

### Improved management practices

- Guinean participants benefitted from a series of training workshops on integrated rice management (IRM), which aim to enrich researchers' and technicians' knowledge of IRM. This will help to bridge gaps that currently exist between actual farmers' yields and attainable yields through better crop management, and to fully exploit the potential of improved varieties.
- AfricaRice's manuals on IRM, based on the participatory learning and action-research (PLAR) approach developed by the Center, were used by the facilitators. Participants were also exposed to AfricaRice's training videos and radio programs.

### Harvest and postharvest technologies

- The partnership activities have aimed at enhancing the quality and marketability of locally produced rice through improved harvest and postharvest technologies.

### Rice statistics

- Accurate and reliable rice statistics database were established in Guinea and IRAG staff were trained in nationally representative rice statistics survey methodologies

### Policy advice

- Guinea has contributed to the development of policies resulting in key investments made by farmers, governments, the private sector and the donor community in sub-Saharan Africa, following the 2007–2008 global food crisis.
- The government has implemented key development programs with emphasis on increased investments to enhance rice productivity and area.

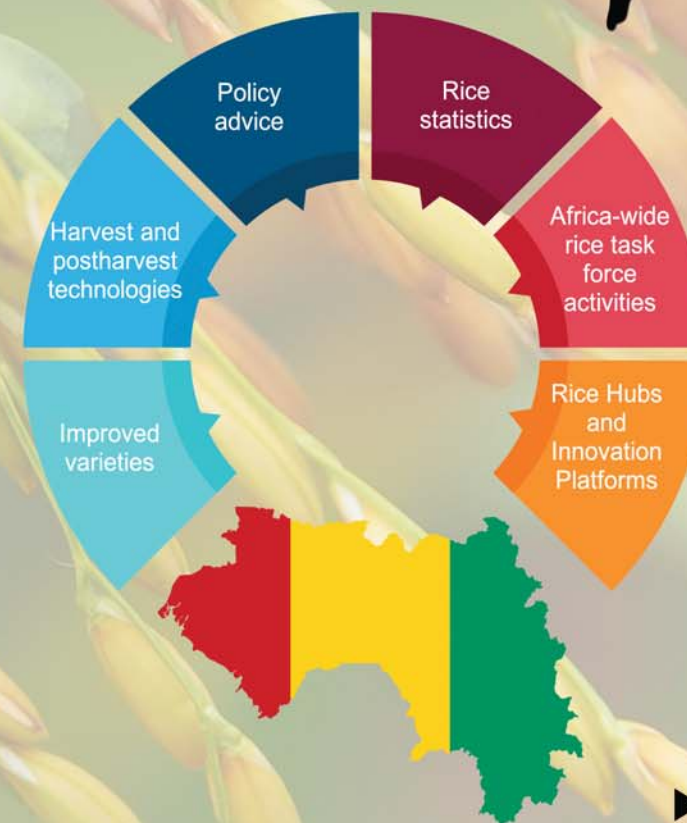
### Africa-wide rice task force activities

- Guinea has been an active member and benefited from the activities and funding of the six Africa-wide Rice Task Forces coordinated by AfricaRice – Breeding, Agronomy, Gender, Mechanization, Policy, and Processing & Value Addition.
- The Task Forces have provided a unique opportunity for Guinea's researchers to interact and partner with their counterparts from other AfricaRice member countries.
- Funds contributed to Guinea through the Task Forces have complemented government allocations significantly and ensured the continuation of research and the training of scientists and value chain actors.

### Rice Hubs and Innovation Platforms

- Guinea has established three rice sector development hubs: Lower Guinea (Boffa, Boké, Dubréka, Forécariah) for the mangrove ecology; Higher Guinea (Kankan, Mandiana, Siguiri) for the upland and lowland ecologies; and Forest Guinea (Macenta, N'zérékoré) for the lowland ecology.
- The rice hubs serve as field laboratories where research outputs and products are being tested, adapted and integrated – with feedback provided to researchers on technology performance.

# africarice & Guinea



## Guinea - AfricaRice Partnership

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- ▶ Guinea joined AfricaRice (ex-WARDA) in 1978.
- ▶ The Institut de recherche agronomique de Guinée (IRAG) is one of the most important national partners of AfricaRice.
- ▶ As a member country, Guinea takes part in statutory meetings of the AfricaRice Council of Ministers, which is the Center's highest governing body.
- ▶ Guinea is also a member of the AfricaRice National Experts Committee.

