1. Workshop context

In 2023, the context in West Africa is marked by cultural diversity and multidimensional challenges. Politically, the region continues to navigate multi-party democracies and sometimes unstable governance situations. Regional cooperation, particularly within ECOWAS, remains a key element in promoting economic integration and overcoming security challenges. Some countries face challenges such as internal conflicts, ethnic tensions, and the persistent threat of terrorist groups. Economically, the diversity of the region’s economies, ranging from natural resources to agriculture, reflects the complexity of development issues. Political changes and power transitions have also influenced the political landscape, highlighting the importance of stable governance to drive economic and social progress. For a thorough understanding of the current context, it is essential to closely monitor political, economic and social developments within each country in the region.

**International priorities to consider**

The alignment of network priorities with the priorities of the [United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDAF, 2019-2028)](https://www.un.org/development/desa/family) was a framework for mobilizing the network’s political dialogue frameworks to influence the views of States and TFPs on the priorities for transforming agriculture family but also served as opportunities to mobilize resources for the implementation of national action plans.

We note, however, that faced with the [Russian-Ukrainian crisis](https://www.un.org/development/desa/family) which has led to the still high cost of fertilizers and a surge in foodstuffs on the world market, the network administrators have encouraged: (i) an amplification of endogenous initiatives for the production and use of organic fertilizers and (ii) holding political dialogues with regional integration organizations and States, to take measures aimed at ensuring the sustainability of the effects of the crisis. These initiatives have enabled a reduction in input costs in the different countries of the network.

The orientations and structuring actions of the network in favor of a more sustained agroecological transition, preservation of the environment and adaptation of family farms to climate change, are consistent with the orientations of COP 28 and constitute bridges of consolidation—the resilience of sustainable food systems and public health of consumers.

Food systems have been a priority throughout the year for development players in the Agro Sylvo Pastoral and Fisheries sector. A whole international mobilization has taken place around the problem with summits and very varied declarations from different groups of actors.
**A region facing many socio-political and food challenges**

The resurgence of security conflicts in West Africa, particularly in the Sahel zone, has a significant impact on the dynamics of populations and their movements. The latest figures published by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) indicate an increase of nearly 24% in migrant populations, obviously causing tensions on the food structures of host areas. In addition to this, the productive capacities of these different production areas are jeopardized due to these new unforeseen forms of occupation of space.

Coups d’état and other political activities underway and within ECOWAS have led to sanctions in Niger. The second half of the year was also marked by the uncertainties of political stability announced here and there by the national and regional political authorities. The recent creation of the Alliance of Sahel States (AES) as a mutual defense bloc of the three countries (Burkina, Mali, Niger) with the ambition, to create an economic and monetary union, requires attention from the network, even if ECOWAS “expresses concern about this decision and is prepared for a negotiated solution.” These different parameters significantly affect trade within the region and disrupt the supply and distribution mechanisms of local products.

An international conflict has globally affected the international economy, the productive capacities of agricultural operations, the distribution of certain food goods and the African geopolitical organization – the Ukraine-Russia war. This war has increased the escalation in the prices of fertilizers, foodstuffs and energy on the world market and by extension in Africa. Family farms have been significantly affected by this slight upheaval during the current agro-sylvopastoral and fishing campaign. Various and uncoordinated strategies have been developed here and there by them, their peasant organizations and the States in order to curb this deficit.

In West Africa, several voices have been raised, including those of farmers’ organizations, in particular to indicate the need for empowerment in the production of inputs in African countries which, moreover, do not have the basic capacities and resources. The promotion/scaling of agro-ecological practices that protect the environment was also an indicated option. ROPPA and its members, for its part, organized national and regional consultations with political decision-makers to try to indicate innovative mechanisms to develop to start by moving towards dependence on inputs – a guarantee of effective food sovereignty.

