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Acronyms and Abbreviations	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
SUMMARY	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
a) Administration component.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
b) Program component.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
INTRODUCTION	9
I. ADMINISTRATION COMPONENT	10
1.1. Institutional support	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.2. Operation	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.3. Reporting	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
1.4. Acquisitions	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
II. PROGRAM COMPONENT	10
2.1. Organization of project steering committees and the RAAF steering committee	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.2. Participation in meetings	11
2.3. Development of management and communication tools	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.4. Capacity building of countries in formulation and project engineering	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.5. Monitoring, supervision of projects and programs.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6. Coordination of projects and programs.....	13
2.6.1. The Food Security and Nutrition Support Program in West Africa (PASANAO).....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.2. The Capacity Building Project for the Implementation of ECOWAS Agricultural Policy	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.3. The ECOWAS Regional Agricultural Policy Support Project, ECOWAP / CAADP.....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.5. The ECOWAS Zero Hunger Initiative Strengthening Project	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.6. The Regional Plan Support Project for the Fight and Control of Fruit Flies in West Africa	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.7. The West African Food Security Storage Support Project (ECOWAS Stock Project).....	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.8. The Regional Program to Support Farmers and Professional Organizations in the Implementation of the West African Agricultural Policy (PRAOP / ECOWAP)	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
2.6.9. The Capacity Building Project of the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (TCP-FAO)	24
III. BUDGET EXECUTION	24
IV. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS	26
V. FOLLOW-UP OF RECOMMENDATIONS	Erreur ! Signet non défini.
CONCLUSION	32

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AECID	: Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development
AFD	: French Development Agency
ANSAT	: National Food Safety Agency of Togo
APESS	: Association for the Promotion of Livestock in the Sahel and Savannah
RAAF	: Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food
BIDC	: Investment and Development Bank of ECOWAS
BOAD	: West African Development Bank
CEDEAO	: Economic Community of West African States
CILSS	: Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CRA	: Regional Center Agrhymet
CSA	: Office of the Commissioner for Food Security
DDC	: Directorate of Development and Cooperation
ECOWAP	: ECOWAS Agricultural Policy
FAO	: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FSS	: Social Safety Nets
NAFCO	: National Food Buffer Stock Company
OPAM	: Office of Agricultural Products of Mali
OPF	: Professional Organizations
OPVN	: Office of Produce Products of Niger
PASANAO	: Support Program for Food and Nutrition Security in west Africa
PDDAA	: Detailed Program for the Development of Agriculture in Africa
PNIA	: National Agricultural Investment Plan
PRAOP	: Regional Program of Support to Professional Organizations and Farm Peasants
PRIA	: Regional Program of Agricultural Investment
PTBA	: Work Plan and Annual Budget
ROPFA	: Network of Farmers Organizations and Agricultural Producers West Africa
RPCA	: Crisis Prevention Network Food
RRSA	: Regional Food Security Reserve
SONAGESS	: National Stock Security Management Company
TCP	: Technical Cooperation Program
UE	: European Union
USAID	: United States Agency for International Development

SUMMARY

This report describes the status of activities carried out in 2017 by the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) and the seven (07) projects and programs it is coordinating:

1. The Support Program for Food Security and Nutrition in West Africa (PASANAO);
2. The project "Strengthening Regional Initiatives to Eradicate Hunger and Malnutrition in West Africa";
3. The Regional Agricultural Policy Support Project (ECOWAP / CAADP);
4. The Regional Support Plan for the Control of Fruit Flies in West Africa;
5. The Food Security Storage Support Project in West Africa;
6. The Capacity Building Project for the effective implementation of ECOWAP / CAADP in West Africa;
7. The Regional Support Program for Agricultural and Professional Organizations in the Implementation of the West African Agricultural Policy (PRAOP / ECOWAP).

For the implementation of the activities of the year 2017, the annual budget of **44 743 863 USD**, adjusted after the steering committees meetings of March 2017, was executed at a rate of **65.92%**.

a) Administration component

The activities carried out under this component are:

- Continuation of the salaries of the RAAF technical team through the institutional support of AECID until September-October 2017;
- The participation of RAAF in the Administration and Finance Committee and in some internal meetings of the Commission;
- Operational management, which covers the cost of document translation into ECOWAS working languages, production and printing of documents, insurance, fuel for vehicles, building maintenance, computer equipment, headquarters security and electrical work;
- Production of reports and work programs transmitted to the Commission and partners;
- Contracting with providers and suppliers for purchases, supplies of services and quality control of stores. Consultants have also been recruited for several studies.

b) Program component

Under this component, the Agency coordinated the implementation of projects and programs for the operationalization of ECOWAP:

The main achievements are:

- The organization of project steering committees and the RAAF steering committee;
- The participation of RAAF in several meetings of national, regional and international dimensions on ECOWAP or on the agricultural and food situation;

- The finalization of the management tools: i) the monitoring-evaluation manual whose mechanism is being computerized; (ii) the quality review of the procedures manual; (iii) the deployment of the SAP (Integrated Management Software); iv) the launch of the website (www.RAAF.org) in March 2017 and the development of the communication plan and the graphic chart of the RAAF currently being finalized;
- Capacity building of countries in project formulation and engineering through the organization of a regional training of trainers workshop on project engineering and funding request procedures with development partners;
- Supervision of 34 projects resulting from the calls for proposals with the ongoing involvement of the ECOWAS National Offices and the PNIASAN focal points;
- The launch of a fifth call for project proposals which resulted in the selection of nine (09) projects costing **USD 1 946 985**;
- Regular reporting meetings and quarterly activity programs.
- Coordination of 07 regional projects and programs whose main achievements during the year at the level of each project and program are as follows:

The Food Security and Nutrition Support Program in West Africa (PASANA0):

- Continued establishment of the baseline livelihood situation of urban households in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire and Accra, Ghana, and monitoring of current urban vulnerability in Bamako, Mali;
- The training of the 4th class of 25 students in Master's SAN;
- Continued institutional support to the West African Cereals Network (WACN);
- Supervision and preliminary and pre-final evaluations of the twenty-four (24) innovative projects selected following the three (3) Calls for Proposals (CfPs) launched by the RAAF;
- The launch of the study on the final evaluation and capitalization of "innovative operations" projects, commissioned to a group of consulting firms that was selected following a call for expressions of interest;
- Contribution to the piloting of the study "Diagnosis of the functioning of the RAAF";
- Preparation of semi-annual and annual activity reports.

Project "Strengthening Regional Initiatives to Eradicate Hunger and Malnutrition in West Africa"

- Validation of the conceptual framework and roadmap of the ECOWAS Zero Hunger Initiative;
- Support to the supervision and monitoring of the process of elaboration of PNIASAN;
- Sensitization and capacity building of regional and national West African CSOs on the right to food and the ECOWAS Zero Hunger Initiative;
- The quality review and consideration of nutrition and social protection in the PNIASANS of Burkina Faso, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

- Technical support to Niger and Nigeria in February 2017, for the budgeting respectively of the 2016-2020 Action Plan of the National Policy of Nutritional Security and the National Strategy of Food and Nutrition Security within the framework of the Agenda for the transformation of agriculture;
- Sensitization of Sierra Leonean Civil Society Organizations on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and social protection in the agricultural sector.

The ECOWAS Regional Agricultural Policy Support Project (ECOWAP/CAADP):

- Continued support for the establishment and operation of the RAAF;
- Holding of the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee leading to the adoption of the 2017 Operational Plan and Budget and the 2016 Activity Report;
- The launching of the second call for project proposals and the selection of nine (9) projects for funding a grant of **US \$ 1,946,985**;
- The follow-up of the ten (10) field projects resulting from the first call for proposals on social safety nets and the continuation of national trainings.

