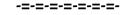
REPUBLIC OF BENIN





Organisation Béninoise Pour la Promotion de l'Agriculture Biologique (OBEPAB)

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Project

Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) intoNational Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa

Technical annual report for 2018

Reporting Period: January to December 2018

Supported by



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1. Introduction

Agriculture is the basis of the national economy. It occupies almost 70% of the active population and contributes 38% of GDP. However, current production systems, farmers use mostly mineral fertilizers for soil fertilization and synthetic chemical pesticides for pest management. Chemicals are used for other purposes among which are for food storage. Chemical inputs have shown some results but also limitations among which are the effects to human health and the environment. EOA aims at reducing hazards effects of conventional practices in agriculture and constitute a credible alternative to the conventional agriculture.

In this context, the initiative Ecological Organic Agriculture adopted by the Heads of African States to address the food security challenge paved way for the Project on Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa. Currently the project is being implemented in 8 countries, 4 in Eastern Africa countries of Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda and West African countries of Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Benin.

The project is implemented through 4 pillars as follows:

The EOA Initiative is being implemented through four interrelated pillars complementing each other in addressing different aspects of ecological organic farming in the Initiative. The six pillars are;

- Research, Training and Extension: Aims to contribute towards the attainment of the Initiative's objectives by investing in research activities that improve livelihoods of smallholder farmers engaged in EOA.
- 2. Information and Communication: Aims to use information and communication strategies to sensitize farmers, stakeholders and the public on the value and practices of EOA and link the farmers as partners to policymakers, researchers, and development agencies through an integrated information delivery system.

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- 3. Value Chain and Market Development: Aims to increase market access through improved rural infrastructure and other trade-related interventions among smallholder EOA farmers.
- 4. **CLO** : there is real power in collaboration, but it is not always easy. This pillar is charged with managing the initiative's networks and partnerships as it will need to work with individuals, institutions and other sectors. It is vital to understand better how to work together to make a difference in the world of EOA.

In Benin, the implementation of pillar 1 is coordinated by OBEPAB while the activities are mainly implemented by the University of Abomey- Calavi, University of Parakou and the University of Abomey. The Platform of civil society organizations, the PASCIB coordinate the execution of Pillar 2. The execution of pillar 3 is coordinated by the NGO CRASTEDA organizations. The Pillar 4 is coordinated by OBEPAB.

2. Methodology

The activities commenced by the Country Lead Organization organizing for stakeholders meeting to revise the 2018 work plan and budgets. The meeting involved all actors in the Pillar Implementing Partners organizations. The Pillar Implementing partners implement the key Pillar Strategic Areas as mentioned above. While some specific activities such as some research topics are implemented by individual researchers with strengths and specialization in those areas. The activity overall coordination is done by the CLO in charge of the overall implementation.

3. Major achievements

An analysis of the level of achievement in programme implementation at the national level shows that 49 of activities planned for 2018 were implemented as per the tabulated analysis below:

Output Code	# of activities planned for 2016	# of Implemente d Activities	% of implementation	# of unimplemented activities	Reason for non- implement ation
Output 1.1: Increased knowledge of research into use, needs and priorities about Organic practices in the entire value chains available	4 activities planned	4 activities implemented	100% implemented	0% unimplemented	-
Output 1.2: Capacity for organisation and implementatio n of EOA practices developed and strengthened	4 activities planned	4 activities implemented	100 implemented	0% unimplemented	-
Output 1.3: Effective implementatio n of the pillar activities enhanced	2 activities planned	2 activities implemented	100% implemented	0% unimplemented	-
Output 2.1: Awareness and knowledge of the value and practices of EOA is increased	4 activities planned	3 activities implemented	75% implemented	25% unimplemented	The remaining activities are undergoing

Output Code	# of activities	# of Implemente	% of implementation	# of unimplemented	Reason for non-
	planned for 2016	d Activities		activities	implement ation
Output 2.2:Extension and communication support systems are strengthened	4 activities planned	2 activities implemented	50% implemented	50% unimplemented	The remaining activities are undergoing
Output 2.3	2 activities planned	2 activities implemented	100% implemented	0% unimplemented	-
Output 3.1: Access to market information and data on EOA products increased (30%)	8 activities planned	8 activities implemented	100% implemented	0% unimplemented	-
Output 3.2: Capacity in value chains development for EOA products enhanced	6 activities planned	6 activities implemented	100% implemented	0% unimplemented	-
Output 3.3: Enhanced capacity in quality assurance for supporting collective marketing of organic products to the domestic, regional or	3 activities planned	3 activities implemented	100% implemented	0% unimplemented	-

Output Code	# of	# of	% of	# of	Reason for
	activities	Implemente	implementation	unimplemented	non-
	planned	d Activities		activities	implement
	for 2016				ation
export markets					
enhanced					
Output 3.4:	2 activities	2 activities	100%	0% unimplemented	-
Effective	planned	implemented	implemented		
implementatio					
n of the pillar activities					
enhanced					
ennanced					
Output 4.1:	10	08 activities	80% implemented	20% unimplemented	
Fully functional	activities	implemented	oo, inpicinence	20% drimplemented	-
National	planned				
Platforms with					
Steering					
Committees					
established					
and					
strengthened					
Output 4.2:	3 activities	3 activities	100%	o% unimplemented	-
Capacities of	planned	implemented	implemented		
Country Lead					
Organizations					
(CLOs) and					
Pillar Implementing					
Partners (PIPs)					
to perform					
their functions					
strengthened					
Overall	52	47 activities	90% implemented	10% unimplemented	05 activities
	activities	implemented			will be done
	planned				in the three
					next months

4. Challenges of EOA Implementation in Benin

Ecological and Organic Agriculture faced a number of challenges which are political funding issues and social.

