



International Trypanotolerance Centre ITC



Sub-Regional Research Institution
based in The Gambia
with a focus on Livestock-Agriculture





MISSION of ITC



- **Mission Statement**

Contribute to livestock productivity & utilisation in the West African region through optimal & sustainable exploitation of indigenous breeds of livestock for the welfare of the human populations

- **General Objective**

Formulation, implementation & introduction of sustainable, socio-economic & environmentally acceptable, integrated packages at *farmer* level, for improved livestock health, production & exploitation



About ITC



- Created 1984
- Name from “*Trypanotolerance*”-trait of indigenous ruminant livestock
- Currently about **25** scientific & technical staff (animal science/breeding, veterinary medicine, biology, agricultural economics)
- *Funding sources:*
Special-funded projects & core funding by host country and international donors, e.g. the EU-funded *Programme Concerté de Recherche-Développement sur l'Élevage en Afrique de l'Ouest* (**PROCORDEL**)





ITC in the sub-regional context



Partner Countries

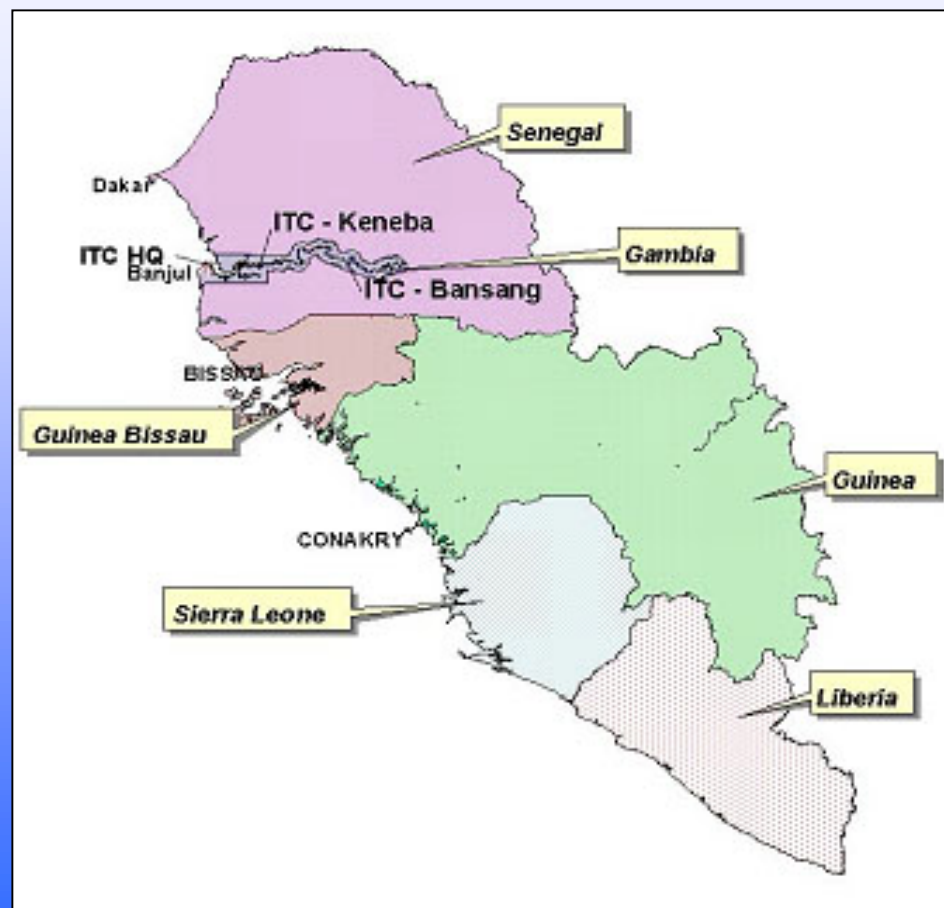
The Gambia, Senegal, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, Liberia

Partners – national

NARS, Livestock Dept. & Extension Services, Farmer Groups, Projects, NGOs

Partners – international

International Donor Community, UN-System, CGIAR & other Centres, ARIs, Universities





ITC Research & Development Agenda



Low-Input Systems Improvement Programme (LISIP)

1. Disease Risks Assessment &
2. Disease Control Strategies
3. Animal Production & Nutrition
4. Genetic improvement – purebreeding & dissemination
5. Crop farming-agroforestry-livestock integration

Market-Oriented Systems Improvement Programme (MOSIP)

6. Crossbreeding – for improved local milk production
7. Feeding & management strategies (market-oriented peri-urban systems)
8. Novel techniques in animal health & (re)production

Systems' Overlaps & Linkages Improvement Programme (SOLIP)

9. Veterinary public health & consumer safety aspects
10. Livestock-economics & policy research
11. Training, information exchange and capacity building



Training, information exchange & capacity building



Human resource development is a vital part of ITC's R&D agenda.

