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OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF RCN PRODUCTION IN WEST AFRICA

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CASHEW IN AFRICA

- Increasingly Becoming An Important Industrial And Export Crop In Africa
- A Leading Foreign Exchange Earning In Number Of Cashew Growing Countries Africa
- Reliable Source Of Sustainable Cash Income To Poor Resource Farmers When Drought Causes Crop Failure
- Suitable Tree-crop To Combat Global Warming Because It Is Drought Tolerant And Evergreen Throughout The Year
- Provide Shade To Livestock
- Provide Off Season Feeds For Livestock And Poultry (Cashew Apples And Cashew Apple Pulps)
- Source Of Fuel And Compost (Shell Cakes)
- Controls Soils Erosion

CONSTRAINTS IN CASHEW PRODUCTION

- Low Productivity

- Lack Of Suitable Varieties Or Improved Planting Materials

- Poor Agronomic Practices

- ✓ Spacings, Pruning, Weeding, Intercropping **Disease** And Insect-pest Control



CONSTRAINTS IN CASHEWCONT....

- Poor Quality Raw Nuts

- Small Sizes
- Bad Nut Shape (Flat, Shriveled, Curved)
- Diseased RCN
- Insect Damaged
- Void Nuts
- Poor Peeling Of Testa



PROCESSING FACTORY REQUIREMENTS

- Good Shape (Kidney Shaped Or Bold Nuts) Suitable To New Industrial Technology
- Big Nuts (Low Nut Count <180 Nuts/Kg)



PROCESSING FACTORY REQ...Cont

- High Wholes Recovery During Processing
- Easy Peeling Of Testa



MARKET DEMAND

- Big Kernels
- White Kernels
- Wholes



HOW TO ADDRESS QUANTITY AND QUALITY

- Strengthening National Cashew Research Programmes
 - **Breeding**
 - Agronomy
 - Vegetative Propagation
 - **Crop Protection**
 - Improve Human/Financial Resources And Infrastructure
 - Improve Networking
- Strengthen Extension Services
- Develop Cost Effective Marketing System
- Support to Cashew Value Addition

CURRENT SCENARIO

- African Countries that has Invested a lot Financial and Human Resources in Cashew Research
 - Tanzania
 - Mozambique
 - Cote d'Ivoire
 - Ghana
 - Zambia
- African Countries moderately Supporting Cashew Research
 - Benin, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Madagascar, Kenya etc.

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WHAT NEED TO BE DONE

BY WHOM?

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT R & D

- Provide support to Cashew Research and Development
 - Human and Financial Resources (Introduce Cess/Export levy)
 - Infrastructure development
- Undertake Local Germplasm Collection
 - Identify Mother Trees
 - Characterize Mother Trees
 - Studies Genetic Diversity (Wide Or Narrow)
 - ✓ Initiate breeding program (with or without importation of germplasm)
 - Select Improved Planting Materials and Establish Gene Bank
 - Establish Scion Orchard (Public, Private-estate)
 - Establish Nurseries (Public, Private-estate, Community)-**Quality Control?**

MULTIPLICATION OF PLANTING MATERIALS

- Training In Vegetative Propagation

- Grafting (Soft Wood)
- Budding
- **Tissue Culture**

- Training Care After Grafting



CROP PROTECTION

- Control Of Diseases
- Control Of Pests



EXTENSION SERVICES

- Training In Good Agricultural Practices
 - Planting/Transplanting
 - Care After Planting
 - Disease/Pest Control
 - Harvesting
 - Post Harvest - Moisture Content $<10\%$
 - Packaging
 - Storage



PROCESSING AND MARKETING

- This Is Increasingly Becoming An Area Of Interest For Value Chain Actors
- Governments Pays More Attention To Support Farmers
- Processors Like Farmers Needs Government Support
 - Holding Stack For Local Processors
 - Low Interest Loans
 - Promotion Of Local, Regional And International Markets
 - Branding
- Integrate Farmers In Value Additions (Semi-processing)

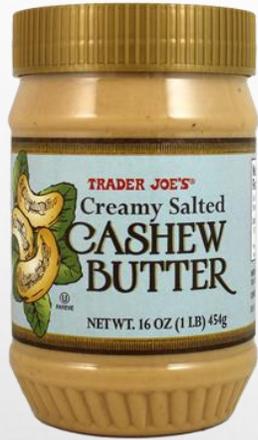
EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF PRODUCTS OF CASHEWNUTS

- Kernels (20-25%)
- Testa (2%)
- Shells (75-80%)



CASHEW KERNEL VALUE ADDITION

(ZERO CHOLESTEROL)



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CASHEW SHELLS VALUE ADDITION

- Cashewnut Shell Liquid (CNSL)
20-25% Of Nut Weight
- Shell Cake /Briquette



CONCLUSION

- In Order To Improve Quality And Quantity Of RCN In West Africa, Governments Need To Pay Special Attention To:-
 - Research And Development (Quality)
 - Production (Quantity And Quality)
 - Value Addition (Involve Producer Organization)
 - Marketing (Quality Control)

Thank You for Your Attention Muinto Obrigado Merci Asante Sana

