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WEST AFRICA SEED PROJECT WASP

MID-TERM EVALUATION

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

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Outline

- Background
- Evaluation Purpose and Scope
- Findings
- Recommendations
- Conclusion
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Challenges in WA Seed Sector

- ❑ Limited access to quality seeds
- ❑ Limited technical and financial capacity of plant breeders;
- ❑ Weak and underdeveloped local seed enterprises due to lack of access to credit, etc.
- ❑ Weak and underdeveloped agro-dealer networks – critical for sustainable value chain development
- ❑ Inefficient mechanisms to enforce seed regulations – critical for ECOWAS seed regulations (2008)
- ❑ Limited capacity of National Seed Trade Associations (NSTAs).
- ❑ Lack of strong links among research institutions, seed producers, seed certifiers and farmers.

Seed Need and Supply in West Africa

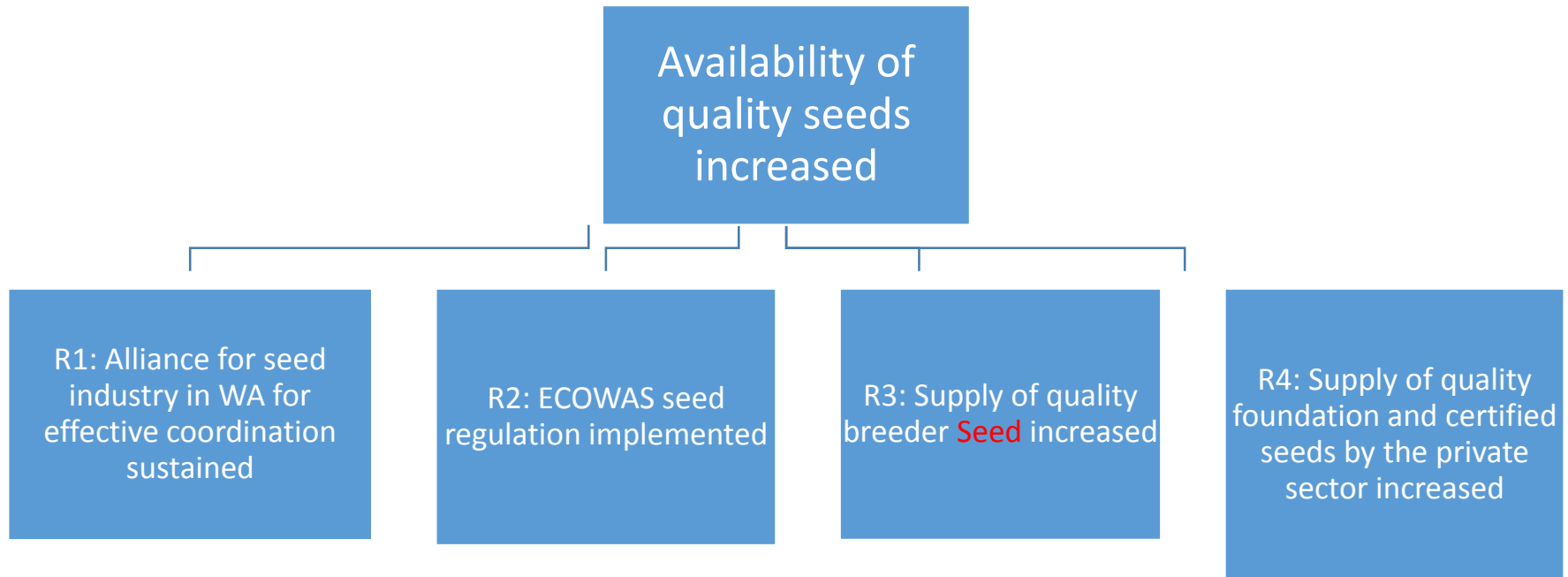
	Need (T)	Supply (T)	%	Need Value (US\$)	Supply Value (US\$)	%
Maize	180,072	58,464	32.47	183,576,788	60,440,883	32.92
Rice	364,457	106,395	29.19	447,318,100	137,528,666	30.75
Sorghum	104,107	3,703	3.56	118,172,410	4,044,246	3.42
Millet	82,759	6,506	7.86	82,035,590	5,863,000	7.15
Cowpea	301,724	1,257	0.42	475,408,590	1,366,786	0.29
Groundnuts	302,318	5,709	1.89	406,754,060	5,350,304	1.32
Total	1,335,437	182,034	13.63	1,713,265,538	214,593,885	12.53