Objectives

- Strengthen research capacity of technical & scientific personnel at NARS and ITC
- Promote the dissemination of research results and technology transfer through targeted training, workshops and seminars
- Support networking and information exchange



Training & Information Exchange



Instruments

- Individual & group training at various levels
- Short-term attachments / regional mobilities (NARS staff)
- Training out of region
- Assistance to academic training (MSc, PhD)
- Workshops, seminars, conferences
- Publications, extension materials
- ITC website (www.itc.gm) and ITC Newsletter

Themes:

- Scientific, managerial, technical, practical
Animal health & (re)production, feeding; diagnostics, milk hygiene & production, project and research management; statistical analysis, socio-economic survey & analysis, GIS application

Target groups:

- Professional, managerial, technical staff of NARS, Livestock Services, ITC
- Farmers, other ultimate beneficiaries



Training Implementation



Training Concept developed in collaboration with NARS partners

- **Individual** training:
 - based on **task** analysis of collaborators

- **Group** training at *national* level:
 - Analysis of capacities of NARS/Livestock Departments for implementation of R&D themes

- **Group** training at *regional* level:
 - Themes of common interest [professional level]



Challenges



- **Differences** in national backgrounds/systems, languages, technical capacities
- **Team-approach:** multiple skills rather than highly specialised skills of individuals
- **Transfer** of R&D results to beneficiaries (weak *linkages* between Research & Extension)





National group training



- Professionals/technicians & ultimate beneficiaries
- Groups sizes 5-10 (or more)
- Course duration: typically 2-5 days
- Variable settings, usually combination of taught instructions with practical sessions
- National instructors, alongside with ITC specialists as trainers
- English, French, Local languages
- Training modules developed by ITC/NARS professional & technical staff



Regional group training



- Professional (technician) level
- Groups sizes 6-10, usually 2-3 per country
- Course duration: typically 5-10 days
- Frequently bi-lingual training & teaching materials
- Instructors: from ITC, the Sub-region (NARS, other Institutes) or other countries (ARIs)



Individual training



- Supervised on-the job training (mainly technicians)
- Short-term attachments - *Regional Mobility Scheme* (Professionals/senior technicians)
- Postgraduate training of professionals (MSc, PhD) for long-term career development



“Taking capacity building to the grassroots”

Transfer of results (technological packages)

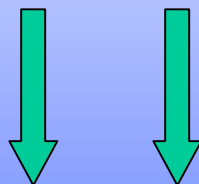


Reaching the producers
/ beneficiaries:

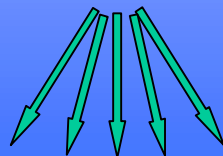
NARS / ITC



Training of trainers



Training of (key) farmers



Other farmers/beneficiaries





“Taking capacity building to the grassroots”



Farmer Field School (FFS)

- *Participatory* technology development
(process of collective, collaborative studies for initiating community action on solving local problems (bottom-up))
- *Agro-ecological systems analysis*
(improve observation skills and develop decision-making skills through analysis of field situations)



ITC Training Facilities



- Training Centre, with conference room and *PC training pool* (8-10 users), internet access
- Dairy Demonstration and Training Unit
- Laboratory space for training
- Hostel accommodation (9 rooms); Canteen
- 2 Field Stations – at Keneba and Bansang





Climate Change



“Climate Change“ affects livestock agriculture & food security in various ways:

- o Agro-ecological changes
- o Cropping patterns
- o Pattern of animal husbandry
- o Decline in productivity
- o Impact on diseases (esp. vector-borne)



ITC & Climate Change



Good reasons for ITC to get involved in the UNFCCC :

- Implications on its R&D agenda (medium- and longterm strategy)
- Implications on training, information exchange, capacity building with relevance to livestock agriculture

R&D priorities are formulated in dialogue & consultation with national authorities, NARS, regional and international institutions, donors



Training involvement of ITC



- ***Sectoral*** and ***regional*** focus:
related to livestock agriculture, production systems, agro-ecological settings in Sub-region
- Build on established collaborative links between ITC and its national partners
- Build on previous training experience
- Expertise/specialists from within ITC, NARS, other specialised institutions
- Target groups:
Professionals, extension agents; grassroot level, incl. youth; private sector



Training involvement of ITC



ITC could participate in various ways:

- Stakeholder meeting, workshops, working groups on sectoral aspects of the UNFCCC Convention
- Assessment of specific training needs, priorities (based on vulnerability studies and adaptation strategies)
- (Co)production of climate-focused training modules and materials
- (Co)organisation & Implementation of training
- Hosting training events