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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SEEDS COUNCIL



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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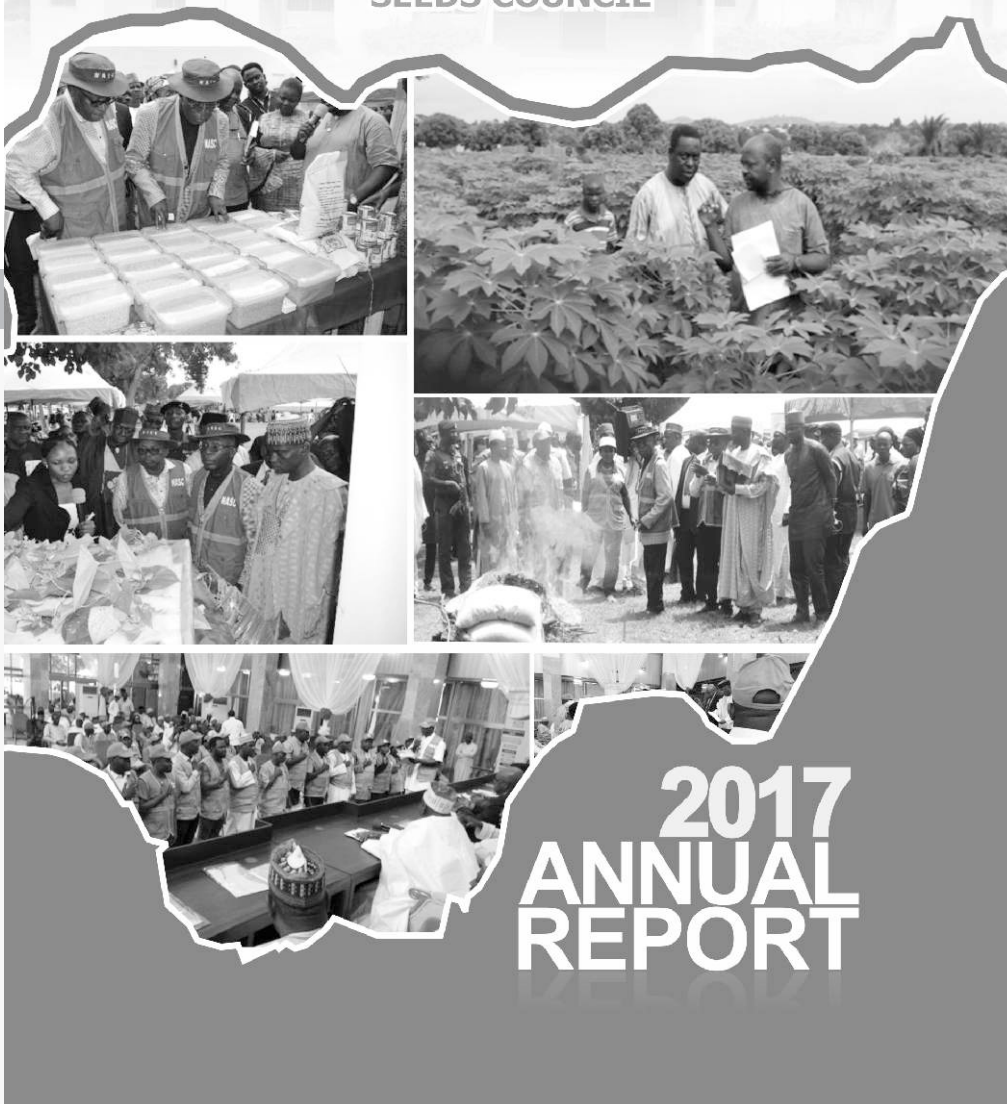
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2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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NASC

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Vision

To build a market-driven seed industry for the production and distribution of high quality and improved planting materials that are available, accessible and affordable to all farmers.

Mission

To transform the Nigerian Seed System into a leading seed industry in Sub-Saharan Africa worthy of generating foreign exchange, key employer of labour and contributing positively to the country's economy.

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List of Acronyms

AATF	African Agricultural Technology Foundation
ADPs	Agricultural Development Programmes
AGRA	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
ARCN	Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria
ATA	Agricultural Transformation Agenda
BASICS	Building Economically Sustainable Integrated Cassava Seed System in Nigeria
BS	Breeder Seed
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CBOs	Community based Organizations
CGIAR	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
COESI	Centre of Excellence for Seed Industry in West Africa
CS	Certified Seed
CSTL	Central Seed Testing Laboratory
ECOWAS	Economic Community for West Africa States
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FME	Federal Ministry of Environment
FS	Foundation Seed
GES	Growth Enhancement Support Scheme
Ha	Hectare
IAR	Institute of Agricultural Research
IARCs	International Agricultural Research Centres
IAR&T	Institute of Agricultural Research and Training
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi- Arid Tropics
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IITA	International Institute for Tropical Agriculture
Kg	Kilogramme
LCRI	Lake Chad Research Institute, Maiduguri
MT	Metric Tonnes
NABDA	National Biotechnology Development Agency
NAFDAC	National Agency For Food and Drugs Administration and Control
INAQS	National Agricultural Quarantine Services
NARIs	National Agricultural Research Institutes
NASC	National Agricultural Seeds Council
NBMA	National Biosafety Management Agency
NCRI	National Cereal Research Institute, Badeggi
NCVR&RC	National Crop Variety Registration and Release Committee
NEDC	North East Development Commission
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIRSAL	Nigerian Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending
NRCRI	National Root Crops Research Institute
SEEDAN	Seed Entrepreneurs Association of Nigeria
TCP	Technical Cooperation Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCDP	Value Chain Development Programme
VTA	Volunteer Technical Assistance
WAAPP	West African Agricultural Productivity Programme
WASP	West Africa Seed Project
WECARD	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Development
YIIFSWA	Yam Improvement for Income and Food Security in West Africa Project

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FORWARD STATEMENT BY THE *Director General*

During the year under review, the Council maintained its alignment with the present administration's policy regime tagged “**Agricultural Promotion Policy (APP)**”, aimed at increasing productivity by ensuring access to timely, high quality and price competitive inputs like seeds and fertilizers among others, towards meeting the gap of domestic food shortage, and improving the livelihood of farmers. Hence, the Council collaborated with stakeholders in the promotion and regulation of activities of seed industry actors in ensuring the provision of quality seeds by seed entrepreneurs towards attainment of National and Regional seed's requirements.

The annual contribution of agriculture to GDP was 21.06% in 2017, lower than its contribution in 2016 which was 21.21%. Crop Production remains the major driver of the sector as it accounts for 91.79% of overall nominal growth of the sector.

Total certified seed production in 2017 was **73,083 metric tons** compared to **91,912 metric tons** produced in 2016. While **117,722** bundles of certified **cassava** seed were produced in 2017 representing an increase of **35.3%** percent from 2016, probably due to emphasis on the value chain approach of the “**Agricultural Promotion Policy**” and intervention efforts like that of the “**Building a Sustainable Integrated Seed System for Cassava in Nigeria**” (BASICS) project funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Stakeholders in the years strongly recommended the need for the country to produce more seeds to meet growing food demand and increasing population. In this direction a major recommendation of the Early Generation Seeds workshop, 2016, was for a total shift of the seed sector from an Open Pollinated Varieties (OPVs) dominated one to a hybrid-driven seed sector and an urgent need for a mechanism/ think-tank to coordinate and manage the inputs linkage and support systems of the agricultural value chains.

Furthermore, we wish to sincerely acknowledge the support of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Chief Audu Ogbe OFR for intimating the “**State Governors on the need to resuscitate the State Seed Coordinating Committees**” (SSCCs) resulting in the successful constituting and inauguration in seven States- Jigawa, Yobe, Cross Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Nasarawa, Kano. The **SSCCs** are saddled with mandates of determining the State's total seed requirement and strategies on how to achieve it, promotion of improved seed varieties among farmers, sensitization of using quality seeds, and organizing seed planning meetings”. Special thanks to the Governors of Kano and Jigawa states decorated as number one seed inspectors for their strong support to the Council and their commitment to checkmating activities of unscrupulous seed dealers.

We concluded an institutional reorganization by creating two new Departments, the Seed Inspectorate and Human Resources Management as per extant rules and following NASC Board approval, and developed an institutional tagline "Centre of Excellence for Seed Industry (CoESI) in West Africa" which aims to achieve the industry overall goals of building market-driven and sustainable seed industry, capacity building in all aspects of seeds and promotional activities to make quality seeds available, accessible and affordable to all seed users in particular the Nigerian farmers.

The Technical Sub-Committee (Crops) on the Naming, Registration and Release of Crop Varieties, during the year deliberate on submissions of crop varieties received from seed companies in collaboration with National Agricultural Research Institutes and approved for registration and release thirteen (13) crop varieties: two (2) wheat varieties; three (3) maize open pollinated varieties; four (4) maize hybrids; two (2) rice varieties; one (1) pureline rice variety; and one (1) sugarcane variety. This is a welcomed development towards widening the base of crop varieties available to farmers.

The Council in collaboration with stakeholders concerned about the numerous improved seed varieties developed, registered and released by research institutes, but which are lying on the shelves of NACGRAB because of non-usage/ adoption by farmers embarked on massive demonstration of ten (10) seed crop varieties in various locations- seven (7) states nationwide with the aim of promoting the commercialization of the these released improved varieties.

We organized stakeholder's workshop on "**development of effective strategy for production, importation and marketing of quality vegetable seed in Nigeria**" in partnership with stakeholders and with support from the Kano State Government to brainstorm and forge out ways of revolutionizing the sector to better harness the huge potentials untapped from this multi-billion-dollar sub sector of the Countries agriculture economy.

Following the success recorded in YIIFSWA Phase 1- official launch and sale of the first set certified seed yam in the formal seed system in 2016, the Council signed a sub-agreement with IITA for YIIFSWA Phase 2 to consolidate and upscale the gains for YIIFSWA-1 such as the development of tissue culture, temporary immersion bio-reactor system, aeroponics, semi-autotrophic hydroponic system used in rapid multiplication of the seed yam.

I wish you all an enjoyable read of this Annual Report.



Dr. Phillip Olusegun Ojo PhD
Director General

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the activities of the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) in the year 2017 as presented through the implementation of the activities of the various Departments, Sections, and Units of the Council. Highlights of the report are as follows:

During the year, a total of 30,408ha of seed crops-(BS, FS &CS) fields was inspected of which 29,941ha (98.47%) met the minimum field standards, while 467ha (1.54%) failed the minimum field standards. This was achieved through three minimum seed field inspection visits by the Council's Certification Officers, headquarters monitoring team visits for spot-checking at least 10 % of the total area under seed production.

Total certified seed production in 2017 was **73,083 metric tons** compared to **91,912 metric tons** produced in 2016. While **117,722** bundles of certified **cassava** seed were produced in 2017 representing an increase of **35.3%** percent from 2016, probably due to emphasis on the value chain approach of the “**Agricultural Promotion Policy**” and intervention efforts like that of the “**Building a Sustainable Integrated Seed System for Cassava in Nigeria**” (BASICS) project funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Following the success recorded in YIIFSWA phase 1 including the official launch and sale of the first set of certified seed yam in the formal seed system in 2016, the Council signed a sub-agreement with IITA for YIIFSWA phase 2 to consolidate and upscale the gains for YIIFSWA-1. Some expected outputs of this new phase include the development of facilities including tissue culture, temporary immersion bio-reactor system, aeroponics, semi-autotrophic hydroponic system all of which are essential in rapid multiplication of seed yam.

The Technical Sub-Committee (Crops) on the Naming, Registration and Release of Crop Varieties, during the year deliberate on submissions of crop varieties received from notable global seed industry giants in collaboration with National Agricultural Research Institutes and approved for registration and release thirteen (13) crop varieties: two (2) wheat varieties; three (3) maize open pollinated varieties; four (4) maize hybrids; two (2) rice varieties; one (1) pureline rice variety; and one (1) sugarcane variety. This is a welcomed development towards widening the base of released crop varieties available for planting and utilization by farmers.

Under the “USAID/ICRISAT groundnut up scaling project” aimed at promoting adoption of improved varieties and putting in place a sustainable seed system for the crop, a total of 76.5 ha comprising of 12 ha breeder seed, 5.3 ha foundation seed, and 78 ha of certified seed were inspected in 2017. Total groundnut seed production was 125 ton certified seed from Kano, Jigawa, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Jigawa, and Zamfara States through a network of ADPs out growers. Total foundation seed produced by IAR was 7 ton. For the breeder seed category, ICRISAT produced 16,000 Kg. The varieties promoted were SAMNUT 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.

Staff capacity was enhanced under BASICS with about thirty participants attending a cassava seed certification short course held in Zaria from 10th -12th December 2017.

The trainees were drawn from all cassava growing states across the country. NAERLS staff who signified interest in propagating the BASICS message of encouraging use of improved seeds also participated. Awareness stickers for the BASICS program were unveiled. In addition, six NASC champions were trained in the areas of seed health testing and molecular diagnostic at FERA Science, UK the agency concerned with food, feed and seed quality under BASICS.

A training programme with the theme: **“Market regulation and enforcement of standards for effective quality seed delivery”** to capacitate seed inspectors in the newly created Seed Inspectorate Department was conducted nationwide. The objectives was to enhance the abilities of the Inspectors to carry out regular educational enlightenment of stakeholders in the seed industry, enforce relevant seed standards, and sanction offenders accordingly in line with the Seed Act No 72 of 1992, and Harmonized ECOWAS Seed Rules and Regulations. The trained Seed Inspectors were inaugurated and presented with instrument of office

The Council in a bid to develop a regular early warning system on pest and disease management in the seed industry convened a stakeholder's workshop on Maize Lethal Necrosis disease (MLN) and Fall Army Worm pests with the theme: **“Safeguarding the Nigerian Seed Industry”**. The major recommendation was that NASC should coordinate the cascading of the awareness campaign for the control, prevention and mitigation of these disease and pest

A total of 1,018,45 kg of six (6) requests for importation of ten (10) seed crop varieties were received and approved by the Council-five (5) for multiplication and one (1) for research purposes.

During the year a total of 156 registered seed companies had their facilities and manpower inspected by a Council's Multi-Disciplinary Committee and report submitted to the National Committee on Accreditation of Seed Entrepreneurs. The conduct of this activity led to a slight reclassification of seed companies. In all eight companies were upgrades from one category to another (one-from medium to large, two-small to medium, two- producer seller to small scale company, & one seed dealer to producer). Twenty nine (29) companies were downgraded, while seventy two maintained their status.

