



ITC Newsletter



International Trypanotolerance Centre
Banjul, The Gambia

Editorial

In 2004, the ITC Newsletter, launched in 2003, appeared only twice. This edition covers the second half of the Year and is dedicated to the most prominent events during this period for the Centre, the International Conference on Livestock Agriculture in West and Central Africa, co-organised in partnership with CIRDES and CTA, and the Celebrations of the Centre's 20th Anniversary, embedded into the second yearly *ITC Emphasis Week*.

While in the previous issues of the Newsletter, reports on ITC's project activities featured prominently, it may appear from the coverage in this issue as if the work programme of ITC had come to a stand-

still during the reporting period. However, the reader may convince him- or herself of the opposite in being referred to the *ITC Annual Project Progress Report 2004*, which is accessible on the ITC website. Also, the list of group events in 2004 run for training and capacity building by ITC and its collaborators in the Sub region, as included in this Newsletter, may stand testimony for the field-oriented ongoing programme activities.

The Proceedings of the "Banjul International Conference" will be later published in 2005. They will be also downloadable from the respective websites of ITC and CIRDES. (AS)

The Director General's Corner

I am pleased to welcome our readership to this special issue of the ITC Newsletter. This issue covering the period July to December 2004 is considered special because two historical events took place during the period. The celebration of the 20th Anniversary of ITC and holding of an International Conference on Livestock Agriculture took place in the same week 8th-12th November, 2004. Both events were considered very successful. The events gave the Centre and partners opportunity to reflect on past achievements, challenges ahead and way forward in achieving the goals of the Centre, the most important of them of contributing to the welfare of those engaged in livestock-based agriculture and their dependents. We are grateful to all those who contributed to the successful holding of the two events. The presence of Her Excellency Mrs. Isatou Njie-Saidy, representing His Excellency, Alhaji Dr. A.J.J. Jammeh, the President, high level Government Officials, Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, donor Representatives

and a broad range of Stakeholders was very much appreciated.

The occasion of the Celebration of the 20th Anniversary also provided an opportunity to the Centre Staff, Management and Governing Council to appreciate the founding fathers of the Centre. A befitting honour was bestowed on the founding Director, Prof. Ian McIntyre by naming the Laboratory Complex after him. In a symbolic way the tree planting Ceremony led by Her Excellency, the Vice President and joined by a cross-section of Stakeholders was to signal the growth potential of the Centre and the need for all hands on deck in achieving the anticipated growth of the Centre's activities.

Once again I have the pleasure inviting you to sit back, relax and enjoy this colourful issue of the Newsletter carrying news on historical, current and future events and orientation.

ITC Newsletter
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ITC
A livestock-
based Agricultural
Research
Institute
dedicated to
serve the
West African
Region

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ITC hosts International Conference on Livestock Agriculture and celebrates its 20th Anniversary

For the second consecutive year, the International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC) had called for the "ITC Emphasis Week" - this time arranged in the 2nd week of November 2005. It coincided with the co-organising and hosting of a 4-day **International Conference** on Livestock Agriculture in West and Central Africa, and culminated in the celebrations of the Centre's **20th Anniversary**.



In his opening remarks, the DG of ITC, Dr. Kwaku Agyemang, expressed his expectation that the 'Banjul Conference' would place a deserved accent on the role of livestock agriculture in the economic development in the sub region during the last twenty-five years, and that it would contribute to define the future directions for research and development of the livestock sub-sector for the sub-region.



The International Conference on Livestock Agriculture in West and Central Africa (WCA) was jointly organised by the two sub-regional livestock research Centres, ITC and CIRDES, the *Centre International de Recherche-Développement sur l'Élevage en zone Subhumide* (Burkina Faso), in partnership with the *Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation* (CTA), Wageningen, The Netherlands, and with support from the European Union. The Conference was structured in a way that combined the broader past, present and future issues of livestock agriculture with the specific research and development aspects and lessons learnt from the EU-funded regional *'Programme Concerté de Recherche-Développement sur l'Élevage en Afrique de l'Ouest'* (PROCORDEL), as a possible model for future livestock-based R&D for the region.

The Conference was held from 8-11 November at the Kairaba Hotel, The Gambia, with 117 registered attendants from 13 West and Central African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo), from 4 European countries (Belgium, France, Germany, UK), and from regional and international institutes (CIRDES, CTA, IFPRI, ILRI, ITC) and organisations (CORAF/WECARD, ECOWAS, EU, FAO, FARA, IDRC, UEMOA, UNDP).

The invited participants included:

- Key actors in communities and institutions in WCA that have participated in major livestock based R&D Projects, including producer associations;

International Conference:

Livestock Agriculture in West and Central Africa and its contribution to livelihoods, poverty alleviation, food security and environmental sustainability: Achievements in the past 25 years, Challenges ahead and the way forward"

"L'élevage en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre et sa contribution aux moyens d'existence, sécurité alimentaire et durabilité environnementale: Vingt cinq années d'acquis, défis actuels et opportunités pour l'avenir"

- Collaborators and representatives of countries involved in the implementation of the EU-funded Project PROCORDEL;
- Senior policy and strategy personnel from WCA region;
- Relevant Scientists and extension Specialists in partner University and Research Institutes in overseas;
- Key actors of CGIAR-Centres/ARIS operating in WCA.
- Donor representatives;
- Regional and Sub-regional representatives (FARA, CORAF/WECARD, ECOWAS, UEMOA, etc);
- Private Sector/NGO representatives.

The main objective of the conference was to bring a re-focus to Livestock Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa with emphasis on West and Central Africa, in the context of the overall development in the region, through:

- A review of achievements in the livestock-based Research and Development arena in the past 25 years;
- A reflection on recent history of donor funding and support mechanisms, using the EU-funded Regional Indicative Programmes (EDF 6, 7, 8) as a case study;
- Revisiting and prioritising of the constraints and emerging opportunities in livestock based farming systems;
- Proposing strategies and pathways that will optimise the contribution of the sector to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The specific objectives and intended output included:

- Sharing experiences, knowledge and information accrued from various external donor supported projects and na-

- tional government efforts in the past 25 years;
- Review and assess the achievements of the latest EU-funded regional Project PROCORDEL executed in 13 countries in West Africa, as a model for future livestock-based R&D for the region;
 - Identify new, and strengthen existing communication links among the donor community, other stakeholders and producers, processors and marketers in the region as a means of improving policy dialogue, planning and resource mobilisation;
 - Identify communication and information tools and resources that will ensure sustainability in dialogue among various actors/stakeholders involved in the development of livestock-based agriculture;
 - Concrete policy and biological research and development guidelines as a basis for articulating long term R&D strategies that address the priority needs of stakeholders of the region;
 - Conference proceedings covering the various presentations, lessons learnt and recommendations.

Background and Rationale

Consumption of livestock products (milk, meat, eggs, etc) has been a long tradition in much of sub-Saharan Africa. However the quantities consumed in West and Central Africa (WCA) are far too low in relation to the minimum recommended values. Governments in the region resorted to importation of livestock products and by the early 1980's there were growing concerns that this trend would not be sustainable in the long term and that a substantial part of the solution would depend upon increased local production.

