



REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING N° 4

Rural Development Briefing in West Africa: A series of meetings on ACP-EU development issues

Climate change, land acquisition and food security in West Africa:

New challenges, new opportunities

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 1-4 November 2010

<http://acpbriefings.net>

Climate change and its impact on agriculture

Over 70% of disasters in ACP countries are climate-related and, since climate change is increasing this percentage, securing livelihoods, building resilience, empowerment and reducing disaster risk are key dimensions of adaptation to climate change. Like sustainable development, the causes of vulnerability to climate change and disasters are complex and inter-related. Poor and vulnerable communities in developing countries have contributed least to the problem but suffer first and worst from the effects of climate change. What are the implications of recent international agreements for ACP countries? What are some emerging issues which will impact on the agricultural sector in the coming years? What are the various perspectives from the stakeholders?

Emerging challenges: the effects of climate change, food and financial crisis on land

The rapid demographic growth in many developing countries and increasing urbanization process increases the pressure on land for agricultural production. These pressures combined with increasing distrust in the functioning of regional and global markets due to the price crisis, have renewed attention to foreign direct investment in agriculture. A number of countries, facing severe natural resource constraints but rich in capital, seek land to buy or lease in developing countries in order to secure their long-term food supplies, feed and agrofuel production¹. What are the implications for the agricultural sector and for local producers?

Regional Briefing

Organisers : CTA, DG Development and DG EuropeAid of the EC, ACP Secretariat, Concord and Peasant organizations and Producers in West Africa (ROPPA).

Objectives : (i) to raise awareness on existing and emerging key challenges on climate change and land acquisition; (ii) to promote exchange of information and expertise sharing among the development groups; (iii) to feed in the debate on these issues by bringing various perspectives around the table.

Target Group : more than 130 policy makers, representatives West African countries, civil society groups, researchers and development practitioners, bilateral and international organizations.

Languages: The discussions will be held in French and English with interpretation.

Format

The Briefing will be held in two days which will allow expert presentation and interactive discussions. It is held in the context of the International Media Forum North South and it will be illustrated by videos and movies on climate change, food security and the future of agriculture. <http://www.nordsud.ch/>

Outputs

Input and comments before, during and after the meetings will be included in the Briefings blog: <http://acpbriefings.net/>. Short reports (briefings) in printed and electronic format will be available shortly after the meeting. Articles by IPS Europe, partner in this event, will be widely disseminated.

¹ Joaquim Von Braun, Food and Financial Crises - Implications for Agriculture and the Poor, IFPRI Food Policy Report No. 20, December 2008, <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/fpr/pr20.pdf>



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Monday 1st November 2010

9h00-9h15 **Introductory remarks**

Jean-Philippe Rapp, Director International Media Forum North-South; Isolina Boto, Manager, CTA Brussels Office; Djibo Bagna, President of ROPPA

9h15-10h30 **Panel 1: Climate change and agriculture: key challenges**

What are the links between climate change, agriculture and food security. How climate change affects availability and land allocations, agricultural production and food availability? How increasing climate risks compromise the ability of farmers to produce and invest, and affect the agricultural sector in most African countries?

- New challenges in Climate negotiations for African countries
Célia Gautier, Expert on International Regulations and Public Policies, GRET
- Climate change and the challenges development and food security in West Africa
Dr Mathieu Badolo, Researcher, IAVS, CILSS
- Low Carbone Development Plan and opportunities for African countries
Emmanuel Seck, Programme Manager, ENDATM- Environment and Development

10h30-11h00 Coffee Break

11h00-12h30 **Climate change, food sovereignty and food security**

- Food sovereignty and the right to food in the context of food security and increasing pressures on natural resources.
Dr. Abdoulaye SOMA, Professor, University of Ouaga II, President FIAN-Burkina
- Linkages between desertification, climate change, land scarcity and the impacts on food security
Mr. Boubacar CISSE, Regional Coordinator, Africa Programme, UNCCD
- Impact of climate change : experiences form producers in Burkina Faso on livestock and soil regeneration
Omar Ouedraogo, Chargé de communication, Confédération paysanne du Faso/ROPPA

12h30-13h30 Lunch

13h30-15h00 Debate with media and film producers

Conferences of the International Forum linked to the Briefing

15h30 African Communication Universities: Food security and Media

16h00 Women, Agriculture and Food production

17h00 Climate change and Hunger

18h00 Peasants and Media

Movies and Videos

16h00 Bananas (producers and multinationals)- 88mn

17h30 La quadrature du cercle (developing new crops to reduce migration) – 80mn



Tuesday 2nd November 2010

9h00-10h30 Panel 2: Land acquisition, agricultural investments and food security

What do we know about land acquisitions? What is their scale and which are the main countries affected? Which are the drivers of the phenomenon? The recent world trends suggest that a massive rise of commercial interest on natural and land resources is occurring. In many countries, this brings an unprecedented pressure on the natural resources and new tensions on the land tenure systems. On the other side, could those investments represent an opportunity to revitalize the agricultural sector of some ACP countries, especially in West Africa?

