5 10 25 50 100 250 500 1000 2500 5000 10000+

Upgrading rice value chains to increase competitiveness of domestic vis-à-vis imported rice in Africa

Matty Demont, CGIAR Flagship Leader "Upgrading Rice Value Chains" International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Los Baños, Philippines



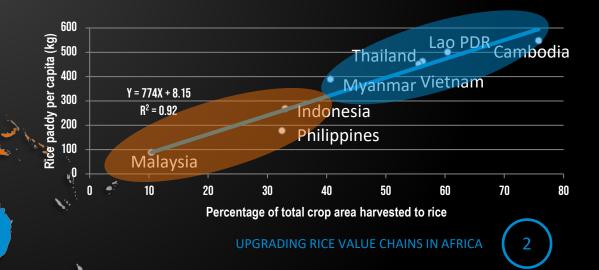
CARD WEBINAR "COVID-19 IMPACT AND RICE COMPETITIVENESS", 25 FEBRUARY 2021. UPGRADING RICE VALUE CHAINS IN AFRICA

1

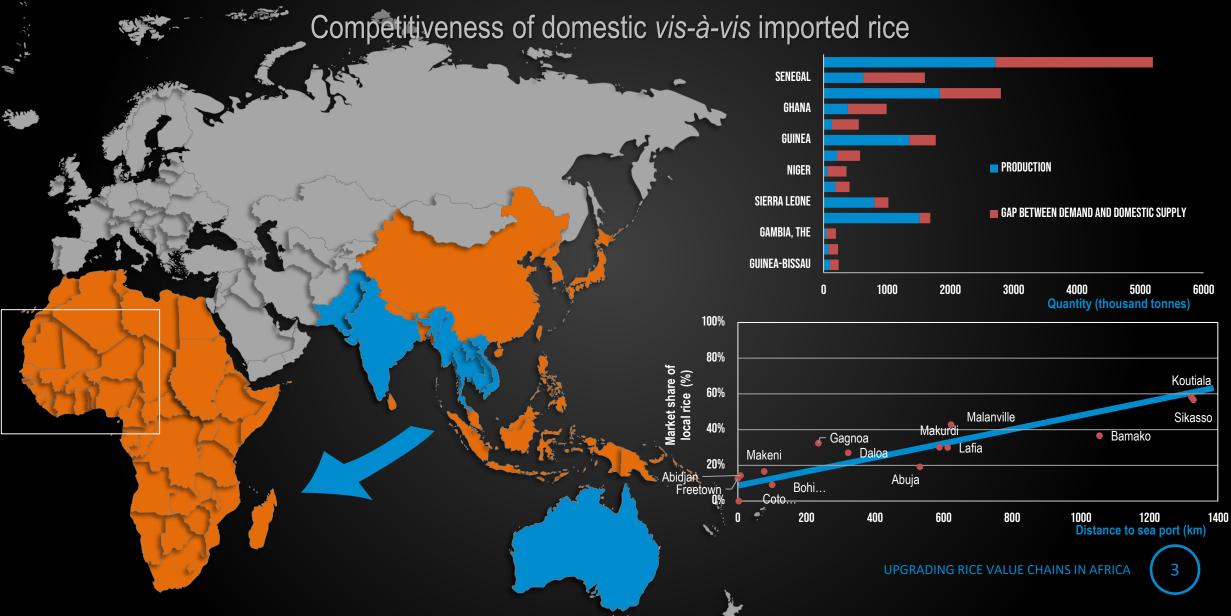
Global Context

Res

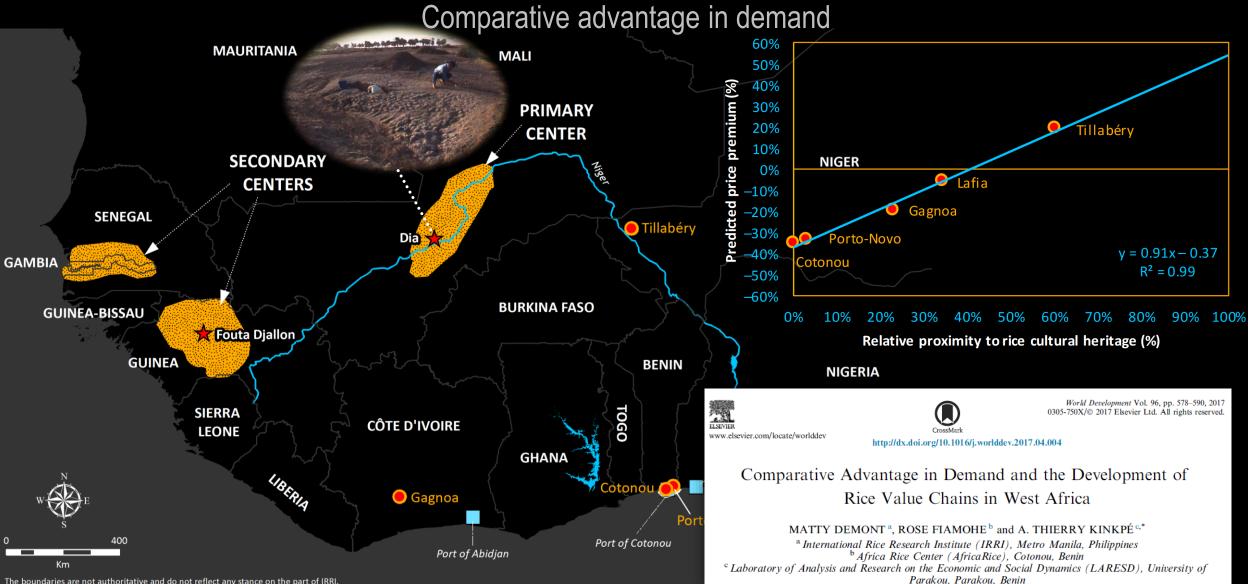
_PHP/kg milled rice	Philippines	Indonesia	Thailand	Vietnam
Drying cost	0.26	0.62	0.33	0.52
Transport cost	2.09	2.22	1.08	1.76
Milling cost	1.38	1.22	0.89	0.93
Storage cost	0.19	0.40	0.20	0.23
Packaging cost	0.45	0.24	0.14	0.22
Cost of working capital	0.27	0.28	0.09	0.11
Total marketing cost	4.63	4.97	2.73	3.78
Returns above major cost	4.43	0.65	2.54	0.77
Gross marketing margins	9.06	5.61	5.27	4.55



West Africa



West Africa



The boundaries are not authoritative and do not reflect any stance on the part of IRRI

Segmentation



Group 1 countries

Coastal countries with dominant consumer preferences for imported rice <u>Examples:</u> Mauritania , northern Senegal (Dakar, Senegal River Valley), Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon

Group 2 countries

Coastal countries with dominant consumer preferences for local rice thanks to cultural heritage (rice domestication along Niger river in West Africa and Indianization in East Africa) <u>Examples:</u> Senegal (Casamance), The Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Mozambique, Kenya, Madagascar

Group 3 countries

Landlocked countries Examples: Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Zambia

