

PROMOTING AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION THROUGH COOPERATIVES

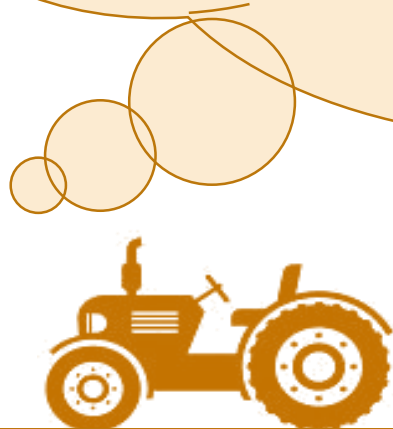


CUMAs CASES IN BENIN

1 – Utility principle

Accessing agricultural mechanization, a shared problem:

- **Overcoming the difficulty to invest by financing collectively (several farmers) and**
- **Increasing the profitability of the investment by sharing the tools: larger cultivated areas.**



2 – Identity principle

The cooperative is established on shared grounds:

- **Shared members' history,**
- **Same territory (geographical proximity),**
- **Members recognition and trust,**
- **High level of engagement.**



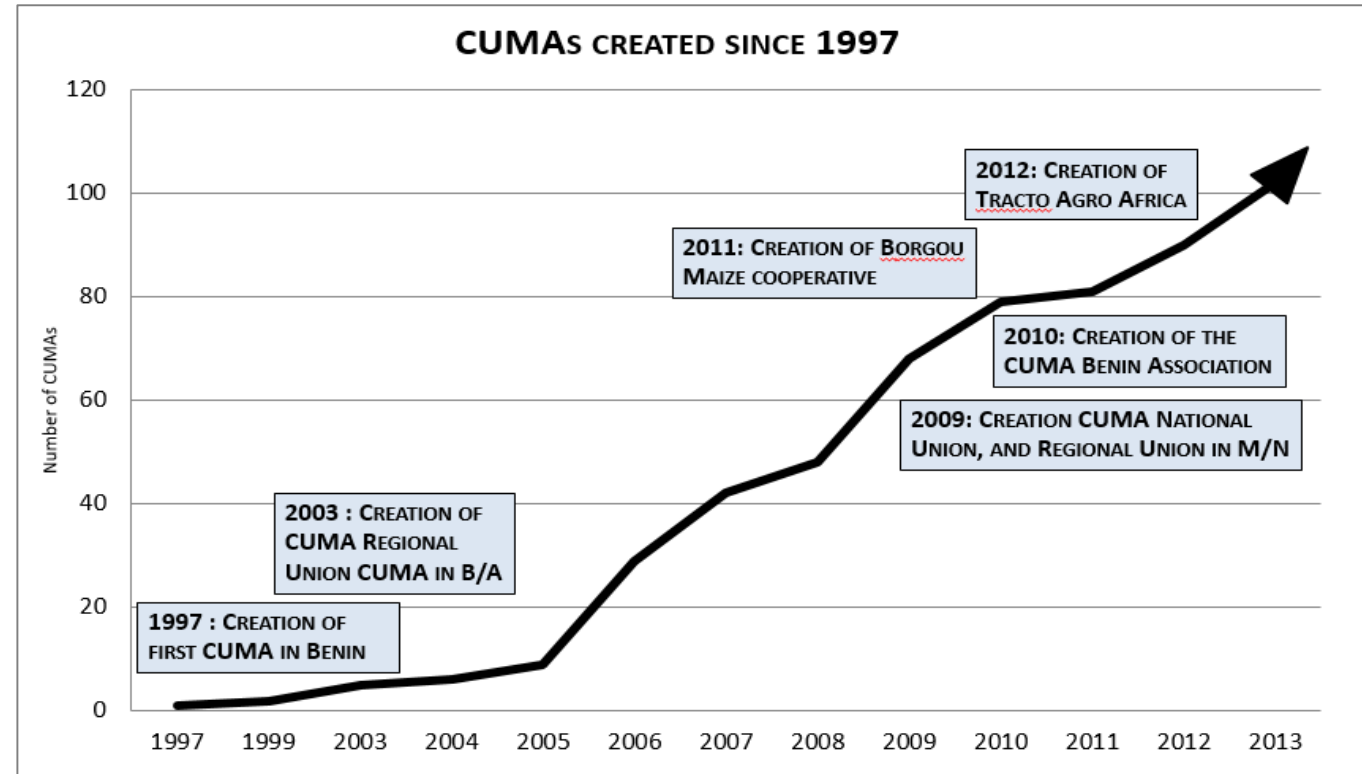
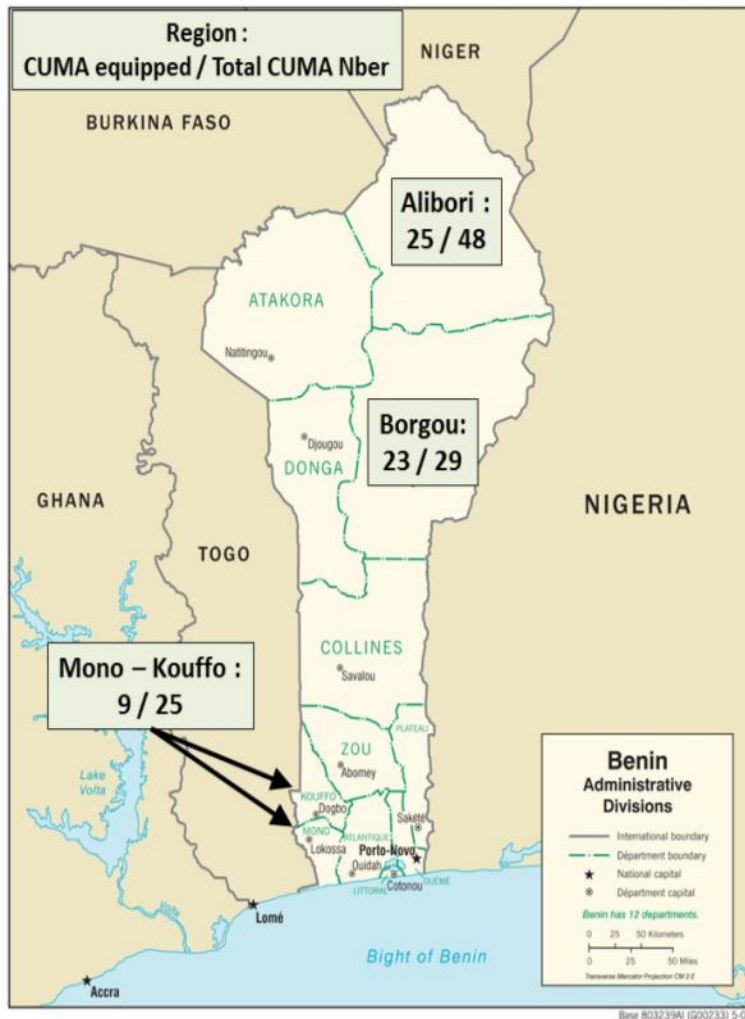
IN SUMMARY

