



# ANNUAL REPORT

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# 2017

SAHEL AND  
WEST AFRICA

**Club**  
Secretariat



**OECD**

BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

## SWAC/OECD

The Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) is an independent, international platform. Its Secretariat is hosted at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The mission of the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) is to promote regional policies to meet these challenges and contribute to improving the economic and social well being of the population. To that end, it strives to:

- Assist the region and its partners to continue making progress in the areas of food security and nutrition through more effective regional governance, as well as strategies and tools that keep pace with changing problems.
- Contribute to regional policy and partner strategies by generating and combining data, creating and sharing knowledge, and engaging in advocacy and policy dialogue.

This report outlines and discusses the impact of the activities undertaken by the SWAC Secretariat in 2017 in service of its mission and objectives.

The programme of work 2017/2018 revolves around 4 pillars

- Food issues
- Gender
- Cities
- Security

Members are at the heart of SWAC, defining its scope of action in order to ensure that its work is relevant, useful and complementary to that of West African regional organisations – intergovernmental, professional and civil society – and their partners in the international community.

### 3 regional organisations



Economic Community of West African States



West African Economic and Monetary Union



Permanent Inter-state Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel

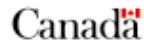
### 9 development partners



Austria



Belgium



Canada



European Union



France



Luxembourg



Netherlands



Switzerland



United States

### 3 observers



World Bank



The NEPAD Planning and Co-ordinating Agency



Network of Farmers' Organisations and Agricultural Producers of West Africa

SWAC has memorandums of understanding with The NEPAD Planning and Co-ordinating Agency and the University of Florida (Sahel Research Group).



## IMPACT

Four parameters can be used to evaluate the value added and impact of these activities: **DECISIONS, KNOWLEDGE, RESONANCE** and **RECOGNITION**.

For the past four decades, the Sahel and West Africa Club has been defending the idea that regional solidarity is a powerful tool for development and crisis management. That same idea gave rise to ECWA (1972; it would later become UEMOA), CILSS (1973) and ECOWAS (1975); and is still as relevant as ever.

On the initiative of its Members, the Secretariat produces data and analyses; develops innovative approaches to compensate for the scarcity of statistics and to comprehend complex realities; facilitates the exchange of knowledge and experiences; and facilitates dialogue and consensus-building. All these activities target co-operation policies and programmes and, ultimately, improved living conditions for the region's inhabitants.

## A few examples

### Influence on the DECISION making process...

is central to the Secretariat's work in relation to food and nutrition crisis prevention and management. In 2017, the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA), co-animated by the SWAC Secretariat and CILSS, issued an *alert to a potential pastoral crisis* (p. 12). On that basis, experts met in Niamey to assess the situation and make decisions in preparation for a ministerial meeting (Abuja, April 2018) of high level officials responsible for livestock and security in ECOWAS and UEMOA countries as well as the Central African Republic, Chad and Mauritania. The humanitarian conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad region, which took place in Oslo in February 2017 and at which significant financial commitments were announced, was supported by the work done by the RPCA. Strengthening ties between the RPCA and political decision making is one of the Secretariat's major objectives. It will be pursued in 2018 and subsequent years.

### KNOWLEDGE and understanding of regional issues...

is a key challenge for two reasons: the lack of statistics and the speed with which changes take place. Augmenting, updating and ensuring the reliability of the factual basis information on which for regional co operation policies and programmes are based is therefore, in and of itself, a strategic objective. In 2017, the updating of the *Africapolis database* continued (p. 26); more than 1 900 interviews were conducted in the field and will help with *understanding the role women play in trade networks* as well as the constraints they face (p. 22); the regional *food economy* was quantified and its employment potential was assessed (p. 16), among other things. This production of data, information and analyses contribute – in the long term – to changing the perception of the issues in the interest of adjusting overall strategies, policies and programmes. Two examples: i) shifting from rural agricultural policies to urban-rural agri-food policies; ii) putting women at the centre of trade development and food processing strategies as they account for more than two-thirds of the work force in both sectors.

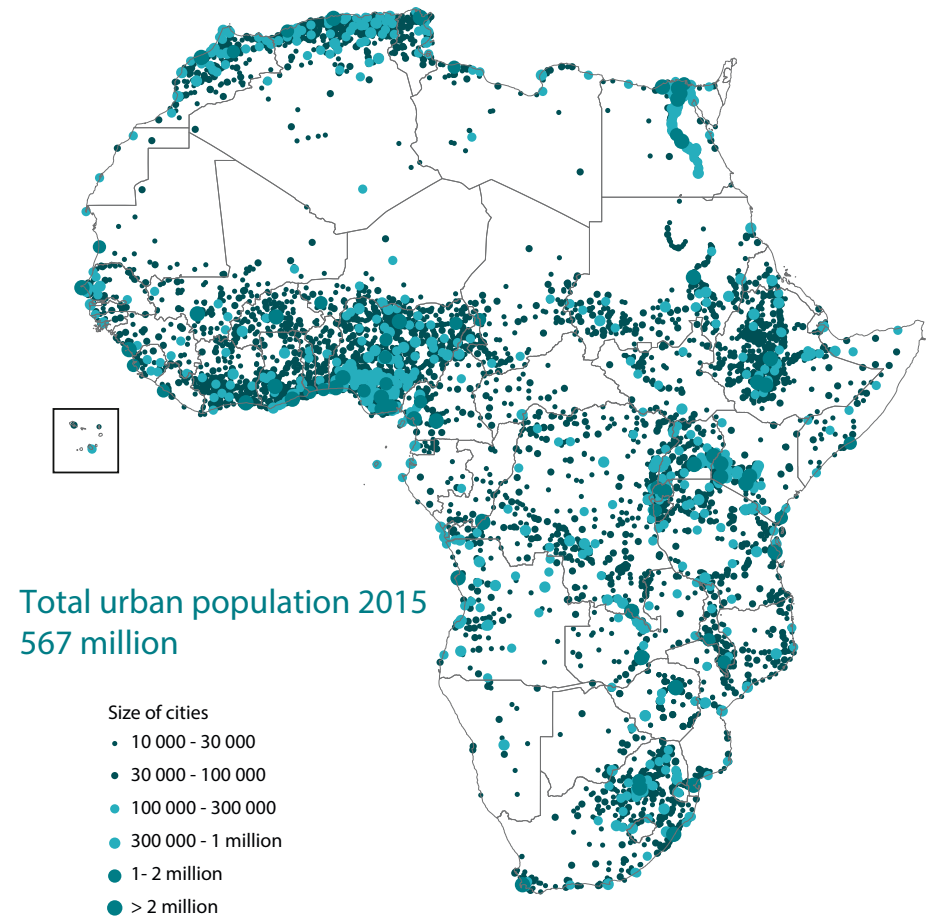
## RESONANCE...

refers to the “spread” of innovative approaches and visionary thinking. While it is rarely measurable from one year to another, it is an important aspect of the Club’s influence. Downloaded more than 13 000 times, *An Atlas of the Sahara Sahel* (2014) outlines the need for an integrated “Maghreb - Sahel” approach to stabilising the region. There is now widespread agreement on this idea, which is a topic for discussion in the Netherlands, Norway and Great Britain; its standard bearer is the French Development Agency. In 2015-16, the Secretariat used *social network analysis* for the first time in West Africa; the method was then applied in a study of women’s trade networks in 2017 (p. 22). The World Food Programme made use of the method and the results produced by SWAC to better assess the resilience of women in the Lake Chad basin. The OECD has also used this innovative methodology. The creation in May 2016 of the *Global Network against Food Crises* was directly inspired by the RPCA.

