



SUSTaining and improving local crop patrimony in
Burkina Faso and Niger for better LIVeS and
EcoSystems

Soutenir et valoriser le patrimoine de cultures
locales au Burkina Faso et au Niger pour
améliorer les conditions de vie et les écosystèmes

Workshop Report On Activity 3.4 "Strengthening Inter-Country And International Dialogue, Scaling Up And Creating Synergies Of The Sustlives Project On Nus

Malikath Bankole¹, Sam Bodjrenou¹, Francesca Grazioli¹, Gloria Otieno¹, Susanna Rokka²,
Lawali Dambo³, Jaques Nanema⁴, Hamid El Bilali⁵, Filippo Acasto⁶

July 2024



Financé par
l'Union européenne



¹ Alliance Bioversity International—CIAT (Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical), Via San Domenico 1, 00153 Rome, Italy

² Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke), Myllytie 1, 31600 Jokioinen, Finland

³ Department of Geography, Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, Abdou Moumouni University, Niamey P.O. Box 237, Niger

⁴ Programme Agrinovia, Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, 03 BP, Ouagadougou 7021, Burkina Faso

⁵ International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM-Bari), Via Ceglie 9, 70010 Valenzano, Bari, Italy

⁶ Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), Ouaga 2000—Secteur 54, Arrondissement N. 12, Ouagadougou 01, Burkina Faso



The Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) delivers research-based solutions that address the global crises of malnutrition, climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation.

The Alliance focuses on the nexus of agriculture, nutrition and environment. We work with local, national and multinational partners across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and with the public and private sectors and civil society. With novel partnerships, the Alliance generates evidence and mainstreams innovations to transform food systems and landscapes so that they sustain the planet, drive prosperity, and nourish people in a climate crisis.

The Alliance is part of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future dedicated to reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security, and improving natural resources.

alliancebioversityciat.org

www.cgiar.org

Citation: Bankole M., Bodjrenou S., Grazioli F., Rokka S., Dambo L., Nanema J., El Bilali H., Acasto F., Workshop Report On Activity 3.4 "Strengthening Inter-Country And International Dialogue, Scaling Up And Creating Synergies Of The Sustlives Project On Nus, The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, 2024

ISBN: 978-92-9255-336-4

© Bioversity International
Via di San Domenico, 1
00153 Rome, ITALY
© Bioversity International, 2021
<https://www.bioversityinternational.org/>



Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the European Union, coordinated by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM-Bari) for their financial support and collaboration in organizing the workshop. We would also like to thank the Université Joseph KI-ZERBO in collaboration with Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT for facilitating the organization of this workshop. It should be noted that all costs were covered by Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT under the SUSTLIVES project.

We also appreciate the contributions of ongoing research and development programs, projects and initiatives on the continent in key thematic areas: seed systems, value chains, livelihoods and gender, and policies and institutions. These projects and initiatives include the African Union Platform on Seeds and Biotechnology, UA-NEPAD, the SADC Regional Genebank and AFSA.

Many thanks to all the participants from research, NGOs, the private sector and public institutions who responded to the invitation to attend this highly constructive and enriching workshop.

Table of contents

Acknowledgments	3
List of abbreviations.....	5
Summary	6
Context.....	7
1. Workshop sessions	8
1.1. Introduction and preliminary remarks	8
1.2. Workshop objectives and agenda	9
1.3. Opening remarks.....	9
2. Session 1: Overview of NUS R&D projects in Africa	10
3. Session 2: NUS stakeholder platforms in Africa	22
4. Session 2: Proposal and structure of the multi-stakeholder platform on neglected and underutilized crops Day 2.....	25
5. Platform structure proposals (group activity)	29
5.1. Gene banks+ Research, breeding.....	29
5.2. Farmers' organizations + private sector + consumer groups	30
5.3. World Regional Organization	32
6. Proposals for hosting the platform.....	37
7. Wrap-up and conclusions.....	38
Appendix	40

List of abbreviations

AICS:	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
AFSA:	Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa
AOCC:	African Orphan Crop Consortium
ASBP:	Strategic framework for the development of the seed sector in Africa
ASBPP:	African partnership platforms for seeds and biotechnology
AVRDC:	Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center
BSF:	Benefit Sharing Fund
CADDP:	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CENA:	Swedish International Development Agency
CGFRA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
CGIAR:	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIHEAM-Bari:	International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CSB:	Community Seed Bank
CTDT:	Community Technology Development Trust
SDC:	Development and Cooperation Department
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FARA:	Foreign Agents Registration Act
FRESH:	Fruit and Vegetables for Sustainable Healthy Diets
GIZ:	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IBPGR:	International Board for Plant Genetic Resources
IITA:	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
Inibap:	Banana and Potato Research Institute
MSP:	Multi-stakeholder platform
NUS:	Neglected and underutilized species
NGO:	Non-governmental organization
OXFAM:	Oxford Committee for Relief Famine
PGRFA :	Promoting the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture
PMCA :	Participatory Market Chain Approach
SADC :	Southern African Development Community
SDHS:	Sustainable development and health strategies
Sustlives :	SUSTaining and improving local crop patrimony in Burkina Faso and Niger for better LIVES and EcoSystems
UA-NEPAD:	New Partnership for Africa's Development Agency
UNFSSS	United Nations Food Systems Summit Summit

Summary

The SUSTLIVES project, funded by the European Union, promotes the use of neglected crops to improve food security, nutrition and livelihoods in Burkina Faso and Niger (2021-2025). It aims to make farming systems more resilient by diversifying crops and improving access to quality seeds. This African workshop, bringing together 42 experts from research, NGOs, the private sector and policy-makers, aims to develop a multi-stakeholder platform to promote the sustainable use of NUS (neglected and under-utilized crops), foster dialogue between countries, and encourage collaboration to improve food security, nutrition, and adaptation to climate change.

The workshop focused on information sharing linked to ongoing research and development initiatives in Africa, focusing on efforts to develop and promote NUS. Next, the various existing platforms for stakeholders in the field of NUS in Africa were explored.

A proposal for a new multi-stakeholder platform designed to support neglected and under-utilized crops was made. Discussions were held to define the roles and contributions of various stakeholders such as farmers' organizations, the private sector, consumer groups, and global regional organizations. It emerged from these discussions that the role of stakeholders linked to gene banks, research, and breeding will be to facilitate access to genetic resources and stimulate collaboration in these fields. Farmers' organizations, the private sector, and the consumer group will ensure diverse representation and active participation from various segments of society. As for global regional organizations, they will play a crucial role in promoting and disseminating innovative agricultural practices. The "snowball" method will be used to create a solid network of stakeholders, starting with the national level to ensure good governance and prevent blockages at one level from compromising the others. This approach aims to maintain the operational independence of each chapter while ensuring effective coordination between them.

Also, given their respective experiences, the ABC alliance in collaboration with FARA will ensure this platform's physical and digital hosting, known for its ability to disseminate information on neglected and under-utilized species and research in this field, benefiting scientists and researchers.

Keywords: Neglected and underutilized species; Platform; food security; Sustlives project

Context

The SUSTLIVES project, funded by the European Union and coordinated by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM-Bari), is being implemented in Burkina Faso and Niger (2021-2025) with the main aim of using neglected and underutilized crops to improve food security and nutrition as well as livelihoods and the ecosystem. The aim is to build more resilient and adaptable farming and seed systems by exposing farmers to more crop varieties, improving their first-hand knowledge of different traits (nutrition, taste, climate resilience, drought tolerance, etc.), and improving their ability to save and access good quality seed or planting material. The project comprises several key activities, including improving access to NUS seeds, enhancing food and nutrition security, developing and improving value chains and markets for NUS, and NUS-related policies and institutions. In particular, project activity 3.4 aims to foster dialogues between countries and at the regional level to create synergies for the dissemination of best practices on the sustainable use and management of NUS for food and nutrition security, climate change adaptation, and livelihoods, as well as for the creation of synergies for supporting policies and institutions.

Neglected and underutilized crop species (NUS) have significant potential to support the resilience and sustainability of food systems. They contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation, agro-biodiversity conservation, food and nutrition security, environmental integrity and health, and the sustainability and resilience of food systems.

This workshop is aimed at policy-makers and practitioners working on NUS within national agricultural research and development systems in Africa. Some 42 participants from research, NGOs, the private sector, and policy-makers attended the workshop (**Appendix**).

The two-day regional workshop aims to create a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) to foster dialogue between African countries and create synergies for scaling up best practices on NUS's sustainable use and management for food and nutrition security, climate change adaptation, and livelihoods. The regional workshop also aimed to foster collaboration and create synergies for supportive policies and institutions. The workshop engaged key practitioners from national agricultural research systems, CGIAR centers, private sector actors, NGOs, and policymakers committed to the conservation, use, and valorization of NUS. The workshop improved communication and dissemination of information on the contribution of NUS to nutrition, income generation, and climate resilience across Africa while encouraging policies, programs, and regional cooperation strategies for their conservation, utilization, and valorization. Other outcomes of the workshop include:

- the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform
- defining the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders
- definition of an institutional hosting mechanism and funding strategy for the MSP.

- a press release on the importance of NUS for the continent and the platform.

The workshop was divided into two distinct but interdependent components, with the first day devoted to sharing information and results on research and development programs implemented on the continent in key thematic areas: seed systems, value chains, livelihoods and gender, and policies and institutions, and to share information on existing continental/regional programs such as ASBP, Access and Benefit Sharing (AU-NEPAD), the SADC Regional Genebank and AFSA, and finally the second day will be devoted to setting up the platform.

This report is structured as follows:

We'll start with an introduction and opening remarks, where we will present the general context of NUS valorization in Africa and the objectives of our workshop. This will be followed by key remarks on enriching perspectives on current challenges and opportunities. Following this, we will tackle two main sessions: session 1 will be dedicated to an overview of research and development (R&D) projects on NUS in Africa, where we will explore existing projects and results achieved; session 2 will be dedicated to the presentation of partner platforms on NUS in Africa, where we will examine current initiatives and opportunities for collaboration. Then, a proposal for the structure of the platform, followed by discussions on the proposal to host the platform will be presented. These sessions will allow us to discuss concrete options for structuring and implementing the platform. We will conclude with a synthesis and conclusions, where we will summarize the key points discussed and determine the next steps.

