

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

The horticultural production area is a factor contributing to the balanced diet of millions of consumers and is a major source of foreign exchange and employment for low-income countries.

The contribution of regional fruit and vegetable sources of income sectors has long been undermined by the non-compliance with the phytosanitary standards of the European Union in particular following infestations by phytophagous flies' pupae. Interceptions at the European Union borders cause heavy losses for West African producing countries.

In order to reduce the losses so that the fruit flies are controlled and no longer be a constraint for the mango value chain, ECOWAS and WAEMU have initiated the fruit flies control project (FFCP). For a total of 23.5 M€, the project is based on five interdependent components (Monitoring, Control, capacity building, Applied research, and coordination), the FFCP objective is to improve the incomes of fruit and vegetable producers, particularly small producers.

The FFCP started the activities in February 2015 and the 2016-2017 work plan objective was to engaging the project implementation cruising speed.

This Quarterly Newsletter is the reflection of the FFCP life and the activities executed throughout the ECOWAS region. It will be fed by the contributions of the National Committees, the CORAF and the Coordination Unit

The first number of the FFCP newsletter is dedicated to the outcomes of the 2016-2017 work plan implementation.

Nata Traoré,
PLMF Coordinator

FFCP NEWS

Meeting between the Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) and CORAF took place in Bamako

From September 11th to 15th, a joint planning workshop of CORAF and the PCU held in the meeting room of the PCU at Bamako in accordance with the recommendation of the 3rd steering committee. This joint planning session in which participated the M&E responsible of RAAF, The Technical Assistant of the FFCP and the communication officer of Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development/Ecowas commission, allowed to elaborated a join revised budget and activity implementation agenda.

The National Committee (NC) organize evaluation for the mango campaign

The National Fruit Flies Committees organize annually an evaluation workshop of the mango campaign during which the managers of the FFCP present the progress of the annual work plan implementation. The evaluation of the 2016-2017 mango campaign is global and go beyond the FFCP annual report presentation. All the stakeholders' representative are invited. This review give an opportunity to all the actors to critically analyze the effects of the interventions on the mango sector on exports, the interceptions related to the fruit flies and to take measures to improve the performance of the sector. National Committees of Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali and Senegal recorded abnormally high mango interceptions in 2016-2017. They are currently diagnosing the causes of these interceptions with FFCP's support to take appropriate action to stop them.

The PCU at the Regional Center of Anima Health (RCAH)

The PCU team has taken up his quarter in Regional Center of Animal Health (CRSA)/ECOWAS (Sotuba area/Bamako).. The team has been warmly welcome by Dr Henry Kabore the responsible of the CRSA and his staff. The PCU team is grateful to him.

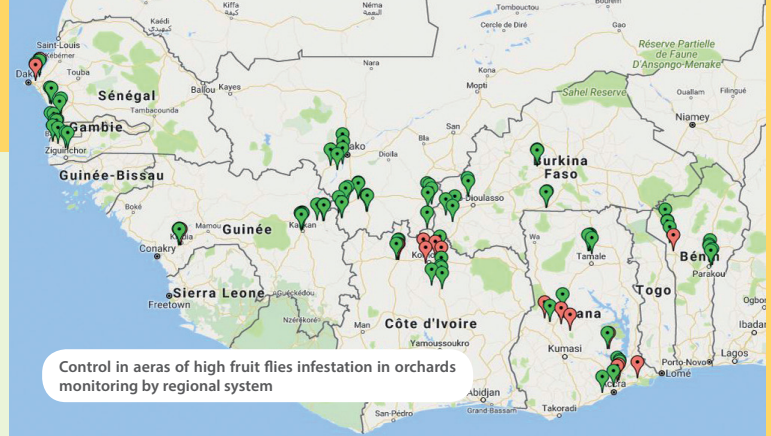
Mid-term evaluation of the FFCP, the final report available

The DUE Abuja, the main donor of the FFCP has, commissioned a mid-term evaluation study of the FFCP. The consultancy firm NIRAS was selected to carry out the evaluation. The firm has just filed its final report. One of the main conclusions of the evaluators is following «After a first year devoted to the setting up of the NFFCs and the working tools, the project is currently in rapid growth phase in the realization of the field activities. Much will be already done during this mango campaign». Among other recommendations, the mission recommended to the project's donors «to plan now financing a second phase of the project, to ensure the sustainability of the monitoring network and the warning system and to avoid any interruption of the activities between the two phases».

