



Tropentag 2022
September 14-16, 2022
Conference on International Research on Food Security, Natural Resource
Management and Rural Development
organised by the Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic



Agroecology in Burkina Faso, reconciling adaptation to production conditions and need for quality diets

Vincent-Paul Sanon^{1,4}, Souleymane Ouédraogo^{2,4}, Loukmane Goumbané^{3,4}, Beranger Bayala^{3,4}, Patrice Toé^{3,4}

¹University Nazi BONI (UNB), Inst. for Rural Development (IDR)/LEREDES, Burkina Faso

²Institute of Environment and Agricultural Research (INERA), Burkina Faso

³University Nazi Boni (UNB), Inst. for Rural Development (IDR), Burkina Faso

⁴Laboratory of rural studies on environment and the economic and social development (LERE/DES)



Introduction

In Burkina Faso, a large proportion of the rural population relies on agriculture. However, production conditions are harsh and continuously deteriorated by major challenges, including food security, continued population growth and climate change. In this context, agroecology is emerging while conventional agricultural practices are increasingly proving to be unsustainable. The question that arises is whether Burkina Faso can rely on agroecology to meet the challenge of food security?

Material and Methods

This exploratory study was performed in seven (07) regions of Burkina Faso. It combined two approaches:

- **Quantitative approach:** questionnaires were addressed to 65 identified agroecology actors;
- **Qualitative approach:** semi-structured interviews were performed with 17 resource persons.

Collected data included promoted agroecological practices, actors' roles, and synergies for promoting agroecology in Burkina Faso.