However, significant constraints to achieve self-sufficiency in livestock production had to be overcome. These include inadequate animal nutrition, livestock diseases and in some cases, low inherent productivity of the breeds involved. Trypanosomosis was considered the single most important disease to control.

It was therefore not surprising that considerable efforts and resources have been invested in the 1970s to control tsetse-transmitted trypanosomosis, to get rid of the vector and reduce the impact of the disease in SSA. Chemical treatment by trypanocides against the parasite remained the most widely used approach but has run into difficulties as the number of drugs in use are rather few, and chemo-resistance began to develop. In the early 1980s steps were taken at the international community level for a wider exploitation of the genetic resistance to trypanosomosis of a few breeds of cattle, sheep and goats found in some areas of WCA. This led to the setting up of the African Trypanotolerance Livestock Network (ATLN) by International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA), and the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD), and the creation of the International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC) in the early 1980s.

Similarly, the *Centre International de Recherche-Développement sur l'Élevage en zone Subhumide* (CIRDES), created in the 1970's initially as the *Centre de Recherches sur les Trypanosomoses Animales* (CRTA) in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, worked principally on molecular characterisation of trypanotolerance, shedding light on this attribute. The new awareness on the unique attributes of these breeds has undoubtedly increased their utilization, and there is evidence that there has been a consistent growth in some of the breeds (especially N'Dama cattle, the WAD goats and Djallonke sheep).

The macro-economic environment of many WCA countries has changed over the last decade due to progress in liberalisation of markets, adjustment of exchange rates and reduction of impediments to exports. However, several factors are eroding the gains made so far, most notably is the growth in human population and urbanisation that has been faster in WCA than in any other region of SSA. This is putting severe pressure on the demand for livestock products, but the benefits expected from demand driven growth may not be fully realised due to weak market-related policies, a high level of poverty among smallholder livestock owning-families and decline in both internal and external support to the livestock sector.

The decline in external donor support to livestock development in WCA is a reflection of a global reduction in the donor assistance to animal agriculture in developing countries, partly due to negative perceptions. Consequently, support to the sector in developing countries has been cut back. However, it is slowly being acknowledged that external donors' slacking interest on the importance of livestock agriculture is in part due to a lack of proper documentation and flow of information of achievements and impacts of Research and Development (R&D) efforts in the past. In addition, the slow pace of uptake of innovations by the farming community attributed to inadequate access to information or to poor "packaging" has brought additional constraints to the long list of problems in technology transfer.

The issues of information gaps and flaws in communication mechanisms between projects and among stakeholders that partially prevented the realization of the full benefits from investments in livestock-based agricultural R&D were addressed in the implementation of a 13-country regional Project, PROCORDEL, funded by the EU (2000-2005), coordinated by ITC and CIRDES with backstopping and administrative support from the *Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement* (CIRAD), France, and ILRI. The Project had a strong monitoring and evaluation component focusing on valorisation of the research results through scientific communication, publications and other tools; strengthening of networks involved in the diffusion of results/ outputs; training and capacity building through collaboration with National Research and Extension systems (NARS). PROCORDEL legacy with respect to communication, networking and information management is packaged as possible model for future projects for the region and will possibly benefit from experiences elsewhere in the developing world. The accumulated knowledge, skills and technologies of information-based institutions, such as the *Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation* (CTA) located in the Netherlands could benefit the process as well.



Above and below:
Prof. A. Gouro, Director
General of CIRDES;
J. Woodend, CTA;
S. Muenstermann, General
Rapporteur of the Conference



The Conference dealt with (1) major developments and trends in livestock agriculture in WAC, (2) a review of the EU-funded regional Project PROCORDEL as a possible model for future livestock-based R&D in the region, and (3) the roles of ITC and CIRDES as partners of the NARS and as CORAF Base Centres



The Executives of CIRDES,
ITC and CORAF in the plenum

After the Opening addresses given by the Representatives of the European Commission and the CTA, the Directors General of CIRDES and ITC, and the Secretary of State for the Department of State of Agriculture, the first part of the Conference (**Day 1**) was devoted to reviewing and projecting main trends in livestock agriculture in (West and Central) Africa and globally. Eight keynote speakers dealt with core issues, namely:

1. T. Ngaïdo (IFPRI) examined the potential role of livestock agriculture for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.
2. M. Atouga (UEMOA) with S. Ehui (World Bank) dealt with the impact of globalisation on livestock agriculture in the developing world.
3. T. Randolph (ILRI) outlined some megatrends shaping livestock agricultural development in West & Central Africa.
4. I. Daré (UEMOA) elaborated on "Élevage, sécurité alimentaire, réduction de la pauvreté et politique agricole régionale dans le cadre de l'UEMOA".
5. A. Shaw with I. Maudlin (DFID) examined aspects of donor and private sector participation in support of livestock development and particular issues in the field of animal health and animal health research policy.
6. J. Woodend (CTA) described the role of CTA in communication and networking as tools for unlocking the potentials and benefits from livestock agriculture.
7. D. Richard (CIRAD) presented an orientation on "L'avenir de la recherche et du développement de l'élevage dans le nouveau millénaire en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre".
8. H.-J. Lutzeyer (EU) elaborated on sustainable programmes and funding mechanisms, with reference to the EU.

The second part (**Day 2 & 3**) offered a comprehensive presentation of the EU-funded Project PROCORDEL and its significance as a model for regional partnerships in agricultural R&D.

A general overview by S. Muenstermann (TA 2000-2004) and M. Dicko on the background and achievements of PROCORDEL in the ITC and CIRDES zones during its main phase and an outlook into the still ongoing extension phase set the scene for the two-day deliberations in six sessions on the most salient R&D themes dealt with by the regional Project, namely on:

1. Development of the dairy sector;
2. (a) Zoonoses, food safety and public health aspects of livestock production; (b) Advances in diagnostics and epidemiological studies;

3. Livestock breeds, breeding practices and producer preferences;
4. Effects of policy reforms and performances of livestock;
5. Natural resources management and intensification of agriculture;
6. Communication, training and regional dialogue.

With the intention to inform, synthesise and demonstrate synergies and possible avenues for out and up scaling the results of PROCORDEL, in total 17 presentations were given by specialists of CIRDES, ITC and partner NARS, which were complemented by 6 contributions of representatives of CTA, CORAF, EU on experiences from elsewhere and wider international perspectives.

Discussions held in six parallel **Working Groups** on the above session themes and identification of future priority areas in R&D and related recommendations concluded the third day. In a separate working session, Ministers of Agriculture and NARS Directors and national representatives from Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Senegal, and Sierra Leone discussed the research and development perspectives and expectations into the future collaboration with the regional Centres CIRDES and ITC.

The third part of the Conference (**Day 3**) was dedicated to stock taking and options for the way forward of livestock agriculture in West and Central Africa. The morning began with summary reports of the working groups of the previous day.