1. Workshop sessions

1.1. Introduction and preliminary remarks

The regional workshop on the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform for the conservation, utilization and valorization of neglected and underutilized cultivated species (NUS) in Africa opened on July 03, 2024, at 08h57 a.m. with a welcome address by Mr. Jacques Namema, Professor of Philosophy and coordinator of the Sustlives project in Burkina Faso. In his opening remarks, he expressed his gratitude for the holding of such a workshop at Joseph Kizerbo University and for the presence of all the participants, as their presence testified to their commitment to seeing African agricultural systems and ecosystems evolve. He also noted the importance of a university in a country as a space for reflection, research, education, and the transmission of knowledge, but also for the reappropriation by young people of essential knowledge. A university is a way for a society to transcend its limitations and pass on the torch of excellence to its young people. We were also joined by:

- Mr. Filippo Acasto, Director of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS),

- Mr. Hamid El Bilali, from CIHEAM-Bari who is the coordinator of the Sustlives Project,
- Prof. Lawali DAMBO, Abdou Moumouni University, Niger
- Ms. Franscesca of the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- Mr. Gabin KORBEOGO, representative of the President of Joseph KiZerbo University

The various speakers thanked all the participants for attending and reiterated the importance of this kind of crucible for scaling up NUS in Africa. It was also emphasized that the workshop had already produced results, thanks to the presence of several representatives from different institutions. Indeed, it was emphasized that the Sustlives project is an approach that initially focused on two countries, Burkina Faso and Niger, and given all the activities carried out and the results obtained, it is now possible to scale up to the continental level. This is a project that implements activities that go beyond the project itself. Activity 3.4 of this project therefore focuses particularly on strengthening dialogue between countries and at the regional level to create synergies for the dissemination of best practices on the sustainable use and management of NUS for food and nutrition security, climate change adaptation and livelihoods, as well as for the creation of synergies for supporting policies and institutions. Hence the presence of all, where the aim is to reflect on the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform around issues related not only to conservation but also to the use of NUS for better valorization in Africa.

1.2. Workshop objectives and agenda

The main objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- Create a multi-stakeholder platform for the exchange of knowledge and information on NUS, including the dissemination of new technologies and products.
- Map NUS projects and initiatives currently underway on the continent, and identify areas for collaboration and synergy.
- Define the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders within the platform, taking into account regional and thematic areas of interest.
- Discuss the sustainability of the platform, including funding mechanisms and institutional hosting.

The agenda for the two-day workshop was as follows (**Table 4**). Then, a family photo was taken before the start of the various presentation sessions.

1.3. Opening remarks

Mr. Gabin KORBEOGO, representing the President of Université Joseph KiZerbo officially launched the workshop. Mr. KORBEOGO's speech emphasized that the Université Joseph KiZerbo was proud to host such an important event, despite the security challenges in the Sahel, underlining the importance of resilience and food, human, social and political security. The

Sustlives project focuses on the promotion of neglected or under-cultivated species and agroecology, avoiding technologies harmful to the environment and health. It aims to support local stakeholders in a sustainable, community-based approach. The university is delighted to be taking part in this workshop, which aims to create and run knowledge exchange platforms to enhance and capitalize on African initiatives in the field of NUS, thereby strengthening strategic cooperation. This workshop, which marks the third year of the Sustlives project, offers academics, teacher-researchers, and students the opportunity to meet stakeholders in the field, learn by doing and strengthen community service.

2. Session 1: Overview of NUS R&D projects in Africa

Sam BODJRENOU, Modoukpe Gbanoungbola, and Malikath Bankole, The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, Benin, West Africa; Gloria Otieno, The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, Uganda, East Africa <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/36009>

Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT in brief

In the past (1974), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations set up a working group for the valorization of plant genetic resources, called **IBPGR (International Board for Plant Genetic Resources)**, in response to the food crisis at the time. In 1991, this research group was transformed into a fully-fledged research institution called IPGRI (International Plant Genetic Research Institute). IPGRI subsequently merged with the Institution de Recherche sur les Bananes et les Patates (**Inibap**) in 2006 to form Bioversity International, and then with the Institut International Agriculture Tropical (IITA) to form the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT in 2019. It should also be noted that this institution is part of the large CGIAR research group. Its main areas of interest are climate change, the environment, malnutrition, and the enhancement of local biodiversity. The Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT is active in several African countries as shown in orange on the map (**Figure 1**), including Côte d'Ivoire and other developing countries not shown on the map.



Figure 1: Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT intervention countries

Thus, one of their missions is to provide scientific evidence, practical solutions and appropriate policies to safeguard and use agricultural biodiversity for sustainable food and nutrition security worldwide.

The Alliance focuses on neglected and under-utilized species because they are marginalized or ignored by researchers, breeders, and policy-makers. They encompass thousands of domesticated, semi-domesticated and wild species, and even include small crops adapted to local conditions or non-timber forest species (Heywood 1999; Padulosi et al. 2013). At the same time, they help diversify diets (Blasbalg et al., 2011; Joshi et al., 2020), improve nutrition (Padulosi et al., 1999; Gaisberger et al. 2014) in rural and poor areas (Von Grebmer et al. 2019, Gaisberger et al. 2014). They are also very rich in essential nutrients, sometimes more so than some exotic species. This is the case with African lettuce, which contains over 250 mg/g of calcium and over 700 mcg/g of vitamin A, compared with exotic lettuce, which contains only 29 mg/g and 193 mcg RE/100g respectively (Adinortey et al. 2012; Koukou et al. 2017; Odukoya et al. 2018; Mansouratou et al. 2021). Apart from the nutritional aspect, there is the agricultural aspect due to their adaptation to local climatic conditions. NUS also have a high economic interest: this is the case for Moringa, which used to be considered a poor man's food but is now extremely expensive due to the multiple sensitizations carried out. The same applies to the baobab, whose economic value has risen over the years. Unfortunately, these species are not sufficiently valued and Westerners seize the opportunity to increase the economic value of the product in their trade. NUS are also used in phytotherapy for their therapeutic virtues. It is therefore important to work on research and development, to support local companies, and above all to work on the conservation and safeguarding of this biodiversity to avoid the disappearance of certain species due to human pressure.

Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT activities in Africa

Several projects are underway to promote NUS in Benin:

A study initiated by Giz (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) and the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT has focused on the valorization of eleven (11) NUS in one of Benin's most food-insecure areas (**Photo 1**). To this end, an inventory of all the plant food resources available in the area was made, followed by a prioritization to select the species to be studied. The agronomic, socio-economic and cultural as well as nutritional potential was studied, leading to the development of tools such as a recipe booklet and nutritional information cards on NUS. The eleven species studied include *Adansonia digitata*, *Cleome gynandra*, *Tamarind indica*, *Blighia sapida*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, *Detarium microcarpum*, *Hibiscus sabdariffa*, *Moringa oleifera*, *Ocimum gratissimum* and *Vigna radiata*.



Photo 1: Some examples of NUS valorized by the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT

These various communication tools will then be made available to nutrition stakeholders in the study area for use in awareness-raising campaigns. Another study, HealthyDiet4Africa, financed by the European Union, is currently underway to help African populations obtain nutritious yet healthy foods. The project works on the valorization of twenty-three (23) neglected species and is being implemented in several countries including Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Cameroon, Senegal, Uganda, and Kenya. An essential element of this project is the determination of the nutritional value of these species, given that in most of our countries, as is the case in Benin, there is no food composition table. Thus, for most local food resources, nutritional values are not available. Through the HealthyDiet 4Africa project, the 23 selected species will be collected, freeze-dried and then dosed in state-of-the-art laboratories to determine their nutritional composition. Another project activity concerns the characterization of the value chain of two NUS, *Vitex doniana* and *Irvingia gabonensis*, with prospects for sustainability in Benin.

And finally, the FRESH (Fruit and Vegetables for Sustainable Healthy Diets) project, a research initiative focusing on fruit and vegetables, one of whose aims is to set up a community seed bank in a commune in northern Benin over the next two years. Essentially, the aim is to draw up an inventory of the fruits and vegetables available in the study area, and the varieties to be conserved, to develop a participatory procedure for implementing this community seed bank to ensure its sustainability. Several prospects are in view in Benin, but essentially the aim will be to develop NUS-based recipes and appropriate technologies to maintain nutritional quality.

Project to promote NUS in Kenya:

In Kenya, the Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT's community seed bank activities are much more advanced. Indeed, there is a particular focus on gender, in that women are the small-scale producers. Women also have the opportunity to choose the type of leafy vegetables they want to grow and test them. The Kabuti Agoro Community Seed Bank was created in 2019 by women (**Photo 2**). This seed bank aims to improve women's access to seeds for the conservation of the diversity they hold. In the garden associated with the seed bank, the women cultivate NUS and are moving towards organic farming to produce healthy food. They produce biopesticides, organic fertilizers, and organic conservatives.



Photo 2: Kabudi Agoro Community Seed Bank

Other activities include seed activities and seed fairs. Even more interesting is the food processing that is carried out, such as the production of flour, cakes, and snacks based on preserved plant species, which is very important in terms of added value. It should be noted that the economy is circular, enabling local women to earn money and farming to be environmentally friendly. The long-term impact of this kind of initiative is to improve food and nutritional security in terms of better feeding practices, knowledge, livelihoods and so on. In the long term, it will involve registration, training in business management and certification of the quality of products from the seed bank and the fields, as well as increasing production.

Abdulrazak Ibrahim, PhD, Institutional Capacity & Future Scenarios-ICF; African Seed & Biotechnology Partnership Platform-ASBPP Secretariat; TAAT-Capacity Development & Technology Outreach Compact Africa Foresight Academy <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/35849>

Neglected and underutilized species (NUS) are domesticated species used for food, medicine, trade or important cultural practices within their local communities, but which are not widely commercialized or studied in traditional agriculture. **Figure 2** shows some of the characteristics of NUS:

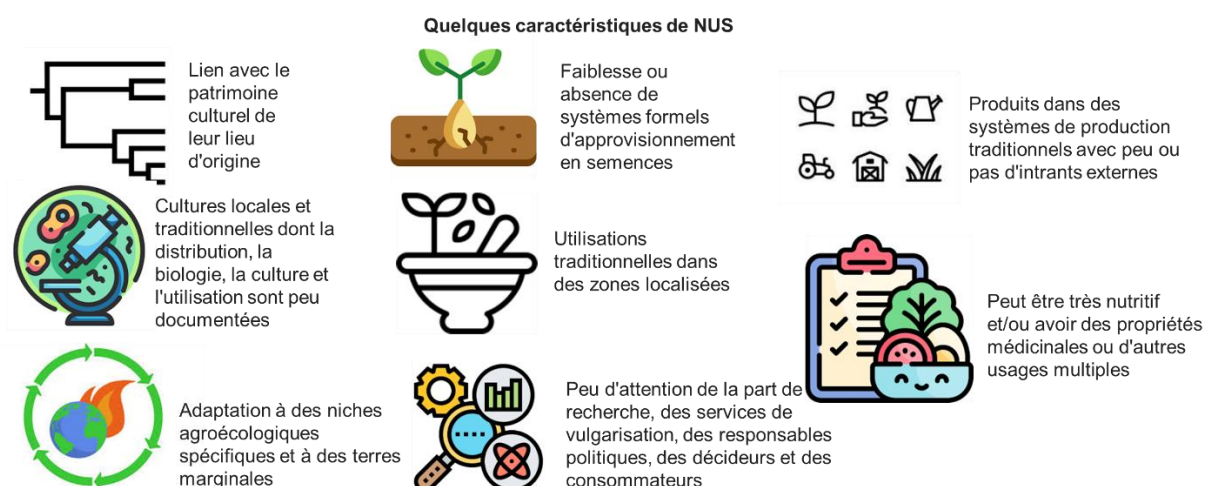


Figure 2: Barriers to low NUS adoption

In terms of crop diversity, while staple crops such as maize, rice, and wheat dominate African agriculture, many NUS remain neglected. These include cereals such as fonio, teff and sorghum, tubers such as yams and cassava, and leafy vegetables such as moringa and jute mallow.