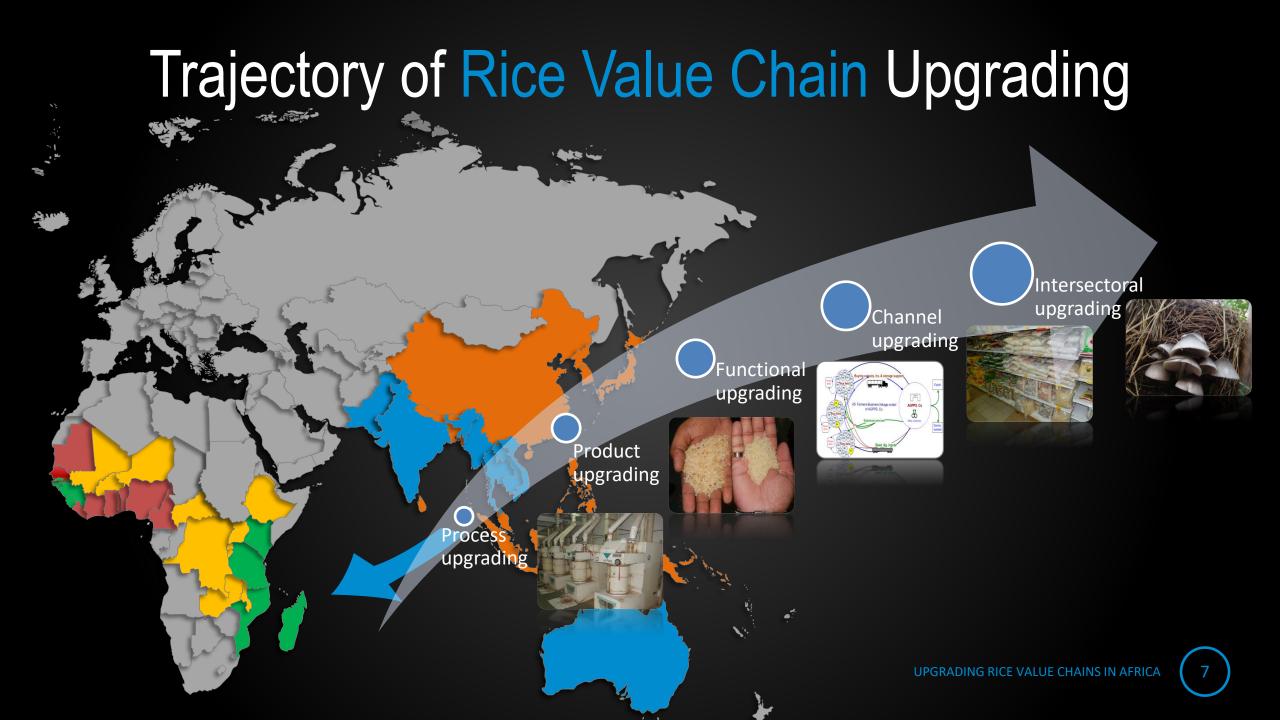
National Rice Development Strategies

				Supply-shifti	ng investments			De	mand-lifting inve	stments	_
						Valu	e-adding invest	tments			-
			Area	R&D, extension,	Intensification, access to land,	Processing (milling,	Quality upgrading,	Branding, labeling,	Value chain upgrading,	Promotion, advertising,	
	Total		expansion,	innovation,	seed, credit,	parboiling)	capacity	identity	MIS ^b , market	communication,	
	investment	Time	irrigation &	capacity	inputs,	& storage	building,	creation,	infrastructure,	awareness	
Country	(10 ⁶ US\$ ^a)	horizon	infrastructure	building	mechanization	capacity	governance	certification	linkages	creation	0
Group 1: Coast	al countries ch	aracterized	by dominant con	sumer preferen	ices for imported 1	rice					-
Benin	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	-	-	x	-	
Cameroon	382	2008-18	33%	14%	36%	9%	-	-	1%	-	
Côte d'Ivoire	954	2012-16	16%	5%	63%	13%	-	x	2%	1%	
hana	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	
igeria	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
enegal	348	2009-11	79%	1%	20%	-	-	-	-	-	
logo	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	
Group 2: Coast	al countries ch	aracterized	by dominant con	sumer preferen	ices for local rice						
Guinea	1,300	2008-18	41%	1%	39%	x	x	x	x	-	2
Kenya	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-	
ladagasear	x	2008-18	x	x	x	-	-	-	x	-	
lozambique	357	2008-11	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	
ierra Leone	57	2009-18	73%	14%	x	x	-	-	10%	-	
l'anzania	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	-	
Froup 3: Landl	ocked countrie	5									
Burkina Faso	517	2008-18	54%	6%	20%	17%	_	-	_	-	
Ethiopia	x	2009-19	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	
/Iali	1,600	2008-18	49%	3%	48%	x	-	-	x	-	
lwanda	157	2011-18	39%	9%	15%	8%	1%	-	28%	-	
Jganda	x	2008-18	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	
Zambia	x	2011-15	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

Notes: The symbol "x" indicates that the investment is planned, but no detailed budget has been provided in the NRDS document. A dash indicates that the investment is missing or not convincingly elaborated in the NRDS document. In some cases, the investment shares may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Third Group Countries

sing urban bias in African rice markets: bereforment Strategies



Market Experiments

1020

CronMat

Global Food Security

Reversing urban bias in African rice markets: A review of 19 National Rice Development Strategies

Policy Sequencing and the Development of Rice Value Chains in Senegal

ARTICLE INFO owerds: Value-chain upgrading

to reduce reliance on rice import sub-Saharan Africa since the sixt reach 53% of total rice consumpti 2014a). The CARD initiative follo food value chain is defined h sposed of after use" (IAO, 2) In order to identify priority evelopment of the rice sector

> Gorresponding author, Tel.; +63 25809 E-mail address: m.demorr.thrilory (M. mp://dxdoi.org/1030365.gft.2014.10.00 (211-9124/0-2014 Elsevier B.V. All right

. Introduction In the wake of the 2008 for Rice Development (CARD) was lai rice production in sub-Saharan Al-million tonnes in 2008 to 28 M African CARD members have sul national rice development strateg

Upgrading rice value chains:

Matty Demont^{a,}, Maïmouna Ndour^t ⁶ International Rice Research Institute (IRR), Los Bahas, Laguna, Philippins ⁶ Africa Rice Genter (Africa/Rice), Saint-Louis, Senegal

Experimental evidence from 11 African markets

ABSTRACT Table 1

Contents lists would ble at ScienceDir

Global Food Security

Consumers' willingness to upgrade (WTU) standard rice to rice with superior intrinsic and extrinsic quality attributes and relative price premiums (WTP) they are willing to pay for these attributes in 11 African cities. Willingnoss to upgrade (WTU) Willingness to pay (WTD)