The Regional Plan Support Project for the Control of Fruit Flies in West Africa:

- Continued establishment of the surveillance system for fruit fly control in West Africa (data collection, modeling or design of the warning system, placement of trapping, monitoring of infestations and capacity building of actors in surveillance);
- Continued implementation of the West Africa fruit fly control strategy (the acquisition and effective provision of control products by countries, the demonstration of effective control technologies, treatment and protection against fruit flies and capacity building of actors in the fight);
- Continuation of research led by CORAF to provide an effective response to the fight against fruit flies (identification of natural substances with fruit fly attractiveness, massive production of fruit flies with a view to producing parasitoids for biological control and identification of endogenous natural enemy parasitoids of fruit flies.

The West African Food Security Storage Support Project (ECOWAS Stock Project):

- Contracting with the national storage structures of Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria and Mali for the reception and storage of the stocks constituting the physical reserve. For this purpose 11 230 tons of cereals (maize, sorghum, millet and rice) were purchased in 2016:
 - 10 048.5 tons stored at Dédougou (Burkina Faso -2750 tons); Yendi – (Ghana 2750 tons); Gombé (Nigeria 1048.5 tons); Dosso (Niger (2000 tons); Zinder (1500 tons) for the account of the Regional Food Security Reserve of ECOWAS;

- 1130 tons delivered to NEMA Nigeria on 8 August 2017 as part of ECOWAS assistance to the people of Borno, Gombe, Adamawa and Yobe States of northeastern Nigeria affected by a serious humanitarian crisis;
- The purchase of 15 691 tons of cereals (corn, sorghum, millet and rice) under storage at Dédougou - Burkina Faso (2547 tons), Bamako - Mali (504 tons), Kano - Nigeria (9612 tons), Maradi and Birnin Konni - Niger (3028 tons) on behalf of the Reserve;
- Conducting a capitalization study of best inventory management practices currently being validated;
- The technical support provided to the RESOGEST office in the process of drafting its organic texts and the participation of the project team in the review of the RESOGEST legal texts and ToR for the design of the pooling mechanism of national stocks in the framework of the implementation of the RESOGEST Cooperation Framework;
- Conducting a dialogue with the stakeholders involved in local storage and the development of ToR for the various studies;
- The operationalization of the ECOAGRIS platform and the catalytic support for the functioning of the ECOAGRIS National Committees of the countries;
- Strengthening the capacity of the RAAF and initiating studies on the development of the Reserve Procedures Manual, harmonization of triggers for national and regional reserves, national contingency plans and the Regional Contingency Plan, the information campaign of Professional Organizations (PO) on the reserve have been completed.

The Capacity Building Project for the Implementation of ECOWAP:

- Continuation of the formulation of the regional program for the restoration of degraded agricultural lands in West Africa, which is expected to be validated during the first quarter of 2018;
- Strengthening the technical capacity of national and regional experts in budgeting /costing agricultural investment projects and economic and financial analysis of national programs;
- Support for the organization of a regional learning and capacity building clinic for ECOWAP national and regional actors on the economic and financial analysis of PNIASAN;
- Support for the full formulation of the project "Promotion of climate-smart agriculture in West Africa" within the framework of the mobilization of 14 million USD from the Adaptation Fund for the benefit of five countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger and Togo;
- Specific support was provided to the priority countries of the project namely Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Togo, Liberia, Cape Verde, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

The Regional Program to Support Farmers and Professional Organizations in the Implementation of the West African Agricultural Policy (PRAOP / ECOWAP):

- The contribution of the three (03) umbrella professional organizations (UPFs) beneficiaries of the program to the process of elaboration of PNIASAN in the ECOWAS Member States;
- The selection of a consultant in charge of Capitalization of experiences in the training and installation of young people in the agro-forestry-livestock and fisheries sector in the ECOWAS region;
- The organization of a consultation meeting on the review of PRAOP on 19 August 2017;
- Review of PRAOP actions in the context of the amendment to the Cooperation Agreement between ECOWAS and the Swiss Confederation signed on 15 February 2018.

INTRODUCTION

The Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) whose mandate is "to ensure the technical execution of regional investment programs and plans contributing to the operationalization of the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy, by "relying on regional institutions, bodies and actors with proven expertise" was established by Regulation C / REG.1/08/11. The official launch of the Agency took place in Lomé on 27 September 2013.

During 2017, the RAAF coordinated seven (07) regional projects and programs.

These projects and programs contribute to achieving the results of the four specific objectives of the 2016-2020 Regional Program for Agricultural Investment and Food and Nutrition Security (PRIASAN), which are as follows:

- a. SO1. "Contribute to increase productivity and agro-forestry-livestock and fisheries production through diversified and sustainable production systems, and to reduce post-production losses";
- b. SO2. "Promote contractual and inclusive agricultural and agro-food value chains targeting regional and international demand and with a view to integrating the regional market";
- c. SO3. "Improve access to food, nutrition and resilience of vulnerable populations";
- d. SO4. "Improving the business environment, governance and financing mechanisms of the agriculture and agro-food sector".

As a reminder, for the year 2017, an annual work plan and budget (AWPB) was approved by the RAAF Steering Committee meeting, held in Lomé in the Togolese Republic in March 2017 and by the statutory bodies of the Commission (CAF and Council of Ministers).

Based on this program, the main achievements can be summed up in two main components: i) Administration component and ii) Investment or program component according to the Agency's three-year plan.

I. ADMINISTRATION COMPONENT

Activities programmed under this component concern: (i) institutional partners support; (ii) operation and equipment of premises; (iii) reporting; and (iv) acquisitions.

The main achievements in connection with these activities are:

1.1. Institutional support

The RAAF benefited from the support of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) which enabled, (i) the continued payment of RAAF technical team's salaries (the Head of Technical Unit, Planning and M & E Officer and Food Security and Vulnerability Management Program Officer), (ii) funding of certain field project supervision missions and (iii) operation (supplies, communication, electricity).

1.2. Operation

This mainly concerned the costs of translation of documents in the ECOWAS working languages, production and printing of documents, insurance, fuel for vehicles, building maintenance, computer materials and vehicle, headquarters security, electrical work and various costs.

1.3. Reporting

All required reports have been prepared and sent to the Commission. These include the 2016 annual activity and financial report, RAAF 2017 Annual Activity Program and Budget, interim reports (quarterly reports and the specific reports) as well as all projects and programs under its purview.

With a view to implementing the 2017 activities program and budget, the quarterly work programs were developed and submitted on time, which allowed the adoption and implementation of the activities.

1.4. Acquisitions

For the operation and activities of projects and programs, contracts for the supply of goods and services have been concluded following competitive processes in accordance with the regulatory frame for the acquisition of computer equipment, office supplies and consultants selection.

Achievements in 2017 mainly involved the purchase of equipment and IT equipment for the Agency, grain for the establishment of the Regional Reserve, products and equipment to fight against fruit flies, as well as material and equipment under other projects and programs.

II. PROGRAM COMPONENT

Activities programmed under this component concern: i) the organization of the project and program steering committees and the Agency's steering committee, ii) the Agency's participation in meetings related to its mandate, (iii) the development of

management and communication tools, and (iv) the coordination of projects and programs.

The main achievements in connection with these activities are:

2.1. Organization of project steering committees and RAAF steering committee

From 13 to 19 March 2017 in Lomé in the Togolese Republic, was held the meeting of the steering committee of six (06) projects under the coordination of RAAF as well as the Steering Committee of the Agency.

