




Process for the development of National Rice Seed Strategy (NRSS)



The experience of Benin




PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Preliminary phase
2. Working tool for the CARD initiative for improved rice seed sector: Data collection
3. First Working Week on the National Rice Seed Strategy
4. Elements for drafting the NRSS
 - 4.1. *Vision*
 - 4.2. *Overall objective*
 - 4.3. *Specific objectives*
 - 4.4. *Elements of Strategic Priorities*
 - 4.5. *Strategic principles*
 - 4.6. *Examples of issues and solutions*
 - 4.7. *Interventions/Actions and priority areas*
5. Next Steps

1. Preliminary phase

- Invitation letter from CARD to participate in the process in February 2015
- Letter of acceptance from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry (SGM) in February 2015
- Appointment of rice task force members (TF) by notice from the SGM in April 2015:
 - 11 members: Planning Directorate (2), Agricultural Research (1), Agricultural Engineering (1), National Crop Production Directorate (1), Departmental Directorate for Agriculture (1), Farmer Organization (3), National Company for agricultural promotion (1), Resource person (1).
- TF preparatory session to discuss the launching of the rice seed initiative in April
- Launching of the initiative by video conference in April 2015
- Development of TOR to seek support for structures intervening in the rice for the financing of the initiative



2. Working tools for the Rice Seed Sector Improvement initiative in CARD countries

Data collection

- TF working session: Allocation of data collection tasks to research, the seed certification directorate and the seed production directorate (Crop Production Directorate)
- First summary by a two-member team
- Collection of supplementary data by the same entities
- Finalization of the document “Working tool for the Initiative for the Improved Rice Seed Sector in CARD countries” which was sent to CARD for preparation of the first working week
- Invitation to the first working week : TF and resource persons (Department of seed certification, National Agricultural Development Fund) in July

3. First working week on the NRSS

- From 3rd to 7th August 2015 with the support from the CARD secretariat: one consultant, and Coordinators
 - 17 Participants
- Main outcomes
 - Better knowledge of the rice seed sub-sector
 - Ownership of the rice seed industry development process with the aim of increasing rice production by the various players in the sub-sector
 - Identified the main constraints to the development of the rice seed industry and the corresponding suitable solutions were identified
 - **Inputs into the first draft of the NRSS were collected**

4. Inputs for drafting the NRSS

4.1. Vision:

“An organized, efficient, secure and sustainable rice seed industry that permanently meets the productivity needs and overcomes competitiveness challenges by 2025”

4.2. Overall goal:

Ensure the availability of and accessibility to seeds with sufficient quantity and quality in order to meet the needs of rice farmers.

4.3 Specific objectives:

- Stable and timely supply of improved rice seeds in sufficient quantities and qualities to **at least 50%** of rice farmers by 2025 at an affordable price;
- Diffuse a wide range of improved rice seed varieties to meet the needs of rice growing zones and increase the **utilization rate of certified seeds to 50%**;
- Create an enabling environment for private investment in the rice seed industry and facilitate the trade of rice seeds;
- Strengthen the institutional and legal framework (legislative and regulatory framework) governing the rice seed sub-sector

4. Inputs for drafting the NRSS (cont'd)

4.4. Strategic areas

- Rigorous enforcement of the regulations and standards relating to rice production and to the structures involved in the rice seed sub-sector
- Organized and standardized production, meeting the needs of farmers
- Gradual withdrawal of the State from the supply and distribution for supporting private entrepreneurs
- Availability of the supply in rice growing areas

4.5. Strategic Principles

- Compliance with the legal and institutional framework of the seed sub-sector
- Consideration of the improved seeds for the coordination of the sector and the planning of the production
- Gradual transfer of production, collection and distribution of basic and certified seeds to the private sector
- Decentralized distribution of the basic and certified seeds