Political issues : EOA is now included in the Benin strategic plan "Plan Stratégique de Développement du Secteur Agricole" (PSDSA) at the 40, action 3.1.3. The next step is the allocation of funds for the EOA in the national budget and the allocation of well EOA trained and motivated staff of the Ministry in charge of agriculture for the implementation.

Funding: Government does not treat EOA as it does for conventional agriculture. No organic input is imported and no credit facilities exist for organic producers. Our challenge and future activities are to raise the status of EOA so that EOA stakeholders so that they can benefit from some facilities from the government. There is a need to allocate more funds to EOA research to allow credible research and sound conclusion for the validation of the research results

Social issues: On the social level, there is a need for awareness-raising so that the people become the main promoters and consumers of EOA products. Organic products are not expensive therefore not for only the rich people and EOA is well suitable smallholder producers and women and youth.

5. Lessons to be learnt in EOA Implementation in Benin

• Due to fact that there is start up meeting gathering various stakeholders has been useful for the implementation of pillars;

• Need to have a group to implement a pillar instead of one single organization for the visibility of action and sustainability;

• It is difficult to involve many people in a research as some need to be done by individual researchers;

• Carry out research is not only time consuming but also funds consuming. Therefore, there is a need to be more focus on specific research activities;

• The validation of research results is a long process that depends on crop cycle and the repetition of experimentation;

• When left alone, PIP report lately. The strategy which is working better is to gather them from time to time for the report writing

• Progressive involvement of needed actors at the right time.

6. Recommendations and Conclusions in EOA Implementation in Benin

Many (52) activities were planned for 2018 and 47 activities have been done from January to December. Most of the remaining activities are undergoing during the three next months. During this period new actors have been identified and they contribute to implementation of some activities. The main activities are related to : Assessments to organic livestock systems (diversity, typology, folk perceptions, purposes in locals communities, socio-economic patterns for adoption, breeding species, ethical and cultural); a cost benefit analysis of organic and conventional cabbage and tomato products; organic fertilizer for rice production; local knowledge valorization for food spray on cotton farming, 50 extension agents have been trained in pest management; Capitalization workshop for key lessons learned for pillar 2 from the 4 last years; production of communication materials (T shirt, hats, EOA newsletter); the training of 15 producer's leaders on the using of Smartphone and social network to inform and to communicate on EOA; writing and distribution of 300 copies of newsletters to Policy makers, traders, producers, consumers, 15 producers trained of the using of smart phones social network to inform and communicate on EOA in centre region of Benin; the updating of the national database of actors in organic farming; Improvement of the connection of the national database to other databases; the collection, synthesis of market information on organic products and their dissemination through the web and the SMS system; creation of an organic products selling point in Parakou and around; production of a poster on the main organic value chains in Benin; assessment of the previous training sessions on value chains development organized; assessment of the previous exchange visits; assessment of the training activities on business plans; training groups of farmers on internal control system for organic certification; support groups of organic soybean production in PGS; support for the implementation of the third-party certification approach; Organization of monitoring and evaluation for other EOA promoting organizations; the Stakeholders(PIPs, NGOs, private sector, representant of agriculture and environment ministries) meetings for EOA activities implementation and planned budget; participation in Biofach; Benin EOA website updating; Strengthen PIPs capacities for technical report written, and M&E strategies; Sensitization of new stakeholders specially the Farmers and extension agents from northern region of Bénin; training of 33 persons from universities, private sector and NGO in EOA concepts, pest management and crop protection, organic fertilization, organic vegetable production, ecological; organization of M&E towards pillars 1, 2 and 3 and other EOA promoting organizations. The government is now fully involved in the production and selling of organic cotton.

7. Research training and extension pillar 1

Major Achievements of Pillar 1

In pillar 1, the major achievement are: (1) Assessments to organic livestock systems (diversity, typology, folk perceptions, purposes in locals communities, socio-economic patterns for adoption, breeding species, ethical and cultural); (2) a cost benefit analysis of organic and conventional cabbage and tomato products; (3)organic fertilizer for rice production; (4) local knowledge valorization for food spray on cotton farming, (4) 50 extension agents have been trained in pest management, (5) The M&E activity.

Challenges of Pillar 1

Challenges are to better communicate the results of proven research in EOA to make available to users of research results. Another challenge is to identify endogenous knowledge about EOA. The capacity building of farmers on good Ecological and Organic Agriculture farming practices should continue for a better yield of EOA crops. Support the training programme of EOA and introduce among curricula training at the university. The assessment to organic livestock systems is a challenge.

Lessons learnt for Pillar 1

• The participatory approach of Producers-Researchers-NGOs is a good approach for an effective implementation of the pillar;

• The involvement of the researchers in the research on EOA makes research more credible and scientific;

• The validation of research results is a long process that depends on crop cycle and the repetition of experimentation;

• Collaboration between researchers and farmers in research results in good ownership of research results by farmers.

Conclusions and Way forward

The ways forward: to carry out research on Benin food spray on cotton farming, using participatory approaches; elaboration of pamphlets to be used to raise awareness of training structures to integrate organic and ecological livestock production into training curricula and the support activity implementation.

