

# Farmers' personal irrigated Sawah systems to realize green revolution and Africa's rice potential

Wakatsuki, Buri, Bam, Oladele and Admiluyi

SMART IV kickoff workshop from 16-17<sup>th</sup> August 2010, Africa Rice, Cotonou

June 99, JICA Sawah project



Aug 09  
JIRCAS site

African farmers can develop their personal irrigated sawah systems by themselves to realize green revolution and Africa's rice potential

Aug 00



Jan 10

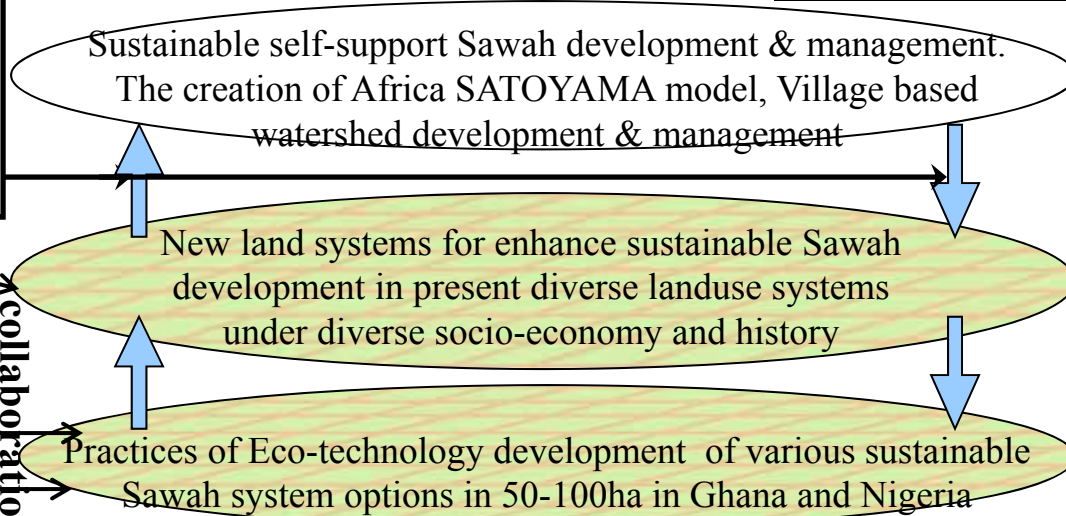


**Development business: UN Millenium villages  
/World Bank/AfD Bank/JBIC/USAID/JICA /NGOs**

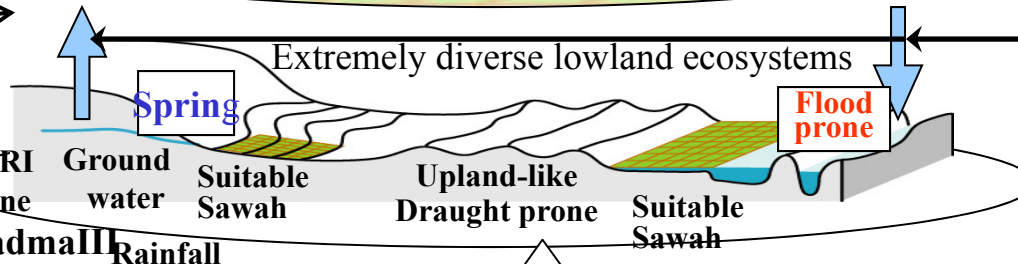
**Agroforestry  
trials using  
both  
Indigenous &  
Exotic trees**

**IITA:**  
Farming  
systems  
**AfricaRice  
(SMART  
-IV)  
JIRCAS**  
**IWMI**  
Hydrology

**Ghana:**  
**SRI/CRI/FoRIG/WRRI**  
Forest transition zone  
**Nigeria: NCAM/Fadma II**  
Major Agroecosystems

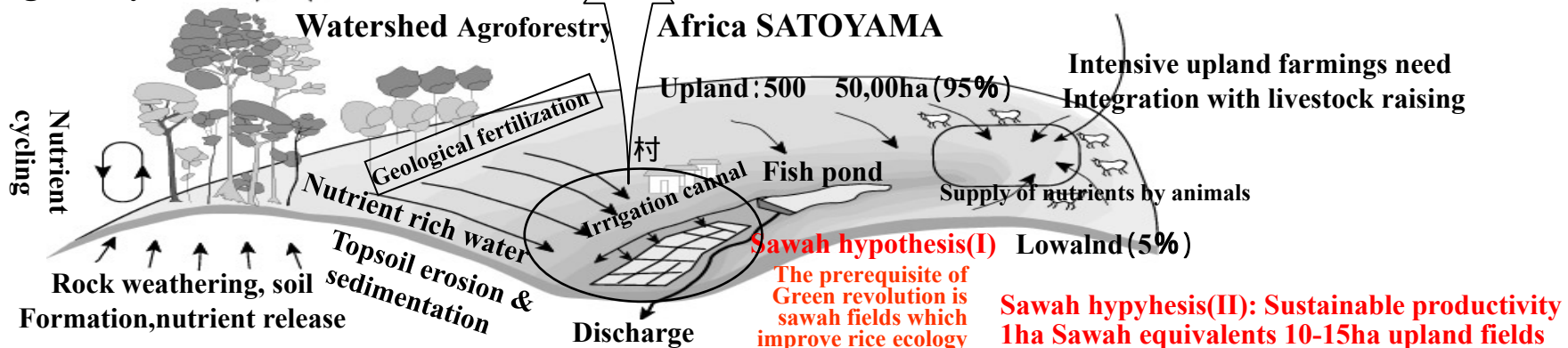


**Main Goal: Sustainable  
production of 100million  
tons of paddy through  
20 million ha of  
lowland Sawah  
development.  
The restoration of  
100million ha of forest to  
combat  
Global Warming**



**Various Sawah system options  
suitable for diverse lowland  
ecosystems were carried out by  
participating farmers' self-support  
efforts with trials and errors  
approach (Results of previous long-  
term action research**

**Functional humified organic fertilizer**



**Action Research on Materialization of Green Revolution by Sawah Eco-technology and the  
Creation of Africa SATOYAMA watershed model to combat the global warming  
(MEXT assisted scientific research project, 2007-2011)**



