ipar
Think Tank

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Generating evidence-based data to transform food systems and territories

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

For IPAR, 2025 was a year of continuity, transition, and new beginnings.

Firstly, continuity in our mission. As agricultural and food systems undergo rapid change, IPAR has continued its work to advance evidence-based public policy that is more closely aligned with territorial realities. The report below details IPAR's commitment to supporting public institutions, territorial governments, producer organizations, communities, researchers, and our partners.

Secondly, transition, in a context where development financing mechanisms are changing significantly. The end of several long-standing programs—notably those supported by USAID—is forcing African research and policy dialogue institutions to reassess their business models, broaden their partnerships, and preserve their autonomy. For IPAR, this can no longer be treated as a side issue. The quality of our work also depends on our ability to maintain an independent voice that contributes meaningfully to public decision-making.

The year 2025 also reaffirmed a central focus: drawing on territorial contexts to inform public policy. Change takes place where resources are managed, where stakeholders are making decisions, where conflicts over resource use arise, and where solutions are put to the test. IPAR makes its contribution by connecting research, territorial insights, and policy dialogue.

Finally, 2025 marked an important milestone in the institution's history. After more than fifteen years at the helm of IPAR, Dr. Cheikhou Oumar Ba stepped down from the Executive Director's office to serve the government. He now holds the position of Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock. Dr. Laure Tall, previously Director of Research, stepped up to ensure the continuity of the Executive Directorate before taking over as its head at the beginning of 2026.

This transition marks a new phase for IPAR, with a focus on maintaining high scientific standards, consolidating the work underway in the field, better demonstrating the impact of our research, and expanding the institution's regional reach. This will also entail reviewing our working methods, our partnerships, and our funding model.

The publication of this report comes at a deeply emotional time, following the passing in May 2026 of Dr. Taïb Diouf, Chair of IPAR's Board of Directors. His high standards, his ability to listen, and his dedication to the institution were the hallmarks of his leadership. We pay him a grateful tribute. His contribution will remain etched in IPAR's history. We renew our solidarity with his family and loved ones.

The results presented in this report were achieved through a collective effort. They could not have come about without the commitment of IPAR's teams, the trust of its partners, and the contributions of the many stakeholders with whom we work.

They also serve as a reminder of our responsibility to generate knowledge, foster debate, and contribute to public policy decisions that are better informed and more firmly rooted in African realities.

Dr. Cheikh Oumar Ba
Executive Director of IPAR through 2025
Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock of Senegal

Dr Laure TALL
Executive Director of IPAR

IPAR AT A GLANCE

VISION

To be a leading think tank in Africa, catalyzing economic and social change to foster sustainable, inclusive, and equitable development in which family farms will play a decisive role.

MISSION

To contribute to the economic and social development of Senegal and the West African region by creating forums for dialogue and debate based on the findings of meticulous strategic and prospective research, closely aligned with the current and future challenges facing West African agricultural economies, and family farms in particular.

VALUES

- **Commitment**
- **Objectivity**
- **Accountability**
- **Equity**

A think tank combining strategic and prospective analysis to develop coordinated agricultural and rural policy grounded in scientific evidence in Senegal and the West African region.

Beyond producing research and analysis, IPAR serves as an interface between research, government policy, and territorial stakeholders. By mobilizing evidence-based data, facilitating dialogue, and providing technical support to public institutions, the think tank helps to inform decision-making and enhance the quality of public policy on agriculture and rural development.

Depending on the process, the institution participates at various levels by:

- sitting on steering committees,
- facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue,
- providing technical and analytical support to public institutions,
- and, in some cases, raising resources to support the consultation processes.

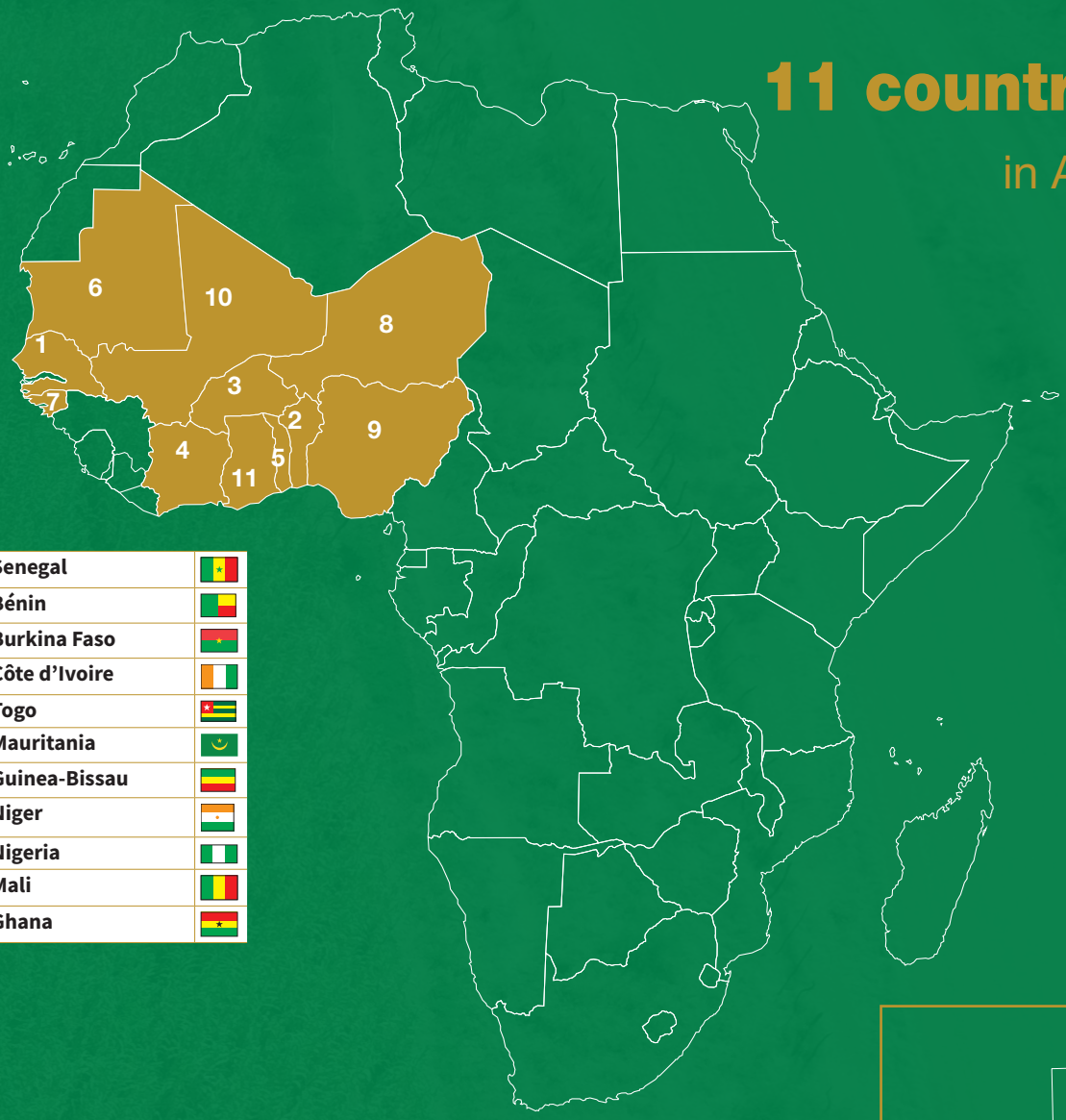
Group photo from IPAR's 2025 annual retreat in Saly © IPAR 2025

AREAS
OF INTERVENTION

Aerial view of an agricultural basin on the Mauritanian bank of the Senegal River © IPAR, 2025

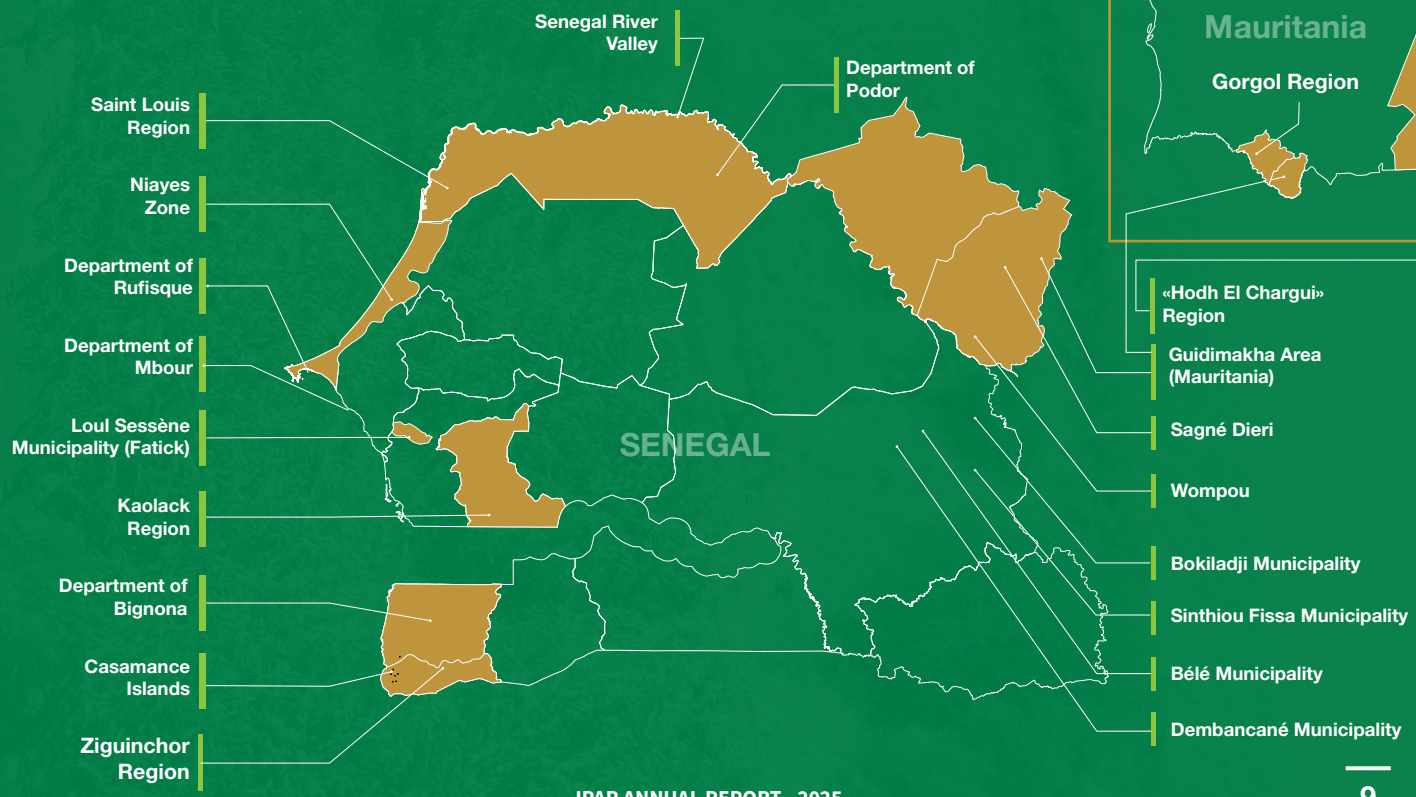
11 countries

in Africa



1	Senegal	
2	Bénin	
3	Burkina Faso	
4	Côte d'Ivoire	
5	Togo	
6	Mauritania	
7	Guinea-Bissau	
8	Niger	
9	Nigeria	
10	Mali	
11	Ghana	

Areas of intervention in Senegal and Mauritania



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, IPAR continued its mission to generate and disseminate evidence-based data to inform public policy and support change in agricultural and food systems in Senegal and West Africa. Against a backdrop of climate change, growing pressure on natural resources, and youth employment challenges, the work of the institution has helped build territorial stakeholders' capacities, structure policy dialogue, and support the development of appropriate responses to economic and environmental dynamics.

Initiatives in the areas of **food systems and building family farms** have helped promote more sustainable agricultural practices and improve producers' technical skills. In the Senegal River Valley, **Farmer Field Schools (FFS)** implemented under the COINS project have trained approximately **50 male and female producers** from two major farmers' organizations in the Podor department. The introduction of the **System of Rice Intensification (SRI)** has helped improve yields while reducing water consumption and the use of inputs, and positive effects have been observed in terms of production costs and farmers' incomes.

Territorial prospective work conducted under the ARTS project in the Department of **Bignona** has helped shape local dialogue on the future of food systems and identify the main drivers of change in the territory. Through a participatory approach bringing together **65 local stakeholders** representing farms, processing facilities, institutions of higher education and vocational and technical training, decentralized government technical departments, territorial government, development NGOs, cultural actors, and media organizations, among others, it developed a shared territorial vision aimed at strengthening the territory's resilience in the face of the challenges of urbanization, climate change, and food security.

In the area of **natural resource governance and territorial planning**, IPAR has supported several territorial governments in mainstreaming climate and environmental issues into their planning tools. Research conducted in the municipality of Loul Sessène has provided a better understanding of the dynamics of land salinization and helped identify appropriate responses at the local level. The SEEN SUUF initiative has helped promote the use of innovative territorial planning tools, such as POAS Vert, in several territories.

In cross-border areas between **Senegal** and **Mauritania**, **the PCR-SAT** project has strengthened consultation mechanisms for local stakeholders on natural resource management. The dialogue spaces created by three **"thé-palabres" (tea and talks)** brought together approximately **75 stakeholders** from the legume sector, representing producers, women's and youth organizations, local elected officials, village chiefs, decentralized technical departments, and agricultural entrepreneurs, fostering the development of collaborative solutions for conflict prevention and food security.

IPAR's work has also helped promote the **use of evidence-based data in public policy**. Through the **LEEPS** project, the institution supported the production, translation, and dissemination of scientific data in several West African countries (Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger), helping to improve interactions between researchers, public policymakers, and civil society actors.

Finally, IPAR continued its exploration of how economic and technological change affects food systems and labor markets. Research on **green entrepreneurship, employment dynamics, and technological innovation in agriculture** has helped to identify new opportunities for youth and women's economic integration in rural territories.

The research presented in this report is also part of several ongoing strategic processes in Senegal, including the revision of the 2004 LOASP, which will become the LOASPH; the development of a national strategy for agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries advisory services (CASPH – Conseil Agro-Sylvo-Pastoral et Halieutique); and discussions on Senegal's national strategy for agroecological transition (SENTAES – Stratégie Nationale de Transition Agroécologique du Sénégal).

IPAR'S KEY FIGURES FOR 2025

Knowledge productions

73 publications and knowledge products
(research reports, policy briefs, and scientific articles)

Policy dialogue and advocacy

66 multi-stakeholder events and dialogues organized

Territorial and regional engagement

11 countries covered by projects and initiatives

(Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Togo, Mauritania, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Niger, Mali, and Ghana)

20 territorial governments supported

Transformation of food systems

200 producers trained
or supported (COINS, JEV, territorial initiatives, etc.)

Partnerships and networks

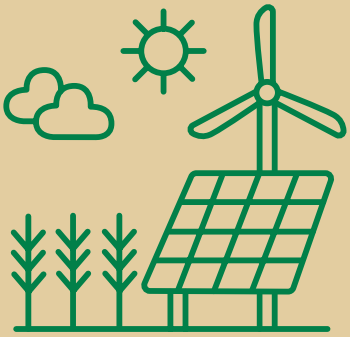
30 projects and programs implemented

41 institutional partners and organizations involved

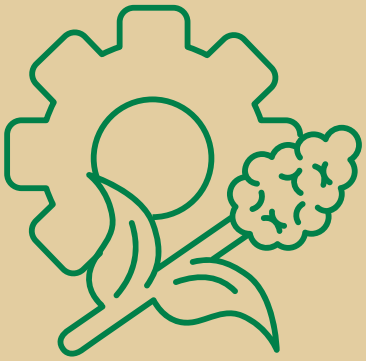
OUR WORK BY THEME

Building resilient family farms and food systems

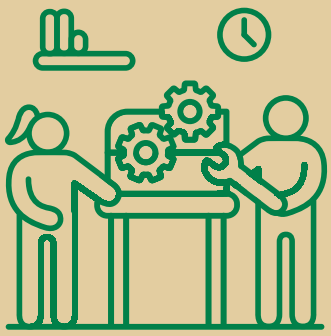
Inclusive governance of natural resources and land resources



Territories in transition and Sustainable Development Goals



Agricultural value chains and policy



Youth and women entrepreneurship and mobility strategies

A woman farmer on her farm in Mauritania © IPAR, 2025

THEME 01

1. Resilient family farms and food systems

Family farms are one of the pillars of socioeconomic development and food security in West Africa, particularly in Senegal. They play a central role in agricultural production, rural job creation, and local economies. However, they continue to face numerous challenges, including climate variability, natural resource degradation, limited access to markets, and the need to modernize production systems while preserving the environment.

