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Biofertilizer – A Key Tool towards Food Sovereignty in Burkina Faso

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CNABio	National Council for Organic Agriculture
GP-SAEP	Global Programme for Small-scale Agroecology Producers and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
ISFM	Integrated soil fertility management
SOFITEX	Société Burkinabè des Fibres Textiles
SPG (*according to the French acronym*)	Participatory Guarantee System

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Abstract

This report explores the potential of biofertilizer to support the sustainable transition of Burkina Faso's agricultural sector. Building on a dedicated background study, a previous analytical report, and a recent market assessment, it provides an analysis of the current off-farm biofertilizer sector in Burkina Faso. The report identifies key opportunities for advancing the sector at three levels: at government level, at biofertilizer production unit level and at farmer level. It also underscores the ecological and economic benefits of integrating biofertilizers into integrated soil fertility management approaches and broader agroecological practices. Finally, the report offers actionable recommendations for the development of Burkina Faso's biofertilizer sector both for policymakers and development operations, advocating for the integration of biofertilizers as a sustainable solution to the country's soil fertility and productivity challenges.[1]

Key words: biofertilizer, sustainable production, rural economy, food sovereignty

1 Background

Organic and biofertilizers (hereafter biofertilizer, see Box 1) present a significant yet underutilized opportunity for Africa's agricultural transformation and rural development. By recycling nutrient-rich organic waste such as crop residues, animal manure and market waste, these sustainable inputs help reverse chronic soil degradation, boost productivity, and enhance resilience to climate change. Biofertilizers improve the biological, biochemical, and physical quality of the soil, promoting crop development and plant nutrition, and reduce dependence on costly synthetic fertilizers[2], fostering more resilient and productive farming systems. Moreover, by enhancing the integration of organic matter into the soil, the use of biofertilizers contributes to the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and improves the water holding capacity of the soil. (see Box 2) Harnessing the full potential of biofertilizers requires positioning them within a larger transition to sustainable agriculture and food systems - one that goes beyond incremental changes or simple substitution. Beyond promoting biofertilizer value chains, integrating agroecological approaches for integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) is crucial to ensure long-term soil health and productivity.

Box 1

Organic and biofertilizers include a variety of materials derived from plant or animal sources and may also contain living organisms such as algae, bacteria, and fungi. They are used to provide nutrients for plant growth and defence systems. The term encompasses compost, vermicompost, biochar, bokashi, frass fertilizer, bio-stimulants, inoculants, bio-growth promoters, and others. **In this report, the term biofertilizer is used in a broad sense to cover all of these inputs.**

The ongoing global fertilizer crisis has exposed the fragility of Africa's dependence on imported synthetic fertilizers, as rising prices and supply chain disruptions disproportionately affect resource-constrained farmers. Following the pandemic and the war between Russia and Ukraine, prices of nitrogen fertilizers have increased drastically. In West Africa, where 50% of urea and 70% of potassium are imported from Russia and Belarus, prices have doubled or tripled. In the specific case of Burkina Faso, who only produces

[1] The key findings and recommendations are also presented in the policy brief "Biofertilizer, a key tool towards food sovereignty in Burkina Faso"

[2] Chemical substance or material that is used to provide nutrients to plants.

a very limited amount of synthetic fertilizer domestically and relies heavily on imports, the rise in synthetic fertilizer prizes lead to a drop in imports by 23%, declining from 251,377 tons in 2020 to 194,495 tons in 2021.[i] With the current macroeconomic and geopolitical trends, fertilizer prices will remain high, posing a serious strain on farmers to meet internal demand, secure their livelihood and provide food security. This underscores the critical need for sustainable, locally produced solutions like biofertilizers.

Across Africa, off-farm production of biofertilizer remains in its infancy, characterized by small-scale operations, inadequate infrastructure, and weak policy support. African countries like South Africa and Egypt lead in developing composting and industrial scale biofertilizer production, but most nations lack the regulatory frameworks, quality standards, and market incentives to mainstream biofertilizer.[ii] In Burkina Faso, the development of the biofertilizer sector is particularly relevant. Soil degradation costs the country an estimated 26% of its GDP annually[iii], while reliance on imported synthetic fertilizers strains farmer livelihoods, trade balance and national budgets. Burkina Faso has strong potential to develop biofertilizers from its organic resources, including crop residues, animal manure, forest by-products, and urban biowaste, yet these resources remain largely underutilized. The country's fertilizer policies have historically prioritized chemical inputs, modeled on Western approaches dating from the 1960s, which are to some extent still perceived as modern but are now increasingly questioned because synthetic inputs do not improve soil health or reverse land degradation trends, on the contrary. National policies offer far too little support for biologic alternatives despite their alignment with agroecological principles and the potential for improving soil health and long-term productivity.

