

Annual Report Horticulture Hub Niger 2022 – 2023



Netherlands Enterprise Agency



Fati Taima, one of female lead farmer Ramatou Mamadou's collaborators.

September 2023

This report is a cooperation of the cluster partners:



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Female (Lead) Farmers working with the trays 'alveoles'.



Preface

On July 26, 2023, the world stood still. Figuratively that is, because a coup d'état took place in Niger. Totally unexpected, according to insiders. At the time of writing this report, it is not clear which direction the country is heading. What is clear is that the HortiHub team in Niamey has been able to continue its work. And of great importance for the future of the project is that Horticulture Hub Niger is a-political, has no government involvement, is neither controlled nor influenced by the government. We look back on a fine year but an uncertain time is ahead for Niger. We all hope for the best.

From geopolitics to "ordinary" life: Changes to the project

The Horticulture Hub Niger project continues to run. The project made good results. And that while it had to do with many changes. First, we received a new PSD Coach from RVO. Anne-Katrien Denissen left and former vet Laurent Niyonkuru took her place – welcome. We wish you good luck and a fruitful cooperation. One of the partners, the UASTM, could not fulfil its work obligations due to internal matters and the tasks were taken over as best as possible by Partners for Innovation (Pfi), assisted by Synergos.

Holland Greentech (HGT) had initially chosen to implement the project from HGT Burkina. In practice, this did not work well and we set up an HGT Niger team. From September 2022 to the end of April 2023, Synergos and Partners for Innovation actively supported the team. The collaboration is fruitful and ongoing as part of the implementation of the project's activities. The planned Barsha Pumps needed to be changed for Solar Powered pumps due to the topography of the selected sites and for technical reasons. Since these are produced in India, they were transported to Niger. The cost of importation was almost as high as the pumps themselves. The solar panels, not initially included in the budget, were also ordered and delivered. The seeds posed delivery problems, both in terms of quantity and choice..

Expectations of lead farmers could not be met because the budget was (and is) insufficient for that. These expectations concerned two sides. One is about the amount of seeds. The project focuses on 500 m², but they would have preferred seeds for 1,500 and even 5,000 m². The budget did not and does not provide for that. The other thing is about free delivery of fertilizer and pesticides. Last touches on the "flaw" in the project's budget. An error that arose because we as a consortium could not do everything that was included in the project plan. One of the most important next actions that is impossible with the current budget is to select the next group of Lead Farmers. And then taking them through the process of introducing them to the hybrid seeds, Dutch techniques and knowledge, pumps and irrigation equipment.

What can be seen in the financial section is that a number of partners have incurred more hours than budgeted, whereas others required less budget than planned, which is why the consortium partners have internally agreed to re-allocate their budgets among them. What also becomes clear is that the hourly rates are not sufficient to cover the costs or overhead of the project partners, some of the hourly rates are too low - like € 27,50 - and the initial budget format does not cover all the work. Thus, no activities can be administered that do not fall within the allocated modules. Synergos and Partners for Innovation have taken over teaching tasks that are not in 'their' modules. And Synergos did more cluster coordination in Niger, than in the Netherlands. There is no line for that within the modules. Also more costs were made for materials than initially budgeted. Synergos, being the lead implementing partner in the project and also in charge of the treasury of the project, has

implemented the changes as good as possible, on the fly, while considering the initially drafted budget.

However, for the project to go forward some budget lines will require revision and the distribution of partners' budgets will need to be formalized in an amendment.

In this report we give an overview of the current status of the project, what activities have been undertaken and what changes we propose.

We look forward to moving into the third year in modified form and will do everything possible to create the conditions for this. We will come up with recommendations on how best to proceed with this Impact Cluster and hope that this will be honoured. Because the cluster certainly makes an impact. Very much so, but the way we make it as a team will be different from what was described in the proposal in 2020 and 2021. We would like to go further. We hope that the Dutch government and therefore RVO as well, wants to continue making impact with this cluster.



Impressions of the work and the different areas where the impact cluster operates. Dry areas, with water supply from a well, close to the river, dry with long distance to a small well. From left to right: transportation of materials, knowledge transfer to young farmers, installation of the panels on the solar pump and the group of agripreneurs during work on the HortiHub land.



1: Brief review of the first year

The inception phase from September 2021 to January 2022 was well used.

- January 2022: Partners for Innovation puts out the advertisement widely for the needed employees - the coordinator and two field managers;
 - The advertisement appears in various media and specialised channels;
 - More than 70 people responded.
- Late January - early March: various meetings with partners individually and collectively.
 - Several reports were made of these meetings;
 - The importance of the meetings was (also) that we were able to make a first translation of the theoretical project proposal into practice. And, as expected, this is more difficult than described on paper in the original plan;
- 22 February 2022: second kick-off meeting at Partners for Innovation (locally also known as Agrifocus (formerly AgriProfocus))
 - With representatives from all partners and various guests.
 - 34 participants were present, 26 of whom were outsiders
 - Local press present, both national and private, like Bonferay
 - Many questions and suggestions from the field
 - Presentation of website and logo
 - Official launch of coordination team (Idrissa, Ali, Harouna. Hadjara (HGT Niger) will be added later)
- 8 April 2022: Positioning session with the communications team of RVO and all HortiHub partners.
 - Based on the meeting and the input of all participants, RVO drew up a communication strategy;
- 21 June 2022: various pieces of furniture are transported from the Netherlands to Niamey, among other things for the purpose of furnishing the physical Hub itself;
- 24 June 2022: Contact workshop with Lead Farmers;
- July 7, 2022: coordination team shares the overview they made of all the needs of the lead farmers; start ordering seeds, fertilizer, irrigation.
 - Beginning of August, the first seeds are being sent from the Burkina Faso
- 1 August 2022: Selection of agripreneurs has started;
- 15 August 2022: Starting to record topographic details of lead farmers' sites for the installation of Barsha Pumps and subsequent analysis of suitable pumps
- 17 and 18 August: meeting of all team members on site including the project leader.
 - Annual plan 2 drawn up
- 29 August 2022: Completion of annual report & Year plan 2 and submission to RVO

1.1 Objectives in short

Just as a reminder, hereby the objectives of the project in short.

By bringing Dutch best practices, know-how and technology into Niger, which we integrate as much as possible with local knowledge, HortiHub Niger aims to help increase horticultural productivity and climate resilience for local food and nutrition security and encourage youth employment by promoting economic perspective for youth in horticulture. Through the HortiHub Niger the cluster wants to train over 25 young aspiring agricultural entrepreneurs per year of whom at least 35% are woman (agripreneurs) and 325 vegetable farmers. The HortiHub will help farmers improve their

business operations by trainings, means of new techniques and knowledge transfer, focussing on five horticulture crops (tomatoes, hot peppers, onions, cabbages, eggplants).

