

Support Project to the Regional Plan for Fruit Flies Monitoring and Control in West Africa

... For a better quality and profitability
of the fruits of our orchards ...



EDITORIAL

Dear partners and collaborators ! It is always with the same pleasure we present the quarterly newsletter N°5 which summarizes major FFCP events that took place during the period.

This quarter (from July to September 2018) was marked by two important events. First, the fourth FFCP steering committee meeting held in Lomé and chaired by the Director of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD). The Steering Committee validated the 2017-2018 annual report and the latest FFCP 2018-2019 action plan. Important recommendations were made to all project stakeholders.

The second major event was the visit of FFCP achievements and an open exchange with the beneficiaries of FFCP actions in the field in the region of Bobo-Dioulasso (Burkina Faso) by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources (CAEWR).

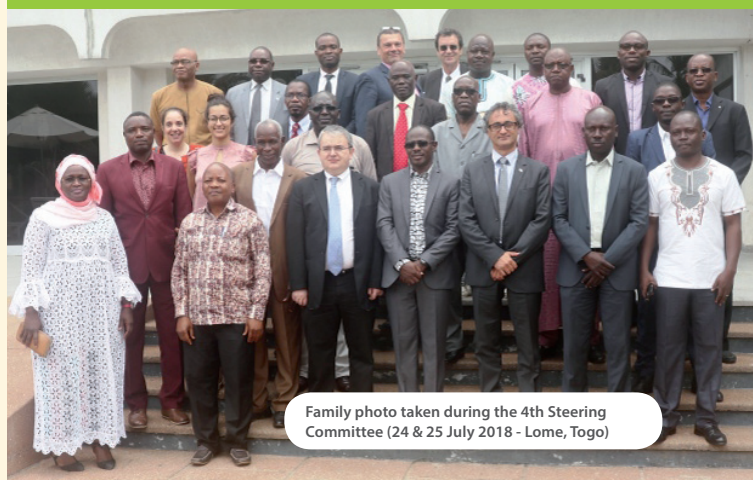
August being usually a holiday season, the coordination Unit team took a break and resumed by September 2018 for the implementation of the last FFCP 2018-2019 action plan.

Three important events will punctuate the implementation of the 2018-2019 action plan: the High Level Regional Workshop on the Sustainability of the Surveillance System, the Capitalization Workshop, which will act as a closing workshop of the FFCP and finally the FFCP final evaluation.

Among the major challenges related to the implementation of the last action plan will be the technical and financial implementation and reporting of the national action plans, as well as the regional plan in due time. New organizational arrangements will be put in place by the coordination unit to ensure strict respect of the deadlines.

Nata Traoré, FFCP Coordinator

FFCP NEWS



Commissioner of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources (AEWR) visits some FFCP field actions in Burkina Faso

After a meeting with FFCP coordination Unit in Bamako in May 2018, the FFCP was honored once again by a field visit of Commissioner AEWR of achievements of FFCP in the region of Bobo-Dioulasso (economic capital of Burkina Faso) from 09 to 10 August 2019.

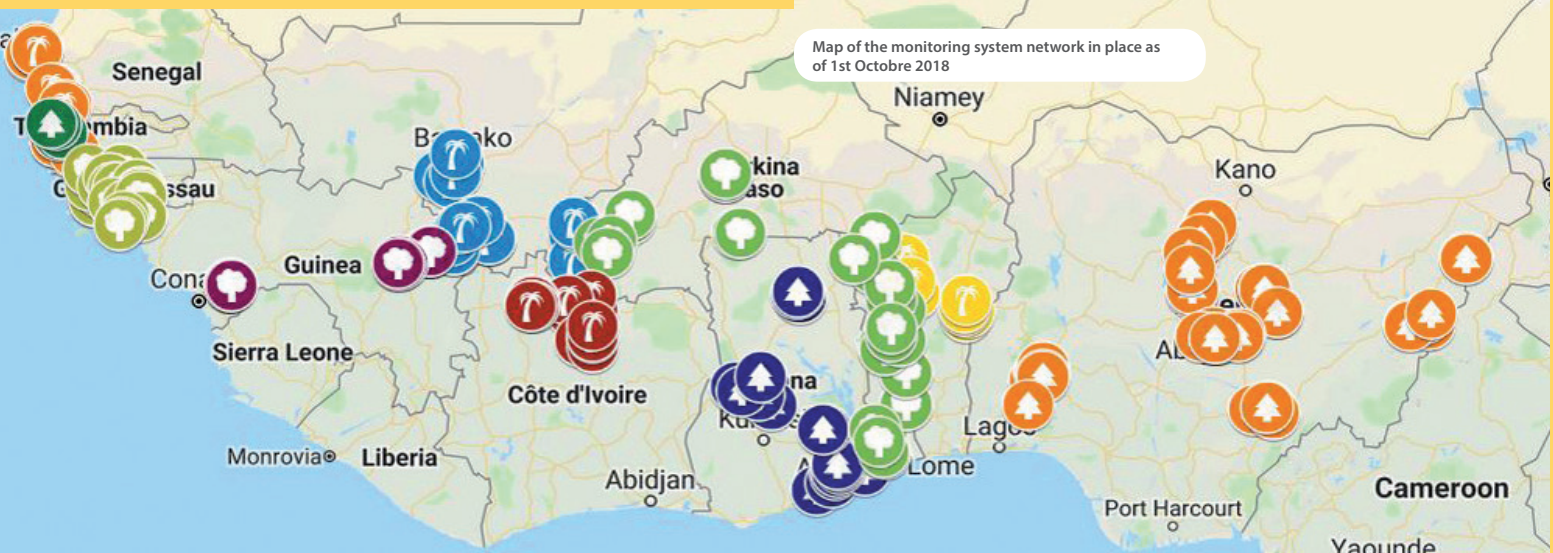
FFCP organizes a High Level Regional Workshop on Sustainability of the Monitoring system in place