## RECOGNITION of the Secretariat’s expertise...

is made clear by the unique place it occupies in the decision and policy making arenas. It is reflected in the Secretariat’s participation at meetings of special envoys and Sahel partners (p. 33); support from Switzerland to organise a conference on cross-border co-operation with UEMOA in July 2018; the EU’s request that SWAC present a policy narrative on food issues – in light of security, urban and migration challenges – to the Steering Committee of the European Development Fund (EDF) in June 2017; and participation in the Belgian government’s interdepartmental meetings on the Sahel. In 2017, the Secretariat was also invited to deliver presentations to the French Development Agency, NEPAD and a G20 meeting, as well as in Germany, Austria, the United States, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. These occasions provided opportunities to promote West African issues and defend the regional approach before the international community. Lastly, the Secretariat contributed its expertise to the task forces established by regional organisations on the regional food reserve, the livestock feed component of the reserve, pastoralist activities in coastal countries and ECOWAP 2025.

## Urban agglomerations in Africa



Source: SWAC/OECD, Africapolis (forthcoming)

- Improving food and nutrition security
- Strengthening resilience
- Outlining changes in the food economy
- Sahel and West Africa Week

## FOOD ISSUES

Despite very high demographic growth, the region has made significant progress in the past few decades.

On the one hand, hunger and malnutrition are declining in relative and absolute terms even though too many still suffers from both, either periodically or chronically. On the other hand, the availability of local food products is growing faster than the population and a dynamic and diversified food economy is developing under the influence of market growth brought on by urbanisation.

Food and nutrition security, resilience of the most vulnerable and changes in the food economy: the Secretariat is simultaneously addressing these closely linked problems.

## Improving food and nutrition security

Effectiveness and co-ordination requires a consensus-based diagnosis. Together with CILSS, the Secretariat has continued to support this function of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA), which brings together governments, partners and civil society organisations under the auspices of ECOWAS and UEMOA. In 2017, the lack of feed resources and the potential for a major pastoral crisis were the main concerns. The Network has formulated recommendations that were followed to good effect in 2018 with support from ECOWAS and UEMOA.

To improve access to information, the Secretariat developed an interactive online map that provides access to specific food insecurity figures per administrative zone in the 17 countries in the region.

Improved regional governance, in the broadest sense of the term, is also essential. The reform of the Network has now been validated and is in the process of being implemented. This should enable the region to acquire innovative crisis prevention and early warning tools and improve the effectiveness of food and nutrition policies. The PREGEC Charter is the code of conduct that covers governance. Its second external evaluation highlights persistent problems with responses to crises. Additional efforts were made to aid civil society in pressuring governments and their partners to respect the principles of the Charter. In addition, an inventory of food and nutrition security (FNS) and resilience projects was completed and made available in 2018. This tool will stimulate co-ordination; it will help with identifying areas where projects are not being conducted and prevent duplications.

## Impact

- The RPCA diagnosis and recommendations have fed into national response plans, decisions made by ECOWAS and UEMOA, United Nations humanitarian appeals and the humanitarian conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad region (Oslo, February 2017).
- The RPCA reforms and the inventory of FNS and resilience interventions will contribute to improving regional governance.
- The second evaluation of the PREGEC Charter provides concrete measures to improve the effectiveness of responses to food crises.

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Improved RPCA capacity for producing consensus-based diagnoses and influencing decision making and policies	<p>Both Network meetings (April and December) took place and policy notes as well as recommendations were shared.</p> <p>The communiqués issued by the Network now take into account macro-economic factors. The messages received significant media coverage.</p> <p>An online tool has been designed that provides access to all of the data and can be used to generate maps.</p> <p>A plan to reform the Network was developed; it includes political leadership, links with decision-making bodies, accountability, effective technical leadership, a strengthened prevention function and the inclusion of other FNS determining factors in analyses, visibility and ownership.</p>
PREGEC Charter implementation	<p>The preliminary results of the second external evaluation were discussed by Network members.</p> <p>A civil society engagement framework on the application of the Charter was put in place.</p>
Strengthened dialogue and co-ordination	<p>A new RPCA website was created (<a href="http://www.food-security.net">www.food-security.net</a>).</p> <p>A database of FNS and resilience interventions (280 projects and programmes) was created. Summaries are available on the RPCA website.</p> <p>The first meeting of the platform for dialogue and collaboration among technical and financial partners took place in December.</p>

## Strengthening resilience

Social inequality, extreme poverty (brought on by an unfavourable social, economic and political environment) and problems associated with accessing basic social services have trapped many households in a vicious circle of indebtedness and loss of capital.

SWAC's advocacy work has helped regional organisations to keep resilience as a priority on the Sahel and West Africa development agenda. It is vital to step outside the exclusive logic of emergencies and to secure the funds needed to invest in sustainably strengthening the capacity of vulnerable populations to face uncertainty and to respond effectively to shocks.

Ten countries have established resilience priorities under the framework of the Global Alliance for Resilience – Sahel and West Africa (NRP-AGIR). This helped ensure that resilience is better taken into account in food and nutrition security policies.

The inventory of FNS and resilience interventions completed in 2017 shows that most FNS programmes and projects include a “resilience” component.

SWAC has also supported the ten countries with validated NRP-AGIR to put in place national capitalisation plans and platforms for sharing best practices.

## Impact

- Resilience has been included in food and nutrition security policies at the regional and national levels, most notably in the second generation of the Regional Agricultural Investment Programme – FNS (RAIP-FNS) validated in June 2017 and the National Agricultural Investment Programmes – FNS (NAIP-FNS) which are in the process of being finalised.
- The inventory of FNS and resilience interventions has helped strengthen the consistency and effectiveness of joint actions.
- Information sheets on best practices can be viewed online via a dynamic map that encourages mutual learning and scaling up successful experiments.

