



# Overview of the ECOWAS Rice Road Map 2025 - 2035

Agric Policy Toolkit training

Volta Region, Ghana



Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
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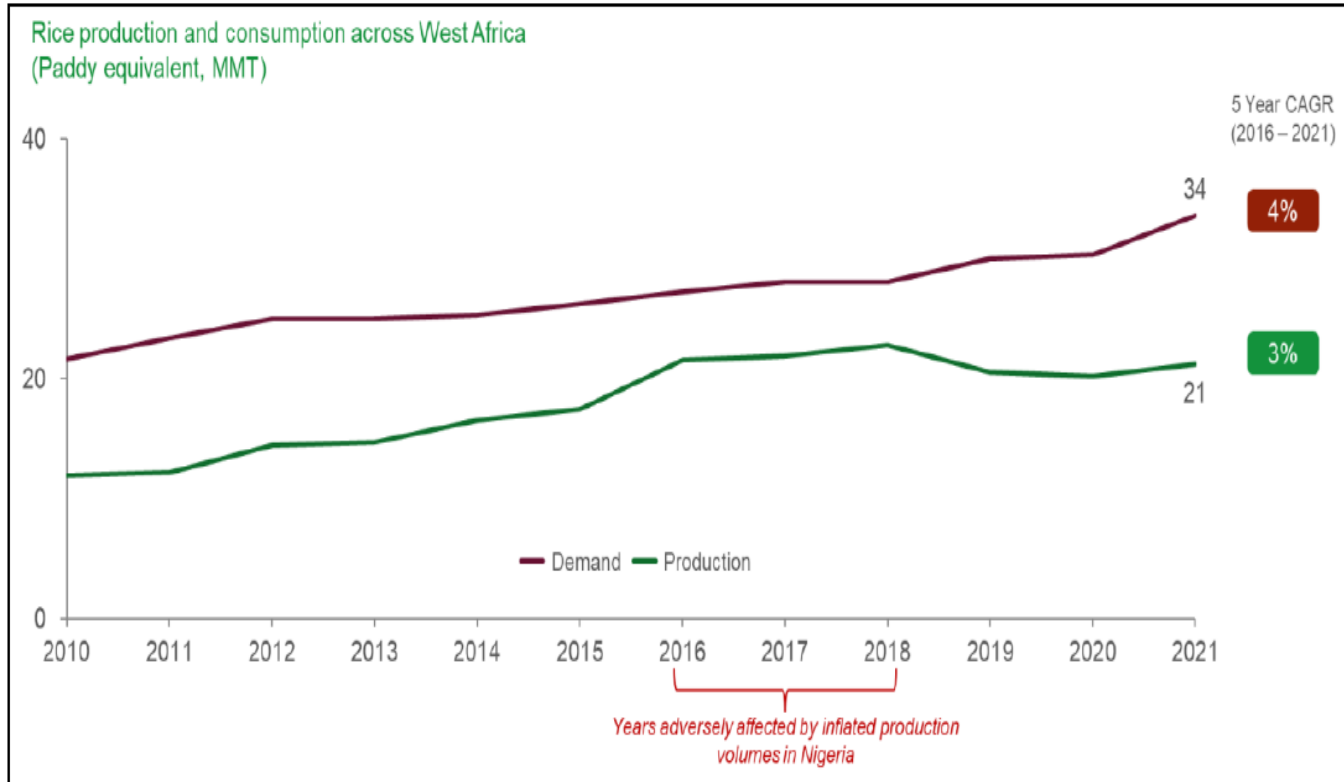


# Presentation Outline

- **Context**
- **Scope and Purpose of the ECOWAS Rice Roadmap 2025-2035**
- **Designed Pathways to Sufficiency**
- **Conclusion**

# Contexts

- Globally, rice is a staple food to over 50% of the world's population
- It accounts for over 19% of global human per capita energy, and 78% of rice produced globally is consumed by humans while the balance serves other uses such as animal feed
- In 2021, global production of paddy rice reached about 789 million Mt (+1.1% per annum between 2010 and 2021), which is equivalent to 512 million Mt of milled rice
- The top producing countries globally include China, India, Bangladesh and Indonesia (together accounting for 66% of total rice produced)
- The global rice market experiences significant government intervention in both producing and consuming countries



- Despite past efforts and some successes, there is still a significant gap between rice production and consumption in West Africa
- Increased and accelerated efforts are needed to achieve the vision of the rice sector development in West Africa

Regional production and consumption (Paddy equivalent) (2010-2021) ECOWAS Regional Rice Road map

# Scope and Purpose of the ECOWAS Rice Roadmap (2025-2035)

- Building on the foundational efforts of the Rice Offensive (2015) and the Regional Action Plan (2020-2025), the new ECOWAS Rice Roadmap 2025-2035 introduces a unified framework to guide rice sector development in West Africa over the next decade
- This roadmap offers a focused methodology by identifying 12 high-potential production basins identified using expert input along with geospatial data & analytics to understand where rice is produced today, favourable agroecological conditions, and strength of infrastructure and enabling environment
- ECOWAS member states could unlock significant gains in productivity and processing by concentrating investments, resources, and attention in these production basins with the goal to collectively move towards rice self-sufficiency for the ECOWAS region
- The roadmap outlines a set of investment packages and high-level business cases designed to encourage investment from and facilitate collaboration between public sector, private sector, and development partners, with the aim of improving the entire rice value chain and driving sustainable growth

