

INCEPTION REPORT

1. Basic Information

Name	BAKARY K.S SANYANG
Country	THE GAMBIA
Organization	PLANNING SERVICES UNIT, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
Position	PLANNER

2. Current Situation concerning CARD (Coalition for African Rice Development) and NRDS (National Rice Development Strategy) in your country

(1) Achievements, on-going activities, and way forward

The Gambia being among the second group of 12 countries we are at the point of developing the NRDSs; meeting of The Gambia Taskforce on CARD for the development of the country's national rice development strategy paper which aims at doubling rice production in Africa from 14MT to 28MT in ten years and the countries involved have being underway. Zero draft of the NRDS was documented and awaiting for comments and inputs from other taskforce members and stakeholders.

The problem of funding in the development of the NRDS is still an issue as no institution is identified to take up the lead that makes it difficult to meet the costs of allowances, communication and printing of the document to be shared even among the Taskforce members. It was suggested that CPCU to take up the funding aspect for the time being during the second setting of the taskforce.

Efforts are in place to complete the draft document and to start the implementation of the strategy. The National Focal person has being communicating with the Project Coordinator of Participatory Integrated Water Shed Project (PIWAMP) for possible funding of the finalisation of the documents. A mail was written to this effect for a three days' workshop of the stakeholder.

 **Attached is the Draft NRDS for the Gambia.**

(2). Organizations involved in CARD initiative and NRDS processes are:

- Department of Agriculture
- National Research Institute
- Central Project Coordination Unit

All the above are part of the Ministry of Agriculture.

✓ **List of NRDS Task Force core members.**

Task Force on National Rice Development Strategies (NRDS) for the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)

The following officers or institutions have been identified as members of the CARD Task Force.

1. National Agricultural Research Institute (Rice Programme), Focal Point
2. Office of Director General, DOA
3. Regional Director, Western Region
4. Regional Director, North Bank Region
5. Regional Director, Central River Region/ North
6. Regional Director, Upper River Region
7. Regional Director, Central River Region/ South
8. Regional Director, Lower River region
9. National Agricultural Research Institute, Deputy Director General
10. National Agricultural Research Institute, Cereals Programme (Rice)
11. Deputy Director, DOP
12. Deputy Director, Technical Services, attention SWMU
13. Deputy director Agricultural Engineering
14. Deputy Director, Agricultural Communication
15. Director National Environmental Agency
16. Deputy Director, Agric Business
17. Project Coordinator, CPCU
18. Ministry of Agriculture, Projects and Programmes
19. Ministry of Trade
20. Ministry of Finance
21. Farmers association (Farmers Platform)
22. NGO Representative

✓ **List of NRDS Task Force full members.**

The following are the core Task Force members

1. National Agricultural Research Institute (Rice Programme), Focal Point
2. Regional Director, Western Region
3. Regional Director, Central River Region/ North
4. Regional Director, Central River Region/ South
5. National Agricultural Research Institute, Deputy Director General
6. Deputy Director, Planning Service Unit (PSU)
7. Deputy Director, Technical Services, attention SWMU
8. Deputy Director, Agric Business
9. Ministry of Agriculture, Projects and Programmes
10. Project Coordinator, CPCU

- ✓ Organogram which shows major related organisations and indicates the position of Task Force.

