

Access to Quality Seeds Report

A Report On the Level of Access to Quality Seeds by
Small Scale Farmers in Kaduna, Kano and Jigawa States.

*By National Agricultural Seed Advocacy Group
Between October and November 2018*



REBOOT

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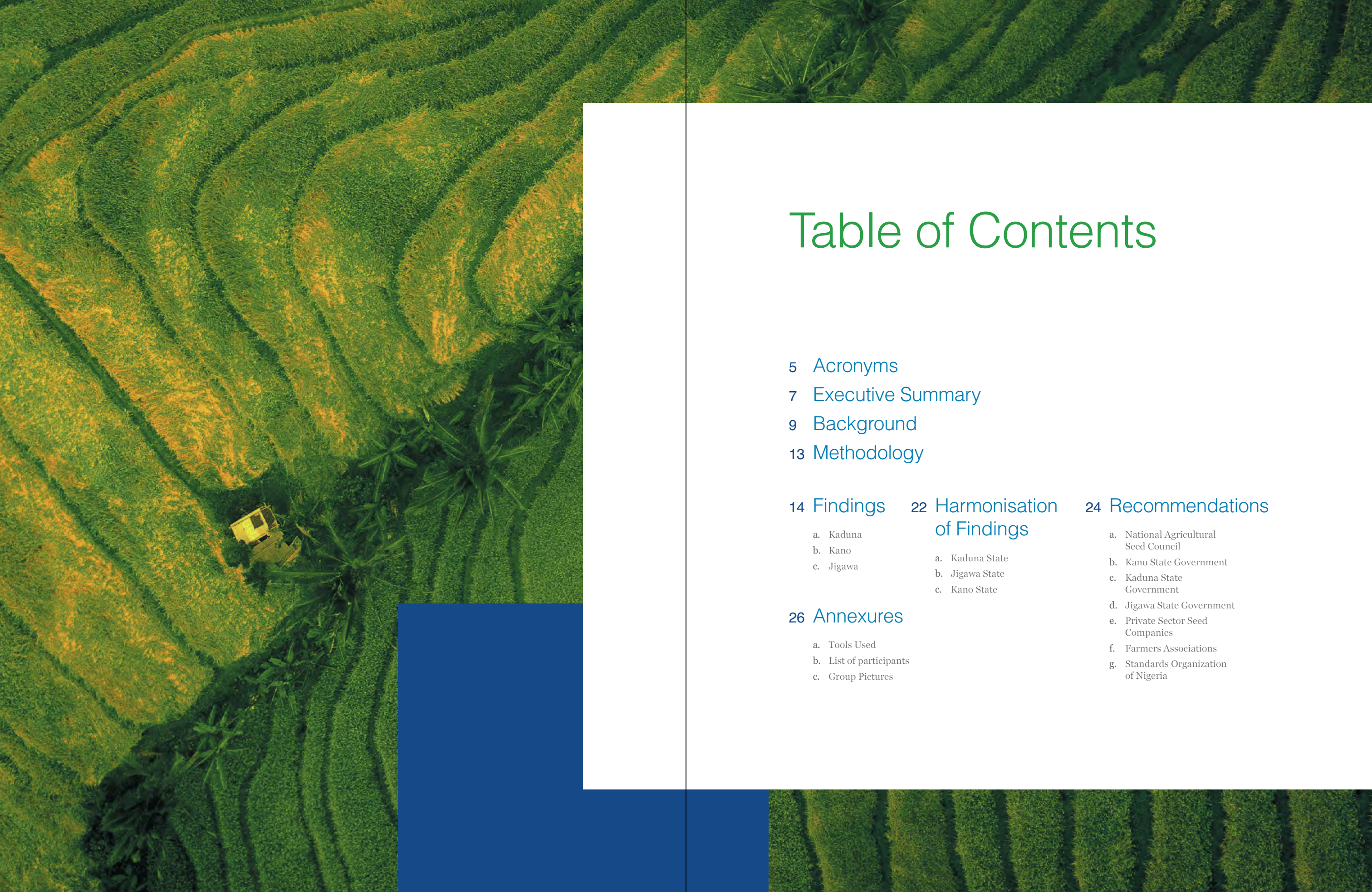