This will foster:

- a stronger agripreneurship educational ecosystem
- improved knowledge and collaboration among current and future vegetable farmers
- increased awareness regarding Dutch horti solutions (inputs, irrigation, agritech, know-how) among farmers and
- an assessment of the sales market and a network for the four Dutch cluster partners.

In the end, the cluster aims to contribute to increased local vegetable production in amount and quality, more employment opportunities by more agribusiness, better nutrition and food safety, and a bigger market for Dutch enterprises that contribute to the horticulture solutions (e.g. via quality inputs and technology).

1.2 The impact cluster and the SDG's

The impact cluster also strives to contribute to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals. At least six SDGs can be contributed to

- SDG 02 | Zero Hunger: We guide the local community in improving the local production of vegetables, using innovations and sustainable solutions;
- SDG 03 | Good Health and Well-being: The aim of the impact cluster is to increase the availability of fresh, healthy and locally produced food in Niger;
- SDG 04 | Quality education: The aim of the impact cluster is to transfer knowledge of horticultural production and technology through its trainings;
- SDG 08 | Decent Work and Economic Growth: Encouraging work opportunities and involvement of the local community should promote economic growth;
- SDG 11 | Sustainable Cities and Communities: The impact cluster stimulates local and sustainable production through Dutch technology and knowledge transfer;
- SDG 17 | Partnerships for the goals: Partnerships between the private and public sector are key for success. By working together, we can accelerate the transition to more sustainable horticulture and increased food safety and food security in Niger.



SDG 2: Zero Hunger by improving the local production of vegetables, using innovations and sustainable solutions.

2: Activities and results

The second year has seen a number of milestones and achievements. The process we went through as a team is one of them. On the one hand, because we learned a lot as a consortium; on the other hand, because this second year has been marked by many setbacks. From outside (the attack on a shipment of seeds and irrigation equipment from Burkina Faso), and from within. There was an enormous amount of communication, and yet there were regular moments of miscommunication, the right or sufficient seeds and materials were not present, costs were many times higher than budgeted, or costs had to be incurred that were not included in the budget. The intended Barsha pumps were not suitable for the sites of the lead farmers selected as they required more water than initially anticipated and no, or no suitable, rivers were available at the farmers' sites. Hence, hydropowered pumps were replaced by solar pumps. These were delivered later than intended due to several iterations in the land size and future ideas on expansion. The moment the pumps were ready to be shipped, Chinese New Year celebrations threw a spanner in the works. And that lasts for 16 days!

The withdrawal of UASTM has made it difficult to take over its role and attract and train new groups of budding entrepreneurs. Setting up a new team from HGT was also challenging. Both for the implementing partners as they suddenly had to deal with a new 'entity' and new people to work with. But also for the new team members themselves who were given a dual role: participant in the impact cluster and simultaneously setting up a business from scratch. The lessons learnt collectively from this process are an important milestone. And a stimulus and guide to keep going.

In this chapter, we walk along the project timeline. In various appendices, the underlying reports and documents. We start by giving an overview of the results in numbers.



The HUB-staff, teams from Holland Greentech Niger and Partners for Innovation Niger. From left to right: Idrissa Guisso Djibril (Pfi), Ali Ahmed (Pfi), Habib Bounia Yahaya (HGT), Tafrij Ousseini (HGT), Harouna Abdou (Pfi)

2.1 Results in numbers and modules

Coordination

There has been a lot of coordination work. As stated in next paragraphs, this was (and still is) needed. Looking at the deliverables, we fulfil what we have to deliver: a year plan, an annual report, midterm reports. Coordination and communication amongst the team members is very frequent.

Study module:

Based on the initial delivery of the market study (March 2022), a number of conclusions were drawn, recommendations made and questions asked. The questions were all answered and the updated version of the study was delivered in early 2023.

Demonstration Project Module

Looking at the performance indicators, we see that:

The 12 selected lead farmers started. Their fields are ready and they were supplied with seeds (as far as it was possible) and irrigation equipment. They did not get crop protection products and crop nutrition products.

- 1 Prepared horti-hub site
- 75 agripreneurs were contacted and sensitised through 3 farm days (at the HortiHub land)
- 36 farmers received training through 3 study days
- 785 farmers were sensitised. To prevent the farmers travelling too much, Pfl and HGT teams went at least 5 times to the farmers. Each time there were about 157 farmers.
- 1 sales network is initiated for one cluster member (HGT Niger)
- A permanent framework for sharing between Lead farmers via the WhatsApp platform known as the HortiHub Niger platform



Group photo of Lead farmers after a training session in the HortiHub at Agrifocus



Knowledge Transfer and Capacity Building module

The transfer of relevant Dutch knowledge is aimed at governments, knowledge institutions and the local private sector (NGOs where appropriate). The knowledge can be transferred in different forms. We also want to specifically mention here that it is not only a transfer of knowledge; the Hub also needs the knowledge of local farmers – and this is exactly what happened during the meetings and the visits. Capacity building is a specific form of knowledge transfer. Education and training are central to these activities.

What was our performance, looking at the indicators:

- We established a Hub physically (animated and staffed). Includes furnishing.
- We established a Hub on the field, the HortiHub Land and 'furnished' it: basin, irrigation systems, pumps, solar panels;
- There is a Hub staff
- The comprehensive training programme is partly prepared. Two modular courses for agripreneurs were given (aim was seven). Two more are planned for the end of September, and there will be a certificate ceremony to mark the end of the first cohort of Agripreneurs in October. Three modular courses for farmers were given at the Hub, five courses and trainings were given at the respective twelve fields of the Lea farmers. Making a total of 60 courses (the aim was 13).
- 25 Agripreneurs and 12 Lead Farmers are identified for the first round of the training programme.
- The 25 agripreneurs are trained two times during two weeks. It was and is impossible for the agripreneurs to attend classes several days a week due to home situations, running businesses and distance. All agripreneurs are in the process of making their business plan.
- The TORs for the selection of the second cohort are available and the selection process will be launched shortly.

Communication Module

We admit, working with Holland Branding did not work out well – in the beginning. We might have a look for the next phase if what there idea of communication is, fits with what we can deliver.

Our performance:

- A plan to make communication easier and more fluid is underway
- 1 Google Drive to facilitate communication and document sharing is active
- Coordination meetings to discuss activities and take corrective action where necessary.
- Improving public awareness of the hub's services.
- One website is active
- Several banners are made and every team member in the field has a 'gilet'.
- Leaflets and presentation notes on the project are developed, notebooks and stickers were created to hand over to Lead Farmers and agripreneurs.