In this context, IPAR's work aims to better understand the transformation trajectories of family farms and identify the necessary conditions for building more resilient food systems able to meet the challenges of food sovereignty, creation of decent jobs, and sustainable natural resource management.

The initiatives under this theme are part of our territorial approach, prioritizing collaboration with farmers' organizations, territorial governments, and networks committed to promoting agroecology, sustainable land management, and territorial food systems.

In 2025, activities under this theme centered on four projects and a multi-stakeholder agroecological transition initiative, combining research, capacity building, and policy dialogue.

Key figures

4
Flagship projects
1 Multi-stakeholder approach

7
Key events and processes

12
Publications

50
Stakeholders trained on SRI

1
MOOC on SRI

1
Forum theater

List of projects and programs

COINS	• **Start: October 2022 - End: September 2026** • **Partner: ZALF** • **Location: Podor, Senegal** • **Sectors: Agroecology / Sustainable land management**
ARTS	• **Start**: May 2023 – **End**: April 2026 • **Partners**: FNRS and ASDC • **Location**: Mbour and Bignona, Senegal • **Sector**: Resilient food systems
SALCSS	• **Start**: August 2025 – **End**: July 2029 • **Partner**: IDRC • **Location**: Bignona and Rufisque • **Sector**: Resilient food systems / Education system
PCR-SAT	• **Start**: November 2022 – **End**: February 2026 • **Partners**: AFD, Tenmiya, IRAM, IPAR, Grdr • **Location**: Senegal-Mauritania-Mali transboundary aquifer basin • **Sector**: Resilient food systems / Prevention of conflicts related to natural resource use, increasing income
DyTAES / DyTAEL	• **Start**: 2019 – **End**: To be determined • **Partner**: DyTAES • **Location**: Senegal • **Sectors**: Agroecology, Resilient food systems

1.1. Innovating through action research: living labs and participatory approaches

IPAR uses a living lab approach to test innovations that promote agroecological transitions in the context of climate change. This participatory action research approach is based on collaboration between researchers, producers, territorial governments, and other territorial stakeholders. It fosters mutual learning, leveraging of local knowledge, and co-creation of solutions tailored to local realities.

Within this framework, IPAR used a territorial prospective approach to explore potential trajectories for food systems in Bignona and sustainable land management within the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Podor. The goal is not to predict the future but to identify drivers of change and develop scenarios that can guide collective action and drafting of territorial action plans.

In a bid to strengthen stakeholder engagement, IPAR also used artistic and cultural expression, including forum theater, singing, slam poetry, and visual arts, to facilitate stakeholder participation and encourage ownership of the challenges associated with agroecological transitions.

These approaches showed certain limitations, particularly the difficulty some participants had in envisioning the future through prospective exercises. However, participatory tools such as forum theater helped improve understanding of the issues and the quality of dialogue between stakeholders.

The lessons learned from these experiences underscore the importance of strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaborative research by placing future users of innovations at the heart of research initiatives.

1.2. Testing solutions for more resilient production systems: Experimenting with SRI in the Senegal River Valley

As part of the Co-developing innovations for sustainable land management in West African smallholder farming systems (COINS) project, IPAR supported experimentation with the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) through Farmer Field Schools (FFSs) in the Senegal River Valley, particularly in Thilambol and Tarédji Décollé. Approximately fifty farmers have been trained in SRI principles and techniques.

Evaluations have shown that SRI significantly improves productivity while reducing production costs. The approach is founded on increased use of organic matter, more efficient management of irrigation water, and optimized farming practices.

« Thanks to the FFS, I've learned new techniques such as transplanting, irrigation management, and using organic matter. SRI is different from my usual farming practices. It has enabled me to reduce production costs while increasing yields. Now that I have mastered the technique, I can train other farmers on it.

However, I only farm a small area because I lack suitable equipment. With SRI-compliant equipment, I could quadruple or quintuple my production. We hope to receive support to extend this practice, which contributes to food sovereignty while reducing the physical strain of women's work. »

Testimonial from a rice farmer in Thilambol

Farmer field school in Thilambol in the Senegal River Valley © IPAR, 2025

SRI: Comparison with traditional farming practices

Criteria	Traditional farming practices	System of Rice Intensification (SRI)
Yield & Income		
Yield per hectare	—	● **+1.6 metric tons/ha** Higher than traditional farming practices
Additional net income	—	● **+606 500 CFA francs/ha** thanks to resource optimizations
Marginal rate of return	—	● **165 %** Every 1,000 CFA francs invested generates 1,650 CFA francs in revenue
Cost Optimization		
Irrigation costs	High – intensive and frequent watering	● **-125 000 FCFA** Water-efficient management, reduced watering
Chemical inputs (Fertilizer)	High – reliance on chemical fertilizer	● **-112 500 CFA francs** Use of organic matter
Labor	High	● **-100 000 CFA francs** SRI techniques reduce labor needs
Agronomic Practices		
Water management	Permanent flooding of plots	● **Alternate and water-efficient irrigation** (controlled moistening)
Fertilization	Chemical fertilizers	● **Organic matter** (compost, green manure)
Root development	Limited by excess water	● **Promoted** deep, vigorous roots
Sustainability		
Environmental impact	High (water, chemical inputs)	● **Reduced** Less water, fewer chemicals
Sustainable alternative	No	● **Yes** Economically and ecologically viable model
Estimated total savings: –337,500 CFA F/ha | Net gain: +606,500 CFA F/ha | Incremental profitability: 165%		

The results observed show multiple economic benefits for farmers who adopt the practice:

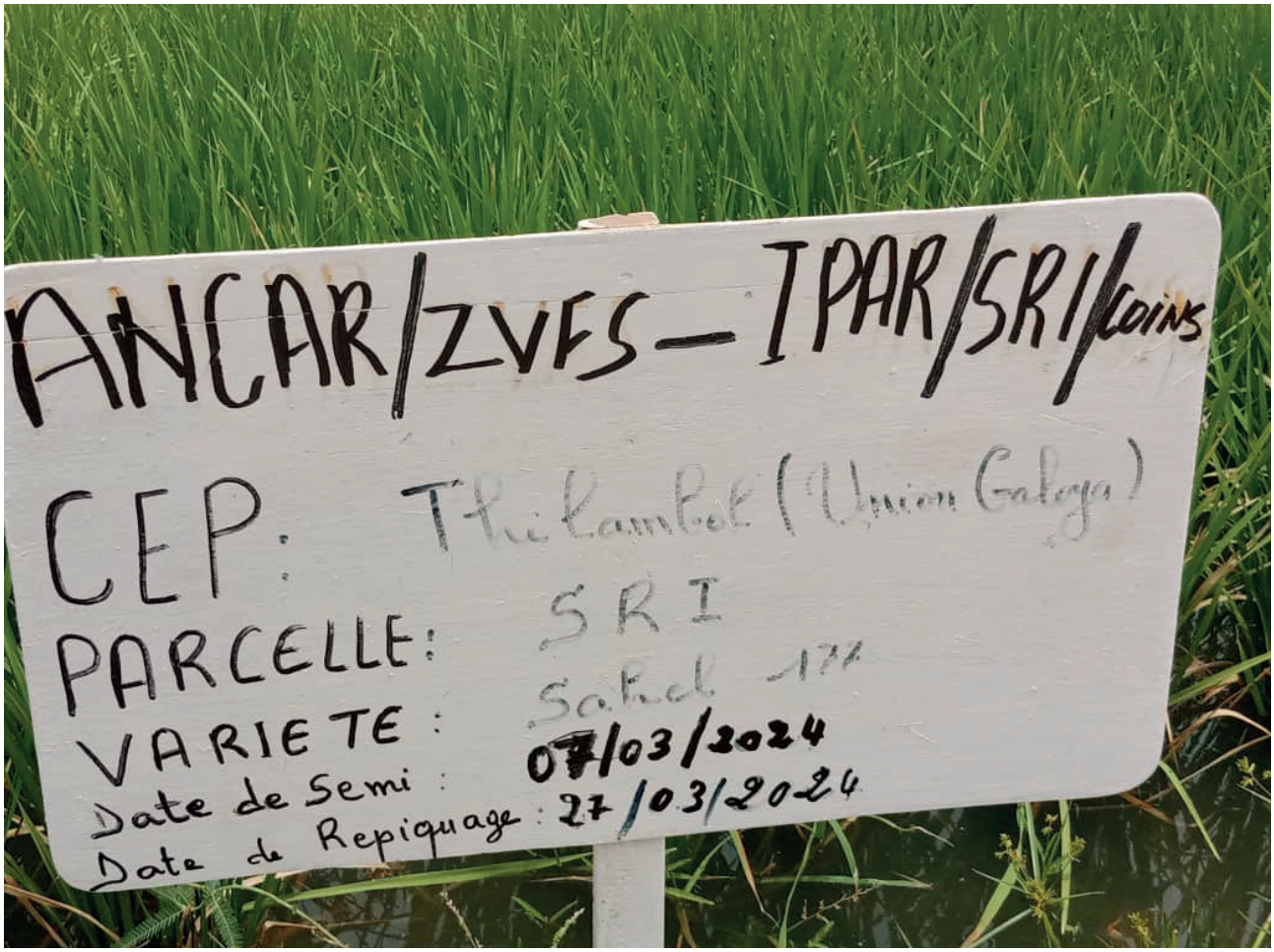
- **1.6 metric tons/ha** more rice than with traditional farming practices
- **606,500 CFA F/ha** in additional profits
- **165%** marginal rate of return
- **Savings on inputs and production costs**, particularly on seeds (14,000 CFA francs/ha), irrigation (125,000 CFA francs/ha), fertilizer (112,500 CFA francs/ha), labor (100,000 CFA francs), and phytosanitary products (15,000 CFA francs).

Against a backdrop of climate change and growing pressure on natural resources, SRI emerges as a promising alternative to enhance the resilience of rice production systems.

In addition to field trials, IPAR has developed several capitalization and dissemination tools to promote larger scale adoption of SRI. The tools include a prospective report on sustainable land management in the intensive rice farming system in Podor, an evaluation report on FFSs using SRI, and a MOOC on FFS implementation, which has been integrated into the online training platform of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA).

This work also underpinned the drafting of a policy paper to foster dialogue with decision-makers, as well as initiatives to raise awareness among producers, notably through a forum theater performance staged with the local theater troupe Piindi Pinal Ndioum Walo.

The results of the experiment were also presented at the 27th European Seminar on Extension & Education (ESEE), held in Portugal in July 2025, thereby helping to disseminate the lessons learned from this initiative internationally.



An SRI FFS sign in Thilambol in the Senegal River Valley © IPAR, 2025

1.3. Anticipating change in food systems: Territorial prospectives in Bignona and Podor

As part of the Agroecology for Resilient Territories in Senegal (ARTS) project, IPAR conducted a territorial prospective exercise in the Bignona department (Ziguinchor region) to explore possible futures for food systems. Carried out in collaboration with DyTAEL-Bignona stakeholders, the participatory process identified 72 drivers of change that influence local food systems. Among the most significant were demographic trends, urbanization, changing consumption patterns, the new generation

of farmers, access to credit, development of processing facilities, and storage and preservation infrastructure. The exercise ended with the collective development of an action plan and advocacy strategy to support the implementation of the most desirable scenario: “Bignona, an eco-sustainable showcase by 2045.” A number of priorities were identified to achieve that end, including :

- territorial planning focusing on agriculture, forestry, livestock, and fisheries, including maximizing the potential of the Affignam dam;
- securing community rights and ensuring sustainable management of natural resources, including by setting up a seed bank for traditional, organic, and certified seeds; and
- developing processing, preservation, and storage infrastructure and facilities in production areas.

« Food systems are a major concern for the Bignona Departmental Council. We have convened our city councils to discuss and determine how to resolve certain issues, particularly those related to land tenure. The Departmental Council will fulfill its role in raising awareness and advocating with the relevant authorities. »

President of the Bignona Departmental Council

Field visit and discussion with young farmers during the mapping of agroecological initiatives in Thionck-Essyl © IPAR, 2025

Because the implementation of the “Bignona: an eco-sustainable showcase” scenario is also predicated on higher agricultural productivity, pest control is vital. Accordingly, on the sidelines of the ARTS Project, IPAR hosted an intern in 2025 from the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment (INRAE), who was enrolled at the University of Bordeaux in the “Design and management of development and emergency projects” (CCPD) Master 2 program. Her research focused *on a study of the conditions for establishing an early warning platform for early management of insect pests affecting vegetable crops in Casamance*, Senegal, including in the department of Bignona, in collaboration with DyTAEL.

After receiving close supervision at IPAR and in the field, she successfully completed her research and was awarded a master’s 2 degree, graduating “with merit” on the academic and professional components and “with honors” on her dissertation and defense. Future prospects are expected to include an action-research project on community alerts and responses to the threat of vegetable crop pests.

These directions provide analytical insights that can inform ongoing discussions under the Diomaye Plan for Casamance (PDC), an emergency plan for populations displaced by the Casamance conflict, the development of which was entrusted to IPAR by the National Agency for the Revitalization of Economic and Social Activities in Casamance (ANRAC).

A second prospective exercise was conducted in the Podor department as part of the COINS project to analyze potential trajectories for sustainable land management in SRI by 2035. The analysis identified 33 drivers of change that could shape the future of sustainable land management, including social, technical, economic, environmental, and policy dimensions.

Three prospective scenarios were developed:

- an optimistic scenario, «The Golden Age of SRI in Podor»;
- an intermediate scenario, «A Semi-Green Horizon»;
- a pessimistic scenario, «SRI: The Erosion of Hope.»

The findings were shared with local authorities and helped inform the revision of Podor’s Departmental Development Plan (PDD).

More broadly, the results of the prospective research exercises conducted in Bignona and Podor have fostered dialogue with territorial governments, farmers’ organizations, and government technical agencies. These participatory initiatives were implemented using a «living lab» approach and culminated in the drafting of territorial action plans and stronger local ownership of the proposed guidelines.

As part of this effort, IPAR also supported DyTAEL in Mbour (Thiès region) in jointly developing its territorial vision, which is as follows: «By 2050, the Mbour department will have achieved food sovereignty and food security for a resilient and prosperous Petite Côte through agroecology.»

BOX 1: SCHOOL MEALS AS A DRIVER OF LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS

The prospective study on food systems in the Bignona Department highlighted the potential of school cafeterias as a lever for developing territorialized food systems. Building on this, in August 2025, IPAR secured the "Boosting Local Food Systems Through School Cafeterias in Senegal" project. This initiative aims to strengthen the resilience of local food systems by improving school cafeteria supply systems based on local agricultural production, while promoting agroecological practices, social inclusion, and gender equality.

As part of this effort, IPAR and IFPRI co-organized a side event during the African Food Systems Forum (AFSF 2025) in Dakar, consisting of a panel that brought together stakeholders from institutions, research, civil society, and the private sector (the School Cafeteria Division, GRDR, CICODEV Afrique, and the Fatou La Jumelle processing unit) to analyze the role of school cafeterias as an institutional market capable of supporting local production.

The proceedings highlighted both the opportunities and challenges of developing school feeding programs in Senegal. School cafeterias are a major tool for social protection and combating malnutrition, while also providing a stable market for local producers. However, their expansion continues to face several constraints: insufficient and unstable funding, logistical difficulties in local procurement, a lack of quality standards, and limited access for producers to institutional markets.

