



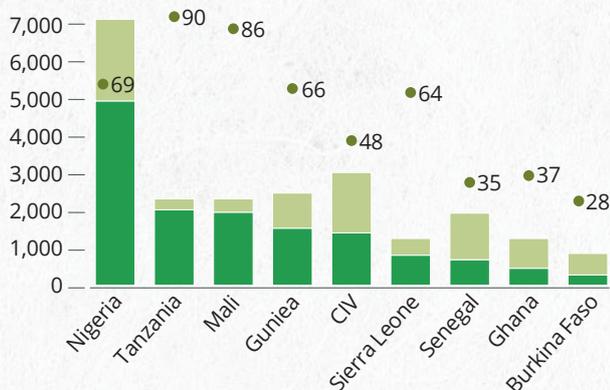
Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI)

Empowering small-scale rice farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa

Let's talk about rice in Africa

Rice is one of the most important staple foods in Sub-Saharan Africa, however average yields are the lowest in the world. In recent years, demand for rice has been growing faster than anywhere else, far outstripping the sub-region's production. This trend is predicted to continue for the next years due to population increase, urbanization and changes in consumption patterns. Thus, most African countries must import vast amounts of rice to satisfy the demand.

Production, imports and self-sufficiency ratio 2019



- Milled rice production in 1,000 tons
- Milled rice imports in 1,000 tons
- Self-sufficiency ratio in %

90 % of the locally cultivated rice is produced by smallholder farmers on fields smaller than one hectare. These farmers often lack knowledge of modern farming and crop protection practices, have limited access to high-quality inputs and can hardly afford mechanization services. Moreover, infrastructure for efficient storage, transport and processing is often inappropriate.

Hence, quantity and quality of locally produced rice is often low. Given that production costs are relatively high and prices for the lesser quality products are low, smallholder rice farmers mostly remain poor or live below the poverty line.

Many governments have realized the importance of the rice sector to safeguard food security and to foster rural economic growth and value addition within the country. Several governments are promoting import substitution for rice and marked it for rapid expansion and modernization in their national strategies for food security, self-sufficiency and rural development.

The Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI) aims to significantly improve the livelihoods of smallholder rice farmers and their families by increasing the quality and quantity of domestic rice. CARI's technical and financial assistance is based on a value chain approach. The principal aim is to foster linkages amongst rice value chain actors, and as a result, create win-win situations for all stakeholders. By doing so, the project strongly contributes to the following Sustainable Development Goals:



Project countries



Project budget

CARI Phase I:
€ 21 Million

CARI Phase II:
€ 10 Million

Project duration

CARI Phase I:
December 2013 - June 2018

CARI Phase II:
July 2018 - June 2021

Commissioned by



Co-funded by

**BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation**

Objectives CARI II



Knowledge management and cooperation

Exchange of experiences to foster the rice value chain has increased

1

2

Financial services

Access to financing opportunities has improved for main stakeholders in the rice value chain



Inclusive business models and productivity

Viability of the business relationships has been sustainably improved

3

4

Policy advice

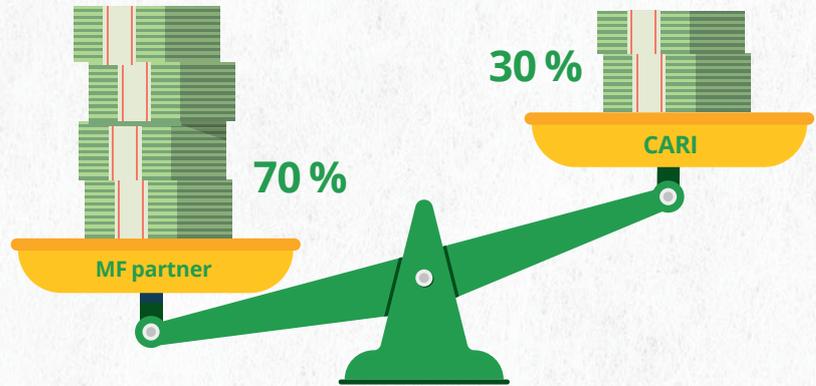
Private sector interests are reflected in all project countries' national rice policies



