

INSTITUT DU SAHEL

First International Conference on Markets in the Sahel and West Africa

The Challenges of Building a Regional Agro-pastoral Market Resilient to Multidimensional Shocks such as Civil Insecurity, Pandemics, Climate Change and International Market Disruptions



26 and 27 July 2023 in Bamako, Mali

CILSS: «50 years of commitment to the people of the Sahel and West Africa».

The Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) was created on September 12, 1973 following the major droughts that hit the Sahel in the 1970s.

CILSS, created from the foresight of the founding fathers as a concern for active solidarity between people, celebrates this year the fiftieth anniversary of its creation.

.CILSS is currently composed ofthirteen (13) Member States, including: 8 Coastal States (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal, and Togo); 4 landlocked States (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Chad) and 1 Island State (Cabo Verde).

This organization operates today throughout the ECOWAS region, in Mauritania and Chad, i.e. 17 countries.

In half a century, CILSS has indeed strongly supported its States and the populations of the Sahel and West Africa by setting up mechanisms, instruments and tools which today make it possible to better understand and effectively face the challenges of sustainable development in the region: drought, harmful effects of climate change, lack of water and energy control, dysfunction of the regional market for agri-food products, food insecurity, population issues, training, etc with the support of technical and financial partners, the region can no longer be taken unaware by natural disasters (floods and drought).

The celebration of this fiftieth anniversary throughout the year 2023 through major events, will be a great moment of exchange, sharing and communication in order to highlight the important achievements and scientific knowledge garnered by the institution, for the benefit of its Member States and its valiant populations.

This celebration will also be a unique framework for CILSS to make a high-level advocacy to its technical and financial partners for the strengthening of the strategic partnership with the ultimate goal of financing its 2023-2027 work plan derived from its 2050 vision for the fulfillment of his new mandate.

MANDATE

« Invest in the search for Food and Nutrition Security and the fight against the effects of desertification and climate change for an ecological balance and sustainable development in the Sahel and West Africa».

VISION

The current mandate of CILSS is to «Invest in the search for Food and Nutrition Security and the fight against the effects of desertification and climate change for an ecological balance and sustainable development in the Sahel and West Africa» through:

- 1. Strategy and policy formulation, analysis, coordination and harmonisation;
- 2. Strengthening of scientific and technical cooperation;
- 3. Information collection, processing and dissemination;
- 4. Capacity building of the various actors, including the private sector;
- 5. Capitalising on and disseminating experiences and achievements;
- 6. Supporting the implementation of strategies, policies and programmes.

The sixth transversal strategic axis entitled "Governance and organizational development" ensures the political coverage, coordination, management and monitoring of the CILSS system.

POLITICALLY AND TECHNICALLY

The Institution is coordinated by Statutory Bodies, including:

- Conference of Heads of State and/or Government (CHOG)
- Council of Ministers (CM)
- Regional Programming and Monitoring Committee (RPMC)
- Management Board

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

CILSS is located in three countries:

- Executive Secretariat (located in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso);
- AGRHYMET CCR-AOS, Centre Climatique Régional pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest et le Sahel (specialized institution based in Niamey, Niger);
- Institut du Sahel (specialized institution based in Bamako, Mali).

FIVE (5) REGIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS (RSP)

CILSS relies on five Regional Support Programmes for the operational implementation of its mandate:

- Food and Nutrition Security
- Natural Resource Management and Climate change
- Water Control.
- Market Access for Agricultural and Agri-Food Products
- Population, Gender and Development.

The Regional Market Access Support Program (PRA-Markets) :

The Regional Market Access Support Programme (PRA-Markets) was created following the 2004 reform with the aim of strengthening and expanding the achievements of the various projects and programmes coordinated by CILSS in connection with the fluidity of trade in agricultural and agrifood products and the development of trade between Sahelian and coastal countries. In

particular, this Programme is working market information system that necessary for security analysis promote intra-regional trade. trade statistics databases over the past decade make institution for market region. on the operationalisation of a regional provides States with the data and decision-making tools to The price and cross-border set up by PRA-Markets CILSS the reference information in the subOne of the challenges that PRA-Markets is working to meet is to make the most of this mass of information in order to provide States, on a regular basis, with information products on the functioning of the market, but also to build the foundations of forecasts that strengthen the capacity to anticipate and manage market imperfections caused by exogenous and endogenous factors.