								Willingne	ss to upgrade (WTU)		Willingne	ess to pay (W	<u>(</u> P)		
						Standar	d rice	Intrinsic		Extrins	ic	Intrinsic		Extrin	sic	
iod crit Iaunch 1Africa	Country	City	Year	Methodology	Sample size	Origin	Туре	Variety	Processing	Label	Info	Variety	Processing	Label	Info	Source
8 Mt in subseq degies (Benin	Glazoué	2009	Vickrey	100	Local	Parboiled		85-98%				14-30%			а
orts with sixties a option i oflows		Cotonou	2011	Vickrey	135	Local	Parboiled		95%		0-2%		16%		4-8%	ь
argues food ir		Malanville	2011	Vickrey	135	Local	Parboiled		87%		7-17%		18%		6-13%	ь
unctal unctal	Cameroon	Yaoundé	2012	Vickrey	120	Local	Mixed		75-89%				17-39%			c
rdinated tural m	Mauritania	Nouakchott	2009	Vickrey	50	Local	Mixed		32-54%	6%			34-38%	4%		c
hat are 014b, p. 7 areas		Nouakchott	2009	Vickrey	50	Import	100%B		62-81%	-6%			25-26%	2%		c
r in Afri loped u	Senegal	Saint-Louis	2008	Vickrey	99	Local	Mixed		47-75%	-2%			43-47%	6%		d
5805600; (M. Des	-	Saint-Louis	2012	BDM	121	Local	F100%B							17%		e
oos his reserv		Dakar	2009	Vickrey	100	Local	Mixed		27-73%	5%			32-40%	4%		f
		Dakar	2011	Vickrey	120	Import	100%B	58-63%				36-44%				c
1		Dakar	2012	BDM	120	Local	F100%B							16%		f
)		Kolda	2012	Vickrey	120	Import	100%B	86-88%				22-35%				c
).	The Gambia	Serre Kunda	2010	Vickrey	100	Import	100%B	54-67%		14%		32-33%		2%		g
	Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou	2012	Vickrey	120	Import	5%B	52%	12-19%			25%	2-11%			h
4	Uganda	Kampala	2011	Vickrey	120	Local	Mixed	67-83%				22-35%				c
1.0																

Notes: WTP price premiums are averaged over auction rounds and expressed relative to the price of standard rice. B = broken; F = fragrant; BDM = Becker-Degroot-Marschak.

Sources: ^a Demont et al. (2012); ^b Zossou et al. (2013); ^c Unpublished dataset; ^d Demont et al. (2013c); ^e Costello et al. (2013); ^f Demont et al. (2013b; 2013c); ^g Demont et al. (2013a); h Ouedraogo et al. (2013).





Market Experiments

+ opportunities – challenges

TABLE 6 FACTORS DETERMINING CONSUMERS' REVEALED PRICE PREMIUMS FOR UPGRADED DOMESTIC RICE RELATIVE TO IMPORTED RICE, AND STATED DEMAND FOR DOMESTIC RICE ON FIVE WEST AFRICAN URBAN MARKETS