NUS offer nutritional benefits and represent a rich culinary heritage. Traditional recipes and knowledge of their cultivation and preparation constitute a valuable cultural heritage. This diversity contributes to the resilience of food systems, offering protection against climate change, pests, and diseases. NUS offer unique flavors and nutritional profiles, catering to diverse dietary needs and preferences. NUS are for the most part species rich in micronutrients, fiber and antioxidants, promote dietary diversity leading to reduced risk of

malnutrition and chronic disease. According to Padulosi et al. 2014, the valorization of NUS should start from:

- genetic diversity in terms of in situ/ex-situ conservation of existing species;
- The selection and cultivation of these species will make it possible not only to obtain better varieties using the best cultivation practices but also to obtain better quality seeds;
- crop harvesting through the use of improved technologies;
- adding value by formulating new recipes or improving existing ones to meet quality standards;
- marketing is an important element in ensuring that the products and recipes formulated can be marketed both locally and across borders

Enhancing the value of NUS will also help to alleviate the problems associated with food insecurity and empower women, farmers, and the local community. Thus, overcoming the factors limiting knowledge and access to resources (infrastructure, financing, training, etc.) is essential. It is essential to tackle political obstacles and promote supportive policies to create an environment conducive to the growth of the NUS sector.

What is the Strategic framework for the development of the seed sector in Africa?

The Strategic framework for the development of the seed sector in Africa (ASBP) is the strategic framework for the development of the seed sector in Africa, whose objective is to contribute to the improvement of food security and nutrition and the reduction of poverty in Africa, through the establishment of efficient and effective seed systems and the improved application of biotechnologies and methodologies in the seed sector. ASBP aims to establish an efficient and effective seed system by addressing issues related to:

- inadequate seed marketing at the regional level
- loss of germplasm
- poor access to seeds and growing materials
- poor management of climate change-related disasters
- inefficient use of plant genetic resources
- insufficient availability of biotechnological tools

This strategic framework aims to improve endogenous knowledge in seed collection and conservation. It has a platform called ASBPP (African Seed and Biotechnology Partnership Platforms) which includes the African Union as a program component, whose aim is to improve strategies for collecting, conserving, using, and exchanging plant and animal genetic resources, seeds and planting material. Many partners in the NUS ecosystem are already part of the platform. Several representatives of biodiversity, civil society organizations working to promote indigenous knowledge, NUS agriculture and cultivation, community seed establishment, access issues, benefit sharing, etc. belong to this platform. There is also a partnership between FARA and the FAO, where a program has been developed for gluten-free foods. It's obvious that a lot of gluten-free food comes from NUS, and the idea is actually to

support these goals as far as NUS is concerned in terms of diversification, nutritional value, empowerment, improving food security, policy, environment, research and innovation.

The aim is to provide a kind of global vision so that efforts on the continent are undertaken to advance NUS in order to contribute to better access to quality seeds. All the development objectives of these various initiatives around NUS should therefore contribute to improving this access, by ensuring that the most vulnerable groups and farmers have access to quality seeds, including seeds of neglected and under-used species, by promoting truly mutually beneficial trade on the continent, by ensuring that safety measures are in place, and by guaranteeing the food sovereignty of communities and societies at all levels. This approach is part of the broader framework of the African Union's Agenda 2063. The CADDP ends in 2025, and various working groups are currently carrying out a number of activities aimed at recalibrating the CADDP to put in place what we call a post-management process.

This meeting should enable us to position ourselves to move the NUS agenda forward in the post-management process, as this is what will ultimately enable the policy environment to promote the desired objectives we want to achieve with NUS. In terms of the way forward, integrating these species into the African food system and the post-management process is essential to fostering sustainable agriculture and improving food security.

Question and answer session

Following the presentations, questions were put to the presenters to help them understand the issues:

- How can we work with local authorities to adopt these species? So that they are sustainable and used efficiently?
- What about NUS marketing policies in our local markets?
- What are the perceptions of NUS consumption in Benin? And how can they be deconstructed?
- What parts of Balanites are used? How are these species used?
- The example of Kenya: what does the alliance contribute to this community?
- Forest species: what measures are being taken for domestication and conservation? What measures are being taken to counter human pressures on NUS?
- What types of seeds were disseminated? NUS distribution
- Where should biotechnology and genomics be placed in NUS discussions?
- How is human pressure on NUS managed?

Reflections from the first series of presentations

In principle, the various research institutions should popularize their research results so that they can be put to good use in development. This explains why the *Moringa oleifera*, for example, which was otherwise little-known, has gained in value enormously since research and awareness-raising on the importance of this species has been carried out. Politicians need to understand that investing in nutrition also makes good financial sense, and ensures good

development. To deconstruct socio-cultural barriers to the consumption of NUS, three approaches are generally used in nutrition: promotion, which consists in raising awareness of the importance of the species; negotiation, which involves understanding the barriers to the consumption of the species and getting people to change their perception of its consumption; and substitution, which consists in finding alternatives to the consumption of the species by the population. Domestication is also a good alternative to alleviate the problem of human pressure on NUS, and it is important to pay tribute to the efforts of the University of Abomey-Calavi in Benin, which is working hard on the domestication of several species at the community level.

As for Kenya's experience with the Community Seed Bank, the Alliance provides support through the construction of the bank, training in seed bank management, and seed production, facilitating access to seed conservation equipment and, above all, helping women to become autonomous in seed production and marketing. The Alliance also helps women to process NUS and add value. Also, one prospect for this seed bank is to be registered and have a certificate in due form. On the policy front, the Alliance is also engaged with the Kenyan government to participate in seed policy working groups to see how some of its growers' varieties could be registered to ensure conventional seed production. The ICRAF Diversity Crops and African Orphans Crops Consortium, which focuses on NUS research and breeding, has a breeding and genetics program. Unfortunately, the alliance is not involved in NUS breeding, as it has no breeding program other than for beans and cassava. It therefore works mainly with farmers and national gene banks, on access and benefit sharing for the saving, sale, exchange of seeds and conservation of NUS.

It is also very important for the private sector to be involved in the valorization of NUS, as it is a key player in terms of impact. At ASBPP level, a study is currently being carried out by Professor James ONSANDU, a well-known figure in Kenya's civil society system, on the management of agriculture and the environment, and more specifically the farmers' management system. Experiences differ from one country to another, but it's worth noting that Uganda has been very successful in terms of its farmer management system, ensuring that diversity is defined, and that vulnerable groups are very much present in conversations linked to seeds in general, and NUS seeds in particular.

As for genomics and biotechnology, these technologies tend to be country-specific, so as a licensing environment, as the African Union, it would be difficult to specify to a country, for example, which technology to adopt. However, it is possible to find common ground in the post-management process without compromising the food sovereignty of individual countries. For example, South Africa has adopted more advanced technologies than Ghana or Burkina Faso. The objective is a high-level one, but we also need to allow countries to understand it and see what works best for them while respecting the free-trade agreement.

So it's essential that the platform to be established is an innovative one because it's the ecosystems that show the value of the need to invest more, invest politically, so in terms of policy, and invest in terms of resources and capacity, to ensure that we can have as many local



solutions as possible, as many seed banks as possible, as many original community seed banks as possible, so that we preserve NUS, but also ensure that people get the best benefits.

Charles Opio, Manager for resilient livelihood at the council office <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/36080>

What is Oxford Committee for Relief Famine

Oxford Committee for Relief Famine (Oxfam) is a global movement fighting poverty and injustice with a vision of equal rights and justice for all. The movement follows poverty and injustice wherever they are, to fight and overcome them. And one of the ways we do this is through deliberate programs that address the root causes of poverty and injustice worldwide.

Oxford Committee for Relief Famine's scope of action

Oxford Committee for Relief Famine (OXFAM) is present in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe. In Europe, OXFAM has affiliates in several countries, including Oxfam Great Britain, Oxfam Ireland, and others.

In Uganda in particular, OXFAM is working in parallel with a transformation-oriented partnership approach to achieve a Uganda free of inequality and injustice. To this end, funding was obtained from CENA, the Swedish International Development Agency, to implement a project entitled Sowing Diversity Equals Harvesting Security. The project was implemented in eight countries, including Uganda. The project had four components. Primarily, it focuses on plant breeding, promoting the use of local food plants and improving household nutrition, promoting pharmaceutical companies to bridge the gap between formal and informal seeds, making quality seeds available to farmers and smallholders, and supporting policies relating to seed and food systems. The Sowing Diversity Equals Harvesting Security program therefore aimed to empower small-scale farmers to enforce and integrate their rights, but also to strengthen their technical capacities so that they can better manage agricultural biodiversity and achieve food and nutrition security, even in the context of climate change.

The Farm Food school method

The methodology applied and used in the Sowing Diversity Equals Harvesting Security program is called Farm Food School. The Farm Food School initiative, which is particularly relevant in contexts faced with sustainable development and health strategies (SDHS), empowers farmers to improve resource management, leading to the development of sustainable and dynamic continuation plans. The program aims to support public strategies within communities by highlighting the importance of nutritious food from the world's biodiversity and improving the management of planetary resources. The initiative involves identifying and training farmers within communities to act as facilitators, often leading to the creation of farmer-led agricultural food schools. These schools focus on cataloging local cultures, analyzing their diversity, and understanding why certain crops are grown under specific conditions.

