

CARD Webinar
COVID-19 impact and Rice competitiveness
25th February 2021

Comments and Questions in Chat box and Answers by presenters/commentators

Opening remarks

12:14:10 Kenji Nakamura NTC Intl.: Nice video!

Session 1-1. JICA's assistance on food and nutrition with COVID-19 (Mr. Shinjiro Amameishi, JICA)

Session 1-2. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on rice value chains: Finding from Ethiopia and Tanzania (Dr. Dawit Alemu, Agricultural Policy Research in Africa (APRA))

13:11:20 JIMMY LAMO: Preliminary information shows that more rice from Tanzania was exported to Uganda from Tanzania during this COVID-19 period.

13:12:08 Abdelbagi Ismail: How can we encourage regional trading to solve this problem of imbalances?

(Alemu) The East African community has allowed relatively better market integration. However, the integration to include other EA countries needs further work through the regional policy harmonization.

13:13:13 FAO-HQ Siobhan Kelly: Very informative presentation - thank you! Can you send the PPT so that we can access the links provided on the last slide?

(Alemu) CARD has shared the PPTs.

13:13:44 Arumugam Kathiresan: Surprising 'availability of land for rent' declined during the due pandemic in Ethiopia - what could be the possible reasons?

(Alemu) Due to the lock down and decline of economic activities, those who live in urban areas while renting their rural land started working on the land.

13:15:38 JIMMY LAMO: Needs follow up DR Arumugam

13:15:30 JANE ININDA: Is there recent 2019-2020 rice production trend for Tanzania. What I saw was up to 2018. What is the trend for consumer preferences, taste, aroma etc. Are farmers changing varieties?

(CARD Secretariat) Rice production data in 2019 is available in FAOSTAT (<http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QC>). With regard to the consumer preferences, Tanzania's NRDS II (2019-2030) states as follows:

"2.2 Consumer Preferences and Demand Projection

Rice consumers in Tanzania are very keen on the grain size, colour, flavour and aroma. Majority of the consumers prefer long slender, translucent, intermediate amylose content and aromatic to semi-aromatic. The two popularly preferred Tanzania rice in domestic and regional markets includes Supa and TXD 306 (SARO 5). The common grades of rice available in the local markets are premium, grade one and standard.

Premium prices are usually given to aromatic rice type e.g. Kyela brand and other rice brand of premium or grade one when sold in attractive package. The demand projection for rice is envisaged to increase as a result of urbanization, change in consumption pattern, increased in diversified use of rice-based products and economic growth. Current national rice consumption is estimated at 1.8 MT and is projected to reach 2.6 MT by 2025 and 3.5 MT by 2030.” (p.5)

13:17:10 Matty Demont/ IRRRI: Tanzania is growing as a rice exporter, partly thanks to its relatively low per capita rice consumption rates, which are much lower than in West Africa. Will Tanzania manage to maintain its exporter status in the long term under increasing rice consumption rates?

(Alemu) It is expected that the increasing trend in domestic production with match in increase in consumption allowing Tanzania to continue its export.

13:23:59 Robert Bimba: what part of the rice value chain was greatly affected by Covid-19?

(Alemu) The value chain components affected by COVID 19 difference from country to country. In Ethiopia, the most affected ones are consumers due to price increase.

Session 1 Reflection/Comments

Break

13:25:20 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Angola esta desenvolver muitas actividades sobre a cultura do Arroz. Em 2013, iniciou a revitalização das actividades do arroz a nível da pesquisa e extensão aos agricultores. Uma actividade que foi realizada com ajuda da JICA - Japao e o Ministério da Agricultura (Instituto de Investigação Agronomica e Instituto de Desenvolvimento Agrario). Actualmente estamos a trabalhar com muitos agricultores pelo intermedio das cooperativas agrícolas do arroz criadas. E estamos a desenvolver experimentos de variedades de arroz com os extensionistas atraves das Escolas de Campos. Nestas escolas de campos, os agricolters e camponeses estão a trocar experiencias na escolha de boas variedades de arroz adaptadas as suas condições. No ano 2020, pelo surgimento do COVID 19, perdemos muitos campos de produção pelas medidas de restrições por causa de pandemia.

