well as meeting facilities. This will include office space for the Programme Management Unit to manage the activities of the project. In addition ECOWAS will make available office accommodation for international consultants. Furthermore, ECOWAS will be responsible for the cost of utilities and other facilities, e.g. electricity, office cleaning, etc. The estimated cost of such services is US\$5,000/year.

Staff of ECOWAS, particularly from the Departments of Agriculture, Rural Development, Trade and Industry and Communications will be directly involved in producing some of the Outputs of the project components, on the cost of the Organization. Other ECOWAS staff will also be available to provide support to the implementation of the project and to ensure its ownership. This is estimated to amount to over US\$ 180,000/year over the duration of the project.

The project's activities will include the holding of a number of Regional Consultations, each to be arranged and hosted in ECOWAS buildings and premises at its Headquarters and other Offices outside Nigeria. The costs of using such premises will be borne by ECOWAS.

## **E.2 INPUTS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

### **International Experts**

Given the complexity of the programme and the inadequate technical capacity in the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat to carry out and manage multidisciplinary activities of the nature of the project, provision (US\$1.607 Million) has been made for the services of specialised consultancies in order to ensure quality delivery of the project's outputs. The main areas for which international consultants will be procured include Policy Analysis and Formulation, improving the technical standards in phytosanitary, zoosanitary, Food safety and quality control norms; Situation and Outlook on Trade; Information Management for trade and markets; Training; Legal and preparation of Investment undertakings.

The strategy for the project includes the setting up in the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat, a Programme Management Unit for the implementation of the RPFS, and in particular the execution of this project. It is intended that this Unit will be based in the DARE, and eventually manned by staff of the Department, with additional staff from within the Executive secretariat. Given the inadequate experience and technical staff in the DARE, it has been considered necessary, and provision has been made in the project budget for the services of an International Programme Adviser, who will assist the DARE in setting up the Unit and its formative period of existence. The Adviser will function in the project for 12 months in split missions during the three years of the project, in order to enable the DARE be provided on-the-job training to manage the Unit. FAO will provide technical backstopping services to the Unit and the Adviser in this arrangement.

### **National Experts**

Nationals of member states of ECOWAS will produce about 382 work months, amounting to US\$628,000 of expert services designed for the project. The rationale for such involvement is twofold. Firstly, member states will be much more involved and participate in the implementation of the RPFS. Secondly, the project will have the opportunity to build capacities and establish institutional memories of its processes of planning, implementation and assessment.

### **Technical Services of FAO**

The project is complex in outlook and content, and will require objective specialist advice and in some cases supervision to ensure the successful implementation of the activities. Given FAO's involvement in the preparation of the RPFS, and the Organization's long experience in the implementation of such complex activities, the project will provide for an estimated total of **57 work months** for FAO, to provide necessary advice and supervision to the carrying out of activities of the project.

### **ECOWAS Co-ordination**

The project has been designed to use collective decision of member states to produce a good number of its key Outputs, few of which include harmonized policies, integrated systems, procedures and institutions. This will require considerable action to co-ordinate the activities that will ensure the inputs from member states, between ECOWAS and other Economic Groupings in the sub region, and between the project and member states. An estimated **47 Work Months** have been allocated for ECOWAS for co-ordination.

### **Administrative and other support**

Provision has been made in the project for administrative and other support to carry out activities including: establishment of new policy structures, Regional Information Center, workshops and consultations, improving technical standards, supporting national and international experts, establishment of Focal Points in member states to liaise with ECOWAS, and preparing technical reports. US\$176,000 has also been budgeted for administrative and other support for the Programme Management Unit that will be responsible for the day to day execution of this project.

### **Mission Costs**

US\$188,000 has been provided for a number of missions to be fielded by FAO to different countries in order to provide technical advisory and supervisory services during the implementation of the project.

### **In-country Travel**

A total of US\$40,000 has been included in the project budget to cover in-country travel of national experts to be involved in the project, and international experts who will be providing technical support services to the project, in member countries.

### **Training Workshops**

Nationals of member states will be used intensely throughout the project in various activities mainly data generation, reviews analysis, assessment, evaluation, identification, preparation and monitoring of policies, programmes and projects. In some cases, the nationals will be used to carry out project activities, and in others, to sustain the project's outputs. In either situation, training of the nationals for the envisaged responsibility will be necessary. US\$892,000 has been allocated for various training Workshops.

### **Materials and Expendable Equipment**

US\$561,000 has been budgeted in the project to make available relevant material and expendable equipment which will be used for activities such as training workshops, holding consultations, awareness creation campaigns, establishment of information and partnership networks.

### **Non-Expendable Equipment**

US\$ 2.570 million has been included in the budget to cover the purchase of desktop computers, printers and accessories, photocopying machines and other office equipment for the PMU office, and for the setting up of the Regional Information Center. The allocations will also be used to procure equipment, which will supplement those to be provided, by member states in upgrading their laboratories to improve technical standards in zoosanitary, phytosanitary norms and food safety and quality control. Part of the amount will also cover the provision of equipment to strengthen 6 selected laboratories in the region, which will serve as referral laboratories for the region: two each in zoosanitary, phytosanitary, food and fish quality control, in view of the need for lingual balance.

### **Contracts for NGOs and other International Institutions**

US\$885,000 has been allocated in the project for Contracts to NGOs, for activities in which they have comparative advantages in knowledge and experience. These include: carrying out in-depth surveys and studies involving small entrepreneurs, informal sector groupings, establishing commercial networks for information and marketing.

### **Consultations**

A large number of the outputs of the project will be produced through collective decisions of ECOWAS member states, as well as between the Organization and other Economic Groupings in the sub region. The project has allocated US\$380,000 for ECOWAS in the organization and holding of such consultations and workshops.

### **Field Operations**

The project will support a number of awareness campaigns and actions to extend information outreach on a number of policy instruments on trade, zoosanitary and phytosanitary norms, food safety and quality control in member states. US\$535,000 has been allocated for the purpose.

### **Evaluation**

The project will be jointly evaluated by representatives of ECOWAS, European commission and FAO, prior to its completion. The terms of reference, exact timing and place of the evaluation will be decided by consultation among the three concerned parties. Any party may call for evaluation at any stage of the programme if deemed necessary. US\$47,000 has been budgeted for the activity.

### **Miscellaneous including 4%**

Complex projects of this nature will always experience unforeseen factors that may upset predictions and threaten the successful production of its outputs. Provision of US\$390,760 has been made in the budget for such miscellaneous expenses.

**SUMMARY OF BUDGET FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR EU'S SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENT THE ECOWAS RPFs**

Input Description	Improved Policy Structures		Information Management		Phytosanitary		Agro. Processing		Zoosanitary Standards		Food Quality		PMU		TOTALS	
	WM	US\$	WM	US\$	WM	US\$	WM	US\$	WM	US\$	WM	US\$	WM	US\$	WM	US\$
	<b>T O T A L</b>															
Int. Consultants	24.5	299,000	18	238,000	25.5	229,000	3	34,000	44.5	453,000	16	186,000	12	16,800	143.5	1,607,000
Nat. Consultants	61	102,000	90	125,000	45	59,000	22	48,000	67	127,000	97	167,000			382	628,000
FAO Tech. Ser.	7.5	97,000	11.5	161,000	8	112,000	6	84,000	7	98,000	14	182,000	3	42,000	57	776,000
ECOWAS Co-ordination	8.5	99,000	9	90,000	8	80,000	8.5	85,000	6	60,000	7	70,000	-	-	47	484,000
Mission Costs	-	40,000		46,000		26,000	-	-	-	-	-	40,000	-	36,000	-	188,000
Admin & Support Costs	-	16,000	-	40,000	-	23,000	-	-	-	45,000	-	10,000	-	42,000	-	176,000
Materials and Equipment	-	30,000	-	361,000	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	120,000	-	-	-	561,000
Non-expendable Equipment	-	-	-	90,000	-	750,000	-	-	-	750,000	-	930,000	-	50,000	-	2,570,000
Contracts	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,000	-	500,000	-	85,000	-	160,000	-	-	-	885,000
In Country Travel	-	-	-	6,000	-	-	-	-	-	7,000	-	15,000	-	12,000	-	40,000
Wshops/ Seminars	-	70,000	-	140,000	-	165,000	-	90,000	-	102,000	-	325,000	-	-	-	892,000
Consultations	-	95,000	-	90,000	-	50,000	-	50,000	-	45,000	-	50,000	-	-	-	380,000
Field Operations	-	150,000	-	-	-	85,000	-	-	-	150,000	-	150,000	-	-	-	535,000
Evaluation																47,000
Miscellaneous including 4%																390,760
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>101.5</b>	<b>990,000</b>	<b>128.5</b>	<b>1,457,000</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>1,649,000</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>941,000</b>	<b>124.5</b>	<b>1,922,000</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>2,395,000</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>397,000</b>	<b>629.5</b>	<b>10,159,760</b>

## ANNEX 1

<b>Region:</b>	<b>ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>ENHANCING HARMONIZATION OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS POLICIES IN THE ECOWAS REGION</b>
<i>Project Number</i>	
<b>Donor</b>	<b>EUROPEAN UNION (EU)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>3 YEARS</b>
<b>Executing Agency</b>	<b>ECOWAS</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>US\$1,019,000</b>

**ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED**

All ECOWAS countries have been affected in some form or the other with the adverse effects of trade liberalization under the WTO process of reform. They are experiencing shortfalls in the levels of their earnings from exports of agricultural commodities. Traditionally, the ECOWAS countries established the exports of their agricultural commodities around preferential arrangements that protect them against the vagaries of world market prices. With the adoption of the WTO rules, Preferential Tariff Margins are falling and preferential market access itself has come under questioning. The relatively low competitiveness of the products and commodities from the region have added to the problem of loss of earnings, or low access to high value markets.

Customs policies and legislation in ECOWAS countries vary in nature, scope and by commodity. As such, the differences present a variety of requirements to meet, each with its own added cost, in value and time, and pose a major constraint to expansion in trade. These differences in policies also present Governments in the regions with serious

problems of control, from illegal cross border trade in staple food commodities, which in turn undermine food security in such countries.

However, UEMOA, (8 countries within the ECOWAS region) have harmonized their trade and customs policies. Notwithstanding this bold and positive effort, these harmonized policies would need to be reviewed to check their conformity with WTO rules, especially since they will also be used to assist in the harmonization of the policies from the non-UEMOA West African countries.

Government Officials and decision makers in the private sector in all the ECOWAS countries do not yet possess the appropriate understanding of the World Trade Organization Agreements and the impact they will have on the economies of their respective countries. These officials need technical assistance to improve their knowledge on the implications of the emerging trade environment on their policies and programmes relating to agriculture. More particularly there is urgent need to build their capacities to enable them analyse issues, especially those covered by the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, particularly in respect of provision for support to agriculture, market access and export subsidies. The assistance will also enable them to participate directly in future negotiations for World Trade, fulfill their commitments made and respond to the challenges and benefit from the opportunities being offered by the WTO in the future.

