



ECOWAS COMMISSION
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**ECOWAS RICE OFFENSIVE
&
REGIONAL ACTION PLAN
(2020-2025)**

TOWARDS ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY

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Outline

1. Background
2. ECOWAS Rice Offensive
3. Regional Action Plan 2020 - 2025
4. Expected Outlook in 2025





1. Background

- Quick Overview of the Rice Sector
- Rice Self Sufficiency in West Africa
- Rice Value Chain Challenges





Overview

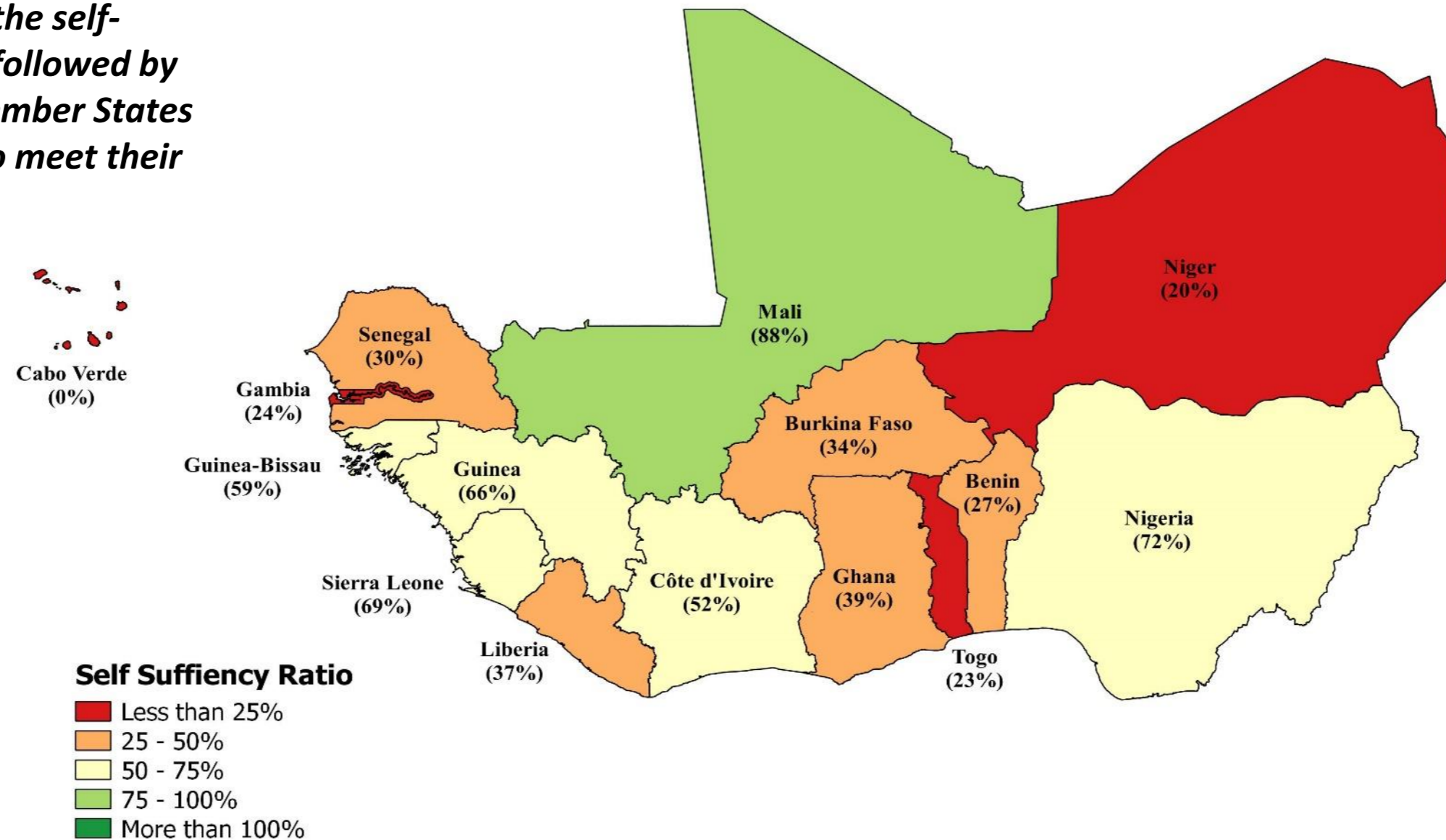
- Food consumption has shifted to **RICE** in Sub-Saharan Africa, and it is the largest source of calories and fastest growing cereal in West Africa.
- Domestic production meets **60%** of the region's increasing demand and preference.
- Total consumption of rice in W/Africa is projected to grow to **22m MT by 2025** and consumption per capita is expected to increase from **44kg to 49kg** (ECOAGRIS 2019)
- Thus far, importation from Asia has been compensating for the shortfall in domestic supply.
- West African countries rice import was estimated at **6.2 million MT in 2019** (FAOSTAT) accounting for **\$2.8b** in foreign exchange.
- High dependence on *rice importation, population growth, urbanization and the 2008 food crisis* prompted the decision-making bodies of ECOWAS to develop an **"Offensive"** strategy to operationalize ECOWAP.





