



**REPORT ON SEED AND INPUTS FAIRS  
IN  
YAGABA, TUMU AND WA**

**April 2021**

**in Collaboration with  
PPRSD and GIZ-MOAP**



## 1. Background

The National Seed Trade Association of Ghana (NASTAG) has signed an agreement with USAID-AGRA to implement part of the activities under the Ghana Inclusive Agricultural Transformation (GIAT) programme; **“Strengthening the Ghana Seed System to Enhance Quality Seed Delivery to Farmers”** with focus on four main crops namely: maize (hybrid), soybean, groundnut and cowpea. The 24 - month programme aimed at providing an inclusive approach to unlocking markets for participating smallholder farmers, was launched by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa - AGRA, the implementing partner.

As part of the activities being implemented under the project, NASTAG in collaboration with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), GIZ – Market Oriented Agriculture Programme (MOAP) and African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP), organized seed and inputs fairs in three districts within the USAID-GIAT Zone of Influence (ZOI).

## 2. Objective:

The objective of this intervention is to promote the use of **quality certified seeds** in addition to other Crop Protection Products (CPPs), as optimum crop performance acts in consonance with the right application of other quality CPPs at the right time, using the right equipment and procedures.

## 3. Pre - Event Preparations:

Through preliminary discussions and concept notes shared with all potential partners, GIZ- MOAP and AFAP expressed the interest to partner NASTAG and GSID – PPRSD OF MoFA to carry out the event for mutual gains and in achieving common objectives.

Upon settling on the venues and dates per the table below, letters of invitation were extended to all seed value chain actors across the country including NASTAG and CropLife members to register, participate and /or exhibit their products.

<b>REGION</b>	<b>DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY</b>	<b>VENUE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
North East	Mamprugu Moagduri	Yagaba (IWAD Yard)	Tuesday, 13/04/2021
Upper West	Sissala East	Tumu (Community Centre)	Friday, 16/04/2021
Upper West	Wa Municipal	Wa (Jubilee Park)	Wednesday, 21/04/2021

Invitations were also extended to other agriculture related institutions (public and private) within the Project’s Zone of Influence including special guests and dignitaries identified per location.

To specifically ensure that the prescribed COVID 19 protocols were met, special invitation was extended to the respective District Health Directorates to help provide the required support to ensure compliance. Security arrangements were also made accordingly.

Through the extensive collaboration with all partners, farmers and farmer groups were sensitized and prepared ahead of time to participate in the event. Other CSOs and NGOs working closely with farmer groups were also identified and requested to organize their farmers for the respective events.

As part of the preparations, radio jingles and announcements were developed (both in English and the respective relevant local languages) and aired to advertise and sensitize farmers and the general public on the fairs on major local radio stations. These included Ransford FM -Tumu, Radio Wa- Wa and Radio XYZ -Yagaba. As part of the activities of NASTAG to promote members’ seeds within the same period, extensive radio discussions were held across the country and thus in the Northern sector, the radio

discussions in Wa, Yagaba and Tamale were used as a conduit to further discuss and advertise the seed and inputs fairs.

#### 4. Proceedings & Results

##### 4.1 Results

The three events (Yagaba, Tumu and Wa) brought over 600 persons together but per the record, a total of four hundred and eighty – three (483) agricultural value chain actors were captured during registration of the participants as shown in the table; including farmers, seed producers, agro-inputs dealers, agribusiness players, and international development partner organizations and public institutions representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture and District / Municipal Assemblies.

Venue	Male	Female	Total	Exhibitors
Yagaba	77	13	90	10
Tumu	137	22	159	13
Wa	155	79	234	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>40</b>

Location	Yagaba	Tumu	Wa	Total
<b>No. of exhibitors</b>	10	13	17	40

Cumulatively, 40 companies registered and exhibited their products at all three locations made up of seed

companies, agro-input dealers and agro-input importers.

