

Project Brief

Background

Pests like stemborers and striga are in vast parts of Africa main causes for significant yield losses in maize and sorghum. In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the Push-Pull method (www.push-pull.net) developed by *icipe*, the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology based in Nairobi, has a proven track record as an integrated, ecological solution which increases maize and sorghum yields by reducing pest damage and improving soil fertility. The intercropping of desmodium as a leguminous crop and use of a border crop (Napier or brachiaria) furthermore provides nutritious fodder, which increases milk yields and contributes to the subsequent improvement of food and nutrition security at household level.

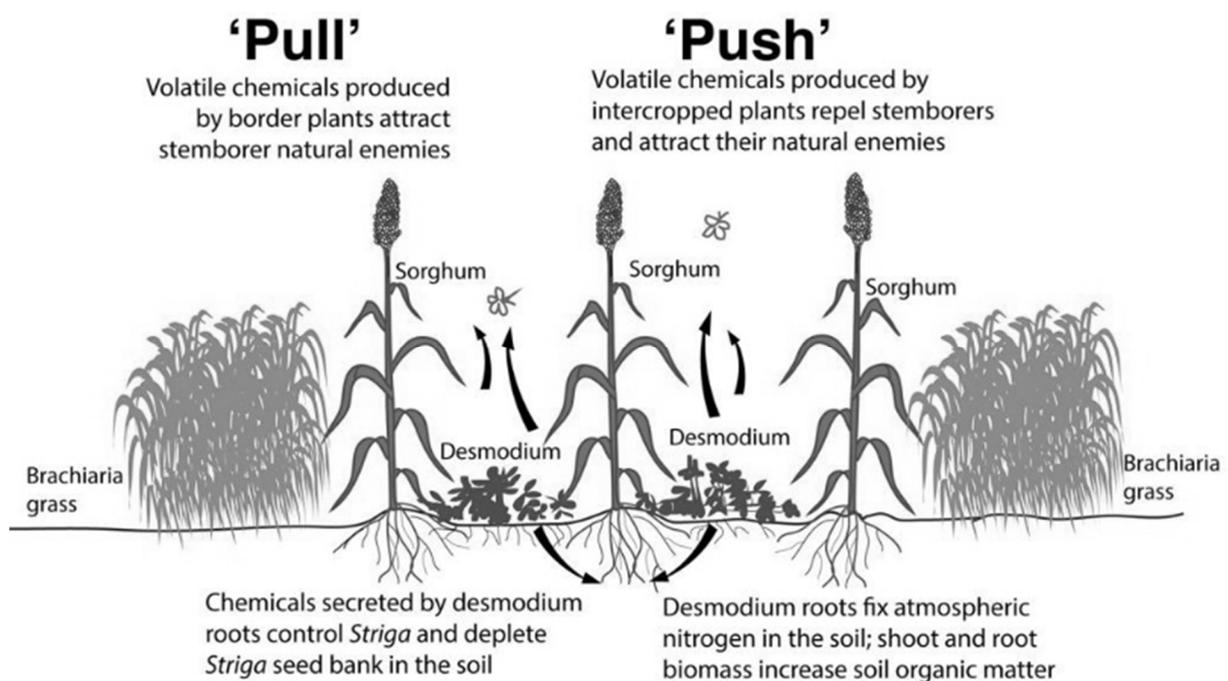


Figure 1. How the climate-adapted push-pull technology works.

Duration of Project

The project is expected to run for 36 months from mid-2016 to mid-2019. The three main partners are: Biovision Foundation (project coordination; M&E), *icipe* (implementation and partnerships), Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT; dissemination).

Funding

The project has funds available for targeted support for the dissemination and adoption of Push-Pull in collaboration with new partners identified. Funding of partners will be determined on a case-by-case basis, including potential in-kind and financial contributions.

Project Targets

The project focuses on the dissemination and adoption of the Push-Pull method through strategic partnerships outside of East Africa, ultimately improving food and nutrition security and the income of small-holder cereal and livestock farmers beyond East Africa.

- 1. Implementing strategic partnerships for scaling-out (Lead: *icipe*):** By incubating a new Technology Resource Center at *icipe* Nairobi, the dissemination of Push-Pull is advanced through establishing strategic partnerships with organization and government entities in six new countries outside East Africa, reaching 33 partners by 2019. The new Center will also promote alternate sustainable technologies.
- 2. Establishing sustainable supply of Desmodium and Brachiaria seed within target countries (Lead: *icipe*):** With the help of a seed investment fund and a seed consultant, the demand and supply are analyzed, partnerships with seed production companies strengthened and seed distribution networks established. Community-based seed production, in addition to other decentralized production and distribution models, are furthermore developed with the overarching goal to provide long-term access to quality seeds at competitive prices in sub-Saharan Africa.
- 3. Establish sustainable mechanisms for Push-Pull dissemination (Lead: BvAT):** Design new adoption pathways together with partners in new countries, including using gender-sensitive mass communication tools and demonstration methods to increase adoption. Training of Trainers and back-stopping services provided by *icipe*.
- 4. Monitoring and Evaluation implemented:** Potential of the Push-Pull adoption mapped (see link below) and revised together with partners, with the overall aim to have the change in maize and sorghum yields and adoption continuously monitored.

Further Contacts

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Further Resources

Interactive Prototype of Push-Pull Potential Adoption Map (<https://push-pull.appspot.com/>)

Climate Smart Push-Pull Brochure ([http://www.push-pull.net/Climate-smart Push-Pull.pdf](http://www.push-pull.net/Climate-smart%20Push-Pull.pdf))

Push-Pull Impact Assessment Report ([http://www.push-pull.net/impact assesment.shtml](http://www.push-pull.net/impact%20assesment.shtml))

Stories of Our Success (<http://www.push-pull.net/stories-of-our-success.shtml>)

Push-Pull Curriculum for Farmer Field Schools ([http://www.push-pull.net/ffs curriculum.shtml](http://www.push-pull.net/ffs%20curriculum.shtml))