



INITIATIVE ON
West and Central African
Food Systems Transformation



**Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and
Central Africa Initiative
(TAFS-WCA)**

**PAUSE AND REFLECT, AND
STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP OF
TAFS-WCA**

Workshop Report

**May 09-12, 2023
(Accra, Ghana)**

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MAJOR ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AfricaRice	:	Africa Rice Center
CA	:	Central Africa
CGIAR	:	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIAT	:	The Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture
CIP	:	International Potato Center
ICIPE	:	International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
CORAF	:	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development
ICRISAT	:	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
IITA	:	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IWMI	:	International Water Management Institute
DRC	:	Democratic Republic of Congo
MELIA	:	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning and Impact Assessment
NARS	:	National Agricultural Research Systems
PRMS	:	Performance and Results Management System
TAFS-WCA	:	Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and Centra Africa
WA	:	West Africa
WorldFish	:	World Fish Center
WorldVeg	:	World Vegetable Center
WP	:	Work Package
WUR	:	Wageningen University & Research

INTRODUCTION

The Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and Central Africa Initiative (TAFS-WCA) is a regional integrated initiative of One CGIAR that aims to improve nutrition, incomes, and food security within the context of climate change in West and Central Africa through nutritious, climate-adapted, and market-driven food systems. The Initiative is divided into five integrated work packages: (1) Sustainable Intensification and Diversification for Nutritious and Safe Food and Resilient Food Production, (2) Informed Digital Agriculture for Climate Resilience, (3) Sustainable and Inclusive Landscape Management, (4) Youth and Women Entrepreneurship Models, and (5) Accelerating Impact of Investments and Catalyzing Impact at Scale. The initiative is using a phase-in approach and the targeted countries in phase 1 are Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Nigeria, and Rwanda for three years (2022 to 2024). As part of the participatory approach of the Initiative, two stakeholders' engagement and launch workshops were held in 2022 in Côte d'Ivoire (West Africa), and in Rwanda (Central Africa) to inform and seek the commitment of the stakeholders of the two sub-regions.

After one year of implementation, the Initiative organized a pause, reflect, and stakeholders' workshop in Accra, Ghana from May 9-12, 2023. In total 60 participants including 14 women participated to the workshop (see List of participants in annex). Participants were from 11 countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Benin, Senegal, Nigeria, Ghana, Burundi, Rwanda, DRC, Madagascar, Netherlands, and Kenya). The workshop facilitated exchanges between the various stakeholders of the initiative took stock of the various activities carried out during the first year of execution, the planned activities for this year, and the prospects for improving implementation performance.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Assess the achievements of the first year of implementation of the Initiative;
- Discuss ongoing activities of the Initiative;
- Agree on the results-based planning of the activities of the Initiative;
- Organize a round table with the partners of the Initiative for informing, sharing of experiences, and synergy towards impact at scale;
- Discuss the perspectives for improvement of Initiative results for the upcoming years.

Methodology:

The format of the meeting was physical. However, some sessions with partners and other One CGIAR Initiatives were hybrid, with some colleagues and participants online. Interpretation was provided from English to French and vice versa.

The presentations and discussions were moderated by experienced facilitators with participatory and interactive methods.

The meeting was scheduled for 4 days (Days 1 and 2 for only One CGIAR Centers involved in the initiative, and Days 3 and 4 with the partners). This document presents the report of the pause, reflect, and stakeholders' workshop of TAFS-WCA initiative of the CGIAR Centers held from May 9-12, 2023, in Accra, Ghana.

DAY 1 (09/05/2023): PAUSE AND REFLECT WORKSHOP (2022 ACHIEVEMENTS, LESSONS AND 2023 WORK PLAN)

The first day of the workshop was dedicated to the presentations on 2022 achievements and 2023 workplan of the Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and Central Africa Initiative (TAFS-WCA). It was scheduled in the following four session.

Session 1. Opening Ceremony: Dr. Gaudiose (Chair)

1. Welcome address and Opening address

The session was opened by the Lead of TAFS-WCA, Dr. Aminou Arouna, who provided a warming welcome address to all the participants from the One CGIAR Centers, and Work Package leaders present (Dr. Robert Asiedu, Dr. Mathieu Ouedraogo, Dr. Olufunke Cofie, and Dr. Jan Low) (Figure 1), and their respective teams. In his opening speech, he recalled that the aim of the workshop is to take stock of the key achievements obtained after the first year of implementation. He mentioned that as part of the participatory approach of the initiative the initiative had organized two launch and stakeholder engagement workshops held in Côte d'Ivoire (West Africa) and Rwanda (Central Africa) in 2022 to inform and engage stakeholders in the two sub-regions, the leadership of the initiative decided to have only one integrated workshop for West and Central Africa in order to take stock of the various activities carried out during the first year of execution, the activities for this year, and the prospects for improving our performance. Therefore, the first two days of the workshop was dedicated to self-critical review of what was achieved in 2022, how we are going to improve for this year and the upcoming years to get ready for the second part of the workshop in which the partners from the six countries involved in the initiative will join.

The chair of the session (Dr. Gaudiose) coordinated the introduction of the various participants to put an end to the session 1, before launching the various presentations planned for the day.



Figure 1. Group photo of the five work package leaders. From left to right: Dr Robert Asiedu. (WP1 Leader), Dr Jan Low (WP5 Leader), Dr Aminou Arouna (Lead of TAFS-WCA), Dr Olufunke Cofie (WP3 Leader), Dr Mathieu OUEDRAOGO (WP2 Leader).
Accra, Ghana.

2. Workshop Objectives and Overview of the Program

After the introduction of each participant present at the workshop, the floor was turned to Dr Aminou Arouna for his presentation on the objectives and program of the workshop.

After welcoming again, the audience, Dr. Arouna reminded the general objectives of the workshop in the following points:

- Assess the result of the first year of implementation of the initiative
- Present the ongoing activities of the initiative
- Exchange the results-based planning of the activities of the initiative
- Organize round tables with the partners of major project/program and initiatives for informing, sharing of experiences
- Discuss on the perspectives of improvement of initiative result for the upcoming year.

Addressing the issue of organization, Dr. Arouna said that the workshop will last 4 days and be divided into two parts. The first part will be devoted to the meeting of the TAFS-WCA work package Leaders on "Pause and Reflect Workshop (2022 Achievements, lessons, 2023 work plan, and strategic discussion)". The second part will be reserved to the meeting with partners on "Stakeholder Workshop (2022 Achievement and Partnership, 2023 expected outcomes and countries plan)". Finally, he presented the workshop agenda.