##### 4.2 Proceedings

A common Agenda was adopted for all three locations per the table below

AGENDA		
TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
8:00	Registration	
9:00	Opening Prayer and Introductions	
	Opening Remarks and Statement of Purpose	Executive Officer
9:10	Welcome Address	MCE / Paramount Chief
9:20	Short Remarks: (AGRA, MOAP-GIZ, AFAP)	Respective Representatives
9:35	Brief Information on NASTAG - GIAT Project and Seed Fair Collaborators	AGRA-GIAT Project Manager
9:45	Keynote Address and official launch of the Seed Fair	Municipal MoFA Director
10:00 – 16:00	Exhibitions, Sales & Networking	
16:00	Concluding Remarks	Project Manager
16:45	Closing Prayer	Chief Imam

The NASTAG - AGRA USAID GIAT Project Manager, Mr. Michael Dogor played the role of Master of Ceremony (MC) at each event supported by a translator respectively with the event commencing with a Moslem / Chirstian prayer.

In Yagaba, Tumu and Wa, the welcome addresses were delivered by the Paramount Chief of Yagaba-Naa Sugru Wuni, Mr. Tommy Kanton on behalf of the Paramount Chief of Tumu Traditional Area, and the Municipal Chief Executive (MCE) of Wa Municipal -Mr. Tahiru Issahaku Moomin respectively.

All three landlords congratulated NASTAG, donors and all collaborators for their great efforts in their quest to improve farmers' yield and general living standards and of the hope that the initiative would be sustained to ensure that, farmers annually have access to the rights inputs, at the right time and of assured quality.

At the grand event in Wa, the MCE acknowledged seed as the basic input around which all other farming operations revolve to give output to the farmer, hence any effort to make certified and quality seed accessible to farmers was a step in the right direction.

He noted that the events fell within the visions of the Akufo Addo led government (Planting for Food and Jobs) which aims at ensuring all Ghanaian farmers have access to quality and affordable inputs to improve yields and general food and nutrition security. The MCE assured all participants of maximum security and encouraged farmers to take advantage of the opportunity presented to access the needed seeds and other CPPs for the planting season. He also appealed to the organizers to make these events annual; extend it to all other districts in the region to support the numerous farmers in the region to access quality materials just at the onset of the planting season.



Figure 1: MCE (Left) delivering welcome address @ seed & inputs fair @ Wa

#### 4.21 Brief Opening Remarks and Statement of Purpose

Mrs. Augusta Nyamadi - Clotney, CEO expressed her joy about the effort farmers, organizers, donor institutions and all other agricultural value chain actors/stakeholders made to be a part of yet another important milestone; **District Level Seed and Inputs Fairs**, which were a huge step in the quest to meet input needs of farmers. She reiterated the specific objectives of the events as:

1. Providing farmers access to the best quality of seeds and crop protection products for the incoming farming season;
2. Creating a platform for agricultural value chain actors to interact and explain to farmers all they need to know about their seeds and products for best results in terms of yield; and,
3. For actors to form networks and exchange contacts for future business linkages for mutual benefits aimed at providing the needs services required to the farmer; our paramount clientele.

These efforts she believed will help achieve higher yields and ultimately ensure food and nutrition security in the country.

To ensure the quality of seeds farmers buy for planting, Mrs. Clotney encouraged farmers to look out for certification information on all seeds purchased, making sure the packaging materials contain basic information on the package of the inputs (seeds and other products). This may be the only means by which a farmer could trace and make a case in case he/she encounters any challenge with the seed.

To conclude her brief statement of Purpose, she expressed her sincere thanks to the participating agribusiness enterprises, farmers, exhibitors, and the media, without whom the event would not have happened. She wished all fruitful and interactive fairs and encouraged all to take the opportunity afforded them.



Figure 2: NASTAG CEO delivering opening remarks

## 4.22 Brief Collaborative Messages

Each collaborating partner then took their turn to give brief statements at each of the venues. The Technical Officer, Mr. Wuni Mbanya and Country Manager, Nana - Aisha Mohammed spoke on behalf of GIZ - MOAP and AFAP respectively. At the Ministry of Food and Agriculture level, the District Director of Mamprugu Moagduri District was represented by Mr. Abdul Rahaman in Yagaba, Mr. Andrew Asare represented the District Director of Agriculture in Tumu and also spoke on behalf of the National Deputy Director of the Ghana Seed Inspectorate Division (GSID) of PPRSD, Mr. Kwesi Wih in Wa.