Why a conference on markets ?

The debate on the challenges of building a resilient regional market in the current context is at the stage of asking questions and seeking concrete proposals. The decision to organise a subregional conference on the subject arises from a number of factors, including (i) the wide diversity of stakeholders, (ii) the geographical, territorial and cross-border dimension, (iii) the many challenges and issues at stake, and in particular the multi-faceted, multi-sectoral nature and high political, strategic and social sensitivity. The debate calls for political, strategic, economic and social dialogue open to all stakeholders in West African agroforestry and pastoral trade, and involving the African Union in relation to the FTAA. The debate should lead to strategic and political decisions involving national decision-makers and regional economic sub-areas (ECOWAS, UEMOA, and CILSS) and the African Union. Non-state actors in the agroforestry and pastoral products trade and public-private partnerships must be given a prominent part to play. In addition to political and strategic decisions, the debate must define: (i) how to build an operational strategic and operational advice on regional market developments, (ii) what social protection measures to develop in the face of current emergencies, (iii) what investment mechanisms to put in place to increase market resilience..

Central theme

The Challenges of Building a Regional Agro-pastoral Market Resilient to Multidimensional Shocks such as Civil Insecurity, Pandemics, Climate Change and International Market Disruptions.

Objective of the Conference

The overall objective of this 1st Conference is to identify policies, strategies and actions to strengthen the resilience of West African and Sahelian markets and thus contribute to policy responses to the challenges in West Africa and the Sahel, including high levels of food insecurity, the climate challenge, extreme violence and the degradation of social cohesion, the impacts of Covid19 and the Russian-Ukrainian war.

The Specific objectives are to :

• Strengthen a common understanding amongst governments, multilateral agencies and donors of the vulnerability of agri-food markets in the Sahel, based on knowledge of the challenges of building a resilient regional market;

• Propose policy and strategy recommendations for governments and regional economic communities to incorporate into their agroforestry and pastoral market and trade governance systems, fiscal trade policies and value chain development;



Identification of issues to be discussed

Discussions will be structured around the following themes:

Theme 1: Regional integration and markets

- Regional integration process in West Africa: Roles of the actors, progress and challenges, follow-up to discussions

- CILSS contribution to the consolidation of the process of building an integrated regional market in the Sahel and West Africa

- Have the regional integration processes in West Africa enabled cross-border trade to act as a buffer against the discontinuities caused by the measures to combat covid and the Russo-Ukrainian war?

Theme 2: Markets and multi-dimensional crises

- How have the combined effects of civil insecurity, climate change, Covid 19 and the Russian-Ukrainian crisis affected market resilience and the food and nutrition situation in the Sahel?

- Can the price and import/export regulations implemented by several countries in the subregion be enough to calm markets in times of crisis? If not, what additional measures are needed?

- How has the crisis in the fertiliser market caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war affected agricultural production and what regional strategies are needed to secure fertiliser supplies for countries in the sub-region?

Theme 3: Opportunities and mechanisms for strengthening markets for agro-forestry-pastoral and fishery products

- How can the West Africa sub-region seize the opportunity of the FTAA agreements to build a resilient market for agro-forestry-pastoral and fisheries products?

- What partnerships between the different intergovernmental organisations to improve market governance and food security in the Sahel and West Africa?

- What are the political, strategic and operational mechanisms for monitoring and anticipating the impact of various crises on the market and regional trade in agro-forestry-pastoral products?

Dates and venue

The conference will be held on 26 and 27 July 2023 in Bamako (Mali)

Participants

- Countries :17 countries CILSS/ECOWAS/UEMOA+ Cameroon;