In order to assess the quality status of seeds traded in the country during the year, a total of 1,827 samples were collected from seed producers and tested across the Central and Zonal Seed Testing laboratories. A total of fourteen (14) crop seeds namely sesame, cotton, cowpea, groundnut, maize, millet, rice, sorghum, soybean, sorrelle, roselle, amaranthus, okro and wheat were tested

A total of 98kg of crop seeds that were either expired, poorly packaged, displayed in open containers or carrying no label and certification tags were confiscated during the year. This included imported vegetable seeds that were not properly packaged and were confiscated during market sensitization and surveillance nationwide. It is important to mention that there was a reduction in the quantity confiscated compared to those of previous years due to impressive level of compliance among stakeholders as a result of aggressive sensitization activities of NASC staff nationwide.

During the year under review, a total of 27 seed companies requested for One million eight hundred and seventy eight thousand seven hundred and two (1,878,702) certification tags valued at eight million six hundred and six thousand, three hundred and ninety six naira (₦8,606,396) only.

At the **“Sensitization Workshop for Nigerian Seed Industry on GM seeds”** held at the Council during the year stakeholders opined that GM foods were safe for consumption, adding that those opposing the technology do not have the basic knowledge the technology. Higher productivity will be attained through the adoption of the GM technology. However, the inclusion of Nigerian seed companies, researchers and other stakeholders in the process of Modern Biotechnology development and acquisition was highlighted.

There was a 37.56% increase in the capital allocation released to the Council during the year. The sum of **₦493,724,861.34** was received as against **₦358,914,641.00** in 2016.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) was established in December, 2007 as an Agency of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in line with the provisions of National Agricultural Seeds Act No. 72 of 1992.

The NASC is charged with the overall development and regulation of the national seed industry. The functions of the Council include:

- Analyze and formulate programmes, policies and actions regarding seed development and the seed industry in general, including research on issues relating to seed testing, registration, release, production, marketing, distribution, certification, quality control, supply and use of seeds in Nigeria, importation and exportation of seeds.
- Design improved management systems and procedures relating to the administration of seed activity.
- Advise the Federal Government on the organization, management and financing of seed programmes.
- Analyze the market and prices of seeds.
- Advise the national research system on the changing pattern of seed demand and farmers' needs.
- Monitor and evaluate the achievements of the national seed system and recommend improvement.
- Encourage the establishment in Nigeria of seed companies for the purpose of carrying out research, production, processing and marketing of seeds and regulate the Seed Industry in Nigeria.

2.0 ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The organizational structure of the Council as shown in figure 1 was maintained during the year. However, the Governing Board of the Council dissolved in 2011 by the Federal Government was yet to be constituted. Hence, FMA&RD continues to play a Supervisory role on the activities of the Council. Two additional Departments were created during the year, these are the Human Resources Management Department (HRMD) created using the extant rules of civil service based on the administrative needs of the Council, and the Seed Inspectorate Department (SI) created by the erstwhile board with the objective of preserving and protecting the quality attributes of quality seeds along the seed value chain.

On this note, the seven departments currently operating in the Council implemented projects and programmes in line with the Council's mandate, roles and responsibilities as stipulated by the Seed Act No.72 of 1992

ORGANOGRAM OF NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SEEDS COUNCIL (NASC)

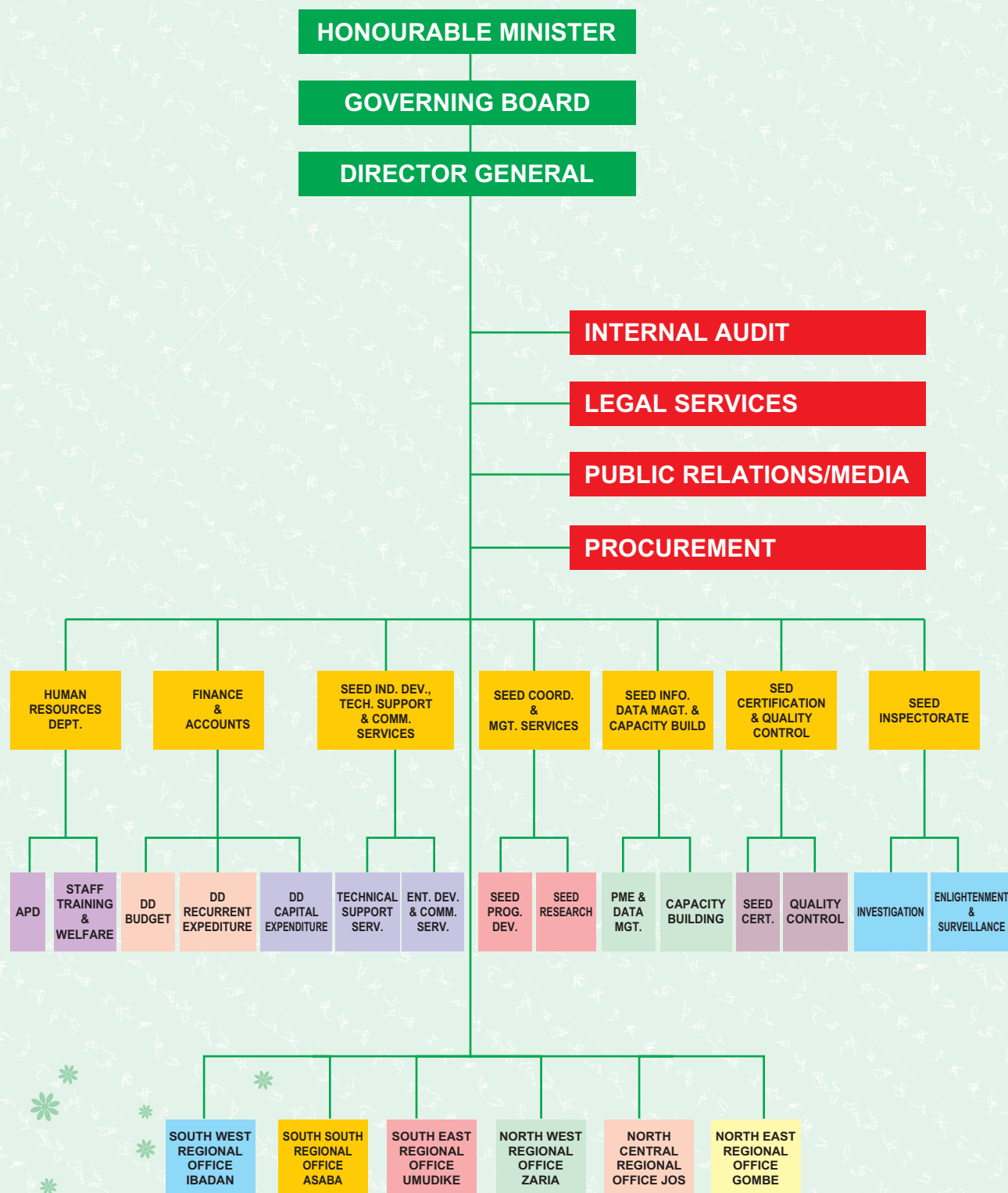


Figure 1: Organogram of National Agricultural Seeds Council

2.1.0 THE SEED COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT (SC&MSD)

The Department has the responsibility for coordinating national seed production programme across the seed value chain to ensure the availability of improved quality seeds of the three classes recognized in the national seed system i.e. breeder, foundation, and certified seeds and seedlings for increased productivity and enhanced standard of living. This is done in collaboration with various stakeholders towards achieving the national seeds requirement.

The functions of the department include:

- Liaison with National and International Agricultural Research Centers for cultivar development and maintenance, breeder and foundation seed production to satisfy national seed requirement.
- Participation in the National Variety Registration and Release processes.
- Mini-seed increase of newly released crop varieties
- Serve as secretariat to the NASC Institutional Biosafety Committee.
- Supervision and maintenance of regional seed processing and storage facilities and auditing of research institutes and private seed companies' seed processing facilities.

2.1.1 Breeder and Foundation Seeds Distribution

The Council in line with its role of ensuring availability of quality Early Generation Seeds (EGS) for increased productivity of certified seeds coordinated the distribution of the available EGS to seed companies. A total of 0.5 MT of BS and 7.5 MT of FS were distributed to produce 62.5 MT of FS and 482.5 MT of CS respectively.

Table 1: Quantity of seed procured from NASC and the expected output, 2017

S/N	Seed Company	Crop	Variety	Class	Quantity procured (MT)	Expected yield (MT)	NASC location
1	Popular Farms & Mills LTD	Rice	FARO-44 (SIPI)	FS	1.5	90	Jos
2	Farm Product LTD	Rice	FARO-44 (SIPI)	FS	1.5	90	Jos
3	TukunyarGwari LTD	Rice	FARO-44 (SIPI)	FS	2.5	150	Jos
4	Raudah Int'l Agro Allied	Rice	FARO-61 (NERICA L-34)	FS	1	60	Jos
5	Salshimda Agro Seed	Rice	FARO-61 (NERICA L-34)	FS	0.5	30	Jos
6	JamyNagari Farms LTD	Maize	SAMMAZ-15 (IWDC2SynF2)	FS	0.5	62.5	Zaria
	JamyNagari Farms LTD	Maize	SAMMAZ-15 (IWDC2SynF2)	BS	0.5	62.5	Zaria
	Total				8	545	

2.1.2 Seed Research Activities

Four (4) seed researches were conducted in the 2017 Wet season, one of these is being processed for publication and the abstract presented below.

2.1.2.1 The effect of maxicrop (Biostimulant) application levels on four rice varieties Abstract

The use of Bio stimulants in rice production is gaining more ground day by day. A two year experiment was conducted during the dry season of 2016 and 2017 in a flood plain area, around Jega, Kebbi state to determine the influence and optimum level of maxi crop application on four varieties of rice. The treatment evaluated consisted of four improved rice varieties (FARO 44, 52, 60 and 61) and three levels of maxi crop application (0, 2 and 4L/ha), applied at 4 and 8 WAT, factorially combined and laid in a randomized complete block design (RCBD) and replicated three times. From the outcome of the result, it shows that FARO 44 has a significant difference in number of tillers in 2016 with maxi crop inclusion level of 2 L/ha compared to other varieties, also in 2016 the influence of maxi crop level at 2 L/ha was significantly higher in FARO 44 with the highest yield/ha (6,664.41) compared to the other varieties while in 2017, FARO 44 has the highest yield/ha (6,366.31) and FARO 52 is least (6,164.55). Therefore, the application of maxi crop at 2

L/ha increased the yield/ha of all the four varieties of rice with FARO 44 being the highest.

2.1.3 Mini -Seed Increase

A mini seed increase plots of newly released varieties of rice, maize and sesame were established in three (3) locations to ensure that more quantity of the seed is produced to kick start the commercialization of the variety and to familiarize staff of NASC and production officers of seed companies on the morphological characteristics of the new variety. A total of 10,395 kg was realized from the mini seed increase. See table 2

Table 2: Mini Seed Increase by location, 2017 (Kg)

S/N	Crop	Variety	Type	Class	Location	Production (Kg)
1	Rice	FARO-63	Rain fed Upland	FS	Sheda-FCT	238
2	Rice	FARO-64	Rain fed Upland	FS	Sheda-FCT	177
3	Rice	FARO-65	Rain fed Upland	FS	Sheda-FCT	437
4	Maize	SAMMAZ-37 (Pop66. SR/Acr 91)		FS	Mokwa-Niger, & Makurdi-Benue	9,500
5	Sesame	NCRIBEN-04E (Ex - Sudan)		FS	Sheda-FCT	41
	Total					10,395



2.1.4 Yam Improvement for Income and Food Security in West Africa (YIIFSWA)

The Yam Improvement for Income and Food Security in West Africa (YIIFSWA) a Bill and Melinda Gates foundation funded project led by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), in collaboration with the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC), officially launched the commercialization of certified seed yam of improved varieties in the formal seed system with the sale of the first set of certified seed yam in 2016. In view of the achievements recorded in YIIFSWA-1, the project's phase 2 was officially launched in March, 2017 to scale out sustainable seed yam businesses that will enhance productivity and food security in Nigeria.

Following the success recorded in YIIFSWA phase 1, NASC signed a sub-agreement with IITA to consolidate and upscale the gains for YIIFSWA-1 such as the development of tissue culture, temporary immersion bio-reactor system, aeroponics, semi-autotrophic hydroponic system used in rapid multiplication of the seed yam.



**YIIFSWA Inaugural Implementation Workshop
International Conference Center
21-23 February 2017**



Tissue culture system in IITA



Aerophonics system of YIIFSWA in IITA

2.1.5 Groundnut Technology Up Scaling Project

Groundnut is acknowledged to be important to Nigeria's economy both commercially and nutritionally. The Groundnut up scaling project is promoting adoption of released groundnut varieties to a wide range of value chain actors, and putting in place sustainable seed system. The Project is being financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and led by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) signed a collaborative sub- agreement with the National Agricultural Seeds Councils (NASC) in 2015 as a partner to implement the following core roles:

- Groundnut Seed field certification and quality control,
- Linking of Groundnut seed producers to seed companies and users for off- take, and
- Training of Community based seed producers.

Achievement in 2017

A total of 76.5 ha comprising of 12 ha BS, 5.3 ha FS, and 78 ha of CS were inspected in 2017 resulting in the production of 125 MT of CS in Kano, Jigawa, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Jigawa, and Zamfara States through a network of ADPs outgrowers and 7 MT of FS produced by IAR. While ICRISAT produced 16,000 Kg of BS. SAMNUT 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 were the varieties produced during the project year.