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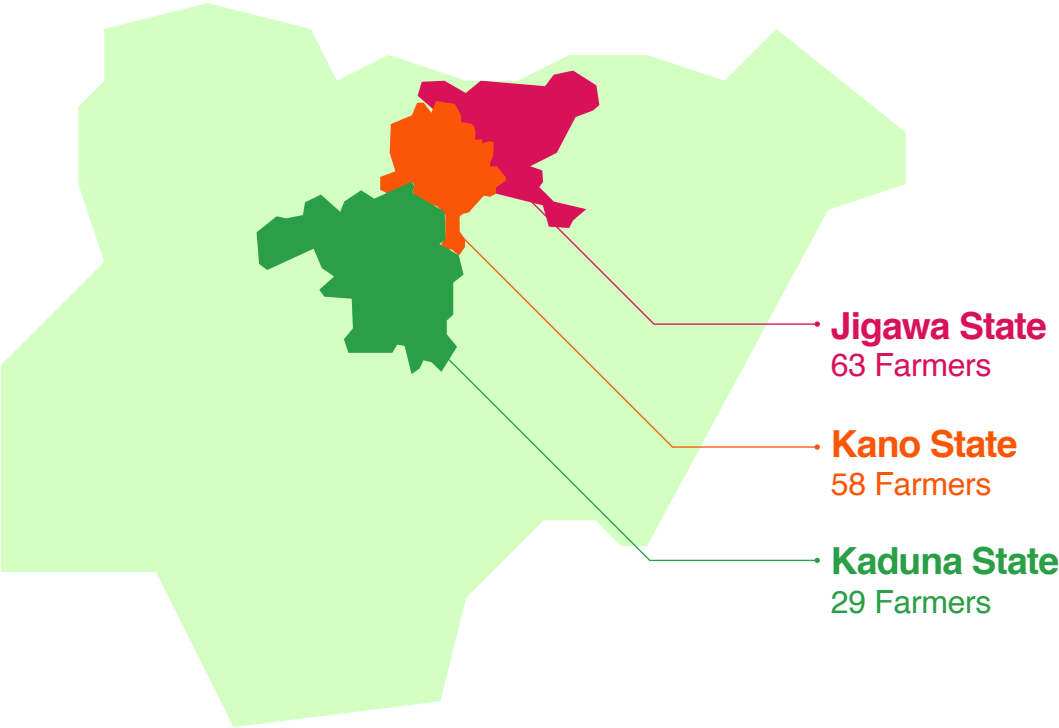
Acronyms

AFAN	All Farmers Association of Nigeria
ECP	Engaged Citizens Pillar
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
NASC	National Agricultural Seeds Council
NSAG	National Seeds Advocacy Group
PERL	Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn
PSC	Private Seeds Companies
PSS	Private Seeds Sector
SHFs	Smallholder Farmers
SHL	Seed Helpline
SON	Standard Organization of Nigeria

Quick Data



Farmers agreed that government should prioritize
5 crops



Purpose

- ▶ To assess present level of timely access to quality seeds for smallholder farmers.
- ▶ To shape advocacy campaign for the removal of blockages to accessing quality seeds.

Top Findings

- ▶ Farmers have little or no information on how to differentiate variety of seeds.
- ▶ Farmers have limited knowledge of the National Agricultural Seed Council and the council farmer's helpline.

Executive Summary

Smallholder farming is the bedrock of the non-oil export sector of the Nigerian economy accounting for over 70% of all farming activities, and for over 70% of the jobs created in the last three years in the country¹. Unfortunately, however, smallholder farmers (SHFs) are still faced with the most basic of challenges namely - timely access to quality seeds².

This report and the activities leading up to it were painstakingly undertaken with a view to gathering evidence on present levels of timely access to quality seeds for smallholder farmers in the states of Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa, evidence that will inform and shape advocacy campaigns for the removal of blockages to accessing quality seeds for farmers in the states.

The report highlights information obtained from select smallholder farmers in the states on their level of understanding of the place and need for quality seeds, level of access to quality seeds and extent to which they are involved in decision making on issues bothering on seed variety, pricing, quality and quantity either to be procured by state governments or supplied for sale by seed companies operating in the States. It also collects evidence on smallholder farmer's knowledge of and interactions with the National Agricultural Seeds Council and its farmer's helpline.

The focus group discussions had in attendance across the three (3) states, farmer's associations across the five (5) priority crops for each of the states, participant's nominations were solicited and received from both state and non-state actors, this was done to allow

70%

Smallholder farming accounts for over 70% of the jobs created in the last three years in Nigeria and for over 70% of all farming activities of the Nigerian economy.

¹ Contribution of Agriculture to Economic Growth in Nigeria: Tolulope Odetola and Chinonso Etumnu; 2013 http://www.aaawe.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Tolulope_paper_mod.pdf
² The Struggle Of Farmers In Nigerian Agriculture: <https://efarms.com.ng/blogs/2018/05/05/farmers-struggle-agriculture/>

for balanced representations from major stakeholders in the states. The participant's age ranged from twenty-eight (28) to sixty-five (65) years and those who have been engaged in smallholder farming in the states for a minimum of three (3) years. Gender considerations was also a top priority and participants were selected from across each of the states to allow for diversity of experiences and responses.

The findings while not entirely similar across the states presented a case of majority of the participants across the three (3) states largely unable to source the exact variety of seeds they need as at when they need same, have little or no information on how to differentiate quality seeds from grains when sourcing same from private seeds companies/government sales outlets, do not play any significant role in determining what quality, quantity and pricing for seeds that will be supplied and sold in their states.