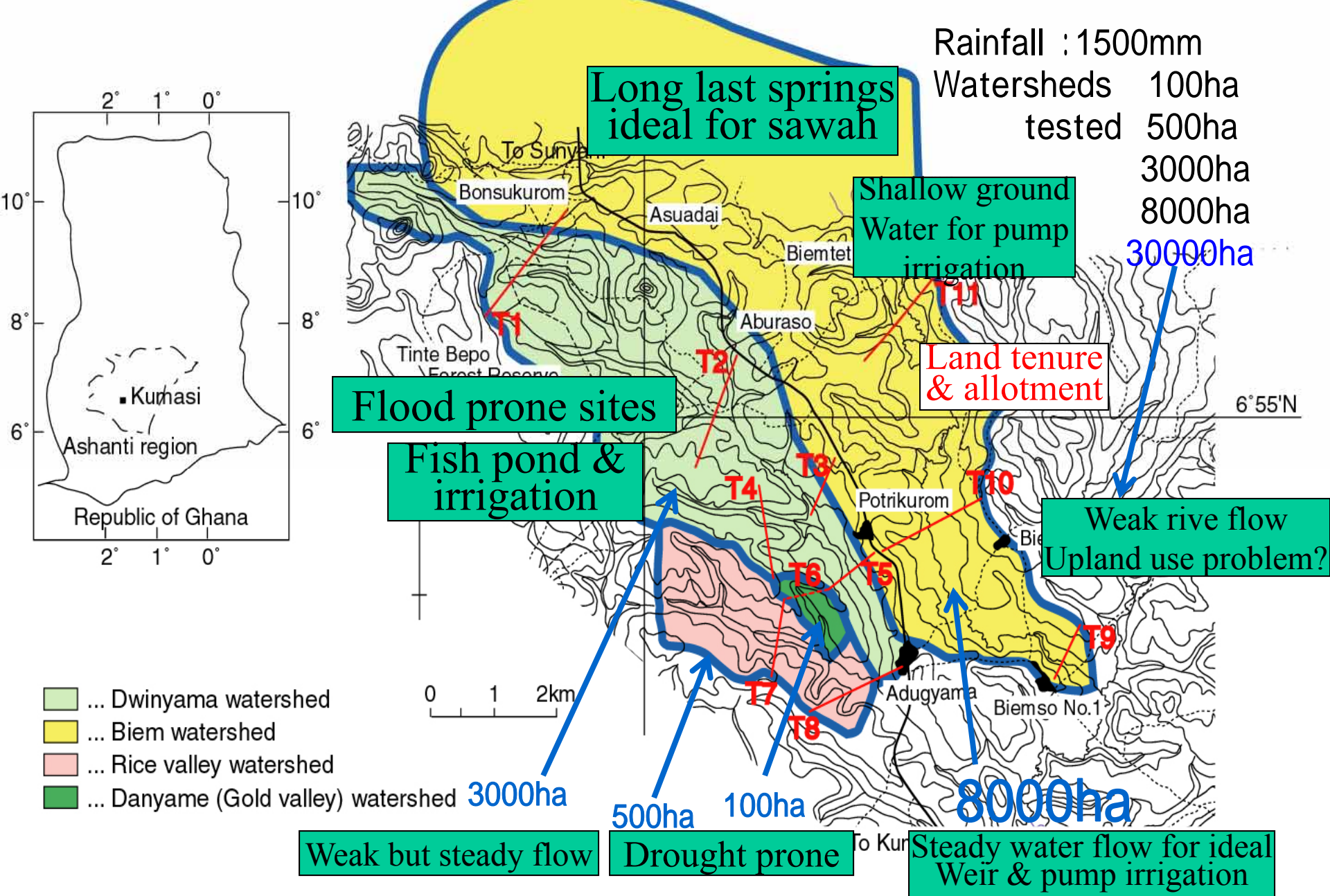




# CRI/SRI/WRI/FoRIG-CSIR/JICA Sawah project for Integrated watershed management, 1997-2001







**Farmer based Site Specific Sawah Development and Management through On-The-Job Training are the key (Sawah project phase I)**

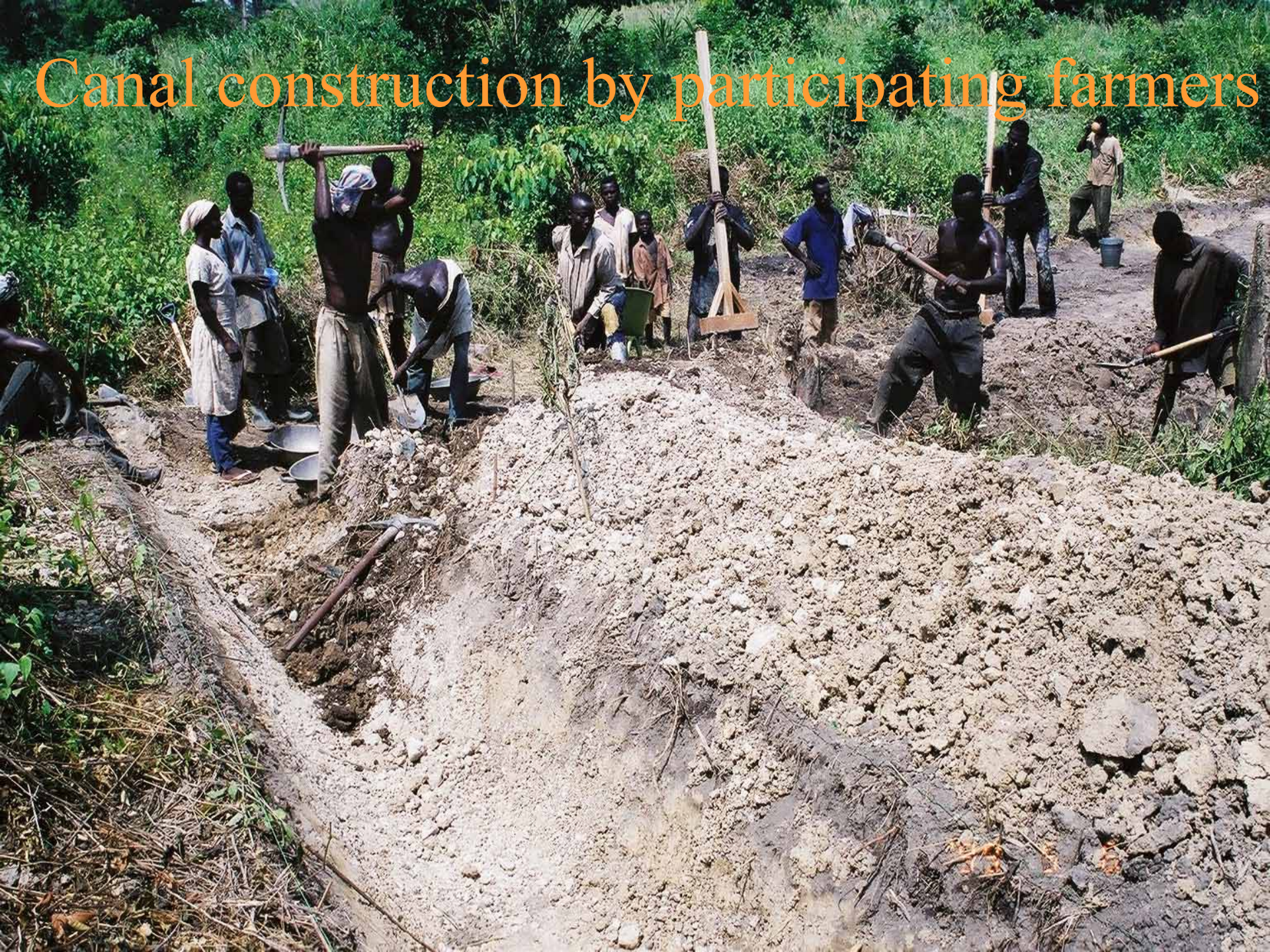


# Toposurvey





# Canal construction by participating farmers









Soil and Wooden Weir, because of farmers' self-support management under no rocks available