Rice Self-Sufficiency Ratios in W/Africa...by Countries

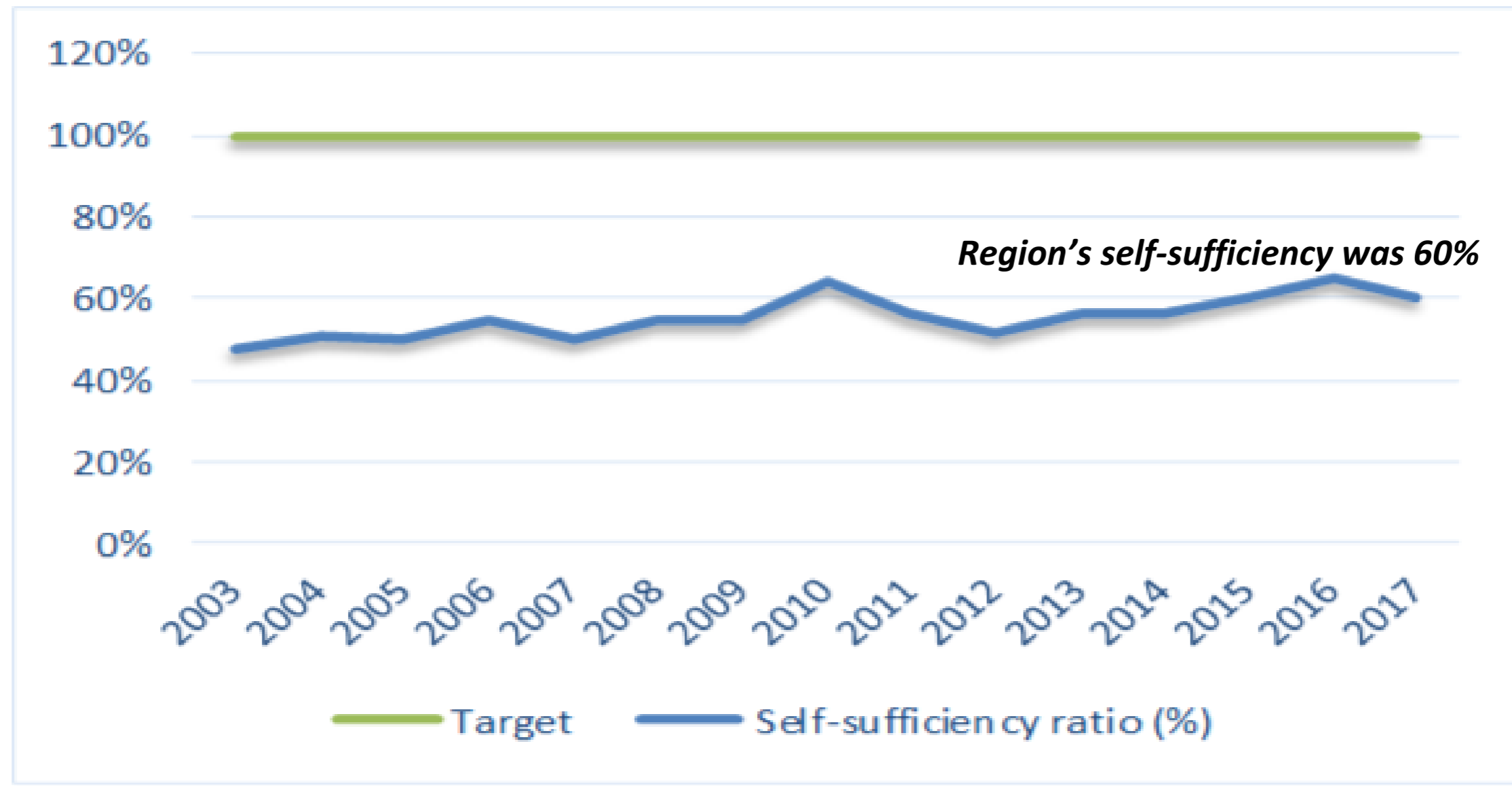
Mali is fast approaching the self-sufficiency target with 88%, followed by Nigeria (72%). Majority of Member States lack the adequate capacity to meet their level of demand.