The FFCP will organise an important high-level workshop under the chairmanship of the Commissioner AEWR, which will bring together decision-makers from Ministries in charge of agriculture, representatives of inter-profession mango value chain, exporters, producers, companies marketing control products and monitoring equipment, as well as financial institutions, and technical and financial partners. The workshop will be held from 26 to 30 November 2018 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

FFCP Regional 2017-2018 Overview Campaign Workshop

Like the previous campaign, the FFCP is organizing the 2017-2018 campaign report workshop in Abidjan (Republic of Côte d'Ivoire) from December 1th to 14th 2018. Beside this workshop, a training on planning and resources mobilization will be given to the representatives of Guinea Bissau, Nigeria and Togo, who joined FFCP in 2018.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



Monitoring component

Togo, Nigeria and Guinea Bissau have joined the Fruit Fly Control project since March 2018. The Project monitoring system has expanded its orchard network. There are 32 mango production areas and 2,240 ha now under surveillance in West Africa with 1,280 observation points. The equipment is in place and the region wide sampling system is operational at 94%. The system of Control with alert by the surveillance system is operational since November 2017.

Control component

At the regional level, the control component's expert has trained 20 technicians of the national committee of Guinea Bissau on control strategies and techniques. During this training, emphasis was placed on the comparative advantages of locally made traps versus industrial traps. The expert has also contributed to the preparation and tenure of the 4th steering committee meeting in Lomé, Togo. At the national level, the expert has validated awareness campaign for preventive control, the establishment and monitoring of pilot orchards, the conduct of intensive control in areas of high infestations for Togo and Guinea Bissau.

Capacity Building component



In 2017 phytosanitary inspectors from Burkina Faso, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Gambia, Benin, Senegal and Ghana had been trained by the FFCP on phytosanitary inspection procedures, regional and international standards for phytosanitary certification, and post-harvest techniques for fruit flies control.

Since Guinea-Bissau was not yet part of the project, the country did not benefit from this support. It therefore appeared necessary to organize a local training session, for the technical staff of Guinea-Bissau.

The purposes of the training session in Guinea-Bissau was to provide the services of the Directorate of Plant Protection services (PPS) and the National Directorate of Agricultural Extension (NDAE) with skills to apply post-harvest techniques for fruit flies control recommended by FFCP. Part of the training session was devoted to official control so that participants are able to apply good practices in phytosanitary certification.

The training session was held from 16th to 21st July 2018 in Bula / Guinea-Bissau and was attended by 20 technicians, including Mrs. Maria Rosa Évora Ferreira, Executive Secretary of the Guinea Bissau National Committee.





4th Steering Committee of the Support Project to the regional plan for Fruit Flies Monitoring and Control in West Africa Lomé, Togo, 24 & 25 July 2018

Coordination

The fourth FFCP Steering Committee meeting was held from 24 to 25 July 2018 in Lomé, Togo under the chairmanship of the Director of Agriculture and Rural Development of ECOWAS.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources Department of ECOWAS (Directorate of Agriculture, Rural Development (DADR) and Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (ARAA)) of the Directorate External Relations of ECOWAS, the Delegation of the European Union (DUE) of Lomé, the Agence Française de développement (AFD), the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF), the National Committees of Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Togo representative representing the National Fruit Flies Committees, the University of Abomey Calavi (Benin) Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (representing National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) and the Technical Committee set up by CORAF, the SOGEROM COLEACP EBRD Consortium and the coordination team.