Smallholder farmers across the states surprisingly, have very limited knowledge of the existence and activities of the National Agricultural Seed Council and the council's farmer's helpline. What stood out as differing across the three (3) states is the roles played by each of the states in helping farmers access quality seeds, while the Jigawa state government has consistently used its inputs supply company to source and supply agricultural seeds to farmers in the state, the Kano State Agricultural Inputs Supply Company presently isn't sourcing and supplying agricultural seeds for farmers in the state and in Kaduna state, the present administration isn't supporting farmers to access agricultural seeds in the state.

The report presents a number of recommendations in response to smallholder farmer's challenges to accessing quality agricultural seeds for the three states, the recommendations are specifically directed to each of the state governments and other major stakeholders and will form the basis for future engagements by the National Advocacy Group with the identified stakeholders in the states.



Background

The Nigeria economy at post and pre-independence was one heavily reliant on productivity from agriculture sector for its revenue earnings. This remained the case until the oil boom era when earnings from crude oil exploration, refining and sales toppled that from the agriculture sector and gradually, focus tilted from the agriculture sector to the oil sector beginning from the 80s.

The oil boom which took focus and attention away from the agriculture sector to the oil industry not only seems to be weaning off but is indeed weaning off. Oil prices has witnessed tremendous ups and down in the last two years like never imagined a decade ago, rising to as much as \$110 per barrel between 2013-2015 and dropping to as little as \$50 per barrel between 2016-2017³. This increasing unreliability of earnings from the sector has brought back focus and attention to the agriculture sector by not only the Nigerian government but also development partners and Nigerians at large.

The challenges with relying on the oil sector for economic development in Nigeria isn't just on the increasing price fluctuations in the international oil market but more importantly, the increasing development of alternatives to crude oil and rapidly decreasing demand for same. This coupled with projections that within the next 30-50 years, over 50% of the entire Niger Delta (crude oil is primarily sourced from the region) will be under water owing to the future impacts of climate change⁴. There appears to be no better time to place more emphasis on sustainably developing the agriculture sector.

50%

Over 50% of the entire Niger Delta, where crude oil is primarily sourced, will be under water owing to the future impacts of climate change.

³ The Case For Peak Oil: Ron Petterson; 2015 <http://peakoilbarrel.com/the-case-for-peak-oil/>

⁴ Uyigue, E.;Agho, M. Coping with Climate Change and Environmental Degradation in the Nigeria Delta of Southern Nigeria; Community Research and Development Centre (CREDC): Abuja, Nigeria 2007

Developing the agriculture sector in Nigeria, however, requires that stakeholders commit to finding best-fit approaches to sustainably developing the sector. This will include identifying existing and future challenges the sector will be faced with and working assiduously to addressing same. For this reason, PERL has been working with the National Agricultural Seeds Advocacy Group to identify the blockages farmers are faced with in sourcing and using quality seeds a key problem affecting small scale farmers in Nigeria. The problem of farmers' timely access to good quality seeds has direct implications on farmers' earning including their potential and general wellbeing. Various engagements and researches undertaken by the National Agricultural Seeds Advocacy Group with support from PERL showed that farmers have challenges in identifying certified seeds, sources of good quality seeds, accessing good quality seeds, the quantity and when desired, as well as in applying good agronomy practices in seed storage and usage.

It is for this reason that the National Seeds Advocacy Group (NSAG) with support from PERL-ECP has been engaging with smallholder farmers across several states in Nigeria with particular emphasis on farmers in the North Western states of Jigawa, Kano and Kaduna respectively. The engagements are geared towards identifying blockages to sourcing and using quality seeds by smallholder farmers in these States and working with relevant stakeholders to address the blockages.

The responsibility of the Seeds Advocacy Group was to generate evidence on the nature and extent of challenges faced by smallholder farmers in identifying quality seeds from adulterated seeds, determining best source(s) for their seeds requirements, sourcing exact quality/quantity needed and their inclusion in policy decisions on issues relating to sourcing and delivering seeds to farmers in the three pilot States., To achieve this, the advocacy group scheduled and held two evidence based gathering focus group discussion sessions in Jigawa and Kano States respectively, bringing in farmers from both States and Kaduna.





Methodology

A number of methods and processes were used to gather information for the report. They include dialogue, state selection, focus group discussion (FGD), participant's selection, and moderation techniques.

The three States of Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa were selected for the exercise based on the fact that they are PERL project States and are heavy food producers in the North West of the country. The participants involved in the focus group discussions facilitated by PERL-ECP were selected from identified farmer's organisations engaging in farming on three priority crops in the three States.

Purposive sampling technique was used in both Jigawa and Kano States. Facilitators were also used to engage participants who were in three groups in the conversations to elicit answers from the questions developed using the FGD guide. There were note takers who made sure that the responses from participants were properly documented.