This was followed by a '**Mini-Seminar**' to provide specific guidance to CIRDES and ITC, with the following contributions:

1. Activités du CIRDES et contributions dans l'amélioration de l'élevage en Afrique de l'Ouest, by Dr S.M. Touré (former Director General CIRDES)
2. Review and recommendations for a pure breeding programme for West African trypanotolerant ruminant livestock, by Prof. Leo Dempfle (former Director General ITC)
3. Rôle, stratégie et perspectives de coopération sous-régionale de CORAF-WECARD by P. Sereme (Executive Secretary of CORAF)

The last session under the heading "Options and Way Forward" and the joint chairmanship of UNDP/FARA/ILRI was dedicated to the report and conclusions by the Rapporteur General, S. Münstermann, final remarks and appeals for support by the Directors of CIRDES, Prof. A. Gouro, and ITC, Dr. K. Agyemang, the Chairman of

the ITC Council, Prof. S. Geerts, and the Declaration of the Ministers of Agriculture and Livestock of The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.

After four days of fruitful deliberations and discussions, the Conference was officially

declared closed in the late Thursday afternoon, but was only concluded after a celebratory Conference Dinner at the Coconut Residence Hotel, in the immediate neighbourhood of ITC.

(Compiled by A. Schoenefeld)

Farewell to Susanne Muenstermann

In August 2004, after almost four years of duties as Technical Assistant of PROCORDEL and Regional Research Coordinator of ITC, Dr. Susanne Muenstermann left the Centre and West Africa. Together with her daughter Nadja (and "Sanny", the dog), she returned to Germany, leaving behind many colleagues and friends at ITC, in The Gambia and in the wider Sub region.

Her impressive work achievements were based on her professionalism as veterinarian, enthusiasm, managerial and organisational skills, team-orientation and an inspirational personality. These were highly appreciated not only by the Management and the staff members of ITC, but as well by a great number of persons she had collaborated with under PROCORDEL in ITC partner countries and in the various national, regional and international institutions, as also by those men and women from the grassroots, who had benefited directly or indirectly from the results of practical research and development efforts of ITC and PROCORDEL she had been responsible for during her appointment. Her participation and prominent role during the International Conference were indicative for her professional commitment.

The Management, staff members and former colleagues of ITC wish Susanne all the best in her future personal life and veterinary career. No doubt that she will rather sooner than later find her way back to the African Continent, likely for another tour of duty.

(AS)



Working Groups Output: Summaries of research priorities and recommendations

Working Group "Milk Production":

Support the transformation process of smallholder farming towards market-oriented production; identify "niche markets" for quality milk and value-added products; research on the hygiene and conservation of dairy products; selection of suitable types of crossbred animals; appropriate feeding strategies for milking cows; strategies against possible negative effects of dairy intensification on the environment.

Working Group "Natural Resource Management":

Research on combating environmental degradations due to the animal overloads while maintaining productivity; technological packages to increase the productivity at reasonable herd sizes; transfer of results on usage of fodder crops to farmers; define technical solutions for pasture management; promote research on crop-livestock integration; promote participatory resource management strategies; diminish conflicts between crop and livestock farmers; preservation of phylogenetic resources.

Working Group "Breeding":

Characterise production systems and usable breeds and make projections of the evolution of production systems; choice of breeds/crosses in relation to the production system (market aspects, feeding, health, etc.); definition and development of breeding goals for the various production systems; breeding goal must be operational (numeric).

Optimisation and strengthening of dissemination of ge-

netic progress to the farmers (minimising time lag).

Crossbreeding has great potential in some production systems, however it is a great danger in others; research should investigate the performance of crossbreds in different production systems, especially the performance of F₂ and backcrosses.

Working Group "Zoonoses, Public Health, Epidemiology":

CIRDES and ITC must establish, each in its zone, partnership with institution(s) of research in human health for the survey of zoonoses; economic impact analyses in order to determine importance of zoonoses; assess control options: control cost relative to the prevalence reduction costs.

Identify suitable technologies and institutions to inform and sensitise consumers on food quality issues and risks of zoonotic diseases.

Put in place standardised data bases of regional interest; make existing data available for new studies.

Create linkages to other programmes; use the PACE programme and its surveillance format to start coordinated studies on impact of selected zoonoses.

Working Group "Socio-economics and Policies":

Characterise macro-economic and sectoral policies in support of small-scale livestock production; evaluate the impact of economic and political reforms in the framework of regional integration in West and Central Africa on the livestock sub-sector; evaluate opportunities for multiplier effects and improved agricultural growth linkages; increase competitiveness and access to markets for small scale livestock industries.

Promote farmers' organisation and collective action to improve

productivity while preserving the environment; provide conducive conditions for competitiveness within different production sub-sectors and promote actions for delivery of livestock products of high quality.

Regional research organization need to cultivate links with private companies for co-funding important lines of research as part of their commitment to 'corporate social responsibilities' (CSR).

Need to ensure that research results are made widely available in the current situation of more limited funding to research; communication networks are vital to reach target audiences.

Working Group "Information, Communication, Training & Extension":

Collect relevant information on existing knowledge, research output and technologies at institutional, national and regional level; create data bases and make these accessible to a large audience.

Research must take into account local and farmers' knowledge; organise visits of exchange to mutually learn from local practices and experience, especially in the context of oral traditions; research to leave its walls and go towards the users, e.g.

rural communities; strive for open days outside versus open days inside the walls of research.

Training to meet well defined needs at individual as well as institutional level, based on preliminary needs assessment; working out long-term training strategies; consider collateral aspects of training such as access to the necessary technical equipment, possibly through inter-institutional networks; importance to "democratise" training by addressing also the needs of producers, users, etc.; take into account the crucial role of women in society.

The strong dependence of African research on external funding is considered a crucial problem that asks for more self mobilisation of resources towards more viability of African research; importance of the perpetuation of initiatives.

In conclusion: continue the reflections and exchanges on the basis of the above in order to lead to more precise and coherent action; CORAF/WECARD could play an important part in the framework of dialogue, exchange and promotion of sub-regional co-operation. (AS)

Statement and recommendations of NARS Directors

(compiled from the Working Group reports)

The two Centres lie well within the scope of the Strategic Plan of CORAF/WECARD and they take into account the great stakes of development; thus they deserve the guarantee and the support of the NARS for their continuation.

Assets to evoke: many publications and scientific papers, many workshops of regional dialogue organised to take into account the concern of the partners, many trainings organised as well to the profit of the researchers as of the extensionists and producers.

However: the dissemination of the results to the producers remains insufficient and requires a reinforcement of the initiatives for more visible impact on agricultural productivity; the vision or the interest of the producer is not sufficiently taken into account; the new concepts of globalisation, the environment and bio-security are not sufficiently integrated in the approaches.

Suggested research orientations in the future programmes of the two regional Centres:

- o Socio-economy for better knowledge of factors which influence the behaviour of the various actors intervening in the agricultural production and productivity;
- o Genetic evaluation and the use of biotechnologies to improve production systems;
- o Impact studies for better appreciating the contribution of introduced technologies;
- o Initiate studies on the competitiveness of production schemes with regard to global trends;
- o Studies on factors on the regional exchange of livestock products;
- o Studies on the low inputs systems with a particular focus on biological diversity, conservation of races and profitability of the systems.