Photo. 3-25. Compaction to create impermeable layer on the front of dyke, March 2000



Photo. 3-23. Excavation of river bottom and jute bags

**JICA/CRI Sawah project**



Photo. 3-26. Dyke was covered with sand bags after compaction of permeable layer



Photo. 3-17. Flooding over dyke



Sand bag weir by farmers and SRI Sawah team, Aug.2009, Nsutem, Ghana





Partially intercepted  
irrigation canal  
at Gadabiu, FCT  
FadamaIII, 26 Sep 10



On the job training  
Sawah bunding

river



Sawah construction can be done by participated farmers' self-support efforts







Sokwae Sawah development  
by CRI sawah team, June 2008





Sokwae Sawah development by farmers July 2008











# Manual Leveling needs hard-works for Sawah system construction





Biemso No.1, Zongo site in 2002  
Pudling, soil moving & leveling





# **Sawah** is ecotechnology based Multi-Functional constructed Wetland: Production, Environment, and Cultural landscape

Termite mound



Inland valley, Ashanti, Ghana

This is also lowland Paddy field



**IkonosImage  
Jan.2003  
Dr. Fujii**

**JICA  
Sawah  
Project  
Osei's  
sawah**

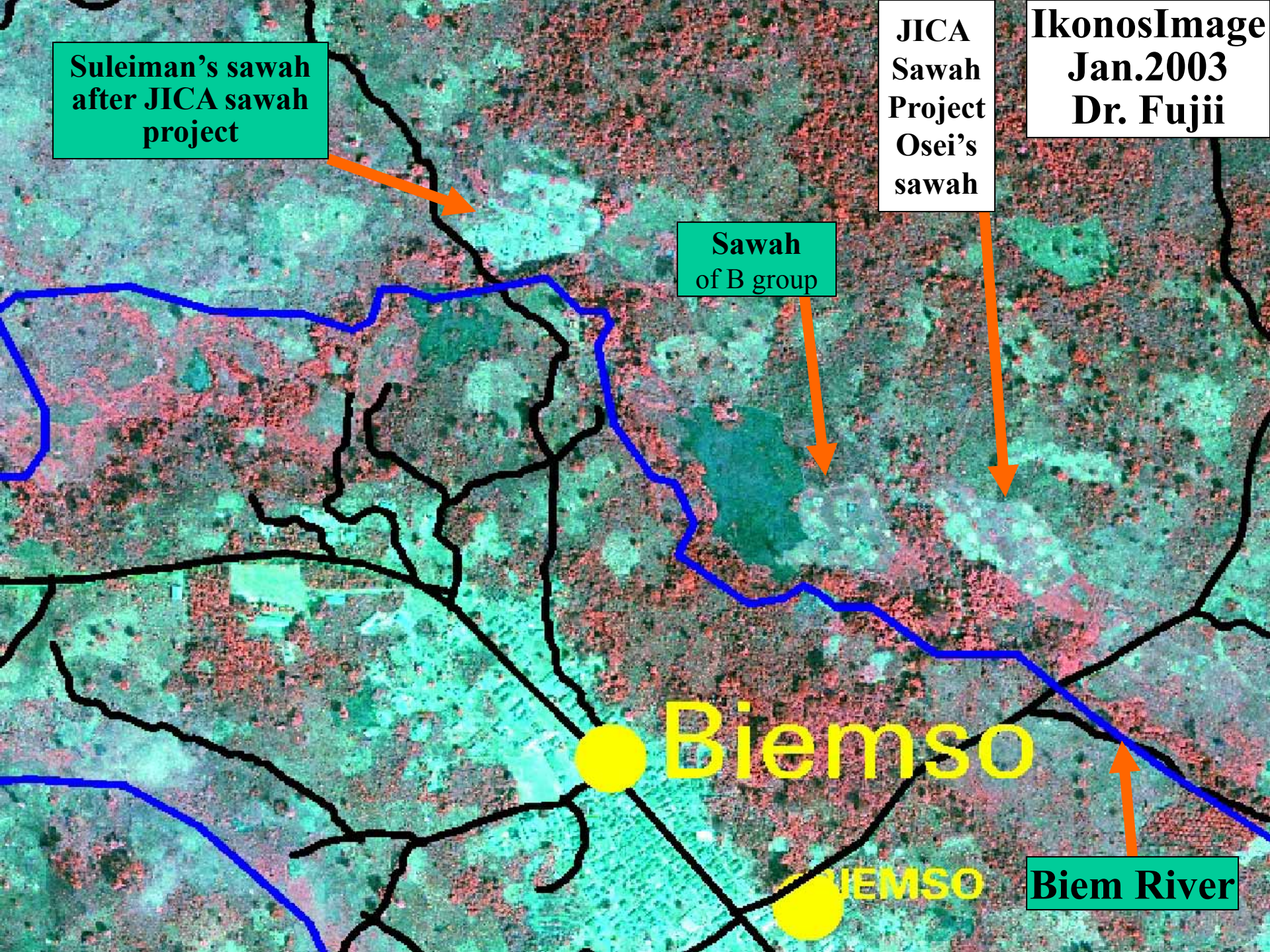
**Suleiman's sawah  
after JICA sawah  
project**

**Sawah  
of B group**

**Biemso**

**BIEMSO**

**Biem River**





# New Sawah development in Biemso No.1 by Farmer to farmer with SRI backstopping





# SAWAH FIELDS

2008

LOCATION: BIEMSO No. 1 BIEM RIVER SITES, A

SCALE 1:2500

AREA: A=7.3ha





JICA sawah project site, 0.5ha developed  
by Aug 1999 (Mr. Tewaih site)





**Mr. Tawiah developed about 4ha sawah by Sep. 07 surrounding his 1.5ha of fish pond. Total paddy production was more than 20ton annually, which gave gross revenue about \$10,000. Power tiller loan is \$1500 per year for four years**





**Mr. Tawiah** and his rice, growing on sawah about 4ha developed by himself, with CRI/SRI, and JIRCAS scientists, August 2009. This original site of JICA/CRI sawah project in 1997-1999





