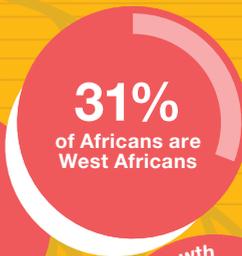


# THE SAHEL & WEST AFRICA WEEK

# EXPO 2015

Food Security in West Africa  
26—30 October 2015  
Milan—Italy

## SOME NUMBERS



### WEST AFRICA

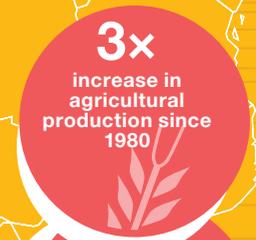
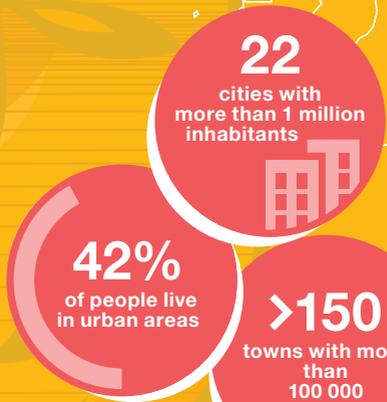
- Benin ●●●
- Burkina Faso ●●●
- Cape Verde ●●
- Chad ●
- Côte d'Ivoire ●●●
- The Gambia ●●
- Ghana ●
- Guinea ●●
- Guinea-Bissau ●●●
- Liberia ●
- Mali ●●●
- Mauritania ●
- Niger ●●●
- Nigeria ●
- Senegal ●●●
- Sierra Leone ●
- Togo ●●●

Members of:

● **ECOWAS** Economic Community of West African States

● **UEMOA** West African Economic and Monetary Union

● **CILSS** Permanent Inter-state Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel



Graphics: Daniel Krüger/Grand Krü Illustration: Delphine Chedru

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## WHAT IS THE SAHEL & WEST AFRICA WEEK?

The Sahel and West Africa Week is an annual event which gathers Members, partners and networks of the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC). It has become a major reference for the region's development stakeholders and is a unique space for the informal exchange of experiences, joint analyses, debates, networking and building partnerships.

The 2015 edition of the Week will be held at Expo Milano from 26-30 October at the invitation of the European Union. The Week will raise public awareness of the Expo's theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life" from a West African perspective.

Focusing on food security and resilience (see page 5 for the programme) the debates will draw attention to:

### ► Stakeholders

Raise awareness of West African experiences and particularly the role of women in building resilience and sustainability.

### ► Policies

Share innovative thinking and approaches to promoting regional food and nutrition security.

### ► Partnerships

Strengthen linkages between regional food security policies and practices and relevant international policy processes.

Guided tours of selected pavilions are organised for participants.

The Week brings together regional organisations, representatives from West African governments and OECD countries, civil society, professional associations, research centres, international organisations, multi-lateral and bilateral agencies, and the media.

## THE PROGRAMME

### 26-27 October

- The Sahel and West Africa Club Forum  
*European Union Pavilion, Expo Milano*

### 28 October

- Meeting of the Strategy and Policy Group (SPG) of the Sahel and West Africa Club  
*Austrian Pavilion, Expo Milano*
- Seminar with West African and European Civil Society on Resilience in the Sahel and West Africa and the role of AGIR  
*Conference Centre, Expo Milano*

### 29-30 October

- Special session of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) including a meeting of the Senior Experts Group (SEG) of the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR)-Sahel and West Africa  
*Manzoni Room, Congress Centre, Palazzo delle Stelline, Central Milan*

## DAY 1

The Sahel and West Africa  
Club ForumEuropean Union Pavilion  
Expo Milano

The Forum brings together some 100 international leaders from governments, regional organisations, civil society, professional associations, research centres, international organisations and multilateral and bilateral agencies. It is an opportunity to share knowledge, policies and experiences in promoting food and nutrition security. The Forum is structured into four sessions over two days, combining panel presentations, insights and debates.

## 26 OCTOBER

10:45 — 11:00 **INTRODUCTION**11:00 — 13:00 **SESSION 1****Urbanisation, structural change and the food system**Moderator **Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi,  
Secretary General, UCLG Africa**

Settlement dynamics and in particular rapid urbanisation have led to spectacular changes in the regional food economy. These major transformations – the 30 fold increase of people living in urban areas from 5 to 150 million people in the space of 65 years, the number of towns growing from 150 to 2 000, the regional food market exceeding USD 120 billion – have dramatically changed the region's food economy. A transformational modernisation is under way in West African food chains, with changing diets and longer value chains. How do these changes impact on food security dynamics? What are the new policy challenges?

