



# GATÚ

The good news from the field

ONLINE

## African family farming in a Brazilian way



While Embrapa, considered a center of excellence in almost all agribusiness variants, shares its experience to more than 10 countries, with Mozambique and Mali ahead in terms of broader projects, in Brazil several professionals are also moving forward to an African connection.

Regardless expectations to seek job opportunities - or, as in EMBPRAPA case, to open business opportunities for Brazil in other fields - the truth is that the spirit of solidarity prevails.

Although Embrapa acts in that continent in technical training activities of low complexity, the network of agents spread throughout Brazil from other agencies is closer to the daily basic needs of simple country men.

Glaucinei Brissow, for example, is a specialist in "social technologies". Agronomist and Sebrae Consultant (Sebrae is a service support to micro and small companies) also in Mato Grosso State, routinely visits several small towns and rural communities, many of whom settled in the land reform programs.

He teaches the assembly of simple irrigation systems for small areas, manufacture of natural repellents against flies which infest animals and against insects that attack crops; baits for insects and small rodents that invade gardens; seed dispersers; and drinkers for animals. Examples of a list of more than 200 practical and very simple solutions with low cost, or "almost zero cost," explains the young professional.

### Embrapa Africa: from simple to more complex

Mozambique, Mali, Chad, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Congo, Malawi, Burundi, Ivory Coast, Cape Verde, Benin, Tanzania, Senegal, Ethiopia, Gabon, Eritrea, Guinea Bissau, Morocco, Sudan, Zimbabwe. Embrapa is either in constant activity in infrastructure projects or was in projects of shorter cycle.

In Mozambique it is found the most powerful presence of this Brazilian public company. Among the projects is the Pro-Savannah in Nacala Corridor, between parallels 13:17, the same in which is located much of the Brazilian Savannah, called "Cerrado". Rice, beans, corn, wheat, cotton and vegetables are some of the crops to be developed in a region with almost 6 million hectares, beginning from research with seeds and plants best adapted.

Another large project of Embrapa Africa is in Mali, in cotton area. The Cotton Project, already at an advanced stage, is now being spread to other countries, starting from the research laboratory and in field trials established in that country.

Source: Giovanni Lorenzon/ "Voz da Rússia Radio"  
(Summarized and adapted by Marangatú Seeds)

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