



DEMO FIELDS FOR RICE PRODUCERS IN SENEGAL



CONTEXT

The local demand for rice is high in Senegal. The country has long imported most of its rice but a continued effort by the Senegalese Government to develop rice farming has significantly increased local production since 2014. Paddy prices are supported by the State and quotas have been put in place since 2015 to limit imports. These measures have helped improve the potential of local production, and contributed to a higher demand for local rice, but self-sufficiency remains far from being achieved. Smallholder famers still face difficulties in financing their activities, as well as other issues such as lack of irrigation, rice quality, high energy and transport costs.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE INVESTEE

The Sénégalaise des Filières Alimentaires (SFA) is a rice processing company created in 2013, with the mission to structure an inclusive value chain around local rice production, transformation and sales in Northern Senegal. SFA provides technical support to rice producers on the best agricultural practices and connects them with local funders for the pre-financing of their activities.

At the end of 2020, SFA had an annual sale of FCFA 3 billion (equivalent to EUR 4.6 million) and was collecting rice from 3,125 smallholder farmers. The Grameen Crédit Agricole Microfinance Foundation (GCAMF) is a shareholder of SFA since 2013.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The project aims to directly contribute to improving food security in Senegal by increasing rice production and quality in response to local demand. This has not yet been achieved by SFA due to the low production yields compared to the crops' potential. The reason for the low yields is due to the fact that few producers implement the best farming practices they are trained on as they remain skeptical about the true results. The overall objective of this project is therefore to put in place twenty "demo fields" where best practices will be implemented. The fields will be used to train 60 leading producers, who will in turn train the 2,000 to 2,500 smallholder rice producers during visits and exchange sessions.

The expected outcomes of this project are:

- 1. Strengthened the skills and knowledge on rice production of the trained farmers.
- 2. Increased rice production volume and quality for the trained farmers.
- 3. increased revenues for the trained farmers and their households.

IMPACT INVESTOR



AGGREGATOR / INVESTEE Sénégalaise des Filières Alimentaires – Senegal

TARGETED N° OF FARMERS

2,000 farmers trained on the best rice production practices

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN Rice

STARTING DATE 31/03/2021

DURATION 6 months

TOTAL TA BUDGET € 11,000 Including € 8,600 (78%) contribution from SSNUP