Several courses of action have been identified, including the development of central kitchens, the strengthening of public–private partnerships, the promotion of agroecology, and contractual arrangements between schools, producers, and local processors. Producers' access to institutional markets also requires reforms to the regulatory framework as well as capacity building for farmers' organizations.

With this in mind, IPAR has joined the Multisectoral Group on School Food and Nutrition (GMSANE), established in 2024, which is supporting the revision of the National School Feeding Policy (PNAS) and the development of its 2026–2030 strategic plan. This initiative aims to permanently establish school feeding based on local production as part of Senegal's public policy.

1.4. Facilitating dialogue for collaborative natural resource management in cross-border territories

The Conflict Prevention and Resilient Cross-Border Food Systems Project (PCR-SAT) supports multi-stakeholder dialogue initiatives aimed at preventing conflicts linked to natural resource use, strengthening food security, and improving income opportunities for local populations in cross-border areas of Senegal and Mauritania (the Guidimakha and Gorgol regions in Mauritania and the Tambacounda region in Senegal).

One of PCR-SAT's innovations has been the organization of "tea and talk" sessions—spaces for community dialogue that promote accountability, open discussion, and collaborative development of solutions to the challenges facing crop value chains in a context of scarce natural resources. These meetings gave a voice to stakeholders participating in project studies such as the territorial diagnostic and the WEAI (Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index) survey, particularly agricultural producers and entrepreneurs.

Tea and talks were held in several border communities, including Sagné Diéri and Wompou, Mauritania, and Bélé, Sinthiou Fissa, Dembancané, and Bokiladji, Senegal. They brought together more than 75 stakeholders from the legume sector, including producers, women's and youth organizations, local elected officials, village chiefs, technical departments, and agricultural entrepreneurs.

The dialogues made it possible to:

- supplement the WEAI survey data analysis with a qualitative assessment of gender inequalities and women's empowerment in plant-based protein value chains;
- validate the results of the territorial diagnostic with the communities concerned; and
- collectively identify advocacy priorities for resilient food systems in cross-border territories.

As part of the project's advocacy efforts, IPAR also shared the PCR-SAT results during a regional workshop on the contribution of civil society organizations to monitoring the Great Green Wall Initiative. The project supported 11 local institutions, reached more than 140,000 beneficiaries, 49.63% of whom were women, and contributed to the reclamation and revitalization of 187 hectares of land.

Several knowledge-sharing tools were also produced to disseminate the lessons learned from the project. These included short videos on farmer field schools and community tea talks, a photo exhibition during the wrap-up workshop, and a policy brief focused on the inclusion and empowerment of young women in resilient food systems.

BOX 2: A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PROCESS TO STRENGTHEN FAMILY FARMING IN SENEGAL

Through the Social and Policy Dialogue Group (GDSP), which brings together producer organizations, technical departments, civil society organizations, researchers, youth leaders, rural women, and development partners, IPAR has been engaged in the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDFF 2019–2028) for a number of years.

In 2025, Senegal reached a major milestone with the development of its National Action Plan for the UNDFF, a strategic tool aimed at enhancing family farming, food sovereignty, and territorial governance. Led by MASAE and GDSP, this process brought together the government, farmers' organizations, civil society organizations, technical and financial partners including FAO and IFAD, as well as the research community.

Throughout the process, IPAR played a key role by providing methodological expertise, facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue forums, and contributing to the drafting and consolidation of the action plan. Between 2023 and 2025, the institution participated in the main stages of the process, including drafting retreats, field missions, prioritization workshops, technical committee sessions, and validation workshops.

Particular attention was paid to gender mainstreaming. At the request of the CNCR, IPAR designed and facilitated a national women's consultation workshop, held in May 2025, which helped identify gaps in access to resources, markets, financing, and governance, and set up a National Gender Monitoring Group tasked with tracking the integration of gender issues into agricultural policy.

The UNDFF NAP is structured around seven pillars. It aims to promote a policy environment conducive to family farming, strengthen gender equity, support producer organizations, foster youth socioeconomic integration, and enhance the agricultural systems' sustainability and climate resilience.

As part of this ongoing process, IPAR will continue to support the implementation of the UNDFF NAP, in line with its 2024–2028 Strategic Plan, which places the future of family farms at the heart of its work in Senegal and West Africa.

Tea and talk on natural resource management in Mauritania © IPAR, 2025

THEME 02

2. Inclusive governance of natural resources and land resources

In West Africa, natural resource and land resource governance is a key challenge affecting production system sustainability, prevention of conflicts over land use, and territorial resilience in the face of the effects of climate change. In Senegal, growing pressure on farmlands, pasture lands, forests, and fishery resources entails a need to enhance collective management mechanisms and territorial planning tools.

Against that backdrop, IPAR continues to conduct research on the dynamics of land resource governance and sustainable natural resource management, combining knowledge generation, multi-stakeholder dialogue, and support for territorial governments. IPAR's work aims to inform national discussions on land tenure policy and land restoration strategies, while supporting territories in the implementation of solutions tailored to their ecological and socioeconomic realities.

The year 2025 was marked by stronger territorial anchoring of IPAR's interventions, notably through support for the municipality of Loul Sessène in combating land salinization, coordination of national consultations on Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Land Tenure Governance, and the promotion of climate-sensitive territorial planning tools such as POAS Vert.

These initiatives help strengthen territorial capacities with a view to managing resources sustainably, preventing conflicts over land use, and promoting more inclusive forms of governance that include territorial governments, community organizations, women, and youth.

Key Figures

1,500
territorial stakeholders mobilized

20
villages involved in reforestation activities

17
ASCs mobilized

5,000
trees planted

21
hectares of degraded land restored

6
multi-stakeholder consultations on land rights

List of projects and programs

Implementation of the Convention on Promoting Dialogue on Land Governance at National and Territorial Levels / PROCASEF	• **Start**: July 2025 – **End**: June 2026 • **Partners**: PROCASEF, COPIL-PNGF • **Location**: Senegal (entire national territory) • **Sectors**: Land governance
Promoting responsible investment and collaboration in land-based investment processes (ALIGN Initiative)	• **Start**: March 2024 – **End**: March 2025 • **Partners**: IIED, PNGF • **Location**: Niayes area, Senegal • **Sectors**: Inclusive natural resource governance, land tenure, responsible investment
Support for Improving Land Management - Support for land-use planning and a systematic inventory of land-use rights at the municipal level in Senegal (Seen Suuf)	• **Start**: Dec. 2024 – **End**: Nov. 2027 • **Partners**: GIZ, Cabinet GFA • **Locations**: 10 municipalities in the Kaolack and Kaffrine regions • **Sectors**: Land tenure, land-use planning
Evictions, Relocations, Land Arrangements, and Socio-Spatial Justice in Senegal (Land Justice/ JEAI)	• **Start**: Q1 2025 – **End**: Q4 2027 • **Partners**: IRD, ANR, UGB/ARUT, UCAD, ENSA, CIRAD • **Location**: Senegal • **Sectors**: Doctoral research, land justice
Support for the municipality of Loul Sessène in drafting and implementing policy to combat land salinization and natural resource degradation	• **Start**: 2020 – End: **Dec.** 2026 • **Partners**: BOSCH, Hewlett, ACF, BERGRN-DR • **Location**: Municipality of Loul Sessène (Fatick, Senegal) • **Sectors**: Sustainable management of natural resources
Resilience and Intensive Reforestation Project for the Preservation of Territories and Ecosystems in Senegal (RIPOSTE /“Dooleel Aalam” project)	• **Start**: Nov 2023 – **End**: March 2025 • **Partners**: EU, GEF, FAO, ASERGMV, MEDDTE, ASVF • **Locations**: Sylvo-pastoral zone and Peanut-growing basin (Louga, Kaolack, and Kaffrine Regions) of Senegal • **Sectors**: Forestry, pasture land management, etc.

2.1. Restoring salinized lands: The Loul Sessène experience

Land salinization is one of the most concerning forms of soil degradation in Senegal's coastal and estuarine areas, affecting more than **1.7 million hectares** of land (Lada, 2003). In the municipality of Loul Sessène, located in the Fatick region, this phenomenon severely affects agricultural, livestock, and fisheries activities, jeopardizing the livelihoods of local populations. The area of land affected by salinization in this municipality in central Senegal was estimated at **8,262.81 hectares in 2022** (F. S. Sagne et al., 2022, p. 82).

Since 2021, IPAR has been supporting the municipality in finding solutions to restore land affected by salinization and strengthen its people's economic resilience. This collaboration is based on an approach that combines action research, mobilization of territorial stakeholders, and leveraging of local knowledge. The goal of the local authorities is to make Loul Sessène a **«model municipality,»** showcasing best practices in combating salinization and the sustainable management of natural resources.

Research has been conducted to analyze salinization dynamics and test several ecological restoration solutions, including construction of anti-salt dikes, reforestation with species adapted to saline environments, and promotion of more resilient agricultural practices. These initiatives aim to gradually restore the land's productive potential while enhancing local people's ability to cope with the effects of climate change.

Building on these efforts, the municipality of Loul Sessène, in collaboration with IPAR, the Fimela Water and Forestry Department, and youth associations, organized a reforestation day in August 2025 covering all 19 villages in the municipality. The initiative mobilized more than 500 participants, mainly young people from 17 sports and cultural associations (ASCs). More than 5,000 seedlings of species adapted to the area's soil and climate conditions, notably including niaouli and Tamarix aphylla, were planted across an area covering approximately 15 hectares.

In addition to this territorial initiative, IPAR also contributed to ecological restoration efforts in other areas of the Saloum Delta. A mangrove reforestation project was organized in August 2025 on Mar Lodj Island, located in the municipality of Fimela. This initiative, carried out in collaboration with the association "Les Ambassadeurs de l'Environnement" and several local partners, restored approximately 6 hectares of mangrove forest with the participation of over 200 local stakeholders.

These initiatives illustrate the importance of integrated territorial approaches combining research, community mobilization, and collective action to restore degraded ecosystems and enhance territorial resilience in the face of climate change.

Salt flats in the village of Ndof, Loul Sessène municipality, © IPAR, 2024

BOX 3: THE LOUL SESSÈNE SALT LANDS FORUM, A SPACE FOR TERRITORIAL DIALOGUE

Held from January 22 to 24, 2025, the first Loul Sessène Salt Lands Forum marked a key moment in mobilizing stakeholders around the fight against soil salinization.

More than 800 participants attended the event, including farmers' organizations, women's salt-producing groups, youth associations, researchers, NGOs, local elected officials, and private-sector stakeholders. The forum also received support from several partner institutions, including CSE, ACF, Nutri'Aid, BERGRN-DR, ANID, IUCN, PROVAL-CV, ANSTS, and the Green Climate Fund.

The forum provided an opportunity to:

- share knowledge on the extent of land salinization in the municipality;
- assess locally tested solutions for soil restoration;
- strengthen coordination between technical partners, territorial government, and communities; and
- identify action plans for sustainable land management.

Discussions highlighted several priority areas, including development of anti-salinity infrastructure, capacity building for local communities, promotion of agricultural practices adapted to saline soils, and leveraging salt production as a source of income for women and youth.

The forum helped foster collective momentum to move from diagnosis to action by mobilizing scientific knowledge, local expertise, and community initiatives.

« The forum equipped the municipality of Loul Sessène with a framework for reflection to highlight the key socioeconomic and environmental challenges posed by land salinization. It provided clear guidelines centered on an inclusive, multisectoral, and community-based approach to combat land degradation and promote sustainable management of natural resources. »

Sidya Diouf, Mayor of the Municipality of Loul Sessène

2.2. Strengthening land governance in Senegal: National consultations on voluntary guidelines

As part of the joint FAO-UNCCD initiative to integrate the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Land Tenure Governance (VGs) into land degradation neutrality (LDN) initiatives, Senegal's National Dialogue Platform on Land Governance (PNGF) conducted multi-stakeholder consultations across Senegal's six eco-geographic zones. These consultations, supported by FAO, ILC, and UNCCD and coordinated by IPAR, brought together a wide range of local and national stakeholders.

The aim was to document the extent of land degradation, identify existing restoration practices, and strengthen frameworks for dialogue on land governance and sustainable land management (SLM). Discussions also highlighted several mechanisms already in place, such as POAS, pastoral units, local charters, land and natural resources management platforms, and DyTAELs, as well as various endogenous sustainable land management practices.

The consultations highlighted several strengths, including the existence of local land governance tools, ecological and cultural diversity that are conducive to territorial innovation, and numerous community initiatives drawing on local knowledge about sustainable land management.

However, they also revealed significant constraints, including advanced soil degradation (erosion, salinization, acidification, and deforestation), growing land pressure, recurring land-use conflicts, limited access to land for women and youth, unsustainable natural resource use, and the continuing limited institutional capacities of territorial governments.

The analysis emphasizes that the success of land restoration and sustainable land management initiatives depends on several key factors: securing land rights, building a coherent legal framework, the availability of sustainable financing, and the establishment of truly inclusive governance mechanisms. It also highlights the crucial role of local leadership, gender, and leveraging of traditional knowledge to ensure ownership of and sustainability in all actions undertaken.

The recommendations issued following the consultations focus in particular on strengthening inclusive SLM mechanisms, developing monitoring and evaluation systems tailored to land restoration, reforming legal frameworks governing land tenure, regulating extractive activities, and mobilizing dedicated budgetary resources at the territorial government level.

2.3. Territorial planning for climate change: The POAS Vert innovations

Developed under the **Seen Suuf II** project, supported by GIZ and implemented by the **GFA/IPAR** consortium, **POAS Vert** is a territorial planning tool that systematically includes climate issues and sustainable natural resource management. It stands out for its participatory approach, its alignment with national policy (NDCs, NAPs, SPL1), and its consideration of the specific ecological and socioeconomic characteristics of the territories.

POAS Vert aims to promote balanced management of agricultural, livestock, forestry, fisheries, and residential land uses while strengthening communities' resilience to climate-related hazards.

Community consultation as part of the POAS Vert initiative in the peanut-growing region © Bodian, 2025

Its main objectives include:

- developing municipal plans that include climate issues and sustainable natural resource management;
- building the capacity of territorial governments and local stakeholders;
- leveraging local knowledge in land-use planning and management; and
- setting up participatory monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to adapt planning to environmental and socioeconomic changes.

The experience of the municipality of Thiomby in the Kaolack region illustrates the benefits of the tool. POAS Vert has made it possible to better identify and regulate the various land-use zones (agricultural/pasture lands, pasturelands, and forestry areas), helping to reduce land-use conflicts and environmental risks. It has also enhanced local governance by promoting community participation through management committees and integrating climate change adaptation issues into land-use planning.