2.2 Activities along the timeline: August and September 2022 (third quarter after reporting)

August 2022

28 and 29 August: the first annual report is handed in and the group of 25 agripreneurs is officially determined as well as the group of Lead farmers. Initially, 341 potential Lead Farmers were identified. This number was sifted down to 174 who met the criteria, 12 of whom were finally selected. Important feedback from the Lead Farmers is that they are happy to participate. After all, not all of them are members of an organisation that often preselests international donors and projects. A critical sound came from one Lead Farmer who did want to participate. But a little too often had experiences with projects that were set up with much fanfare and photo opportunities. And from which nothing more was heard after a short period. We guarantee all Lead Farmers that HortiHub Niger is different. We have shown that.

Attached is the report, 1: *Atelier de validation des Lead Farmers*.

September 2022

2 September: Installation of the WhatsApp group for the lead farmers and the executive team, Plateforme HortiHub Niger. There is busy discussion on it, including about things other than what happens and is grown on the land. Too bad for those who don't speak the local language: everything takes place in hausa and zerma. It proves to be an excellent means of communication. But also makes it clear that only some of the lead famers can participate; not everyone has a smart-phone.

September 5 to 9: What is in the annual plan for year 2, Pfl has converted into a daily schedule in Excel. All partners are asked to fill it in. Which proves difficult for some. aQysta supplies pumps and thus depends on when the information is available from all Lead Farmers (LF). Ditto for Rivulis. For HGT, work then continues on setting up the HGT Niger team.

5 September: A large box is delivered to transporter Rimbo's office with seeds. The sender is HGT Burkina and the material is eagerly awaited. Upon distribution to the lead farmers, it appears that there is a shortage. But it must also be acknowledged that the quantity supplied was small in relation to the need expressed on the one hand and to the area to be farmed on the other. Some of the seeds may have been scattered as the farmers are used to. But hybrid seeds go into the ground by the piece. This will become clear during the first campaign in October.



Hybrid seeds. They need to be planted one by one



First arrival of irrigation material



September 15: The WhatsApp group Irrigation for the hub is created. Its aim is to align the cooperation between aQysta, HGT and Rivulis where irrigation is concerned. HGT Netherlands will take the honours from Rivulis. To bring in sufficient expertise, both organisations are adding experts in specific fields. There are 13 participants and a lively discussion. It will take until March 2023 for the pumps to arrive in Niamey.

September 2022 to May 2023: In September, the team of HGT Niger is complete. In addition to Hadja (general management), Tafrij (horticultural engineer specialising in irrigation), Habibou (agricultural and horticultural technician) and Aïchatou (Agronomist) joined. This action provided HGT expertise to support the co-ordination team, which is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of the consortium members on the one hand, and co-ordinating the activities of each consortium member on the other. Since the HGT team's departure, the technical component linked to the installation and equipping of the sites has complemented the work of the Pfl Niger team, which is responsible for technical supervision and the coordination of the training of lead farmers and agripreneurs. Planning meetings, joint missions and feedback meetings are organised, enabling regular updates to be made and appropriate action to be taken. Until March 2023, intensive communication and collaboration with Synergos is underway to explore whether HGT as a team can become a full-fledged company, HGT Niger. To date, this has not materialised, but talks are being held with the provider of the HGT seeds Rijkzwaan. Of the four, Tafrij and Habibou are the ones who have been working intensively with the Pfl team since November 2022. Synergos managed the HGT budget for 2022-2023 and spent it on procurement of seeds, irrigation equipment and salaries.

One of the goals of the Impact Cluster is to ensure that it can continue sustainably and without subsidy. One way to make this happen is to ensure that partners who are not (yet) in Niger open a branch there. Or get representation. It has been agreed with aQysta that in the next phase of the project we will look at whether and, if so, how and by which party the company can be represented in Niger. HGT Niger is a good example of what it is up against to operate independently. The idea was to set up the sale of seeds and irrigation equipment from within the project. This did not work out because, especially in the beginning, orders were not always passed on properly, orders were placed for larger land areas than the 500 m² the Lead Farmers have in the project. And, the biggest hurdle: there was insufficient budget for that. The idea of setting up a business from an impact cluster is and remains good. But deserves special attention and sufficient or additional budget.

16 September: WhatsApp group Irrigation for the Hub has been set up (13 participants). aQysta indicates that the Barsha pump is not suitable for the land of the selected lead farmers. Also for the Lead Farmers operating close to the river, as their land size and therefore their water demand is much larger than initially anticipated. Changing all pumps to solar comes with the additional benefit of not having to train farmers on different technologies. Furthermore, the river has insufficient power to drive the Barsha pump. Also, the differences in the dry and wet periods are too great which affects the flow rate. aQysta is switching to solar-powered pumps. For this, data is needed on the dimensions of the Lead Farmers sites, distance from the water source and if it is a well, how deep it is, the irrigation system to be used, depth of the well, what crops are involved. The Hub Staff works to get the data quick to surface.



Land, irrigated by water from a well needs another pump and irrigation material than the land next to the river, Lead farmer Yacouba explains in front of the camera of Doudou. His land borders the river.

16 to 26 September: Many discussions take place about the site specifications and locations, (supply of the) seeds, irrigation, pumps. There is also confusion about the areas of land. The project is being implemented at 500 sq. m per Lead Farmer. But the investment and effort required for the pumps is disproportionate to such a small area. So the pumps can be deployed on larger areas. In this way, it is increasingly common to see talk and write about 5000 m². This is not a problem for the range of the pumps, but it is a problem for the irrigation kits and seeds; there is no budget for a tenfold increase in seeds. Another challenge that required several rounds of iteration was to keep the selection of pumps as homogenous as possible while accounting for different sites and adjusting the pump performance to the selected irrigation system.

28 September: From the end of September, HGT Netherlands is establishing lines of communication with the large HGT network in 13 countries on the African continent. For exchange and to share the knowledge gained in, for example, Senegal, Rwanda and Benin with the HGT team in Niger. This network provides the HGT Team with the right information on seeds, irrigation and fertilizers. And because many of the network's members will be in Senegal during the March meeting where both the HGT Niger team and the Partners for Innovation team will be present



Agripreneurs sowing in the trays



The harvest. In the presence of Pfi members of the Hub Staff

2.3 Activities along the timeline: October to December

October 2022 The first campaign with Lead Farmers

October 1 to 6: Has the order for seeds from Burkina Faso arrived, the HGT team does not get the shipment. According to transport company Rimbo, customs holds the cargo. We will see a repeat in December.