2 Findings

2.1 Burkina Faso's biofertilizer demand and production is growing

According to available data, the off-farm **biofertilizer sector in Burkina Faso** encompasses approximately 50 production units, including companies, cooperatives and producer associations. This estimate does not include farmers who produce biofertilizers on-farm for their own use. Biofertilizer production units are present in all 13 regions, with the highest concentrations in the Centre, Hauts-Bassins, Nord, and Est regions. The Centre and Hauts-Bassins alone account for over 80% of production units, while other regions, such as Centre-Est and Sahel, have very few. The sector has mainly developed through urban and peri-urban agriculture, particularly in vegetable farming (*maraîchage*), where most biofertilizers are used. Most of the biofertilizer products available on the market are solid biofertilizers (around 75%), mostly compost, and to a smaller extent liquid products (around 25%). The actual number of products on the market is difficult to estimate, as many products remain unregistered and uncertified, making them absent from official statistics. For the same reason, it is challenging to determine the exact **off-farm volume of biofertilizer production in Burkina Faso**. Estimations from a market study[iv] conducted in 2024, which combines official data with field research, estimates the national off-farm production of solid biofertilizers to be around 275 000 tons and 122 000 liters of liquid biofertilizers. The study also indicates that production has been growing over the last years, evidence of an ever-growing demand (data available from 2021).

In fact, survey on input **demand** show that nearly all farmers in Burkina Faso use agricultural inputs, with synthetic inputs being more widely applied. However, most farmers use a combination of synthetic and biofertilizers, including self-produced ones. Despite this, overall application levels for both synthetic and biofertilizer remain low and often fall below recommended dosages. Additionally, inputs are typically used only in specific areas of production that often have high economic potential—for example, compost is mainly applied to market gardens rather than across all cultivated land.

Sales figures of biofertilizers at the national level are difficult to estimate, with significant variations between production systems and regions. The market study conducted in the central-west region, indicated for example that production units encounter significant difficulties in selling their products leading to stock accumulation, increasing production costs related to storage but also to potential losses due to the risk of deterioration in product quality over time. Larger production units were therefore forced to export to neighboring countries like Côte d'Ivoire and Mali. This outflow of high-quality organic matter represents a missed opportunity for more sustainable agriculture in Burkina Faso.

Biofertilizers currently on the market in Burkina Faso are **priced** at approximately 7 000 CFA per 50 kg bag for solid biofertilizers (mainly compost) and 4,500 CFA per liter for liquid bio inputs (prices as of 2025). In comparison, the price for synthetic fertilizers like NPK (different compositions) and urea range from 30 000 to 32 500 CFA per 50 kg bag. (prices as of 2025) Considering current agricultural practices, greater quantities are required compared to synthetic fertilizers, which increases overall costs. While biofertilizers are nominally cheaper, it is the economic distortions created by subsidies for synthetic fertilizers – and the absence of similar support for biofertilizers – that primarily make synthetic options more affordable and accessible for farmers. However, the vast majority of these subsidies fuel imports that primarily benefit foreign companies.

2.2 Opportunities for the development of Burkina Faso's biofertilizer sector in support of Food sovereignty

2.2.1 At government level: Support through subsidy programmes, policy framework improvement and enhanced certification

So far, Burkina Faso's government **agricultural policies and subsidy programme** have primarily focused on synthetic fertilizers, with most of the subsidies directed toward the cotton sector. Subsidies are distributed directly through the *Société Burkinabè des Fibres Textiles*, SOFITEX, for the cotton sector, or the ministry responsible for agriculture, according to an input distribution mechanism via a voucher system after electronic payment. Beneficiaries are selected randomly based on criteria such as farm size (up to five hectares), crops grown, equipment level, and household economic capacity, using data from national census. Once selected, farmers receive a voucher with details on the kit and payment instructions. After completing the payment, they can collect their kits at designated distribution points.

