











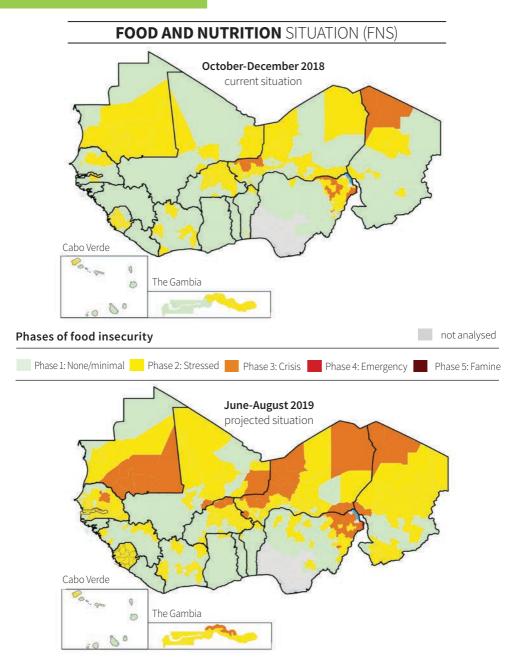
MUTUAL LEARNING & SHARING

ur yearly gathering has become the "place to be" for development stakeholders in the Sahel and West Africa to discuss and share their knowledge about food and nutrition security issues. The meeting brings together some 300 participants each year in a different country. This year, I am particularly proud to hold the 2018 edition in the "new Gambia," a country that is attempting to build a modern and accountable state that will be based on the foundations of democracy, good governance, respect for human rights, security and prosperity for all. Strengthening regional integration is particularly important for a country like The Gambia; it shares 750-km of borders with neighbouring Senegal and is deeply intertwined with that country's economy. Cross-border trade here is vibrant and its population is both extremely mobile and shares a common cultural heritage.

Over the past 10 years, I have had the pleasure to participate in nearly every Sahel and West Africa Club event, including the bi-annual meetings of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) and each edition of the Week. The Week took me to Bamako, Accra, Praia, Ouagadougou, Abidjan, Milano, Brussels, Abuja, Cotonou and now to Banjul. Each event was unique in its own way — but one common feature I would like to highlight is the positive spirit of openness, mutual learning and sharing that has permeated all of these events. We all know how difficult it can sometimes be to break down the silos within our own teams, departments and organisations — not to mention all the challenges we face when trying to work across different sectors and geographic distances and with budgets that sometimes compete. Without trust, it can be hard for us to share our experiences or learn from the experiences of others. The first step in building trust is to get to know each other better. That's why we decided, once again, to emphasize the sharing of information and mutual learning among each other. Throughout the Week, we will offer you opportunities to get to know us a little better and to learn more about the work priorities and actions of our Members and key stakeholders.

My mandate as SWAC president will soon come to an end and this will be my last Sahel and West Africa Week. Under my presidency, I am gratified that Canada, CILSS, ECOWAS, the European Union and UEMOA became Members of the Club, joining Austria, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States. Today, the Club is built on equal governance between regional organisations and their partners. During the past decade, some of my key priorities have been to build bridges between West Africa and the rest of the world, as well as to make sure that global debates take Africa's concerns into account. I am confident that the Club will continue to grow and fulfil its mission as a unique platform for dialogue within the international development environment. The Week offers a great opportunity for the region's development stakeholders to exchange information, deepen dialogue and build trust. I invite you to make the most of it.

Thadran



The 34th RPCA annual meeting brings together the region's key food and nutrition security stakeholders. Nutrition issues will this year be at the heart of the debates. While food availability and access to food still remain key challenges, it is also essential to look more closely at food utilisation in a region that is experiencing a nutritional transition with dietary changes that often come with rapid urbanisation.