Detailed Analysis of Programme Achievements as per the Programme Logical framework

Biovision Biovision		PII	LLAR 1: RESEARCH, TRAINING AND EX	TENSION (RTE)				
Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa								
OUTCOME 1: Ecological Organic Products and related knowledge along the value chain is increasingly documented, updated and actors capacitated to translate it into practices and application.								
Outputs	Indicators (log frame)	Baseline	Progress between reporting period	Project Targets	Analysis, Remarks			
Output 1.1: Increased kn	nowledge of research into use, n	eeds and prioritie	es about Organic practices in the enti	re value chains avai	lable			
Activity 1.1.1 Conduct in-depth assessments to document available EOA research into use	Assess the capacities of organic livestock systems in the northern part of Benin in order to identify the bottlenecks of and designs research protocols to address them. Data collection and report writing	Not documented before	Assessments to organic livestock systems (diversity, typology, folk perceptions, purposes in locals communities, socio-economic patterns for adoption, breeding species,ethical and cultural) (See Annex activity 1.1.1. Assessment to organic livestock systems for the report)	Protocol and document of Bottlenecks and designs research Study report	This study makes it possible to note that the notion of organic farming is still very little known. Livestock breeder who experiment ecological and organic livestock have not yet been trained in the field. Each one relies on his endogenous knowledge to practice ecological livestock			

Activity 1.1.2 Identify knowledge gaps needs and priorities by gender in the development of specific EOA value chains	A cost benefit analysis of organic vegetable product and conventional vegetable product to identify areas for improvement (in order to show that organic products are not made for rich people)	Not documented before	A cost benefit analysis of organic and conventional cabbage and tomato products has been done (See Annex activity 1.1.2.A cost benefit analysis of organic and conventional cabbage and tomato report)	Study report submitted	<text></text>
Activity 1.1.3. Create and regularly update a data base of EOA research into use at national level in close liaison with networks	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 1.1.4 Validate research findings in EOA practices	Experimenting ABC Grower and products of Bio phyto on rice based on participatory approaches	Not documented before	Installing a demonstration/ research plots using ABC Grower and products of Bio phyto on Rice based on participatory approaches. (see Annex Activity 1.1.4_Experimenting ABC Grower and products of Bio phyto on rice) and (Annex complement report activity 1.1.4_Experimenting ABC Grower and products of Bio phyto on rice)	Report on the experimentation	Image: Contract of the second seco
Activity 1.1.5 Document application of local knowledge to development of EOA	Document the various form of tchotchokpo and local food spray on cotton farming, using participatory approaches	Not documented before	Local knowledge valorization for food spray on cotton farming in Benin (Annex Activity 1.1.5 food spray on cotton farming experimentation)	Experimentation Report	The effectiveness of the food spray has been tested on organic cotton and 12 facilitators from Farmer Field School and 43 organic cotton producers have been trained on this technology.

Output 1.2: Capacity for o	rganisation and implementation o	f EOA practices dev	reloped and strengthened		1
Activity 1.2.1 Identify training needs for EOA actors by gender (producers, extension agents, marketers, processors, regulators and consumers) in the value chains	Update of training needs of actors involved in the organic cotton producers and extension agents during evaluation session bringing together stakeholders in Glazoué	_	From 05 to 07 September in Djidja, 10 extension agents have been trained in pest management (See Annex _ Activity 1.2.1.Pest management training for organic cotton producers and extension agents repport.docx)	Training report available	Need to reinforce or built capacity organic cotton producers and field agent capacity on pest management
Activity 1.2.2 Support periodic reviews of curricula and training materials for relevant training institution with stakeholders (Practitioners, institutions and policy makers).	Review curricula used during the short courses organized in Abomey-Calavi university and Parakou university	A pilot training course on EOA was given to more than 100 agricultural professionals in Abomey-Calavi and Parakou universities	Review curricula used during the short courses organised in Abomey-Calavi and Parakou Universities See Annex report Activities 1.2.2&1.2.3_Review curricula used	Report	EOA short courses organized in Abomey-Calavi university and Parakou university assessment report available
Activity 1.2.3 Sensitize stakeholders about the recommended EOA curricula and training materials	Curricula validating Curricula validating workshop for 20 people (trainers from the two universities, minister of agriculture representative, PIP	Not documented before	during the short courses		

Activity1.2.4: Support development of EOA training programs and materials based on	workshop is the create room for discussion among stakeholders on the validity of the curricula and to convince two new actors (lycées agricoles) to join the movement and to use the curricula when adopted	-	-	-	-
training needs assessment and curricula reviews					
Activity1.2.5: Support short course trainings for targeted actors in EOA value chain to build capacities on identified gaps. The issue of seed also needs to be considered.	03 trainings workshop for 60 organic cotton producers and extension agents using curricula and training material developed. Participatory method will be used and they will be classroom session as well as field work.	-	From 6 to 11 August 2018 at university of Parakou, 33 persons who came from universities, private sector and NGO were been trained in EOA history and concepts, pest management and crop protection, organic fertilization, organic vegetable production, ecological. (Annex_Activity_1.2.5_EOA training	EOA training Work shop	During this meeting, participants got the opportunity to understand deeply the EOA.