Results and Discussion

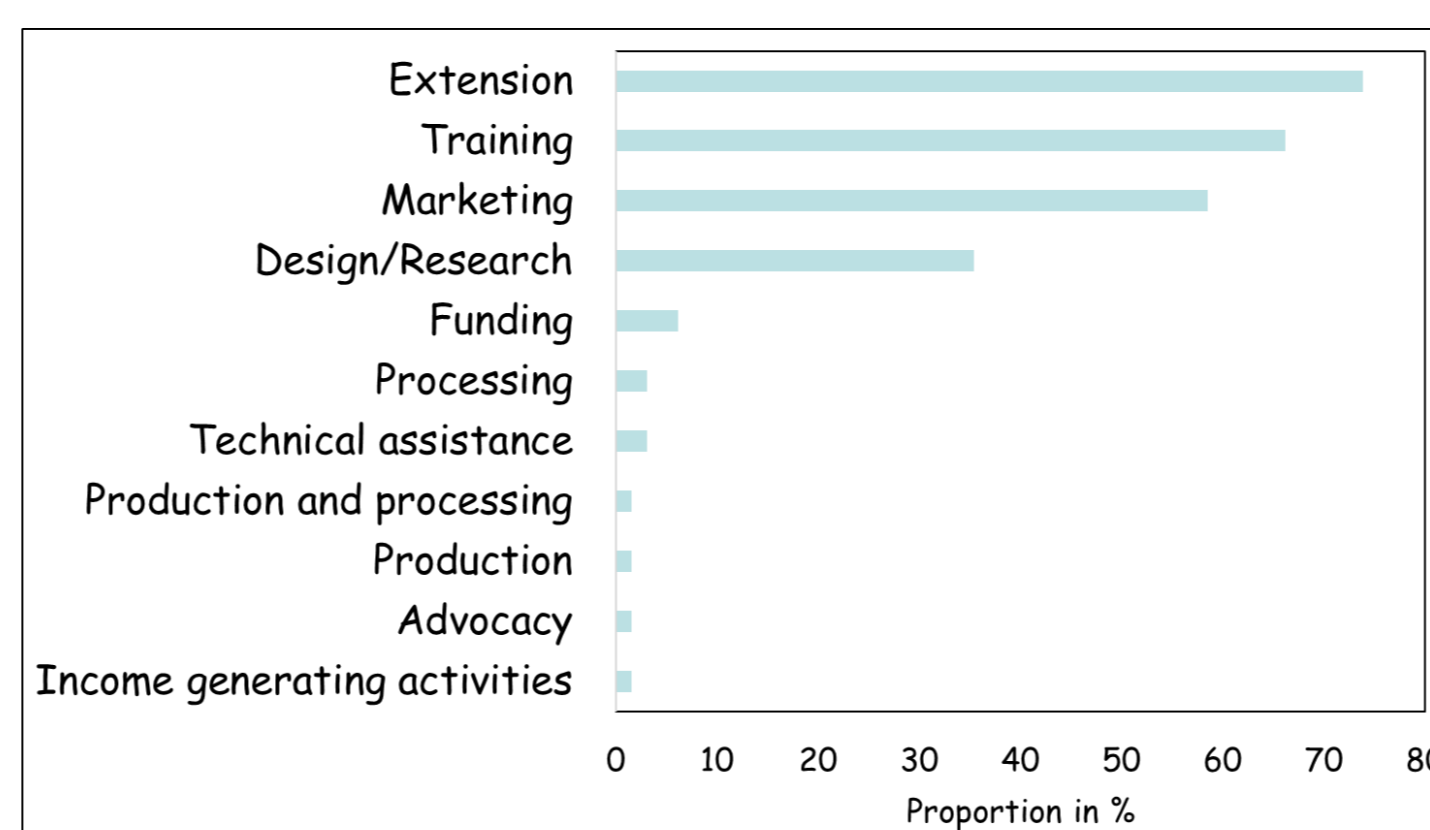
Agroecology actors and practices

- The study established a repertoire of 325 actors based on literature and empirical data.
- More than 68 agroecological techniques are adopted by the actors.

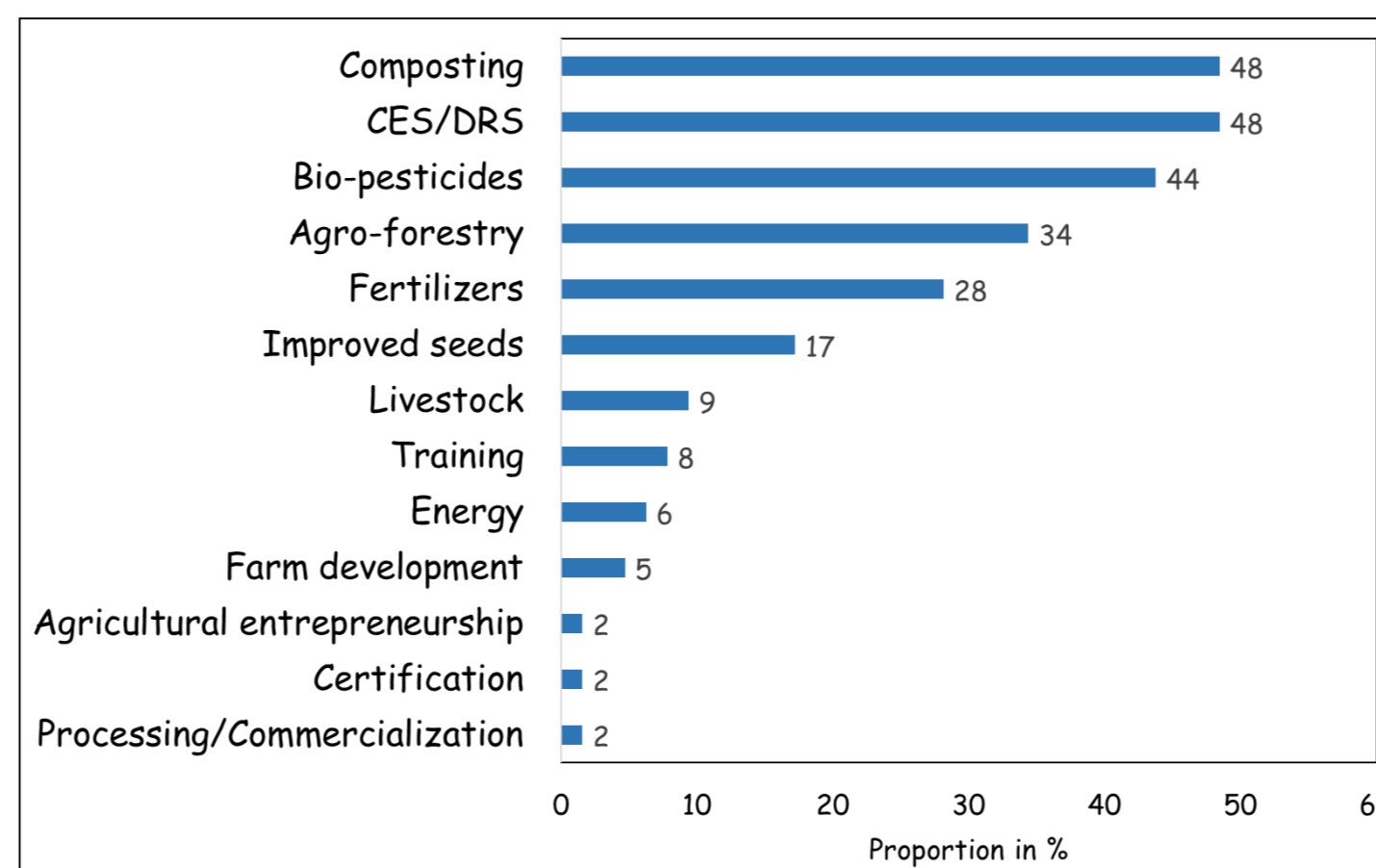
Synergy for the development of agroecology