SEVIER	Variable	Revealed price premium	Stated demand						
grading rice value cha			Propensity of I	buying	Quantity dem	anded			
erimental evidence fi / Demont ^{2,*} , Maïmouna N			Coefficient	Partial effect	Coefficient	Partial effec			
nal Rice Research Institute (IRR), Los Baha te Genter (AfricaRice), Saint-Louis, Senegal	Moming	-0.021 (0.019)	-0.078 (0.210)	-0.005	-1.969 (4.700)	-0.949			
CLE INFO	Taste premium local rice	0.281 (0.076)***	0.181 (0.926)	0.012	7.870 (18.449)	3.792			
ry: 4 July 2014 n rovited form ber 2014 1 October 2014	Taste premium imported rice	-0.351 (0.045)***	-1.037 (0.399)***	-0.067**	-18.822 (12.383)	-9.069			
	WOM premium local rice	0.470 (0.064)***	0.188 (0.700)	0.012	11.532 (15.243)	5.556			
Morld Development Vol. 96, pp. 578-5 7503(40-2007 Elsevier Ltd. All rights)	WOM premium imported rice	-0.489 (0.032)***	-0.286 (0.264)	-0.019	-3.478 (9.417)	-1.676			
	Distance to port (100 km)	0.042 (0.002)***	0.076 (0.033)**	0.005**	1.952 (0.703)***	0.941*			
Development of	Distance to center of origin (100 km)	-0.014 (0.004)***	-0.126 (0.065)*	-0.008*	-13.495 (1.530)***	-6.502**			
KINKPÉ c.* Philippines	Mandé	0.159 (0.049)***	n.a.*	n.a.*	24.206 (9.513)**	11.663**			
Philippines (ARESD), University of	Female	-0.088 (0.021)***	-0.195 (0.242)	-0.013	-20.011 (5.563)***	-9.642**			
that commen will man	Formal education	0.007 (0.024)	0.162 (0.247)	0.010	7.663 (6.015)	3.692			
otal a vidence magnets that bits where Advance was high and any supplied to the was	Age	0.000 (0.001)	-0.001 (0.011)	-0.000	0.155 (0.234)	0.075			
ice with upgended quality when starkers the solve uphen and generative	Income per capita	0.000 (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)	0.000	0.001 (0.002)	0.000			
n value chain up of ndug e and market in located fanding, and processed	Household size	0.000 (0.001)	-0.007 (0.012)	-0.000	-3.855 (0.572)***	-1.858**			
supply shifting invest.	Cleanliness	-0.040 (0.020)**	0.251 (0.244)	0.016	-10.086 (5.073)**	-4.860*			
West Africa el.	Whiteness	-0.018 (0.021)	0.336 (0.236)	0.022	-5.672 (4.972)	-2.733			
at African countries	Head rice recovery	-0.050 (0.027)*	-0.215 (0.264)	-0.014	-2.441 (8.472)	-1.176			
the consumption in sai by 5-13%, while known on annual age of consumption	Slenderness	-0.049 (0.021)**	-0.488 (0.229)**	-0.032**	0.612 (5.317)	0.295			
ndency more or h	Unstickiness	-0.013 (0.022)	-0.213 (0.245)	-0.014	1.019 (5.688)	0.491			
outh of 4.7%, which that transpion. Despite sumption averaging ort dependency by h rates in produc-	Taste	-0.015 (0.022)	0.253 (0.232)	0.016	-1.358 (5.501)	-0.654			
Δ	Aroma	-0.014 (0.020)	-0.084 (0.222)	-0.005	3.969 (5.259)	1.912			
remainer of Japan, aty acknowledged, by: the collection, response and in the	Softness	-0.080 (0.025)***	-0.112 (0.264)	-0.007	-3.327 (7.589)	-1.603			
d like to thank the stardy, i.e. Parke	Swelling capacity	-0.075 (0.027)***	-0.536 (0.312)*	-0.035*	-8.143 (6.451)	-3.924			
nin Anagha and Southon Systems Aniasking for United stargence for in the states	Other attributes ^b	-0.105 (0.031)***	-0.518 (0.293)*	-0.034*	-37.030 (10.425)***	-17.842*			
Nali Sanyang Kur in the selected suppression that	Constant	-0.086 (0.069)	3.159 (0.980)***		184.069 (19.393)***				
	Number of observations	693	686	686	662	662			
Angela	R ² and pseudo R ²	0.564	0.178	-	-	-			
ountries	Sigma (error variance)	-	-	-	41.499 (2.162)***	-			



Global Food Security

Policy Sequencing and the Development of Rice Value Chains in Seneral

Policy Sequencing and th Value Chains in Senegal

First Group Countries Second Group Countries Third Group Countries

Segmented Policy Strategy

10.22

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low Can West African Rice Urban Markets? A Demand Persy

eversing urban bias in African rice markets: Rice Development Strategies Comparative Adivantage in Demand and the Development of Rice Value Chains in West Africa

Upgrading rice value chains

Matty Demont **, Maïmouna Ndour

Experimental evidence from 11 African market

First Group Countrie Second Group Countri

Third Group Countries

Policy sequencing and investment priorities

Group 1 countries

- Product (undifferentiation), process & channel upgrading
- Productivity upgrading
- Demand-lifting (differentiation): branding & promotion

Group 2 countries

- Productivity upgrading
- Product (differentiation), process & channel upgrading
- Export markets

Group 3 countries

- Productivity upgrading
- Product, process & channel upgrading 2.
- Upgrading internal marketing infrastructure 3.
- Regional value chain approach

10

State of rice value chain upgrading, 2009–2019



Global Food Security 25 (2020) 100365 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect Global Food Security journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/gfs

The state of rice value chain upgrading in West Africa

Guillaume Soullier^{a,b,*}, Matty Demont^c, Aminou Arouna^d, Frédéric Lançon^{a,b}, Patricio Mendez del Villar^{e,f}

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ARTICLEINFO	A B S T R A C T
Keywords: Rice Value chain Upgrading Africa Contract faming Milling	Following the food price crisis in 2008, African governments implemented policies aiming at crowding in in- vestment in rice value chain upgrading to help domestic rice compete with imports. We assess the state of rice value chain upgrading in West Africa by reviewing evidence on rice miller'investment in semi-industrial industrial milling technologies, contract farming and vertical integration during the post-crisis period 2009–2019. We find that upgrading is some dynamic in countries with high rice production and import bills and limited comparative advantage in demand. However, scaling of upgrading faces several challenges in terms of vertical coordination, technology, finance and policies. Our assessment can help value chain actors and policy makers refine upgrading strategies and policies to increase food security in West Africa.