Activities 1.3.1+1.3.2 Conduct M&E and support activity implementation	Monitoring field visits (travels, accommodation, per diem etc) Support activity implementation		The semester 1for 2018 EOA pillar 1, 08activities planned were monitored	A monitoring and evaluation strategy document available. Report on M&E field visits submitted. Pillar management meeting reports	-
Activity 1.3.3: Prepare annual and progress reports	Annual and progress reports prepared by pillar coordinator and submitted to CLO	_	_	_	_

8. Information and communication pillar2

Major Achievements of Pillar 2

The major achievements of pillar 2 are: (1) Capitalization workshop for key lessons learned for pillar 2 from the 4 last years; (2) production of communication materials (T shirt, hats, EOA newsletter) (3) the training of 15 producer's leaders on the using of Smartphone and social network to inform and to communicate on EOA; (4) writing and distribution of 300 copies of newsletters to Policy makers, traders, producers, consumers, (5) 15 producers trained of the using of smart phones social network to inform and communicate on EOA in centre region of Benin.

Challenges of Pillar 2

Pillar 2 challenges are to:

- organize information sessions for new governmental structures (DDAEP, ATDA)
- lobby for the effective implementation of the EOA activities included in the Strategic Plan for Agricultural Sector Development (PSDSA);
- mobilize additional fund to carry out more actions in favor of the Ecological Organic Agriculture in Benin;
- multiply radio and television broadcasts on the EOA and
- Integrate farmers' bases organizations into the awareness-raising and promotion of good practices of EOA.

Lessons learnt for Pillar 2

Involve more media in the EOA communication and clearly define their roles and responsibilities allows good visibility and efficiency in carrying out activities. The involvement of all stakeholders, especially political decision-makers, is essential to anchoring EOA in national agricultural policies. Regular monitoring of the stakeholders (producers, journalists, extension agents, etc.) made it possible to assess the progress made in respect by the stakeholders and to identify the constraints or bottlenecks that persist in the implementation of the activities.

Conclusions and Way forward for Pillar 2

Continue to raise public awareness of the importance of EOA, which is more sustainable and the consumption of ecological and organic products is safe for human health.

Door-to-door communications and community radios communications will be done to increase for more impact of activities and to organize exchange workshop on EOA and related items gathering producers, advisory service, researchers, and media people.



Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa Reporting Period: January-December 2018

Outcome 2. Producers are systematically informed and made aware about the EOA approaches and good practices and motivated to apply them by having access to strengthened advisory and support services

Outputs	Indicators (log frame)	Baseline	Progress between reporting period	Project Targets	Analysis, Remarks					
Output 2.1: Awareness and	Output 2.1: Awareness and knowledge of the value and practices of EOA is increased									
Activity 2.1.1 Conduct gap analysis in information and communication strategies	 Capitalize key lessons learned for pillar 2 from the 4 last years Develop the ToR for the recruitment of the consultant Recruit a consultant by restricted call Validate the methodological note Data collection Writing the report Validation of the report during a workshop Sharing with different partners 	None	Capitalization workshop for key lessons learned for pillar 2 from the 4 last years (See Annex_Activity_2.1.1_ Capitalization workshop report)	Document that capitalizes on the achievements of the last 4 years of implementation of pillar 2 activities exists and is available	<complex-block></complex-block>					
Activity 2.1.2 Develop sensitization and communication strategies	Organize a workshop to exchange and share with the stakeholders	None	100 new communication strategy documents distributed	- 100 EOA strategy document distributed - List of stakeholders	-					

			1	•	-		
	on the new communication strategy and how to ensure that the document is of value to the stakeholders		(See Annex report Activity 2.1.2_Strategy document distribution)				
Activity 2.1.3: Prepare and avail information and communication materials	Produce communication materials (T-shirts Calendar, leaflets) during campaigns of sensitization and distributed them	4 kakemonos available	100 EOA t-shirts with awareness messages and 100 hats available (See Annex Activity 2.1.3 for communication materials)	T-shirts, calendars and caps produced to inform and sensitize population on the consumption of organic products	These different materials make it		
					possible not only to make the EOA initiative more visible, but also to enhance the understanding and the adherence of the implementing actors to the objectives pursued.		
Activity 2.1.4: Sensitize EOA stakeholders and actors in the value chain through workshops, media, websites	Organize an information and awareness workshop for extensions services for ministry of agriculture (DDAEP and ATDA) on EOA	Irregular communications on EOA	For following month	-	-		
Output 2.2: Extension and communication support systems are strengthened							
Activities 2.2.1: Improve support communication infrastructure (farmer	- Equip the Documentation Center with books on EOA, CDs, a computer to do the research - Strengthen the	A database on knowledg systems EOA is develope and online to Benin	5		-		

resource centre's, information hubs, websites, databases and other data/knowledge repositories)	capacity of the documentation centre staff in archiving				
Activity 2.2.2:Train farmers and extension agents in the use of innovative communication strategies	Train producer's leaders and journalists on the using of Smartphone and social network to inform and to communicate on EOA	Document of innovative communication strategies. 45 farmers, 25 extension agents and 05 communautaries radio agents trained in use of innovative communication strategies.	On July 2018 at Hotel des Princes Bohicon, 15 producers have been trained on the use of smartphones and social networks to inform and communicate on EOA (See Annex_ Activity 2.2.2. for the trained report)	Report of workshop available	Image: Control of the second secon