The opening ceremony punctuated by the welcoming remarks of the representative of the Executive Director of ARAA, followed by the speech of the representative of AFD, Mr. Jean René Cuzon, who insisted on the importance for this last year of implementation on the following elements: consolidate the monitoring systems set up in the framework of the project; capitalize on the achievements and results; pay attention to the sustainability of the surveillance and control systems and continue the work undertaken on the analysis of interceptions. He has reminded the importance of consolidating the action of national fruit flies committees by involving more and more the private sector.

The representative of the EU, Mr. Antonio Capone, emphasized on the importance of damage caused by fruit flies on fruits, despite the efforts made. He welcomed the important results achieved by the project, including the issuance of alerts and welcomed the accession of the last three countries Nigeria, Togo and Guinea Bissau. Due to the persistence of the fruit flies infestation, an interception analysis has been conducted by the ECOWAS Commission and the Abuja EU Delegation. Finally, he reminded that the EU wishes to engage more and more its Delegations in other countries.



These interventions were followed by the opening speech delivered by Mr. Alain Sy Traoré (DADR), representing Commissioner AEW. Mr. Sy Traore expressed his gratitude towards all the participants, reminding that this project is an example of success with almost all indicators in green. He also reminded that the FFCP was a pilot project because it was indeed the first project focused on monitoring and control of a pest. He insisted that FFCP assets and lessons learned should be capitalized in order to be adapted to the monitoring of pests of other crops. Moreover, he stressed that under the new European regulation, the rules would be stricter and the fruit fly would no longer be an isolated case of pest leading to quarantine.

The 2017-2018 annual report to June 30 as well as the 2018-2019 action plan were presented by the regional coordinator and the administrative and financial officer of the PCU and Farma Cissé of CORAF. The presentation was followed by discussions.

The national committees represented by Lanciné Traoré (NFFC of Guinea) and Pascal Nabèlessini-Silué (NFFC of Ivory Coast) made a communication to the steering committee on behalf of the National fruit flies committees in which they confirmed the achievements presented by the Coordination and requested from ECOWAS and its financial partners an extension of the FFCP in order to consolidate the achievements of the project. Each component presented their main achievements.

After discussions, the committee validated the report and the action plan with comments to be taken into account and made several recommendations among which:

- Strengthen the regional surveillance system to ensure the independence of the system vis-à-vis the availability of national resources
- Planning the end-of-project evaluation and prepare the consultants Terms of Reference
- Formulate a concept note for a phase 2 of the Extended Project (all pests, all countries) for transmission to the AFD

The closing speech were delivered by Mr. Alain Sy Traore who after congratulating the project team, thanked the technical and financial partners of the project.

NEWS OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY

BURKINA FASO



Visit to Burkina Faso of the Commissioner AERE of the ECOWAS (at the center)

An ECOWAS mission, led by Mr. Sékou Sangaré, Commissioner in charge of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources (AEWR), took place from 9 to 10 August 2018 in Burkina Faso to observe the achievements from FFPC. During his mission, the ECOWAS representative exchanged with the direct beneficiaries of the FFPC and visited structures supported by the project. Mr. Sangaré and his delegation have begun their visit with bilateral or "face-to-face" discussions with producers in Bama (located at about 30 km from Bobo-Dioulasso). This meeting allowed in-depth exchange on all aspects related to the implementation of the FFPC and give the opportunity to formulate proposals for increasing mango production.

During the exchanges, the producers thanked ECOWAS for the support received during the first phase of FFPC. According to them, the advice as well as the quality pesticides put at their disposal have been of great benefit in the reduction of production losses related to fruit fly bites. It is why they appeal for the continuation of this support through a new phase of the project. Mr. Sangaré expressed his satisfaction regarding the positive impact of project in particular in terms of improvement of quantity and quality of mango production.

In the light of producers' testimonials, nothing should prevent him to encourage the continuation of activities undertaken by the project.