1. Introduction

The food price crisis in 2008 redirected international attention towards domestic food value chains' (VCs) capacity and resilience in providing food security in developing countries (World Bank, 2008). In West Africa, the attention turned towards rice VCs because rice is the most important calorie source in this region (Macauley and Ramadjita, 2015). To address chronic hunger through macro-nutrient self-sufficiency, African policy makers developed targeted National Rice Development (CARD, 2019). However, while domestic rice production increased after the crisis, domestic rice VCs never managed to catch up with consumption, leading to an increasing gap that is satisfied through imports (Mendez del Villar and Lançon, 2015). Therefore, policy makers were urged to revisit their productivat NRDS and create a favorable enabling environment for crowding in private sector investment in VC uzgrading (Demont, 2013).

A decade after the 2008 food price crisis, it is time to make an assessment of the current state of rice VC upgrading in West Africa. Are domestic rice VCS being upgraded in this region, and if they are, what type of investments have been conducted and where? In particular, there is little information about investments in new processing technologies that would help domestic rice compete with imports quality-

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and cost-wise. Therefore, this paper attempts to document the technological and coordination changes that have been implemented at processing level in rice VCs in West Africa over the last decade. In particular, we compile and review evidence of public and private investment in upgraded processing facilities, contract farming schemes and vertical integration in 15 West African countries. We also assess the opportunities and challenges encountered in rice VC upgrading. Our assessment may help policy makers at national and regional levels and VC actors revisit and refine upgrading strategies and policies during the revision of the NRDS under the CARD Phase 2, which aims at doubling rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa from 28 million tons in 2019 to 56 million tons by 2030 (CARD, 2019).

2. Method

To identify, collect and validate evidence of investment in rice VC upgrading in the 15 West African countries (Table 2), we followed three stages. First, we conducted a non-systematic review of peer-reviewed and non-peer reviewed literature. We initiated our literature review with a focused search of economic studies through Econit using the following keywords: rice; value chain; investment; mill; processing; contract; vertical integration; and the names of the 15 West African countries. The keywords alimed at identifying investments in semi-

State of rice value chain upgrading in 15 countries in West Africa, 2009–2019										
		Aggregate		Vertical coord	dination	Import e	xposure			
	Number of investments in industrial and semi-industrial mills that were operational in	upgraded milling capacity	Origin of	Contract farming	Vertical integration	Natural import	2008 import bill (10 ⁶	Average annual rice supply 2009–2018 (10 ³		
Country	2019	(t/h)	investments	(producers)	(ha)	barriers	US\$)	tons)		
Nigeria 1	24 industrial mills	177	FDI, DPI	>3,000	>20,400	None	772	3,512		
Senegal	15 industrial & semi-industrial mills	60	FDI, DPI	3,500	3,590	None	645	438		
Ghana 2	1 industrial mill 3 semi-industrial mills	26	FDI, DPI	4,000	750	None	216	333		
Mali	4 industrial mills	20			3 200	Physical & cultural	56	13 60		
Côte d'Ivoire	1 semi-industrial mills 1 semi-industrial mills		NĻĿŗ	(experimental)	(J_	Cultura	RIVE			
Burkina Faso	1 industrial mill 1 semi-industrial mill	7	DPI	140	_	Physical	56	194		
Liberia	2 semi-industrial mills	4	DPI, PI	-	-	None	75	174		
Niger	2 semi-industrial mills	4	PI	-	-	Physical	126	194		
Sierra Leone	1 semi-industrial mill	2	DPI	–	1,300	Cultural	85	668		
Benin	17 ESOP	_	DPI	140	—	None	185	132		
Тодо	15 ESOP		DPI	>100	_	None	9.3	86		
Guinea 3				_	_	Cultural	153	1,248		
Mauritania	-	-	—	-	—	None	77	119		
Gambia	-	-	—	—	—	Cultural	28	36		
Guinea-Bissau	_	_	_	—	_	Cultural	10	107		

Drivers of investment

Table 4

Determinants of aggregate upgraded milling capacity in 15 countries in West Africa (stepwise linear regression).

