



– International Fund for Agricultural Development –
– Identifying and sharing innovation in Western and Central Africa –

– Creation of feed for poultry and other livestock –

I. Context

1. Name of the innovation

Creation of feed for poultry and other livestock

2. Country – Region

Southern Togo

3. Organization

The Togolese Coordination of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organizations (CTOP)

4. Who is the innovator?

The Multiple Community Agricultural Cooperative (COACOM), represented by Kokou Michel Amegnikpa, CTOP Advisor

5. Actors involved

Producers (particularly poultry and other farmers), traders, distributors, feed and fodder manufacturers, IMF, livestock experts, veterinarians and researchers

6. Starting date

January 2005

7. Type of innovation

Knowledge-sharing

II. Key concepts

8. Summary

In the southern Togolese agroecological zone, small farmers, both men and women, have experienced a kind of stagnation in their activities. Their soil is poor, leading to very low incomes and particularly severe poverty. The CTOP initiative seeks to improve the position of small farmers throughout the agricultural value chain, from production to consumption, starting with certain targeted links. In this way, the acquisition of new methods through the use of organic fertilizer combined with inexpensive mineral fertilizer has led to good results with increased productivity. Against all expectations, produce was sold at a loss following over-production as a result of poor organization. Hence the need to stimulate partners in neighbouring areas who will be involved in market disposal of produce.

9. What problems does this innovation seek to solve?

The innovation seeks to:

- Provide local promoters with market access
- Make the agricultural sector more dynamic with a view to creating a value chain

10. Factors for successful replication

- The creation of a core around a shared ideal
- The emergence of new and more appropriate methods thanks to the involvement of research experts and financiers

The second factor is part of the Competitive Agricultural Systems and Enterprises (CASE) approach, which seeks to establish integrated soil fertility with a view to agricultural promotion and intensification, and increased coordination of producers and local entrepreneurs in attractive value chains. The CASE approach has three main thrusts: the training of agricultural enterprise poles; the development of value chains; and the fostering of a favourable institutional environment.

11. Main results

The new development strategy has made it possible to produce what can be sold at a competitive price and lighten farm work. It also allows the involvement of the various actors with a view to making yields more effective.

12. Target group(s)

- Very poor women
- Jobless young people

13. Difficulties encountered

- Lack of understanding, hampering the shift to a new mind-set
- The search for funding

14. Financial aspects

Costs are estimated at CFAF 5,000,000. The promotion of each member is the result of the harvest.

III. Technical aspects

15.

The cooperative had to call on nutritionists and research experts with a view to improving productivity. The farmers then received individualized advice from agricultural specialists.

IV. Further information

16. Key contacts

Name	Organization	E-mail
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17. Internet link

Most of the farmers' organizations are linked up, but there is no site as yet.

18. Key documents (document title + link or contact or address)

What is involved for the most part is the sharing of experience in the field.