In 2018, ICRISAT launched Samboni, a short guinea type Sorghum variety, with 115 days of maturity, in the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) seed catalogue. Following field demonstrations through NGOs and farmers’ organizations in 2019, the demand for Samboni increased in 2020, and an average of 12 tons of seed are expected for commercialization in 2021. This innovative cultivar contributes to SDG 2 “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”, and SDG 1 “To end poverty in all its manifestations by 2030”. These cultivars contribute to nutrition and food security goals, have been taken up by users as a Stage 4 and Maturity level 3 innovation, i.e. policy and/or practice changes influenced by this new sorghum cultivar has led to adoption or impacts at scale or beyond the direct CGIAR sphere of influence.

Samboni or ICSV 1361063 is an improved short guinea type Sorghum variety with 115 days of maturity released in the ECOWAS seed catalogue in 2018 by ICRISAT under the lead of the Institut d’Economie Rurale (IER) in Mali. The breeder and foundation seed production of this variety started in 2018-2019. After field demonstrations through NGOs and farmers’ organizations in 2019, the demand for Samboni started to increase where in 2020, six hectares were planted by seed cooperatives for certified seed production and an average of 12 tons of seed are expected for commercialization in 2021. Thus, a local business was created around the variety and efforts are ongoing for creation in other countries of West Africa.

The variety exhibited high grain yield (2.8 t/ha) on station and 1.6 t/ha in farmers’ field across a range of environments and during two successive years.

As compared to farmers’ variety (Tieble), which is widely grown in the Sudan zone (700 mm-1200 mm), Samboni has grain yield advantage up to 25% with bold grain and is well adapted to local processing and food.

In 2018 ICRISAT launched this cultivar in the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) seed catalogue. Following field demonstrations, through NGOs and farmers’ organizations in 2019, the demand for Samboni increased in 2020, and an average of 12 tons of seed are expected for commercialization in 2021.

This innovative cultivar contributes to SDG 2 "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture", and SDG 1 "To end poverty in all its manifestations by 2030". These cultivars contribute to nutrition and food security goals, have been taken up by users as a Stage 4 and Maturity level 3 innovation, i.e. policy and/or practice changes influenced by this new sorghum cultivar has led to adoption or impacts at scale or beyond the direct CGIAR sphere of influence.