Activity 2.2.3: Prepare and avail policy briefs and guidelines on ICT applications in EOA to relevant policy makers and other stakeholders	 Edit and distribute in 250 copies the newsletter developed last year on EOA Sensitization to policy makers 	None	300 copies printed newsletter distributed to stakeholders (Policy makers, traders, producers, consumers, participants of West African for the planning of second phase of EOA I) (See Annex _ Activity 2.2.3. EOA newsletter)	250 copies of the newsletter developed last year on EOA are published and distributed to the various stakeholders	<image/>
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Activity 2.2.4:Create linkages and partnerships among actor organizations involved in transfer and dissemination of EOA practice	Organizing 01 exchange workshop on EOA and related items gathering producers, advisory service, researchers, media people (FERCAB)	01 training session with10 agents of radios communities on communication strategies for the EOA	For following month	-	-
Activities 2.3.1 +2.3.2 Conduct M&E and support activity implementation	Organize field monitoring activities of beneficiary groups	M&E activities for those activities : sensitization and communication strategies development	Follow-up mission of the producers trained on the use of ICT to better promote EOA	A monitoring and evaluation strategy document available Report on M&E field visits sub- mitted Pillar management meeting reports	Image: Constraint of the second sec

					- Not all producers have an android. Those who own have difficulties related to the activation of Internet packages and the recharge of the phone battery case that does not have easy access to electricity.
Activity 2.3.3: Prepare annual and progress reports	-	-	-	-	-

Value chain and market development pillar 3

Major Achievements of Pillar 3

Many activities were planned for 2018 and distributed between individual actors or organizations involved in the implementation of the pillar 3 for this year. The organizations involved in the implementation of the pillar 3 for 2018 are:

- 1. Centre de Recherche et d'Assistance Technique pour l'Environnement et le Développement Agricole (CRASTEDA), pillar coordinator
- 2. HELVETAS Swiss Inter corporation Bénin staff,
- 3. Association pour le maintien de l'Agriculture Paysanne (AMAP),
- 4. Cabinet d'expertise et d'Appui-Conseils en Agriculture et Développement Rural et Durable (CECAGRID)
- 5. UPC Bio
- 6. SOJAGNON NGO
- 7. Mutuelle pour le Développement à la Base (MDC)

The main activities carried out in the 1st Semester 2018 are: i) the updating of the national database of actors in organic farming, ii) Improvement of the connection of the national database to other databases, iii) the collection, synthesis of market information on organic products and their dissemination through the web and the SMS system, iv) creation of an organic products selling point in Parakou and around, v) production of a poster on the main organic value chains in Benin, vi) assessment of the previous training sessions on value chains development organized, vii) assessment of the previous exchange visits, viii) assessment of the training activities on business plans, ix) training groups of farmers on internal control system for organic certification, x) support groups of organic soybean production in PGS, xi) support for the implementation of the third-party certification approach, and xii) Organization of monitoring and evaluation for other EOA promoting organizations.

Challenges of Pillar 3

The challenge of linking producers into the global organic network is still persistent and one solution to this problem during this semester was the creation of a directory on organic farmers like the one on organic promoting organizations. This process is going well.

CRASTEDA will strengthen the partnership with MDB to facilitate access to credit to those who are still facing financial access challenges.

Lessons learnt for Pillar 3

The lesson learned from this first semester's activities is that the uptake of EOA development requires facilitation for financial access to actors implementing business plans, the market access being a precondition.

Conclusions and Way forward for Pillar 3

The last year EOA project activities are going well for the Value chain and Market development Pillar in Benin. Important results are achieved and provide learning for next phase of the initiative. We thank OBEPAB for the coordination at national level and Bio Vision Africa Trust for the 8 countries coordination work.

	ovision rica Trust	PILLAR 3: VALUE CHAIN AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT					
Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa							
OUTCOME 3: A substa	antially increased share of org	anic quality, quantity product	ts at the local, nati	onal and regi	onal markets is achieved		
Outputs	Indicators (log frame)	(log frame) Baseline Progress betw period			Project Targets	Analysis, Remarks	
Output 3.1 Access to market information and data on EOA products increased (30%)							

Activities 3.1.1+ 3.1.4: Continue and update national database of actors (producers, processors, traders, consumers, regulators) in the EOA value chains and train stakeholders on the use of the tools for collecting market information and data	Update the data base of actors (actors (producers, processors, traders, consumers and regulators). Publishing a directory of EOA promoting organizations in Benin and their products	No database on EOA actors	Database up dated and a national EOA promoting organizations directory elaborated containing 85 EOA promoting organizations (See Annex _Activity 3.1.1. +3.1.4. national EOA data base_ producers and structure)	- National database is up and running with updated current data A printable directory of EOA promoters updated and published	Contraction of a factor of a 2 - A THE READ (2) At - These function that they first backet the function
Activity 3.1.2: Create linkages between the national databases and the other databases at regional and global levels - AUC, FIBL,IFOAM	Create linkages between the national databases and the other databases at regional levels – (west and east Africa)	Poor linkage between national EOA actors and others at regional and international level	Linkage between the 3 databases of the 3 EOA pillars in Benin established (See Annex _Activity 3.1.2.EOA data base linkages)	Electronical links strengthened	The process of linking the national databases is still ongoing with the CLO's webmaster.
Activities 3.1.3+ 3.1.5 Develop, adapt and update tools for collecting market information and data and support stakeholders to collect, analyze and disseminate market information and data	Hire a consultant to update market information on main organic products and to Assist organic stakeholder's groups in the use of market information and data updated and SMS information service for	Organic market information not available to main organic stakeholders	Data collected and treated on organic inputs marketed in Benin (see Annex_ Activities 3.1.3+ 3.1.5_Organic market information)	Quarterly market dissemination tools	

