

Concept Note 3: Improve Seed Quality Assurance Infrastructure at the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC)

1. Title (Full name)	Improve Seed Quality Assurance Infrastructure at the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC)									
2. Project Location	National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) - HQ and 6 Regional Offices (Zaria - Kaduna State; Jos - Plateau State; Gombe - Gombe State; Umudike - Abia State; Asaba - Delta State; and Ibadan - Oyo State)									
3. Implementing Agencies	NASC									
4. Beneficiaries	NASC Staff, Seed Companies									
5. Target Group	Seed Companies, Farmers									
6. Type of project	1. Grant, 2. R&D, 3. Technical Coop./Assistance, 4. National budget, 5. Private sector (Select as appropriate) 1 & 3									
7. Field of support	1. Policy, 2. R & D, 3. Extension & Training, 4. Production, 5. Marketing 6. Post-harvest, 7. Quality Control, 8. Credit, 9. Capacity Building, 10. Infrastructure 11. Other (specify below) (Select as appropriate) 9 & 10									
8. Suggested Funding sources	JICA, KOICA, AGRA, USAID, BMGF, WB, FAO, FNG, DFID (FCAO), CBN									
9. Budget (USD)	\$1,192,748.38									
10. Duration of the project	Three (3) Years									
11. Background/Justification										
12. Goal and objective	<p>Overall objective: To Enhance Seed field Inspection, Seed Certification and Strengthen the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Specific Objectives</th> <th>Output</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. To Rehabilitate and Upgrade infrastructure at the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) HQ and Six (6) Regional Offices.</td> <td>1-1. One (1) Nos seed testing laboratory at the NASC HQ and six (6) Nos mini seed testing laboratory at the NASC regional offices rehabilitated and upgraded with modern seed testing equipment based on ISTA standards. 1-2. Irrigation facilities at the NASC HQ rehabilitated and upgraded 1-3. Nine (9) Nos of 4x4 Toyota Hilux vehicles for monitoring and inspection of seed fields procured and in Place.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. To increase the knowledge base and build the capacity of Seed Inspection, Certification and Quality Control officers on Modern Techniques in Seed Quality Assurance (Based on ISTA Standards) and on Digital Certification</td> <td>2-1. Capacity and knowledgeable base of 87 Seed Inspection, Certification and Quality control officers on modern techniques in Seed Quality Assurance and Digital certification is enhanced.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Provision of handy seed field inspection kits. (Tablets, Probe, moisture meters, sampling bags, GPS Etc.)</td> <td>3-1. Handy seed field inspection kits procured and in Place</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Specific Objectives	Output	1. To Rehabilitate and Upgrade infrastructure at the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) HQ and Six (6) Regional Offices.	1-1. One (1) Nos seed testing laboratory at the NASC HQ and six (6) Nos mini seed testing laboratory at the NASC regional offices rehabilitated and upgraded with modern seed testing equipment based on ISTA standards. 1-2. Irrigation facilities at the NASC HQ rehabilitated and upgraded 1-3. Nine (9) Nos of 4x4 Toyota Hilux vehicles for monitoring and inspection of seed fields procured and in Place.	2. To increase the knowledge base and build the capacity of Seed Inspection, Certification and Quality Control officers on Modern Techniques in Seed Quality Assurance (Based on ISTA Standards) and on Digital Certification	2-1. Capacity and knowledgeable base of 87 Seed Inspection, Certification and Quality control officers on modern techniques in Seed Quality Assurance and Digital certification is enhanced.	3. Provision of handy seed field inspection kits. (Tablets, Probe, moisture meters, sampling bags, GPS Etc.)	3-1. Handy seed field inspection kits procured and in Place
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13. Activities	<p>Specific Objective 1(Outputs 1-2, 1-3 & 1-3) Rehabilitation and Upgrading Seed testing laboratory Equipment at the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) HQ and 6 Mini Laboratories at the NASC's Six (6) Regional Offices 1-1-1: Conduct Needs Assessment 1-1-2: Shopping for consultants and award of contract for the procurement of modern seed testing equipment 1-1-3: Supply and Installation of Modern Seed testing equipment at the Laboratory of the NASC HQ and six (6) Mini Laboratory at the six (6) regional Offices of the NASC.</p> <p>Rehabilitation and upgrading of non-functional Irrigation Facility at the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) HQ 1-2-1: Conduct Needs Assessment. 1-2-2: Shopping for consultants and award of contract for the rehabilitation and upgrading of the NASC's irrigation facility 1-2-3: Rehabilitation and Installation of modern irrigation facility at the Head Quarters of the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC)</p> <p>Nine (9) nos of 4x4 utility vehicles for Monitoring and inspection of Seed fields procured and in Place to enhance Seed field inspection and certification activities. 1-3-1: Conduct Needs Assessment 1-3-2: Shopping for consultants and award of contract for the procurement 1-3-3: Supply of Nine (9) nos 4x4 Toyota Hilux Vehicle</p> <p>Capacity of 87 Seed Inspection and Certification officers at the NASC HQ and Regional offices Enhanced in modern seed inspection and certification</p> <p>Specific Objective 2 (Output 2-1) To increase the knowledge base and build the capacity of Seed Inspection, Certification and Quality Control officers on Modern Techniques in Seed Quality Assurance (Based on ISTA Standards) and on Digital Certification 2-1-1: Conduct a knowledge gap assessment 2-1-2: Identify key technical and laboratory officers to be trained 2-1-3: Identify Training Institution for training. 2-1-4: Develop training manual/ handbook on modern seed testing based on ISTA standards. 2-1-5: Conduct training (Based on ISAT Standards) 2-1-6: Evaluate trainees to ascertain knowledge gain 2-1-7: Deployment of trainees to relevant laboratories</p> <p>Specific Objective 3(Output 3-1) Provision of handi Seed Field inspection kits 3-1-1: Conduct Needs Assessment. 3-1-2: Shopping for consultants and award of contract for the procurement 3-1-3: Procurement of Handy Seed field inspection kits 3-1-4: Supply of Handy Seed Field inspection kits to the NASC HQ</p>
14. Expected Impact	Increase quality of certified seed in the market
15. Potential Collaborators	Universities, AfricaRice ADPs