(Translated by DeepL) Angola is developing many activities on Rice culture. In 2013, began the revitalization of rice activities at the level of research and extension to farmers. An activity that was carried out with the help of JICA-Japan and the Ministry of Agriculture (Agronomic Research Institute and Institute of Agricultural Development). At present we are working with many farmers through the established rice farming cooperatives. And we are developing rice variety experiments with extension workers through Field Schools. In these field schools, farmers are exchanging experiences in choosing good rice varieties adapted to their conditions. In the year 2020, by the advent of COVID 19, we will lose many production fields to pandemic restriction measures.

13:26:37 Demba Jallow: Is CARD thinking of having technical experts to member countries to give a technical backstop to institutions in the rice value chain?

(CARD Secretariat) Such support has been already provided by CARD Steering Committee members through their technical assistance projects.

13:26:39 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Neste ano embora o período de seca observado em todo território angolano estamos a trabalhar sempre no arroz. Vuvu Kua Nzambi

(Translated by DeepL) This year, despite the dry period observed throughout Angola, we are always working on rice. Vuvu Kua Nzambi

13:27:17 JIMMY LAMO: In Uganda production of upland rice was low due to low yields per ha. Cannot associate to COVID-19 per se

13:27:35 Robert Bimba: Yes

13:28:27 Moundibaye Dastre Allarangaye: OK. Quelle est la stratégie pour atteindre les petits exploitants qui sont les plus nombreux au Tchad par exemple, ceux qui ont entre un hectare ou deux? Je parle des projets CARD bien sûr.

(Translated by DeepL) OK. What is the strategy for reaching smallholders who are the most numerous in Chad, for example, those with between one and two hectares? I'm talking about the CARD projects of course.

(CARD Secretariat) For Phase 2, CARD has adopted RICE Approach, of which Empowerment is to address the issues related to smallholder farmers. CARD will select appropriate indicators, such as smallholder farmers' accessibility to financial services and farmer to extension ratio, to monitor the progress of activities to alleviate challenges that smallholder farmers are facing. This M&E activity will be conducted across all the member countries. Generally speaking, it would be needed to expand the cultivated area, increase yield, and improve the quality of rice for a better price, to improve the revenue and livelihoods of smallholder farmers. However, the situations are different from country to country. Therefore, each member country is expected to develop specific strategies to address the issue of smallholder farmers as a part of their NRDS, which would best fit the situations in the respective country.

13:35:00 Robert Bimba: What measure is in place to strengthen domestic rice competitiveness? in Liberia mainly is price, availability to of seed rice and constant supply.

(CARD Secretariat) We consider that low competitiveness of local rice comes from higher price, lower quality, limited awareness among consumers, lack of stability in availability, volume and uniformity, of local rice, compared to imported rice. Keeping RICE Approach in mind, the member countries have recently developed or are currently developing their NRDS for Phase 2, to tackle these issues. As Dr. Matty Demont of IRRI discussed in his presentation, the issues related to the competitiveness of local rice are not uniform across the countries. Therefore, again, each country needs its own measures. To monitor the progress in the RICE Approach framework, as indicators for Competitiveness, CARD Secretariat is suggesting (1) share of local rice in the market and (2) quantity of seeds of locally-preferred varieties with high-yielding attributes planned to produce.

Session 2-1. Responding to the COVID-19 crisis: CORIS rice seed delivery model (Mr. Ernst Zippel, AfricaRice)

13:35:35 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Disponibilidade de sementes de arroz melhoradas em condições de Stress hídrico, seria muito importante por causa de mudanças climáticas (Vuvu Kua Nzambi/ Angola)

(Translated by DeepL) Availability of improved rice seeds under water stress conditions would be very important because of climate change (Vuvu Kua Nzambi/ Angola)

13:40:09 Robert Bimba: Question to Africa Rice Ernst Zippel. What is the status of the rice seed accelerated project and how many tone of seed is available and what type of varieties?

(Zippel)

CORIS Seed Production						
	CI	BJ	NG	BF	ML	total
Breeder seeds [t]	4	0,5	7	5	3,7	20,2
Foundation seeds[t]	160	20	280	200	260	920
Certified seeds [t]	4 800	600	8 400	6 000	7 800	27 600
Paddy rice [t]	120 000	15 000	210 000	150 000	195 000	690 000

13:42:24 Solomon Ansah: What is the criteria for selecting the five countries?