Recommendation relating to training and dissemination of research results:

- o CIRDES and ITC should increasingly include training into their programmes, in collaboration with other institutions (Universities, Institutes such as EISMV); training must address researchers as well as extensionists and producers.
- o CIRDES and ITC should support and work with the extension systems and dissemination channels existing in the NARS so that the scientific assets reach the final recipients.

Recommendation relating to the financing of the Centres:

- o The Countries should become engaged in the financing of the activities of the two Centres by taking care that provisions are made in the budget of State.
- o Political and economic regional and sub-regional bodies (e.g. CEDEAO; UEMOA, NEPAD, CORAF) to facilitate the access of the Centres to financing.

General recommendations:

- o That the two Centres ardently work to exploit all the existing financing options through other financial partners/donors.
- o That the two Centres work in synergy in order to substantially economise at sub-regional level.

DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS

Considering the importance of livestock in the economic and social development of the member countries of ITC/CIRDES,

Considering the importance of research for the development of the livestock sector,

Considering the strategic role of ITC/CIRDES as an instrument in scientific and technical cooperation in the livestock sector with countries of the sub-region,

Considering the importance of human and financial resources in the implementation of research programmes at sub-regional level:

The Ministers of Agriculture and Livestock of The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Senegal and Sierra Leone:

1. Recognize the need for ITC to put in place a governing system that can better respond to the needs of its partner countries, and recognize the need to reinforce ITC's regional mandate.
2. Have agreed to put in place a **Council of Ministers** charged with the political guidance of the institutions and support in soliciting funding.
3. Request ITC and CIRDES to strengthen their linkages with NARS in the member countries, particularly those in a post-conflict situation.
4. Will engage themselves in the search for the allocation of annual financial contributions to ITC and CIRDES from national budgets of member states in order to facilitate the implementation of regional programmes.
5. Finally, will give full support to the initiatives of ITC/CIRDES in respect to their coordinating role in research and development, particularly of regional projects like the Project on Regional Integration presently proposed by ITC and CIRDES for EU funding under the auspices of ECOWAS and UEMOA and the Project on *in-situ* Conservation of Indigenous Animals that has been submitted to the GEF and ADB.

Banjul, this 12th day of November 2004.

DECLARATION DES MINISTRES

Considérant le rôle de l'élevage dans le développement économique et social des pays membres de l'ITC,

Considérant l'importance de la recherche dans le développement de l'élevage,

Considérant le rôle stratégique de l'ITC comme instrument de coopération scientifique et technique en élevage au service des pays de la sous-région,

Considérant l'importance des ressources humaines et financières dans la conduite des programmes de recherche au niveau de la sous région :

Les Ministres en charge de l'Agriculture et de l'Élevage des pays suivants - Gambie, Guinée Bissau, Sénégal et Sierra Léone :

1. Reconnaissent la nécessité pour l'ITC de mettre en place un système de gouvernance plus à même de répondre aux besoins des pays membres et de renforcer son mandat régional.
2. Conviennent de l'opportunité de mettre en place un **Conseil des Ministres** chargé de la tutelle politique de l'institution et de l'appui à la mobilisation des ressources
3. Demandent à l'ITC et le CIRDES de renforcer ses liens avec les Systèmes Nationaux de Recherches Agricoles des pays membres, en particulier de ceux en situation de post-conflit.
4. S'engagent à œuvrer auprès de pays membres pour l'allocation de ressources budgétaires annuelles à l'ITC et au CIRDES pour faciliter l'exécution des programmes d'intérêt régional.
5. Appuient fortement les initiatives de l'ITC/CIRDES en matière de coordination de la recherche-développement en élevage notamment les projets d'intérêt régional en cours de négociation comme le Projet d'Intégration Régional proposé par l'ITC et le CIRDES à l'Union Européenne sous les auspices de la CEDEAO et le Projet de Conservation *in situ* de Bétail endémique soumis au FEM et à la BAD.

Fait à Banjul, le 12 novembre 2004.

The Ministers

.... request ITC and CIRDES to strengthen their linkages with NARS in the member countries, particularly those in a post-conflict situation.

.... will engage themselves in the search for the allocation of annual financial contributions to ITC and CIRDES from national budgets of member states in order to facilitate the implementation of regional programmes.



Les Ministres

.... demandent à l'ITC et le CIRDES de renforcer ses liens avec les Systèmes Nationaux de Recherches Agricoles des pays membres, en particulier de ceux en situation de post-conflit.

.... s'engagent à œuvrer auprès de pays membres pour l'allocation de ressources budgétaires annuelles à l'ITC et au CIRDES pour faciliter l'exécution des programmes d'intérêt régional.

ITC 20th Anniversary Celebrations 12 November 2004

Following the International Conference on Livestock Agriculture, ITC celebrated its 20th Anniversary in the framework of this year's *ITC Emphasis Week*.

On the morning of Friday, 12 November 2004, the Centre was honoured by the presence of numerous dignitaries and guests from The Gambia and abroad: high level State and Government Officials with the Vice-President of The Gambia as the Guest of Honour representing His Excellency The President of The Gambia, Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, Religious Leaders, Donor Representatives, Representatives of Regional and International Organisations and Institutions, of CIRDES and the collaborating NARS, Members of ITC Council and former Directors and senior staff members of ITC, international participants of the preceding Conference, private sector representatives, farmers, and other well-wishers, amongst them many schoolchildren from the neighbourhoods.

The speeches of the Director General of ITC, the Chairman of ITC's Governing Council, and of the President of The Gambia read by the Vice-President, put below on record in chronological order, were providing a vivid picture of ITC's roots, its development and the outlook and expectations into its future role in livestock research and development in West Africa.

The naming of the Laboratory Complex after the first Director of ITC, Prof. Ian McIntyre, and a commemorative tree planting by the Vice-President and other dignitaries and guests, ably accompanied by the sounds of the Gambia Police Band, concluded this very special milestone in the life of the International Trypanotolerance Centre in The Gambia.



Address of the Director General of ITC, Dr. Kwaku Agyemang

Your Excellency, Alhagie Dr. A. J. J. Jammeh, President of The Gambia, ably represented by the Vice President, Your Excellency Mrs. Isatou Njie-Saidy, Vice President of the Republic of The Gambia, Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly, Your Lordship the Chief Justice, Honourable Secretaries of State, here present, Honourable Ministers of Agriculture from Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Senegal, Your Excellencies Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, Honourable Members of the National Assembly here present, Venerable Religious Leaders, Chairman and Members of the ITC Council here present, Special Guests from The Gambia and abroad here for the just ended International Conference, Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is my pleasure to welcome you here on the occasion of the Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the International Trypanotolerance Centre. My task here for the next 15 minutes is two-fold.

Firstly, to appreciate you all for leaving your various duties and assignments to be here for this Celebration. We are particularly grateful to the Conference participants, many who could have left this morning to be home in good time to pray with their families at the end of the Ramadan.

We are here also to pay tribute to the founding fathers of this Institution for their foresights in establishing and developing viable programmes for the Centre. Today we will be honouring one of the pioneers.