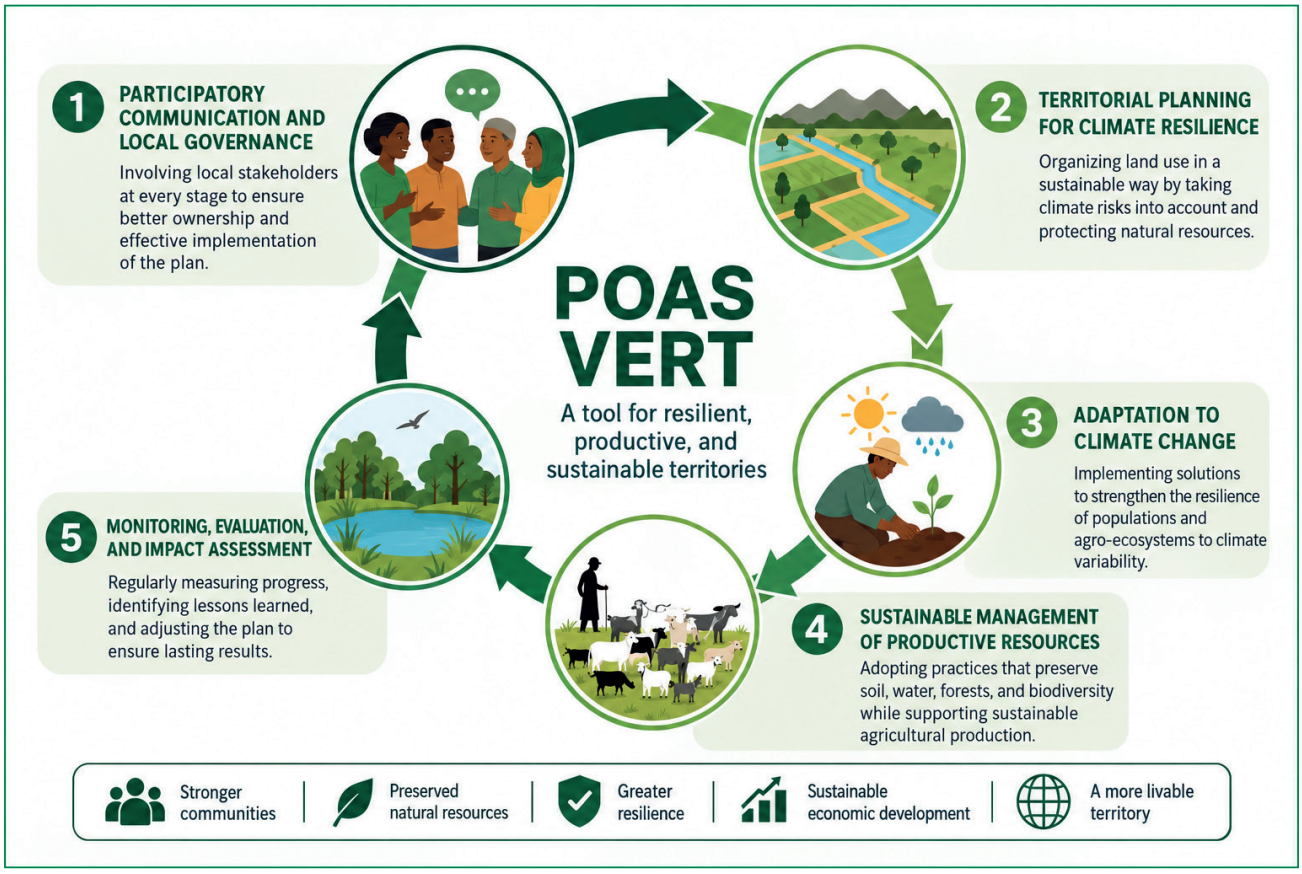
Based on the foregoing, POAS Vert emerges as an innovative tool for resilient territorial planning. By combining rigorous methodology, community participation, and leveraging of

local knowledge, it provides a meaningful framework to support territorial governments in sustainable natural resource management.

The lessons learned from this experience highlight several priorities for its consolidation and expansion:

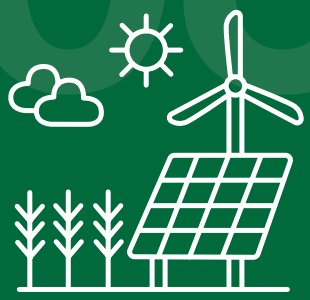
- institutionalizing POAS Vert in public land use planning and decentralization policy;
- strengthening municipalities' technical capacities to ensure updating and monitoring of plans;
- mobilizing sustainable funding to support local implementation; and
- disseminating best practices from pilot municipalities to encourage replication on the national scale.

POAS Vert Planning Cycle



Forest area in the Bignona Department in Senegal © IPAR, 2025

THEME 03



3. Territories in transition and Sustainable Development Goals

West Africa is currently facing profound transformations linked to demographic dynamics, climate change, shifts in agricultural systems, and human mobility. These territorial transitions pose major challenges for public policy, which needs to balance environmental sustainability, food security, social cohesion, and progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In this context, the availability and use of reliable data and scientific knowledge are essential for informing public decisions and guiding territorial development trajectories. An evidence-based approach is thus a key lever for strengthening the relevance, coherence, and effectiveness of public policy.

Through our research, policy dialogue, and capacity-building initiatives, IPAR helps shape an ecosystem conducive to the production and use of evidence-based data to support territories in transition. In 2025, our work focused in particular on analyzing the interactions between climate, agriculture, and human mobility; supporting public policy evaluation and development; and strengthening agricultural advisory services and knowledge dissemination mechanisms.

These initiatives illustrate IPAR's contribution to understanding territorial dynamics and supporting public institutions to design and implement better-informed policy, in keeping with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Key Figures

8
countries involved in regional evidence-based initiatives

4
projects

34
activities carried out

5
public institutions supported

3
policy dialogue initiatives organized

24
publications

Projects and initiatives

LEEPS	• **Start**: June 2024 – **End**: September 2025 • **Partners**: IDRC, Hewlett Foundation, and Robert Bosch Foundation • **Locations**: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Mali, Niger, and Senegal • **Sector**: Evidence-based data
CLIMB	• **Start**: September 2023 – **End**: September 2026 • **Partner**: National Research Foundation (NRF) • **Location**: Peanut-growing region • **Sectors**: Migration - Climate
SCALE	• **Start**: September 2023 - **End**: March 2027 • **Partners**: ATPS, IDRC • **Locations**: Senegal and Nigeria • **Sector**: Resilient food systems
AgMIP	• **Start**: January 2025 - **End**: June 2025 • **Partners**: University of Ghana / Funding: FCDO • **Locations**: Senegal, Ghana • **Sectors**: Agricultural systems - Climate change

3.1. Understanding territorial transitions: Climate, agriculture, and mobility

As part of the CLIMB (Climate Induced Migration In Africa and Beyond) project, IPAR supported research and documentation on the links between climate change and the dynamics of population mobility in Senegal. Through a state-of-the-art review of the issue, IPAR highlighted numerous challenges, particularly regarding the difficulty of providing legal protection to people who can be described as “climate migrants.” The study revealed that climate migrants (displaced persons and those on the move due to sudden climate-related events, such as floods, etc.) are not recognized within the international legal framework for the protection of migrants. Consequently, they are not entitled to secure reception conditions, either internationally or within the countries concerned.

In addition to this study, a policy brief produced by IPAR on the climate-fisheries-mobility nexus highlighted the vulnerability of fishers to climate change, which alters the distribution and seasonality of species and leads to the emergence of invasive species. Consequently, the multiple vulnerabilities affecting the artisanal fishing sector are contributing to a reshaping of the mobility patterns of fishers, which were once an intrinsic part of their activity. The traditional mobility patterns of fishers are being redefined along new routes, determined by emerging opportunities.

Djifer fishing pier in Senegal © IPAR, 2025

3.2. ASSESSING THE NEED FOR SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION TO GUIDE AGRICULTURAL POLICY AND PROGRAMS IN SENEGAL: SCOPING REVIEW IN SENEGAL AND GHANA

The AgMIP (Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project) supports national climate policy by co-developing modeling-based evidence with stakeholders, to guide planning and adaptation and mitigation actions in agriculture. As part of this project, IPAR conducted a study to identify and describe the needs of decision-makers and policymakers in Senegal and Ghana for scientific information and enriched data to inform and enhance the impact of agricultural policy and programs as well as climate action.

There are a number of challenges to the effectiveness and efficiency of these policies, programs, and strategies, including access to and availability of meteorological data and climate information. Scientific data provides a foundation for understanding the mechanisms of climate change, its potential impacts, and the various options for action.

Integrating scientific data into public policy is not only imperative, but also an opportunity, a key lever to guide planning, support decision-making at all levels, and strengthen the resilience of agricultural systems.

Interviews conducted as part of the AgMIP study with public institutions, research organizations, farmers' organizations, and development partners, as well as workshops held in Ghana and Senegal, highlighted the need to increase the integration of scientific data into decision-making regarding climate risks and to support agricultural transformation. They underscored the importance of establishing appropriate investment mechanisms to improve access to reliable, well-documented data with high spatial and temporal resolution. Data should also be centralized on a standardized platform, awhile stakeholders and researchers should build their capacity to co-create and use prospective tools to guide policy. It was also noted that funding must be focused on the priorities defined by stakeholders.

Workshop presenting the AgMIP study results in Ghana, in May 2025 © AgMIP, 2025

BOX 4: PRIORITY RESEARCH NEEDS IDENTIFIED BY IPAR AND AGMIP

- **Investment in more accessible, timely, context-specific, and high-resolution data** is a fundamental need to support research, particularly where meteorological, socioeconomic, soil moisture, and land degradation data are concerned.
- **Program and policy evaluation**: It is vital to have a clear understanding of the effectiveness of existing policy and programs before developing new ones.
- **Effective adaptation and mitigation strategies**: Research must assess the trade-offs and co-benefits of different adaptation options at the subnational level to guide policy and investment.
- **Adoption of adaptation strategies**: It is necessary to analyze the barriers to adoption by farmers, the reasons for variations in adoption rates, and how they can be improved.
- **Decision-support systems**: Decision-makers need more effective, real-time guidance to support farmers' management decisions.
- **Crop and livestock systems**: The most climate-resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds, as well as the appropriate management techniques for different conditions, need to be identified.
- **Water and land management**: Research should focus on water conservation approaches, irrigation potential, and assessing climate change impacts on soil health and degradation.
- **Pests, diseases, and post-harvest losses**: Predicting how pests and diseases will evolve with climate change, as well as identifying the causes of and solutions to post-harvest losses throughout the supply chain should be a priority.
- **Vulnerability assessments**: Assessments should be conducted at a finer geographic scale to provide a comprehensive understanding of how vulnerability varies across local contexts.
- **Gender mainstreaming**: Analysis of the role of gender is a major cross-cutting issue that should be incorporated into all research topics.

« Research needs to use scientific advances to inform public policy decisions. It must play a multifaceted role, whether in monitoring the risks of climate impacts, assessing vulnerability, or proposing solutions and technological innovations that enable communities to adapt to environmental changes. Data derived from research will help inform the development of climate projects grounded in very clear scientific evidence to build the resilience of the agricultural sector and our communities. ».

Mr. Ousseynou Ndione,

Project Manager, Directorate of Climate Change, Ecological Transition, and Green Finance, Ministry of the Environment and Energy Transition of Senegal.

3.3. Informing public policy with evidence-based data

The rapid transformations taking place across rural territories call for more agile and better-informed public policy. Against that backdrop, the Evidence-Informed Policy (EIP) approach emerges as a key lever for enhancing the relevance, coherence, and effectiveness of public policy.

In Senegal and West Africa, IPAR actively contributes to promoting this approach by facilitating dialogue between researchers, public policymakers, and civil society actors. Through its research, policy dialogue mechanisms, and capacity-building activities, IPAR helps shape an ecosystem for the production (supply) and use (demand) of evidence-based data to support public policy and contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The LEEPS project (Learning Together to Advance Evidence and Equity in Policymaking to Achieve the SDGs) is one of the main initiatives through which IPAR supports this type of work in West Africa. Implemented in seven countries in the region (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo), the project aims to strengthen the capacity of public institutions, researchers, and civil society organizations to produce, analyze, and mobilize relevant data to inform public policy.

As part of this project, IPAR, in partnership with ACED (a Benin-based think tank), hosts a center of excellence for evidence-based public policy (Evidence–Policy–Action). This center serves as a regional platform for learning and collaboration between knowledge producers and users. In particular, it contributes to the development of communities of practice, provides technical support to public institutions, and disseminates methodological tools that facilitate the integration of evidence-based data into decision-making processes.

The activities implemented have led to several significant advances:

- **Capacity building**: Three training-of-trainers sessions combined with methodological support on integrating gender into public policy and research, AI and gender, and knowledge transfer and drafting of public policy briefs have helped improve the skills of more than 100 stakeholders—including public decision-makers, researchers, and civil society actors—in the production and use of evidence-based data.
- **Improved access to data**: Data ecosystem mappings and technical support mechanisms have helped improve the availability and utilization of data relevant to public policy.
- **Promoting equity and gender**: Activities have also enhanced the integration of gender into data analysis and use, particularly through the promotion of gender-disaggregated data.
- **Enhancing regional collaboration:** Communities of practice and exchanges between countries have fostered mutual learning and the consolidation of a regional evidence-based data ecosystem.
- **Institutionalizing evidence-based data through country roadmaps**: Through the development of national roadmaps, capacity building for key data production and management institutions, and the promotion of pilot initiatives with high scalability potential, this approach aims to create an enabling environment for evidence-based decision-making. It thereby helps to build EIP ecosystems that are more coherent, better coordinated, and aligned with national priorities, while fostering sustainable institutional ownership by public actors, the research community, and civil society.

National consultations organized in partner countries have brought together data producers, users, and intermediaries in forums for dialogue that foster collaboration and the mobilization of often underutilized information sources. In this context, IPAR has supported several countries, including Senegal, Mali, and Burkina Faso, in developing national roadmaps for evidence-based data use in public policy.

These initiatives have also provided concrete examples of how evidence-based data can influence policy decisions. In Senegal, for example, analyses conducted in the area of sanitation on the Casamance Islands helped guide technological choices and investment priorities to improve people's access to sustainable sanitation services. When presented to the national authorities, these findings led to a public commitment by the government to address the issue, with investments planned beginning in 2026.

Through these various initiatives, IPAR helps strengthen the link between research and public policy by promoting a culture of evidence-based decision-making. This work contributes to improving the quality of public policy and ensuring that sustainable development issues are better integrated into national and territorial strategies.

BOX 5: HOW IPAR'S WORK HAS SHAPED SANITATION POLICY IN SENEGAL

As part of the West African Sanitation Policy & Activators (WASPA) project, IPAR has conducted in-depth research on sanitation policy, financing mechanisms, and local dynamics, particularly in specific areas including the Casamance Islands in Casamance, southern Senegal.

These evidence-based analyses have provided a better understanding of the technical, socioeconomic, and environmental constraints that influence people's access to adequate sanitation services. They have thus helped guide the selection of technologies best suited to local contexts, while identifying investment priorities consistent with the needs of the affected territories.

More broadly, the results of the WASPA project are part of an effort to strengthen policy leadership on sanitation through advocacy supported by scientific research. Sharing these findings with national authorities and stakeholders in the sanitation sector has helped ensure that these issues are given greater consideration on the public agenda.

Based on this research, a public commitment was made by the government, through the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, to expand access to sustainable sanitation services, with investments scheduled to begin in 2026, thus demonstrating the concrete impact of research on the development and implementation of public policy in this area.

Community latrines on the islands of Lower Casamance © ISE-IPAR, 2024

3.4. Strengthening parliamentary commitment to integrating data into legislative action

Lawmakers play a vital role by passing laws, overseeing government actions, and evaluating public policy. They review bills, may propose their own, and serve on committees to ensure good governance. Effective access to reliable data is key to enabling them to serve as a check on the executive branch and strengthen public accountability. In Senegal, under the LEEPS project, IPAR has taken steps to encourage members of the Network of Parliamentarians for the Protection of the Environment in Senegal (REPES) to rely on reliable data for more effective legislative action and improved public policy.

A large Senegalese delegation, including parliamentarians belonging to REPES, joined IPAR at the "Evidence 2025" conference, held from September 30 to October 2, 2025, in Cotonou, Benin.

The proceedings, which brought together more than 200 stakeholders and centered on evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM), aimed to foster collaboration among all those engaged in or supporting EIDM in Africa, enhance knowledge and understanding of EIDM, and build stakeholder capacity in the data ecosystem.

To help parliaments fulfill this role effectively, the forum highlighted several priorities:

- **Capacity building** for parliamentary institutions, so they can better produce and utilize evidence-based data.
- Establishing **meaningful cooperation and sharing best practices** among the various African parliaments.
- Closer collaboration with civil society and NGOs to ensure that policy truly meets the needs of the people.
- The creation of an **African Parliamentary Institute dedicated to evidence-based decision-making**, focused on training and research.

The role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) was also highlighted: AI acts as a catalyst for the use of evidence-based data. Its use is strongly encouraged to **accelerate reforms and modernize public policy**. The integration of AI into data use must be accompanied by investment in skills and the promotion of transparency to best serve governance.