In Jigawa State, a total of sixty-three (63) farmers participated in the focus group discussion session, forty (40) of which were men and twenty-three (23) women. In Kano State, Fifty-Eight (58) farmers which comprised forty (40) men and eighteen (18) women participated in the focus group discussion while twenty-nine (29), which include eleven (11) women and eighteen (18) men participated in Kaduna State. In all, a total of One Hundred and Fifty (150) farmers participated in the focus group discussion sessions.

Participants across the three States were between the age of twenty-eight (28) and sixty-five (65) years and have been engaged in smallholder farming for a minimum of three (3) years.

Jigawa State



Kano State

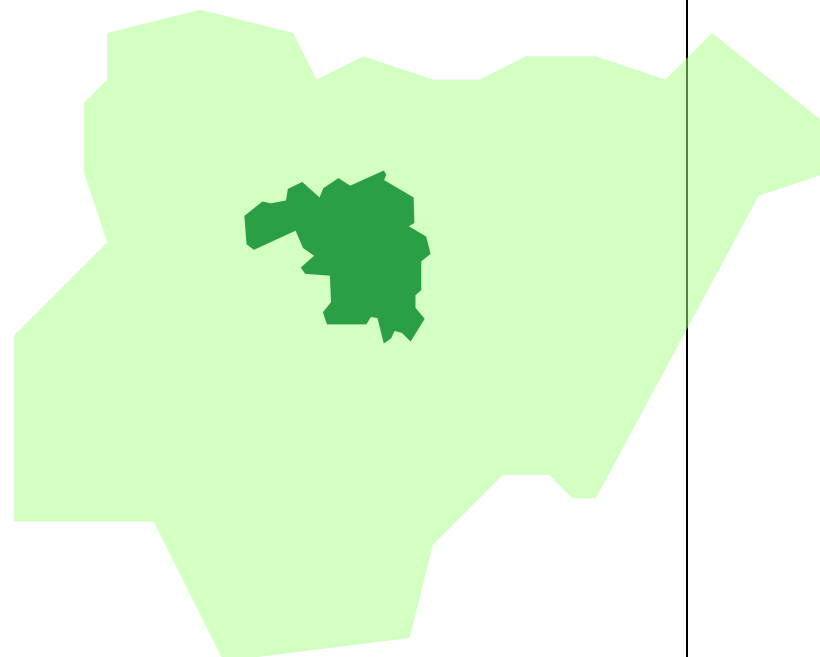


Kaduna State



Findings

Kaduna State



1. Smallholder Farmers' Understanding of Importance of Using Certified Agricultural Seeds

The participants drawn from Kaduna State agreed there is a difference between using certified quality seeds and ordinary grains, but they have no way of telling the difference between grains and certified quality seeds by physical examination. Their knowledge is limited to knowing what output expectations they have on both but can't tell the difference between both until after harvest. The participants responses indicated that they require some form of testing of seeds supplied by seed companies to determine if the seeds are of good quality or substandard. This is especially as they have had to contend with buying fake/substandard seeds from seed companies and their agents.

Discussions with the farmer groups from Kaduna revealed that farmers are unable to source the exact quantity and variety of seeds they needed for the 2018 planting season both from the seed companies and other sales outlets. The available varieties are said to be priced above the reach of the farmers while issues of mistrust exist between farmers and the seed companies.

2. Level of Access to Quality Seeds in 2018 Farming Season

The participants disclosed that the Kaduna State government does not play any active role in procuring quality seeds for farmers instead, farmers source their seeds from a combination of grains especially from previous harvest and seed companies in the State.

3. Voice and Participation in Seed Procurement Processes

The participants drawn from Kaduna State agreed there is a difference between using certified quality seeds and ordinary grains, but they have no way of telling the difference between grains and certified quality seeds by physical examination. Their knowledge is limited to knowing what output expectations they have on both

but can't tell the difference between both until after harvest. The participants responses indicated that they require some form of testing of seeds supplied by seed companies to determine if the seeds are of good quality or substandard. This is especially as they have had to contend with buying fake/substandard seeds from seed companies and their agents.

4. Engagement with NASC State representatives, Seed Helpline and Demonstration Plots

The farmers who participated in the focus group discussion affirmed they have not had any encounter with the representatives of the National Seed Council deployed to the State. Additionally, responses from the farmers is to the effect that they are unaware of the seed helplines (SH) provided by the Council through which their complaints can be addressed. Attempts to reach the helplines in the cause of the focus group discussions by the participating farmers were to no avail as the lines could not be reached.

5. Engagement with Seed Private Sectors, Local Representatives, Extensions Services and Partnerships

The participants affirmed that they are aware of the existence of private seed companies (PSC) in Kaduna State but their efforts to engage with the seed companies had been fruitless as they often do not receive feedback from complaints and enquiries to the seed companies. The general consensus of the participants is that of a shrinking space for engagement with seed private sector actors in the State.