	stakeholders recorded in the directory.				
Activity 3.1.6: Support establishment of at least 3 organic farmers markets in every participating county	Create a selling point for EOA products in Parakou	3 organic selling point established in Cotonou before 2014	1 new organic and ecological farmer market created in Parakou with 10 organic selling shelves. This selling point equipped with shelf to facilitate a separation between organic products and non organic products in the shops Annex _Activity 3.1.6. Selling point in Parakou	Optimal running of the organic selling point of Existence of one new organic and ecological selling point at Parakou	A total of 7 new EOA selling points created till 1rst semester 2018 by the EOA project. Then a total of 10 EOA products selling points available in Benin in 2018
Activity 3.1.7: Support organization and participation of stakeholders in the national, regional and international trade fairs	Participate in the 4th West African Organic Conference 2017, and other regional fairs.	Irregular stakeholders' participation in national, regional and international trade fairs but 2 participants to SIAO in Burkina FASO and 6 to the Beninese 2016 ending year's exhibition.	Participation of 02 pillar's representatives to the fourth African Organic Conference in Senegal (See Annex Activity 3.1.7. African Organic conference workshop)	Trade fair reports submitted	-
Activity 3.1.8: Conduct consumer awareness through media, promotional materials, mobile phones	Edit a kakemono on EOA products	Irregular and scarce promotional campaign on EOA products	Edition of a kakemono one CRASTEDA and the EOA project to raise public interest on organic activities (See Annex Activity 3.1.8 kakemono)	A Poster edited Focus on o8main organic products in Benin and their markets	Control of the second

Activity 3.2.1: Conduct value chain mapping and analysis for EOA products	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 3.2.2: Conduct training in Value Chain Development and Marketing for at least 10 Master Trainers (MTs) taking into account gender and youths	_	_	_	_	-
Activities 3.2.3+ 3.2.4: Support MTs and TOTs conduct national TOTs trainings for extension agents, lead farmers and service providers on value chain development	Document and write the lessons from the training sessions organized on value chain development with 20 trainees and share insides of the EOA network.	15 extension agents, service providers and lead farmers trained on value chain development	Assessment of TOT sessions organized (See Annex_ Activity 3.2.3&3.2.4. Assessment of TOT sessions Training report)	Report on the effects of training sessions organized	A report available on the assessment conducted. Trainees applying organic value chain technique but limited by founding
Activity 3.2.5 + 3.2.1 +3.2.2: Facilitate exchange visits for actors to cases of best practices	Document the effects the exchange visits organized for actors to cases of best practices Benin and publish (share with other organic partners)	6 Exchange visits for actors to cases of best practices organized Done at Boukoumbé in the northern region of Benin	Assessment of previous exchange visits organized (See Annex Activities 3.2.5 + 3.2.1 +3.2.2_exhange visit)	Report on two exchanges visits performed for 50 actors	Report show application of new pes control techniques

Activities 3.2.6 + 3.2.7 Train stakeholders in entrepreneurship, development of business plans and support strategic business linkages with green investors	Document the running of the previous EOA promoters business plans	2 EOA promotors are trained in entrepreneurship and development of business plans and also are successfully	An assessment of the previous business plans and tools organized (See Annex_ Activities 3.2.6 + 3.2.7 + 3.2.8_assessment of the previous business plans)	Report on the effects on the running of the business plans on EOA entrepreneurship	Image: Contract of the contract
Activity 3.2.9 Document in booklets, brochures, video clips and audio clips and share through media and workshops /events best practices in the value chains of EOA commodities	_	_	_	_	_

Activity 3.3.1: Train 8 local organic inspectors	Support the 02 organic certification facilitators for internal control systems establishment	A training session for 10 organic certification facilitators	Annex Activity 3.3.1. report on the internal control systems	A report on the internal control systems establishment	Contract with one local organic certification facilitator as an impact of the EOA project
Activity 3.3.2 Train and Facilitate at least 16 producers associations nationally in the use of Internal Control System (ICS) and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) for market access	Assess the on going processes of farmer groups (PGS) certification and assist for a quick ending (3 groups)	3 organic producers associations (VIVA Matekpo, Agribio Afrique and organic pineapple producer's group) trained on Internal Control System (ICS) and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)	3 new soybean producers groups trained on ICS for further PGS certification (conversion to organic) (See Annex_Activity 3.3.2_PGS Certification)	A report of the assessment processes available	PILLAR 3: VALUE CHAIN AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT PREPARATION A LA CERTIFICATION SPG Des coopfantives de modurtuites de manates MIFLINSO, EVELAGE EN MUNDO RESPECTIVEMENT A 28, TORE IT ARTICLES Internal Control Systems (ICS) were set up for 3 new soybean producers groups for PGS certification
Activity 3.3.3 Facilitate implementation of third party certification approach	Support UPC bio farmers groups towards implementation of third party certification (5 farmers groups in organic cotton production)	Support pineapple producers network (REPAB) and pineapple processor (FRUIT TILLOU) for third party certification (ECOCERT)	UPC Bio network of Cotton and soybean producers assisted for internal control system improvement (See Annex _Activity 3.3.3_Third party certification)	Report submitted showcasing the process of facilitation	Image: Note of the second se

