



Trente ans au service de l'Innovation Agricole en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
Thirty years of Agricultural Innovation in West and Central Africa

Leading Agricultural Innovation in West and Central Africa

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Grain Legume Research Conference
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**Contributions of
Feed the Future
Legume Innovation
Lab technologies and
knowledge to
improving
agriculture and rural
livelihoods in
Western Africa**

1. Overview of CORAF/WECARD
2. Cowpea Networks
3. CORAF and LiL: Aligned Agenda
4. Conclusion

How it All Started

The history of the *coordination of agricultural research* in West and Central Africa dates back to the early 1970s when many of the countries in these two sub regions were confronted with *severe food shortages and environmental degradation*.

WARDA (West Africa Rice Development Association) in 1971

SAFGRAD (Semi-Arid Food Grains Research and Development) in 1975

CILSS (Le Comité inter-États de lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel) in 1973

ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) in 1975

CORAF formally entered into this mix of regional initiatives in 1987 at a time when many of the national agricultural research institutions in West and Central Africa were weak and had limited research capacities.

Strategic Context

“Africa is importing what it should be producing, creating poverty within Africa and exporting jobs outside of Africa.”

Akinwumi Adesina

President African Development Bank

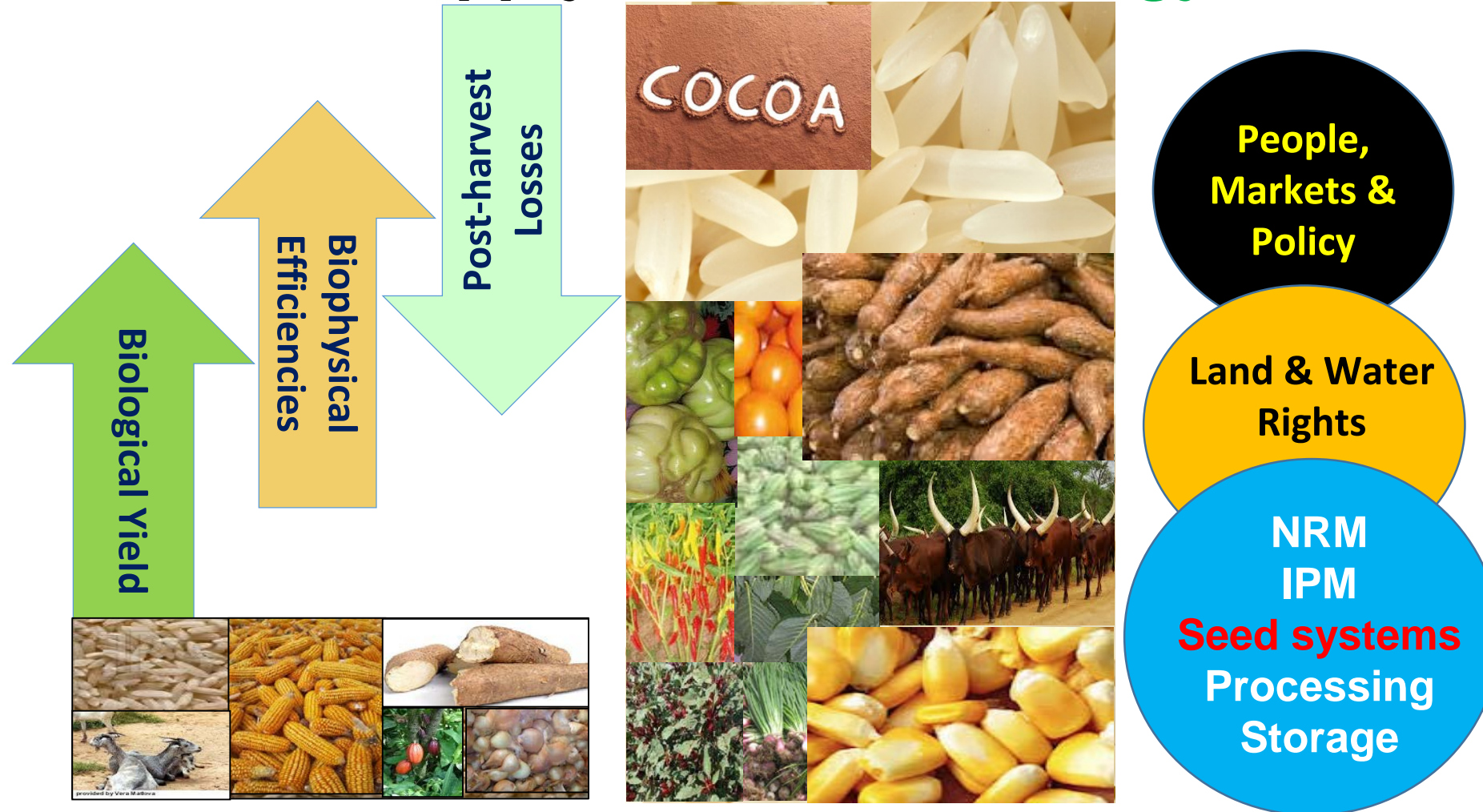
13th June 2016, Kigali

Agriculture is key to economic growth, poverty reduction and food security in West and Central Africa.

Import dependency is fast growing in the region, but this can be reversed by boosting the performance of smallholder agriculture.

Customized Options

*Enhance Supply of **Tech****KNOW**logy in Context*



SMALL means a LOT

Enhance supply chain of Production Services



Facilitate access to inputs of good quality in **volumes that fulfill the needs and means** of smallholder farmers