The participants strongly maintained their position to the effect that they have not had any prior engagements with seed companies or their local representatives in the State before the supply of seeds for planting seasons. According to the farmers, this development has led to a situ-

ation where their peculiar needs are not taken into consideration by the seed companies.

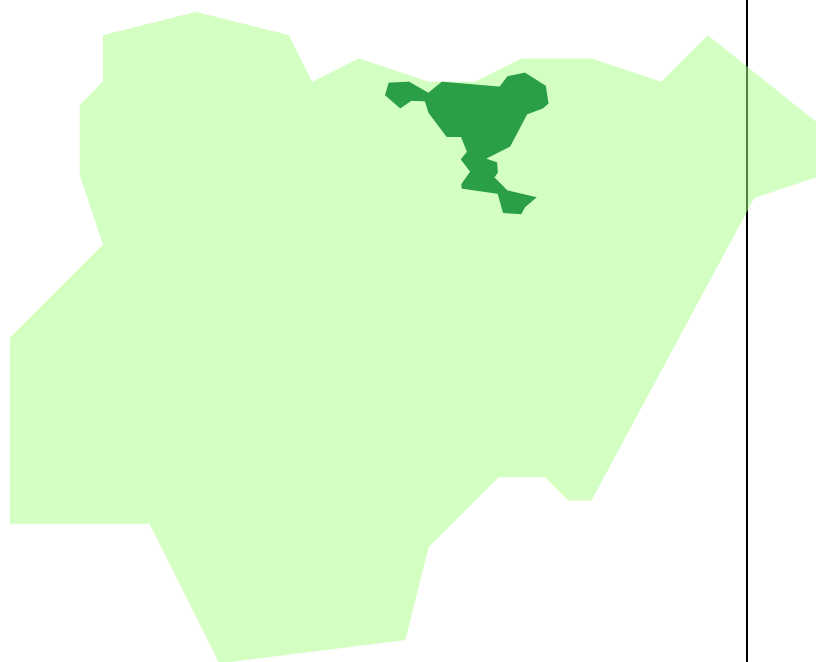
6. Membership and Participation in Farmers' Platforms

The participants indicated active participation in existing farmers associations in the State and expressed mixed levels of satisfaction with the activities of the associations. However, they unanimously agreed that the associations need to play more active roles in resolving the incessant clashes between livestock and crop farmers in the State.

The participants believed that the existing associations should strive to bridge the gap between government and smallholder farmers especially on issues relating to policy design, implementation and budgeting.



Jigawa State



1. Smallholder Farmers' Understanding of Importance of Using Certified Agricultural Seeds

The farmer participants drawn from Jigawa State indicated that they have an idea of the difference between using quality seeds and ordinary grains in terms of the yields but they have no way of telling the difference between grains and quality seeds on face value. Their knowledge is limited to knowing what output expectations they have on both but can't tell the difference between both until after harvest.

The participants agreed that they require some form of testing of seeds supplied by the State input supply company and private seed companies to determine if the seeds are of good quality or substandard. This is especially as they have had to contend with buying fake/substandard seeds from the State inputs supply company as well as the existing private seed companies and their agents.

40%

Over 40% of the participants from Jigawa State had to rely on grains stored from previous harvest for cultivation in the 2018 planting season.

Responses from the participants indicates that they are greatly unsatisfied with the pricing, variety, quality and quantity of seeds made available for their use during the 2018 planting season.

The participants were unanimous on their inability to source the precise variety of seeds they require both from the State input supply company and private seed companies including other sales outlets in the State. The farmers reported that this situation has left them with no alternative than to buy the variety available which barely meets their planting needs.

2. Level of Access to Quality Seeds in 2018 Farming Season

Over 40% of the participants from Jigawa State said they had to rely on grains stored from previous harvest for cultivation in the 2018 planting season. They expressed strong reservation and frustration with their level of access to quality seeds and ability to source the exact variety of seeds required in the planting season.

3. Voice and Participation in Seed Procurement Processes

The participants from Jigawa State unanimously agreed that they have never been involved in key decisions relating to variety, pricing, quality and quantity of seeds provided yearly by the State agricultural inputs supply company.

4. Engagement with NASC State representatives, Seed Helplines & Demonstration Plots

The participating farmers from the State said they have no knowledge of neither the existence nor understand the roles/responsibilities of the Seed Council. The farmers also disclosed that they have not had any encounter with the Council's representatives in the State.