Matching Fund

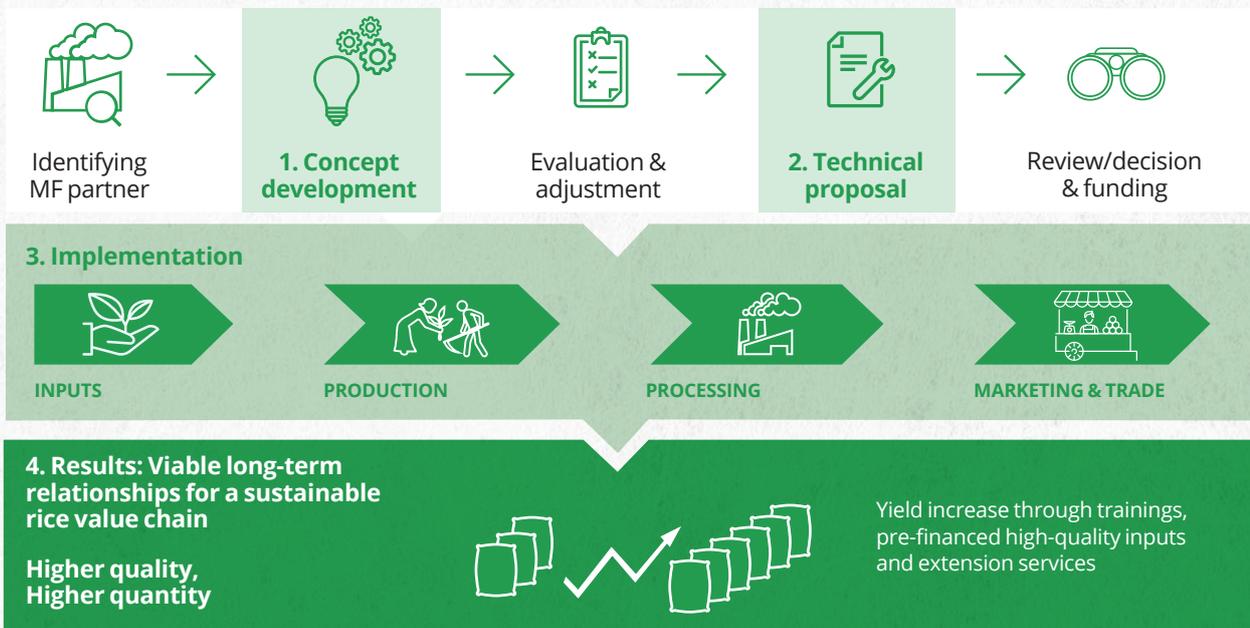
The Matching Fund (MF) is CARI's most important implementation instrument. It leverages private sector funds to mobilize resources and realize synergies which result in higher impacts and better market linkages. Jointly defined activities such as farmers trainings on the SRP standard, business skills and access to finance are technically supported by CARI but implemented by the MF partners. Through this approach, the sustainability of the project is ensured. The MF partners have ownership of the project as they predominantly fund the activities and bear the responsibility to implement them.

Share of MF contribution



Number of active MF projects **16**

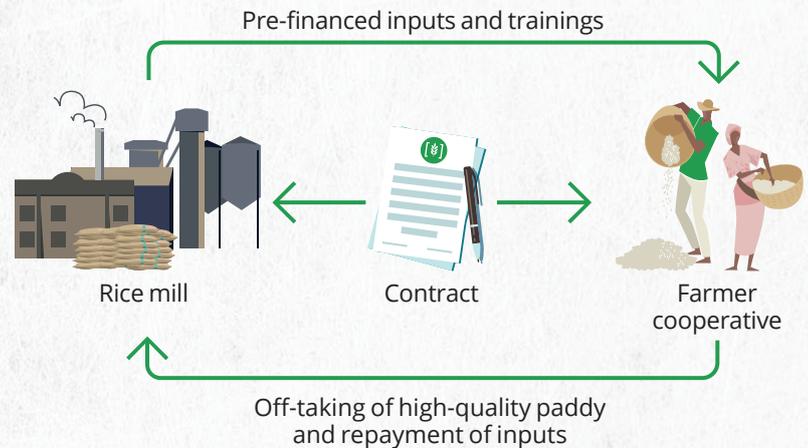
Matching Fund mechanism



CARI trainings

Contract farming

The rice production is carried out on the basis of an agreement between the farmer cooperative and off-taker (e.g. a rice mill). Specifications regarding the quality, quantity and price are part of the agreement of the agreement. It leads to more security for both parties.



Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) based on SRP

Holistic rice production training which covers all stages of the cropping cycle from land preparation to post-harvest handling.



* please find more information on SRP on p.13

Nutrition training

Fosters the understanding of nutrition needs. The training aims to improve health of all family members.

Parboiling training

Imparts knowledge to improve the quality of parboiled rice through improved parboiling technology. Principles of parboiling as a business are also addressed.

Diversification training

GAP training for crops other than rice. The aim is to diversify the farmers' incomes and to improve the family diet.

Farmers Business School (FBS)

Conveys the principles of farming as a business, which includes financial management and benefits of producer organizations.

Cooperative Business School (CBS)

Focuses on the training of Farmer Business Organizations (FBOs) and agricultural small-holdings.

This contains developing business models and management skills of the FBO leaders.

Access to finance

Focuses on training processors and farmers about the requirements of financial services providers to access a loan.



Achievements

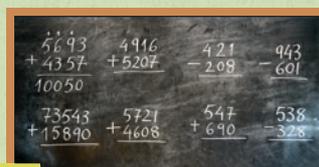


800,000

Beneficiaries have increased their income and improved their food security (including indirect beneficiaries)

190,000

Smallholder farmers have received trainings in good agricultural practices (GAP)



23,000

Full time job equivalents



155,000

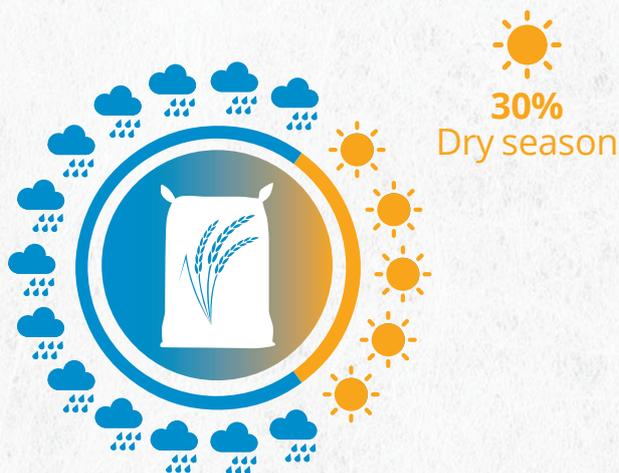
Smallholder farmers have received trainings in Farmer Business School (FBS)

582,000

Total additional paddy traded through structured markets



70%
Wet season





150,000

Farmers engaged in inclusive business models through contracts with off-takers.

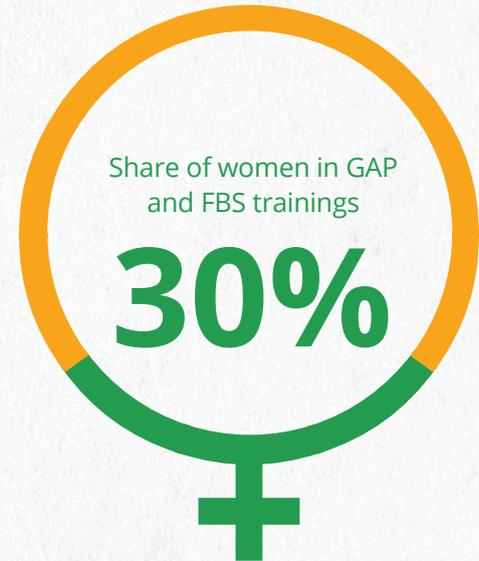
Women trained in nutrition

42,000



Women trained in improved parboiling techniques

40,000



"Before the CARI intervention with UNERIZ started, I worked rather informal with my own parboiling methods which were risky. I had no economic power in my family and only produced for self-consumption. Through CARI I was taught about the improved parboiling technologies and credit management. I even received financial education. Now I myself give trainings. I realized that I am much better organized and able to assess the profitability of my parboiling business."