Session 2. Progress and Lessons Learnt in 2022

1. Initiative Management, General Overview of Progress, and Lessons

Dr. Arouna, in his presentation on the progress and lessons learned in 2022 at the initiative level, focused on the development of Innovation Business Model hubs (IBM hub) by clarifying where the idea started and why this type of model. Addressing the issue of partner engagement, Dr. Arouna said that since last year, stakeholders have been involved in the initiative and this has allowed a joint selection of the initiative sites in each of the six countries involved (Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Ghana, Nigeria, and Nigeria). Four new agreements are signed with NARS and others are being negotiated. We also have a partnership with WUR on the initiative for the Sahelian Zone.

He also mentioned several other highlights including the presentation of the initiative to the system board in August 2022, the meeting of the One CGIAR representatives and the initiative's leaders/focal points in Nigeria in November 10th, 2022, the workshop with WUR on centers of excellence in the Sahelian zone in December 15-16th, 2022.

In terms of key achievements, he mentioned the completion of baseline surveys in 5 innovative business model hubs, and 81 outputs/results in the PRMS including 22 capacity building, 18 innovation development, 25 knowledge product, 12 other outputs, 3 policy change, and one innovation in use.

Finally, he presented the partnerships with other initiatives, external collaboration (Government, private sector, etc.), key success story: post-harvest loss reduction technologies (DryCard, Aflasafe, PICS bags), training of 176 extension agents on good pre-harvest and post-harvest strategies for aflatoxin management, and the stepped-down training for 960 value chain actors.

To conclude his presentation, Dr. Arouna outlined the challenges and opportunities of the initiative. In terms of challenges, the big challenge was about the budget. From 16 million per

year at the beginning, the actual budget is 4 million, which is very small compared to the region and the goals. And in terms of new opportunities, it is to create new partnerships with other institutions and regional programs and the possibility of extending the initiative to the Sahel zone by collaborating with WUR.

After the Q&A session, we observed a 30 min coffee break and took a group photo (Figure 2). The group photo was taken together with the new Director General of IITA and Continental Director Africa of the CGIAR, Dr Simeon Ehui. After the group photo and coffee break, the presentations of the five Work Package began.



Figure 2. Group photo of participants of CGIAR Centers with the DG of IITA, Accra, Ghana.

2. Presentation of the 2022 achievement of the Work Packages

2.1. Work Package 1: Sustainable Intensification and Diversification for Nutritious and Resilient Food Production through Sustainable Seed and Management Systems

Dr. Robert Asiedu, in the presentation of WP1, recalled that WP1 works on two outcomes. The first one concerns the increase in the dietary diversity scores of households and includes 4 outputs. The second outcome is on the adoption by smallholder of improved climate-resilient, nutrient-dense, crop varieties and good agricultural practices. Regarding the first outcome, he mentioned two key results including one from the output “Increased availability and market presence of nutrient-dense foods”, and one from “Evidence-based interventions/recommendations for improving diet quality”. For the second outcome, 21 key results including seven from the output “Increased availability of seeds of biofortified food crop varieties and other nutritious food crop varieties and fish”; one from the output “Knowledge dissemination tools for scaling up available GAP”; and 13 from the output “New climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices introduced in smallholder farming systems to manage climate-related risks”. Finally, Dr. Asiedu indicated that with the reduction of the initial budget, the objectives should be reviewed and that the activities should also be reduced which would help to be more efficient.

2.2. Work Package 2: Informed Digital Agriculture for Climate Resilience - Managing Climate Risks and Accessing Services

Before presenting the results of Work Package 2, Dr. Mathieu Ouedraogo presented the team, the plan and the four research questions of WP2. He reminded the audience that WP2 comprises five outputs and three of them were presented. In terms of the results of WP2 in 2022, he presented the main achievements in eight areas of study, namely i) CGIAR digital solutions for extension services, ii) Assessing Farmers’ Demand for Climate Information Services in West Africa, iii) Assessing the impact of weather and climate information services (WCIS) on farm productivity and technical efficiency, iv) Mapping climate and agronomic digital advisory services landscape in West and Central Africa, v) Amending the CG Climate Information Services for Rwanda using a downstream service for predicting fall armyworm and Striga infestation areas (icipe), vi) Customizing Digital AgroClimate Advisory Mobile Application in Ghana, vii) Building capacity of downstream actors on digital agro-climate advisories in Ghana, and viii) Developing Isotope techniques for the introduction of climate-resilient varieties in cassava and banana production system. Concluding his presentation, Dr. Ouedraogo drew up

some lessons, namely that collaboration/synergy with other initiatives is necessary to avoid the duplication of activities and to optimize the use of limited funds (case with AICCRA project in Ghana for scaling up of EWS and DACA).

2.3. *Work Package 3: Inclusive Landscape Management: Pathways for Scaling Land and Water Innovations for Resilient Agrifood Systems*

WP3 was presented by Dr. Olufunke Cofie. Like other presenters, she recalled the objectives of WP3, which are to promote innovations and approaches that lead to equal access to, and proper use of land and water resources as a prerequisite to building a healthy, productive, inclusive and One Health-sensitive environment for resilient agri-food systems and livelihoods, and co-develop, and implement inclusive landscapes plans, owned by the communities, for sustainable scaling of bundled innovations including land, water, aquaculture and climate-smart agronomic and digital innovations. After presenting the goals and pathways for WP 3, she highlighted the year's main achievements including: i) Partnerships Established, ii) Landscape Characteristics in four countries (Ghana, Nigeria, Burundi, Rwanda), iii) Selected Landscapes in Cote d'Ivoire, iv) Identifying/Mapping of existing innovative Agro-Livestock CBE types in Ghana, and Empowerment of identified actors and Deployment of BSF (Black Soldier Fly) technology in Ghana. Finally, to conclude his presentation, she emphasized collaboration with other initiatives/synergies and presented the main ongoing and upcoming activities for 2023.

2.4. *Work Package 4 Youth and Women Entrepreneurship models in Food Value Chains*

In his presentation, Dr Aminou Arouna began by outlining challenges, objectives, research questions, the theory of change, and key activities, before moving to the achievements for the year 2022. As main achievements, he mentioned: i) the data collection from value chain actors on social constraints linked to gender and generational equality in agribusiness, ii) E-registration of 15,285 value chain actors in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria, iii) The service-based businesses was published for youth employment, iv) a training-of-trainers workshop was organized on business model design for youth and women, v) organization of capacity-strengthening events for women, vi) the organization of an awareness-raising workshop on entrepreneurship models for young and women in food value chains in Nigeria, vii) training of NARS partners on reducing post-harvest losses and controlling mycotoxins in cereals, viii) the introduction of post-harvest loss reduction technologies (DryCard, Aflasafe, PICS bags) in the

vitamin A cassava and maize value chains in Nigeria, 176 extension agents trained in pre-harvest and post-harvest strategies for aflatoxin management, delivering progressive training to 960 value chain actors. Dr Arouna concluded his presentation, by the completion of a training course in Rwanda on the transformation of sweet potato enterprises in the private sector.