(Zippel) Political decision. GIZ can finance projects only in special partner-countries.

13:43:44 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Muito interessante os Objectivos do Projecto CORIS desenvolvidos pela Africarice. Quanto a mitigação da questão de sementes aos camponeses. Minha pergunta é: É possível desenvolver este projecto para outros países, caso de Angola (VUVU KUA NZAMBI, Angola)

(Translated by DeepL) Very interesting the Objectives of the CORIS Project developed by AfricaRice. Regarding the mitigation of the issue of seeds to the peasants. My question is: Is it possible to develop this project for other countries, like Angola (VUVU KUA NZAMBI, Angola)

(Zippel) In general: YES! Let us look how to make it possible!

13:45:46 Robert Bimba: What mechanism was in place to make the 5 countries safe with access to seed rice under Africa Rice project? What can be done in Liberia case that is still working on establishing the seed council to ensure certification of actors who are producing seed?

(Zippel)

- 1) Financing of breeder and foundation seed production plus incentives for the certified seed production
- 2) For Liberia, we need the financing for the initial steps. Not possible through the GIZ project (no Green Innovation Center with focus on rice in Liberia)

13:47:55 Robert Bimba: What information exactly the digital agriculture monitoring tool is capturing at the moment? and how accurate and reliable is it? Is there any limitation observe with it?

(Zippel)

- 1) Whatever you want to know: <https://www.eprod-solutions.com/>
- 2) Depending on the input
- 3) I guess the limitation is the user and the quality of the input...

13:50:31 Kayode Sanni: Thanks Ernst for the presentation of this great initiative of AfricaRice. what type of bags did distributed to seed companies and what is makes it to conserve seeds for long time?

(Zippel) We will provide the bags from grainPro: <https://www.grainpro.com/en>

(Zippel) The Bags protect against Insects, Humidity and Oxygen. It is hermetically closing plastic bag made of 7 layers: Rose Ndungu rose@grainpro.com

13:51:43 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: A aficarice pode alargar sua extensão suas actividades deste projecto para outros países com desafios de produzir sementes de arroz em qauantidade e qualidade para os agricultores (Vuvu/ Angola)

(Translated by DeepL) AfricaRice can extend its activities of this project to other countries in order to produce rice seeds in quantity and quality for farmers (Vuvu/ Angola)

(Zippel) We can extend it. We will need an additional funding.

13:54:44 Solomon Ansah: Tracking rice seed production manually is quite challenging. I am quite interested in the digital monitoring tool that will be used to track rice seed production. Other countries may need such a digital monitoring tool if it proves to be very effective.

(Zippel) The monitoring tool: <https://www.eprod-solutions.com/>

13:55:10 Demba Jallow: Any plan by AfricaRice to make available the said storage bags available locally in a sustainable manner?

(Zippel) CORIS quality Seed Bag grainPro

13:58:00 Robert Bimba: What is AFAP ?

(Zippel) <https://www.afap-partnership.org/>

13:58:50 Robert Bimba: Do you have a photo of the micro harvester?

(Zippel) Post-Harvest solution: <https://www.cimmyt.org/news/reaping-the-benefits-of-innovation/>

(Zippel) The motor scythe: the link is just to show you the solution: <https://www.klipartz.com/en/sticker-png-drdqd>

14:06:18 Robert Bimba: Thanks

13:59:00 Demba Jallow: Also proper seed stores/warehouses is a general constraint in seed production any support in this regards?

(Zippel) No, the focus in the short term project is on fast and decentralized solutions

14:08:24 Uma Apollo: To Ernst, which is the most high yielding rice seed variety and in which countries in Africa is it grown.

(Zippel) I am focusing on sustainable yield. This mitigates climate change and reduces risk and total losses.

(Zippel) My email for further discussions: E.Zippel@cgiar.org

Session 2-2. Strengthening competitiveness through better seed system (Prof. Shuichi Asanuma, JICA / IITA / Nagoya Univ.)