Table 3: Groundnut up scaling project- Breeder seed production, 2017

Producer	Variety	Area sown (Ha)	Production (Kg)
ICRISAT	SAMNUT-21	1	800
	SAMNUT-22	1	1,500
	SAMNUT-23	1.4	980
	SAMNUT-24	3	2,250
	SAMNUT-25	1.5	1,200
	SAMNUT-26	4	9,250
Total		12	16,00

Table 4: Groundnut up scaling project- seed production by class, 2017

S/N	Producer	Variety	Foundation		Certified	
			Area (ha)	Production (MT)	Area (ha)	Production (MT)
1	IAR	SAMNUT-22	0.3	0.4		
		SAMNUT-23	0.3	0.4		
		SAMNUT-24	1.6	2.0		
		SAMNUT-25	1.5	2.0		
		SAMNUT-26	1.7	2.1		
	Total		5.3	6.9		
3	Jigawa ADP	SAMNUT-24			11.0	24.2
4	Kano ADP	SAMNUT-24			15.0	22.5
5	Zamfara ADP	SAMNUT-24			10.0	15.0
6	Katsina ADP	SAMNUT-24			9.0	13.4
		SAMNUT-26			5.0	7.5
	Total				14.0	20.9
7	Kebbi ADP	SAMNUT-23			1.0	1.6
		SAMNUT-24			11.3	17.0
		SAMNUT-25			3.0	4.5
		SAMNUT-26			1.0	1.5
	Total				16.3	24.6
8	Sokoto ADP	SAMNUT-23			0.5	0.8
		SAMNUT-24			10.6	15.9
		SAMNUT-25			0.5	0.8
	Total				11.6	17.4
	G/Total		5.3	6.9	77.9	124.6

2.1.6 Sensitization Workshop for Nigerian Seed Industry on GM seeds

At the Sensitization Workshop for Nigerian Seed Industry on GM seeds held at the National Agricultural Seeds Council during the year, Professor Mohammed Ishiyaku, of the Institute of Agricultural Research, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State, said GM foods were absolutely safe for consumption, adding that those who oppose the technology do not have the basic knowledge of how the technology is developed. He further alleged that most of the civil society organizations leading the campaign against the technology are probably being sponsored by many European chemical companies, who have to protect their business interest. There are arguments against this technology especially from Europe because they now have mighty chemical companies they have to protect. He also said each farmer will record 20% yield advantage over conventional seed per hectare which will amount to N48 billion at the rate of N120, 000 per tonne, noting that “our farmers will be saved from consuming or inhaling toxins from excessive use of chemicals by spraying.”



2.2.0 SEED CERTIFICATION, QUALITY CONTROL, CROP REGISTRATION AND RELEASE DEPARTMENT (SCQCCR&RD)

The Department has statutory responsibility for the quality assurances and certification of breeder, foundation and certified seeds; effective quality control of all classes of traded seeds; and facilitation of prompt registration and release of new crop varieties. In order to carry out these activities effectively, Seed Certification Officers are located in each State of the Federation including the FCT. In addition, seed testing laboratories exist in the six zonal offices for testing the quality of seed lots intended for sale to farmers.

2.2.1 Field Inspection

During the year, a total of 30,408 ha of seed crops-(BS, FS &CS) fields was inspected of which 29,941ha (98.47 %) met the minimum field standards, while 467 ha (1.54%) failed the minimum field standards. This was achieved through three minimum seed field inspection visits by the Council's Certification Officers, headquarters monitoring team visits for spot-checking at least 10 % of the total area under seed production. In addition to spot-checking the established seed fields, a joint monitoring and verification of source of planting materials was carried out nationwide. See details in tables 5-8

Table 5: Seed Crop Field Inspection by type and class, 2017 (Ha)

S/N	Type	Breeder	Foundation	Certified	Total
1.1	Maize Hybrid		161	2,373	2,534
1.2	Maize OPV	10	114	11,978	12,102
1.3	Maize Total	10	275	14,351	14,636
2.1	Rice Lowland	18	0	11,125	11,143
2.2	Rice Upland	8	20	1,019	1,047
2.3	Rice Total	26	20	12,144	12,189
3	Sorghum		5	1,254	1,259
4	Millet			282	282
5	Wheat			45	45
6	Cowpea		7	458	464
7	Soybean	5	16	909	929
8	Groundnut	12	5	159	176
9	Cotton			74	74
10	Sesame			10	10
11	Kenaf		7		7
12	Cassava	12	20	303	334
13	Seed Yam	1			1
	Total	65	355	29,989	30,408

Table 6: Field inspection (BS, FS &CS) assessment by year

		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
S/N	assessment	Ha	%	Ha	%	Ha	%	Ha	%	Ha	%	Ha	%	Ha	%
2	Pass	10,539	97	23,186	97	75,126	99	79,659	99	48,927	98	36,491	99	29,941	99
1	Fail	294	2.7	781	3.3	527	0.7	664	0.8	772	1.6	336	1	467	1
	Total	10,833	100	23,967	100	75,653	100	80,324	100	49,699	100	36,827	100	30,408	100

Seed crop: maize, rice, sorghum, millet, wheat, cowpea, soybean, groundnut, cotton, sesame, kenaf, cassava & seed yam

Table 7: Seed crop (BS, FS&CS) field inspection by type and year (Ha)

S/N	Crop	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Maize	3,660	2,357	3,886	6,705	25,253	32,856	20,041	16,915	14,636
2	Rice	1,168	1,284	2,395	5,770	24,897	31,433	24,520	16,746	12,190
3	Sorghum	736	196	262	314	978	2,195	1,007	539	1,259
4	Millet	792	186	159	235	117	370	390	342	282
5	Wheat	40		3			154	68	50	45
6	Cowpea	139	174	117	102	78	109	299	430	464
7	Soybean	300	161	398	982	4,381	1,415	1,676	1,005	923
8	Groundnut	61	78	50	53	49	277	380	436	176
9	Cotton	22	194	3,541	9,791	19,825	1,349	923	18	74
10	Sesame	21	10	21	14	75	166	397	99	10
11	Kenaf								10	7
12	Cassava								227	335
13	Seed yam								11	1
	Total	6,939	4,640	10,833	23,967	75,653	80,324	49,699	36,827	30,408

Table 8: Certified seed field inspection by source and year (Ha)

S/N	Source	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Companies	5,186	2,796	9,224	22,116	67,489	73,832	47,340	34,980	29,070
2	CBOs	969	1,456	1,222	1,075	1,468	869	744	495	918
	Total	6,154	4,252	10,446	23,190	68,957	74,701	48,084	35,475	29,989

Seed crop: maize, rice, sorghum, millet, wheat, cowpea, soybean, groundnut, cotton, sesame, kenaf, cassava & seed yam

2.2.2 Varietal Registration and Release

The 25th meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee (Crops) on the Naming, Registration and Release of Crop Varieties, Livestock Breeds and Fisheries, held on the 15th of June, 2017 at NACGRAB, Ibadan to deliberate on submissions of crop varieties received from Research Institutes, Universities and Private Companies approved thirteen (13) varieties for registration and release into the seed system in the Country. These include: Two (2) wheat varieties (LACRIWHIT 9 and LACRIWHIT 10); Three (3) maize varieties (SAMMAZ 52, SAMMAZ 53 and SAMMAZ 54); four (4) maize hybrids (SC612, SC649, DK390 and DK7508); two (2) rice varieties (FARO 66 and FARO 67); One (1) pureline rice variety (GAWAL R1) and one (1) sugarcane variety (NCS-009).

However, three (3) varieties of oil palm and the three (3) segregates of coconut varieties submitted by NIFOR, Benin, and two (2) retrospective potato varieties from NRCRI for were not accepted for recommendation due to insufficient data. See annexure xxx for details on outstanding qualities.

Table 9: List of Crop varieties registered and released, 2017

S/N	Releasing Organization	Crop	Type	S/N	Variety Name	Agro Ecology	Outstanding Traits
1	IAR, Zaria	Maize	Synthetic	1.1	SAMMAZ-52	Northern Guinea & Sudan Northern Guinea & Sudan	Intermediate levels of pro-Vitamin A content (9.3 ug/g)
			Synthetic	1.2	SAMMAZ-53	Northern Guinea & Sudan	Extra Early Maturity; High Grain Yield; tolerance to drought and <i>Striga hermonthica</i> .
			Composite	1.3	SAMMAZ-54		Extra Early Maturity; High Grain Yield; tolerance to drought and <i>Striga hermonthica</i> .
2	Seed-Co West Africa Limited	Maize	Hybrid	1.4	SC-612	Guinea Savannah	Drought tolerance, High yield potential and good husk cover
			Hybrid	1.5	SC-649	Guinea Savannah	High yield potential, good husk cover
3	Monsanto Agriculture Nigeria limited	Maize	Hybrid	1.6	DK-390	Southern & Northern Guinea Savannah	High grain yield and good stand ability
			Hybrid	1.7	DK-7508	Southern & Northern Guinea Savannah	High grain yield
4	Africa Rice Center, Ibadan	Rice	Pureline	2.1	FARO-66	Lowland	Tolerance to submergence, high grain yield, long and medium slender grains and moderate tolerance to iron toxicity.
			Pureline	2.2	FARO-67	Lowland	Tolerance to submergence, high grain yield, long and slender grains and moderate tolerance to iron toxicity.
5	GAWAL	Rice	Pureline	2.3	Chaotai	Lowland, rainfed & irrigated ecologies	High yield, Tolerance to blast disease.
6	Lake Chad Research Institute	Wheat	Pureline	3.1	LACRIWHIT-9	Sudan/ Sahel	Heat tolerance, High yield and baking quality
			Pureline	3.2	LACRIWHIT-10	Sudan/ Sahel	Heat tolerance, High yield and baking quality
7	NCRI, Badeggi	Sugar cane	Hybrid	4.1	NCS-009	Sudan & Guinea Savannah	High Cane and Sugar yield, Tolerance to smut

2.2.3 Building a Sustainable, Integrated Seed System for Cassava in Nigeria (BASICS)

A four-year project (2015–2019) to develop a commercially sustainable cassava seed value chain was launched during the year. The project is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and led by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in collaboration with the National Agricultural Seeds Council, National Root Crops and Research Institute (NRCRI), Catholic Relief Service (CRS), Context Global Development, and Food and Environment Research Agency, FERA (UK), ADPs and Farmers Groups. The project aims to develop a commercially sustainable cassava seed value chain based on the purchase of quality seed by farmers thereby provide healthy seed of more productive varieties leading to adoption of new varieties to improve productivity and food security, increase incomes of cassava growers and seed entrepreneurs, and enhance gender equity. The following were accomplished under the Council BASICS roadmap during the year:

2.2.3.1 Cassava Seed Field Inspection

The resident NASC Certification Officer's underwent a minimum of three (3) certification visits at various stages of growth to ensure field standards of genetic purity and identity of a variety with respect to its distinguishable, uniform and stability parameter to give rise to vigorous seedlings, freedom from all designated seed-borne diseases, weeds and other crop seeds. Also, a joint spot checking/inspection visits checking 25% of fields by Headquarters staff was undertaken to ascertain the credibility of seed fields and ensure meeting minimum visual and diagnostic standards. A total of 96 ha of cassava seed fields were certified comprising of 64.1 ha CS in Cross River and Benue States, and Flour Mills Nig. LTD expected to produce 34,864 bundles of cuttings. The EGS production was by IITA/NRCRI on 12 ha BS and 19.6 ha FS.

Table 10: BASICS: Cassava seed field inspection by class, 2017 (ha)

1	CRS-Benue		Breeder	Foundation	Certified	Total
		NR 8082			2.2	2.2
		TME-419			13.7	13.7
		TMS 1011368			12.1	12.1
		TMS 98/0505			5.4	5.4
		TMS 98/0581			5.9	5.9
		Total			39.4	39.4
2	CRS- Cross Rivers	TME-419			20.0	20.0
3	Flour Mills Nig.LTD	TME-419			1.0	1.0
		TMS 1632			1.2	1.2
		TMS 98/0505			1.1	1.1
		TMS 98/0581			1.4	1.4
		Total			4.7	4.7
4	IITA		10.9	9.2		20
5	NRCRI		1.1	10.4		12
	Total		12.1	19.6	64.1	96

Table 11: BASICS: Cassava seed field inspection assessment by class, 2017 (ha)

S/N	assessment	Breeder	Certified	Foundation	Total	%
1	Pass	12	56	20	87	91
2	Fail		9		9	9
	Total	12	64	20	96	100

Table 12: BASICS: Cassava seed production by class, 2017 (bundles)

s/n.	CRS-Benue	Variety	Breeder	Foundation	Certified	Total
		NR 8082			876	876
		TME-419			4,547	4,547
		TMS 1011368			2,650	2,650
		TMS 98/0505			2,170	2,170
		TMS 98/0581			2,082	2,082
		Total			12,326	12,326
2	CRS-Cross Rivers	TME-419			8,000	8,000
3	Flour Mills Nig.LTD	TME-419			417	417
		TMS 1632			468	468
		TMS 98/0505			458	458
		TMS 98/0581			544	544
		Total			1,888	1,888
3	IITA		4,369	3,673		8,042
4	NRCRI		456	4,152		4,608
		Total	4,825	7,825	22,214	34,864



NASC Certification Officers during field inspection visits

2.2.3.2 Visit of Quality Component Team

The team of BASICS official on the quality component made up of Messer's Julian Smith (FERA, UK), Neil Booham, and Hermant Nittukar (IITA) visited NASC during the year to among other things:

- Inspect and delineate a suitable place to be set aside for the molecular laboratory,
- Identify the staff to be trained in FERA UK to operate the laboratory,
- Align the inspected field's records under BASICS for uploading into the Cassava Seed Tracker.
- To discuss the pending financial issues as regards the release of funds.



FERA Team in the CSTL, Sheda



Cross Section of NASC Staff with FERA Team

2.2.3.3 Meeting with Catholic Relief Service on Third Party Certification

- i. The meeting was basically to discuss issues on third party certification and was hosted by the CRS. Participants include Julian Smith, HermantNittukar, Neil Booman, Ishiak Khalid and Osho-LagunjuBankole.
- ii. NASC is to be the regulator and provide the Term of References for the process. However, the enabling law is going through legislative process in the National Assembly.
- iii. The meeting agreed for a pilot study using the Village Seed Entrepreneurs (VSEs) as a case study.
- iv. The eligibility criteria was agreed upon and university students, with bias in crop/seeds science, ADP staff and retirees in agric. discipline were considered for the project.
- v. The CRS agreed to fund some of the project expenses.



Joint meeting of NASC and Catholic Relief Service (CRS) officials

2.2.3.4 Training of Seed Certification Officers in the North Central Region

The training of seed certification officers in cassava seed certification under the BASICS program was held in Zaria from 10th-12th December, 2017. The officers were drawn from North Central States, and Taraba, Kebbi, and Kaduna States. Also trained, were Officers from NAERLS who signified interest in propagating the BASICS message of encouraging use of certified cassava seeds using their platform of Extension Research & Liaison Services Nationwide. A total of 32 trainees attended. Another highlight of the training was the unveiling of the awareness stickers for the BASICS program.



