



**IFAR 2006 Professional Development Program
Completion Report
[800 words]**

Instructions:

Please submit the completion report by email, using this form, through the sponsoring CGIAR Center to ifar@ifar4dev.org within three months after the completion of the fellowship.

Please check if Thalwitz Scholarship

Yes

Name of Applicant -----Tala Gueye-----

Title of research: "Development of improved inter-and intraspecific germplasm for irrigated and lowland rice-based systems in Senegal".

Sponsoring CGIAR Center Africa Rice Center (WARDA)-----

I. Work Program goals achieved (maximum length: 200 words)

We have undertaken IFAR activities related to "Development of improved inter and intraspecific germplasm for irrigated and lowland rice-based systems in senegal".

Irrigated system:

Fourty six (46) inter and intraspecific varieties/lines were tested at station on two sites (Ndiaye and Fanaye) representative of the Senegal river valley. Sixty eight (68) farmers from 26 villages were invited to participate in a participatory varietal trial during de rainy season 2006. Grain yield, bird resistance (type of panicle blad), Tillering, Grain quality and Time to maturity were the best characters which represented more than 95% of farmer's choice at all locations. Characters as resistance to salinity, resistance to weed and N efficiency obtained less than 5%. Ten (10) new varieties were selected by farmers according to their own preferences.

Great enthusiasm of farmers for this initiative, which integrates their preferencies, were noted. They are ready to use the new release varieties at the end of the process because they are now conscious of the importance of participatory approach to better disseminate new improved rice germplasm. Interesting socioeconomic data were generated by this study.

Lowland based system:

In lowland based system, fourty four (44) farmers from eleven (11) different villages or Rural Community (RC) were surveyed. Landraces and some old introduced varieties were noted. Rice farmers are characterised only by women which didn't use fertiliser (nitrogen). Salinity, need of modern varieties and capacity building in Commiunity Seed Technology (CST) were considered as main constraints. Availability of promising new varieties are very well considered by farmers which are ready to experiment PVS with modern varieties suggested by research.

II. Plans for follow-up (maximum length: 200 words)

Participatory vaietal Selection are shown interesting results at station. Farmers are enthusiastic for this partnership and strong motivated to use selected new varieties which integrated their own preferencies.

To enhance rice genetic diversity in irrigated and lowland rice based system in Senegal, on-farm trial will be undertaken in the forthcoming seasons, in many locations, with 10 preselected varieties, during two seasons. Every farmer will be considered as one replication in a "mother baby" design. Two visits will be organised with farmers one at flowering and another at maturity stage. Post-harvest activity and also cooking quality will be organised.

Minimum 5 of these varieties will be release at the end of the experiment with 3 varieties at lowland based system and 2 at irrigated system. Minimum of 100 farmers in evry ecology will be trained on community seed production and management. To document all these activities, multimedia CD will be made at the end of the project.

III. Report budget utilization including whether budget was spent as planned (maximum length: 100 words)

The budget allocation as proposed was utilized according to the line item of expenditure.

Item	Expences (\$)
Personnel	3747.45
Research supply and Services	1750.2
Equipment	1375.17
Office expences	
Training and other knowledge sharing activities	491.13
Travel	1690.48
Communication	187.81
General Administrative expences	382.97
Other supply	201.36
Total:	9326.56
Proposed Budget (\$)	11,000
Balance (\$)	1173.44

The remaining budget will be use to organize a workshop with farmer as planned and to compile a multimedia CD including main PVS activities.

IV. Assessment of the fellowship experience and general comments. (maximum length: 300 words)

The fellowship experience reflects a nice partnership with farmers, through a participatory varietal selection (PVS), to enhance the diversification of rice varieties for their specific needs. It is in this context that our research study successfully identified new varieties that farmers preferred. Increasing grain yield remained great priority for farmers which take also attention on resistance to stresses. The socio-economic survey contributed to better understand farmers preoccupations and main constraints with which they are faced. Among these constraints, seeds production take a good place.

Besides, the results obtained during the conduct of the research study, nice relations developed with farmers, could be considered as a interesting achievement.

Mechanism of IFAR fellowship which enhance partnerships, and collaboration between different centers is an effective mean of maximizing resource to stimulate scientific excellence in agriculture and related fields. Such initiatives should be encouraged because they offer to many scientists, particularly those in SSA, possibilities of networking and to achieve some of their research goals

The allowance of the financial resources was very well planned and were adequate to conduct all research activities. We thank a lot IFAR for, to agreed to finance our project and WARDA, for its sponsor and all other offered facilities.