14:13:28 FAO-HQ Siobhan Kelly: The role of the millers is also important for the competitiveness and quality of rice that ends up on the retailers shelves and competes, under higher-quality imported brands. FAO will shortly public a case study from Senegal on this topic. One of the findings shows that milling operations coupled with inbound logistics (procurement from shf and traders) are important avenues through which millers can influence the safety and quality of the final product; with implications for consumer health and the strengthening of the national rice brand. Under the aegis of government food safety policies, millers strive to comply with often costly food safety practices. Using the business case for building a competitive national brand that is reliant on strong food safety and quality controls to win over the domestic market would act as a strong lever against which miller associations and cooperatives, supported by public authorities, could engage with their members on food safety/quality compliance.

14:14:32 Octave NSHIMIYIMANA: How is the research progress on the aromatic and long varieties which are most preferable by consumers? Do we have enough which can be even adaptable in all CARD countries.

14:17:28 JIMMY LAMO: You have mentioned a big point. We have a new varieties highly aromatic, slender and good yielder. It out of 6 year intensive research.

(Asanuma) I know Nagoya University continues research in Kenya for development of aromatic and long grain variety having high yielding capacity and tolerance to blast disease. It may take some more years before registration to the authority as a new variety. I believe this kind of research activity needs to be carried out at the moment by international research organizations and universities in developed and developing countries for future use in CARD member countries. Each member country needs to enhance human capacity so as to conduct local adaptability trials of new promising lines for selection breeding for his/her country.

14:20:23 Miyuki Iiyama: (just comment) Thank you Professor Asanuma to mention JIRCAS as a SC member to contribute to the seed system. (JIRCAS/Iiyama)

14:22:16 Solomon Ansah: Does the breeder seed field needs seed inspection and certification?

(Asanuma) Breeders are supposed to maintain purity and viability of breeder seeds with his/her responsibility, so seed inspection by inspectors is not necessary for breeder seed.

14:22:27 Elvis Mbeng: Is the data for irrigated or upland varieties for rice grown in the UNVDA area?

14:24:20 Yoshimi Sokei: Yes, the data is irrigated rice varieties in UNVDA area, Cameroon.

(Asanuma) Thank you Dr. Sokei for your answer.

14:29:22 Baba Abdulai: Demand for locally produced rice in SSA is negatively affected by inconsistency of seed (and grain for that matter). Often times returning customers are unable to get the same quality of locally produced rice from milling company or farmers. This is due largely to unreliable supply of the same kind of seed to farmers. Over time, consumers of locally produced rice loose hope of getting same taste and cooking quality from milling company or farmers. We need reliable and consistent source of seed. I think the approach of AGRA "Rice Project" implemented under PFJ program in Ghana is a good example of ensuring consistency of rice quality through consistent supply of preferred variety.

(Asanuma) Thank you for indicating a reality regarding poor quality of rice seeds commonly or often observed in SSA. That is the reason why JICA is willing to emphasize the necessity of improvement of proper seed system both in human capacity and facility in CARD member countries. Everybody knows good yield and higher yield will start from quality seeds. Then if not with quality seeds, what can we expect?

14:35:00 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Angola pode ser contemplado na formação Sr Asanuma

(Translated by DeepL) Angola can be contemplated in Mr. Asanuma's training

(Asanuma) Thank you for understanding my intention expressed in my presentation. We are most welcome your participation to JICA's short-term and long-term training courses. If you need further related information, please contact me or Mr. Matsushita at Asanuma.Shuichi@jica.go.jp or Matsushita.Yuichi@jica.go.jp.

14:39:22 Demba Jallow: I can realized that The Gambia and few other countries did not benefit from short term training what could be the reason?

(Asanuma) No particular reasons are available. We are very glad to receive participant trainees from Gambia and other countries as well in the future training courses because this training course will be carried out 3 more years at least.

14:40:42 Abdelbagi Ismail: Thank You Dr. Asanuma for this excellent presentation!

14:42:42 Octave NSHIMIYIMANA: is any criteria to select any Japanese university under cooperation? This question came in mind because I don't see Yamagata university in the list knowing that it had some partnership with JICA especially in rice field.

(Asanuma) The universities shown in my slides are those cooperated with JICA in 2019. In that year, no trainees matched with Yamagata University in his/her particular research specificity. I know Yamagata University is really cooperative with JICA in terms of soil science and plant nutrition, agronomy and crop science, so I hope that university would receive trainees again coming years.

14:44:05 Octave NSHIMIYIMANA: Thank you for the good presentation.

