



ACTION PLAN ON RICE SEED PRODUCTION IN KENYA

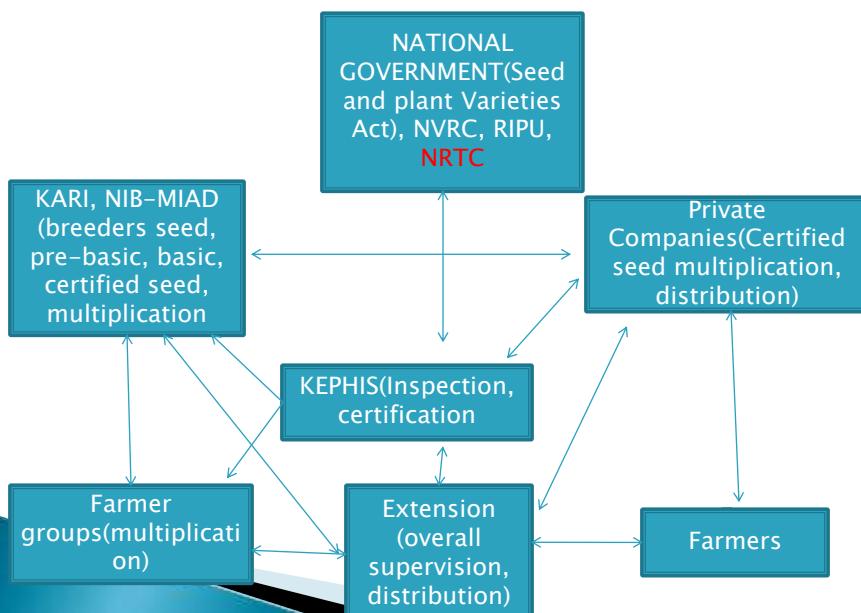
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“Workshop on Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring of National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) for Sub-Saharan African Countries”

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CURRENT SET UP OF RICE SEED PRODUCTION



Institutions in rice seed production

▶ National government(MOA)

- Seed and Plant Varieties Act (Cap326) & Crop Protection Act (Cap324)
- Chair – National Variety Release Committee (Breeders–Private seed companies, Research Institutions, Inspection and Certifying body)
- Overall policy and supervision of rice seed production
- Convenes National Rice Technical Committee – Overall coordination of implementation of NRDS– (MOA–RIPU, Breeding institutions (KARI,MIAD), Universities, STAK(Seed companies: Chair–University)

Institutions in rice seed production

▶ Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)

- Government organization (semi–autonomous) reporting to Ministry of Agriculture
- Wholly responsible for seed inspection and certification in the country
- Convenes the National Performance Trials Committee
- Has 6 regional offices in seed production areas 3 in rice growing regions

Institutions in rice seed production

- ▶ **Rice breeders**– Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), Mwea Integrated Agric. Development Center(MIAD)– breeders' seed, pre–basic, basic, certified seeds
- ▶ **Private seed companies (2)**
 - Obtains basic seed for multiplication of certified seeds
 - Lake Basin Development Authority– multiplication, processing
- ▶ **National Cereals and Produce Board**– processing, marketing, storage silos
- ▶ **Farmer cooperatives/Association**–Provision of inputs and farm machinery. Advocacy

Challenges in Rice seed production

- ▶ Inadequate numbers of qualified breeders
- ▶ Weak institutions in terms of funding and infrastructure
- ▶ Limited number of released varieties to suit different agro–ecological zones and consumer preference
- ▶ Inadequate involvement of private sector in rice seed production
- ▶ Inadequate motivation of breeders through breeders' rights
- ▶ Inadequate knowledge on rice seed production by extension staff
- ▶ Low knowledge of rice production by farmers
- ▶ Poor infrastructure – farm roads, limited processing and storage

Outline of action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed Action
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Few breeders and technical assistants •Inadequate breeding facilities •Inadequate production of breeder's seed , pre-basic & basic seed for both paddy and upland varieties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Train more rice breeders and seed technologists at MSc and PhD level •Train technical assistants on aspects of rice breeding and seed production of rice

Outline of Action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed action
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Focus of research is on yield increase and disease resistance not on consumer preference •Inadequate funding for rice research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Breeders and extension to conduct surveys on consumer preference to guide breeding programs •Government to allocate adequate funding for both infrastructure and research •Amend Seed regulations to include payment of breeders' rights

Outline of action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed action
Seed multiplication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inadequate breeders , pre-basic & basic seed from KARI and MIAD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •KARI & MIAD plan for increased production of the seed •Private seed companies to multiply certified seeds •Farmer groups trained on seed production •MOA to monitor seed production by all stakeholders involved

Outline of action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed Action
Seed inspection and certification (KEPHIS-Seed and Plant Varieties Act-Cap 326 & Crop Protection Act Cap 324)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inadequate personnel •Rice seed inspection not in law since rice is not scheduled crop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Recruit more seed technologists and inspectors •Recruit more personnel for quality control and inspection •Open satellite facilities for quality control and inspection for the current 6 regional offices •Initiate amendment of regulations to include rice seed

Outline of action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed Action
Farmers and farmer groups (associations, cooperatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low /lack of knowledge on rice (seed) production •Inadequate knowledge on group/association /cooperative management skills •Inadequate knowledge on entrepreneurial skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Train farmers on rice (seed) production technologies •Train farmers on group management •Train farmers on entrepreneurship skills •Extension officers to mobilize for group formation (include youth and women)

Outline of action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed action
Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Low knowledge on rice production technologies •Inadequate extension officers for rice promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Train extension officers in rice growing districts on rice technologies •Deploy adequate extension personnel •Develop with researchers and package extension materials for farmers •Create forum for information exchange with stakeholders

Outline of action plan

Target	Problems	Proposed action
Private sector (seed companies, private cooperatives, NGOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Have not dealt with rice before •No personnel specialized in rice breeding and seed production •No specialized facilities for rice breeding, seed production, multiplication & storage •Private cooperatives are few to take care of all the farmers along the rice seed value chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Recruit/train on rice breeding and seed production •Put up facilities for rice seed production, processing, multiplication, storage & marketing •Government to collaborate with private sector and farmers to form cooperatives/associations for rice seed multiplication, processing, storage & marketing

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