



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Rice Value Chain

Photo: Harvester training in Cote d'Ivoire in August, @WFP

BACKGROUND

Rice has become increasingly important staple food for West African household, representing 37% of the total consumption of food crops. Building a sustainable rice value chain will eventually contribute to ending hunger and improving food security. The development of the rice industry in China has contributed greatly to overall economic development, agricultural transformation, and poverty eradication. Through South-South Cooperation, the experience and lessons learned at the technical and policy level from China could assist the African rice stakeholders in addressing some of the challenges by leveraging the Chinese good practices in rice production, processing, post-harvest management and market access. WFP China & COE initiated and co-organized the Rice Value Chain Seminar, together with CERFAM and other partners. These events also received support from the MARA, NAFRA, BMGF and other partners. Through the seminars, stakeholders have enhanced policy exchange and strengthened partnerships between public and private sectors to

accelerate the further development of the China-Africa rice value chain to end hunger and reduce poverty.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RICE SEMINAR 2024

- **70** participants from China and various countries in West, Central and East Africa including representatives from public & private sectors, RVC project beneficiaries and CSOs attended the Seminar.
- **13** experts from China and Africa delivered presentations on **Rice Value Chain Development**.
- **1** side event related to partnerships enhancement on the Rice Value Chain.



Photo: CERFAM/Leslie Kouadio

PROJECT

Improving Rice Value Chain Efficiency in Western Africa

Objective

To strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers mainly focusing on Rice Value Chain, especially **Post-harvest Loss Management** and **Market Access** for smallholder farmers.

Location

Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea

Donor

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Modality

- Provide equipment and materials
- Study Visits and Technical Training
- Technology and Expertise transfer
- Policy Dialogues and Seminars

OUTCOMES

- **Strengthen policy level dialogue** between African countries and China on rice value chain development to improve food security.
- Improve smallholder farmers' capacity through **rice production, processing, quality control and storage management** with China's technical support by providing access to more advanced technologies at local level.
- **Strengthen the capacity of local communities** through **rice value chain demonstration** to support sustainable training for adjacent countries in West Africa.
- **Encourage upscaling** of rice value chain development in Africa by **drawing potential investment** on granary and warehouse facilities using new energy and innovative techniques.
- **Document and widely share the experience** derived from this project with countries in Africa.

IMPACT



The project aligns with WFP 2022-2025 Strategic Plan and contributes to food system transformation and improve food security in Western Africa.



The project supports to strengthen local smallholder farmers' resilience to climate change and facilitate their access to markets to reduce poverty.



It strengthens partners from Chinese and African government agencies, think tanks, private sectors and CSOs to elaborate more solid partnerships and projects to accelerate the Rice Value Chain Development in Africa.



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