Session 2-3. Upgrading rice value chains to increase competitiveness of domestic vis-à-vis imported rice in Africa (Dr. Matty Demont, IRRI)

14:44:48 Takuro Harada: Hello excellent partners, I would like to share the activities of IFAD which is one of CARD partners.

FIDAFrique, <https://sites.google.com/view/fidafrique-ifadafrika/project-management?authuser=0>,

FIDAFrique(facebook) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/fidafriqueifadafrika>,

WCF : <https://www.weconnectfarmers.com/> (platform for farmers).

THank you! bonne journee!

14:45:12 Takuro Harada: analyste programme FIDA Dakar

14:54:37 Baba Abdulai: Great presentation Prof. Matty Demont of IRRI. I feel vindicated that your presentation confirms my earlier message. That countries like mine (Ghana) need serious efforts in the area of seed and grain quality, which can be a stepping stone for increased demand for locally produced rice.

(Demont) Thank you. Indeed, Ghana is a coastal country without comparative advantage in demand. The best way forward is to upgrade processing infrastructure such that it can produce quality rice that can compete with imports. However, for the infrastructure to pay off there needs to be a sufficient supply of paddy. This supply boost can be organized by the government.

14:57:00 Robert Bimba: We need to improve local rice .Thanks Prof. Demont/IRRI

(Demont) Thank you. Yes, African rice can become competitive with imports if its quality and reputation is improved.

14:58:46 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Mr Demont é possível receber vossas variedades ou incluir Angola nos vossos trabalhos. obgdo pelo apresntação

(Translated by DeepL) Mr. Demont is it possible to receive your varieties or to include Angola in your works.

(Demont) Thank you. Kindly contact Dr A. Ismail (A.Ismail@irri.org) regarding questions on varieties. We will be happy to include Angola in our works whenever funding opportunities arise. The government of Angola can also directly request IRRI to propose a study.

14:59:30 Dennis Yankson: There is really need for huge investment on upgrading of local rice. This should be based on market demand and consumer preferences

(Demont) Thank you. Indeed, just look at the import bill and try to replace imported rice by mimicking its quality first and then building a market for local rice.

15:00:14 Kayode Sanni: Thanks Matty for the great presentation that brings out clearly that all African countries needs to upgrade productivity and market driven approach to production.

(Demont) Thank you. Indeed, we should always keep in mind that markets are already there, but they are served by imported (Asian) rice. There is no reason why African rice cannot replace imported rice. It's a matter of the right enabling environment for investment in modernization of rice value chains.

15:00:17 Elvis Mbeng: Rice quality and not cost generally influence consumption choice. This is especially true of Cameroon, where producers sell as much as 100% of their output to Nigeria, but buy imported rice for household consumption. The need for better policies and promotion of local processing is essential for change

(Demont) Thank you. In Cameroon, we have demonstrated that upgraded parboiling can produce white rice that mimics imported rice. Parboiling is a "shortcut" towards producing quality rice and it can be encouraged at small scales, e.g. village parboiling. Moreover, it provides income opportunities for women. Check out the paper of Akoa Etoa et al. (2017, AfJARE).

15:05:54 Ernst Zippel: I think that corruption related to rice import should be reflected in your analysis. There is the explication to find why investment is so difficult to find...

(Demont) Indeed, more analysis needs to be conducted on this aspect. It slows down investment in domestic value chain upgrading.

15:08:33 Abdelbagi Ismail: Super, Matty!

(Demont) Thank you.

15:09:02 Massandjé Touré-Litsé: superbe présentation merci mr Matty

(Demont) Thank you.

15:09:08 Ernst Zippel: great presentation!

(Demont) Thank you.

15:09:18 Robert Bimba: Thanks for presentation

(Demont) Thank you.

15:09:36 Elvis Mbeng: Really great analysis, thank you

(Demont) Thank you.

15:09:42 Massandjé Touré-Litsé: je vous contacterai pour plus d'informations

(Demont) Thank you. Feel free to contact me at m.demont@irri.org.

15:09:43 Kisha Namufungwe: Great presentations.

(Demont) Thank you.

15:09:46 Demba Jallow: very good presentation Thanks

(Demont) Thank you.

15:10:06 Takuro Harada: Great presentations! Thank you!

(Demont) Thank you.

15:10:18 JIMMY LAMO: Excellent and well researched backed research output

(Demont) Thank you.