Activities 3.4.1+ 3.2.9 : Conduct M&E and share lessons on value chain development of EOA product	Undertake continuous M&E of the implementation of activities by conducting site field visits under this pillar and sharing lessons on value chain development of EOA product (and Pillar implementing organizations meetings): 6 field visits		Follow up of the EOA project beneficiaries of training on organic value chain, exchange visits, business plans, and selling points (See Annex _Activities 3.4.1+ 3.2.9_organic value chain training assessment)	M&E reports submitted, field reports and progress reports	Image: Contract of the set of the s
Activity3.4.2: Prepare annual and progress reports	_	_	-	-	_
Travels cost	_	_	_	_	_
Administration cost	-	_	_	_	_

9. Support and cementing pillar 4

Major Achievements of Pillar 4

The majors achievements of pillar 4 are: i) Stakeholders(PIPs, NGOs, private sector, representant of agriculture and environment ministries) meetings for EOA activities implementation and planned budget, ii) participation in Biofach and African Organic Conference ; iii) Benin EOA website updating, iv) Strengthen PIPs capacities for technical report written , and M&E strategies; v) the Sensitization of new stakeholders specially the Farmers and extension agents from northern region of Bénin, vi) training of 33 persons from universities, private sector and NGO in EOA concepts, pest management and crop protection, organic fertilization, organic vegetable production, ecological , vii) organization of M&E towards pillars 1, 2 and 3 and other EOA promoting organizations.

Challenges of Pillar 4

The challenge is to get all actors implementing the pillars of the project to become more visible in their activities and how project activities can have more impact on the population. Another challenge is to facilitate the development of Public-Private Partnership for the EOA. Organize regional fora to better inform people, the products of the EOA in Benin and to draw inspiration from the initiatives of the Africa sub-region in the EOA. And finally continue lobbying the Ministry of Agriculture for the effective inclusion of EOA in Beninese agriculture.

Lessons learnt for Pillar 4

- Due to fact that there is start up meeting gathering various stakeholders has been useful for the implementation of pillars
- Need to have a group to implement a pillar instead of one single organisation for the visibility of action and sustainability
- When left alone, PIP report lately. The strategy which is working better is to gather them from time to time for the report writing.

Conclusions and Way forward for Pillar 4

The main issues encountered are related to reporting the activities carried out by the different actors involved in the implementation of the project. More than 10 institutions are involved in the implementation. All the lessons learned will help to better guide actors and activities in the year 2018.



PILLAR 4: SUPPORT AND CEMENTING EOA PLATFORM: STEERING, COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

Project Title: Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) into National Policies, Strategies and Programmes in Africa

Reporting Period: January-December 2018

OUTCOME 4: Fully functional multi stakeholder platforms at the national level, mutually agreeing on well coordinated and concerted action to inform public policies and investment plans in favour of EOA

Outputs	Indicators (log frame)	Baseline	Progress between reporting period	Project Targets	Analysis, Remarks
Output 4.1: Fully functional	l National Platforms with S	teering Committees esta	blished and strengthened		
Activity 4.1.1: Develop the TOR and Rules of Procedures for the National Platforms and Steering Committees facilitated by the CLOs	_	_	_	_	_

Activity 4.1.1+4.1.2: Organize at least one meeting for bringing together country partners to share experiences and lessons	Organize 02 meeting to share experiences in the implementation of 2018 work plan, review and adjust it with PIP members, NGOs, ecological platform, private sector, ministry of agriculture and environment. The purpose is to exchange between pillars on the results obtained sofar during the year.		From 03 to 04 may at Hibiscus Hotel Allada and 03 to 05 September, at Hotel des Princes, Bohicon, two meeting took place with PIPs, NGOs, private sector, representant of agriculture and environment ministries to exchange on EOA and between pillars on the results obtained so far during the year. (Annex Activities 4.1.2 +4.1.1, 4.1.10 , 4.2.2, 4.2.4 + 4.2.3 _Meeting with stakeholders to share EOA experiences)	- Invitations - Meeting report - Family Picture	Better knowledge on EOA activities between stakeholders
Activity 4.1.3 : Sensitize various actors and stakeholders in the country about the value of EOA in development	Organize a workshop for 30 new stakeholders (the private sector people, agro input dealers Farmers organizations, agricultural products processors, micro finance providers, mass media people, and other NGOs people)	Three sensitize workshops were done	From 04 to 05 June 2018 at Bel Azur Hotel, Grand Popo, exchange workshop took place with PIPs and private sector (See Annex Activity 4.1.3 : Exchange workshop with private sector report)	Reports on the training workshop produced	<text></text>
Activity 4.1.4 : Undertake policy gap analysis on the current policies as related to EOA development	- Capitalization workshop of Benin EOA I Project with PIP members, NGOs, other ecological platform, private sector, ministry of agriculture and environment - Capitalization of Benin	No policy initiative exists before targeting EOA.	Meeting in Germe Hotel at Allada with various stakeholders (NGOs, other ecological platform, private sector, ministry of agriculture and environment) exchange EOA I		

