



## Concept

**AFTER project** (*African Food Tradition revisited by Research*) involves seven African countries: Benin, Cameroon, Egypt, Madagascar, Senegal, Ghana and South Africa and four EU countries: France, Portugal, Italy and the United Kingdom.

Ten traditional products which represent three main categories of products are studied:

- Fermented cereal-based products: *Akpan, Gowe, Kenkey, Kishk Saæedi*
- Fermented salted fish and meat: *Lanhouin, Kitoza, Kong*
- Traditional plant based extracts for functional foods: *Bissap, Buy, Jaabi*

By generating and sharing knowledge on food technology AFTER intends, for each product group, to improve, develop and create a product or a technology representing an interest shared between European and African food companies. So it contributes directly to improving the competitiveness of these products and it facilitates their implementation and uptake by food companies and their marketing on African and European markets.

## Objectives

The overall objective of AFTER is to improve traditional African products in the light of combined and/or new technologies for mutual benefits for the consumers, the companies and the producers of Africa and Europe.

The project has four general objectives valid for the ten traditional products from Africa:

- **To reach comprehensive scientific knowledge** of the existing know-how on technologies, processes and products.
- **To propose improved traditional processes by a reengineering of the unit operations** with the aim of improving the safety and nutritional quality while keeping or improving the organoleptic characteristics of traditional products.
- **To reach objective criteria of acceptability of the traditional products by the consumers** and to ensure that the products can effectively access the EU markets in view of regulatory and ethical issues while also protecting the intellectual rights of the people in Africa.
- **To present the results into ready-to-use information for food companies** including SMEs via guidelines on quality management, food law and regulation and consumer protection and to transfer the results to the stakeholders from Africa and from the EU.

## Activities

Project AFTER is structured into 7 workpackages (WP1-WP7) concerning scientific and technical activities and a workpackage 0 related to coordination.

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- WP0 ó Management and coordination
- WP1 - Characterisation of traditional products and know-how
- WP2 - Process reengineering of fermented cereal-based products
- WP3 - Process reengineering of meat and fish products
- WP4 - Process reengineering for traditional functional foods
- WP5 - Consumer and market acceptance
- WP6 - Appropriation of the improved processes and technologies
- WP7 - Dissemination and exploitation

### Partnership

- Cirad : Agricultural Research for Development - France
- UAC : University of Abomey Calavi / Faculty of Agronomy - Benin
- CSIR : Council for Scientific and Industrial Research - South Africa
- FAAU : Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University - Egypt
- ACTIA : Association de Coordination Technique pour l'Industrie Agro-alimentaire - France
- UT : Antananarivo University - Madagascar
- UCAD : Ecole Supérieure Polytechnique / Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar - Senegal
- ENSAI : National School of Agro-Industrial Sciences - Cameroon
- ESB : Escola Superior de Biotecnologia - Portugal
- NRI : Natural Resources Institute - United Kingdom
- AAFEX : Association AFrique agro EXport - Senegal
- SPES : Spread European Safety - Italy with the next partners involved:
  - ANIA: Associaton Nationale des Industries Alimentaires (Paris-France)
  - FEDERALIMENTARE: Federazione Italiana dell'Industria Alimentare (Rome ó Italy)
  - FIAB: Federación española de Industrias de Alimentación y Bebidas (Madrid-España)
  - FIPA: Federação das Indústrias Portuguesas Agro-Alimentares (Lisboa-Portugal)
- INRA : National Institute for Agricultural Research - France
- FRI : Food Research Institute - Ghana
- Racines - France
- NRC : National Research Centre - Egypt

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