14:30 — 16:30 **SESSION 2****Climate change, adaptation and food security**Moderator **Dennis Garrity,  
Drylands Ambassador,  
UN Convention to Combat  
Desertification**

Climate variability and climate change-related events are, and will increasingly be, key characteristics of West Africa. Populations have developed strategies to cope with the region's climate variability over centuries, in particular in its dryland areas. Can these strategies be used in the context of increased uncertainty and climate change? What are the key challenges for food security and resilience of the population? What are the African priorities for addressing climate change and adaptation at COP 21?

## Change in West Africa and its impact on food security

10:45 — 11:00 *Introduction*

- **Representative of the EU Expo Task Force**
- **François-Xavier de Donnea, SWAC President**

11:00 — 11:30 *Presentations*

- *Urbanisation, economic geography and agriculture* — **Philipp Heinrichs, Senior Economist, SWAC/OECD Secretariat**
- *The growing role of markets in food security* — **Seyni Hamadou, Director of Agriculture, UEMOA**
- *Impact of urbanisation on food systems* — **John Staatz, Professor Emeritus, Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University**

11:30 — 13:00 *Insights and debate*13:00 — 14:30 **lunch break**14:30 — 15:00 *Presentations*

- *Climate and impacts on food security* — **Carlo Buontempo, Climate Hazard and Impact Processes Team Manager, UK Met Office Hadley Centre**
- *Climate-smart agriculture to face climate change and variability in West Africa* — **Robert Zougmore, Regional Program Leader, CGIAR**
- *The importance of climate finance mechanisms for West Africa* — **Maguette Kaïré, Forest Expert, CILSS/AGRHYMET**
- *Africa in the COP21 climate negotiations* — **Estherine Lisinge Fotabong, Director, Programme Implementation and Coordination, NEPAD Agency**

15:00 — 16:30 *Insights and debate*

17:30 — 18:30

**PAVILION VISITS (OPTIONAL)**

## DAY 2

### The Sahel and West Africa Club Forum

### European Union Pavilion Expo Milano

The Forum aims to:

- Elicit knowledge and experience-sharing among West Africa's stakeholders and partners and those from other regions;
- Raise awareness regarding the role of women in supporting resilience and sustainability;
- Deepen understanding of food and nutrition security challenges in a context of change;
- Debate innovative approaches and mechanisms to strengthening resilience; and
- Discuss priorities for development and food security.

Essentially, how can key players support greater resilience and sustainability, both nationally and regionally?

## 27 OCTOBER

10:30 — 12:30 **SESSION 3**

### Resilience and innovative policies for food security

Moderators **Michel Reveyrand de Menthon, EU Special Representative for the Sahel**

**Kinza Jawara-N'Jai, Principal Programme Officer and Head of Division, Cross-Border Co-operation, ECOWAS**

The analysis of food systems and their actors sheds light on the complexity of the issues involved, and emphasises the need for a systems approach and a better understanding of networks. Examples drawn from experiences of cross-border and decentralised co-operation will illustrate some of the possible resilience mechanisms for food and nutrition security. What are the opportunities and lessons that can be identified? What are possible applications in international agendas and strategies in view of complex dynamics and the zero-hunger challenge?

14:00 — 16:30 **SESSION 4**

### Women's empowerment, gender equality and resilience

Moderator **Carla Montesi, Director, Directorate of West and Central Africa, European Commission**

Women provide specific contributions to producing, processing, distributing and marketing food products. However, these roles appear to be fluid and can shift through the political, socioeconomic and environmental transformations that are shaping West Africa's food security and development. What is the potential of more gender-equal societies to achieve greater food security and resilience? What changes to existing policies and programmes are necessary to support this agenda?

