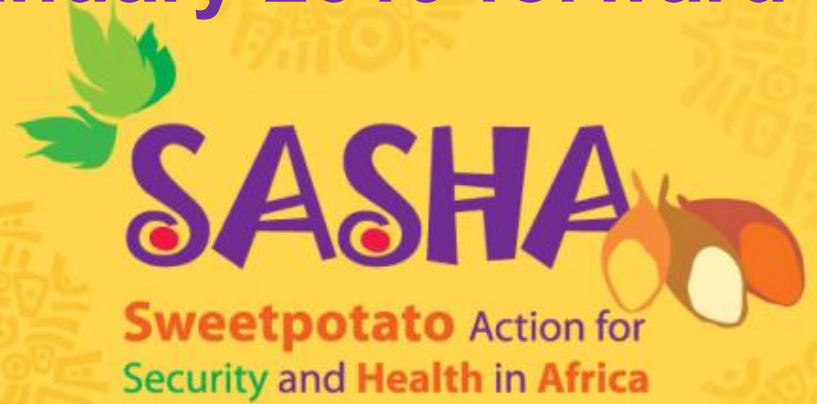
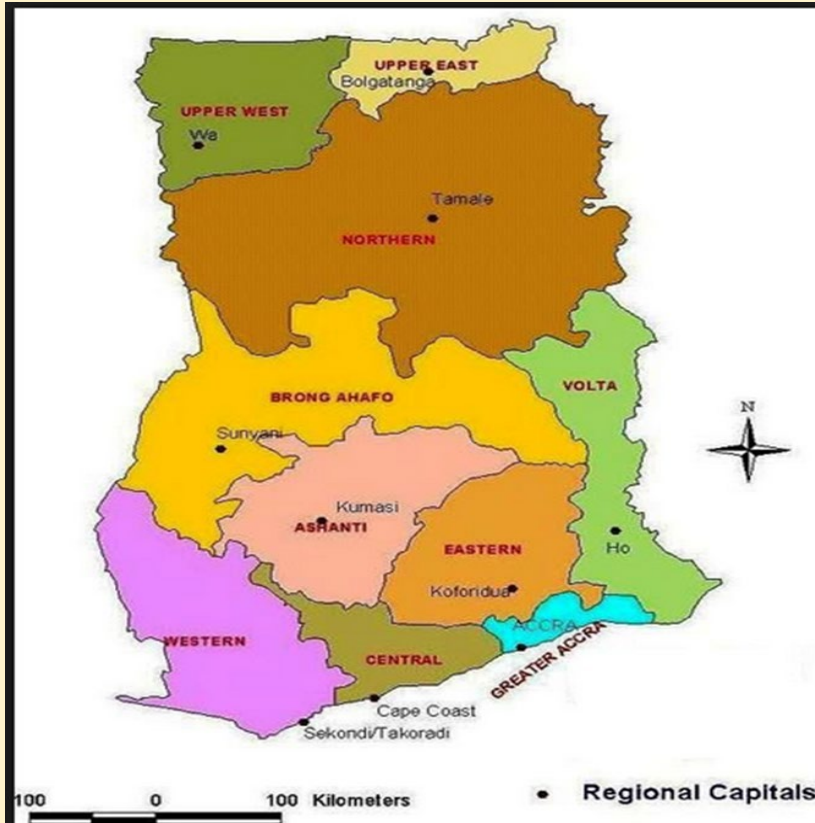


Sustainable sweetpotato pre-basic seed production Business Continuity: January 2019 forward