A CUMA is:

- A collective investment
- to share tools
- managed by the farmers themselves.
- Farmers organized in small independent groups,
- in the same territory.



CUMAs IN BENIN: THE PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT



In 2015, the movement was representing:

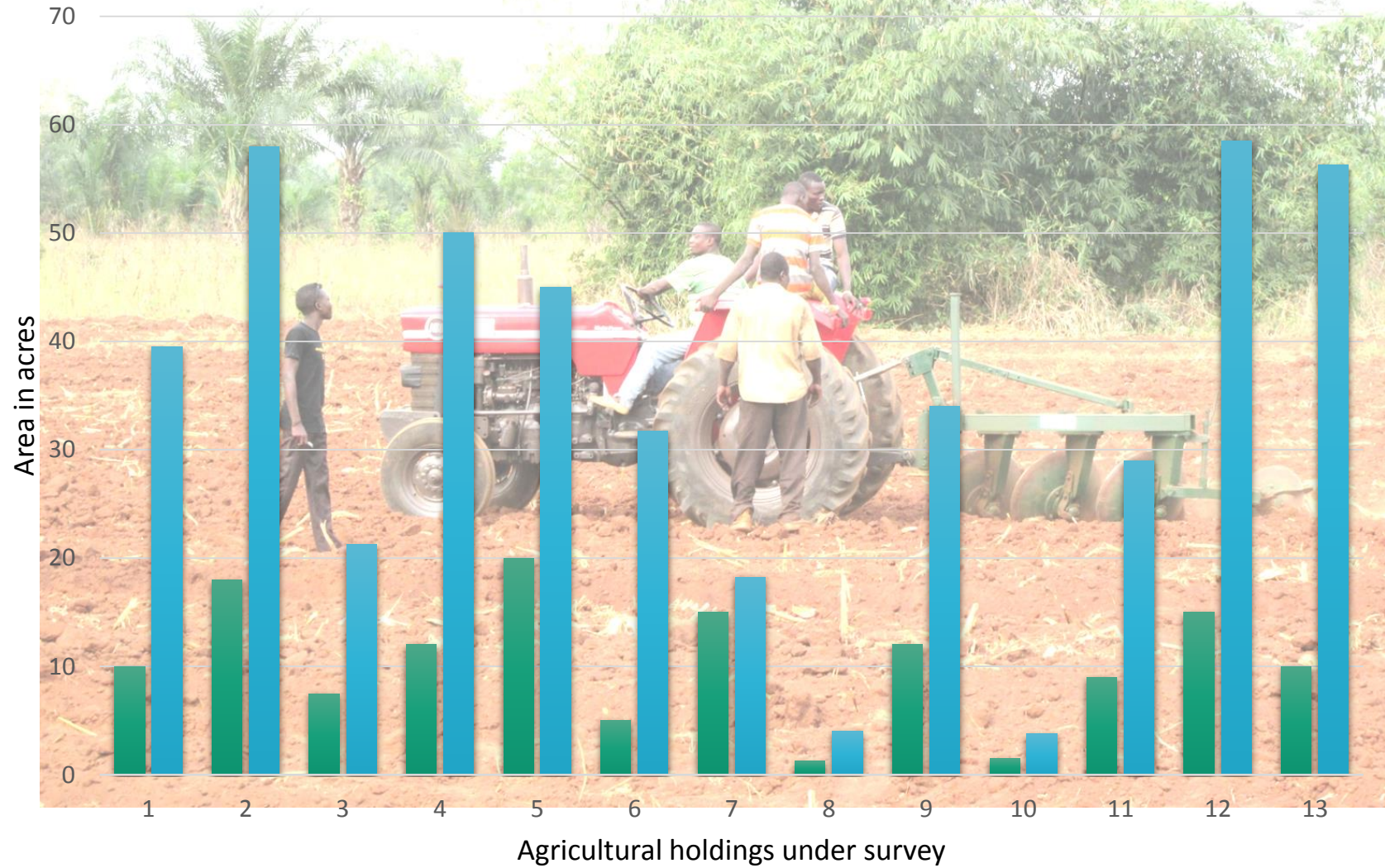
- 1250 farmers and 57 tractors
- 115 local cooperatives
- 1 national Union and 2 regional federations

II – THE IMPACT



- 1 – Agricultural exploitations,
- 2 – Agricultural household living standards,
- 3 – Rural communities.

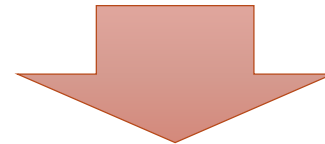
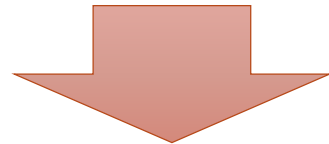
Evolution of cultivated areas (in acres) with CUMA's membership



OUTCOMES: INTENSIFICATION OF PRODUCTION IN AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

Increase of cultivated area
by 3.5

Better quality of
cultivations



HIGHER REVENUES

BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING:

- Higher revenues
- Decent job for young people and women
- More children have access to schools
- Less impact on women's daily duties

SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION WITH:

- New perception of the agricultural profession **by youth**;
- New entrepreneurial spirit (for instance, the creation of a cooperative to sell corn);
- The emergence of leaders from rural communities.