After the four presentations, clarifications questions were asked by the participants and answers were provided to them by the presenters.

2.5. Work Package 5 Technology, Innovation, Communication, Knowledge and Stakeholder Management (TICKS) for Accelerating Impact Investments & Catalyzing Impact at Scale

After the lunch break, session 2 continued with the presentation of WP5. The presentation of progress and lessons learned in 2022 during the implementation of WP5 was given by Dr Jan Low. She first focused on the main activities carried out by the WP5 before presenting the results of the partnership with CORAF. The main activities carried out during 2022 were: i) the organization of two workshops (in Nigeria and Rwanda) for key members of three high-readiness innovation teams (scientists, private sector, and users), with a focus on imparting skills in how to communicate about innovations (“the pitch”), manage the stakeholder community, and identify potential investors, ii) a study was designed and data collected in December to support a WP4 activity in urban and peri-urban areas of Kigali (Rwanda) concerning consumer preferences, with the aim of understanding what is needed to bring processed sweet potato products to scale. To put an end to her presentation Dr. Low, presented the Partnership Health Check-Up Tool Guidelines developed in Collaboration with CORAF.

After the presentation of the achievements of the five different WPs, all the participants recognized that many of the activities are linked and that the WPs need to work even more synergistically to develop more comprehensive innovation packages that will make a difference.

Session 3. Reflection

3.1. Summaries from the 2022 Performance and Results Management System

Session 3 kicked off with the presentation of the 2022 Performance and Results Management System. Dr. Arouna emphasized the importance of filling in the performances and then how to go about filling them in. During this presentation, he mentioned that this will enable visibility on

the results. He pointed out that we have five impact areas for the CGAIR, but we contributed to three in 2022. In 2023, we should be able to add two more.

3.2. *CGSpace for Results Management*

Ms. Anougbre presented the CGSpace for results management. After a brief Presentation on the CGSpace purpose and utility, she focused on the various steps to register a product and get the link handle. following Ms. Anougbre presented an overview of the TAFS-WCA product on CGSpace and reported that 40 knowledge products have been registered. Finally, she made some recommendations for a better management of the TAFS-WCA results: I) share knowledge products with knowledge managers on a regular basis, ii) ensure that products contain required elements (date, title, author names, etc.), iii) always mention the initiative attached to the knowledge product, iv) and do not hesitate to contact your knowledge managers for any information.

3.3. *Youth and Women Entrepreneurship models in Food Value Chains*

Dr Arouna highlighted challenges related to youth and women entrepreneurship in food value chain such as: i) high unemployment among youth and persistent gender inequality; ii) lack of gender-responsive technologies (especially mechanization); iii) less preparedness of youth to employment market; iv) lack of access to financial market for youth and women (mainly the start-ups); v) less attractiveness of the agricultural sector for youth, vi) lack of policy measures to increase access to land and other resources; and vii) limited agribusiness skills and mindset. The objective of WP4 is to enhance youth and women entrepreneurship capability through access to resources and adequate technologies, capacity and knowledge in developing and managing agribusiness models for food value chains while addressing social barriers using gender-transformative innovations.

Dr Arouna ended his presentation by presenting achievements in 2022:

- Data were collected from value chain actors (producers and post-harvest actors) on the social constraints to gender and generational equality in agribusiness;
- E-registration of actors was also conducted to set-up agribusiness hub in the target countries. A total of 15,285 value chain actors (5,041 in Cote d'Ivoire; 5,039 in Ghana and 5,205 in Nigeria) including youth and women were geo-referenced as potential beneficiaries of the Initiative;

- The service-based businesses was published for youth employment;
- To increase the adoption of business model in-country, a training-of-trainers workshop was organized on business model design for youth and women;
- Different capacity strengthening events were organized targeting women;
- An awareness-creation workshop on Youth and Women Entrepreneurship Models in Food Value Chains was organized in Nigeria;
- A training manual was also developed as a tool to support women entrepreneurship in the agri-food sector;
- NARS partners were also trained on postharvest loss reduction and mycotoxin control in cereals;
- Post-harvest loss reduction technologies (DryCard, Aflasafe, PICS bags) introduced across Vitamin A Cassava and Vitamin A Maize value chains in Nigeria;
- A total of 176 extension agents were trained on good pre-harvest and post-harvest strategies for aflatoxin management, and they conducted stepped-down training for 960 value chain actors.

3.4. *Reflections on the Progress in 2022, Lessons learnt for 2023 onwards*

During this session, participants reflected on the progress made in 2022 and drew lessons for 2023 as part of the TAFS-WCA initiative. Once again, participants emphasized the importance of WP synergies in achieving results. They also stressed the importance of investment because without money, you can't do anything. Participants emphasized the need for viable, revenue-generating innovations capable of attracting private and public sector investment, which will enable innovation to continue. Finally, participants mentioned that we will have to work with the partners and see how we extend.

3.5. *Example of interconnection of WPs: case of WP3*

In this session, an online presentation was given by Nafiisa Sobratee-Fajurally on "Sustainable and inclusive landscape management in West and Central Africa: Enabling co-design contexts for systemic sensitivity". She first explained the analysis approach used and then presented the results obtained by taking output 3.1. She presented the various links that exist between WP3 and the other Work Packages, for example how WP2 should develop their work plan so that its results are available to feed into WP3. She also pointed out that we have different theories of change for the different work packages, and that it is important to convert the theory of change

into a scaling readiness. To do this, she suggested holding meetings with stakeholders to see, unpack, on the basis of these links, which activity from which theory of change will be needed in the scale-up readiness framework.

The presentation was followed by questions and answers. The first question was how can we implement this practically? and then the question the second question was: based on the time that you used for the work package 3, do you think we need to do the same thing for each work package? or based on Work package 3 you can already you can already generalize to other work package. The answers were as follows: I would assume that people need to use a value chain approach. Maybe we need to have different concept note, it's like a story, so right now the work is for WP3 and it is different from other work packages, and each one has their theory of change. You create sub subcommittees from each WP. It's not about creating more bureaucracy. Maybe I would like to use the word story. So, what is your story? What story do you need in order to ensure that your work, package or your output is going to happen or going to produce the impact.

DAY 2 (10/05/2023): PAUSE AND REFLECT WORKSHOP (2023 WORK PLAN AND STRATEGIC DISCUSSION)

The second day of the workshop (10/05/2023) was dedicated to the 2023 Work Plan and strategic of collaboration with other initiatives and different partners.

Session 1. Draft 2023 Work Plans - Reports from Group Work: Dr. Jan Low (Chair)

1. Draft 2023 Work Plans - Reports from Group Work

The second day of the workshop started by the group work by Work Package members and Work Package interaction. After the meeting group, presentations were done by each Work Package rapporteur.