Advantages of the Farm Food School method

This process provides a better understanding of farming practices, the state of local food plants, and the factors contributing to their abandonment, including climate change, lack of research interest, and gaps in intergenerational knowledge. Farmers select crops of their choice from a list, voting for those they wish to explore. This process is carefully managed to avoid excessive domination by any one crop. The results are then consolidated, providing farmers with a common research topic. Agricultural schools can cover several topics per season, depending on the certificates available. Some certificates can be completed in a matter of weeks or months, while others may depend on the growing season, although this is not always the case. Once crops have been selected, Farmer Field Schools hold community discussions to identify challenges related to the use of other crops. These challenges influence the creation of certificates to help farmers. For example, an exercise was carried out to list crops and indicate the consumable parts of each, working with botanists and the Ministry of Agriculture to obtain scientific names. From 2020 to 2022, several agricultural schools in a specific district worked on different crops, illustrating the collaborative and systematic approach adopted to promote the exploration and optimal use of local agricultural resources.

Key achievements included four Farmer Field Schools working on local food plants, with a total of 849 participants, 53% of whom were women. In addition, thanks to these efforts, more local food plants were introduced into community diets, reducing periods of food shortage from three months to just one in several villages. More common studies have also been adopted, marking significant progress in the management and use of local agricultural resources.

Thamsanqa Khanye, Community Technology Development Trust-CTDT
<https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/35853>

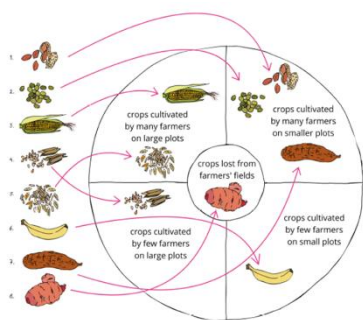
What is CTDT

The Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) in Zimbabwe, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), is actively involved in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) in southern Africa. Their efforts are aimed at tackling major challenges such as land degradation, loss of genetic diversity and traditional knowledge, as well as governance issues, and insufficient investment in local conservation institutions and community seed banks. CTDT has a proven track record of excellence in implementing development projects, particularly in the areas of food and nutrition security, agricultural biodiversity conservation and management, and policy and advocacy issues related to environmental management, climate change, water and sanitation, resilience building, and disaster risk reduction. It has recently extended its activities to Zambia, replicating some of the programs successfully implemented in Zimbabwe.

Although there are over 30,000 edible plant species, only 75% of the world's inhabitants consume 12 plant species and 5 animal species, highlighting a worrying disparity between

diversity and consumption. The CTD and the FAO have been working for 15 years on the management of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, helping governments such as Zimbabwe to produce high-quality material. Zimbabwe's National Strategy and Action Plan for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which runs until 2032, is at the heart of their efforts, underlining a long-term commitment to improving agricultural biodiversity and ensuring food security through sustainable practices.

CTD also supports and strengthens the development of cross-sector partnerships and alliances. Indeed, in June, a collaboration was made with Helen Zimbabwe under the name "My Food is Zimbabwe". The government has set a new target to establish a Farmer Field School in every village, bringing the national target to 35,000. As an organization working with the FAO, CTD has supported and influenced the institutionalization of Farmer Field Schools. To date, there have been over 400 FFS. The Farmer Field School concept enables farmers to learn by doing. CTD is also exploring approaches to managing genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA).



A diagnostic tool has been developed to help analyze the condition of crops, and in particular varieties, by examining diversity within each food group and capturing the basis of genetic diversity (**Figure 3**). This tool enables varieties to be evaluated in a participatory plant breeding process, in particular, to identify those that meet the needs of local communities.

Figure 3: Diagnostic tool

Food and seed fairs are also effective platforms for sharing, exchanging, and selling seeds, strengthening local seed-saving systems. This approach highlights the importance of changing behaviors to adopt new farming practices, the insufficient recognition of farmers' rights, and the lack of investment in the PGRFA. It also mentions the predominance of market-based production, dominated by white maize, leading to monoculture and reduced accessibility of diversified nutritious crops. These examples show that there are challenges in tasting these crops. Farmers in local communities need to be able to produce different interesting things, perhaps even using modern technology to use our tools. So, farmers, during seed fairs, can share, exchange, and even sell seeds between and among themselves. This also strengthens local seed systems. During the same seed and food fairs, germplasm collections are made, which are faster than field collections. So, it's much faster compared to field collection. Farmers play a crucial role in this process, contributing to germplasm collection and sharing their knowledge and techniques with younger generations. The creation of over 20 community seed banks in Zimbabwe is cited as a concrete example of this active participation. Close collaboration with universities, local authorities, agricultural extension agents, and experts from regional genotype banks to build capacity and train farmers. Research centers and national gene banks also provide support.



The Benefit Sharing Fund Project aims to strengthen the conservation and sustainable use of resilient PGRFA to improve the livelihoods of small-scale farmers. It covers several countries in Africa, including Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. BSF therefore seeks to accelerate the conservation and use of PGRFA as a priority. Technology transfer and capacity building. It also looks at field management and conservation.

A long-term strategy would be to consolidate the work done in Zimbabwe and support Lesotho as a new partner in PGRFA conservation. This includes improving farmer field schools, facilitating access to PGRFA, and developing materials in local languages. CTD's Executive Director, Mr Andrew Mushita, calls for action to ensure that registers of agricultural varieties are based on CAS standing for Regularity, Accessibility, and Suitability.

Mahamane Rabilou Abdou, SWISSAID program manager <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/35855>

CROPS4HD project presentation

The Crops for Healthy Diet CROPS4HD project aims to promote food sovereignty in the face of climate change. It is being implemented by SWISSAID in four countries, namely Chad, Niger, Tanzania, and India, and started in 2020 for 4 years. The area of intervention in Niger is the Dogondoutchi department in the southern part of Niger which concerns two rural communes (Matankari and Dankassari). So, the main stakeholders are SWISSAID and other national and international partners, each with its own area of expertise. The SDC, the Swiss development cooperation, is the basic leaseholder, and the project implementation strategy focuses on three points: PUSH (research), PULL (nutrition and marketing) and policy. Concerning the PUSH, 11 crops have been identified: fonio, voandzou, amaranth, sorrel, hibiscus (red and white), squash, moringa, sesame, jujube, and groundnut. To enhance the value of these crops, participatory varietal selection is carried out both on-station and on the farm.

A partnership was formed with the RAYA KARKARA agroecology platform as part of a digital campaign promoting the peasant semantic system and agroecology through social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp. The awareness-raising campaign was carried out among farmers in the communes of Dankassari and Matankari, highlighting the importance of the semantic farming system and the seed banks in such a system. Within this framework, 100 peasant seed guardians were trained and equipped with seed helmets and 33 peasant seed multipliers. 8 seed banks have been built and equipped in 10 villages, and these banks have already begun to bear fruit because as of this campaign, the seeds have already been used by the farmers who have signed up. So, here's a model of a village seed bank that's already up and running, and we've used traditional seed conservation methods.

A guide has been drawn up and made available to seed bank members to enable them to better manage their seed at the bank. Members were therefore trained in storage and packaging at these seed banks.

Within the framework of this partnership, the improvement of soil fertility is also taken into account, as this remains a very serious problem in the Sahel and particularly in Niger. Farmers have therefore been trained in composting techniques and at household level, so that everyone can keep track of their compost bin. Around 250 compost bins in 10 villages in the project area. As for the PULL component, which deals with marketing and nutrition, several partners have implemented the activities, namely: Agrifocus and Kundji fondo. Agrifocus and Kundji fondo, one for market development around NUS and the other for nutrition. These activities have been implemented through PMCA (Participatory Market Chain Approach), an approach that brings together the various stakeholders in the value chain at the NUS level. Thematic groups were set up and given the opportunity to develop different types of NUS-based products through practical NUS production technique workshops. As part of this exercise, some 60 culinary demonstration sessions were held in 20 villages, 8 canteen schools, and 4 health centers. Awareness-raising sessions and culinary competitions are also organized to promote NUS.

On the political front, AFSA's advocacy is aimed at getting decision-makers to pass laws in favor of the peasant seed system and agroecology. Unfortunately, with the advent of the military in high office, the process has more or less ground to a halt. However, efforts still need to be made to convince ministers and others that this aspect of the non-profit seed system, with a unique mandate for vegetable research and development since 1971 under the name of Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center (AVRDC) with over 400 employees, should be included in the next political consultations. The core mission is research and development to realize the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient livelihoods. Worldveg operates in Bamako, Cotonou, Tanzania, India, Thailand and is headquartered in Taiwan.

World Vegetable Center's scope of action

In terms of concrete solutions to the climate and food crisis, WorldVeg is involved in the diversity of healthy diets through the diversity of vegetable varieties and therefore of production systems. Vegetables are essential for good health and an engine of economic growth, generating substantial income. It is also important to grow several varieties of vegetables to preserve genetic diversity.

WorldVeg promotes traditional African vegetables that are rich in nutrients, such as the Spider plant, Jute mallow, Nightshade, Amaranth, *Talinum triangulare*, African eggplant, and others. Promotion is done through healthy vegetable gardens, or kits are distributed to private and public organizations on request. Each kit includes seeds (2 to 50 g) of vegetable seeds to plant a garden and maintain a healthy diet for a family of 4 for one year. Other cultivation techniques are also used, such as soilless vegetable cultivation using local materials to help smallholders reproduce easily, or core seed production in mini greenhouses to overcome problems linked to climate change. It should be noted that nutrition training is also given to communities to teach them how to preserve the nutritional quality of the vegetables produced, as well as good hygiene practices.

Question and answer session

- 1- World Vegetable Center presentation: Are these kits distributed with technical data sheets? Are your gene banks in Burkina and elsewhere? Can you share your experiences with *Cleome gynandra*? Do you emphasize cooking methods for these recipes, in order to retain their nutritional value?
- 2- How do the seed banks already in place work?
- 3- To Swissaid: How does the platform work? Is it virtual or not?
- 4- Addressed to CTD: How do you ensure the quality of seeds produced by growers?

Reflections from the second series of presentations

At the end of these different presentations, it is important to remember that it is important to advocate more strongly with the major institutions to meet all the challenges linked to obtaining quality seeds in a context of climate change. Community seed banks are one of the most sustainable options for seed conservation. Worldveg has a large gene bank in East Africa, in Tanzania to be precise, and another in Mali. So, seeds can be shared across all countries in both East and West Africa, wherever the need arises. In terms of accessibility, setting up mini greenhouses appears to be one of the techniques for adapting to climate change. It should also be noted that the majority of vegetable seeds are imported from abroad due to their unavailability. There are also several techniques that are increasingly used in the NUS domestication process. For example, the University of Abomey Calavi has worked extensively on the baobab tree, which is increasingly being popularized as a means of producing these leaves in a short space of time through vegetative propagation.