## Experiences and innovative approaches to resilience

10:30 — 11:00 *Presentations*

- *Resilience: A systemic approach to food security* — **Mariam Sow Soumare, Principal Program Officer in Charge of Agriculture and Food Insecurity Risk Management, NEPAD Agency**
- *The role of decentralisation and local development in resilience* — **Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General, UCLG Africa**
- *Social network analysis as an innovative tool for development* — **Olivier Walther, Associate Professor, University of Southern Denmark**
- *Cross-border co-operation and resilience* — **Mohamadou Abdoul, Regional Expert Cross-border Co-operation, GIZ/AUBP**

11:00 — 12:30 *Insights and debate*

12:30 — 14:00 **lunch break**



*Introductory remarks*

- **Nicoletta Ferro, Senior Researcher, Golden for Sustainability, Bocconi University, Content Manager, WE-Women for Expo**

14:00 — 14:30 *Presentations*

- *Women's roles and economic contributions to food systems* — **Simone Zoundi, Directrice, Sodepal et Présidente, FIAB**
- *Women's organisations as change agents and agenda setters* — **Khady Fall Tall, Présidente régionale, AFAO-WAWA**
- *Legal and political framework for women's empowerment* — **Kafui Kuwonu, Chef de programme, WILDAF**
- *Gender and Climate Smart Agriculture Programme* — **Estherine Lisinge Fotabong, Director, Programme Implementation and Coordination, NEPAD Agency**

14:30 — 16:30 *Insights and debate*

17:00 — 18:00 *Cocktail*

18:00 — 19:00  
**PAVILION VISITS (OPTIONAL)**

## DAY 3

Meeting of the SWAC Strategy and Policy Group (SPG)

Austrian Pavilion  
Expo Milano

Seminar with West African and European Civil Society on Resilience in the Sahel and West Africa and the role of AGIR

Conference Centre  
Expo Milano

19:00 — 20:00

PAVILION VISITS (OPTIONAL)

## 28 OCTOBER

### Meeting of the Strategy and Policy Group (SPG) of the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC)

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The SPG is the governing board of the Sahel and West Africa Club. Members work together to define strategic directions, review the implementation of the programme of work and budget and discuss opportunities for new partnerships.

This meeting is restricted to representatives of SWAC Members, Observers and contributors.

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## 28 OCTOBER

### Seminar with West African and European Civil Society on Resilience in the Sahel and West Africa and the role of AGIR

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Based on the priorities identified by African farmers' organisations and regional networks involved in the AGIR process, the seminar will enable civil society organisations to:

- Identify convergences in how the concept of resilience is approached in both reflexion and practice;
- Answer the following questions : How is AGIR - a federating long term framework aiming to ensure the consistency of policies, initiatives and programmes – being implemented? How can its relevance and functioning be improved?

The seminar also aims to provide civil society with a forum for dialogue and expression, as well as the opportunity to put forward a declaration on the implementation of AGIR for discussion with both regional and international political authorities and other stakeholders.

The day will consist of 2 sessions:

- Morning Session : Dialogue around the West African and European civil society declaration on resilience and the implementation of AGIR;
  - Afternoon Session : Three simultaneous panel discussions to enable West African and European civil society to establish a long-term dialogue and constructive vision of resilience and its different dimensions in West Africa, as well as the policies and actions which contribute to strengthening resilience.
-

## DAY 4

## 29 OCTOBER

## Special session of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA)

**Special session of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA)\***

**Manzoni Room  
Congress Centre  
Palazzo delle Stelline  
Central Milan**

This event will showcase the progress made and lessons learned since the creation of the Network in 1984. Tools used by the Network in order to strengthen the regional governance of food and nutrition security will be presented. These experiences will be shared and compared with similar initiatives outside of the West African region.

In particular, the tools and achievements that will be presented include the:

- Charter for Food Crisis Prevention and Management (PREGEC Charter);
- PREGEC and in particular the “Harmonised Framework” for a vulnerability analysis of at-risk households and zones;
- Regional Food Security Reserve (RFSR).

9:00 — 9:30 **OPENING***Opening*

- **Mr François-Xavier de Donnea, SWAC President**
- **Ms. Carla Montesi, Director, West & central Africa Dept, European Union**
- **Mr Mamadou Cissokho, Spokesperson for Civil Society and the Private Sector**
- **H.E. Dr Bokary Treta, Malian Minister of Rural Development, CILSS Co-ordinating Minister**
- **H. E. Mr Cheikhe Hadjibou Soumaré, President, UEMOA Commission**
- **H. E. Mr Kadré Désiré Ouédraogo, President, ECOWAS Commission**

9:30 — 15:30 **SESSION 1**

**The RPCA, an instrument for strengthening the regional governance of food and nutrition security: *Origin, trajectory, achievements and lessons learned***

Chair **Dr Djimé Adoum, Executive Secretary, CILSS**

9:30 — 10:40 **SEQUENCE 1**

**Screening of the documentary film on the RPCA & panel discussion**

Moderator **Mr Laurent Bossard, Director, SWAC/OECD Secretariat**

Panellists (*RPCA veterans*):