1.1. Work Package 1

Dr. Asiedu presentation mainly focused on “Increased availability and market presence of nutrient-dense foods”; “Increased availability of seed of biofortified and other nutritious foods, crop varieties, and fish”; “Knowledge dissemination tools for out-scaling GAP available” and “New climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices introduced in smallholder farming systems for managing climate risks”.

To increased availability and market presence of nutrient-dense foods in West and Central Africa, many activities were planned by Work Package 1 team especially: farm characterization, smallholder farmers identification, and training towards GIFT-seed based aquaculture development; production and market niches for nutritious crops – nutrient dense banana varieties documented and strengthened in Burundi and eastern DR Congo; trials to identify agronomic practices that result in optimized yields of orange fleshed sweet potato combined with desired quality traits responding to consumers’ needs; and multilocation testing of orange fleshed sweet potato varieties.

To increased availability of seed of biofortified and other nutritious foods, crop varieties, and fish, many activities were planned by WPI team mainly: Multiplication of and supply initial seed of preferred pro-vitamin A rich banana cultivars; Exploration of sustainable models for meeting the demand for pro-vitamin A rich banana cultivars; Increase capacity of NARS to produce high-quality early generation seed of orange fleshed sweet potato; Set up field demonstrations on TAVs production in Cocoa growing selected communities in Ondo and Osun states in Nigeria;

Organize training for youths in Ondo and Osun state on the establishment of vegetable seed enterprise and link them with seed and input companies to improve availability, accessibility and utilization of vegetable seeds; Assess the willingness to pay for access to quality rice seed and build capacities of farmers, seed producers and staff of private companies and regulatory bodies; Assess the effectiveness of farmer business networks that produce and market quality rice seed and implement tasks to enhance demand for quality seed of improved rice varieties; Production of early generation seeds of clonal crops (cassava and yam); and Establish a network and registration of trained Decentralized Vine Multipliers (DVMs) for orange fleshed sweet potato.

For knowledge dissemination tools for out-scaling GAP available, a number of activities were planned. It is about: carrying out peer-to-peer discovery learning through surveys/training of lead farmers with subsequent step down surveying/training of other farmers at community level; sustainable rice platform standards and indicators assessed in Ruzuzi plain of DRC; appropriate improved rice crop management practices validated and introduced in Burundi, Rwanda and DRC; adjust, finalize, and print ToT manuals on GAP for SP seed and crop production in Rwanda; developing decision support tools for site specific fertilizer recommendation; validating, piloting the decision support tools with end users and developing the final version; develop and print training materials based on the results of the nutrient omission trials; conduct trainings on site-specific fertilization for cassava.

To introduce new climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices in smallholder farming systems for managing climate risks many activities were planned by Work Package 1 team. There are: Organize field days and trainings on low cost climate resilient innovations that reduce postharvest losses (Zero Energy Cooling Chamber, tomato puree making, Drying) in Ghana; set up field demonstrations and organize training on IPM and drip irrigation system for vegetables production in Kwara state, Nigeria to improve efficient resource management; pilot small scale solar drying technology for vegetables in Kwara state, Nigeria to reduced postharvest losses; establish proof of concept through multi-location trials in farmers' fields on genotype, environment and management interactions to assess the potential impact of climate change; assess options to diversify rice farms with other crops through farming system surveys in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria; evaluate the performance of diversification options with mungbean, and fish in rice-based systems at the research station in Cote d'Ivoire; test appropriate and promising diversification options in rice-based systems with vegetable and legume in farmers' fields in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana; develop management options to improve the

agronomic and economic performances of perennial rice in the sub-humid climatic zone of West Africa; develop and validate water management approach to reduce iron toxicity in rice fields; Evaluate the barriers and incentives for adoption of off-season vegetables and legumes in rice-based systems; cocoa rehabilitation and establishment in cocoa-based farming systems in Ghana; survey on farmers' perceptions of cocoa rehabilitation and willingness to pay for cocoa rehabilitation services; Stakeholder engagement; development of report and communication.

1.2. Work Package 2

The work package 2 presentation was done by Dr. Mathieu Ouedraogo. His presentation mainly focused on key outputs such as: technology development; validated models with improved accuracy to underpin digital services tailored to the questions that are relevant to local communities and the service providers delivering them; implementation of service bundling and incentives models; market and information systems transformation; market and information systems transformation and finally integrated and interoperable data management framework.

For “Technology development”, keys activities were planned. It refers to: mapping climate and agronomic digital advisory services landscape in WCA; piloting the fall armyworm and Striga infestation downstream Early Warning System (EWS) for Ghana; developing isotope techniques for the introduction of climate-resilient varieties in cassava and banana production system; customizing RIICE (Remote Sensing-based Information and Insurance for Crops in Emerging Economies) for Cote d'Ivoire.

For “validation of models” the following activities were planned: Operationalize EWS for fall armyworm and Striga infestation monitoring in Rwanda; evaluation of the EWS for fall armyworm and Striga infestation in Rwanda; validating the Digital AgroClimate Advisory (DACA) Mobile Application in Ghana to support agricultural value chain actors.

For “Service bundling and incentives models” the following activities were planned: capacity building on bundled agro-climate advisory services for agro advisory committee and farmer promoters for Rwanda; RiceAdvice-Business model; assessing the potential for developing a bundled service eProd based on CORIS model.

For “Most effective strategy for match-making tested and selected for scale” many activities were planned. There will be stakeholders' engagement meeting for developing EWS in Ghana;

stakeholders' consultation meeting on RIICE in Cote d'Ivoire; Documenting matchmaking approach.

1.3. Work Package 2

The work package 3 presentation was done by Dr. Seifu Tilahun. The presentation focused on research questions: “How can participatory water and land resources decision support system (WRDSS) strengthen landscape resilience planning for enhanced production of nutrient rich crops and fish”; “How can innovations be One Health-sensitive and scaled to contribute to healthy and productive environment for livelihood improvement?”; “How can ecosystem services/functions and biodiversity be sustainable, management of water, soil and biomass flow improved, and resilient agrifood systems supported, to improve communities' livelihoods?”

How can participatory water and land resources decision support system (WRDSS) strengthen landscape resilience planning for enhanced production of nutrient rich crops and fish?

Many activities were planned. For each activity, deliverables were presented.

- **Situation analysis:** Database of Stakeholders is established. Ghana and Nigeria are completed. Rwanda and Burundi will be done.
- **Water quality and quantity assessment:** Report on water quality and quantity within the landscape; water Accounts in Ghana and Rwanda this year.
- **Water resources decision support system development:** Testing, validating of the DSS and incorporating improvements; and Capacity development and institutionalization and engagement of the DSS.
- **Participatory planning and Co-designing Landscape management plans:** Landscape management plans co-designed, implemented and owned by communities and local support institutions; Established platform in the target communities; Protocol for participatory landscape planning as toolbox.

