



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Strengthening linkages between small actors and buyers in the Roots and Tubers sector in Africa

Project Inception Workshop Report

Windy Lodge, Winneba, Ghana
22 January 2015



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Executive Summary

In the framework of the project ‘Strengthening linkages between small actors and buyers in the Roots and Tubers sector in Africa’ (ART), FAO Ghana organized a one day inception workshop to which key stakeholders in Ghana’s cassava sector were invited. The participants included senior officials from institutions, development partners, research institutes, NGOs, private sector, financial institutions and farmer organizations.

The objectives of the workshop included the presentation of the current status of the cassava sector in Ghana, project objectives and activities and the sharing of views and experiences from key stakeholders for effective project planning. Participants discussed whether proposed activities are relevant for the context of Ghana’s cassava sector, and they provided suggestions for key issues that need to be addressed under this project.

Cassava is both a subsistence and commercial crop in Ghana. Due to the growing demand for cassava and its products, it has been identified by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) in its Development Strategy and Investment Plan as a priority crop for strategic intervention. There are a number of past and on-going initiatives in the cassava sector and it is important that this new FAO project creates synergies with and adds value to these existing initiatives to improve the performance of Ghana’s cassava sector.

Participants unanimously welcomed the project and agreed with its overall outline. There is a potential to increase the competitiveness of the cassava sector through upgrading of business models along the cassava value chain and building capacity of all value chain actors, especially in agribusiness skills. Specific recommendations included the establishment of a cassava multi-stakeholder platform and implementation of a mandatory cassava substitution policy. Other key issues included more reliable market information to enhance investment in the sector and strengthening the capacity of rural banks to lend to cassava value chain actors. Improving the efficiency of the seed supply system and access to improved planting material is also essential to enhancing productivity and profitability of the sector.

Climate change impacts are increasingly affecting cassava smallholder production. Yet, smallholders have limited access to climate risk management instruments. This calls for better dissemination of appropriate information and advice on mitigation strategies. This should be supplemented with advice on environmentally sound agronomic practices and natural resource management.

List of Acronyms

ACP	African Caribbean and Pacific
ART	FAO Africa Root and Tuber Project
BMGF	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
C:AVA	Cassava: Adding Value for Africa
CET	Common External Tarrif
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
EC	European Union
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy
FRI	Food Research Institute
GCP	Global Cooperation Programme
GLB	Grains and Legumes Board
HQCF	High Quality Cassava Flour
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
METASIP	Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
MOAP	Market Oriented Agricultural Programme
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
PSI	Presidential Special Initiative
RAF	Regional Office for Africa
R&T	Roots and Tubers
RTIMP	Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme
RTIP	Root and Tuber Improvement Programme
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
UN	United Nations
WB	World Bank

1. Introduction

1.1 Background and Context

The roots and tubers sector (R&T) is one of the most important food sub-sectors in Africa. For many parts of Sub-Saharan Africa (Africa), roots and tubers account for 20% of calories consumed. Crops such as cassava, yam and potatoes are not only important for food security but also increasingly for income for farmers and small businesses - particularly for women.

Market demand for roots and tubers is expected to continue to grow over the next two decades, due to increases in urban food markets and the increased use of cassava starch by food, feed and carton industries in Africa. Furthermore, in an effort to support smallholders to transition out of subsistence farming, governments in Africa are placing the commercialization of staple crops at the centre of national agricultural development strategies.

In Ghana, a number of R&T initiatives have been implemented over the past two decades, with support from development partners, notably IFAD, BMGF, GIZ, WB and FAO. The Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme (RTIMP) sponsored by IFAD, has promoted the multiplication and adoption of high yielding cassava varieties and established Good Practice Centres (GPCs) for gari processing. The Presidential Special Initiative (PSI) on starch established a large scale cassava starch processing plant at Bawjiase in Central region which however has never been properly operational. The West African Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP) has funded the release of improved cassava varieties and promoted value addition. The Market Oriented Agricultural Programme (MOAP) with funding from GIZ is trying to commercialize a number of commodities including cassava, by improving productivity, value addition and strengthening linkages with buyers. Cassava: Adding Value for Africa (C:AVA) has worked on developing the entrepreneurial and technical skills of small scale farmers and processors with a view to linking them into commercially viable cassava value chains. The BMGF supports the C:AVA activities. FAO also has on-going projects in Northern and Central regions.

Against this background the project ***“Strengthening linkages between small actors and buyers in the Root and Tuber Sector in Africa”*** will be implemented in seven African countries: Cameroon, Benin, Ghana, Côte D’Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Malawi, Uganda and Rwanda. The project seeks to improve the livelihoods of small producers engaged in the roots and tubers value chain in the selected countries through the promotion of linkages to domestic and regional markets. Ghana will work on cassava.

The project is funded by the European Union (EU) intra-ACP programme. The project will be implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in close collaboration with the national partners in the concerned countries.

The project is structured around four outputs:

- 1 Existing national and regional strategies are aligned with initiatives supporting the development of improved regional market integration for the roots and tubers sector in African ACP regions
- 2 The competitiveness and viability of R&T value chains is strengthened by improving inclusive business models, sustainable intensification of production , SME capacity and Farmer Organizations’ Capacity
- 3 Access to information services and finance is improved for smallholders
- 4 Small producers have access to climatic risk management instruments

The project will work with a wide range of stakeholders and partners such as producers and their organizations, input suppliers, processors, traders, transporters, store managers, agribusiness and financial services providers, NGOs, research institutes, and government officials. At the country level, the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Trade will collaborate with FAO in project implementation. Technical and Operational support activities will be undertaken by the FAO Project staff based at the Headquarters, Regional and Country Offices.

During the project formulation stage, valuable contributions were received through the FAO representations in the concerned countries and through the ambassadors in the ACP group in Brussels. Nonetheless it was decided necessary to organise an inception workshop in each beneficiary country to refine the activities indicated in the project document.