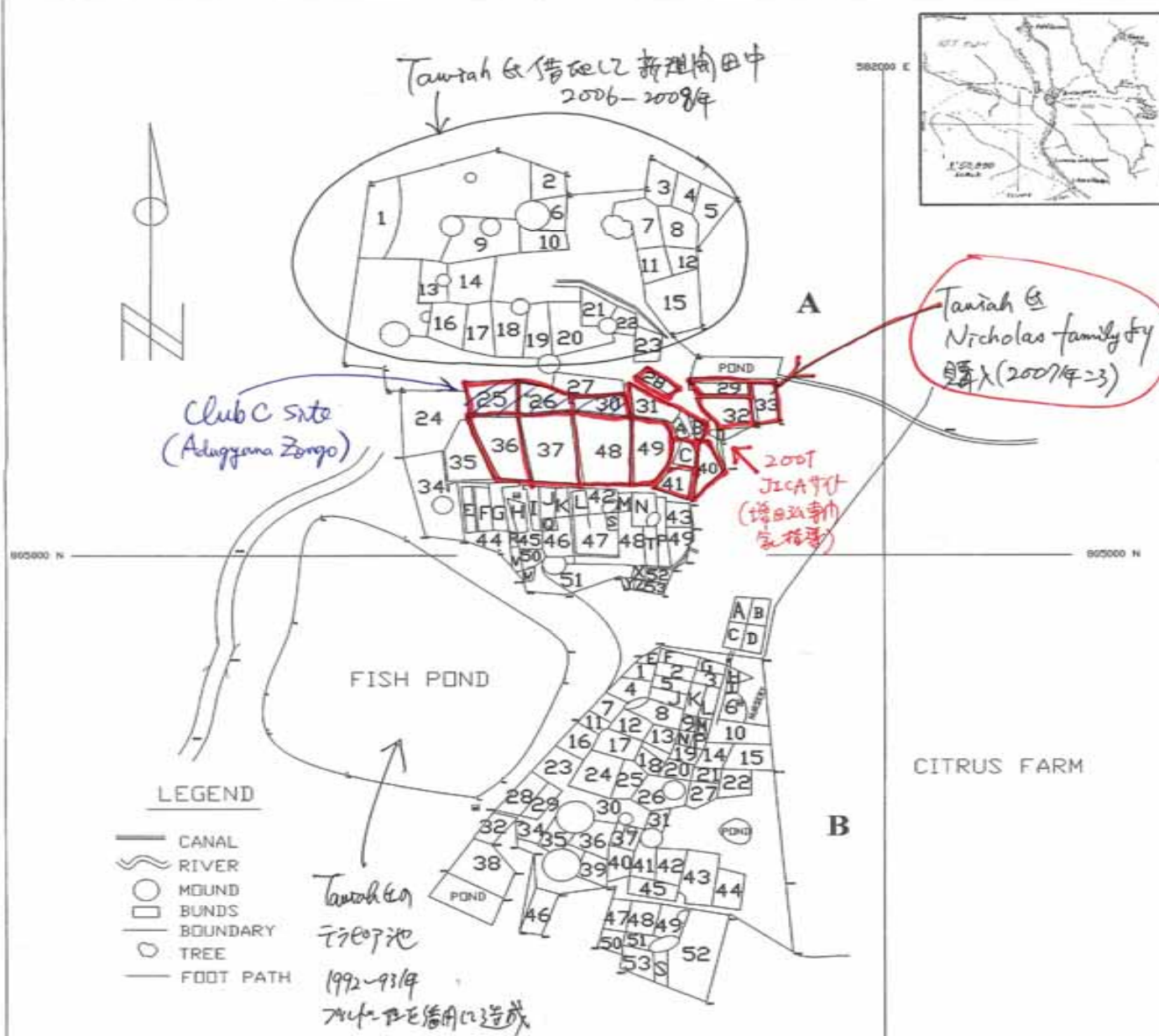
# SAWAH FIELDS

New Mr. Tawiah  
Adu 少所居

LOCATION: ADUGYAMA, CLUB C AND NICHOLAS SITES

SCALE 1:2500

AREA: A=2.2, B=1.2 ha





## Farmers' to farmers sawah technology transfer, SRI site, Ghana, Jan 2010





Mr. Tawiah trained another farmer to develop 3ha of sawah using small spring water source. Only local farmers know such water source.





- (1) Site Selection and Sawah system design
  - (a) Water sources for site selection (>10liter/sec, > 5months)  
Stream/River, Spring, Seepage, Flood, Rainfed
  - (b) Topography and soil for site selection  
Potential area  
Slope and surface roughness  
Soil
  - (c) Socio-economic for site selection  
Participating farmers  
Land tenure
  - (d) Sawah system design  
Sawah layout and total potential area  
Mean sawah size(ha)  
Water intake, distribution and control  
Spring and sawah to sawah & diversion canal  
Stream/Seepage and sawah to sawah & diversion canal  
Simple dyke& diversion canal  
Weir & Canal  
Fish pond or dam lake  
Pump  
Interceptal canal  
Contour bund system  
Flood control by drainage/dam  
Drought control by pond/waterharvest  
Soil movement(t/ha)  
Contour bund system  
Flood control by drainage/dam  
Drought control by pond/waterharvest  
Soil movement(t/ha)

**At first local farmers  
never know sawah  
technologies,  
they know  
site specific  
hydrological  
conditions which are  
the most important  
for site selection**

**On the job  
collaboration  
between farmers and  
Scientists, engineers,  
as well as extension  
office is essentially  
important**



## **(2) Development skills and cost (\$/ha)**

### **(a) Skills for development**

Skill for power tiller operations

Plowing and Puddling

Soil Moving

Surface leveling & smoothing

Skill for power tiller management

### **(b) Cost (\$/ha) or (Cedi/ha)**

Power tiller for development

Power tiller spare parts

Fuel for development

Bush clearing destamping

Bunding and surface treatment

Canal construction

Dyke construction

Additional hired labours

Tools and materials

Scientist and engineers cost

Extension officer cost

Farmers' training

**Action research and  
on the job training  
of site specific sawah  
development and  
management**

**(1) Costs of Power tiller  
for Sawah development:  
at least 10ha per one  
power tiller (\$5000/10ha)**

**(2) Cost of scientists,  
engineers, extension  
officers,  
and leading farmers**

**(3) Target cost:  
2000-4000/ha**



#### (4) Agronomic Sawah system management

Rice mono cropping

Rice and other 2nd season cropping

Rice double cropping

Overall Water Control

Water sources

Water distribution

Leveling & smoothing

Bunding

Puddling

Weed control

water consumption (ton/season)

water requirement(mm/day)

Water quality

Soil fertility

Fertilization(N-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-K<sub>2</sub>Okg/ha)

Variety

Yield (ton/ha)

**(1) Immediate target  
Paddy yield >4t/ha**

**(2) 3t/ha is not enough  
to sustain sawah  
development**

**(3) >5t/ha will  
accelerate Sawah  
development**

**(4) Basic research on  
sustainable paddy  
yield >8t/ha  
is important**



### (3) Farmers Group Quality

Leader and group collaboration

No. of farmers

Ethnic composition

Skills and incentives

Gender composition

### (6) Training

Trainer

Trainee

International scientists

National scientists

Extension officers

Leading farmers & farmers

To train

**(1) Sawah farmers  
who can develop  
Sawah and manage  
Sawah based rice  
farming by themselves,**

**(2) Leading sawah  
farmer and farmers'  
group who can train  
another new sawah  
Farmer and  
farmers' groups**



Sawah technology training under MAFF and Nagoya/Kinki University with NCAM, National Center of Agricultural Mechanization, and NCRI, National Cereals Research Institute, August to September 2009. PhD program included



