

CN#5: Information Sheet on Competitiveness

1. Project Title	Sustainable and market-driven rice production systems in Rwanda						
2. Location	<i>Nation-wide</i>						
3. Type of Project (multiple selection)	1	3	4	5			
	1. Grant, 2. Loan, 3. Technical Coop./Assistance, 4. National budget, 5. Private sector						
4. Fields covered (multiple selection)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7, 9
	1. Policy, 2. R & D, 3. Extension & Training, 4. Production, 5. Marketing 6. Post-harvest, 7. Irrigation, 8. Credit, 9. Seed, 10. Other (specify above)						
5. Suggested Fund source	GoR, JICA, IFAD, WB, FAO, AfDB						
6. Budget / Cost	5,474,500 USD						
7. Project duration	3 years						
8. Target beneficiaries	Direct	Farmers, Seed producers, Cooperatives, Millers, Traders					
	Indirect/Secondary	Input suppliers, Consumers					
9. Overall objective (Goal)	To increase the marketability and sustainability of locally produced rice in Rwanda						
10. Project objectives	Specific Obj 1:	To enhance the competitiveness features (price and quality) of locally produced rice					
	Specific Obj 2:	To de-risk the marketing of locally produced rice from trade-related issues					
	R1.	Key factors that can help reduce the cost of production and yet also improve the market competitiveness of local rice identified					
	R2.	Capacity of farmers, cooperatives and millers in production and postharvest handling of grains is improved					

11. Expected results/Projects outputs	R3.	Marketability of locally produced rice grains improved through improved supply and usage of good quality seeds of high yielding varieties
	R4.	Policy environment improved for raising the profitability and market competitiveness of smallholder rice production
	R5.	Marketability of local rice improved through branding
	R6.	Issues related to rice trade in Rwanda are identified at emerging stages and resolved
Component 1: Assessment of Rice Value Chain		
A1.1.	Conduct analyses on the production, postharvest handling, trading, processing, marketing and consumerism to understand the challenges in improving the market competitiveness of locally produced rice in Rwanda	
Component 2: Extension on improvements in grain quality		
A2.1.	Build skills and knowledge of farmers on good agronomic practices (GAPs), reducing the postharvest losses and improving the quality of grains through training and dissemination of information	
A2.2.	Build capacity of Cooperatives and other farmer organizations on the importance of adoption of GAPs and postharvest handling techniques on market competitiveness of local rice	
A2.3.	Facilitate infrastructures (such as drying yards, mobile driers, storage warehouses) to farmers, cooperatives and millers through private or public-private partnership arrangements	
Component 3: Strengthening of rice seed systems		
A3.1.	Increase the supply of early generation seeds (breeder, foundation) of high yielding varieties through research and extension services that are oriented towards substantial increases in on-farm productivity and smallholder profitability	
A3.2.	Review and enforce regulations on the quality of production and supply of rice seeds	

12. Components and Activities	A3.3.	Provide training and back-stopping services to certified rice seed producers on seed quality control measures
	Component 4: Cost-cutting policy actions	
	A4.1.	Identify tangible and time-bound policy instrument(s) that will reduce the costs of farm inputs and farm gate prices of locally produced rice
	A4.2.	Identify and suggest policies that will lead to reduction or elimination of various inefficiencies on usage of inputs (including land)
	A4.3.	Collect data on local, regional and international market prices of milled rice for consultations in setting the minimal farm gate price for locally produced rice
	A4.4.	Improve enforcement of regulations on grades and standards of milled rice marketed in Rwanda
	Component 5: Promotion of local rice	
	A5.1.	Assess the rice features, types and varieties that could be promoted through branding
	A5.2.	Provide incentives for branding by the local rice millers
	A5.3.	Promote adoption of machineries for packing and labelling of locally produced rice
	Component 6: Institutional strengthening for improving rice trade	
	A6.1.	Set up a National Rice Stakeholder Forum (NRSF) that could raise various trade related issues/observations and report to the concerned line Ministries for appropriate policy actions
	A6.2.	Organize periodic NRSF meetings and create opportunities to the stakeholders for discussions on national, regional and international rice trade in Rwanda