- **Mr Mamadou Cissokho, Spokesperson for Civil Society and the Private Sector**
- **Mr El Hadj Dramane Coulibaly, Principal Advisor, FAO**
- **Mr Stéphane Jost, Former Agro-Economist, FAO**
- **Mr George-André Simon, Professor of Food Security**
- **Mr Carol Voyer, Former Director of Strategic Planning and Operations Management, CIDA**

*Screening of the documentary film**Discussion*

- *Comments by the panellists*
- *Questions and comments from the participants*

10:40 — 11:00 **group photo & coffee break**

*\*The 31st Annual Meeting of the RPCA will take place in Dakar on 14-15 December 2015.*

# DAY 4

## Special session of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA)\*

### Manzoni Room Congress Centre Palazzo delle Stelline Central Milan

This event will showcase the progress made and lessons learned since the creation of the Network in 1984. Tools used by the Network in order to strengthen the regional governance of food and nutrition security will be presented. These experiences will be shared and compared with similar initiatives outside of the West African region.

In particular, the tools and achievements that will be presented include the:

- Charter for Food Crisis Prevention and Management (PREGEC Charter);
- PREGEC and in particular the “Harmonised Framework” for a vulnerability analysis of at-risk households and zones;
- Regional Food Security Reserve (RFSR).

11:00 — 15:30 **SEQUENCE 2**

#### Panel discussions on RPCA tools & achievements

11:00 — 12:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION 1**

#### Charter for Food Crisis Prevention & Management (PREGEC Charter)

Moderator **Mr Ibrahim Laouali, FEWS NET**

Panellists

- **Dr Lapodini Marc Atouga, Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources (AEWR), ECOWAS**
- **Dr Shadrack Oiyi, Senior Project Officer, IGAD**
- **Mr Mamadou Cissokho, Spokesperson for Civil Society and the Private Sector**

*Key remarks by the moderator*

*Introductory presentation*

→ **Mr Sibiri Jean Zoundi, Principal Administrator, SWAC/OECD Secretariat**

*Discussion*

→ *Comments by the panellists*

→ *Questions and comments from the participants*

12:00 — 13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION 2**

#### RPCA tools: PREGEC and in particular the “Harmonised Framework” for a vulnerability analysis of at-risk households and zones

Moderator **Laurent Bossard, Director, SWAC/OECD Secretariat**

Panellists

- **Mr Sidy Guèye Niang, Regional Advisor on Food Security Policy & Programmes, OXFAM West Africa**
- **Dr Shadrack Oiyi, Senior Project Officer, IGAD**
- **Mr Jorge Oliveira, Food Security/NRM Advisor, USAID**

*Key remarks by the moderator*

*Introductory presentation*

→ **Mr Issoufou Baoua, AGRHYMET/CILSS**

*Discussion*

→ *Comments by the panellists*

→ *Questions and comments from the participants*

13:00 — 14:30 **lunch break**



14:30 — 15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION 3**

#### Regional Food Security Reserve (RFSR)

Moderator **Dr Paco Sereme, Acting Executive Director, CORAF/WECARD**

Panellists

- **Mr Ibrahima Dieme, Commissioner for the Department of Food Security, Agriculture, Mining and Environment (DSAME), UEMOA**
- **Mr Djibo Bagna, President, ROPPA**
- **Ms Mariam Sow Soumare, Principal Programme Officer, NEPAD Agency**

*Key remarks by the moderator*

*Introductory presentation*

→ **Mr Alain Sy Traore, Director, Agriculture and Rural Development, ECOWAS**

*Discussion*

→ *Comments by the panellists*

→ *Questions and comments from the participants*

## Meeting of the Senior Experts Group (SEG) of the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) – Sahel and West Africa

Manzoni Room  
Congress Centre  
Palazzo delle Stelline  
Central Milan

The SEG will review the formulation process for the National Resilience Priorities (NRP-AGIR) in the 17 states concerned.

Learning from the first national inclusive processes, particular emphasis will be placed on the challenges of coherence and the effectiveness of collective action with regards to the unifying and convergence framework of the Alliance.

9:00 — 15:45 **SESSION 2**

### Senior Experts Group (SEG-AGIR)

Co-chairs **Dr Lapodini Marc Atouga, Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources (AEWR), ECOWAS**

**Mr Ibrahima Dieme, Commissioner for the Department of Food Security, Agriculture, Mining and Environment (DFSME), UEMOA**

Almost three years after the adoption of the AGIR Regional Roadmap in April 2013, members of the SEG-AGIR will meet to review the formulation status of NRP-AGIR. This session also aims to reinforce the political commitment and to mobilise all stakeholders for the implementation of NRP-AGIR.

### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS - Mr Jean-Louis de Brouwer, Director for Humanitarian and Civil Protection Operations, European Union

9:00 — 14:30 **SEQUENCE 1**

### Status of the NRP-AGIR formulation process and political commitment for the implementation of NRP-AGIR

9:00 — 9:30 *Introduction*

→ *Overall status of the process* —

**Mr Issa Martin Bikienga, CT-AGIR Co-ordinator**

→ *Civil society & private sector engagement* —

**Mr Mamadou Cissokho, Spokesperson for Civil Society and the Private Sector**

*Questions & answers*

9:30 — 10:30 **Group 1. NRP-AGIR validation & adoption process & political commitment for their implementation: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger & Togo**

→ *Country presentations* — **Ministers or Representatives**

*Discussion*

10:30 — 10:45 **coffee break**



10:45 — 11:45 **Group 2. NRP-AGIR formulation process: Benin, Cape Verde, Chad, The Gambia, Mauritania & Senegal**

→ *Country presentations* — **Ministers or Representatives**

*Discussion*

11:45 — 12:30 **Group 3. AGIR National dialogue process: Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria & Sierra Leone**

→ *Country presentations* — **Ministers or Representatives**

*Discussion*

12:30 — 14:00 **lunch break**



# DAY 5

## Meeting of the Senior Experts Group (SEG) of the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) – Sahel and West Africa

Manzoni Room,  
Congress Centre,  
Palazzo delle Stelline, Central  
Milan

The SEG will review the formulation process for the National Resilience Priorities (NRP-AGIR) in the 17 states concerned.

Learning from the first national inclusive processes, particular emphasis will be placed on the challenges of coherence and the effectiveness of collective action with regards to the unifying and convergence framework of the Alliance.

14:00 — 14:30

### Intervention by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and SWAC

*Presentation of the Declaration following the consultation with CSOs*

*Feedback from the SWAC Forum*

*Discussion*

14:30 — 15:45 **SEQUENCE 2**

### Convergence, coherence, synergies & mobilisation in support of NRP-AGIR implementation

*Introductory Presentations*

- *Unified framework for the realisation of a national ambition for strengthening resilience of food and nutrition insecurity: The Niger NRP-AGIR, a convergence framework for all resilience initiatives dedicated to the country —*  
**Mr Hassane Mamoudou, AGIR Focal Point, Niger**
- *Regional analysis of convergence, co-ordination & synergies challenges —*  
**Mr Laurent Bossard, Director, SWAC/OECD Secretariat**

*Discussion*

15:45 — 16:30 **CLOSING**

Chair **Mr François-Xavier de Donnea, SWAC President**

*Main conclusions of the RPCA & SEG-AGIR meetings*

*Presentation and adoption of the Milan Declaration*

*Closing remarks*

- **Ms. Carla Montesi, Director, West & central Africa Dept, European Union**
- **Ms Oren E. Whyche-Shaw, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau of Africa, USAID**
- **Mr Jamal Saghir, Senior Regional Advisor, Office of the Regional Vice President, Africa Region, The World Bank**
- **Mr Toby Lanzer, UN Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel**
- **Mr Mamadou Cissokho, Spokesperson for Civil Society and the Private Sector**
- **H.E. Dr Bokary Treta, Malian Minister of Rural Development, CILSS Co-ordinating Minister**
- **H. E. Mr. Cheike Hadjibou Soumaré, President, UEMOA Commission**
- **H. E. Mr Kadré Désiré Ouédraogo, President, ECOWAS Commission**

## WHY THE EXPO?

### A unique global opportunity

From May to October 2015, Milan is welcoming more than twenty million visitors at the universal exposition. This global event, gathering some 145 countries, the UN, the EU and a growing number of corporate and non-profit organisations, is a platform to exchange best practices and shared solutions on issues such as food, nutrition and sustainability, which are of fundamental importance for West Africa.

The Expo represents a unique opportunity for stakeholders and partners to showcase their achievements and to share knowledge on the key issues, persisting challenges, potential and resources that exist to improve food and nutrition security and increase resilience. It also provides a platform to promote West Africa on the international policy agenda.