How can innovations be One Health-sensitive and scaled to contribute to healthy and productive environment for livelihood improvement

- **Promotion of water and energy efficient technologies for improved productivity in the landscape:** Promotion of water and energy efficient technologies for improved productivity in the landscape.
- **Land and water development with the Smart-Valleys approach and effects on hydrological components in rainfed lowlands:** Land and water development with the Smart-Valleys approach and effects on hydrological components in rainfed lowlands.

How can innovations be One Health-sensitive and scaled to contribute to healthy and productive environment for livelihood improvement?

Key deliverables are: Establish 2 Community Innovation Hub with NGOs/scaling partners for scaling Innovation Bundle/country; Engage Private Sector Actors in the demonstration, promotion and scaling of innovation bundles; Develop protocol for implementation of accelerated scaling fund for at least BSF, FLID, and Solar Irrigation Pumping; Knowledge product on the status of ecosystem services and recommendations on best management practices.

How can ecosystem services/functions and biodiversity be sustainable management of water, soil and biomass flow improved, and resilient agrifood systems supported, to improve communities' livelihoods?

Key deliverables are: one miniature BSF facility (Adultarium, Lavarium, Cloakroom) built with required equipment installed; 3 farmers empowered with the rearing of BSF; 2 trips to be undertaken to the site for technical knowledge transfers and supervision; Developed manual and conduct capacity development on spatial planning.

After the coffee break, presentations of WP 4 and 5 were done.

1.4. Work Package 4

The presentation mainly focused on “Functional gender-transformative agribusiness hubs and vocational education centers”; “Effective business models and guidelines for linking smallholders to financial services”; “Most effective gender transformative technologies and digital tools selected and promoted”; “Data on post-harvest loss of biofortified and other nutritious food crops and fish available”; “Efficient post-harvest technologies adapted and promoted”.

Functional gender-transformative agribusiness hubs and vocational education centers

Key activities will be conducted in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Rwanda:

- Assessment of existing agribusiness hubs/innovation hubs and vocational education centers (Rapport) (Gaudiose);
- Assessment and strengthening of ATVET (Agricultural, Technical Vocational Education and Training) curricula (Nigeria) (Zainatou);
- Strengthening the inclusion of youth and women in agribusiness hubs/innovation hubs (Rachidi) (List from e-registration) (All countries);
- Capacity building of youth and women on technical (rice processing) (Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria), social and economic entrepreneurship (training of trainer) (Manual as deliverable);
- Round table with youth to identify promising business opportunities and lobbying (Burundi).

Effective business models and guidelines for linking smallholders to financial services

The following activities will be conducted in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Burundi, Rwanda and DRC:

- Assessment of existing agribusiness hubs contract farming for access to market (Analysis of baseline data/Wilfried);
- Strengthen existing Innovation platforms (Maize, rice, cassava);
- Develop or strengthen contractual arrangement for women and youth access to input and outputs market (Aminou/Sali-e-prod);
- Strengthening capacity on seed production, storage and commercialization (rice and maize, Sweet Potato) and vegetable for youth and women (container garden with WP1) (Sali/Rachidi);
- Assessing linkage to financial institution for youth and women (with enable youth);
- Assessing service based-business model for youth and women (Nigeria).

Social barriers to inclusion of youth and women in food value chains quantified and addressed

The following activities will be conducted in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria:

- Literature review on mechanism/strategies to address social barriers to inclusion of youth and women in food value;
- Conduct diagnostic survey on social barriers (Gender specialists and Gender task force).

Community gender dialogues on increasing women's access to land for agriculture

The main activity is to conduct diagnostic survey on social barriers (Gender specialists and Gender task force) in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria.

Most effective gender transformative technologies and digital tools selected and promoted

The following activities will be conducted in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Burundi, Rwanda and DRC:

- Scaling improved technologies for fish and meat smoking, standardizing, packaging;
- Scaling storage facility for fresh fish transportation.

Data on post-harvest loss of biofortified and other nutritious food crops and fish available

The following activities will be conducted in Nigeria and DRC:

- Survey on postharvest loss of yellow cassava, yellow Maize and OFSP (desk review and laboratories);
- Conduct survey of post-harvest of fish;
- Promotion of postharvest loss reduction technologies (hermetic bag, threshers, moisture meter).

Efficient post-harvest technologies adapted and promoted

The following activities will be conducted in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Rwanda:

- Scaling improved technologies for parboiling, destoning;
- Scaling improved technologies for value addition (instant rice flyer, snack, sweet potato, etc.) and by product used (rice husk for fuel);
- Scaling improved technologies for cassava processing (bread, biofortified vitamin a cassava) and orange sweet potato.

1.5. Work Package 5

The work package 5 presentation was done by Dr. Sartas Murat from Alliance of Bioversity International - CIAT and IITA. The presentation focused on prioritized ideas for WP5 in 2023, aligned with Scaling Readiness Assessments & MELIA.

2. Crosscutting

2.1. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning and Impact Assessment (MELIA) framework: E-registration and Baseline survey of TAFS-WCA initiative in six countries

The components of the TASF-WCA evaluation framework are: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) and Impact Assessment (IA). The two principles of MEL are: The **reflective** part aims at knowledge enhancement for the results-oriented Initiative Management Hub (IMH); The **accountability** part is designed to monitor and evaluate the Initiative's projected transformation process.

Results of the e-registration and Baseline survey of TAFS-WCA initiative were presented. The e-registration and baseline survey were conducted in six countries: West Africa (including Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria) and Centrale Africa (including Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of the Congo). The targeted crops were Rice, Maize, Cassava, Sweet potato, Yams, Banana, Cocoa, soybean, bean, Traditional African vegetables. Different actors in each value chain were defined: producers of foundation and certified seeds, producer of crops for consumption, Postharvest actors include milers, parboilers and traders and service providers.

The Objective of the baseline survey is to collect reliable, accurate and sufficient reference values on the impact indicators that can be drawn upon to undertake impact studies with the view to evaluating the changes induced by the one CGIAR regional integrated initiative.

Sampling and data collection were made in 6 Countries and in certain regions across the countries: Côte d'Ivoire (6 regions: Montagnes, Savanes, Sassandra-Marahoué, Lacs, Yamoussoukro), Ghana (10 regions: Ahafo Ano, Atebubu-Amantin, Mampong, Nkoranza, Offinso Municipal, Offinso North, Sekyre South, Tano, Wenchi), Nigeria (2 regions: Nassarawa and Benue), Rwanda (11 regions: Bugesera, Gasabo, Gatsibo, Gisagara, Huye, Kamonyi, Muhanga, Ruhango, Rusizi, Rwamagana, Nyagatare), Burundi (6 regions: Bubanza, Cibitoke,

Makamba, Rutana, Gitega, Kirundo), DRC (3 regions: Bukavu, Uvira and Walungu). Selected regions are the major growing areas named hubs.