Parboiling woman, Burkina Faso

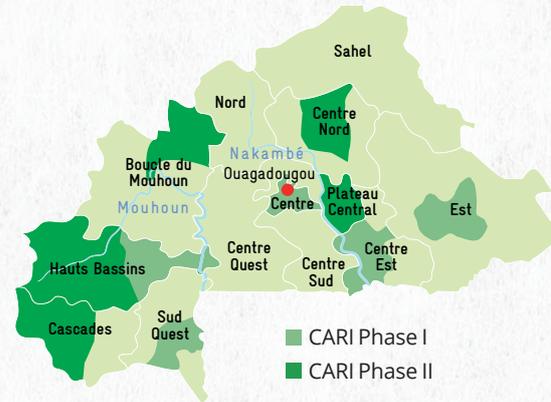


Burkina Faso



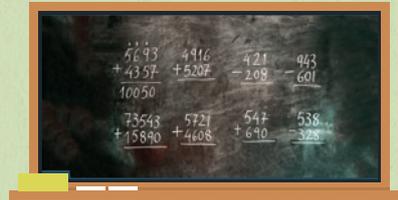
56,000

Beneficiaries have increased their income and improved their food security (including indirect beneficiaries)



Smallholder farmers have received trainings in good agricultural practices (GAP)

13,000



4,000

Smallholder farmers have received trainings in Farmer Business School (FBS)



5,500

Women supported



1,500

Full-time job equivalents created

11,000

Farmers engaged in inclusive business models through contracts with off-takers.

MF Partners:

Concluded: Wend Konta

Ongoing: Rizerie Faso Malo |

Rizerie WendYam de Bobo | UNERIZ



Ghana



■ CARI Phase I
■ CARI Phase II

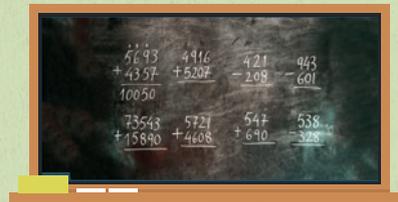
132,000

Beneficiaries have increased their income and improved their food security (including indirect beneficiaries)



Smallholder farmers have received trainings in good agricultural practices (GAP)

32,000



33,000

Smallholder farmers have received trainings in Farmer Business School (FBS)



18,000

Women supported



3,600

Full-time job equivalents created

19,000

Farmers engaged in inclusive business models through contracts with off-takers.

MF Partners:

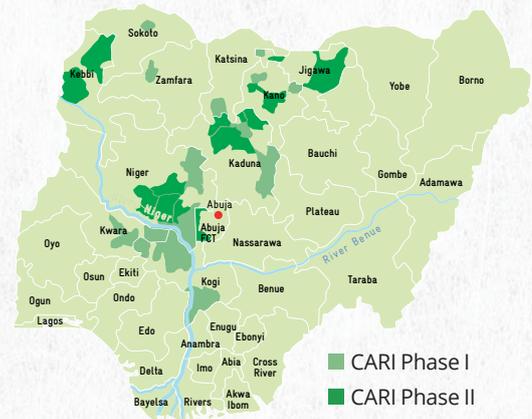
Concluded: Christian Aid | CRAN | Farmer Lane | Fyso | Okata | Savban | SATCO | Tamanaa | Wienco | Worawora

Nigeria



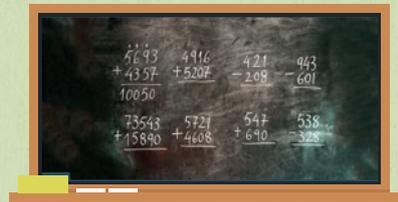
430,000

Beneficiaries have increased their income and improved their food security (including indirect beneficiaries)



Smallholder farmers have received trainings in good agricultural practices (GAP)

102,000



84,000

Smallholder farmers have received trainings in Farmer Business School (FBS)



30,000

Women supported



15,000

Full-time job equivalents created

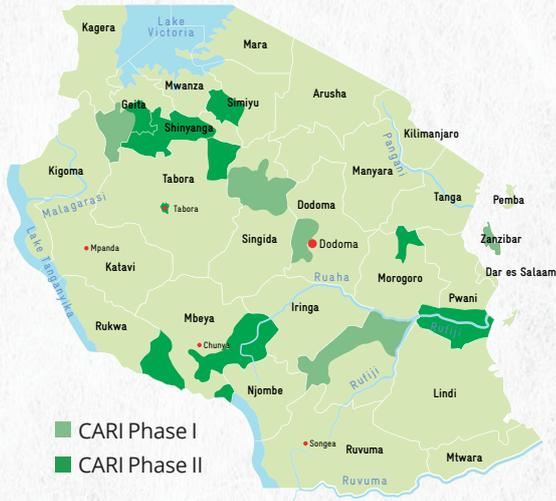
90,000

Farmers engaged in inclusive business models through contracts with off-takers.

