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RFS Knowledge Management Approach

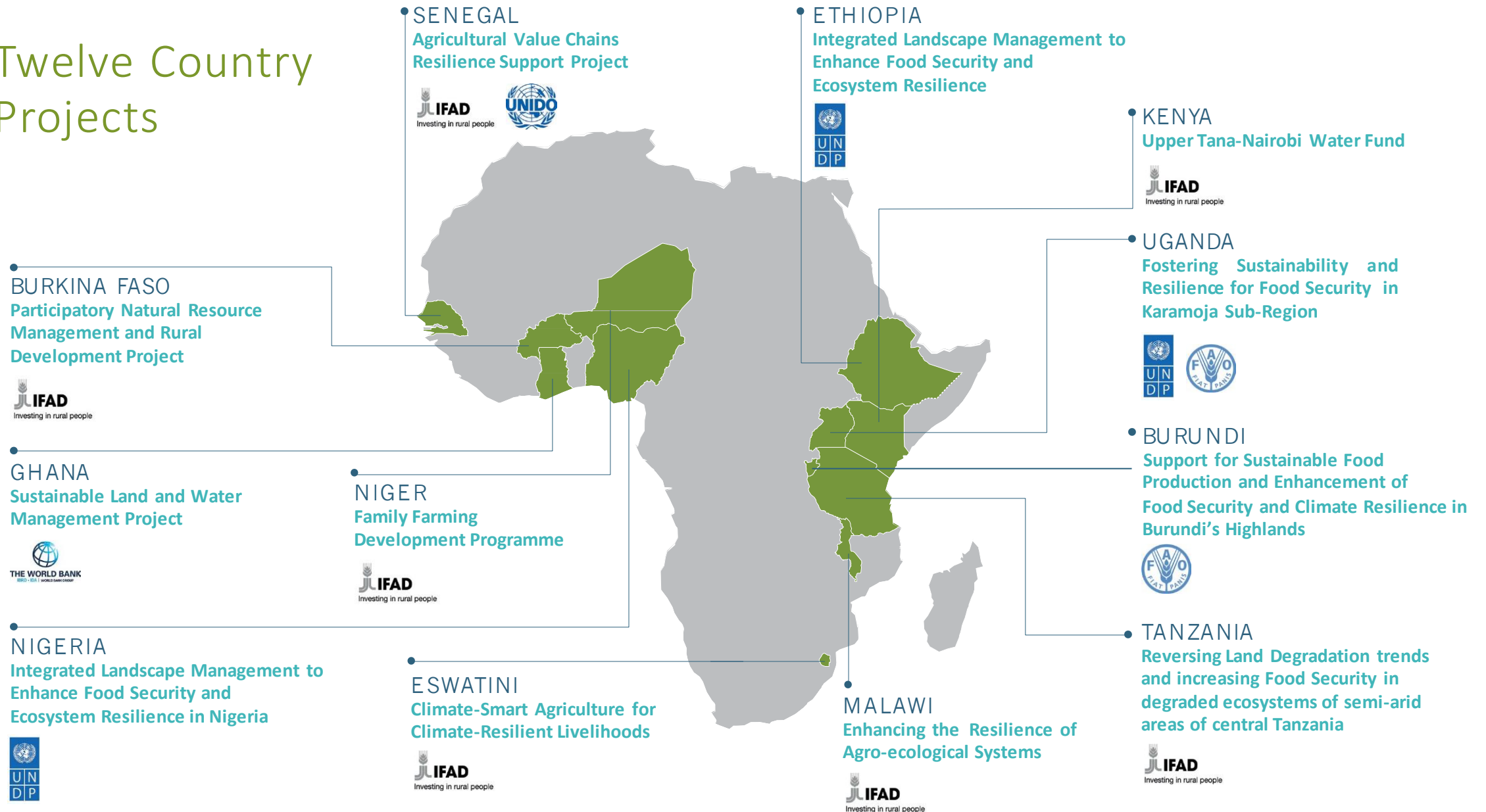


- RFS is one of the three **Integrated Approach Pilot programmes** funded by GEF.
- Through RFS, GEF is advancing a new paradigm for Africa's agricultural systems: one that emphasises the importance of natural capital and ecosystem services for agricultural productivity.
- RFS consists of **12 country projects** (Burkina Faso, Burundi, eSwatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda) and one cross-cutting **Regional Hub project**.

