



**Sustainable
sweetpotato pre-basic
seed production Y4
Mid Year Report: June
2017 – November 2017**



Sweetpotato Action for
Security and Health in Africa

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Sweetpotato Seed Systems Community of Practice: 8th
Consultation- Sustainable Pre-basic Seed Production – SGA
Progress Review. Nairobi, Kenya 21-22 November 2017

Production: capacities

Period: current status at mid year 4 (Nov. 2017)

Facilities	No. units	Irrigation (Y/N)	Total m ²	Method (poly, pot, bench/trough, open)	RMT/ Conventional	Total no. of plants	Multiplication Rate
Screen house	2	Y	180.3	OPEN		2400	10 (3 nodes /cutting) each harvest X 3 in 8 months
Mobile net tunnels	0	N	0	-		0	-
Field root production Demonstration	2	N	4500	OPEN		7860	
Basic seed multipliers							

Production: targets vs actuals?

Stage	Activities	Unit (& size)	Planned no. (for period: June - December 2017)	Achieved: June - November 2017	% achievement
1	TC initiation	Plantlets	20	15	75%
	TC micro-propagation	Plantlets	1200	1210	> 100%
2	Hardening	Plants	1200	1210	> 100%
3	Screen house multiplication	Cuttings	3600	2003	56%
	Mobile net tunnel multiplication	Cuttings	-	-	-
4	Open field multiplication	Cuttings	7500	7860	> 100%

Use of business plan tools



- Multiplication calendar on track **YES**
- Possible Changes in the next 6 months?
- Planning for Sweetpotato Breeder's materials earmarked for release, which we have already indexed.
- Plan to demonstrate at on station Sweetpotato production the superiority of QDPM over farmer saved seed
- Communicate on Innovation Platforms

- Pricing strategy as determined with Srini
 - Pre-basic price: (for 3-node cutting?) \$0.16 - 0.25
 - Depending on time of payment and Govt./ Project or Farmer
- No intention to change our prices.
- We need to have committed customers.

Use of business plan tools



- What were your marketing activities:
 - Set up demonstration on station to encourage farmers to use QDPM
 - Communicate on WhatsApp page the need for QDPM
 - Communicate with stakeholders on IP
 - Advertise availability of pre-basic seed on Institute Website

Use of revolving fund

Description	Local currency or US\$
<i>a. Balance of Revolving Fund bought forward from May 2017</i>	8,308.00 (\$ 1,978.10)
<i>b. Gross income for this reporting period: June to November 2017</i>	12,328.00 (\$ 2,935.24)
<i>c. Total disbursements towards seed production activities: June to November 2017</i>	2,000 (\$ 476.19)
<i>d. Other costs met from the revolving fund: establishment of one demo plot</i>	1,600 (\$ 380.00)
<i>e. Balance of funds at end of reporting period available to be carried forward to the next reporting period</i>	8,728 (\$ 2,078.00)

US\$ exchange rate: 4.2 Gh Cedis per US Dollar

Explain any challenges for the revolving fund – Establishing clear demand for pre-basic seed. Affect budgeting on work plan not clear on income.

Customer order book: future requirements



Customer name	December 2017 – May 2018		Comments
	Quantity Ordered	Advance payment?	
Mr Amponsah (DVM & Root producer)	2000	-	
Frimps	3000	-	
CSIR - SARI	500		
ANDRA-GHANA/ UNHCR	-	-	-
Individuals			

Comments on production targets



- Actions taken during year 2 to increase multiplication rates:
 - Planting distance of 15cm instead of 20 cm in screenhouse
 - Utilisation of Net tunnels
 - Establishment of demonstration plots
- Actions taken during year 2 to reduce costs of production:
 - Ensure efficient use of culture incubation space eg 3 shelves instead of 4
 - Switch off fluorescent bulbs in empty areas & use LED bulbs
 - Produce only on demand
- Key challenges for year 2:
 - Inadequate funds for field establishment and demonstration
 - Appropriate management of net tunnels to recycle the materials
 - Availability of aphids proof net for net tunnels and other screenhouse supplies
- Lessons to share for year 2:
 - Documentation of activities to facilitate costing
 - Plan project activities with RF committee and develop comprehensive budget

Quality management: June November 2017



- Number of varieties under multiplication: 20
- Three varieties are currently being considered and likely be introduced in September 2018 - ***CRI-Okuyin, CRI-Mbofra & CRI-Gavana***
- No. varieties tested over June – Nov 17 and results **12 –ve out of 15**

Kuffour
Hi-starch
Tu- orange
Tu-Purple
BF 59x TIB.3
BF 82x Tainung.8
442713
440078
PG 11113-11
PG 12136-2
PG 12151-73

Quality management: June November 2017



- Seed standards and inspection protocol
 - Current status: Printed
- Inspections being conducted for field multiplication
 - Two screen house inspections of pre-basic seed planting materials
 - Two field inspections carried out

Stakeholder meetings: June 2017 – Nov 2017, and planned



Date of meeting held	No. participants (M/F)	Types of participant	Main topics	Follow up actions
Nov. 2017	15/20	Farmer and Extension officers	Harvest of Demo plot. Performance of vine from SH/NT/OF	Repeat trial next season

Planned meetings (Dec 17 – May 18)

Proposed Date	No. participants	Types of participants	Main topics	Proposed budget
Nov / Dec	40 (20 per each of 2 regions)	Innovation Platform	Creating markets, attracting funds, seed requirements	2000 (Possibly from CIP – Ghana funds)
March/April 2018	20 1 site	Farmer and Extension officers	Field day	750

Training – in-country (June Nov 2017)

Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Comments
None				

Planned for Dec 2017 – May 2018

Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Proposed budget
March 2018	Training of Seed/Vine Multipliers/Seed Inspectors/AEAs on QA Guide	10/15	Seed quality guide and net tunnel manual	500

Marketing strategy: June 2017 – May 2018



	Target group	Message & activity	Time period	Channel/s	Responsible	Proposed budget	Indicator of success
1.	DVMs and Farmers	Available planting material	on going	Phone calls WhatsApp page Radio stations	Boadi Ahenkora H. Bortey	100	Income in revolving fund
2	Farmers	Premium planting materials. On station demonstration	April 2018	Field day	E. Baafi Marian Quain	400	No of DVMs buying seedlings

Dec 17 - May 2018: key areas for strengthening performance of bizplan



- Technical
 - Team is strong in all aspects of project and can train other researchers
- Institutional
 - Institutionalise revolving fund
- Financial
 - Budget preparation
 - Conduct RF committee meetings with team and come up with work plan and comprehensive budget

PHOTO 1



No.	Description of Activity Shown in Photo	Where taken (village, province, country)	Name of key persons in photo	Photo Taken by:
P1	Field Day with Farmers, and Agriculture officers Demonstration of Planting material from SH/NT/OF	Cape Coast Ghana	Dr. Ernest Baafi	Mr. Hillary M. Bortey

PHOTO 2



No.	Description of Activity Shown in Photo	Where taken (village, province, country)	Name of key persons in photo	Photo Taken by:
P2	Double protection prior to indexing	CSIR-CRI Kumasi	Boadi Ahenkora	Marian D. Quain