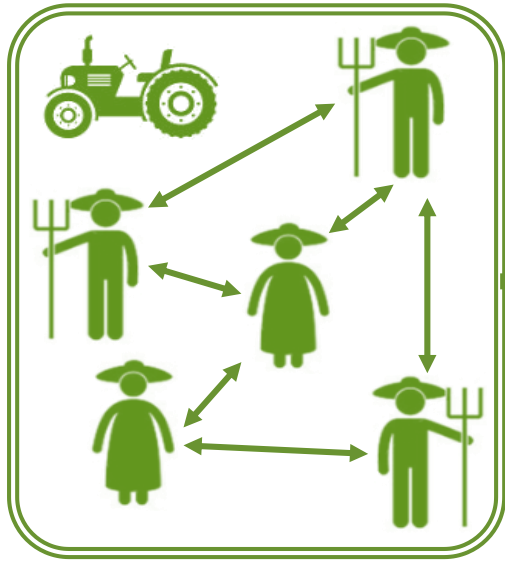
III – LESSONS LEARNED



- Sustainability based on an integrated approach of the agricultural mechanization

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH OF THE MECHANIZATION

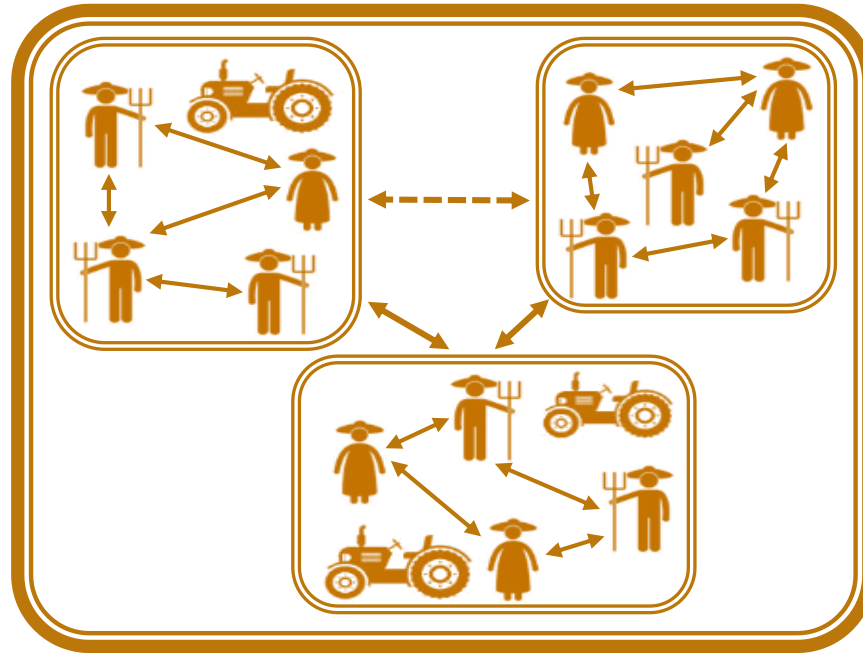
CUMA
Strong relationships in a small
group of farmers



INTRA-GROUP RELATIONSHIPS

- Bottom-up development approach

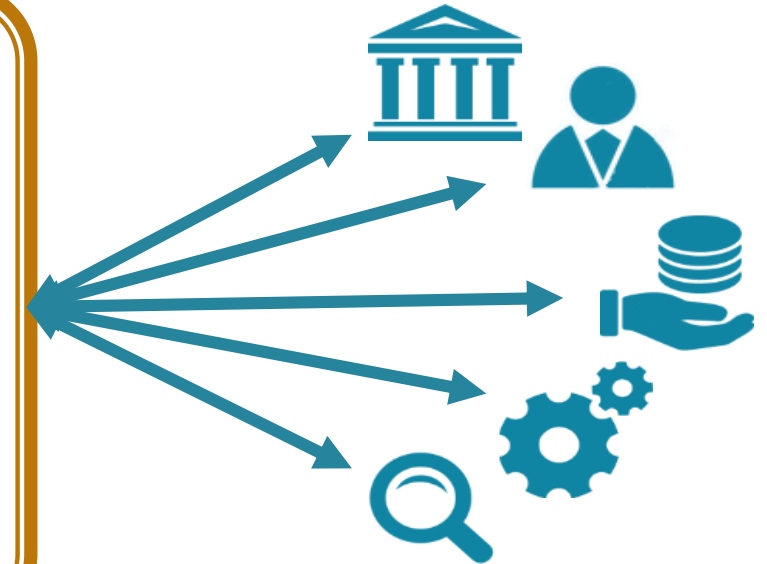
Strong cooperation between
cooperatives
UNIONS & FEDERATIONS