Figure 3: UWR PPRSD officer delivering his remarks @ Wa seed and inputs fair



Figure 4: Country Manager, AFAP giving her solidarity remarks @ Wa seed and inputs fair



Figure 5: Mr. Wuni Mbanya, GIZ giving his solidarity remarks @ Wa seed and inputs fair

Representing the Sustainable Employment through Agribusiness (Agribiz /GIZ-MOAP) as co - funders of the events, Mr. Wuni Mbanya at all three events and in his speeches expressed joy at seeing the events come off successfully. He touched on how all value chain actors and especially farmers groups present at the event could take advantage to establish linkages to enhance future interactions / businesses to benefit their main livelihood activities which is farming. He also used the opportunity to highlight the Agribiz programme which is an extension of GIZ - MOAP and assured PPRSD -MoFA of their continued support aimed at improving their services to farmers to ultimately improve the farmers' living standards. Finally, he expressed their appreciation to various donors for their funding which made it possible for them to support these all-important events.

## 4.23 Keynote Address and Official Opening of the Exhibitions

In Yagaba and Tumu, the keynote addresses were delivered on behalf of the District Directors by Mr. Emmanuel Anaba, the Deputy District Director and Haruna Dasmana, the PPRSD Officer for Sissala East respectively. The Address was delivered in Wa on behalf of the Regional Director of Agriculture by Madam Rita Mumuni, the Regional M&E Officer.

Following similar pattern, the respective representatives applauded of the organizers, collaborators, funding partners, exhibitors, farmers and general invited guests for choosing the respective towns / communities for the events, acknowledging that it was the first of its kind within the catchment areas. Each believed the event was a unique opportunity for them and their farmers as it created the best forum for interaction among the stakeholders along the agricultural value chain.

In their statements, the Directors believed these would be the beginning of breaking new grounds in doing business within their catchment areas to ensure that farmers have access to the right inputs for increased productivity and enhanced livelihoods. They added that farmers have and will



Figure 6: Madam Rita Mumuni, delivering the keynote address on behalf of Reg. Director – MoFA

always be the reason why all other value chain actors are in business today and devoted their ultimate gratitude to all farmers present at the events.

On behalf of the Regional Director, Ms. Rita Mumuni reiterated that the event was of high strategic importance to all, as it provided unique and convenient times and spaces for networking, sharing ideas, discovering best practices, innovations, new technologies and building relationships, all in preparation for the coming farming season.

She emphasized that the current political administration of Ghana takes due cognizance of the fact that agriculture is key to extricating the masses from poverty and underdevelopment in view of its huge potential for food security, sustainable employment generation and overall improved standard of living of the populace. Thus, the government's ongoing projects seek to revamp the agriculture sector to support economic growth through increased investments through strengthening of key relevant public sector institutions and the implementation of programme such as the Planting for Food and Jobs, Rearing for Food

Just as Mr. Emmanuel Anaba, and Haruna Dasmama respectively did in Yagaba and Tumu, Ms. Mumuni in her brief concluding remarks declared 2021 seed and inputs fairs duly opened in Wa and wished all present a happy, enjoyable and fruitful event.

#### **4.24 Exhibitions, Networking & Trading Sessions**

The event offered the opportunity for seed producers and agro input dealers to showcase their products and market their brands and more significantly interact with the farmers (in groups or individually) to explain product use, right application and expected results with the adherence to the right protocols. The exhibitors also made maximum use of the event to project their products and services at the sessions with extensive media coverage to improve their corporate image and brand name. Products on display ranged from seeds (hybrid and OPVs), to various fertilizer formulations, agro chemicals, simple farm tools and protective equipment in the three seed and input fairs.



#### **5. Events evaluation**

At each venue, NASTAG interacted with exhibitors to solicit their views on the event and make recommendations for future events. Similarly, all collaborating partners also met all exhibitors at the end of each event to interact and exchange views on the event.



The exhibitors at the Yagaba seed and inputs fair were satisfied with the turnout of events at the fair. Some exhibitors had all their products on display sold; the exhibitors were also happy that they were able to engage majority of the farmers one-on-one to educate them on the appropriate use of farm inputs. Vegetable companies

had low sales due to fact that most farmers were not into the planting of vegetables in the North East Region. Nevertheless, they took it as an opportunity to introduce something new to farmers. They hope the seed and inputs fair would continue annually.

Participants at the seed and inputs fair in Tumu were generally happy about the organization of the fair. Most of them bought seeds of cereals on display, particularly maize. They were pleased to be introduced to other seed companies and were willing to try-out their seeds.