(1) Field fact comes the first: >2ha sawah with >8t paddy

(2) Academic papers are also necessary

(3) Research results should be incorporated into rice promotion policy



Mr. Yakubu, Leading farmer, Dr. Abe and Segun. Sawah technology training at Ejiti Sawah village



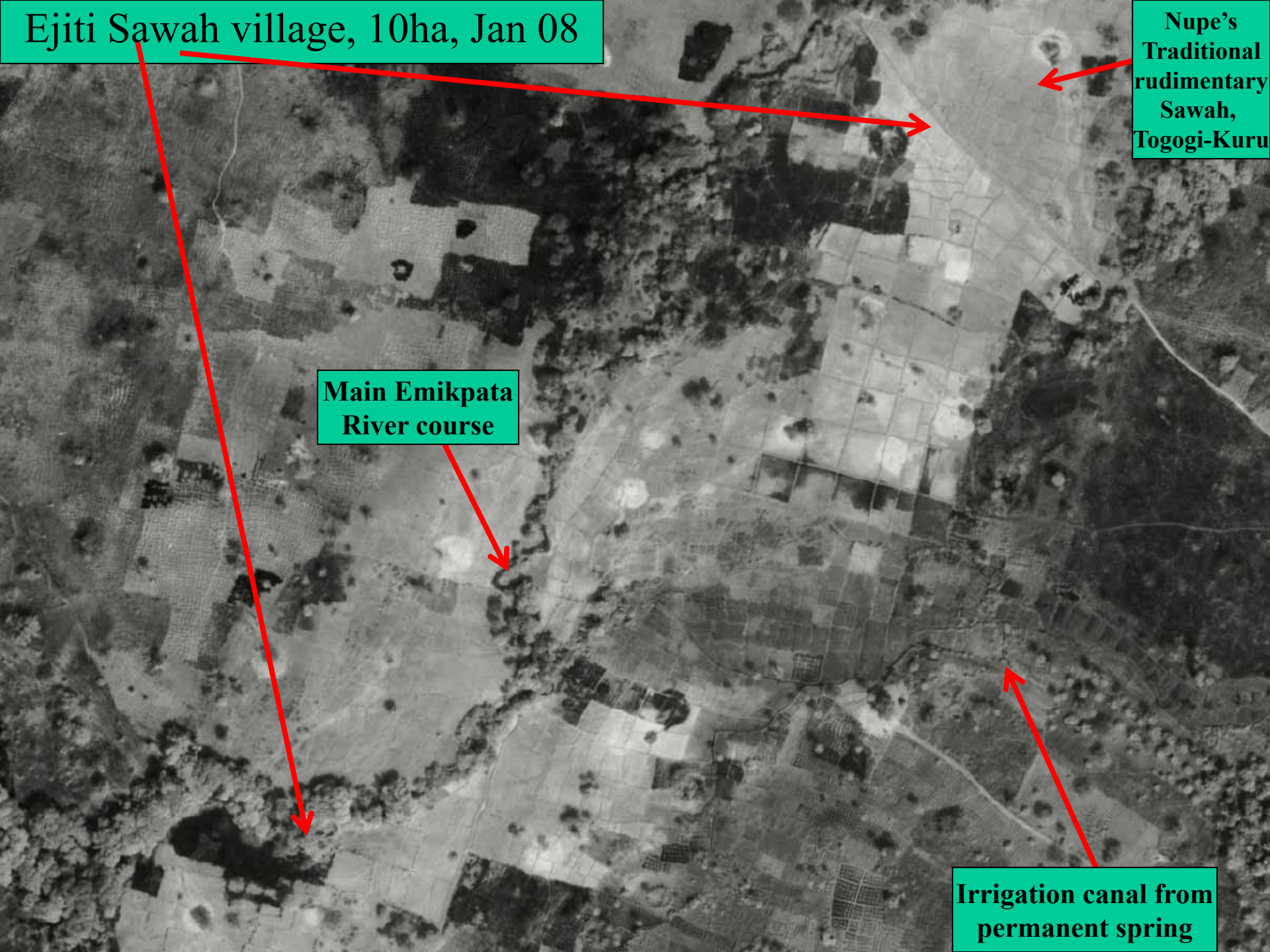


**Ejiti Sawah village, 10ha, Jan 08**

**Nupe's  
Traditional  
rudimentary  
Sawah,  
Togogi-Kuru**

**Main Emikpata  
River course**

**Irrigation canal from  
permanent spring**







**On the job training at Shabamaliki village,  
Bida, Nigeria, Sep 09**



**On the job training at Shabamaliki village, Bida, Nigeria, Sep 09**  
**Paradoxically, leading farmers can master the skill within one to two seasons, but extension officers needs more than three seasons**







Power tiller sunk: operations need good skills





Sawah, Sep10

Traditional, Bida, Sep10



Sawah, Sep10

Traditional, Bida, Sep10





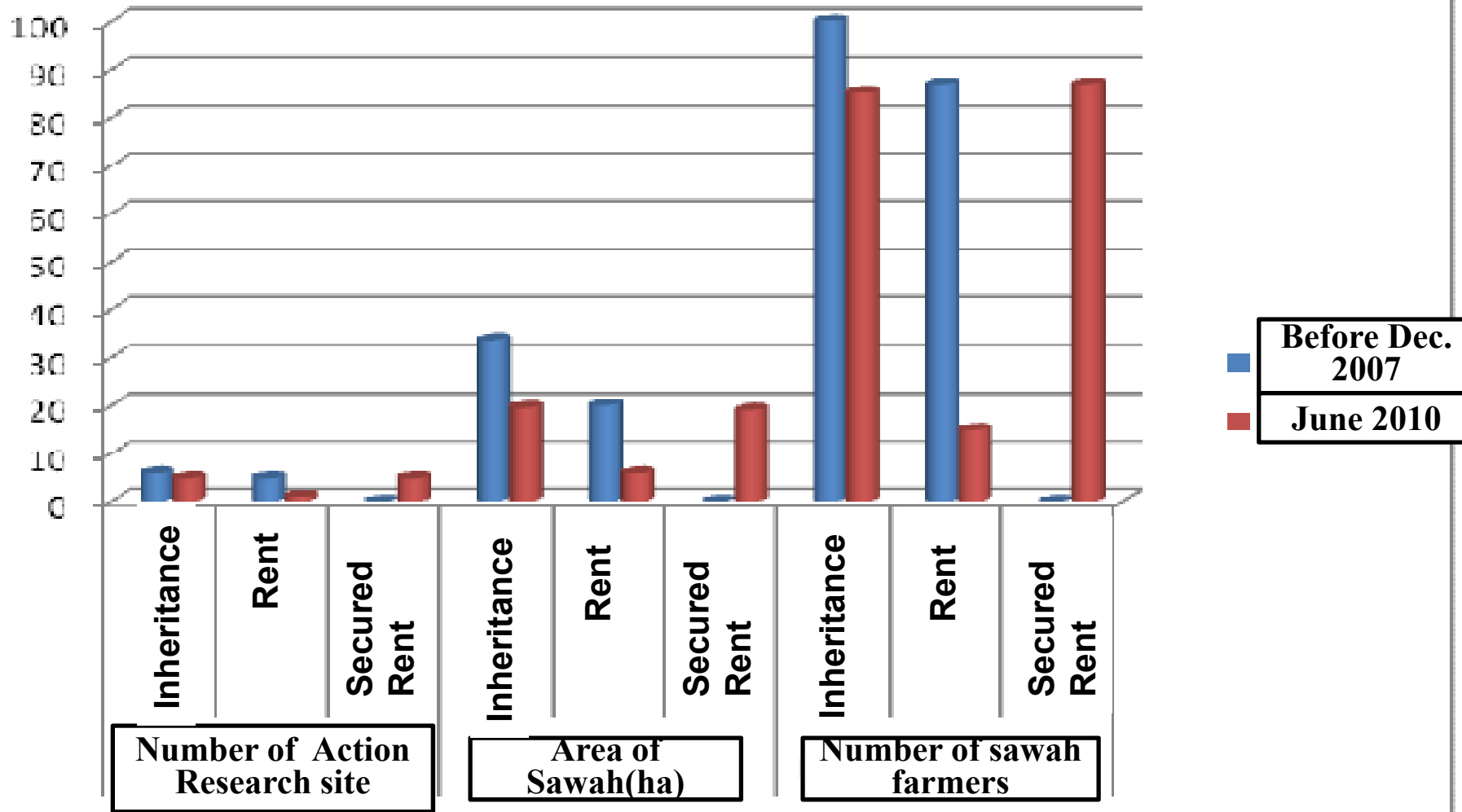
Akure Sawah site, 2ha, Farmer,  
extension and sawah staffs, Sep. 08