Source: WASP Annual Report, 2013

WASP Goals & Objectives

- *Increase production by 25% 22,300MT maize & 21,500MT rice by 2017* - vs. only 12-13% of demand met in 2009.
 1. Operational regional-level alliance – strengthen seed industry (ASIWA) among ECOWAS members.
 2. Strengthen national/regional seed policies –laws, regulations.
 3. Increased production & use of quality seed (breeder, foundation, certified) – to meet breeders, industry & farm demand.
 4. Strengthen WA private sector participation - in seed industry – to supply high quality, certified seed.
 5. Increase Agri-business capacities of seed trade associations- AFSTA & NSTAs – to be seed industry leaders.

WASP MANDATE



- Ten lower-level results under R1, R2, R3, and R4.
- Includes dimensions relating to the technical capacity of NSTAs, foundation and certified seed production for rice, and the rice seed up-scale program.

Evaluation Purpose & Scope

Overall Objective: To assess and document the extent to which WASP is achieving its objectives. Specific objectives include:

- ❑ Conduct comparative analysis of WASPs key performance indicators – planned targets vs achievements.
- ❑ Document successes, best practices, lessons learned, challenges.
- ❑ Assess extent to which WASP helped to advance collaboration & participatory practices for key stakeholders.
- ❑ Identify key results & insights gained to inform future food security endeavors in the region – e.g. next generation of national & regional Agricultural Investment Plans

Evaluation Purpose & Scope

□ *Evaluation Questions (8):*

1. How successful has WASP been in meeting its planned targets?
2. What recommendations are there for strengthening, improving and building upon (scale-up) program successes of WASP sub-activity successes post-2017?
3. Is WASP's leadership in strengthening the seed system and advancing the ECOWAS Seed Regulations regarded as necessary (or integral to scaling-up seed input success) by their counterparts such as the International Agriculture Research Centers, and NARIs, etc.?
4. What is the link and dependency between CORAF and WASP?

Evaluation Purpose & Scope

What actions have been taken since the establishment of ASIWA and COASem, to meet their respective objectives and to enable their sustainability?

6. How has the private sector fulfilled the roles expected of it in the regional seed sector?

7. To what extent has WASP considered fertilizer as a constraint in the use of seed varieties it is promoting?

8. How is WASP addressing the fertilizer issue (utility/supply/demand) in the move from breeder to certified and foundation seed?

Evaluation Purpose & Scope

Evaluation Criteria

- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Sustainability & Lessons Learned

Evaluation Priority Areas (USAID)

A) Progress to Date in Achieving Planned Results

B) Team strength and collaboration modalities in support of improved seed production.

C) Capacity building results and the potential for use sustainability.

D) Strategic areas of results that are ready for scale up.

WASP Achievements to Date

❑ Objective: Availability of quality seeds increased (Outcome)

Indicator	Target	Actual	% Achieved (2015)
Amount of improved breeder seed produced in USG-assisted countries (MT)	80	76.58	95.7
# of hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	77	113	146.8

IR1 ASIWA

IR1: Alliance for Seed Industry in WA for Effective Coordination Sustained

- ❑ Launched in August of 2015 at Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, following a series of capacity building and sensitization activities.
- ❑ The technical secretariat is not yet in place. WASP still assumes the coordination and management of the affairs of the alliance.
- ❑ A Steering Committee for ASIWA, supposed to provide initial strategic oversight is not yet in place.
- ❑ The proposed full-time ASIWA Coordinator and full-time WASIX Coordinator are yet to be recruited.
- ❑ ASIWA marketing materials (presentations, brochures, etc.) have not been developed.
- ❑ A funding proposal for submission to USAID to secure additional financial support for ASIWA (during its early stage) is yet to be developed.