In Ghana, the project was officially launched in Accra on 14 November 2014. In attendance was the Honorable Minister for Food and Agriculture, Mr. Fiifi Kwetey and the FAO Representative in Ghana, Dr. Lamourdia Thiombiano. The occasion was used to reinforce the emerging importance of cassava in Africa in general and Ghana in particular. The launch was followed by an inception workshop held in Winneba in the Central region on 22 January 2015. This report summarizes the proceedings of this workshop.

1.2 Workshop objectives and outputs

The objective of the one day inception workshop was to make a more detailed and country specific work plan for the implementation of the project activities. More specifically, the objectives of the workshop included the following:

1. Validate Project outline and activities
2. Create a platform for FAO Staff and R&T stakeholders to learn from experiences to date from the partners in the R&T sector
3. Identify how the project can build synergies with ongoing initiatives
4. Present and discuss the proposed activities in the project document, adapt them to the local context and identify more specific project activities, potential beneficiaries and project partners

The detailed agenda is presented in Annex 1.

1.3 Methodology

The approaches used to conduct the workshop were presentation on thematic areas by resource persons, discussion, group work, and presentation of group work results.

1.4 Participation

The workshop was attended by 27 participants (20 males and 7 females) representing various knowledge bases in the R&T sector. The participants included District Directors of Agriculture, Representatives from other MDAs, Research Institutes, and Private Planting material producers, Cassava aggregators, R&T project managers and FAO Technical Team. The list of participants is in Annex 2.

2. Opening Session

2.1 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Mr. Godwin Cudjoe introduced the Chairman, Mr. Manu Addae and facilitated the introduction of other participants. Mr. Addae thanked the organizers and sought their cooperation for a successful event. He further acknowledged the partnership between Ghana and the FAO and expressed desire for growth in the relationship between the two parties. He stressed the importance of the R&T sector in food security in Ghana and its emerging role in income generation through innovative value chains. He indicated the importance of strengthening the R & T value chain so as to empower the small producers whose efforts have sustained the sector thus far.

2.2 Welcome Statement by FAO Representative in Ghana

In his welcome statement, Dr. Lamourdia Thiombiano thanked the participants for responding to the invitation to participate in this important event. He noted that the project was a regional one and that Ghana stands to benefit from other participating countries through lesson learning. He further highlighted that the project objectives fall in line with MOFA's sector policy and strategic plans and was hopeful that the interventions outlined in the project document will enhance access to markets and thereby improve sustainable and profitable production. He emphasized that value added products in the cassava value chain need to be developed and aggressively marketed. In his advice to the youth, Dr. Thiombiano emphasized that sound business practices should be adopted to improve the cassava value chain. He ended his statement on the note that partnership among the various stakeholders was crucial for the successful implementation of the project.

2.3 Presentation on Project overview, objectives and outputs by Ms Stepanka Gallatova

A presentation on the project objectives and output areas was delivered by Ms. Stepanka Gallatova. She presented the project background, objectives and its linkages to national goals and FAO strategic objectives. The four key project outputs, target beneficiaries, collaborators and approaches to implementation were described. The presentation is at Annex 3.

The opening session ended in a group photograph, a copy of which is attached.

3. Technical Session

Six presentations on R&T related topics were made by resource persons from designated MDAs and the private sector. The subject areas covered included: policy and strategy, production and seed system, value chain, finance and investment services and climate risk management. Below are summaries of presentations with full power point presentations at Annex 3.

3.1 Current Policies and Strategies governing R&T sector. Degree of Regional Integration and on- going support *by Dr. Dorothy Anima Effah*

Ghana's agriculture sector policy and plans are informed by regional and national level considerations. At the national level, FASDEP prioritizes five key food staples including cassava and yam for achieving national food security. The national strategy for the development of the R&T sector is to build competitive market driven and inclusive R&T commodity chains, linking small producers to large scale markets and providing new uses for R&T crops and strengthening linkages between public and private sector institutions to support agro-processing.

METASIP promotes increased competitiveness and enhanced integration into domestic and international markets through standards and regulations to increase marketed output, complemented with interventions in rural infrastructure, food storage and distribution. Ghana has participated in the processes of ECOWAS's CET (Common External Tariff) since 2004, tackled blockages to regional trade such as non-tariff barriers and unofficial road check points.

RTIMP, WAAPP, and the Agribusiness Support Division set up at MOFA are some of the projects and institutions providing support to the sector.

3.2 Status of Cassava production and seed production in Ghana: Lessons from past programmes and overview of current activities *by Samuel Yaw Adzivor*

Cassava is cultivated in all agro-ecological zones in Ghana but does better in deep loamy soils with good fertility and drainage. It is vegetatively propagated and a plant can give 10 stems over a twelve month period which is considered to be a low multiplication ratio compared to maize.

The main links of the formal seed supply are plant breeding, seed multiplication and distribution, supported with a quality assurance system.

The challenges associated with the informal seed system include low yields, scarcity of planting materials and spread of pests and diseases. While there has been good progress in establishing multiplication programmes for improved planting materials through government and development partner efforts, private seed companies are yet to be fully engaged in the process. The lack of private sector involvement is currently the weak link in a sustainable seed supply system.

3.3 Cassava: Adding Value for Africa (C:AVA) Project Phase 2 (2014-2019) *by Marian Tandoh Wordey*

FRI/CSIR has been involved in numerous projects focused on cassava value addition and market access. The latest of these is the C:AVA Phase 2.

In Ghana, the value chains for cassava products of all types are informally structured and the linkages between the value chain actors are weak. Products are generally traded on an informal basis and contracts between producers, traders, processors and buyers are the exception rather than the norm. Challenges for producers include low root yield (leading to high material cost), farm

inaccessibility (lack of feeder roads), and inability to find markets for their produce. Fresh roots and finished products are transported by any means available, including truck, minibus, taxi, bicycle and head load.

