



**“West Africa regional programme to strengthen livelihoods resilience and support food security and nutrition coordination”**

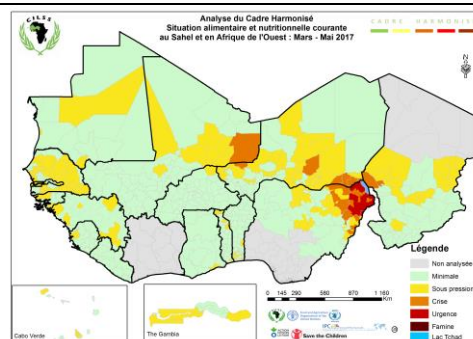
**Project code:** OSRO/RAF/601/USA

**Donor:** United States

**Contribution:** USD 500 000

**Implementation:** 01/01/2016–31/03/2017

**Target areas:** West Africa



**Contact**

**Coumba Sow**, Subregional Resilience Coordinator for West Africa/Sahel. [Coumba.Sow@fao.org](mailto:Coumba.Sow@fao.org)

**Dominique Burgeon**, Director, Emergency and Rehabilitation Division. [TCE-Director@fao.org](mailto:TCE-Director@fao.org)

<b>Objective:</b>	To enhance the resilience of populations affected by food insecurity and malnutrition and minimize the impact of food and nutrition shocks in West Africa.
<b>Key partners:</b>	United Nations (UN) agencies, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)/Regional Training Centre for Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology and their Applications (AGRHMET) and the Famine and Early Warning Systems Network, and national partners (statistical services from the Ministries of Agriculture, national early warning systems and nutrition services), the Economic Community of West African States and research centers.
<b>Beneficiaries reached:</b>	Regional bodies and institutions, governments, NGOs, civil society stakeholders and affected populations.
<b>Activities implemented:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributed to the development of regional humanitarian strategies.</li> <li>Participated in several regional Interagency Standing Committee meetings to discuss the humanitarian response plan for 2017, the situation in northern Nigerian and neighbouring countries, etc., as well as in other working groups.</li> <li>Supported an interagency meeting with the G5 Sahel to identify the main areas of convergence between United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) and the G5 Sahel Priority Investment Plan.</li> <li>Took part in an inter-agency mission in March 2017 to: (i) evaluate the implementation of joint UN/G5 Sahel initiatives (highlighting actions taken, identifying difficulties and constraints); (ii) evaluate and propose solutions to the difficulty of resource mobilization faced by flagship regional projects; and (iii) validate the road map and the action plan to be implemented.</li> <li>Engaged as an active member of the resilience working group in the UNISS review process (October 2016–May 2017), recognizing UNISS for improved cross-sectoral information exchange and coordination in the Sahel.</li> <li>Supported CILSS in setting up a technical resilience measurement platform to strengthen the capacities of CILSS and national governments in resilience analysis and measurement.</li> <li>Started the process of customizing the programmatic tools for risk analysis and resilience measurement in the Sahel.</li> <li>Played a key role in ensuring that agriculture and food security were taken into consideration in the Emergency and Preparedness Working Group’s regional initiatives.</li> <li>Co-chaired the regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group to share food security and nutrition analysis for West Africa and the Sahel, to provide early warning and coordinate response among members.</li> <li>Supported the leads of the food security sectors of the nine countries participating in the appeal by providing them with a harmonized set of regional performance indicators to monitor the implementation of their activities under the Humanitarian Response Plan related to the agriculture sector, and by ensuring timely reports on the Online Reporting System and Financial Tracking Service tools.</li> </ul>

- Participated in a regional workshop to review and define Regional Initiative 3.
- Organized a capitalization workshop with operation teams from Mali and Mauritania in which a pilot cash+ project was developed, and a climate resilience regional workshop.
- Carried out a study to strengthen the effectiveness of community-based mechanisms that have a significant impact on the resilience of vulnerable communities to drought in the Sahel, and held workshops to share and capitalize on the selected good Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) practices with stakeholders in order to gather information and prepare for the fieldwork that followed.
- Provided DRR/resilience support to, and share relevant information with, FAO offices.
- Ensured that food security and nutrition were adequately addressed by the Regional Resilience Task Force.
- Analysed food security and nutrition in the subregion using information from various sources (national statistics agencies, CILSS/AGRHYMET bulletins and satellite data, etc.); released 11 food security notes in collaboration with WFP, focusing on the analysis of the food security situation from a humanitarian perspective.
- Participated in the Food Crisis Prevention and Management Network and Food Crisis Prevention Network meetings and promoted the *Cadre Harmonisé* as a strategic tool that integrates food security and nutrition analysis.
- Provided technical assistance to subregional studies and assessments, including annual crop and market assessments.
- Provided strategic and technical support to FAO offices in the subregion.
- Participated in the national and regional *Cadre Harmonisé* exercises and training on early warning systems when necessary.
- Contributed to the development of the *Cadre Harmonisé* at country level, and supported the introduction of elements from IPC into the *Cadre Harmonisé* methodology and ensured that the analysis took into account parameters linked to nutrition, livelihoods and humanitarian aspects.
- Participated in *Cadre Harmonisé* technical committee meetings.

**Results:**

- Strengthened crisis preparedness and response through improved regional coordination.
- Improved integration of DRR and resilience approaches into the responses of humanitarian food security and nutrition stakeholders.
- Consolidated and strengthened food security needs assessments, monitoring and early warning systems at national and regional levels.
- Contributed to the technical improvement of the *Cadre Harmonisé*.
- Improved food security and vulnerability analysis.