For the specific case of the project to support the regional plan for the fight against fruit flies in West Africa, due to the production cycle of mango, the steering committee was held in July 2017 in Abuja.

These meetings were attended by all stakeholders, resulting in the approval of (i) the 2016 annual activity and financial reports, (ii) the 2017 RAAF annual activities and budget programs and projects/programs. Guidance and recommendations have been formulated for greater efficiency and effective implementation of activities.

2.2. Participation to meetings

The RAAF represented the Commission, or participated, in several national, regional and international meetings as well as internal meetings of the Commission:

- i) The meeting on Agropoles in Kara, Togo;
- ii) The RPCA in Paris in France and Cotonou in Benin;
- iii) Closing of Livestock Program, VET-GOV, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- iv) 7th Forum of the Alliance for the Green Revolution in Africa in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire;
- v) CORAF Board of Directors in Banjul, The Gambia;
- vi) The 23rd Conference of the Parties on Climate Change in Germany;
- vii) The 3rd Annual Forum of the FAO Global Alliance on Climate Smart Agriculture (AIC) in Rome;
- viii) AfDB Side-Event on AIC in Africa, Rome, Italy;
- ix) The 12th ECOWAS Strategic Planning Coordinating Committee and other internal meetings of the Commission.

2.3. Development of management and communication tools

During the year 2017, the Agency completed:

- The finalization of its monitoring and evaluation manual, the monitoring and evaluation system of which is being computerized. This mechanism should firstly allow effective management of the implementation of projects and programs whose portfolio is constantly growing, but also the process of call for project proposals;
- The Agency also ensured: i) a quality review of its procedures manual that was developed with the participation of ECOWAS and resource persons; (ii) the deployment of the SAP (Integrated Management Software) within RAAF; and (iii) capacity building of these frameworks to use ECOLink and SAP;

- In terms of communication, the most important achievements were: i) the launch of the RAAF website (www.RAAF.org) in March 2017; ii) the development of the communication plan and the RAAF graphic chart currently being finalized; and iii) the production and publication of articles on the Agency's major achievements as well as its projects and programs.

2.4. Capacity building of countries in project formulation and engineering

As part of the capacity building of ECOWAS Member States, RAAF organized a regional training of trainers (ToT) workshop on project engineering and funding application procedures with development partners. This workshop was held from 19 to 21 December 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire for the benefit of the PNIASAN focal points and the experts in charge of costing, economic and financial analysis of the 15 ECOWAS member states. The workshop was also attended by resource persons from BOAD and the European Union. In addition to acquiring extensive knowledge on the training topics, the PNIASAN focal points have developed a roadmap for the formulation of the priority projects of PNIASAN in their country. The workshop was disseminated to 14 member states of ECOWAS (only Liberia has not yet received the training) between January and February 2018. The dissemination has helped to build the capacity of some 400 management staff involved in the implementation of the PNIASAN program in the ECOWAS countries.

2.5. Monitoring, supervision of projects and programs

With a view to ensuring closer monitoring of projects and programs under the coordination of the RAAF, a quarterly reporting and quarterly activity program meeting have been set up within the Agency. Three meetings were held and made it possible to report on the implementation of the activities and recommendations of the steering committees.

At the level of the projects resulting from the calls for proposals of projects, missions of supervision were organized with the carriers of these projects in order to ensure a good implementation of the activities and to guarantee the expected impact with the populations. Results-based monitoring and operational capacity assessment (administrative and accounting) forms have been developed for project monitoring and supervision teams.

It should be noted that the ECOWAS National Offices and the PNIASAN focal points are gradually becoming involved in the monitoring of field projects.

2.6. Evaluation of the 2015-2017 Three-Year Plan for RAAF and formulation of the 2018-2020 triennial plan

In order to carry out its mandate, the Agency has adopted a first three-year plan for 2015-2017 in which it has set objectives in the context of its operationalization. In 2017, the first three-year plan was evaluated, resulting in the formulation of a new three-year plan for 2018-2020.

2.7. Coordination of projects and programs

RAAF coordinated seven (07) regional projects and programs:

2.7.1. The Food Security and Nutrition Support Program in West Africa (PASANAO)

The Food and Nutrition Security Support Program in West Africa (PASANAO), amounting to 12.34 million Euros is co-financed by ECOWAS (1.94 million Euros) and AFD (10.40 million Euros).

With an initial duration of 4 years, the project has been extended for two years and its technical completion is scheduled for 30 June 2018.

Its overall objective is to contribute to the improvement of the food and nutrition situation of West African populations, mainly by strengthening the capacities of national and regional food security mechanisms to mainline new dimensions of food security, the diversity of situations and the interdependence of national economies in West Africa.

The project is run through four (04) components namely:

1. Contribute to the evolution of the ISFS to face the new challenges of food security;
2. Contribute to the development of new regional policies and instruments to reduce food insecurity;
3. Promote innovative food and nutrition security operations;
4. Coordinate the program implemented by a consortium: IRAM/LARES/ISSALA.

During 2017, the main achievements of the project were as follows:

Component 1: Contributing to the evolution of ISFS to face the new challenges of food security:

- **Integration of the "household income" dimension in the monitoring of vulnerability** through the completion of three (3) business monitoring surveys in Banconi/Bamako, two (2) in Attécoubé/Abidjan and one in Gbegbesei in Accra. A national workshop is planned to be held in each of the three countries during the first quarter of 2018 to share the methodology and collection tools.
- **Training of staff in charge of information systems on food security** in ECOWAS countries through the training of the fourth class (25 students including 4 women) of the Master's degree in Food and Nutrition Security. Twenty-four (24) students defended their dissertations and graduated in 2017. Only one student did not graduate due to health reasons.

Component 2: Contribute to the development of new regional policies and instruments to reduce food insecurity

The main achievements under this component focused on:

- **The current study on the status of implementation of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET)** and analysis of its effects for the agricultural and agro-food sectors. An interim report consolidated by the consulting firm CRES-GREAT has been submitted to the PASANAO steering committee;
- **Support to the West African Grain Growers Network (ROAC)** which enabled the validation of its action plan in March 2017 and the organization of several ordinary sessions of its General Assembly.

Component 3: Promoting Innovative Operations for Food and Nutrition Security

During 2017, the main activities on the monitoring and evaluation of the 24 field projects that benefited from an ECOWAS grant with AFD financing amounting to € **3,978,192** are:

- **The pre-final evaluation of the seven (7) AP1 projects.** From a grant of **1,550,565 Euros**, this call focused on three themes: (i) fortification of food and local production of nutritional supplementation foods; ii) securing pastoral activity systems; and iii) strengthening agricultural credit and insurance systems;
- **Supervision and pre-final evaluation of the ten (10) AP2 projects.** From a grant of **1 636 823 Euros**, two themes concerned this call: i) storage and marketing of agricultural products and management of market risks and ii) nutritional behavior, stakes in valorization of local resources;
- **Conducting preliminary and pre-final evaluations of the 7 AP3 projects.** From a grant of **790 804 Euros**, the two themes covered by this call are: i) resilient agricultural production techniques and ii) employment and vocational training of rural youth.

In general, most projects were unable to finalize their activities at the technical completion dates set in the grant agreements. As of December 31, 2017, seven out of twenty-four projects have audited their accounts and are awaiting payment of the final tranche that will be made during the first quarter of 2018, after verification of the reports by RAAF.

