

# Engaging Development Partners in Africa RISING Research for better socioeconomic impacts in West Africa semi-arid countries

Joachim N. Binam<sup>1</sup>, Arouna Bayoko<sup>2</sup>, Adama Diakite<sup>1</sup>, Birhanu Zemadin<sup>3</sup> and Catherine Dembele<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

<sup>2</sup>Association Malienne d'Eveil au Développement Durable (AMEDD)

<sup>3</sup>International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

## Key messages

- ✓ There is a growing demand on agricultural research institutions to deliver development outcomes and impacts that are tractable and measurable
- ✓ Researchers who are dedicated to investigations aimed at finding out solutions to problems are less inclined or poorly equipped to be involved in elaborating how solutions can be delivered to users at large scale
- ✓ Development outcomes and impacts, nonetheless, represent the only evidence for return to investments in agricultural research that can be facilitated by well-identified development partners
- ✓ Strong stakeholder networks enhance programme implementation and outcomes

## Objectives and approach

Propose some guidelines by using practical information to help the community of researchers and practitioners how to proceed in building effective and sustainable partnership for better impacts while implementing research in development or development programmes. This is achieved by using a stakeholder mapping, analysis and engagement framework.

## Key results

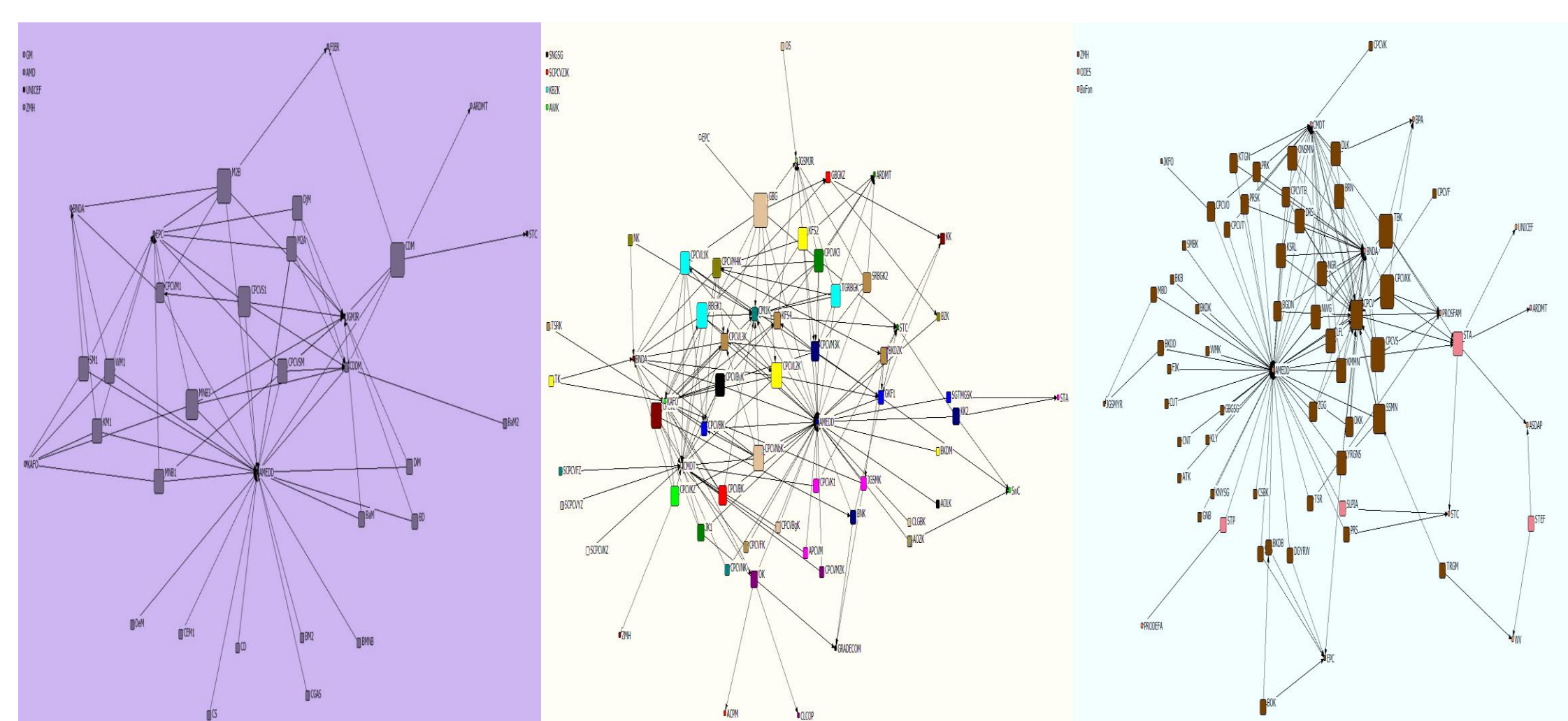
Outputs from this process included among others:

- Networks mapping for a visual and situation analysis of interactions and relationships among stakeholders (see figure 1);
- Power/interest grids for stakeholders (table 3);
- Plans for engaging, managing and communicating with key stakeholders for both programme implementation and scaling (table 3);
- A baseline situation of networks and interactions for future comparisons on research deliverables on the process and method as well as the changes in stakeholder networks and roles over time (tables 1 & 2).

**Table 3:** Stakeholder engagement plan

Actors	Goal, role, motivation	Position in the network	Level of influence	Level of interest	Potential role in the Agric. Dev Program	Engagement strategy				
						Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
WV	Improve local livelihoods through development support and capacity building	Prominent	H	L	Capacity building, out scaling	✓	✓		✓	
YEREDON	Support local communities through capacity building, promotion of networking and partnership	Prominent/influential	H	L	Sensitization, village-based training and extension	✓	✓	✓		
CMDT	Improve local livelihoods through provision of innovations and technical advices	Prominent	H	H	Sensitization, networking and out scaling	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Design and implementation of development programmes involves and affects many people within and external to the target communities. Some of these people have power to constrain whilst others can facilitate successful programme delivery and up scaling. Thus stakeholder identification, engagement and management are key to success.



**Figure 1:** Networks of stakeholder relationships in Menamba, Koumbia and Kifosso-Sikasso region

**Table 1:** Baseline networks structure in Sikasso region

Measures	MENAMBA		KOUMBIA		KIFOSSO	
	Baseline	Follow up	Baseline	Follow up	Baseline	Follow up
Network density	5%		3%		4%	
Inclusiveness	89%		91%		94%	

**Table 2:** Baseline assessment of the roles play by network members in Sikasso Region

	MENAMBA		KOUMBIA		KIFOSSO	
	Baseline	Follow up	Baseline	Follow up	Baseline	Follow up
<b>Actors with a prominent role</b>	AMEDD EPC/CMDT CDDM JGMJR		AMEDD CPCV CMDT BND		AMEDD CMDT KAFO BND	
<b>Actors with influential role</b>	CDM CPCV1 MNB3 MNB1 WM1 KM1 SM1 CPCVM1 DJM CPCVSM		TBK CPCVKK CPCV SSMN CPCV DLK BRN ONSMN DRS NGR NWG LFL KMMN YRGNS KSRL STA		GBG CPCVK3 CPCVBK CPCVNNbK CPCVL2K KAFO CPCVM4K CPCVL1K BBGK1 TGRBGK KFS2	
<b>Network border actors</b>	AMEDD CDDM CDM		AMEDD STA CPCV CMDT		AMEDD CMDT	
<b>Members not involved</b>	GM AMD ZMH UNICEF		BoFon ODES ZMH		AWK KBZK SNGSG SCPCVZJK	