

# Sweetpotato Speedbreeders

## Varietal selection in Madagascar & the use of OFSP for disaster response



### INTRODUCTION

Every year, many regions in Madagascar are affected by floods, droughts, frost and locusts. They destroy many crops and increase food and nutrition insecurity. As part of climate-smart agriculture, several projects, NGOs and ministries choose sweetpotato to enhance resilience. Promoting high yielding and nutrient rich crops such as orange-fleshed sweetpotatoes (OFSP) could contribute to the improvement of the health and livelihoods of vulnerable people.



### METHODS

#### Varietal selection

- Importing planting material
- Multiplication by a micro propagation system
- Multiplication in greenhouses
- Setting up a material planting nursery
- Conducting different trials:
  - Observation trial
  - Preliminary yield trial
  - Advanced yield trial
  - On-farm trial

#### Extension of the released varieties

- Production of pre-basic, basic and certified vines
- Distribution of vines with the support of different projects, GNO, ministries, donors
- Participation in different events: fairs, etc.
- Many activities within the innovation platform, including women

### RESULTS

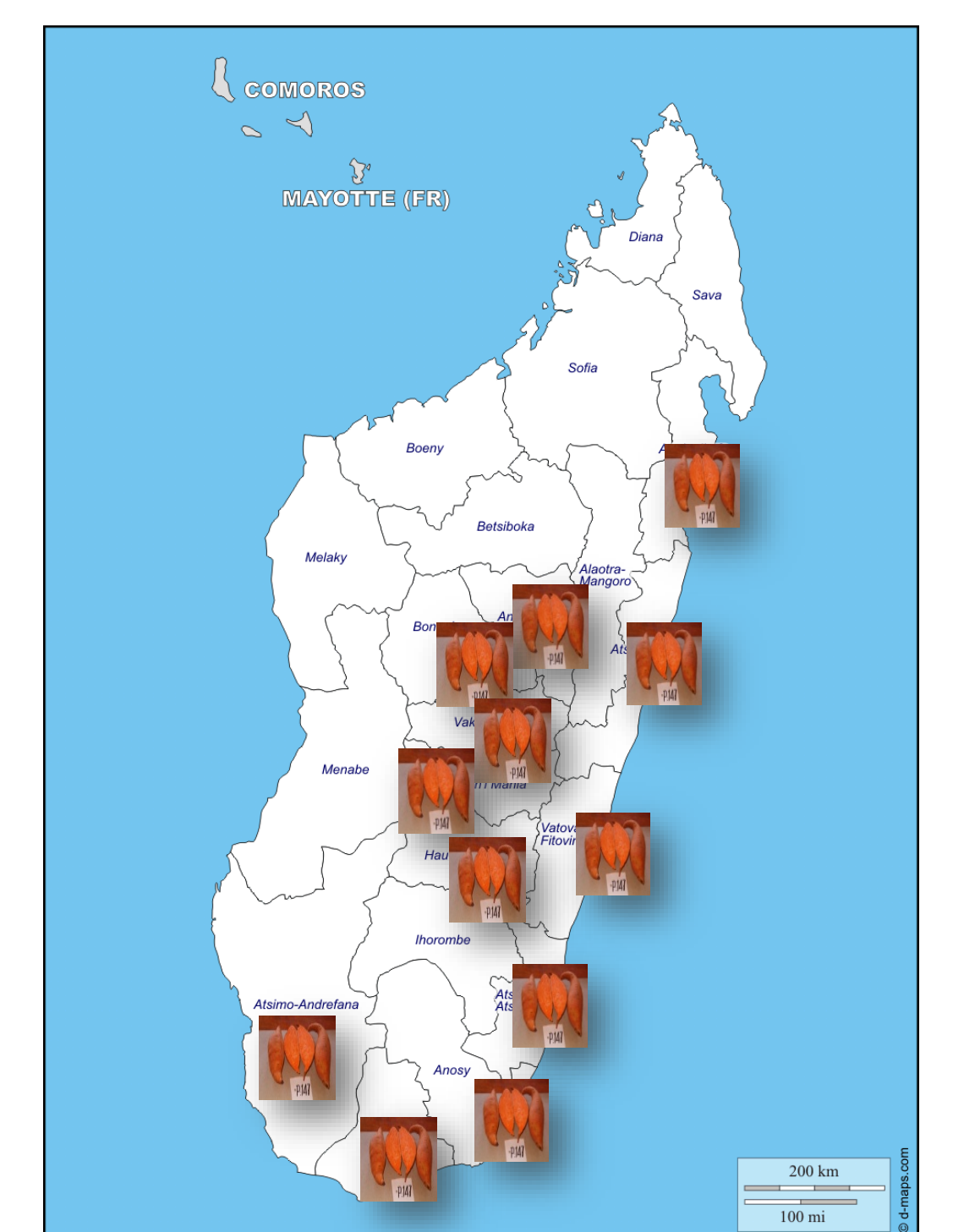
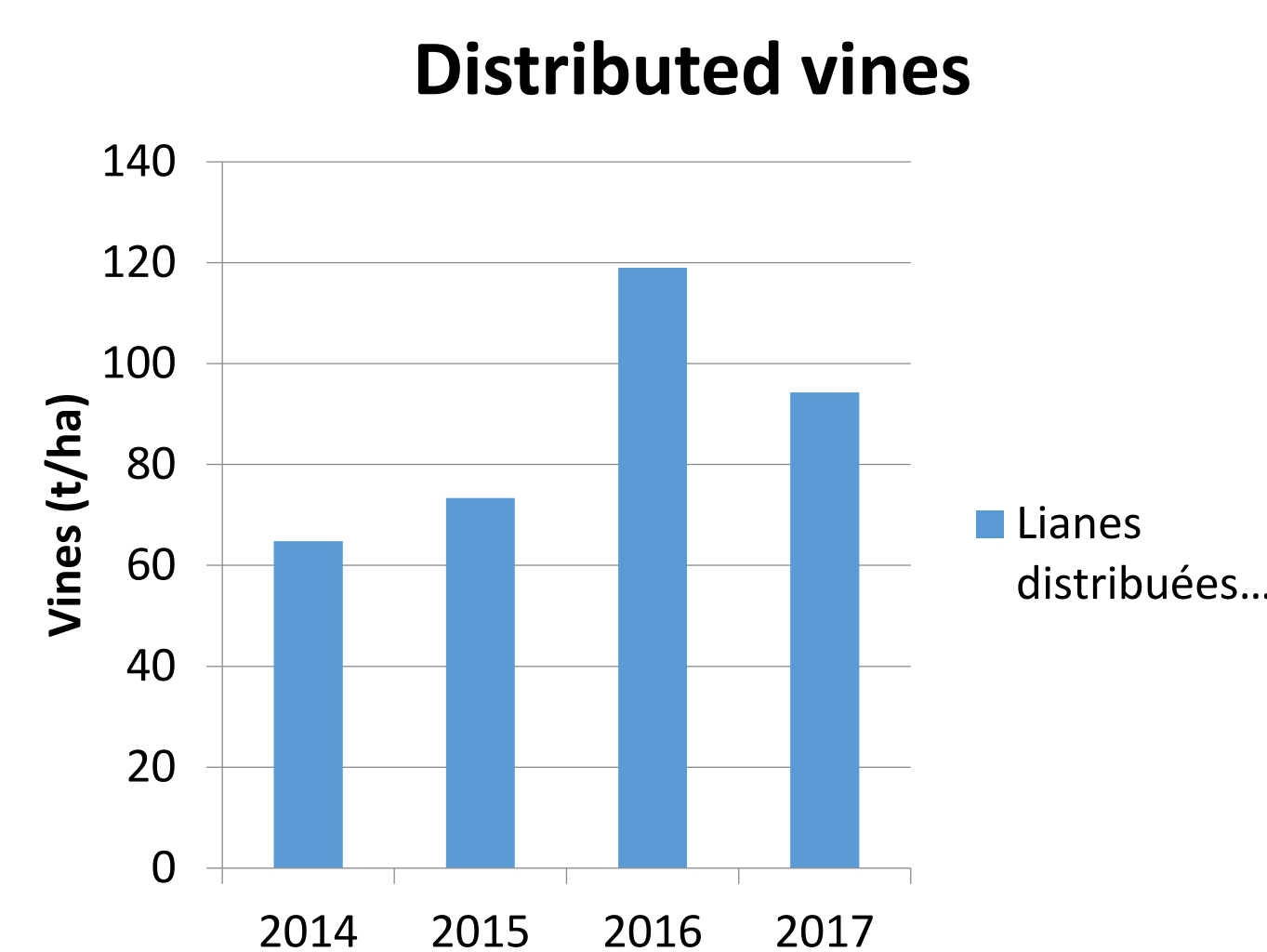
