

Rice statistics

- Accurate and reliable rice statistics database were established in Togo and ITRA staff were trained in nationally representative rice statistics survey methodologies.

Policy advice

- Togo contributed actively to the development of policies resulting in key investments made by farmers, governments, the private sector and the donor community in sub-Saharan Africa, following the 2007–2008 global food crisis. The government plan is to attain rice self-sufficiency in the medium to long term by increasing the level of public investment in the rice sector.
- The 27th Ordinary Session of the AfricaRice Council of Ministers was held in Lomé, Togo, on 2 and 3 September 2009 under the chairmanship of Hon. Kossi Messan Ewovor, Togo Minister of agriculture, livestock, and fisheries. The Council made a number of key resolutions to support rice research and development as the food crisis of 2007/2008 showed that rice is the fastest growing food staple in Africa and is an engine of economic growth and political stability that can impact on poverty and hunger.

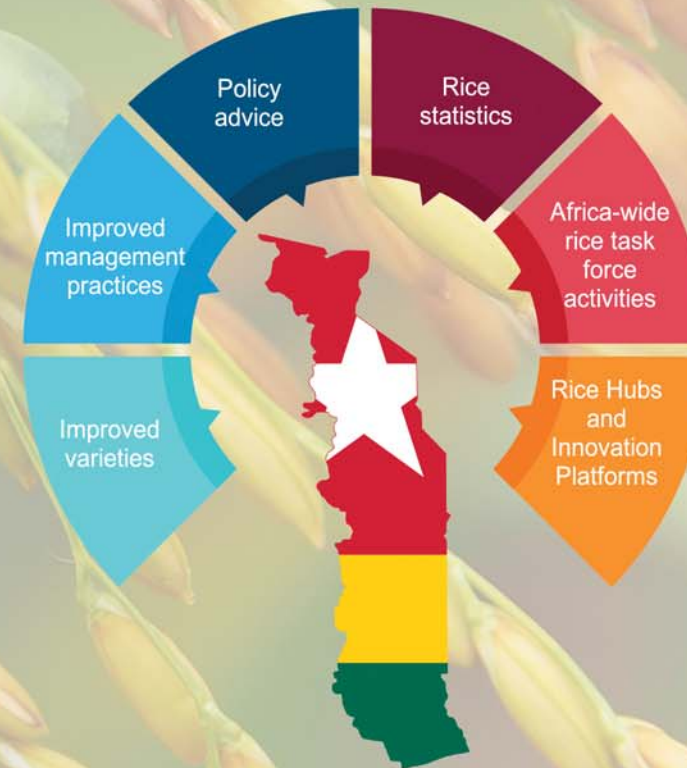
Africa-wide rice task force activities

- Togo has been an active member and benefited from the activities and funding of the six Africa-wide Rice Task Forces coordinated by AfricaRice – Breeding, Agronomy, Gender, Mechanization, Policy, and Processing & Value Addition.
- The Task Forces have provided a unique opportunity for Togolese researchers to interact and partner with their counterparts from other AfricaRice member countries.
- Funds contributed to Togo through the Task Forces have complemented government allocations significantly and ensured the continuation of research and the training of scientists and value chain actors.

Rice Hubs and Innovation Platforms

- Togo has established two rice sector development hubs: Région Maritime (Mission Tové, Kovié, Assomé, Ziovonou, Agomé-Glozou) for the irrigated ecology; and Région des Plateaux (Kpélé et Amou) for the rainfed lowland ecology.
- The rice hubs serve as field laboratories where research outputs and products are being tested, adapted and integrated – with feedback provided to researchers on technology performance.

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Togo - AfricaRice Partnership

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- ▶ Togo is a founding member of AfricaRice (ex-WARDA).
- ▶ The Institut togolais de recherche agricole (ITRA) is one of the most important national partners of AfricaRice.
- ▶ As a member country, Togo takes part in statutory meetings of the AfricaRice Council of Ministers, which is the Center's highest governing body.
- ▶ Togo is also a member of the AfricaRice National Experts Committee.