RELATIONS BETWEEN GROUPS

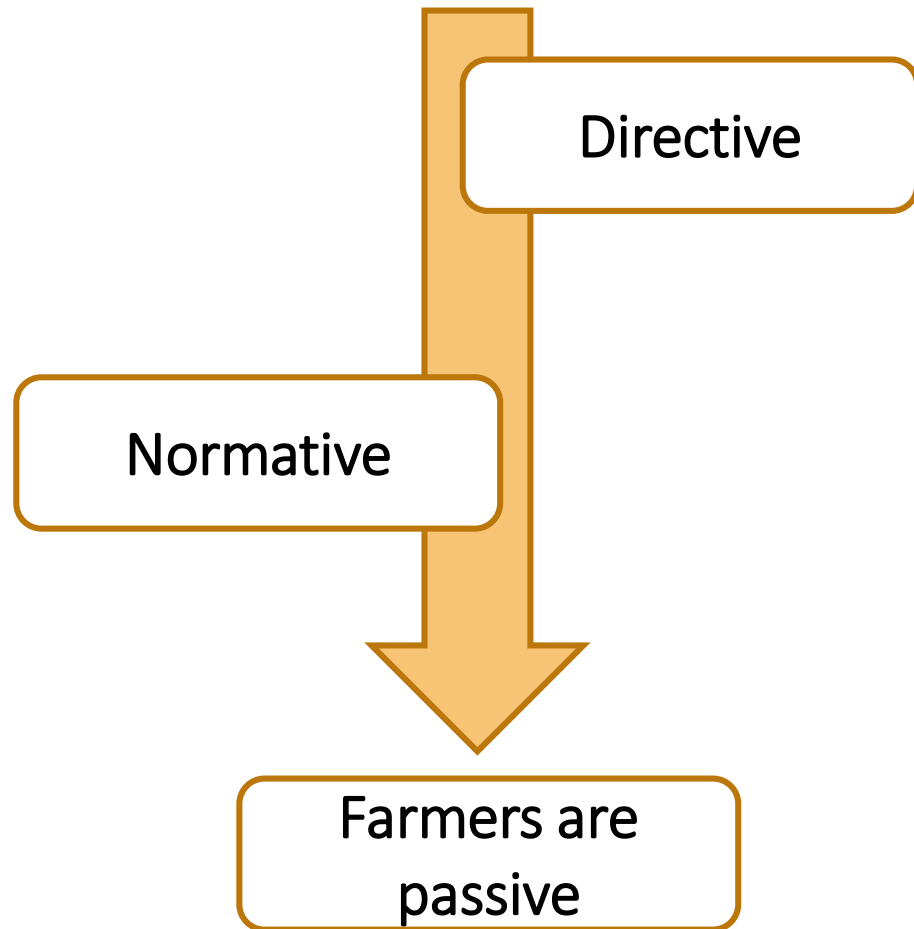
- Relationships between cooperatives in a network

