

# INFORMATION ON RICE SEED SUBSECTOR IN NIGERIA.

## 1. Progress on information collected.

- Nigeria already has a seed law signed in year 2000, a National seed policy in 2002, and guideline for seed production in 2004.
- National Agricultural Seed Council (NASC) is the Institution in charge of Planning and Supervision of Rice Seed production and Certification.
- National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI) has the National mandate for Breeder and Foundation seed development and production.
- NCRI and Private seed companies that have facilities to produce Foundation Seeds (FS) produce FS and distribute to Seed Companies.
- Private Seed companies are in charge of certified seed multiplication and distribution/sale to paddy producers through the Growth Enhancement Support (GES) scheme of the Federal Government via the E- Wallet system.
- Information on the production of various levels of Rice seed for the past three years has been obtained.
- The Rice Seed Partnership Platform where Government and the Private seed companies dialogue is held annually.

## 2. Way Forward.

- The Working Week for Rice seed sub- sector is scheduled to hold from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February and the Stakeholders' Workshop on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014.
- There will be continuous dialogue with stakeholders before and after the Working Week.
- The vision is to strengthen both NCRI and NASC to achieve their set goal of making available to farmers improved rice seeds.
- Facilitate access to Financial Resources for Seed Companies, Cooperatives and Community- Based Seed Production groups to acquire necessary inputs and production resources.
- The relationship between international research institutes (IITA, African Rice Center etc) and Universities will be strengthened especially in breeder seed production.