Since its creation in 1976, the Sahel and West Africa Club has been a key figure in the work on food security in the region and is ideally placed to participate in the Expo. The OECD hosts the SWAC Secretariat and is an official participant of the Expo. The Sahel and West Africa Week is an integral part of the OECD programme.

### The Expo represents a unique opportunity for West Africa to share its experiences and to learn from others.

The Week is also part of the official programme of the 2015 European Year for Development.



## ABOUT WEST AFRICA

West Africa's population is projected to double by 2050, and it is one of the last regions to undergo a demographic transition. Between 1950 and 2015, the population increased from 73 to 367 million, while its urban population multiplied by 30 times, from 5 to 150 million.

These population increases have led to spectacular changes in human and economic geography. The largest cities have grown concurrently with the development of a network of small- and medium-sized towns, which act as nodes for the spatial organisation of trade and markets. These evolutions underpin the transformation of agriculture and the diversification of the rural economy. The share of agricultural producers in the total population decreased from 90% in 1950 to 50% in 2010. More than two-thirds of households' food consumption now derives from markets. Producers have increased production to meet the growing demand and the development of food value chains rests primarily on informal dynamics. Between 1980

and 2010, growth in agricultural production was 3.7%. Over the same period, total production tripled and per-capita food production increased by 1.8% per year. Since 1990, the prevalence of undernourishment has decreased by 44%, although unevenly across countries. Despite these advances, food security remains precarious and in the medium to long-term the region will be confronted with climate change and its potential impacts on agriculture, food security and resilience.

### Between 1950 and 2015, the urban population of West Africa multiplied by nearly 30 times.



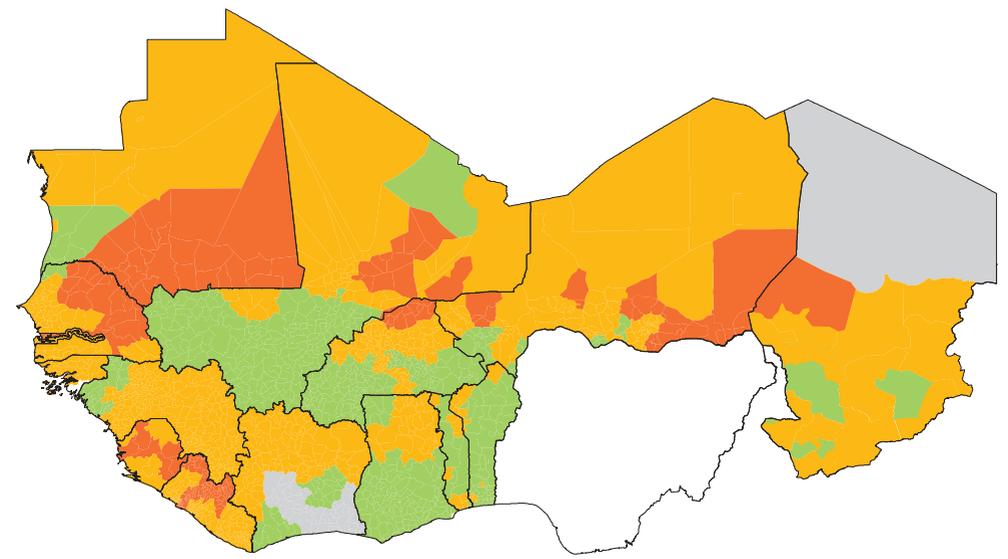
Benin Day at Expo 2015



Photo: Expo 2015 / Daniele Mascio

**Projected food and nutrition situation: June – August 2015**

In April 2015, food security experts met at the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) in Nouakchott (Mauritania) to analyse the final results of the 2014-15 agricultural campaign. While cereal production in the Sahel and West Africa has grown 10% compared to the five-year average, experts estimate that about 4.7 million people are currently facing a crisis or emergency situation.

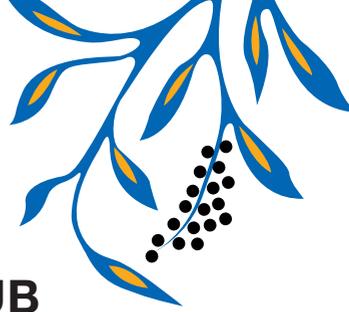


Source: RPCA/CILSS, Adapted from Regional Analysis, Nouakchott, Mauritania, March 2015

- Level of food insecurity
- Not analysed
  - Minimal
  - Under pressure
  - Crisis
  - Emergency
  - Famine
  - Not covered by the "Harmonised Framework" analysis of vulnerability



# ABOUT THE SAHEL & WEST AFRICA CLUB



The Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) is an international platform for policy dialogue and analysis devoted to regional issues in West Africa. Its mission is to enhance the effectiveness of regional policies and of partner support in the common and interdependent area composed of the 17 countries of ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS. Created in 1976, it is the only international entity entirely dedicated to regional issues in West Africa.