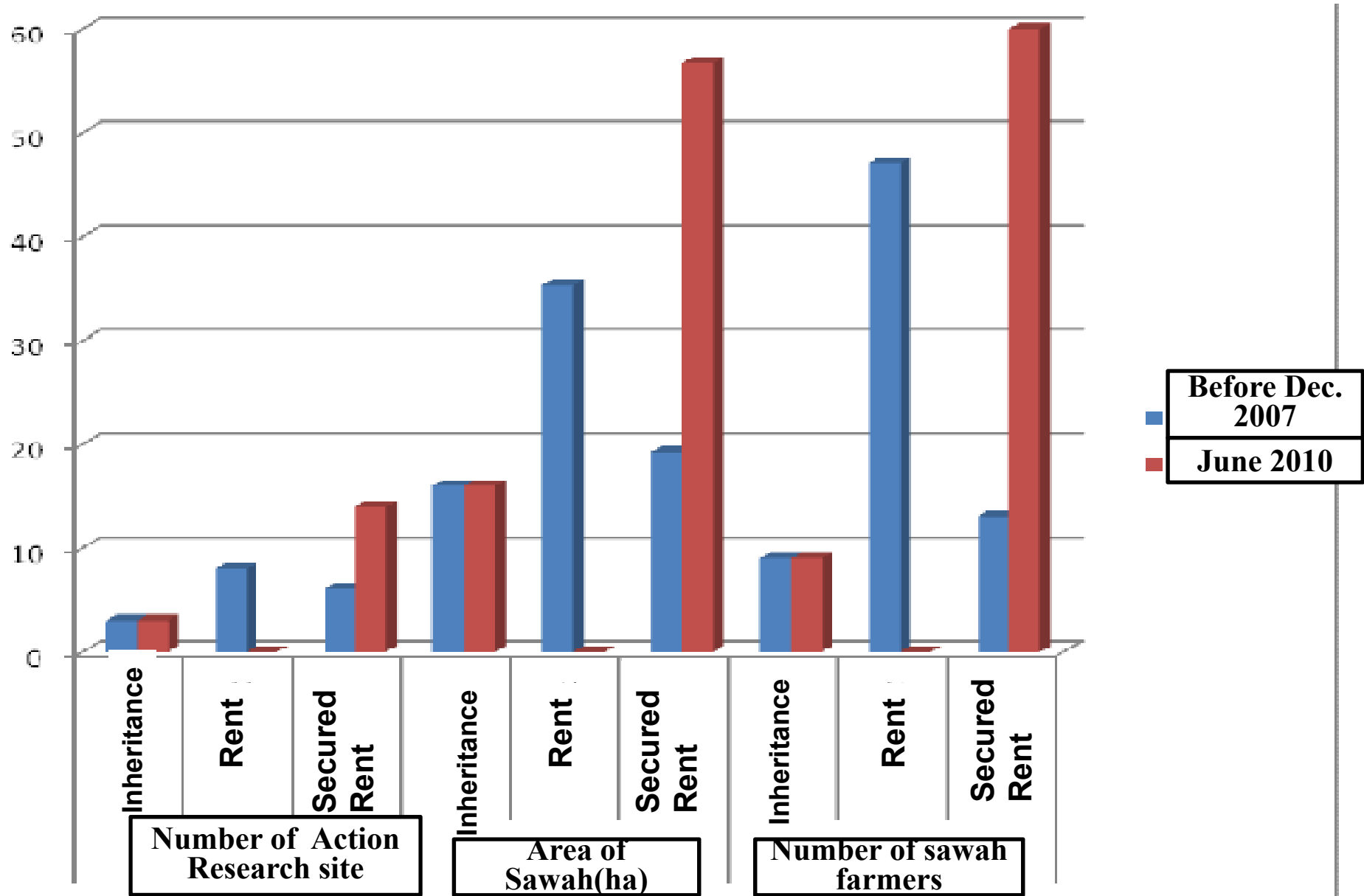
# Change of Land Tenure during the adoption of Sawah technology in Nigeria

<surveyed by Prof. Oladele>





# Change of Land Tenure during the adoption of Sawah technology in Ghana <surveyed by Prof. Oladele>





# Conclusion

- 1, Sub Sahara Africa has huge potential for sawah based rice farming to increase food production and to combat global warming. However lowland ecology and socio economic settings are not the same to Asian.
- 2, While Asian countries developed their sawah systems during their history in thousand years, Sub Sahara Africa has to develop within 50 years from now. However ten million rice farmers have no skill and experiences of sawah ecotechnology
- 3, Paradoxically, African topography gives very easy Sawah system development, if farmers mastered all necessary skills (**2-3ha/one season per one powertiller**)
- 4, Land tenure issue is critically important to avoid **“Land Grab, then Development”**. **African traditional way of “Secured Rent”** may be enough to encourage personal sawah development at the moment. **Otherwise another load map for African Green Revolution may come?**



# Cost and Income of Site Specific Personal Irrigated Sawah Development and Sawah Based Rice Cultivation (Ghana and Nigeria 2009)