Group photograph of trainees with Guest and Resources persons



Segun Adeyemo, NASC, giving his remarks



DG, NASC giving opening remarks

2.2.3.5 Training of NASC laboratory staff on Seed Health Testing and Molecular Diagnostics on Causative Virus Diseases in Cassava at FERA, UK on 6th - 17th November, 2017

As part of the BASIC work-plan/activities under the capacity development for NASC, the BASICS project sponsored six (6) NASC staff to FERA United Kingdom from 6th - 17th November, 2017 for training on Seed Health Testing with three (3) in attendance while the other group of three (3) staff were trained on Molecular Diagnostics.

Objectives of the Training:

- i. To build capacity of the participants on the methods used in the identification of pathogens in seeds to ensure healthy seeds and quality seeds are produced.
- ii. To build capacity on molecular diagnostics of **causative virus** disease using CTAB/LAMP Molecular Diagnostic techniques.
- iii. Building NASC as a leading light for Nigerian seed health and the sub region
- iv. Creating technical capacity for diagnostic certification of plants
- v. Cross fertilization of ideas and laboratory scenarios between NASC and FERA



NASC Laboratory Staff with Head of laboratory FERA, UK

Take Homes from the Training

- The Council should allow for strict monitoring/control of the laboratory by ensuring that only authorized staff can have access as seen in FERA
- There should be high level of sanitation and hygiene in the laboratory which can be achieved with provision of sanitary materials and equipment for the lab
- There should be a level of commercialization for generation of funds which can help in running the laboratory
- There should be specialization of procedures and staff in the laboratory to enhance productivity

2.2.3.6 Sensitization Workshop on Maize Lethal Necrosis Disease (MLN) and Fall Army Worm

The Council as part of its mandate of creating regular early warning system and pest/disease management in the seed industry convened a stakeholders workshop on MLN and Fall Army Worm with the theme “**Safeguarding the Nigerian Seed Industry**” in collaboration with FMA&RD, and IITA, Ibadan.

The workshop was held on the 11th December, 2017 at the National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services (NAERLS) Hall brought together relevant Seed Companies, Research Institutes, National Agricultural Quarantine Services, FMA&RD, Agro Service providers, International Agricultural Centers, and the seed certification officers of the NASC and members of the press corps to brainstorm on issues of mainstreaming the early warning signals and cascading of the awareness campaign on these diseases. A total of 116 participants attended the workshop.

The overall objectives of the workshop were to among others:

- I. To serve as an early warning information system on the MLN and FAW
- II. To create awareness and sensitize all stakeholders on the rudiments of early detection, identification and management of the MLN and FAW
- III. To share real time experience son the incidences, prevention and control method of MLN and FAW

A total of 5 technical papers were presented at the workshop by erudite scientists who are authorities on the Fall Army Worm, maize Lethal Necrosis and Seed industry policy and these initiated robust discussion and sharing of experiences in the workshop.

The meeting came up with the following observations and resolutions:

Maize lethal Necrosis is indeed a threat to maize seed production in the country and must be put in check to avoid incursion into the country

- I. The fall army worm is a deadly invasive pest that destroyed large volumes of maize farms but it can be decimated with articulated and collaborative efforts
- II. NASC should coordinate the cascading of the awareness campaign for the control prevention and mitigation of these disease and pest
- III. Diagnostics software usable on smart phones and internet-enabled devices (image-based diagnosis and lab confirmation) Enable rapid communication of outbreaks and Coordinated surveillance network
- IV. Strict protocol and policing for importation of seed into the country must be employed especially from endemic countries i.e Physical inspection and laboratory testing of incoming and outgoing germplasm
- V. More synergy and interagency collaboration should be encouraged and institutionalized for checkmating the inflow of spurious and contaminated seed into the country
- VI. Seed companies should cascade the information on prevention, early detection or quarantining of infected fields to their outgrowers
- VII. Palliative measures should be put in place to boost production of seed/ crops of any crop under invasive attacks of pest/ diseases.
- VIII. Efficient data management on the trends and movement of this diseases should be encouraged and more synergy with border nations to checkmate inflow of diseases/ pest even to airplanes from endemic countries
- IX. That there workshop should be repeated in Abuja where policy makers and industry watchers can also share in the awareness about the disease



Fall Army Worm infested maize leaf.



MLN infected maize leaf



Group photograph of participants at the workshop with guests and resource persons

2.2.4 Certification Tags

In 2017, a total of 27 seed companies requested for One million eight hundred and seventy eight thousand seven hundred and two (1,878,702) certification tags valued at Eight Million Six Hundred and Six Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety Six Naira (₦8,606,396). Find below the details of the tags issued in 2017:

S/N	Class of tags	No of companies /Research Institutes	Number per Class	Total Value of tags (₦)
1	Breeder	2	1,048	2,940
2	Foundation	3	17,016	21,500
3	Certified	22	1,860,638	8,581,956
	Total		1,878,702	8,606,396

2.2.5 Seed Importation

A total of Six (6) requests for importation were received by the council, five (5) for multiplication and One (1) for research purposes. All the six requests were approved.

Table 13: Seed Import list, 2017 (Kg)

S/N	Name of Company	Location	Crop	Variety	Qty (Kg)	Country of Origin	Purpose
1	Taraba Farms Ltd	Jalingo, Taraba	Groundnut	Spanish type HO variety	200	United States	Multiplication
2	EfugoFarms Ltd	Kuje- FCT	Castor Oil	Desai seed-SHAKTI-27	60	India	Multiplication
3	HarvestField Industries LTD	Ikeja, Lagos	Onion	Prema IT Coated	100	Philippines	Multiplication
	HarvestField Industries Limited	Ikeja, Lagos	Onion	Dayo IT Coated	100	Philippines	Multiplication
	HarvestField Industries Limited	Ikeja, Lagos	Onion	Super Yali IT Coated	100	Philippines	Multiplication
	HarvestField Industries Limited	Ikeja, Lagos	Vegetable	assorted vegetable seeds	208	Thailand	Multiplication
4	Eucharia Oluchi Nwaichi, (Ph.D)	Biochemistry Dept. Univ. of Port Hartcourt	Wheat	Prema IT Coated	0.45	USA	Research
5	Salamun KMRHM Seed Nigeria Limited	Zaria, Kaduna	Sesame Seed	Black	100	China	Multiplication
6	Shatsari Agric. International Ltd	Sabo Gari, Fagge, Kano	Tomato	Rio grand	50	United States	Multiplication
	Shatsari Agric. International Ltd	Sabo Gari, Fagge, Kano	Tomato	UC82B	50	United States	Multiplication
	Shatsari Agric. International Ltd	Sabo Gari, Fagge, Kano	Tomato	Roma	50	United States	Multiplication
	Total				1,018.45		

2.2.6 Re-Certification and Accreditation of New Seed Companies

In 2016/2017, all the 156 registered seed companies in Nigeria had their facilities and manpower inspected by teams of multi-disciplinary committee from the Council. The seed companies were re-certified and assigned new categories based on:

- Functionality of various machineries used in seed production.
- Whether the facilities have been upgraded or new ones acquired.
- Technical competency of available manpower.

During this exercise, some companies were upgraded while others were downgraded based on their technical capability and available facilities for quality seed production.

The National Committee on Accreditation of Seed Entrepreneurs concluded as follows:

Re-Certification of Seed Companies list, 2017 One (1) Upgraded from Medium Scale to Large Scale. Two (2) Upgraded from Small Scale to Medium Scale. Two (2) upgraded from Producer Seller to Small Scale One (1) Downgraded from medium scale to small scale. Two (2) Upgraded from producer seller to small scale. Forty-six (46) Downgraded from small scale to producer seller. One (1) Downgraded from large scale to producer seller. One (1) Upgraded from seed dealer to producer seller. Five (5) Downgraded from producer seller to seed dealer Seven (7) Downgraded from producer seller to inactive. One (1) Downgraded from medium scale to inactive. Three (3) Downgraded from small scale to inactive. Eleven (11) Downgraded from producer seller to inactive. Seventy (72) Maintain their status

2.2.7 Accreditation of New Seed Companies

A total of (102) Seeds Entrepreneurs applied to National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) for accreditation as Seed Entrepreneur in various categories. As a follow-up accreditation, technical and professional teams were drawn from the Seed Council conducted site and facilities inspection to verify the available facilities for quality seed production as claimed in their respective completed application forms.

After thorough scrutiny and evaluation of the report of the teams, the National Committee recommended as follows;

- Eleven (11)** as small scales Seed Company,
- SeventyThree (73)** as Producer-Seller,
- Seven (7)** as Seed Dealer,
- Nine (9)** were step down for non-possession of basic facilities for quality seed production and hence could not be classified.
- While **Two (2) of the companies** have unresolved issues with regards to deployment of adulterated seeds during 2014/ 2015 wet season GES programme.

2.2.8 Seed Testing Report

In order to assess the quality status of the seed traded in the country during the year, a total of 1,827 samples were collected from seed producers and tested across the Central and Zonal Seed Testing laboratories. A total of fourteen (14) crop seeds namely sesame, cotton, cowpea, groundnut, maize, millet, rice, sorghum, soybean, sorrelle, roselle, amaranthus, okro and wheat were tested as shown in the table below.

Table 14: Assessment of quality status of the seed-lots by location, 2017

	CSTL	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South West	South South	Total submitted samples
Submitted Sample	161	21	36	101	1418	81	9	1827
Passed seed lots	102	21	36	94	1262	70	8	1593
Failed seed lots	59	0	0	7	156	11	1	234

Table 15: Quality status using germination index of traded seed crops, 2017

S/n	Seed Crop	Submitted sample (Nos.)	Passed Lots (Nos.)	Failed Lots (Nos.)
1	Amaranth	1	1	0
2	Beniseed	8	8	0
3	Cotton	39	12	27
4	Maize	463	416	47
5	Cowpea	198	152	46
6	Groundnut	21	19	2
7	Millet	21	6	15
8	Okro	1	1	0
9	Rice	820	756	64
10	Roselle	1	1	0
11	Sorelle	1	1	0
12	Sorghum	38	33	5
13	Soybean	48	23	25
14	Wheat	167	164	3
Total		1,827	1,593	234

Source: Central Seed Testing Laboratory NASC, 2017

Out of One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-Seven (1,827) seed samples submitted One Thousand, Five Hundred and Ninety-Three (1,593) met the minimum seed standard for germination. This is 87% of the entire sample submitted while Two Hundred and Thirty-Four samples failed the standard (Table xiv)

2.2.9 Grow –Out Test (GOT)

In 2017, a total of thirty-eight (38) seed lots of rice crop varieties of lowland and upland were drawn from eighteen (18) seed companies and two (2) Research Institutes were established at NASC, Sheda-Abuja. The germination establishment was 93%. The result indicates that 50% lots failed the genetic purity test as a result of the presence of off types, rice bug and disease incidence of bacteria blight and false nut infestation.

The failed lots were from rice samples of FARO 44, 61 and 60 from Goro Gold, Seed Project, Premier, NI'IMA, Greenspore, WACOT and GAWAL Seed Companies

2.2.10 Stakeholders Workshop on Development of Effective Strategy for Production, Importation and Marketing of Quality Vegetable Seed in Nigeria

The stakeholder workshop with the theme: “Ensuring timely availability and accessibility of quality vegetable seeds under effective regulation” was organized by the National

Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC), Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) in collaboration with the private sector, with support of the Kano State Government was held on 12th July, 2017 at the Tahir Guest Palace in Kano.

Six technical papers were presented with 112 participants including stakeholders from the Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service, Seed Companies, Agro dealers, National Horticultural Research Institute (NIHORT), vegetable farmers' groups and Agro-innovate were at the meeting to brainstorm and forge out ways of revolutionizing the sector to better harness the huge potentials untapped from this multi-billion-dollar sub sector of the Countries agriculture economy.

The meeting noted and recommends as follows:

1. There is a recognised need to regulate the vegetable seed industry as various seeds amounting to about 90% of seeds in use from different sources currently find its way into the country.
2. The quantity of vegetables consumed in the country is enough to motivate local seed production hence the need for more investment and research in the sector.
3. The agricultural budgeting procedures must be developed to reflect the seasonality and time bound nature of agricultural activities.
4. There is need to ensure seamless synergy between all stakeholders in a bid to grow and sustain the vegetable seed industry.
5. The research Institutes need to be better funded for development of indigenous seed of vegetables and the Universities should also be encouraged to look at the direction of this low volume high value crop.
6. The massive awareness and re-orientation programmes on the dangers of importation of spurious and uncertified vegetable seeds into the country which are precursors of exotic pests and diseases must be carried out intermittently.
7. All importers of vegetable seeds should be properly registered and accredited with NASC.
8. The single window platform for the zero reject programs should be hastened up to streamline the processes for exportation of produce.
9. Companies engaged in vegetable seed importation for well over ten years now should collectively consider developing an exit strategy to end importation of the certified seed class and consider the need to import only the early generation class of seeds for subsequent production of the certified seed class in country.
10. This is with a view to promote the development of local capacity for domestication of production in country.
11. The NASC to develop an embossed regulatory seal that must be giving to all importers to attached to their consignment as a proof of Council approval of their request for importation. This will henceforth compliment the NAQS quarantine seal normally issued with the import permit by the NAQS.
12. All imported and locally produced vegetable seeds to be marketed in Nigeria must undergo laboratory and screen house evaluation after which packaging label issued by the NASC can be affixed
13. Vegetable seeds packaged for marketing in Nigeria must carry approved NASC label.
14. Data management principles are really lacking in the industry and this should be demystified to enhance the risk analysis of seed companies for greater growth.
15. There should be quick adoption of the ECOWAS seed trade protocol

The participants expressed deep appreciation to NASC for organizing the workshop and the government of Kano State for their support in hosting the workshop. The support provided by the private sector was well acknowledged.



Cross section of participants


 Mrs. Heathier Akanni, T.A to HMA;
 Mr. Bayo Agboola, Dir. Seed Inspectorate
 NASC

2.3.0 SEED INSPECTORATE DEPARTMENT (SID)

The Seed Inspectorate Department was created with the objective of preserving and protecting the quality attributes of quality seeds along the seed value chain through the checkmating of activities of unscrupulous seed dealers, seed marketers sensitization, and enforcement of various seed standards with the overall goal of delivering quality seed standards to Nigerian farmers.