Construction of mutual
relationships extra-group
RELATIONS EXTRA-GROUP

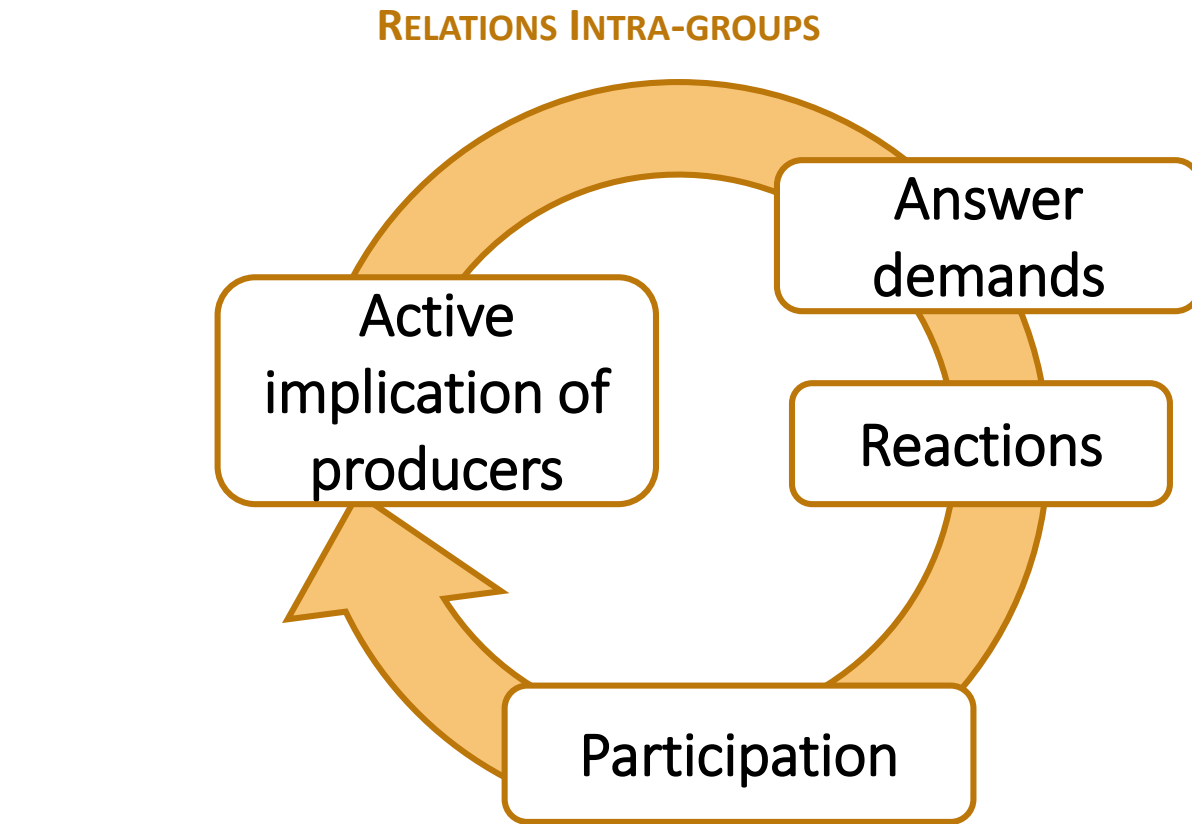


- Building a framework for rural finance;
- Providing external support for cooperation peer-to-peer with CUMAs;
- Providing training and a political framework

Specific approach for the development of CUMA cooperatives



Traditional approach

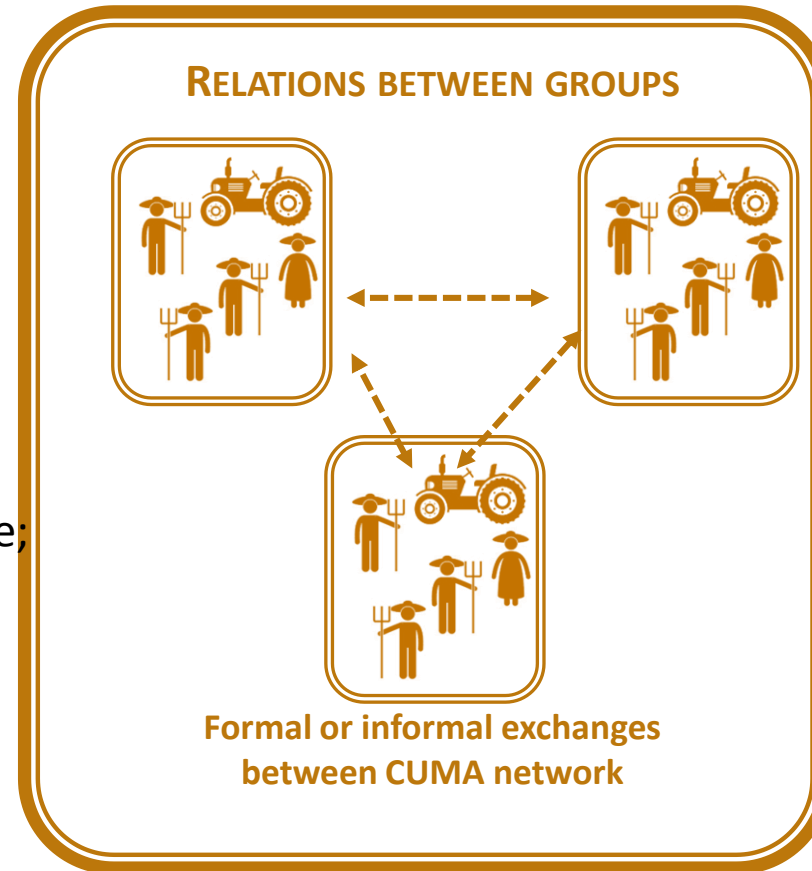


Establishing cooperatives through:

The CUMA approach in Benin:
A participatory process

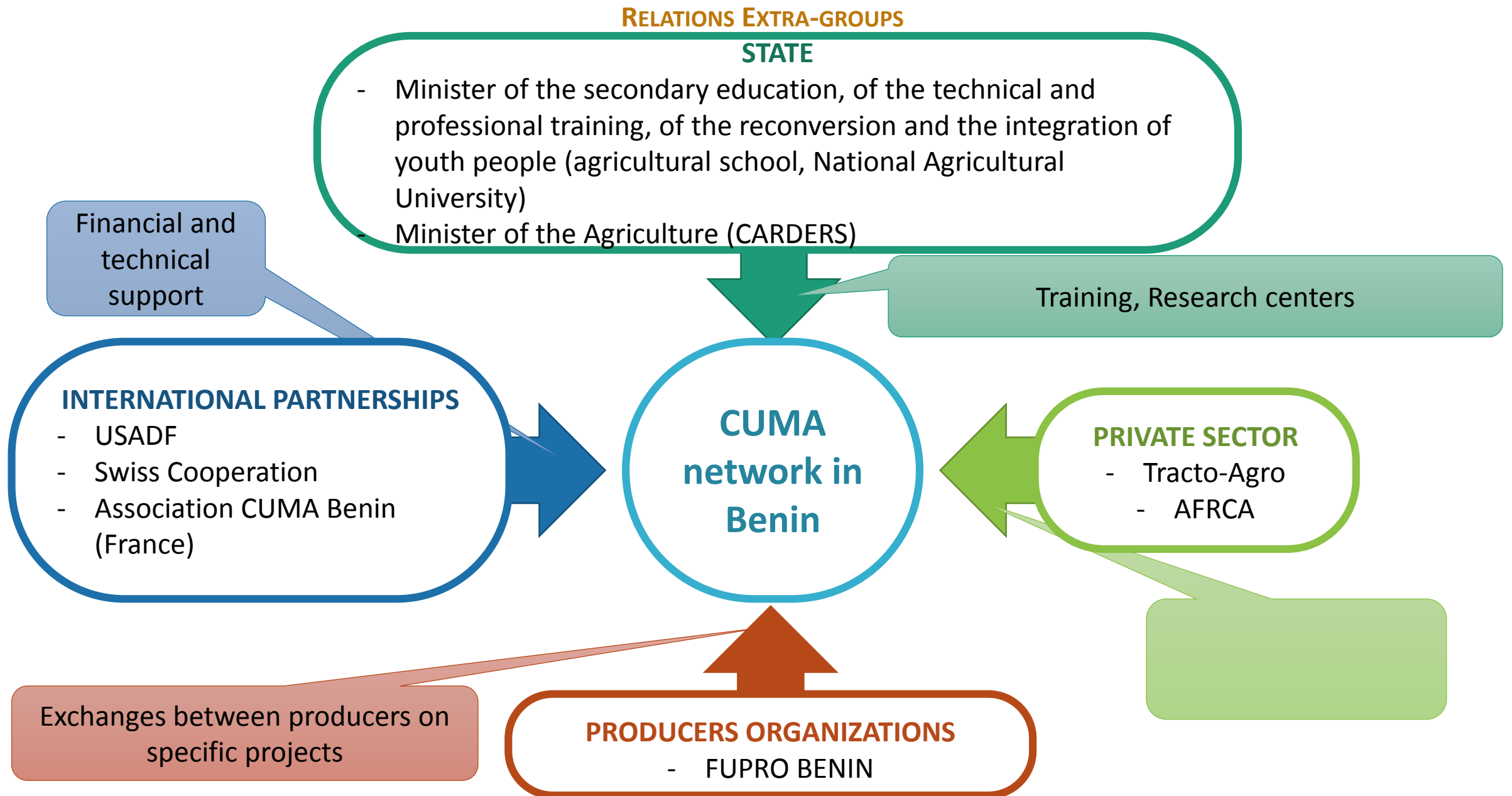
A strong cooperation between cooperatives

UNIONS & FEDERATIONS



- Building a service and the maintenance;
- Providing training at local level;
- Giving voice to FF.

Integrated mechanization within an institutional environment



Conclusions: CUMAs, reliable actors of mechanization

Cooperatives are a promising path to the development of the strategy of Mechanization in Africa

**Integrated
development**



**Bottom up
(farmer-based
approach)**



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