WASP Achievements to Date cont'd

IR2: ECOWAS Seed Regulation Implemented

Indicator	Target	Actual	% Achieved (2015)
# of Policies, Regulation, and/or Administrative Procedures in each of the following stages of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: (Stage 1/2/3/4/5)	4	2	50
# of countries with ECOWAS seed policy published in official gazettes	16	12	75

IR2 Seed Policy

Achievements

- ❑ Each of the 17 countries has established a National Seed Committee.
- ❑ A Regional Variety Catalogue has been compiled from the 17 national catalogues – 1751 varieties released, 1330 (76%) registered across member countries.
- ❑ 12 out of the 17 countries have published the regional regulation in their national gazettes or journals.
- ❑ Adaptation of national procedures manual has been done in 13 countries with an average 60% in compliance.
- ❑ All countries are in compliance on seed regulatory frameworks.
- ❑ However, some of the accompanying operations of COASem are not yet fully operational and the Seed Sector Support Funds (SSSF) are still in search of a fund raising mechanism.

WASP Achievements to Date cont'd

IR3: Supply of Quality Breeder Seed Increased

Indicator	Target	Actual	% Achieved (2015)
# of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	1,015	1,132	111.5

WASP Achievements to Date cont'd

Crops	Breeder Seeds				Foundation Seeds (2015)		Projected Certified Seeds (MT)	Projected Coverage Area (ha)	Projected Grain Production (MT)
	2014		2015		Ha	MT			
	Ha	MT	Ha	MT					
Maize	29.8	9.55	47.15	16.58	422	679	54,320	2,172,800	4,345,600
Sorghum	18.7	4.3	34.16	15.66	143	21	2,100	210,000	210,000
Rice	31.15	38.74	67.85	44.34	1,194	4,642	232,100	4,642,000	11,605,000

Source: WASP data, 2016

WASP Achievements to Date cont'd

IR4: Supply of Quality Foundation and Certified Seed by Private Sector Increased

Indicator	Target	Actual	% Achieved (2015)
# of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers' organizations, water users' associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and CBOs receiving USG assistance	72	151	209.7
# of MSMEs, including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources	35	33	94.3
# of MSMEs, including farmers, receiving USG assistance to access loans	14	2	14.3**
# of public-private partnerships formed as a result of FTF assistance	36	29	80.6
Percent of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training applying learned concepts	50	90	180

****2014: Target = 21; Achieved = 3 (14%)**

Relevance

Evaluation Criteria

- ❑ WASP leadership in strengthening WA seed systems seen as necessary and relevant by all stakeholders.
- ❑ Core WASP achievements emphasizing relevance – advancing seed regulation adoption and publication; supporting publication of seed variety catalogs; reinforcing the seed control and certification system, mobilizing private sector, etc.
- ❑ Rate of implementation of ECOWAS regulations increased from 41% (2013) to 91% (2016) – attributed to measures taken by INSAH and the Seed Policy Task Force in all 17 countries
- ❑ However, the control, certification and quality assurance services are far from where they need to be for an efficient and viable seed system in West Africa.

Effectiveness

Evaluation Criteria

- WASP in partnership with the Consortium, ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS/INSAH, Hub Rural and CGIARs and NARIs, has achieved its target as per FtFMS WASP approved indicators.
- The *Average Global Achievement Rate is estimated at 106%*, despite low achievement (14%) for targets on private sector access to loans.
- WASP, overall, is on the right track, as evidenced by positive results observed in terms of political commitment to seed development, involvement of the private sector in the control and production of seed, and launching of ASIWA and COASem.

Sustainability & lessons Learnt

Evaluation Criteria

- WASP's effort in facilitating the harmonized regional seed and fertilizer regulations will ensure free trade and make fertilizer affordable to users in the seed value-chain.
- WASP has budgeted fertilizer expenditure to support breeder seed production at the NARIs and CGIAR centers.
- WASP has subsidized fertilizer usage by the private sector (60%:40%) in the production of Foundation and Certified Seed.