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Implementation of AGIR and resilience priorities	<p>Two SEG-AGIR and advocacy sessions were held at the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee of the 11th Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) of the European Development Fund (EDF) in June 2017.</p> <p>A brief was drafted on the changes brought on by AGIR in various countries.</p> <p>SWAC contributed to the ECOWAS Technical Follow-up Group in support of developing the second generation of NAIP-FNS.</p>
Enhanced synergy and complementarity	<p>A database of FNS and resilience interventions was developed.</p> <p>The first meeting of the platform for collaboration among FNS and resilience technical and financial partners took place in December.</p>
Promotion of best resilience practices	<p>National capitalisation plans were developed.</p> <p>Best practices were disseminated via an interactive online mapping tool.</p>



## Outlining changes in the food economy

The food economy, which includes human food production, processing and distribution activities, is the region's largest economic sector. In 2015, it accounted for 39% of regional GDP or USD 260 billion. The sector employs some 82 million people, or 66% of the active workforce.

This sector is undergoing significant change. Value chains are getting longer and more complex given the impact of increased revenues, demographic pressure and urbanisation. Segments downstream of agriculture now account for 40% of the sector's value added and are key sources of employment in both rural and urban areas. Young people are turning more quickly and in greater numbers to non-agricultural activities where women make up between 72% and 88% of employees.

Understanding the dynamics of these changes is essential to adapting policies and instruments. The Secretariat's analyses and the policy as well as technical dialogue it generates help inform decision makers about opportunities for creating jobs and value added and to identify the constraints encountered by actors in the value chains. The objective is to formulate policy implications and improve food and nutrition security monitoring systems.

## Impact

- The work done by the Secretariat has helped changed the policy narrative on food issues, demonstrated the potential for jobs in the food economy and, consequently, the need to keep these issues at the top of the international agenda.
- The Secretariat's work has also directly contributed to the ten-year process of revising the ECOWAS Common Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP +10).

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Production of analyses and data on the spatial dynamics of developing value chains and food markets.	Two papers in the West African Papers (WAP) series have been published: one on the spatial organisation of the urban network and market dynamics (WAP No. 5), the other on price levels and competition issues (WAP No. 8).
Contributions made to developing indicators for monitoring food and nutrition security in urban areas.	Together with the Sahel Institute (INSAH), the Secretariat co-organised a workshop on approaches to monitoring FNS in urban areas.  Production of a West African Paper on mapping FNS in urban settings (WAP No. 15 published in 2018).
Identification of opportunities for creating jobs in the food economy, notably for women, in rural and urban areas.	Production of a West African Paper on the structure and evolution of jobs in the West African food economy (WAP No. 14 published in 2018).  A theme-based session was organised as part of the RPCA meeting in Cotonou in December 2017.

## Sahel and West Africa Week

Organised by the SWAC Secretariat, under the aegis of ECOWAS and UEMOA, the Sahel and West Africa Week is an annual meeting for dialogue and consultation on food issues. The 2017 Week brought together 350 people from 4 to 8 December in Cotonou, Benin.

The meeting of the RPCA focused on evaluating the food and nutrition situation and reviewing response plans. The members of the Network also discussed the evaluation of the PREGEC Charter and the implementation of the Global Alliance for Resilience – Sahel and West Africa (AGIR). The meeting also featured presentations and discussions on the territorial approach to food security and jobs in the food economy.

One meeting enabled the participants to better understand the African Risk Capacity insurance pool (ARC) mechanism. CORAF (West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development) delivered a presentation on its work to rebuild the seed stocks of thousands of farmers affected by the Ebola epidemic (2013–2016).

During the day devoted to the host country, the government of Benin shared the activities carried out and lessons learned in its fight against malnutrition, especially in the school system.

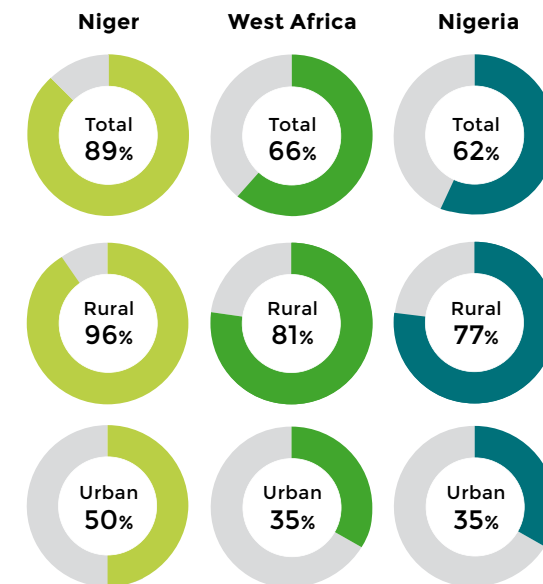
The region's technical and financial partners met to share information about their work in the field of agriculture as well as food and nutrition security. They engaged in a lengthy discussion of the agriculture and rurality component of the Sahel Alliance, launched in July 2017.

As is the case each year, a meeting of the CILSS Partners Committee took place during the Week.



Photo credit : SWAC/OECD

### Share of food economy in total employment



Source: Allen, T., Heinrigs, P. and Heo, I. (2018) <<AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND JOBS IN WEST AFRICA>> West Africa Papers, No. 14, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/dc152bc0-en>

- Understanding the role of women in trade networks
- Comparing gender equality



## GENDER

Women are major economic players. Two-thirds of women work in the food economy, where they account for 51% of workers. Women vendors play a particularly important role in the markets and take part in cross-border migration and integration.

The Secretariat is helping to establish a better understanding of the contextual, social, physical and economic obstacles that impede women's access and contribution to the operation of local and regional food markets. It is also analysing the various forms of discrimination they face.

## Understanding the role of women in trade networks

The SWAC Secretariat is mapping local rice networks in the Dendi area (located within Benin, Niger and Nigeria).

Two studies are currently underway:

The local study (Dendi) will help with understanding the structure of rice value chains and the role women play within them .

The regional study addresses institutional networks for promoting women’s economic activities. This involves identifying the actors (regional and international organisations, nation states, private actors, associations, NGOs and development partners, among others), the connections between them and the structural impediments to the development of women’s activities.

Using the “social network analysis” method, the local and institutional functional dynamics of the networks are cross referenced in order to arrive at policy frameworks that are better suited to the structural constraints and opportunities specific to women’s economic activities.

## Comparing gender equality

In collaboration with the OECD Development Centre, the SWAC Secretariat has produced a comparative regional assessment of gender inequality in West African social institutions. The study draws on the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI). It will provide the region and its partners with a specific portrait of the problem and potential areas for policy discussions.

## Impact

- Identifying the constraints faced by women in trade networks will help with developing strategies, programmes and projects that work better to their advantage.
- Conducting a comparative regional analysis of the SIGI index highlights the areas where some countries could make progress by taking inspiration from strategies adopted in other countries in the region. It also identifies specific problems that occur in all countries and that could benefit from joint initiatives.

