



Challenges of agro-input supply to farmers: The requisite for improved cocoa production in Nigeria

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Background

- **Agricultural inputs enhance cocoa productivity**



- **Cocoa contributes significantly to Nigeria's GDP**
- **Production is limited by poor input availability, access and affordability**

- **The paper provides insights to the problems of agricultural inputs supply to small scale cocoa farmers in Nigeria**
- **Suggests way forward to scale-up and unlock cocoa productivity**

- Requisite inputs

- Land
- Improved seeds
- approved pesticides
- Fertilizer
- Improved tools:
Knapsack sprayers,
Jute bags
- Loans and credit
facilities
- Labour
- Information and
knowledge etc.



Challenges to input supply for cocoa farmers

❖ **Untimely supply of inputs to farmers by government**

❖ **High cost**



❖ **Importation of pesticides**

❖ **Fertilizer production**

❖ **Inconsistent government policy**

❖ **limited access to critical extension service**

EA:FF ratio = 1: 6185

❖ **Hydrocarbon Jute bags**



Table1: Current prices of some approved inputs

S/No	Cocoa inputs	Price in Naira (₦)	Dollar (\$) equivalent
1	Hybrid seedlings for 1ha	222,200	653.5
	Fungicides		
2	Ultimax plus	30,000 /carton	88.2
3	Ridomil Gold Plus	120,000/carton	352.9
	Insecticides		
4	Actara 25 WG	30,000/carton	88.2
5	Esiom 150 SL	1,100/bottle	3.2
	Herbicides		
6	Clear weed	15,000/carton	44.1
7	Touch down	32,000/carton	94.1
	Fumigant		
8	Phostoxin	6,000/Tin	17.6
9	Knapsack sprayer CP15	16,000/one	47.1
10	Hydrocarbon jute bags	22,500/Pack	66.1
11	Fertilizer bag NPK 50 kg	7,000/bag	20.5

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Source: Market survey, 2016 @₦340 to \$1 USD

Past intervention

- **National Cocoa Development Committee
NCDC input supply at
50% subsidy**
- **Cocoa Transformation
Agenda CocTA/Growth
Enhancement Scheme
GES at 50% subsidy**

**600,000 hybrid cocoa pods
were freely distributed to
farmers**

On going interventions

- ✓ **Supply of hybrid cocoa to
farmers by CRIN**
- ✓ **New policy document on
Agriculture**
- ✓ **Youths' empowerment
programme via cocoa
production by Ooni of Ife**
- ✓ **Credit supply of Ridomil
Gold and Actara
pesticides (N6m) by
MOAFAK Nig Ltd to coop.
farmers in Ondo State**

Way forward in input supply

- **Timely release of budgetary allocation for inputs before planting**
- **Stable government policy on input supply**
- **Improved GES in input distribution**
- **Cocoa specific fertilizer**
- **Collaboration with international cocoa partners: WCF , Nestle, IDH, Cargill etc.**
- **Formation of Cocoa Trade Development Cooperation (CTDC)**
- **Improved extension system for input supply**

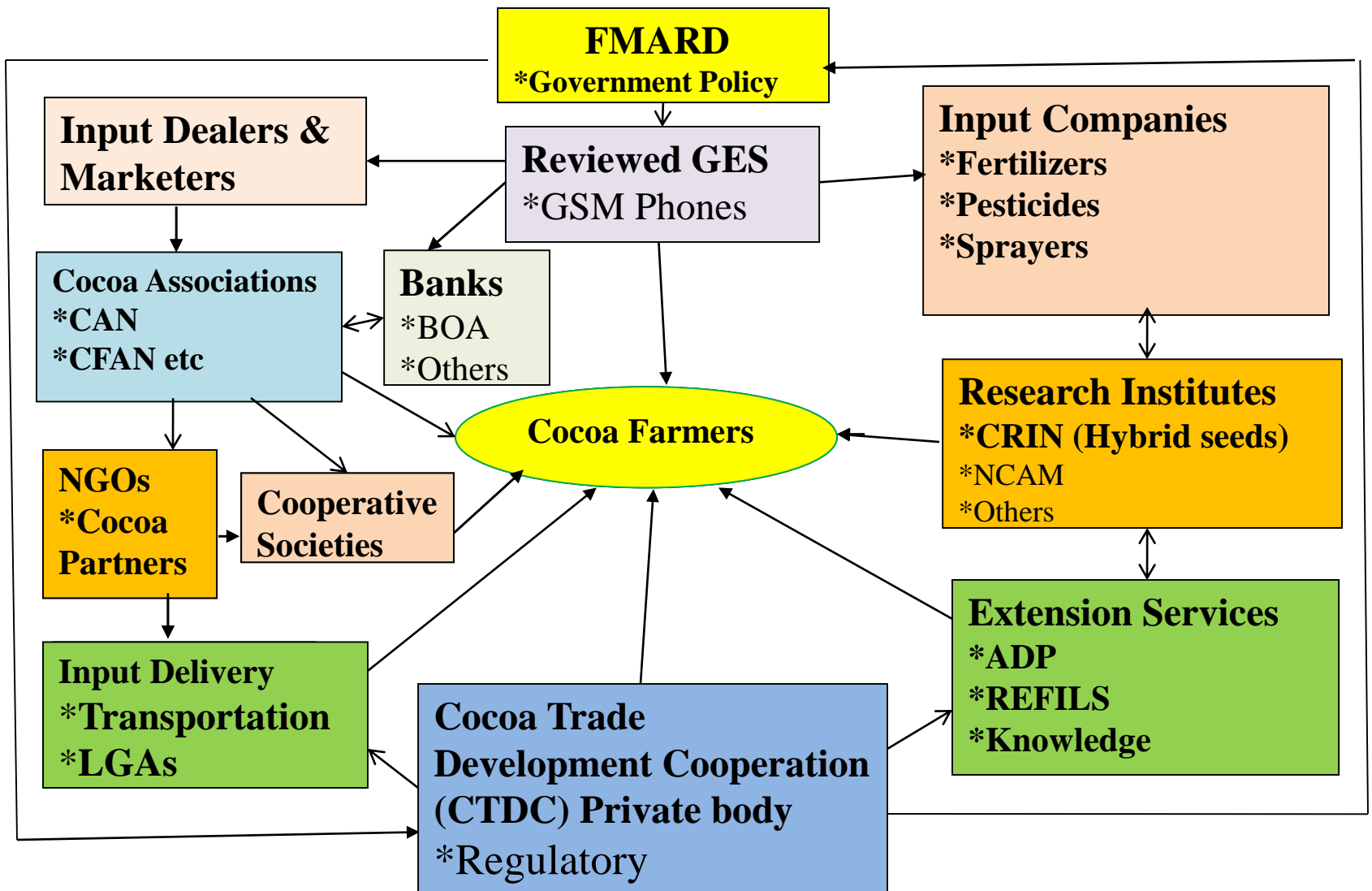


Fig. 1: Cocoa input supply model for farmers in Nigeria

Conclusion

- **Production and distribution of cocoa inputs to farmers is key towards sustaining the demand by chocolate and beverage industries**
- **Public-private partnership should be properly harnessed to ensure inputs access to farmers at right time**
- **This will promote agribusiness and competition among relevant stakeholders**

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Thank you for your attention