« Evidence-based data is key to ensuring effective public policy in Africa. Parliamentarians must have effective access to reliable and evidence-based data to serve as a check on the executive branch and strengthen public accountability. That is why I advocate for the creation of an African parliamentary institute dedicated to evidence-based policy-making, as well as an African parliamentary institute focusing on training and research. My advocacy centers on the following priorities: (1) sharing best practices among African parliamentarians; (2) establishing meaningful cooperation among African parliaments; (3) building the capacity of parliamentarians and civil society to produce and utilize evidence-based data; and (4) closer collaboration between parliamentarians and NGOs, which is also needed to better address the needs of the people. »

Honorable Member of Parliament Samba Dang (REPES, Senegal),
Evidence 2025, High-Level Panel on "The Future of Evidence-Based Policy in Africa" (September 30 – October 2, 2025)

IPAR and REPES delegation at the Evidence 2025 conference held in Cotonou, September 30–October 2, 2025 © IPAR, 2025

3.5. Supporting territorial agricultural transitions

Adaptation has become a priority to guarantee the resilience of agricultural systems to climate-related hazards (droughts, floods, changing crop cycles). This adaptation relies on a combination of technical practices and strategic support through agricultural extension services.

The SCALE project, implemented by IPAR in partnership with the African Technology

Policy Studies Network (ATPS) and the West African Gender and Education Development Initiative (WAGEDI) in Nigeria, with support from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), aims to strengthen the effectiveness of agricultural extension services as knowledge brokers to facilitate the transfer of information and proven technologies to farmers. This helps improve productivity and strengthen the resilience of family farms in the face of climate change.

As part of the SCALE project, 200 stakeholders in the Podor department, located in the Senegal River Valley, were trained on the use of digital technologies to optimize their agricultural practices and build greater resilience to climate change.

Specifically, these training sessions helped to:

- Develop their technical skills in the areas of climate-smart agriculture, agroecology, and digital tools,
- Improve collaboration between researchers, agricultural extension agents, and farmers to co-design solutions to climate change,
- Integrate GESI principles into adaptation planning and resource allocation, and
- Increase access to climate finance and build their capacity for policy advocacy.

« These sessions were particularly enriching because they enhanced our understanding of issues related to climate change; methodology and key pillars for project design to address those challenges (including financing); how to use crop varieties adapted to the climate and soil conditions; appropriate techniques for capitalizing on local resources; as well as support from NGOs and government programs. »

Ameth Fary Diatta,
***SAED-Podor** Sector Manager*

In addition to these training sessions, a number of other activities were carried out in the Podor department. They included mapping agricultural extension stakeholders, documenting proven local knowledge and technologies, and identifying capacity-building needs in key stakeholders (farmers, extension workers, and researchers).

These achievements were made possible through the active participation of numerous local and territorial organizations, including government technical departments, local governments, research institutes, universities, NGOs, producer organizations, and financial institutions.

The assessment conducted in the departmental as part of this project revealed critical gaps in the following areas:

- Access to climate-resilient technologies,
- GESI-sensitive knowledge sharing,
- Multi-stakeholder collaboration frameworks, and
- Digital and financial literacy..

At the national level, IPAR has actively participated in the process of developing the national policy on agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries advisory services (CASPH) as a member of the steering committee for the process. IPAR provided technical and financial support for this process through the SCALE project and played a leading role at the national policy validation meeting in March 2025, which brought together key stakeholders in the national agricultural advisory system to discuss the draft report and finalize the document prior to its submission to the national authorities. Alongside representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock, which led the process in collaboration with ANCAR, IPAR drafted clear guidelines for the implementation of the policy.

The four key dimensions for successful implementation are: (1) Governance of the advisory system and the evolving role of ANCAR within a framework involving a wide range of stakeholders; (2) Structuring the demand for advisory services by strengthening the role of professional organizations and value chains; (3) The financial sustainability of the system, to be aligned with the agricultural financing strategy currently under development; and (4) Monitoring and evaluation of the system, which is essential for measuring results and improving advisory services.

BOX 6: LAUNCH OF THE AGRIDATA PLATFORM: A DIGITAL PORTAL TO ADDRESS THE AGRICULTURAL DATA GAP IN SENEGAL

Among the lessons learned from the international conference on sustainable development data organized in Dakar in October 2016 by the DGPPE, the ANSD, and IPAR, with support from the Global Partnership on Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD), were the gaps in basic agricultural data and statistics in Senegal. Yet this data is essential to enable better sectoral policy and evidence-based decision-making.

A recommendation was therefore issued to promote open data portals to enhance the effectiveness of SDG monitoring. In response, IPAR, ANSD, and DAPSA, with support from the Hewlett Foundation, created an analytical platform called “AgriData”, a digital platform dedicated to sharing comprehensive, reliable, and up-to-date agricultural statistics and data, as the foundation for an evidence-based agricultural economic development policy.

The official launch of the AgriData platform took place in 2025 and will now allow various users to access all agricultural statistical data produced by stakeholders more quickly and easily, all on a single web platform.

More specifically, AgriData will:

- centralize key statistical data on agricultural systems,
- facilitate access by researchers, policymakers, and development actors to reliable and up-to-date information, and
- strengthen the use of data in public agricultural policy drafting, monitoring, and evaluation.

The development of AgriData is part of IPAR’s efforts to promote the use of evidence-based data in public policy and to contribute to the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals relating to agriculture and food security..

Scan the QR Code
to access the
AGRIDATA.SN platform

THEME 04

4. Agricultural value chains and policy

Transforming food systems in West Africa will rely largely on the structure and performance of agricultural value chains. These value chains play a central role in food security, rural job creation, promotion of local production, and the integration of local territories into regional markets.

In this context, value chain analysis serves as a strategic tool for guiding agricultural policy and public and private investment. By identifying key links, bottlenecks, and opportunities for development, these analyses inform decisions regarding agricultural planning, infrastructure, stakeholder organization, and financing mechanisms.

IPAR's work in this area combines evidence-based data generation, territorial economic analysis, and facilitation of dialogue between public and private stakeholders. It aims to enhance coherence between production dynamics, investment strategies, and agricultural policy.

In 2025, our work focused in particular on analyzing value chains in the Senegal River Valley, promoting public-private dialogue mechanisms for storage and preservation infrastructure, and contributing to strategic discussions on Senegalese agricultural policy.

These initiatives illustrate IPAR's contribution to better coordination between value chain analysis, public decision-making, and transformation of agricultural systems, in support of food sovereignty and territorial development.

Key Figures

16
value chains analyzed/ mapped

1552
public and private stakeholders engaged in territorial and public-private dialogues

10
processes and policies supported (reforms, strategies, sectoral programs)

14
publications/ contributions to publications

List of projects and programs

Design Project	• **Start**: 2024 – **End**: 2028 • **Partner**: ISRA • **Locations**: Saint-Louis and Kaffrine Regions, Senegal • **Sectors**: Animal health, One Health, Policy dialogue
Revision Process for the framework law on agriculture, forestry, and pastoralism (LOASP)	• **Start**: 2022 – **End**: Undetermined • **Partner**: MASAE • **Location**: Senegal • **Sectors**: Agriculture, forestry, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture, etc.
PRDC-SN	• **Start**: March 2025 - **End**: July 2026 • **Partners**: PRDC-VFS, World Bank • **Location**: Senegal (Senegal River Valley) • **Sectors**: Agriculture, livestock
PRDC-RIM	• **Start**: August 2025 - **End**: February 2026 • **Partners**: PRDC-VFS RIM / World Bank • **Location**: Mauritania (Senegal River Valley) • **Sectors**: Agriculture and Processing
3P-MILSAO	• **Start**: 2022 – **End**: 2025 • **Partners**: Inter-Réseaux, PAFAO, Fondation de France, CFSI • **Locations**: Dakar and Kaolack regions (Senegal) • **Sectors**: School feeding, access to public procurement for local producers and processors, buying local, etc.
EFI Podor	• **Start**: 2021 – **End**: N/A • **Partners**: FTF PSS, USAID • **Location**: Podor Department and Senegal River Valley • **Sectors**: Local development, Capacity building, etc.
PNDIES	• **Start**: March 2025 – **End**: January 2026 • **Partner**: Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) • **Location**: Senegal • **Sector**: Livestock
MSME	• **Start**: November 2025 – **End**: 2026 • **Partner**: IFC • **Location**: Guinea-Bissau • **Sector**: Researc

4.1. Generating strategic data on agricultural value chains

A detailed understanding of the economic dynamics of agricultural value chains is essential for guiding public and private investments, improving food system performance, and strengthening food sovereignty. With this in mind, IPAR consolidated its role as a producer of evidence-based data on agricultural value chains in West Africa through several territorial diagnostics conducted in the Senegal River Valley and in Guinea-Bissau in 2025.

As part of the Resilience and Community Development Project (PRDC), funded by the World Bank, IPAR conducted two value chain mappings on both sides of the Senegal River Valley, covering both Senegal and Mauritania. Together, they form one of the first integrated economic and territorial analyses conducted on a cross-border scale in this strategic agricultural region.

In Senegal, the study focused on seven value chains: rice, onions, tomatoes, chili peppers, okra, small ruminants, and milk. It covered the valley's main production areas, notably Bakel, Podor, Matam, Kanel, Dagana, and Saint-Louis, using a methodology combining quantitative surveys, interviews with sector stakeholders, field visits, and spatial analyses. The results provided a detailed diagnosis of the economic organization of the value chains, their performance, and the main bottlenecks limiting their development. In particular, the analysis highlights the still-fragile structure of the value chains, imperfect or incomplete markets, insufficient storage and processing infrastructure, and significant post-harvest losses in several strategic value chains.

In Mauritania, the study focused on three main value chains: rice, milk, and vegetable crops. It reveals a valley structured around distinct territorial dynamics: a delta (Trarza) with more intensive, agro-industrial agriculture; a middle valley (Brakna and Gorgol) with significant but still underutilized agricultural potential; and an upper valley (Guidimakha) marked by isolation and the predominance of pastoralism. The analysis also confirms the strategic importance of certain crops, particularly rice, which accounts for approximately 77% of national production, with yields reaching 6 to 8 metric tons per hectare in the most productive areas.

The diagnostic studies also provided a clearer picture of trade flows and economic interdependence between the two banks of the river, particularly as regards small ruminants, market garden produce, and agricultural inputs. These results confirm that the valley's agricultural value chains largely function as an integrated economic system that transcends administrative boundaries.

In addition to the Senegal River Valley, IPAR also conducted a strategic assessment in 2025 of agricultural value chains and SME integration in Guinea-Bissau, in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation (IFC). This study aims to identify opportunities for the development of agricultural and agri-food processing value chains, as well as the structural constraints that limit the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in agricultural markets.

Toulel Grain Bank in Mauritania © IPAR, 2025

These studies have helped build a solid knowledge base on the economic dynamics of food systems in several territories in West Africa. They provide essential insights to help guide agricultural policy, prioritize public and private investments and support value chain transformations with a focus on territorial development and food security.

OX 7: THE SENEGAL RIVER VALLEY: A CROSS-BORDER ECONOMIC AREA

The Senegal River Valley is one of West Africa's major agricultural basins and plays a strategic role in food systems in both Senegal and Mauritania. Analyses conducted by IPAR as part of the PRDC's value chain mapping initiatives highlight strong economic interdependence between the two banks of the river, which largely function as an integrated agro-economic space.

Production areas in Senegal and Mauritania are closely linked by flows of agricultural products, livestock, inputs, and services. Cross-border trade focuses particularly on small ruminants, market garden produce, and certain agricultural inputs, while consumer markets and logistics infrastructure shape trade networks extending well beyond administrative borders.

The diagnostic studies also show that the valley's agricultural dynamics are based on territorial complementarities: some areas have irrigation infrastructure and more intensive agriculture, while others are more oriented toward livestock farming or rain-fed production systems. This diversity helps shape a regional food system in which production, processing, and marketing flows are closely interconnected.

These findings underscore the need to design agricultural policy, productive investments, and logistics infrastructure on a valley-wide scale. A coordinated, regional approach is therefore essential to strengthen agricultural sector competitiveness, improve natural resource management, and consolidate food security in this strategic area shared by the two countries.

4.2. Structuring public-private dialogue on agricultural storage

Reducing post-harvest losses is a major challenge for the performance of agricultural value chains and food sovereignty. In this area, IPAR has helped organize dialogue between public actors, professional organizations, financial institutions, and private investors on issues related to the storage and preservation of agricultural products.

In the Podor department, in the heart of the Senegal River Valley, the study on post-harvest losses conducted under the EFI Podor program documented the extent of economic losses linked to insufficient storage infrastructure and still-fragile management models. The results served as the basis for a Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) aimed at identifying technical, institutional, and financial solutions to strengthen storage and preservation capacities in the agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries sectors.

This process mobilized a wide range of stakeholders, including government technical agencies, territorial diagnostics authorities, producer organizations, processors, traders, financial institutions, and private investors. Discussions helped identify concrete courses of action, focusing in particular on improving storage infrastructure, developing more effective management models, and mobilizing financing to support investments in agricultural value chains.

The proceedings also helped refocus discussions about food security and agricultural supply chain organization on the issue of storage. By documenting economic losses and facilitating dialogue between the relevant stakeholders, IPAR has helped create the conditions for broader mobilization around this strategic issue for farmlands.

Onion storage facility in the Podor department of Senegal © IPAR, 2025

BOX 8: WHEN EVIDENCE DRIVES PUBLIC ACTION: THE CASE OF PODOR

The study on post-harvest losses conducted by IPAR in the Podor department, under the EFI Podor program, quantified economic losses linked to agricultural storage infrastructure and governance issues. Losses were estimated at 5.612 billion CFA francs in 2023, while an analysis of existing infrastructure revealed that 72% of storage and preservation facilities (SPF) in the area are non-functional. The study also highlighted particularly high losses in certain value chains, especially onions (30 to 60 percent) and milk (10 to 40 percent), and a lack of key infrastructure such as cold storage facilities and modern slaughterhouses.

The dissemination of these findings quickly helped reposition the issue of agricultural storage as a strategic public policy priority. The study's findings were reported in the national press, notably on the front page of the daily newspaper Le Soleil, and were referenced in several policy forums. Members of Parliament also referred to them during the Prime Minister's General Policy Statement, and several technical partners and public institutions, including the World Food Program (WFP), approached IPAR to conduct a more in-depth analysis.

The research also helped spark a growing institutional engagement around agricultural storage. At the national level, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock (MASAE) set up a technical commission tasked with selecting beneficiaries for storage and preservation infrastructure, which included IPAR. The commission now uses a matrix of harmonized technical, land-use, logistical, productive, and social criteria consolidated under the INTERMAQ program coordinated by the DMER.

The public-private dialogue initiated as a result of this work has also attracted the interest of several financial institutions and investors. Among the prospects discussed are a public-private partnership project estimated at 27 billion CFA francs (DFPO/CDC), the possibility of allocating 20% of the FADSR's secured assets to finance storage facilities, and the LBA's interest in developing joint financing lines.

Multiple initiatives have begun to emerge on the ground. In Fanaye, work has begun on installing a cold storage facility. In the districts of Saldé and Cas-Cas, joint missions led by COSEC and IPAR have identified priority sites for new infrastructure and reignited discussions on the rehabilitation of the Boubé consolidation center for the onion sector. In addition, several companies and technical partners—including Off-Grid Europe, GOPA, the Domaine Agricole du Cayor, and the NGO Entrepreneurs du Monde—have expressed interest in developing investment in the area.

The Podor experience illustrates a virtuous circle linking the generation of evidence-based data, multi-stakeholder engagement, and the emergence of public and private investment. It demonstrates how thorough territorial analysis can help guide public policy priorities and shape concrete initiatives to improve the performance of food systems and reduce post-harvest losses.

4.3. Contributing to agricultural policy development

Beyond producing economic analyses of agricultural value chains, IPAR's work also contributes to informing the processes of designing, assessing, and evolving agricultural policy in Senegal and the subregion. By drawing on evidence-based data drawn from its research and facilitating dialogue between public actors, professional organizations, and technical partners, IPAR helps strengthen public policy coherence and relevance in the agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries sectors.

