



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

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Background

The Public Relations division would like to gather updated information on the Dry Land Crop program in order to share them with the public through the media houses.

The DCPD is a highly prioritized Government initiative through a Cabinet Decision No. 20th/07.11.06/012, which is aimed at empowering farmers in Northern Communal Areas (NCAs) of Kavango East, Kavango West, Zambezi, Kunene North, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Otjozondjupa and Omaheke regions in order to increase food production and enhance household food security and thus reduce the vulnerability of households to poverty.

Tractors

- 1. How many tractors does the Ministry own, and how many per region as well as per constituency?**

| REGION | SUB-TOTAL NO. |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Oshana | 20 |
| Oshikoto | 20 |
| Ohangwena | 21 |
| Omusati | 20 |
| Kunene North | 7 |
| Otjozondjupa | 6 |
| Omaheke | 5 |
| Zambezi | 19 |
| Kavango East 7& Kavango West | 19 |
| TOTAL | 137 |

Tractors are allocated to Agricultural Extension Centre (ADCs) which in turn covers demarcated agricultural extension wards. These wards cut across constituencies as such

tractors allocated to an ADC may render services to farmers from more than one Constituency. More tractors are required.

2. What is the registration process and where can the communal farmers register and what are the documents required for registration?

- Farmers register with the Agricultural Development Centres in their respective Agricultural Extension Wards.
- Name, Village, Name of Village Headman, Services or inputs required
- Identity document required

3. Is there any limitation to the number of hectares per household and if so, how many hectares per household?

Maximum 3 ha per household services required (This is also determined by the availability of funds for the program)

4. When did the Ministry acquire the tractors and are they still operating?

137 tractors have been accumulated over a period of 8 years. More than 90% of tractors are in operation.

5. What is the budget for each cropping season?

The budget varies from year to year depending on the availability allocation of the funds from the Central Government. The budget for the 2016/17 financial year was N\$37 million.

6. How long should the farmer wait for the service after registering?

The waiting period is determined by many factors including;

- Position on the list of applications for providing services as the service is provided on a first come, first serve basis,
- weather,
- Breakdowns of machinery and equipment.
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7. Apart from Tractors is the government also subsidising on other means of ploughing to the communal farmers?

Government is subsidizing ploughing services with Draft Animal Power and Walking/Hand tractors.

8. Can you also break down the subsidy, what the government pays and what the client is expected to pay?

Ploughing and Weeding services

Government renders subsidized services with GRN tractors, private tractors, DAP and weeding as follows:

| Services | Subsidy per Ha/operation |
|--|--------------------------|
| GRN Ploughing (Disking, ploughing, ripping, planting and fertilizer application) | N\$150 |
| Private tractor (Disking, ploughing, ripping, planting and fertilizer application) | N\$250 |
| DAP (Disking, ploughing, ripping, planting and fertilizer application) | N\$250 |
| Weeding | N\$250 |

Seed subsidy

Government is providing subsidy of 50% for the seeds to farmers. Seeds are supplied by Seed Cooperatives and seed retailers in the various regions.

| Seed type | Subsidized price/Kg |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Mahangu | N\$5.13 |
| Maize | N\$250 per person |

Fertilizer subsidy

Fertilizers are subsidized at 60% of the selling price by Government to farmers. These fertilizers are procured through GRN tender procurement procedures.

| Fertilizer | Subsidized amount (N\$)/ 50kg |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| NPK | N\$326.00 |
| MAP | N\$326.00 |
| LAN | N\$226.00 |
| Urea | N\$237.35 |
| AS | N\$172.00 |

9. What are the Types of seeds distributed? Is there another seed variety added or are the seeds the same as 2015/2016 financial year.

During the 2016/17 cropping season MAWF only subsidized for Mahangu and Maize seeds. Other seeds like Cowpea and Sorghum were in limited supply and could not be provided to all farmers through subsidy.

Mahangu: 131 tons of Mahangu seeds from the Northern Namibia Farmers Seed Growers Cooperative at Omahenene were availed for the DCPD programme 2016/17.

Mahangu seeds were distributed as follows:

| Regions | Mahangu seeds (kg) |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Kavango East | 12,000 |
| Kavango West | 16,000 |
| Kunene | 2,000 |
| Ohangwena | 20,732 |
| Omaheke | Not requested |
| Omusati | 24,072 |
| Oshana | 22,713 |
| Oshikoto | 27,114 |
| Otjozondjupa | 4,098 |
| Zambezi | 2,500 |
| Total | 131,228 |

Maize: There are no maize seeds produced locally during the 2016/17 cropping season; hence farmers are subsidized to buy from the local retailers who are importing seeds. A total of N\$ 424,375.00 for Zambezi and N\$50,000.00 for Omaheke were transferred to the respective Regional Councils to help process of payment of maize seed subsidy.

Additional information on seeds

In addition SCORE project has supported DCPD with 8 tons of cowpeas, 4 tons of Ground nuts, 0.5 ton of Maize and 0.5 ton of Sorghum distributed to regions.

10. How many regions are benefiting this year, and where can the seeds and fertilizers be accessed?

All DCPD Implementing regions (Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West, Ohangwena, Oshana, Omusati, Oshikoto, Kunene, Otjozondjupa, and Omaheke) are benefiting. Seeds and fertilizer are accessed at the nearest ADCs in the DCPD implementing regions.

11. Are commercial farmers also benefiting?

The programme only supports the rural communal areas.

12. Are the seeds and fertilisers given or free or on a subsidy?

DCPD support farmers through subsidized rates per service and inputs required, therefore, the programme does not provide free services and inputs.

13. Are all seeds distributed produced in Namibia or have we imported them?

Refer to question 8

14. How many tonnes per seed variety?

Refer to question 8

15. Not all rain feed regions grow Mahangu, what seeds do we have for those regions?

All regions grow Mahangu. This year is only Omaheke Region that did not request for Mahangu seeds. As a result, Omaheke and Zambezi which are considered to be Maize growing Regions receive funds to procure Maize seeds. Other seeds considered under the programme include Cow peas and Sorghum. Unfortunately these seeds were in limit supply this season.

16. When will the seeds and fertilisers be distributed and for how long?

- Seeds were already distributed to all the DCPD implementing regions as from December 2016.
- All regions had stock of fertilizers from previous season which they sold at the beginning of the season. MAWF had also procured additional fertilizers which will be distributed to regions in January 2017.

17. Are the Agricultural extensions staff coordinating and working together with the councillors? What are the Councillor's inputs?

MAWF is responsible for the overall implementation of the Dry Land Crop Production Programme through MAWF staff in the regions. The Regional Councillors support with mobilization and awareness creation to ensure that farmers in their respective constituencies benefit.

Based on the Memorandum of Understanding between MAWF and the Regional Councils, the Regional Councils are responsible for the direct payments of services and inputs provided to farmers by Private Tractor Owners, Draft Animal Owners, Weeding Groups, Seed Cooperatives and Seed Retailers in the regions.

Traditional Authorities assist MAWF and the Regional Councils in mobilizing and creating awareness among youths and farmers.

Yours sincerely,

Percy W. Misika
Permanent Secretary

