



SOIL CARBON

FOR A SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA

<http://reseau-carbone-sol-afrique.org>

The “Soil **Carbon** Network for **S**ustainable agriculture in **Africa**” (**CaSA**): *an open scientific group for a better consideration of CSA in Africa*

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Badiane N., Amadji G., Balarabe O., Hien E., Konare H., Koné A., Taisso M., Gallali T., Razakamanarivo H., Rafolisy T., Andriamananjara A., Randriamanantsoa L., Rabenarivo M., Rasoarimalala O., Rabeharisoa L., Razafimahatratra H., Becquer T., Blanchart E., Bernard L., Rakotovao N., Ramaroson V., Ravonjariason N., Aholoukpe H., Agbossou E., Yemadje L., Ganglo J., Gouro A., Assouma M., Bilgo A.O, Belem M.O, Ali M., Ko Awono M., M’biandoun M., Wirnkar Lenzemo V., Mouhaman A., Olina Assala J., Ettien J., Kassin K., Dibi K., Tondoh J., , Diouf A., Sall S., Sall A., Masse D., Garraud S., Bastard G., Balde M., Ba A., Lardy L., Komi A., Wele A., Abgassi A., Vayssiere, H. Guibert, B. Barthes, J. Chotte, A. Albrecht, M. Brossard, T. Chevallier, L. Cournac J., Blavet D., Clermont-Dauphin C., Deleporte P., Grinand C., Salgado P., Manlay R., Sabir M., Bockel L.,



**Soil Carbon for a
Sustainable Agriculture
in Africa**

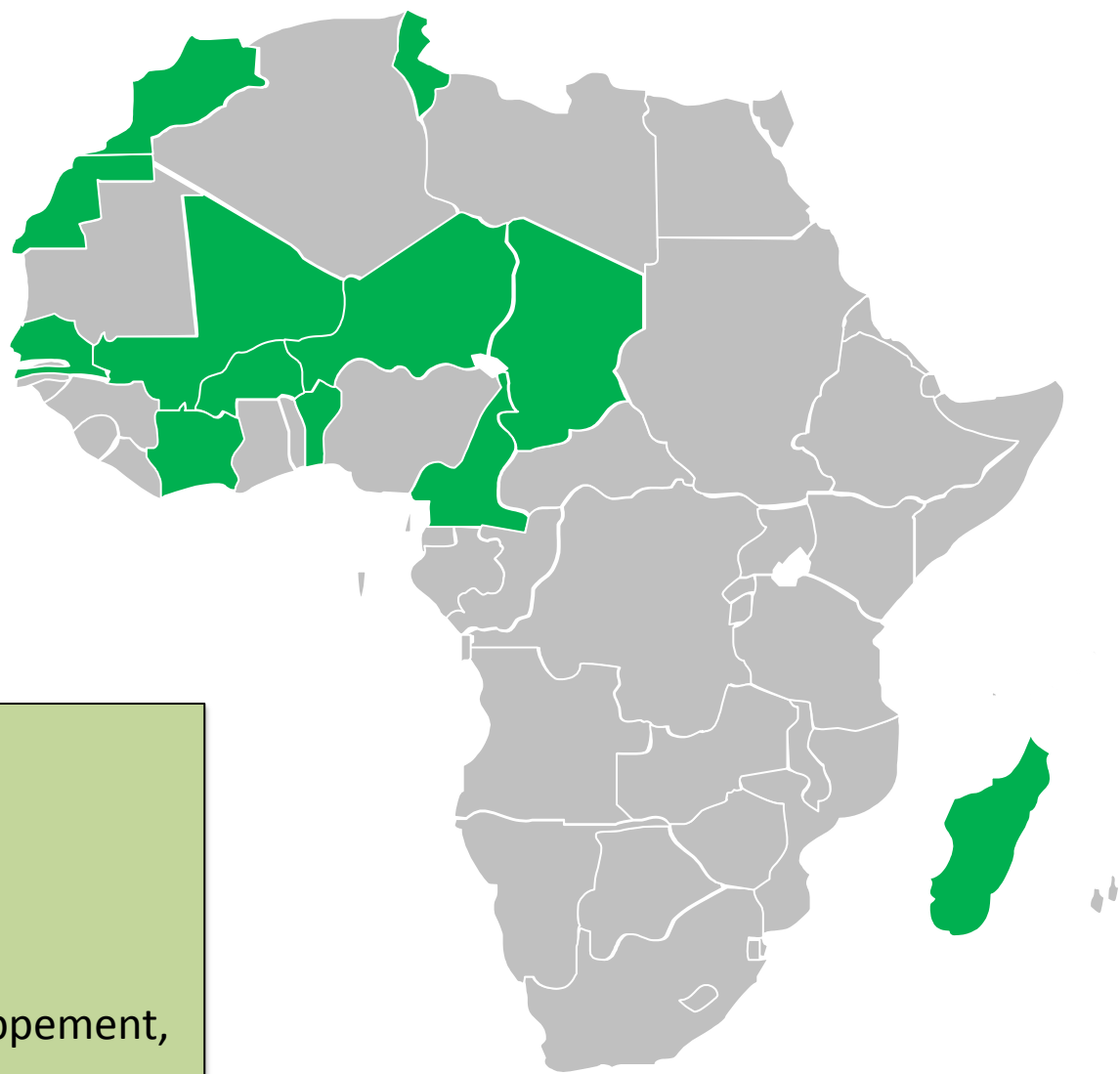
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France