**A dynamic constant of the network in accountability**

The dynamic of appropriation of Management Mechanisms Based on Development Results is increasingly consolidated at the level of peasant organizations that are members of ROPPA. Indeed, the network’s monitoring and evaluation practices have been consolidated over the years with the use of tools adapted to each member. The efforts of farmers’ organizations to contribute and share evidence to the implementation of agricultural policies at various levels are today even more visible. They help contribute to the effective improvement of the implementation of agricultural and related development policies and strategies.

ROPPA is working to strengthen its space for sharing the achievements/advances of the platforms. This basic approach aimed at sharing the effects of platform action is intended to be an instrument that contributes to the scaling of good practices. Sharing facilitates the understanding of specific issues, the construction of common strategies and the overall effectiveness of the action.

In accordance with the network’s vision and that indicated in its five-year plan, ARCO pools country efforts to take stock of the previous year (2023) and lay the foundations for the current year (2023). These terms of reference for the 2024 regional operational framework workshop indicate the architecture of this framework for exchanges, dialogue and construction of network action for the year 2024.
2. **Workshop objectives**

The workshop is part of an approach to strengthening the network's accountability capacities and consolidating its monitoring and evaluation system. It aims to facilitate **consultation of technical teams for better networking of network actions articulated around common and individual challenges identified**. As such, ARCO aims to be a space where an overall assessment of the network's 2023 activities is carried out as well as a planning of activities for the year 2024 articulated around new elements of the context but also the 5 priorities of the 2019-2023 five-year plan of the network.

Specifically, the 2024 operational framing workshop aims to:

1. **Share the network's strategic achievements/advances for the year 2023 (assessment)**
   - Share strategic results/advances (technical and financial) and success experiences from the implementation of activities in 2023 (**market place – exhibition approach; physical and virtual discussion panel**)
   - Appreciate the contribution of the network to the implementation of agricultural policies at various levels (**panel discussions and exchanges**)
   - Discuss and adopt the network's annual report to be submitted to leaders (**discussions and sharing**)

2. **Consolidate the network's 2024 PTBA (actions to be carried out at regional and national level)**
   - Facilitate the upgrading of monitoring and evaluation managers on the monitoring and evaluation portal Share the issues around certain programs/projects (simultaneous sessions per group of projects)
   - Proceed to deepen the planning of network activities for the year 2024

3. **Contribute to the production of strategic notes and capacity building of network staff**
   - Co-prepare an economic services development strategy Co-evaluate communication practices within the network Strengthen the capacities of network financiers

3. **Expected results and outputs of the workshop**

Several results and products are expected from the regional operational framework workshop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Products/inputs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a)</td>
<td>A draft of the network's 2023 annual report is adopted and ready for validation</td>
<td>• Network Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b)</td>
<td>Strategic documents are co-produced (economic services, communication)</td>
<td>• Draft note on the development of economic services</td>
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<td>c)</td>
<td>The technical managers of the platforms take ownership of the network monitoring and evaluation manual</td>
<td>• Monitoring and evaluation manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d)</td>
<td>The technical managers of the platforms take ownership of the monitoring and evaluation portal set up</td>
<td>• Monitoring Evaluation Portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e)</td>
<td>The technical managers of the platforms define the challenges and priorities of certain programs</td>
<td>• Note of priorities and issues surrounding the projects operational</td>
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<tr>
<td>f)</td>
<td>Planning of network activities is carried out</td>
<td>• PTBA 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Network takes into consideration the national and regional level.*
4. **Workshop inputs**

- Five-year network plan
- Productions from national platforms resulting from the preparation process vs. Regional Program Design Document
- Logical frameworks of the operational programs of the five-year plan

5. **Workshop conduct methodology**

The workshop preparation phase took place from November 2023 to February 2024. All platforms provided various information to ensure good preparation for the workshop. In its progress, the workshop will alternate between several phases, approaches and methods.