For the processor, challenges include price competitiveness, rudimentary processing facilities, low processing capacity and limited access to credit. With respect to marketing of cassava, there is inadequate product diversity and processing is focused on a few traditional food products such as gari, agbelima and konkonte and little has been done to promote cassava for industrial use. Furthermore, industries are not ready to pay economic prices for roots. Significant research has been conducted on the processing and utilization of HQCF for both food and industrial purposes. At research and pilot level, the results have been promising and shown that HQCF has many applications in the bakery industry as well for the production of glucose syrup and glue extender in the paperboard and plywood industries. However, efforts to mainstream HQCF into the commercial market have largely been unsuccessful due to fragmented production, low volume processing, inconsistent quality, unreliable supply and high costs. Some improvements in processing have taken place and most HQCF processors grate and dewater cassava before drying. However, the bottleneck is the cost of mechanical driers; few processors can afford these and most HQCF is sun dried, resulting in off odours and discolouration of the finished product.

Recommendations for improving the efficiency of the cassava value chain include establishing a national multi-stakeholder cassava platform and a national centre for cassava processing, and enacting legislation for inclusion of HQCF into wheat flour.

3.4 Financial Services for R&T Value Chain Actors by *Roderick Okoampa Ayeh*

Rural banking started in Ghana in 1976. By the year 2000, the number of existing rural banks had increased tremendously and currently there are 142 RCBs with 724 branches nationwide. Rural banks have several financing options including their own products, the rural finance wholesale fund and the urban poverty reduction programme.

Lessons learned from previous activities include the poor banking culture and saving behavior of the majority of clients, high staff turnover in the rural banks and difficulty by Rural Community Banks to provide co-financing due to a low capital base and the unreliability of their clients.

For successful lending, there should be a strong sense of project ownership and commitment by the beneficiaries, a source of long term funding and capacity building of the bank staff in value chain financing

3.5 Private Sector Investment and Finance along the Cassava Value Chain by *Hamdya Ismaila*

Significant market opportunities exist in the cassava value chain: high demand for HQCF, high imports of glucose syrup and a new local content policy. This leads to investment opportunities for ethanol production, animal feed, industrial grade cassava flour, high quality starch, glucose syrup and improved traditional food products.

The challenges facing potential investors include lack of access to land for mass production, low yields (high production costs), high cost of transportation, inadequate contract enforcement and poor structuring of companies.

Investment strategies that have yielded good results include financing farmers through processing companies, collaborative financing, off-taker agreements and the development of on-farm first stage processing utilizing small but efficient equipment.

3.6 Climate Change Risk Management and Information Service on Root and Tuber by Oppong Boadi

Ghana's climate impact, vulnerability and adaptation services focus on R&T among other sectors. A national climate data observation over a period of 40 years, illustrating mean annual daily temperature and total annual rain fall amounts across ecological zones was presented. It was mentioned that climate change is impacting on cassava yield and is forecasted to reduce cassava yield by 43% by 2080.

National climate data has been monitored over the past 40 years and has shown significant changes in mean annual daily temperature and total annual rainfall across various ecological zones. Ghana's national climate change policy and environmental policy include the development and promotion of climate resilient cropping systems, improved post-harvest management and marketing. Ghana is very vulnerable to climate change since the country depends on rain fed agriculture. Vulnerability assessments indicate that cassava yield could decrease by 43% by 2080 if the effects of climate change go unchecked.

Farmers need to be provided with adequate hydrological and temperature data. Intensive education programmes and capacity building on climate issues is needed for relevant staff of MDAs. A technical secretariat should coordinate and monitor the implementation of the policy.

In conclusion, climate change adaptation needs to be mainstreamed in all project activities, and the private sector should be given a key role to play.

3.7 Discussion

In a follow up discussion of the presentations, participants expressed their appreciation and commended the presenters. The discussion centered around a few key topics including the cassava flour substitution policy, finance and investment, impact of climate change and a national cassava platform.

The majority of participants felt that a national cassava substitution policy would send a strong signal to value chain actors that government is serious about promoting cassava production and processing and it would also help to 'level the playing field'. Several millers and bakers have experimented with substitution of wheat with cassava into flour and bakery products. However, it is difficult for them to compete with those who use only wheat, as many consumers have some negative perceptions about cassava and regard it as an inferior food product. Thus government support is critical. However, some participants cautioned that the substitution policy must be gradually phased in, starting from a low substitution level of perhaps just one per cent. This is to give time to production and processing to catch up with the new demand. Once the policy and the demand have become established, the substitution level can be gradually increased.

Inadequate investment and access to finance is a major challenge to modernizing the cassava industry. A number of investment strategies that have worked well in other countries were discussed, including off-taker agreements and financing farmers through processing companies. However, it was acknowledged that the lack of access to land for large-scale production and the consequent reliance on small scale farmers with low productivity and lack of respect of contractual agreements are major obstacles that deter investors from entering this field.

Participants expressed their concern on the risks posed by climate change to the root and tuber sector and recommended that more information on climate change management needs to be disseminated to farmers together with practical advice on mitigation strategies including agronomic practices and natural resource management.

The establishment of a national cassava platform was strongly supported as it was felt that this would be a galvanizing point for all cassava stakeholders to come together and strengthen partnerships and advocacy for the sector.

4. Project Planning Session

4.1 Proposed Project Activities

Ms. Gallatova presented the proposed project activities. She highlighted the link between the EU-ACP project and two other cassava value chain projects being implemented in Ghana by FAO. It will be important to create synergies and complementarities between these projects to ensure efficient use of resources and maximize impact. The detailed presentation is at Annex 3.

- Strategies for regional market integration
- Improved competitiveness and viability of R&T value chains
- Access to financial services
- Access to climate risk management tools

4.2 Organization of Breakout Session

The participants were then grouped into four groups and each group was tasked to refine the proposed project activities according to the country context. Each group was assigned to an Output as shown in Table 1. Each group was asked to elect a chair and rapporteur, fill in the template they were given and make a presentation of their highest priority activities.

The completed templates are at Annex 4.

Table 1: Outputs Assigned to Groups

GROUP	OUTPUTS	
One	1.1	Strategies are aligned with regional market integration for the R&T integration for the R&T sector in Africa ACP regions
Two	2.2	Sustainable market –led production intensification
	2.3	Producer organizations agribusiness management
Three	2.1	Inclusive business models
	2.4	Strengthened SMEs in value addition and business practices
Four	3.0	Access to information and financial services
	4.0	Access to climate risk management instruments

4.3 Group Presentations

Below is a summary of the key suggestions made by each group.