Strategic Areas for Scale-Up

Six WASP-led initiatives ready for scale up:

- ❑ Seed regulation implementation (harmonization of regulations, certification of breeder, foundation and certified seeds and intellectual property issues).
- ❑ Seed Forecasting Tool – for demand and supply.
- ❑ Private sector production of Foundation and Certified Seed
- ❑ The WASP Business Model to foster sustainable supply of foundation and certified seed.
- ❑ Regional resiliency through improved seed regulation and trade: Success in the Ebola Initiative Experience.
- ❑ WASP M&E System – to consolidate and replicate



CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions

- ❑ Overall, WASP is on track to achieve its objectives, as evidenced by positive results.
- ❑ The Average Global Achievement Rate is estimated at 106%, despite low achievement (14%) for targets on private sector access to loans.
- ❑ While WASP has greatly enhanced private sector involvement in the seed industry, there is much room to consolidate and improve the performance of the private sector in the seed industry.
- ❑ Through the Ebola Initiative, as part of the regional resiliency to various threats, the regional regulation on seed movement was tested by WASP, challenges in cross-boarder seed trade identified and solutions proposed.
- ❑ Despite these achievements, there are still **challenges** in the seed industry being faced by WASP.

Conclusions

- ❑ Inadequate skilled personnel in seed production and quality management, and inadequate skilled personnel in private sector – NARIs & CGIARS still face infrastructure issues.
- ❑ Not all WASP results are being fully adopted by beneficiaries – e.g. Seed Forecasting Tool.
- ❑ Lack of business approach in the production and supply of breeder seed - Breeder seed production is overly dependent on project funding.
- ❑ The attractiveness of foundation and certified seed industry is not yet fully appreciated by investors.
- ❑ Low national commitment to provide seed sector with necessary support funding and lack of political will in some countries.
- ❑ Reluctance of the public sector in some countries to allow the private sector to produce foundation seed.

- ❑ The Ebola Initiative implementation by WASP, showed inadequate adherence to the ECOWAS and UEMOA protocols for free movement of persons and goods.

Opportunities exist to consolidate and upscale WASP results and overcome these challenges in WA and CILSS countries:

- ❑ ECOWAS-CILSS-UEMOA Tripartite agreement
- ❑ WASP Partnership with AGRA, AfricaSeed, WACCI etc.
- ❑ Growing need for improved seeds among producers
- ❑ ECOWAP (NAIP, RAIP) willing to support the seed sector and the Private Banks to fund seed businesses.
- ❑ WASP is expanding an improved market through partnerships and sensitization of various seed stakeholders



RECOMMENDATIONS & WAY FORWARD



ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS

Recommendations

- ❑ ECOWAS should maintain CORAF leadership in implementing WASP.
- ❑ ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS should sign, in near future, a Tri-partite Agreement to allow Mauritania and Chad to publish the Regulation in their official journals.
- ❑ Beyond USAID support to WASP, ECOWAS and CORAF should find a more sustainable approach with countries to ensure the reinforcement of capacity of national organizations in charge of seed quality control and seed certification.
- ❑ UEMOA Commission should sign the acknowledgement page of the regional seed catalogue to make it an official document and allow for it to be uploaded onto the WASIX website.
- ❑ ECOWAS should maintain CORAF leadership in implementing WASP.

ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS

Recommendations

- ❑ ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS/INSAH should advocate for graduate training programs to develop the next generation of critically needed seed technologists and plant breeders for the WA seed sector.
- ❑ ECOWAS and UEMOA should facilitate the development of a funding mechanism to establish a loan-guarantee scheme to support private seed value chain actors and facilitate PPPs to improve seed control and certification.
- ❑ WASP, through ECOWAS should take necessary actions to make ASIWA and NASTA fully operational. These actions need to be integrated in the new ECOWAS/ECOWAP RAIP.
- ❑ Ensure that resources are set aside for the continuation of WASP efforts.

ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS

Recommendations

- ❑ Communicate more effectively to the Ministers and Heads of State in the sub-region the positive impact of WASP in relation to enhancing access to improved seed.
- ❑ Inform other stakeholders involved in the CAADP process, e.g., FARA, NEPAD and the AU about ECOWAS contribution to enhance access to improved seed in West Africa.
- ❑ Approach other donors (other than USAID), and member countries for support to seed work in West Africa.