About 22,700 actors (including 20,362 producers and 2,339 postharvest) were surveyed for the e-registration and 5,684 actors (including 4,759 producers and 925 postharvest actors) were randomly selected and interviewed for the baseline survey in the 6 countries. Baseline data collection was made using CSPro application. Data analyses were made using STATA software.

Participants asked if it will be possible to share all presentations and data collected with them after the Workshop. Some participants also asked to present the baseline results during the monthly meeting. The answer was the questionnaire for the e-registration and baseline survey will be shared to all staff involved in the initiative to see aspect of the questionnaire related to their work and the baseline data will be made available to all work package teams.

2.2. Communication plan

The objectives of the communication made in 2022 were to promote and increase the visibility of the initiative's activities; enable the establishment of flourishing relationships between team members and partners; organize exchanges to inform all stakeholders in a dynamic of continuous improvement. Numerous communication actions have been carried out during the year 2022. meetings organized by the CGIAR communication team to provide guidance in the management of the initiative communication plan. These were to provide adequate information and training to the communicators for a better management of the initiatives on which they had to intervene.

Presentation was done on the key activities related to “First Presentation and Training Session on the PRMS Reporting Tool (November 2022)“; Information on CGSpace and PRMS (December 2022); 1st Meeting of Initiative Communicators (February 1, 2023); progress made at the TAFS-WCA initiative level and Challenges.

Progress made in communication:

- Creation of a LinkedIn and facebook account (some activities have already been posted);
- creation of the website has started and still ongoing;
- Design of the initiative logo is ongoing;
- Work on the templates of presentation powerPoint of the initiative is ongoing;
- Census of innovations have started;

- Emails were sent to work Package leaders to share their calendar of events;
- Begin drafting a communication plan of the initiative;
- Start identifying partners and team members. Creation of the initiative's mailing list.

Some challenges and actions defined to overcome these challenges were presented.

2.3. Scaling Readiness

Wilfried G. Yergo began with a brief summary of the workshop on training of trainer course on innovation and scaling using CGIAR's Innovation Package and Scaling Readiness (IPSR)" approach held in Nairobi, Kenya from May 2nd - 5th, 202. Then, he presented the concepts of the IPSR: Innovation and scaling. Innovations are new or improved products, services, tools or arrangements that - when used at scale - are expected to contribute to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Scaling up often refers to investments, processes, and strategies of increasing awareness of, access to, use of, or benefit from innovations by a specific target.

Session 2. Strategic discussions: Strategizing for One CGIAR Business Period II: 2025 - 2027

The session was moderated by Dr Elliott and the discussion focused mainly on:

- What would be the unique contribution of the TAFS WCA in 2025 – 2027 (second phase)? What is the TAFS WCA competitive advantage? For example, how does TAFS WCA differ from the CG initiatives?
- What are the five main problems to be addressed in a phase 2?
- What is at risk if we do not continue with phase 2?

Discussions were also made on partnerships with other projects or initiative. Table 1 presents other projects initiatives, name of focal points, email of focal points and institution of the focal point.

Table 1: Name of focal points of TAFS-WCA with other initiatives/projects

Projects & initiatives	Name of focal points	Email of focal points	Institution of focal points
CORAF	Dossou-Yovo Elliott	E.Dossou-Yovo@cgiar.org	AfricaRice
HealthyDiet4Africa	Arouna Aminou / Ndindeng, Sali Atanga	A.Arouna@cgiar.org; S.Ndindeng@cgiar.org	AfricaRice
TAAT	Oke Adebayo	A.Oke@cgiar.org	IWMI-Ghana
PDL-145T	Kintche Kokou	K.Kintche@cgiar.org	IITA
PROSSIVA	Asiedu Robert / Pegalepo Esther	R.ASIEDU@CGIAR.ORG; E.Pegalepo@cgiar.org>;	AfricaRice; IITA
Great lake	Jean-Claude Nshimiyimana	J.Nshimiyimana@cgiar.org	CIP
ESA	Mujawamariya Gaudiose	G.Mujawamariya@cgiar.org	AfricaRice
F2R-CWANA	Sougrynoma Zainatou	S.Sore@cgiar.org	IITA
EiA	Kalimuthu Senthilkumar	K.Senthilkumar@cgiar.org	AfricaRice
Plan heath	Ocimati Walter	w.ocimati@cgiar.org	Alliance Bioversity- CIAT
SeEQUAL	Asiedu Robert	R.ASIEDU@CGIAR.ORG	IITA
NPS	Arouna Aminou/ Olagunju I. Funke	A.Arouna@cgiar.org /fiolagunju@lautech.edu.ng	AfricaRice; IITA
Digital innovation	Ouedraogo, Mathieu	M.Ouedraogo@cgiar.org	Alliance Bioversity- CIAT
HER+	Mujawamariya Gaudiose	G.Mujawamariya@cgiar.org	AfricaRice

DAY 3 (11/05/2023): STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP (2022 ACHIEVEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP)

On 05/11/2023, TAFS-WCA workshop with stakeholders was around 4 sessions as follows:

Session 1. Opening Ceremony

1. Welcome address

Dr Baboucarr Manneh, One CGIAR RD-WCA and DG of AfricaRice, welcomed all the institutions represented at the workshop. He explained that the Initiative "Transforming of Agrifood Systems in West and Central Africa" is co-led by AfricaRice and IITA and the and listed the institution involved: CORAF, WorldFish, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, CIP, IWMI, WorldVeg, ICIPE and the national agricultural research systems in the region. Dr. Manneh in his speech emphasized the importance of this workshop and how he can help in the achievement of the goal of TAFS-WCA Initiative. After him, the floor was given to the Representative of One CGIAR Continental Director-Africa, Dr Atta-Krah Kwesi. He started his speech by welcome all the participants and his address was focused on the very important nature of the Initiative given the number of research centers represented. The One CGIAR will contribute to the development of the region by implementing with partners, research and development activities for a better synergy that directly impacts the actors.

2. Opening address

Opening address was given by Prof. Quain, the Representative of Deputy Director General of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). On behalf of CSIR, she welcomed all the institutions represented at the workshop. In her speech, she gave some possible solutions to the challenge facing food systems around the world, namely: focusing on OECD declarations, and developing sustainable systems to cope with climate change. She conceded that there are risks associated with youth employment and the further deterioration of food security and stressed that the focus must be on food sustainability. In her view, the design of sustainable food systems must be a priority for policies. She made reference to the Russia-Ukraine crisis and how it has affected the continent (Africa) and the need to be prepared to face the new situation. According to her, it is therefore necessary to improve the food situation in Africa and this is what the One CGIAR is working on. With these words, she wished the participants a fruitful workshop.

