

FOOD LOSS IN GRAIN VALUE CHAINS CAUSES AND RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS

Cereals, pulses and oilseeds



SORGHUM



BEANS



MAIZE



COWPEA



RICE

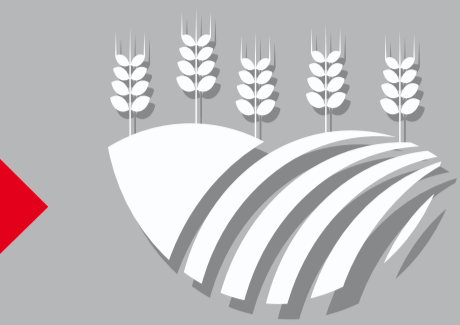


SUNFLOWER

Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda



Inadequate harvesting techniques
Late or early rains
Difficulty of harvesting when double cropping

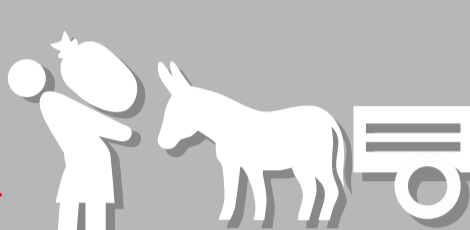


HARVESTING HARVEST ON THE STALK

Improve agricultural practices
Improve harvesting practices, women participate in decision-making
Access to and use of improved harvesting techniques and equipment
Use of improved resistant varieties



Low quality sacks, bags or other unappropriated containers
Rough or improper handling and loading of bags



TRANSPORT OF PANICLES ON FARM

Use of adequate transportation equipment and careful handling
Improve vehicles and other transportation means



Inadequate drying practices
Insufficient use of tarpaulins or other drying equipments
Rot and molding because of insufficient drying



DRYING

Improve drying practices
Use of appropriate and adapted equipment for drying to prevent contamination



Inadequate threshing practises
Difficult nature of manual winnowing
Low performance of equipment
Uneven gender distribution of tasks

SHELLING THRESHING MANUAL POUNDING WINNOWING SORTING

Promote good use of mechanical threshing to reduce fatigue and overturning methods
Use tarpaulins to gather the grain and to avoid contamination (tarpaulins, drying cribs, etc)



Infestation by pests
Correct storage materials or treatment not used



STORAGE AT FARMER LEVEL

Good storage management practices (e.g. use of older stocks before the more recent)
Use of hermetic storage equipment and hermetic bags and silos



Rough handling and loading of bags
Traders' lack of funds
Pilfering during transportation
Bad road and vehicle conditions



TRANSPORT AT WHOLESALER

Grain protected from heat and moisture
Use of tarpaulins to protect the bags from ripping
Use of quality bags/sacks



Poor storage management
No treatment of warehouse stock for pests or moulds
Low quality packing
Rough handling

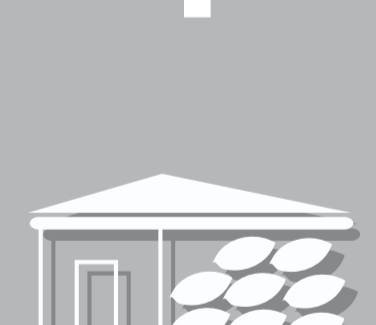


STORAGE AT COMMUNITY LEVEL DEPOTS/WAREHOUSES

Raise awareness of warehouse personnel on good storage management practices
Use of tarpaulins to protect the bags from ripping
Support building of storage warehouses



Hygiene regulations not followed
Bags stacked up to the roof
Untrained personnel applying pesticides



STORAGE AT WHOLESALER

Build warehouses to store filled bags for the market
Control, improve and secure quality during storage



Traders' lack of funds
Poor market infrastructure
Spoiled produce mixed with good



MARKETING

Support construction of adequate market infrastructure
Control, improve and secure the quality of products, equipment and packaging
Infrastructure development (roads, markets)



Poor milling and seed oil presses
Inefficient transformation methods



TRANSFORMATION E.G. INTO FLOUR, OIL

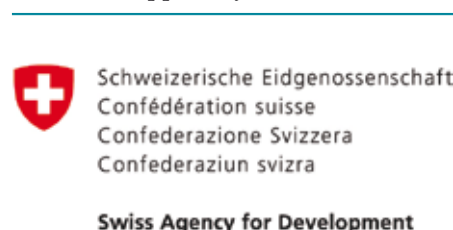
Use more efficient mills and seed oil presses
Use of effective and appropriate methods



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