For the agricultural seasons 2024, the volume of subsidized inputs (fertilizers and pesticides) for the cotton sector was estimated at 383 144 tons, with estimated costs of 10.9 billion FCFA (approx. 18 Mio. USD). Data for other agricultural sectors was not made available. However, given the prioritization of the cotton sector, the amounts of fertilizers subsidized for other agricultural sectors are estimated to be much lower. It is noteworthy, however, that farmers often divert subsidized inputs intended for cotton to other crops, particularly maize and other cereals such as sorghum and rice.

The **share of biofertilizers in the subsidy programme** is very small, making Burkina Faso's agricultural sector heavily reliant on synthetic fertilizer and thus vulnerable to price fluctuations and supply chain disruptions. Indeed, over 95% of the subsidized fertilizers are imported[v]. Since 2022, the government has started to integrate biofertilizers in subsidy programmes and public purchasing programmes, however, to a very limited extent. Major hindering factors for a more substantial integration of biofertilizers in public programmes are (i) the limited integration in national policies and strategies, and (ii) the lack of appropriate certification mechanisms for locally produced products. By addressing these key challenges, nationally produced biofertilizers can increasingly be included in subsidy programmes and public purchasing, thereby reducing the countries' dependency on imports.

The *Local Agroecological Transition Plans (PLTAE),* which adapt the **national strategies**, such as the *Sectoral Policy on Agro-sylvo-pastoral Production (2016–2025),* the *National Sustainable Development Policy (PNDD)* and the *National Agroecology Development Strategy SND-AE (2023–2027)* to regional contexts, include biofertilizer distribution, alongside infrastructure for agroecological product marketing, and farmer training and thus provide a policy basis for future implementation. Their implementation, however, could be significantly improved by placing agroecology as an agricultural policy priority and through appropriate funding and strengthened institutional coordination. In 2023, stakeholders within the consultation framework on ecological and biological inputs, led by the National Council for Organic Agriculture (CNABio), developed a strategy and action plan for the period 2023-2026 to promote ecological and organic inputs, including biofertilizers (*Stratégie et Plan d'Actions des Bio-Intrants*). This strategy and the adoption of the action plan are expected to contribute to strengthening the role of bio-inputs, including biofertilizers, in Burkina Faso.

As part of this action plan of bio-inputs, CNABio is leading the participatory process to define a national **certification mechanism for locally produced biofertilizers**, called ***reconnaissance***. The aim is to establish a locally tailored standard—approved by both public and private stakeholders—that aligns local requirements with national regulations. The *reconnaissance* mechanism will include accessible quality control protocols, with a particular focus on nutrient content, to ensure product quality. Once certified, local biofertilizer production units will receive official national recognition, enabling them to participate in public procurement programs, and thus giving them access to an important market to sell their products.

Another approach to promote quality standards for biofertilizers is through **Participatory Guarantee System** (SPG, according to the French acronym), promoted by CNABio. SPG certification is an alternative certification, conducted by producers and consumers with the aim of guaranteeing the quality of agricultural products placed on the market by complying with the established standard (CNABio, 2013). Compliance is certified through the *BioSPG* label, which is protected by the *Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle* (OAPI). This system offers biofertilizer production units an accessible certification mechanism tailored to local conditions. Additionally, BioSPG-certified biofertilizers are included in the official list of approved inputs for farmers operating under BioSPG standards, enhancing market visibility for certified production units.

2.2.2 At biofertilizer production units level - Professionalization and enhanced Market Access

The **financial capacity** of biofertilizer production units is oftentimes limited. Most production units lack the capital needed to invest in research, marketing, and distribution, or to withstand delayed payments from larger contracts. This financial strain restricts their ability to modernize and scale production and therefore to generate economies of scale for greater competitiveness or to raise awareness of agricultural advisors, who often continue to recommend synthetic inputs. Poor marketing strategies further limit awareness among farmers and agricultural advisors, while doubts about the effectiveness of local biofertilizers still limit demand. Hence there is a strong need for professionalization of the biofertilizer value chain, an effort already underway through initiatives like IFAD's GP-SAEP project in Centre Ouest.

This **professionalisation** will increase the Burkinabe's production units' competitiveness by allowing them to achieve economies of scale to overcome the current barriers, such as the rising cost of raw materials and the artisanal nature of most production units, which rely on manual labor and lack industrial-scale efficiency. These challenges not only increase production costs but also result in inconsistent product quality. Producing good consistent quality products, however, is essential to build customer trust and

loyalty. Farmers in the Central West region cite product quality (nutrient content), price, and accessibility as the main factors influencing their purchasing decisions.