3. Workshop Objectives and Overview of the Program

The objectives of workshop and an overview of CGIAR program was presented by Dr Arouna. He presented results in recent years and ongoing results and projects in the Western and Central regions of Africa. After the group photo (Figure 3) and coffee break, we continued with the overview of One CGIAR Initiatives and Partnerships in West and Central Africa.



Figure 3. Group photo of participants of Stakeholder Workshop (2022 achievement and Partnership) with the RD-CGIAR WCA Accra, Ghana.

4. Overview of One CGIAR Initiatives and Partnerships in West and Central Africa (WCA)

The RD-WCA and DG AfricaRice, Dr Baboucarr Manneh presented an overview of One CGIAR Initiatives and Partnerships in West and Central Africa. At the start of his presentation, Dr. Manneh outlined the purpose of the One CGIAR, recalling that an integrated operational structure maintains the unity of the CGIAR centers while stimulating collaboration, innovation and efficiency, then presented the complex and interconnected challenges the world is increasingly facing, and the CGIAR's 2030 research and innovations strategy to address these challenges. Dr. Manneh concluded his presentation by pointing out that stronger investment

and more sustainable funding for CGIAR research and innovation could ultimately enable great benefits to partners and stakeholders.

The presentation was followed by a series of questions and answers. The main questions were: Why policy makers are not associated to the workshop? Decisions may not succeed, and policymakers must be involved in this kind of discussion. I think in our discussions, these decision-makers need to be present. The conservation and preservation system: these aspects are missing, what do you say? How to implement initiatives with institutions? The answer were: Sometimes the problem is implementation. We are in the framework of foundation and things will evolve. All the different aspects will be addressed. There are policy initiatives in the workshop and we are talking to policymakers after. A good question, for the signing of memoranda of understanding, we avoid having duplicates. Initiatives are defined for each country. The question is, should it be done at the country or regional level? We need to improve all initiatives.

Session 2. Presentations on progress made in 2022

1. Presentations of the Work Packages

1.1. Work Package 1

This WP Focused on “Sustainable Intensification and Diversification for Nutritious and Resilient Food Production through Sustainable Seed and Management Systems”. Dr Robert A. (WP1 Leader) presented the progress of WP1 in 2022.

1.2. Work Package 2

This WP Focused on “Informed Digital Agriculture for Climate Resilience - Managing Climate Risks and Accessing Services”. Dr Mathieu OUEDRAOGO (WP2 Leader) presented the progress and lessons learnt in 2022 during the implementation of WP2.

1.3. Work package 3

this WP Focused on “Inclusive Landscape Management: Pathways for Scaling Land and Water Innovations for Resilient Agrifood Systems”. Dr Olufunke Cofie (WP3 Leader) presented the progress and lessons learnt in 2022 during the implementation of WP3. After presenting the goals and pathways for inclusive landscape planning approach, the main achievements were presented.

1.4. Work package 4

This WP Focused on “Youth and Women Entrepreneurship models in Food Value Chains” Dr Aminou Arouna (acting WP4 Leader) presented the progress and lessons learnt in 2022 during the implementation of WP4. After presenting the challenges, objectives, research questions, the theory of change, and key activities, the main achievements were presented.

1.5. Work package 5 and IPSR,

This WP Focused on “Technology, Innovation, Communication, Knowledge and Stakeholder Management (TICKS) for Accelerating Impact Investments & Catalyzing Impact at Scale” Dr Jan Low (WP5 Leader) presented the progress and lessons learnt in 2022 during the implementation of WP5.

The presentations were followed by a series of questions and answers as follows:

Question: Behaviors change with technology adoption (WP3): are technology mastery aspects taken into account?

Answer: Behavior change: there is much more emphasis on the technical aspects, but we are going to do training on the behavioral aspects in this year's activities.

Question: Information on gender: how to empower women to make them more effective (case of women on the streets in Ghana)?

Answer: Women on the streets: this is a challenge for us: agriculture offers opportunities for women and youth. Modern tools are needed to engage youth and women in agriculture. We are in the testing phase. Equipment and/or tools must be adapted to the current context.

Question: WP2: Early warning: for this early warning tool, what is the sustainability of the system after the project? How will farmers be able to use it after the project?

Answer: Early warning information: We have strategies in place to help us design technologies for sustainability. Users of these tools must be trained for the effective use of these technologies.

Question: What kind of partnership in WP management?

Answer: At the partnership level: integration is always an evolving and ongoing work. There will be a country focal point for CGIAR who will implement all CGIAR activities in the country.

Question: How to have a good synergy in the partnerships between CGIAR and NARS (case of Ghana)?

Answer: There are two points to clarify: co-design, co-location, it is to work together and not to disperse on similar activities. Another element: a country-specific framework (Ghana) to be established in collaboration with the CGIARs.

Session 3. Partnerships with other projects/programs (Round table discussion)

During the round table discussion with representatives of Projects/Program with the participation of partners online, Dr Ousmane Ndoye, CORAF Representative presented the “Food Systems Resilience (FSR) program”. Following him, Dr. Arouna presented TAFS and Dr Delphine Ama presented PROSSIVA.

The presentations were followed by a series of questions and answers as follows:

Question: Objectives of FSRP?

Answer: It is a food system resilience program. It is the continuation of WAPP. The objective is to increase food security and improve the resilience of agricultural actors.

Question: Where the program is implemented?

Answer: The program currently covers only a few countries: Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo for the first phase. For the second phase, there are Chad, Ghana and Sierra Leone.

Question: What about funding?

Answer: It is financed by the World Bank. Countries have already secured the funding.

Question: And the collaboration with TAFS?

Answer: The program has the components “sustainability and adaptability of the productive base of the food system” and “regional integration of food markets & trade”. We can therefore have collaborations with TAFS at WP2, WP4 and WP5 level.

Question: How can TAFS engage concretely with FSRP? Or FSRP link with TAFS?

Answer: TAFS and FSRP link: early warning, there is overlap at the Ghana level. We will work to avoid duplication. We need to have common programs to avoid duplication, to have discussions to make this work together.

Question: As far as FSRP is concerned, is there synergy between the target cultures? Do you have a capacity building component for academic actors?

Answer: For FSRP, synergy is identifying what Project A does and what Project B does, seeing similar activities and avoiding doing the same activities in the same area. In terms of capacity building, we invite several people, it can be academics, or extension workers. With WAPP, we have trained more than 1000 people and covered 13 countries. We have focused on Centers of Excellence. This is the type of partnership established over the years.

For PROSSIVA, synergy between PROSSIVA and WP1: bilateral links and projects must be established. The same activities cannot be done in the same area. It is the opposite that will be better to have an added value and this to have a significant impact in the countries. We need to apply the same strategies in other projects to cover more areas. We intend to develop key innovations, one of the things we will need is the analysis of the different tools which is a very important element and it will be a win-win partnership. The whole system is considered to fill in the gaps.