Group 1

Group I highlighted the importance of obtaining more reliable information for traded cassava products by developing market information/data collection systems. This information then needs to be publicized and made available to cassava chain actors to inform market oriented planning. Capacity building of actors in the cassava value chain is a key component of this. There is also a need for standardization (including quality standards, weights, measures and packaging) and traceability of cassava products in order to improve market access, particularly for regional and export markets.

Comment: this group did not seem to attach importance to the cassava flour substitution policy. However, it should be noted that this issue attracted a lot of discussion throughout the course of the workshop and the majority of participants felt the introduction of such a policy to be an important strategy for the development of the cassava sector.

Group 2

The inclusion of all stakeholders, especially private sector, in the seed supply value chain was considered essential to develop a more efficient seed supply system for cassava. Training of extension officers and FBOs in environmentally sound agronomic practices, input use efficiency, natural resource management and control of biotic stress agents was also accorded a high priority. The group also felt that capacity building in agribusiness skills of both FBOs and extension officers to be essential if the cassava sector is to be commercialized and market linkages strengthened. There was also a suggestion to share good practices and tools on agribusiness capacity building with Ministry departments, local service providers and agricultural colleges, with the aim of incorporating this into training/educational curricula.

Group 3

Advocacy for flexible public procurement policies to allow smallholder involvement in procurement was given high importance. Activities to upgrade inclusive business models were also considered a high priority, targeting selected cassava products in the three regions where the project will be active. In Northern region, kokonte and gari were identified because there is a high demand and relatively little competition for these products from the Sahel region, notably Burkina Faso. In Central region, the markets for traditional cassava food products are more or less saturated and the proximity to Accra makes HQCF an attractive product to supply Accra's food and non-food industries. Volta region, especially the northern part, has a huge potential for large scale cassava production and there is thus potential for producing commercial quantities of HQCF to supply industrial markets. In addition, there are market opportunities for gari and agbelima in cross border trade.

SMEs require support on value addition, improved processing techniques, food safety and hygiene and business management in order to improve their efficiency and competitiveness.

Comment: the establishment of a national R&T or cassava platform wasn't mentioned during the group work, but it was highlighted as a key issue during the workshop presentations and plenary discussion as a key strategy for strengthening the cassava sector.

Group 4

To attract investment into the cassava sector, it is essential to obtain more reliable data related to scale of production and volume of trade. The lack of reliable data on the sector was also noted by Group 1. Producer groups and local financial service providers need to engage to ensure better mutual understanding of constraints to make investments, manage risk and shape financial products. Training also needs to be intensified for local bank managers and staff of rural banks and for FBOS on responsible contract farming.

Regarding climate risk management, it is clear that current climatic trends will result in significant yield reduction in the R&T sector if left unchecked. There is therefore an urgent need to develop drought resistant varieties and strengthen collaboration amongst stakeholders to disseminate information, share good practices and provide training on climate risk management tools.

Comment: The workshop was extremely aware of the risks posed by climate change to the R&T sector. A lot of data collection and analysis has already been undertaken but the information needs to be disseminated to farmers together with practical advice on mitigation strategies.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

The workshop participants agreed on the relevance of the project and its framework and further acknowledged its alignment with both GoG and FAO Ghana policy and strategic thrusts in the Roots and Tuber sector.

For the past two decades Ghana has worked on a number of R&T initiatives with support from development partners, notably IFAD, BMGF, WB and FAO. Initiatives include the Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme (RTIMP), the Cassava Presidential Special Initiative (PSI), the Market Oriented Agriculture Programme (MOAP) and FAO's on-going cassava value chain projects in the Northern and Central regions. The FAO African Roots and Tubers Project (ART) should coordinate with these initiatives and create synergies, particularly with FAO's on-going projects.

The workshop made several recommendations on where the ART could add value to these existing initiatives and improve the performance of Ghana's cassava sector:

A cassava/wheat substitution policy will provide a strong signal that government is committed to the development of the sector. The project should therefore advocate for this policy to be put into place as soon as possible. Participants also suggested that the establishment of a cassava multi-stakeholder platform at the national level would be a good way of improving sector coordination and strengthening advocacy for the cassava sector.

There is further a need to upgrade the business models along the cassava value chain. It was unanimously agreed that all value chain actors need capacity building in agribusiness and management skills. A major problem hindering the development of the cassava sector is the lack of investment and financing. Participants agreed that more reliable market data on the sector is required to enhance investment, especially from the private sector. Additionally, capacity of rural banks needs to be strengthened to appraise cassava business plans and make informed decisions on lending to the sector.

Access to improved planting material is a major challenge to increasing productivity and profitability of the sector. While a number of seed supply systems have been established by GoG and development partners, there has not been adequate uptake by the private sector. The inclusion of all stakeholders, especially the private sector, is essential to develop a more efficient seed supply system for cassava.

There was a high awareness of the risks posed by climate change to the R&T sector. Appropriate information needs to be disseminated to farmers together with practical advice on mitigation strategies. This should be supplemented with advice on environmentally sound agronomic practices, input use efficiency and natural resource management.

The chairman in his concluding statement thanked all participants for their enthusiasm and contributions throughout the programme. He emphasized that the project management team will consider all the suggestions and incorporate them appropriately during the implementation process.

