

## **ACTION PLAN FOR SEED DEVELOPMENT.**

*Workshop on Planning, Implementation and Monitoring of National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) for Sub-Saharan African Countries, Tsukuba, Japan.*

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### **1.0 Overview**

- Seed production process.
- Problems and action
- Conclusion

## 2.0 Seed production

- Done by both private sector and government.
- Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI) responsible for registering seed companies, evaluation of varieties and certification of seed.
- The Variety Release Committee (VRC) approves new varieties.
- VRC composed of various stakeholders

## 3.0 Seed Classification

There are 4 classes:

- Breeder (Research Stations, Seed Companies)
- Pre basic (registered seed growers and Seed Companies)
- Basic (registered seed growers, Seed Companies)
- Certified seed (sold to public through registered outlets)

## 4.1 Farmer problems

Problem	Action
Limited varieties	On farm seed multiplication. Train farmers on seed multiplication
High cost of seed	Government subsidy
High cost of fertilizer	Government subsidy Promotion of organic fertilizers, integrated farming, rotation.
Low crop yields	Improved water management, improved seeds and mechanization. Demonstrations
High labour	Mechanization

## 4.2 Extension

Problem	Action
Inadequate skills in rice production	Regular training of camp, district, provincial and national staff. Publication and distribution of fact sheets Establishment of demonstration centers
Lack of reliable statistics	Train in crop data collection methods Conduct annual seed surveys Collaboration with Seed companies

## 4.3 Research

Problem	Action
Few rice breeders	Train more rice breeders and technicians Introduction of new rice varieties
Inadequate breeding facilities	Construct breeding infrastructure in major provincial centers of rice production.
Inadequate research in rice production systems	Develop long term research programs Release of new varieties regularly Collaboration with farmers, seed companies and extension Increased funding Involvement of private sector in rice breeding

## 4.4 Seed Control and Certification

Problem	Action
Inadequate testing equipment	Construct testing centers in major production centers
Inadequate staffing	Train and recruitment Certification of field staff as seed inspectors
Poor collaboration in seed sector	Formation of Seed Boards to coordinate development of seed sector. Collaboration with private sector Formation of Seed Committees at various levels

## 5.0 Conclusion

Urgent issues:

- Breeding/screening of varieties.
- Water management.
- Seed multiplication
- Good agricultural practices