# The Roadmap is intended to be

- A unified vision to achieve rice self-sufficiency for the ECOWAS region, along with an analytical view of potential pathways and investments for this purpose
- A framework of 7 themes and 16 actions to achieve that vision and to inform and coordinate the actions of key stakeholders across the rice value chain at the regional, national, and sub-national levels
- An extension that continues and builds on actions and learnings from previous and ongoing efforts including the Rice Offensive, the Regional Action Plan, the National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS), and the ECOWAS Rice Observatory (ERO)

# The Roadmap is not intended to be

- A single prescriptive pathway for ECOWAS or its member states – the Roadmap recognizes there can be multiple pathways to achieve the overall vision
- A replacement for the National Rice Development Strategies, though member states may elect to update their national plans to reflect the principles of the Roadmap
- An assessment of individual member states' progress or action plans

# Designed Pathways to Self-Sufficiency

## Identified Improvement Levers

- Intensification of land currently under rice cultivation
- Irrigation expansion
- Reduction of post-harvest loss
- Improvement of milling recovery rate (i.e., the efficiency of milling units)
- Land expansion for rice cultivation

# 7 Themes and 16 Action plans

**Theme 1.** Increase productivity and production, differentially focusing on high potential production basins

**Theme 2.** Improve and optimize supply chain and processing infrastructure & quality

**Theme 3.** Accelerate development of local/regional rice markets

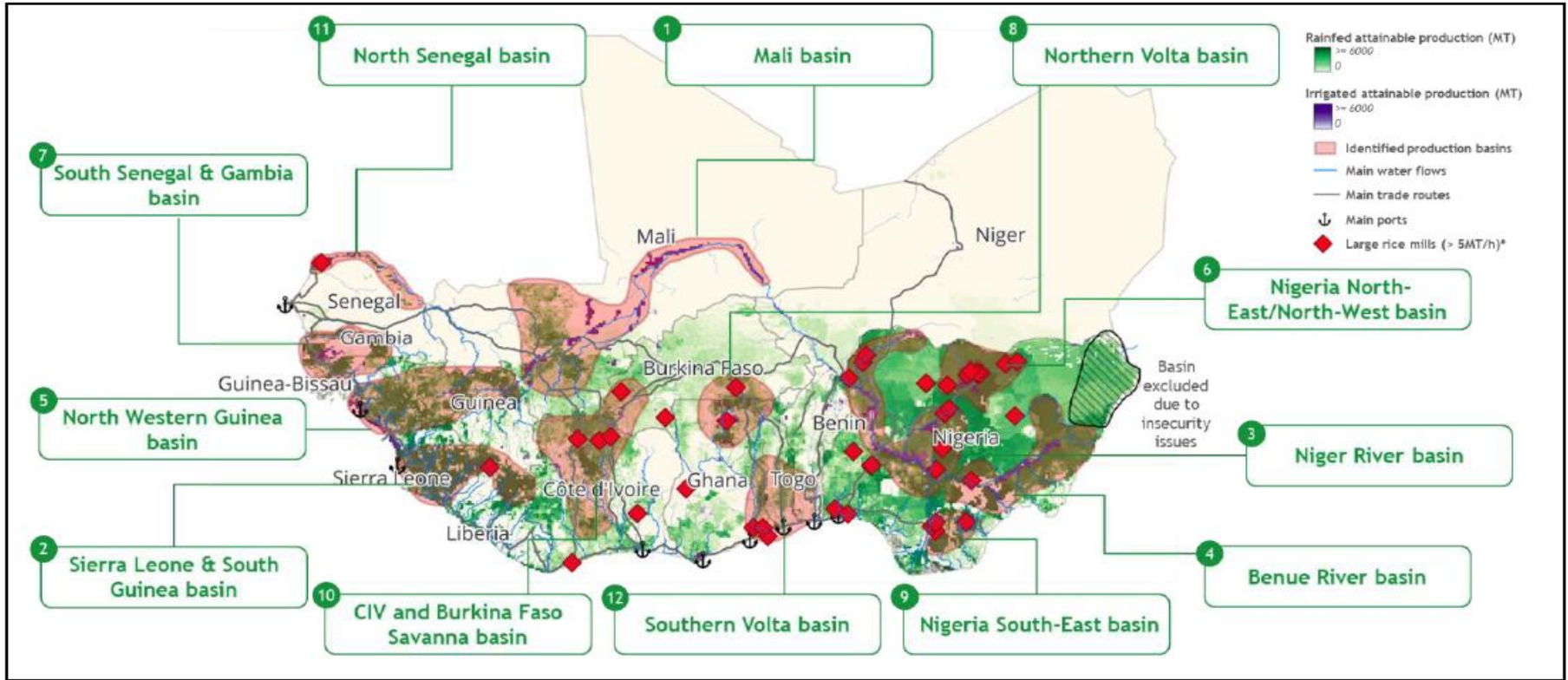
**Theme 4.** Improve financing across the value chain, in particular input financing for farmers and working capital for millers

**Theme 5.** Implement policies to encourage local/regional rice sector investments and trade

**Theme 6.** Improve data collection and knowledge sharing and develop analytics and tools for decision-support at all levels

**Theme 7.** Improve regional coordination and support regional/national capacity building

# Prioritized Production Basins



# In Conclusion

- For the ERRSS goal to be met, the stakeholders need to take decisive action by fostering an enabling environment—through targeted incentives, policy reforms, and regulatory harmonization which are essential to advancing the regional rice agenda
- Unlike previous initiatives, this Roadmap takes a data-driven approach, utilizing geospatial mapping and advanced analytics to pinpoint high-potential production basins that offer promising investment opportunities
- It also draws from proven models and past experiences to identify scalable solutions
- West Africa's ability to attain rice self-sufficiency and sovereignty through the outlined pathways will hinge on the degree of resource mobilization and collaboration among stakeholders at all levels



**Thank you for listening**