		Spring based (mean slope 1.5%)	Flood plain like (mean slope 0.5%)	Stream dyke based (mean slope 1%)	Pond based (mean slope 1%)	Pump based (mean slope 1%)	Non-Sawah (mean Slope 2%)
<b>Sawah development activities (First year only, per ha)</b>							
<b>Clearing &amp; Destumping</b>	10-20 mandays@3.5\$permanday	70\$	70\$	70\$	70\$	70\$	35\$
<b>Bunding</b>	20-30mandays@3.5\$per manday	100\$	70\$	85\$	85\$	85\$	NA
<b>Ploughing</b>	20-30mandays@ 3.5\$permanday	100\$	70\$	85\$	85\$	85\$	NA
<b>Puddling, soil movement, leveling</b>	30-50 mandays @ 3.5\$ per manday	200\$	135\$	170\$	170\$	170\$	NA
<b>Pumping machine cost</b>	<b>3ha/year,@15%depreciation, Spare parts 10%</b>	NA	50\$	NA	30\$	200\$	NA
<b>Powertiller cost(\$5000, 3-5 years life)</b>	<b>2-3ha/year, 6-15ha/life @20%depreciation, Spare parts 10-20%</b>	700\$	500\$	600\$	600\$	600\$	NA
<b>Main canal</b>	@1000\$/100m/ha	NA	NA	100\$	100\$	NA	NA
<b>Branch canal</b>	@35\$/100m/ha	70\$	35\$	70\$	70\$	70\$	NA
<b>Interceptor canal</b>	@35\$/100m/ha	35\$	NA	35\$	35\$	35\$	NA
<b>Dyke/Weir</b>	@400\$/20x5x3m/3ha/3	NA	NA	150\$	NA	NA	NA
<b>Pump fuel</b>	3-20 days @20\$/day/	NA	100\$	NA	60\$	400\$	NA
<b>Flood control</b>	@700\$/150x2x2m/3ha/3	NA	270\$	70\$	NA	NA	NA
<b>Pond construct.</b>	@1400\$/20x20x2m/3ha/3				500\$	NA	NA
<b>Total cost of Development</b>		1275\$	1300\$	1435\$	1805\$	1715\$	35\$

**Initial sawah development claims heavy load on powertiller, which cost occupy 50% of development**



		Spring based (mean slope 1.5%)	Flood plain like (mean slope 0.5%)	Stream dyke based (mean slope 1%)	Pond based (mean slope 1%)	Pump based (mean slope 1%)	Non- Sawah (mean Slope 2%)
<b>Sawah based rice farming cost (First year only, per ha)</b>							
Nursery bed	1mandays @3.5\$manday	5\$	5\$	5\$	5\$	5\$	45
Seed cost	30-90kg @5kg/10\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	120\$
Sawah water Management	20-50mandays @3 per manday	60\$	60\$	60\$	60\$	150\$	NA
Transplanting	15mandays @3\$permanday	45\$	45\$	45\$	45\$	45\$	NA
Rope & marker	5bundles @2\$/bundle	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	NA
Weeding labor	7mandays@3\$permanday	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	50\$
Herbicide	5litres@8\$/litre	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	NA
Fertilizer cost	5bags@20\$/50kg	100\$	100\$	100\$	100\$	100\$	NA
Fertilizing cost	3mandays @3\$permanday	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	NA
Bird scaring	15-45 mandays @1.5\$ per manday	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	40\$
Harvest cost	15 mandays @4\$ per manday	60\$	60\$	60\$	60\$	60\$	30\$
Threshing	10 mandays @3.5 per manday	35\$	35\$	35\$	35\$	35\$	15\$
<b>Sawah based rice farming cost</b>		<b>440\$</b>	<b>440\$</b>	<b>440\$</b>	<b>440\$</b>	<b>530\$</b>	<b>255\$</b>
<b>Total cost in the first year</b>		<b>1715\$</b>	<b>1740\$</b>	<b>1875\$</b>	<b>2245\$</b>	<b>2245\$</b>	<b>290\$</b>
Yield	4-4.5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4.5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4.0tha <sup>-1</sup>	4.5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4.5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4.0tha <sup>-1</sup>	1.5tha <sup>-1</sup>
Gross Income	500\$/t Paddy	2250\$	2000\$	2250\$	2250\$	2000\$	750\$
Net Income/ha		535\$	260\$	375\$	5\$	-245\$	460\$

**Although sawah approach give sustainable low cost personal irrigated sawah system development, which is about one tenth (10%) of ODA based irrigated sawah development, there may be special subsidization to encourage farmers sawah development in first year.**



		Spring based (mean slope 1.5%)	Flood plain like (mean slope 0.5%)	Stream dyke based (mean slope 1%)	Pond based (mean slope 1%)	Pump based (mean slope 1%)	Non- Sawah (mean Slope 2%)
<b>Sawah based rice farming cost (Subsequent year, per ha)</b>							
<b>Pump cost</b>	2-15 days @20\$	NA	50\$	NA	30\$	150\$	NA
<b>Ploughing</b>	5-7mandays@3. 5\$per manday	20\$	15\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	NA
<b>Puddling, leveling</b>	7-12mandays@3. 5per manday	40\$	30\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	NA
<b>Powertiller cost</b>	<b>10ha/years, life 5-7 years</b>	100\$	90\$	100\$	100\$	100\$	NA
<b>Maintenance of canal, dyke, &amp; pond</b>	15% of new construction	15\$	70\$	70\$	90\$	15\$	NA
<b>Nursery bed</b>	1-3mandays @3. 5\$manday	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	35\$
<b>Seed cost</b>	30-90kg @5kg/10\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	120\$
<b>Water Mgt</b>	20-50mandays @3 per manday	60\$	60\$	60\$	60\$	150\$	NA
<b>Transplanting</b>	15mandays @3\$permanday	45\$	45\$	45\$	45\$	45\$	NA
<b>Rope etc</b>	5bundles @2\$/bundle	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	NA
<b>Weeding labor</b>	7mandays@3\$permanday	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	50\$
<b>Herbicide</b>	5litres@8\$/litre	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	40\$	NA
<b>Fertilizer cost</b>	5bags@20\$/50kg	100\$	100\$	100\$	100\$	100\$	NA
<b>Fertilizing cost</b>	3mandays @3\$permanday	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	10\$	NA
<b>Bird scaring</b>	15-45mandays@1. 5\$permanday	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	20\$	40\$
<b>Harvest cost</b>	15 mandays@4\$permanday	60\$	60\$	60\$	60\$	60\$	30\$
<b>Threshing</b>	10mandays@3. 5permanday	35\$	35\$	35\$	35\$	35\$	15\$
<b>Sawah based rice farming cost</b>		625\$	705\$	680\$	730\$	865\$	290\$
<b>Yield</b>	4-4. 5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4. 5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4. 0tha <sup>-1</sup>	4. 5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4. 5tha <sup>-1</sup>	4. 0tha <sup>-1</sup>	1. 5tha <sup>-1</sup>
<b>Gross Income</b>	500\$/t Paddy	2250\$	2000\$	2250\$	2250\$	2000\$	750\$
<b>Net Income/ha</b>		1625\$	1295\$	1570\$	1520\$	1135\$	460\$

