

## TRANSFERT NEWS #15 - SPECIAL EDITION

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SPECIAL EDITION - KENYA MEETING**TOGETHER WE GROW****« Together we grow »**

The foregoing summarizes the latest **TransFert meeting** held in Kenya from 16 to 21 June. For 6 days, **36 participants** from Burkina Faso (5), Ivory Coast (2), France (10), Kenya (10) and Madagascar (9) who were hosted by the [Cereal Growers Association \(CGA\)](#), met in Nakuru. The delegation was composed of lead farmers and technicians employed by farmers organizations, technical advisors, Fert employees and members of Fert.

Partners since 2013, CGA and Fert launched a first pilot phase in two counties in 2016 (Narok and Nakuru). The objective of the partnership is to implement CGA's strategy for the development of sustainable services in order to build loyalty among its farmer members. This is reflected in the **strengthening of CGA services to farmers**: technical and economical advisory, access to information, access to inputs, storage, marketing, etc....

Like the TransFert (\*) program, this meeting was a **source of mutual beneficitation**: both, in the discovery of CGA's action in Kenya and in the sharing of experiences with representatives from Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, France and Madagascar. **An exchange between peers, where we understand each other, where we respect each other and where we learn.**

*(\*) TransFert is a cross-country program initiated in 2015 with the support of the Agence Française de Développement, which aims to support Fert's partner farmers organizations in Sub-Saharan Africa and to promote learning between these organizations, through peer exchange and capitalization.*

**INSPIRING FARMERS**





### **Vincent CHELULE (Njoro)**

Vincent CHELULE is a farmer (wheat, colza, potatoes, pulses) in Njoro, and a chairman of the local CGA chapter. His interactions with CGA and other actors such as KALRO (national research centre) have enabled him to progress very quickly in his agricultural activity; he is a model now. He is known for his good maize yields (8.8 tons/ha) - a record in this region.



### **Salome MUTHONI (Njoro)**

Salome MUTHONI is a maize and bean producer and a dairy farmer. Within the CGA local section, she provides a parcel of over 0.6 ha for a learning site. The objective of this learning site is to learn through testing and to promote farmers' relationships with service providers (extension, research, private sector), with the aim of improving productivity and income.



### **Nahson NGETICH (Salgaa)**

Nahson NGETICH is a farmer (market gardening and cereals) and a member of the CGA Board: on his farm, he presented his agricultural practices to the group and presented his diversification activities (multiplication of forage seeds (boma rhodes), millet and maize).



**John TEEKA (Mashariani)**

John TEEKA is a wheat producer and a member of the CGA Board. During the visit, he explained CGA's role in organizing the wheat marketing program, which has kept wheat prices at decent levels since its launch in 2016.

**Simon KOISETA (Meguara)**

Simon KOISETA has been a farmer for more than 30 years, and is at the initiative of a farmers' association that has allowed small producers to get together to store and sell their cereals; this association then gave birth to the Meguarra cooperative, chosen best cooperative in the county by the national press. Simon is also the Chairman of the Transmara CGA chapter.

**A ROUND TABLE ON LEAD FARMERS**



They are called endogenous animators in Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast, farmer trainers in Kenya, or accompanying farmers in Madagascar... for nearly ten years, within farmers' organizations, farmers have been acting as advisors to their peers. In order to better understand how these advisory systems has become a more sustainable solution, **a workshop on the subject was held on Thursday, June 20 in Nakuru, with more than 80 participants**, including mostly Kenyan producers and 28 international participants who came for the TransFert meeting.

A first round table gave the floor to several farmers who explained **how they had become lead farmers** and **what their functions were**. The questions of the assembly allowed to better understand the difference and complementarity between lead farmers and technicians as well as training and motivation issues of these voluntary actors.

Then, the second round table was an opportunity to understand **why these mechanisms are a more sustainable form of advice**: in terms of quality of service, permanence and proximity to other producers; in terms of piloting, the important role of the grassroots organization, and in terms of financing, a possible assumption by producers and the FO.



« There is a risk that a lead farmer turns into a technician who has no longer time to take care of his own field. » **Sylvia VOLOLOMPANANTENANA** - Madagascar

« First of all, I am a farmer. If I do it, this is because it's my passion. » **Michel GATIBA WACHIRA** - Kenya

« Even if the State has its own producer support service, Femaci considers that farmers are responsible, and they must think of this system by themselves. Thus, they do their best to meet the challenges of professionalization of their 35,000 members. » **Kouassi Eugène NZI** - Ivory Coast

« At the level of our cooperative, each member contributes in kind by giving two boxes of cowpeas per year to endogenous animators. » **Youssef KAGONE** - Burkina Faso

## SUMMING UP





**Find "The Essential":**  
the full report of the meeting

#### Your impressions

*"Good discovery of what CGA is in its actions and in the diversity of its members."*

*"A lot of discussions in groups in which everyone participates; there is a real willingness to discover and share."*

*"Thank you to CGA for the welcome and to the producers who received us for their commitment and enthusiasm! "*

## MAKE YOUR CALENDARS



**18-31** | August

Madagascar

**Mission to Fekama (pedagogical referential)**

Thierry DEDIEU, Charles JOSEPH-BRESSET (CNEAP)

**6-12** | Sept.

Madagascar

**30 years Fifata**

Participation of a delegation of Fert members

**1-12** | Sept.

Madagascar

**Leader Training**

Study tour of 4 Burkinabes



**13-30** | Sept.

Madagascar

**Fekama mission on governance**

Paul-Henri DOUBLIER, Jean-François TAMBOURIN (CNEAP)

**6-14** | Oct.

Madagascar

**Cap Malagasy – Consulting economics**

Mission of Jean-Jacques LOUSSOUARN (Ifocap)

**October**

France

**Fekama / CNEAP**

Mission in France of the pedagogical manager Fekama and a director of a Malagasy college

**31** | Oct.

Ivory Coast

**Inauguration of the Niofoin training centre**

Participation of three Fert members



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