Context Sensitivity – Community Immersed Innovation Systems



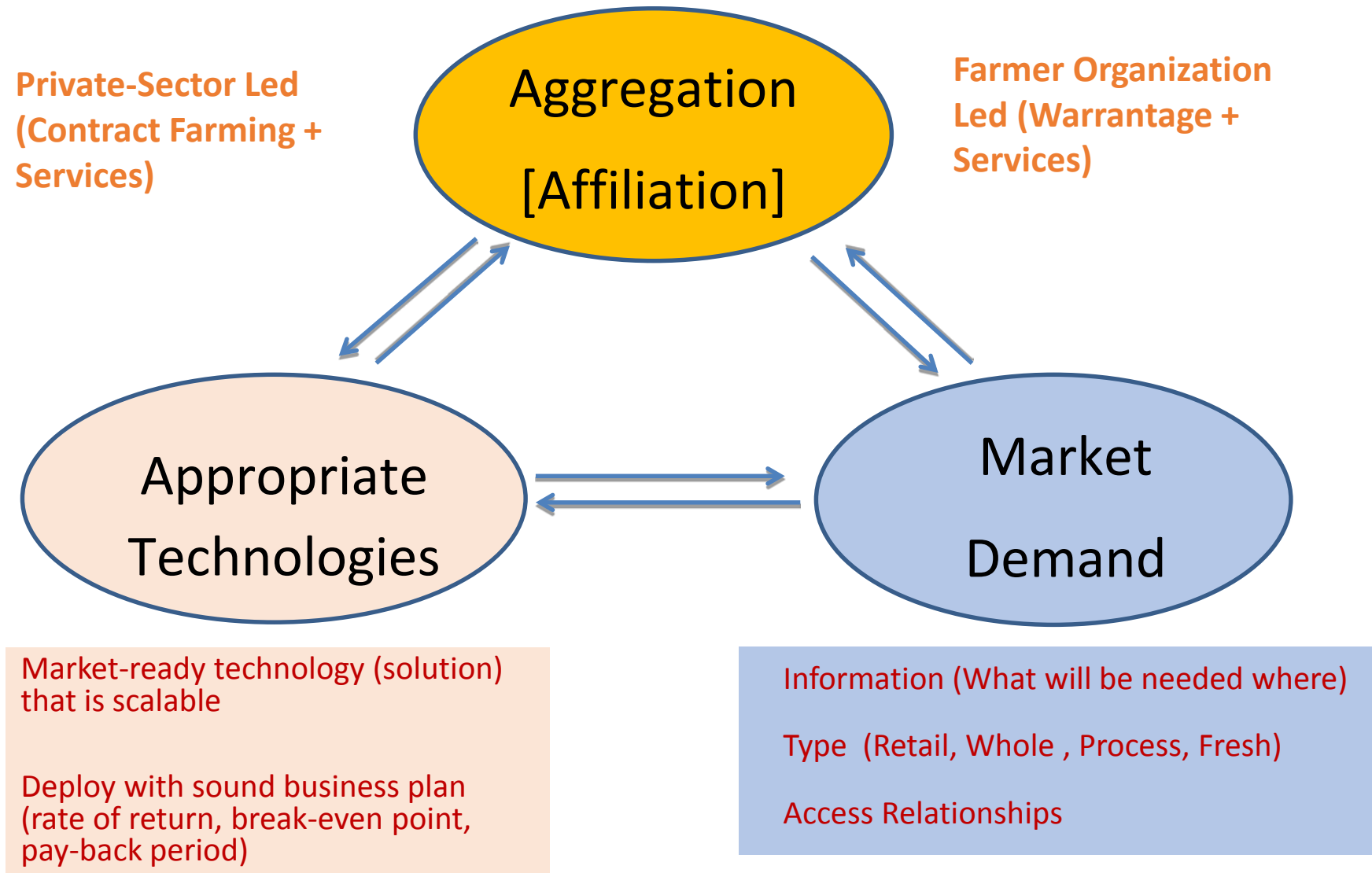
Research – Innovate in Context

Partnerships Platforms – Increase Ownership

Knowledge – Local and External

Facilitate market's access to farmers with attractive volumes, price and quality

How to Effect Change - Business Models -

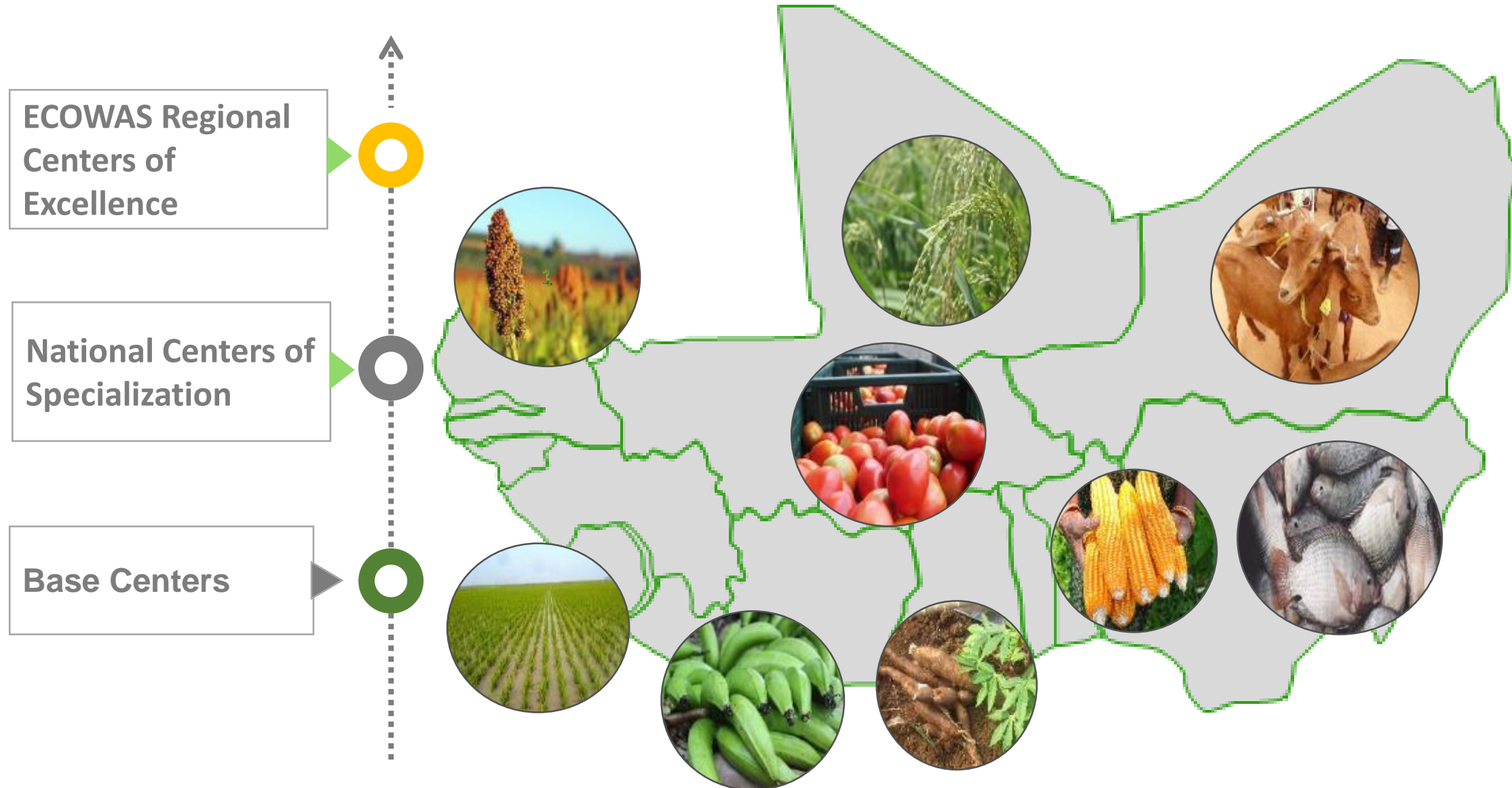


Flagship Programs of ECOWAS:

WAAPP & WASP



Building regional research capacity



Harmonized Processes

180

Technologies
technologies generated
inducing yield increase
of 30% to 150%

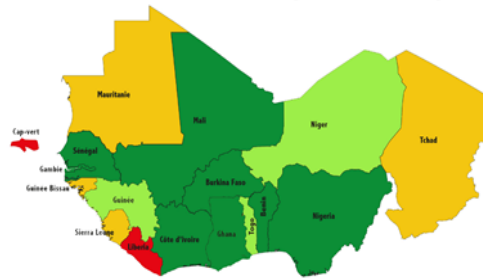
8

Million
direct beneficiaries
in the sub region

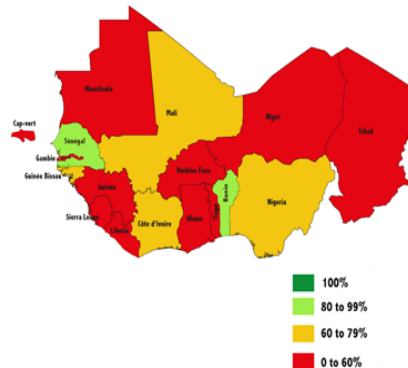
40

Million
Indirect beneficiaries
in the sub region

SEED REGULATION (APRIL 2016)



SEED REGULATION (APRIL 2013)