17 October: UASTM has dropped out but has not officially communicated this. This will continue until July 2023. There will be another delegate at the meeting on 3 November, but he will be a one-off. Pfl is taking over the lead, Synergos is running some courses and together they are trying to fill the gap.

24 to 30 October: the first missions to lead farmers are carried out and demonstrations take place by Pfl and HGT Niger teams in the presence of Synergos. Some facts:

- During the five days, all 12 lead farmers (LF) were visited;
- Each LF had between five and 18 student farmers around them;
- There were 157 participants in total;
- Each trip had three people from Pfl present, two from Synergos, and three from HGT Niger;
- The farmers were explained how to work with the hybrid seeds:
- The teams from Pfl and HGT made substrate, 2/3rd soil and 1/3rd organic manure and water;
- Plastic trays (alveoles) are filled with substrate;
- Each tray has 48 square compartments
- A small hole of 1.5 cm max is made in the substrate with a stick. The seed goes in and the hole is sealed. One seed per compartment;
 - The newly planted seeds are treated like babies; holes are made in the cap of a half-litre water bottle, which is used as a 'soft' watering can;
 - The trays with 72 spots for the seeds and young plants, are placed on an open elevation, covered with thin mesh. Then there is better air circulation, excess water can get out and initial protection from rodents;
 - Within four days, the seeds emerge.

Within two weeks, all lead farmers are visited again as this is when replication takes place, the transfer of the baby plants into the soil. There is a tight schedule from the Field Managers as to when all lead farmers will be visited, assisted with transplanting and further education. This is the first full campaign. must go perfectly.

All details are described in attached reports: 2: *Installation des démonstrations pépinières (Pfl)*, 2: *RAPPORT demonstration et installation HGT 2022* and 2: *Démonstration repiquage hortihub land*.



Making the substrate, dividing it



... amongst youngsters and



..... female farmers

November, December 2022

3 November: workshop with agripreneurs and the consortium members present in Niamey (UASTM, Pfi Niger, HGT Niger, Synergos). Also invited are representatives of RECA, Réseau des Chambres d'Agriculture du Niger (comparable to the Chamber of Commerce for farmers), the largest trade association for farmers and horticulturists FCMN (Fédération des Coopératives Maraîchères du Niger) and the Dutch embassy. They are all important players before the project - and after it.

The aim of the meeting is to get acquainted, explain the Impact Cluster, discuss current issues in the agricultural sector and hear the ideas and expectations of the young agripreneurs. Robust discussions regularly arise. One of the pain points mentioned by many is the dependence of horticulturists on buyers. They are often powerful and are very price-sensitive. Perhaps a solution will be sought within the agripreneurs.

Twenty-five potential agripreneur candidates have been selected and there is a waiting list. Of the 25,

36% female (nine).

36% already working in production and/or want to continue in this (nine)

16% working in marketing and/or want to continue in this (four)

16% working in processing (transformation of products) and/or wish to continue in this (four)

32% working in all three areas and/or want to advance in this (production, processing and marketing)

See also annex: 3: *Rapport détaillé de l'atelier validation des Agripreneurs*



The broad workshop organised around agripreneurs on 3 November.



Presentation by agripreneur Nadia

4 November: first visit to the Horti hub land site. Some facts:

- In the Saga district, there are three 600-m² plots of land owned by Partners for Innovation. These are going to be used as Hortihub land;
- The plots are next to each other and adjacent to rice fields and water supply;
- They are in an area worked by many farmers which ensures security;
- It was decided to use two solar pumps and three irrigation methods here;
- To have enough water even in dry times a basin has been constructed;
- Experimenting with mosquito netting as fencing and greenhouses
- All Lead Farmers, their students and all agripreneurs are invited to see the possibilities;
- Experiments with locally manufactured greenhouses (made of nets) will also be conducted;
- A call has gone out to for three permanent staff to be on site - the Hortihub managers;



The basin, two of the four solar panels and the aQysta solar pump on HortiHub Land.



Experimenting with nets as a fence, keeping animals out

18 November: the second irrigation WhatsApp group is set up, for specialists only. HGT Benin will supply equipment from Rivulis. The Lead Farmers have indicated they do not want a drip system because the rats eat the pipes and that drip irrigation does not satisfy plants in periods of high heat. Besides, aspersion is preferred because in the hot season (with 45 - 50 degrees), the plants thrive best under a micro-climate. This is obtained with a spray system.

Since this is also an experiment, it is decided to use three systems on horti-Hub land: drip system, spray hoses and sprinkler. But there are doubts about the latter. To avoid too much overlap, this app group goes defunct after a week and continues to be communicated in the irrigation app for all participants;

30 November - 25 December: Pfl Niger and HGT Niger teams visit all 12 lead farmers and the HortiHub Land. The aim is to monitor whether the techniques learned are being applied. And to help solve any problems that arise in the process. Several student farmers were again present during all the visits. The HGT and Pfl teams continue to monitor and mentor the LF for a month.

2.4 Activities along the timeline: January to March (first quarter 2023)

January 2023

16 to 19 January : Continued demonstrations and explanations to the Lead farmers by teams from HGT Niger and Pfl. The visits are very time-consuming because a number of Lead Farmers work in far-off, remote areas where there are no roads.



Irrigation with a watering can



Farmers working with trays



HGT-team meets Synergos

17 January : team meeting Pfl, HGT Niger and Synergos with RVO's new PSD Coach Laurent Niyonkuru RVO via zoom.

20 January : agripreneurs receive a document with homework to prepare for the first days 'Lessons in entrepreneurship' see annex 4: *Fiche un pour le presentation*

30 January: working out the programme for agripreneurs. Synergos is on site for three weeks, working with Pfl Niger on the programme and visiting Lead Farmers - as far as possible because security does not allow Europeans to go (and be allowed to go) everywhere;

31 January - 14 February: Four days with the agripreneurs. The first two days are the individual presentations which take more time than planned. On 3 February, we jointly visit HortiHub land. Tuesday 14 is a return day with updated presentations of the plans. Synergos provides the training sessions and suggests working in groups. Which only in a few cases succeeds and leads to results. Attached 5: *Module Agripreneur DEF.PPT*

At the invitation of Synergos, Bruno Gonzalez of Vitalac is coming to give a presentation on Niger's potential to do 'something' in the value chain of cattle and chicken feed. Obviously, this falls outside the five focus areas of the HortiHub, but it opens new doors and opportunities. It is and remains a discussion how far we as an Impact Cluster want to go in forming the agripreneurs. Within the first group of agripreneurs, the presentation led to the creation of a (joint) business plan in this sector.