MF Partners:

Concluded: AJIFA | Babban Gona | Danmodi | eHealth | Klysat | Masco | NAMDA | NSRIC | OLAM | Onyx | PFML

Ongoing: Al-Salam | ATAFI | Green Sahel | KARDA | SeedFirst | WACOT | WOFAN



Tanzania

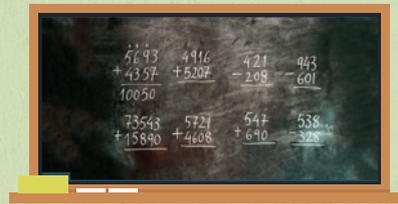
181,000

Beneficiaries have increased their income and improved their food security (including indirect beneficiaries)



Smallholder farmers have received trainings in good agricultural practices (GAP)

43,000



35,000

Smallholder farmers have received trainings in Farmer Business School (FBS)



18,000

Women supported



2,800

Full-time job equivalents created

30,000

Farmers engaged in inclusive business models through contracts with off-takers.

MF Partners:

Concluded: BioSustain | Kilombero Plantation | Kimolo Super Rice | ZANRICE

Ongoing: G2L | Majinjah | Mamboleo Farm | Musoma Food | Petrobena | Raphael Group

Yield and income increase



Rainfed



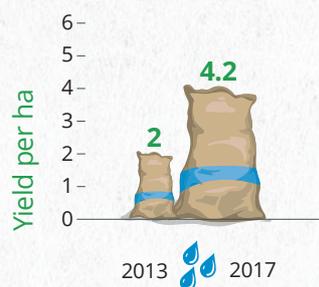
Irrigated



Burkina Faso



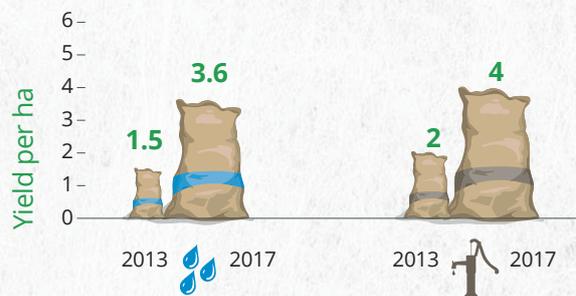
Ghana



Nigeria



Tanzania



In average, CARl farmers increased their income by

440%

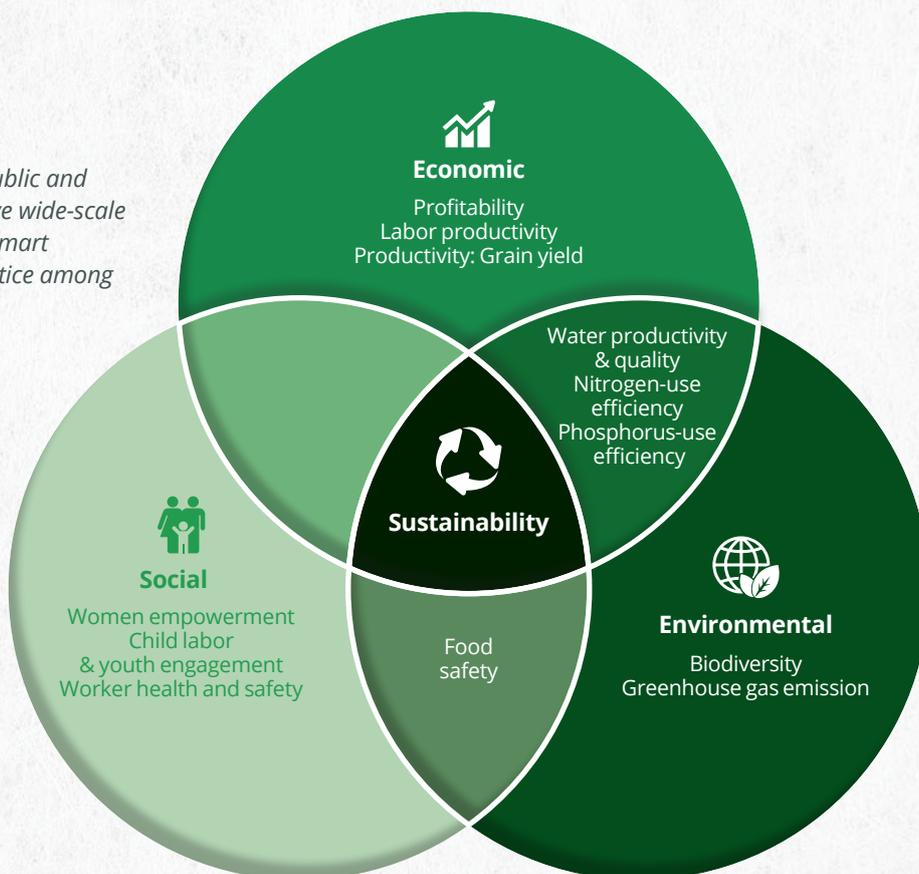
The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) is a multi-stakeholder platform established in 2011 to promote climate smart best practices for rice. SRP is led by UN Environment, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). So far more than 90 institutional members committed themselves to follow SRP standards.



The SRP standard is ...

an inclusive tool
for practitioners in public and private sectors to drive wide-scale adoption of climate-smart sustainable best practice among rice smallholders

and keeps it real
as, it is designed for farm-level impact. Each requirement is relevant, practical, and under the farmer's control.



<http://www.sustainablerice.org>

CARI's SRP-related activities:

Training materials adapted to SRP

4 Certified trainers



FMARD
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

First steps taken towards launching of national SRP chapter in Nigeria

Access to finance

20 mio €
Pre-financed inputs



Main challenges

Demand side

-  Lack of understanding bank requirements
-  Financial illiteracy
-  Lack of trust in financial service providers

Supply side

-  Lack of understanding of the agricultural sector
-  Perceived high risks in agribusiness sectors