- Intergovernmental organizations: G5 Sahel, CILSS, ECOWAS, UEMOA, Union AFRICA/ZLECAF, AUDA, HUB rural;
- Regional and continental financial institutions: ADB, EBID, BOAD, AFREXIBAMK, BADEA;
- Private producer organizations, NGOs, ROPPA, APESS, RBM, COFENABVI, AOCTAH;
- International partners: IFAD, WFP, FAO, WORLD BANK, UNCTAD, UNDP, CEA, IFPRI.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Dates & times	Activities	Responsible entity	
Day 1: Wednesday 26 July 2023			
08 h 00 – 08 h 30	Participants arrive and take their seats	Conference Secretariat	
08 h 30 – 09 h 00	Officials arrive and take their seats	Organising Committee	
Session 1:	Opening ceremony, chaired by His Excellency the Prime	Minister of Mali	
09 h 00– 11H-00	 Welcome remarks by the Mayor of the City of Bamako Remarks by the Director General of the Sahel Institute, Chairman of the Organising Committee Remarks by the G5 Sahel Executive Secretary Address by the Leader of CILSS Partners Address by Dr Mohamadou ABDOULAYE, Executive Secretary of CILSS Folk music interlude Address by the UEMOA Commissioner for Agriculture Address by the ECOWAS Commissioner for Economic Affairs and Agriculture Opening statement: His Excellency Mr Choguel Kokalla Maïga, Prime Minister of Mali 		
11 h 00 – 11 h 30	Coffee/tea break, family photo	Conference Secretariat	
	gural session: Moderator: Minister of State, Minister for Rural		
11h 30 – 14h00	 Background to the 1st International Conference on Markets Presentation 1: Regional integration process in West Africa: Roles of the players, progress and challenges Discussions (HUB RURAL) Panel 1: How has CILSS, as a scientific institution and the technical arm of regional integration organisations, contributed to building a sub-regional market for agro-forestry-pastoral products? Facilitator: Dr Hubert Ndjafa, Acting DES/CILSS Members: Dr Issoufou Baoua, Dr Maty Ba Diao/ ECOWAS, Dr Seyni Hamadou (UEMOA), Senegal representative, ROPPA Introduction by Mr Brahima Cissé/CILSS 	DG/INSAH, Coordinator, Pra-Markets	
14 h 00 – 15 h00	Lunch break	Conference Secretariat	
15H00 – 17h00	 representative Presentation N°2: Have regional integration processes in West Africa enabled cross-border trade to act as a buffer against the discontinuities caused by measures to combat Covid and the Russian-Ukrainian war? (ECOWAS) Presentation N°3: How can the West African sub-region seize the opportunity offered by the FTAA agreements to build a resilient market for agro-forestry-pastoral and fisheries pro- ducts? (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa) Presentation N°4: Markets and multi-dimensional crises: How have the combined effects of civil insecurity, climate change, Covid 19 and the Russian-Ukrainian crisis affected the resilience of markets and the food and nutrition situation in the Sahel? (WFP) General discussions Break for Day 1 		

CALENDRIER DE LA CONFÉRENCE

Dates & times	Activities	Responsible entity	
Day 2: Thursday 27 July 2023			
Session 3: Markets and multidimensional crises: What mechanisms are needed to ensure that markets continue to function properly and preserve food and nutrition security? Moderator: Ghana representative			
09H00 – 10H30	 Presentation N°5: Can the price and import/export regulations implemented by several countries in the sub-region be enough to calm markets in times of crisis? If not, what additional mechanisms or measures are needed? (World Bank) Presentation N°6: How has the fertiliser market crisis caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war affected agricultural production and what regional strategies are needed to secure fertiliser supplies for countries in the sub-region? (FAO) General discussions 		
10 h 30 -11 h00	Coffee/tea break	PRA Secretariat	
11H00- 13H00	 Panel 2: What political, strategic and operational monitoring mechanisms are needed to anticipate the impact of various crises on the regional agro-forestry-pastoral market and trade? Facilitator:USAID Members: FEWSNET, UEMOA, SWAC, CILSS (DG/CRA), Côte d'Ivoire Representative, ROPPA Introduction: Sahel and West Africa Club 		
13 h 00 -14 h00	Lunch break	PRA Secretariat	
14 h 00 – 15 h 30	 Panel 3: What partnerships are needed between the various intergovernmental organisations to improve market governance and food security in the Sahel and West Africa? Facilitator: Dr Abdoulaye Mohamadaou, CILSS Executive Secretary Members: Hub Rural, UEMOA, ECOWAS, SWAC, COFENAB-VI, ALG, G5 Sahel Introduction by Dr Sy Martial Traoré/CILSS 		
15H30-16H30	Coffee/tea break – preparation of conclusions		
16H30-17 H30	 Presentation of conclusions Closing session 		



With the Regional Support Program «Access to markets for agro-sylvo-pastoral and halieutic products»: Optimize intra-regional trade and processing of agro-sylvo-pastoral and halieutic products for the benefit of local populations.

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