21 teams from **11 African** countries and **France**

<http://reseau-carbone-sol-afrique.org>



P A R R A F



SOIL CARBON
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Why this network ?

A food crisis ... in 21st century!

FAO Food Price Index

2002-2004=100



Food riots in 2008-2009 and 2011
=> Food safety issue ...

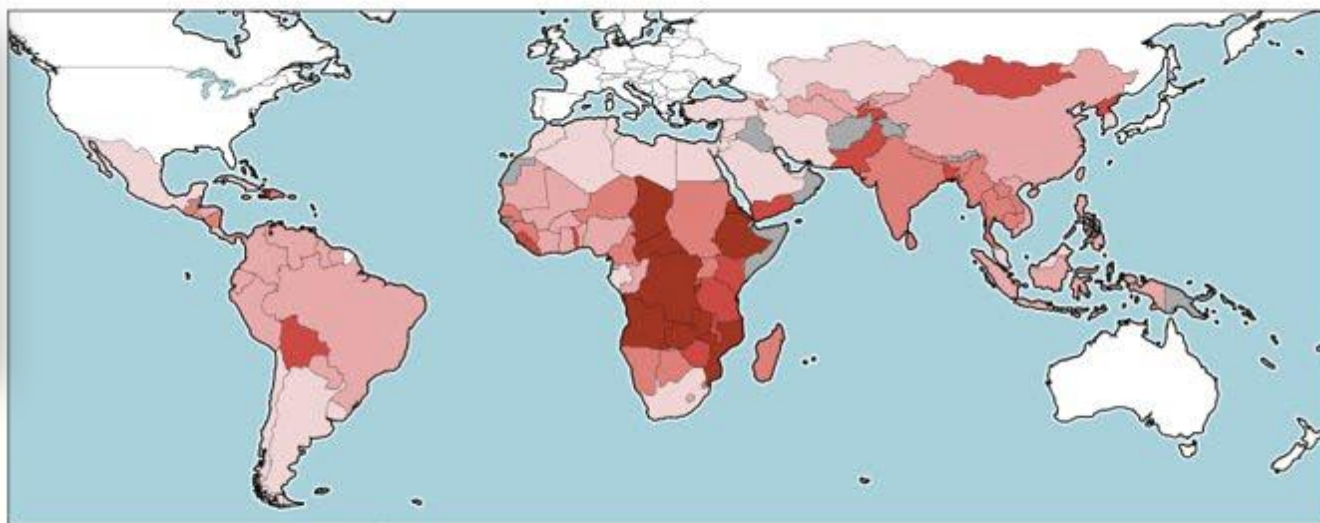
* The real price index is the nominal price index deflated by the World Bank Manufactures Unit Value Index (MUV)



Why this **CaSA** network ?

A food crisis ... in 21st century!

FAO Hunger Map 2010 Prevalence of undernourishment in developing countries



Source: FAOSTAT 2010 (www.fao.org/hunger)

Note: The map shows the prevalence of undernourishment in the total population of developing countries as of 2005-7 – the most recent period for which complete data are available. Undernourishment exists when caloric intake is below the minimum dietary energy requirement (MDER). The MDER is the amount of energy needed for light activity and a minimum acceptable weight for attained height, and it varies by country and from year to year depending on the gender and age structure of the population.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal or

Prevalence of undernourishment in developing countries (2005-07)

- Very high (undernourishment 35% and above)
- High (undernourishment 25-34%)
- Moderately high (undernourishment 15-24%)
- Moderately low (undernourishment 5-14%)
- Very low (undernourishment below 5%)
- Missing or insufficient data



© Spectre, India



Why this **CaSA** network ?

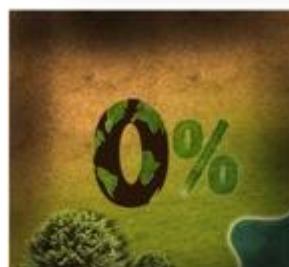
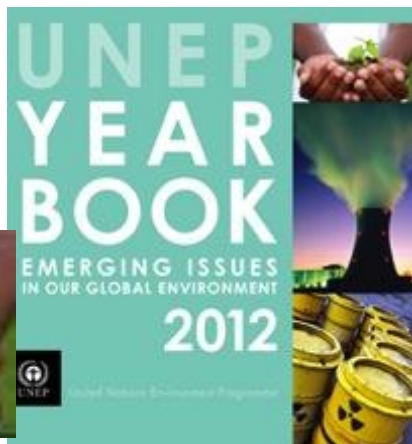
A worldwide reaction !