15:11:50 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Muito obgdo pela apresentação. Mr Demont. Precisamos colaborar para as novas variedades mas estudar mecanismos de conseguir les machines de Descasques du riz é um elemento importante para os agricultores. Obrigado

(Translated by DeepL) Thank you very much for the presentation. Mr Demont. We need to collaborate for new varieties but to study mechanisms to get les machines de Descasques du riz is an important element for farmers. Thank you

(Demont) Kindly contact Dr A. Ismail (A.Ismail@irri.org) regarding questions on varieties. Indeed, upgraded processing is crucial. However, I think we need more investment in large scale milling.

(Demont) 15:11:54 Abdelbagi Ismail: Matty, how this is going to affect SSA in its efforts towards Self-sufficiency, and what policy changes need to be in place to support transition, especially for red countries?

(Demont) Red countries need to be aware of the fact that they need to upgrade the quality of local rice before they can massively boost production. Both need to go hand in hand. Attracting foreign direct investment like Nigeria and Senegal is one key. However, having a lot of paddy available is another key. Hence, self-sufficiency can only be achieved if productivity is boosted and if that production boost is immediately used to fuel upgraded processing infrastructure at high economies of scale. Hence, a total value chain approach is needed, boosting production and investing in processing infrastructure.

15:12:36 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Minha preocupação é como incluir Angola nos vossos trabalhos de pesquisa

(Translated by DeepL) My concern is how to include Angola in your research work

(Demont) Thank you. Kindly contact Dr A. Ismail (A.Ismail@irri.org). The government of Angola can directly request IRRI to propose a study. Dr Ismail is our regional representative for IRRI.

15:30:00 Aminou Arouna: Well done Ernst and Matty

(Demont) Thank you.

(Demont) My email address: m.demont@irri.org.

Session 2 Reflection/Comments

15:15:55 VUVU KUA NZAMBI: Mr Christian, merci pour vos commentaires. Mon probleme est sur la cooperation effective entre Angola et Africarice

(Translated by DeepL) Mr. Christian, thank you for your comments. My problem is about the effective cooperation between Angola and AfricaRice.

15:16:31 Takuro Harada: M. Christian, merci pour vos commentaires excellents!

15:29:57 Robert Bimba: Nur how can private sector benefit directly from ADBI funding for rice like we who are in Liberia.

(Abdi) Dear Robert, Thank you for your questions and interest. Liberia is not a member country of IsDB Group. However, the Bank could support a private sector in non-member countries in the case it has joint venture with a partner in a member country or is currently operating and registered in a member country. Through our Private Sector financing arm called ICD, we also support private companies if they operate in our member countries. You can learn more about ICD at <https://icd-ps.org/>

15:31:57 Robert Bimba: Rice Processing enterprises project will be which countries? What is the criteria for ADBI funding?

(Abdi) The beneficiary countries for the Processing Enterprises are Senegal, Niger, Sierra Leone, and Guinea.

The criteria depend on the funding. If the funding is sovereign financing, a major criteria is that the beneficiary country should be a member country. For the private sector financing see by above response.

15:33:12 Robert Bimba: What is the contact of Dr .Nur from IsDB

(Abdi) My email is nabdi@isdb.org. Please feel free to reach out if you need more info or have queries

15:33:27 Uma Apollo: Will the Rice Processing Enterprise project be extended to East Africa? What are the considerations for a specific country to benefit from this specific project?

(Abdi) Dear Uma, Thanks for the question. For the time being, the Rice Processing Enterprise project is limited to four countries in Western Africa. No current plans to roll it out in Eastern Africa.

The project is designed to support an on-going Regional Rice Value Chain Program that aims to assist many West African countries increase rice productivity and production and improve the crop value chains at local, national and regional levels..

15:33:49 Robert Bimba: Is Liberia a beneficiary of the IsDB?

(Abdi) No, Liberia is not among the 57-member countries of IsDB. You can learn more about them here: <https://www.isdb.org/>

Summary

15:35:03 Dennis Yankson: Product uniformity is a major issue. It affects pricing, consumer preference and competitiveness

15:36:23 Njack Kane: Securing market by regulation is critical to allow successful development of the rice value chain. Outcome dialogue of rice sector shared above in English and French version is a fruitful document to consider and also build on.

Closing remarks