6. Annexes

Annex 1 : Agenda of Inception Workshop

Time	Activities	Responsible
08:30	Registration participants	
Session 1: Opening		
09:00	Welcome remarks	Dr Thiombiano Lamourdia FAO Representative in Ghana
09:20	Presentation of the project objectives and output areas	FAO project team
09:45	<i>Photo moment and Coffee break</i>	
Session 2: Technical session: Presentations		
10:15	Presentation of current policies and strategies governing R&T sector, degree of regional market integration and on-going support	Dr Dorothy Anima Effah, PPMED,MOFA
10:30	Presentation of status of cassava production and seed system in Ghana. Lessons from past programmes and overview of current initiatives	Mr Samuel Adzivor Head GSID/PPRSD
10:45	Overview of value chains of cassava. Lessons from past VC development support and overview of on-going initiatives.	Ms. Marian Tandoh Wordey CSIR/FRI
11:00	Presentation of financial services for R&T value chain actors	Mr Roderick Aryeh, ARB Apex Bank
11:15	Private Sector Investment and Finance Along the Cassava Value Chain	Ms Hamdya Ismaila, General Manager, Vesture Capital Trust Fund
11:30	Climate risk management and information service on R & T	Mr Opong Boadi, Head, Climate Change, EPA
11:45 –	Plenary discussion: - Discussion creating synergies between various initiatives	
12:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
Session 3: Project planning session		
13:15	Presentation of proposed project activities - Organization of Break out Groups	FAO Project Team
13:45	Group work to refine proposed project activities. Group 1: Policies & regional and domestic market integration Group 2: Production and seed systems and farmer organizations Group 3: Value chain development and SMEs Group 4: Financial services and climate change risk management tools	Facilitators
14:45	Coffee break	
15:00	Group presentations (10 minutes each) and plenary discussion	Group Leaders/Rapporteurs
16:00	Discussion on overall project framework and work plan	FAO project team
18:00	Conclusion and recommendation, workshop closure	FAO Project Team

Annex 2: List of FAO Workshop Participants

NO.	Name	INSTITUTION	POSITION	LOCATION	TEL NO./ EMAIL
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Annex 3: Welcome Statement by FAO Representative in Ghana – Dr. Lamourdia Thiombiano at the TCP/GHA/3404 Stakeholder Lesson Learning Workshop and Launch of GCP/RAF/448/EC – November, 2014.

The Chairman,

Honourable Minister of Food and Agriculture (Hon. Fiifi Kwetey),

The Chief Director MoFA,

Directors of Ministry of Food and Agriculture,

Development partners,

Cassava value chain actors,

Representatives of Farmer Based Organizations,

The media,

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this Stakeholders Lesson learning Workshop for the project “Empowering Cassava Value Chain Actors to Enhance Incomes, Employment and Food Security”. As you may recall this project is being implemented by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and FAO.

The present workshop will also mark the Launching of a new project titled “Strengthening linkages between Small Actors and Buyers in the Roots and Tubers Sector in Africa”

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Cassava is grown by smallholder farmers and it is Africa’s second most important food staple in terms of per capita calories consumed. At present, approximately half of the world production of cassava is in Africa. On the basis of current projections, it is expected that by 2020, over 60 percent of global cassava production will be in Africa in a context of fast growing population. Cassava, therefore, will be an accessible favored source of carbohydrates serving as a food security crop.

Mr. Chairman, it is estimated that the introduction of high-yielding varieties, improved pest and disease control and better processing methods could increase cassava production in Africa by 15 percent. Statistics available indicate that, Ghana is the third largest cassava producer in Africa, with incomes from its production and processing representing about one fifth of the country’ agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

It is worth mentioning that, cassava has become a multipurpose crop that responds to food systems priorities of developing countries, to trends in the global economy as well as to the challenges of climate change. In line with these trends, several socio-economical assessments have shown that Cassava has the potential to increase farm incomes, reduce rural and urban poverty and help close the food security gap.

Ladies and Gentlemen, African Governments have recognized the huge potential of cassava to spur rural industrial development. It is therefore important to find appropriate strategies to reduce the numerous challenges in the cassava sector, which includes: labor-intensive and subsistence-oriented production practices; low levels of technology uptake; high production costs; poorly developed post-harvest systems; and weak linkages to markets, just to mention a few.

To support in the transformation and championing the cause of cassava, FAO is supporting countries particularly in West Africa, in the implementation of a number of projects to exploit the crops full potential to contribute for poverty reduction, rural and economic transformation.

In Ghana, the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO are currently implementing two cassava projects. The Project we will be learning lessons from through this Workshop is being implemented in the Central Region, Gomoa East and Awutu Senya Districts and in the Gonja West District, Northern Region. This project seeks to empower value chain actors to enhance their incomes, employment and livelihoods through productivity improvement and better linkages between cassava farmers, processors and markets.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the current gathering will help consolidate lesson learning and visibility of the project and document good practices.

Mr. Chairman, it is interesting to note that, this project complements an FAO Regional Poverty Reduction Initiative programme being implemented in West Gonja District in the Northern Region of Ghana. While the Rural Poverty Reduction Initiative focuses on upstream work particularly policy analysis, design and implementation, support on building Community Development Centers as value chains platforms, this cassava project focuses more on the downstream aspects of the value chain related to sustainable productivity.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as I mentioned earlier, we would like to take advantage of the current gathering to launch the project on “Strengthening Linkages between Small Actors and Buyers in the Roots and Tubers Sector in Africa”. Funded by the European Union (EU), this will be implemented in seven selected African countries: Cameroon, Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Uganda and Rwanda: This project aims at:

- Ensuring that existing national and regional strategies are aligned with initiatives on improved regional market integration for the roots and tuber sector in African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Regions;
- Strengthening inclusive business models, sustainable intensification of production, small and medium enterprise and farmers organizations capacity;
- Improving access to information and financial services for smallholder farmers; and finally
- Improving small producer’s access to climatic risk management instruments.

Mr. Chairmen, target beneficiaries would be policy makers, farmers, managers and staff of FBOs, small value chain actors, extension agents, small and medium enterprises, financial services staff and agribusiness providers with emphasis on women and youth. This project when implemented would not only contribute to the transformation of cassava but also support in the improvement of the livelihoods of small producers engaged in the roots and tubers value chains in Ghana.

Finally Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, FAO will continue to strongly support and partner with Government of Ghana in its efforts in developing the cassava value chain, agro-processing, rural marketing enterprises and industries and in promoting rural employment for the youth in agriculture,

It is my hope that this workshop yield important lessons and agribusiness best practices in the cassava sector which could be upscale in Government and FAO collaborative interventions across the country.

Thank you for your attention.

Annex 4: Statement by the Honourable Minister of Food And Agriculture, Mr. Fiifi Kwetey at the TCP/GHA/3404 Stakeholder Lesson Learning Workshop and Launch of GCP/RAF/448/EC – November, 2014.