Functions of the Department:

- i. Ensure compliance with the provisions of the National Agricultural Seed Act and Harmonized ECOWAS Seed Rules and Regulations.
- ii. Enlighten farmers, dealers and other stakeholders on the quality attributes of good seeds.
- iii. Basic distinguishing features between seeds and grains.
- iv. The quality specifications for seeds to be sold (labeling, tag affixation etc)
- v. Sensitize stakeholders on what constitute infringement for non-compliance with the provisions of the seed Act and Harmonized ECOWAS Seed Rules and Regulations with relevant penalties as enshrined in the Seed Act.
- vi. Carry out compliance inspection in line with what is being done by the inspectorate department of other regulatory agencies.

2.3.1 Report on the Inauguration/Training of Seed Inspectors and Seed Market Sensitization Programme

A training programme with the theme: **“Market regulation and enforcement of standards for effective quality seed delivery”** to capacitate seed inspectors in the newly created Seed Inspectorate Department, NASC was held on the 6th and 7th of November, 2017 in the Africa House, Government House, Kano. The objectives are to enhance the abilities of the Inspectors to carry out regular educational enlightenment of stakeholders in the seed industry, enforce relevant seed standards, and sanction offenders accordingly in line with the Seed Act No 72 of 1992, and Harmonized ECOWAS Seed Rules and Regulations.

In attendance was the Governor of Kano State, His Excellency, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje O.F.R., Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chief Innocent Audu Ogbe, Director General, National Agricultural Seeds Council, Dr. P.O.Ojo, Members of the House of Representative, Kano State, All Progressive Congress Chairman and Chieftains, Directors of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development, CEOs of Seed Companies, Managing

Director KNARDA, State Directors (FMARD), farmers, gentlemen of the press as well as other stakeholders.

The Director General (NASC), Dr. P.O. Ojo welcomed participants and dignitaries to the epoch-making occasion of the inauguration and training of NASC seed inspectors. He noted that a similar exercise was conducted on the 19th of October, 2017 in Ibadan, Oyo State for the Southern Regions, comprising of South-West, South-East and South-South where he raised concerns about reports of very disturbing complaints from farmers and stakeholders across the country alleging low quality seeds being supplied and distributed under different seed-related, or initiatives and interventions by national and international organizations, including government-funded programmes. That the National Agricultural Seed Act No 72 of 1992 empowered the Council to have Seed Inspectorate Department charged with the responsibility of ensuring that stakeholders in seed industry comply with the relevant sections of the Seed Act and Harmonized ECOWAS seed rules and regulation, while ensuring enforcement of relevant standards and prosecute any organization/persons that contravenes any provisions of the subsisting laws. He warned that the Council shall henceforth strictly enforce the rules against sharp practices and prosecute individual or organisations that contravene any of the provisions of the subsisting laws. Furthermore, farmers were enjoined to promptly reject seeds without seed certification tags and proper labeling. He informed the meeting that the Council has commenced confiscation of fake and adulterated seeds and prosecution of supplier of low quality seeds nationwide.

The Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chief Innocent AuduOgbeh in his **Keynote address**, applauded the Council for laudable achievement of inaugurating the Seed Inspectors/ Seed Law Enforcement Officers. He further affirmed that these efforts will ensure that fake and adulterated seeds are not sold to farmers which will in turn decrease the farmers yield and income. He also commended NASC for maintaining professionalism despite the present economic challenges. That the Government had embarked on aggressive dissemination of proven Agricultural technology and training of farmers through massive extension programmes. Thus the Federal Department of Agricultural Extension was directed to collaborate with NASC on dissemination of seed related technology.

The Governor of Kano State, Dr. Abdullahi Ganduje in his **inaugural speech** specially thanks the Council for commissioning and honouring him with the number **one (1) Seed Inspector** in the State, and that the Kano State government spends over ₦200,000,000 (Two Hundred Million Naira) to support importation of tomato seeds distributed to farmers in Kano State. He urged the national research institute's to develop high yielding quality seeds with the potential yield of 15-16mt/ha as obtained in other countries. He added that ₦150,000,000 (One Hundred and Fifty Million Naira) was provided to support wheat farmers for 2015/2016 dry season GES programme by the Kano State government. Furthermore, that because of the poor quality of seeds used by Nigerian farmers, most of our agricultural produce are always rejected in the international market and appreciated the Zero reject initiative and Commodity Certification Centre proposed to be established in Kano by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development aimed at ensuring high quality farm produce are offered for sales locally and for export.

The **inauguration** of Seed Inspectors was carried out by the Ag. Director, Seed Inspectorate Department, NASC through Kitting, Administration of Oath, and presentation of Instrument of office to the seventeen (17) Seed Inspectors from North-East, North-West, and North-Central

Regions. In appreciation of the Governor homely and kind gesture the Director General, NASC presented symbolic gift to His Excellency.

2.3.2 Facility Tour of Seed Companies

The Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development entourage in company of the State Governor, Director General NASC, and other dignitaries embarked on the tour of three selected seed companies in Kano namely Chimande Seeds, Seed Project, and Rahama Seed Company.

Two (2) technical papers: Seed law enforcement for effective quality seed delivery and trade by Mr A.A. Agboola, NASC Ag. Director of Seed Inspectorate Department; and Market regulation and enforcement of products standard by Mr. Muhammed Auwal Saidu, NAFDAC Kano state were presented.

2.3.3 Sensitization/Seed Market Surveillance

The Director General, NASC accompanied by Directors, Inspectors, Security agencies and the press carried out sensitization and market surveillance to the following seed companies: Greenspore, Tecni, Greenspore, Agro-tropic, Value seed and the Kano main market as a practical guide. During the exercise, a total of 98kg of crop seeds that were either expired, poorly packaged, displayed in open containers or carrying no label and certification tags were confiscated including imported vegetable seeds that were not properly packaged. However, the quantity is lower than those confiscated during the previous exercise due to impressive level of compliance among stakeholders as a result of aggressive sensitization activities of NASC staff nationwide.





2.4.0 THE SEED INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT, TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (SIDTS&CS)

One of the Council's statutory functions is for the development and promotion of a viable seed industry with greater private sector participation by promoting the use of improved seeds by rural farmers through massive demonstration of improved seeds on highways and farming communities.

During the year, the Council embarked on Highway demonstration of elite seed varieties in the headquarters complex, Sheda-FCT.

Furthermore, a novel collaboration between NASC, and other stakeholders concerned about the promotion in six (6) States of numerous improved seed varieties developed by Research Institute's, registered, and released but which are lying on the shelf because of non-usage/ adoption by farmers.

Also, collaboration between the Council, Maize Association of Nigeria (MAAN), and the Seed Entrepreneur Association of Nigeria (SEEDAN) resulted in establishment and improved maize demonstration in twenty four (24) sites nationwide.

2.4.1 Maize Hybrid/Open Pollinated Varieties Highway Demonstration

In order to demonstrate the superiority of improved seeds and encourage adoption by farmer, a total of seven (6) seed companies nominated thirteen (13) maize seed varieties comprising of 11 hybrids and two (2) open pollinated varieties for demonstration plots- (20x30M²) each that were established in NASC, Sheda-FCT to showcase the superiority of hybrids over OPVs as well as the superiority of improved varieties over local seeds, create awareness, and improve seed adoption among farmers. The following seed companies namely, Premier, Dupont, SeedCo, Wadata, JammyNagari, Meltdown, Maina, and Kojoli nominated their best varieties and provided inputs for the establishment and maintenance of the field.

Other seed crop varieties of rice, sorghum and soybean demonstration plots – 132 M², 280 M² and 240 M² respectively were also established at Sheda-FCT. The Council provided technical support for the successful implementation of the demonstration.

Table 16: Maize Hybrid/OPVs Highway demonstration by type at NASC, Sheda-FCT, 2017

S/N	Company	Type	S/N	Variety	Planting date	Days to maturity	Yield (MT/Ha) Extrapolate
1	DUPONT	Hybrid Yellow	1	P 4226 Y	28/6/2017	110 - 120	4.5
		Hybrid White	2	P 3966 W	28/6/2017	110 - 120	4.3
		Hybrid Yellow	3	30 Y 87	28/6/2017	115 - 120	3.5
		Hybrid White	4	30 F 32	28/6/2017	115 - 120	4.4
2	Premier Seed	Hybrid Yellow	5	Oba Super 2	28/6/2017	110 - 120	3.2
		Hybrid White	6	Oba Super 1	28/6/2017	110 - 120	3.7
		Hybrid White	7	Oba 98	28/6/2017	110 - 115	3.8
3	SeedCo	Hybrid Yellow	8	SC 510	28/6/2017	90 - 100	3
		Hybrid White	9	SC 651	28/6/2017	110 - 120	3.6
		Hybrid White	10	SC 645	28/6/2017	110 - 120	3
		Hybrid White	11	SC 719	28/6/2017	110 - 120	3.8
4	Maina	O. P Yellow	12	SAMMAZ-39 (PVA SYN8)	28/6/2017	75	2.6
5	Meltdown	O P White	13	SAMMAZ-15 (IWDC2SynF2)	28/6/2017	75	2
6	JammyNagari	O P White	13	SAMMAZ-15 (IWDC2SynF2)	28/6/2017	80	3.2
7	Farmer's Seed	O. P White	14	Local	28/6/2017	115 - 120	1.7

Table 17: Rice and other seed varieties highway demonstration, Sheda, 2017

S/N	Company	Seed Crop	Type	Variety	Date of planting	Days to maturity	Yield (MT/ Ha)
1	Kojoli Seed	Rice	Rice Lowland	FARO-60 (NERICA L-19)	1/7/2017	110	2.8
2	Kojoli Seed	Rice	Rice Lowland	FARO-52 (WITA 4)	1/7/2017	120-130	1
3	Premier Seed	Rice	Rice Lowland	FARO-61 (NERICA L-34)	1/7/2017	120	2.2
4	JammyNagari	Rice	Rice Lowland	FARO-60 (NERICA L-19)	1/7/2017	115	2
5	Wadata	Rice	Rice Lowland	FARO-44 (SIPI)	1/7/2017	115	2.3
6	Meltdown	Rice	Rice Lowland	FARO-44 (SIPI)	1/7/2017	115	1.1
7	Wadata	Sorghum	Sorghum-OPV	SAMSORG-17 (SK-5912)	12/7/2017	120-130	3.2
8	Meltdown	Sorghum	Sorghum-OPV	SAMSORG-41 (ICSV-111)	12/7/2017	120-130	3.3
9	Meltdown	Soybean	Soybean	TGx 1835-10E	29/6/2017	120-130	1.1
10	Wadata	Soybean	Soybean	TGx 1995-3F	29/6/2017	120-130	1
11	JammyNagari	Soybean	Soybean	TGX-1448-2E	29/6/2017	120-130	1.2

In addition, IITA through AGRA sponsored project demonstrated the effects of inoculants on two (2) varieties of soybean.

IITA/AGRA Soybean Demonstration at NASC, Sheda, 2017

S/N	Crop	Variety	Type	Nomination	Date of planting	Days to maturity	Yield (MT/Ha) - extrapolate	Remarks
1	Soybean	TGX 1987-10F	Plus Inoculum	IITA	4/7/2017	90	0.29	Early Maturing
2	Soybean	TGX 1987-10F	No Inoculum	IITA	4/7/2017	90	0.19	Early Maturing
3	Soybean	TGX 1987-62F	Plus Inoculum	IITA	4/7/2017	90	0.24	Early Maturing
4	Soybean	TGX 1987-62F	No Inoculum	IITA	4/7/2017	90	0.15	Early Maturing

The performance of the demonstrated crops – maize, rice, sorghum and soybeans as indicated in the table showed significant variation from the optimum performance of the crop varieties. The average yield of **maize** varieties recorded is 3.5 ton/ha with the lowest and highest yields of 2.0 ton/ha and 4.5 ton/ha respectively. Yield from farmers' saved-seed is 1.7 ton/ha which is remarkably lower than the improved varieties demonstrated.

The **rice** varieties demonstrated recorded an average yield of 1.9 ton/ha with the lowest and highest yields of 1.0 ton/ha and 2.8 ton/ha respectively. It is imperative to note that most of the rice plots were affected by rice blast disease, climate change and the vagaries of weather. Also, the 2017 cropping season witnessed reduced rainfall.

Also, **sorghum** varieties performed considerably well as yields of 3.3 ton/ha were recorded. The nominated **Soybean** varieties by seed companies recorded average yield of 1.2ton/ha, while the **IITA/AGRA Soybean** varieties recorded average low yield of 0.22 ton/ha which could be attributed to the sudden seizure of rains during the grain filling. However, the performances of improved varieties were exceptionally better than farmers' saved seeds.

There were requests from farmers on how to get these varieties that were demonstrated; an indication that the programme was a success

2.4.2 NASC Collaboration with Maize Association of Nigeria (MAAN) and SEEDAN on Maize Demonstrations.

This collaboration started in the year 2016, aimed at promoting diffusion and adoption of improved seeds especially elite and privately bred maize varieties nominated by seed companies in conjunction with MAAN. In 2017, five (5) seed companies submitted their nominations for demonstration under the farmers managed plots. These companies are Seedco, Dupont Pioneer, Jammy Nagari, Meltdown and Premier Seeds. MAAN nominated the participating farmers in their choice locations and NASC provided technical support to the farmers to ensure that the aims of the project were achieved.

These demonstrations were established in twenty four (24) states across the six geopolitical zones of the Country which include Sokoto, Jigawa, Nasarawa, Niger, Benue, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Abia, Ogun, Osun, Ondo, Enugu, Anambra, Delta, Cross River, Oyo, Kwara, FCT, Bauchi, Adamawa, Gombe, Borno, and Taraba States.



The HMA and other dignitaries during the Farmers' Field Day, Sheda, 2017

Farmers' Field days were conducted to showcase the potentials of the demonstrated varieties in three locations: KanonHaki, Katsina State; Yakassai Marwa Road, Kaduna State; and Ejeme Aniogor, in Delta State respectively. These were in addition to farmers gatherings in all the locations to appreciate and identify preferred varieties.

2.4.3 Institutional Linkage for Seed Promotional Activities

The National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC), Raw Material Research and Development Council (RMRDC), Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) and other stakeholders concerned about the numerous improved seed varieties developed, registered and released by research institutes, but which are lying on the shelves of NACGRAB because of non-usage/ adoption by farmers, embraced the initiative by National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) to collaborate with the aim of promoting the commercialization of the these released improved varieties.

The purpose of this initiative is to popularize these newly released crop varieties through massive seed demonstrations in various ecologies of their comparative advantage. In pursuit of this initiative, a "Special Committee on the Promotion of Newly Released Crop Varieties" was inaugurated by the Director General of NASC, Dr. P. O. Ojo. The Committee had several meetings to prepare the roadmap and work-plan for the demonstrations which commenced in 2017 cropping season.

