



Republic of Namibia



African Development Fund



IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES FOR CERTIFIED SEED SYSTEMS

Project Duration
April 2018 – 31 December 2022
5 years

Overall Goal
NAMSIP aims to improve household food security and contribute to poverty reduction

Introduction

The Namibia Agricultural Mechanisation and Seed Improvement Project (NAMSIP) is a Project implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR). The Project is co-funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) by means of a loan. It is comprised of two main components, each with two sub-components. The first component is Value Chain Improvement, with Agricultural Mechanisation and Certified Seed System Improvement as sub-components. The second component is Institutional Support with Capacity Building and Project Management as sub-components. This pamphlet focuses on Certified Seed Systems Improvement, which deals with the provision of, and accessibility to, quality certified seed by farmers.

Objectives

- To enhance agricultural productivity in order to reduce annual importation of staple crops (cereals and grains).
- To facilitate job creation.
- To enhance household incomes and improve the livelihood and wellbeing of the rural population.

Location

The Certified Seed System Improvement sub-component will be implemented in the ten crop growing regions, namely: Zambezi, Kunene (Northern Part), Omaheke, Otjozondjupa, Kavango East, Kavango West, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Oshana, and Omusati regions. These regions were selected for seed multiplication based on good rainfall patterns, favourable climatic conditions for seed multiplication, and a fairly large number of farmers involved in crop production in particular cereal and grain crops.

Beneficiaries

Individual Farmers; Co-operatives; Farmers' Associations; Private Entities; and Seed Processors.

Planned Activities

Certified Seed Systems Improvement is important in ensuring timely availability and accessibility to quality certified seed by farmers.

Through these sub-components, the Ministry will:

- i. Procure assorted machinery and equipment for the production and processing of seed.
- ii. Supply and install three drip/sprinkler irrigation systems for seed production at identified MAWLR institutions.
- iii. Facilitate the production of seed under dryland and/or irrigation and distribution of certified seed.
- iv. Construct five full-house seed processing plants including installation of appropriate equipment.

The role of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) is to co-ordinate the above-mentioned activities while the Directorate of Agricultural Research and Development (DARD) is responsible for the practical field implementation of these activities.

Contributions by Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are expected to contribute to this Project through participation in seed multiplication activities and the purchase of subsidised foundation and certified seed. Foundation seed will be availed to registered seed growers, while certified seed will be availed to farmers in the crop growing regions based on the DCPP Principle. Farmers in non-crop growing regions will also be considered.

Implementation Modalities for Seed Multiplication

The Ministry will:

- i. Call for an Expression of Interest (Eoi) for Individual Farmers, Co-operatives, and other entities in the ten crop growing regions to register as potential seed growers for mahangu, maize, sorghum and cowpea.
- ii. Select farmers as seed growers based on set criteria for seed multiplication.
- iii. All selected seed growers shall undergo a mandatory training exercise on seed multiplication and seed selection.
- iv. The Ministry will provide foundation seed of major staple crops (mahangu, maize, sorghum and cowpea) at a cost to selected seed growers for up to a maximum of 30 hectares.
- v. Selected seed growers will be provided with subsidised ploughing, planting and weeding services based on the existing Dry Land Crop Production Program (DCPP) for up to a maximum of 30 hectares.
- vi. Provide technical back stopping (inspection, seed pre-cleaning and transporting of unprocessed certified seed from farmer's fields to the seed processing plants) during seed multiplication.

Implementation Modalities for Managing and Operating Seed Processing Plants

The Ministry will:

- i. Construct five seed processing plants at Omahenene (Omusati Region), Okashana (Oshikoto Region), Katwitwi (Kavango West Region), Mashare (Kavango East Region), and Katima Mulilo (Zambezi Region).
- ii. Recruit registered seed processors, be it individuals or seed co-operatives, to operate and manage the seed processing plants.
- iii. Enter into contractual agreements with successful operators.
- iv. Buy certified seed from contracted seed growers at a price to be agreed upon by the Ministry and the seed growers.
- v. Unprocessed certified seed produced at government institutions will also be transported to the seed processing plants for processing.
- vi. Certified seed will be availed to farmers in all regions at a subsidised price (i.e. 50% of the normal price).

List of machinery and equipment to be procured under Certified Seed System Improvement

Items	Quantities (over five years)
1. Procurement of seed (assorted) and other inputs	
2. Procurement of certified seed pre-cleaning machines	8
3. 4x4 Vehicles for towing seed pre-cleaners	4
4. Trucks (10 ton) for seed transportation to silos	2
5. Certified seed processing house equipment	4
6. Equipment and packaging material for certified seeds	4
7. Seed tractors (80-90 KWA) with matching accessories	5
8. Tractors (60-70 KWA) with matching accessories	5
9. Prototype pearl millet, cowpea, maize thresher	14

Selection criteria for Seed Growers

Criteria	Seed Co-operatives	Individual seed growers
1. Must be a Namibian citizen	x	x
2. Members must be 18 years of age and older	x	x
3. Provide proof of registration as a Co-operative	x	
4. Must be a seed (millet, sorghum, cowpea or maize) producer or willing to be a seed producer	x	x
5. Have access to farming land	x	x
6. Size of the land: The field should be three or more hectares, to allow for sufficient seed production	x	x
7. Seed protection: The field should be well fenced to protect the seed from damage by animals	x	x
8. Field isolation: The field should be well isolated from other fields with the same crop and/or same variety used for different purposes (i.e. seed vs grain) to avoid seed contamination, e.g. pearl millet – 200 metres; sorghum – 100 metres; cowpea – 20 metres		x
9. Soil fertility: Must be able to apply soil amendment for improvement of the soil	x	x
10. Access road for inspection: The field should be accessible for field inspection	x	x
11. New seed growers must provide field history	x	x
i. If the field is used for pearl millet and the farmer wants to venture into pearl millet seed production, he/she will be given a one-year grace period. He/she should produce seeds of the same variety that were planted prior to the grace period		
ii. He/she must plough back the volunteer crop before planting		

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