	EOA activities (background, lessons learnt, Communication & advocacy, Project management & coordination, Capacity building) with 30 participants & sustainability)		results, EOA I extension and next EOA step (See Annex activities 4.1.4 &4.1.5&4.1.6_Workshop report)	
Activity 4.1.5 Lobby for inclusion of EOA into national policy making processes, strategies and investment plans.	- Meeting with policy makers for the implementation of the activities related to EOA included in the national strategic plan for agricultural sector - Organization of policy dialogue - Broadcasting on EOA - Distribution of national strategic plan for agricultural sector to policy makers at local and national level	Decision makers were not aware about the importance of EOA and why to promote it	Meeting in Germe Hotel at Allada with various stakeholders (NGOs, other ecological platform, private sector, ministry of agriculture and environment) exchange EOA I results, EOA I extension and next EOA step (See Annex activities 4.1.4 &4.1.5&4.1.6_Workshop report)	
Activity 4.1.6 Develop long term goals and strategies for the National Platform facilitated by the Steering Committee and CLOs	The workshop reviews of the strategic plan for the National platform to adapt it the new environment. The PIP members, environmental NGOs, other ecological platform, private sector, ministry of agriculture and environment will participate in the review	No strategy plan for EOA	Meeting in Germe Hotel at Allada with various stakeholders (NGOs, other ecological platform, private sector, ministry of agriculture and environment) exchange EOA I results, EOA I extension and next EOA step (See Annex activities 4.1.4 &4.1.5&4.1.6_Workshop report)	 Family picture during stakeholders meeting

Activity 4.1.7 Develop directory and database of members of the national platforms and development partners	Update and disseminate the database of members of the national platforms during stakeholders workshop and to the different donors	01 data-base of the members of the national platforms and development partners exists.	Database of members of the national platforms and development partners updated		
Activity 4.1.8: Support participation in regional fora	Support 04 policy makers to attend Africa Organic conference in Cameroon 2018, and 02 persons to attend biofach in Germany on February 2018	Participation of national, regional and international fair conferences. National fair at Cotonou on December, Biofach in Nuremburg (Germany) in February, SIAO in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) on November	 Support 2 members with agricultural ministry secretary to attend to the BIOFACH from 14 to 17 of February 2018 at Nuremberg, Germany (See Annex Activity 4.1.8. Report attendance of EOA partners to BIOFACH) and (Annex report Activity 4.1.8_African Organic Conference) 	Report Visit, picture and boding pass available	22 companies are actually willingness planning to import organics product from Benin
Activity 4.1.9: Create website for visibility of the initiative and information sharing	Contract with IT technician to manage the website	Only some blogs and social networks exist.	EOA Benin website updated by IT technician who manage frequently the website Website link :http://www.eoabenin.org https://blogboan.wordpress.com	Functional website	<image/>

Activity 4.1.10: Prepare annual work plan and budget through participatory processes	Organize workshop of 25 peoples for writing together the work plan in order to avoid duplication, repetition and foster complementarily	participants. Review and Validation of 2016, 2017studies	From 03 to 05 September, at Hotel des Princes, Bohicon, or meeting took place with PIPs, NGOs, private sector, representant of agriculture an environment ministries to exchange on EOA and betwee pillars on the results obtained far during the year. (Annex Activities 4.1.2 +4.1.1, 4.1.10 , 4.2.2, 4.2.4 + 4.2.3 _Meeting with stakeholders t share EOA experiences)	 Family Picture Id In so 	Better knowledge on EOA activities between stakeholders
Activity 4.2: Capacities of C Activity 4.2.1: CLOs prepare contractual agreements and disburse funds to PIPs	-ountry Lead Organizations	-	nenting Partners (PIPs) to perfo	-	-
Activity 4.2.2: Strengthen capacity of CLOs and PIPs in project coordination and implementation	Capacity of CLOs and PIPs in project coordination, implementation and funds raising strengthened		From 03 to 05 September, at Hotel des Princes, Bohicon, one meeting took place with PIPs, NGOs, private sector, representant of agriculture and environment ministries to exchange on EOA and between pillars on the results obtained so far during the year.	- Invitations - Meeting report - Family Picture	Better knowledge on EOA activities between stakeholders

Activity 4.2.3: Facilitate development of criteria	_		(Annex Activities 4.1.2 +4.1.1, 4.1.10 , 4.2.2, 4.2.4 + 4.2.3 _Meeting with stakeholders to share EOA experiences)		
for selection of PIPs Activity 4.2.3.+4.2.4: CLOs convene at least two national platform meetings a year for PIPs and other stakeholders	National platform meeting together with 4.2.2 with 15 participants in Bohicon and in Parakou. Review and Validation of all 2017 studies workshop		From 03 to 05 September, at Hotel des Princes, Bohicon, one meeting took place with PIPs, NGOs, private sector, representant of agriculture and environment ministries to exchange on EOA and between pillars on the results obtained so far during the year. (Annex Activities 4.1.2 +4.1.1, 4.1.10 , 4.2.2, 4.2.4 + 4.2.3 _Meeting with stakeholders to share EOA experiences)	- Invitations - Meeting report - Family Picture	Better knowledge on EOA activities between stakeholders
Activity 4.2.5: CLOs and PIPs conduct project supervision, support, monitoring, evaluation and reporting	Conduct project supervision, support, monitoring, evaluation Report to executing agencies and other stakeholders	No systematic monitoring plan exits before.	37 activities achieved for all pillars in semester 1 were monitored and this progress report has been written	Monitoring and evaluation reports Other supporting documents	37supporting documents (annexes) available and consoled

to executing agencies and other stakeholders			(Annex _M&E Report_Activity_4.2.5_S 1_2018)		
Activity 4.2.6: Prepare annual work plan and budget through participatory processes	-	_	_	_	_
Other Pillar					