4. Inputs for drafting the NRSS (cont'd)

4.6. Examples of issues and solutions

Issues	Proposed Solution
Legislation and Policy	
Poor application of policies	Operationalize the National Seed Committee with allocation of sufficient funding Rigorous compliance by each actor (private and public) with assigned roles
Limited technical and financial resources for entities tasked to implement laws and regulations	Implement PNS by each decree Make necessary means available to
Production, Control and Inspection	
Low uptake of improved seeds and unsuitability of adopted varieties in different agro-ecological zones	Increase awareness and inform farmers of the importance and benefits of adopting improved seeds
Difficult access to specific inputs	Establish business relationship between input distributors and growers, Support establishing input credit schemes

4 Inputs for drafting the NRSS (cont'd)

4. Inputs for drafting the NRSS (cont'd)

issues	Proposed Solutions
Control	
False declaration about seed production procedure	Mandate the admission control and declaration of the seed production procedures
Insufficient budget allocated for inspection	Increase the budget allocation for inspection services Implement PNS
Supply/ Distribution (Stock and Marketing)	
Delay in supply of seeds	Organize and structure various actors in rice seed sector: Activate and make them functional
Weak operations by private sector in supply, distribution and marketing of seeds	Establish business relationship among input distributors and seed growers, Support establishing input credit schemes

4. Elements for drafting the NRSS (cont'd)

4.7. Interventions/Actions and priority areas

▶ **Legislative, Political, Institutional Aspect**

- Lobbying to speed up enactment of decree on Attribution, Organization, Functioning and Establishment of the CNSV
- Proposing amendment of laws and regulations enabling the promotion of agribusiness in the rice seed sub-sector
- Provide information to and awareness-raising of actors on rules, regulations and standards in this field
- Strengthening technical, material and financial capacity of the Official Seed Control and Certification Unit.

4. Elements for drafting the NRSS (cont'd)

4.7. Interventions/Actions and priority areas (Continued)

➤ **Seed Production Aspect**

- Develop and secure irrigated areas at research stations and promote private small-scale irrigation for the benefit of seed growers
- Planning of recruitment of research staff and build their capacity to ensure continuity in rice production: breeders, research assistants, technicians
- Strengthen control and certification with compliance regarding variety standards: provide means and motivations.
- Build capacity of seed producers : training, provision of equipment, and support to produce quality seeds,...
- Establish a unit for seed processing and treatment accessible by research stations

5. Next Step

Steps of the roadmap for the Rice Seed

Purpose	Responsibility	Deadlines
1. Finalization of five-year planning for the seed production	<u>DPV</u> , INRAB, DCQ	31/08/2015
2. Preparation of “1 st Draft” of the National Rice Seed Strategy (NRSS)	TF, <u>Focal Point</u>	19/09/2015
3. Consultation by Seed Taskforce with national and regional stakeholders on NRSS “1 st Draft”: Development partners, research centers, seed producers, rice farmers, private agro-dealers	TF, CARDER, <u>Focal Point</u>	17/10/2015
4. Incorporation of inputs from national and regional stakeholders: then prepare “2 nd Draft”	TF, <u>Focal Point</u>	16/11/2015
5. Collecting inputs on “2 nd Draft” from CARD partner institutions (IRRI, AfricaRice, etc)	CARD Secretariat	30/11/2015

5. Next Steps (cont'd)

Steps of the roadmap for the Rice Seed		
Purpose	Responsibility	Deadlines
6. Prepare “the Draft for Validation” and prepare the plan of operation and investment for the NRSS	TF, <u>Focal Point</u>	31/12/2015
7. - National validation workshop of the NRSS - Drafting the project documents (Concept Notes) from NRSS Priorities (involving development partners) , 2 nd Working Week	All players, TF, <u>Focal Point</u>	25- 29/01/2016
8. Drafting the final version of NRSS (incorporating inputs from the national validation workshop)	TF, <u>Focal Point</u>	29/02/2016
9. Fund mobilization	SG/MAEP, DPP, TF, FNDA	Continuing
10. Monitoring the implementation status of the plan of operation and investment of the NRSS	SG/MAEP, DPP, CNSV, TF	Continuing



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**