The Honourable Minister for Trade and Industry

The FAO Regional Deputy Representative to Africa/FAO Representative to Ghana,

Representatives of Development Partners

Directors of Ministries

Project Managers and Coordinators,

Private Sector Organisations in Agriculture

Representatives of cassava value chain actors

Directors of Research Organizations

Members of the Media

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great privilege and honour to be given the opportunity to make a statement at the Launch of The EU-Funded Root and Tuber Programme Facility “Strengthening Linkages between Small Actors and Buyers in the Root and Tuber Sector in Africa” in Ghana.

I am reliably informed that this project will be implemented in seven African countries viz (Benin, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda) under FAO Programme Facility arrangement and I am excited because this facility will complement other related programmes such as the TCP on Empowering cassava value chain actors to enhance income, employment, food security and the rural poverty reduction initiative using cassava as an entry point, both of which my Ministry is in partnership with FAO in the implementation process. I pledge that we will do our best to achieve the laudable outcomes of the facility.

Mr. Chairman, this facility I am told was signed only last month and launching it today shows how diligently and speedily FAO and other partners has worked. I hope this work attitude will become the norm for the successful implementation of the facility. I therefore entreat all project staff at both steering committee and management level to discharge their responsibilities with a sense of urgency, commitment and efficiency.

Listening to the overview by Ms. Gallatova, I noticed that the project outcomes are in line with the vision and goals the Ministry of Food and Agriculture envisages for the agriculture sector in Ghana as contained in the Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy (FASDEP II).

Mr. Chairman, kindly permit me to state the vision for the Food and Agriculture sector as referred to above as “a modernized agriculture culminating in a structurally transformed economy and evident in food security, employment opportunities and reduced poverty” This congruence in goals for the facility and Ghana’s Agriculture sector shows the extent to which the partnership between the FAO and the Government of Ghana has grown over the period of our engagement

For several years, FAO has supported our agricultural development through funding and technical assistance in the areas of policy development, emergency initiatives and TCP projects. In particular, I recall the FAO support extended to the MOFA in the conception and successful implementations of the Special Programme for Food Security. This Programme enabled small scale farmers to learn

simple field water harvesting technologies in the production of rice, plantain and vegetables in selected districts in Ghana. It was a tremendous success.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to, on behalf of the Government and the people of Ghana express my sincere gratitude to the FAO for securing the funding for this facility from the European Union (EU). The funding for the seven (7) participating countries amounts to (€5m) five million euros for the four (4) year period. Ghana's share of the fund has not yet been determined but I hope we shall be considered for an amount worth our status as a leader in root and tuber research, development and extension in Africa

The involvement of EU in this facility is reassuring, taking its support to the cocoa and rice sectors into consideration for which it was very much committed.

In Ghana and most African countries, the root and tuber crops (cassava, yam, cocoyam and sweet potato) serve as staple foods accounting for about 20% of calories consumed. Statistics indicate that in 2013 cassava, yam, cocoyam and sweet potato recorded the following production levels (15,989,953.05Mt, 707458.82Mt, 1261477.19Mt, and 56,197.80 Mt) respectively. With over 90% of Ghana's farming population engaged in root and tuber crop related activities it contributes immensely to incomes and rural livelihoods.

Further opportunities for enhancing incomes exist in utilizing root and tuber crops for industrial applications in the brewery, pharmaceutical and lumber industries. But this transition hinges on a well thought out commercialization strategy which incorporates value addition and market linkages among the value chain actors.

Fortunately for Ghana some lessons on this approaches can be learnt from a number of interventions including the Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme , the Presidential Special Initiative (PSI) on cassava, and the value chain enhancement programme under the ADVANCE Initiative and the market oriented agriculture programme (MOAP) for maize, rice, vegetables and cassava.

Mr. Chairman, all value chain actors have a collective responsibility to support the root and tuber industry, as the weakest link/actor will endanger the effective running of the sector. I challenge you to bring your expertise to bear on the pertinent issues in value chain development such as product development through innovation, commercial viability of products and enhancement of core competences of actors. These and many more others including the systematic documentation and communication of successful value chain development strategies would engage the attention of the facility managers.

I am confident that all project stakeholders and implementation partners will find space and good will to contribute in an integrated manner to the successful implementation of this facility.

I sincerely thank the FAO and EU for offering the Government of Ghana this rare opportunity to participate in the facility. To the organizers of the launch event, I am very grateful to you for the invitation

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I now have the singular honour to declare the Ghana chapter duly launched.

Thank you all for your attention

And may God Bless You.

Annex 5: Group Work Presentations

Group 1

Output 1: Existing national and regional strategies are aligned with initiatives supporting the development of improved regional market integration for the roots and tubers sector in African ACP regions.

Activities will be carried out in alignment with ECOWAS Agricultural Policy for West Africa. The following sub-outputs and activities to be implemented in each country are:

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L ¹	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
1.1 Enabling policy, legislation and institutions strengthened.				
(i) Mapping of key ² policies and institutional arrangements affecting domestic and regional trade in cassava; analysis of weaknesses and misalignments. Identification of reforms, including gender sensitive ones.	1 policy appraisal report	HIGH	MOFA MOTI MFARI PEASANT FARMERS ASSC. OF GHANA	Specific trade, import or other domestic policy areas that need attention? Updates of existing appraisals Policy to collect data information on volumes of cassava products that leave our borders 2. Policy on traceability 3. Policy on standardization
(ii) National level capacity development in policy formulation, coordination and implementation.	1 work-shop M	MEDIUM	CIDA MOFA MOTI USAID JICA	Specific capacity gap to be addressed? Target institution Policy Analysis.
1.2 Capacity to formulate and implement agri-food sector strategies improved.				

¹ Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

² Note that this would include both agricultural policies directly affecting the sub-sector and non- agricultural (labour, social protection, trade, finance, health etc.) policies indirectly affecting the sub-sector

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L¹	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
(i) Support to public private partnerships and commodity platforms to develop/update strategies that are aligned with domestic and regional opportunities.	1 strategy developed/ updated	CRITICAL	RTIMP IFAD WAAP MCA C:AVA 1&2	Target people/platform; type of training. Support implementation when strategies are developed. 2. Capacity building of the actors. (public and private)
(ii) Contribute to the sustainability of existing market info systems for increased domestic and intra-regional trade.	1 training	CRITICAL	MOFA ESOKO MOTI MFARI	Build database on available market information and make it accessible to the actors.
(iii) Support to the development of systems for monitoring strategy implementation.	1 monitoring system	CRITICAL	MOFA RTIMP	Develop a district, regional and national monitoring systems.