“Rice is global and it is big business. Rice is life in Africa.”  
 -- Dr Harold Roy-Macauley,  
 AfricaRice Director General



### Contributions by AfricaRice to Guinea

- ▶ Between 2009 and 2016, Guinea has benefited from 14 donor-funded projects, coordinated by AfricaRice.
- ▶ AfricaRice, in partnership with IRAG, has contributed to boosting Guinea's rice sector in terms of policy and technical advice, improved seed, cropping practices and processing technologies, capacity development and support to rice value chain development.

### Capacity strengthening

- ▶ Strengthening the capacity of rice stakeholders throughout the value chain is a major priority of the collaboration. Between 2009 and 2016, 3 PhD scholars from Guinea were trained. At least 42 Guineans have participated in group training workshops on marker-assisted selection techniques, experimental design, data collection and analysis, quality seed production, integrated rice management, and impact assessment.

### IMPORTANCE OF RICE IN GUINEA

Rice is the predominant staple food of the country (over 100 kg of rice per person per year). It plays a central role in the food security strategy of the country. Studies reveal that Guinea has comparative advantage in the production, processing and marketing of local rice, which is highly preferred by Guinean consumers for its taste.

Guinea is one of main rice-producing African countries. Rice is grown in nearly every ecology of the country. The country has an estimated 364,000 ha with the potential for rice cultivation, and one of the most favorable climates for rice cultivation.

The overall objectives of its national rice development strategy (NRDS), developed in 2009, are to ensure self-sufficiency in rice in the medium term (by 2018) and to export rice to the sub-regional and international markets in the long term. The NRDS plans to attain 2,726,460 t of paddy production and average yields of 2.75 t/ha by 2018.

Key interventions recommended by NRDS include, among others: (i) Providing strong support to rice development in the main rice ecologies, leading to sustainable intensification (ii) Strengthening post-harvest activities (iii) Leveraging private sector support for marketing infrastructure (iv) Strengthening research and agricultural advisory services (v) Widespread use of improved varieties by producers (vi) Building food security stocks based on the locally produced rice surplus.

USDA estimates that paddy production in Guinea increased at an annual rate of 6.24% during 2011-2016, the area harvested increased at a rate of 4.73%, and paddy yield at 1.49%. However, despite the enhanced production, imports account for a substantial share of total rice availability.

In line with its strategy to boost rice production, IRAG has been collaborating with AfricaRice to develop improved rice technologies to increase rice productivity in the country.

| Rice Statistics for Selected Indicators  |           |           |           |                   |                                   |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Source: <a href="https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/advQuery">https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/advQuery</a> (accessed 22 May 2017) |           |           |           |                   |                                   |
| Indicator  | 2015      | 2016      | 2017      | Average 2001-2016 | Annual growth rate, 2001-2016 (%) |
| Paddy production (t)   | 1,971,000 | 2,047,000 | 2,174,000 | 1,398,000         | 7.31                              |
| Area (ha)  | 985,000   | 1,025,000 | 1,088,000 | 786,438           | 4.75                              |
| Yield (t/ha)   | 2.00      | 2.00      | 2.00      | 1.74              | 2.45                              |
| Consumption (t)  | 1,750,000 | 1,900,000 | 1,950,000 | 1,214,500         | 5.93                              |
| Import (t)   | 420,000   | 650,000   | 650,000   | 337,250           | 4.28                              |

## africarice & Guinea



- Guinea-AfricaRice Partnership: Achievements and Impacts**
- Improved varieties and seed system**
    - Guinea was the first country, where upland NERICAs were successfully adopted.
    - Guinea participated in the African Rice Initiative (ARI) NERICA project with support from the African Development Bank. NERICAs covered 177,100 ha (16% of the total rice area cultivated in the country) in 2013.
    - Between 2006 and 2010, ARI supported 335 groups and 585 leading seed growers in producing 8,707 t of NERICA seed in Guinea, 4,232 t of which were certified.
    - AfricaRice has facilitated the establishment for the first time in Guinea of a molecular biology laboratory.
    - Nine rice varieties were released in Guinea between 2010 and 2016, four of which were under the Advanced Rice for Africa (ARICA) brand. The releases include three iron-toxicity-tolerant varieties for lowland, three high-yielding varieties for lowland and three drought-tolerant varieties for upland.
  - Thanks to an emergency project led by AfricaRice with support from Japan, 350 t of certified rice seed were produced and distributed in Guinea in 2016 to help the country revitalize its rice sector after Ebola crisis.