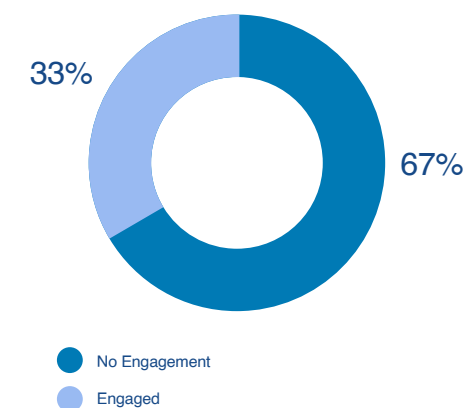
The participants stated that they are not aware of the farmer's helpline provided by the Seed Council prior to the focus group discussion with the National Seed Advocacy Group. In view of this, the facilitators provided the helpline number and monitored calls put through to the line by the participants. The feedback received from calls to the helpline indicates that the information sought from the helpline weren't readily available while the call rates are higher than conventional call rates.

5. Engagement with Private Sector, Local Representatives, Extensions Services and Partnerships

Majority of the participating farmers agreed that they are aware of the existence of private sector seed companies in the State. However, they are not satisfied with the services of the private seed companies in terms of the quality of seeds being supplied. The farmers stated that they have made several attempts at engaging seed companies in determining variety, pricing, quality and quantity of seeds to be produced/supplied in the state, however, have not been successful with the engagement. The farmers

expected outcome is for the seed companies reflect the choice of farmers in determining what variety, pricing, quality and quantity. The outcome expected by the farmers is for the seed companies to engage with them prior to determining what quality, pricing, quantity and variety to be produced.

Farmers Engagement with Private Seed Companies, Jigawa State, October 29th, 2018



From the above, 67% of the participating farmers have had engagements with seed companies or their local representatives in the State while 33 percent of the participants indicated that they have not had any engagements with seed companies/ representatives in the State. The farmers were concerned that the seed companies do not consult them to determine what their needs are in terms of the variety, quality and quantity of seeds required prior to supply.

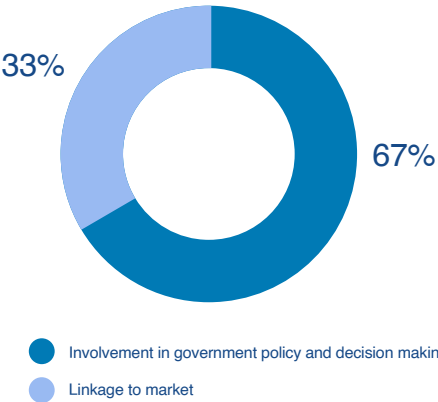
6. Membership and Participation in Farmers' Platforms

The participants indicated active participation in existing farmers associations in the State and expressed mixed levels of satisfaction with the activities of the associations. However, majority agreed that the associations need to play more active roles in helping farmers engage with State actors on policy and budgeting issues.



The farmers also indicated that the existing associations such as All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN) should also help them access more profitable markets.

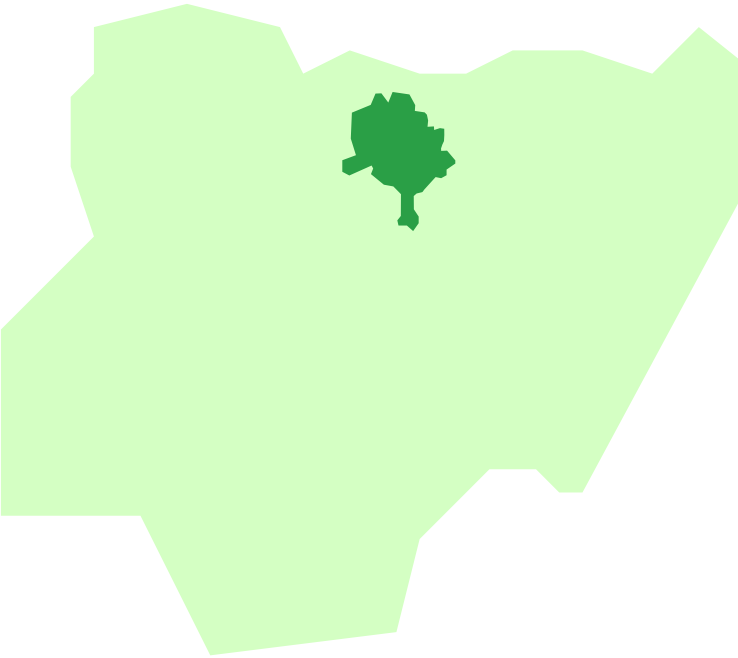
Farmers Suggestions on Associations Role, Jigawa State, October 29th, 2018



The above figure indicates that 67 percent of participants desire that the existing farmer's associations facilitate engagement with State actors on policy articulation and implementation while 33% want the associations to address the challenge of access to viable markets.



Kano State



1. Smallholder Farmers' Understanding of Importance of Using Certified Agricultural Seeds

The participating farmers from Kano State confirmed they are aware of the difference between using quality seeds and ordinary grains, but they have no way of telling the difference between grains and quality seeds on physical examination. A section of the farmers stated that they accept whatever they get from government sources as quality seeds, but others say they rely more on grains from previous harvest, while the rest rely on seeds supplied by seed companies.