The biofertilizer distribution network isn't yet developed, with biofertilizers comprising less than 1% of the total volume of inputs stocked by distributors. Many input retailers do not carry biofertilizers, and efforts by some promoters to establish dedicated sales points are geographically limited. Distributors of synthetic inputs show little interest in biofertilizers, citing higher prices, lower profit margins, and unattractive packaging that complicates storage. **Raising awareness and market development** is key for biofertilizers to take up their due share of the market.

On the other hand, due to these market barriers, particularly the high cost of biofertilizers, many farmers continue to rely on self-produced biofertilizers. An analysis of farm gross margins shows that financial performance is 2.35 times higher for farms that produce all or part of their own biofertilizers compared to those that rely solely on purchased inputs. However, on-farm production is highly time-consuming and often faces the challenge of limited availability of organic material. More than half of the farmers surveyed reported that their self-produced supply was insufficient to meet their needs, mainly due to time constraints and the lack of availability of sufficient raw material.

2.2.3 At farmer level - Strengthen Awareness and Adoption

Data collected in December 2024 from 547 farmers in the Centre-West region[vi] highlights the significant advantages of **certified biofertilizers**. Farmers using certified biofertilizers reported markedly better outcomes, nearly 88% of farmers using certified biofertilizers observed at least moderate improvements in soil fertility, compared to 68% of non-users (Figure 1). These figures hint that certified biofertilizers significantly increase the likelihood of achieving widespread soil fertility gains.

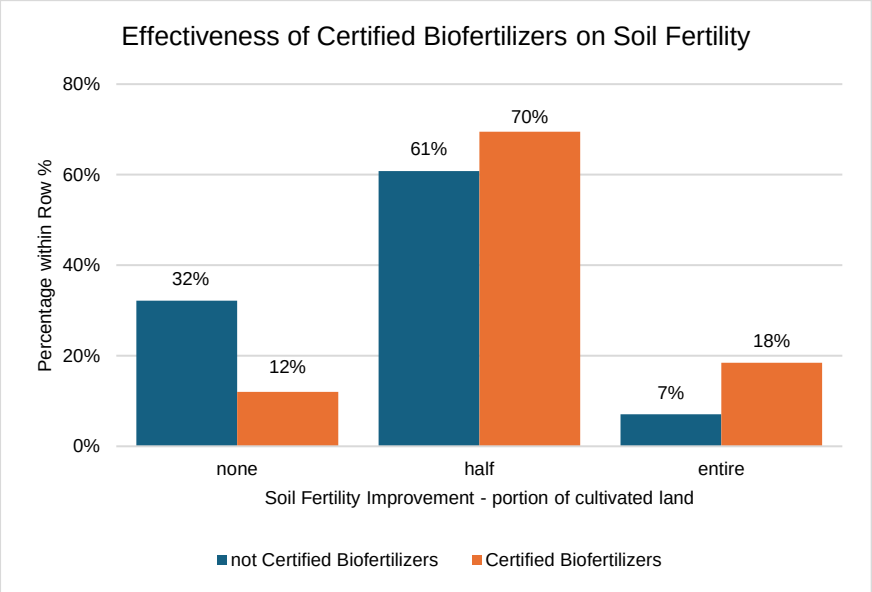

Figure 1: Observed soil fertility increase due to the application of certified vs. non-certified bio-fertilizers: no observed improvement, improvement observed on half the cultivated land, improvement observed on the entire cultivated land. Source: Field Survey in Central-West region, 2024, n=547

Nevertheless, these positive outcomes risk being undermined by persistent skepticism among farmers regarding the reliability of biofertilizers, often due to strong promotion of synthetic inputs or past experiences with low-quality products. This underscores the need for certified products that guarantee quality and build trust. A potential incentive for farmers to integrate biofertilizers into their systems is by making their use a prerequisite for accessing subsidized synthetic inputs, as is the case in Mali (see Annex 1).