USAID, OTHER TECHNICAL & FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Recommendations

- ❑ WASP should be maintained within CORAF with improved financial and administrative procedures.
- ❑ The private sector should be supported to undertake more demonstrations in their out-grower schemes to show the benefit of using the recommended rates of fertilizer and other GAPS in the production of Foundation and Certified seed
- ❑ USAID should ensure that WASP and WAFP are working in synergy for improved use of seed and fertilizer.

CORAF & WASP

Recommendations

- ❑ WASP should improve the reinforcement of capacity of national organizations in charge of seed quality control and seed certification.
- ❑ CORAF needs to define a strong portfolio management system to ensure that all programs including WASP will continue to be implemented efficiently at any time of their life cycle – e.g. WAAPP closeout vs WASP implementation.
- ❑ Critical actions need to be implemented to make ASIWA and COASem functional - set up executive secretariats, implement action plans
- ❑ WASP should define at least one indicator to track IR 1, “Alliance for seed industry in WA for effective coordination sustained”.

CORAF & WASP

Recommendations

- ❑ WASP should consolidate its support of NARIs, CGIARs for breeder seed production.
- ❑ Improve support to the private sector in foundation and certified seed production.
- ❑ CORAF through WASP should develop a fund-raising plan to leverage investment funds for its activities to support the seed industry, including funding from bilateral Missions, the private sector and other donors.
- ❑ Continue to support NARIs and CGIAR Centers with their input needs, including fertilizer, in the production of breeder seed.

CORAF & WASP (Contd)

Recommendations

- ❑ Make ASIWA and NASTA fully operational by reinforcing training, capacity building, facilitating consultations and improving capabilities to leverage funds in financing the private sector seed industry.
- ❑ Scale-up PPPs and expand into other countries, using the Nigeria success story under the GESS and Senegal PPP in controlling foundation and certified seed production.
- ❑ Scale-up seed fairs to additional countries and accelerate training on the use of WASIX throughout target countries before the end of the program.
- ❑ Make WASIX fully functional and accessible – and managed directly by ASIWA by the end of the ongoing phase of WASP.

CORAF & WASP (Contd)

Recommendations

- ❑ ROPPA and AFSTA should be directly in charge of implementation of the WASP components related to the private sector.
- ❑ Set up the ASIWA Secretariat, prepare job files for staff to be recruited
- ❑ Draft proposal to be presented to Donors and mobilize internal resources from ASIWA members
- ❑ Set up COASem Executive Secretariat, website and start their newsletter
- ❑ Organize information and sensitization campaigns on COASem using Radio & TV

CORAF & WASP (Contd)

Recommendations

- ❑ Continue to support the NARIs and CGIAR Centers with their input needs, including fertilizer, in the production of breeder seed.
- ❑ CORAF/WASP should work with NARIs and CGIAR Centers to leverage more resources for input needs.
- ❑ Develop a plan of action for scaling up/replicating WASP activities – should be part of the WASP exit strategy.

Conditions for scaling up/replicating WASP:

- ❑ CORAF should continue to be fully involved
- ❑ Recruitment of adequate personnel – number and quality