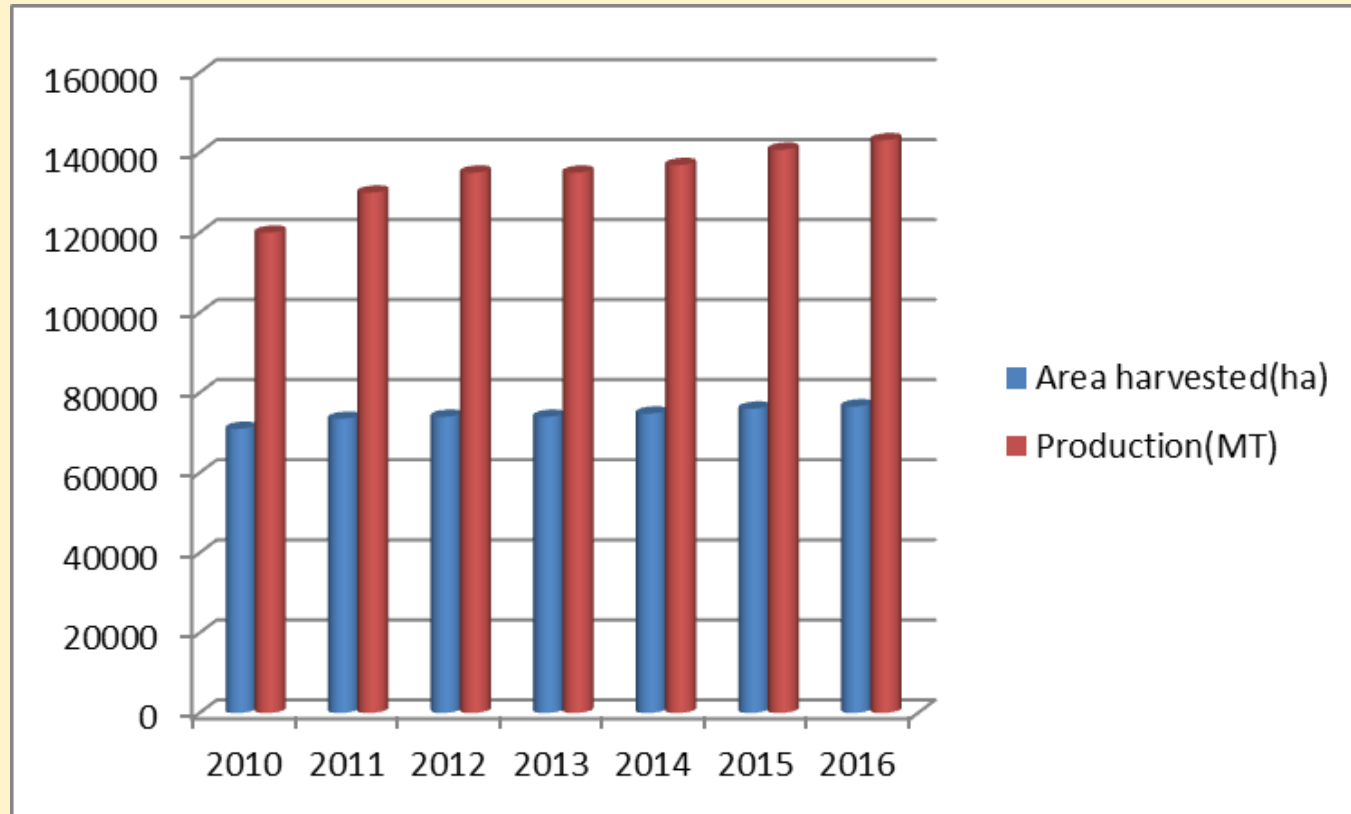
Name: Patricia Acheampong , institution: CSIR-CRI
Sweetpotato Seed Systems Community of Practice: 10th
Consultation- Sustainable Pre-basic Seed Production – SGA
Progress Review. Nairobi, Kenya 13-14 November 2018

Fact sheet



Population	29 million
GDP	USD 51 billion
Rainfall pattern/seasons	Two rainy seasons occur, from April to July and from September to November throughout the seven southern regions(1100mm to 2100mm). The three northern regions experience a unimodal rainfall in May to November with annual rainfall range of 750 to 1050mm

Statistics on sweetpotato



Significance of sweetpotato to national food security



- The crop is grown for food and nutrition security.
- In areas where the crop is grown it is very importance as food security crop when local staples crops like maize, cassava and yam are scarce.

Organization's mandate for EGS production



- CSIR-CRI is mandated to develop and transfer basic and prebasic seeds to farmers, other institutions, NGO's and industries.
- The products :
basic and prebasic sweetpotato seeds.