While there is a good enough reason to celebrate longevity, celebration of achievements is perhaps more appealing. I am proud to say that this Celebration is both for longevity and for achievements. During my address last year at our Open Day, I took time to list several of these achievements. Suffice to say that the Institution has come a long way from our humble beginnings from 1984. As we celebrate we dare not forget our history.

This brings me to my second task today - to share with you a brief summary of the history of ITC:

The History as recorded by one of the founding staff, Dr. Bakary Touray, has it that in the early 1970s, a collaborative research project between the University of Glasgow in Scotland and The Gambian Government was carried out to study the incidence of diseases occurring in the indigenous N'Dama cattle population of The Gambia. The study, which was funded by the Rockefeller Foundation of the United States of America, was based at the MRC Laboratories and implemented by scientists from the University of Glasgow Veterinary

"We are here to pay tribute to the founding fathers of this Institution for their foresights in establishing and developing viable programmes for the Centre"

"I wish to assure you that the current Governing Council, Management and Staff look forward to the future with optimism, even in the face of a difficult global funding environment for Agricultural Research"

School and the then Veterinary Department of The Gambia. The team was led by Professor Ian McIntyre, and included a world renowned scientist in the field of animal trypanosomiasis, Prof. Max Murray, and Dr. Wally Ndow, the then Director of the Veterinary Department and Mr. B. T. Sanyang.

This study generated a great deal of information and resulted in the publication of over fifty papers in peer-reviewed international scientific journals. The information drew attention to the potential of the N'Dama cattle as a means of increasing livestock production in the humid and sub-humid parts of sub-Saharan Africa where tsetse and trypanosomiasis was precluding livestock production. It was however recognised, that more in-depth studies would be required to enable the exploitation of the apparent resistance of the N'Dama to several important animal diseases that limit animal production in the best grazing areas of our continent. Thus, the idea of setting up a Centre of Excellence to carry out such studies was proposed.

It was in the above context that Sir Dawda Jawara, the former President of The Gambia, who is also a veterinarian by training, offered to invite the International Community to explore the feasibility of setting up such a Centre in The Gambia. In response to the invitation of the Gambian Government, the Rockefeller Foundation agreed to sponsor a conference of eminent scientists, donor agencies and multi-lateral institutions at its conference centre in Belagio, Italy, in 1981, to deliberate on the possibility of setting up the Centre. A follow-up conference was organised the same year in Banjul to work out the modalities and determine the contributions of the various interested governments and donor agencies. Unfortunately, that Meeting could not fully complete the task at hand in 1981, hence it was reconvened in early 1982.

At this meeting, the Government of The Gambia committed itself to providing the land and the infra structure for the Centre, if the international community would provide the recurrent research costs. At this juncture, the African Development Bank (ADB), pledged to assist the Gambian Government in providing the required infrastructure through a livestock development project. The British Government, through its Overseas Development (ODA) pledged funds for the entomological studies while the then European Economic Community (EEC) agreed to fund the epidemiology component through the then International Livestock Centre for Africa and the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases located in Addis Ababa and Nairobi respectively. Later, funds were secured from Switzerland and Belgium for other research activities. It is important to note here that apart from the concessionary loan from the ADB, all the other funds were grants.

The enabling Act setting up the ITC was passed by the Gambian Parliament in 1982. The first staff of the Livestock Development Project through which the infrastructure was provided, were recruited in September 1983 with Professor Ian McIntyre as the first Director. Fieldwork started in early 1984. The project was based at the Abuko Laboratories of the Veterinary Services while the infrastructure of the Centre (ITC) was being built at Kerr Serigne, Keneba and Bansang.

As an autonomous institution, the ITC is governed by a Council whose membership is international. Sir Dawda, the then President, chaired this Governing Council during the first five years and he was assisted by Dr John McKelvey of the Rockefeller Foundation who later succeeded him as Chairman. The cost of the Council was underwritten by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of its programme of institution building.

Construction of the facilities at all three sites was completed and the official inauguration took place in March 1987, and the occasion was celebrated by a major scientific conference and a Pan-African Commonwealth Veterinary Association Conference. In order to attain the above aims, the ITC implemented collaborative research projects with several universities and research institutions in Africa and overseas.

The Centre was soon recognised by the international scientific community as a Centre of excellence for research on trypanotolerance, tick-borne diseases, training of livestock personnel etc. and in 1989, it was being considered for membership of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) based in Washington. An evaluation team sent by the CGIAR was highly impressed. However, the ITC could not become a member of the CGIAR because the latter had decided to merge the existing two livestock research institutions, ILCA and ILRAD to form ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute) whose mandate was broadened to cover the whole world, not just the African continent as was the case for ILCA and ILRAD.

Since then the Centre has continued to grow and flourish using collaboration arrangements with other Centres in the Region, such as CIRDES, to approach donors for support. As many of you are aware, the Centre jointly with CIRDES and, CTA has just concluded a successful International Conference on Livestock Agriculture with an aim of drawing stakeholders' attention to the fact that livestock agriculture is still indispensable and need support.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, today on our 20th Anniversary Celebration, I wish to assure you that the current Governing Council, Management and Staff look forward to the future with optimism, even in the face of a difficult global funding environment for Agricultural Research. We have, and continue to reposition ourselves in order to capture opportunities that come with the changing world. I have the pleasure in calling on you to join us today as we mark this anniversary with symbolic christening of our Laboratory Complex and Commemorative Tree Planting.

Once again, I welcome you all to our Birthday celebration. God Bless you All !

Address of the Chairman of ITC's Governing Council, Professor Stanny Geerts



Your Excellency, President of The Gambia, ably represented by the Vice President, Her Excellency Mrs. Isatou Njie-Saidy, Honourable Secretaries of State, Honourable Ministers of Agriculture from Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Your Excellencies Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, Fellow Members of ITC Council here present, Special Guests from The Gambia and abroad, Ladies and Gentlemen!

On behalf of the Council of ITC, I would like to thank the President, Vice-President, all Government Officials and distinguished guests present here for celebrating with us the 20th Anniversary of ITC. More particularly, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the President and the People of The Gambia for the hospitality and for continuous support over the past twenty years. Without their generous gift of land and infrastructure for the ITC Headquarters here at Kerr Serign and for ITC's Field Stations at Keneba and Bansang, it would not have been possible to have started twenty years ago.

Besides land and infrastructure, the Government of Gambia has financially supported ITC right from the beginning, which is gratefully acknowledged.

In addition to the host country, many other countries have supported ITC in the past twenty years. First and foremost, we have to mention the European Union. Without their support, ITC would never have survived. Particularly during the past five years, the EU has been the major donor of ITC through the PROCORDEL project.

During the past days, we had the opportunity to attend an International Conference during which the very impressive research results obtained within this collaborative project between CIRDES, ITC, ILRI, and the NARS of the partner countries have been presented.

Among the other countries which have significantly supported ITC in the past years, I would like to mention Germany, Belgium, United Kingdom and Switzerland. It would be an endless task to cite all the Organisations which have supported projects at ITC, but among the most important I would like to mention the World Bank, the African Development Bank, FAO of The United Nations, and IDRC Canada.