Component 4: Coordinate the project

The coordination of the project was reflected during the year by the following main activities:

- **Daily project management;**
- **Preparation of PASANAO Steering Committee documents** (5th Committee held in Lomé in March 2017 and the Restricted Committee held in Abuja in July 2017);
- **Follow-up on the implementation of the COPIL recommendations** of March and July 2017;
- **Launch of the study on the final evaluation and capitalization** of innovative projects;

- **Preparation of the evaluation**, external audit and capitalization of the entire program.

2.7.2. The Capacity Building Project for the Implementation of ECOWAS Agricultural Policy

The capacity building project for the implementation of the ECOWAS agricultural policy is financed by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) for an amount of USD 4,016,064.

The project is implemented by the FAO regional office based in Accra. The project coordination team is based at RAAF.

The project has three specific objectives, and the activities carried out during the year 2017 are as follows:

Specific Objective 1: To build the capacities of the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development in designing investment projects and mobilizing resources to implement ECOWAP/CAADP

During 2017, the main achievements of the project are:

- **Further formulate the regional program for the restoration of degraded agricultural land in West Africa**, due to be validated during the first quarter;
- **Strengthening the technical capacity of national and regional experts** in budgeting/costing agricultural investment projects and economic and financial analysis of national programs. Three training workshops were organized: i) from 20 to 24 February 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, for French-speaking countries including Guinea Bissau and Cabo Verde; ii) from March 6 to 10, 2017 in Freetown, Sierra Leone for Anglophone member countries and iii) from April 4 to 8, 2017 in Niamey, Niger, for the benefit of experts from regional organizations and stakeholders (RAAF, EBID, BOAD, CILSS, ROPPA) , RBM, APSS, AFAO / WAWA, WILDAF, POSCAO). These workshops helped build the capacity of approximately 70 national and regional management staff;
- **Support to organize a regional learning and capacity-building clinic for ECOWAP national and regional actors** on economic and financial analysis of PNIASANs (November 27 to December 1, 2017 in Cotonou);
- **Support for a comprehensive formulation with RAAF and BOAD of the project "Promotion of climate-smart agriculture in West Africa"** as part of the mobilization of USD 14 million with the Adaptation Fund, for the benefit of five countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger and Togo. The validation of the full project proposal and of the environmental and social management framework (ESMF) by potential stakeholders was done at a regional workshop in BOAD Lomé Headquarters from 09 to 10 January 2018, which led to the submission of the full project proposal to the Adaptation Fund on 15 January 2018. As a reminder the pre-concept and concept notes of the project were

approved by the Adaptation Fund in 2016. The BOAD carries the project in its capacity as designated regional entity of the Adaptation Fund;

- **The organization of two workshops on the formulation process of the ECOWAP 2025 Global Capacity Building Strategy:** i) scoping at Saly 16-18 October 2017 and ii) needs assessment for capacity building of stakeholders of the ECOWAP 2025: 2 to 4 December 2017 in Cotonou. These workshops concerned ECOWAP focal points of ECOWAS member countries and representatives of socio-professional organizations (ROPPA, APRESS, RBM), the gender group represented by AFAO, regional technical cooperation institutions (AfricaRice, Coraf and IFPRI) and enabled the development of ToR for the mobilization of a consultant to develop the strategy to be validated by the end of March 2018.

Specific Objective 2: Build RAAF capacity in coordination and execution of the ECOWAP Regional Program for Agricultural Investment, Food Security and Nutrition (PRIASAN)

In terms of strengthening the RAAF's capacity, there are two main focus areas: i) support to avail RAAF of project management tools and ii) support to implement RAAF's Regional Program of Support to National Social Security Nets in West Africa.

During the year 2017, the main achievements are:

- **English and Portuguese translations** of RAAF's manual of project cycle management;
- **Support for the implementation of national capacity building training/ dissemination** on the theme of Social Safety Nets;
- **Support to the process of the second call** for project proposals on social safety nets.

Specific Objective 3: Support ECOWAS Member States in the implementation of National Agricultural Investment Programs (NAIPs) consistent with ECOWAP / CAADP

During the year 2017, the main achievements in support to Member States to implement their PNIASAN are:

- **Support to the Regional Technical Support Group's activities for the ECOWAP 2025 Process** under the leadership of the Hub-Rural, notably through active participation in learning and capacity building clinics, supervision missions and technical support organized in member countries;
- **Specific support was provided to the project priority countries**, namely Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Togo, Liberia, Cabo Verde, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

2.7.3. The ECOWAS Regional Agricultural Policy Support Project, ECOWAP / CAADP

This project is implemented through a memorandum signed in 2014 between ECOWAS and the Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID). AECID contributes up to 5 million Euros, with ECOWAS co-financing of 10% of the costs of direct transfers to field projects. The project has two components: i) support for the establishment and operation of the RAAF and ii) the implementation of "innovative" actions in the field of social safety nets in the ECOWAS countries.

Component 1: Support for the establishment and operation of RAAF

The main achievements are: (i) continued staffing of the RAAF Technical Unit until the end of September 2017 (ECOWAS took over in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding); (ii) assumption of certain operating costs of the Agency (office supplies, missions and travel, communication, internet, security, cleaning and maintenance, bank transfers, water, electricity), and (iii) the current recruitment in final stage of a management accountant to ensure the accounting and financial follow-up of field projects.

Component 2: Setting up "innovative" actions with social food security safety nets in ECOWAS countries

Launched in January 2015, the first call for proposals of € 1,900,700 enabled the selection and currently ongoing implementation of 10 field projects on innovative actions in the field of social safety nets. In 2017, it consisted of continued periodic supervision of the ten (10) projects, analysis of technical and financial reports and payment of the second tranche to projects that justified the use of at least 70% of the first tranche.

A second call for proposals for projects was launched in February 2017, resulted in 291 Concept Notes of which 182 were eligible and evaluated. This call resulted in the selection of 09 projects for a grant of US \$ 1,946,985. Contracting with project sponsors is underway.

2.7.4. The ECOWAS Zero Hunger Initiative Strengthening Project

For a total cost of 5.58 million USD (of which 3 million USD financed by ECOWAS equity and 2.58 million USD by the German Cooperation), the project was initially planned for the 2013-2016 period. It actually started in 2014 and was extended one year extension, ending in December 2017.

Its goal is to contribute to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in West Africa by 2025.

During the year 2017 the main activities carried out are summarized as follows:

Outcome 1: Zero Hunger Initiative's Strategy and Conceptual Framework Developed in participatory mode

- **Organization of a mission to promote the right to food** (7-10 March 2017) with Benin's MPs;
- **Validation of the concept framework and roadmap of the ECOWAS Zero Hunger Initiative** (21-22 March 2017);
- **Support to supervision and follow-up of the PNIASAN elaboration process** to assess the formulation process level in each country and to specify each technical partner's interventions with a view to better coordination and synergy of support ;
- **Sensitization and capacity building of regional and national West African CSOs** on the right to food and the ECOWAS Zero Hunger Initiative, in collaboration with the international NGO ACF: this event which took place in Abidjan, 13 to 14 July 2017 brought together CSOs from 14 ECOWAS countries (only Cape Verde was absent) and those exercising at the regional level (such as ROPPA, RBM, APSS, REPAOC).

