



**Sustainable  
sweetpotato pre-basic  
seed production Y3  
Progress review: June  
– November 2016**

**SASHA** 

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

Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI)  
Sweetpotato Seed Systems Community of Practice: Sixth  
Consultation- Sustainable Pre-basic Seed Production –  
Progress Review. Nairobi 6-7<sup>th</sup> December 2016

# Production: capacities?

Country: Zambia

Period: current status

Facilities	No. units	Irrigation (Y/N)	Total m <sup>2</sup>	Method (poly, pot, bench/trough, open)	RMT/ Conventional	Total no. of plants	Multiplication Rate
Screen hous M (Mansa) (Msekera)	1	Y	128	Buckets		1369	
	2	N	512	Trough		2419	
	3	N	-	Pots		119	
Mobile net tunnels	-						
Open field multiplication	1	Y	230	Open		12486	
Basic seed multipliers	-		-				

# Production: targets vs actuals?



Country:

Total for all varieties:

Period: **June 2016 – November 2016**

TC activities	Unit (& size)	Planned No. (June 16 – May 17)	Achieved (June – Nov 16)	% achievement
TC initiation	Plantlets			
TC micro-propagation	Plantlets	2500	1634	65 %
Hardening	Plants	2500	119	5 %
Screen house multiplication	Cuttings	10000	5288	53 %
Mobile net tunnel multiplication	Cuttings	-	-	
Open field multiplication	Cuttings	1500000	32, 486	2 %

# Comments on production targets



- Actions taken to increase multiplication rates:
  - Increase greenhouse space, plant in brick troughs instead of buckets, staking sweetpotato vines
- Actions to reduce costs of production:
  - Use local fertilizer instead of importing chemicals, use horse pipes to irrigate instead of buckets
- Key challenges:
  - Water shortage will affect the meeting of targets in vine production (Water well – re dug at Mansa Research)
- Lessons to share:
  - Dissolving granular fertilizer & apply through irrigated

# Quality management



- No. of varieties under multiplication: Seven
- No. of plants virus indexed (grafted on / *Setosa* and tested with NCM-ELISA)
  - No. found negative (and %)
- % tested within last 6 months and results
  - Variety:.....result:.....
  - Variety:.....result:.....
  - Variety:.....result:.....
- Seed standards and inspection protocol
  - Farmers in Msekera registered with SCCI
  - Seed standards review meeting to be held soon

# PBS production requirement



Estimated demand for pre-basic cuttings for next season (**insert dates of season**):

No. of PBS cuttings required: .....

Proposed prices for each class or seed:

Price	Pre-basic	Basic	QDS	Other	Farmer-to-Farmer
Local currency					
US\$					

For each class – give length of cutting

Pre-basic: 30 cm

Basic: 30 cm

QDS:

Other

# Stakeholder meetings



- Date of last stakeholder meeting:  
25 August 2016
- Number and type of stakeholders
  - Number: 6 stakeholders
  - Type: World Vision – NGO, SCCI – regulator, Arulusa-private company, Harvest Plus – NGO, DoA – Nutrition & ZARI
- Main agenda items
  - Improved OFSP use.
  - Establish demand for OFSP
- Action and follow up points:
  - Timely requests by stakeholders.
  - ZARI & DVMs to meet demand.
- **Contact made with National Seed Traders Association**  
No
  - Potential collaboration on SP seed production
    - Department of Agriculture
  - Links with registered seed enterprises:

• None

# Business plan: implementation June – November 2016



	Political	Technical	Administrative	Socio-cultural
<b>Actions implemented</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ...</li> <li>2. ...</li> <li>3. ...</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Seed demand from potential buyers after stakeholders meeting</li> <li>❖ APMEP = 800, 000 cuttings</li> <li>❖ SUN = 750, 000 cuttings</li> <li>❖ S3P = 9,000 cutting</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Finalization of Revolving fund arrangement with PACO –FMU &amp; FTI</li> <li>2. ...</li> <li>3. ...</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weather pattern not good – too dry. Affected vine production negatively on farm.</li> <li>2. ...</li> <li>3. ...</li> </ol>
NB Review guidance note for matrix on institutionalisation				



# Revolving fund: status



1. Composition and operation of revolving fund agreed and documented? **Y/N**  
**Yes**
2. How often has RF management committee met over reporting period? Once
3. Revenue received from sale of cuttings for period June to November 2016 (or by month – see table) **Not yet but seed demand has been made**
4. Status of budget for pre-basic seed production for 2016/2017:
  - a. Give total budget for PBS production<sup>a</sup>: and then the amount to be requested from RF No funds available yet in the revolving fund account
  - b. Submitted to RF or senior management: give date (Only possible next season 2017/ 2018 season)
  - c. Approved: give actual or projected date. (Not applicable)
5. Percentage of total production cost which will be met by revolving fund: **=%**

<sup>a</sup>. NB this budget is for recurrent costs for pre-basic seed production (i.e. not the total project budget)

# Training – in-country (June – Nov. 2016)



Date	Topic	No. participants (M/F)	Training materials available	Comments

# Jan – May 2017: key areas for strengthening



- Technical
  - Financial & technical data collection and processing
- Institutional
  - Leaving of two members of staff for studies leaves a gap that needs to be filled.
- Financial
  - Hold more meetings with key stakeholders to the revolving fund account to ensure accountability.

# 2 BEST PHOTOS

1. Enlarged screenhouse space to accommodate increased vines for multiplication



2. Mini display of the sweetpotato seed system at the National Show

– Photo: Martin Chiona