Furthermore, I would like to thank the founding fathers of ITC, and especially Professor

McIntyre from Glasgow, for the foresight, their long-term vision, their enthusiasm and their strong belief in the necessity of an international Centre for trypanotolerance with the particular emphasis on research for development.

The founding fathers of ITC understood very well that research is not complete until the knowledge and results generated are put into development action that benefit the local populations.

Over the years, the mission of ITC has changed from a centre to promote, propagate and disseminate trypanotolerant livestock to a centre for applied research to increase livestock productivity and utilisation in the West African region through the optimal and sustainable utilisation of the genetic resistance of indigenous breeds of livestock for the welfare of the human populations.

The general objective of ITC nowadays focuses on formulation, implementation and introduction of sustainable, socio-economically and environmentally acceptable integrated packages at farmer level, for improved livestock health, production and exploitation.

A recent impact assessment study has shown that households which participated in ITC interventions earned about three times more per livestock unit than households that were not involved in ITC projects. This clearly shows that ITC through its interventions has made a difference in those regions where it has been active and needs to be supported to further harness its potential.

However, although ITC has achieved quite a lot over the past twenty years, I think that you all agree with me that there still remains a lot of work to be done for a Centre such as ITC, and I sincerely do hope that ITC with the support of its traditional donors and with the help of all you here present can continue to carry out research with the final aim to reduce poverty and to improve the welfare of the populations of the whole region.

Thank you very much !

"The founding fathers of ITC understood very well that research is not complete until the knowledge and results generated are put into development action that benefit the local populations".

Presidential Address

Given by the Vice-President of The Gambia, HE Mrs. Isatou Njie-Saidy



Mr. Chairman for the occasion, Your Lordship the Chief Justice of The Gambia, our visiting Ministers of Agriculture to The Gambia, namely the Ministers of Agriculture for Senegal, for Guinea Bissau, and for Sierra Leone, and my Cabinet Colleagues here present, Honorary Secretaries of State from The Gambia, venerable religious Leaders, Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, our visiting guests from abroad The Gambia on this auspicious occasion, the Chairman of the ITC Board and Members of the Council here present, the Director General of the ITC and Staff, our distinguished Guests from The Gambia as well and all other protocols duly observed, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen!

First and foremost, I bring you the greetings from HE The President and his regret that he could not be here today, even though he had planned initially, but I am sure some of you already know that as I am talking to you here, he is in Saudi Arabia busy performing the Umra, and all I can say is: 'May God answer his prayers for this country'. However, he has also asked me to wish the ITC successful 20th Anniversary celebrations.

It is very pleasing and indeed gratifying to note that this celebration in particular, which is a landmark celebration is taking place at a time when this Government has just celebrated also its 10th Anniversary - that is ten years of peace and stability, progress, development and indeed prosperity. And also, at the end of the international Conference, which has just been concluded at the Kairaba Hotel, which was focused on livestock agriculture in West and Central Africa.

His Excellency The President's speech as has been handed down to me by him, reads this way:

"Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen! It is exactly a year ago this week, when I visited this Centre on the occasion of the Open Day of the ITC Emphasis Week. My acceptance of the invitation to come again this year to be a part of the celebrations of the Centre's 20th Anniversary underscores my deep personal interest first and foremost as a livestock farmer myself and indeed in the work of the Centre and also my Government's unflinching commitment to development of the agriculture in particular and the livestock sub sector.

Distinguished Guests, many of you know that agriculture is the backbone of the economy of this Country, and also that it contributes about 24% to our gross domestic product. It is also a political sector that engages nearly the bigger chunk of the population, nearly 70%, and most of them rural-based. Furthermore, a vast proportion of our rural folk depends on locally produced foods and livestock products for their sustenance. The sector is indeed the main source of income and food for a greater number of our citizens. Thus, it is no accident that my Government places so much emphasis on the development of agriculture and has put in place, therefore, both short- and long-term measures and related strategies to make the Nation food-secure and poverty-free.

The "Vision 2020 *Gambia Incorporated*", the national poverty reduction paper PRSP and the sector policy and programme, all spelled out clearly our determination and commitment as a Nation and a Government to agriculture as the main pillar for this country's future and its development. Other governments in our Sub-region, no doubt, share the same aspirations, too.

Agricultural research is indeed a prerequisite and has been shown to catalyse sustainable development and agricultural production elsewhere, and it therefore is my Government's belief and conviction that agricultural research can indeed significantly contribute to the development of the sector.

ITC's and its partners' work in the sub region is thus seen in that light, hence our interest in the Centre's activities and related programmes.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, as birthdays and indeed anniversaries are important occasions and milestones in the lives of individuals as well as of institutions like the ITC, and are often cause for celebrating, so as these special anniversaries particularly this one we are celebrating today after twenty years, important for the ITC.

Therefore, it goes without saying that I am pleased to be here to celebrate this occasion with you, with the Centre's Governing Council in particular, the Management and Staff, partners and livestock farmers and indeed all other well-wishers and distinguished guests.

Although two decades in the life of a research institution is relatively a very short time, more so when long-cycled species of big animals like cattle are involved. However, we are pleased with the Centre's achievements.

Last November, I had the occasion to applaud the Centre for its genetic improvement programmes for our Gambian indigenous livestock and indeed for its work as well in terms of institutional strengthening and capacity building. I have been reliably informed as well that the interventions of the Centre and partners of the last 10 to 15 years have directly impacted on Gambian Livestock farmers and their families. There was indeed a trickling down effect in terms of increase of milk as well as meat production for both home consumption and surplus for sales. The surplus milk production alone, I am told, saves The Gambia about two million USD a year from imports. That is commendable. If this modest contribution can be sustained over a long period, the savings from importation due to improved local production could be used by Government for other fruitful ventures to benefit the Gambian society.

I, therefore, wish to see one day, an effective and efficient link between research and extension, particularly in the agricultural sector, for it is only if research findings are replicated by local stakeholders that benefits multiply as a result.

Distinguished Guests, given the impact demonstrated so far and the potential even to make a larger impact, in the future, the Centre can rest assured of my Governments continuous support in terms of annual subventions, special project funds and the necessary political backing to secure funding for its operations.

At this juncture, I would wish to take the opportunity to thank the international donor community in particular that has assisted the centre so far to implement its programmes. I am informed that the European Union, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, have been in the forefront in this regard, not to

speak of other multilateral organisations. I welcome additional support from other countries and agencies represented here today. Your Country's and Agencies support to the Centre is critical and is a contribution to the efforts of various Governments of our sub region. The importance that the Governments in the region attach to the work of the Centre is indeed shown today and underscored by the presence in our midst of representatives of various countries in the sub region to this important Conference. That is mainly Ministers of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Centre by its regional mandate also serves as a tool of regional cooperation on livestock-based agriculture in particular for development in West and Central Africa. I am informed that the sub regional organisation responsible for agricultural research and development, CORAF, recognises ITC and also its sister institution, CIRDES, as such. The continued existence of these Centres of Excellence in our sub region and the sustainability of their result-oriented programmes, should therefore become a shared vision for all stakeholders. The presence of representative of large numbers of organisations and development agencies, and indeed foreign missions, may be taken as interest in the work of the Centre does and perhaps it is a good omen for future support to the Centre.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, kindly join me in paying tribute to the founding fathers of the Centre, both past and present, and indeed the past and current Management and Staff, for their dedication to duty that has brought this Centre this far over twenty years.