The participants agreed that they require some form of testing of seeds supplied by the seed companies to determine if the seeds are of good quality or substandard. This is especially as they have had to contend with buying fake/substandard seeds from the seed companies and their agents.

50%

Over 50% of the participants from Kano State had to rely on grains stored from previous harvest for cultivation in the 2018 planting season.

2. Level of Access to Quality Seeds in 2018 Farming Season

Over 50% of the participants from Kano State provided responses to the effect that they had to rely majorly on grains from previous harvest for planting in the 2018 season. They expressed dissatisfaction with the poor level of access to quality seeds in 2018 and their inability to source the exact seed varieties required in the year.

The participants also indicated that they are hardly able to source their seed from one single

source and have little or no supply from the State agricultural input supply company. They also expressed displeasure over pricing, variety, quality and quantity of seeds available for planting in the 2018 wet season.

The general consensus from the participants indicates that farmers in Kano State finds it difficult to source the exact variety of seeds they need while the available varieties are often priced above the reach of the farmers.

The participants expressed the view that they are un-

able to source the exact variety of seeds they require, both from the seed companies and other sales outlets in the State. Consequently, they had to buy the available variety which could barely meet their needs.

3. Voice and Participation in Seed Procurement Processes

The participating farmers disclosed that they do not play any role in determining variety, pricing, quality and quantity of seeds to be produced and distributed in the State to farmers during planting seasons. They however, stated that under the Anchor Borrowers Programme, farmer associations were consulted on pricing for inputs to be supplied but the agreements reached were not reflected in the programme implementation.

The participants also disclosed that they have not had any engagement with the State inputs supply company and seed companies operating in the State in determining what variety, pricing, quality and quantity of seeds needed. The farmers belief their exclusion from this process has resulted in seed companies supplying seed varieties in quantities and prices that does not meet their expectations.

4. Engagement with NASC State representatives, Seed Helplines & Demonstration Plots

Most of the participants submitted that they have no knowledge of the existence, roles or responsibilities of the National Seeds Council and never had any engagement in the past with the Council's representatives in the State.

The participants also reported that prior to their engagement with the National Agricultural Seeds Advocacy Group in the cause of the focus group discussion, they are not aware of the existence of the farmer's helpline. To this effect, the facilitators provided the helpline numbers and also monitored the calls put through to it

by the participants to demonstrate the existence and effectiveness of the helpline, but none of the attempts were successful as the call centre number could not be reached.

5. Engagement with Private Sector, Local Representatives, Extensions Services and Partnerships

On this issue, the participants admitted that they are very much aware of the existence of the seed companies and have made efforts to engage with the seed companies on issues relating to variety, quality, quantity and pricing of seeds in the state though without positive results. Further responses from the participants on this issue is suggestive of a shrinking space for engagement with private sector actors in Kano State.

6. Membership and Participation in Farmers' Platforms

The farmers indicated that they actively participate in the existing farmers associations in Kano State but expressed mixed levels of satisfaction with the activities of these associations. They were unanimous on the need for the associations to play more critical and active role in improving farmer's timely access to quality seeds.

The participants desire that the existing associations bridge the gap between government and smallholder farmers especially on issues relating to policy design, implementation and budgeting in the State.



Harmonisation Of Findings

1. Smallholder Farmers' Understanding of Importance of Using Certified Agricultural Seeds

Across the three States, it is clear that the participating farmers understand the difference in yield from planting quality seeds and ordinary grains but have no means of differentiating between quality seeds and grains, especially when buying either from the state inputs supply company or from private seed companies.

50%

Over 50% of the participants from Jigawa State indicated that they have had engagements with private sector seed companies and their representatives.

2. Level of Access to Quality Seeds in 2018 Farming Season

The participants from the three States all indicated that they are not able to access the exact seed varieties they needed in a planting season as, the markets are often flooded with varieties that does not meet their expectations on standard. It was also a common challenge for the participants to source quality seeds for planting in 2018.

33%

While 33% from Kano and Kaduna States said they have not had any engagement with private sector seed companies or their representatives.

3. Voice and Participation in Seed Procurement Processes

Responding to this issue, the participants from the respective States alluded that they do not play any role in determining what seeds variety, quality and quantity that should be procured. In Jigawa State for example, the only information available to farmers is when the seeds are ready for purchase from the state input supply company.

4. Engagement with National Agricultural Seed Council, State Office representatives, Seed helpline and Demonstration Plots

From across the States, the participants maintained that they have never had any prior engagement with NASC or heard of the farmer's helpline. Attempts to reach the helpline was only successful for Jigawa participants though the information sought via interaction with the call centre agent wasn't readily available and haven't still reached the participants via the email addresses they provided the agent upon request.