25
%

Land covered

From 11 to 25 % increase
in terms of land covered
by certified seeds

400
K

Tons of
Certified Seeds
Produced in 2016

1300

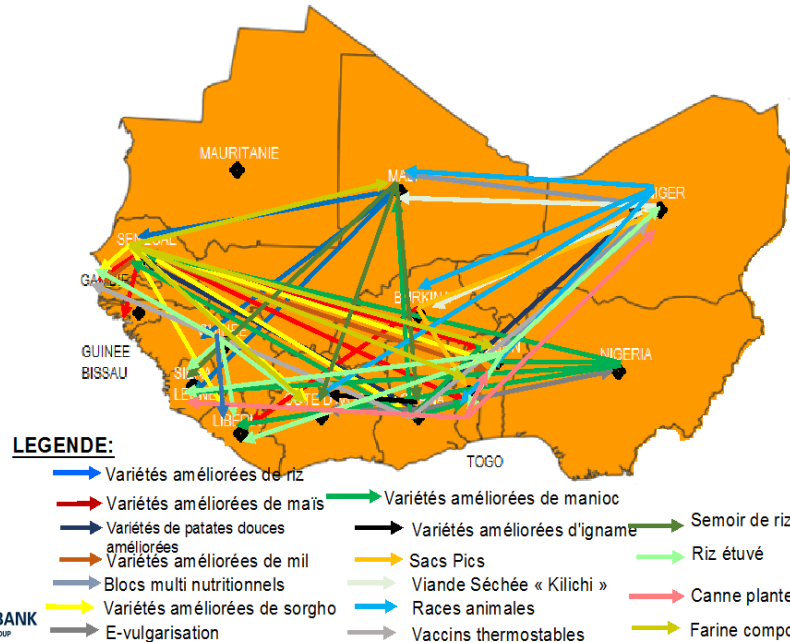
Varieties
registered

In a regional catalogue with
76% of varieties released in
17 Member States

Adapted Solutions

Scalable Solutions Across Borders

... Le PPAAO stimule l'échange de technologies et innovations



THE WORLD BANK
IBRD · IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP



8500

Tons of foundation and certified seeds mobilized by 11 Countries

to avoid the looming specter of hunger for over **2 Million** peoples.

Restored Capacity for domestic seed system

To Sierra Leone



To Liberia



- Rice seeds
- Maize Seeds
- Cowpea Seeds
- Rice seeds

Rapid Response



Réseau Niébé pour l'Afrique du Centre et de l'Ouest - *RENACO*

Production écologiquement durable du *niébé* – *PEDUNE* (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal & IITA)

Networks

USAID-SDC-IFAD

Projet Niébé pour l'Afrique *PRONAF* (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, *Zambia* & IITA)

LIL and Cowpea



- Improved high yielding cowpea varieties with resistances to drought and insect pests
- Biological controls for *Maruca vitrata* and other cowpea insect pests
- Sustainable seed systems for grain legumes
- Farmer decision making tools for soil fertility management
- Information on the value of bean and cowpea based foods on nutrition, growth and intestinal system health of young children

LIL and Cowpea



- Enhanced NARS capacity for phenotyping
- Outsourcing support by UCR (SNP markers)
- Genotyping of transgenic *Maruca*-resistance gene (UCR)
- Cowpea germplasm fingerprinting support by UCR
- Genotyping support of NARS for resistance genes (*Striga*, Thrips, *Colletotrichum capsici*, Drought, etc.)

CORAF and Cowpea



Competitive or commissioned projects

**Cowpea Innovation Platforms –
Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali**

Support to INERA

Traditional Crop Improvement

- **Breeding, seed systems & IPM - Pouni and Zandoma (Gourcy)**
- **Cowpea pod-borer bioecology**

Biotechnology and Biosafety

- **Gene flow and non-target organism study prior to deploying GM-cowpea**
- **Confined field testing infrastructure**
- **Efficacy tests on GM-Maruca-resistant cowpea**

CORAF and Legume Innovation Lab

- ❑ **Smallholder farmers:** variety dissemination, training, participatory variety selection
- ❑ **Grain traders:** Ecological and adapted storage techniques (PICS bags)
- ❑ **Processors:** capacity by NARS and IITA to promote Cowpea utilization, enriched recipees
- ❑ **Consumers:** More variety diversity offered to consumers (taste, suitability for specific dishes, etc).

The Road Forward: Strategy

Regional Capacity and Excellence

- *talents from anywhere everywhere together for change*
(hardware, software, connectivity)