- The end users are the vulnerable people including the Children, pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- OFSP varieties become more accessible. They help them to achieve the food and nutrition security. They support them as a source of income.
- Through activities in the innovation platform, people from poor household, people with disabilities, marginalised ethnic or religious groups, men and women will have the opportunity to grow OFSP, to increase the production, to improve their health and livelihoods

### KEY TABLE OF RESULTS

8 released OFSP varieties and dissemination

Variety	CIP No	Yield (t/ha)	Dry matter (%)	Maturity period	Year of release
Riba	CIP 420 027	18	22,6	Early	2002
Mendrika	CIP199004.2	24	28,1	Early	2006
Mevakely	CIP 199 026,10	20	28	Early	2009
Bora	CIP199062.1	25	29	Early	2007
Zambezi		24.5	36,6	Early	2011
Ejumila		24.7	32,7	Early	2011
Kaly		25,2	28,4	Early	2015
Donga		24,9	29,5	Early	2015

- 5 new released varieties: Delvia, Jane, Irene, Erica and Lourdes
- 1 OFSP innovation platform in progress with 335 members of association of women



### RELEVANCE FOR DIFFERENT FOOD SYSTEMS

- OFSP could substitute or complement rice during the shortage period
- Possibility of processing - Various cooking methods



### CONCLUSIONS

OFSP varieties play an important role in food and nutrition security in Madagascar. They have a great future as climate-smart crops.

