



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
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ICARDA



Technologies for African
Agricultural Transformation

TAAT Wheat Compact

Highlights

- **A total of 1.5 million beneficiaries have been reached in 7 countries with 40% of the beneficiaries being female**
- **Average production at IP sites was 4.2 tons per ha while the national averages are 3 tons per ha across the countries – an increase of 40%.**
- **Wheat self-sufficiency has become a national agenda in target countries with high level inter-ministerial steering committees**
- **Total overall area expansion registered in all countries is 377,662 ha with additional estimated production of 1.22 million tons with the value of wheat grain production being estimated at US\$ 255.4 million**
- **Additional job creation for farmers, youth and women in wheat grain production, seed production, value addition and allied services reaching about 112,774 beneficiaries with 44% being women and youth**
- **Programme beneficiaries reached through direct scaling at IP sites and access to quality seed are 1,511,815 with 33% being female**

What is the problem?

Wheat is grown on approximately 10 million ha of Africa's land and remains a major staple crop for several countries. Wheat consumption has been increasing steadily over the past 20 years. The drivers of this increase being: growing populations, changing food preferences, and strong urbanization leading to growing 'food gap' largely met by imports. Africa is world's largest wheat importer with over 40 million tons imported in 2014 (worth approximately US\$ 15 billion), and accounting for a third of total food imports. Wheat imports account for over 60% of Africa's wheat consumption expected to increase to 80% by 2025. However, with use of improved wheat agriculture technologies, better incentives for wheat value chain actors, institutional and market arrangements and a strong enabling environment, we can reverse the situation. This will provide effective opportunities for increasing productivity, production, and improving farmer livelihoods.

Compact description

The TAAT Wheat Compact (TWC) aims to achieve a transformational impact and sustainable increase in wheat

productivity for enhanced food security, economic growth, and poverty alleviation. It is spearheading a widespread transformational impact in terms of raising farmer incomes and creating jobs along the value chain that serve as pathways to a self-sufficient wheat sector. The Compact involves a broad range of partners and stakeholders along the wheat value chain including farmers, seed producers, inputs providers, extension, research, NGOs, traders, financial institutions, agro-processors, and policy makers along the value chain.

What are the TAAT Wheat Objectives?

- Scaling up proven wheat technologies and innovations
- Contributing to an African revolution towards wheat self-sufficiency
- Spearheading an extensive transformational impact in terms of raising productivity, production, farmers' income, value addition and job creation

What are the TAAT Wheat Technologies?

- Heat tolerant improved wheat varieties (>30 released under SARD-SC and TWC) with high grain yield (4-7 tons per ha) and high grain quality (13-16% protein)



A visit to TAAT-supported wheat field in Alkamawa, Kano-Nigeria.

- Good Agricultural Practice (land preparation, planting, fertilization, irrigation, weed control, disease and pest control, harvesting, post-harvest management bundled technologies)
- Seed system innovations to fast track testing and release of improved wheat varieties and accelerated seed production involving formal (private and public) and informal sectors (cooperatives, farmer associations)
- Mechanized irrigated wheat production based on local, low cost raised based technology (piloting phase) with the potential of saving applied water (20%), reducing seed rate (30%), reducing fertilizers (20-30%), decrease farming cost (25%) and increasing yields (20%)

What have we achieved so far?

- Approximately 112,774 additional jobs created of which 44% are youth and women.
- Entrepreneurs engaged in agri-business along wheat value chain are organized into 47 groups in 38 IPs where 982 are youth with 28.5% of the youth being women.

- Production of 5,800 tons of early generation seed, 131,122 tons of certified seed and 8,705 tons of quality declared seed produced through 58 private seed companies, public seed enterprises and seed producer cooperatives and farmer groups.
- 37,383 people trained of whom 34% are women and 12% youth.
- Conducted 100 field days with approximately 14,090 beneficiaries

Were there any key challenges or lessons learned?

- The compact activities ensured availability, access and use of quality seed of well adapted farmer preferred and consumer preferred varieties through public/private cooperatives
- Ensured sustainability and profitability of the wheat sector by establishing market linkages among the value chain actors – grain producers, seed producers, traders, agro-processors and processors

Compact contact

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