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Expanding Opportunities Worldwide

BACKGROUND

- Low rate of use of variety seeds (less than 20%), which nonetheless contributes to more 40% to crop yields;
- Low genetic potential of traditional varieties ;
- Traditional varieties not adapted to climate change ;
- Lower yield potential for farmers' varieties ;
- Disorganization of the seed production system in the project area

OBJECTIVES

- Making quality seeds of improved varieties available;
- Increase access to and use of seeds of improved quality varieties;
- Reduce production costs;
- Increase yields and agricultural production

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- Diagnosis of constraints to the production and use of seeds of improved varieties
- Information/sensitization of SCOOPS members on the importance of using seeds of improved varieties.
- Identification of growers interested in seed multiplication, assessment of acreage and input requirements
- Organization of SCOOPS to supply growers with seeds of certified improved varieties
- Training growers in seed multiplication techniques through Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and Demonstration Plots (DP)
- Setting up and managing seed multiplication
- Training producers in seed storage and conservation techniques
- Monitoring and supervision of seed multiplication and production evaluation

RESULTS

- In 2022 (498 seed multipliers; 498 cowpea seed multiplication plots; Total area of 73.5 hectares; Average cowpea yield of 980 kg/ha)
  - (Sources: Annual survey 2022); Total seed production obtained, 72 tonnes
- In 2023 (739 producers-681 women and 58 men) multipliers; Area sown 223.61 hectares
- From FY22 to FY23, a 204% increase in surface area

LESSONS LEARNED

- Seed multiplication at household level strengthens the access of the poorest to seeds of improved varieties of good quality;
- Seed multiplication at household level ensures seed autonomy for small-scale producers;
- Seed multiplication at household level raises the level of use of seeds of improved varieties;
- The adaptability of the approach to the technical and economic capacities of small producers is a guarantee of the sustainability of the activity;
- Sharing seeds among growers strengthens solidarity and social cohesion in the community;
- Seed multiplication at household level reduces production costs.

SUSTAINABILITY FACTORS

- CAMVAPs have the technical skills to support growers in the multiplication of seeds of improved varieties;
- SCOOPS member growers have adopted the practice of seed multiplication;
- SCOOPS member growers have mastered the technical itinerary for seed multiplication;
- The practice reduces production costs for small producers.

Sahel Collaboration and Communication

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