Group 2

Output 2(a): improved competitiveness and viability of R&T value chains through improved sustainable intensification of production and professionalization of producer organizations.

This output will contribute to enhancing the capacities of market-led productivity with a more diverse portfolio of suitable and input use-efficient cassava varieties. Simultaneously, building on the approach and materials developed under 3ACP and in collaboration with FBOs, Ministries of Cooperatives, and national agricultural training institutes, the capacity and professionalization of producer organizations operating in the Roots and Tubers sector will be strengthened.

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L ³	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
2.2 Sustainable market-led production intensification				
(i) Diagnostic studies on the status of existing seed systems, inputs, and agronomic practices within cassava cropping systems.	1 report	MEDIUM	RTIMP, WAAPP	Specific agronomic issues to study? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The profitability of agronomic practices and cropping systems should be looked into • Post Emergence herbicides for cassava should be investigated
(ii) Develop strategies, in collaboration with local research institutes and agro-dealer networks, to access high-yield quality planting materials ⁴ suited to prevailing agro-ecologies.	1 strategy	HIGH	RTIMP, WAAPP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand to include all stakeholders in the seed value chain

³ Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

⁴ These will be varieties developed through conventional crop improvement techniques which are most suited to their agro-ecologies and farming systems.

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L ³	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
<p>Farmer Field School Programme</p> <p>(iii) Develop or adapt FFS modules covering the growing of the most suitable varieties of cassava.</p> <p>(iv) Train trainers (FO managers, extension agents, NGOs) in the adoption of environmentally sound agronomic practices, input use-efficiency; natural resource management; control of biotic stress agents.</p> <p>(v) Train farmers on adoption of environmentally sound agronomic practices, input use-efficiency; natural resource management; control of biotic stress agents using the Farmer Field Schools approach and on-farm demonstration trials.</p>	<p>1 FFS programme</p> <p>25 trainers</p> <p>5 FOs * 250 farmers</p>	<p>MEDIUM</p> <p>MEDIUM</p> <p>HIGH</p>	<p>RTIMP, MOFA</p> <p>RTIMP, MOFA, WAAPP,</p>	<p><i>If possible, suggest FBOs and extension units/NGOs to be trained as ToT.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring should be focused on to ensure the gains of FFS are put to full use. • If possible, suggest farmer organizations
<p>(vi) Train R&D institutes on the management of plant genetic resources; pre-breeding; enhancing conventional breeding techniques; development and dissemination of disease-free planting materials.</p>	<p>20 researchers</p>	<p>MEDIUM</p>	<p>WACCI,WAAPP</p>	

2.3 Producer organizations skills enhanced in agribusiness management practices.				
(i) Two year mentoring programme for managers of national and district level FBOs on agribusiness management practices, (business, finance, marketing & logistics). Customize to local context and cassava marketing environments.	5 FOs * 4 staff * 4 trainings	HIGH	RTIMP	<i>If possible identify districts and FBOs</i> <i>Potential role of the Community Development Centres?</i>
(ii) Additional capacity building for potential female farmer group leaders to develop management, literacy, numeracy and interpersonal skills.	5 FOs * 4 female leaders * 4 trainings	HIGH	AGRA,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm record and book-keeping
(iii) Implement an internship programme between FBOs to exchange good practices in FBO management.	3 FOs * 5 staff	LOW		✓ Attach a person who is knowledgeable in FBO management to the FBOs to guide them to handle internal daily matters.
(iv) Share lessons on good practices and tools on agribusiness capacity building for farmer organizations with relevant ministry departments, local service providers and agricultural colleges, so that they can incorporate it in their training/educational curricula.	1 national level capacity building programme	HIGH	AGRA,	<i>Which institutions? How?</i> MOFA (DAES) All Agriculture Colleges and Institutes

Group 3

Output 2 (b): Improved competitiveness and viability of R&T value chains through improved value chain coordination and professionalization of SMEs.

Inclusive Business Models⁵ will be fostered between small producer groups, SMEs, and traders and medium and large businesses in the roots and tubers sector. Activities will be carried out in close collaboration with national commodity platforms, national chambers of commerce, SME association, FBOs and agribusiness teams in the Ministries of Agriculture and Trade. The facilitation of inclusive business model will focus on increasing the number and monetary value of business transactions between small actors and buyers at domestic and regional levels.

Simultaneously, building on the approach and materials developed under 3ACP and in collaboration with Ministries of Industries and national agricultural training institutes, the capacity and professionalization of SMEs operating in the Roots and Tubers sector will be strengthened.

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L ⁶	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
2.1 Inclusive business models developed for domestic and regional procurement				
(i) Review public procurement policies to identify constraints and opportunities for linking smallholders to institutional buyers.	1 report	It is critical and would need to be reviewed.	Not to our awareness	Advocacy for flexible public procurement policies to allow smallholder involvement in procurement Sensitize and Strengthen smallholder group formation and registrations. Promotion of nuclear out-grower system for primary processing to cut cost.

⁵Inclusive Business Models implies a business case for trade between business of all scales, with mutual benefits for the poor and the business community – based on the objective that people transition out of poverty.