5. Engagement with Private Sector, Local Seed Company Representatives, Extensions Services

Over 50% of the participants from Jigawa State indicated that they have had engagements with private sector seed companies and their representatives while 33 percent from Kano and Kaduna States said they have not had any engagement with private sector seed companies or their representatives.

6. Membership and Participation in Farmers' Platforms

The participants from across the three states indicated they belong to and participate effectively in the different farmers' associations and continuously use the platforms provided by the associations to advance their cause.



Recommendations

Farmer associations need to be strengthened and supported by development partners to better engage with state and non-state actors in the seed production and distribution system, not only in the focal states of this report, but across all states.

Private sector seed production companies are urged to improve on their distribution mechanism across the states and should work with farmer associations on best storage practices for seeds supplied them.

Private sector seed companies should create a medium for engagement with farmers for feedback and improvement.

National Agricultural Seeds Council

1. Strengthen its regulatory competencies with a view to address the proliferation of adulterated and substandard seeds in circulation.
2. Establish partnership with other stakeholders to establish minimum acceptable standards of seed to be produced and put into circulation for purchase by farmers.
3. Address the open sale of seeds in markets across states in Nigeria.
4. Enable a complaints redress mechanism that will provide a platform through which farmers associations can reach it with complaints on purchase of substandard seeds.
5. Create more awareness on its activities and improve usability of its farmer's helpline.

Kano State Government

1. Establish framework for sustainable partnership with NASC and other stakeholders in the seeds industry with a view to addressing challenges faced by smallholder farmers in sourcing agricultural seeds.
2. Develop a seeds calendar and baseline of agricultural seeds need in the state to help address timeliness and sufficiency of seeds supply in the state.
3. Resuscitate the seed processing facility at Kadawa that has capacity to process 120 tons and fitted to process majority of seeds in need by smallholder farmers in the state.
4. Support smallholder farmers with soil mapping exercises with a view to providing information on what seeds are best for given farmlands.
5. Step up work on the agricultural seeds processing facility it had embarked upon early 2018 to help with seeds processing and testing in the State.
6. Strengthen farmers' associations in the State and establish a virile line of communication between the state government and farmers.
7. Incorporate provision of climate friendly seeds for smallholder farmers in the state.

Kaduna State Government

1. Establish framework for sustainable partnership with NASC and other stakeholders in the seeds industry with a view to addressing challenges faced by smallholder farmers in sourcing agricultural seeds.

2. Develop a seeds calendar and baseline of agricultural seeds need in the State to help address timeliness and sufficiency of seeds supply in the state.
3. Establish an agricultural seeds processing facility to help with seeds processing and testing in the state and shield farmers from impacts of using substandard seeds.
4. Strengthen farmers' associations in the state and establish a virile line of communication between the state government and farmers.

Jigawa State Government

1. Establish framework for sustainable partnership with NASC and other stakeholders in the seeds industry with a view to addressing challenges faced by smallholder farmers in sourcing agricultural seeds.
2. Develop a seeds calendar and baseline of agricultural seeds need in the state to help address timeliness and sufficiency of seeds supply in the state.
3. Strengthen farmers' associations in the state and establish a virile line of communication between the state government and farmers.
4. Partner with the International Fund for Agricultural Development on its community seed production with a view to deepening the initiative and support farmers' association to replicate the initiative.
5. Support smallholder farmers with soil mapping exercises with a view to providing information on what seeds are best for given farmlands.
6. Resuscitate the seed processing facility at Shawara village, Anyo LGA.
7. Strengthen the capacity of the agriculture research institute at Kazaure to improve on its seed production capabilities.
8. Incorporate provision of climate friendly seeds for smallholder farmers in the state.
9. Improve storage conditions for agricultural seeds in the state across all storage facilities managed by the state inputs supply company.

Private Sector Seed Companies

1. Partner with NASC to address proliferation of substandard seeds in Nigeria
2. Establish partnership with farmer's association with a view to developing direct supply routes of seeds for the farmers.
3. Open an end to end communication channel with farmers
4. Improve on seed packaging, labelling and users guide inscriptions.
5. Provide storage facilities for storing seeds in the right conditions across the states.
6. Support seed retailers with appropriate knowledge on seed storage and distribution across the states.

Farmer's Associations

1. Strengthen relations with NASC on a proactive basis and work with the council to stem the tide of proliferation of substandard seeds in Nigeria and seamlessly address challenges of substandard seeds proliferation.
2. Establish framework for managing scourge of open market sale of grains to farmers and work with farmers to produce basic IEC materials and step up sensitisation campaigns on the dangers of buying seeds from unauthorised sources.

Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON)

1. In partnership with stakeholders, develop minimum standards for seeds production, packaging and transportation.
2. Establish minimum standards for seed packaging and transportation and storage.

Annexures

Tools Used

List of Participants

Group Pictures





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