Source: ECOWAS Rice Fact Book, 2019



Evolution of ECOWAS rice self-sufficiency ratio (%) – 2003 to 2017



Source: ECOWAS Rice Fact Book, 2019





Rice Value Chain Challenges

PRODUCTION

- Inadequate irrigation leads to highly volatile productivity levels.
- Low levels of farming technologies, mostly rudimentary for subsistence
- Yields hampered by inability to mitigate impact of weeds, insects and birds



PROCESSING

- Traditional manual processing and outdated equipment of mill processors generate high physical and quality losses of grains
- Bigger mills have difficulty sourcing sufficient quantities of good quality paddy to maintain their facility at full capacity
- Power failures increase costs dramatically
- Limited use of by-products like husks and straws due to lack of appropriate technology



END USE

- Local produce passes through several middlemen, squeezing margins for retailers
- Perceived high quality of imports because cleanliness and packaging leads consumers to shun local rice
- Fragmented supply dominated by smallholders with low bargaining power
- Open market most dominant retail channel



Source : Grow Africa



2. ECOWAS Rice Offensive

- CAADP => ECOWAP => Rice Offensive
- Objectives
- Expected Impact
- Mid term Review and Outcomes





ECOWAS Agricultural Policy Deck

The 1st Regional Agricultural Policy of ECOWAS (**ECOWAP Decision A/DEC. 11/01/05**) was adopted in January 2005 in Accra, Ghana.

In line with the **Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP)**, ECOWAP contributes to meeting the food needs of the people, enhancing economic and social development in the sub region and reducing poverty in the Member States.

To support these strategic directions of **ECOWAP**, ECOWAS launched several initiatives, one of which includes the **Regional Rice Offensive** in 2015.





Objectives of Rice Offensive

Aims to tackle a wide scope of issues ranging from high imports to production matters, to promoting local rice processing and trade promotion in the regional rice market.

The regional rice offensive is planned for **10 years** and specifically contributes to:

Achieving Rice Self Sufficiency by 2025

ECOWAS MS becoming Rice Exporters by 2025

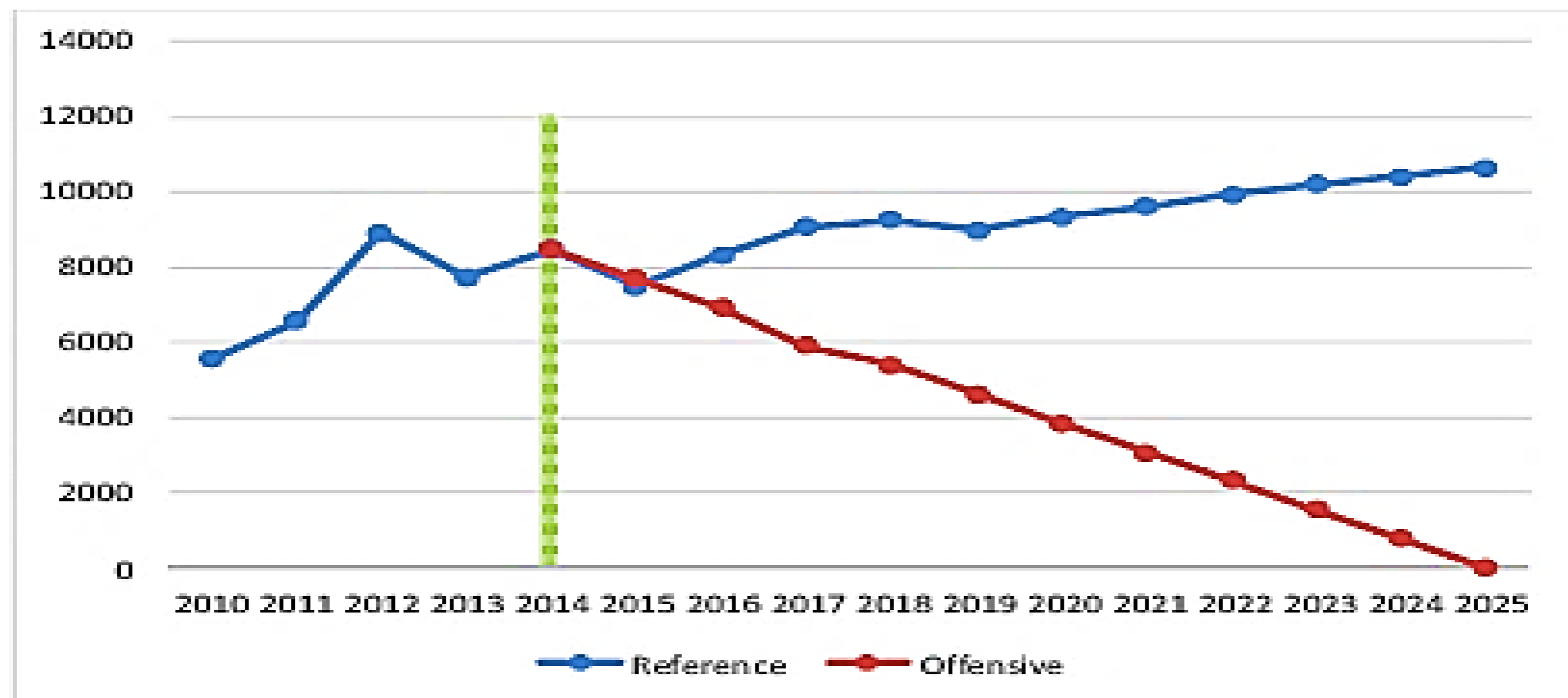
Achieving Food Security and Nutrition in ECOWAS by 2025

