

The West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program: Partnerships and Strategies for Disseminating Rice Innovations across the Region

Speaker: Gaoussou Traoré

Monday, March 11, 2013
12:20 – 1:30 p.m.
102 Mann Library

Dr. Gaoussou Traoré is head of the National Center of Specialization (NCOS) on rice in Mali. The Center, which has a regional mandate to cover the 15 Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), is positioned to become a West African Regional Center of Excellence for Rice. The NCOS is a full component of the World Bank-funded West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP). Dr. Traoré is also Director of Research and Scientific Coordinator for the National Agriculture Research Institute (IER, Institut d'Economie Rurale) in Bamako, Mali, which is hosting the NCOS. He has a PhD in rangeland management from the University of Arizona and a Doctoral Degree of Specialization in ecology from the University of Bamako, Mali. From 1991-2002 Traoré was scientific and technical coordinator for the Sahel Institute (INSAH) as well as program coordinator for agriculture and socio-economic research. He has been with IER since 2003 and became the director of research there in 2007.

The World Bank has approved US\$45 million in support of the first phase of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP) in Ghana, Mali and Senegal. The WAAPP is a sub-regional program shared by all 15 ECOWAS member states. Its objective is to generate and disseminate improved agricultural technology in the participating countries focusing on roots and tubers in Ghana, rice in Mali and cereals in Senegal. Coordinated by the Central African Council for Agricultural Research (WECARD/CORAF), WAAPP focuses on improving export competitiveness, biodiversity, land administration and management, technology diffusion, trade facilitation and market access. This seminar will focus on the WAAPP's rice production strategies with the center in Mali and its applications across West Africa.



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Refreshments will be provided
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