



July 20, 2011

Economic Growth Office

## Feed the Future Initiative Bi-weekly Highlights

### Accomplishments

- Agriculture Value Chain Management and Agribusiness Education. USAID's Agriculture Education and Research (ERA) project and USAID's Economic Growth Project (PCE) finalized the joint planning of a Master's Program in Agriculture Value Chain Management offered at Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Agriculture (ENSA) located in the city of Thiès. USAID/PCE and USAID/ERA are leveraging their comparative advantages in the coordination of this key capacity building education program.
- Partnership to promote conservation farming. USAID/PCE, USAID/Expanded Agribusiness and Trade Promotion (E-ATP), and USAID's Agriculture and Natural Resources Management (Wula Nafaa) project are partnering to promote conservation farming techniques as a way to improve soil fertility and the valorization of water resources. A total of 1,419 producers were trained, including 514 women (about 36%) in the regions of Kaolack and Thiès.
- Seed program for aromatic rice varieties. USAID/PCE and UNIS-Nord, a seed producer organization, launched a seed production program for aromatic rice varieties in the Senegal River Valley. A joint field trip was organized in the Dagana and Podor zones with producers and technicians from both the Société Nationale d'Aménagement et d'Exploitation des Terres du Delta du fleuve Sénégal et des Vallées du fleuve Sénégal et de la Falémé (SAED) and the Regional Departments for Rural Development (DRDR). The objective is to produce and market high-quality rice that meets consumer demand. A training session on Senegal's seed legislation was also organized for seed operators.
- Results of Agricultural Survey Shared. A one-day workshop was organized on July 13 by the Directorate for Analysis and Prediction of Statistics (DAPS) to share with stakeholders the latest agricultural survey results and the methodological innovations introduced with support from USAID/PCE. In addition to the various departments and agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture, about sixty institutions and 21 media attended. Keynote addresses for the opening session were delivered by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Agriculture and USAID's Program Office Director.
- Partnership protocol for rice seed production training. USAID /Wula Nafaa signed a protocol with their key technical partner DRDR to train at least 10 rice producers on rice seed production in the Fatick



"We know that countries are more likely to prosper when they encourage entrepreneurship; when they invest in their infrastructure; and when they expand trade and welcome investment."

- President Barack Obama,  
Announcement of the new US Development  
Policy at the UN General Assembly,  
September 2010

region. The goal of the training is to give participants the opportunity to learn about rice seed multiplication, certification processes, and cultivation zone selection that result in the production of certifiable seeds in 2011.

- Maize contracts. USAID/Wula Nafaa and USAID/PCE will facilitate the signing of maize contracts between producers and buyers for the current production season. As a follow-up to a series of meetings held in March and April in nine rural communities in Senegal, cereal producers, entrepreneurs, input buyers, and credit institutions were brought together for the purpose of developing networks and signing contracts amongst themselves. This partnership between the two USAID Projects has led to the signing of 2,259 metric tons of maize contracts between producers and buyers.
- Wild Foods Training of Trainers for Community Nutrition Volunteers. Under USAID's Agriculture and Nutrition project (Yaajeende) 76 Community Nutrition Volunteers (CNVs) in Kedougou undertook Training of Trainers (TOT) on the subject of integrating Wild Foods into local diets. A total of 280 CNVs in Tambacounda, Matam, and Kedougou have now been trained. These trained CNVs are now beginning village level workshops in 384 villages in the three regions.
- Credit Access for Irrigation. USAID/Yaajeende has facilitated credit access for groups operating irrigated perimeters in Sadel and Woudourou (Matam). Thirty-nine households farming a total of 39 hectares in Sadel received a credit of 650,000 FCFA to repair their irrigation motor pump and to repair their canals. In Woudourou, the group has received credit for a new motor pump and to repair the canals which will irrigate 30 hectares of rice, 10 hectares of bananas, and 3 hectares of vegetable gardens.
- USAID/Yaajeende launch in Tambacounda. USAID/Yaajeende organized a formal project launch at the Conseil Regional of Tambacounda on July 13. More than 150 representatives of local governments, NGOs, and other partners were invited to the launch presided by the Governor of Tambacounda.

### Upcoming Activities

- USAID/COMFISH Workshop on the management of fisheries and selection of priority fish stock, Dakar-Senegal. (July 20-22)
- USAID/ERA will send 9 participants from its agricultural education and training partner institutions for 3 weeks of training in Blacksburg, Virginia. Hosted at Virginia Tech, the training program focuses on eLearning, ESL, and pedagogy and will include farm visits and a study tour to agriculture experiment stations, associated with the University. (July 25)
- USAID/PCE will hold a general meeting that will officially create a Mutual Guarantee Agriculture Cooperative through a general meeting to be held in Saint Louis. (July 18)
- USAID/PCE will launch a workshop of the rain index crop insurance pilot program for the maize sector in partnership with PlaNet Guatantee, Cirad, and Grameen Credit Agricole Foundation.
- USAID/Wula Nafaa will organize the field visit (Djilor and Keur Samba Guèye) of the steering committee of USAID's Economic Growth Office program with the participation of the Minister of Environment.
- USAID/Yaajeende technical staff will meet in Tambacounda for a 3-day discussion regarding project progress to date and how to refine project interventions in the field, shifting the project to a "demand driven" approach. (July 16-18)

- All USAID/Yaajeende nutrition facilitators will participate in a week-long “Training of Trainers” training in Matam covering the subjects of behavior change communications and Water and Sanitation for Health (WASH) Techniques. The Boy Scouts will participate in the WASH training and will partner with the project to implement hygiene activities. (July 16-20)

### CAADP Updates

Nothing to Report

### Visitors

Name/ Organization	Length of stay	Purpose
Mamadou Diouf and Lamine Dramé	11 July  (27 day assignment)	Implementation of Groupement d’Intérêt Communautaire (GIC) in community forests
Drs. Keith Moore and Tom Hammet of Virginia Tech	July 16-23	Detailed review and assessment of curricula at the University of Ziguinchor
Kathy Castro, University of Rhode Island	July 20-29	Identification of synergies for cooperation with DPM and CRODT, collaborate with partners in mapping stocks, identify synergies with IUPA, identify possibilities for transferring Sea Grant technology and approach to Senegal through IUPA
Caroline Karp, Brown University	July 16-31	Creation of “ <i>Unites de Gestion Durable</i> ”