PABRA STEERING COMMITTEE
Bafoussam 26 – 28 March 2012

HIGHLIGHTS ON CAMEROON BEAN PROGRAMME
Dr Laurent Naunamo
CAMEROON AGROECOLOGIES
• Favorable production agro-ecologies in Cameroon

Bean is produced in zones II, III, IV, V out of 5
I. BEAN IMPORTANCE IN CAMEROON
• Village of Penka Michel (1400 masl): home garden bean production
• Babessi (1800 masl): Large field of bean production
• Production is important: 126 000 t/yr
• Total surface area cultivated: 119 500 ha
• 0,5 < Yield > 1,6  t/ha
• Bean is more than 60% women’s affair
• Increased consumption of beans in main cities
• Cameroon supplies bean to neighboring countries
• Market of bean in Babessi village

Intermediaries collecting bean to supply the city markets
Cameroon supplies bean to neighboring countries

Bean in storage in Yaoundé for export
• Increased consumption of bean in Cameroon

Bean competing for cash with other crops in Yaoundé
• Constraints of bean production in Cameroon

• **Poor soil fertility**: Acid soil; Low N, P
• **Diseases**: ALS, root rots, rust, anthracnose, web blight, common bacterial blight, Ascochyta blight, fusarium wilt etc.
• **Pest**: Common whitefly, bean weevil, bruchids, snails, *Zhonocerus variegatus*, etc.
• **Poor performing local land races**: low yield, susceptibility to pest and diseases etc.
• **Inorganized seed system**
ACHIEVEMENTS
CAMEROON

Nov 2005: 117 bean lines introduced

- Diverse grain types, growth habit and resistance to diseases and low soil fertility:
  - 40 bush from Kenya,
  - 20 climber from Kenya,
  - 9 s/climber from DRC,
  - 36 climber from DRC,
  - 12 land races
CAMEROON

• Nov 2006: 181 bean lines introduced

• Diverse grain types, growth habit, micronutrient richness and resistance to diseases and low soil fertility:
  - 38 fast track biofort from Kenya,
  - 25 BILFA from Kenya,
  - 11 BILFA from Kenya,
  - 61 MAC from Kenya,
  - 11 MAC from DRC,
  - 35 MCR from DRC.
Cameroon

April 2011: 52 micro-nutrient-rich varieties.

From DRC:
• 22 NUA lines
• 30 NUV lines
CAMEROON

In January 2010: 114 snap bean lines were introduced.

From Kenya:
From Cameroon to other countries

- In 2008: to Togo and Guinea-Conakry:
  - 43 bush,
  - 16 semi-climbers
  - 9 climbers

- In March 2009: to Sierra Leone
  - 24 bush,
  - 21 s/climber,
  - 20 climber (for low altitude evaluation).

68 best varieties selected and seed increased, from the first batch of 117 varieties-
Superior lines, from the 181 batch, selected and distributed.

- In 2009: 110 best lines of BILFA, MAC, Biofort, MCR were sent from Cameroon to:
  - Togo,
  - Guinea Conakry,
  - Burkina Faso,
  - Senegal,
  - Congo Brazzaville,
  - Central African Republic,

- In 2010: 96 best lines of BILFA, MAC, Biofort, MCR were sent from Cameroon to:
  - Mali
  - Ghana.
Cameroon

Products from bean evaluation

- 25 best varieties ready for release
  - 7 have been released on the 23rd of February 2012:
    - Ty 3396-12 (2.4 t/ha)
    - MEX 142 (1.80 t/ha)
    - ECAPAN 021 (1.5 t/ha)
    - Nitu-G16157 (1.35 t/ha)
    - MAC 55 (1.76 t/ha)
    - MAC 33 (1.56 t/ha)
    - KJ4-3 (1.95 t/ha)
Crowd at the bean release site
Officials and partners
Speech of IRAD Deputy Directeur General
Speech of the governor Representative
Governor Representative cutting the symbolic ribbon
Stand of released bean varieties
National bean coordinator presenting the released bean varieties
Public tasting bean variety TY3396-12
Officials tasting bean variety TY3396-12
Officials tasting bean variety
TY3396-12
Public buying bean small packs
Public buying bean small packs
Team of bean researchers
Interview of a seed producer
END USER’S REACH

• Close to 250 tons of bean seeds have been produced so far by both research station, the national seed program, the bean program and some partners in the A-EZ 3, 4 and 5 of Cameroon.

• It is estimated that 500,000 households have been reached: 300,000 women and 200,000 men.

• The seed distribution continues and the tracking is ongoing.

• It concerns the following varieties: MAC 55, Eca Pan 021, MAC 33, NITU(G15167), Ty3396-12, MEX142, GLP 190-S, GLP 190-C, DOR-701, LUNDAMBA and others.
Perspectives

- Optimize bean yield through development of ICM options
- Facilitate the increase of seed production by partners for distribution and reach of more household.
- Work on nutrition and food processing for food basket improvement
- Work on improving seed system and post harvest handling