In 2025, IPAR notably contributed to discussions regarding the revision of the framework law on agriculture, forestry, and pastoralism (LOASP) and the preparation of the first Higher Council for Agro-Sylvo-Pastoral Affairs—two processes critical to the evolution of the institutional and governance framework of Senegal's agricultural sector. These efforts aimed to strengthen consultation mechanisms between the sector's various stakeholders and to adapt strategic orientations to the economic, social, and environmental changes taking place in rural territories.

IPAR has also continued its efforts to support agricultural policy through policy dialogue and advocacy initiatives focused on specific strategic sectors. The 3P-MilSAO program, implemented in partnership with Inter-Réseaux, exemplifies this contribution. The program aims to promote greater consideration of millet and its byproducts in institutional procurement policy, particularly in school feeding programs and public procurement programs. The goal is to enhance the promotion of local grains, improve market opportunities for producers, and contribute to food security in West African countries.

These various initiatives illustrate the bridging role played by IPAR between knowledge generation, multi-stakeholder dialogue, and support for public policy. By facilitating coordination between research, economic actors, and public institutions, IPAR helps steer reforms and investments toward more inclusive and sustainable agricultural development pathways.

Community garden in the Guidimakha region of Mauritania © IPAR, 2025

JEV training in Podor © IPAR, 2025

THEME 05

5. Youth and women entrepreneurship and mobility strategies

The economic integration of youth and women is a critical step in transforming food systems and rural territories in West Africa. In a context marked by strong population growth, rapid economic changes, and the effects of climate change, these groups represent both an essential labor force and significant potential for innovation and entrepreneurship in those territories.

However, their access to economic opportunities is often constrained by structural barriers which include their limited access to productive resources, financing, and training, as well as fragmented support mechanisms. The changes underway in food systems, including the agroecological transition, restructuring of value chains, and new economic mobility dynamics, nevertheless open up new prospects.

Against that backdrop, IPAR's research analyzes the conditions for the economic integration of youth and women into food systems and territories in transition. By generating evidence-based data and facilitating policy dialogue and territorial initiatives, IPAR contributes to a better understanding of the dynamics of entrepreneurship and economic mobility and guides public policy toward strategies that are more inclusive and better tailored to territorial realities.

Key Figures

8
projects, programs, and initiatives

15
activities carried out

625
young people and women surveyed

34
trainer-advisors trained, including 20 women

220
young green entrepreneurs trained

105
sole proprietorships and cooperatives supported, including 54 led by women

2011
direct and indirect beneficiaries

1
«Entrepreneurs Verts de Podor» cooperative has 76 members

Vegetable farming in the Guidimakha region of Mauritania © IPAR, 2025

List of projects/programs and initiatives

Protecting the rights of female African migrants in Gulf and Middle East Countries (2023-2025)	● **Start**: 2023 - End: 2025 ● **Partner**: OSIWA ● **Locations**: African and Gulf countries (Uganda, Ethiopia, Senegal, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar) ● **Sector**: Migration policy
EFI PME (Impact assessment of support for SME innovation) 2023-2025	● **Start**: 2023 - End: 2025 ● **Partners**: ACED, IDRC ● **Locations**: Senegal and Benin ● **Sector**: Policy to support innovation and strengthen EDI in SME support programs
Summary of entrepreneurship data to inform decision-making on women's empowerment	● **Start**: 2024 - End: 2025 ● **Partner**: Southern Voice ● **Location**: Senegal ● **Sector**: Women's economic empowerment
ECOWAS Youth Summit	● **Start**: 2023 - End: 2026 ● **Partner**: ECOWAS ● **Location**: ECOWAS region ● **Sectors**: Employment, Youth employability
GCAN - Gender, Climate Change, and Nutrition Integration Initiative (GCAN)	● **Start**: 2024 - End: 2027 ● **Partner**: IFPRI ● **Location**: Senegal ● **Sectors**: Climate change, Nutrition, and Women's empowerment
Jeunes entrepreneurs Verts (JEV)	● **Start**: 2023 - End: 2026 ● **Partners**: ISW-EEQ ● **Location**: Podor, Senegal ● **Sector**: Green entrepreneurship for youth and women
GRAIN - Gender-Responsible AI Network _Phase 2	● **Start**: November 2024 - End: October 2026 ● **Partner**: IDRC ● **Location**: Sub-Saharan Africa ● **Sectors**: Artificial Intelligence and Gender
IPAR Gender Audit (Audit Report, Action Plan, and Gender Charter) IPAR-ILC	● **Start**: 2022 - End: 2025 ● **Partner**: ILC ● **Intervention Framework**: IPAR Think Tank

5.1. Understanding the barriers to economic inclusion for youth and women

Economic integration of youth and women is a key issue for territories in transition in West Africa. Although the agri-food sector represents a significant source of opportunities, its potential remains underutilized when it comes to absorbing the youth and female workforce. In Senegal, young people account for nearly three-quarters of the population and women for about half, but their access to sustainable economic opportunities in agricultural value chains remains limited.

Research conducted by IPAR has highlighted several structural constraints that impede entrepreneurship and employment in food systems. The obstacles identified include mismatches between training programs and actual market needs, difficult access to financing, complex procedures for formalizing economic activities, and poor coordination between support structures.

Discussions held in various dialogue forums have also shown that existing support mechanisms often remain fragmented and insufficiently grounded in territorial realities. As a result, young entrepreneurs face difficulties in identifying available opportunities and accessing the information they need to develop their businesses. Furthermore, the conditions for accessing credit are particularly restrictive: applicants lack collateral, administrative procedures are complex, and financial mechanisms are ill-suited to the realities of family farming.

The issue of formalization is also a major challenge. While it is recognized as an important step toward giving producers an economic identity and facilitating their access to financing, the associated administrative and tax burdens can be a significant obstacle for young entrepreneurs. Firsthand accounts from the field show that some producers who have taken steps toward formalization have found themselves facing tax assessments or administrative obligations that are difficult to meet for fledgling operations.

These findings underscore the need to rethink support mechanisms for entrepreneurship within food systems. Discussions led by IPAR highlight the importance of developing an integrated entrepreneurial support pathway that combines information, training, formalization, financing, and networking. Better coordination between support structures and stronger territorial anchoring for these programs also appear essential to improving the economic integration of youth and women.

BOX 9: POLICY DIALOGUE ON YOUTH AND WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT (AFRICAN FOOD SYSTEM FORUM)

In the lead-up to the African Food Systems Forum (AFS Forum), IPAR organized two webinars in July 2025 bringing together institutional actors, technical organizations, and youth movements to share experiences related to youth and women's employment and entrepreneurship projects within food systems. These discussions helped identify several cross-cutting challenges, including poor coordination between stakeholders, fragmented interventions, and mismatches between training offered and market needs.

These ideas were further explored during a panel on employment and employability of youth and women in the agri-food sector: challenges and prospects, organized by IPAR in partnership with the Secretariat of State for the development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and the FAO, as a side event of the 19th African Forum on Food Systems held in Dakar in September 2025.

The panel facilitated an intersectoral and intergenerational dialogue with young entrepreneurs working in food systems. Discussions highlighted the structural barriers limiting youth and women's access to economic opportunities: difficulties in accessing financing, administrative red tape associated with formalization, a lack of technical and managerial support, and a weak alignment between vocational training and market needs.

They also underscored the need for a better balance between agribusiness initiatives and the dynamics of family farming, in order to prevent the marginalization of young producers, who make up an essential workforce for territorial food systems. Finally, participants emphasized the importance of simplifying mechanisms for accessing financing, promoting cooperative solutions to secure access to land, and strengthening entrepreneurial support mechanisms tailored to local realities.

These discussions helped highlight the importance of sustainably placing youth and women's employment at the heart of agricultural reforms and policy for transforming food systems.

5.2. Promoting green entrepreneurship in territories: The JEV experience in Podor

The JEV (Jeunes Entrepreneurs Verts, or young green entrepreneurs) project, implemented by IPAR in the Podor department, is a concrete territorial application of the work carried out on the economic integration of youth and women into food systems. The project aims to promote inclusive rural entrepreneurship based on the adoption of agroecological practices and the strengthening of the entrepreneurial capacities of youth and women.

To better understand local economic dynamics and the needs of entrepreneurs, a quantitative survey was conducted on **504 households** and **625 young entrepreneurs**. The study documented levels of adaptation to climate change, existing agroecological practices, and the constraints faced by youths and women in developing their economic activities. The results also helped identify their needs in terms of support, training, access to financing, and productive equipment.

Based on this, the project set up a structured entrepreneurial capacity building program centered on an innovative peer-training model. This mechanism is founded on the training of 34 Training Advisors (TAs), including 20 women, tasked with supporting young entrepreneurs

in developing and structuring their businesses. The Trainer-Advisors first trained 60 young green entrepreneurs (JEV) during the initial training sessions, then provided support to 105 individual or collective businesses, 54 of which were led by women.

The training programs were organized into two tracks tailored to the participants' profiles: a "startup" cohort, designed for entrepreneurs in the business launch phase, and a "growth" cohort, targeting companies in the consolidation phase. The modules covered essential skills such as marketing, financial management, business plan development, and managing business growth.

The project also placed special emphasis on developing technical skills related to agroecological practices and climate-smart technologies. As part of this effort, 70 young green entrepreneurs were trained in solar technologies, horticultural techniques, and smart irrigation systems. In addition, 90 entrepreneurs and advisors received training in agroecological practices, particularly on the production of biofertilizers, biopesticides, and compost, as well as on processing of local agricultural products.

One of the technical innovations resulting from the project was the development and testing of a prototype automated irrigation system controlled by moisture sensors, demonstrating local innovation capacity and the gradual adoption of technologies suited to the valley's agroecological conditions.

In addition to entrepreneurial activities, the project also helped strengthen community engagement around climate and environmental issues. A reforestation campaign, organized in collaboration with the Golleré Ville Verte association and eight other local organizations, resulted in the planting of 933 trees in several communities across the department. Participatory workshops and forum theater activities were also organized to raise community awareness about sustainable land management and the adoption of environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

Finally, the project promoted the integration of young entrepreneurs into economic and institutional networks. As a result, 64 young green entrepreneurs were connected with investors and experts during the Journées de Promotion de l'Entrepreneuriat (entrepreneurship promotion days) in Saint-Louis, organized by IPAR in partnership with the DER, a government department promoting access to entrepreneurship. Initiatives led by young entrepreneurs were also highlighted in several regional and international forums, notably at events organized by the OMVS, the ECOWAS Summit, and COP16 in Riyadh.

First cohort of training advisors following the training session in Ndioum in the Department of Podor, Senegal

5.3. Analyzing the links between gender, mobility, and new trends in entrepreneurship

The economic and social changes sweeping West Africa are accompanied by new trends in mobility and entrepreneurship that are redefining the career paths of youths and women. In this context, the work conducted by IPAR aims to better understand the interactions between gender, migration, and economic strategies, in order to inform public policy and support mechanisms.

Several research and knowledge-generation initiatives have helped document these dynamics. The GCAN initiative uses a gender-climate-nutrition nexus approach to assess capacity-building needs, with the goal of equipping institutions to better integrate these three dimensions into climate and agricultural policy.

Research on women's entrepreneurship has contributed to building a body of data and analyses on the conditions for women's economic empowerment in Senegal. Providing a synthesis of the knowledge on the subject makes the existing data more accessible and provides useful analytical insights for public policymakers, particularly in the context of the drafting of a framework law for women's economic empowerment.

Furthermore, research on international labor mobility has explored the employment conditions and protections for African migrant women workers in the Gulf countries. This research highlights not only the economic opportunities but also the social and institutional risks those workers face, particularly regarding labor rights, social protection, and the regulation of migration flows.

Initiatives in this area also have a regional and prospective dimension. IPAR's involvement in the ECOWAS Youth Summit helped create a space for reflection on emerging issues related to youth employment, labor market transformations, and new forms of mobility in West Africa.

Finally, IPAR is exploring new areas of innovation by integrating gender issues into technological transformations. The GRAIN (Gender and Responsible Artificial Intelligence Network) project aims to promote a responsible and inclusive approach to artificial intelligence in Africa by incorporating a gender perspective into the development of digital solutions in strategic sectors such as agriculture, education, and African languages.

Through these various initiatives, IPAR contributes to a better understanding of the ongoing transformations in the economic trajectories of youth and women and helps identify the institutional, economic, and technological conditions that can foster more inclusive forms of entrepreneurship that are better adapted to contemporary territorial dynamics.

6. Communication and knowledge management

In 2025, IPAR continued its efforts to consolidate its position as a recognized West African research center specializing in agricultural policy, food systems, and the future of family farms.

IPAR has improved the dissemination and promotion of its research findings through more structured communication and a stronger knowledge management strategy. By documenting and sharing knowledge generated by its various projects, the think tank has enhanced its visibility while supporting its policy dialogue and advocacy activities. The evidence-based data and analyses contained in IPAR's research can then serve as essential inputs for informing public debate and decision-making processes.

6.1. Digital communication and online visibility

Digital communication is now a central pillar of IPAR's visibility strategy. In 2025, the think tank's presence on digital platforms was made stronger, with a steady increase in the number of followers and the level of engagement on social media.

Facebook

7,803 followers

Posts	**163**
Total views	**32,790**
Posts with over 1,000 views	**96**

Followers **23%**
Non-followers **77%**

LinkedIn

8,592 followers

Posts 2025	**118**
New (365 days)	**+2,686**
One-time visitors	**106**

GRAIN

followers	**1,342**
New followers	**+351**

9,391 impressions

X (Twitter)

4,411 followers

Posts 2025	**115**
Likes	**3,492**

GRAIN

Followers	377

YouTube

569 subscribers

Videos	**331**

Active channel

RIM Rural

3,700 visits

Posts	42
Interactions	2,100
Rate	56 %

The institution's **ipar.sn** website also saw a significant increase in traffic, with more than **290,000 visits in 2025** and **169 pieces of content published.** Despite these encouraging results, restructuring the site and improving the user experience remain priorities to enhance accessibility and content distribution in 2026.

6.2. Media relations and public events

The relationship of trust we have built with the media is a key driver for disseminating IPAR's work and for its voice in public debate.

In 2025:

154
media reports by more than 60 different media outlets

+100
articles published

+30
press briefings organised

10
Press kits distributed

This collaboration has helped highlight IPAR's research and fuel public debate on agricultural policy, food systems, and rural change.

To amplify the impact of this media coverage, IPAR plans to further develop targeted partnerships with high-reach media outlets specializing in agriculture, the environment, and development. Strengthening relationships with thematic networks of journalists is also a strategic priority.

Young people in Podor © IPAR, 2022

6.3. Institutional knowledge production and dissemination

IPAR's institutional communication aims to organize and promote the intellectual capital produced by the institution.

In 2025, several tools for knowledge dissemination and capitalization were utilized:

2024 Annual Report: Publication of the past year's achievements	**2025 Annual Report:** Launch of the process to prepare the upcoming report
Monthly Press Review: Dissemination of information on agriculture and related topics	**Multimedia Materials:** Creation of visual and audio content for dissemination
Knowledge Circulation: Facilitation of information sharing between projects	**Policy Dialogue:** Supporting policy dialogue through knowledge dissemination

These tools help strengthen the circulation of knowledge generated by projects and facilitate its use in policy dialogue processes.

6.4. RIM Rural and territorial communication

As part of the project to revitalize local land-use platforms, **RIM Rural** carried out a number of activities aimed at strengthening the communication capacities of community organizations.

The actions carried out included:

- **training in digital and institutional communication** for members of local platforms;
- developing a graphic style guide and a specific logo for each platform;
- production of professional promotional videos;
- design of physical communication materials (banners, brochures); and
- support for **digital visibility**, including the creation of Facebook pages and the implementation of tailored communication strategies.

These activities help enhance the visibility of local platforms and improve their ability to participate in public debates on land governance.

6.5. Knowledge management and capitalization

Capitalizing on experiences is a key pillar of IPAR's knowledge management strategy. It aims to transform experiences on the ground and research projects into structured, shareable knowledge to inform public policy and improve the practices of development actors.

In 2025, a number of capitalization exercises were conducted to document the lessons learned from projects implemented by IPAR and its partners. This work can be used as a foundation for analyzing the intervention contexts, the methodological approaches utilized, the results achieved, and the success factors and constraints encountered.

