



TOOLS4SEEDSYSTEMS:

**WORKING TOWARDS RESILIENCE THROUGH ROOT,
TUBER AND BANANA CROPS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS**



CAMEROON FEEDBACK : JUNE - NOVEMBER 2023

**Presented by
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PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

1. BHA IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- INTERSOS
- NASCENT SOLUTIONS Inc

2. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

- North-West regional delegation of MINADER
- South-West regional delegation of MINADER
- Adamawa regional delegation of MINADER
- IRAD Bambui, North-West region
- IRAD Ekona, South-West region

3. TRAINING CENTERS

- CPF Bandjoun, West region
- RCA Bambili, North-West region

4. PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS

- DJORO NOVA Cooperative Adamawa
- IDP Group, Foubot - West region

KEY SKILLS/ KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED SO FAR

1. Sweetpotato and Plantain Seed Production technics:

- Multiplication of sweetpotato and plantain seeds in the screenhouse (CPF and Djoro Nova).
- Site selection and land preparation.
- Planting technics and field maintenance of sweetpotato
- Disease identification in sweetpotato (weevils, viruses)
- Disease identification in banana fields using the TUMAINI app.
- Harvesting and distribution of sweetpotato vines.



A



B



C



D

- A. Sweetpotato seed multiplication in the CPF screenhouse
B. Plantain macropropagation in the CPF screenhouse
C. Establishment of demo plots in IRAD Ekona
D. Cascading training to farmers in Ngaoundere III by MINADER
Photo credits: CIP, IRAD Ekona, CPF, MINADER Adamawa

KEY SKILLS/ KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED SO FAR (continue)

2. Entrepreneurship and Agri-business Skills

- Market segmentation
- Business planning,
- Costing and finance,
- Record keeping,
- Marketing strategies,
- Value proposition canvas
- Business model canvas

3. Gender Roles in VPC value chains

- Sensitivity and knowledge about gender inequality
- The need for societal behavioral change
- Integrating gender perspectives in seed technology transfer, especially in humanitarian settings



CASCADING DOWN THE TRAINING



**Photo caption: Vines selection, Ngvuinkei II, Oku
Photo credit: Charles & Karen/Nascent Solutions Inc**



**Photo: Restitution of training with divisional delegates
Credit: Emilia/MINADER North-West region**



**Photo : training of seed multipliers at Maltamaya , Far North Region
Credit : Job/INTERSOS**



**Photo: Training of IDPs
Credit: Patrick/CPF**

MANAGEMENT OF DEMO PLOTS

Some cultural practices carried out included:

- harvesting of the first demo plots and establishment of second plots to bulk up the OFSP seeds
- fertilization with organic manure,
- amendment with NPK fertilizer (MINADER NW)
- weeding,
- disease identification and control of pests with insecticides and traps,
- uprooting of plants attacked by insects (IRAD SW)
- irrigation (INTERSOS)



Photo: Vines ready for second harvest
Credit: Oliver/RCA Bambili North-West region



Photo: Second demo plot IRAD NW
Credit: IRAD Bambui



Photo: Djoro Nova seed plot
Credit: Martin/Djoro Nova



Photo: IDP group in Foubot ready to harvest vines from the first demo plot
Credit: Bebel/CIP



Photo: Diseased plants identified in IRAD SW demo plot
Credit: IRAD Ekona



CHALLENGES

- Lack of finances
- Climate change (irregular rainfall patterns)
- Infestation of demo plots by pests (insects, rodents,)
- Socio-political crisis
- Decreasing soil fertility
- Quality control of seeds produced in the screenhouse and in the field
- No standard regulations for the sweetpotato value chain
- Difficult access to farm land for IDPs
- Long distances to train the immediate beneficiaries
- Constant movement of populations due to political instability especially in the North West, South West, North and Far North regions

LESSONS LEARNED

- Importance of implementing a **communication and marketing strategy** (radio communication, open day, guided tours, tasting sessions),
- Compliance with **good agricultural practices** in fertilization and crop management,
- Important to **protect plots** against stray animals in areas where animal rearing is common,
- **Planning and record keeping** as crucial factors in seed business,
- **Gender roles:** roles should be clarified considering each and everyone's specific condition without discrimination.

A. Record keeping by CPF

B. IDP demo plot fenced to protect against animals

Credits: Patrick/CPF and Victorine/CIP

ACTIVITES	PERIODE													
	DECEMBRE			JANVIER			FEVRIER			MARS				
	D2	D3	DA	J4	J2	J3	J4	F1	F2	F3	F4	M1	M2	M3
DEFRICHAGE														
LABOUR														
FORMATION DES PLANCHES														
FERTILISATION														
REPIQUAGE														
INSTALLATION IRRIGATION														
SARCLAGE														
RECOLTE														

A



B

FUTURE PLANS

- **Set up demo plots:** compare the performance of OFSP varieties to local and farmer preferred varieties in the different localities.
- **Trainings:** a) Identify and train more IDPs b) Conduct needs assessment c) Develop training modules d) Cascade training to parent-teachers associations (NSI), and lead farmers in the communities.
- **Multiplication and distribution of planting materials:** construct propagators for plantain seed multiplication, distribute OFSP vines to 57 project school communities in Bui Division (NSI).
- **Seed as a business:** Elaborate business plans: value proposition canvas, business model canvas, costing and pricing analysis of OFSP seeds and roots and plantain/banana seeds, record keeping, establish market linkages through marketing and communication (radio programs, social media, etc), integrate gender responsive marketing and communication strategies.
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** Implement robust monitoring and evaluation systems to assess the impact and effectiveness of OFSP and plantain seed entrepreneurship initiatives in humanitarian contexts, monitor production and sale of OFSP vines and roots and plantain plantlets.





TOOL BOX
FOR WORKING WITH
ROOT, TUBER AND
BANANA SEED SYSTEMS



Thank you