- TC activities includes;
- In vitro introduction and establishment: which begins from stage 0 where Mother plants obtained from the field or the Breeders collection is quarantined in a confinement and regenerated to sprout new shoots for meristem excision.
- Thermotherapy: Regenerated plantlets from meristem tissues are subjected to heat treatment as a method of cleaning for virus elimination.
- In vitro multiplication: Rapid multiplication of clean planting materials obtained after indexing for bulking to be transferred to greenhouse

- Screenhouse
- Acclimatization/Hardening: Clean materials from tissue culture are prepared and transferred to the screenhouse to gradually wean these fragile plantlets from the lab. In vitro plantlets are hardened in humidity chambers for 2 weeks and transferred into chambers for further growth and establishment.

- Varieties in production

CRI-Apomuden, CRI-Ogyefo, Santompona, Otoo, CRI-Ligri, Faara, Sauti, CRI-Bohye Dadanyuie Tiebele.

- Varieties in pipeline

Nangungungu, Obare, Tu purple, Mofara, Gavana

Production trend and sales -3years



Year	2017	2018
Prebasic seed cuttings produced	58900	48740
Basic seed seed cuttings produced	12000	-

Year	Sales (GH¢)of prebasic seeds
2017	6690.00
2018	11050.00

Peer to peer review



- Technical pillar:
- Tissue culture lab
- Impressive technical capacity involving TC, molecular and virology activities
- Tissue culture lab capacity: can store up to 90000
- Clean materials for Ghana and for countries within West Africa Sub-region
- Run micropropagation as well as conservation of material
- Skilled staff for TC and pre-basic seed production
- Good data records in TC lab
- Good standard operation procedures (SOP): wearing lab coat, shoes,

- Finance and admin pillar:
- Draft business plan developed, and revolving fund account created
- Established revolving fund committee comprised 7 members (the PI, accountant, agric. Economist, breeder, seed technologist and 2 technicians)
- Well established and working procurement system: When PI wants to acquire something; he needs to make a request that will go through the Director, procurement officer, accountant, internal auditor checks twice, before approval and before final payment.

- Social cultural pillar:
- Organization of opened days to bring clients for commodities
- Motivation / rewards through hunter-fees to staff members that help in improving the revenues

- Policy pillar:
- Business orientation strategies exist where commercialization and marketing division for generating internal revenue
- Policy exist for revenue generation through service providing: evaluation input (pesticides, seed from introduced varieties, fertilizers, etc), overhead and breeder seed production (breeder seed used to supply the Grain Development Board for foundation seed production)

Progress with (TOWS) strategies to strengthen business plan



Objective statement “to increase revenue through streamlined and more efficient work routines”.

Strategies

Maxi-maxi: Strategies to maximize strengths to maximize opportunities

- Using Innovation Platforms (IPs), map (who, where, what, when) seed requirements
- In collaboration with PPRSD harness monopoly status to produce and supply (PT) high quality EGS
- Motivate skilled technical staff to meet demand to develop diversified/innovative sweetpotato products, which will drive root demand, and hence seed demand

Progress with strategies to strengthen business plan



Mini-mini: Strategies to minimize weaknesses to mitigate threats

- Use emerging CRI business orientation & harness internal agribusiness expertise to broaden technical and entrepreneurial skills of motivated staff to win competitive funding which will promote and sustain innovative sweetpotato Research and Development

- Mini-max: Strategies to minimize weakness to maximize opportunities
- Leverage PPP to enhance availability of business skills and access additional funding so that IPs can integrate actors and improve trust and transparency along the VC.
- Maxi-mini: Strategies to use strengths to minimize threats
- Use available infrastructure and skilled staff to develop climate smart sweetpotato varieties

Next steps with implementation of business plan



- Harden material in a separated screenhouse from where pre-basic seed is produced
- Clear the previous cycle of pre-basic seed before the introduction of a new cycle to break the disease cycle
- Consider quality of insect proof net, as UV resistant is very important in whiteflies and weevil control
- Build a strong team with responsibility shared according disciplines

Next steps with implementation of business plan

- Ensure proper linkage between the institute with the key stakeholders where the vines are needed.
- Ensure proper integration to the institute to the innovation platform for better communication among players
- Ensure that the institute leverages on government policy on biofortification to showcase the importance of sweetpotato
- Develop appropriate marketing strategy to create demand

Message of commitment from Head of Institution



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- Expected level of EGS production by 2020
- Prebasic seed production: 81000
- Basic seed:27000