


Member	Biography
<div data-bbox="170 255 467 634"></div> <div data-bbox="177 672 461 729"><p>Comlan Atsu Agbobli Member, AfricaRice Board</p></div>	<p>Comlan Atsu Agbobli, a Togolese national, earned his PhD in 1979 from the Moscow Academy of Agriculture and Plant Pathology, and an MSc in 1976 degree in agriculture from the Moscow University. During a period of 30 years Dr Agbobli pursued a career at the Togolese Agricultural Research Institute (ITRA), including nine years at the Institute of Research for Development (IRD, formerly ORSTOM). He was Director General at ITRA over 12-year period. Dr Agbobli began his career as a researcher at French Institute of Coffee and Cocoa (IFCC currently IRCC), then moved on to ORSTOM (currently IRD) as head of the crop protection laboratory. He conducted extensive studies on the bacterial and viral diseases of corn, rice, sorghum, and on parasitic plants. He led the release of the first <i>Striga</i> distribution map Togo. Under his leadership at ITRA, Dr Agboli encouraged research that successfully stabilized the palm wine into a sparkling wine trade marked "DEHACHAMP". He is well known in the regional research organizations and by National Agricultural Research System (NARS). He was for several years a member and Vice Chair of the Board of the West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD), and also served for several years as a National Experts Committee (NEC) of AfricaRice. In recognition of his scientific and administrative achievement he was awarded 2010 Officer of the Order of Agricultural Merit of Togo; and in 2013 he was honored by CORAF/WECARD for his outstanding service to the region. He is widely published in peer- reviewed scientific journals, and recently published a book: " Togolese Tomorrow Agriculture", published by Editions l'Harmattan in 2014. Dr Agbobli joined the Board of AfricaRice in 2015</p>