Promoting the use of biofertilizers presents an important opportunity for agriculture in Burkina Faso, where soils are often heavy degraded. While synthetic fertilizers provide nutrients directly and efficiently to plants, though their effectiveness can be reduced by leaching or runoff, they do little to improve **the structure and biology of the soil, reducing fertility in the long term**, which leads to a vicious circle: an ever-increasing dependence on chemical fertilizers and a gradual but inevitable deterioration of soil health over time. Moreover, synthetic fertilizers are often ineffective on severely degraded soils. In contrast, solid biofertilizers not only provide plant nutrients, but also enhance soil structure by adding organic matter. An enhanced soil structure leads to increased water holding capacity of the soil and other beneficial effects that boost agricultural productivity and resilience against dry periods. (see Box 2) When combined with other soil health promoting practices like minimum tillage and use of nitrogen fixing cover crops, *Zaï*, half-moons, and stony strips, biofertilizers effectively contribute to restoring degraded soils. This approach, known as **Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM)**, a core agroecological strategy, supports natural nutrient cycling process, reduces reliance on synthetic fertilizers and promotes a balanced ecosystem. ISFM has an important ecological and economic value. Implemented across 44,067 hectares in three provinces of Burkina Faso, these practices yielded high profitability for cereal farmers, with internal rates of return (IRR) of 35% for millet, 22% for sorghum, and 8% for corn. Break-even periods ranged from 3 to 5 years, underscoring their viability for long-term agricultural sustainability[vii].

A key element in ensuring that the potential of biofertilizers can be realized is correct application. Hence, **technical assistance** plays a pivotal role in maximizing the effectiveness of biofertilizers. The role of technical assistance is also key to promoting the integration of biofertilizers in agroecological practices. According to the questionnaire, farmers that had received technical assistance in the last 2 years reported far better outcomes on soil fertility improvement, with 75% achieving moderate improvements to soil fertility through compost application and 9% observing full farm improvement (Figure 2). Conversely, nearly 50% of those without assistance saw no improvement. This underscores the transformative impact of technical assistance in enabling proper biofertilizer application, improving timing, dosage, and integration into farming practices. Without such guidance, even high-quality biofertilizers fail to deliver optimal results, leading to inefficiencies and farmer skepticism.

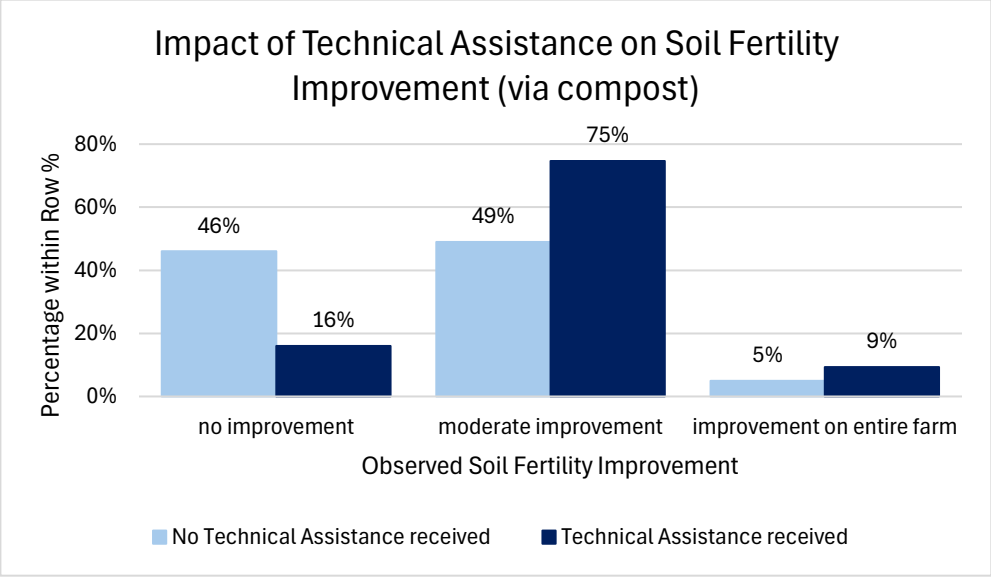

Figure 2: Impact of Technical Assistance on Soil improvement, via compost: Observed soil fertility improvement: no improvement, moderate improvement, improvement on entire farm. Source: Field Survey in Central-West region, 2024, n=547

3 Recommendations

3.1 For policymakers

1) Support the development of a strong domestic biofertilizer sector by enabling private sector growth through targeted financial incentives, market stimulation, and integration into national food sovereignty strategies.