As for seed quality, it is important to note that many of the farmers themselves are knowledgeable about seed quality. It is also important that information be shared between researchers and practitioners, to enhance the value of NUS. Thus, capitalizing on all this traditional and scientific knowledge would be useful for efficient and sustainable seed selection and conservation for communities.

From a nutritional point of view, it's important to take action on cooking methods to ensure the nutritional quality of recipes at the end of cooking, but it's also very important to take into account the bioavailability of these micronutrients to the body. It is also important to collaborate with communities so that the best methods for preparing NUS-based recipes can be tried out and validated by the communities themselves. Culinary demonstration sessions are a good way of achieving these objectives.

3. Session 2: NUS stakeholder platforms in Africa

Several examples of platforms show that several efforts are being made in terms of collaboration between stakeholders to enhance the value of NUS.

Lydia.....Seed savers network <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/35990>



Seed Savers Network works mainly on seed conservation activities. They have been working since 2009, and so far, in 15 years, they have managed to have over 4,000 or 5,000 members, from 900 registered farmer groups. They have also succeeded in creating 74 community seed banks, spread throughout Kenya.

In western Kenya, the seed savers network also works with community seed banks. The aim is to conserve biodiversity by strengthening community seed systems to improve access to seeds. It is trying to call for changes to certain laws that restrict farmers' ability to exchange, sell, and use seeds donated to them. They also promote nutritional security by conserving crop varieties to prevent biodiversity loss. By saving seeds, growers have diversified access to seeds, some of which cannot be found in farm stores. Sweet potato plants, most tubers and bean varieties in Kenya, for example, are not available in grocery stores. It should also be noted that by conserving these resistant varieties, farmers are now able to be more resilient by having food adapted to their region thanks to the work of seed conservation.

Several community seed banks have been managed by this platform. An application has also been developed to help farmers sell their seeds. Indeed, when farmers want to sell their seeds, they don't have enough markets or platforms to sell them. Thanks to this application, they now have access to seed banks.

African Orphan Crops Consortium (AOCC) CIFOR- ICRAR <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/35980>

The African Orphan Crop Consortium (AOCC) is an international initiative aimed at improving the nutrition, productivity, and climatic adaptability of some of Africa's most important food crops, to help reduce malnutrition and stunting common among the continent's rural children.

AOCC aims to sequence the genome of these species, re-sequence some of them, and publish the transcriptome to facilitate genetic improvement of these species by national and university institutes. It collaborates with several partners such as the African Union. They also have a plant breeding academy to train over 250 African plant breeders in the most advanced plant breeding theories and technologies, to support crucial crop improvement decisions, such as the use of genomic information.

In terms of technological advances, AOCC has used different sequencing technologies to obtain longer, more comprehensive sequence reads. Specific individuals have been published, illustrating the progress made in genomic sequencing for these species.

Awa. GUEYE, Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) <https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/35977>

AFSA is a continental network that brings together farmers, pastoralists, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to promote agroecology and food sovereignty in Africa. Based in Uganda and Senegal, AFSA aims to influence policy and promote African solutions for food sovereignty. The network has 34 active members, with more in the pipeline, and operates across several African regions. There are organizations all over Africa, in Central, Southern, and West Africa.



AFSA fights for the recognition and application of agroecology as a means of guaranteeing food sovereignty in Africa. In particular, AFSA fights to increase recognition of agroecology across the global and also the regional level, with African civil society actors, engaging themselves with universities and certain other platforms and organizations on the issue. The network serves as a continental platform for the consolidation of issues relating to food sovereignty and will enable a single, stronger voice to be heard on these issues and to propose clear, achievable solutions.

AFSA also works to strengthen the capacities of small producers and to resist the monopolization of agricultural resources by large corporations.

AFSA's strategy focuses on evidence gathering, movement building, awareness raising and capacity building, and policy advocacy. The network works on various thematic groups, namely:

- Land: Rural communities have a say in land rights and access to the agroecological intensification methods needed for sustainable land use.
- seeds: create a continental platform that supports farmer-managed seed systems and influences seed policy and legislation to support farmer-managed seed systems.
- climate change: make agroecology an evidence-based argument in climate change policy as a long-term, sustainable solution.
- Health, nutrition and consumers: A dynamic movement of African citizens committed to advocating a transition to sustainable food systems for nutrition and health.

AFSA also uses digital campaigns and collaborations with international partners to amplify its impact.

Question and answer session

- 1- Will the AFSA network support the network to be created for the NUS?
- 2- What were the challenges faced by the various platforms?
- 3- Will the network to be created be formed in such a way that all stakeholders at all levels of the NUS value chain are represented?
- 4- How could a new platform have a different impact from what already exists? in terms of purpose and vision
- 5- Was the sequencing done according to the genome and when?
- 6- How is seed purity maintained in CSBs?

Reflections from the third series of presentations

The AFSA network will play a crucial role in the amplification and scaling-up of the forthcoming platform, sharing its skills and experience to optimize efficiency and intervene in the advocacy and amplification of actions.

However, challenges such as effective communication between members and coordination of agendas were identified as particularly important for a multinational platform. Another challenge concerns regulations and policies relating to the exchange of germplasm between farmers and seed breeders, marked by the absence of laws facilitating such exchanges. Collaboration with seed breeders also represents a notable difficulty. To ensure the viability of

the platform, all stakeholders in the value chain must be actively involved, despite the current absence of platforms bringing together all stakeholders in the NUS field.

4. Session 2: Proposal and structure of the multi-stakeholder platform on neglected and underutilized crops Day 2

Gloria OTIENO- Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
<https://cloud.sustlives.eu/index.php/f/36004>

Context

The four essential issues linked to our food are: food security and nutrition, adaptation to climate change, and income. Unfortunately, we are not taking full advantage of our food and plant species to achieve these objectives, especially when we consider the importance of plants such as fonio, tamarind, moringa, millet, and various traditional fruits and vegetables for their nutritional value, resilience to climate change, and cultural significance. Thus, the global debate on transforming food systems, notes that current food production methods are causing a significant loss of agricultural biodiversity and leading to poor diets focused solely on three major crops (rice, maize, wheat). This highlights the urgent need to introduce more diversity into our food production and distribution systems.



Small farms and community seed banks play a crucial role in the conservation and management of underutilized plant species (NUS). These NUS are often managed by women, who play a crucial role in conservation, management, value addition and ultimately nutrition and health.

Photo 3: South African farmer

A concrete example is provided by a Ugandan farmer who has succeeded in creating a seed bank on her farm, thus contributing to biodiversity conservation and generating income through agro-tourism (**Photo 3**). It is therefore essential that greater recognition and support be given to NUS in agricultural and food policies, in order to promote sustainable food security and meet the challenges of climate change. It is therefore essential to invest in the development of seed systems and to make these plants more available for public use.

What is a multi-stakeholder platform for NUS?

A stakeholder can be defined as a person, individual, organization, or group with an interest in a company. A stakeholder has a direct interest and can either affect or be affected by, the operations and performance of a company. Typical NUS stakeholders are farmers/producers and producer organizations, private sector stakeholders, NGOs, governmental organizations, research bodies, trade associations, and the media. An entity's stakeholders may be internal or external to the organization.

The **multi-stakeholder platform** is presented as a collaborative framework enabling stakeholders to join forces to tackle common challenges, such as NUS policy and development issues. It promotes the sharing of resources, joint activities, innovation and research, the dissemination of knowledge on innovations, as well as the sharing of best practices to identify what works well and how. Especially in a context where several success stories have been shared in presentations, highlighting that many positive initiatives exist but there is a lack of mutual awareness of what everyone is doing. This platform will therefore aim to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge between stakeholders to jointly improve the situation of NUS. On the question of access to NUS crops, the direct beneficiaries are often not those who maintain and conserve these species. Benefit-sharing mechanisms need to be put in place for the farmers who manage these NUS. Seed policies need to be better engaged in terms of registration of farmers' varieties, including NUS, which could enable increased commercialization of these varieties by farmers.

There must be a food policy aimed at creating a demand for NUS so that they regain their place in our daily diet. This is the case of a policy in Kenya requiring bread to contain components other than wheat, such as cassava or millet, although this policy is not fully implemented by bread companies. There are also school feeding programs in Kenya, where traditional green vegetables are grown and supplied to schools thanks to a deliberate policy by the local government.

This platform will be used to share information, and disseminate knowledge, innovations and best practices in the following areas:

- **Seed conservation systems:** Farmers and local communities are identified as the main custodians of NUS, being involved in both their conservation and seed production. These activities are closely linked, as most NUS originate from artisanal seed systems.
- **Research and breeding:** This category includes researchers and institutions that provide scientific knowledge and develop innovations to improve NUS.
- **value-addition and processing:** The private sector is seen as a key player in adding value and processing NUS, as well as in marketing and innovating NUS-based food products.
- **capacity building:** NGOs play an essential role in implementing field initiatives, building capacity, adding value, and engaging with farmers. They are also active in policy influence and advocacy.
- **Policy influences and implementation:** Government agencies play a crucial role in formulating favorable policies and funding NUS-related initiatives. The media is important for disseminating information, while regional partners such as FARA, the African Union, the African Development Bank, and others play a key role in promoting regional trade, seed policy, and funding NUS-related programs.
- **Consumers:** Consumers are essential because they create the demand for NUS-based products.

A structure for a multi-stakeholder platform will include national chapters for each country, and thematic partners for different areas such as conservation, genetic selection, capacity building, and consumer engagement. This platform will facilitate the coordination of activities at the national and regional level, as well as engaging more countries and partners in the process (**Figure 4**).