I pay a special tribute today to Professor Ian McIntyre of Scotland, The United Kingdom, the founding Director of the Centre, for his mission and vision for the livestock sub sector in The Gambia and indeed in the rest of the sub region, and for his dedication to service for the Centre. In his honour today, we appreciate his contribution by naming the Laboratory Complex of the ITC here in Kerr Serign after him.

At this juncture, I also wish the Centre Management and Staff the best of everything and commend them for a job well done. It is my prayer that Allah will bless us all, witness the next twenty years and beyond with peace and development.

Long live The Gambia and our sub regional bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Long live ITC and long live the global effort in improving agriculture for the benefit of our peoples".

Thank you all for coming. The Almighty bless you all. Thank you very much.

"I, therefore, wish to see one day, an effective and efficient link between research and extension, particularly in the agricultural sector, for it is only if research findings are replicated by local stakeholders that benefits multiply as a result".

The Ian McIntyre Laboratory Complex at ITC Headquarters in Kerr Serign



The Ian McIntyre Laboratory Complex

has six laboratories for carrying out diagnostic work and research related to livestock health and production in The Gambia and the West African Sub region

The Complex was named in honour of Prof. Ian McIntyre, former Dean of the Veterinary Faculty of Glasgow University, Scotland, who was one of the founding fathers of the ITC and its first Director



The unveiling of the plaque and a commemorative tree planting by the Vice-President of The Gambia, HE Mrs. Isatou Njie-Saidy, representing HE The President



The Anniversary Celebrations took place in the presence of many invited dignitaries and guests from The Gambia and abroad, school children from the neighbourhoods and other well-wishers



Training and Capacity Building in 2004

ITC and its collaborators had continued in 2004 to (co-) organise and support training activities for different target groups in partner countries and at ITC. The identification of training needs and the selection of subjects and specific courses (see tables below) were based on consultations with the partners and guided by the ITC Annual Work Programme 2004.

Again, the *Train the Trainer (ToT)* and *Training of Farmers (ToF)* - approach had received much support. Thus, skills and knowledge were passed to intermediate and

ultimate target groups for adoption of more productive technologies and self-help at the producer and (dairy) processor level. Various training and extension materials were further developed, field-tested and produced (or in the pipeline) for wider distribution.

Individual training received support through short/medium-term, supervised on-the-job/on-site instructions, study attachments and exchange visits, and assistance to postgraduate studies.

Group training supported by ITC in 2004:

Regional Training Course	Description	Duration & start date	Participants	Collaborators / Instructors
REG0401: Regional training course on ruminant nutrition and feeding strategies	Review and recommend feeding strategies for increased productivity of cattle, focussing on locally available feed resources in ITC zone countries (incl. production of <i>Moringa oleifera</i>)	29/11/04 – 8 days	8 profess./technicians from Gambia (2), Senegal (2), Guinea (2), Guinea Bissau (1), Sierra Leone (1)	ITC, ISRA, ENSA, PRODEV, CWS
The GAMBIA Training Courses 2004	Description	Duration & start date	Participants	Collaborators / Instructors
GAM0401, GAM0402: Multi-Nutrient Block Production (2 runs)	Improve feeding & nutrition of ruminant livestock	09/02/04 – 5 days; 22/02/04 – 5 days	ToF: 47 Livestock farmers (YAMPI) and youth	ITC, FAO, IDRC
GAM0403: F1 crossbred cattle production & husbandry (incl. training manual testing)	Improve F1 crossbred production and management practices	23/02/04 – 8 days	ToT/ToF: 10 LAs & 15 livestock farmers from GBA & North Bank	ITC, DLS
GAM0404: F1 crossbred cattle production & husbandry (incl. training manual testing)	Improve F1 crossbred production and management practices	01/06/04 – 3 days	ToF: 13 livestock farmers - GBA & North Bank	ITC, CFLI
GAM0405: Orientation of DLOs & pure breeding multiplier farmers (GILMA), for dissemination of breeding bulls	Orientation of multiplier farmers and distribution (auction) of ITC-tested improved breeding N'Dama bulls	01/04/04 – 2 days	ToT/ToF: 6 DLOs & 10 multiplier farmers 7 LO/LA & 37 farmers	ITC, DLS
GAM0406: Reproduction & feeding strategies for indigenous ruminant livestock	Improve production & feeding practices of ruminant livestock	06/05/04 – 5 days	ToT/ToF: 7 LO/LAs & 37 farmers	ITC, DLS
GAM0407: W/shop on up-scaling & testing technologies for pure breeding programmes	Improve efficiency of pure breeding programmes at field level	19/06/04 – 1 day	ToT: 12 LOs/LAs	ITC, DLS
GAM0408: Sensitisation & training on improved pure breeding of ruminant livestock (2 runs)	Improve efficiency of pure breeding programmes at farmers' level	16-17/7/04 – 1 day in 2 locations	ToT/ToF combined: 3 LAs; 12 livestock farmers	ITC, DLS
GAM0409: Management of pure breeding programmes	Improve efficiency of pure breeding programmes at farmers' level	27-28/08/04 – 1 day in 2 locations	ToF: 37 livestock farmers	ITC, DLS
GAM0410: Training Programme for dairy cooperative members and DLS/ITC core group (5 courses on various subjects)	Upgrade knowledge and skills of local trainers and members of local dairy cooperatives on operating the 'Village Milk System'	June-July 04 - 7 days (5 courses)	ToT/ToF: 11 DLS & ITC staff; 280 dairy cooperative members in GBA	FAO, DLS, ITC
GAM0411: F1 crossbred cattle production & management for dairy cooperative members	Orientation of dairy cooperative members on F1 crossbred cattle production & management practices	21/10/04 – 2 days	ToT/ToF: 5 DLS staff; 25 dairy cooperative members	ITC, DLS
GAM0412: Farmers Field School (FFS) - 4 village groups	Several meetings at village level, for participatory problem identification & solving	Feb 04 onwards - 5 half days	ToF: 35 small ruminant farmers (CRD)	ITC, DLS
ITC0401: Introduction to statistical package STATA 8	Introduce & distribute new statistical package to ITC users	13/05/04 – 1 day	8 professionals of ITC, 3 MRC	MRC Labs, D. Jeffries
ITC0402: EXCEL - formatting, formulae, charts, Pivot; transfers	Improve skills and optimise usage of Excel	18/11/04 – 3 half days	9 prof./tech./general staff of ITC; 2 DLS	MRC Labs, P. Snell