Governance of the NRDS

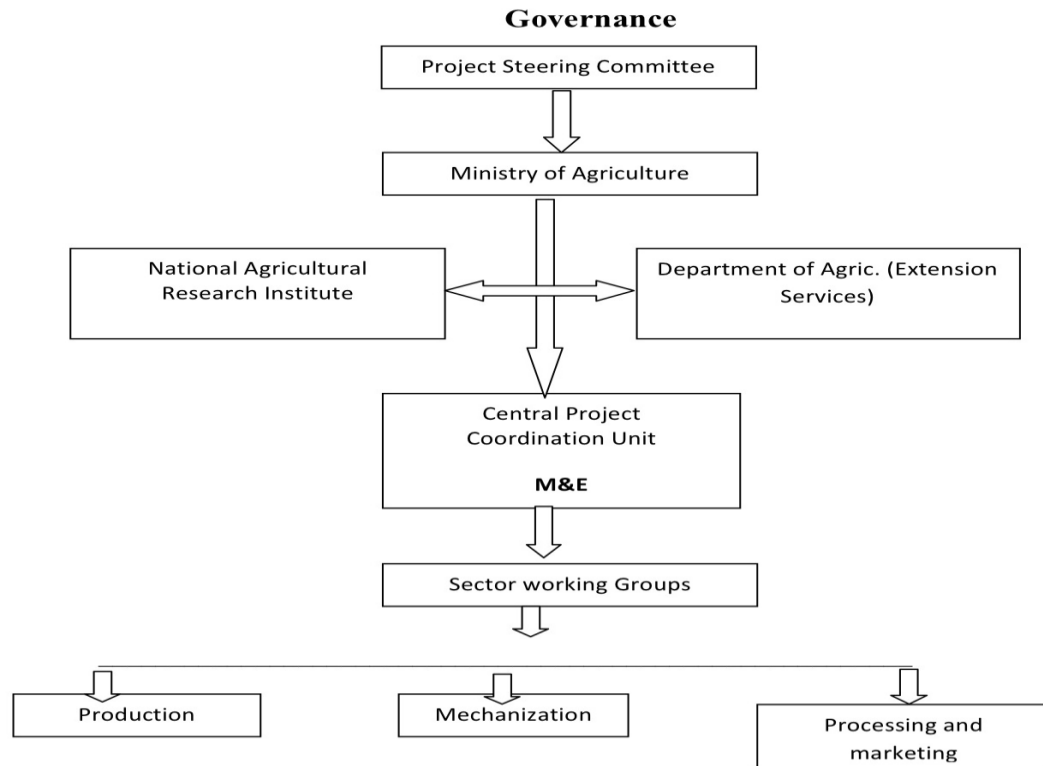


Fig. Organogram for the Implementation of the National Rice Development Strategy

- ✓ Level of linkages with the CAADP Country Team (if available).

The NRDS should be align with the GNAIP to attract the possibility of funding, it was discussed at the meeting that NRDS and the Taskforce activities should be well aligned with the GNAIP structure, with a view of strengthening the NRDS Taskforce, governance and the M & E.

3. Duties of your Organization, Department and yourself.

- (1). Duties of your organization with reference to the implementation of NRDS.

The Ministry of Agriculture houses the planning, formulation and implementation of the strategy document.

(2). Duties of your Department with reference to the implementation of NRDS.

The Planning Services Unit is responsible for collecting, analysing and interpreting all Agricultural data in the country and this includes all rice data in the country to inform decision making.

(3). Duties of yourself with reference to the implementation of NRDS.

Provision of secondary data on area, yield and production figures of the total rice produce in the country and also on input requirement for the production of rice. Act as secretary to the taskforce meetings as in most of the times writes the minutes of the meetings.

(4). How you have being involved in the implementation of NRDS.

Please list all the CARD/NRDS events you have participated since January 2009:

Attended the first meeting of the Task Force Members on the 28th February, 2011 at the Ministry of Agriculture; the meeting was as a result of the visit by Mr. Kazuyuki Fujiwara, the Technical Coordinator CARD Secretariat at Nairobi Kenya.

Also attended Task Force meetings on 31st March, 2011 on consultation of the NRDS Document and had access to the draft for reviewing.

4. Challenges regarding CARD and NRDS Process:

(1). Challenges as a task Force member regarding implementation of NRDS process (institutional and Capacity).

- ✓ Management of the NRDS process
- ✓ Funding of the planning and implementation of NRDS.
- ✓ Ability to doubling the rice production in the Gambia through the successful implementation of the NRDS.
- ✓ Aligning the NRDS with GNAIP, however it should be noted that the GNAIP has lot of funding gaps which is delaying its implementation, but of recent donor agencies like ADB are coming in as a Grant.
- ✓ Non-functional GNAIP structure.
- ✓ Cohesion in national rice development agendas.
- ✓ Commitment of the Task Force members.

(2).Your tentative idea as to how you can deal with the above mentioned challenges.

- ✓ Funding should be made available through resource mobilisation from other institutions that are directly linked with the aim of doubling rice production in the country.
- ✓ Capacity needs to be built to enable the task Force members to handle the alignment.
- ✓ Having Regional Directors regularly in the Task Force meetings require allowances for fuel and subsistence since they travel from different and faraway places.

- ✓ There is need for a consultant that would work with the Taskforce and be responsible for coordinating and putting the necessary documentation together.

(3).Your expectation to the course with reference to the challenges.

- ✓ To be able to successfully finalize the draft NRDS for the Gambia.
- ✓ Have operational strategies in place for the NRDS.
- ✓ To be aware of the strategic implementation procedures of the NRDS.
- ✓ Capacity to successfully implement the NRDS.
- ✓ Have the required skills to put up a rice policy document in place for the Gambia.