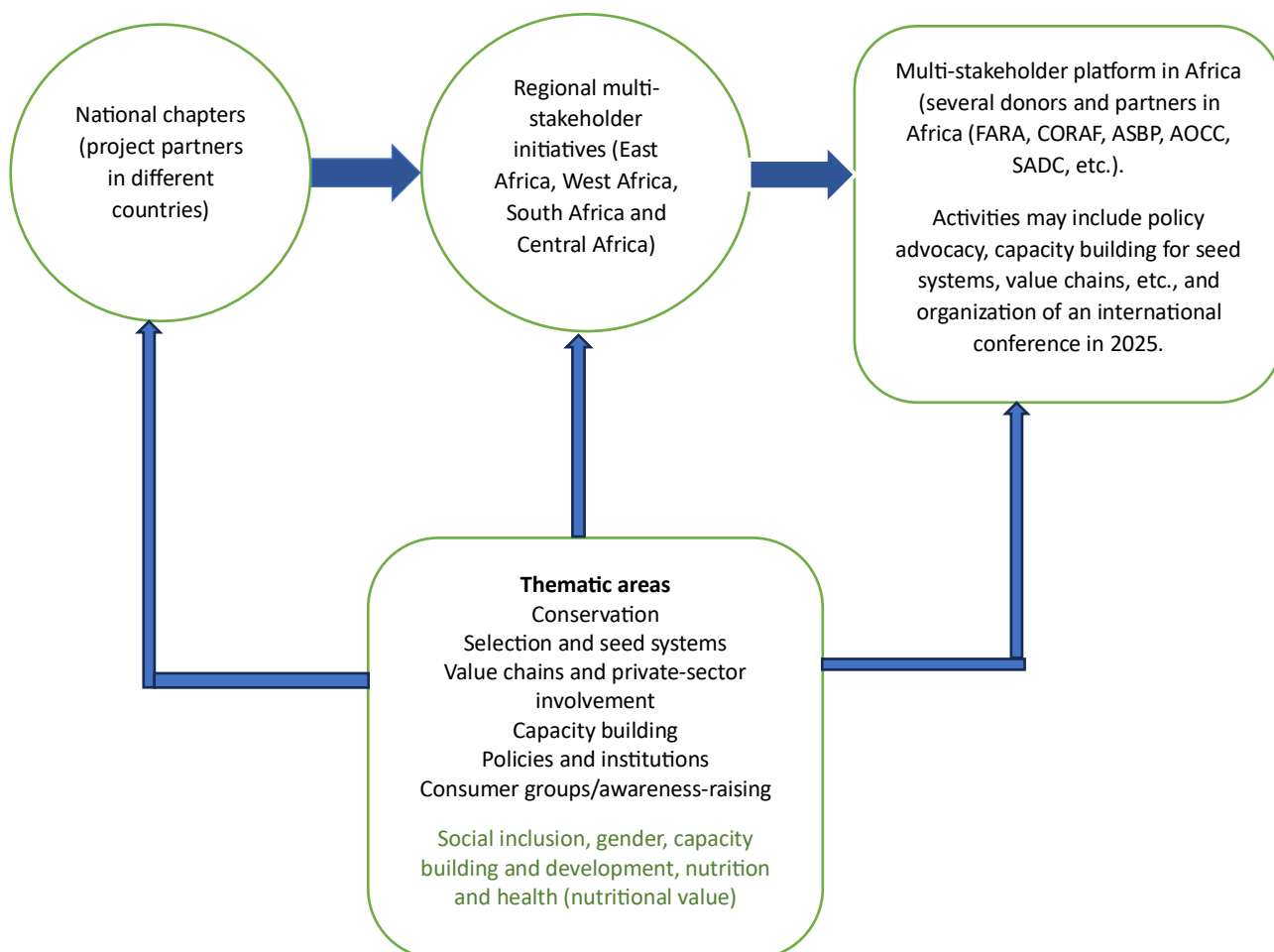


Figure 4: Proposed structure of the NUS multi-stakeholder platform in Africa

It would also be interesting to add social inclusion, gender, capacity building and development, nutrition and health to the thematic areas. However, we need to think about how the different themes will be taken into account when moving from one region to another, from one country to another. In addition to this physical platform, we need to think about a digital platform that provides information on everything that is being done by each stakeholder and how they are organized. And finally, this platform will need to have a database summarizing all the NUS on which the various stakeholders are working.

Objectives of the multi-stakeholder platform

The multi-stakeholder platform will aim to:

- Enable collaboration and support for NUS-related projects on the continent, i.e. their implementation on a larger scale, as well as the sharing and dissemination of knowledge.
- Improve biodiversity conservation, access to NUS genetic resources, and benefit sharing through the platform (including the development of modalities for sharing genetic resources and related information) - including support for seed banks and the documentation and protection of related indigenous knowledge.
- Promote collaboration between researchers for joint research and to disseminate research results and innovations to a wider audience.
- Facilitate market links for private-sector stakeholders and support the valorization and transformation of NUS, including the dissemination of new products developed by the various stakeholders.
- Facilitate training and capacity-building for the various stakeholders and design joint capacity-building programs for the various stakeholders.
- Provide a platform for policy advocacy and influence at regional and global levels, e.g. through joint briefings and position papers, etc.
- Provide a platform for communicating success stories, best practices, and related achievements through newsletters, social media, etc.
- Provide a platform for collaboration with other global initiatives such as meetings of international treaty governing bodies, the African Union Seed and Biotechnology Platform (ASBP), the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), etc.
- Provide a platform for consumer awareness campaigns - provide information on NUS crops and their nutritional benefits, disseminate recipe books, new NUS products.

Following the plenary discussions, a number of specific points emerged as equally vital to the success of this multi-stakeholder platform, essentially concerning the improvement and expansion of the means of support, communication, awareness-raising and valorization of NUS. Among these points are the following:

- improved collaboration and support for NUS projects, including their implementation on a larger scale.
- increased sharing and dissemination of NUS knowledge, including the creation of an effective NUS database and library.
- Setting up a platform to communicate NUS success stories, best practices, and achievements.
- facilitating links with the market for private-sector stakeholders and supporting the valorization and transformation of NUS
- enhancing the value of small-scale producers and mobilizing NUS.
- organizing consumer awareness campaigns on NUS crops and their nutritional benefits.
- helping to raise awareness and promote NUS by theme group and field.
- providing a platform for advocacy and policy influence at regional and global levels.
- helps it lobby regional institutions.
- facilitating collaboration between researchers for joint research and dissemination of research results.

- strengthening action plans to improve the use and sustainability of NUS.
- strengthening NUS initiatives and helping to popularize genetic resources in Africa.
- service to research, NUS use, policy, communication, sustainability and inclusiveness.

However, this platform will need to have a clear document showing its vision, mission, strategic axes, and financial plan. Likewise, certain indicators will need to be clearly defined for the platform to function more effectively.

5. Platform structure proposals (group activity)

Group work was carried out to define the roles of the various stakeholders in terms of NUS-related activities. Specifically, the aim was to define the ideal governance approach/structure from among the following proposals: Steering Committee, Working Group, Regional/Continental Networks, Stakeholder Forum, and Platform. Three groups were formed for this purpose:

- Group 1: Gene banks+ Research, breeding
- Group 2: Farmers' organizations + private sector + consumer groups
- Group 3: Global regional organization

Group work results

At the end of the group work, each stakeholder was able to list the various activities carried out by their respective institutions and the roles they would play in the operation of the multi-stakeholder platform (**Table 2**).

5.1. Gene banks+ Research, breeding

This group is made up mainly of research institutions, universities and others. NUS-related activities cover a wide range of fields, from the collection and characterization of NUS to their use in food production and conservation. These activities are carried out in a variety of geographical and institutional contexts, illustrating a comprehensive approach to fully exploiting the potential of NUS. In terms of collection and characterization, efforts are focused on the identification, multiplication and genetic characterization of NUS. These activities are crucial to understanding the specific properties and needs of NUS, thus facilitating their integration into agricultural and food systems. Producer training is another important aspect, aimed at building skills and knowledge in the production and use of NUS. This helps to improve the quality and productivity of NUS, while promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

The development of new NUS varieties is another area of focus, where the emphasis is on improving NUS characteristics to better meet the needs of growers and consumers in a context of climate change. In the fields of ethnobotany, ecology and multiplication, research focuses

on understanding the relationships between NUS and their natural habitats, as well as on NUS propagation and multiplication methods. Secondly, the genetic characterization and nutritional valorization of NUS are also important areas, where the aim is to determine the nutritional compositions of NUS and develop innovative food products from these resources. Agroforestry is a field in which NUS play a key role, enabling the harmonious integration of trees and crops in agricultural systems to enhance biodiversity and productivity. Finally, NUS conservation, both in situ and ex situ, is essential to preserve NUS biodiversity and ensure their long-term availability for research and development. The various activities carried out by these different stakeholders reflect a holistic approach to valuing NUS, recognizing their importance for food security, biodiversity and sustainable development. They underline the importance of integrating NUS into agricultural policies and practices, in order to take full advantage of these valuable natural resources.

Role on the platform

On the platform, research stakeholders will focus on providing scientific information and continuously improving knowledge in various fields. A database will be set up on the nutritional value of NUS, providing a valuable resource for researchers and health professionals. In addition, awareness-raising tools will be developed to help disseminate this information effectively.

Work will also be done in close collaboration with gene banks, where genetic material and germplasm characterization will be carried out to better understand the capabilities and potential of NUS. This collaboration will aim to strengthen skills in cultivation, agronomy and forestry, as well as to improve management of germplasm sources, breeding and selection, and pest and disease management. The aim is to synthesize available information and identify gaps in current knowledge to guide future research.

Finally, a breeding program will be set up to improve the material available to farmers. This involves working on plant varieties that are more resistant to disease, more productive and better adapted to changing environmental conditions. This integrated approach to research, combined with a commitment to knowledge sharing and training, will make a significant contribution to agricultural progress and food security. The structure for achieving these objectives is therefore the establishment of regional and continental working groups/networks.

5.2. Farmers' organizations + private sector + consumer groups

These structures are committed to the development of NUS through a comprehensive approach to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of these initiatives. Identification activities, in collaboration with local communities, make it possible to specifically target endangered species or those whose nutritional value is underestimated. This fundamental step ensures that enhancement efforts are focused on the most relevant needs and resources. Raising producer awareness is another crucial activity. Community radio stations, cooking

demonstrations and digital campaigns are used as dissemination vectors to inform and encourage producers to integrate NUS into their farming and food practices. These methods are used to reach a wide audience and promote the adoption of good practices.

Secondly, capacity building for producers is also a key element of the activities carried out by this group of stakeholders. This includes support for production, help in setting up farmers' seed banks, and training in seed production and storage. These measures aim to improve the quality and quantity of available NUS, while strengthening the resilience of local farming systems. Advocacy is an important component in securing the political and financial support needed to enhance the value of NUS. The organization of parliamentary dinners, parliamentary days and conference-debates serves to inform and influence decision-makers, in order to create a favorable environment for integrating NUS into agricultural policies and strategies. Last but not least, activities to promote and market NUS products and to bring producers and consumers together are key aspects that are taken into account.

These activities, carried out by different structures, demonstrate a holistic approach to adding value to NUS, through identification, awareness-raising, capacity-building, advocacy and commercial valorization.