Policymakers should prioritize the growth of Burkina Faso's biofertilizer sector as a priority strategy for rural development, economic resilience and food sovereignty. Expanding the availability and accessibility of biofertilizers will require financial assistance, such as competitive grants and affordable loans, to help enterprises modernize and scale production capacity, enhance distribution networks, and reach underserved farming communities, eventually integrating technical assistance for farmers in their business model. Tax incentives and other financial measures can further encourage production, fostering a reliable and competitive market. Public authorities should also play a central role in stimulating demand by incorporating locally produced biofertilizers into public procurement programs and integrating their use into agricultural extension services by raising awareness of their agricultural and economic benefits among farmers and stakeholders. Like this, the government can stimulate a competitive and self-sustaining biofertilizer industry that creates jobs, benefits farmers, strengthens the national economy and reduces the dependency on imported synthetic fertilizers.

2) Enhance the sector of domestically produced biofertilizer by increasing the scope of biofertilizer integration into government subsidy programmes.

The economic and logistical support for synthetic fertilizer distorts the market, making synthetic inputs a preferred choice for the wrong reasons. Meanwhile, biofertilizer production units face difficulties in finding buyers willing to pay higher, unsubsidized prices, limiting their competitiveness and market reach. The Burkinabe government started in 2022 to integrate biofertilizers in its subsidy programs, marking an

important first step toward more balanced support mechanism. The scope of the integration of biofertilizers in these programmes could be extended to provide equitable support for biofertilizers, thereby reducing economic distortions that do not benefit the country. A hybrid policy approach, which integrates biofertilizers in government programs can prove to be effective. Drawing on lessons from other countries, Mali, for example, conditions the distribution of synthetic fertilizers on the concurrent use of organic inputs, enhancing soil structure and fertility. This model prevents the inefficiency and environmental risks associated with applying synthetic fertilizers on degraded soils, ensuring more sustainable and productive outcomes. See Annex 1 for further information and other examples of subsidy programmes implemented in the region.

3) Establish and promote quality standards and accessible certification procedures for biofertilizers at national level.

To ensure trust and efficacy in the adoption of biofertilizers, Burkina Faso must establish and enforce quality standards targeted to the biofertilizer sector. The certification system needs to be accessible, both in terms of logistics and price, ensuring that only quality products reach farmers. Public awareness campaigns should inform farmers on the importance of using certified biofertilizers, while technical training programs can help production units adhere to quality requirements. Partnerships with private-sector stakeholders and international organizations can enhance these efforts through funding, expertise, and oversight.

4) Prioritize technical support and capacity building for farmers on the use and benefits of biofertilizers as a key component in integrated soil fertility management and agroecology.

Biofertilizers are most effective when applied together with Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) practices. It is therefore essential that farmers receive sustained technical support and training in ISFM and other agroecological practices for long term agricultural success. By prioritizing technical assistance and capacity-building programs on agroecology, the government can empower farmers to adopt practices that sustainably enhance soil fertility and ensure sustainable agricultural productivity.

3.2 For development operations

1) Provide support for capacity building and professionalization of Burkina Faso's biofertilizer sector.

It is strongly recommended to strengthen the technical and business capacities of biofertilizer production units through targeted financial support, technical assistance and business coaching, and access to certification mechanisms, enabling them to scale up production and improve product quality.

2) Invest in the development of local biofertilizer production and its integration into distribution channels and the broader market.

In the same way, it will be important to strengthen biofertilizer value chains by improving distribution networks. To achieve this, it is necessary to strengthen the links between supply and demand through technical and commercial partnerships to improve the accessibility of these products,

3) Facilitate farmer access to biofertilizers by supporting pilot initiatives, demonstration plots, and farmer-to-farmer learning networks that showcase the effective use and benefits of biofertilizers.

Development actors can play a key role in promoting the use of biofertilizers by supporting on-the-ground initiatives that demonstrate their benefits integrated with other soil fertility management practices. Through pilot projects, field demonstrations, and the establishment of farmer-to-farmer learning networks, in collaboration with local organizations, they can help build trust in biofertilizers and improve farmers' technical know-how.

Box 2

Biofertilizers: Building Soil, Not Just Feeding Plant

Healthy soils are characterized by a diversity of soil life including microbes and nematodes supporting plant nutrients and organic matter and particles supporting its physical qualities. Soil structure refers to the physical arrangement of soil particles like sand, silt, and clay, and how the spaces between them (pores) facilitate water retention, drainage, and root penetration. Good soil structure is critical for healthy plant growth. Soil nutrients are chemical elements like Magnesium (Mg), Calcium (Ca), Nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) that plants need for growth. While synthetic fertilizers typically provide N, P, and K nutrients directly, they do little to improve soil structure or long-term fertility.