Session 4. Partnerships with other One CGIAR Initiatives

This session was moderated by Dr Senthilkumar. During the Round table discussion with representatives of initiatives, five (5) of seven (7) panel members presented their initiatives.

- M. Abeda Moura: Initiative Excellence in Agronomy with four (4) key components. The objective of the initiative is to generate innovations and transfer them to stakeholders: focus on soy and cocoa. The main lines of results: fertilizer recommendations, GAP, climate information to identify sowing dates.
- Dr Michel: Initiative F2R-CWANA (Fragility to Resilience in Central and West Asia and North Africa) implemented in 5 countries.
- Dr Kumar Lava (IITA): Initiative Plant health and rapid response to protect food security and livelihoods. This initiative focuses on protecting plants from disease. We

work with the various CGIAR centers. The activities are related to WP2, WP3 and we also work with NARS.

- Dr Jiao: Global Initiative. This is an area with enough challenges and limited capacity (ecosystem and extension service).
- Dr Aminou Arouna: West and Central Africa Initiative, implemented in West Africa (RCI, Ghana Nigeria) and Central Africa (Burundi, DRC and Rwanda). In WP1, it is the intensification of cropping systems, WP2, it is the digital tools on climate change, WP3, it concerns the sustainable and appropriate management of activities, WP4, it is about gender issues to be integrated, WP5, it is about scaling up innovations.

The presentations were followed by a series of questions and answers as follows:

Question: What are the areas of collaboration (Initiative Excellence in agronomy)?

Answer: Areas of collaboration: agronomic aspects (Use cases), platforms can serve as entry points.

Question: Can you list the functional innovation platforms?

Answer: Two (2) functional innovation platforms.

Question: How to establish a common partnership with other initiatives?

Answer: Establishment of a document to develop the roadmaps (memorandum of understanding). We develop collaborations, partnerships (case of Guatemala) and gradually we develop synergies.

Partnerships and synergy are very important and we need to find areas where we can collaborate.

DAY 4 (12/05/2023): STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP (2023 EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND COUNTRIES PLAN)

This day of 12/05/2023 of the workshop with TAFS-WCA stakeholders was organized around 4 sessions as follows:

Session 1. Presentations and discussion on key strategies (ToC, result management, partnerships, scaling readiness, communication)

1. Brief presentation of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning and Impact Assessment (MELIA) framework

This E-registration and baseline survey was made in six countries: Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of the Congo. The targeted crops were Rice, Maize, Cassava, Sweet potato, Yams, Banana, Cocoa, soybean, bean, Traditional African vegetables. Different actors in each value chain were defined: Producers are producers of foundation and certified seeds, producer of crops for consumption ▪ Postharvest actors are milers, parboilers and traders ▪ And service providers.

2. Brief summary of the Training workshop of Trainers course on Innovation and Scaling using CGIAR's "Innovation Package and Scaling Readiness (IPSR)" approach, held in Nairobi, Kenya from May 2nd - 5th, 2023

During this presentation, the concepts of the IPSR namely Innovation and scaling were presented. CGIAR'S new approach to scaling innovation present 3 steps: Profile all CGIAR Innovations; develop Innovation Packages for scaling ready Innovation and develop Scaling Strategies to have impact. IPSR Team provided with a guide for the report. Reports will be done on the CGSpace website <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/129266>

Session 2. Presentations of draft Work Plans for 2023 by WP

This session was chaired by Dr Sali and began with a presentation of the Work Plans for each WP and ended with a presentation on the Communication and Knowledge Plan.

1. Presentations of Work Plans for 2023

Each Work package representative presented their draft work plans for 2023 in the following order.

The Workplan 2023 of work package 1 was presented by Dr. Robert Asiedu;

The Workplan 2023 of work package 2 was presented by Dr. Mathieu Ouedraogo;

The Workplan 2023 of work package 3 was presented by Dr. Olufunke C;

The Workplan 2023 of work package 4 was presented by Dr. Lateef;

The Workplan 2023 of work package 5 and IPSR was presented by Dr. Jan Low;

2. The Communication and Knowledge plan were presented by Mrs. Francine Famey and Mrs. Murielle Anougbre

2.1. Communications progress made in 2022

The communication progress made in 2022 was presented. Achievements in Communication at the TAFS-WCA initiative level are creation of a LinkedIn and facebook account (some activities have already been posted there); creation of the website has started; and work on the logo of the initiative.

2.2. Communication Plan Highlights

After the presentation of the purpose of a communication plan, Mrs. Famey defined the objectives of the communication within the TAFS-WCA initiative.

- Internal Comms: Strengthen existing communication channels and develop tools to ensure effective information sharing and collaboration among Initiative implementers and collaborators.
- External Comms: Identify relevant external audiences and appropriate channels and develop communication materials that lead to increased visibility of the Initiative and CGIAR.
- External Engagement and media: Position TAFS-WCA and CGIAR members as experts and partners of choice in the key areas (Nutrition, Health & Food Security) for impact, influence, and income through events, media, and campaigns.
- Knowledge sharing: Collaborate with Knowledge management to facilitate the delivery of information about innovations to target beneficiaries through knowledge sharing platforms.

The Initiative communication team is composed by:

1. Katherine Lopez, k.lopez@cgar.org

2. Francine Famey, f.famey@cgiar.org
3. Murielle Anougbre, m.anougbre@cgiar.org

Session 3: Development of work plans by country for 2023

The group work was made by country (Ghana, Rwanda, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Burundi) the 2023 workplan was discussed and reported.

Session 4: Presentations of work plans by country

A rapporteur of each country presented a report 2023 activities for all the work packages in the country.

Session 5: Closing ceremony

The day ended by the words of one participant on Nigeria on behalf of all participants who thank all donors, the CGIAR group, specially AfricaRice who is leading the Initiative for the opportunities give to Africans for food security in the regions and the world.

Dr. Robert Asiedu the Leader of the WP 1 of the TAFS-WCA Initiative also give the few words on behalf of IITA and thanks all the participants for their active participation during the workshop.

Dr. Arouna on the behalf of RD-WCA, Dr. Manneh, thanks all the participants for their time, for the relevant discussions during the workshop. He concluded by wishing a good trip back home to all participants.

The workshop ended up with closing diner with all participants.

Note:

Find below in annex the list of physical participants in the workshop

Annex: Attendance list

NO	Last Name	First Name	Gender	Organization	Type of organization	Country	Email
1	Arouna	Aminou	Male	AfricaRice	CGIAR	Cote d'Ivoire	a.arouna@cgiar.org
2	Radji	Adidjatou	Female	AfricaRice	CGIAR	Cote d'Ivoire	a.radji@cgiar.org
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