

Overview of the Rice Seed Scaling Project in Ghana

Boubakary CISSE
Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice)

Overall objective

To stimulate the development of a sustainable rice seed system in Northern Ghana, in particular in Feed the Future 'Zones of Interest' in the Northern and Upper East Regions.

Specific objectives

- ✓ Improve seed planning and connect actors along the rice seed value chain
- ✓ Strengthen capacity of rice seed value chain actors
- ✓ Facilitate access to adapted equipment from seed production to conditioning and storage
- ✓ Encourage the use of certified and quality declared seed by rice farmers

1: Improve seed planning and connect actors along the rice seed value chain

- a. 3-year rice seed production plan for Northern and Upper East regions
- b. 1.5 tons of quality breeder seed produced yearly by SARI and purchased by private sector companies
- c. 50 to 60 tons of quality foundation seed produced by 4 private seed companies and purchased by certified seed producers
- d. 2,000 to 2,500 tons of certified and quality declared seed produced yearly from 2016 by certified seed producers and community-based seed producers and purchased by paddy rice producers

2: Strengthen capacity of rice seed value chain actors

- a. 4 SARI technical staff **trained** in quality breeder seed production
- b. At least 12 technical staff from 4 **private seed companies** and MOFA trained in quality foundation and certified seed production
- c. 30 seed producers trained yearly by trained extension staff to produce quality declared seed
- d. 13 Seed Inspectors trained yearly on varieties recognition and other relevant aspects

3: Facilitate access to adapted equipment from seed production to conditioning and storage

- a. Need for upgrading seed conditioning units, harvesting and processing capacity of private seed companies identified in 2015
- b. Private seed companies have access to functioning seed conditioning & cleaning units, as well as harvesting & threshing equipment
- c. Private seed companies and seed producing farmers have better access to adequate seed storage facilities

4: Encourage the use of certified and quality declared seed by rice farmers

- a. 15-20 tons of foundation seed produced by private seed companies
- b. 100 field demonstrations conducted yearly on good seed use and good agricultural practices
- c. 100 tons of certified/quality declared seed produced per year
- d. Information on seed availability communicated to e-seed information systems
- e. Two to three video and media campaigns organized per year