In implementing the programme, five Research Institutions were contacted to nominate two (2) newly released varieties per crop. IAR, Zaria nominated Maize varieties (SAMMAZ 45 & 48) and Sorghum (SAMSORG 45 & 46); IAR&T, Ibadan also nominated Maize varieties (BR 9928 DMRLSR-Y and BR 9943 DMRLSR-W); NCRI, Badeggi nominated Rice varieties (Faro 61 & 62); while NRCRI, Umudike nominated Cassava varieties (NR 87184 & NR 8082).

The 2017 cropping season demonstration activities were carried out in six (6) states namely; Ido, Egbeda, Iseyin LGAs in Oyo State (South West); Oshimili North, Ethiope East, Isoko North LGAs in Delta State- (South South); Ikwuano LGA in Abia State- (South East); Bida and Suleja LGAs in Niger State- (North Central); Fufure, Ganye, Jada, Yola South, Hong, and Demsa LGAs in Adamawa State- (North East) ; and Sabo and BirniGwari LGAs in Kaduna State- (North West).

Table 18: Report on Newly Released varieties demonstration in collaboration with NABDA, RMRDC, ARCN, AATF, NACGRAB, and NARIs

S/N	Crop	Varieties	Location/ State	LGA	Source	Date of planting	Yield/Ha (mt)
1	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	SosaiGombi, Adamawa	Gombi	IAR	28/06/17	2.5
2	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	Karlahi Road, Adamawa	Fufore	IAR	10/7/2017	2.4
3	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	Kwaba, Adamawa	Hong	IAR	25/08/17	2.5
4	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	PC Quart ers, Adamawa	Song	IAR	15/07/17	2.3
5	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	Dumne, Adamawa	Song	IAR	17/07/17	1.6
6	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	Bobini, Adamawa	Guyuk	IAR	15/07/17	2
7	Sorghum	SAMSORG 45/46	Damdirai, Adamawa	Hong	IAR	15/07/17	2.5
8	Maize	SAMMAZ-45 (Aflatoxin R SYN-Y)	Zaria, Kaduna State	Sabo	IAR	15/07/17	3.5
9	Maize	SAMMAZ 48 (2011 TZE -W DT)	Kaduna State	BirniGwari	IAR	15/07/17	3.5

As part of the programme, Farmers' Field Day was held in Akufo Farm Settlement, in Oyo State to access the performance of the demonstrated maize varieties. Participants were drawn from the collaborating agencies, farmers, the Research Institute (IAR&T, Ibadan) that nominated the crop varieties. The event was a success as farmers showed interests in adopting the newly released crop varieties demonstrated and sought for how and where to get the seeds for planting in the next cropping season. The farmers were adequately assured of the availability of the demonstrated varieties in the next planting season by the Research Institute.



Cross section of activities at the Farmers' Field Day, Akufo, Oyo State

2.4.4 Development Programme for Community Based Seed Enterprise

The Community Based Seed Programme (CBSP) of the Council is aimed at encouraging the growth and development of community seed producers and ensuring the diffusion and use of high quality improved seeds in the rural farming communities.

The objective of the programme is to minimize the use of "Farmers saved seeds" by rural farmers. In a bid to upscale the development of CBSP, four (4) Community Seed fields were established in four (4) States: Oyo, Kaduna, Benue and Gombe across four (4) geopolitical zones of the Country.

Soybeans varieties were given to lead farmers for the production of improved seeds in the rural community to ensure adequate availability and easy accessibility of high quality seeds for farmers.

For effective coordination of CBSP, a sensitization workshop for Community Based seed producers are being put in place to acquaint them with the eligibility criteria for Registration with the Council, since their seed production activities will be regulated by NASC to ensure that quality measures are adhered to.

Table 19: Community Based Seed Programme, 2017

S/N	Seed company	Variety	State	LGA	Community	Date of planting	Days to maturity	Yield (Kg)
1	JammyNagari	TGX-1448-2E	Benue	Ohimini	Amuda	15/07/17	129	168
2	Meltdown seeds	TGX-1835-10E	Benue	Gboko	TyoaduMbatiaiv	22/07/17	134	240
3	Wadata seeds	TGX1995-3F	Benue	Obi	Obeko	8/8/2017	131	216
4	Tudun Saibu Community seed	TGX-1835-10E	Kaduna	Soba	TudunSaibu	July, 2017	134	130
5	KasuwaMagani Community Seed	TGX-1448-2E	Kaduna	Kajuru	KasuwaMagani	July, 2017	129	220
6	Dankande Community Seed	TGX 1995-3F	Kaduna	Igabi	Dankande	July, 2017	131	80

**Cross section of participants at the sensitization workshop for Community Based seed producers****2.4.5 Seed Fair and Farmers' Field Day in NASC Headquarters, Sheda-FCT**

The Council in collaboration with IITA organized a Seed Fair/Farmers' Field Day to create awareness among farmers and the farming communities to showcase the availability of different high quality improved seed varieties that can enhance farmer's productivity and increase national food production. The event held on the 19th September, 2017 exposed Farmers to superiority of hybrid maize and other improved high yielding crop varieties for adoption over traditional landraces.

The event attracted a wide array of dignitaries which include, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chief Audu Ogbeh OFR; the Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture, Hon. Mohammed Monguno; the Director General, NABDA, Prof. Lucy Ogbadu; Coordinating Director, NAQS; Acting Director General, Bureau of Public Service Reform; IITA CSO, Prof. Ojo; Country Representative, OFAB, Dr. Rose Gidado; Vice President of AFAN; Special Assistant to HMA; representatives of the Director General; RMRDC, NBMA; Commandant General; NSCDC, Executive Director; IAR, NAERLS, NRCRI; ATASP, National Programme Coordinator, VCDP respectively, Chairman of AAEUN, FCT Chapter, Country representative of AATF; Head of Agriculture Department, Gwagwalada Area Council; Royal father- the Etsu Kwali; EMARD Directors; NASC Directors, MDs of Seed companies, NASC Staff, farmers and students from five Secondary schools.

The Director General NASC, Dr. Phillip Olusegun Ojo in his welcome address stressed that the purpose of organizing the Seed Fair and Farmers' Field Day are to create awareness on the benefit of using improved Seeds to increase farmer's productivity and income among others. In his goodwill messages, the Chairman House Committee on Agriculture, Hon. Mohammed Monguno congratulated NASC for organizing such farmers' friendly event. He said that an amended Bill for

an Act to enable the National Agricultural Seeds Council (NASC) sanction seed fraudsters and erring seed companies in Nigeria has scaled through the second reading at the House of Representatives.

The HMA, Chief Audu Ogbeh, in his Keynote Address commended NASC and their collaborators for organizing the Seed Fair and Farmer's Field Day to create more awareness amongst farmers and the opportunity given to farmers to access different arrays of highly improved crop varieties. He said the ministry has recorded remarkable achievements in agriculture through the Green Alternative Agenda of the present administration.

The HMA assisted by the DG NASC and other dignitaries went round the stands and the demonstrated fields.

Also, the HMA assisted by the Director General NASC performed the symbolic burning of poor quality seeds.



The HMA conducting a ceremonial burning of fake and adulterated seeds during the Seed Fair



The HMA inspecting exhibition stands during the Seed Fair

2.4.6 Promotional Programmes

2.4.6.1 World Food Day Celebration

The 2017 World Food Day Celebration captioned "Change the future of migration. Invest in food security and rural development" was organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), Agencies and stakeholders in the Agricultural sector. The event was held on the 16th October, 2017 at the Agricultural Show ground, Auta Balefi, Nasarawa State attracted dignitaries including the Deputy Governor of Nasarawa State and other stakeholders. The Council exhibited its promotional materials such as the laboratory materials, statutory books and publications. The Director General, NASC conducted round the dignitaries and explained the functions and mandates of the Council.

2.4.6.2 C-LAP Exhibition

The NASC participated in the 1st Annual Comprehensive Agricultural Plan for Local Government Areas (C-LAP) Seminar titled "Blueprint for Agricultural Revolution in Nigeria", which was held on 26th & 27th October, 2017 at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja. The goals of the seminar includes among others:

- Design of a comprehensive local agricultural plan for each LGA.
- Creation of model/demonstration farms in every LGA.

- Creation of structured farmer's markets in each LGA to act as a hub between producers and buyers.
- Creation of a national retail chain for agricultural produce.
- Assess and plan for the infrastructure required to support the agricultural development of each LGA.
- Establish linkages with the required institutional support services, like credit, technology transfer, ICT, research, etc.
- Evolve an action plan for achieving sustainable agricultural growth with food security and cropping system that will improve farmers' income.

The Council was able to exhibit some of her Promotional materials such as statutory books, Annual reports, Charts and Pictures at the Seminar. Furthermore, the Council was commended by the organizers for its efforts towards improving the Seed systems in Nigeria and advocated for continuous collaboration with the Council.



Visitors at NASC Exhibition stand



Mr. Folarin Okelola, Rep. of DG NASC



NASC Exhibition stand



Cross section of participants

2.4.6.3 Support for the States Seed Coordinating Committee

As part of the efforts to coordinate seed related activities in the States and ensure that farmers in the farming communities have access to quality improved seeds, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development intimated the State Governors on the “engagement of State Executives on seed development and support for private sector led seed industry in the States”. He called on the State Governors to consider the resuscitation of the State Seed Coordinating Committee (SSCC) in the States for improved agricultural output and development of the seed

industry in the States as part of measures for agricultural development.

In continuation of the advocacy visits to states, the Director General accompanied by NASC officials visited Kano and Jigawa states, in October and November, 2017 respectively to emphasize the importance and benefits of inauguration and operationalization of the Committee in the States.



DG NASC and Gov. of Jigawa State,
His Excellency Muhammed Badaru Abubakar



DG NASC giving his remarks



DG NASC presenting instrument
of office to the Gov. of Jigawa State



Group photograph

2.4.7 NASC Collaboration with North-East Development Commission (NEDC) on FAO Assistance to North-East

NASC was engaged as a technical partner by FAO in its Agricultural Assistance towards the rebuilding of the North East region ravaged by the insurgency. Dr. S.E. Abimiku, Director SIDTC&S was engaged as a Consultant in the procurement of rice seeds (FARO 44) to be distributed to the three North Eastern States of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. The NASC Consultant and the FAO team carried out technical inspections of rice seed vendors' stores and support the FAO Nigeria bid technical analysis. Desert logistics @ Haulage Nig. Ltd, Kano and Premier Seed Nig. Ltd, Zaria were visited by the team, the storage conditions were assessed while samples were taken to the laboratory for analysis.

The report of the assessment was later forwarded to the FAO Nigeria, along with its recommendations

2.5.0 SEED INFORMATION, DATA MANAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING DEPARTMENT (SIDM&CB)

The Department is responsible for Programme Development, Planning, work plans, Seed Policy Development, Data management and Analysis; Monitoring and Evaluation of national seed programme and Council's Projects; Development and Management of Data Bank for the seed industry; Provision of Information Communication Technology Support; National & International Collaborations/Linkages; Library Services, and Capacity Building of stakeholders in the seed industry.

2.5.1 State of the National Agricultural Sector, 2017

The annual contribution of agriculture to GDP was 21.06% in 2017, lower than its contribution in 2016 which was 21.21%. Crop production remains the major driver of the sector as it accounts for 91.79% of overall nominal growth of the sector (NBS, 2017).

The agricultural performance survey (APS), 2017 forecasts production increase of at least 35% above that of 2016 in all area of agriculture in respect of challenges of climate change, absence of government input support, through insecurity and kidnapping, to those of poor support for agricultural extension activities.

That **Maize** production increased from 10,0813,980 metric tons to 12,107,580 metric tons in 2017 representing about 11.96% increase in national output.

A total of 8.02 million metric tons **rice** output was recorded in 2017 against the 6.99 million metric tons recorded in 2016, representing an increase of 14.7% over 2016 output attributed to the Federal Government initiative on curbing large importation of rice and promoting intensive rice production in the country.

An increase of 3.88% was recorded in production of **sorghum** from total output of 6,795.5 million tons in 2017 to 6,506.4 million tons on 2016.

Millet production increased from 1,487,220 metric tons in 2016 to 1,528,250 tons in 2017 representing 2.76%.

The total output of **groundnut** in 2017 was 4,360.5 million tons as against the 4,521.45 million tons obtained in 2016.

While total output of **cowpea** in 2017 was 3,874,740 tons as against 3,750,470 tons obtained in 2016.

A total **soybean** output of 993,950 tons was recorded in 2017 as against 936,890 tons recorded in 2016.

The forecast for **sesame** showed that 632,300 tons compared with 593,600 tons cultivated in 2016.

The total output of **cotton** in 2017 was 215,300 tons as against 206,100 tons obtained in 2016 representing an increase of 4.5%.

Total output of **cassava** increased from 52,537,850 metric tons in 2016 to 55,068,730 metric tons in 2017, which represent 4.8% increase.

2.5.2 National Seed System Survey, 2017

During the year the Council conducted the National Seed System Survey nationwide as part of the Council's responsibility of providing relevant data and information on the current status of the Seed Industry. The survey highlighted seed production, marketing, prices and utilization in support of the Agricultural Change Agenda.

2.5.2.1 Major Findings

The production of **certified seed** witnessed a **25.7% decrease** in 2017 (**73,083 tons**) compared to **91,912 tons** produced in 2016. While 117,722 bundles of certified cassava seed were produced in 2017 with an increase of 41,562 bundles or **35.3%** percent from 2016 probably due to emphasis on the value chain approach of the “**Agricultural Promotion Policy**” and intervention efforts under the “**Building a Sustainable, Integrated Seed System for Cassava in Nigeria**” (**BASICS**) project funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The downward trend in certified seeds production necessitate implementation of stakeholders recommendations on the Early Generation Seeds (EGS) workshop, 2016 which emphasized: shift from OPV-dominated to hybrid-driven seed sector; urgent need for a mechanism/ think-tank to coordinate and manage the inputs linkage and support systems of the agricultural value chains.