ECOWAS is the largest of the political Grouping in the West African region. With its diversity in peoples, its demographic size and political experience, it does possess a comparative advantage in co-ordination of efforts to harmonize all existing trade policies in the sub region. This component of the project therefore is designed to assist ECOWAS facilitate and co-ordinate the process of harmonizing the policies referred to above.

The **OVERALL OBJECTIVE** of the envisaged undertaking is enhancement of economic integration of ECOWAS countries, with a view to improving the economic well being of the people and reducing poverty in the region.

#### **IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE**

Appropriate institutional structures and capacities (expertise) in member countries strengthened, and enabling the countries to operate within the changing global terms of trade, as well as managing the WTO Agreements, especially: complying with the commitments made under the Agreements, taking advantage of opportunities offered by the Agreements, and negotiating directly their positions in new Multilateral Agreements,

**The STRATEGY** with which to achieve the above objective will involve mainly the design and carrying out of a Study through which to identify the nature and scope of harmonization of the policies in reference.

The strategy will also include:

- Upgrading the skills and improving capacities of key personnel and technicians at national and regional levels, directly involved with policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation of domestic and global issues related to agricultural trade. Such improved resources will enable the ECOWAS countries possess the capacities to manage the processes of compliance with Multilateral Agreements in trade, and providing informed advice on their implementation and the opportunities they offer
- Creating much greater awareness among all possible stakeholders on WTO Rules and such Multilateral Agreements

The strategy will allow for greater use of experts from ECOWAS countries in all aspects of the undertaking, and participatory involvement of the beneficiaries in the implementation of the project. This approach is expected to ensure sustainability of the achievements of the undertaking.

International specialist services and advice will also be used to complement the inputs from national expertise in ECOWAS countries.

## **OUTPUTS**

1. Report of a Study to prepare the details for the harmonized policies
2. Drafts of harmonized trade and customs policies
3. Report also of consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA on the harmonization of the trade and customs policies of the two Political Groupings
4. Harmonized selected national trade policies and legislations of member states of ECOWAS in conformity with WTO rules, as well as the criteria of the EU and US for trade
5. Trained Officials in Government, ECOWAS Secretariat and the Private Sector in analyzing issues and providing informed advice on matters relating to Multilateral Agreements, particularly WTO, and especially competitiveness and comparative advantage, complying with commitments to the Agreements, and taking advantages of the opportunities being offered by the emerging global trade environment
6. Awareness among all stakeholders, (political, social and economic) in all ECOWAS countries on the existence and import of the WTO Agreements, particularly their implications for agricultural production and trade, and for food security and poverty alleviation

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **OUTPUT i. Report of a Study to prepare the details for the harmonized policies**

Carry out a Study to:

Identify and review selected customs policies and legislation in ECOWAS countries that have regional dimensions, and determine areas, nature and scope for doing so; identify and review relevant trade policies/procedures for selected agricultural export commodities of the region, including those relating to preferential tariffs; identify WTO regulations which have a major bearing on trade in the region as compared to existing trade and customs legislation with a view to identifying gaps and deficiencies. The Study will identify also the provisions of US and EU import legislation related to WTO compliance with a view to revising national trade legislations, and to bring them into conformity with such US and EU criteria.

The study will determine areas, nature and scope for harmonization, and make recommendations in this regard. The study will also review existing harmonized policies of UEMOA countries, essentially to identify gaps and remaining areas of tariff and non-tariff barriers impeding trade; the nature and scope of inclusion of harmonizing these policies into an overall set of policies for the ECOWAS region as a whole.

**OUTPUT ii. Drafts of harmonized trade and customs policies**

Using the findings of the Study, and other relevant information, prepare drafts of harmonized trade and customs policies and legislations regarding agricultural trade for further discussion

**OUTPUT iii. Report of consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA on the position of the existing UEMOA harmonized policies in the envisaged ECOWAS harmonized**

Organise consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA to discuss the Report on the above mentioned review in Output I of the project, regarding the harmonized policies of ECOWAS and UEMOA, and the drafts of the envisaged harmonized policies and regulations for the ECOWAS region. Prepare a Report on the consultations.

**OUTPUT iv. Revised and harmonized national trade legislations to bring them into conformity with WTO rules, as well as the criteria of the EU and US for trade**

Using the findings of the Study and the report of consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA on the draft harmonized policies and legislations, prepare summaries other relevant information, prepare updated drafts of revised, unified harmonized policies and legislations

Assist national focal points to organize and hold national consultations to discuss the revised, unified drafts of the harmonized polices

Using the comments from the national consultations, prepare also revised draft texts of the harmonized policies and regulations, organise sub regional consultations to discuss the updated drafts policies and adopt them

Provide technical assistance at a Ministerial Meeting of relevant Ministers of ECOWAS countries to endorse the draft policies, and recommend it for further action

**OUTPUT (v). Trained Officials in Government and the Private Sector in analyzing issues and providing informed advice on matters relating to Multilateral Agreements, particularly WTO, and especially competitiveness and comparative advantage, complying with commitments to the Agreements, and taking advantages of the opportunities being offered by the emerging global trade environment**

Determine the functions, capacities and responsibilities required for applying and monitoring harmonized policies, legislation and procedures for trade at national and sub regional levels; present recommendations for meeting such requirements

Carry out an assessment of capacities (human and physical resources) in ECOWAS countries and the ECOWAS Secretariat for applying and monitoring the harmonized policies, legislation and procedures; identify gaps, determine needs, and make recommendations on how to meet the needs, including the nature and scope of support required

Prepare and carry out a training programme involving national and regional institutions to carryout the responsibilities required for applying and monitoring the harmonized policies, legislation and procedures

Facilitate the functioning of the officials at national and regional levels in carrying out their responsibilities, particularly assisting them on how to negotiate with national Governments, Regional Organizations and major Trade partners

**OUTPUT (vi) Awareness among all stakeholders, (political, social and economic) in all ECOWAS countries on the existence and import of the WTO Agreements, particularly their implications for agricultural production and trade, and for food security and poverty alleviation**

Prepare a programme of information and sensitization about the WTO Agreements and the emerging trade environment, (including seminars, workshops, consultations and campaigns) for the various categories of stakeholders in agricultural trade and production in ECOWAS countries

Prepare a Work Plan to implement the Programme

Implement the Programme, and evaluate its impact

## ANNEX-1: ENHANCING HARMONIZATION OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS POLICIES IN THE ECOWAS REGION

OBJECTIVE	OUTPUTS	INPUTS	COSTS in US\$	TOTAL in US\$	
Appropriate institutional structures (policies), and capacities (expertise) in member countries strengthened, to enable the countries operate within the global terms of trade	Report of a Study to prepare the details for the harmonized policies	Working Group to supervise Study			
		Mission costs for working Group	10,000		
		Int Technial co-ordinator for Study 3wm	30,000		
		8 national consultants non-UEMOA 8wm	16,000		
		Int Policy Expert 2wm	28,000		
			support costs	16,000	
			ECOWAS co-ordination 3wm	30,000	130,000
	Drafts of harmonized trade and customs policies		Int Policy Expert 2wm	28,000	
			Int 2 Legal consultants 4wm	56,000	
			ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
		FAO Technical services 1wm	14,000	108,000	
Report of consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA on the drafts		Consultations between ECOWAS and UEMOA			
		Working Group under ECOWAS	20,000		
		mission costs	20,000		
		legal consultants 0.5wm,	7,000		
		ECOWAS co-ordination 0,5	5,000	52,000	
Revised and harmonized selected national trade policies and legislations to bring them in conformity with WTO rules, and		2 Int trade Policy experts 4wm	42,000		
		2 Int Legal consultatnts 2wm	24,000		
		8 national consultants 8wm	16,000		
		national consultations	30,000		

criteria for the EU and US for trade	Sub regional consultations	45,000	
	FAO Technical services 1.5wm	21,000	
	ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
	Mission costs	10,000	
			198,000
Trained officials in the Government and the private sector in analysing issues and providing informed advice on matters relating to multilateral Agreements, particularly WTO and especially competitiveness etc..	2 Int policy experts 2wm	21,000	
	1 Int training expert 2wm	18,000	
	FAO technical services 3wm	42,000	
	ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
	national officials 15wm	25,000	
			116,000
Awareness among all stake holders in all ECOWAS countries on the existence and import of the WTO Agreements, particularly their implications for agricultural production and trade	Int Policy Expert in WTO and other Multilateral Agreements 3wm	45,000	
	National Focal Points 30wm	45,000	
	National Awareness Workshops	25,000	
	National seminars	45,000	
	national campaigns	150,000	
	Materials and equipment	30,000	
	FAO technical services 2wm	20,000	
	ECOWAS co-ordination 2wm	30,000	
	Evaluation of the Programme	15,000	
	Mission costs	10,000	
			415,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>1,019,000</b>

<b>Region</b>	<b>ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>PROMOTING IMPROVED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITHIN THE ECOWAS REGION AND OUTSIDE</b>
<i>Project Number</i>	
<b>Donor</b>	<b>EUROPEAN UNION (EU)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>3 YEARS</b>
<b>Executing Agency</b>	<b>ECOWAS</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>US\$1,522,000</b>

### **ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED**

All ECOWAS countries have been affected in some form or the other with the adverse effects of trade liberalization under the WTO process of reform, including, *inter alia* the erosion of preferential market access in mainly the EU and other developed countries including the US. With increasing globalization, sub Saharan African countries particularly in the ECOWAS region are gradually reducing their capability to supply agricultural products at competitive world market prices. Their supply structures are relatively inefficient, mainly because of inadequate access to and use of improved technologies, and appropriate information on opportunities for investing their resources.

The ECOWAS region as a whole lacks solid information and experience on practical alternatives or ways to advance existing production, increase competitiveness, and invest

in profitable market changes and developments. They also lack the capacity for generation and management of the required information.

Even where information does exist on demand and supply of essential commodities, goods and services, its availability is relatively ad hoc and not continuous. Moreover, such information has mostly been available to or generated by the public sector, and seldom passed on to the private sector, particularly entrepreneurs who hold promise to utilise information for enhancement of trade, and provision of goods and services in the agricultural sector.

While the ECOWAS countries are in the process of adapting domestic policies and practices to the new WTO rules, nearly all of them are experiencing difficulties to maintain a reasonable level of food security in their countries, especially for rural and urban vulnerable groups. The countries do not have the necessary information to monitor import surges of products that compete with domestic sectors, and consequently determine WTO-compatible safeguard measures to mitigate the effects of these imports.