Outcome 2 and 3: Social protection and nutrition are adequately integrated into regional and national agricultural investment policies, plans and budgets

- **The quality review and consideration of nutrition and social protection in the PNIASANS** of Burkina Faso, Liberia and Sierra Leone;
- **Technical support to Niger and Nigeria** in February 2017, for the budgeting respectively of the 2016-2020 Action Plan of the National Policy of Nutritional Security and the National Strategy of Food and Nutrition Security within the framework of the Agenda for the transformation of agriculture;
- **Sensitization of Sierra Leonean Civil Society Organizations** and training of national stakeholders involved in the formulation of ICADEP (PNIASAN of Sierra Leone) on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and social protection in the agricultural sector (23-28 April 2017);
- **Contribution to the launch of a project in Sierra Leone for integrating nutrition into the training curriculum of the School of Agriculture** of Njala University (Sierra Leone), a collaboration between FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture of Sierra Leone;
- **Burkina Faso support to the submission of projects to the Green Fund** (mission from 12 to 15 June 2017) (including a project linking agriculture and nutrition).

2.7.5. The Regional Plan Support Project for the Control and fight against Fruit Flies in West Africa

The project to support the regional plan for the control and fight against fruit flies in West Africa is initiated by ECOWAS and UEMOA to combat the scourge of fruit flies at the regional and national levels. Regional-level activities are implemented by the Bamako-based coordination unit and national-level activities are carried out by National Committees under the supervision of the Coordination Unit.

Started in August 2015 for a period of 4 and a half years, its cost is 23.5 million Euros of which 17 million are financed by the EU, 1.5 million by the AFD and 5 million by ECOWAS and member States own funds.

The project aims to improve incomes of fruit and vegetable producers and especially small producers, contributing to food security and poverty reduction in the sub region. The project initially covered 8 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali and Senegal) but was extended to Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, and Togo between 2016 and 2017. It focuses on surveillance, control, capacity building and applied research components.

The main achievements are:

- **The establishment, in progress, of a surveillance system** for the control of fruit flies, the main major actions during the year are:
 - Establishment of the network of operators to collect weekly data on fruit fly infestations in the 22 mango production basins to ensure the operationalization of the national surveillance system;
 - Modeling the surveillance system;
 - Acquisition of warning equipment and the design of the warning system;
 - Training of 214 national trainers and 1,821 mango producers on the monitoring system;
 - Identification of 20 additional monitoring orchards, for a total of 504 monitoring orchards at the national level;
 - Trapping and monitoring of infestations and data collection on ongoing fly infestations at the national level in Senegal, Burkina and Guinea;
- **Implementation of the current control strategy** against fruit flies through:
 - Acquisition and effective provision of 68,100 liters of GF120- Succès Appât (“Success baits”) and 195,000 bags of Timaye delivered in all countries;
 - Training of 37 trainers on post-harvest techniques;
 - Demonstration of effective control technologies in 206 pilot orchards including 183 IPM and 23 pilot orchards in biological control;
 - Training of 254 technicians and 5,223 producers in IPM techniques, mainly in Burkina, Senegal, Mali, Guinea and Benin;
 - Treatment and protection against fruit flies on 15,445 ha of orchards;
 - Training of 188 producers including 108 women on phytosanitary risks.
- **Capacity building** to ensure effective surveillance and control across:
 - Capacity building of regional reference laboratory technicians in laboratory procedures;
 - The training of 16 trainers from the Plant Protection Departments, producer organizations and phytosanitary inspectors on international regulation and phytosanitary control;
 - The training of 16 technicians from national laboratories of the 8 countries in fruit flies taxonomy;

- Training of 8 project leaders on business planning and resource mobilization;
- Conducting diagnosis studies of interceptions of mangoes in countries that have experienced an increase in the interception of mangoes at the gates of Europe during the past mango season in order to take appropriate measures to reverse the trend.
- **CORAF-led research** is being pursued to help provide an effective response to the fight against fruit flies.
 - Supervised 17 Master's degree students, 11 of whom defended their dissertation and 2 PhD students;
 - Identification of natural substances with fruit fly attractiveness;
 - Massive production of fruit flies for high production of parasitoids for biological control and identification of endogenous parasitoids natural enemies of fruit flies;
 - Organization of the second Scientific Committee Meeting for the validation of research options.

2.7.6. The West African Food Security Storage Support Project (ECOWAS Stock Project)

The project is funded by the European Union for 56 million Euros. Its lifespan is 5 years, and the project team began work between December 2015 and February 2016.

The objective of the project is to contribute to effectively respond to food crises and strengthen household resilience in a perspective of sustainable regional food security and sovereignty, by promoting emergency food reserve systems at different scales.

The project runs through the following five components:

1. Support for the establishment of the regional food security reserve;
2. Support for national storage systems and their networking;
3. Support for local storage systems;
4. Support to regional and national information systems and food and nutrition security surveys;
5. Support for decision-making and capacity building of RAAF.

Component 4 "Support to Regional and National Information Systems and Food and Nutrition Security Surveys" ECOAGRIS "is implemented by the CILSS AGRHYMET Regional Center (CRA).

The main achievements in 2017 at the level of each component are as follows:

Component 1: Support to set up the Regional Food Security Reserve:

- Guaranteed operation of the reserve's management technical unit;
- Constitution of the first physical stock of 11 230 tons of cereals from the first call to tenders, and 20 244 tons of cereals under the second call;
- Intervention of ECOWAS, through the Regional Food Security Reserve (RRSA), in Nigeria by the official handing over to the Nigerian government

of 1,130 tons of cereals, intended for the populations beset by food crises in the States of Borno, Gombe, Adamawa and Yobe. The ceremonies of handing over the food composed of cereals, sorghum and millet took place on Tuesday, 8 August 2017, in Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State;

- Drafting of the Regulations for the Establishment of the Reserve Management Committee translated into Portuguese and English and submitted to the ECOWAS Commission for consideration by the next ministerial meeting;
- Contracting with stock management structures in particular with OPVN of Niger, NAFCO of Ghana, SONAGESS of Burkina Faso, CSA of Senegal, OPAM of Mali and FSRD of Nigeria;
- Conducting quality diagnosis of national storage facilities in Nigeria through verification of 13 FSRD storage facilities in Nigeria;
- Contracting with a firm to carry out the study on capitalization of best practices of national storage management.

Component 2: Support for national storage systems and their networking:

- Organization of the annual meeting of national storage structures of ECOWAS member states, from 16 to 17 October 2017, in Accra. This meeting made it possible to report on the implementation of the RESOGEST revitalization roadmap, to validate the ToR of the study on the pooling of the 5% of national stocks, and to discuss the statutes. and the rules of procedure of RESOGEST;
- The recruitment of a cabinet for technical support and financial management support to 17 countries (ECOWAS + Mauritania and Chad) in defining or updating national food security storage policies and governance instruments of national stocks;
- The validation of the TORs for the design of the mechanism for pooling national stocks as part of the implementation of the RESOGEST Cooperation Framework;
- Technical support to the RESOGEST office by UTGR in the framework of the preparation of the ToR for the recruitment of the Consultant to lead the development of RESOGEST organic texts.

Component 3: Support for Proximity Storage Systems:

- Organization of a consultation with the relevant stakeholders (OP, Cooperatives of local stocks, RESIMAO, Oxfam, Green Africa, Inter-Networks, CILSS, ECOWAS, etc.), held on February 23, 2017 in Cotonou on the sidelines of the annual workshop of the Info-Stocks Unit. The consultation has enabled to establish a roadmap for the operationalization of the network of local storage operators whose main actions are: (i) the establishment of a database of local storage operators, (ii) the setting up of country committees and a regional consultation framework for these actors; and (iii) capacity building for actors (training and facilitation of their participation in cereals stock exchanges);

- The development and validation of the ToR for carrying out studies on: i) the capitalization of experiences in price and production risk pooling and ii) the design of a crop insurance system adapted to local storage stocks.