Actors are involved in many interactions and Networks:

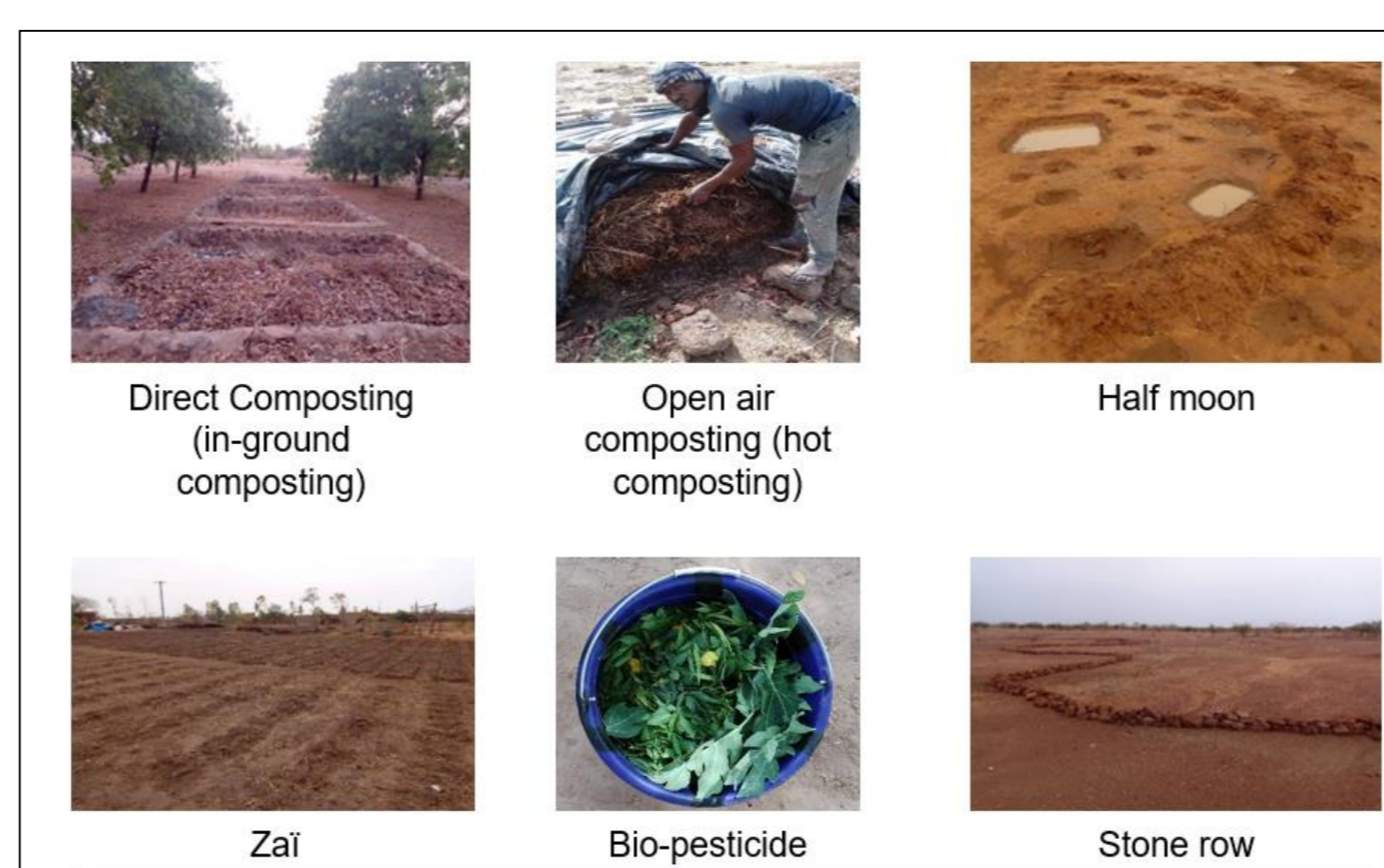
- Networks of membership: consultation frameworks, umbrella structures, action groups
- Technical support networks: Extension services, local authorities, universities and research institutes.
- Research networks: Universities and research institutes (research projects).