There is an urgent need for regional structures to provide information on various aspects of agricultural trade, especially requirements that will improve competitiveness of products, availability of opportunities for supply and demand, and monitoring of the movements of competitive imports that compete with domestic products, and inhibit the expansion of trade within and from the region.

The **OVERALL OBJECTIVE** of the envisaged undertaking is enhancement of economic integration of ECOWAS countries, with a view to increasing their competitiveness in the world market, and ensuring a stronger bargaining position in world trade.

### **IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES**

- (i) Appropriate information, data and advice available on a continuous basis, on the requirements for increasing exports and expanding trade on agricultural commodities from the region
- (ii) ECOWAS countries possess appropriate capacities that enable them analyse relevant information on imports of competitive products, and apply safeguard measures to mitigate the adverse effects of such products on sustainable food security in their countries

**The STRATEGY** with which to achieve the above objectives will be directed mainly at capacity building at the regional and national level, essentially for generation, analysis and management of data and information relating to demand and supply of goods and services within the region, and monitoring of movements of competitive products into the region.

The Strategy will also include in more specific terms:

- establishing regional structures for regional data generation and management, and establishing linkages at national level for easy interpretation of the information and follow up action.
- upgrading the skills of national personnel in analysis of domestic policies and WTO rules, for providing advice on safeguarding food security at national level

The strategy will allow for greater use of experts from ECOWAS countries in all aspects of the undertaking, and participatory involvement in the design and establishment of the information structures and systems, essentially to ensure sustainability of the achievements of the undertaking. International specialist services and advice will no doubt complement the inputs from national expertise in ECOWAS countries.

## **OUTPUTS**

**Objective 1 Appropriate information, data and advice being collated and made available on a continuous basis, on the requirements for increasing exports and expanding trade of agricultural commodities from the region**

**OUTPUT** 1. Analysis of constraints that impede growth and/or expansion of selected agricultural export commodities: solutions to these constraints; requirements and recommendations for improved competitiveness of exports of selected commodities, particularly to EU and the US;

2. Assessment of Global and Regional Market Opportunities; Options (strategies) for exploiting these opportunities, particularly in expansion of intra- and extra-regional trade in traditional and non-traditional agricultural products, and identification of product and market development activities required for such exploitation

3. Regional Center for Information and data on Trade, and national linkages

**Objective 2. ECOWAS countries possess appropriate capacities that enable them analyse relevant information on imports of competitive products, and apply safeguard measures to mitigate the adverse effects of such products on sustainable food security in their countries**

**OUTPUT** 1. Analysis of domestic policies relating to food security that are adversely affected by WTO rules, and Recommendations on actions to take

2. An Agricultural Trade Monitoring Unit at regional level, assisting countries in building capacities for monitoring the movements of imports of products that compete with domestic sectors

## ACTIVITIES

### Objective 1

**Output (i) Analysis of constraints that impede growth and/or expansion of selected agricultural export commodities: solutions to these constraints; requirements and recommendations for improved competitiveness of exports of selected commodities, particularly to EU and the US;**

Select a number of commodities from the sub region with potential to benefit from opportunities offered by global trade. Design and carry out at country level a Comprehensive Study on the constraints that impede the supply and growth of exports of these commodities.

Analyse the findings and make recommendations for solutions to the constraints and follow up actions at national and regional levels

**OUTPUT (ii) Assessment of Global and Regional Market Opportunities; Options (strategies) for exploiting these opportunities, particularly in expansion of intra- and extra-regional trade in traditional and non-traditional agricultural products, and identification of product and market development activities required for such exploitation**

Design and carry out a Comprehensive Study on the opportunities being offered by global and regional trade for selected traditional and non-traditional agricultural products and commodities, that can be imported in developed countries under preferential and non-reciprocal trade agreements; paying particular attention to the requirements of major importing countries especially the EU and US;

Make recommendations for increased competitiveness of the supply and exports of the selected commodities; prepare options/strategies for product and market development to exploit the identified opportunities

Organise a regional Workshop to discuss the recommendations/strategies and determine follow up actions at national and regional levels.

**OUTPUT (iii) Regional Center for Information and data on Trade, with national linkages**

Determine the kind, nature and scope of data and information necessary to be made available in the region on a continuous basis, to facilitate intra and extra regional trade

Identify and review the organization, location and operation of regional information Center or Centers related to agricultural and related tradable commodities, both in and outside the ECOWAS region, essentially to observe and apply best practices for the establishment of such structures

Determine the structure of the envisaged Information Center or Centers, clarifying their purpose, functions, composition, responsibilities, location and sustainability, including liaison with national information Units in ECOWAS countries

Identify national Units to serve as centers for liaison with the Regional Information Center or Centers, and determine the nature and scope of linkages, interactions and procedures for such interactions

Assess the requirements for the establishment of the Regional Information Center or Centers, and national liaison centers, determine the needs, and provide assistance to strengthen capacities for their proper functioning;

Organize a regional consultation essentially to discuss the protocols and draft structure, and to endorse the establishment of the Regional Information Center or Centers, as well as the functioning of the National Liaison centers.

## **Objective 2.**

### **OUTPUT (i). Analysis of domestic policies relating to food security that are adversely affected by WTO rules, and Recommendations on Transitory Measures to safeguard food security at national level**

Carry out National Studies to:

Identify domestic policy instruments that are WTO compatible, and have direct influence on commodities essential to food security, particularly competitive imported commodities; analyse the feasibility, strengths, weaknesses and enforcement of these policy instruments, in meeting the food security requirements of the country under the WTO rules; assess the impact of these rules (especially the adverse effects) on the food security situation in each country, identify constraints of the countries in applying the WTO rules; prepare recommendations to overcome the constraints

Carry out analysis of these studies to determine consolidated information and data on constraints in applying the WTO rules, and recommendations to overcome the constraints

**(ii). An Agricultural Trade Monitoring Unit at regional level, assisting countries in building capacities for monitoring the movements of imports of products that compete with domestic sectors**

Carry out a Study to:

Determine the categories of competitive agricultural products imported into ECOWAS countries that compete with domestic sectors of these countries, and which need to be monitored; determine also, the purpose and expected results from monitoring them

Determine also an overall system or mechanism and guidelines for periodic collection of data from member states and updating the information system. Design also, system or mechanism for sub regional monitoring of the identified products; the requirements and needs for doing so; hold consultations with all parties concerned on the appropriateness and management of the system proposed

From the results on above consultations determine and establish the regional monitoring Structure, in particular an Agricultural Trade Monitoring Unit, preferably in the ECOWAS Secretariat; clarifying its purpose, functions, composition, responsibilities, location and sustainability

Strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS Secretariat in monitoring agricultural trade among member states and the obstacles to the implementation of the harmonized policies on trade in agricultural commodities the region. This activity will include the following activities:

- Strengthening the Secretariat's agricultural trade monitoring function with the required facilities
- Training of staff responsible for agricultural trade monitoring and their counterparts at country level in the collection, processing and analysis of trade statistics
- Development of reporting format and integration into the MIS.

Determine and establish linkages between the Regional Monitoring Unit and trade statistics providers in member states in the sub region, and establish procedures to operate those linkages

Organize sub regional consultations to endorse the proposed Unit and commence its operations

**ANNEX-2: PROMOTING IMPROVED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL TRADE  
WITHIN THE ECOWAS REGION AND OUTSIDE**

OBJECTIVE	OUTPUT	INPUTS	COSTS in US\$	TOTAL in US\$
Appropriate information, data and advice, available on a continuous basis, on the requirements for improving supply side structures increasing exports and expanding trade on agricultural commodities within and from the region	Analysis of constraints that impede growth, and or expansion of selected agricultural commodities requirements and recommendations for improved competitiveness of exports of selected commodities particularly to the EU an the US	2 Agro-Economists 4wm	70,000	
		2 training workshops on Constraints	50,000	
		Analysis (1 Francophone, and 1 anglophone)		
		FAO Training Technical Services 2.5wm	35,000	
		15 National Policy experts 30wm	60,000	
		FAO Policy Support Services 3wm	42,000	
		Admin support	8,000	
		In-country travel	6,000	
		Mission costs, FAO	20,000	
		Expendable Materials	5,000	
		Non expendble equipment (IT)	60,000	
		Support costs - admin and casual 2yrs	12,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
				378,000
Assessment of regional and global market opportunities; options for exploiting these opportunities particularly in expansion of intra- and extra-rfeional trade, in traditional and non traditional agricultural products		FAO Trade/Commodities specialist 4wm	56,000	
		FAO Technical support service 1wm	14,000	
		Mission costs	8,000	
		ECOWAS regional Workshop	40,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
		FAO co-ordiantion 1wm	14,000	
				142,000
Regional Centre for Information and data on trade, and established		Contract to Information/data Org 5wm	70,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordiantion 2wm	20,000	

	national linkages to the Centre	National Focal Points 15wm	25,000	
		ECOWAS regional Consultation	50,000	
		FAO Technical Support Service 1wm	14,000	
		Mission costs	8,000	
		Equipment and materials	250,000	
		Support costs (tech&admin)	20,000	
				457,000
ECOWAS countries possess appropriate capacities that enable them to analyse relevant information on imports of competitive products and apply safeguard measures to mitigate the adverse effects of such products on food security in their countries	Analysis of domestic policies relating to food security that are adversely affected by WTO rules, and recommendations on transitory Measures to safeguard food security at national level	Food Security Policy Specialist 3wm	42,000	
		Training Workshop for National experts	40,000	
		15 National Policy Experts	25,000	
		FAO Policy Training Service 1.5wm	21,000	
		FAO Technical support services 2wm	28,000	
		Mission costs FAO	10,000	
		ECOWAS Co-ordination 2wm	20,000	
				186,000
	An Agricultural Trade Monitoring Unit at ECOWAS regional level, including web site	Trade Specialist 1wm	10,000	
		Consultant Monitoring 5wm	50,000	
		15 national Focal Points 30wm	45,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 3wm	30,000	
		Seminar to discuss proposals	10,000	
		Regional Consultation	40,000	
		FAO Technical Service 1wm	14,000	
		Equipment and supplies for the start up of the Unit and the national Units links	100,000	
				299,000
	A strengthened capacity (trained staff with relevant equipment) in ECOWAS Secretariat for monitoring Agricultural Trade and building capacities in	Trade Specialist 1wm	10,000	
		FAO Technical Services (Training) 1wm	14,000	
		Expendable materials	6,000	
		Non-expendable equipment (PCs and		

member countries for monitoring products that compete with domestic sectors	accessories - printers, photocopiers, etc.	30,000	60,000	45
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>1,522,000</b>	

<b>Country</b>	<b>ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>FACILITATING IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY AND APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY CONTROL</b>
<i>Project Number</i>	
<b>Donor</b>	<b>EUROPEAN UNION (EU)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>3 YEARS</b>
<b>Executing Agency</b>	<b>ECOWAS</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>US\$2,251,000</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

Trade in agricultural commodities among ECOWAS countries is limited and severely constrained by a number of factors, chief among them weak institutional structures such as inadequate policies, systems and procedures directed at trade. Supply structures are also not efficient enough to make the products from the ECOWAS countries competitive with those from other developing regions. There is a general lack of awareness of the requirements for effective trade, particularly the need for adherence to, or compliance with intentional technical standards for agricultural commodities for trade as well as for public health, even though many of these countries are signatories of these international Agreements.