Table 20: Seed crop production by type, 2017 (MT)

S/N	Type	Breeder	Foundation	Certified	Total
1.1	Maize Hybrid		288	3,033	3,321
1.2	Maize OPV	12	201	29,174	29,386
1.3	Maize total	12	489	32,207	32,708
2.1	Rice Lowland	61	0.3	35,287	35,348
2.2	Rice Upland	16	50	2,408	2,475
2.3	Rice total	78	50	37,695	37,823
3	Sorghum		4	1,204	1,207
4	Millet			295	295
5	Wheat			101	101
6	Cowpea		5	332	337
7	Soybean	5	16	976	997
8	Groundnut	16	7	200	222
9	Cotton			66	66
10	Sesame			7	7
11	Kenaf		7		7
	Total	110	577	73,083	73,770

Table 21: Cassava seed production by class, source and year (bundles)

s/n	Source	Breeder		Foundation		Certified	
		2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
1	CBOs			2,832		6,000	55,739
2	Companies			10,000		70,160	61,983
3	NARIs		4,826	1,632	7,825		
	Total		4,826	14,464	7,825	76,160	117,722

Table 22: Seed yam production by class, source and year (numbers)

s/n		Breeder		Foundation		Certified	
	Source	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
1	CBOs						
2	Companies			240,000		160,000	
3	NARIs	1,720	23,200	19,360			
	Total	1,720	23,200	259,360		160,000	

Table 23: Certified seed production by type and year (MT)

S/N	Crop	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1.1	Maize Hybrid	1,137	2,641	3,150	1,607	1,947	3,335	4,639	2,936	3,143	3,470	3,033
1.2	Maize OPV	2,186	4,567	1,781	1,804	3,366	10,915	53,489	71,145	44,668	34,170	29,174
1.3	Maize Total	3,323	7,208	4,931	3,410	5,313	14,251	58,128	74,081	47,812	37,640	32,207
2.1	Rice Lowland	4,426	6,284	965	1,836	6,321	18,040	72,879	90,439	69,754	48,417	35,287
2.2	Rice Upland	1,117	2,031	219	320	509	810	707	617	935	2,790	2,408
2.3	Rice Total	5,543	8,315	1,184	2,156	6,830	18,850	73,585	91,056	70,689	51,208	37,695
3	Sorghum	199	2,366	509	245	327	644	1,388	2,845	1,286	784	1,204
4	Millet	161	1,002	938	157	148	171	98	365	321	388	295
5	Wheat	70	250	93					170	165	30	101
6	Cowpea	154	1,078	115	153	67	88	50	97	302	368	332
7	Soybean	415	546	240	151	329	1,081	3,278	1,304	1,624	1,062	976
8	Groundnut	144	404	73	62	15	60	69	463	384	365	200
9	Cotton	94	301	15	70	1,751	9,333	13,189	7,526	781		66
10	Sesame	19	245	3	6	8	10	60	150	233	69	7
	Total	10,122	21,715	8,102	6,411	14,788	44,487	149,844	178,056	123,597	91,912	73,083

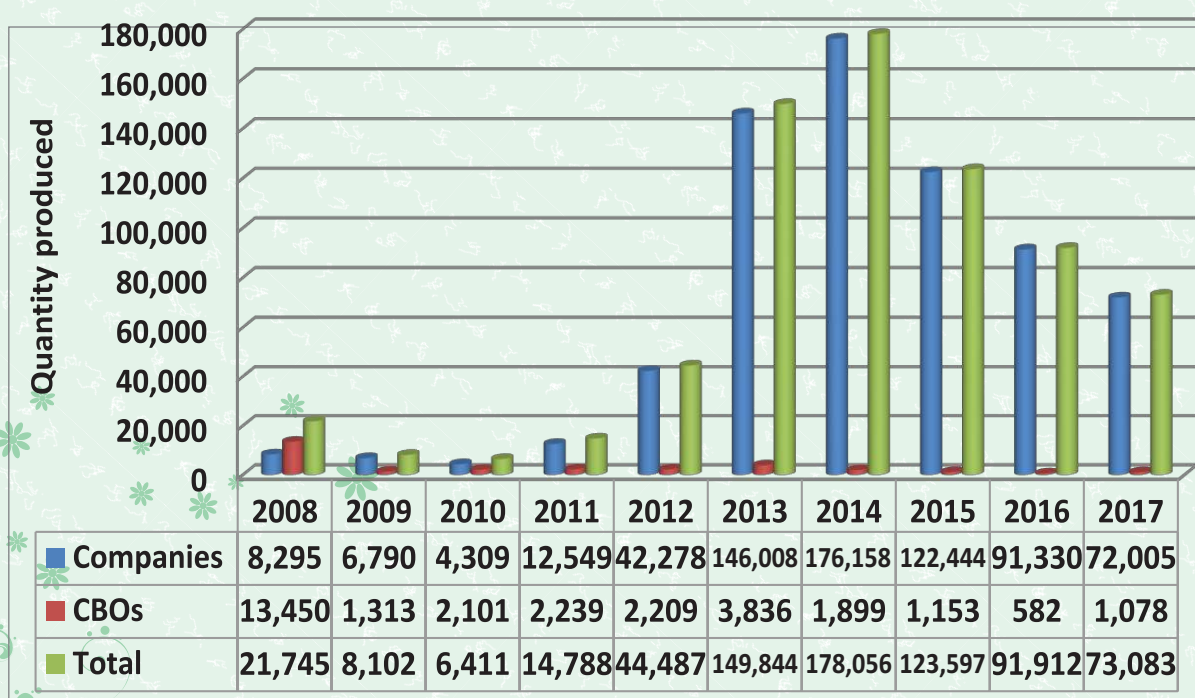
Fig. 2: Certified seed production by source and year (MT)

Table 24: Companies: Certified seed production by type and year

S/N	Type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2,017
1.1	Maize Hybrid	2,641	3,150	1,607	1,947	3,335	4,639	2,936	3,143	3,470	3,033
1.2	Maize OPV	1,130	1,301	869	2,669	10,336	51,152	69,922	44,054	34,107	28,795
1.3	Maize Total	3,771	4,451	2,476	4,616	13,671	55,791	72,858	47,197	37,577	31,828
2.1	Rice Lowland	1,524	818	1,355	5,526	17,267	71,737	90,158	69,715	48,310	35,017
2.2	Rice Upland	282	108	48	115	375	587	585	935	2,778	2,399
2.3	Rice Total	1,806	926	1,403	5,641	17,641	72,323	90,743	70,650	51,088	37,416
3	Sorghum	2,186	372	204	260	626	1,380	2,670	1,068	768	1,192
4	Millet	295	763	27	41	74	37	287	296	382	285
5	Wheat							170	165	30	101
6	Cowpea	84	50	49	19	26	13	89	227	124	74
7	Soybean	129	182	120	241	969	3,222	1,234	1,533	1,044	968
8	Groundnut	12	45	11	10	33	54	430	295	252	70
9	Cotton			15	1,718	9,228	13,189	7,526	781		66
10	Sesame	12		5	4	10		150	233	66	7
	Total	8,295	6,790	4,309	12,549	42,278	146,008	176,158	122,444	91,330	72,005

Table 25: CBOs: Certified seed production by type and year

S/N	Crop	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Maize-OPV	3,437	480	934	698	580	2,338	1,223	615	63	379
2	Rice	6,509	258	753	1,189	1,209	1,262	313	39	120	279
3	Sorghum	180	137	41	67	18	8	175	219	15	12
4	Millet	707	175	131	107	98	61	78	25	6	11
5	Wheat		93								
6	Cowpea	995	65	104	48	62	36	8	75	244	259
7	Soybean	417	58	31	88	112	56	70	91	19	8
8	Groundnut	392	28	51	5	26	15	32	90	113	130
9	Cotton	301	15	56	33	105					
10	Sesame	233	3	2	4		60			3	
	Total	13,420	1,313	2,101	2,239	2,209	3,836	1,899	1,153	582	1,078

Table 26: Foundation seed production by type and year (MT)

S/N	Seed Crop	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Maize	374	129	213	693	1,117	3,744	854	1,370	489
2	Rice	214	370	235	269	1,388	2,705	1,624	1,016	50
3	Sorghum	227	9	25	16	74	1,282	157	51	4
4	Millet	11	12	8	9	31	12	16		
5	Wheat			3			58	30	15	
6	Cowpea	24	39	42	34	26	32	31	23	5
7	Soybean	59	10	2	47	3,276	400	157	85	16
8	Groundnut		23	38	19	29	17	105	11	7
9	Cotton	7	7	25	243	2,655	1,543	22	18	
10	Sesame	18	2	4			4	5	8	
11	Kenaf								9	7
	Total	935	602	593	1,330	8,595	9,797	3,001	2,607	577

Table 27: Foundation seed production by source and year (MT)

S/N	Source	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	NARIs	32	2	271	661	4,215	1,682	590	633	186
2	Companies	402	72	9	177	4,101	8,075	2,411	1,971	391
3	CBOs	242	182	314	492	280	40		3	
4	NASC	259	347							
	Total	935	602	593	1,330	8,595	9,797	3,001	2,607	577

Table 28: Breeder seed production by type and year (Kg)

S/N	Crop	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Maize			27,800		298,700	106,300	40,400	58,000	12,000
2	Rice	2,500	17,100	20,200	31,500	114,900	5,400	8,100	47,000	78,000
3	Sorghum						28,300	6,500		
4	Millet	900	100	7,000	1,600	500	1,900	6,000		
5	Wheat			2,000			3,800		7,000	
6	Cowpea			7,200		9,600	1,200		7,000	
7	Soybean	500		500		10,300	12,100		7,000	5,000
8	Groundnut						16,200		2,000	16,000
9	Cotton						14,000		5,000	
10	Sesame			500			2,800		5,000	
	Total	3,900	17,200	65,200	33,100	434,000	192,000	60,900	132,000	110,000

Table 29: Certified seed prices by type and year (Naira)

s/n	Seed Type	Unit	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Maize-Hybrid	1kg	155	171	174	191	197	240	240	250	240	350	400
2	Maize-OPVs	1kg	125	137	154	164	171	200	200	200	200	300	370
3	Rice	1kg	149	174	164	186	193	220	220	250	220	350	350
5	Sorghum	1kg	116	132	148	141	158	200	200	220	200	250	270
6	Millet	1kg	77	101	156	160	176	190	200	200	180	400	240
7	Cowpea	1kg	150	181	188	170	206	250	260	350	350	500	335
8	Soybean	1kg	132	150	170	165	191	240	240	220	250	350	850
9	Groundnut (unshelled)	1kg	238	238	350	320	488	350	350	350	300	400	700
10	Cotton	1kg	39	46	120	100	160	120	180	180	180	180	700
11	Sesame	1kg	136	160	325	470	300	-	-	-	500	370	700

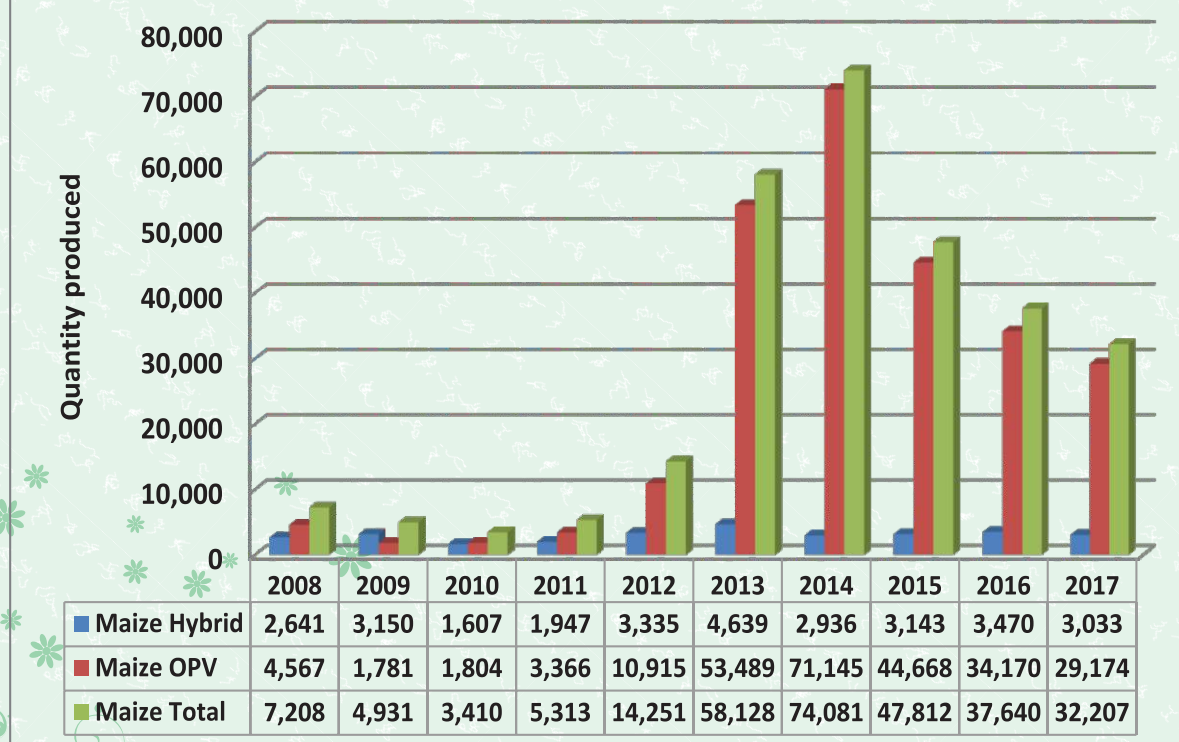
Figure 3: Maize certified seed production by type and year (MT)

Fig.4: Rice certified seed production by type and year (MT)