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

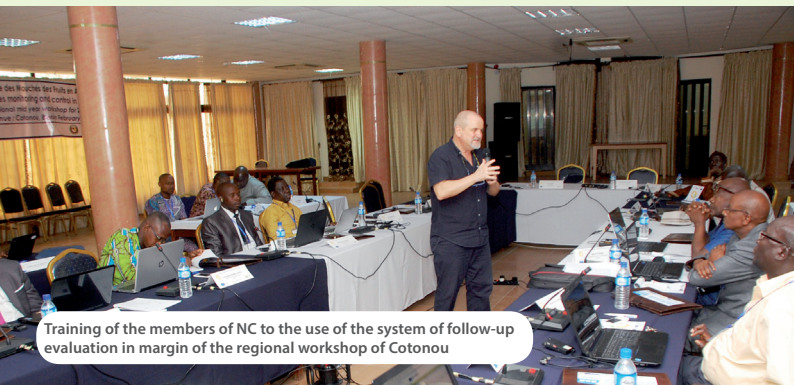
Monitoring component

A Fruit Fly Infestation Monitoring / Alert System is in place throughout the 22 areas. Each project member country has a multi-year monitoring workplan that focuses in prospective to integrate other cultivated crop pests. A regional network of mango producers is also in place and stakeholders have seen their capacity enhanced on the system. Fruit infestation rates of related from fruit flies are being weekly collected, managed and analyzed using a decision-support tool developed by the project. This tool is coupled to an operational alert system. Stakeholders will receive alerts on the losses due to the flies and get a weekly advice of the required treatment action to be undertaken. This activity will begin at the start of the 2018 mango campaign.



Control component

At the regional level, the expert has completed the deployment of the methodologies and strategies for preventive, intensive and integral risk-based management. He has supervised, following the request of the countries, the training of trainers in integrated pest management, facilitated the acquisition of control material for all countries and supervised workshops the training of trainers on post-harvest techniques. At the national level, the supervision of the preparation of national control plans, the conduct of national campaigns to sensitize producers on preventive control, the establishment and monitoring of pilot orchards, the conduct of intensive control in areas of high infestations were assured.



Capacity Building component

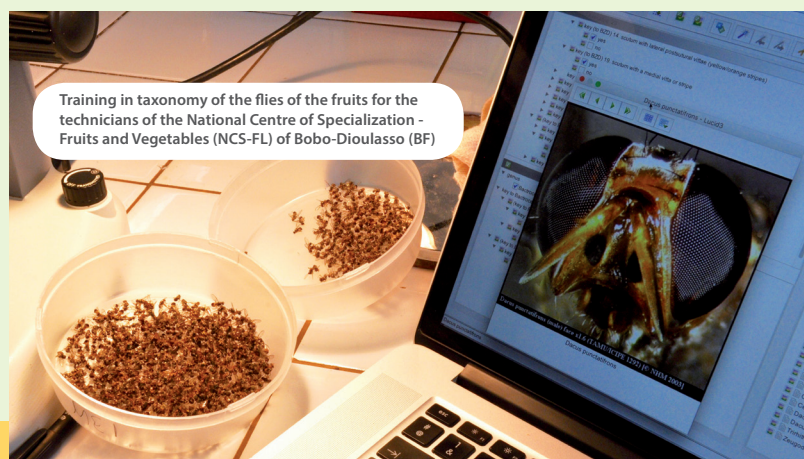
Capacity building activities were implemented for National Committees members, PPS agents, Professional organizations and border posts officers, national diagnostic laboratories and the Regional Reference Laboratory, CNS-Fruits and Vegetables of Bobo-Dioulasso / Burkina Faso.

These actions can be summarized as follows:

- Training of National Committees members in project management and communication strategies,
- Training of National Committees Accountants in the use of the FFCP administrative and financial procedures,
- Training of National Committees members in the use of the Monitoring and Evaluation System (SYSSE),
- Training of technicians from the regional reference laboratory and national diagnostic laboratories in Taxonomy of Fruit Flies and Good Laboratory Practices,
- Organization and supervision of regional training workshops for «Surveillance» and «Control» components, and
- Organization and supervision of regional mid-year, annual and planning workshops

Applied Research component

The activities of applied research focused on the identification of natural attractants for fruit flies, the identification of endogenous parasitoids, natural enemies of the fruit flies, and the support for a massive production of parasitoids for the biological control in the pilot orchards. Moreover, 17 masters and 2 PhD students were supervised, among which 11 masters defended their thesis. The technical committee of the component is set up and the second meeting of the Scientific Committee was held. Finally, Togo and Nigeria were supported to join the component and their contract were signed and validated.





The Project Coordination Unit team at Bamako (Mali)

From left to right: Stanislas DIHOUE (Responsible of the Capacity Building Component), Nata TRAORE (FFCP Regional Coordinator), Dr Claude Lenli OTOIDOBIGA (Responsible of the Control Component) Toumani TRAORE (Administrative and Financial Assistant), Dr Kémo BADJI (Responsible of the Monitoring Component), Babacar FAL (Administrative & Financial Responsible), background: Issa BERTHE (Driver)

Coordination component

The FFCP monitoring and evaluation system has been operationalized; the 2016-2017 communication work plan implemented. Support mission to the National Fruit Flies Committee of Ghana, Gambia and Guinea were organized and two information sessions were realized in Togo and Nigeria, two countries who made requests to join the project. A new accounting and financial reporting tool has been developed and set up to meet the requirements of the FFCP. Support are provided to the NFFCs at their requests in the financial and technical implementation of their action plan. The 2016-2017 annual report and the 2017-2018 work plan were developed and validated by the 3rd steering committee.

