

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



Sweetpotato Action for
Security and **Health** in **Africa**



Fekadu Gurmu, SARI
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	1	Y	200	pot		2000	5
Mobile net tunnels	11	Y	1080	raised beds		27000	8
Open field multiplication	3 ha	N	30000	open		167000	9
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			
	TC micro-propagation	Plantlets	600	500	83
2	Hardening	Plants	500	450	90
3	Screen house multiplication	Cuttings	2500	2200	88
	Mobile net tunnel multiplication	Cuttings	100000	110000	110
4	Open field multiplication	Cuttings	1000000	1400000	140

- **Is your multiplication calendar on track**
 - We are in short of TC plantlets as our TC lab is not working as expected
- **What changes will you make to your multiplication calendar for the next 6 months?**
 - Receiving pathogen tested cuttings from KEPHIS as a source of our pre-basic seed production

Use of business plan tools



- **What was your pricing strategy**
 - Pre-basic price: Pre-basic seed not sold (re-planted)
 - Basic price: Supposed to be 0.12 ETB, but selling at 0.3 ETB (USD 0.011) since there is demand for the seed.
- **Any deviation and why**
 - No
- **What is your profit margin?**
 - Cost data to be updated
- **Do you need to change your pricing strategy? If so how?**
 - Currently we are not selling pre-basic seeds. We need to have different pricing for pre-basic and basic seeds

Use of business plan tools



- **What were your marketing activities:**
 - Demo plots
 - Display of varieties at exhibitions
 - Field days
 - Posters and leaflets
 - Tags
 - Radio program
- Which marketing activity bought most orders?
 - Demo plots
 - Exhibition
 - Field days
- Do you need to change your marketing strategy? If so how?

Use of revolving fund

Description	US\$
<i>a. Balance of Revolving Fund bought forward from May 2017</i>	7500
<i>b. Gross income for this reporting period: June to November 2017</i>	15500
<i>c. Total disbursements towards seed production activities: June to November 2017</i>	5000
<i>d. Other costs met from the revolving fund:</i>	15000
<i>e. Balance of funds at end of reporting period available to be carried forward to the next reporting period</i>	3000

US\$ exchange rate:

Explain any challenges for the revolving fund

Customer order book: future requirements

Customer name	December 2017 – May 2018		Comments
	Quantity Ordered	Advance payment?	
Order not yet received			

Comments on production targets



- Actions taken during year 4 to increase multiplication rates:
 - Use of raised beds in net tunnels
 - Application of N fertilizer
- Actions taken during year 4 to reduce costs of production:
- Key challenges for year 4:
 - Shortage of irrigation water
- Lessons to share for year 4:
 - E.g.

Quality management: June November 2017



- Number of varieties under multiplication: Three
- What new varieties have been introduced in Y4?
 - Multiplication of newly released WFSP variety started
 - Multiplication of candidate OFSP varieties started
- What new varieties will be added during remaining of Y4?
 - At least two new OFSP varieties will be presented to NVRC for release
 - No. varieties tested over June – Nov 17 and results
 - Variety:.....result:..... None
- Seed standards and inspection protocol
 - Current status: Being implemented
 - Are external inspections being conducted for field multiplication:
 - Yes, at least twice yearly

Stakeholder meetings: June 2017 – Nov 2017, and planned



Date of meeting held	No. participants (M/F)	Types of participant	Main topics	Follow up actions
Not yet done				

Planned meetings (Dec 17 – May 18)

Proposed Date	No. participants	Types of participants	Main topics	Proposed budget
Dec. 2017	30	Seed multipliers and their agronomists and BoA experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current status of SP seed production and marketing - Estimation of demand for the coming season 	\$3000

Training – in-country (June Nov 2017)

Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Comments
Aug. 2017	Field and postharvest management of SP	85/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Printed manuals - Softcopy of ppt - SP cuttings for demo 	
Planned for Dec 2017 – May 2018				
Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Proposed budget
Dec. 2017	Nutritional value of OFSP and food preparation	90/90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Printed manuals -Softcopy of ppt - SP roots for food preparation 	- \$2000

Marketing strategy: June 2017 – May 2018

	Target group	Message & activity	Time period	Channel /s	Responsible	Proposed budget	Indicator of success
1.	Farmers	- New varieties, better yield and nutrition - Demo plots	July 2017 – Feb. 2018	- Demo plots - Posters	- SARI - CIP-Hawassa - BoA at district level	- \$5000	- Better variety selected by farmers and proposed for verification
2.	- Seed multipliers	New varieties, better yield and income - Training	Dec. 2017 – Feb. 2018	- Training - Posters	-SARI - CIP-Hawassa - BoA at district level	- \$3000	- Better variety selected by multipliers and proposed for verification

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



- Technical
 - Updating cost data
- Institutional
 - Institutionalization of the bizplan
- Financial
 - Start selling of pre-basic seed with premium price

2 BEST PHOTOS

Activity:

OFSP demo plots

Location and date:

Dilla, Sep. 2017

Name of person in photo:

Mr. Gangiso and his daughter

Photo credit:

Fekadu G.



Activity:

Multiplication of new WFSP variety

Location and date:

Hawassa, Oct. 2017

Photo credit:

Fekadu G.