The exhibitors at the Tumu Seed and Inputs Fair were pleased with the outcome. Companies who were already known by the farmers had their products fully patronized. New companies in the municipality also had majority of the farmers showing interest in their products and they were willing to try them out. Agro-input dealers also exchanged contacts with seed and other agricultural input companies to stock their supply locally.

At Wa, generally, the participants were of the impression that, the fair was very important as it gave them firsthand access to seed producers and agro-input companies who brought a wide range of inputs needed by farmers at the beginning of the planting season. They asked that subsequently, the fair should be organized close to the raining season to protect seeds from hot weather conditions. They also called for the organization of the fair in other districts within the region since the whole region is a farming hub.

The exhibitors were mostly satisfied at the Wa seed fair as it brought most farmers and agro-input dealers from communities in around the Wa municipality together. It gave the exhibitors ideas on the localities to send their products; making them available to farmers and input dealers who do not have access to those products. They applauded the organization of the fair and said they would never hesitate to participate in future fairs. They hope the event would be an annual affair.

## 6. Closing Ceremony

Brief closing ceremonies were held to officially mark the end of the 2021 District/Municipal Seed and Inputs fairs. The participants received brief remarks from the NASTAG-AGRA GIAT Project manager, donor partners and collaborators. They stated their joy with the turnout and emphasized the need for these fairs to continue on a yearly basis prior to the planting season. The moderator thanked all for being present and officially brought the fairs to an end with closing prayers from the clergy.

## 7. Conclusions

Despite the seed and inputs fair being successful, it was generally agreed that the fairs should be held closer to the raining season. It was also agreed that the seed and inputs fairs be held on an annual basis and also the fairs be extended to other districts to enable all farmers get access to quality seed and crop protection products for the planting season to ensure maximum yields.

## 8. Collaborating Partners Details:

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORG.</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
1	KWESI WIH	PPRSD	0241030815 0208294487	kwasiwih1966@gmail.com
2	WUNI MBANYA	GIZ	0241752345 0209098318	wuni.mbanya@giz.de
3	NANA-AISHA MOHAMMED	AFAP	0208630385	nmohammed@fab-partnership.org

**ANNEXES: Some pictorial depiction of the scenes of exhibition and networking**





**ANNEXES: LIST OF EXHIBITORS****LIST OF EXHIBITORS**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME OF COMPANY</b>	<b>YAGABA</b>	<b>TUMU</b>	<b>WA</b>
1	AGRISEED LIMITED.	YES	YES	NO
2	HERITAGE SEED CO. LTD	YES	YES	YES
3	NUZEESA ENTERPRISE	NO	NO	YES
4	BAWAANAHAH ENTERPRISE	NO	NO	YES
5	ANTIKA COMPANY LTD.	YES	YES	YES
6	QUALISEED CO. LTD.	YES	YES	YES
7	ENEPA VENTURES LTD.	NO	YES	YES
8	IWAD GHANA LTD.	YES	YES	NO
9	YARA GHANA LTD	YES	YES	YES
10	HADARA ENTERPRISE	NO	NO	YES
11	18TH APRIL COMPANY LTD.	NO	NO	YES
12	SENYA ENTERPRISE	NO	NO	YES
13	DURI FARMS CO. LTD.	NO	NO	YES
14	JEBUNI ABUDU ENTERPRISE	YES	NO	NO
15	MODAB ENTERPRISE	NO	YES	NO
16	RAINBOW AGROSCIENCES CO. LTD	NO	YES	YES
17	A.S. BONSIWINE ENT.	YES	NO	NO
18	DIMENS ENTERPRISE	NO	YES	NO
19	MAYIYA INVESTMENTS LTD.	YES	NO	YES
20	OBAAGASAM ENTERPRISE	YES	NO	NO
21	FARMER PRIDE	NO	YES	NO
22	AGRILINK TECHNOLOGIES LTD	NO	NO	YES
23	ISSAHAKU MUMUNI ENTERPRISE	NO	NO	YES
24	CAMSIEGA HRF ENTERPRISE	NO	NO	YES
25	HAJIA ALIMA AGROCHEMICALS	NO	NO	YES
26	SANKORFA	NO	YES	NO
27	MYBARNES LIMITED	NO	YES	NO