Variable	Coefficient	SE	P-value
2008 import bill (10 ⁶ USD)	0.061	0.026	0.042**
Average annual milled rice production $(2009-2019, 10^3 \text{ tons})$	0.032	0.006	0.000***
Cultural import barriers (dummy)	-24.168	8.992	0.021**
Constant	-2.773	6.792	0.691

Notes: Sample size = 15; $R^2 = 0.910$; Adjusted $R^2 = 0.886$; SE: standard error. Cultural and physical import barriers are captured through dummies. Variance inflation factors (VIF) are in the range of 1.20–2.29 with a mean VIF of 1.90. A Breusch-Pagan/Cook-Weisberg test for heteroscedasticity generates a P-value of 0.774. Significance levels: *p < 0.1; **p < 0.05; ***p < 0.01. *Source:* Data compiled in Table 2.

- We captured heterogeneity in investment in rice value chain upgrading among 15 West African countries through the following outcome indicator: **aggregate milling capacity** of upgraded industrial and semi-industrial mills (t/h) (total in West Africa = 315 t/h)
- Heterogeneity in upgrading can be explained for 89% through two drivers and an enabling factor:
 - Driver 1 = Supply: Average annual paddy supply (2009–2018): One million ton more of milled rice availability increases upgraded milling capacity by 32 t/h; PRICE/COST COMPETITIVENESS
 - Driver 2 = Demand: 2008 import bill: A 100 million US\$ higher import bill increases upgraded milling capacity by 6 t/h; QUALITY COMPETITIVENESS
 - Enabling factor = limited comparative advantage in demand: Geographical or genealogical proximity to rice cultural heritage preserves indigenous preferences for local rice and decreases upgraded milling capacity by 23 t/h; CULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS
 - Landlockedness: No significant effect

COVID-19: Support the "Hidden Middle"



Food insecurity remains prevalent in West Africa. During 2009-2018, the number of undernourished people in the region almost oubled from 32 to 56 million or 15% of the West African population, while globally, it decreased from 842 to 822 million (FAO et al., 2019). ice increasingly plays a strategic role in food security in West Africa, here annual per capita consumption levels rose five-fold in the last six ecades and are currently the highest on the continent. Production reased during the same period (USDA, 2019), but as a result of rapid mographic growth (2.7% annually) and diet changes, the region easingly relies on rice imports (Mendez del Villar and La (5). This renders West Africa very vulnerable to international trade sruptions such as the ones currently inflicted by the corona virus ease (COVID-19) crisis. A prolonged pandemic can cause price in eases due to disruptions in distribution chains and trade flows. World ce prices have been continuously increasing over the 12-month period March 2019–March 2020, featuring a steep upward sloping trend since he outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in December 2019 (Fig. 1). In May 2020, this upward slope was interrupted for the first time, but it is acertain at this point how rice prices will evolve from here onwards as second wave of the pandemic is not excluder

L. Context

is often an inferior substitute for imports and domestic and global rice markets are poorly integrated (Demont, 2013). Apart from highe muality standards and lower variability and heterogeneity in rice qu import value chains have other competitive advantages such as their superior dynamism and capitalization, thanks to better access to financ (Mendez del Villar and Lancon, 2015), Consequently, when rice price spike on the world market, domestic rice value chains fail to rapidly espond and compete against import value chains. Framed field experiments have revealed that local rice struggles mpete with imports even if its quality is upgraded to import standards

nont et al., 2017). To meet these quality standards and satisfy urban consumers, rice value chains require substantial investment i modernization through process, product, functional (e.g., vertical co ordination such as contract farming or vertical integration) and channe upgrading (e.g., expanding domestic value chains into import-biased urban markets) (Demont, 2013). Integration of domestic rice in imporchannels (wholesale and retail) is however challenging (Mendez de

The increase in rice imports in West Africa is partly due to the lo quality of locally-produced rice which is largely supplied by fragmented traditional value chains with little coordination between farmers

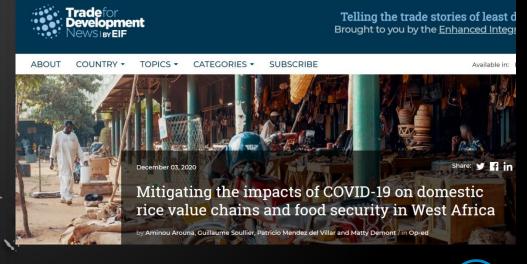
millers and traders. Sourcing paddy is mostly done through spot marke

transactions with little quality differentiation. As a result, domestic rice

Corresponding author E-mail address: m.demont@irri.org (M. Den ceived 15 May 2020; Received in revised form 30 June 2020; Accepted 2 July 2020