Institutional structures in a number of countries to ensure technical standards for effective trade and increased competitiveness are inadequate for the purpose. Such structures include Policies that provide guidelines to the application of the technical standards, technical capacities and capabilities that apply and monitor the technical standards in zoosanitary and phytosanitary norms as well as food quality control. Where such structures even exist, many are not in compliance with International Agreements such as those of WTO, WHO, Codex *Alimentarius* and the International Plant Protection convention. Even though nearly all countries have common objectives and purposes for the establishment of policies directed at improved technical standards for trade, these policies vary in methodology and scope from one country to the other, resulting in limited movement of goods and services in the sub region, and uncompetitiveness in quality and costs.

Food quality control activities are inadequate in all the ECOWAS countries, with the resulting increase in health hazards for these countries. Besides, they are mostly importing countries, and are exposed to serious risks of fraud in the imports of cheap competitive products. As such the level of consumer protection is relatively low, and very seldom addressed in these countries.

However, significant progress has been made in overcoming a major constraint relating to inadequate harmonized policies, procedures and systems in quality control, phytosanitary and zoosanitary norms in food and agricultural matters. Eight of the ECOWAS countries, that constitute the UEMOA zone are already far advanced in harmonizing their customs, financial and monetary policies, which to some extent facilitate the monitoring of practices in cross border trade in animals and animal products, and plant products. This momentum has advanced further under ECOWAS with the formulation and implementation of a full-scale programme of harmonization of the monetary policies of all countries of West Africa, and endorsement of free movement of goods and services among all countries of the West African sub region.

Notwithstanding these developments which facilitate the process of greater economic integration in the ECOWAS zone, trade in agricultural commodities, both within the

region and from the region to higher value markets in the world is still impeded by a number of factors, chief among them the low competitiveness of the products from the region. This situation is largely the result of inadequate awareness, application and monitoring of technical standards of major importing countries and International Agreements covering zoosanitary, phytosanitary norms, and quality control of food products to be traded. In addition, a number of countries have not yet harmonized their national food standards and regulations in line with those of Codex Alimentarius, and others in force in major export markets.

Government agencies, which take part in food control activities, have different supervising bodies whose aspirations and expectations of food safety and quality are often diverse. As a consequence, there is a disparity in actions aimed at solving problems on food safety.

These factors have limited greatly local and national specialization, and the exploitation of comparative advantage, either or both of which could enhance trade within the ECOWAS countries, between countries in the sub region, as well as the major importing countries of products from ECOWAS sub region, particularly the EU countries and United States.

Specifically the problems to be addressed in for food quality and control include :

- a general inadequate recognition of food standards and priority support to food laboratories in ECOWAS member states ;
- the laws and procedures on food safety and food quality in the majority of countries are either not in compliance, or updated with WHO, WTO, and other International Agreements such as Codex Alimentarius, and harmonised with neighbouring countries in order to ensure quality and safety of food, and food products
- Poor administration and management of control of hygiene norms and safety standards (during slaughtering, storage and processing and distribution). Most of the countries are unable to promote sufficiently the production of safe and good quality food both for local consumption and for export and cannot fully guard against the importation of sub-standard and unwholesome food. This situation has contributed to the frequent rejection and /or down grading of food exports from these countries on the international market, thereby reducing foreign exchange earnings
- There is inadequate capacity for risk analysis, certification of food imports and exports, and food quality analysis services.

There is an urgent need therefore to provide support to ECOWAS member states in adopting and implementing technical standards based on the Codex Alimentarius, WHO and WTO rules. This support will facilitate greatly harmonisation of standards for selected priority products in the sub-region, which in turn will facilitate greater access of products from the region to higher value markets. It will also enhance efforts in the region to extend the trade of food commodities and products within the region.

The support will require: improving national capacities for drafting or improving existing food laws and developing food control systems based on risk-based procedures; training of trainers (further training to be pursued in the framework of national programmes); strengthening of existing network and information systems on food quality; and establishment of fully recognised referral food and fisheries laboratory in the region.

The project component will provide support to ECOWAS to accelerate its efforts at taking regional actions to address the problems indicated above. Specifically to facilitate inter-country efforts such harmonization of policies and procedures, carry out collective training and take action on common positions of member countries that will enhance increased food safety and quality control in the sub region.

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. Measurable increase in food trade among countries within the ECOWAS region, and between the region and others; reduced food hazards and increased consumer protection
2. ECOWAS countries possess and are using profitably, appropriate capacities for food control, administration, management monitoring, evaluation and analysis and participation in International Agreements on food quality control and standards
3. Much greater awareness in ECOWAS countries about risks involved to general public and private health and environment and for trade in food and agricultural commodities

### **OUTPUTS**

#### *Objective 1*

- I Upgraded and harmonised National food Regulations, Standards and Systems, and improved national food control programmes established in all ECOWAS countries

#### **Objective 2**

- i Trained and experienced personnel in the public and private sectors, in food quality and safety control, administration, monitoring, evaluation management and analysis; quality assurance at agro-industry (including fisheries), and at production levels
- ii Laboratory Services upgraded/established and operational in countries for food control analysis, food inspection and analytical quality assurance

#### **Objective 3**

- I Food quality Information Systems set up in countries of the ECOWAS region

## ACTIVITIES

### Objective 1

#### Output i

*Upgraded and harmonised National food Regulations, Standards and Systems, and improved national food control programmes in all ECOWAS countries*

- Make Inventory, Review and Evaluation of all Legislations, Regulations, Systems and Procedures governing food quality safety control and management, in each of the ECOWAS countries.
- Carry out baseline data on food safety/quality and trade in each country
- Review the Inventory prepared, identify areas for upgrading, and prepare as necessary, drafts for harmonization, in line with Guidelines of *Codex Alimentarius* and Legislations of major Trade Partners
- Prepare Programme of harmonization, at national and regional levels, and determine the required inputs for the Programme
- Prepare Training Workshop Programme on harmonization of Regulations, Legislations, Procedures, Systems
- Carry out 4 Workshops in two years, two a year, one each for Anglophone and Franchophone countries
- Provide support for Post-Training visit to countries, and assistance to the holding of National Consultations to discuss the drafts for harmonization of Regulations
- Organise and hold Regional Consultations to adopt the Harmonized Regulations, and recommend further actions for their application and enforcement
- Prepare phase two of actions (investment projects) for capital inputs to strengthen physical infrastructures, and capacities for quality control for both public health and trade
- Carry out second phase baseline data survey on food safety/quality and trade in-country

### Objective 2

#### Output i

*Trained and experienced personnel in the public and private sectors, in food quality and safety control, administration, monitoring, evaluation and management, analysis; quality assurance at agro-industry (including fisheries), and production levels*

- Carry out an Assessment of capacities and facilities required in each country, and at sub regional level for food inspection, (control, management, monitoring, evaluation and analysis)
- Make an assessment of available human resource capacities, determine gaps, and needs for training;
- Prepare a Training Programme for national and sub regional personnel for quality assurance, good hygiene and manufacturing/industrial practices; the Programme should include modules for Trainers and Trainees
- Prepare a Training Programme for national and sub regional personnel for food inspection, analysis for contaminants, food microbiology and quality and accreditation of laboratories
- Implement Training Programmes; provide assistance to Trainers and Trainees in applying their training at national level
- Carry out impact assessment of the training

## **Objective 2**

### **Output ii**

#### ***Laboratory Services upgraded/established and operational in ECOWAS countries for food control analysis, food inspection and analytical quality assurance***

- Make assessment of capacities and requirements for Laboratories, for analysis, food inspection and quality assurance on food commodities and products
- Assess also the existing laboratory capacities in countries in the sub region, and determine gaps and needs
- Procure equipment and supplies to upgrade the selected laboratories, in the short term
- Prepare a project with costings, directed at strengthening laboratories for food quality analysis and control, in the sub region, on a medium to long term basis

## **Objective 3**

### **Output i**

#### **Food quality Information Systems set up in countries of the ECOWAS region and made operational**

- Determine the nature and scope of information necessary to be disseminated and generated on quality of food products and commodities

- Review information systems on food quality in the sub region and other similar regions; identify best practices, and develop information systems appropriate to the nature of information, and the situation in the ECOWAS region; develop as well, linkages with relevant institutions at national sub regional and global levels, in regard to the information systems identified
- Determine the requirements for operating such systems and linkages, indicating human resources, facilities, and structures at both national and regional levels; assess existing capacities at national and sub regional levels to meet these requirements; determine gaps and needs; prepare a two-phase Plan of Action, with Phase 1 relating to training for, and testing of the systems developed, and Phase 2, directed at setting up structures and information networks

Organising sub regional consultations of national institutions responsible for food quality and safety issues, under the ECOWAS Secretariat, essentially to discuss cooperation, coordination and information activities in member states, and in particular to adopt the systems developed and tested in the preceding activity

- Prepare and carry out phase 1, (mainly training), and provide assistance to set up pilot information centres from the outcome of phase 1.
- From the outcome of Phase 1, prepare details of phase 2, directed mainly at establishing information systems in every country and establishing information networks in the sub region

**ANNEX-3: FACILITATING THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY AND APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY CONTROL**

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>OUTPUT</b>	<b>INPUTS</b>	<b>COSTS in US\$</b>	<b>TOTAL in US\$</b>
Measurable increase in food safety and trade among countries within the ECOWAS region, and between the region and outside	Upgraded and harmonised national food Regulations, Standards, Systems and improved national food control programmes	15 national consultants 45wm	68,000	515,000
		2 Int Legal consultants 4wm	40,000	
		4 Training Workshops	160,000	
		Formulation of investment projs		
	Base line Data on Food Safety and Trade in each country	FAO Technical services 4.5wm	63,000	
		1 Int Technical Co-ordinator/Food		
		Expert for the Activities 3wm	42,000	
		Regional Consultation to adopt the harmonized policies	50,000	
		FAO Technical services 3wm	42,000	
		Mission costs	10,000	
ECOWAS countries possess and are using profitably, appropriate capacities for food control, administration, management monitoring, evaluation and analysis and participation in International Agreements on food quality control and standards	Trained and experienced personnel in the public and private sectors, in food quality and safety control, administration, management, monitoring, evaluation and analysis; quality assurance at agro-industry(including fisheries), and production levels	Administrative & support costs	10,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 3wm	30,000	
		National experts 22wm	44,000	
		Int Training Expert 2wm	14,000	
		Int Food Quality Expert, 4wm	48,000	
		1 Regional Training Workshop	45,000	
		15, national training workshops	45,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 2wm	20,000	
		FAO Technical services 2wm	28,000	
		Mission costs	10,000	
In-country travel	15,000			
Contingencies	6,000			
				275,000