Component 4: Support to regional and national information systems and food and nutrition security surveys:

- The effective start of the ECOAGRIS platform with the receipt of historical data from 2012 to 2016 provided by nine (9) countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Gambia, Ghana, Chad and Togo);
- Provision of Internet connection for the benefit of the data-providing sector services in the seventeen (17) beneficiary countries for a period of twelve (12) months;
- Catalytic support for the operation of the respective CNEs of the countries namely: four (4) countries (Benin, Cape Verde, Ghana and Liberia) received no support in 2017 due to lack of justification of previous support and one country (Senegal) has not signed its decree, therefore is not eligible for support;
- Achievement of HEA reference profiles: Burkina Faso (2), Mali (1), Senegal (1) and eleven (11) new HEA rural profiles were carried out in Benin (03) Ghana(03), Guinea Bissau(01), Niger(01), Chad (01) and Togo(02);
- Monitoring of stocks and prices: ten (10) MIS countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Togo, Senegal, Chad, Nigeria, Guinea) benefit from direct catalytic support for monitoring starting stocks, and 15 MIS from the countries, with the exception of Cabo Verde and Liberia received catalytic support for joint market assessment and food security missions in February 2017;
- Support for surveys on agricultural statistics and environmental monitoring: technical and financial support for conducting agricultural surveys in seven (7) countries (Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger); technical and financial support for conducting nutrition surveys in three (3) countries (Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo); technical and financial support for conducting food security surveys in four (4) countries (Togo, Gambia, Ghana and Guinea); technical and financial support for training on yield estimates in two (2) countries (Niger, Nigeria);
- Continuation with extension of analysis cycles of the harmonized framework in the beneficiary countries and in the 13 states of Nigeria.

Component 5: Support to decision making mechanism and capacity building of RAAF:

- Development of technical notes to support decision making by the info-stock unit (technical note on the second purchase, on the food and nutrition situation in South-East of Niger during the June - July - August 2017 period)

and on the mid-term situation of the 2017/2018 agro-pastoral campaign in the Sahel and West Africa);

- Continued strengthening of RAAF's global capacity through communication and procurement experts made available to it;
- Conduct of two studies to support harmonization of triggering criteria for national and regional reserves (launched on 29 September 2017 at RAAF): (i) study on the capitalization of best practices and guidelines for developing national contingency plans and a regional contingency plan (led by the Consortium of the Polytechnic University of Madrid and OXFAM Intermon), and (ii) the preparation/revision of the national contingency plans and the regional contingency plan;
- Conduct of two studies for the establishment and operation of the mechanism for mobilization and rebuilding of stocks: study on the development of the Manual of Procedures of the Reserve (launched on April 11, 2017);
- Conduct of an information campaign addressed to ECOWAS Agricultural Producers and agro-processing enterprises (launching 5-6 July 2017) and case studies on the management modalities of food security reserves, including partnerships public-private, in West Africa's food crisis management and prevention systems (12 October 2017).

2.7.7. The Regional Program to Support Farmers and Professional Organizations in the Implementation of the West African Agricultural Policy (PRAOP / ECOWAP)

Phase 2 of the Regional Support Program for Agricultural and Professional Farmers' Organizations is financed by the Swiss Confederation (SDC) for an amount of 951,700,000 FCFA covering the period from 2015 to 2019. The implementation is done for the benefit of the three main professional organizations, namely ROPPA, RBM and APRESS. The objective of the program is to strengthen the capacities of these organizations so that they can analyze the issues and defend in a concerted manner the interests of family farming (including those of women and young people) in implementation of ECOWAP, and to mobilize the necessary services for the producers.

During the year 2017, the main achievements were:

- **Capacity building on the involvement dynamics of POs in the formulation process of PNIASAN.** A workshop was organized in Cotonou from 16 to 20 May 2017 to strengthen the capacities of FBOs on: (i) the vision, stakes and major problems of family farming in West Africa, (ii) progress status of PNIASAN formulation and the opportunities to take into account the contributions, visions and priorities of POs, (iii) the approach and the strategy of influence of POs within the framework of PNIASAN;
- **Organization of a consultation meeting on the review of PRAOP** on 19 August 2017 to review the financing agreement signed on 15 February 2017. This

addendum takes into account non-operationalizing of the Regional Fund for Agriculture and Food. The total amount of financing covered by the addendum is seven hundred and seventy-four million two hundred and thirty-one thousand seven hundred and eighty (774,231,780) FCFA and covers the period from November 2017 to December 2020.

III. BUDGET EXECUTION

The 2017 annual budget of USD **44,743,863** was executed at 65.92% as of 31 December 2017. The budget execution rate for the internal resources component is 80.07% and that for the "External resources" component is 65.68%.

Compared to 2016 (79.22%), the overall execution rate is down by 13.30% (2016 budget: 27 206 877 USD, 2016 expenditure: 21 552 023 USD).

Table 1: Budget execution rate by source of funding: internal resources and external resources

Item	Forecast budget	Budget executed	Completion rate
Internal Resources	743 878	595 645	80.07%
External Resources	43 999 985	28 898 137	65.68%
Total	44 743 863	29 493 782	65.92%

The overall level of implementation of 65.92% is largely due to the low levels of implementation of Component 2 and 3 of the SRFN Support Project, Component 2 of ECOWAP / CAADP and component 2 of PRAOP.

