

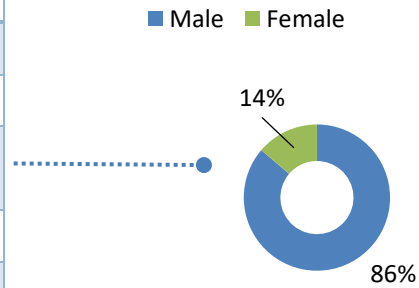
# WEST AFRICA REGIONAL MISSION

Q2|FY2017



## KEY DATA POINTS

PROGRAM RESULTS BY INDICATOR	Q2	PY4
Number of organizations supported	0	73
Number of food security events	0	4
Number of food security event participants	0	138
Number of trainings conducted	0	0
Number of individuals trained	0	0



## KEY PARTNERS

ORGANIZATION	TYPE	AL SUPPORT
Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel/Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)	Research	Capacity development services
Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF)	Research	Institutional audit, including OCA

## ACTIVITIES

- Support for the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) to Develop a Training Plan and Organizational Training Policy.** Africa Lead coached a two-person Human Resources team at CILSS to develop a formal training and development plan for staff of the organization. CILSS currently does not have an approved training policy, training plan or training budget in place. Africa Lead developed an action plan to roll out the training and staff development plan. Africa Lead will also organize customized managerial short-courses in Q3 and Q4 of FY 17.
- Assessment of Impact of Africa Lead M&E Technical Assistance to CILSS.** The Africa Lead Regional Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team visited CILSS Executive Secretariat from February 20-24, 2017 to assess institutional changes resulting from the technical assistance delivered over the last 15 months by Catalyst to Development (C2D), a sub-contracted knowledge management agency. The technical assistance consisted of configuring, implementing, and leveraging an optimal M&E solution adapted to feed CILSS’ intranet and to facilitate the dissemination of relevant information to the public via a website, known as the Paradox Box. The M&E team observed several organizational capacity changes. For example, the new configuration reduces considerable risks related to the



transportation of physical documents, loss of data, and the deterioration of data storage items such as compact disks. The Paradox Box has also reduced the time needed for data entry and analysis. It also establishes linkages between activities, objectives, results and indicators, allowing the M&E team to measure achievements by activity and to more effectively track progress against performance indicators.

- **Shortlisting of Young Professionals for Internships at West Africa Regional Organizations.** Africa Lead released a call for applications for the fourth cycle of Young Professionals for internships at West Africa regional partners (ECOWAS, CILSS, CORAF), and received more than 200 applications for positions ranging from M&E, communications, grants, and contracts management to program planning associates. The team shortlisted and interviewed 20 applicants, nine of whom successfully completed the first round of interviews. Once the interview and vetting process is complete, Africa Lead will provide selected interns with a complete orientation and work readiness training.
- **Presentation of Revised Findings and Recommendations of the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD) Institutional Audit to the Governing Board.** Africa Lead participated in the 22nd ordinary session of the Governing Board of the West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD). During the board session, Africa Lead presented revised findings and recommendations from the institutional audit that Africa Lead conducted in 2015 – recently revised based on feedback and comments from CORAF/WECARD management and stakeholders. The presentation highlighted the major findings in Governance, Human Resources, Technical Service Delivery, Knowledge Management, Financial Management, and Sustainability as well as clear steps to assist CORAF/WECARD to manage the change process. The governing board officially approved the revised institutional audit report, and CORAF/WECARD has begun implementing some of the recommendations from the institutional audit. Africa Lead will continue to assist CORAF/WECARD in building the capacity of its staff and external partners to improve its performance.