54

Laboratory Services upgraded/established and operational in countries for food control analysis food inspection and analytical quality assurance

National experts 15wm	25,000
International consultants 3wm	42,000
FAO Technical services 1,5wm	21,000
Non Expendable Equipment for laboratories in 11 countries	330,000
Non Expendable equipment for 4 referral Laboratories	600,000
Materials and supplies for start up of laboratories	120,000

1,138,000

Much greater awareness in ECOWAS countries about risks involved to general public and private health and environment and for trade in food and agricultural commodities

Food quality Information Systems set up in countries of the ECOWAS region

Contract to Information systems Consultant Firm	160,000
Regional Workshops to establish National systems	45,000
National Experts/Focal Points 15 wm	30,000
FAO technical services 2wm	28,000
ECOWAS co-ordination 2wm	20,000
mission costs	10,000

323,000

**GRAND TOTAL**

**2,251,000**

<b>Country</b>	<b>ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>FACILITATING THE IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY AND APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR PHYTOSANITARY NORMS</b>
<i>Project Number</i>	
<b>Donor</b>	<b>EUROPEAN UNION (EU)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>3 YEARS</b>
<b>Executing Agency</b>	<b>ECOWAS</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>US\$1,718,000</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

Trade in agricultural commodities among ECOWAS countries is limited and severely constrained by a number of factors, chief among them weak institutional structures such as inadequate policies, systems and procedures directed at trade. Supply structures are also not efficient enough to make the products from the ECOWAS countries competitive with those from other developing regions. There is a general lack of awareness of the requirements for effective trade, particularly the need for adherence to, or compliance with intentional technical standards for agricultural commodities for trade as well as for public health, even though many of these countries are signatories of these international Agreements.

Institutional structures in a number of countries to ensure technical standards for effective trade and increased competitiveness are inadequate for the purpose. Such structures include Policies that provide guidelines to the application of the technical standards, technical capacities and capabilities that apply and monitor the technical standards in zoosanitary and phytosanitary norms as well a food quality control. Where such structures even exist, many are not in compliance with International Agreements such as those of WTO, WHO, Codex *Alimentarius* and the International Plant Protection convention. Nearly all countries have common objectives and purposes for the establishment of policies directed at improved technical standards for trade. Nonetheless, their policies reflecting these commonalties vary in methodology and scope from one country to the other, resulting in limited movement of goods and services in the sub region, and risks of fraud and low competitiveness.

Many of these countries currently export and import significant quantities of plant products to and from higher value markets particularly the European countries and the US. The preferential treatment ECOWAS countries enjoyed with the EU and the US previously is all but removed. With the onset of the WTO rules the products from the ECOWAS countries could barely withstand the competition from products from other regions, mainly because of the quality, particularly meeting the requirements from IPPC and those of the importing countries. Significant levels of foreign exchange earnings are being lost through this inadequacy.

A good number of the ECOWAS countries are not only in dire need of imported quality planting materials and are making serious efforts to do so from neighboring countries. However, variations in phytosanitary norms from one country to the other in the region have caused delays and in some cases preventing these quality products from moving to areas of commercial demand. Besides, some countries are concerned about importing pests and diseases, and in many cases impose outright ban on the imports of some supposedly quality plant products. Such actions do have implications on the implementation of diversification programmes in such importing countries. Furthermore, physical structures and human resources that could have facilitated the application of phytosanitary norms are in many of these countries woefully inadequate and even non-existent.

There is generally no clear indication of the nature and scope of application of the International Plant Protection Convention in the large number of ECOWAS countries. There is also an apparent lack of awareness of Phytosanitary norms in each country or knowledge of their contribution to income, revenue or foreign exchange earnings to the Governments. Administrative structures set up to ensure the appropriate enforcement and monitoring of the technical standards related to phytosanitary norms are relatively weak in skills and efficiency, and could not facilitate a higher returns from such services for commercial use of the phytosanitary norms.

In the circumstances, each of these countries would require support individually and collectively as a region to address the common problems associated with the establishment compliance and enforcement of appropriate phytosanitary standards, if the region as whole could benefit from the advantages of such technical standards. The support will focus on assisting them firstly to update their laws, regulations and procedures related to phytosanitary norms, assist them also to harmonize these institutional structures, build capacities to manage the improved structures and facilitate their interactions with partners in higher value markets.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. Much greater awareness in countries of the ECOWAS region, of the International Plant Protection Convention, particularly its contribution to increased food security and agricultural trade within and outside the region
2. Measurable increase in movement and trade of produce, plant products and planting materials within the ECOWAS region and between the region and the major importing countries, through the application of improved and harmonized Phytosanitary Systems
3. ECOWAS countries and sub regional institutions possess and are using appropriate technical capacities (human resources and physical facilities) for the management of Phytosanitary regulations in force

## **OUTPUTS**

### **Objective 1**

- i. Report on an Evaluation of the application in ECOWAS countries, of the International Phytosanitary Convention, and Recommendations for improvement
- ii. A sub-regional Programme for assisting ECOWAS countries to apply the PCE
- iii. Time-bound National Programmes for improved application of the PC

### **Objective 2.**

- i. Harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, consistent with the WTO SPS Agreement and the International Plant Protection Convention
- ii. Trained officials and technical people, or such persons with upgraded skills, in ECOWAS countries for the implementation of the harmonized phytosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures
- iii. Sub regional mechanism for monitoring the application of the Harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries

### **Objective 3.**

- i. Relevant laboratories in ECOWAS countries and selected ones in the region upgraded/established and made operational to support the implementation of the harmonized Phytosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures
- ii. Technicians with appropriate training or upgraded skills to manage the laboratories for phytosanitary control

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **Objective 1**

#### **OUTPUT i. Report on an Evaluation of the application in ECOWAS countries, of the International Phytosanitary Convention, and Recommendations for improvement**

Review the existing International Plant Protection Convention, and Phytosanitary Regulations; prepare Terms of Reference for an Evaluation of the application of these international instruments in ECOWAS countries;

Prepare a Work plan for carrying out the Evaluation

Organise a Workshop to assist selected TCDC consultants on how to carry out the Study and make analysis of the findings,

Facilitate the carrying out of the Study, and analysis of the findings

Prepare a consolidated Report on the Evaluation, with recommendations on further actions to take

#### **OUTPUT ii. A sub regional Programme for assisting ECOWAS countries to apply the PCE**

Review the Report on the Evaluation of the application of the existing

International Plant Protection Convention, and Phytosanitary Regulations and identify areas for consultation and training in carrying out the recommendations

Prepare and hold Sub Regional Workshop to:

- discuss the issues raised in the Evaluation Report,
- identify proposals (sub regional and national) to assist ECOWAS countries to be aware of and apply the PCE

Prepare a sub regional time-bound Programme to implement the proposed actions

Prepare a Report of the Workshop

**OUTPUT iii. Time-bound National Programmes for improved application of the PC**

Review the Report of the Sub regional Workshop in Output ii, and particularly the proposals to assist ECOWAS countries to apply the PCE

Prepare and carry out a sub regional Workshop to train selected national experts of ECOWAS countries for preparing country programmes, and monitoring activities, directed at improving application of the International Phytosanitary Regulations at national and sub regional levels

Assist the national experts in ECOWAS countries in formulating national action plans, holding national workshops for increased awareness in improving and applying Phytosanitary systems in their respective countries, and for validating the national Plans/Programmes

Collate all such national plans/programmes and incorporate into the sub regional programme produced in Output ii.

**Objective 2.**

**OUTPUT 1. Harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, consistent with the WTO SPS Agreement and the International Plant Protection Convention**

Prepare and carry out a review of Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries outside the UEMOA sub region, essentially to check consistency with WTO SPS Agreement and the International Plant Protection Convention

Draft new legislation or update existing ones in countries where this is necessary, consistent with the WTO SPS Agreement and the International Plant Protection Convention

Update the quarantine pest and disease list for each country to guide regulatory actions to achieve an acceptable level of protection for each country

Review also the harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations of the UEMOA region, essentially to check also for consistency with WTO SPS Agreement and the International Plant Protection Convention; review also the nature and scope of harmonization of these policy instruments; strengths, weaknesses and experiences in their application, with a view to using the experience in establishing an ECOWAS region wide harmonized framework of Phytosanitary structures and systems

From the findings of the above two activities prepare Options and recommendations of harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, and Regulations for the entire ECOWAS region; hold consultations with ECOWAS and UEMOA on the Options, and forward them to ECOWAS countries for their review and comments

Using the comments from the above activities, prepare a document containing harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations for the ECOWAS region, consistent with WTO SPS Agreement and the International Plant Protection Convention

Hold regional consultations to review, and recommend the harmonized policies for use and application by all ECOWAS countries and for further action by the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat

## **Objective 2.**

### **OUTPUT ii Trained officials and technical people, or such persons with upgraded skills, in ECOWAS countries for the implementation of the harmonized phytosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures**

Identify in ECOWAS countries, officials for training or requiring upgrading of skills for the management of the implementation of the harmonized phytosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures

Make an assessment of the needs for training and facilities to carry out the respective responsibilities

Identify suitable institutions in the ECOWAS sub region to carry out training of trainers for training in ECOWAS countries in regard to the above-mentioned purpose; make a needs assessment of their capacities and upgrade as is necessary for the purpose

Prepare and carry out a programme for the training and upgrading of skills of officials in ECOWAS countries for the above-mentioned purpose, and facilitate the start up of their post-training duties

**Objective 2.****OUTPUT iii. Sub regional mechanism for monitoring the application of the Harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries**

Review the Harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures, particularly the activities to be carried out, requirements to be met, commitments to be fulfilled under the policy instruments

Identify the nature, scope and frequency of checking the fulfillments of the conditions indicated in the Legislations, Regulations and procedures,

Identify and recommend the mechanism of sub regional monitoring of the application of the Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures,

Carry out a Study to assess the level of movement and trade of produce, plant products and planting materials within the ECOWAS region and between the region and the major importing countries, under the harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures

**Objective 3.****OUTPUT i. Relevant laboratories in ECOWAS countries and selected ones in the region upgraded/established and made operational to support the implementation of the harmonized Phytosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures**

Identify the laboratories in ECOWAS countries used for phytosanitary control; Identify also laboratories which could be used for similar purpose at sub regional levels.