Role on the platform

This category of stakeholders involved in NUS enhancement will play multiple, interconnected roles to maximize the impact of their initiatives through the platform. Firstly, the animation of the platform is a central role, where the various stakeholders will be responsible for sharing relevant and useful content, facilitating access to valuable information for all stakeholders in the sector. To ensure visibility outside the platform, these structures will work to highlight the projects and results achieved, collaborating with the media, institutions and international organizations. In so doing, they will help raise awareness of the NUS and attract a wider public to their causes. Secondly, sharing experiences and opportunities is another crucial role that will enable community members to benefit from lessons learned and new opportunities that arise. This will foster the exchange of knowledge and best practices, stimulating innovation and continuous improvement. These structures will also act as country relays, adapting their initiatives to local and national contexts, according to the specific needs and priorities of each region. This will ensure that the efforts deployed are relevant and effective in the context of the particular geographical and socio-economic realities of each country. Synergy of action, notably through joint projects and advocacy, will enhance the collective impact of initiatives. By working together, these structures will be able to mobilize additional resources, share costs and accelerate the development of innovative solutions.

Finally, amplifying the voice of producers is a major objective. By placing producers at the heart of their efforts, their autonomy, bargaining power and influence on the market will be further strengthened. This will involve supporting production, helping to set up farmers' seed banks, and promoting their products on wider markets.



Collectively, these roles will contribute to the creation of a dynamic and supportive ecosystem for the valorisation of NUS, promoting cooperation, innovation and the inclusion of producers in the valorisation process through an inter-governance including several approaches.

5.3. World Regional Organization

Organizations such as AFSA and CIHEAM, as well as Treaty, play key roles in the valorization of NUS through a range of varied and complementary activities.

AFSA stands out for its commitment to advocating policies favorable to the valorization of NUS. It gathers and shares scientific evidence to support its arguments, organizes seed fairs to promote genetic diversity, launches campaigns and awareness-raising events to raise public awareness, and conducts policy gap analysis concerning the African Union, the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), and the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA). In addition, AFSA works to build the capacity of local stakeholders and supports NUS-oriented projects, provides practical tools such as descriptors, inventories, and sustainable use toolkits, and creates a knowledge repository. On the other hand, CIHEAM specializes in research, training and capacity building, and cooperation on projects related to the valorization of NUS. The center conducts research to improve our understanding of NUS and develop value-adding strategies. It also provides training and capacity-building for those involved in NUS valorization and encourages cooperation and the implementation of joint projects to maximize the impact of its efforts. As for Treaty, it works to create a policy and regulatory framework conducive to NUS valorization, by building capacity and supporting NUS-oriented projects, notably via the Project Support Fund (BSF). It also provides practical tools and a knowledge repository to facilitate the sustainable use of NUS.

In short, these organizations demonstrate a holistic approach to valuing NUS, combining research, awareness-raising, advocacy, capacity-building and project cooperation. Their joint work contributes to strengthening the knowledge base, promoting the adoption of NUS, and creating an environment conducive to their valorization and sustainable use.

Role on the platform

The organizations involved in this new platform will play a crucial role in several key dimensions of its operation and impact. They will be responsible for sharing knowledge and information, helping to enrich the platform's content, and facilitating access to valuable resources for all users.

In addition, these organizations will be responsible for capacity building, offering training and workshops to help users get the most out of the platform. This will include sessions on the use of digital technologies, project management, and analysis of relevant policies and regulations. They will also help create a policy and regulatory environment conducive to the valorization of NUS, working with policymakers and legislative experts to identify and overcome legal and regulatory obstacles. To amplify the platform's initiatives, these organizations will act as relays, highlighting success stories and innovations from the platform to the media, potential partners, and key decision-makers. They will also work to support the up-scaling of the

platform's work, mobilizing additional resources and forming strategic alliances. Finally, they will exercise a technical and policy advisory role, providing informed opinions on trends, best practices, and opportunities for improvement. This will help the platform to remain at the forefront of technological advances and regulatory developments, ensuring its long-term relevance and effectiveness.

In conclusion, these roles will contribute to making the platform a dynamic and innovative space for NUS valorization, by facilitating knowledge exchange, building capacity, fostering a favorable regulatory environment, amplifying initiatives, supporting scale-up, and providing technical and policy advisory support.

Governance structure

The various organizations have proposed a composite governance structure designed to maximize the effectiveness and representativeness of their efforts. This structure will be based on several types of committees and working groups, each with a specific role and contributing to the collective vision (Table 1).

At the top of this structure is the **Steering Committee**, made up of representatives from Plant Treaty, AFSA, and CIHEAM. This committee will direct strategic orientations and oversee the execution of action plans. It will also ensure regional balance, with a balanced representation of the different African regions (East, West, Central, South, North).

In parallel, **working groups** will be set up to address specific topics and prepare technical reports. These groups, also present at Plant Treaty, AFSA, and CIHEAM, will enable a multidisciplinary approach and ensure a balance between the various stakeholders taking part in the initiatives.

Regional/Continental Networks will play a crucial role in linking local initiatives with continental objectives. These networks facilitate the sharing of information and best practices, while promoting collaboration between different regions.

The **Stakeholder Forum** will provide a forum for dialogue open to all stakeholders interested in NUS development. This forum will enable them to express their concerns, share ideas and contribute to the definition of policies and strategies.

Finally, the **Platforms** will serve as a hub for sharing information, knowledge and resources. They will offer an online space where users can access data, take part in training courses, and collaborate on projects.

To ensure smooth operation, these structures will be designed to reflect a regional balance, a balance between stakeholders, a multidisciplinary approach, and fluid communication in several languages. A system of leadership and rotation will be put in place to maintain the momentum and commitment of members. Legal representatives of regional organizations will also be included to reinforce the credibility and impact of the initiatives. However, meetings will be organized according to a fixed schedule, including one annual physical meeting and

three virtual meetings every three months, enabling constant and effective interaction between members.

Table 1: Update on group work

Thematic groups	NUS-related activities	Role on the platform	Governance structure
Group 1	WOLDVEG ➤ NUS collection, NUS characterization ➤ Training producers to produce NUS ➤ NUS selection National Agricultural University of Benin ➤ Ethnobotany, ecology, multiplication, ➤ Genetic characterization, ➤ Characterization of the nutritional value of NUS foods, development of food products using NUS, Agroforestry Ghana ➤ NUS collection, ➤ Genetic characterization of NUS, ➤ Ethnobotany, in situ and ex situ seed conservation (gene bank) Abou Moumouni University of Niger ➤ NUS identification, ➤ Agromorphological characterization, ➤ cultural techniques, ➤ itineraries by NUS IRSAT/Burkina Faso	Search ➤ Provision of scientific information ➤ Database on the nutritional value of NUS ➤ Development of awareness-raising tools Gene banks ➤ Sharing equipment ➤ Description and characterization of germplasm ➤ Capacity building in cultural, agronomic and silvicultural practices; germplasm source; genetic selection and improvement, pest and disease management; ➤ Synthesis of available information and blanking requirements Selection Improving farmers' equipment	Working group c. Regional/continental networks

	➤ Nutritional characterization of food NUS, ➤ NUS transformation Mali/IER ➤ Ethnobotany and agromorphological characterization, ➤ Varietal creation, ➤ Gene conservation, ➤ Pest control, ➤ Transformation of NUS Biosciences Laboratory/UJKZ ➤ NUS ethnobotanical survey, ➤ NUS seed, agromorphological, biochemical and molecular collection Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT ➤ Ethnobotanical characterization of NUS, ➤ Socio-cultural importance of NUS, characterization, ➤ Adding value to NUS, ➤ Nutritional analysis of NUS, ➤ Chain value of two species Kenya/ICRAF ➤ Gene banks, collection, agromorphological, biochemical and molecular aspects of NUS, ➤ In situ conservation, ex-situ conservation, ➤ The following applications are being developed: researchers, farmers, ➤ Seed distribution		
--	--	--	--

	Labev/UJKZ ➤ Ethnobotany, Ecology ➤ Demographic characterization of NUS Zambia Gene Bank		
Group 2	➤ Identification with communities (endangered species, etc.) ➤ Raising awareness among producers (awareness-raising through community radio stations, culinary demonstrations, digital campaigns, etc.) ➤ Capacity-building (production support, support in setting up farmers' seed banks, production training, seed storage, etc.). ➤ Advocacy (Organization of parliamentary dinners, organization of parliamentary days, conference debates), ➤ Adding value and marketing (product processing, points of sale, bringing together producers and buyers and MFIs, food innovation, packaging, medicine, energy, construction, etc.).	➤ Platform animation (content sharing, ➤ Visibility outside the platform ➤ Sharing experience and opportunities ➤ Country relays ➤ Synergy of actions (joint projects, joint advocacy) ➤ Amplifying the producer route	We are present at all levels
Group 3	AFSA ➤ Political advocacy ➤ Collecting and sharing evidence ➤ Seed fairs	➤ Sharing knowledge and information ➤ Capacity building ➤ Contribute to the creation of a favorable political and regulatory environment	Steering committee (Plant treaty, AFSA § CIHEAM) b. Working group (Plant treaty, AFSA § CIHEAM)

	➤ Campaigns and awareness-raising ➤ Policy gap analysis: AU, UPOV, ACFTA ➤ Capacity building Treaty ➤ Favourable political and regulatory framework ➤ Capacity building ➤ Support for NUS-oriented projects (BSF) ➤ Practical support tools: Descriptors, inventory (farmers' rights), sustainable use toolbox ➤ Knowledge repository CIHEAM ➤ Search ➤ Training and capacity building ➤ Cooperation and projects	➤ Expanding the platform's initiatives ➤ Supporting the intensification of the platform's work ➤ Technical and political advisory role	c. Regional/continental networks (Plant treaty, AFSA § CIHEAM) d. Stakeholder forum e. Platforms ➤ Try to assess the balance of regional representation (East, West, Central, South, North). ➤ Balance between stakeholders ➤ Multidisciplinarity ➤ Language ➤ Leadership and rotation ➤ Legal representatives of regional organizations (ROPFA, ESAFF, COASP) ➤ Frequency and type of meetings: 1 physical meeting/year and 3 virtual meetings/3 months
--	---	--	--

6. Proposals for hosting the platform

The alliance already has a platform (ABC and FARA) which is a digital platform. And since it already exists, the alliance will pay for hosting. The alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT works on food resources as a CGIAR center. The Kenya office will be responsible for hosting this new platform, both physically and digitally. The FARA platform is very strong in disseminating information, hence the proposal from the two institutions.