⁶ Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L ⁶	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
<p>(ii) Inclusive business model approach:</p> <p>a. Appraisal of existing business linkages between smallholder suppliers and domestic and regional buyers⁷ of fresh and processed cassava products. Preference will be given to support business models with SMEs owned by women and female traders.</p> <p>b. Producer-buyer meetings to identify bottlenecks needed to improve the linkage and increase business transactions</p> <p>c. Activities to address bottlenecks. Examples include: Fairer and rapid pricing mechanisms, developing of common transport and logistics strategy; improving product quality, trainings of traders in product handling, training for farmer groups in post-harvest transport and storage. With the help of local financial service providers building on training provided under Output 3, village savings and loan initiatives will also be put in place with selected farmer groups</p>	<p>≥3 business models appraisals</p> <p>≥3 forums</p> <p>≥3 upgraded BM strategies develop & implement</p> <p>≥6 contracts signed between FBOs or SMEs with buyers</p>	<p>Critical</p> <p>High</p> <p>Critical</p>	<p>CAVA, RTIMP</p> <p>RTIMP, CAVA. WAAPP,</p> <p>CAVA</p>	<p>Which specific value chain (gari, HQCF, starch, chips etc.)? Geographic focus?</p> <p>Volta – Gari, agbelima and HQCF</p> <p>Central –Starch , HQCF, and Chips</p> <p>North - Gari and Cassava Chips</p> <p>Potential role of Community Development Centres?</p> <p>Primary processing factory owned by community but managed by an independent technical person.</p> <p>C. i. Training/sensitizing stakeholders on the need for pricing policies in the value chain by showing them a clear production cost (right from the farm production to processing of finished goods).</p> <p>ii. Records keeping to ascertain margins to enhance pricing.</p> <p>Iii. Village savings and loans initiatives should be promoted among processors.</p>

⁷ Including institutional buyers and buyers of confectionary, fast food and non-food products such as textile, packaging, plywood, animal feed, pharmaceuticals, and beverage industries.

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L ⁸	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
<i>2.4 Strengthened SMEs in value addition and better business practices</i>				
(i) Training for SMEs on value addition. E.g.(i) environmentally sustainable processing and packaging techniques; (ii) food safety and hygiene standards; (iii) logistics and (iv) good business management practices.	25 staff + 5 female staff * 2 trainings	Critical	CAVA, RTIMP	More products developed on the product alternatives are transferred to SMEs to take up. Proper packaging to ensure food safety. Capacity building in the area of supply chain management Training quality certifications and business management practices.
(ii) Support to changes in business practices that can improve procurement from smallholders – e.g. intro of standing orders/payments; more rapid payment systems; organized transport etc.	1 report	Critical	CAVA(not adequate)	Scale-up of the scope to reach wider smallholders across the country. Payment on delivery.
(iii) Strengthening the collective bargaining power of SMEs in inter-professional bodies and platforms through capacity building support to SME associations.	30 SME reps	High	CAVA, RTIMP	Form a formidable cassava actors association.

⁸ Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

Group 4

Output 3: Access to information services and finance is improved for smallholders.

A value chain finance approach to increase access to finance and investment opportunities for actors operating in the roots and tubers chains will be adopted.

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L⁹	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
<i>3.1 Inclusive financial instruments for smallholders and rural areas developed</i>				
(i) Identify information gaps on the sub-sectors related to scale of production, volume of trade - fresh and processed. Promote or contribute to the development of monitoring system in each country to collect and follow such data.	1 Smallholders	Critical	RTIP RTIMP CAVA WAAPP	Strengthen collaboration existing projects or programme actor/stakeholders Intensify education dissemination to smallholders and relevant actors
(ii) Convene producer groups and local financial service providers to exchange information on their business models and ensure better mutual understanding of constraints to make investments, manage risk and shape financial products.	≥ 2 forums	Critical	REP/NBSSI RTIMP Participatory financial institution	Semi annuals and reviews
(iii) Training to financial services providers on value chain finance approaches to develop inclusive financial instruments suitable to cassava value chain stakeholders	20 staff	High	REP RAFIP	Training should be intensified for local bank staff including a member of the board member and a manager
Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L¹⁰	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
<i>3.2 Strategies for increasing investment in R&T developed.</i>				
(i) Build the capacity of agribusiness service providers to conduct risk assessments and design investment strategies for better financial services for R&T sector.	20 staff * 2 trainings	Medium	Universities, Farm Institutes, MOFA	Develop linkage up with the Universities and agricultural technical institutions that can provide agribusiness
(ii) Guidance to ministries and financial	20 staff	low	Bank of Ghana	Should not be prioritise

⁹Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

¹⁰Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

regulatory bodies on legal frameworks and enabling environments that improve access to finance and inclusive investment in food staples value chains.			MOF MOFA	
(iii) Capacity building on the planning and implementing of responsible contract farming operations for cassava.	1 training	High	Processors and marketers	Training on contract enforcement
(iv) Workshop to define mutually-accepted principles for responsible agricultural investments.	2 work-shop	High	Not available	At least two workshops

Output 4: Small producers have access to climatic risk management instruments.

Activities will be implemented in close collaboration with relevant departments of Meteorology and Climate Change. The following sub-outputs and activities to be implemented in each country are:

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L¹¹	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
<i>4.1 Climate information services developed</i>				
(i) Analysis of climate impacts on R&T to identify to what extent climate variables cause inter-annual production variability. The analysis will also look at the decision related to production and marketing from smallholder producers.	1 report	Critical	EPA RTIMP MOFA Ministry of Environment	Develop very climate resistant varieties

¹¹Choose from Critical, High, Medium or Low

Proposed project Activities	Target	How relevant is the activity to Ghana? C, H, M or L¹¹	Partners that have already worked on this topic	Provide specific suggestions for project implementation
(ii) Development of climate information services and user interface platform to enable better interpretation and application of climate information on the production of R&T.	1 platform	Critical	EPA Meteorological Department of Geological service University of Ghana Cergies Ministry of land and natural resource Ministry of Energy Water Resource Institute	Strengthen collaboration among stakeholders and build common platform
(i) Analysis of impacts of climate variability on production, price fluctuations and identification of climate related determinants of production and risks associated with price fluctuations, leading to location specific risk management strategies.	1 strategy	Critical	MOFA CSIR EPA Meteorological Department of Geological service University of Ghana Cergies Ministry of land and natural resource Ministry of Energy Water Resource Institute	Strengthen collaboration among stakeholders and build common platform
(ii) Training on agricultural support services on climate risk management tools to reduce production variability.	Training of 20 staff	Critical	NADMO MOFA EPA Fire Service	Timely delivery of information by the support services Identify communities that have managed their climate issue well and publicly acknowledge them