Achieving Economic Development of the Rice Value Chain





Expected Impact By 2025



Note: The graph above shows the evolution of imports ranging from the year 2014 to 2025 indicating an expected reduction in the rate of imports after the adoption of the Regional Rice offensive.



5 years of Implementation in 2019

Mid Term Review

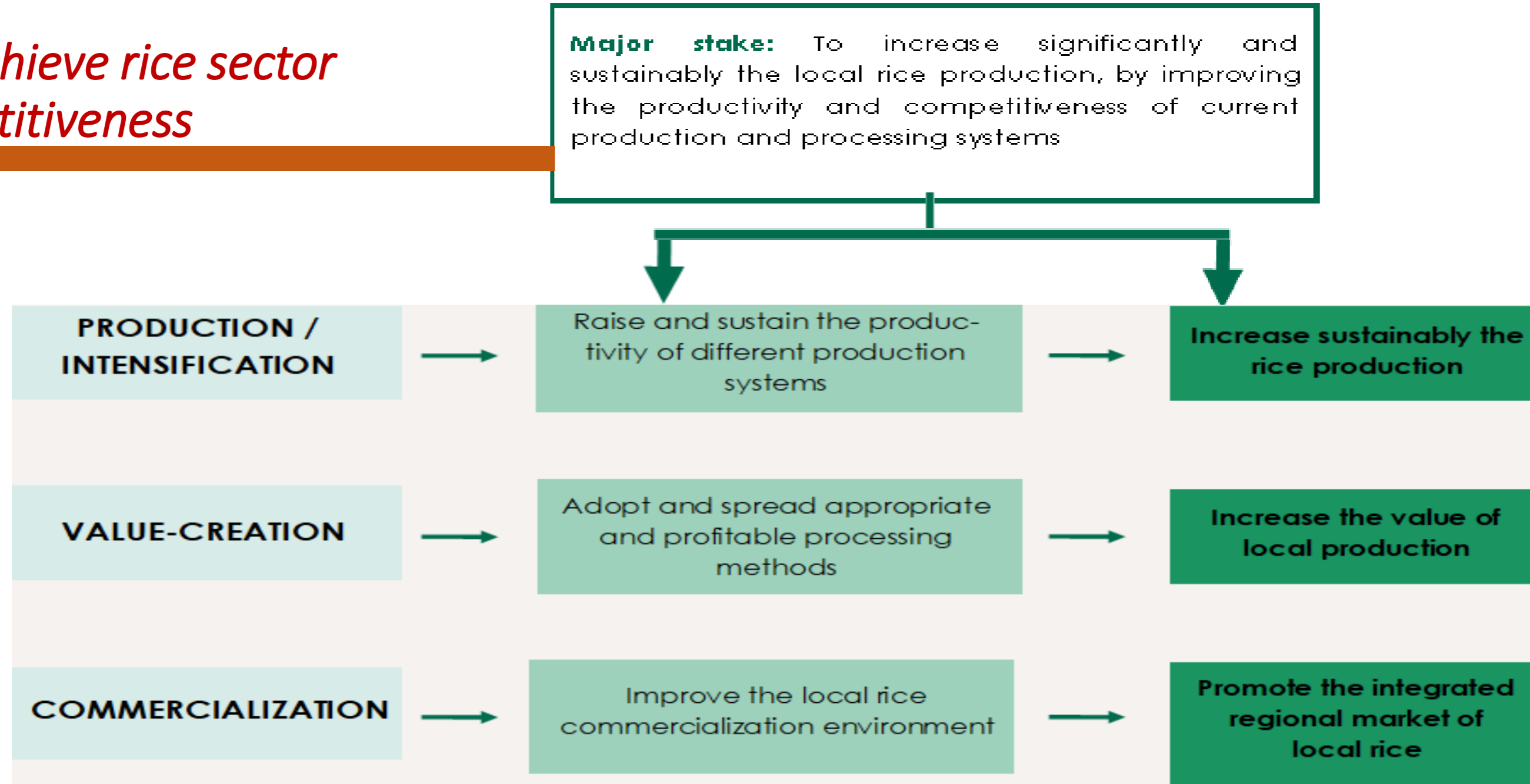
- Regional rice offensive and status of the rice sector in the sub region was appraised.
 - General Survey - Situation analysis of the rice sector in West Africa (Dec. 2019 – Jan. 2020)
 - Individual Country Assessment by Member States
 - Regional Consultative Meeting held on the 4th and 5th of February 2020 with a total of 72 participants.
 - Participants included ECOWAS Member States, Regional partners, the Private sector and other key stakeholders.