Land and soils back at the highest level of international agenda:

- reform of existing process/institutions;
- new initiatives;
- new concepts and/or old ones being recycled



HLPE
High Level
Panel of Experts





Why this **CaSA** network ?

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Agriculture (and land and soil aspects) gain attention in all UNFCCC-related agendas



International Financial Institution Framework for a Harmonised Approach to Greenhouse Gas Accounting

Climate Bonds Standard and Certification Scheme



Developing eligibility criteria for AFOLU-related investments



Why this **CaSA** network ?

Soil ... basis of agricultural
activities !



Soils = main support of agricultural activities and forestry
➔ **non-renewable resource and needed to be preserved**



Africa context ...



... Other issues in Africa ?

Large majority of people are smallholders
Low level of fertilisation (mineral and organic)
Little equipment and infrastructures
Poor water control

Extensive practices

Demographic pressure, climate change impacts ...



Increase of the pressure on soils ...





Africa context ...



... What solutions ?

Promoting sustainable agriculture based on optimum management of soil organic matter

➔ managing soil organic carbon.

Agroecology



➔ Soil organic carbon = ➔ soil fertility, soil productivity

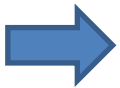
➔ Soil organic carbon = ➔ soil C sequestration , ➔ mitigation of GHG emission



CaSA network...

*Mobilisation of **African** and **European** researchers to promote soil carbon sequestration for a sustainable management of soil fertility and productivity*

Network building and strengthening ... from 2010



1 Round table and 2 workshops:

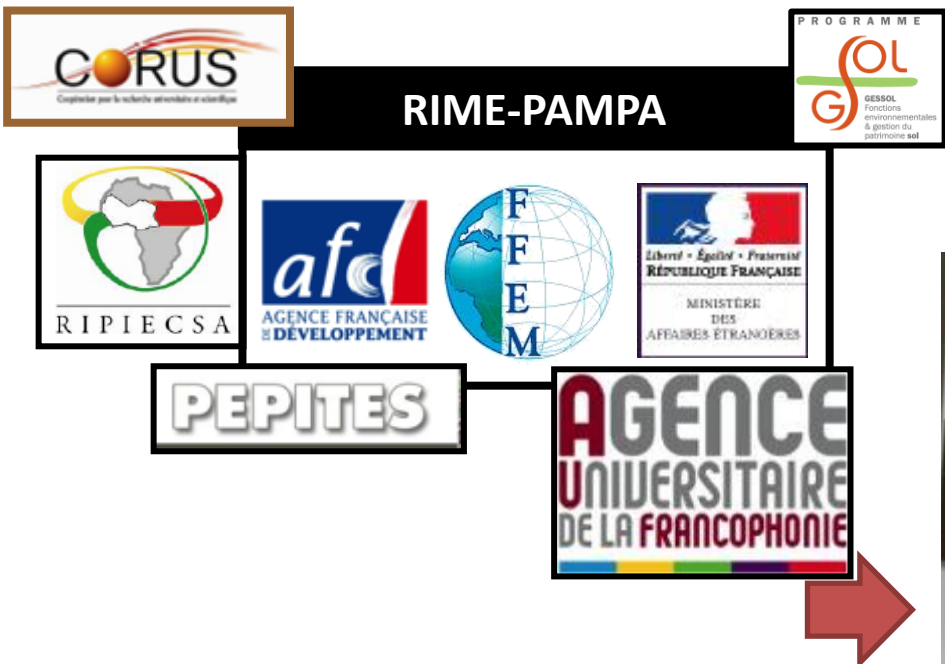
2010: Round Table in **ICID**, **Fortaleza**, **Brazil**

2011: Workshop Ifrane, **Morocco** (Methodological aspects)

2012: Workshop, Dakar, **Senegal** (Network formalisation)

Fortaleza, Brazil (August, 2010) : Round Table in ICID 2010

Researchers from different programs and projects have organized together a round table ...



Round Table

Carbon sequestration in arid and semi-arid regions



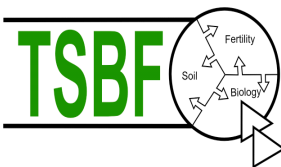
Second International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions (ICID 2010)

Local: Centro de Convenções do Ceará - Av. Washington Soares, 1141 - Fortaleza, Ceará
Date: 16 a 20 de agosto de 2010

www.icid18.org

Morocco, Ifrane (May 2011) : Workshop : What appropriate methodology for soil organic carbon assessment and mapping ?