a



b



c

Advantages of agroecology:

- Perception of agroecology as alternative to the detrimental effects of conventional agriculture, and climate change;
- Contribution of science;
- Diversity of actors.

Constraints: The main difficulties of actors are related to financial, material, low level of professionalism, land access and security.

Agroecology is increasingly adopted because of its advantages (increased crop yields, improved of producers' incomes) (Coulibaly et al. 2019).

Its contribution to improve food security requires re-structuring of all aspects of the food system, including social, economic, and political structures (Gliessman 2011).

Harmonization, and definition of consensus guidelines are required to guide actors actions in the development of agroecology (Bationo 2020).

Figure captions

- a) Frequency of actions to promote agroecology;
b) Frequency of agroecological practices adopted by stakeholders;
c) Image of dominant agroecological practices

Conclusions and Outlook

With regard to the diversity of actors, their synergy and the adoption of agroecological practices, agroecology has a great potential for developing safe food systems and contributing to poverty alleviation in Burkina Faso. However, for the country to be able to rely on this sector, it requires restructuring, funding, trained actors, and a coherent and relevant framework.

References

- Bationo B. A. (2020). Evaluation agro écologique de la production agricole et des systèmes alimentaires Burkina Faso. Contribution dans le cadre du programme « Intégration d'approches agro écologiques pour accroître la résilience au changement climatique et améliorer les systèmes. FAO
- Coulibaly, A., Motelica-Heino, M. and Hien, E. (2019) Determinants of Agroecological Practices Adoption in the Sudano-Sahelian Zone. Journal of Environmental Protection, 10, 900-918.
- Steve Gliessman (2011): Agroecology and Food System Change, Journal of Sustainable Agriculture, 35:4, 347-349

Acknowledgements



CONFEDERATION PAYSANNE DU FASO (C.P.F.)
01 BP 2978 Ouagadougou 01
TEL /FAX.: 25 30 18 44
E-mail: confederationpaysannefaso@gmail.com

