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Title: Overview of agroecology in Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire is no exception to the realities of climate variability and the impact of current farming practices on natural resources. With demographic pressure and a shortage of labour, agriculture in Côte d'Ivoire is characterised by the abusive use of pesticides, which is not without consequences for consumers, arable land and water resources (groundwater and surface water). In such a context, an enlightened vision of the long term requires a change of approach through the promotion of environmentally-friendly agriculture. Agroecology is seen as a sub-set of sustainable development, highlighting the environment-economy-society tripod and thus guaranteeing better use of agrosystems, and is an obvious alternative. Based on a literature review, this paper presents the current state of agro-ecological initiatives in Côte d'Ivoire. It should be noted that sustainable agriculture, of which this farming practice is one of the tools, is part of the Ivorian government's new agricultural vision, set out in the National Development Plan (NDP 2021-2025). Two major projects have been implemented: the Transition Agroécologique des Maraichers de Côte d'Ivoire (TAMCI) project and the Maraîchage Agroécologique péri-urbain de Côte d'Ivoire (MARIGO) project. TAMCI has helped 402 producers in the autonomous district of Yamoussoukro (central Côte d'Ivoire) to make the transition to agro-ecology, by encouraging the use of resilient, environmentally-friendly and economically viable cropping systems. MARIGO covers several intervention areas (Abidjan, Yamoussoukro, Bouaké and Korhogo), with the aim of promoting the agro-ecological transition in peri-urban areas and contributing to the sustainable and productive transformation of agriculture and food systems in Côte d'Ivoire. The signs remain promising, given the level of ownership shown by the farmers affected by these projects.

Key words : Agroecology; Agriculture; Sustainability; Environment; Ivory Coast.

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