

# Possible USAID Bilateral Buy-In Activities relating to Fertilizer/Productivity Development

## Enhancing Growth through Regional Agricultural Input Systems (EnGRAIS) for West Africa Project

The Feed the Future EnGRAIS project, which like its predecessor, the West Africa Fertilizer Program (WAFP), is a five-year USAID-funded activity that seeks to **contribute to improved sustainable agricultural productivity for food security and inclusive growth for West Africans** through its strategic objective (SO) to **increase regional availability and use of appropriate and affordable fertilizers**, building on WAFP successes. Under the base funding for EnGRAIS, the focus will be on regional activities and piloting activities that have the potential to be adapted and scaled up for use across the ECOWAS sub-region. However, EnGRAIS also has a component that gives it the potential to obtain USAID bilateral mission buy-ins that focus on national-level needs and help EnGRAIS meet its overall goal and objective. The following are an incomplete “menu” by EnGRAIS intermediate result (IR) of the country-level activities that could be supported through bilateral mission buy-ins to EnGRAIS and its **IR4, Mobilizing commitment and harmonizing engagement from key stakeholders across West Africa supported by mission buy-ins.**

### IR1: Competitive, inclusive, private sector-led, regional fertilizer market strengthened

Country-Level Activities	Expected Results
Support development and/or strengthening of national-level fertilizer platforms, private sector fertilizer or agro-input associations and facilitate/ensure their linkage with the West Africa Fertilizer Association (WAFA).	Private sector more effectively represented and better skilled (equipped)
Strengthen capacity of agricultural input distribution networks with the objective of having agro-dealers/distributors in each country able to advise farmers and deliver quality and adapted fertilizers.	Fertilizer suppliers provide needed product/advise farmers on how to use it
Develop leverage to increase the access to credit to purchase, store, blend, and distribute fertilizer at every level of the supply chain.	Improved fertilizer availability along the supply chain
Promote and support the development of key infrastructure in each country to improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the fertilizer logistics/supply chain.	Improved availability and prices for farmers
Support the development of a national fertilizer information network on price, volume, product available in the different regions of the countries through partnerships with WAFA, AfricaFertilizer.org and/or other existing market information service providers.	Improved knowledge of fertilizer info by private sector and farmers

### IR2: Appropriate input packages developed and disseminated in cooperation with CORAF

Country-Level Activities	Expected Results
Develop improved fertilizer recommendations and ensure their consensus acceptance, adoption and use in national-level subsidy programs and by private sector providers.	Fertilizers distributed to farmers are effective and increase crop yields
Develop and disseminate input packages and technologies for improving soil fertility including: a) compiling and disseminating proven integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) technologies, like urea deep placement (UDP) for rice and vegetables and microdosing for millet and sorghum; and b) developing a decision support tool	Proven ISFM technologies, interactive map of soil fertility management and

compiling all soil fertility and water management and agronomic practices into an interactive user friendly map to guide sound decision making for secured and improved agricultural productivity.	agronomic practices and effective input packages
Generate/strengthen demand for fertilizer deep placement (FDP) on rice, maize and vegetables through directly disseminating it on rice and demonstrating its potential for rapid diffusion on maize and vegetables.	Demand for FDP and crop productivity increased
Support development of sustainable private sector-led input supply network through stimulating the development of supply networks to procure required FDP inputs and equipment to meet demand arising from the technology diffusion.	Supply of FDP inputs and crop productivity increased
Support development and strengthening of capacity of public and private institutions to provide improved extension and advisory services for FDP.	FDP capacity and crop productivity increased

### IR3: Fertilizer policy and regulatory systems across West Africa improved and harmonized in accordance with ECOWAS guidance

Country-Level Activities	Expected Results
Support countries to modify/reform their existing subsidy programs to adhere to the Regional Subsidy Program Guidelines <sup>1</sup> , including a review of the design, administration and marketed products (e.g., improved fertilizer formulations and agricultural input packages and technologies), so that they become “smart” subsidy programs that perform effectively and efficiently and achieve their stated purpose of expanding fertilizer use and increasing farm-level productivity.	Effective, time-bound subsidy programs that meet stated objectives
Support development, validation and adoption of country-specific fertilizer supporting regulations that are aligned to ECOWAS Regulation C/REG.13/12/12 and facilitate their effective implementation.	Regulations developed, validated, adopted and enforced
Build capacity through technical support and training for quality enforcement and laboratories under the harmonized ECOWAS regulatory regime, including: a) assessing the legal and regulatory environments, and registration/inspection/sampling capabilities; b) establishing the two key regulatory and enforcement bodies/services (quality control body and National Committee for Fertilizer Control [NaCoFeC]) and taking appropriate measures for their effectiveness (appointing fertilizer inspectors and other authorities, equipping and training them, etc.); c) assessing existing analytical capabilities and upgrading designated laboratories for testing official fertilizer samples and supporting their accreditation; and d) licensing fertilizer businesses and implementing a comprehensive, sustainable regulatory oversight program.	Fully implement the regulations and improve fertilizer quality
Support development, adoption and/or implementation of complementary regulations/procedures for organic fertilizers, bulk blending and bio-fertilizers aligned to regionally harmonized framework.	Complementary fertilizer regulations developed, adopted and/or enforced

#### For more information, please contact:

Feed the Future EnGRAIS Project  
 IFDC North and West Africa  
 No. 113A, Mbabane Ave  
 East Legon Residential Area Accra, Ghana

Tel. +233 560 027 917  
 +233 560 027 918  
 Email [rwheeler@ifdc.org](mailto:rwheeler@ifdc.org)  
 Website [www.ifdc.com](http://www.ifdc.com)

<sup>1</sup> Published by WAFP in June 2017 and expected to be endorsed and issued by ECOWAS as a directive in mid-2019.