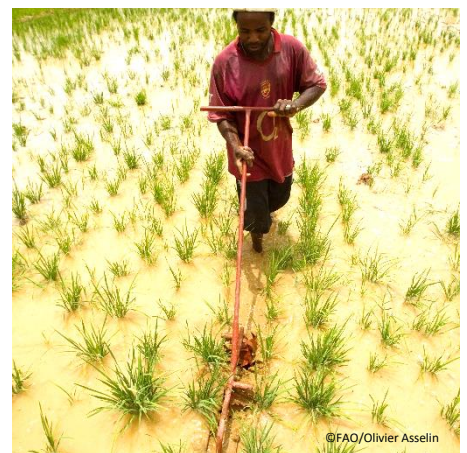




DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE RICE SYSTEM IN ESWATINI THROUGH SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Farmers in Eswatini who cultivate Swazi National Land (SNL) do not have access to financing instruments, technology, or irrigation systems. These are contributing factors to the country's low levels of agricultural productivity. This South-South Cooperation project between Eswatini and Morocco was formulated so that Moroccan experts could share their experiences with representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of Eswatini in the areas of agricultural development and irrigation. The project had three main goals: (i) to transfer Moroccan experiences to Eswatini; (ii) to improve water resources and irrigation in Eswatini based on this knowledge transfer; and (iii) to strengthen bilateral relations between the countries.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

Two missions from Eswatini to Morocco were carried out under the project. These missions promoted the sharing and exchange of development solutions, including knowledge, experiences, good practices, successful policies, technology and resources. Participants in the mission learned about Morocco's Agricultural Development Fund (ADF), institutional arrangements, governmental and bank financing, and their Industry Association. In addition, a two-day capacity-building session was conducted by an irrigation expert. Thanks to these missions, an AgrInvest initiative was implemented in Eswatini, a framework for an ADF was developed, and twelve development-agreement plans were drafted. The draft of a Horticulture Strategy was also produced, with production guidelines for sweet pepper, cabbage and garlic. A draft Irrigation Plan was also developed. It is expected that the Plan will be finalized through the AgrInvest initiative.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 233 966

Duration

March 2017 – December 2020

Resource Partner

Government of Morocco

Partner

Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of Eswatini

Beneficiaries

Government policymakers, private entrepreneurs and non governmental organizations (NGOs)

IMPACT

As a result of the project, Eswatini will continue to benefit from a better understanding of Morocco's experience in the development of water resources and irrigation. Bilateral relations between Morocco and Eswatini have been strengthened. The high-level visit to Morocco has also resulted in the implementation of an AgrInvest initiative, with the full support of the Ministry of Agriculture.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ACTIVITIES

- The mission on water management and governance from Eswatini to Morocco was organized.
- Ten engineers from Eswatini were trained on the design and management of localized irrigation projects at the capacity-development session.
- Technical assistance on converting to localized irrigation was provided during the first mission for six officials.
- The officials from Eswatini gained knowledge on institutional arrangements in Morocco.



Project Code

FAO: GCP/SWA/020/MOR

Project Title

South-South Cooperation Programme Swaziland-Morocco-FAO

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