SENEGAL Training Courses 2004	Description	Duration & start date	Participants	Collaborators / Instructors
SEN0401: Hygienic milking and milk handling (2 runs)	Improve standards on hygienic milking and milk processing practices	23/08/04 – 1 day each in Kolda and Vellingara	ToF: 44 dairying farmers, milk collectors	ITC, CRZ
SEN0402: On-site training in quality control & bacteriol. analysis of milk	Improve standards in quality control and bacteriological examination of milk	23/08/04 – 3 days	Training of 3 lab technicians (Kolda)	ITC, CRZ
SEN0403, SEN0404: (1) Study tour to Gambia of F1-producers of ASEM & APREMKA and extension workers on milk transformation; (2) Restitution meetings of associations members	Improve knowledge base of F1 crossbred cattle farmers from 'Bassin Arachidier' on milk transformation & marketing by (1) familiarisation tour to ITC/GBA and (2) follow-up meetings of associations members in Kaolack, Fatick	(1) 08/12/04 – 3 days; (2) 18/12/04 – 1 day	ToT/ToF: 4 P/T, 5 F (1); 9 P/T, 30 F (2)	ITC, DLS; ISRA, DIREL, PAPEL, AN-CAR
SEN0405: Farmer Field School methodology	Orientation on FFS concept and methodology of 'Agents polyvalents' in Casamance (based on the Gambian experience)	23/11/04 – 3 days	ToT: 15 facilitators - technicians	ITC, AAJAC / COLUFIFA (Farmers' Assoc. / NGO)

GUINEA Training Courses 2004	Description	Start date & duration	Participants	Collaborators / Instructors
GUC0401: F1 crossbred cattle production & husbandry (incl. manual testing)	Improve F1 crossbred cattle production and management practices	15/03/2004 – 4 days	ToT/ToF: 5 DNE staff, 35 live-stock farmers	DNE/IRAG
GUC0402: Orientation on improved dairy and pasteurisation practices	Orientation & discussions with women group members on improved dairy and pasteurisation practices (prep. initiative on hygienic milking & processing)	18/08/2004 – 1 day	ToT/ToF: 1 DNE staff, 12 members of dairy women group "Nafaya", Pita	ITC, DNE
GUC0403: Feeding crossbred cattle under intensified systems	Improve feeding & nutrition of crossbred cattle for higher productivity using locally available resources	21/12/2004 – 3 days	ToT/ToF: 8 technicians, 9 farmers	ITC, DNE, Fandie farm management
GUC0404: Guidelines on pure breeding for profess./ technicians & members of Boke breeders' association	Up scaling dissemination of genetic progress from nucleus to production herds in Boke	22/12/2004 – 1 day	ToT/ToF: 8 DNE/IRAG, CAE staff; 6 farmers	ITC, DNE/IRAG, CAE

GUINEA BISSAU Training Course 2004	Description	Start date & duration	Participants	Collaborators / Instructors
GBI0401: Training & familiarisation tour of delegation from Bissau to Gambia on adapted milk technologies	Orientation and training on hygienic milking and quality processing through operating the "Village Milk System" – (in prep. of Procordel initiative on hygienic milking and quality processing)	21/10/2004 – 9 days	ToT/ToF: 4 technicians, 2 dairy cooperative members	ITC, DLS; DGP Bissau

The total number of participants in the 2004 group & individual training events organised by ITC and collaborators was 804 (2001-2003: 1135), of which 663 participants were ultimate beneficiaries (2001-2003: 623).

The results of a questionnaire-based, comprehensive **training impact assessment** survey, which was separately addressing ex-trainees, ultimate beneficiaries (indirect assessment through ToF-extension staff), and institutional/unit heads and supervisors in ITC partner countries, showed that the training inputs in the period 2001-2004 have effectively contributed to the increase in critical mass at professional and technical level and to the extension and transfer of research results to ultimate beneficiaries.

It can be confidently concluded that the multi-faceted targeted training programme, which was implemented over the last four years with a particularly strong support from PROCORDEL, has succeeded to:

- (1) increase the implementation capacities for the collaborative annual work programmes with the NARS,
- (2) enhance the application and harmonisation of recommended methods,
- (3) positively impact on the personal performance (knowledge, skills, attitudes),
- (4) in a smaller number of cases give support to individual professional and scientific career development.

Seminar at ITC

22 December: African agricultural consultants working in Africa - Challenges, rewards and outlook.
Given by Dr. Mopoi Nuwanyakpa, Agricultural Consultant

ITC Staff News

July Mr. Fafanding Fatajo of NARI appointed as ITC Socio-Economist (IP 10)
August Dr. Susanne Muenstermann left ITC
“ Dr. Abdou Fall succeeding as TA of PROCORDEL
“ Dr. Mulumba Kamuanga, ILRI Regional Socio-Economist, moves from CIRDES to ITC
October Mrs. Bridget Chukualim appointed as Data Manager (part-time)
November Dr. Mamadou Diop of ISRA appointed as Acting Programme Leader LISIP

Attachments

July - October Mr. Bassirou Sall, Senegal/IAM France, on study attachment for MSc
August Ms. Flora J. Logan, UK, on study attachment (trypanosomosis)
December Mr. Kebba Jammeh, UTG, starts a study attachment for BSc (Hons.) in Agriculture

Visitors to ITC (July - December 2004)

19-21 October Mrs. E. Visser, *EU Monitoring Team*, M&E - PROCORDEL
21 October Mr. D. Sonko & D. Mandiamy, AAJAC/COLUFIFA (NGO), Faoun, Senegal
29 October Dr. Karbo, Ghana, FAO Consultant, and O. Jallow, UTG: curricular matters
16 November Dr. D. Richard (CIRAD): long-term R&D planning
17 November Mr. Paul Claes, VVOB, Belgium, Programme Officer

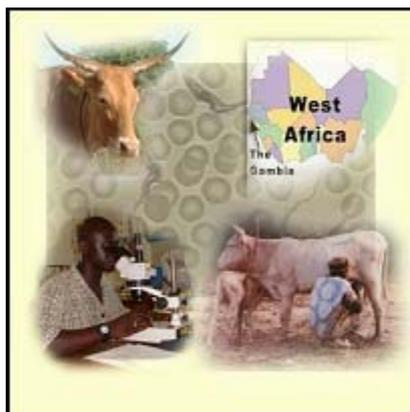
The visitors & guests of ITC during the International Conference & Anniversary Celebrations (8-12 Nov.) are not listed

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also on our Website:
<http://www.itc.gm>



About ITC

The International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC) is a sub-regional research institution located in The Gambia, West Africa, with livestock rearing and research facilities at Headquarters in Kerr Serigne (Greater Banjul Area) and Stations at Keneba and Bansang. Thus, ITC has access to diverse agro-ecological settings, disease risk areas and livestock production systems in the sub-region.

The mission of ITC is to *contribute to livestock productivity and utilisation in the West African region through the optimal and sustainable exploitation of the genetic resistance of indigenous breeds of livestock for the welfare of the human populations.*

The general objective focuses on the *formulation, implementation and introduction of sustainable socio-economically and environmentally acceptable integrated packages at farmer level, for improved livestock health, production and exploitation.*

**A livestock-based
Agricultural Research
Institute dedicated to serve
the West African Region**