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Better understanding of the role women play in trade networks and the constraints they face	A field study of actors in the rice value chain was conducted as well as an accurate assessment of the network of motorways in the Dendi.  A regional survey and a total of 1 900 interviews were conducted. The spatial analysis of women’s trade networks will be published in the OECD West Africa Studies series.
Better knowledge of the inequality between women and men	Information was collected in 17 countries in the region on 14 indicators grouped into four categories: family code, physical integrity, access to resources and assets, and civil liberties. The report was published on 8 March 2018 to mark International Women’s Day.

- Mapping urban dynamics
- Understanding the role of border cities
- Facilitate the resilience of border cities to climate change

## CITIES

The population growth in West Africa - an increase of 85 million people between 2000 and 2015 - has taken place mostly in small- and medium-sized cities. In the coming decades, urban agglomerations will absorb most of the demographic growth and play a major role in local, regional and national mobility and migration. Understanding and monitoring on an ongoing basis the evolution of urbanisation processes and their dynamics, as well as their present and future impacts, is essential. In addition, special attention must be paid to border cities and the role they play in regional integration.

At the global level, cities account for 70% of greenhouse gas emissions and close to 50% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Fragile economies, agriculture that is largely rain-fed and urban growth make West Africa particularly vulnerable to the consequences of climate change.

For that reason, SWAC is paying close attention to analysing urban development. The approach focuses on regional integration and changes in the ties between border cities.

## Mapping urban dynamics

The SWAC Secretariat is producing a continent wide update of Africapolis, the only homogeneous, geo-localised database on cities and urbanisation dynamics that includes small and medium sized agglomerations. This information is crucial to better understanding urbanisation and the growth and development of cities. This is particularly true for secondary cities and small towns, which play an important role in local urban-rural development.

Africapolis enables researchers to conduct analyses aimed at providing decision makers with a solid evidence base for designing integrated policies and instruments that support the complex and diverse processes of urbanisation.

Combining Africapolis data with existing statistics on employment, food security and the environment contributes towards a better understanding of these issues.

## Understanding the role of border cities

A cross referenced analysis of a set of indicators is currently underway. It will highlight and analyse cross border trade and border agglomerations. The indicators are: demography (Africapolis); urban morphology; accessibility, including road conditions and border crossings; the legal status of borders; and legislation.

What is the spatial organisation of border cities and how does this influence their roles and functions? How is cross border trade organised? Is there a correlation between the characteristics of border cities and their accessibility? This work looks at the role of border towns in region-building. It will also promote cross border co operation in its functions of facilitating the free circulation of goods and people as well as the stabilisation of peripheral areas.

## Impact

- Africapolis will help enhance urban/territorial policies and regional integration by making available data this is current and homogenous.
- The study of the structure of border markets and how they function will help with the process of formulating place-based policies that are adapted to the socio-economic context.

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Better knowledge of urbanisation dynamics	The Africapolis database is now 95 % complete. It includes estimates of the population and geographical size of 7 500 agglomerations in 51 countries and how these agglomerations changed between 1950 and 2015. The report will be published in the OECD West African Studies series.
Identification of the structure and functions of cross border cities	Four of six indicators have been mapped and the analyses are now being conducted. A report based on this work will be published in the West African Studies series at the end of 2018 under the titleon "Cities and Borders in West Africa".

## Facilitate the resilience of border cities to climate change

Africa played a very active role in the COP21 negotiations, insisting on the need for funding mechanisms for adapting to climate change. Many opportunities exist for cross-border co-operation on the ground between local authorities. However, given that resilience to climate change is a cross-cutting issue, local communities do not necessarily have the authority to carry out projects in all areas where adaptation measures are needed, nor are they in a position to receive international funding directly.

The SWAC Secretariat's work targets developing a better understanding of environmental, and more specifically, climate constraints in relation to cities and cross border areas.

The work reviews the sources of available international funding. It also assesses the legal and governance options that could help local authorities carry out cross border projects.

Three case studies are underway in Dori (Burkina Faso)/Tera (Niger), Gaya (Niger)/ Malanville (Benin), and along the Lagos/ Abidjan corridor. A how to guide will be produced outlining cross-border financial and legal levers, as well as the methods for horizontal and vertical co ordination of cross border resilience to climate change. This work feeds into the ongoing advocacy following the Paris Agreement to provide cities and local authorities with access to climate finance.

## Impact

- Local authorities will have an up-to-date source of information on legal and governance frameworks that can provide access to climate finance mechanisms.
- Local authorities will be better able to pressure central governments and the international community and to assert their role in formulating climate risk mitigation policies.

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Improved knowledge on the likelihood of cross border entities accessing climate funding and the promotion of greater co operation between them	Work aimed at developing a how to guide to cross border co operation aimed at resilience to climate change is underway in the three areas of study.  Regional mapping of climate issues.

- Build political advocacy for security issues

## SECURITY

While instability is a recurring phenomenon in the Sahel and West Africa, it has recently taken a more violent turn and the dynamics underlying it are more complex. The various types of crises – coups d'état, protest movements, trafficking, rebellions and terrorism – now unfold in the context of a globalised security environment that blurs traditional lines between what is local and global, domestic and international, military and civilian, and politics and identity.

Many conflicts are transnational in nature and involve actors and groups with diverging interests whose objectives do not involve controlling a given territory, but target groups of people.

Regional co-operation dynamics, trade, and the free circulation of people and goods are now played out in a precarious and unstable context.

It is therefore essential that policymakers have the keys to understanding these volatile dynamics in the medium and long-term.



## Build political advocacy for security issues

The Secretariat has entered into a partnership with the University of Florida's Sahel Research Group, which includes a large number of African, European and American researchers and collaborates with West African universities. This partnership makes it possible to produce clear analyses and recommendations on a wide range of topics, based on ongoing research. As such, the Secretariat contributes to policy dialogue and supports the discussion and formulation of Member and partners strategies.

Making available updated and spatialised data as well as regional analyses of security challenges and their consequences is a major priority for the Secretariat. In 2017, particular attention was paid to the local roots and dimensions of terrorist activities. Jihadism is clearly a global ideology, but it manifests itself in the form of politicised and violent insurrections in regions where nation state authority is weakened or where there are local social fractures that existing institutions have been unable to heal.

The links between insecurity, the loss of livelihoods, and humanitarian crises were also addressed. The Boko Haram insurrection and the political violence associated with it have disrupted trade networks and markets; in addition to fishing, animal husbandry and agricultural production. The main areas experiencing food and nutrition insecurity correspond to the conflict zones in northern Mali and the Lake Chad area, and a massive flux of internal and external migration tied to Boko Haram has given rise to a major health crisis.