February

6 and 7 February: The first EU Business Forum in Niamey. Synergos presents Horti Hub Niger, among others. Surprisingly: it also appears to be the only Dutch company at the fair <https://bf-ue-niger.org/>.



February 23: message from aQysta India. Production of the pumps is complete. February 24, they will be shipped. 8 March, the pumps should arrive in Niamey. The address taken is Fondation PetitPouss Niger. The reason is that this foundation has a NIF, a tax number and more often deals with import issues. Through one Mr Adams 'transitaire', the pumps are piloted into Niger. Import costs: 2,355,518 CFA, €3,600. Not budgeted, unexpected as online sources showed a lower import duty – and very high. Initially only €2,950 was budgeted in the project for both shipping and import cost.

March

5 - 10 March: HGT Niger and Pfl Niger team go on a working visit to Senegal. Not an easy exercise to pull off, but it worked out. The participants were very positive for several reasons. The Pfl Team and HGT Niger team got to know each other better and good working arrangements were made.

Meetings were held with Norbert van der Straaten of HGT Netherlands and Simon Lenoir of Rivulis. In addition, the content part of the programme was very instructive. All in all, very successful. It was a collaboration of Agroseed RijkZwaan, Rivulis, HGT Senegal, Quinta and Koppert. Attached is the report, 6: *Rapport International Field Days Sénégal 2023*.



The teams from Pfl Niger and HGT Niger Visiting the HGT International – Rijkzwaan meeting in Senegal.

9 March - 25 June: The budget shortfall is starting to become acute. Synergos consults frequently with partners and makes several proposals. It has also consulted and emailed with RVO. No action can be taken until all financial details are in. Synergos has been working on a proposal for budget reallocation; Synergos has an overspend and HGT's financial situation within the project is bad. We want to avoid at all costs this jeopardising the progress of the project. In the appendix 7. *Arguments, proposal and agreement on the budget lines* a number of proposals and the reasoning behind them. It leads to a number of positive responses:

- aQysta: From our side, we agree to your proposal that the grand budget for the second period of €11,000 of aQysta can be used to mitigate the cost for HGT Niger during this time. Pending is a formal amendment to the project budget to reflect this change.
- Pfl Niger pays Tafrij and Habibou's petrol costs and is willing to advance money if necessary.
- HGT Netherlands will cover the salary costs of HGT Niger employees till september.
- Budget from Rivulis can be spent (as HGT Netherlands takes over from Rivulis). Pending is a formal amendment to the project budget to reflect this change.

Annex 7: Arguments proposal and agreement on the budget Lines shows the costs incurred for HGT.

30 March: aQysta provides manuals in French and Hausa. Manuals for installation, connection to the solar panels, connection to the irrigation system and for the use itself. They are very much appreciated, welcomed and used by the HGT Niger team that were occupied installing the pumps and the solar panels.

31 March: Visit Jan van Saane from RVO. Mixed feelings remain as he does not get to see the best results. With a Lead Farmer, little is seen on the 500 m² of the project, while crops are growing next door. The reason was that the 500 m² had just been harvested, the farmer had used different seeds because HGT supplies for 500 m² and not more. On Horti Hub land, diseases had affected the crop.

2.5 Activities along the timeline: April to June (second quarter 2023)

April

28 April: Members of Boko Haram or other terrorists raid a convoy from Ouagadougou to Niamey. They set fire to a bus and other vehicles. The entire cargo of seeds and irrigation equipment for the project goes up in flames. Also this circumstance was naturally not calculated with and caused a gap of €860 in the project budget.

30 April: meeting at Partners for Innovation Niger with Pfl team and the of the director of Pfl Niger HGT Niger and Synergos. See annex 8: *Rapport du RDV 30 Avril*. Synergos will be present until 17 May. Delivery of report of the first quarter. See annex 8a: *Rapport HortiHub premiere trimestre*.

May

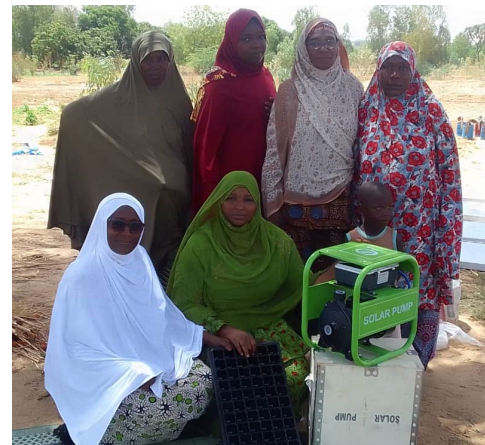
6 May: Arrival of the solar panels from the Netherlands. They are good-quality reconditioned German panels, thicker than modern ones, but with slightly lower output. It was initially thought that two per solar pump could be used, but four are needed. 55 panels are delivered - 52 for the lead farmers and the Horti Hub and three have broken down. Transport to the lead farmers is a task apart because of distance, poor or lack of roads. The panels were not budgeted for because we thought we were going to work with Barsha pumps. An additional cost of 5,667 euros.



Unpacking the solar pumps



Pump connected to panels



Female lead farmer with the pump

08 May: Pfl Niger organised a training session on agricultural marketing for agripreneurs. The training, given by expert Mr Rafat, took place in the partners for Innovation meeting room in the presence of staff from Pfl, HGT and Synergos. As a reminder, the Agripreneurs were monitored to improve the quality of their business plans. This training was designed to provide more details on the marketing aspect. During the course, the Agripreneurs learned about the 7 P's of marketing: product, price, promotion, positioning, advertising, personnel and process. Through this training, the Agripreneurs learned about customer management, how to deal with competition and the perennial need to innovate in the agripreneurship sector. After the training, the Agripreneurs were asked to continue fine-tuning their business plans in anticipation of the next training sessions. Training materials were shared with the Agripreneurs.

10 - 22 May: HGT Niger begins installation of irrigation systems with technical and logistical support from Partners for Innovation. On 16 May on Horti Hub land. The connection to the pump takes more time than planned (different wires than modern panels). But eventually the irrigation systems were put into operation in the presence of all the agripreneurs. The wait for agripreneurs was well worth it. *Mr Rafat's presentation is attached.*

22 May: Online meeting with all partners and RVO. Agenda: Getting acquainted; The state of affairs; Contribution of the partners; Lessons learned for each partner; Plan for the coming months

30 May: Summary, brief overview of activities and numbers of participants attached 9: *Summary of meetings and amount of participants*



Harvested tomatoes



Seedlings in trays just before repiquage



Harvested cabbage

June

26 June: experience and knowledge exchange with all lead farmers, HGT Niger team and Pfi Niger. Everyone in Niamey is present at the office of Partners for Innovation. HGT Netherlands (Norbert) and Synergos (Baud) are participating through a Teams connection. Attached : *10 Compte rendu Partage d'expériences couplé modalités de choix*

A point to note is that Lead Farmers need to better understand costs and returns, and also record this in writing. Important because this data can help them improve their yields and scale up from 500 m2 to 1500 m2. So what measures should be taken? Even if they do have to pay for seeds and irrigation?