-  Absence of tailor made products to finance agricultural activities

CARI's access to finance activities

Demand side

Trainings

For farmers: Financial literacy and FBS trainings
For cooperatives: FBO strengthening and CBS trainings

Coaching of MF partners

To understand and address requirements of banks

Business plan development

Developing adequate business plans for MF partners to support their loan application



Supply side

CEO breakfast meetings

Meetings with CEOs of financial service institutions to increase awareness of the financial potential of the rice sector

Bankers' training

Agricultural value chain training for financial service providers

Memorandum of understanding

MoUs and activity plans with financial service providers



Supply meets demand

Match-making events between agricultural actors and financial service providers to support the trust-building process. Additionally, alternative financing options in the fields of blended finance are introduced to attract international investments.



Strategic partnerships

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation



The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) is a “founding-member” of CARI. The foundation predominantly funded the first phase of the project, emphasizing the private sector-led MF approach. The support during the second phase focuses on an increased cooperation between CARI and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). The overlapping objectives of AGRA and CARI result in a win-win situation for beneficiaries in the rice sector: Harmonization, mutual learning and constant exchange are the instruments to achieve synergies and increase efficiency. BMGF takes on a steering role to foster bonding and intensify the cooperation and coordination between the two organizations.

Policy advice

National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS)

Burkina Faso
Ghana
Nigeria
Tanzania



Key topics that are common to all the four NRDS

Pesticides

- ◇ Promotion of natural pesticides
- ◇ Training on existing laws

Fostering an enabling policy environment

- ◇ Land development and irrigation, seed development, post-harvest handling and processing

Cross-border issues

- ◇ Cross-border questions and partnership strengthening
- ◇ Strengthening trans-boundary trade

Technical advice support

- ◇ Policy advisory capacity
- ◇ Policy research and studies on the issues of trade

