



GABON

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KEY INDICATORS, 2000–2011

Total Public Agricultural Research Spending	2000		2008		2011
CFA francs (million constant 2005 prices)	563.7		227.7		166.7
PPP dollars (million constant 2005 prices)	2.2		0.9		0.7
Overall Growth		-60%		-27%	
Total Number of Public Agricultural Researchers					
Full-time equivalents (FTEs)	36.9		54.5		42.6
Overall Growth		48%		-22%	
Agricultural Research Intensity					
Spending as a share of agricultural GDP	0.22%		0.12%		0.09%
FTE researchers per 100,000 farmers	17.81		28.84		23.14

Note: Data procedures and methodology are available on page 2.

► Agricultural R&D spending has fallen drastically since 2000. Gabon's agricultural R&D spending as a percentage of AgGDP (0.09 percent in 2011) is now one of Africa's lowest.

► Unlike many countries in West and Central Africa, Gabon's upper middle-income status has precluded it from being considered as a recipient of donor funding, exacerbating its financial hardship.

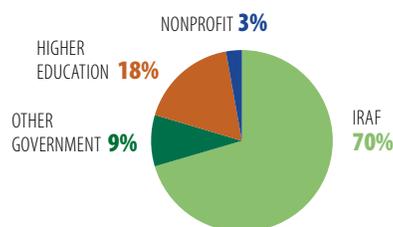
► The country's agricultural research agencies lack staffing, equipment, and functional R&D programs. Important research areas, including forestry and livestock, are entirely overlooked.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES, 2011

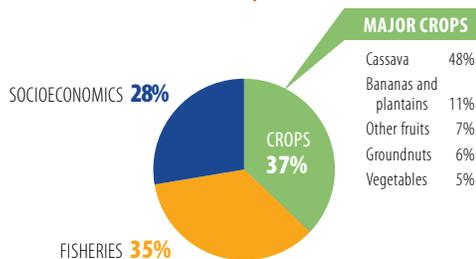
Spending Allocation	
Salaries	70%
Operating and program costs	30%
Funding Sources	
Government	100%

Note: Shares are based on data for IRAF only.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE, 2011



RESEARCH FOCUS, 2011

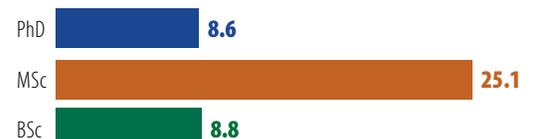


Notes: Major crops include those that are the focus of at least 5 percent of all crop researchers; 21 percent of total crop researchers focused on a wide variety of other crops.

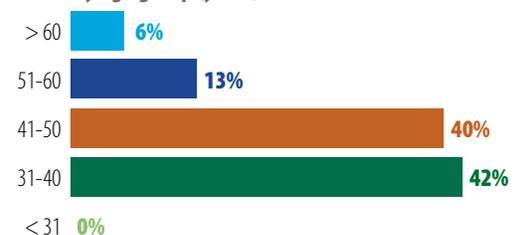
RESEARCHER PROFILE, 2011



Number by qualification (FTEs)



Share by age group (years)



OVERVIEW OF GABON'S AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AGENCIES

Four agencies conduct agricultural R&D in Gabon, the largest of which by far is IRAF, accounting for 70 percent of the country's agricultural researchers (30 FTEs) in 2011. IRAF is structured under four departments focusing on general agriculture, animal production science, plant technology, and the rural economy. Each department operates several research units and laboratories, and in addition to its headquarters in Libreville IRAF also operates a research station in Ndouaniang. Although IRAF's official mandate encompasses crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, and socioeconomic research, funding constraints have left many priority research areas entirely unstaffed and unfunded. The only other government agency that conducts (limited) crop research in Gabon is CIAM (4 FTEs in 2011). INSAB (7 FTEs) is the country's only higher education agency. It falls under the University of Science and Technology of Masuku, and its research activities mostly focus on crops and postharvest issues. IGAD (3 FTEs), a nonprofit organization, conducts research on issues related to bananas and maize.

4 AGENCIES	
 Government	2
 Higher education	1
 Nonprofit	1

 For a complete list of the agencies included in ASTI's dataset for Gabon, visit www.asti.cgiar.org/gabon.

ASTI DATA PROCEDURES AND METHODOLOGIES

- ▶ The **data underlying this fact sheet** were predominantly derived through primary surveys, although some data were drawn from secondary sources or were estimated.
- ▶ **Public agricultural research** includes research conducted by government agencies, higher education agencies, and nonprofit institutions.
- ▶ ASTI bases its calculations of human resource and financial data on **full-time equivalent (FTE) researchers**, which take into account the proportion of time staff actually spend on research compared with other activities.
- ▶ ASTI presents its financial data in 2005 local currencies and **2005 purchasing power parity (PPP) dollars**. PPPs reflect the relative purchasing power of currencies more effectively than do standard exchange rates because they compare prices of a broader range of local—as opposed to internationally traded—goods and services.
- ▶ ASTI estimates the **higher education sector's research expenditures** because it is not possible to isolate them from the sector's other expenditures.
- ▶ Note that, due to **decimal rounding**, the percentages presented can sum to more than 100.



For more information on ASTI's data procedures and methodology, visit www.asti.cgiar.org/methodology; for more information on agricultural R&D in Gabon, visit www.asti.cgiar.org/gabon.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS FACTSHEET

AgGDP	Agricultural gross domestic product
CIAM	Crop Material Introduction, Adaptation, and Multiplication Center
FTE(s)	Full-time equivalent (researchers)
IGAD	Gabonese Development Support Institute
INSAB	Higher National Agronomy and Biotechnology Institute
IRAF	Agricultural and Forestry Research Institute
PPP(s)	Purchasing power parity (exchange rates)
R&D	Research and development

ABOUT ASTI, IFPRI, AND IRAF

Working through collaborative alliances with numerous national and regional R&D agencies and international institutions, **Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI)** is a comprehensive and trusted source of information on agricultural R&D systems across the developing world. ASTI is led by the **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**, which—as a CGIAR member—provides evidence-based policy solutions to sustainably end hunger and malnutrition and reduce poverty. The **Agricultural and Forestry Research Institute (IRAF)** is Gabon's principal agricultural R&D agency. It is placed under the National Scientific and Technological Research Center (CENAREST), which in turn falls under the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. IRAF conducts crop, livestock, forestry, fisheries, and socio-economic research.

ASTI/IFPRI and IRAF gratefully acknowledge participating agricultural R&D agencies for their contributions to the data collection and preparation of this country factsheet. ASTI also thanks the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for its generous support of ASTI's work in Africa south of the Sahara. This factsheet has been prepared as an ASTI output and has not been peer reviewed; any opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of IFPRI or IRAF.