2.6 Activities along the timeline: July and August 2023

July

3 July: delivery of the report of the campaign that took place during the dry and (relatively) cold period, from December 2022 to March 2023. See annex: *11 Rapport HH de la campagne sèche froide 2022 2023*



Three lead farmers: Belko Diofo



Mariama Gambi



Soumaila Binandi

Some points and conclusions from the report:

The Lead Farmers were initially sceptical, but are positive on a number of points.

- *1: The Horti Hub project's approach is different from other projects. There is a sense of transparency, honesty and respect for commitments;*
- *2: The LF highly appreciated the selection;*
- *3: Free seeds brings down operating costs;*
- *4: This is the first time they received an irrigation kit;*
- *5: In terms of results, all participants qualified the seeds high quality, both for vigour, shape and firmness of the plants and taste of the harvested products. Tomatoes were firm and large, of good quality, better storable and tasty. The yield of tomatoes as peppers is greater than with the seeds normally used and the time between planting and harvesting is shorter.*
- *6: The whole process was initially viewed suspiciously and dismissively by surrounding farmers. With the positive results, more farmers would like to join. Questions were also asked at the market where the Lead Farmers got their tomatoes from – because of their quality.*

Of course, there are some areas for improvement:

- *For Lead Farmers, seeding in trays is innovative, but it is perceived as too time-consuming;*
- *The quantity of seeds is too small, all Lead Farmers felt. The supply is a recurring problem, at the same time the Lead Farmers have provided larger pieces of land than the 500 m² allowed by the project. As a result, the Lead Farmers used other seeds besides the HGT seeds, of different (sometimes inferior) quality. The fact that the seeds were also often delivered late affected the campaign schedule, the time when delivery could be made. And this in turn affects the buyers of the products of the lead farmers and retailers.*
- *There is disappointment that HGT is not supplying fertilisers and pesticides from the project. A number of farmers kept waiting which has adversely affected the yield. The yield calculations did not take into account the cost of fertilisers and pesticides. As a result, no 100% good comparison can be made with the old situation.*
- *There is demand from fellow farmers from the Lead Farmers to be able to participate in a next project - then even more impact could be made*

Table

One way to measure the impact of the project on farmers is to show the difference of using with and without the hybrid HGT seeds, the new techniques, other irrigation methods and the pumps. The table below includes only a few variables. For the full overview, more variables are needed. This is being worked on. Which is not easy because farmers are not used to keeping records. Data on (cost



of) labour, use of pesticides and manure, transport, differences in sales. Et cetera. The attached table only looks at the differences in use with and without HGT seeds. Not included (but used) are the (costs) of pesticides and manure. Not included neither is the use of the solar pumps. Like in the case of Lead Farmer Yacoubo Djibo, the use of the solar pump diminishes the cost with 3.420 CFA because there is no fuel needed.

Bassin de Bourkourkabé			Lead Farmer Yacoubo Djibo					
Use of	Input	Surface area	Quantity	Cost	Output	Revenue	Total	
HGT		Square metres	seed per piece	Price in CFA	Harvest in kilo	Price per Kilo	In CFA	
Seed	Cabbage	100	100	2.300 CFA	62	130 CFA	8.060 CFA	
	Tomatoes	200	100	15.000 CFA	390	150 CFA	58.500 CFA	
	Pepper	100	100	500 CFA	15	483 CFA	7.245 CFA	
	Irrigation	petrol	6 litres	3.240 CFA				
Total costs				21.040 CFA	total revenu		73.805 CFA	
Margin with the use of HGT seeds				52.765 CFA				
Use of	Input	Surface area	Quantity	Cost	Output	Revenue	Total	
Local		Square metres	seed per gramme	Price in CFA	Harvest in kilo	Price per Kilo	In CFA	
Seed	Cabbage	100	10	1.000 CFA	40	130 CFA	5.200 CFA	
	Tomatoes	200	10	5.500 CFA	205	150 CFA	30.750 CFA	
	Pepper	100	10	500 CFA	10	483 CFA	4.830 CFA	
	Irrigation	petrol	6 litres	3.240 CFA				
Total costs				10.240 CFA	total revenu		40.780 CFA	
Margin with the use of HGT seeds				30.540 CFA				

Analysis of these two tables shows that the lead farmer made a profit of 52.765 CFA with the use of HGT seeds and 30.540 CFA with local seeds under the same working conditions. Meaning a positive difference of 22.225 CFA. Which on the relatively small area is a significant increase in yield.

5 - 10 July: The seed delivery is too late for the next campaign that was supposed to start in May and end in September. The next campaign will then start from October. We propose to do an experiment - an interim campaign. Precisely because the project also offers room to experiment, and because climate change has disrupted regular rainfall, we can see if there are Lead farmers who want to participate in this. This means starting from July. Nine Lead Farmers do have an ear for an 'intermediate campaign'.

Some facts: After planting, it takes between 25 days and 37 days before the baby plants can be transplanted - this depends on how fast the plants come up, After transplanting, you have to wait at least 45 days before you can start harvesting. Which takes an average of 40 days. In total, a campaign takes around 110 days - over three months

10 July : delivery of (previously completed) market study. There was confusion as the date of the report was still at March 2022. The recommendations made in the first report have been developed. It has become a voluminous study, see annex 12: *RAPPORT GENERAL HORTI HUB Etude Baseline*.

24 July: Second quarter report by Partners for innovation Niger. see annex 13: *Horti Hub report trimestre 2 2023*

26 July: Coup d'état

August

2 - 18 August: Letter from Boris Segbenou of UASTM stating the reason for leaving the project. Also in the same letter the request to participate again. Most partners are not in favour of this. Partly because it is not clear whether the university would be able to meet its work commitments this time. Some of the consortium partners lost their faith.

17 to 23 August: Pfl Niger and HGT Niger carried out a follow-up mission to Lead Farmers. The objectives of this activity were

- To check the condition of the irrigation system installed for each Lead Farmer
- Identify and correct any difficulties in using the irrigation kits.
- Check the security of the irrigation kits at the level of each Lead Farmer
- Support Lead Farmers in drawing up the cropping calendar for the coming market gardening season.