Workshop

«Climate Smart Agriculture in Western Africa»

Dakar, 8 and 9 May 2012



Programme Pilote Régional
«Sociétés rurales,
Environnement, Climat en
Afrique de l'Ouest »



Climate Change
Agriculture and
Food Security (CCAFS)



Ecole
Nationale
Forestière
d'Ingénieurs,
Maroc



Senegal, Dakar (May, 2012) : «Climate Smart Agriculture in Western Africa » : sharing of experiences, teaching and research points of view between researchers from African and European countries and civil society organisations ...



CaSA network creation ...



PLEADING to give African soils the right place in the "The future we want"^{1*}

Declaration of the network: « Soil carbon for a sustainable agriculture in view of climate changes in Africa »

Challenges

Agriculture is facing a number of future challenges, especially related to climate change. It is recognized that soils are a non-renewable resource in the short-term. Therefore, it is necessary to preserve the soils as they provide crucial environmental services. Such services are food production, biomass, water filtration, carbon sequestration, biodiversity and conservation. The organic soil carbon is an indicator of soil quality and productivity, two qualities to ensure food security. In order to achieve and assure such variables, it is essential to implement a more sustainable agriculture. This is an agriculture favoring an alternative management of production systems guaranteeing a high organic matter and soil carbon.

Such production systems are advocated in strategic agriculture development plans of African countries. For example, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP²) was adopted by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

different countries and stakeholders of civil society working in Africa gathered to discuss and share their experiences.

Unanimous decision of the participants

What is necessary?

- To reaffirm that soil is a crucial support for production systems;
- To highlight that preserving the soil carbon content is essential, especially in arid and semi-arid regions;
- To quantify the impact of management practices on carbon sequestration in the soil, for various African pedoclimatic conditions;
- To promote the linkage between research institutions, civil society and development organizations;
- To facilitate the dissemination of scientific results for decision makers, civil society and farmers;
- To reinforce the expertise and training capacities of teams dealing with soils.

What are the research priorities?



Signatories are also asking to support the collaboration and the synergy between research and development, e.g. joint collaborations between NGOs, the private sector and research institutions.

Signatories are requesting negotiators from different conventions (Climate, Desertification, Biodiversity) to acknowledge the integrating role of soils. Indeed, the implementation of local solutions for smallholders can bring solutions for global challenges and threats.

Based on above evidences, the participants of the Dakar workshop have decided to create a network entitled
«Soil carbon for a sustainable agriculture in view of climate changes in Africa»

This network will work at the interface of existing networks and programmes⁵.



The objectives of CaSA

To replace soil and soil carbon as the central component of sustainable agricultural systems.

Maintaining soil carbon is essential, particularly in arid and semi-arid regions

Quantification of management practices impacts on **carbon sequestration in Africa**

Promoting research in **collaboration with civil society** and development agencies

Facilitating the **access of research results to policy makers** and to improve the dissemination to civil society and farmers



The objectives of CaSA

But also :

To develop African **experts** on global change issues and their impacts on agriculture and sustainable development;

To share : research, trainings , data (exchanges of within the network)





Current activities ...

Harmonization of methodology for the characterization of soil C between network members;



Methodological book

Quantification of carbon sequestration.

Analysis and valorisation of the data available from members of the CASA network

Book on « Soil carbon sequestration »

Data sharing and structuring
Data catalogue



Overview of data available in the network

Oil palms



Cover crop



Maize

Legume effect



Tree plantation effect*

$\Delta C1 =$

*

$\Delta C2 = 534 \text{ ‰}$

Legume cover effect*

$\Delta C1 =$

$\Delta C1 = 74 \text{ ‰}$

Barthès et al., 2004

Book on « Soil carbon sequestration by sustainable agriculture in Africa »



Manure



Urban organic waste



Compost

Cloves + Rice



Agroforestry

$\Delta C1 = 21 \text{ ‰}$

$\Delta C2 = 86 \text{ ‰}$

$\Delta C3 = 103 \text{ ‰}$

$\Delta C3 = 200 \text{ ‰}$

Organic fertilizer



The current activities ...

Training and Communication

Workshops

Benin



Ivory Coast



AfA 2014

Agroecology for Africa



International
conferences



International conference

**Agroecology and Sustainability of Tropical
Rainfed Cropping Systems**



CARBONE DES SOLS
POUR UNE AGRICULTURE DURABLE EN AFRIQUE



03 - 07 November 2014, Antananarivo – Madagascar



« Soil, Forest and Agriculture : what are the challenges to face climate change in Madagascar ? »

Side Event of « Our Common Future under Climate Change »
Labelled by General Secretariat of COP21-CMP11/Paris 2015



22nd June 2015, Antananarivo, Madagascar



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Thank you for your attention

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