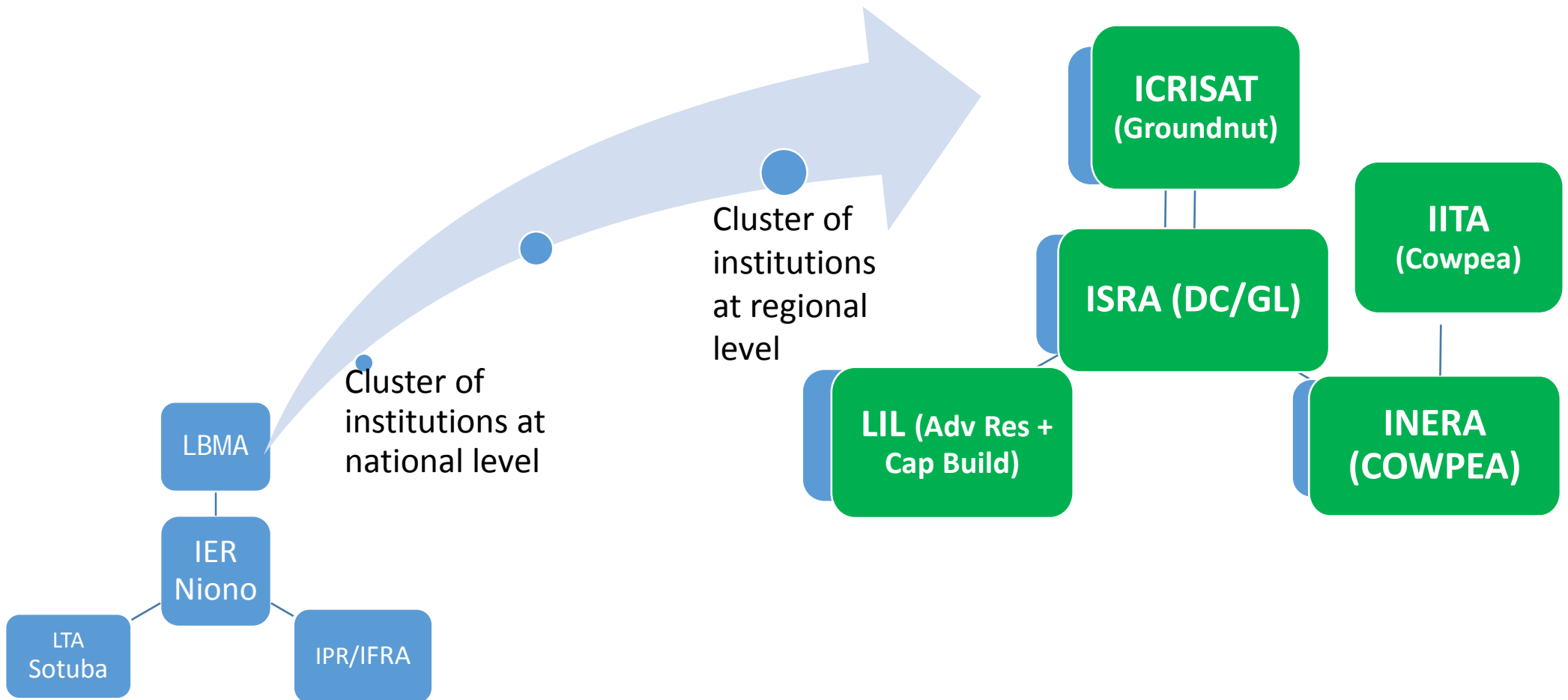
Delivering Impact at Scale

- *scalable and movable solutions exist for immediate impact*
(business incubators)

