



**GRET**



# Agricultural and food security policies

Contributing to the formulation and implementation of public policies for sustainable development of family farming and food security.

## Theme factsheet



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### BENCHMARKS

Work on this subject area since 2003.

**Countries of operation in 2019:** Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Guinea, Haiti, Laos, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Niger, Senegal, Tunisia, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), European Union.

**10 projects and consulting missions** conducted by GRET in 2019.

Throughout the world, agricultural and food security policies play a key role in the development of agricultural production and agrifood value chains, the implementation of ecologically sustainable agricultural practices, and food security for populations. They include various forms of intervention by public authorities at pluri-national, national or local level. They can concern regulation of agricultural markets, supply of goods and services (infrastructures, research, agricultural advice, credit, facilitation of relations between stakeholders, etc.), transfer of income (taxation and grants) and regulation (access to land and natural resources, origin and quality of products, etc.).

Capitalising on its own experience in agricultural development and value chains, and based on specific work, for more than twenty years, GRET has been developing expertise on agricultural and food security policies. This expertise is used on the one hand to support public institutions, and on the other hand agricultural producers' organisations and other civil society stakeholders involved in advocacy and negotiation with public authorities in developing countries. The objective is to support food systems that foster development of family farming and inclusive value chains and focus on agroecological transition of production methods.

## Methods of intervention

GRET implements or participates in interventions to strengthen capacities (studies, advice, training, support for stakeholders, publications) and for consultation on agricultural and food security policies. These policies concern the following areas: land tenure, marketing and regulation of agricultural markets, value chains, quality marks, agroecology, agricultural advice, external trade, integration of nutrition issues and adaptation to climate change in agricultural and food security policies.





## GRET's approach

» «GRET's activities in the area of agricultural and food security policies aim first and foremost to strengthen stakeholders' capacities (public authorities, agricultural producers' organisations, other civil society organisations), to analyse existing policies and to develop policy proposals. Ultimately, it is a question of fostering sustainable economic and social development, in particular the development of family farming and inclusive value chains», explains **Laurent Levard, programmes manager**.



## Key stakeholders' views



“The study entitled ‘Enjeux de l'élevage dans les politiques de sécurité alimentaire au Mali, au Burkina Faso et au Sénégal’\*, conducted by GRET in 2016 as part of the Galo project, enabled Apess to understand how issues and challenges relating to the development of livestock farming are taken into account in food security policies

at regional and national levels, and to define orientations of advocacy that will be conducted with professional livestock farmers' organisations in various consultation settings, in particular for the development of Ecowap 2.” **Hindatou Amadou, Advocacy/Lobbying & Gender manager, General secretariat of Apess (Association for the promotion of livestock farming in the Sahel and savanna environments)**

\* “Livestock farming issues in food security policies in Mali, Burkina Faso and Senegal”

“To mark Common Agricultural Policy reform post-2020, several members of Coordination Sud undertook work on advocacy in favour of a CAP that is coherent with the development of family farming in developing countries. To strengthen their arguments, GRET conducted a study on this subject, published in 2019, which serves as a basis for various meetings with national and European political leaders.”



**Pascal Énard, institutional advocacy manager with CFSI**

### SOME REFERENCES

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## Focus on three actions

### Contributions to agricultural policies in West Africa



GRET conducted various types of interventions focusing on the development of agricultural policies in West Africa. More specifically, it organised training and produced a handbook on agricultural policies and the regional agricultural policy (Ecowap) for farmer organisations that are members of Roppa (West African farmers' and producers' organisations network).

In Senegal, GRET participated in the preparation of the PNIASAN (National programme of agricultural investment for food and nutrition security) and in the DyTAES (Dynamic for agroecological transition in Senegal) process, via which civil society stakeholders are contributing to the development of a national policy for agroecology.

### Quality mark policies



The price of products on markets rarely generates sufficient income for farmers to cover their production costs. Quality marks can help farmers earn better income for their produce. The development of Geographic Indications (GIs) – a mark of quality distinguishing products whose quality is related to the region they come from – demonstrates that States are interested in this approach as an agricultural policy tool. In Asia, GRET is supporting several countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar) to implement legislation in favour of GIs. In Africa, it is providing support to the African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI) for the implementation of a programme to promote GIs in 17 countries.

### Agricultural policies and nutrition



At the request of ACF International, GRET conducted studies on the links between the agricultural and food security policy and the policy to fight against malnutrition in Peru and Kenya. These studies, based on a literature review and on interviews with numerous institutional actors, enabled the formulation of recommendations for better integration of nutrition objectives in agricultural policies and strengthening of coordination between agricultural policies and national strategies to fight against malnutrition.



GRET is an international fair development NGO that has been actively fighting poverty and inequalities for more than 40 years in the field and at political level. For more information on GRET's activities in the area of “Agriculture: value chains and agricultural policies”: [www.gret.org/themes/agriculture-en/](http://www.gret.org/themes/agriculture-en/)