USAID and ECOWAS

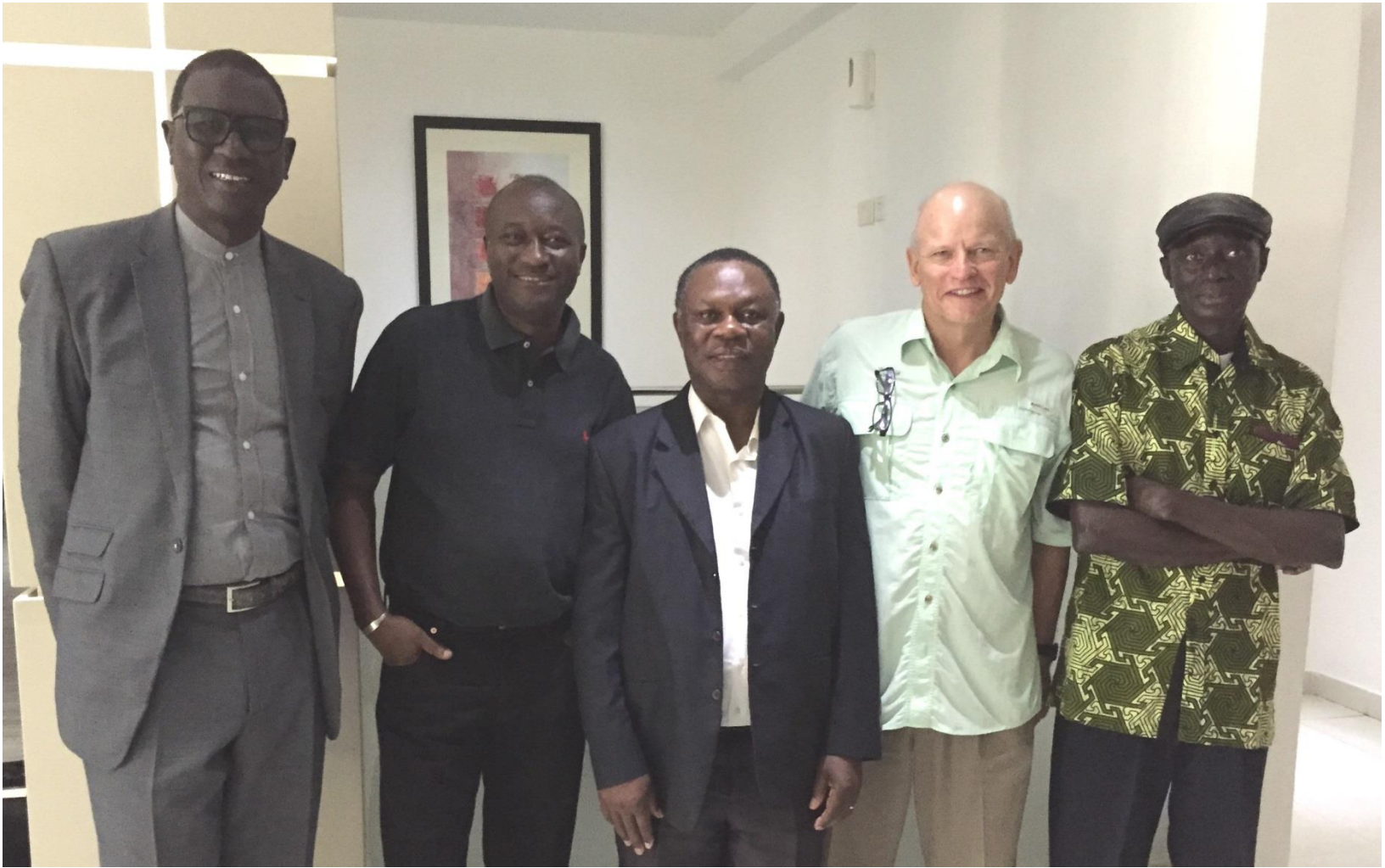
Recommendations

USAID and ECOWAS should assist CORAF:

- ❑ In reinforcing its institutional capacity so as to allow CORAF to fulfill its general mandate;
- ❑ To develop a comprehensive WASP exit strategy and, during the transition period provide to CORAF the necessary financial support in moving forward.

- ❑ Ensure that West Africa Seed stakeholders and programs work together in greater synergy – ECOWAS to ensure better synergy between WASP and AGRA, FAO etc.
- ❑ Facilitate better collaboration between WASP/CORAF and WAFP/IFDC – ECOWAS and USAID to facilitate dialogue and better synergy.
- ❑ Address the disconnect between ECOWAS and WASP/CORAF to move towards a “non-projectized” regionally owned seed program.
- ❑ Assemble a WA consortium for planning a WASP Phase II with heavy Representation of the Private Sector – Consortium should include ASIWA, NASTA, ROPPA; other seed players, other African seed actors: AGRA/PASS, AGRA SSTP, WAAPP (World Bank), FAO, Africa Seeds, etc.

- ❑ Enhance WASP/CORAF Sustainability – A comprehensive sustainability plan should be developed
- ❑ Improve access to credit for seed companies with lower rates and to develop/enhance seed associations for “cooperative benefits” to their members.
- ❑ WASP should consider the integration of high value vegetable seed production within the ECOWAP priority crops.



Thank You