

Project title : PROCASHEW - Baseline evaluation of the West Africa Value Chain (PRO-Cashew) Project Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria

Project place	Project cost	Role in the project	Technical and financial sponsors	Dates
Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria	80 000 €	Cashew and Baseline Expertise	CNFA - Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture, Agramondis	October 2020 - December 2020

Project's goals and results

Main goals

The five-year United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) PRO-Cashew project will work to boost the competitiveness of West African producers by improving efficiency and quality in production and trade, and by working to develop more coherent regional trade and investment policies. In doing so, the project will strengthen producer capacities as well as develop incentives to renovate and rehabilitate cashew farms, improve production and quality, and create a more competitive West African raw cashew nut for the international market.

Specific objectives

- SO1.** Capacity Building
- SO2.** In-Kind Grants for Equipment & Inputs
- SO3.** Develop Agrodealers & Input Suppliers
- SO4.** Develop an Integrated Data System
- SO5.** Disperse Improved Market Information
- SO6.** Improve Policy & Regulatory Framework

Beneficiaries

- RCN farmers
- Cashew growing communities (in addition to RFP requirement). These will include a wider cross section of members of the community and have mixed groups as well as women only and youths only groups. The purpose is to gain deeper insight into community dynamics, power relations, needs, barriers, and opportunities associated with cashew growing
- RCN farmer organizations
- Agro-food commodity companies
- Service providers
- Extension agents
- Government officials (also including leaders of national sector associations)
- Researchers and academics (in addition to RFP requirement). This is to learn more about the state, effectiveness and needs of research and innovation capacities in the country

Results

- R1.** \$103.7 million in annual sales of farmers and firms as a result of USDA assistance
- R2.** \$3.7 million accessed in agricultural-related financing as a result of USDA assistance
- R3.** 728,516 individuals benefiting as a result of USDA assistance
- R4.** 340 jobs created

Activities

- A1.** Final Baseline Evaluation Workplan, with a full suite of all methodological information, tools and templates and a time plan
- A2.** Data collection report (upon completion of data collection). Data will be collected through Farmer surveys (1650), Key informant Interview and Focus Group Discussions
- A3.** Preliminary Baseline Report, with evaluation results in graphical and tabular form, conclusions and recommendations, and full data
- A4.** Final Baseline Evaluation Report, and presentation of findings