More than 100 stakeholders participate in the SWAC platforms: governments of West African countries and OECD member countries, regional organisations, professional associations and civil society groups, bi- and multi-lateral development partners and research centres.

Under the guidance of SWAC Members, the SWAC Secretariat facilitates dialogue, knowledge-sharing and consensus-building; provides independent and factual analysis; and devises policy recommendations and guidelines. The SWAC Secretariat also ensures the co-ordination of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) and the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) - Sahel and West Africa, and works with Members in supporting their initiatives and their engagement for the development of the region.

The SWAC Secretariat is a special entity of the OECD and seeks to apply the rigorous working and management methods of the Organisation in its work. Thanks to being hosted at the OECD, the Secretariat can make the voice of West Africa heard in global fora and facilitates access to these for West African policy makers.



### What is the RPCA?

*The Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) is an international network for co-operation and co-ordination in the field of food and nutrition security, and resilience.*

*Based on consultation, dialogue and analysis, the Network brings together the region's food security stakeholders to discuss food security issues and prevent and manage possible food crises. ECOWAS and UEMOA provide political leadership, the CILSS Executive Secretariat and the Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat are in charge of the technical facilitation of the Network.*

### SWAC members

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Austria</b>           | Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs - Austrian Development Cooperation   |
| <b>Belgium</b>           | Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation                            |
| <b>CILSS</b>             | Executive Secretariat of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel     |
| <b>ECOWAS</b>            | Commission of the Economic Community of West African States                                       |
| <b>France</b>            | Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development   |
| <b>Luxembourg</b>        | Ministry of Foreign Affairs   |
| <b>Netherlands (The)</b> | Ministry of Foreign Affairs   |
| <b>Switzerland</b>       | Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) - Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) |
| <b>UEMOA</b>             | Commission of the West African Economic and Monetary Union  |
| <b>United States</b>     | U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)   |

As a strategic partner, the European Union (EU) contributes to the financing of the programme of work, in particular activities linked to the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) - Sahel and West Africa.

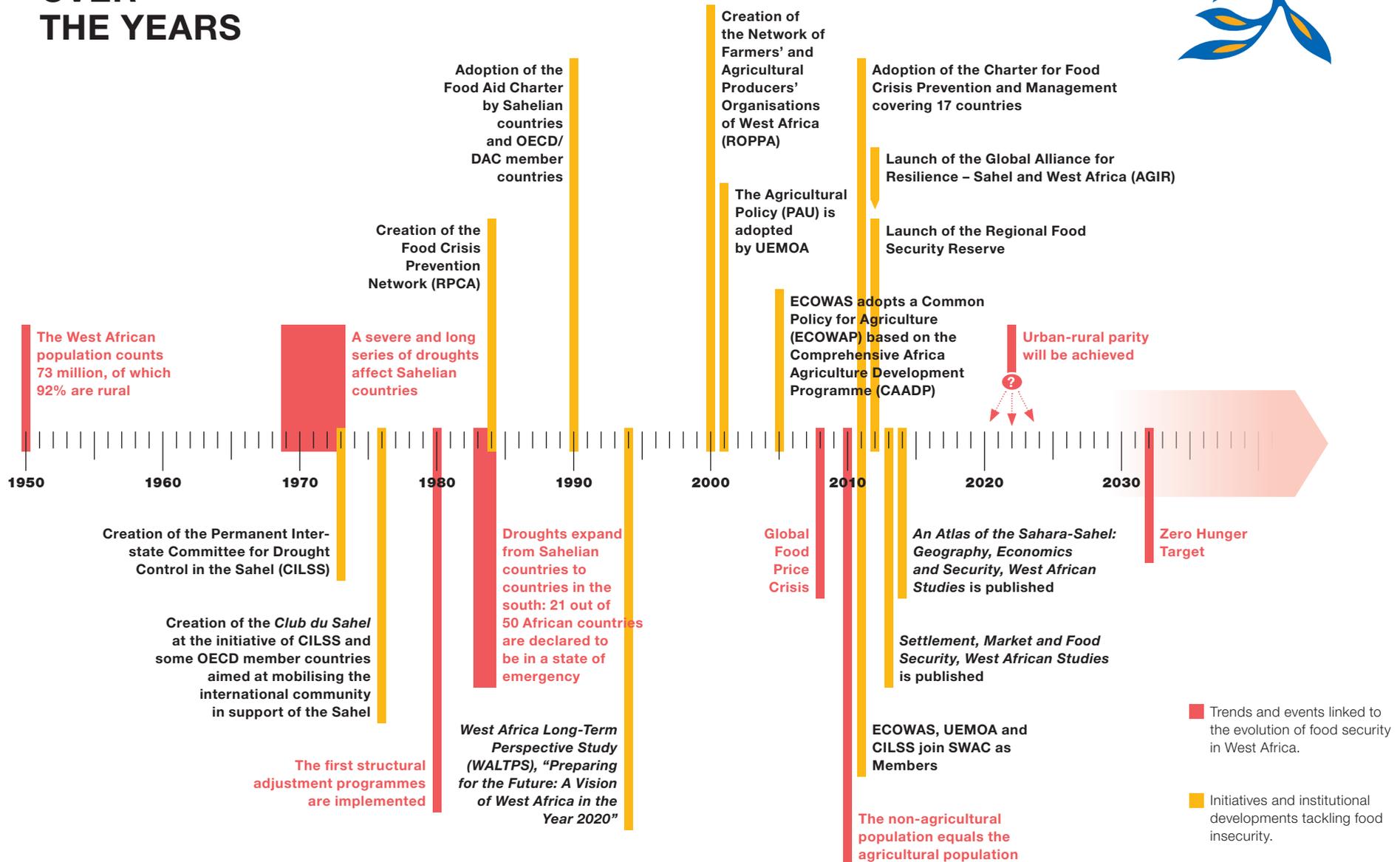
As Observers, the African Union and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency; the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development; and the Network of Farmers' organisations and Agricultural Producers of West Africa (ROPPA) are closely associated with the SWAC.



