



UNU-INRA

**OPERATIONAL UNIT (O.U) IN
CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

Presented by

Dr BINATE NAMIZATA FOFANA

Coordonator of O.U Côte d'Ivoire



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I. PRESENTATION

- The Operational Unit of UNU-INRA in Côte d'Ivoire was set up in 2004 in CIRES (Ivorian Centre for Economic and Social Research). It is focused on the socio-economic aspects of the use, the management and the exploitation of natural resources in connection with the biotechnology, food security and poverty mitigation.
- The O.U CI was formerly managed by Dr. Barry who passed away last year (June 2010). Since November 2011, the O.U is managed by a new team of four (4) researchers.

II. OBJECTIVES

- ❑ Contribute to increase understanding of the socio-economic aspects of natural resources;
- ❑ Find solutions to problems of natural resources degradation, food security and poverty in Africa in general and in Côte d'Ivoire in particular;
- ❑ Contribute to enlighten the government on the impact of the policies concerning the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment.

III. PROGRAMMES

**Programme I: Elaboration of the directory of national NGOs
working in the field of sustainable management
of the environment and natural resources**

This project aims at trying to list all NGOs which get involved in the field of the management of natural resources and environment in CI. It is going to allow us to review what is done? Who does what and how it is done. It will create a synergy of actions between the various actors and guide us in our subjects of research for efficiency in the management of natural resources. It's implementing by financial support of CIRES.

III. PROGRAMMES (be continued)

Programme II: Impacts of socio-political crisis on natural resources, food security and poverty

One of the direct consequences of the crisis in CI is the massive migration of population toward the protected zones. The general objective of this study is to measure the impact of the crisis on natural resources in protected areas.

More specifically the project aims at:

- ✓(1) studying the production systems of displaced farmers living inside the protected area;
- ✓ (2) identifying potential sources of conflict between host populations and migrants, on the use of arable land, forest resources and water;
- ✓(3) measuring also the impact of migrations on food security and poverty.



III. PROGRAMMES (be continued)

Programme III: Role of bio-technologies in the search for food security especially in terms of access and quality.

Programme IV: Impact of land property on the management of natural resources

IV. ACTIVITIES

- Installation of the team of the Operational Unit (facilities: office, computer hardware offered by CIRES);
- Realize the Programme I which is entirely funded by CIRES;
- Execute the Programme II;
- Address a request to the UNDP to release funds for the execution of the projects of the Operational Unit.

V. CHALLENGES

- ❖ Meet the authorities of Ministries in charge of Environment and natural resources management to present the OU and get the involvement in the activities and the financial support of the government for the promotion of the unit;
- ❖ Create a synergy of action at the institutional level : ministries in charge of environmental and natural resources issues; structures of research (CIRES, CNRA, IES), Universities;
- ❖ Mobilize funds for the operational unit from the other partners in the development.

VI. OPPORTUNITIES

- Existence of a team of researchers motivated to promote the Operational Unit. In addition there are researchers who are available to reinforce the unit;
- The willingness of the government to put environmental issues in the centre of the reflection;
- Existence of structures in charge of environmental issues including natural resources.



MANY THANKS