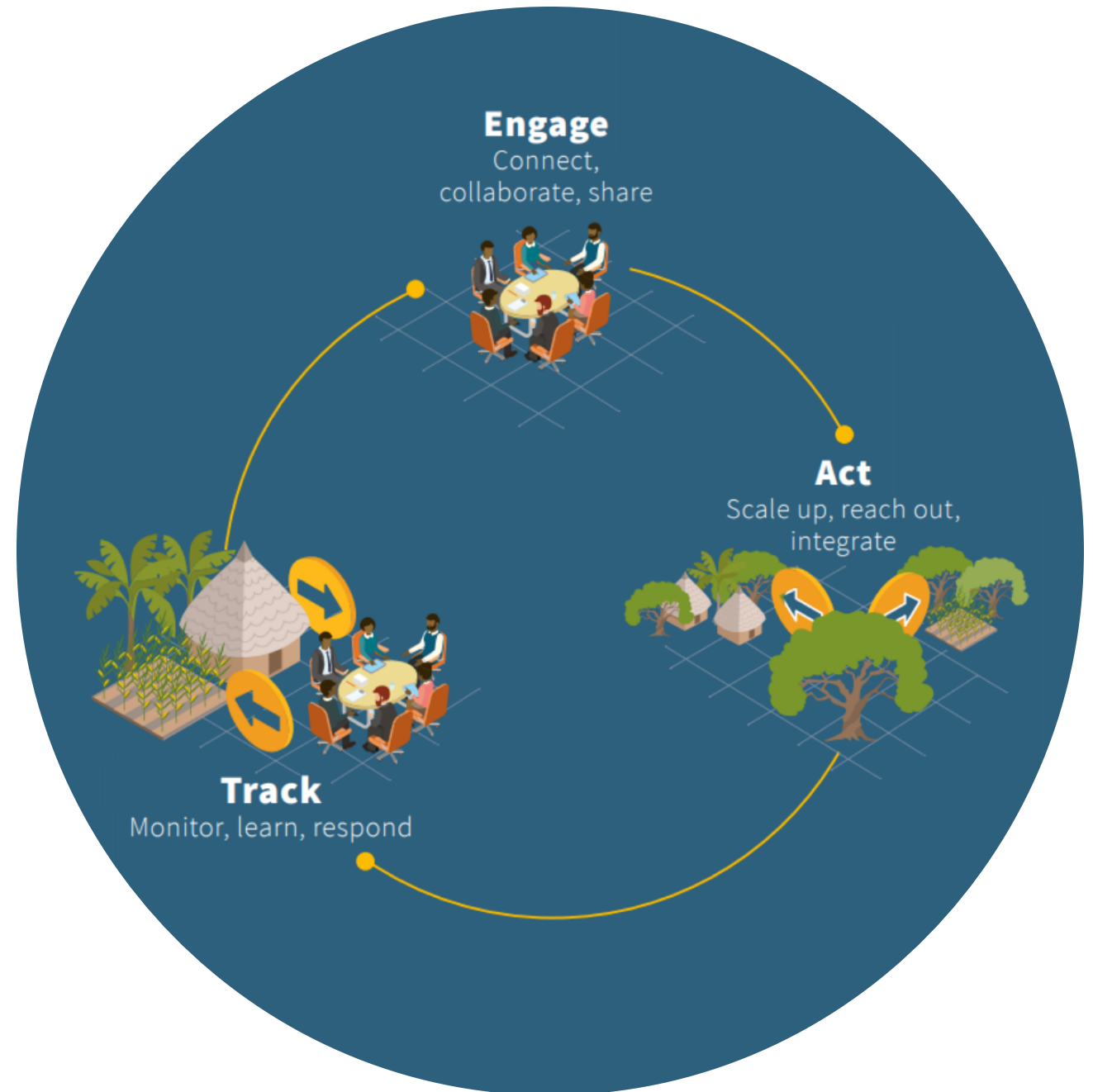
Recap on the RFS

- Duration:
2017 – 2023
- Total investment:
USD 116 million
+ co-financing
- Implementation led by **IFAD**
- Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) hosted by **ICRAF**

Twelve Country Projects



The 3 pillars of the RFS approach :