- Global Land Acquisition : new challenges for African countries
Isolina Boto, Manager, CTA Brussels Office
- Large-scale land acquisitions: A set of core principles to address the human rights challenge
Olivier De Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food (video)
- Land and food security : the producers perspective
Faliry Boly, Secretary General, Syndicat des exploitants agricoles de l'Office du Niger, Sexagon/ROPPA

10h30-11h00 Coffee Break

11h00-12h30 Climate change and land transactions: challenges and opportunities

- Large-scale land acquisitions to invest in agriculture: trends and key issues
Harris Selod, Senior Economist, Development Economics Group, The World Bank
- Linkages between climate change and trends in large-scale land transactions
Dr Madiodio Niassé, Directeur, International land Coalition, ILC
- Widening the dialogue on responsible agricultural transnational investments
André Tioro, Land Expert, ROPPA

12h30-13h30 Lunch

13h30-15h00 Debate with media and film producers

Conclusions

Press Conference

Conferences of the International Forum linked to the Briefing

16h00 *The future African Agriculture: roles and opportunities*

17h00 *Science and Agriculture*

18h00 *The farmers victims of development policies*

Movies and Videos

15h00 *Black Cotton (A trip in a cotton production area in Burkina Faso) - 55mn*

16h00 *A well kept secret (Youth in rural areas) - 38mn*

17h00 *Farmers and peasants (History of changes in food production) - 160mn*



Wednesday 3rd November 2010

9h00 – 13h00 Meetings with CTA and ROPPA

The network of Peasant organizations and Producers in West Africa (ROPPA) was officially founded on July 2000 during a meeting in Cotonou that gathered about a hundred farmers representatives appointed by their respective organizations. The network gathers organizations from 10 West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, the Ivory Coast, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo). This group is not closed, and the middle course ambition is to host farmer organizations from all the ECOWAS countries, that represent the real West Africa.

ROPPA promotes and defends the values of a competitive and sustainable farming agriculture benefiting family farming and agricultural production. It informs and supports the members of farming organisations and agricultural producers associations and strengthens agricultural producers in all countries in order to promote their participation/involvement into the definition, the implementation of development policies and programs in agricultural and rural sectors, ROPPA promotes the solidarity between its members.

ROPPA is a partner of CTA and co-organiser of this regional Briefing. We will have the opportunity to visit their headquarters in Ouagadougou.

The President and the members will present to us the history of the farmer's movement in West Africa and the creation of ROPPA. We will have a better understanding of their objectives, main achievements and challenges they face.

<http://www.roppa.info/>

Conferences of the International Forum linked to the Briefing

Conferences of African Universities of Communication (UACO)

- 09h00 Links between food security and human development
- 10h00 National food security strategies in Africa: the role of media

Movies and Videos

- 09h00 Burkina Faso, sortie de crise sur le fil (rice production facing imports)- 15mn
- 09h15 Une lutte sans faim (grain storage in Burkina Faso)- 25'
- 10h00 Cayar face au défi de l'océan (collective management of fish resources in Senegal) - 52'
- 11h00 From seed to fork (food riots in Cameroun and agricultural policies) - 26'
- 11h30 Pour le meilleur et pour l'oignon (onion production in Niger facing climate change) - 52'
- 13h00 La vache n 80 a un problème (for sustainable agriculture: France, Brasil, Senegal) - 28'
- 13h30 Manges-tu le riz de la vallée (imported rice at the heart of food consumption in Senegal) - 10'
- 13h40 Main basse sur le riz (in 2008 the rice prices spike: who benefits ?)- 84'
- 15h30 Bananes à régime forcé (international banana trade)- 52'
- 16h30 Campesinos, histoire(s) d'une résistance (farmer's organisations in Bolivia) - 97'

Round tables

- 17h00 Agribusiness in West Africa
- 18h00 Civil society fighting hunger



Thursday 4th November 2010

9h00 – 13h00 Meetings with CTA and CILSS

The permanent Inter-states committee of Conflict against Drought in Sahel (CILSS) receives us and introduces its activities and achievements.

The CILSS was created on September 12th, 1973 following the big drought which hit Sahel in the seventies. CILSS regroups today nine States among which 4 coastal States: (Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal), 4 enclosed States: (Burkina Faso; Mali; Niger; Chad); 1 island (Cape Verde).

CILSS programmes include:

Support to definition and implementation of sectoral policies in food security, conflict against desertification, domestic energies.

It hosts the technical secretariat of the Regional council of food security in Western Africa and participates in the definition of the actions of pillars 1 and 3 of the detailed Program of development of the African agriculture of NEPAD.

Training courses

The Regional Centre AGRHYMET developed a full range of short, medium and long trainings for technical services of member states in the areas of agro-meteorology, crop protection, management of natural resources, adaptation of agriculture to climatic change, sustainable crop protection ...

Information

Le CILSS anime depuis plus de 30 ans un dispositif de veille sur la sécurité alimentaire en Afrique de l'Ouest, destiné à prévoir les récoltes, consolider les bilans alimentaires, suivre les prix et les marchés, identifier les zones à risque alimentaire et informer plus généralement sur les mesures pour faire face aux différentes situations annuelles (de déficit ou d'excédent).

CILSS coordinates for more than 30 years an Observatory on food security in Western Africa, intended to plan crops, to consolidate the food deficit situations, to follow prices and markets, to identify risk zones of food and to inform on food deficit or surplus.

Research and capitalization

CILSS conducts thorough studies regularly on topics linked to food security, management of natural resources, links between population and development.

Multi-country Pilot plans

CILSS leads in partnership with States, NGOs and of the rural organizations a series of pilot plans actions in the implementation of food security and environmental policies.

CILSS is a regional partner of the CTA. We will have opportunity to visit their headquarters in Ouagadougou to better understand their programs and domains of intervention.

<http://www.cilss.bf/>