### What is AGIR?

*The Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) - Sahel and West Africa, is a framework that helps to foster improved synergy, coherence and effectiveness in support of resilience initiatives across the 17 Sahelian and West African countries. Building on the "Zero Hunger" target within the next 20 years, AGIR stakeholders have adopted a Regional Roadmap specifying the objectives and main orientations of the Alliance. On this basis, countries are defining National Resilience Priorities, including operational frameworks for funding, implementation, monitoring and assessment. The Alliance is placed under the political and technical leadership of ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS. The SWAC Secretariat provides technical support and plays a key role in facilitation, lobbying and advocacy for the Alliance.*

# OVER THE YEARS



# MEETING VENUES



**WEST ENTRANCES**

**ENTRANCE FIORENZA**  
coming from Metro Station  
**M1 Rho-Fiera Milano**

**ENTRANCE TRIULZA**  
coming from Railway Station  
**Rho-Fiera Expo Milano**

**EAST ENTRANCE ROSERIO**  
coming from Taxi terminus

**European Union Pavilion**  
DAY 1, DAY 2

**Austrian Pavilion**  
DAY 3

**SOUTH ENTRANCE MERLATA**  
coming from Coach terminal

**Conference Centre**  
DAY 3

**Congress Centre, Palazzo delle Stelline**  
DAY 4, DAY 5



Ghana Day at  
Expo 2015

Photo: Expo 2015 / Daniele Mascio

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Days 1 to 3 take place at the Expo Milano 2015 site.

Events on Days 4 and 5 take place at the Congress Centre of the Palazzo delle Stelline, in the Centre of Milan.

The daily opening hours are 09:00 to 23:00. The Exhibition Site is located north-west of Milan, and is easily accessible from all the main public transportation lines. The site can be reached by metro (underground), by train, by tour bus, by taxi, and by private car.

Make sure that you reserve enough time to reach the Expo site, to enter through the ticket check and security.

The Site covers 1.1 million square meters, showcases the participation of 140 countries, and includes over 150 restaurants, bars, food & beverage corners, kiosks, and street food stations. A free shuttle service (the “People Mover”) has been implemented within the Expo site.

A full practical information guide will be provided to participants in advance of the meeting and will be available on the Week’s website: [www.oecd.org/swac-expo-milano/programme](http://www.oecd.org/swac-expo-milano/programme).

## JOIN US!



SWAC at Expo Milano 2015

► [www.oecd.org/swac-expo-milano](http://www.oecd.org/swac-expo-milano)



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