Features of RFS Knowledge Management & Learning

- Knowledge and learning activities take place both within country projects and across the RFS programme as a whole
- A comprehensive Communication and KM strategy with an implementation plan developed
- Knowledge management toolkit developed as a practical guide for knowledge management
- Communications Toolkit as a practical guide for doing communications
- Monitoring and Evaluation plan linked to KM



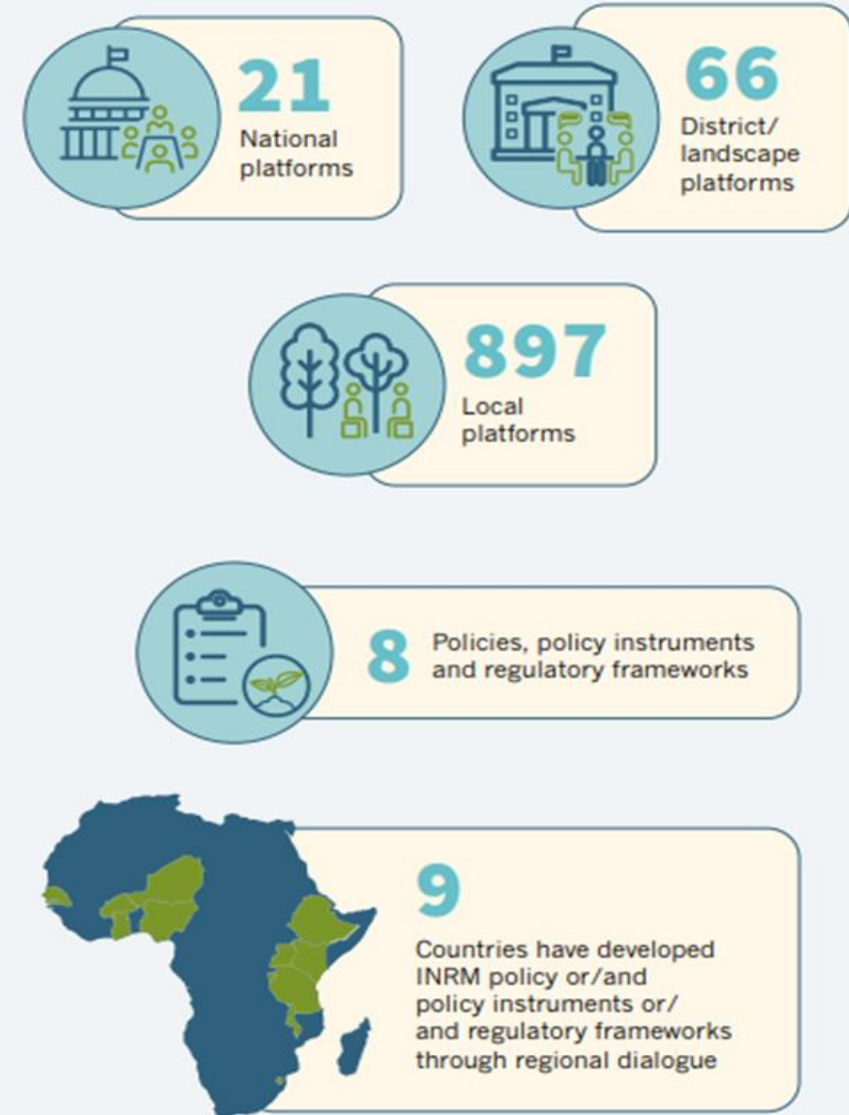
Knowledge management and learning

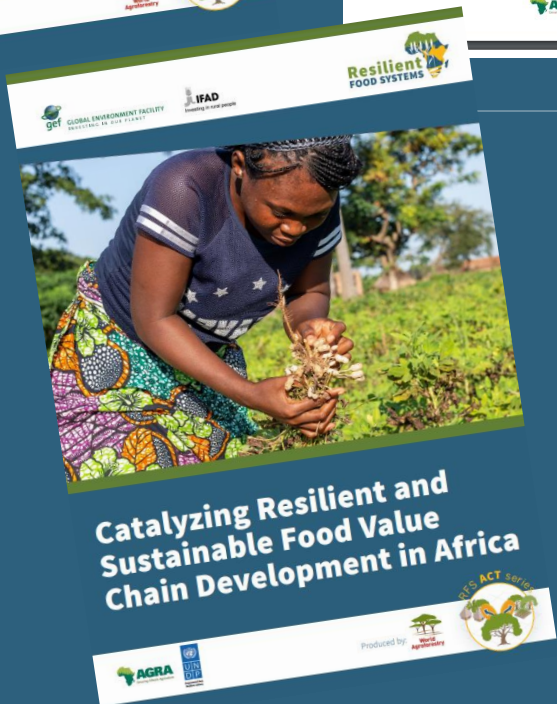
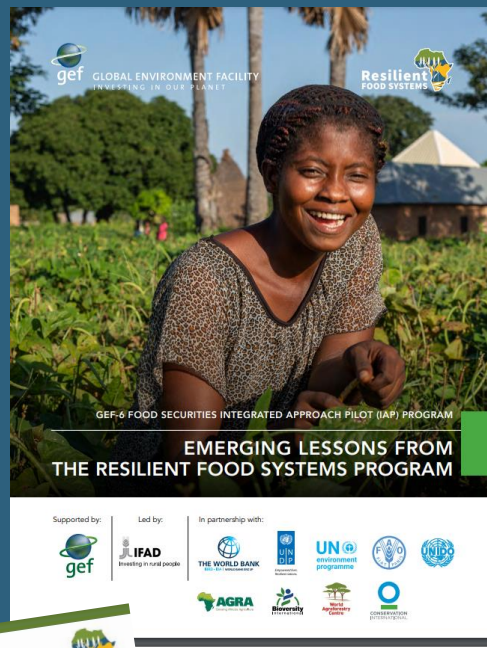
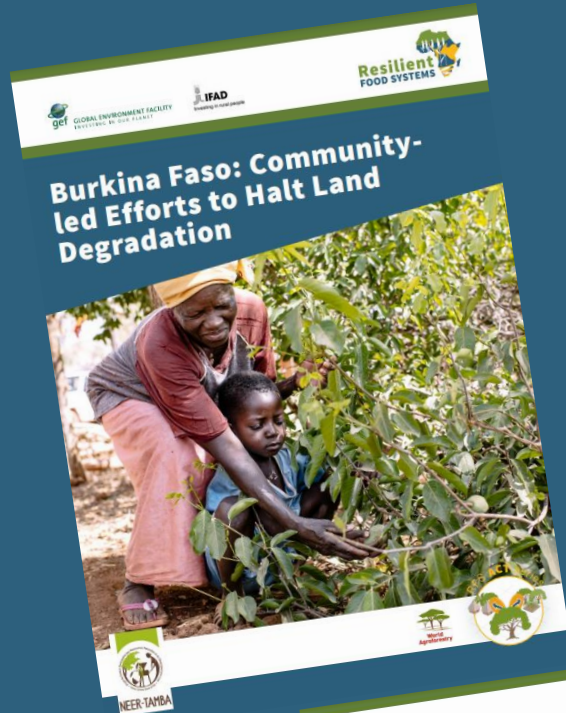
- RFS has put in place a **strong peer-learning system** through regional workshops, learning labs, field trips, a virtual knowledge centre and several other components facilitating vibrant **communities of practice** that operate within agriculture, natural resource management, and food security domains.
- **Several tools** developed to generate, capture and disseminate knowledge: RFS website (<http://www.resilientfoodsystems.co>), knowledge brief series, monthly newsletters and internal bulletins, social media campaigns, side events .
- Continuous efforts to **build on other major past and existing initiatives**
 - Interactions with Great Green Wall initiative, AUDA-NEPAD Terre Africa, World Overview of Conservation Approaches (WOCAT), Africa risk capacity



KM to evidence decision -making and policy dialogue

- RFS has established **multi-stakeholder platforms** and influenced **policies, policy instruments** and **regulatory frameworks** focused on INRM at national, district and local levels
- **Science and policy interface** & and the **Resilience Atlas** developed to disseminate knowledge





