

## INCEPTION REPORT

**THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROJECT REPORT IS TO DESCRIBE THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT AGAINST MILESTONES AND THE BROADER AIMS OF THE PROJECT. IT SHOULD CLEARLY DESCRIBE PROGRESS WITH EVIDENCE THAT THE MILESTONES TO THIS STAGE HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED.**

Project Name:	Amélioration de la qualité des produits agricoles au Bénin: Cas de l'anacarde et du karité/ Improvement of agricultural product quality in Bénin – case of cashew and sheanut		
Executing Agency:	INRAB	Project supervisor:	Dr. Mensah
PROJECT DESCRIPTION <sup>1</sup> :	The aim of the project is to contribute to the improvement of cashew and sheanut quality in Benin, through the promotion of best agricultural practices from production to consumption. Access to the local, regional and international markets will be facilitated by informing actors about international standards and norms and promoting technologies to improve product quality.		
Project Start Date:	1. June 2008	Project End Date:	31. May 2010

### Budget overview:

	STDF contribution (Euro)	In-kind contribution (Euro)	Total (euro)	% of Total project cost
Projected Total Project Budget (Euro)	355,500	52,300	387800	100
Total expenditure to date (Euro)	4,550 Euro	4,000 Euro	8,550 Euro	Pre-financing through IITA/PTAA-Inrab
Expenditure for reporting period (Euro)	4,550 Euro	4,000 Euro	8,550	Pre-financing through IITA/PTAA-Inrab
Unspent funds (Euro)	355,500	52,300	387,800	100

<sup>1</sup> Note that this is not expected to change from one reporting period to the next, unless a change to the project objectives/scope is approved by the STDF Secretary

## GENERAL REPORTING

### A. BROAD PROGRESS ACHIEVED TO DATE:

The first contract between Cra-Agonkamey and WTO/STDF was signed on the 26.3.2008 and was annulled since the selected subcontracting agency did not agree to the terms of the contract. The second contract between the two agencies will be signed during the month and the commencement date is June 1. A sub-contract between Cra-Agonkamey and IITA detailed the workplan and a budget was signed. A contract with the new supervising agency FAO and WTO/STDF should be signed before the end of the month. A survey collecting cashew samples in 10 villages in Benin has been done; analysis of samples is on-going. Perception studies have been initiated.

### B. BROAD WORK ACHIEVED THIS PERIOD:

- Survey for cashewnut samples in 10 villages completed, and first physical and microbial analysis started.
- Literature review on available studies and data on cashew and sheanut in Benin completed.
- Methodology for perception study on quality parameters of stakeholders in sheanut and cashew value chain elaborated
- Project team participated in ProCGRN workshop (development project that works on value chain development including cashew and sheanut).
- Planning of inception workshop (date, site, invitees).
- Internal indicators for monitoring and measuring projet progress defined.

### C. BROAD WORK REMAINING FOR NEXT PERIOD AND BEYOND:

- Identify critical control points that will help stakeholders to improve product quality for raw cashew and sheanut and their products.
- Inform stakeholders on good production and processing practices for cashew and sheanut.
- Develop and diffuse efficient and pertinent technological options for improved cashew and sheanut products to small and medium size processors and exporters.
- Inform and train producers, collectors, processors, exporters, extension agents, quality assurance agents and consumers on good production and processing practices and the how to improve their product quality for cashew and sheanut.
- Improve the capacity of stakeholders in the value chain to respond to quality requirements of local, regional and international markets for the two products.

**D. OTHER COMMENTS:**

Subcontracting agreement has been reached with FAO to supervise the project. Initial contract was signed on 26.03.08 and activities were started on that date – these were pre-financed through the two technical agencies and will be included for reimbursement in the financial documents of the project, so that some of the bills will carry a date previous to the actual signing of the second contract between Cra-Agonkamey and WTO/STDF.

**Deliverable / Targets Table (Log-frame)**

<b>Item ID</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Target Finish Date</b>	<b>Actual or Forecast Finish Date</b>	<b>Status: (% Complete)</b>	<b>Comments (Agency responsible)</b>
1	Contract signed	28.2.08	01.06.08	80% Complete	WTO
2	Inception Workshop for sharing of information about project activities and coordination with other stakeholders.	15.9.08		In Progress (10%)	IITA/PTAA
3	Perception study on cashew and sheanut quality, quality characteristics and factors that influence them.	1.3.09		In progress (25%)	IITA
4	Identification of critical control points along the production to sale continuum to for the improvement of microbiological quality and other physicochemical parameters for cashew.	1.5.09		In progress (20%)	IITA
5	Identification of critical control points along the production to sale continuum to for the improvement of microbiological quality and other physicochemical parameters for sheanut	31.7.09			PTAA
6	Test of 4 technology options in 3 villages in Benin impact on microbiological quality and other physicochemical parameters and nutritional quality of products	15.10.09		In progress (10%)	PTAA
7	Organise information session in villages with all the stakeholders on quality approach, Good agricultural practices (GAP) and Good Processing Practices for sheanut and cashew	15.2.10			PTAA

Item ID	Item Description	Target Finish Date	Actual or Forecast Finish Date	Status: (% Complete)	Comments (Agency responsible)
8	Train farmers and members of inter-professional organizations on GAP and technology options to improve quality	15.2.10			PTAA
9	Design and diffuse to stakeholders document on GAP and Good Processing practices, quality approach and critical control points for cashew and sheanut quality in 2 local languages and French	15.11.09			PTAA
10	Inform stakeholders especially private sector on the services offered by the quality control services and national and international certification schemes	15.3.10			Cebenor
11	Impact of environmental factors on storage and conservation of cashewnuts, sheanuts and sheanut products (microbiological quality and other physicochemical parameters and nutritional quality).	1.5.09		In progress (10%)	IITA
12	A study on the improvement of traditional process for the processing of sheanuts into sheanut butter to stabilize quality characteristics including cost/benefit	15.9.09			PTAA/IITA
13	Establish a map that shows the different sheanut tree populations based on the chemical characteristics of the nuts and butter destined for the different market segments	15.3.10			PTAA
14	Establish a steering committee and facilitate six-monthly meetings of the steering committee.	15.9.08		In Progress (10%)	IITA
15	Establish internal indicators and a monitoring system.	15.9.08		In Progress (25%)	IITA
16	Execute an ex-ante impact assessment of the project impact.	31.5.09		In Progress (10%)	IITA
17	Project Conclusion with final workshop	31.5.10		Not Started	PTAA/IITA
18	Project external evaluation	15.9.10		Not Started	PTAA/IITA

<b>Target.</b> <i>The following information is not required if a target has been met and the information has been provided in a previous project report. If a target has not been achieved or is likely to be delayed, provide:</i> A) <i>likely impact on the project.</i> B) <i>Reason for delay.</i> C) <i>Corrective action planned to be taken, if any.</i>	
Item ID	Target Delay Notes.
1	A) None B) Selected supervising agency refused, new supervising agency had to be contacted and contractual agreement reached C) Project activities have started to avoid missing the cashew marketing season

### Mid (End)-project financial statement

*No funds received yet – all activities are prefunded and will be included for reimbursement in the next financial statement so that some of the document will have a date prior to June 1. 2008.*