

LOCATION	The Gambia
DURATION	20 months [March 2021-Nov. 2022]
TOTAL BUDGET	287,059.50 EUR
EF CONTRIBUTION	229,647.50 EUR
WEBSITE	www.sustalde.org/projects-irrigambia

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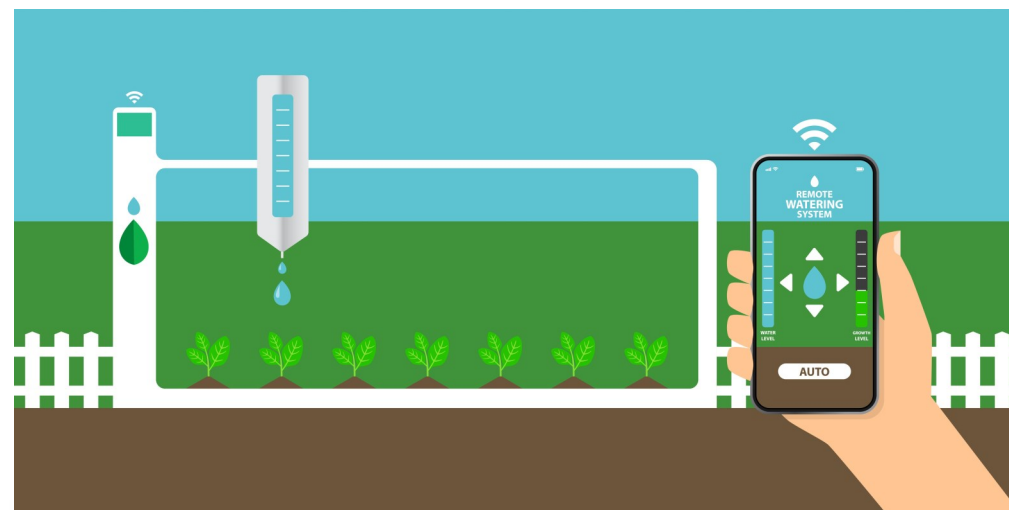
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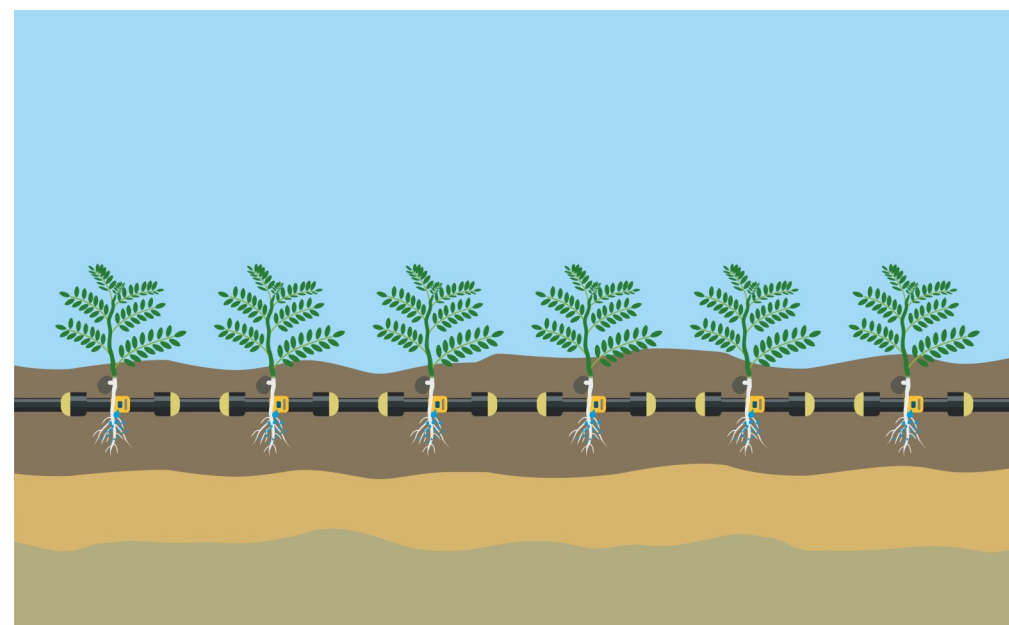
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SMART FARMING TOOLS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY IN THE GAMBIA

GRANT CONTRACT 21-SB037



Optimization of water resources management and increase in agricultural productivity





CHALLENGES

The Gambia presents an environment system with a high degree of fragility and vulnerability face the occurrence of a negative step trend in rainfall in the last 60 years. Agriculture has a large role to play in reducing poverty in The Gambia. 30% of the country's GDP comes from agriculture. It is the second largest sector in the economy and employs about 44% of the country's active work force. In view of this situation, two of the main adaptation objectives for the country are: (i) promoting integrated water resources management, and (ii) developing the adaptability of production systems to ensure and improve national food production.

OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the action is to enhance irrigation practices in order to optimize water resources management and increase agricultural productivity in West Africa, contributing to increased food security and poverty reduction strategies.

The specific objective is to increase vegetable productivity in The Gambia through the design, testing and transfer of an Irrigation Advisory Service (IAS) enabling the improvement of water use efficiency, optimizing consumption and reducing the environmental impacts of agriculture.

TARGET GROUPS

Gambian smallholders willing to enhance irrigation and crop productivity but have insufficient support from irrigation advisory services, limited knowledge on crop water requirements and lack access to appropriate irrigation technology.

Governmental institutions & local authorities to raise their awareness on the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) techniques and irrigation efficiency.

The Gambian Research community working towards agriculture, water and environment to reinforce their capacities in water efficiency and IAS adoption.

West African stakeholders: West African smallholders, farmers' associations, agricultural extension services, VC actors, NGOs, policy makers and governmental bodies will benefit from the project through dissemination actions and capitalization events.

EXPECTED IMPACTS

- # Reduce carbon balance: mitigation of climate change.
- # Reduce water consumption by 15%.
- # Increase crop productivity by 10%.
- # Train researchers and technicians in the use of an IAS and meteorological stations.
- # Implement the IAS in 20 farms and 20 vegetable gardens.
- # Transfer knowledge on water resource management and CSA to 100 local farmers.
- # Establish a farm for technology dissemination and educational purposes.



GCCA + WEST AFRICA PROJECT

The GCCA + West Africa (GCCA + WA) project is funded by the European Union within the framework of the Intra ACP programme of the "Global Alliance against Climate Change Plus" (GCCA +) initiative. The project aims to participate in the West African regional effort to implement the Paris Agreement on weather. It is in this context that the first call for project proposals "*Innovations for smart family farming in the face of climate change in West Africa - GCCA + WA*" was launched by Expertise France in September 2019 under the aegis of ECOWAS. This call is part of the strategic framework of the regional agricultural policy (ECOWAP 2025) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) of member states under the Paris Agreement.