The main experiences capitalized in 2025 include:

- **The experience of the farmers' field schools incorporating the system of rice intensification (SRI)** in Podor, under the COINS project supported by the Bosch Foundation;
- **The 20-year assessment of the Agro-Sylvo-Pastoral Framework Law (2004–2024)**, also supported by the Bosch Foundation; and
- **The "POAS Vert"** initiative, under the Sen Suuf project implemented by the GFA–IPAR consortium with support from GIZ.

These initiatives are part of IPAR's knowledge capitalization strategy and help increase the dissemination of useful knowledge to public decision-makers, producer organizations, and technical partners.

Among other things, the analyses documented the impact of the technical and organizational innovations introduced in the territories. In the case of **the farmer field school using the SRI** system, capitalization highlighted improved yields and producer incomes thanks to the adoption of new transplanting practices, better water management, and compost use. These approaches also contribute to natural resource conservation and adaptation of agricultural systems to the effects of climate change.

IPAR based its approach on a **collaborative knowledge-building process** bringing together researchers, project partners, producer organizations, and public institutions. This approach fosters ownership of research results and facilitates their replication in other contexts.

In addition to documenting these experiences, this work helps strengthen IPAR's knowledge management system by building a **repository of experiences and analyses** that can be drawn upon in research, advocacy, and policy dialogue.

6.6. Other planned capitalization exercises

Several capitalization exercises are planned for the 2025–2026 period, including:

- finalization of COINS project knowledge capitalization;
- knowledge capitalization of POAS Vert as part of the Sen Suuf project;
- capitalization of the JEV experience;
- capitalization on the outcomes of the ECOWAS Youth Summit; and
- capitalization on the E-Doylu project and territorial resilience initiatives.

This work will help strengthen the dissemination of knowledge produced by IPAR and inform strategic discussions on agricultural policy, food systems, and sustainable natural resource management.

7. Awards and recognition

Every year, the work carried out by IPAR and the commitment of its researchers and partners are recognized in various academic, institutional, and public forums. These awards attest to IPAR's contribution to public discourse and the development of evidence-based policy.

7.1. IPAR Named "Institution of the Year 2025" by RAMES

The network of emerging media actors in Saint-Louis, Senegal (RAMES) awarded IPAR the "Institution of the Year 2025" prize in recognition of its commitment to supporting public policy and development initiatives in the northern region and the Senegal River Valley.

The award honors IPAR's many years of collaboration with territorial governments, community organizations, and institutional partners. The Senegal River Valley is now a prime area for experimenting with and analyzing territorial public policy, particularly in the areas of sustainable land management, climate resilience, and local economic development.

Through initiatives such as the COINS, ARTS, JEV, and EFI Podor projects, IPAR helps build local stakeholder capacity, generate evidence-based data, and support territorialization of public policy.

7.2. Dr. Cheikhou Oumar Ba appointed Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock

After more than fifteen years at the helm of IPAR, Dr. Cheikhou Oumar Ba stepped down from the institution's executive directorate in 2025 to serve the government as Minister-Advisor to the President of the Republic of Senegal. He currently serves as Senegal's Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock.

His career spans more than twenty-five years of work on agricultural and rural policy in Africa. Under his leadership, IPAR developed into a research and policy dialogue institution operating in Senegal and West Africa, with a particular focus on family farms, food systems, natural resource governance, and rural transformation.

His departure from the Executive Director's office marked the beginning of a period of institutional transition. Dr. Laure Tall, then Director of Research, stepped up to ensure the continuity of the Executive Directorate before taking over as its head at the beginning of 2026.

His new public role builds on a long-standing commitment to the pivotal importance of knowledge and dialogue in agricultural policymaking.

8. Outlook for 2026

In 2026, IPAR will continue to strengthen its role as a West African think tank dedicated to producing and utilizing evidence-based data to inform public policy and the transformation of food systems. Against a backdrop of challenges related to food sovereignty, youth employment, and the ecological transition, IPAR will continue to develop strategic analyses, facilitate spaces for policy dialogue, and support public and territorial stakeholders in the design and implementation of agricultural and rural policy.

This year's priorities will revolve around five complementary areas: developing territorial research and dialogue programs; strengthening local economic dynamics; supporting reforms in the agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries sectors; consolidating the institution's operational support capacities; and enhancing knowledge production.

8.1. Strengthening IPAR's regional positioning

The year 2026 will be marked by the launch or consolidation of several regional-level research and policy dialogue initiatives. The **ATTP-CACEPS program (African Think Tank Platform – Consortium for Africa Cross-Border Evidence and Policy Sovereignty)** will help strengthen the production of analyses and evidence-based data on cross-border dynamics in food systems, agricultural policy, value chains, and regional markets in Africa.

In the area of technological transformations, the expansion of the **GRAIN (Gender and Responsible Artificial Intelligence Network)** project will enable the continuation of work on the links between artificial intelligence, agriculture, and social inclusion, with a particular focus on gender considerations and the opportunities offered by digital technologies for African food systems.

IPAR will also continue to develop regional partnerships through the **LEEPS 2 (Learning Together to Use Evidence and Engage in Policy and Practice)** program, which serves as a key lever for strengthening collaboration with research institutions and public policy stakeholders in several West African countries, notably Mali and Burkina Faso. A strategic review will also be undertaken to consolidate IPAR's presence and collaborations in neighboring countries, particularly Mauritania, The Gambia, Guinea, and Guinea-Bissau.

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8.2. Strengthening territorial economic dynamics and food markets

IPAR will co**ntinue its work on structuring** territorial agricultural value chains, marketing, and markets, which are essential drivers for adding value to local production and creating jobs in rural territories.

With this in mind, the institution will expand its ongoing research on **territorial food systems**, particularly through the action-research project on **school cafeterias and institutional markets**, which aims to analyze their potential to shape demand for local products, support family farms, and strengthen food security.

IPAR will also support the implementation of **community-based early warning systems for agricultural pests**, designed to improve local capacities for monitoring and responding to phytosanitary risks and strengthen the resilience of agroecological production systems.

8.3. Contributing to reforms in the agriculture, forestry, livestock, and fisheries sectors

In 2026, IPAR will continue to support public policy design and evolution in the agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries sector. In particular, the institution will contribute to efforts relating to **the development of a financing strategy for the agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries sector**, as well as to ongoing processes involved in the revision of the **Framework Law on Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fisheries,** policy and strategy for **the agricultural forestry, livestock,** and fisheries sector advisory, and **the national strategy for agroecological transition.**

These contributions are in line with IPAR's mission to enhance the quality of public policy by mobilizing evidence-based data and facilitating dialogue between public institutions, professional organizations, territorial governments, and technical and financial partners.

8.4. Strengthening capacity to support development projects

The year 2026 will also see the strengthening of IPAR's **Delivery Unit,** designed as a mechanism to mobilize the think tank's expertise in support of the implementation of development projects and sectoral reforms.

Through this mechanism, IPAR intends to strengthen its technical support for several programs funded by international partners, notably the **World Bank**, the **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**, and t**he Belgian Development Agency (Enabel)**. This support will focus in particular on producing strategic analyses, facilitating policy dialogue processes, monitoring and evaluating interventions, and capitalizing on lessons learned.

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BOX 10: DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT UNIT (UAD): A STRATEGIC TOOL FOR PROMOTING RESEARCH AND MOBILIZING RESOURCES

- 14 proposals in response to calls for proposals processed in 2025.
- 33 proposals submitted in response to calls for proposals since July 2024 (infographic).

The Development Support Unit (UAD), created in June 2024, contributes to the implementation of IPAR's 2024–2028 strategic plan, particularly in the areas of resource mobilization, partnership diversification, and research promotion.

The UAD is involved throughout the project cycle: identifying opportunities, drafting proposals, coordinating teams, supporting implementation, and monitoring deliverables. It draws on IPAR's internal expertise and that of external technical partners as needed.

In 2025, the UAD coordinated the submission of more than a dozen proposals in response to calls for proposals, with an estimated success rate of over 70%. Since its creation, it has piloted more than thirty responses to calls for proposals, contributing to the expansion of IPAR's portfolio of activities.

The initiatives carried out in 2025 covered several areas related to the institution's research themes, including:

- Public policy support, including contributing to the development of the Operational Plan for the Diomaye Plan for Casamance (PDC);
- Analysis and structuring of agricultural value chains, through the mapping conducted in the Senegal River Valley under the Resilience and Community Development Project (PRDC-VFS), and the replication of that approach in Mauritania;
- Support for the livestock sector, including the conduct of a labor market assessment and capacity-building activities as part of the PNDIES; and
- The development of technical and operational partnerships, notably with IFC in Guinea-Bissau.

These activities align with IPAR's priority areas related to food systems, agricultural policy, value chains, and territorial development, as well as contributing to the operationalization of the research and analysis produced by the institution.

The creation of the UAD was accompanied by the gradual development of tools for monitoring, coordinating, and capitalizing on interventions, in line with the requirements of our technical and financial partners.

8.5. Strengthening knowledge production and scientific leadership

Finally, IPAR will continue its efforts to strengthen the production and dissemination of knowledge useful for public decision-making. The institution plans to increase the publication of **research reports, public policy briefs, analytical summaries, and knowledge-sharing outputs** to fuel policy dialogue on its priority themes.

The year 2026 will also see a strengthening of the institution's scientific leadership, notably through the recruitment of a **Research Director**, who will be responsible for consolidating the scientific quality of our research and strengthening the coordination of our research teams. This effort will be supported by clarifying the role of thematic coordinators and enhancing the scientific and managerial capacities of the teams.

In addition, several key publications will be finalized and disseminated, notably on sanitation policy in West Africa and an analysis of agricultural policy in Senegal from 1960 to the present, which will contribute to enriching analysis of the transformations of family farms and food systems in West Africa.

Vegetable production in the Guidimakha region of Mauritania © IPAR, 2025

9. Annual work plan and budget – 2026

These priorities will be implemented within the framework of IPAR's **2026 Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB)**, developed in collaboration with the institution's research teams and approved by its governing bodies. The work plan reflects the think tank's strategic priorities in the areas of **knowledge production, policy dialogue, and capacity building**, while also providing technical support for development projects and sectoral reforms.

Indicative budget breakdown by area of intervention

Title	Estimated amount (XOF)	Budget allocation (%)
Strategic priority 1: Developing high-quality research	**890,737,172**	**43.0%**
I. Building resilient family farms and food systems	66,453,000	7.5
II. Inclusive governance of natural resources and land resources	134,352,295	15.1%
III. Territories in transition and sustainable development goals	365,911,489	41.1%
IV. Agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries value chains and policy	13,000,000	1.5%
V. Youth and women entrepreneurship and mobility strategies	75,851,243	8.5%
Other activities within this priority focus	11,500,000	1.3%
Personnel expenses	223,669,144	25.1%
Strategic priority 2: Strengthening stakeholders' capacities	**559,703,891**	**27.0%**
I. Building resilient family farms and food systems	8,500,000	1.5%
II. Inclusive governance of natural resources and land resources	40,000,000	7.1%
III. Territories in transition and sustainable development goals	179,828,689	32.1%
IV. Agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries value chains and policy	140,000,000	25.0%
V. Youth and women entrepreneurship and mobility strategies	117,274,458	21.0%
Other activities within this priority focus	7,000,000	1.3%
Personnel expenses	67,100,743	12.0%
Strategic priority 3: Promoting policy dialogue	**334,072,760**	**16.1 %**
I. Building resilient family farms and food systems	71,852,548	21.5%
II. Inclusive governance of natural resources and land resources	87,425,155	26.2%
III. Territories in transition and sustainable development goals	77,966,896	23.3%
IV. Agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries value chains and policy	0	0.0%
Youth and women entrepreneurship and mobility strategies	45,094,332	13.5%
Other activities within this priority focus	7,000,000	2.1%
Personnel expenses	44,733,829	13.4%
Strategic priority 4: Strengthening IPAR's institutional governance	28,500,000	1.4
Strategic priority 5: Ensuring sustainability and building on IPAR's achievements	**257,270,146**	**12.4%**
Grand total (01/26)		**2,070,283,969**

Projected total budget for the 2026 AWPB: 2,070,283,969 CFA francs

10. Knowledge production

36
reports

9
policy briefs

21
capitalization/summary notes

1
methodological guide

2
scientific articles

4
contributions to international reports

11. Governance and team

11.1. Board of Directors

Dr Taïb Diouf
Chairman

Dr Aminata Badiane
Vice President

Eric Hazard
Secretary-General

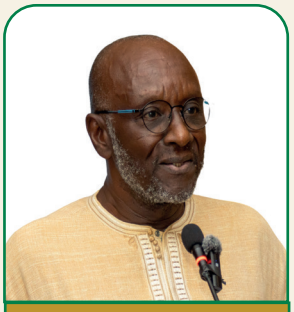
Mariam Sow
Treasurer

Ayssatou Ndiaye
Member

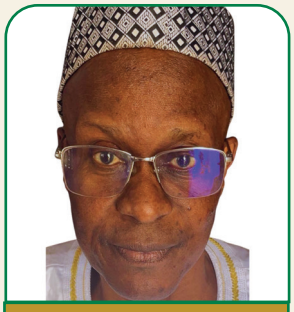
Dr Adama Faye
Member

Aminata Diop
Member

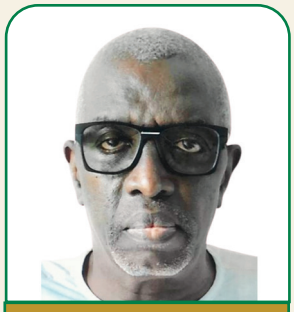
Nadjirou Sall
Member



Bachir Diop
Member



Cheikh Christophe Guèye
Member



Alain Mbaye
Member

Dr Ousmane Sène
Member

11.2. Executive Management

12
researchers

14
associate researchers

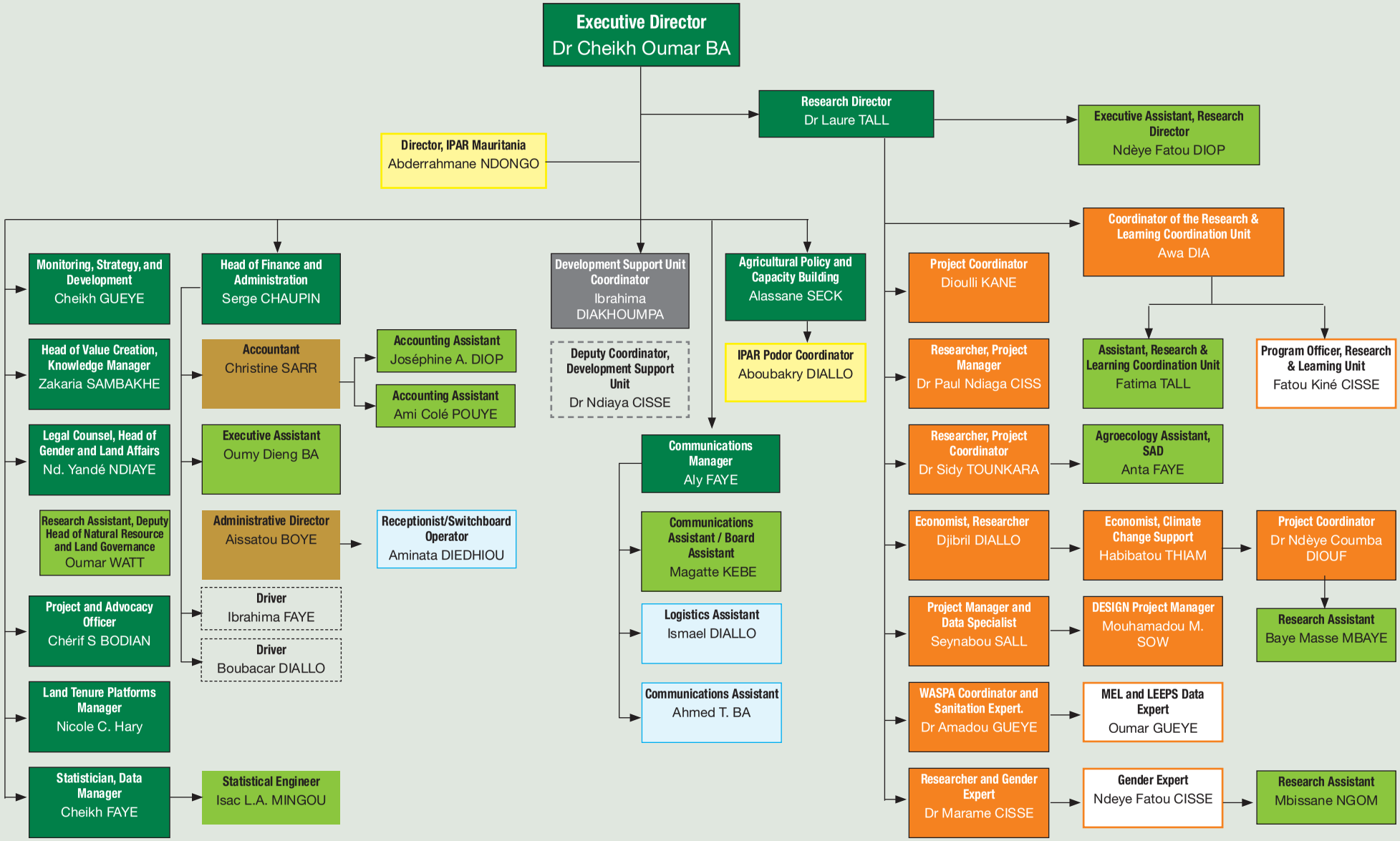
6
research assistants

18
experts

20
support staff

Link to our team : **https://ipar.sn/notre-equipe/**

ORGANIZATIONAL AND FUNCTIONAL STRUCTURE



12. Strategic partnerships and networks

13. 2025 Financial Statement

Project Income Statement (Preliminary, pre-audit)