Knowledge resources

47 new knowledge products
created and disseminated

Achieved 47

Target 15

Target 475

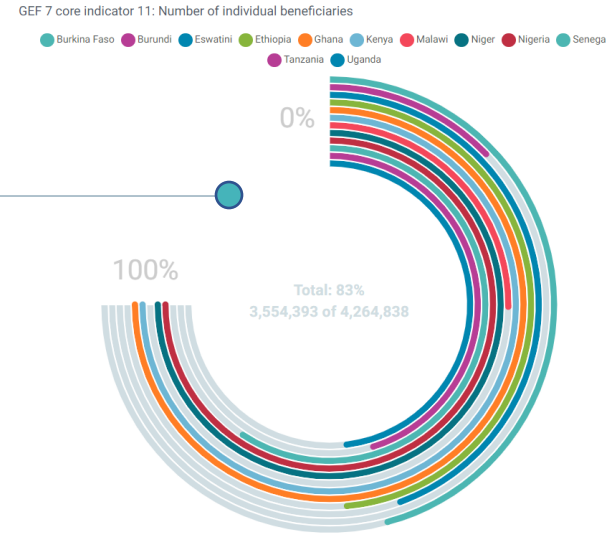
Achieved

432 communication products
created and disseminated



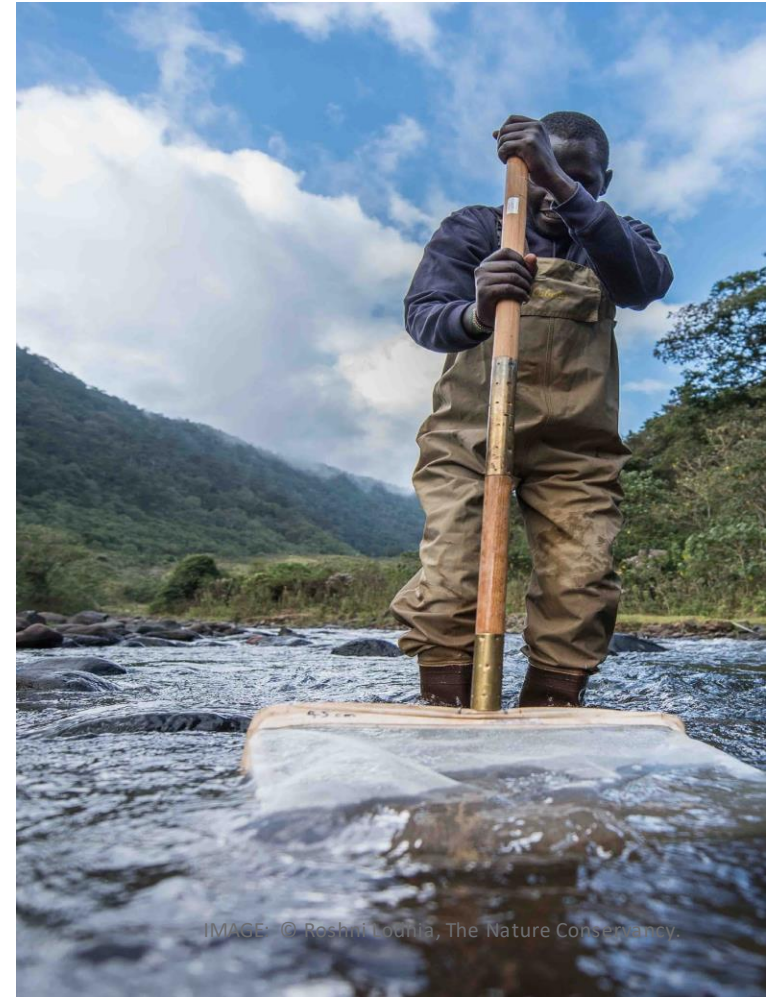
Digital solutions for KM

- RFS stakeholders can access and compare data from multiple projects and at the regional level through the online M&E platform, **SmartME**, which is linked to the RFS Knowledge Centre
- The RFS Kenya project has been monitoring water quality and quantity data for the upper-Tana River, collected at 33 river stations and 6 weather stations. These data are consolidated into the **DHIS2** online tool
- **The Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR)** from PAR and Bioversity-CIAT is an open-source tool for collecting data in the field and analyzing it through a consolidated web interface