Prepare and carry out an assessment of the capacities (human resources and equipment) ,and functioning of the identified laboratories; determine the requirements, and identify needs for their proper functioning for the intended purposes

Determine the inputs and their respective costs to meet the needs

Make recommendations for improvement of the identified laboratories

Provide start up support to make the upgraded laboratories operational

**Objective 3.****OUTPUT ii Technicians with appropriate training or upgraded skills to manage the laboratories for phytosanitary control**

Identify the technicians who require upgrading of skills or training, and assess their needs for support

Prepare a programme for training them, and carry out the training

Monitor the application of the training.

**ANNEX-4: FACILITATING THE IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY AND APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR PHYTOSANITARY NORMS**

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>OUTPUTS</b>	<b>INPUTS</b>	<b>COSTS in US \$</b>	<b>TOTAL in US\$</b>
Much greater awareness in the countries of the ECOWAS region of the International Plant Protection Convention, particularly its contribution to food security and agricultural trade within and outside the region	Report on an Evaluation of the application of the IPC, and recommendations for improvement	Tech. Phytosanitary Adviser 3wm	36,000	164,000
		5 Experts to carry out the Study 5wm	30,000	
		Training Workshop	15,000	
		15 national consultants 22wm	25,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 2wm	20,000	
		FAO technical services 2wm	28,000	
		mission costs	5,000	
		support costs	5,000	
	Sub regional programme to assist ECOWAS countries apply the PCE	2 Int Consultants 2wm	24,000	98,000
		sub regional workshop	40,000	
		FAO technical services 1wm	14,000	
		ECO'WAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
		mission costs	5,000	
		support costs	5,000	
Time-bound national Programmes for improved application of the PC	Technical Phytosanitary Adviser 1wm	10,000	135,000	
	Regional Training Workshops	20,000		
	National Awareness Workshops	30,000		
	Publicity materials/campaigns	75,000		
Measureable increase in the movement and trade of produce, plant products and planting materials weithin the ECOWAS region, and betweena the region and the major importing countries, through athe improved harmonized phytosaniatary systems	Harmonized Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations anhd procedures in ECOWAS countries, consistent with the WTO, SPS Agreement, and gthe IPPC	8 national consultants	12,000	
		1 Int consultant for UEMOA Review 1wm	10,000	
		2 Legal consultants 4wm	48,000	
		1 Technical co-ordinator/Adviser 1wm	12,000	
		Tech Consultation ECOWAS/UEMOA	10,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 2 wm	20,000	
		FAO technical serv ices 2wm	28,000	
		Regional Consultation	40,000	

				64
		Mission costs	8,000	
		support costs	8,000	
				196,000
	Trained officials and technical persons or those with upgraded skills, in ECOWAS countries for the implementation of the harmonized phytosanitary regulations, legislations and procedures	Phytosanitary Expert, 2wm	24,000	
		Training Expert 1wm	8,000	
		FAO technical services 1wm	14,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
		2 Training Workshops, (1 English, 1 French)	20,000	
				76,000
	Sub regional mechanism for monitoring the application of the harmonized phytosanitary regulations, legislations and procedures	I consultant monitoring 2wm	16,000	
		15 national consultants 22wm	25,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
	Data and information on movement of plant materials within and from the ECOWAS region under the harmonized regulations	Support to start up sub regional monitoring	10,000	
		Contract for Study on movement and trade of plant materials within and from the ECOWAS region and outside, under the harmonized regulations	70,000	
		Phytosanitary Expert 1.5wm	15,000	
				146,000
ECOWAS countries and sub regional institutions possess and are using appropriate technical capacities for the management of phytosanitary regulations in force	Relevant laboratories in ECOWAS countries and selected ones in the region upgraded/established and made operational to support the implementation of the harmonized phytosanitary regulations, legislations and procedures	Team of consultants 4wm	24,000	
		FAO technical services 1wm	14,000	
		mission costs	8,000	
		Equipment and supplies to start up the laboratories	750,000	
				796,000
	Technicians with appropriate training or upgraded skills to manage the laboratories for phytosanitary control	1 phytosanitary Expert 3wm	30,000	
		1 training expert 1wm	8,000	
		Workshop for Trainers	10,000	

		65
national training workshops	30,000	
FAO technical services 1wm	14,000	
ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
support costs	5,000	
		107,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>1,718,000</b>

<b>Country</b>	<b>ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>FACILITATING THE IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY AND APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ZOOSANITARY NORMS</b>
<i>Project Number</i>	
<b>Donor</b>	<b>EUROPEAN UNION (EU)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>3 YEARS</b>
<b>Executing Agency</b>	<b>ECOWAS</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>US\$1,898,000</b>

## **BACKGROUND**

Trade in agricultural commodities among ECOWAS countries is limited and severely constrained by a number of factors, chief among them weak institutional

structures such as inadequate policies, systems and procedures directed at trade. Supply structures are also not efficient enough to make the products from the ECOWAS countries competitive with those from other developing regions. There is a general lack of awareness of the requirements for effective trade, particularly the need for adherence to, or compliance with intentional technical standards for agricultural commodities for trade as well as for public health, even though many of these countries are signatories of these international Agreements.

Institutional structures in a number of countries to ensure technical standards for effective trade and increased competitiveness are inadequate for the purpose. Such structures include Policies that provide guidelines to the application of the technical standards, technical capacities and capabilities that apply and monitor the technical standards in zoosanitary and phytosanitary norms as well as a food quality control. Where such structures even exist, many are not in compliance with International Agreements such as those of WTO, WHO, Codex *Alimentarius* and the International Plant Protection convention. Even though nearly all countries have common objectives and purposes for the establishment of policies directed at improved technical standards for trade, these policies vary in methodology and scope from one country to the other, resulting in limited movement of goods and services in the sub region, and uncompetitiveness in quality and costs.

Food quality control activities are inadequate in all the ECOWAS countries, with the resulting increase in health hazards for these countries. Besides, they are mostly importing countries, and are exposed to serious risks of fraud in the imports of cheap competitive products. As such the level of consumer protection is relatively low, and very seldom addressed in these countries.

However, significant progress has been made in overcoming a major constraint relating to inadequate harmonized policies, procedures and systems in quality control and zoosanitary norms in food and agricultural matters. Eight of the ECOWAS countries, that constitute the UEMOA zone are already far advanced in harmonizing their customs, financial and monetary policies. They have also established some level of common zoosanitary norms to be applied in their countries, including monitoring of practices in cross border trade in animals and animal products. This momentum has advanced further under ECOWAS with the formulation and implementation of a full-scale programme of harmonization of the monetary policies of all countries of West Africa, and endorsement of free movement of goods and services among all countries of the West African sub region. ECOWAS is also far advanced in organizational arrangements to establish Animal Passport in the region.

Notwithstanding these developments which facilitate the process of greater economic integration in the ECOWAS zone, trade in agricultural commodities, both within the region and from the region to higher value markets in the world is still impeded by a

number of factors, chief among them the low competitiveness of the products from the region. This situation is largely the result of inadequate awareness, application and monitoring of improved technical standards of zoosanitary and phytosanitary concerns. The project component therefore will assist ECOWAS carry out actions at sub regional level to address the problems indicted above. More particularly those actions that will involve collective decisions, integrated systems and harmonized policies.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. Much greater awareness in countries of the ECOWAS region, of the Regulations, Procedures and Arrangements of the International Office of Epizootics, (**IOE**) World health Organization (**WHO**), and World Trade Organization, (**WTO**) in regard to production and trade in animal products, and especially their contribution to increased food security and agricultural trade within and outside the region
2. Measurable increase in movement and trade of animals and animal products within the ECOWAS region and between the region and the major importing countries, through improved and harmonized institutional structures such as Zoosanitary Legislation, Regulations, Systems, Procedures and customs
3. ECOWAS countries and sub regional institutions possess and are using appropriate technical capacities (human resources and physical facilities) for the management of Zoosanitary norms in force

### **Objective 1**

- OUTPUT i.** Report of a situation Review of the application of Regulations of the IOE, particularly the Zoosanitary Code and WHO in animal health and production, and WTO rules in production and trade in animal products, in non-UEMOA countries; a Report also of a Review of the situation in UEMOA countries
- ii.** A sub regional Programme for assisting ECOWAS countries to apply appropriate International Regulations and rules regarding animal production, health and products
- iii.** Time-bound National Programmes for improved application of the appropriate International Regulations and rules regarding animal production, health and products

### **Objective 2**

- OUTPUT i.** Harmonized Zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, consistent with those of the IOE, WHO and the WTO Agreement and Rules

- ii. Trained officials and technical people, or such persons with upgraded skills, in ECOWAS countries for the implementation of the harmonized zoosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures, analysis of animal diseases, particularly cross-border diseases, and methodologies for monitoring diseases and related information
- iii. Sub regional mechanisms for monitoring the application of the Harmonized Zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, and for co-ordination of actions against contagious diseases, in order to facilitate free exchange of animal stocks and products

### **Objective 3.**

- OUTPUT i.** Relevant laboratories in ECOWAS countries and selected ones in the region upgraded/established and made operational to support the implementation of the harmonized Zoosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures
- ii. Technicians with appropriate training or upgraded skills to manage the laboratories for zoosanitary control

### **ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objective 1**

- OUTPUT i. Report of a situation Review of the application of Regulations of the IOE, particularly the Zoosanitary Code, those of WHO, in animal health and production, and WTO rules in production and trade in animal products, in non-UEMOA countries; a Report also of a similar Review of the situation in UEMOA countries**

Review the existing Regulations of the IOE, particularly the Zoosanitary Code, those of WHO, in animal health and production, and WTO rules in production and trade in animal products; prepare Terms of Reference for a Situation Review of the application of these international instruments in ECOWAS countries, including the nature and scope of adverse results experienced from non compliance of these instruments;

Prepare a Work plan for carrying out the Review

Organise a Workshop to assist selected TCDC/National Experts on how to carry out the Review and make analysis of the findings,

Facilitate the carrying out of the Study, and analysis of the findings

Prepare a consolidated Report on the Reviews in non-UEMOA countries and UEMOA countries, with recommendations on further actions to take, especially

with regard to creating awareness of and compliance to the appropriate zoosanitary norms in ECOWAS countries

**OUTPUT ii. A sub regional Programme for assisting ECOWAS countries to apply appropriate Zoosanitary norms**

Study the Reports on the Review of application of zoosanitary norms in UEMOA and non-UEMOA countries in West Africa; identify areas for sub regional consultation and follow up actions in carrying out the recommendations

Prepare also a Summary of on-going actions of sub regional dimensions on zoosanitary norms in the ECOWAS region

Prepare and hold Sub Regional Workshop to discuss the issues raised in the Review Report, and the Summary produced above, and in particular to:

- Identify proposals (sub regional and national) to assist ECOWAS countries to be aware of and apply the appropriate zoosanitary norms
- Prepare a sub regional time-bound Programme to implement the proposed actions

Prepare a Report of the Workshop

**OUTPUT iii. Time-bound National Programmes for improved application of the PC**

Review the Report of the Sub regional Workshop in Output ii, and particularly the proposals to assist ECOWAS countries to apply the appropriate zoosanitary norms in their respective countries

Prepare and carry out a sub regional Workshop to train selected national experts of ECOWAS countries for preparing country programmes, and monitoring activities, directed at ensuring the application of appropriate zoosanitary norms at national and sub regional levels

Assist the national experts in ECOWAS countries in formulating national action plans, holding national workshops for increased awareness in improving and applying improved zoosanitary norms in their countries, and for validating the national Plans/Programmes

Collate all such national plans/programmes and incorporate into the sub regional programme produced in Output ii.