**Once sawah developed, powertiller cost for rice farming will not be major problem. Since farmers were well trained during the first year difficult sawah development, sawah based rice farming will be more sustainable than old style ODA based irrigation projects**



**Table 1. Comparison of site specific farmers' personal irrigated sawah system development with ODA based large scale and small scale development and traditional rice cultivation system in inland valleys of Ghana & Nigeria (1ton paddy=500US\$ in 2009)**

	Large Scale Development	Small Scale Development	<b>Farmers' personal Irrigated sawah</b>	Traditional System
Development cost per hectare	10,000-30,000 US\$/ha	10,000-30,000 US\$/ha	1,500-3,000 US\$/ha	30-60 US\$/ha
<b>Gross revenue in US\$ &amp; Yield in t/ha</b>	2,000-3,000 US\$/ha, 4-6t/ha	2,000-3,000 US\$/ha, 4-6t/ha	2,000-3,000 US\$/ha, 4-6t/ha	500-1,000 US\$/ha, 1-2t/ha
Running cost including machinary	Medium to High (500-800\$/ha)	Medium to High (500-800\$/ha)	Medium (400-700 US\$/ha)	Low (200-300 US\$/ha)
Farmers participation	Low	Medium to High	High	High
Project ownership	Government	Goverment	Farmer	Farmer
Adoption of Tecnology	Long, Difficult	Short, relatively easy	Medium to short, needs intensive demonstration and On the Job Training (OJT) programme	Low technology transfer
Sustainable development	Low	Low to Midium	High	Medium
Environmental effect	High	Medium	Low	Medium

**Heavy machine use & Contractor based**

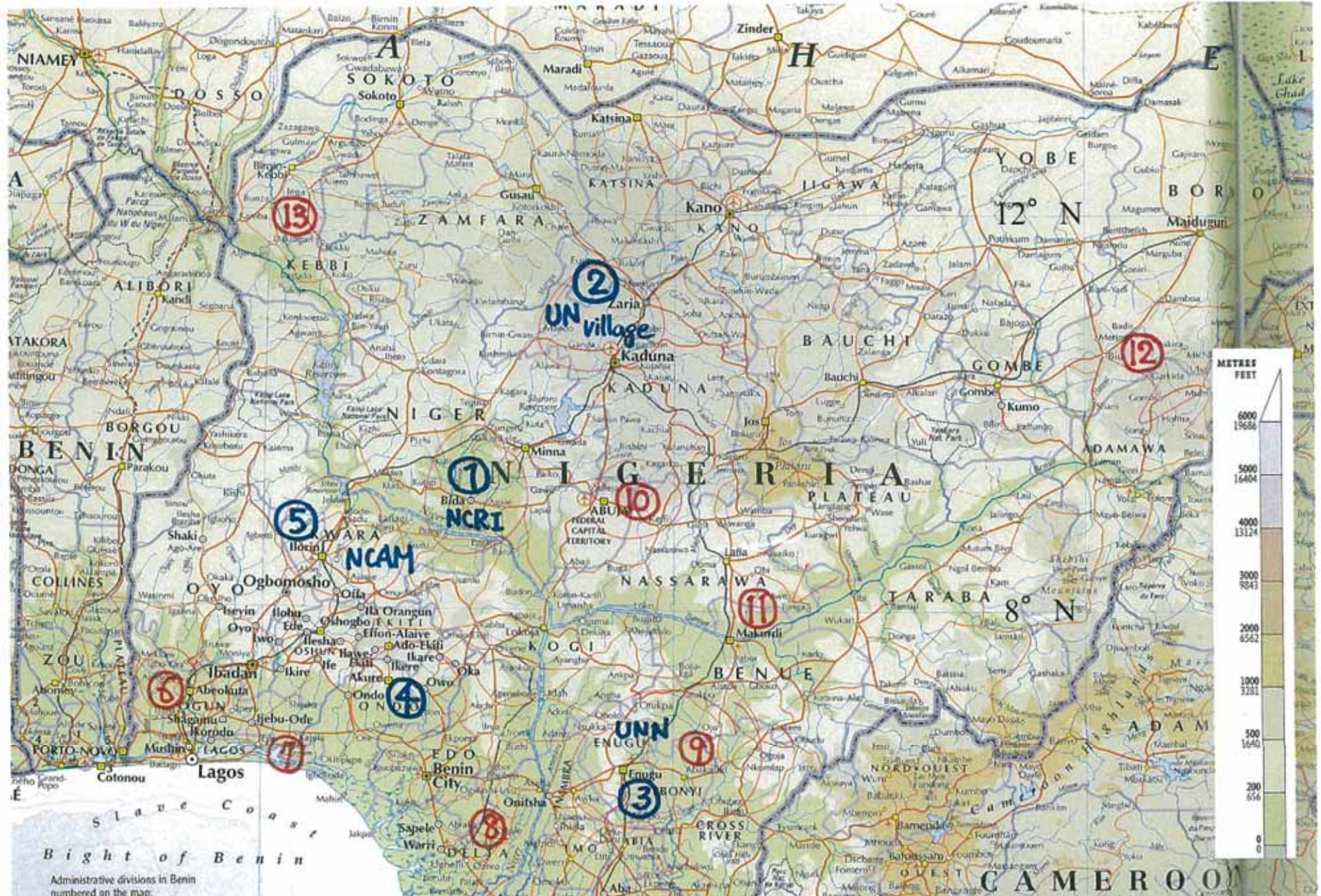
**Power tiller (sometimes animal traction) use.  
Farmer based development  
Extended agronomy**



# **Road Map to Realize Africa Rice Green Revolution through Site Specific Farmers' Personal Irrigated Sawah Development by **Million Farmers' Self-Support Efforts****

- **1986-2003 : (10 sites, 10ha of sawah) : 17 years of struggling, **Achieved****  
Basic research on Site Specific Sawah development by farmers' self support efforts at Bida, Nigeria and Kumasi, Ghana
- **2004-2009: (60 sites, 150ha of sawah): **Achieved****  
Basic Action research on Site Specific Personal Irrigated Sawah development by farmers at Bida, Zaria, Akure, and Ilorin, Nigeria and Kumasi area, Ghana
- **2010-2013: (100 sites, 300ha of sawah): Immediate Target for Action Research for Dissemination of Sawah Technology**  
**by Kinki Univ/NCAM/FadamaIII/SRI/CRI, JIRCAS, SMART-IV and JICA-CARD; To prepare Large scale Action research on Site Specific Sawah development by farmers at Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, Benin & others**
- **2014-2025: (>5000 sites , >25,000ha of Sawah): Large scale**  
**Africa wide Action Researchg/dissemination of Site Specific Sawah development by farmers self-support efforts**
- **2025-2050: African wide spontaneous sawah expansion and the Realization of African Rice Green Revolution: **Realization of Africa's Rice Potential****





- : Action Research Sites by 2009, - : New sites in collaboration with NCAM and Fadama III in 2010