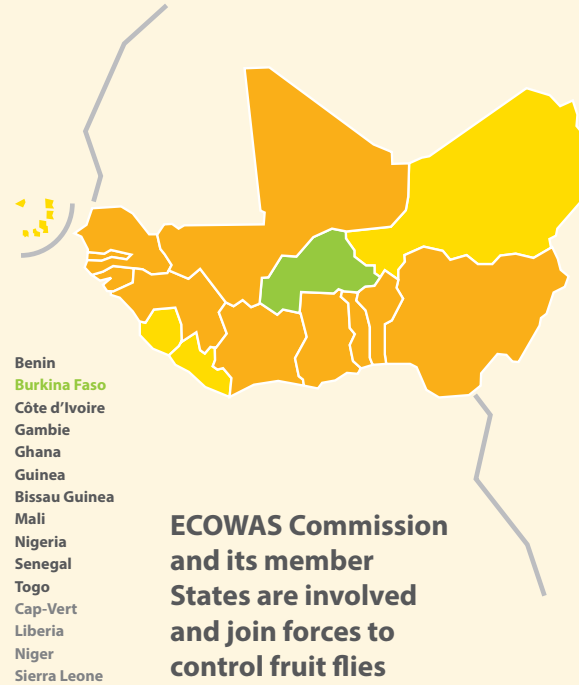
Mr. Sangaré then had a working session with the actors of the implementation of the project at the national level, who presented the FFPC results, in particular the research activities as well as the structuring and functioning of the interprofession of actors in the Burkina Faso mango sector (APROMAB).

The difficulties that hampered activities during the 2017/2018 campaign were also underlined (delays in implementation of activities and budgetary restrictions of the Coordination Cell). In view of the results presented, Mr. Sangaré thanked the operators for the work carried out and recalled that the purpose of his mission in Burkina Faso is to touch the realities of the field in order to provide answers to concerns of the people. He did not fail to invite producers and exporters of mangoes to diversify sources of income and to prospect for new markets other than those of the EU so that to mitigate the issue of interceptions.

The ECOWAS emissary took advantage of his stay to visit some beneficiary structures of FFPC and in particular the downstream actors of the mango value chain: SGTF, specialized in packaging and export of mango, a private structure co-managed by the Chamber of Commerce and Durabilis; Pauline, specialized in dried mango processing, employing 117 women who work full time from March to June. Mr. Sangaré and his delegation went on at the Farako-Bâ research station (10 km from Bobo-Dioulasso) where they were joined by Mr. Jacob Ouedraogo, Minister of Agriculture and Landscaping Hydraulic. The two personalities had exchanges with researchers on work involved in the biological fruit flies control. They also visited the parasitoid breeding lab of fruit flies as well as the reference laboratory INERA, acquired under the financing of WAAPP / PPAO.



Packaging of dried mango in a processing unit in Burkina Faso

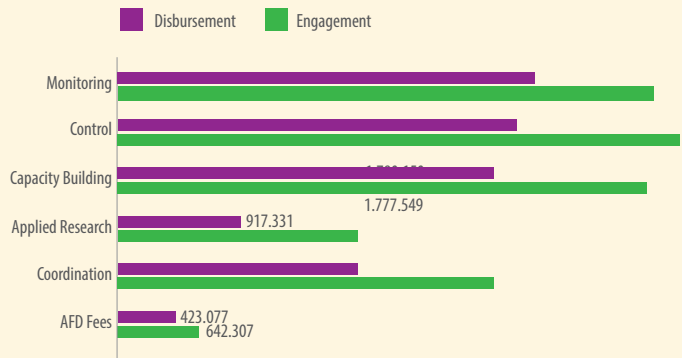


- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Gambie
- Ghana
- Guinée
- Bissau Guinée
- Mali
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- Togo
- Cap-Vert
- Liberia
- Niger
- Sierra Leone

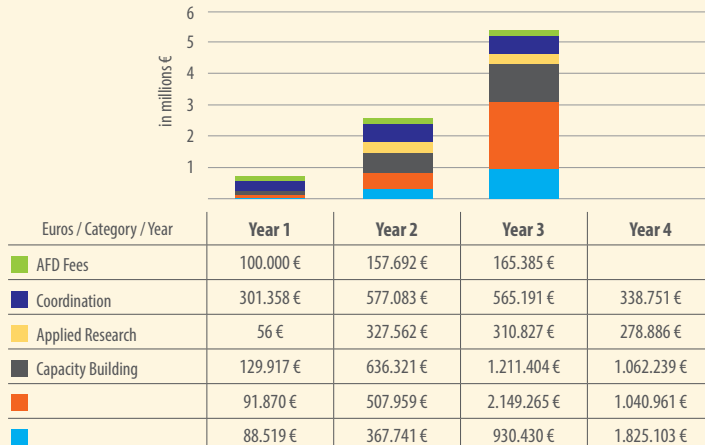
ECOWAS Commission and its member States are involved and join forces to control fruit flies infestation and to increase the fruit and vegetables producers' incomes

IN EUROS

Financial Report (in millions €)



Yearly Disbursement Trend



PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTED BY



Under the supervision of

the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (ARAA)
Lomé, Togo - Tel. +228 22 21 40 03
araa@araa.org - www.araa.org

CONTACT

FFCP Coordination Unit
Bamako, Mali - Tel. +223 20 21 13 34
plmf.coordination@sogerom.com