This platform will also be very dynamic, providing information on all species and the work being done in this area, whatever the field. This platform will also be for scientists working on NUS and their scientific research. This platform will bring together knowledge-holders on NUS to learn more. The site will be dynamic, with ongoing improvements to keep the information available up to date.

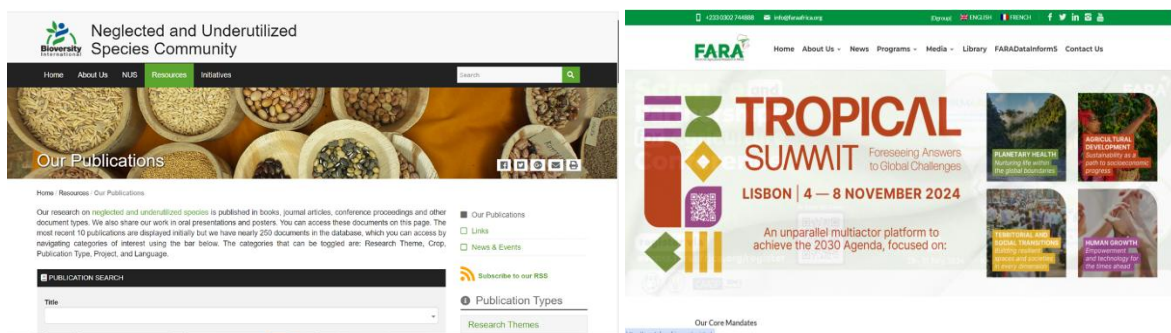


Photo 4: Example of a platform

7. Wrap-up and conclusions

A series of concrete, strategic initiatives are planned for the medium to long term, to bring the next steps to fruition. Immediate actions include

- Mapping NUS research and development projects and initiatives on the continent and drawing up an inventory - the survey will be carried out using an inclusive methodology between September and December 2024.
- Development of a concept note and strategy for the platform by September 2024
- The commitment of potential backers for the platform by October 2024
- Commitment and inclusion of missing stakeholders and countries (October 2024)
- Setting up a temporary digital platform - October 2024
- The development and sharing of terms of reference for national and regional MSP sections (also organize a virtual meeting for this purpose - by October 2024).
- Formation of national stakeholder forums - Follow-up by December 2024
- Formation of regional stakeholder forums - December 2024

Action plans for the medium term - 2025 include:

- The organization of a NUS conference and the official launch of the platform - 2025
- Sharing information/results of NUS inventory and mapping
- Feeding the NUS database for the various thematic working groups, stakeholder forums, etc.
- Involvement in national and international FOR A - governing body meetings, CGRFA, UNFSSS, CBD Nagoya Protocol - etc.
- Joint projects, financing, etc.



Appendix

Table 1. List of participants at the July 3-4, 2024 workshop

Institution	COUNTRY
Awa Gueye	Ghana
Afrique verte Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso
Institut d' Economie Rurale (IER)	Mali
Samuel Muthemba	Kenya
World Vegetable Center	Burkina Faso
UAM Niger	Niger
Forest Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)	Ghana
Pelum Uganda	Uganda
RECA	Niger
Centre national de la recherche scientifique et technologique	Burkina Faso
AICS	Burkina Faso
National University of Agriculture	Benin
FAO-ITPGRFA	Kenya
Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT	Uganda
Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT	Burkina Faso
CIHEAM	Rome
Afrique verte Niger	Niger
Slow Food Burkina	Burkina Faso
Slow Food Kenya	Kenya
UJKZ	Burkina Faso
UJKZ	Burkina Faso



UJKZ	Burkina Faso
International Treaty on PGFRA secretariat	
University of Abdou Moumouni	Niger
Seed Savers networks Kenya (SSN)	Kenya
SwissAID	Niger
Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT	Benin
SWISSAID	Niger
Zambia Aging Research institute (National genebank)	Zambia
CIFORICRAF (AOCC)	Kenya
UJKZ	Burkina Faso
UJKZ	Burkina Faso
UJKZ	Burkina Faso
Afrique verte Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso
World Vegetable Center	Burkina Faso
SWISSAID	Niger
Charles Opiyo	Uganda
Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT	Benin
John Kariouki	Kenya
UJKZ	Burkina Fasa
Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT	UGANDA
CTDT Community technology Development Organisation	Zimbabwe
Traducteur UJKZ	Burkina Faso
Traducteur UJKZ	Burkina Faso
IRSAT (Institut de Recherche en Sciences Appliquées et Technologies (CNRST/IRSAT)	Burkina Faso
ROPFA/3AD	Burkina Faso

Table 2: Stakeholder Categorization

Stakeholder	Niger	Burkina Faso	Regional and international organizations
Private sector			
Producer organization	RECA, COP-Niger Federation of Unions of Farmer Groups of Niger (FUGPN-Mooriben)	Watinoma, UNPSB (Union Nationale des Coopératives Producteurs Semenciers du Burkina Faso) FIAB, AMSP, Inter profession patate douce, Fédération Nationale des groupements Naam, FENOP, FIMOB, CNABIO, COASP, 3AO, CCAE, PI-PDCO Bazega, Lawaltane,	
NGOs		Autre terre, ACRA, - CISV, LVIA, Mani Tese, Azione Terrae (COSPE, DEAFAL and Terra Nuova), INADES Formatoin, CISV	Afrique verte, ACRA, ROPPA, 3AO, SWISSAID, Slow Food, FIS
National research institutions	INRAN	INERA, IRSAT (Institut de Recherche en Sciences Appliquées et Technologies (CNRST/IRSAT)) CONAGREP, INESS	
CGIARs	ICRISAT, ABC	ICRISAT ABC, CIRAD	ICRISAT ABC, World veg, IITA, ICARDA, CYMMIT
Projects		Generation Food (ADE), PRSA, KENAF, projects-PDCO, Moringa and natural ingredients, QUINOA, 2SCALE, Projet_FONRID_monringa, TAS_PRO, TAPSA, SANC2S,	
Universities	UAM	UJKZ, University of BF	CIEAM BARI, ROMA Tre, Luke
Consumer associations/groups		Ligue des consommateurs du Burkina Faso, Réseau national des consommateurs du faso, Vigi consommateurs, Association des consommateurs du Burkina, Organisation des consommateurs du Burkina	

Government agencies/structures		DGPV, DGPER	
Conservation and management of genetic resources			

Table 3: Workshop agenda

Jour 1 : 3 juillet 2024

Plage horaire	Activité	Responsable
08h30 - 09h00	Inscription	TOUS
09h00 - 09h10	Bienvenue et introduction	Jacques Nanema - UJKZ
09h10 - 09h45	Remarques préliminaires	Filippo Acasto - AICS Hamid El Bilali - CIHEAM-Bari Francesca Grazioli - Alliance de la Bioversité Internationale et du CIAT Lawali Dambo, UAM Gabin Korbeogo, UJKZ
09h45 - 10h00	Présentation de l'atelier : Objectifs et programme	Francesca Grazioli - Alliance de la Bioversité Internationale et du CIAT
10h00 - 10h15	Photo de groupe	TOUS
10h15 - 10h45	<i>Pause thé/café</i>	
10h45 - 11h15	Discours préliminaires - Importance des cultures NUS en Afrique	À confirmer - UA, NEPAD ou TIRPAA

11h15 - 11h45	Aperçu des projets de recherche et développement sur les NUS menés par l'Alliance de Bioversity International et du CIAT	Francesca Grazioli - Alliance de la Bioversité Internationale et du CIAT Céline Termote - Alliance de Bioversity International et du CIAT Sam Bodjrenou - Alliance de Bioversity International et du CIAT
11h45 - 12h00	Discussion animée	
12h00-13h00	Projets liés aux NUS sur le continent 1. Initiative d'OXFAM sur les NUS en Ouganda 2. Projet Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) et FAO sur les NUS en Afrique australe 3. Projet CROPS4HD ⁷ au Niger 4. Projet SAVEVEG en Afrique de l'Ouest ⁸ 5. Expériences du Bénin	Charles Opio OXFAM Andrew Mushita - CTDT Mahamane Rabilou Abdou - SWISSAID Niger Natacha Gouba, Centre Mondial des Légumes (WorldVeg) À confirmer
13h00 - 13h30	Discussion animée	
13h00-13h30	Pause déjeuner	
14h30 - 15h30	Initiatives sur les NUS sur le continent 1. Vision pour des cultures et des sols adaptés en Afrique (VACS) 2. Consortium africain des cultures orphelines (AOCC) 3. Initiative BOLDER - CROP TRUST	
15h00 - 15h30	Discussion animée	
15h30 - 16h00	Proposition et structure de la plateforme multipartite de la NUS	Gloria Otieno - Alliance de Bioversity International et du CIAT

⁷Consommation de cultures orphelines résilientes pour des produits destinés à une alimentation plus saine

⁸Des légumes sains produits localement pour les consommateurs d'Afrique de l'Ouest



16h00 - 16h30	<i>Discussion animée</i>	
16h30	<i>Bilan de la première journée</i>	Jacques Nanema - UJKZ
17h00	Thé et départ	

Jour 2 : 4 juillet 2024

Plage horaire	Activité	Responsable
08h30 - 09h00	Inscription	TOUS
09h00 - 09h05	Accueil	Jacques Nanema - UJKZ
09h05 - 09h15	Récapitulatif de la première journée et programme de la deuxième journée	Gloria Otieno - Alliance de Bioversity International et du CIAT
09h15 - 10h45	Activité de groupe Co-concevoir la plateforme	Animé par Francesca Grazioli, Hamid El Bilali, Sam Bodjrenou
10h45 - 11h15	Pause thé	
11h15 - 12h15	Séance plénière Les groupes rendent compte et se mettent d'accord sur la conception et les parties prenantes de la plateforme.	TOUS
12h15-13h00	Chapitres nationaux, responsables régionaux (Afrique de l'Est, de l'Ouest, centrale et australe)	Burkina Faso Jacques Nanema / Fanta Tietiambou Niger - Lawali Dambo, Iro Dan Guimbo Autres Animé par Gloria Otieno
13h00 - 14h00	Pause déjeuner	
14h00 - 14h30	Hébergement de la plateforme (numérique et secrétariat)	Animé par Francesca Grazioli
14h30 - 15h00	Chronologie des activités sur la plateforme	Animé par Gloria Otieno ou Francesca Grazioli
15h00 - 15h30	Bilan et conclusion	Filippo Acasto - AICS Hamid El Bilali - CIHEAM-Bari Lawali Dambo - UAM Francesca Grazioli - ABC
15h30 - 16h00	Clôture officielle de l'atelier	Jacques Nanema - UJKZ