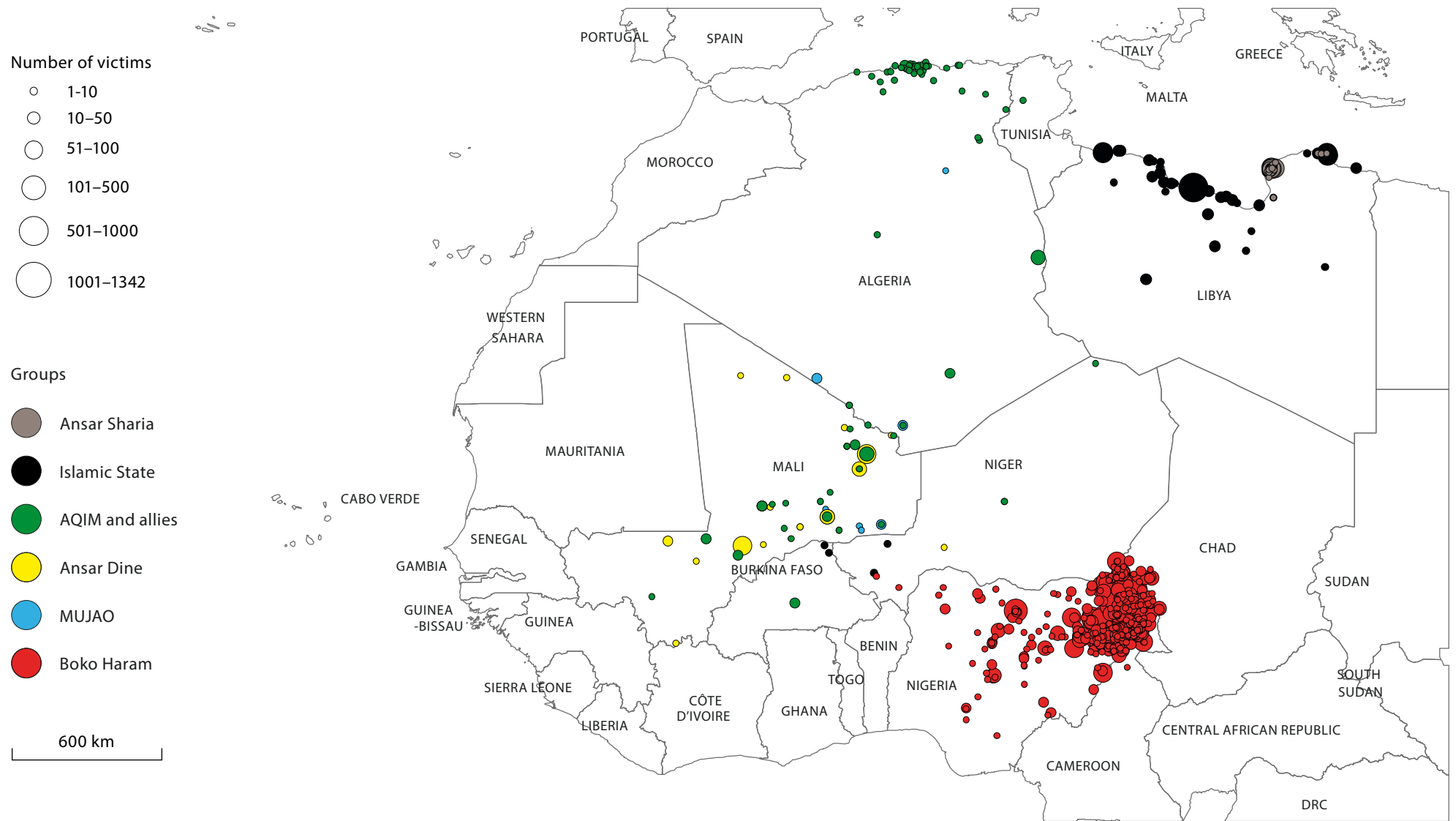
A regional and integrated reading of the crises and their consequences is essential, and this idea has been promoted within international bodies dedicated to stabilising Sahelian countries. Lastly, the Secretariat has continued to lobby for a macro-regional approach to Sahel Maghreb challenges.

## Impact

- Studies conducted by the Secretariat are helping to change the policy narrative on security issues in the Sahel to better take into account local specificities, ties to development issues and factors that are cross-border in nature, including the Maghreb.
- Stronger ties are facilitated between researchers and decision makers in support of policies that are more in line with the realities on the ground.

Expected outcomes	Progress on activities and products
Greater consideration of policy, economic, social and cultural dynamics in security and stabilisation strategies.	<p>Three papers were published in the West African Papers series:</p> <p>Wars and Conflicts in the Sahara-Sahel (September 2017);</p> <p>Agricultural market activity and Boko Haram attacks in northeastern Nigeria (September 2017);</p> <p>The Wave of Jihadist Insurgency in West Africa (July 2017).</p> <p>Participation in high-level meetings such as the Sahel Special Envoys Meeting held in Luxembourg (March 2017).</p> <p>SWAC and the Higher Council for Strategic Training and Research (CSFRS) of the Ecole militaire (France) co-organised a symposium on "The integration of economics, migration and security in the Sahara-Sahel".</p> <p>Lobbying (G20, EDF Steering Committee, Belgium, United States, Canada, and others) for an integrated approach to security and food challenges. Published blogs and articles and took part in radio programmes.</p>

# VICTIMS OF THE MAIN TERRORIST GROUPS, 2012-16



Source: Walther, O. (2017), «Wars and Conflicts in the Sahara-Sahel», West African Papers, No. 10, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/8bbc5813-en>.

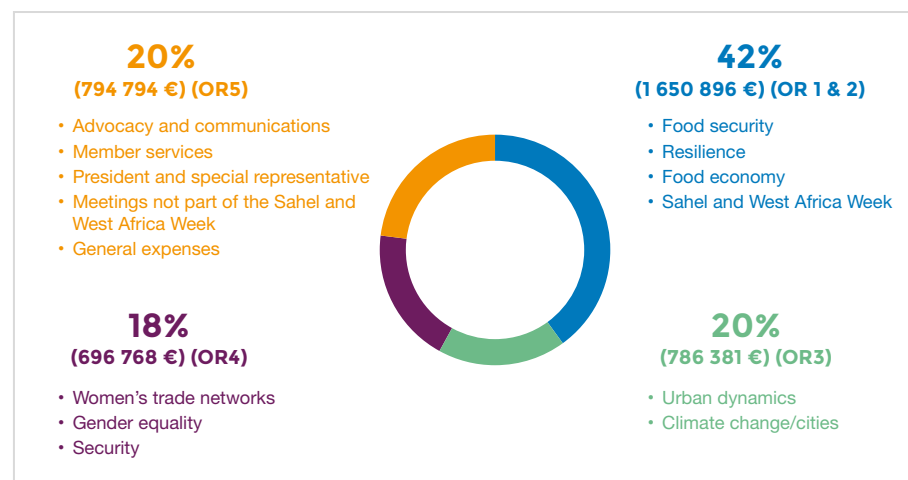
# RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

2017 expenditure: EUR 3.9 million

In 2017, SWAC:

## Maintained its focus on food issues

while continuing to work on issues related to urbanisation, climate, gender and security.