It was also an opportunity for the Horti Hub team to gather information on the first positive impacts of the irrigation kits. The testimonies of two Lead Farmers are very satisfying. First Lead Farmer (Mariama Tinni): “By using the solar kits, I save 1,500 CFA francs a day (just about 2,5 euros) on fuel”. Second Lead Farmer (Soumaila Binandi): “The installation kit has enabled me to plant my entire plot. I no longer have to buy fuel or spend energy on watering. It's a great relief for me”.

24 August: Pfl Niger has launched the selection process for the second cohort of agripreneurs. The newly designed form is available and the call for applications has been written. The application period is 20 days, i.e. from 31 August to 19 September 2023. Pfl, HGT and Synergos, with the help of an external consultant, will go through the applications and select the 25 young people to be trained by the project from 20 September 2023.

25 August – 19 September: Gathering last information, updating finances and finalising annual report.



Kids playing on the dunes of Niamey

3: The project along the Financial Bar

Introduction & Status of project finances

The following section of the report present a detailed view on the current financial standing of the project. To draw up this section, financial information from all project partners was needed. Not everything has been received in time and in the format shared to the project partners. Synergos hired aQysta BV to make the financial reporting¹.

In order to streamline the information received, a timesheet template was created for all project participants and a cloud storage was enabled to upload receipts and bills.

Despite these efforts, not financial information has been received from the partners UASTM and Rivulis despite the fact that they have received upfront financing for the project as per the payment schedule of RVO. Their costs incurred are therefore not covered in the reporting.

UASTM dropped out in summer 2022 for reasons of internal re-organization Their duties were taken over by Partners for Innovation (Pfi) and Synergos. In August 2023, the university requested to return to the project, but the partners within the consortium did not respond positively as trust had disappeared.

Rivulis also did not submit its hours spent or cost incurred to the project coordinator until now. However, the company has played an important role in the project as indicated in the progress reporting above.

Project Treasury / Cash flow

The table below indicates the transfers of funds from RVO to the project lead Synergos and how these funds have been made available to the project partners. As can be seen in the table, a few deviations were made as highlighted in the row of “delta”. These deviations were incurred due to unforeseen aspects in the execution of the project, such as higher cost in implementation (e.g. logistics), inactiveness of UASTM and non-suitability of Barsha Pumps for the sites.

Total per partner as per initial budget year 1 - Year 3 (2021-2024)		HGT	Synergos	PFI	aQysta	Rivulis	UASTM	Total
Subsidy to be received per partner		€57,000	€130,000	€154,000	€37,000	€15,000	€57,000	€450,000
Project Budget per partner		€95,000	€216,667	€256,667	€61,667	€25,000	€94,999	€750,000
Funds transferred by RVO		HGT	Synergos	PFI	aQysta	Rivulis	UASTM	Total
Year 1 (2021-2022)	40% of €450,000		€180,000					€180,000
Year 2 (2022-2023)	30% of €450,000		€135,000					€135,000
Transferred by Synergos to partners		HGT	Synergos	PFI	aQysta	Rivulis	UASTM	Total
Year 1 (2021-2022)		€22,800	€52,000	€61,800	€14,800	€6,000	€22,800	€180,000
Year 2 (2022-2023)		€25,288	€83,532	€46,200	€0	€0	€0	€135,000
Delta Funds transfered		HGT	Synergos	PFI	aQysta	Rivulis	UASTM	Total
Year 1 (2021-2022)		€0	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0
Year 2 (2022-2023)		€8,168	€24,532	€0	-€11,100	-€4,500	-€17,100	€0
Total per partner based on re-allocation til date		HGT	Synergos	PFI	aQysta	Rivulis	UASTM	Total
Project budget		€108,814	€257,553	€256,667	€43,167	€17,500	€66,499	€450,000
Subsidy to be received		€65,168	€154,532	€154,000	€25,900	€10,500	€39,900	€750,000

¹ Both companies have signed a commercial partnership agreement outside of the project partner agreement, for aQysta to support Synergos with the project administration of the Niger Hub project.



To facilitate this change, Synergos agreed with the concerned partners aQysta, Rivulis and UASTM to forego their budget of the second year and to allocate it to Synergos and HGT. This covered the extra travel costs, (part) of the solar panels, the import costs of the pumps and part of the work. See also the attachment 7: *Arguments proposal and agreement on the budget Lines*

Observations on project budget & cashflow

The table below indicates the total cost spent per partner and module, comparing the cost incurred with the total budget per partner.

As also stated above, UASTM and Rivulis did not submit a cost administration and could therefore not be included in the overview.

As can be seen from the table, Synergos and HGT are at their budgeted cost whereas PFI and aQysta have underspent their budget.

With respect to the budget situation of aQysta, the company has plaid a smaller role in the first two years of the project than initially anticipated and therefore also only received budget for the first year from Synergos (as indicated in the table above), in order to limit their liability to the project partner. The project consortium is looking to review this situation with the budget amendment for the third year.

PFI was actively involved in the project and incurred many more hours than initially budgeted. However, on the other hand the company, underspent on other cost, especially with respect to the Journey Cost (i.e. rental of cars and travel for Farmer Field Days and Demonstration Days) and security cost. To compensate these two countering effects, the cost for human resources was capped at a maximum deviation of 20% for this reporting and it is expected that the above mentioned budget gap for rentals, transportation and security will be addressed in the proposed budget amendment.

		Cost Incurred Year 1 + Year 2					
		Synergos	HGT	PFI	UASTM	Rivulis	aQysta
Coordination	Human resources (use of time)	€43,137	€0	€11,520			€0
	Journey Costs	€5,930	€0	€0			€0
	Accommodation Costs	€3,521	€0	€0			€0
	Other Costs	€1,500	€0	€0			€0
Study	Human resources (use of time)	€0	€0	€15,600			€0
	Journey Costs	€0	€0	€0			€0
	Accommodation Costs	€0	€0	€0			€0
	Other Costs	€0	€0	€4,404			€0
Knowledge	Human resources (use of time)	€20,244	€1,450	€89,498			€0
	Journey Costs	€1,522	€3,979	€8,807			€0
	Accommodation Costs	€8,749	€0	€0			€0
	Other Costs	€152	€6,825	€7,326			€0
Demonstration	Human resources (use of time)	€39,506	€27,933	€6,048			€19,599
	Journey Costs	€5,438	€276	€0			€0
	Accommodation Costs	€2,906	€0	€0			€0
	Other Costs	€17,063	€22,970	€0			€4,737
Communication	Human resources (use of time)	€975	€0	€0			€0
	Journey Costs	€0	€0	€0			€0
	Accommodation Costs	€0	€0	€0			€0
	Other Costs	€0	€0	€0			€0
Total Costs incurred		€150,643	€63,433	€143,201	€0	€0	€24,336
Total Initial Budget for Y1 and Y2 (as per grant proposal)		€150,558	€64,140	€167,757	€57,100	€19,375	€41,259
Delta total cost vs initial budget (- equals overspending)		-€86	€708	€24,556	€57,100	€19,375	€16,924

Synergos did spend much more time on the coordination module than initially anticipated. This included hours spent on the administration itself and guiding project partners in the administration. There is no separate module or activity for this, therefore this falls under coordination, divided among the various activities.