6. **Workshop sessions and agenda overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Inputs, Content and approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Opening of the workshop</td>
<td>• <strong>Opening of the workshop</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- In Plenary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- By the designated technical and/or political managers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• <strong>Framing the workshop and sharing the agenda</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Plenary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Presentation by the Secretariat on the issues of the meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Discussions and adoption of the agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• <strong>The Five-Year Plan: progress and prospects</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions</td>
<td>Inputs, Content and approach</td>
</tr>
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<td>----------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 2. Market for victories | • **At the village of strategic advances: Sharing platform results**  
- Market place  
- Each platform has a space and shares the strategic progress observed for the year 2023. This is a product resulting from the activity reports of each platform and the workshop preparation process.  
• **Plenary on NFP Success Experiences: Panel Group 1**  
  
- 3 simultaneous panels  
  - 3 simultaneous panels will take place during this session.  
  - Economic services: Potal Jamma, Iprolait; CTOP & DEA (Ghana); Jacob K. (Facilitator) and Imelda A. (Rapporteur)  
  - Advocacy: CNCR; ANOPER; FEB; PFNN; Paulin A. (Facilitator) and Alpha C. (Rapporteur)  
  - Use of OEF results: GaJEL; FEPAB; CNOPM; NACOFAG; Mahamadou O. (Facilitator) and Agaly S. (Rapporteur) |
| 3. Sharing around the Implementation politics agricultural | • **Panel 2: A State-OP-PTF-NGO Partnership for the implementation of policies**  
  
- ECOWAS, ROPPA, CPF, AHA, States  
• **Various presentations: Major dynamics underway in the region**  
  
- MOPSS, PARSANAD, PARIIS, IFAD  
• **Our contribution to the implementation of agricultural policies**  
  
- Plenary presentation  
  - Group work |
| 4. A view final on the balance sheet | • **What we can conclude about the network’s contribution to the implementation of ECOWAP**  
  
- Conclusions of group work  
• **Summary of conclusions and assessment of the annual report**  
  
- Validation of the annual report |
| 5. Visit of ground | - Visit to 3 cooperatives |
| 6. Session Parallels | • **Monitoring and evaluation**, Sessi A.  
• **Communication**, Fatimata K.  
• **CNIEP**: Imelda A.  
• **Financial (since day 2)**, Fomba Moussa |
| 7. Planning And discussions | • **Discussions on the main activities of the year 2024**  
• **Key directions for 2024**  
• **Evaluation of ARCO23 conclusions** |
| 8. Statements of conclusions | • **Presentation of conclusion statements** |
| 9. Closing of the workshop | • **Closing remarks of the workshop** |

### 7. Workshop participants and facilitation

The workshop will include:

- **a.** NFP coordinators/permanent secretaries
- **b.** Those responsible for monitoring and evaluating NFPs
- **vs.** Managers in charge of NFP finances
- **d.** Network and CPF partners
- **e.** Members of the Executive Secretariat
- **f.** 2 administrators
- **g.** The Cosinus Conseils firm
- **h.** The team of facilitators.
## 8. Draft Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Under session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Arrival & installation of participants | • Opening of the workshop  
• Framing the workshop and sharing the agenda |
| 1. Opening of the workshop        | • Sharing platform results  
• Plenary on NFP Success Experiences |
| 2. Market for victories           | • Exchange panel with RECs  
• Presentation of some programs from network partners  
• Group work on |
| 3. Sharing around the implementation of policies agricultural | • Presentation of report content and validation  
• Presentation of the conclusions indicating the pillars of the note on the contribution of the network to the implementation of policies |
| 4. A final view of the balance sheet | • List of 3 cooperatives |
| 5. Visit of ground                | • Discussions on specific themes for specific groups. |
| 6. Session Parallels              | • Discussions |
| 7. Planning and discussions       | • Presentation of the findings  
• Workshop evaluation |
| 8. Statements of conclusions      | • Closing words |
| 9. Closing of the workshop        | • Departure of participants |

## 9. Prefiguration Specific working group

A prefiguration of the specific working groups will be made during the preparation of the workshop and will be presented on the first day of the workshop in plenary. However, the work of financiers brings together all the financiers of the platforms and the work of individuals brings together each platform taken individually.