“Rice is global and it is big business. Rice is life in Africa.”
 -- Dr Harold Roy-Macauley,
 AfricaRice Director General



Contributions by AfricaRice to Togo

- ▶ Between 2009 and 2016, Togo has benefited from 16 donor-funded projects, coordinated by AfricaRice.
- ▶ AfricaRice, in partnership with ITRA, has contributed to boosting Togo's rice sector in terms of policy and technical advice, improved seed, cropping practices and processing technologies, capacity development and support to rice value chain development.

Capacity strengthening

- ▶ Between 2009 and 2016, 4 PhD and 7 MSc scholars from Togo were trained. About 85 researchers and value chain actors have participated in group training workshops.
- ▶ The training provided by AfricaRice has strengthened Togo's capacity for rice research and development as well as its rice seed system.

IMPORTANCE OF RICE IN TOGO

Rice is the third most important crop in Togo in terms of production and consumption. The indigenous African rice, *Oryza glaberrima*, has been consumed for centuries in the Danyi uplands. Rice is now part of the daily menu in both the rural areas and the urban centers.

Realizing the potential of rice for increasing household income and food security, the government of Togo has been encouraging domestic production through various support programs. Togo has developed a National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) in 2010, which has three major objectives:

- To increase the areas available for cultivation from 36,492 to 66,500 ha;
- To improve yields from 2.4 to 3.5 t/ha;
- To increase production to 232,750 t of paddy (139,650 t of milled rice) by 2018.

Togo possesses about 185,000 ha of lowland that is potentially suitable for rice production, including irrigable land (alluvial plains and lowlands). Rice is grown in various ecologies: rainfed upland (10%); rainfed lowland (60%) and irrigated (30%). Togo is increasingly focusing on the development of lowlands.

Demand for rice has been increasing and, although domestic production has been increasing at the same time, Togo continues to rely on rice imports for nearly 50% of domestic consumption. This underscores the necessity for further efforts to achieve the targets of the NRDS. In line with its strategy to boost rice production, Togo has undertaken a series of research for development activities in partnership with AfricaRice.

Collaborative work is being carried out in various projects, including Africa-wide Rice Task Force activities, varietal improvement, participatory learning and action research for integrated rice management (PLAR-IRM), support for the adoption and distribution of NERICA varieties, study of the impact of the new varieties on households, development and dissemination of equipment, and capacity development.

Rice Statistics for Selected Indicators

Source: <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/advQuery> (accessed May 2017)

Indicator	2015	2016	2017	Average 2011-2016	Annual growth rate, 2011-2016 (%)
Paddy production (t)	146,000	118,000	123,000	124,333	1.69
Area harvested (ha)	84,000	75,000	75,000	72,333	14.47
Yield (t/ha)	1.74	1.57	1.64	1.86	-11.18
Consumption (t)	185,000	227,000	230,000	188,333	4.08
Import (t)	90,000	150,000	150,000	107,500	5.19

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Togo-AfricaRice Partnership: Achievements and Impacts

Improved varieties

- As an output of the African Rice Initiative project funded by the African Development Bank, Togolese farmers have adopted NERICA 1, NERICA 3, and NERICA 4 (upland), and NERICA-L 19 (lowland). Togo has been producing large quantities of NERICA-L 19 for its farmers as well as for sale to other countries (e.g. Nigeria and Sierra Leone).
- The total area covered by NERICA varieties was estimated at 10,465 ha during 2013/2014 with production of 24,304 t of paddy
- A study conducted in 2009 by the CGIAR's Diffusion and Impact of Improved Varieties in Africa (DIIVA) project showed that 59% of the area under rice cultivation in Togo is grown with improved varieties.

Improved management practices

- The 'Smart-valleys' approach developed in Benin and Togo by AfricaRice, the national partners and local farmers in Benin and Togo helped raise rice yields under rainfed conditions from 1.5-2 t to 3.5-4.5 t/ha. In addition to increased rice yields, major advantages mentioned by farmers, are lower vulnerability to drought risks due to increased water retention in their fields and less risk of fertilizer losses from flooding.
- More than 800 farmers (50% female) in Togo, have adopted the Smart-valleys approach.