KEYS FIGURES

- 110** regional monitoring orchards
- 504** national monitoring orchards identified and geo referenced
- 1 821** farmers trained on surveillance technic
- 206** pilot orchards (including 23 orchards in biological control) set up
- 5 266** farmers trained in integrated pest management
- 15 442** ha orchards treated
- 271** phytosanitary inspectors trained and 83 representatives of professional organization trained
- 8** countries supported to develop long term fruit flies monitoring and control work plan

À REMPLACER
NOUS ENVOYER PHOTO
GROUPE ABUJA



NEWS OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY

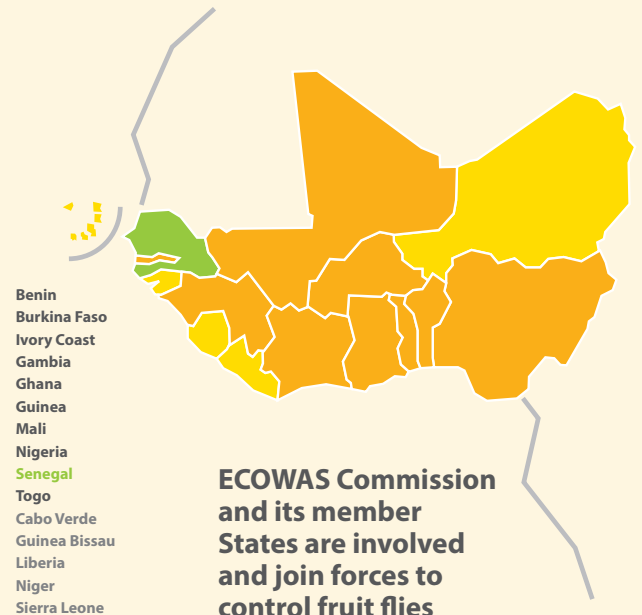
Biological control (e.g. release of parasitoids) is one of the 5 technologies of the IPM strategy deployed by the PLMF for the benefit of mango producers in Casamance. Pupae of the fruit fly *Bactrocera dorsalis* infested by the parasitoid *Fopius arisanus* were supplied by the entomological laboratory of Hawaii (USA) to the entomological laboratory of DPV of Senegal in Dakar.

After reception the pupae of *Bactrocera dorsalis* infested by the parasitoid *Fopius arisanus* have been incubated in this laboratory of the DPV until adult emergence. Adults of *Fopius arisanus* were then mass-reared using artificial diet until their sexual maturity. When they were sexually mature, males and females were released in mango orchards. Release of the parasitoid occur at mango or other *B. dorsalis* host plants fruiting stage to ensure their survival in the environment because parasitoids live at the expense of fruit flies that feed in the fruit of the host plant (a tri-trophic relationship between the host plant, the pest and the natural enemy).

The aim of this activity is to increase the population of parasitoids in orchards (augmentation releases), at a threshold level that will allow them to reduce the population of *B. dorsalis*. The activity also aims to introduce producers and trainers to this technology, through animation sessions in pilot orchards (orchards schools). These activities helped to convince producers of the effectiveness of biological control and the need to restraint chemical treatments in orchards in order to preserve the natural enemies of the mango fly.



Release of parasitoids in Casamance (Senegal)

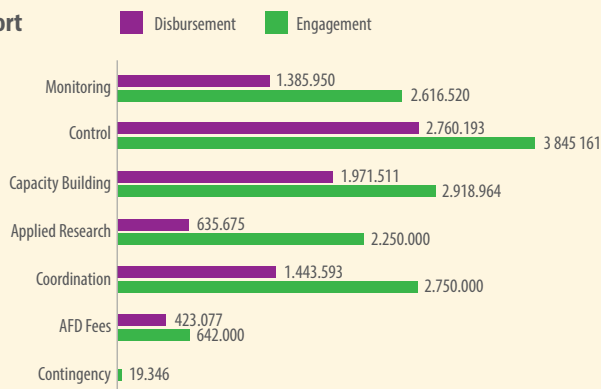


ECOWAS Commission and its member States are involved and join forces to control fruit flies infestation and to increase the fruit and vegetables producers' incomes

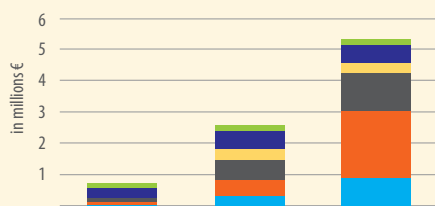
IN EUROS

Financial Report

(in millions €)



Yearly Disbursement Trend



Euros / Category / Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
AFD Fees	100.000 €	157.692 €	165.385 €
Coordination	301.358 €	577.083 €	565.153 €
Applied Research	56 €	323.550 €	312.069 €
Capacity Building	129.917 €	636.448 €	1.205.146 €
Control	91.870 €	507.959 €	2.160.364 €
Monitoring	88.519 €	367.741 €	929.680 €



PARTNERS



IMPLEMENTED BY



Under the supervision of

the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (ARAA)

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