Under coordination, Synergos also spent 80% of its time guiding the HGT Niger team. This team has been active since October 2022. The mentoring has been necessary because although the team members are competent in their field (agronomy and technical agronomy), they are new to this field and new to the project. Also, the brand-new team had not worked in such a project before and the collaboration with Pfl had to be initiated. Besides the guidance, Synergos also took charge of spending the 2022-2023 HGT budget. This increased the speed of action and efficiency, but the amount of administrative and project work also increased. Also, due to the lack of a local bank account, many financial transactions had to be done through another organisation Synergos joined, such as Fondation PetitPouss Niger. Many cash payments were also made. The project partners would have preferred a different approach, but had to choose this approach because of the project timeline and the smooth progress of the project.

Looking ahead to the completion of the period September 2022 - August 2023 and the final period to October 2024, a budget shortfall will occur in the coordination module. Especially with the current political situation in Niger, the last year's grant (€21,336) and co-contribution will not allow it to be fully mitigated.

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Taken out of the presentation for the first group of agripreneurs

4: Suggestions for a good continuation

Looking back on the past year, much has been achieved, but as also indicated in the introduction, we had to do a lot of fitting and measuring. We therefore propose a number of adjustments to ensure that the project not only enters its final year, but can continue. Given the current political situation, adjustments will have to be made and more time will be spent on coordination. Especially as Dutch partners will increasingly work together under one umbrella. We mention some of them:

- Some of the budget lines should be partially reallocated, in consultation with RVO and the partners. The project consortium proposes to prepare a suggested budget change;
- The number of hours left should be discussed with RVO and increased if possible;
- The large differences in the hourly rate in the original budget should be reviewed. Currently, the hourly rates as per the budget do not even allow all partners to cover their direct personnel costs
- Additional time will need to be spent on coordination in the coming period:
 - aQysta wants to work with Synergos to see if, and if so, how it can get a foothold in Niger under the umbrella of HGT. This will be a challenging task given the current political situation in Niger and the budget left in the project.
 - With HGT, it should be determined how to proceed and what actions need to be taken to do so
 - The first group of agripreneurs is still working on their business plans, Synergos is guiding them (see also next point).
- The project actually consists of two complementary components, both of great value to the country, but too ambitiously placed in one impact cluster. Our proposal would be to clarify each group and their connecting point and split the project into two parts.
 - 1: Continue the part with the Lead farmers and expand it with two more Lead Farmer groups. Bearing in mind that the actual budget does not allow this.
 - 2: For the agripreneurs evaluate the first cohort and select a second cohort. Pfl Niger will take the lead on this activity, which would have been managed by UASTM, but in collaboration with Synergos make an appropriate proposal involving the incubator at Abdou Moumouni University (if the situation in the country allows).

A side step: To be really distinctive, we are in contact with a company that makes management games for schools (in the Netherlands) and incubators. We are looking into making an existing game suitable for local use.

- Have a look at www.bizzgames.nl. It is in Dutch, but we are planning to make an example in English (and if we all agree and there will be money for it) in French
- Knowing that the internet is not always as good and strong everywhere, we will also take this into account – not too much fancy gadgets
- This means an adjustment to the approach we have now and to the budget.

5: The cluster's players in year two

The start in 2021 had a limited number of active participants per consortium partner. This changed significantly from September 2022. As the number of people increased, the number of communication moments increased proportionally - as did the knowledge and opinions. With ultimately good results, but some later than planned and desired. UASTM was also included because there was still a lot of contact with Boris Segbenou to see if, and if so, how we could still take steps with the university's withdrawal. Also on individual with both Nafissa and Agada. Both have other jobs and no more involvement with the UASTM.

Organisation	Names	Role / task / expertise	Works from
aQysta	Lennart Budelmann	CFO. Irrigatie deskundige	Netherlands
	Alisha Chhetri	Accountant	Nepal / India
	Tim van der Linden	Irrigatie deskundige	Malawi
	Maarten	Pomp deskundige	Netherlands
	Prashant Sutar	Sourcing manager	India

Organisation	Names	Role / task / expertise	Works from
Holland Greentech	Norbert van der Straaten	CEO HGT Nederland Horticulture expert	Netherlands
	Priva Kabre	Manager HGT Burkina	Burkina Faso
	Joel	Irrigation expert	Oeganda
	Jelila	Manager HGT Benin	Benin
	Traore	Irrigation expert HGT Benin	Benin
	Albert	Agronomist HGT Rwanda	Rwanda
	Hadja Mamadou	Intended manager HGT Niger	Niger
	Tafrij Ousseini	Irrigation expert HGT Niger	Niger
	Habin Bouniayahaya	Agricultural engineer HGT Niger	Niger
	Aichatou Assao	Agronomist HGT Niger	Niger

Organisation	Names	Role / task / expertise	Works from
Partners for Innovation	Rakia Gazibo	CEO Pfl / Agrifocus	Niger
	Idrissa Guisso Djibril	Coördinator HortiHub Niger	Niger
	Harouna Abdou	Field Manager HortiHub	Niger
	Ali Ahmed	Field Manager HortiHub	Niger
	Zeinabou Hamani	Agrifocus	Niger
	Yusuf Ibrahi Beidou	Deputy manager Pfl	Niger
	Boubacar Mahamadou Bachirou	Finance Pfl / Agrifocus	Niger



Horticulture Hub Niger

Organisation	Name	Role / task / expertise	Works from
Rivulis	Simon Lenoir	Representative Africa, point of contact for the project	Senegal

Organisation	Names	Role / task / expertise	Works from
Synergos Communicatie	Baud Schoenmaeckers	CEO. Project leader	Netherlands
	Abdou Yacouba (Doudou)	Communications, photographer	Niger

Organisation	Names	Role / task / expertise	Works from
UASTM	Boris Segbenou	Founder, responsible for the project	France, Togo, Niger
	Nafissa	Assistant	Niger
	Agada	Responsible for project agripreneur	Niger