Figure 1 : Budget execution rate as of December 31, 2017

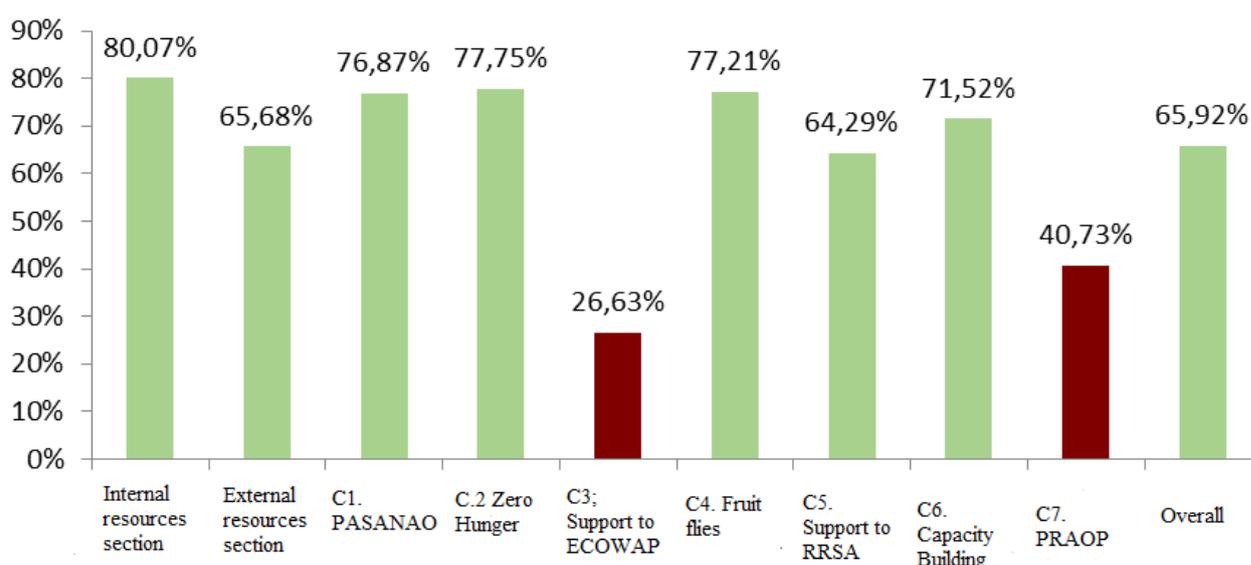


Table 2: Justification of performance discrepancies

Items	Rate	Justification of the gap
Internal resources	80,07%	<p>Firstly, each year, a mid-year Technical Committee meeting is scheduled to evaluate the implementation of the Steering Committees recommendations, to assess the implementation of the AWPB and to take measures to improve the implementation of activities. This year, the activity could not be realized because of the Commission's Institutional Reform Agenda which affected the timetable of activities of the DADR which ensures the chairmanship of the technical committee.</p> <p>Then, a forecast of the mobilization of three experts was made in the AWPB 2017 for the capitalization of innovative food and nutritional security operations, but this activity was supported by PASANAO.</p> <p>Finally, some supervision missions were supported by the ECOWAP / PDDAAA support project.</p>
C1.PASANAO	76,87%	Under Component 3, transfers of funds to projects are made upon request by project sponsors after a justification of at least 70% of the first tranche. All transfers will be made before June 2018.
C2. Zero Hunger	77,75%	<p>The main activities consist of support to countries (at their request) in formulating their national agricultural investment, food and nutrition security (PNISAN) program.</p> <p>The project was closed in December 2017 and some activities could not be completed. The request for extension which had been requested to implement the said remaining activities was not accepted by the German Cooperation.</p>
C3.Support to ECOWAP	26,63%	Under Component 2, the still unimplemented transfer of funds to all project promoters explains the low implementation rate of the AWPB. This transfer is done upon request of each project holder after having justified at least 70% of the first tranche. In 2017, four out of ten projects were able to receive the 2nd tranche. Also, plans included the contracting and transfer of the first 50% to projects from the 2nd call. The project selection process was completed at the end of 2017 but did not allow contracting and transfer of funds.
C4. Fruit flies	77,21%	A delay was suffered in the acquisition of mango flies control equipment currently underway by the countries. This is linked to complex procurement procedures in some countries.
C5.Support to RRSA	64,29%	All the contracts for the second call for cereals have not been signed in 2017, and the selection process of the consulting providers for the implementation of the activities of Components 2 and 3 is not completed. The activities of Components 2 and 3 have not yet been fully implemented as evidenced by low budget implementation rates (respectively 12.99% and 3.02%).
C6. Capacity building	71,52%	The level of implementation is mainly due to the low level of implementation under Outcome 1.3 - Formulation of investment projects in climate change and food security. Support was provided for the formulation of the AIC project submitted to the Adaptation Fund in collaboration with BOAD with the organization of four national workshops and contribution to the drafting of the project document. This result was executed at a rate of only 18% while it represents almost 19% in terms of budget weight in the project's AWPB.

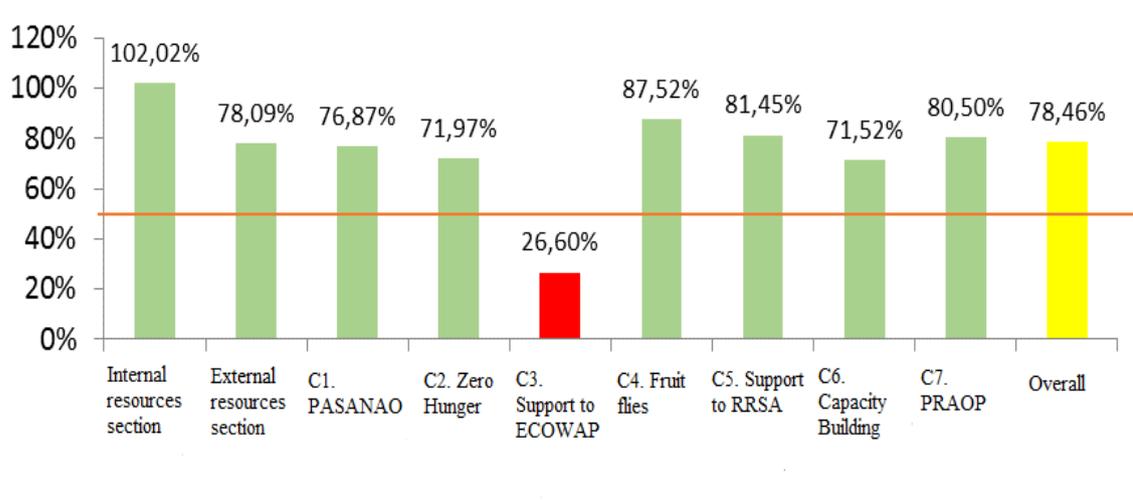
Items	Rate	Justification of the gap
C7.PRAOP	40,73%	<p>The low level of implementation is due to the fact that the cooperation agreement had to be revised to take into account the non-operationalization of the Regional Fund for Agriculture and Food which formed the basis of the agreement. During the period, ECOWAS-DDC-OPFs consultations led to the reorientation of the Cooperation Agreement, which also slowed down the implementation of the 2017 AWPB. An amendment to the Cooperation Agreement was signed on 15 February 2018.</p> <p>In addition, the program officer who was to coordinate the implementation of the activities was not recruited.</p>

IV. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The performance of the Agency and its projects and programs is measured by the "expenses / products" ratio.

In 2017, the Agency recorded a financial performance of 78.46% including projects and programs. This financial performance is slightly higher than 2016, which was 74.64%.

Figure 2: Financial Performance as of December 31, 2017

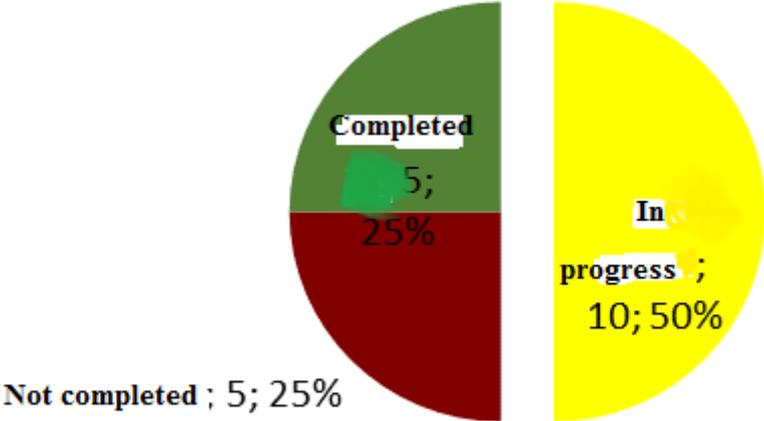


V. FOLLOW-UP OF RECOMMENDATIONS

During the meetings of the project and program steering committees under the coordination of the RAAF and during RAAF's steering committee meeting in March 2017, recommendations were made to the coordination teams, partners and ECOWAS.

In total, 20 recommendations were addressed to ECOWAS. To date, 5 have been fully completed, 10 are in progress and the remaining 5 were not completed.