SESSION 1:

Agriculture, food and nutrition situation

03 DECEMBER 2018, 10:00-13:00

RPCA members will review the provisional results of the 2018-19 agropastoral season, the status of food markets, the macro-economic environment and assess the possible impact of these factors on the region's food and nutrition situation. Drawing on this analysis, they will make recommendations about measures that should be taken to deal with any possible food and nutrition crisis

SESSION 2: Application of the PREGEC Charter Conclusions of the 2nd external evaluation

03 DECEMBER 2018, 14:30-16:30

This session will be an opportunity to share the findings of the second external evaluation of the Charter for Food Crisis Prevention and Management (PREGEC Charter), which focused on assessing the effectiveness of responses to food and nutrition crises. A high-level panel will debate key recommendations.

SESSION 3: Scaling up best nutrition practices

04 DECEMBER 2018, 08:30-17:30

The nutrition situation remains a cause of concern in this region where prevalence of acute malnutrition in several areas regularly exceeds the emergency threshold of 15%. New nutrition-related risk factors, such as those associated with overweight and obesity, magnify the challenges that governments are already facing and that could have enormous health and economic consequences. This is why the Network has dedicated this year's thematic session to nutrition issues, under the theme "Scaling up best nutrition practices".

SESSION 4: Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR): Sharing Senegal's experience in resilience-building

05 DECEMBER 2018, 09:30-12:30

The exercise of capitalising on and sharing experiences and good practices about resilience is continuing five years after the Global Alliance for Resilience's (AGIR) regional roadmap was adopted. Following Niger, it is now Senegal's turn to share its achievements and its commitment to strengthening food resilience, particularly around its "New Resilient Terroirs" (NTR) approach.

OTHER EVENTS OF THE SAHEL AND WEST AFRICA WEEK

FALL ARMYWORM

MONDAY 03 DECEMBER 2018, 16:45-18:30

Detected for the first time in West Africa at the beginning of 2016, the fall armyworm mainly attacks maize but it can also attack rice and

sorghum, as well as cotton and some vegetables. This session, co-organised by ECOWAS and the FAO, focuses on prevalence assessment and proposes avenues for concerted regional action.

RESILIENCE, FNS AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

WEDNESDAY 05 DECEMBER 2018, 08:30-09:30

This event of ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS will mark the official launch of the project for Improving the governance of resilience,

food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture in West Africa (PAGR-SANAD), financed under the 11th EDF of the European Union.

EVENT OF THE GAMBIA

WEDNESDAY 05 DECEMBER 2018, 15:00-18:00

The afternoon of 5th December will focus

exclusively on The Gambia and its experience with addressing food and nutrition issues.

WEST AFRICA AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAM

THURSDAY 06 DECEMBER 2018, 08:30-12:30

This event will be an opportunity for ECOWAS, CORAF and the World Bank to present the main achievements and lessons learned from the implementation of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP). Capitalising on the last ten years of implementation, the region plans to implement a new programm: The West Africa Agricultural Transformation Programme (WAATP).

RESTRICTED MEETINGS



THURSDAY 06 DECEMBER 2018, 14:00-17:00 ROPPA partners' round table

THURSDAY 06 DECEMBER 2018, 17:00-19:00 Technical and financial partners' platform

FRIDAY 07 DECEMBER 2018, 08:30-12:30

ECOWAP partners' meeting

FRIDAY 07 DECEMBER 2018, 14:00-18:30 18th CILSS partners' committee meeting

SATURDAY 08 DECEMBER 2018, 09:00-17:00

Steering committee meeting, pesticide management

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

DECEMBER 2018



ABOUT THE WEEK

Organised by the Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat (SWAC/OECD), this yearly flagship event focuses on food and nutrition issues in the Sahel and West Africa. Bringing together some 300 participants from Sahelian and West African countries and development partners, the Week offers many opportunities for informal exchanges, networking and building partnerships. Hosted by the Government of The Gambia under the aegis of ECOWAS and UEMOA, the 2018 edition will take place at the Labranda Coral Beach Hotel.