## Invested in external and African expertise

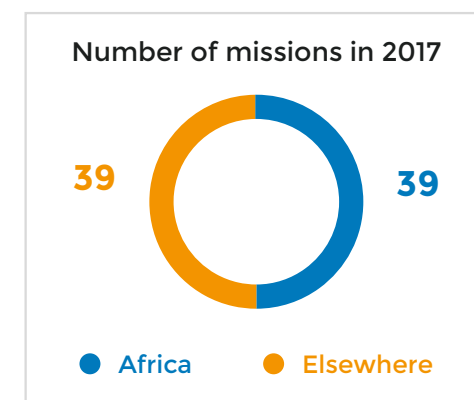
In 2017, SWAC spent 51% of its Part II budget<sup>1</sup> on staff and 22% on external expertise; the average figures for Part I budgets within the OECD<sup>2</sup> are 81% and 8%, respectively. Of the amount budgeted for external expertise, 67% was spent on West African experts and research centres.

## Kept in touch with its contacts and networks

The Secretariat, the President and the president's special representative conducted 78 missions in 2017, 50% of them in Africa. These missions enable SWAC to maintain ties to the region, support regional organisations and feed into discussions; promote the regional approach to development and stability; and contribute to international policy dialogue.

## Facilitated network development for its Members and partners

Each year, the «community» of stakeholders dealing with food policy issues meet during the Sahel and Africa Week (see p. 18). On the sidelines of the official meetings, ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS hold discussions with their partners and make progress on joint projects. The many bilateral contacts make it possible to form partnerships and collaborations and to develop networks. 76% of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) meeting participants<sup>3</sup> stated in April 2018 that they use the meeting to expand their network and organise bilateral meetings.



## Optimised the Secretariat's position as part of the OECD

The ability to disseminate its products within the OECD provides the Secretariat with a very large audience (see p. 19).

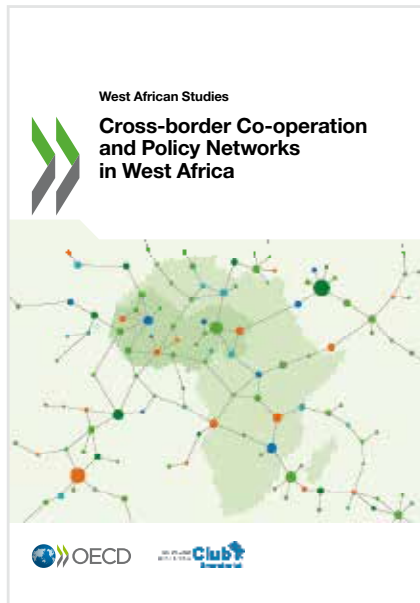
As part of the Development Cluster of the OECD, SWAC is in a position to harness the work done by other directorates thereby enabling it to provide quality results at a reasonable cost. In 2017, for example, SWAC's work on gender inequality in West African social institutions benefited from the expertise of the gender team at the OECD's Development Centre.

<sup>1</sup> Part II budget. The OECD budget includes Part I and Part II work programmes. All OECD member countries fund the Part I budget. Part II budgets host programmes that are of interest to a limited number of members and/or are funded according to a scale of contributions or other agreements between participating countries. This comparison does not include voluntary contributions.

<sup>2</sup> Final budget results for 2017 [BC (2018) 12].

<sup>3</sup> Having responded to the survey conducted on 18 April 2018.

# PRODUCTS AND AUDIENCE



## West African Studies

A widely-disseminated OECD series. The Studies follow the biennial programme cycle. Each study is 150 to 200 pages long and includes numerous maps and charts to provide a regional analysis of issues of the region (e.g. security, settlement and border networks; and more recently, women and trade), present the facts and propose policy action.

### The 2017 flagship publication: Cross-border Co-operation and Policy Networks in West Africa

Long seen as artificial barriers inherited from decolonisation, West African borders now lie at the heart of policies designed to encourage inter-regional trade and combat political instability. This rediscovery of the

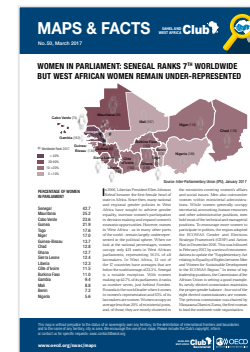
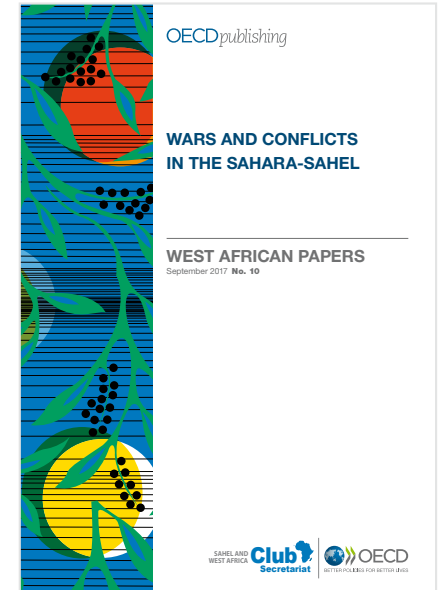
peripheries of the nation state has fostered a proliferation of institutional initiatives that aim to cultivate co-operation between countries, regions and municipalities while ensuring the protection and promoting the interests and rights of the people living in border regions. Despite these regional initiatives, the effective functioning of cross-border co-operation still remains largely unknown across West Africa. The purpose of this paper is to fill that gap, with an analysis of both the social structure and the geography of West African governance networks. On the basis of this structural and geographic analysis, recommendations are formulated aimed at implementing policies that are more place-based, more attentive to relations between the actors at play in co-operation, and more specifically adapted to the constraints and opportunities of the West African region.

## West African Papers

A widely disseminated OECD series. Each policy or technical paper is based on the work done by the SWAC Secretariat or a network of partner researchers and is about 30 pages long. Several papers are published each year, and starting in 2018, certain papers will be complemented by a webinar.