Figure 3: Status of implementation of recommendations for ECOWAS



The five recommendations that were not completed in 2017 are the following:

1. Validation of the study on implementation modalities of the financial reserve of the CRRS, whose interim report was completed in September 2015: **This study is to be validated on the sidelines of the specialized ministerial committee that will be carried out in 2018;**
2. Compliance with the deadline of 6 months between the closure of the safety net call for proposals and the signature of the contracts with the project promoters who will be selected: The call for proposals was launched on 27 March 2017 and the final selection of the 9 selected projects obtained AECID's no objection notice on 19 December 2017. The project promoters were trained in the management of their project according to the ECOWAS procedures at a workshop organized from 7 to 8 March 2018 in Lomé. The delay is related to the high number of files received (291) whose evaluation required a relatively longer time than expected.
3. Initiating formal exchanges with the Chair of the ECOWAS Parliament for the organization of an advocacy and sensitization and follow up workshop on the right to food and the ECOWAS Zero Hunger initiative. The Zero Hunger project which was to finance this workshop ended without the activity being carried out because the requested extension was not approved.
4. Initiating formal exchanges and follow up with the Chair of the ECOWAS Parliament for the appointment of the ECOWAS Goodwill Ambassador: **This will continue in 2018.**
5. Revitalizing the task force at CRHA level: **ToRs have been elaborated but the implementation of this recommendation requires a budget that was not planned.**

Table 3: Status of Implementation of Recommendations to ECOWAS

N°	Recommendations	Status	Comment	COPIL / CO RAAF
1	Recruit a dedicated accountant for the project	In progress	Recruitment still ongoing by the ECOWAS Commission	SRHR Support Project
2	Have the CTS put in place and proposal of its composition, mission, functioning and a budget. Ensure the participation of a RESOGEST representative	Done	CTS set up by an Interinstitutional Memo of May 25, 2017. First meeting held on June 21, 2017 and the second on January 23, 2018.	SRHR Support Project
3	Prepare and adopt amendments to contracts between ECOWAS and AECID on the one hand, and AFD on the other, to lift conditions of D + 3	Done	Agreements between ECOWAS and AFD on the one hand and between ECOWAS and AECID on the other were signed to lift the conditions of D + 3. A notification was made to DUE Lomé by AFD	SRHR Support Project
4	Make decisions on the creation of the financial reserve and the management committee of the RRSA	In progress	Plan for creation of the management committee developed and to be submitted to the Council of Ministers for adoption during the first half of 2018. For the Financial Reserve, an allocation of USD 3,500,000 requested from the CAF in December 2017, of which USD 1,500,000 for the reconstitution of the Nigerian intervention stock	SRHR Support Project
5	Organize validation of the study on the implementation modalities of the CRRS Financial Reserve, whose interim report was completed in September 2015	Not done	Organization of the workshop is planned to be annexed to the specialized Ministerial Committee.	PASANAO
6	Respect the 6-month period between the closing of the call for project proposals and the signing of contracts with the project holders who will be selected	Done with a slight delay	09 projects were selected and the different stages were the subject of ANO of AECID. A start-up workshop was organized on 07 and 08 March 2018	ECOWAP / CAADP Support Project

N°	Recommendations	Status	Comment	COPIL / CO RAAF
7	Set up and conduct the network of exchanges on social safety nets (FSS)	In progress	PASANAO studies validated on setting up an exchange system on FSS in West Africa. Trainings (1 regional and 14 national) organized and availability of a directory of experts social nets in the countries whose networking and animation are planned in 2018	ECOWAP / CAADP Support Project
8	Integrate beneficiaries of the calls for project proposals into capitalization of achievements of their projects, from the beginning of the implementation of the activities	In progress	Beneficiaries are effectively integrated into the capitalization of project achievements (documentary film production, balance sheet documents and lessons learned lessons, etc.). New project leaders will be trained on the capitalization of the acquired skills	ECOWAP / CAADP Support Project
9	Present a financial table of the State's annual investment in social safety nets to better understand the interventions of each State	In progress	Based on the structures in charge of FSS and PNIASAN Focal Points that benefited from regional training on FSS, the Agency requested each country to report on the annual investments of the countries.	ECOWAP / CAADP Support Project
10	Maintain and strengthen dialogue with AECID for resource mobilization for another phase of the capacity building project for implementation of ECOWAP 2025	In progress	A high-level ECOWAS-FAO-AECID mission is planned in Madrid. This activity is tabled in the Instances of the new Commissioner	Capacity Building
11	ECOWAS will have to coordinate all program actions for the next COPIL, those that the RAAF implements directly and those carried out by the 3 OPFs	Done	Consultations took place between ECOWAS, DDC and POs resulting in a revision of the Cooperation Agreement through the signing of an amendment. RAAF has also made a request to FOs to have 2017 progress reports and 2018 AWPBs, which will provide Committee members with an overview of the program as a whole.	PRAOP

N°	Recommendations	Status	Comment	COPIL / CO RAAF
12	Initiate formal exchanges with the Presidency of the ECOWAS Parliament for the organization of an advocacy and sensitization workshop on the right to food and the zero hunger initiative of ECOWAS and follow up	Not realized	This activity was not executed , the project did not receive the extension agreement and was closed in December 2017	Zero Hunger
13	Initiate formal exchanges with the ECOWAS Parliament Chair for the appointment of the ECOWAS Goodwill Ambassador and follow up	Not realized	This activity was not executed , the project did not receive the extension agreement and was closed in December 2017	Zero Hunger
14	Ensure sustainability of RAAF core staff	In progress	Sustainability of RAAF core staff will be resolved as part of the ongoing institutional reform.	CO RAAF
15	Consolidate RAAF in its activities according to its mandate	In progress	Ongoing institutional reform will allow revisiting the mandate of the RAAF. It is expected that the Agency changes name to expand its intervention in the field of environment and water resources.	CO RAAF
16	Operationalize the Regional Fund for Agriculture and Food	In progress	Each year the Agriculture Department submits to the CAF a budget for the food of the Fund; An allocation of USD 3,500,000 was requested in the 2018 budget. This allocation will be effective depending on the availability of financial resources from Community levies	CO RAAF
17	Boost the task force at the level of the RRSA	Not done	TDRs of the revitalization of the Task Force developed	CO RAAF
18	Develop and implement a comprehensive regional program of institutional and operational capacity building	In progress	A comprehensive capacity building strategy is being formulated. The validation workshop is scheduled for 23-24 March 2018 in Lomé.	CO RAAF
19	Demonstrate ECOWAS co-financing during project and program steering	Done	Since 2016, the RAAF has been evaluating ECOWAS co-financing in the implementation of projects and	CO RAAF

N°	Recommendations	Status	Comment	COPIL / CO RAAF
	committees meetings		programs under its coordination. At PASANAO for example, co-financing was estimated to at 60% execution rate.	
20	Draft a note on RAAF's main achievements	Done	A note was produced and was published in the African Parliament newspaper	CO RAAF

CONCLUSION

Activities planned for the 2017 have been normally implemented, overall. The projects and programs coordinated by RAAF are likewise performing, well with tangible results.

However, some difficulties have marked the implementation of activities including:

At staff level, there is a delay in the not yet effective recruitment of two accountants for monitoring the activities of the Stock project and those of the project to support ECOWAP CAADP (safety nets);

At the level of the RRSA support project, difficulties to obtain exemptions for the border transit of the food destined to the Reserve affected the delivery of cereals in particular in Ghana. Also, the not yet effective establishment of the **Reserve Management Committee** for decision-making and operations of the Reserve must be noted, and no agreement was secured in connection with the storage of cereals in the ANSAT stores, despite the discussions with the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Togo;

As for the Fruit Fly Project, the membership of new countries (Guinea Bissau, Nigeria and Togo) comes at a time when resources are almost all committed. Also, the release of products under customs custody remains complex and delays are extremely long, to the point that the producers do not receive them until after the mango campaign in some countries. Ghana, for example, just released in November 2017 the control products sent in March 2017, five months after the end of the mango campaign.

Non-operationalization of the Regional Fund for Agriculture and Food has a negative impact on the implementation of the activities of the Agency.