Main challenges

- KM is yet to be treated as a core staffed function to support evidence-based decision-making and influence policy directions in country projects
- Lack of clarity or coherence on monitoring approaches: Indicators to track resilience and food security were not adequately addressed at design – No M&E staff foreseen at regional level
- Sustainability of knowledge platforms and produces, and M&E systems are not adequately addressed at design
- For multi-country programme, different reporting templates (PIRs) limit Knowledge tracking across GEF IPs supported projects (aggregation and comparability)
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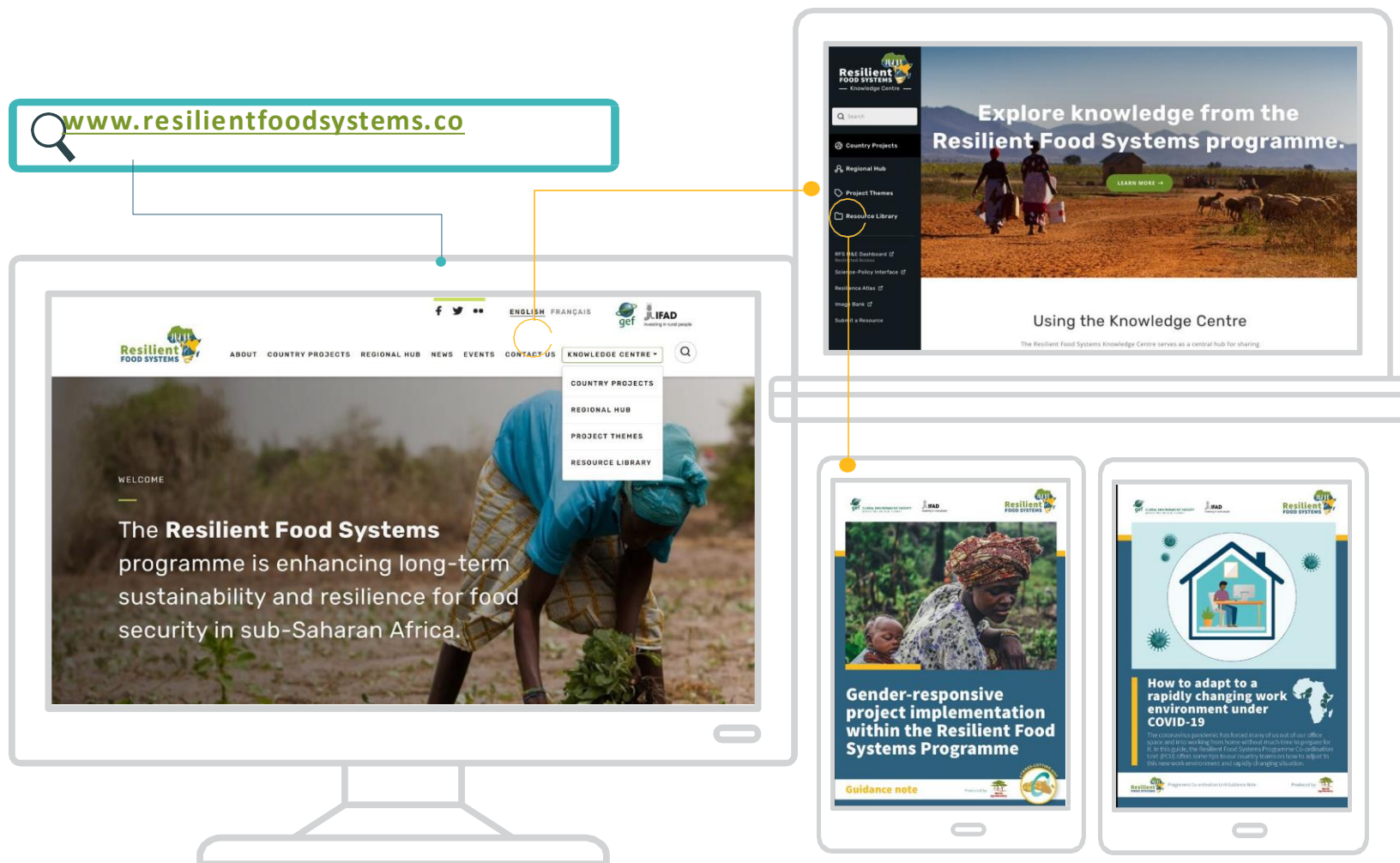
Recommendations

- **More provisions for knowledge management and M&E:** sensitization at design on relationship between M&E; KM; communications and advocacy; including the different capacities and expertise needed
- Investments in **translation** cannot be overlooked during the design for multi-country programmes
- Online monitoring systems provide easy access to up-to-date information, improving decision-making across RFS projects and levels of governance
- Cross-programmatic knowledge management and dialogue promotes exchange of evidence, lessons and best practices



Learn more about RFS KM

Check out the RFS website and Knowledge Centre where you can find helpful resources, tools, case studies and new stories related to the different countries and themes of the RFS programme.



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