**Objective 2.**

**OUTPUT 1. Harmonized Zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, consistent with those of the IOE, WHO and the WTO Agreement and Rules**

Prepare and carry out a review of zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, essentially to check consistency with those of the IOE, WHO and the WTO Agreement and Rules, and other international policy instruments

Draft new legislation or update existing ones in countries where this is necessary, consistent with the those of the IOE, WHO and the WTO Agreement and Rules

Review the harmonized zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations of the UEMOA region, essentially to check also for consistency with those of the IOE, WHO and the WTO Agreement and Rules; review also the nature and scope of harmonization of the zoosanitary norms, strengths and weaknesses and experiences in their application, with a view to using the experience in establishing an ECOWAS region wide harmonized framework of Phytosanitary Legislations, and Regulations

From the findings of the above two activities prepare Options and recommendations of harmonized zoosanitary Legislations, and Regulations for the entire ECOWAS region; hold consultations with UEMOA on the Options, and forward them to ECOWAS countries for their review and comments

Using the comments above, prepare a document containing harmonized zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations for the ECOWAS region, consistent with those of the IOE, WHO and the WTO Agreement and Rules

Hold regional consultations to review, and recommend the harmonized policies for use and application by all ECOWAS countries, and for further action by the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat.

## **Objective 2.**

### **OUTPUT ii Trained officials and technical people, or such persons with upgraded skills, in ECOWAS countries for the implementation of the harmonized zoosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures**

Identify in ECOWAS countries, officials for training or requiring upgrading of skills for the management of the implementation of the harmonized zoosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures

Make an assessment of the needs for training and facilities to carry out the respective responsibilities

Identify suitable institutions in the ECOWAS sub region to carry out training of trainers for training in ECOWAS countries in regard to the above-mentioned

purpose; make a needs assessment of their capacities and upgrade as is necessary for the purpose

Prepare and carry out a programme for the training of trainers, and for training and upgrading of skills of officials in ECOWAS countries for the above-mentioned purpose; facilitate the start up of their post-training duties

Carry out an evaluation of the training

## **Objective 2.**

### **OUTPUT iii. Sub regional mechanisms for monitoring the application of the Harmonized Zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures in ECOWAS countries, and for co-ordination of actions against contagious diseases, in order to facilitate free exchange of animal stocks and products; response to emerging and urgent situation of animal diseases**

Undertake a baseline Study to assess the situation before harmonization of policies

Undertake also a Review of the Harmonized Zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures, particularly the activities to be carried out, requirements to be met, commitments to be fulfilled under the policy instruments at national and sub regional levels

Identify the nature, scope and frequency of checking the fulfillments of the conditions indicated in the Legislations, Regulations and procedures,

Identify and recommend a mechanism for sub regional monitoring of the application of the Phytosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures,

Determine the need, nature and scope of situations requiring co-ordination of actions against contagious diseases, in order to facilitate free exchange of animal stocks and products

Identify and recommend a mechanism for such co-ordination

Carry out a Study to assess all possible cross-border movements and trade of animal stocks and products within the ECOWAS region and between the region and the major importing countries, under the harmonized zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures

Prepare a Report on findings, and make recommendations accordingly

Assess past experiences of the incidence, nature and scope of emergency situations of trans-boundary animal diseases in the region

Review the nature, scope and quality of actions taken to respond to such emergencies, by whom, and how, the results obtained, strengths and weaknesses of such actions

Make recommendations for improvement, particularly for national and regional responsibilities, capacity and relevant requirements to handle the situation on a sustainable basis

**Objective 3.**

**OUTPUT i. Relevant laboratories and systems in ECOWAS countries and selected ones in the region upgraded/established and made operational to support the implementation of the harmonized Zoosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures**

Identify and or confirm laboratories and other structures in ECOWAS countries used for zoosanitary analysis and for Quarantine; identify also such structures, which could be used for similar purposes at sub regional levels.

Prepare and carry out an assessment of the capacities (human resources and physical structures), and functioning of the identified laboratories and other structures; determine the requirements and identify needs for their optimum operation for the intended purposes

Determine the inputs and their respective costs to meet the needs

Make recommendations for support to the improvement of the identified laboratories and structures for Quarantine

Provide start up support to make the upgraded facilities operational

**Objective 3.**

**OUTPUT i Technicians with appropriate training or upgraded skills to manage the laboratories and Quarantine facilities for zoosanitary analysis and observations**

Identify the technicians who require upgrading of skills or training, and assess their needs for support

Prepare a programme for training them, and carry out the training

Monitor the application of the training

**ANNEX-5: FACILITATING THE IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY AND APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ZOOSANITARY NORMS**

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>OUTPUT</b>	<b>INPUTS</b>	<b>COSTS in US\$</b>	<b>TOTAL in US\$</b>	
Much greater awareness in countries of the ECOWAS region, of Regulations, Procedures and arrangements of the IOE, WHO, WTO in regard to production and trade in animals and animal products, and their contribution to food security and agricultural trade within the region	Report of a situation Review of the Application of Regulations of the IOE, WHO, WTO rules in production and trade in animal products in non-UEMOA countries, and in the UEMOA countries	2 Int. Zoosanitary Experts, 2wm	28,000		
		Anglophone, 1 Francophone 6wm			
		1 Legal Consultant 2 wm	28,000		
		2 National Consultants for UEMOA region, 6wm	12,000		
		8 National consultants, 1 each for other ECOWAS countries 24wm	48,000		
		Technical Services FAO 2wm	28,000		
		Co-ordination ECOWAS 2wm	20,000		
				164,000	
			A sub Regional Programme for assisting ECOWAS countries apply Zoosanitary norms	2 Int Zoosanitary Experts 3wm	42,000
		1 Legal Consultant 1 wm	14,000		
		Regional Consultation Workshop		56,000	
	Time-bound National Programmes for improved application of the Technical Zoosanitary standards	1Zoosanitary consultant,	10,000		
		1 Training expert	10,000		
		Sub regional Training Workshop	12,000		
		15 National Workshops	30,000		
		co-ordination by ECOWAS 1wm	10,000		
		Publicity/campaigns	150,000		
				222,000	
Measurable increase in movement and trade of animals and products within the ECOWAS region and the major importing countries	Harmonized Zoosanitary Legislations, Regulations and procedures, in ECOWAS countries, consistent with those of IOE, WHO and the WTO rules	15 national consultants 15wm	30,000		
		2 Legal consultants 4wm	48,000		
		1int. Consultant Adviser on Zoosanitary rules of WTO, EU, US 1wm	14,000		
		1 Technical Co-ord for the Team 4wm	40,000		
		Regional Consultation to adopt the harmonized policies	45,000		

		FAO Technical services 3wm	42,000	
		ECOWAS Co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
				229,000
	Trained officials and technical people with upgraded skills for the implementation of the harmonized zoosanitary legislations regulations and procedures	2 Consultants Res Persons 4wm	24,000	
		1 Training Expert 1.5wm	15,000	
		15 National Trainers 15wm	25,000	
		1 Training of Trainers Workshop	10,000	
		15 National Training Workshops	30,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 2wm		
		materials and supplies for training	15,000	
				119,000
	Sub Regional mechanisms for monitoring Harmonized Soosanitary Legislations, Regulations, and procedures in ECOWAS countries, co-ordination of actions against contagious diseases, response to emergencies in animal diseases	Contract for Baseline Study 3wm	30,000	
		Contract for Study on movement of animal stocks and products within ECOWAS region and outside 5wm	70,000	
		1 Consultant Monitoring 3wm	30,000	
		2 Advisers on Emergencies 4 wm	40,000	
				170,000
ECOWAS countries and sub regional institutions possess and are using appropriate capacities for the management of Zoosanitary norms	Relevant laboratories and systems in ECOWAS countries and selected ones in the region upgraded/established and made operational to support the implementation of the harmonized zoosanitary legislations, regulations and procedures	2 Conslts systems technicians 4wm	20,000	
		1 Agro-economist 3wm	30,000	
		Travel within the region	7,000	
		National technicians 7wm	14,000	
		ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
		FAO Technical Services 1 wm	14,000	
		Equipment and materials for the upgraded/established laboratories	750,000	
				845,000
	Technicians with appropriate training or upgraded skills to manage the laboratories for zoosanitary norms	1 Zoosanitary Expert 3wm	30,000	
		1 Training Expert 3wm	30,000	
		2 Training Workshops	20,000	

		76
ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	10,000	
FAO Technical Services 1wm	14,000	
		104,000
Administrative and other support	45,000	45,000

**GRAND TOTAL**

**1,898,000**

<b>Country</b>	<b>ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	<b>PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR SMALL-SCALE AGRO-PROCESSING SYSTEMS</b>
<i>Project Number</i>	
<b>Donor</b>	<b>EUROPEAN UNION (EU)</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>3 YEARS</b>
<b>Executing Agency</b>	<b>ECOWAS</b>
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO) OF THE UNITED NATIONS</b>
<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>US\$961,000</b>

### **BACKGROUND**

With increasing globalization, sub Saharan African countries particularly in the ECOWAS region are gradually reducing their capability to supply agricultural products at competitive world market prices. Their supply structures are relatively inefficient, and they lack the ability to adapt to changing world market conditions. With the gradual disappearance of the preferential trade arrangements, there is great difficulty to sell their

products to the traditional export markets, and to service higher value markets. Unfortunately this low level of competitiveness is rapidly transforming sub Saharan African countries to recipient markets for surplus or low quality products from competitive exporting markets.