### Six new West African Papers published in 2017

- Cities and Spatial Interactions in West Africa
- Cross-border Co-operation Networks in West Africa
- The Wave of Jihadist Insurgency in West Africa
- The Cost of High Food Prices in West Africa
- Agricultural market activity and Boko Haram attacks in northeastern Nigeria
- Wars and Conflicts in the Sahara-Sahel



## Maps & Facts

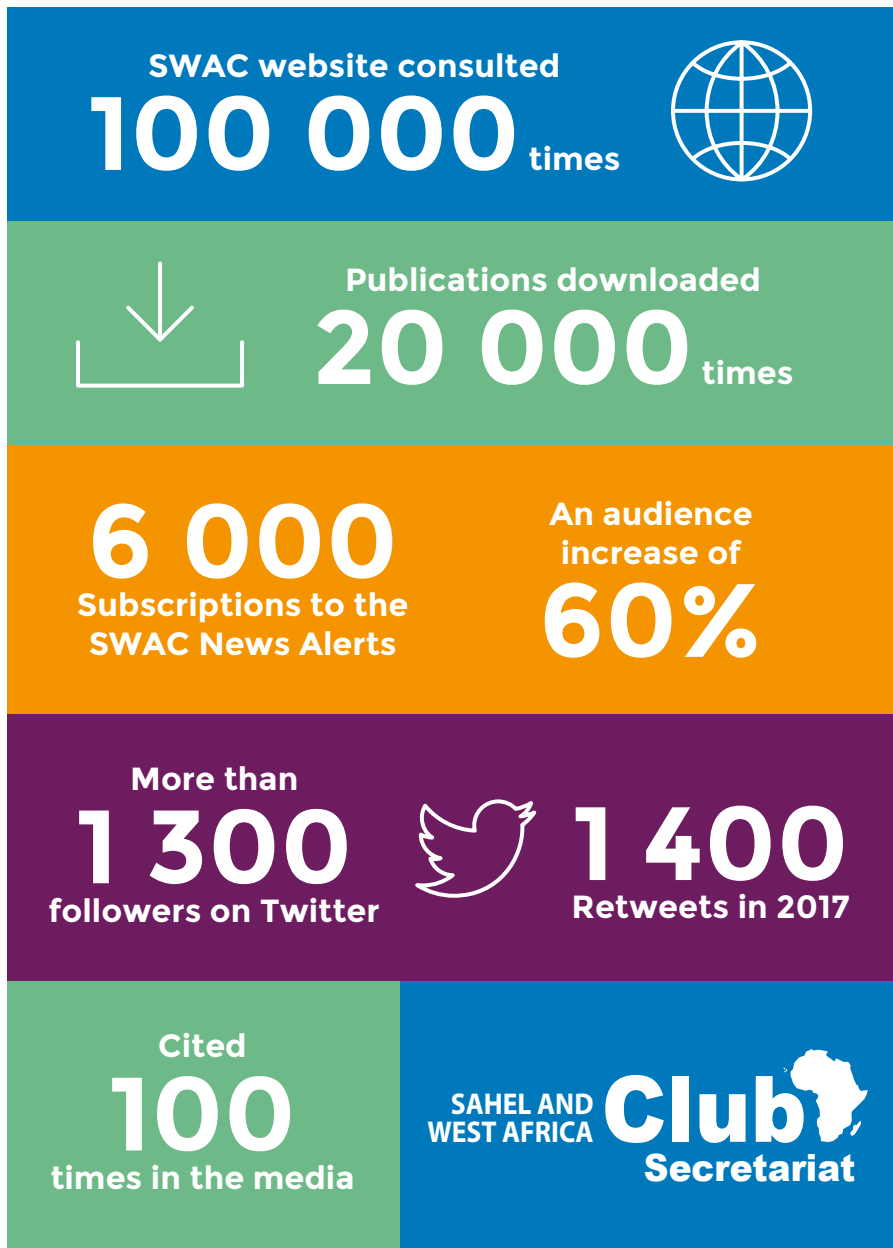
These one pagers include facts and figures on development challenges in the region.

## West Africa Brief

A bi-monthly press review covering political, economic and social trends in the region and Member activities.

## The RPCA document database

Includes over 200 reference documents on food security, nutrition and resilience issues.



In the media



A complete list of articles, blogs and interviews can be found in the annex.

# AGENDA 2030

We contribute to the 2030 agenda by working on the following SDGs:



## ANNEX 1 SWAC PUBLICATIONS

### West African Studies

- West African Mobility and Migration Policies of OECD Countries
- Regional Atlas on West Africa
- Regional Challenges of West African Migration
- West African Perspectives
- Global Security Risks and West Africa
- Conflict over Resources and Terrorism
- Settlement, Market and Food Security
- An Atlas of the Sahara-Sahel
- Urbanisation Dynamics in West Africa 1950–2010
- Cross-border Co-operation and Policy Networks in West Africa

### West African Papers

- Emerging Opportunities in the West African Food Economy
- Climate Impacts in the Sahel and West Africa
- Women's Roles in the West African Food System
- West African Food Systems and Changing Consumer Demands
- Cities and Spatial Interactions in West Africa
- Cross-border Co-operation Networks in West Africa
- The Wave of Jihadist Insurgency in West Africa
- The Cost of High Food Prices in West Africa
- Agricultural market activity and Boko Haram attacks in northeastern Nigeria
- Wars and Conflicts in the Sahara-Sahel
- Defying the odds? Nigerien responses to foreign and domestic security challenges
- The unstable foundations of political stability in Chad
- Gender Inequality in West African Social Institutions
- Agriculture, Food and Jobs in West Africa
- Disentangling urban and rural food security in West Africa

## ANNEX 2 ARTICLES, BLOGS AND MEDIAS

### List of articles published in specialised media and blogs

OECD Insights	17 January	Borders and Networks: The Forgotten Elements of Development
OECD Development Matters	17 January	Les frontières et les réseaux oubliés du développement
OECD Development Matters	14 February	Six key challenges to improving nutrition through social protection in the Sahel and West Africa
OECD Insights	8 March	Gender equality in West Africa: Actions speak louder than words
OECD Development Matters	9 March	Girls robbed of their childhood in the Sahel (initially published in <i>Le Monde Afrique</i> )
Le Monde Afrique	7 March	Au Sahel, au-delà de la journée des droits de femmes, des fillettes interdites d'enfance
Rural 21	21 March	The cost of high food prices in West Africa
Forbes Afrique	March	ECOWAS: is the level of intra-regional trade as low as official estimates suggest?
OECD Yearbook	June	Bridging Nigeria's food divide is a global challenge
OECD Development Matters	26 July	Strengthening Regional Agricultural Integration in West Africa
OECD Development Matters	29 September	The blurred boundaries of political violence in the Sahel-Sahara
OECD Observer	4 December	Geography matters: a territorial approach to food and nutrition security
African Business	June	Morocco: Africa is the future