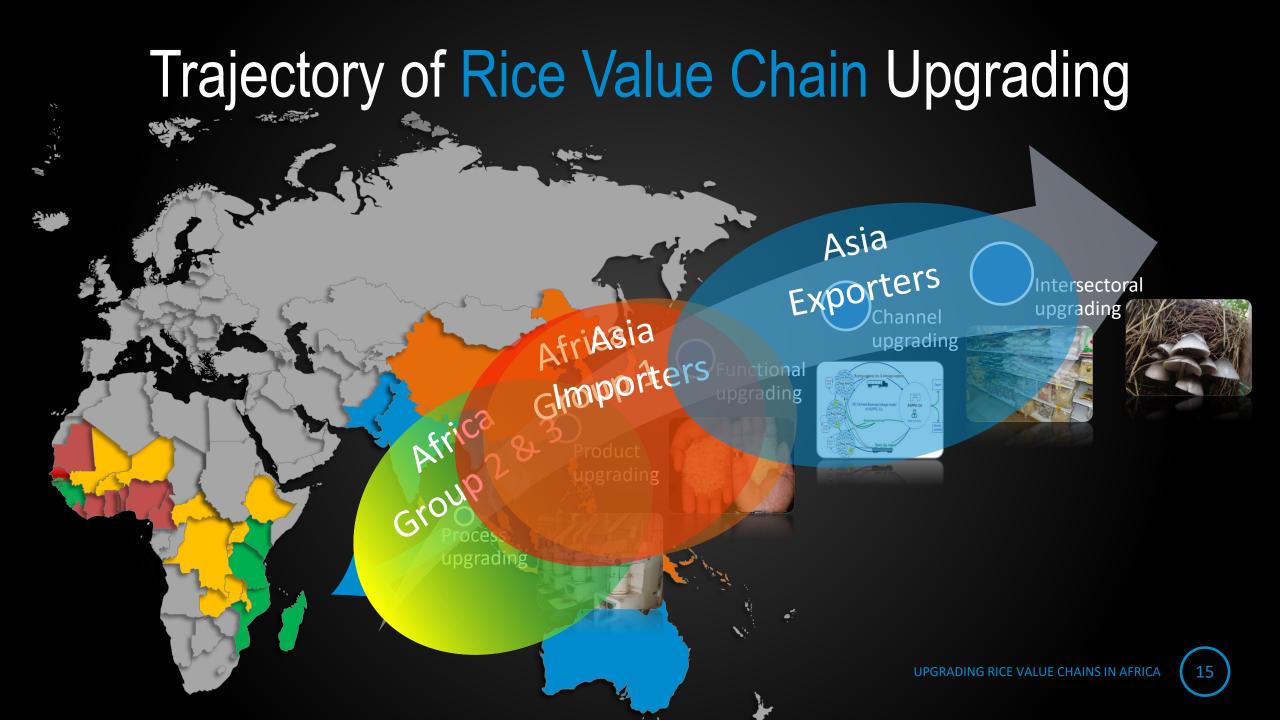
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- Policy options developed for rice value chain upgrading and increasing resilience of rice value chains to COVID-19 pandemic in West Africa
- Key message: support the "Hidden Middle" between production and consumption in rice value chains
- Provide financial support to rice millers as crucial intermediaries in providing food security in West Africa
- World Trade Organization published our policy brief in Trade for Development News



UPGRADING RICE VALUE CHAINS IN AFRICA





8 Policy Lessons for NRDS 2.0

- 1. West African rice has increasing difficulties competing against imported rice
 - The more urban consumers value characteristics of imported Asian rice
 - The larger the household it needs to feed
 - The more rice shopping is undertaken by women
 - The closer to the port
 - The further the geographical and genealogical distance from rice cultural heritage
- 2. Import-biased coastal countries with a seaport close to a major consumption zone (capital) and remote from rice cultural heritage need to allocate more resources to rice value chain upgrading to:
 - Increase quality-based competitiveness of domestic rice relative to imported rice
 - Better integrate domestic rice markets into global markets with more elastic demand, increase smallholders' participation & improve livelihoods
- 3. There is substantial evidence of investment in rice VC upgrading in import-biased coastal countries with a seaport close to a major consumption zone and remote from rice cultural heritage, e.g., upgrading most dynamic in Nigeria and Senegal
- 4. Less evidence of investment in rice VC upgrading in coastal countries with comparative advantage in demand and landlocked countries
- 5. In those countries, in medium-long run, investment will be required to maintain comparative advantage in demand
- 6. Policy makers need to find an optimal mix between encouraging productivity, demand and value chain upgrading to foster crowding-in of private investment (e.g., FDI)
- 7. During COVID-19, policy makers need to support the "hidden middle," i.e. rice millers as crucial intermediaries in providing food security in West Africa
- 8. In the long run, policy makers need to enable crowding-in of investments that build resilience of rice value chains against future pandemics/climate change



Further Reading

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