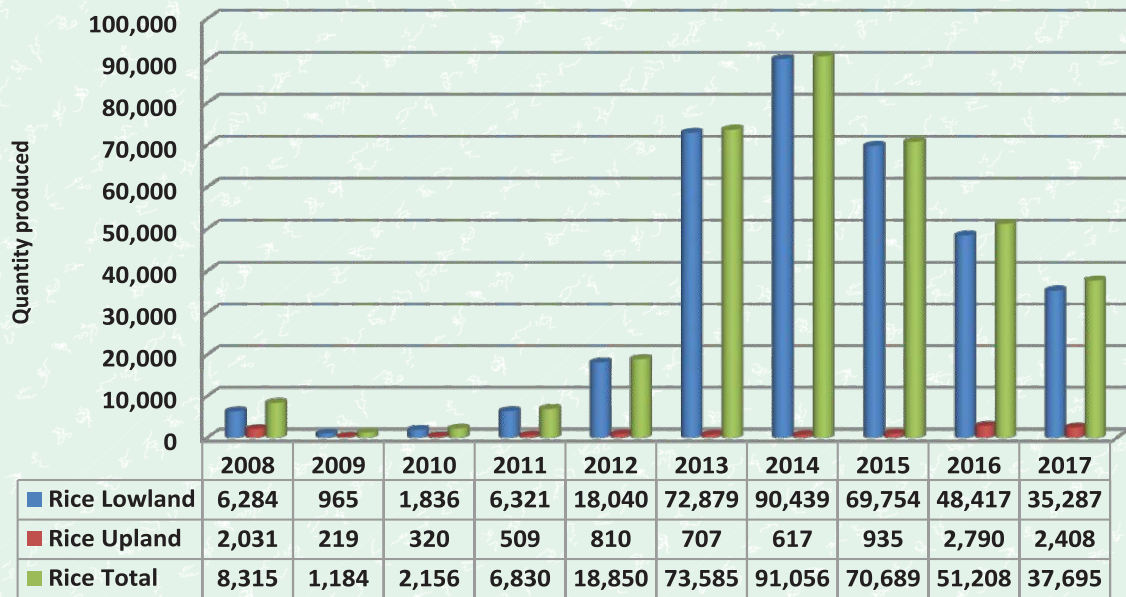
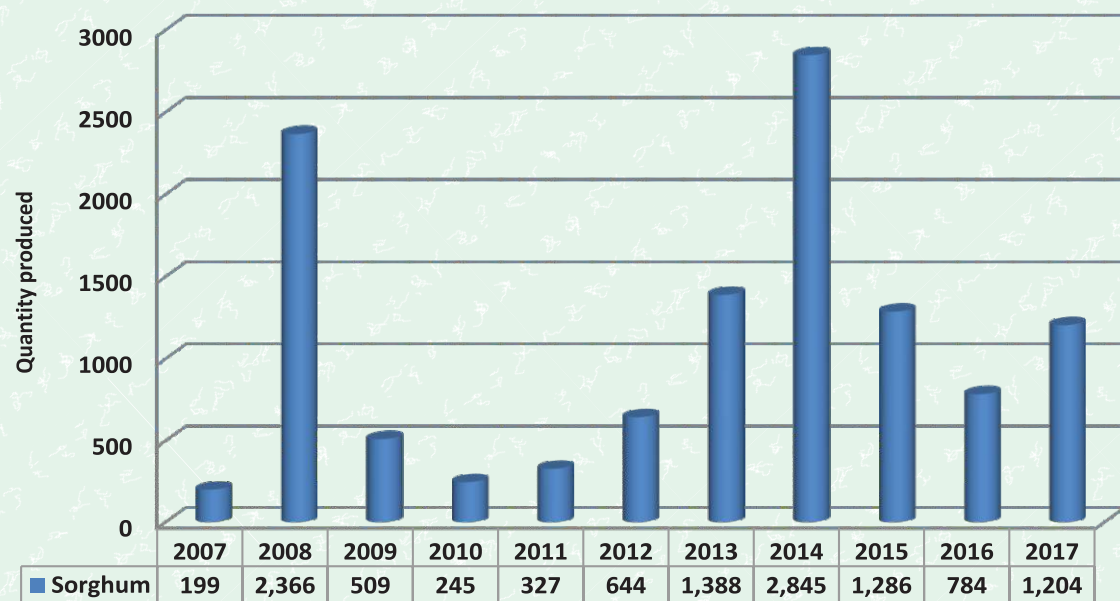


Fig.5: Sorghum certified seed production by year (MT)



2.5.3.1 In-House Training of NASC Technical Staff

During the year, a number of in-house training seminars were organized for staff of the Council by the Department to enlighten and build staff's capacity. This became necessary to update staff of NASC on the activities of the Council, current issues and new information on Research and other activities that concern the seed industry.

2.5.3.2 Excursion visit by students of FCT-Leventis Foundation, Yaba-FCT

Students of Leventis Foundation, an agricultural training institute, Yaba-FCT visited NASC on excursion and requested to be trained on Seed Business and Seed Production. The students were happy for the experience they got and many of them expressed their interest in the Seed Industry as a business at the end of their training programme.



Students of FCT-Leventis being lectured by NASC staff

2.6.0 HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Background

The Human Resources Management Department is a service department, which coordinates the activities of the Council (NASC), in the area of Staff appointment/recruitment, promotion, discipline, welfare and other related matters.

As a result of the reform activities in the Council and the Director General's drive towards the attainment of a Center of Excellence, two additional departments were created in June, 2017: The Human Resources, and the Seed Inspectorate. Mr. Salisu G. Ahmed and Mr. Agboola A.A. were appointed as Ag. Directors of these departments respectively.

2.6.1 Staff Movement:

In 2017, staffs of the Council at various ranks and cadres were moved from one location to the other (department to department and regional offices to the other). Against this backdrop, the following are records of the movement:

2.6.2 Deployment:

Two officers were redeployed to the Headquarters from South-South region and North-West regions. Also nine (9) officers were posted to the Council on secondment.

2.6.3 Appointments:

The following officers were appointed to the various posts;

Mr. Salisu Ahmed (Ag. D (SIDM&CB)	-	Ag. D (HRM)
Mr. Ishiak Khalid (DD (SC)	-	Ag. D (SC & QC)
Mr. A.A. Agboola (DD(QC)	-	Ag. D (Seed Inspectorate)
Mr. Towolawi O.L. (DD (SIDTS)	-	Ag. D (SIDM & CB)

2.6.4 Retirement:

Four Officers of the Council retired from service in 2017.

2.6.5 Promotion:

A total number of one hundred and seventeen (117) staff comprising of eighty (80) senior staff and (37) junior staff were promoted.

2.6.6 Death:

Unfortunately, the Council lost three members of staff in 2017. They are Mrs. F.I Sam- Ali,

Principal Executive Officer (Admin) and two drivers Mr. SarkiAbubakar and Mr. YahayaSanni.

2.6.7 Staff Strength:

The staff strength of the council as at December, 2017 is three hundred and forty Seven (347)

2.7.0 FINANCE AND ACCOUNT DEPARTMENT

The Council started the year on a slow but steady pace and eventually stabilized for its statutory role of seed regulatory functions.

2.7.1 Revenue

The year 2017 in focus was not good for the Council in terms of revenue generation for the Federal Government as the sum of **N20, 677,200.81** was generated as against **N50,077,937.00** generated in the previous year. This was largely due to debts being owed the seed companies which forced some of them out of seed production activities. The revenue generated has been duly remitted to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation through Sub-Treasurer of the Federation.

2.7.2 Overhead

The allocation received under recurrent expenditure head for the year was **N19, 717,605.76** as against **N25, 458,387.00** in the year 2016. This was grossly inadequate to address the numerous challenges facing the council. However, the closing balance of **N149, 543.29** paid back to chest at the end of closure.

2.7.3 Capital

The total sum of **N493, 724,861.34** was received as capital allocation for the year 2017

2.7.4 Audit Report

The External Auditors, Olanrenwaju Ogunye & Co. is still the Auditor for the Council

2.8.0 LEGAL UNIT

The Legal Unit of the Council is committed to ensure the delivery of quality legal services, fairly, honestly, effectively, promptly, transparently and diligently in achieving the set goals in the Council. The Unit recorded the following achievements in 2017:

- Responsible for keeping the books and proper records of proceedings and the correspondences of the Top Management.
- Memoranda of Understanding between the Council and some foreign and local organizations were prepared and recently signed by the Council.
- Several legal opinions were promptly rendered to the Council.
- The Council's draft amendment Bill now with the National Assembly was vetted by the Unit "An Act to Repeal and Re-enact the NASC Bill No. 72 of 1992 and for other related matters".
- Prosecution of two cases at the Magistrate Courts in FCT is presently on-going.
- The Unit successfully prosecuted the case instituted at Kano against fake seed dealers.
- The Unit following directives commenced the process of securing title deed in respect of land allotted to the Council by Gombe state government at Gombe.

Government rules and regulations are strictly followed in the performance of the functions of the Unit.

Annex 1: Companies: Certified seed production, 2017 (MT)

S/N	Company Name	Maize Hybrid	Maize OPV	Rice Lowland	Rice Upland	Sorghum	Mill et	Wheat	Cowpea	Soybean	Groundnut	Cotton	Sesame	Total
1	A.A.Albasu LTD		3,306	1,000	190	42				24				4,562
2	Abenigo LTD			51										51
3	Abmye Global LTD		93	136	25	2					10			265
4	Agro Nurseries LTD			120										120
5	Akon Associates LTD			116		9				14				139
6	Al-Gazaki Agric. LTD		105											105
7	Alheri Seed LTD		191	210										401
8	Alhusahur Nig. LTD		500	360										860
9	Alluvial Seeds			60										60
10	AL-Tambuawawi LTD		4	6		6				1				17
11	Alyusad Seed Farms			512										512
12	Annoor Seeds LTD		1,757											1,757
13	Arziki Seeds LTD			160										160
14	Asma'u Seed Ltd		215											215
15	Atafi Seeds LTD			190										190
16	Aya Seed LTD		41											41
17	Babmus Agro Ventures			90										90
18	Bagauda Farms LTD		89	238										327
19	Bawan Allah Seed LTD			401										401
20	BDU Seed Farms LTD		90	143		1	1		1	6	8			249
21	BORA Agro (IAR&T)		39											39
22	Champion Seeds LTD		150	90	100					20				360
23	Chimande Seeds LTD			430										430
24	Da-AllGreen Seeds LTD		507	851	22	87				30			1	1,498
25	Dai Concept Nig. LTD			378										378
26	EBSU Agribiz Ent Ltd			78	8									86
27	EFAB Block Seed LTD					2	40		14					56
28	Ella Agro LTD			415										415
29	Esmot Seeds Nig. LTD		250	517										767
30	Farm Best Agro LTD		250	989		6	19				5			1,269
31	Farmlink Agro Ventures			170										170
32	Fast Growing Seeds LTD		617	451										1,068
33	FeedAll Seeds LTD		27											27
34	Feldan Integrated LTD			85						29				114
35	First Let Farms		89	20										109
36	Fountain Agric. LTD		18											18

Annex 1: Companies: Certified seed production, 2017 (MT)

S/N	Company Name	Maize Hybrid	Maize OPV	Rice Lowland	Rice Upland	Sorghum	Mill et	Wheat	Cowpea	Soybean	Groundnut	Cotton	Sesame	Total
37	Gold Agric. Nig. LTD		747	135	108	50			15	28				1,083
38	Goro Seeds LTD		4	2,044										2,048
39	Green Agric. West Africa		43	857	68	6								973
40	Green Gold LTD		1		1				0					2
41	Green Pal Global LTD		54	71		15	60						6	205
42	Happy Seeds LTD			330										330
43	Inter-Harvest Seed LTD		39											39
44	ISWA Integrated LTD		90	163										253
45	ITN Hydromaks LTD		575	570	188									1,333
46	Iyadalim Global Seeds		179	90	77	12								358
47	J.A.K. Global Seed LTD		334	741	50									1,125
48	Jamy Nagari LTD		2,889	2,689	581									6,159
49	John-Daveson Project			78						51				129
50	Jomas Seeds LTD		177	102	81	12				8				380
51	Jordan Seeds LTD			446										446
52	Khairriyya Seeds LTD		256											256
53	Kinjay Global Ventures		304	170										474
54	Kojoli Seeds LTD			962	58									1,021
55	Lumiere Seeds LTD			342										342
56	Madudan Seed Farms			286										286
57	Maina Seeds LTD		662	345		69	50		28	35	37			1,226
58	Manoma Seeds LTD	11	76	15	3	1				5	2			111
59	Maslaha Seeds LTD	167	573	281	12		57							1,089
60	Masrotun Global		41	17	13	1	1		1	6	1			81
61	Mazeed Seeds LTD		588	340										928
62	M'Billa Farm LTD		55											55
63	MCLord Seeds LTD			356										356
64	Meltdown Seeds LTD		213	303										515
65	MOSANTO Seed LTD	129								*				129
66	M-Root Seeds LTD		82	167					*		*	*		249
67	Nabaichi Seed LTD		393	688		17								1,098
68	Nagari Seeds LTD	302	25	680										1,007
69	Nagarta Agrikonsult			262										262
70	Nagogo Seeds LTD		691			103								794

Annex 1: Companies: Certified seed production, 2017 (MT)

S/N	Company Name	Maize Hybrid	Maize OPV	Rice Lowland	Rice Upland	Sorghum	Mill et	Wheat	Cowpea	Soybean	Groundnut	Cotton	Sesame	Total
71	NI'IMA Seeds LTD		416	620										1,036
72	Nwabudo Agro & Input			268										268
73	Nyam Agro Ventures		285	735	70	60				23				1,173
74	Olam LTD									176				176
75	Phenerow Seeds LTD			572										572
76	Premier Seed LTD	1,762	984	1,204	2	156		101	9	106				4,323
77	Pride Agric. Int. Farms		65			13			3	6				86
78	Rahama Seeds LTD		232	972										1,204
79	Raudah Int. Agro. Allied			214										214
80	Romary Venture LTD		70	614	109				1	1				795
81	SA'A Seeds LTD		63											63
82	Salami Alada Seeds LTD		219	105	106	12								441
83	Salshimda Seed LTD		13	15	126					5				159
84	Samlak Nig. LTD		91						1	25				117
85	Sanco Dynamic Global		73	109										182
86	Savannah Seeds LTD		414	2,039	400									2,853
87	Seed Co Nig. LTD	645												645
88	Seed Innovation		5	31										35
89	Seed Project LTD		138	479	2		3							622
90	Semence Agricole LTD			262										262
91	Sia Farms Nig. LTD		1,039	652		145	22							1,857
92	So-Fairs Global LTD			418										418
93	Sovenire Seeds LTD		22	50										72
94	Soy Seed LTD			109										109
95	Strategic Seeds LTD			357										357
96	Tago Agro Ventures			252										252
97	Tecni Seed LTD	2	258	456		32	5			4	8			764
98	Tirendin Farms LTD			334										334
99	Tukunyar Gwari LTD		304	240										544
100	Ultimate Food LTD		101	303										405
101	Value Seeds LTD		2,938	211		166	28			15				3,358
102	Vitae Seeds LTD			1,003										1,003
103	WACOT Seeds	15	2,529							328		66		2,938
104	Wadata Global LTD		873	201		23				8				1,105
105	Wadtare Seeds LTD		100	68		146								314
106	ZEE Seeds		140	327						15				482
	Total	3,033	28,795	35,017	2,399	1,192	285	101	74	968	70	66	7	72,005



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