

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO) RECOGNISES WAVE



GLOBAL TECHNICAL RECOGNITION

SUSTAINABLE PLANT PRODUCTION AND PROTECTION

Central and West African Virus Epidemiology (WAVE)

the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

*For the development, validation and dissemination of practices for
the active Participatory Surveillance system for cassava viral diseases
in West and Central Africa using the PlantVillage App, "Nuru".*

The WAVE Regional Centre of Excellence has received global technical recognition from the FAO for its work in **sustainable plant production and protection**.

This distinction is part of the FAO's identification of institutions whose technical approaches significantly contribute to food security, sustainable development and the transformation of agrifood systems.

An International Recognition on the 80th anniversary of the FAO.

The technical recognition ceremony was held on 15 October 2025 at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, as part of the organisation's 80th anniversary celebrations.

Through this initiative, the FAO promotes exemplary practices and structured approaches capable of delivering concrete responses to contemporary agricultural challenges.



A structural contribution to food security in Central and West Africa

WAVE's selection in the "Sustainable Plant Production and Protection" category acknowledges twelve years of scientific and institutional commitment dedicated to:

- strengthening the plant health ecosystem and enhancing plant disease detection through the use of the NURU application;
- Building the technical and operational capacities of researchers in Central and West Africa through targeted training initiatives.
- Promoting participatory surveillance and decentralised diagnostic systems to address phytosanitary threats.
- Consolidating a regional scientific ecosystem capable of anticipating, detecting and containing epidemics affecting crops.

A recognition that is aligned with global strategic priorities

This distinction is fully aligned with the FAO's **"Four Betters"** framework.



A renewed commitment

For WAVE, this technical recognition is both an honour and a responsibility. It reaffirms the relevance of its regional cooperation model, grounded in science, capacity building and strategic partnerships.

More meaningful than just an endorsement; this recognition sends a clear message: **sustainable plant protection is a central pillar of food security in Africa and worldwide**. Alongside its national, regional and international partners, WAVE will continue to foster robust and resilient plant health systems across Sub-Saharan Africa.