ITEMS	2025	2024
Administrative funds consumed	1,451,122,530	1,495,878,268
Sales of merchandise, finished goods, and services		
Other revenue and transfers of expenses		
Reversals of provisions		
REVENUES (Sum of RA to RE)	**1,451,122,530**	**1,495,878,268**
Purchases of goods, merchandise, raw materials, and related supplies	1,447,880,578	1,333,272,758
Other purchases		41,343,708
Change in inventory of goods, merchandise, raw materials, supplies, and other items		
Transportation		1,098,052
External services	1,128,196	92,742,626
Taxes and fees		206,171
Under the new SYSCEBNL accounting framework, the majority of project personnel expenses are included under purchases of related goods, merchandise, raw materials, and supplies. There is no specific account for these expenses, but we have created an auxiliary account to better identify these expenses. A1:B18		8,689,500
Personnel expenses	2,113,756	17,313,453
Financial expenses and similar expenses		1,212,000
Provisions		
Extraordinary income		
Extraordinary expenses		
Extraordinary expenses		
OPERATING EXPENSES (Total TA to TN)	**1,451,122,530**	**1,495,878,268**
NET INCOME FOR THE FISCAL YEAR: XA-XB		

Overall, funds received during the year totaled 1,779,261,936. The administrative funds expended shown in this statement correspond to the portion of grants transferred to revenue in the operating statement based on expenses incurred during the fiscal year. Administrative funds for 2025 total 1,451,122,530 CFA francs, compared to 1,495,878,268 CFA francs in 2024, representing a slight decrease of 3%. These funds correspond exclusively to funds consumed in accordance with the rules applicable to partner-funded projects.

Purchases of goods, merchandise, raw materials, and related supplies make up the main expense item (99.8% of expenses). This predominance is due to the application of the SYSCEBNL accounting framework, which stipulates that the majority of personnel expenses directly related to projects are to be recorded under this heading. To ensure better tracking, these expenses have been classified as auxiliary items using cost accounting.

Consequently, the “Personnel Expenses” line item no longer reflects the actual cost of human resources assigned to projects. The variations observed between 2024 and 2025 result primarily from this change in accounting presentation and must be interpreted in the light of this change in the accounting framework.

13.1. Project Balance Sheet (Preliminary, pre-audit)

ASSETS	2025	2024	LIABILITIES	2025	2024
Intangible assets	1,950,000	4,035,000	Funds allocated to investments	32,967,285	45,945,578
Land and buildings			Retained earnings (+ or -)		
“Fittings, fixtures, and equipment”			Net income for the fiscal year		
Equipment, furniture, and biological assets	24,671,785	32,465,078	Capital grants		
Transportation equipment	6,345,500	9,445,500	Total financial liabilities and similar resources	32,967,285	45,945,578
Advances and down payments on fixed assets			Loans and financial liabilities		
Deposits and guarantees			Provisions for risks and charges		
Other tangible and financial fixed assets			Total financial liabilities and similar resources		
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	**16,430,800**	**45,945,578**	**TOTAL LONG-TERM ASSETS**	**32,967,285**	**45,945,578**
Extraordinary current assets			Extraordinary current liabilities		
Inventories and work in progress			Administrative funds	310,821,938	183,400,991
Supplier accounts receivable			Supplier accounts payable		17,642,768
Customer accounts receivable			Other liabilities		17,119,213
Other receivables	205,450,961	146,535,335	Provisions for short-term risks		
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	205,450,961	146,535,335	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	310,821,938	218,162,972
Checks and securities to be collected					
Banks, financial institutions, credit unions, and similar entities	105,370,977	71,627,637	Banks, financial institutions, and cash advances		
TOTAL Cash and Cash Equivalents – ASSETS	**105,370,977**	**71,627,637**	**TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS – LIABILITIES**	**-**	**0**
Currency translation adjustment - Assets			Foreign currency translation adjustment - Liabilities		
TOTAL	**343,789,223**	**264,108,550**	**TOTAL**	**343,789,223**	**264,108,550**

The balance sheet total for projects stands at 343,789,223 CFA francs in 2025, compared to 264,108,550 CFA francs in 2024, representing an increase of 30.2%.

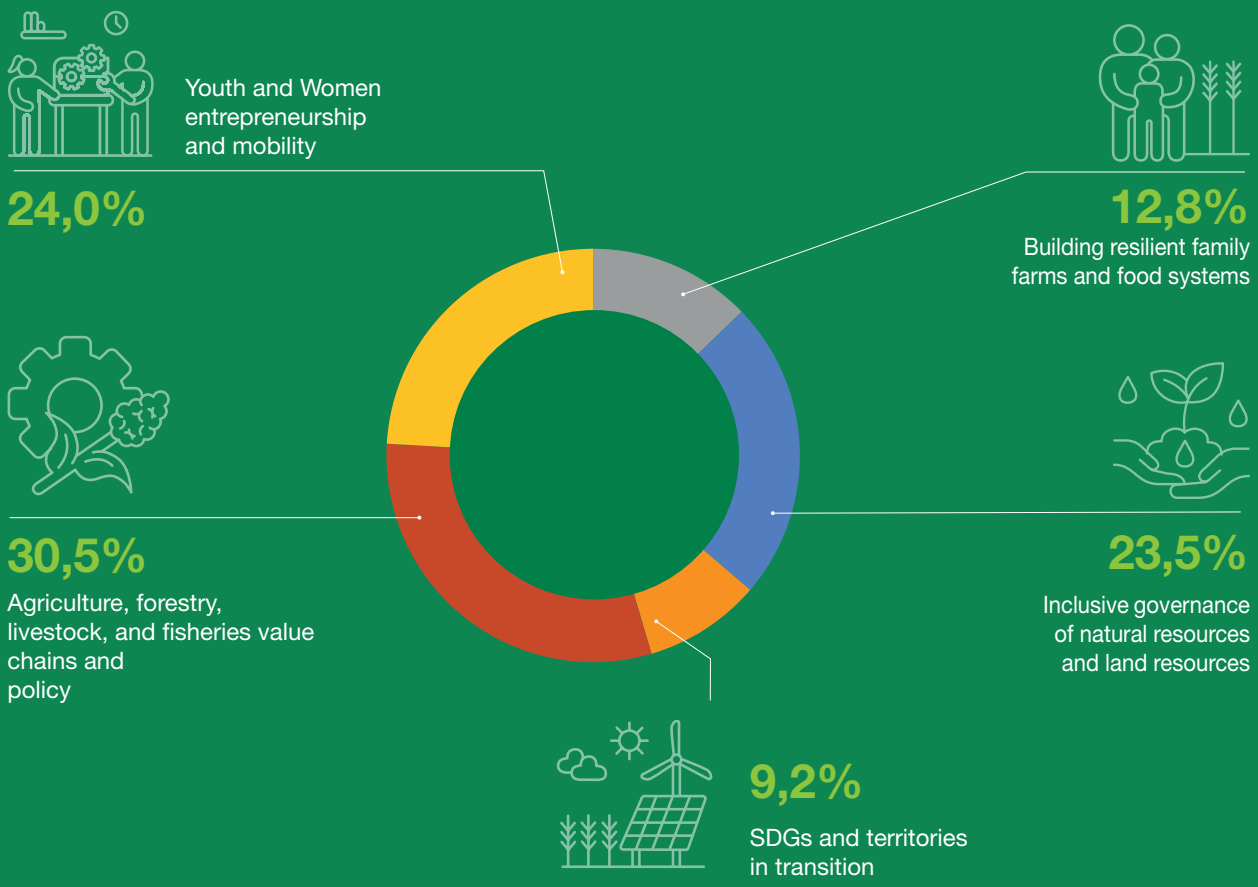
On the asset side, fixed assets dropped to 32,967,285 CFA francs, primarily due to depreciation, while current assets increased to 205,450,961 CFA francs, driven by an increase in accounts receivable. Cash and cash equivalents also rose from 71,627,637 CFA francs to 105,370,977 CFA francs.

On the liability side, the increase in administrative funds to 310,821,938 CFA francs reflects the existence of project-specific funds remaining to be utilized at year-end. The projects have no financial debt.

Overall, the projects’ balance sheet shows a balanced financial position with stronger cash flow and resources available to continue operations.

13.2. Funds received by theme

Title	Grants Received
Building resilient family farms and food systems	227,018,781
Inclusive governance of natural resources and land resources	418,232,701
Sustainable development goals and Territories in transition	163,305,560
Agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries value chains and policy	542,063,690
Youth and women entrepreneurship and mobility strategies	428,641,204
GRAND TOTAL	**1,779,261,936**



In 2025, projected funding set out in the AWPB totaled 1,677,857,811 CFA francs. The funding actually received for the projects amounted to 1,779,261,936 CFA francs, representing a mobilization rate higher than initial projections.

The distribution of funding appears to be relatively balanced, with 78% of resources concentrated on three strategic areas (Value chains, Youth and women, and Natural resource governance). This breakdown reflects the strong alignment between the priorities of our technical and financial partners and IPAR's strategic directions. It also highlights the need to continue efforts to mobilize resources for underfunded areas, particularly Sustainable Development Goals and territories in transition, in order to ensure balanced development across all programs.

It is important to note that this breakdown applies only to funds received through projects. In addition to those funds, we also received institutional support from the Hewlett and BOSH Foundations totaling 381,295,791 CFA francs.

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

ACF	African Climate Foundation
AEDD	Agence de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (Mali)
AFSF	African Food System Forum
ANRAC	Agence Nationale pour la Relance des Activités économiques et sociales en Casamance (national agency for the revitalization of economic and social activities in Casamance)
ANSTS	Académie Nationale des Sciences et Techniques du Sénégal
ARM	Agence de Régulation des Marchés
ARTS	Agroecology for Resilient Territories in Senegal
ASC	Association Sportive et Culturelle
BERGRN-DR	Bureau d'Etudes et de Recherches sur la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles pour le Développement agricole
CCPD	Conception et Conduite de Projet de Développement et d'Urgence
CDC	Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations
CEDRES	Centre d'Etudes, de Documentation et de Recherche Economiques et Sociales - Burkina Faso
FFS	Farmer Field School
CICAD	Abdou Diouf International Conference Center
CICODEV	Institut panafricain pour la Citoyenneté, les Consommateurs et le Développement
CNCR	Conseil National de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
COINS	Co-development of Innovations for Sustainable Land Management in West African Farming Systems
COP	Conference of the Parties
COSEC	Conseil Sénégalais des Chargeurs (Senegalese shippers' council)
CSE	Centre de Suivi Ecologique
DCaS	Division des Cantines Scolaires
DFPO	Directorate of Funding and Partnerships with Organizations
DMER	Directeur de la Modernisation de l'Equipement rural (Director of rural infrastructure modernization)
UNDFF	United Nations Decade of Family Farming
VG	Voluntary Guideline
DyTAEL	Dynamique pour une Transition Agroécologique Locale
DyTAES	Dynamique pour une Transition Agroécologique au Sénégal
EEQ	Ecole des Entrepreneurs du Québec
EFI	Programme d'appui à la mise en place d'un Ecosystème de Facilitation des Investissements privés et des activités économiques (Program to support the development of an ecosystem to facilitate private investment and economic activities)
EIP	Evidence-Informed Policy

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
GCAN	Gender, Climate Change, and Nutrition Integration Initiative
GDSP	Social and Policy Dialogue Group
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
GMSANE	Groupe Multisectoriel de l'Alimentation et de la Nutrition à l'École
GRAIN	Gender and Responsible Artificial Intelligence Network
GRDR	Groupe de Recherche et de réalisations pour le Développement Rural
NRM	Natural Resource Management
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
ILC	International Land Coalition
INRAE	Institut National de Recherche pour l'Agriculture, l'alimentation et l'Environnement (France)
INTERMAQ	Infrastructure et logistique pour le stockage et la conservation des produits agricoles (program on agricultural product storage and preservation infrastructure and logistics)
IPAR	Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale
SPF	Storage and Preservation Facilities
ISE	Institut des Sciences de l'Environnement
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JEV	Jeunes Entrepreneurs Verts
LBA	La Banque Agricole
LEEPS	Learning together to advance Evidence and Equity in Policymaking to achieve the Sustainable development goals
LOASP	Loi d'Orientation Agro-Sylvo-Pastorale (framework law on agriculture, forestry, and pastoralism)
LOASPH	Loi d'Orientation Agro-Sylvo-Pastorale et Halieutique (framework law on agriculture, forestry, pastoralism, and fisheries)
SPL	Sectoral policy letter
LPSAE	Lettre de Politique Sectorielle de l'Agriculture et de l'Élevage du Sénégal (sectoral policy letter on agriculture and livestock in Senegal)
MASAE	Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Souveraineté Alimentaire et de l'Élevage (Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock)
MOOC	Massive Open Online Courses
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
FO	Farmers' Organization
CSO	Civil Society Organization
UNDFF NAP	United Nations Decade of Family Farming National Action Plan
PCCI	Programme de Coopération Climatique Internationale
PDD	Plan Départemental de Développement (departmental development plan)
PDC	Plan Diomaye pour la Casamance
PCR-SAT	Prévention des Conflits et Résilience des Systèmes Alimentaires Transfrontalières (conflict prevention and resilient cross-border food systems project)
PNA	Plan National d'Adaptation (national adaptation plan)
PNAS	Politique Nationale d'Alimentation Scolaire (national school feeding policy)
PNGF	Plateforme Nationale de Dialogue sur la Gouvernance Foncière (national dialogue platform on land governance)

POAS	Plan d'Occupation et d'Affectation des Sols (land use and allocation plan)
PRDC	Projet de Résilience et de Développement Communautaire (Community Resilience and Development Project)
PROVAL-CV	Projet de Valorisation des Eaux pour le Développement des Chaînes de Valeur (Water Utilization Project for the Development of Value Chains)
ANID	African Network for Integrated Development
SAED	Société nationale d'Aménagement et d'Exploitation des terres du Delta du fleuve Sénégal et des vallées du fleuve Sénégal et de la Falémé
SALCSS	Boosting Local Food Systems Through School Cafeterias in Senegal
ISW	International Secretariat for Water
SRI	System of Rice Intensification
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WASPA	West Africa Sanitation Policy and Activators
WEAI	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index

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