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Developing communications capacity in food safety, food and agriculture production, diet, health and nutrition in Africa. The role of FICA

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Low quality and unsafe food and water constitute major public health and well-being problems which cause mortality and malnutrition in all age groups, and also lower productivity considerably. It is quite frightening to know that millions of people worldwide become sick as a result of consuming contaminated and unsafe food. Available information indicates that 800,000 child mortalities occur in Africa each year as a result of diarrhea and dehydration. Despite the terrible and unacceptable impact of low quality and unsafe foods there is inadequate mention by government or the food industry to these problems. Though some positive interventions have been made by some countries to improve food quality and safety, much more still needs to be done. National policies and programs on food quality and safety matters need to be strengthened. Again, increasing globalization of food trade is associated with a substantial increase in food production, technologies adopted and varied modes of movement of food in international trade. This can be of benefit to Africa since it has great production potential but increased availability of quality and safe food, and increased employment and national income can only occur if domestic or imported African foods and food ingredients are safe and of good quality.

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Diagnosis of the dairy farms in Madagascar: Challenges, opportunities and perspectives

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Following the socio-economic crisis and the closure of “Giant” in the market for dairy products, the Malagasy dairy industry faces disturbances since 2016. As a result, several actors are flooding the market: Dairy firms managed by breeders, manufacturers and/or collectors, already in business for some time or recently set up. Firms in the Region Analamanga, a region which enjoys the advantages of the industry’s services, also have lived this disruption. The latter could have positive and/or negative impact on these companies, the entire industry, and the overall economy. Therefore, a diagnosis of the internal and external environment within which the dairy firms in the Analamanga Region evolve has been performed. Thus, it has been demonstrated that these companies, dominated by farmers and artisanal processors, commonly have problems with funding and equipment. Some points still need to be considered and strengthened. In addition, many public and private institutions are active in the sector; despite all of that, actors and stakeholders within the Analamanga Region are really motivated to develop the dairy industry at the level of the region, and all over the country.

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