



PROMOTION OF RICE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT


WORKSHOP ON PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND MONITORING
OF
NATIONAL RICE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (NRDS) FOR SUB-SAHARA
AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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ACTION PLAN


Presented by: Ibrahima kalil SAKHO
NRDS FOCAL POINT AND JICA' Expert Counterpart
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
GUINEA-CONAKRY

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION



Geographic location: Guinea with its 300km² is located in face of Atlantic ocean in West of Africa Continent between 12° 5 parallel in North and 7° 10 in South and the Meridian of 7° 40 and 15°.

It is limited in Ouest by Atlantic Ocean, in Northwest by Guinea Bissau, in North-East by Mali, in North by Senegal and Mali, at East by la Côte d'Ivoire and at South by Sierra Leone and Liberia.



SEED SYSTEMS IN GUINEA

- *Vision for production of rice seed/distribution system*
- According to the latest estimates by the Kilissi seed center, the current use of improved seeds could be less than 1000 tons, covering somewhere between 8% and 12% of the total area sown. An increase of the order of magnitude of 31,000 tons could be needed to cover 50% of the surface area under rice and 62,000 tons for 100% coverage.
- It has been recommended that an integrated national strategy be developed for research, production, distribution and promotion of improved seeds embracing both the community system of seed production and the private sector. There is already a quality control system which needs to be strengthened.
- For this to happen, three strategic options have been adopted for the development of seed companies:
- Promoting the involvement of international companies in national supply. Promoting the involvement of national suppliers in production and marketing of seed at the same time as fertilizers, pesticides and equipment; this requires technical assistance. Promoting pioneer farmers so that they can specialize in seed production and turn it into a complementary occupation to their food production.

SEED SYSTEMS IN GUINEA

- Support for setting up a decentralized efficient network for getting inputs closer to producers.
- Support for an injection of working capital to help producers acquire inputs.
- Support for setting up a packaging plant for fertilizers and pesticides before the end of the first phase.
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- While the strategy is being introduced, a system of digressive subsidies for fertilizers is proposed to stimulate the seed market.
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***Capacity building, research and
technology diffusion
Generation and transfer of technology
to farmers***

The Guinean Institute of Agronomic Research (IRAG) is responsible for agricultural research in partnership with other agencies in the national agricultural research system. It has regional research centers (Kankan for Upper Guinea; Foulaya for Lower Guinea; Sérédou for Forest Guinea) and two specialist centers at Kilissi, one for mangrove rice growing and the other for breeding and production of basic and pre-basic seed. IRAG rice research involves several disciplines: variety improvement, technical guidelines, crop protection, etc. This research follows the following pattern:

Identification of research themes: these are chosen by consulting with farmers, NGOs and other development partners during one-day retreats. Identified constraints are ranked and classed into two categories (researchable and non researchable).

***Capacity building, research and technology
diffusion
Generation and transfer of technology to
farmers***

- Drawing up research projects based on the identified constraints.
- Technology testing on station using classic techniques such as randomized complete block design (RCB).
- Test and validate technologies at farm level in Farmer Experimental Units or through participatory varietal selection (PVS) in conjunction with the extension services and farmers.
- Demonstrate and disseminate new technologies with the help of the extension services, producer organizations or individual farmers.
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- Research themes focus on weeds, disease and pests, variety improvement, agricultural and processing equipment, and producing impact studies.


. PRESERVATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF GENETIC RESOURCES

- IRAG has a Plant Genetic Resources Program (PRPG) based at the Foulaya agricultural research center. Its mission is to characterize and conserve germplasm of existing food crops.
- Guinea is a reservoir of important genetic resources in rice. These are maintained at two levels. The most important are maintained *in situ* in farmers' fields. Other genetic resources are kept *ex situ* in the living gene banks at Kilissi, Koba, Bordo and Sérédou as well as in cold chambers.
- A large proportion of the varieties maintained in the living collections are improved varieties from the Kilissi research center or have been introduced from research by the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (WARDA, IRR) through the INGER-Africa network. Guinea has obtained more than 1500 improved rice varieties



1. CHALLENGERS

- . Lack of qualified human resources
- .Lack of adequate infrastructures and equipment
- .Weakness of national funding



2. How to overcome the problems

2.1. Capacity building (Education and training)

Researchers	Seed production, Seed multiplication, Seed processing, seed storage, seed quality control
Technicians	Seed processing system
Labor staff	Skill in seed processing plant, Skill in seed testing
Vulgarisateurs	Skill in seed technics diffusion to farmers level

2.2.INFRASTRUCTURES

- . Rehabilitation and equipment of vulgarization centers of Yattya, Tindo, Bamban and research centers of Koba, Kilissi, Bordo and Sérédou.
 - .Rehabilitation of paddy field experimentation station
 - Management of knowledge and improvement of communication on seed
- **2.2.Infrastructures**
 - . Rehabilitation and equipment of vulgarization centers of Yattya, Tindo, Bamban and research centers of Koba, Kilissi, Bordo and Sérédou.
 - .Rehabilitation of paddy field experimentation station
 - Management of knowledge and improvement of communication on seed
- 2.3. Management of knowledge and improvement of communication on seed
 - Diffusion of education material on research for vulgarisateurs and farmers

3. INSTITUTIONAL ISSUE

- Set up seed legislation/standard including institutional arrangements for variety release and mechanism to regulate seed multiplication.
- Determine clearly the responsibility on flowchart from seed Multiplication to seed distribution:
 - Who is responsible of breeder seed production
 - Who is responsible of foundation seed production
 - Who is responsible of registered seed production
 - Who is responsible of certified seed production
- Set up an incentive disposition to involve private sector in seed production and seed distribution
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FUNDING

- The application of Maputo declaration which stipule that every government must engage in agriculture sector 10% of national budget and the support of bi and multilateral cooperation.



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