17

Policy briefs
developed
and published



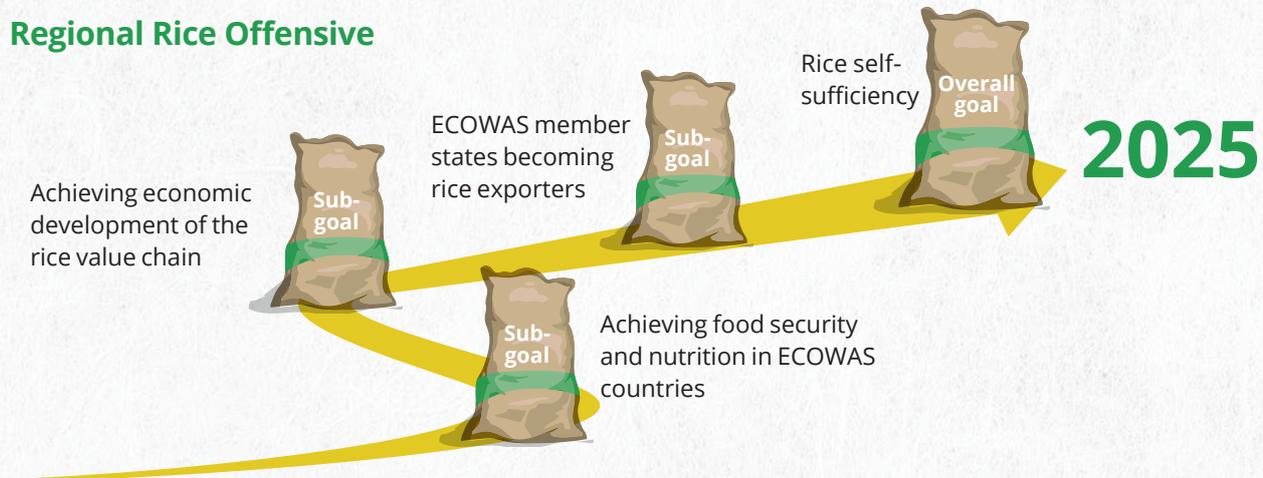
ECOWAS cooperation

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has been partnering with CARI since the beginning. In the second phase, the role of the ECOWAS Commission has been formalized as CARI's political partner for West Africa. The collaboration focuses on:

- Technical support to ECOWAS, in particular by supporting the Regional Rice Offensive, which promotes self-sufficiency in rice production by 2025
- Joint organization and participation of events and workshops
- Development of communication tools such as factsheets & banners for ECOWAS



Regional Rice Offensive



Four strategic intervention areas of the Regional Rice Offensive



Digitalization

₦ PADDYBASE

Android APP

Digital solution to digitalize the rice supply chain. Implemented in



₦ CASHCARD

SMS based

Provides farmers in rural Nigeria with access to basic financial services without going to a bank



720

Individuals attended viewing sessions of 3D animated training videos

RiceAdvice APP

Advice on field-specific rice management practices: recommendations on fertilizer management, general good agricultural practices and provision of a specific cropping calendar



4,100

CARI farmers actively use it



Free information
about validated rice farming practices



A4SD

Agricultural Value Chains for Sustainable Development (A4SD) is an umbrella program consisting of four agricultural value chain projects. A4SD's joint steering structure encourages mutual learning among the four projects and facilitates upscaling of best practices to new value chains and countries. Being a multi-actor partnership, A4SD brings more than 150 partners from public and private sectors, civil society, and research institution together.



AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAINS

for sustainable development

Overview value chain programs

Competitive African Cotton Initiative COMPACI
2008 - 2017

Competitive African Cashew Initiative ComCASHEW
2009 - 2020

Sustainable Smallholder Agribusiness/ Cocoa-Food Link Program SSAB
2009 - 2019

Competitive African Rice Initiative CARI
2013 - 2021

Success factors

- Scalability**
Regional outreach and adaptability resulting in „economies of scale“
- Learning**
Institutionalized exchange among the projects plus adoption of best practices between projects and countries
- Governance**
Board structure involving African and International private and public partners = institutionalization of the idea of public private partnerships (PPP)
- Impact**
Joint M&E to report aggregated achievements

Impacts at a glance



Publisher

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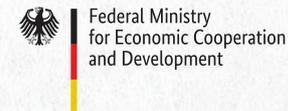
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AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAINS

for sustainable development



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