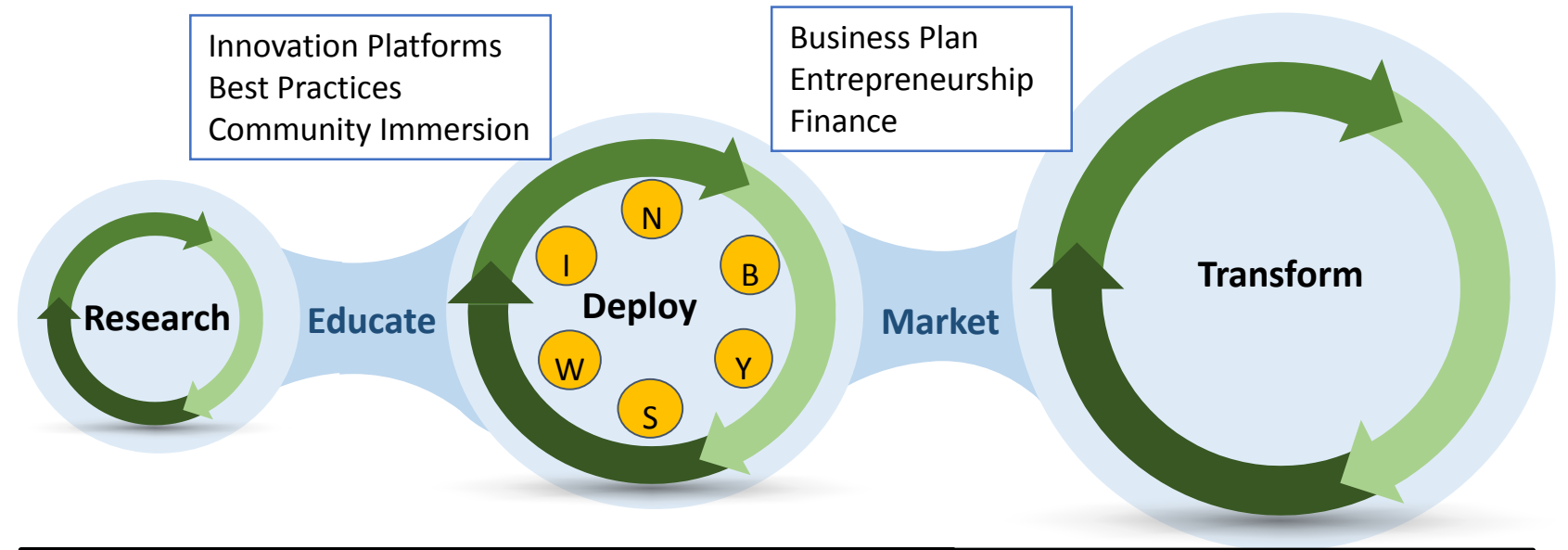
Foresight and Anticipation

- *solidarity in crises backed by wisdom of preparedness* *(global partnerships, advocacy)*

The Road Forward: Strategy



The Next Decade



TECHNOLOGY	INNOVATION	SCALING
INSTITUTIONS – POLICY – MARKETS		
S4ACP	(W)AAPP	USAID-EU-DFID
AARP	AGRA	TAAT

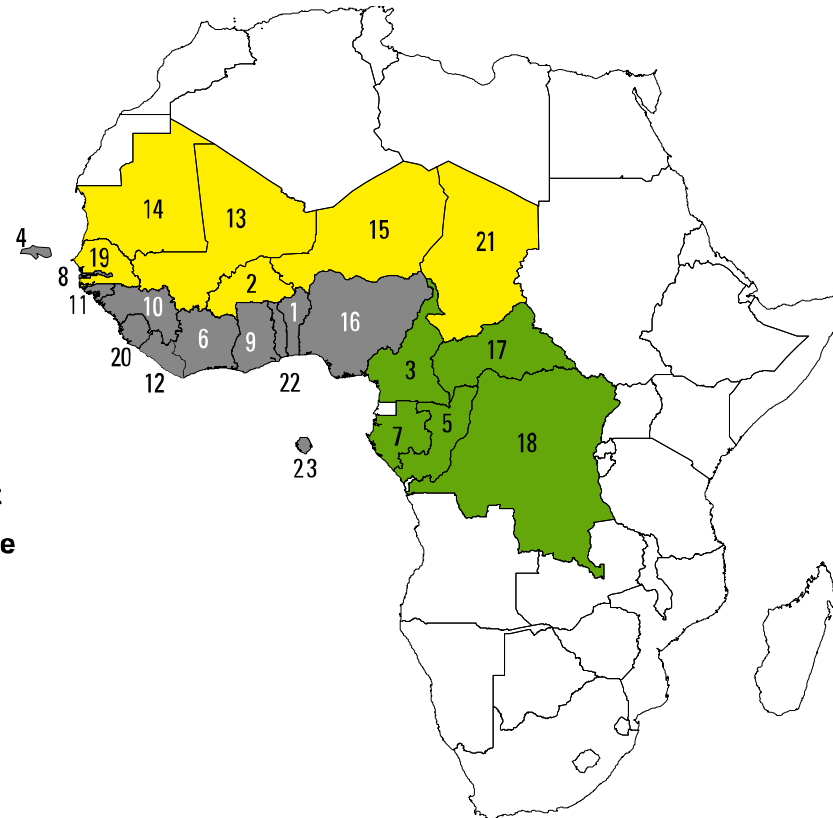
Creative Solutions...Together




***“A bend in the road
is not the end of the
road...Unless you
fail to make the
turn”
-Helen Keller***



WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT



-  Zone sahélienne de l'Afrique
-  Zone côtière de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
-  Zone de l'Afrique Centrale forestière

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Technical arm of the Economic
Community Of West African
States (ECOWAS) in Agricultural
Research



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