...What do we know?





...To achieve rice sector competitiveness





Outcomes

- Various Regional Initiatives taking reference from the Rice Offensive.
- Successful Models and Case Studies in the region.
- Major Issues, challenges and emerging trends were documented
- **Major Outcome:** Steps to accelerate the implementation of the Regional Rice Offensive for self-sufficiency in the next five years were identified.
- Steps grouped into Six Strategic Components that formed the basis for the **Regional Action Plan 2020-2025**





3. Regional Action Plan 2020 - 2025

- The Process
- Strategic Components
- Funding Mechanism
- Implementation





The Action Plan - Process

- 1) The Action Plan was validated on the **13th October 2020**. The process was participatory and inclusive involving the key actors and all relevant stakeholders in the rice value chain in West Africa.
- 2) It was based on:
 - a. The analysis of the information contained in the various questionnaires, which were administered in the months of December 2019 and January 2020 by the CARD Secretariat on behalf of ECOWAS.
 - b. The overview of rice sector status presentations of the ECOWAS Member States at the consultative meeting held on the 4th and 5th February 2020.
 - c. The experiences shared during the consultative meeting of all actors and relevant stakeholders in the West African Rice Sector in February 2020,
 - e. Finally, the review, comments and recommendations shared at the validation workshop of the Action Plan on October 13, 2020.
- 3) The Components align with the intervention areas in the Rice Offensive and serves to accelerate its effective implementation.





The Six Components of the Action Plan

**Policy &
Regulatory
Measures to
Render Rice
Sector
Competitive**

**Finance and
Public-Private
Partnership
Mechanisms**

**Knowledge
Sharing and
Management**

**Efficient Trade
and Marketing**

**Coordination of
the National
Interprofessional
Organisations**

**Coordination
and Management
of the Action
Plan**



...to accelerate the implementation of the Rice Offensive





Funding Mechanism

The Four (4) main sources of funding proposed for the Action Plan are:

- ECOWAS (EBID)  and UEMOA (BOAD) 
- ECOWAS Member States
- Technical and Financial Partners, and
- The Private sector



A total cost of **US\$ 500m** is required for the Rice Offensive & additional **US\$ 43,1 millions** for the Action

Plan for **5** years.





Implementation

- **Coordination:**
 - Led by ECOWAS given the decision adopting ECOWAP
 - Relies on the coalition of stakeholders through inclusiveness and participatory approach
- **Partnership:**
 - Partnering with FBOs, Private Sector, Donors and Technical Partners, ECOWAP Donors Group (WB, CARD, JICA, GIZ, USAID, EBID, AfDB, AFD, EU etc.)
 - Local Resource Mobilization – Central and Commercial Banks of MS, etc.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:**
 - M&E Mechanism linked to ECOWAP M&E Framework, which is aligned to the overall CAADP M&E Indicators.
 - Ensuring regional and national level data collection





Expected outlook in 2025...



○ Strategic Components ■ Expected Results

...Rice self-sufficiency attained!





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Thank you





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Nourrir **L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST**

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