Biofertilizers, such as compost, humus, and biochar, serve a dual function: they enhance soil structure while providing microbes and nutrients. Organic matter in these inputs binds soil particles, improving porosity, water infiltration, air flow, and root growth. Compost and humus, for example, retain moisture and prevent nutrient leaching, ensuring nutrients are available to plant roots over an extended period. Biochar, made from carbon-rich materials, stabilizes soil, retains water, and reduces nutrient loss.

Liquid organic fertilizers and synthetic fertilizers, while effective at providing nutrients quickly, have little to no impact on improving soil structure. They are absorbed rapidly by plants but lack the long-term soil-building benefits of solid organic inputs. Synthetic fertilizers, in particular, can degrade soil health over time by depleting organic matter and reducing microbial diversity, leading to poor soil structure and reduced productivity.

Biofertilizers also promote beneficial microbial activity in the soil. Compost, humus, and biochar stimulate soil microbes, which help break down organic matter into plant-available nutrients. These microbes play a critical role in maintaining healthy soil ecosystems, improving nutrient cycling, and strengthening soil structure.

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Annex 1 - Regional policy examples

The following examples highlight key strategies from the region, showcasing how countries are integrating organic inputs into their agricultural policies, overcoming barriers, and fostering sustainable practices. Each approach reflects unique national priorities, yet collectively, these efforts underline the continent's shift toward agroecological solutions and the long-term benefits of biofertilizers in improving productivity, and environmental and production resilience.

Country	Key Measures
Cameroon	The *Guichet de Transition Agroécologique* (GTA), managed by FODECC, provides financial and technical support to cocoa and coffee farmers shifting to sustainable agriculture. A co-financing mechanism links subsidies to farmers' agroecological transition plans. Electronic vouchers ensure targeted support and reduce reliance on synthetic inputs.
Côte d'Ivoire	Investments in cooperative training programs help farmers produce and use compost and biofertilizers. These initiatives aim to reduce dependence on imported synthetic fertilizers. However, implementation remains fragmented and reliant on external funding.
Ethiopia	Advances in the biofertilizer industry are being achieved by integrating bio-slurry, compost, and crop residues into agricultural development policies. Government programs emphasize education and training for farmers and local producers, ensuring the widespread adoption of organic inputs
Ghana	The government reduces or eliminates import tariffs on essential raw materials for biofertilizers, making local production more viable. A public-private partnership model encourages co-composting, combining organic and human waste to produce fertilizers. The government procures up to 80% of compost production to ensure market stability and farmer accessibility.
Kenya	The 2022 law integrates organic waste recycling into national strategies, creating an enabling environment for compost and biofertilizer production. Linking waste management with agriculture ensures ensuring organic fertilizers contribute to agricultural productivity while addressing urban waste challenges.
Mali	Farmers must prove they possess or produce organic manure to qualify for synthetic fertilizer subsidies. Subsidy eligibility is determined through a structured farmer registration process. Distribution is managed via both paper-based and electronic voucher systems. This approach encourages farmers to integrate organic inputs into their fertilization practices.
Rwanda	The government provides subsidies for biofertilizer production while strengthening infrastructure for organic waste recycling. Policies emphasize farmer education and quality control mechanisms. These measures encourage broader adoption of biofertilizers, contributing to sustainable agricultural development.
Senegal	The government began subsidizing organic fertilizers in 2021, scaling up allocations from 3,000 to 10,000 tons in one year. A strong government commitment supports transitioning from synthetic to organic inputs. Technical teams ensure quality control, and policies such as the *Plan Sénégal Émergent Vert* reinforce agroecology in national strategies.
South Africa	A national strategy launched in 2013 diverts up to 50% of organic waste from landfills for compost production. This approach reduces environmental waste while promoting biofertilizer use. Strengthened local waste management systems support farmers by increasing access to compost at lower costs.
Uganda	Small-scale co-composting initiatives are promoted to utilize abundant organic waste resources. Certification and quality standards are being strengthened to tackle counterfeit biofertilizer products. These efforts aim to build trust in biofertilizers and create a more structured market.


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