Dissemination and use of small-scale agro-industrial technologies constitute one approach to transforming low value produce, as is presently the case in many sub Saharan African countries, into value-added products. The approach also offers opportunities to access new and higher value market opportunities. Successful use of small scale agro-industries have demonstrated that they are indispensable to increased cost effective and competitive agricultural production for both household needs and market. They enhance the efficient use of labour, (increasing the opportunity costs of labour, particularly of women), reduce drudgery, and increase the opportunities for additional cash income. They contribute measurably to increasing the opportunities for trade, mainly through extended shelf life and quality of staple food commodities, and widening the opportunities for utilization.

The value and importance of these technologies have been strongly felt in the implementation of the Special Programme for Food Security, which is in various stages of implementation in nearly all the countries in Sub Saharan Africa. While the strategy of transferring adaptable technologies for production has been successful in these projects, the impact of their achievements have been relatively marred by a number of post production factors, chief among them: extending the shelf life of the produce and products, increasing the value and opportunities of the produce, cash income and utilization of the commodities, and ensuring availability of outlets for the products.

Sustainable food security and increased agricultural trade are now among the top priorities of the ECOWAS region. These priorities will no doubt provide a measurable yardstick of the achievement of the overall objective of economic integration of the member states of the Community. Small-scale agro-industries hold tremendous prospects to contribute measurably to address the priorities and achieve the overall objective of the Community.

Storage, handling, processing, preservation and manufacturing technologies have been invaluable to enhancing post-production opportunities in crops, fisheries and livestock. A wide variety of such agro-industrial technologies, small to medium scale (both equipment and practices), and beyond have been developed, tried, proven and are in various stages of adoption and use in nearly all the countries in the Sub Saharan African countries.

Unfortunately, the impact of this wide variation in knowledge and information has not been appropriately felt in contributing meaningfully to food security in the region, because of a variety of reasons, among them:

- most of the successfully proven technologies have not been known beyond the confines of their development and testing

- many also have not been affordable to the needy users at subsistence level and immediately above that category
- others still have not received sufficient attention to be mass produced and disseminated
- the interest of agro-business people (especially manufacturers) has not been drawn effectively to the need for promoting the proven and badly needed technologies
- the regional dimensions of the availability and dissemination of proven adaptable agro-industrial technologies for food security and trade, both within the ECOWAS region and outside have not been fully investigated for promotion.

One approach through which to address the problems mentioned above, and allow the sub sector to provide meaningful contribution to the objectives of the ECOWAS is to establish and implement a programme of promotion of the best practices of the sub sector, particularly those with regional dimensions.

The Strategy through which to realise this approach will be organised in two phases:

Phase 1 will focus on generating, analyzing and consolidating data and information on best practices in the sub sector for a selected number of commodities (crops, fisheries and livestock), having regional dimensions, and preparing an investment programme for dissemination and use.

Phase 2 will be directed at promoting partnerships between interested investors and small-scale entrepreneurs, to invest on proven selected best practices in agro-industries that will increase food security at household level and enhance agricultural trade within the sub region, through partnerships with the private sector and beneficiaries.

### **OVERALL OBJECTIVE**

The overall objective of the project will be a measurable increase in the quality and quantity of food and agricultural products at competitive world market prices, through widespread access to and use of appropriate agro-industrial technologies, by indigenous entrepreneurs in the ECOWAS region.

### **IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES**

**1. Consolidated data, information on working best practice/technologies on small-scale agro- processing systems/technologies in selected ECOWAS countries available for selected commodities in the ECOWAS region**

**2.Support being provided to Entrepreneurs in ECOWAS countries in adopting and adapting agro-processing systems/technologies considered by them as appropriate to their local conditions**

## **OUTPUTS**

### **Objective 1.**

- i. Report on informant survey to establish locations of best practice/technologies for small agro- processing systems in the ECOWAS region
- ii. Identified key research/extension institutions in the ECOWAS region for participation in the promotion of small-scale agro- processing systems in the ECOWAS region
- iii. Consolidated Report on in-country surveys in the region, on working surveys in the region, on working systems in the ECOWAS region
- iv. Consolidated database/Inventory (web based) in the region, on working best practices small-scale agro-processing in the region

### **Objective 2.**

- i. Established Web Site on Consolidated database/Inventory on working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems
- ii. Country specific prospectus, brochures and relevant information on selected and relevant information on selected working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems
- iii. Recommendations and or Options on partnerships with the private sector for the multiplication/production and dissemination of selected small-scale agro-industries in the ECOWAS region
- iv. Partnerships, joint ventures and other support to entrepreneurs in the ECOWAS region, on small-scale agro-processing systems

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **Objective1.**

**Report on informant survey to establish locations of best practice/technologies for small agro- processing systems in the ECOWAS region**

1. Determine from existing data the most important and traded agricultural commodities in the ECOWAS region, in terms of production or calories intake or product development
- ii. Design a Survey to establish the locations of the working best practice small scale agro-processing systems/technologies in the ECOWAS countries, paying attention to nature, scope, origin, use, performance, impact, dissemination and access of such best practices
- iii. Identify key research/extension and distribution institutions with expertise in agro-industrial processing the region, for participation in the promotion of small-scale agro-processing systems

- iv. Organise and hold stakeholders workshop to review and endorse the survey, and determine the nature and scope of its implementation
- v. Carry out in-country surveys, involving participating stakeholder organizations/private sector businesses
- vi. Organise second stakeholders workshop to present and discuss survey results, identify gaps and determine further action on the results
- vii. Obtain further information and data as necessary on the survey, and consolidate them into a data base/Inventory of working best practices/technologies on small-scale agro-industries
- viii. prepare, present and discuss Report on the survey with ECOWAS and FAO

### **Objective 2.**

#### **Output 1. Established Web Site on Consolidated database/Inventory on working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems**

- i. Review the Report produced under Objective 1, particularly the consolidated database/ Inventory and descriptions of working best practices in small scale agro-industries processing systems in the ECOWAS region, and determine the nature and scope of establishing a web site for the database.
- ii. Review the options for establishing the web site; prepare the necessary details for contracting out the activity, and issue the contract to professional firm
- iii. Determine the nature, scope and methodology of managing and evaluating the performance of the web site, and establish the system

### **Objective 2.**

#### **Output 2. Country specific prospectus, brochures and relevant information on selected working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems**

- i. Review all the Reports produced under Objective 1 and Objective 2, Output 1, and others relevant to promoting small-scale agro-industries in the ECOWAS region and other developing tropical regions
- ii. In consultation with the stakeholders/entrepreneurs involved in the identification of the best practices, the findings of the informant survey in the above activity, and drawing from past experiences of ECOWAS/EU Partnerships Forum determine the nature and scope of specific prospectus, brochures and relevant information on selected working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems to be prepared

- iii. Provide assistance as is necessary for the production of the prospectuses, brochures and relevant information on selected working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems

**Objective 2.**

**Output 3. Recommendations and or Options on partnerships with the private sector for the multiplication/production and dissemination of selected technologies/best practices for small-scale agro-industries in the ECOWAS region**

- i. National Investment Promotion Centers in ECOWAS countries will identify and assess the potential, capacities and willingness of Private Sector Enterprises relevant to or interested in partnerships to produce/multiply and disseminate working best practices /technologies identified in Objective 1 above for small-scale agro-industries
- ii. ECOWAS, in consultation with the European Commission will review the Reports of the informant survey and stakeholders workshops, particularly the recommendations for partnerships; review also report of National Investment Promotion Centers in ECOWAS countries on identified existing Partnerships, joint ventures and arrangements for promotion of private sector in their respective countries.
- iii. From the findings on above, review the programme of collaboration between the two Organizations in the promotion of investment and partnerships in agro-industry in West Africa and determine the nature and scope of support to be provided to promotion of working best practices in small-scale agro-processing systems identified by the project, and to the interested stakeholders participating in the project
- iv. ECOWAS in collaboration with The European Commission and other Partners will organise a Partnership Forum involving private sector entrepreneurs (particularly those involved with the project), in the ECOWAS countries and those from outside the region with a view to identifying joint ventures and partnerships to promote selected technologies/ best practices for small-scale agro-industries in ECOWAS countries
- v. Prepare a Report on the outcome of the Forum, presenting recommendations and follow up actions.

**ANNEX-6: PROMOTING PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR SMALL-SCALE AGRO- PROCESSING SYSTEMS**

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>OUTPUTS</b>	<b>INPUTS</b>	<b>COSTS in US\$</b>	<b>TOTAL in US\$</b>
Consolidated data, information on working best practice/technologies on small-scale agro-processing systems in ECOWAS countries available for selected commodities in the ECOWAS region	Report on informant survey to establish locations of best practice/technologies for small agro-processing systems in the ECOWAS region	Contract to IITA to design and manage a Survey and workshops on best practices in Agro-industries. The Contract will cover specialists 18wm; technical staff time; regional and in-country travel; operational costs; other support costs; Equipment and materials;overheads	450,000	450,000
	Identified key research/extension institutions in the ECOWAS region for participation in the promotion of small-scale agro-processing systems in the ECOWAS region	1st Stakeholders Workshop, to design survey and establish implementation programme FAO Technical services 1wm ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	45,000 14,000 10,000	69,000
	Consolidated Report on in-country surveys in the region, on working best practices agro-processing systems in the ECOWAS region	National consultants 22wm FAO Technical services 1.5wm	48,000 21,000	69,000
	Consolidated database/Inventory (web based) in the region, on working best practices small-scale agro-region	2nd Stakeholders Workshop to confirm survey results FAO Technical services 1.5wm ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	45,000 21,000 10,000	76,000

Support being provided to Entrepreneurs in ECOWAS countries in adopting and adapting agro-processing systems, considered by them as appropriate to their local conditions	Established Web Site on Consolidated database/Inventory on working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems	Contract to NGO to set up Web site Equipment and materials for establishing the Web site IITA technical services 1wm ECOWAS co-ordination 2wm	20,000 50,000 14,000 20,000	104,000
	country specific prospectus, brochures and relevant information on selected working best practices small-scale agro-processing systems	Contract to NGOs Technical Advisory services of Specialist firm ECOWAS co-ordination 1wm	30,000 20,000 10,000	60,000
	Recommendations/Options on Partnerships for support to entrepreneurs in ECOWAS countries	Int Consultant 2wm ECOWAS co-ordination 1.5wm FAO 1wm	20,000 15,000 14,000	49,000
	Partnerships, joint ventures and other support to entrepreneurs in the ECOWAS region, on small-scale agro-processing systems	ECOWAS/EU Industrial Forum participation of selected entrepreneurs FAO Technical Services 1 wm ECOWAS co-ordination 1.5wm	50,000 14,000 15,000	79,000
Report on the outcome of the Forum	ECOWAS 0,5wm	5,000	5,000	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>961,000</b>	