## SWAC participation in television and radio programs

WARI magazine, TV5 Monde	April	La situation alimentaire et nutritionnelle au Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest
Ouest-TV	April	Questions A: Angel Gurría
RFI	12 April	Afrique de l'Ouest : l'agriculture familiale pour assurer la sécurité alimentaire
RFI	April	Le «Big data» au service de l'agriculture de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
France Culture	27 May	Afrique : guerres et famines
Ouest-TV	October	Question A: Sibiri Jean Zoundi
WARI magazine, TV5 Monde	November	2 <sup>e</sup> évaluation de la Charte PREGEC
RFI - Eco d'ici Eco d'ailleurs	11 November	Migrations rurales en Afrique: la voie vers le développement ?
France Info TV	28 November	Entretien avec Laurent Bossard sur les défis sécuritaires au Sahel
Ouest-TV	December	Question A: Laurent Bossard
WARI magazine, TV5 Monde	December	33 <sup>e</sup> réunion du RPCA et la situation alimentaire et nutritionnelle

## Media Presence - Sahel and West Africa Week

ORTB, journal de 20h	3 Dec	Entretien avec Roch Mongbo, Secrétaire permanent du Conseil de l'Alimentation et de la Nutrition (CAN-Bénin)
L'Événement précis	29 Nov	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : Le Bénin accueille l'événement lundi prochain:
L'Événement précis	4 Dec	Les journalistes d'impliquent pour une couverture active de la SSAO
Le Matin Libre	4 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest, ce jour : Cotonou, centre des réflexions sur les enjeux alimentaires et nutritionnels
Le Matinal, Actu Bénin	4 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest 2017 : Le Bénin innove par un atelier d'information des médias
L'Intégration	5 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : Les médias béninois face aux enjeux alimentaires
24 Heures du Bénin	4 Dec	Préparatifs d'une rencontre sous-régionale à Cotonou : Des journalistes formés pour la Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
La Presse du Jour	29 Nov	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : Cotonou abrite l'événement à partir de lundi prochain
Afrique Performance	2 Dec	Cotonou innove par un atelier d'information et de préparation des médias : Trente journalistes se préparent
Afrique Performance	29 Nov	Afrique de l'Ouest / Dans la dynamique de la préparation de la 33 <sup>e</sup> session du RPCA de la Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest prévue à Cotonou : Bamako affine résultats provisoires et perspectives alimentaires et nutritionnelles
ORTB, journal de 20h	4 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest sur la prévention des crises alimentaires
ORTB, journal de 20h	7 Dec	Reportage sur la Semaine
ORTB, journal de 20h	8 Dec	Les grandes conclusions de la Semaine
TVC, journal de 19h30	4 Dec	Reportage sur la Semaine
TVC, journal de 19h30	8 Dec	Conclusions de la Semaine
EDEN TV - journal	5 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest édition 2017
WARI magazine, TV5 Monde	14 Dec	La situation nutritionnelle au Bénin et les résultats de la 33 <sup>e</sup> réunion annuelle du RPCA
ORTB - débat	8 Dec	Acquis de Cotonou, débat de 53 minutes
ORTB - débat	8 Dec	5/7 Matins, débat avec David Akana, CORAF
RFI	5 Dec	Bénin : un sommet sur les enjeux alimentaires au Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest



RFI	6 Dec	Crise alimentaire au Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest : comment éradiquer la faim ?
ABP	5 Dec	La Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest au cœur de l'actualité
La Nation	5 Dec	À la Une : repenser le système alimentaire
L'Autre quotidien	6 Dec	À la Une : engager des actions structurelles et innovantes pour repousser efficacement la faim et la pauvreté
L'Intégration	6 Dec	Edition 2017 de la Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et de la 33 <sup>e</sup> Réunion annuelle du RPCA : engager des actions structurelles et innovantes pour repousser efficacement la faim et la pauvreté
Le Matin Libre	7 Dec	Défis alimentaires et nutritionnels dans la région Sahel et Afrique de l'Ouest : des résolutions concrètes attendues aux assises de Cotonou
L'événement précis	6 Dec	Les enjeux alimentaires au cœur du sommet
Banouto	6 Dec	Bénin - Sahel - Afrique de l'Ouest : alerte de crise alimentaire à la 33 <sup>e</sup> réunion du RPCA
La Presse du jour	6 Dec	L'éradication de la faim dans le Sahel et dans l'Afrique de l'Ouest : De bonnes réflexions se font depuis lundi à Cotonou
La Nouvelle Tribune	6 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : pour repenser le système alimentaire
Xinhuanet	4 Dec	Le continent africain est le plus affecté par la faim en 2016 dans le monde (officiel)
Xinhuanet	5 Dec	Bénin : lancement à Cotonou d'une Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
Xinhuanet	7 Dec	Des mesures hardies pour booster la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle dans les pays du Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest
EcoDuFaso	7 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : pour repenser le système alimentaire
FAAPA	7 Dec	Bénin : lancement à Cotonou de l'édition 2017 de la Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
Benin Times	7 Dec	Région du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : 9.6 millions de personnes menacées de famine
Journal d'Abidjan	6 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : des statistiques inquiétantes
OECD Observer	5 Dec	Geography matters: A territorial approach to food and nutrition security
Ouest-TV	7 Dec	Questions À : Entretien de 13 min avec Laurent Bossard, Directeur, Secrétariat du CSAO/OCDE
La Nation	6 Dec	Vito Cistulli, économiste : « L'approche territoriale favorise les enjeux de développement »

La Nouvelle Tribune	14 Dec	Vito Cistulli sur la sécurité alimentaire dans le Sahel et en Afrique de l'Ouest
L'Autre Quotidien	4 Dec	Approches innovantes et territoriales de sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle
Le Matin Libre	12 Dec	La Maison du paysan : une approche innovante et territoriale qui marche au Niger
RFI Afrique	17 Dec	Les paysans du Sahel se mobilisent au Bénin
ORTB	8 Dec	Partages des expériences du Bénin à la Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
L'Événement précis	8 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest 2017 : le Bénin partage son expérience de lutte contre la malnutrition
L'Événement précis	10 Dec	L'invité du lundi : Laurent Bossard, Directeur du Secrétariat du Club du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest: « Le principal gisement d'emploi aujourd'hui et demain, c'est l'économie alimentaire »
Le Matin Libre	8 Dec	Jour 4 de la semaine sur la sécurité alimentaire : le Bénin partage ses expériences pratiques avec l'Afrique
Le Matinal	8 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : Le programme « Cantines scolaires » sous les feux de la rampe
Xinhuanet	8 Dec	Bénin : Un enfant sur trois continue de souffrir de retard de croissance au plan national
L'Intégration	7 Dec	Semaine du Sahel et de l'Afrique de l'Ouest : Le Bénin à l'épreuve des enjeux alimentaires et nutritionnels
L'Intégration	7 Dec	33 <sup>e</sup> Réunion annuelle du Réseau de prévention des crises alimentaires (RPCA) : « 1 enfant sur 3 souffre d'un retard de croissance dû à la malnutrition au Bénin »
Banouto	5 Dec	33 <sup>e</sup> Réunion du RPCA : Le Bénin expose ses efforts pour combattre la faim

This information is available in the [Sahel and West Africa Week media coverage report](#).



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OECD Development Matters Blog



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SAHEL AND  
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