



**Meeting title: Inception Meeting for EMSAS-Hydroponics Project**

**Date:** 26/06/2024

**Meeting time:** 12:00 noon

**Location:** Kaduna State Planning and Budget Commission Conference Room

<b>Meeting called by</b>	GHI
<b>Purpose of meeting</b>	Introduce project team and stakeholders, clarify roles and responsibilities and discuss project expectations and outcomes.
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b><u>GHI Team</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engr. Sadiq Abubakar - Project Director</li> <li>2. Mr Habib Adamu Isa - project Manager</li> <li>3. Mrs Afiniki Ahmadu - Gender Specialist</li> <li>4. Mr Galadima Z. Khalipha - M and E Officer</li> <li>5. Mr. Muhammad Sherifdeen - Program Formulation Officer</li> <li>6. Mr Ahmad Aliyu Lere - Admin Officer</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Kaduna State Planning and Budget Commission (PBC) Team</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Idris Sulaiman - Director of Budget</li> <li>2. Mr. Mr Abubakar Sulaiman- Technical Assistant to the Commissioner</li> <li>3. Mrs. Priscilla - Deputy Director, Development Aid Coordination</li> <li>4. Mrs. Grace Nyela Dogo - Program Officer</li> <li>5. Mrs. Jummai Nuhu - PRO</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Kaduna State Agricultural Development Agency KADA</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Ahmed Abubakar - Zonal Manager, Maigama</li> <li>2. Mr. Yahya Muhammad - Zonal Manager, Lere</li> <li>3. Mr. Sulaiman A. Baba - Zonal Manager, Birnin Gwari</li> <li>4. Mr. David Jonathan - Zonal Manager, Sankiru</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS)</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Abdulateef Opoola -</li> <li>2. Mrs. Oyinlola Roshidat -</li> </ol> <p><b><u>National Water Resources Institute NWRI</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engr. Kassim Abdullahi - Soil and Water Technologist</li> </ol>

	<p>2. Engr. Abdurrahman S. Halima - Soil and Water Technologist  <u>National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS)</u></p> <p>1. Mr. Kudingi Tijjani Abubakar - Soilwater Specialist  <u>Kubau Local Government Authority</u></p> <p>1. Dr. Yusuf Makama – LGA council Secretary</p>
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<b>Agenda 1</b>	<b>Formal Opening and Introduction</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	The meeting began with a formal opening and introduction by the Project Manager, Mr. Habib. He welcomed all participants and provided an overview of the meeting's agenda. This was followed by a general self-introduction of all participants present, ensuring everyone had an opportunity to introduce themselves and their respective organisations.

<b>Agenda 2</b>	<b>Opening Remark by the Director of Budget, Kaduna State Planning and Budget Commission</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	Mr. Idris Sulaiman, the Director of Budget, at Kaduna State Planning and Budget Commission, delivered the opening remarks. He began by apologizing for the absence of the Honourable Commissioner, who was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Mr. Sulaiman noted that he was present to represent the Commissioner. He expressed his delight at the inception meeting, which marked the formal commencement of the EMSAS-Hydroponics Project's key activities in Kaduna State. He emphasized the importance of the project in addressing critical issues related to climate change, food security, and conflict reduction.

<b>Agenda 3</b>	<b>Remarks by the Project Director, Mr. Sadiq Gulma</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>The Project Director, Mr. Sadiq Gulma, introduced himself and welcomed all participants to the meeting. He expressed regret over the Honourable Commissioner's absence, acknowledging the valuable experience, insights, and expertise the Commissioner could have contributed to the discussion. Nevertheless, he expressed confidence that Mr Idris Sulaiman, the Director of Budget, would do an excellent job representing the Commissioner.</p> <p>Mr. Sadiq assured participants, especially those who were unfamiliar with the EMSAS project, that the meeting would provide them with a comprehensive</p>

	<p>understanding of the project and an opportunity to have their questions answered. He informed the participants that due to the absence of the Commissioner, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Green Habitat Initiative (GHI) and Kaduna State, through the Kaduna State Planning and Budget Commission, would be scheduled for another date. Finally, he urged all participants to actively contribute their expertise and experience during the discussions.</p> <p>Following his remarks, Mr Sadiq Gulma introduced the project team, providing detailed background information about each member and their roles within the project.</p>
<b>Agenda 4</b>	<b>Presentation by Project Manager: Overview of the Project and Deliverables</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>The Project Manager, Mr. Habib, delivered a detailed slide presentation, providing an overview of the EMSAS-Hydroponics Project and its deliverables. The presentation covered the project's objectives, the innovative hydroponics technology being introduced, and the expected outcomes.</p>
<b>Agenda 5</b>	<b>Question-and-Answer Session</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Following the presentation, a question-and-answer session was held, allowing participants to seek clarification and provide feedback on the project. Some of the key questions and issues raised included:</p> <p><b>Sustainability:</b> Participants inquired about the sustainability mechanisms in place to ensure that farmers could adopt the hydroponics technology, given its relatively higher capital requirements. The Project Director addressed this concern by explaining that sustainability is a core component of the project. The project aims to learn from various existing hydroponic systems to empower farmers to improvise and use locally available materials, such as used plastics, pipes, and nets, to set up hydroponics systems.</p> <p><b>Provision of Other Facilities:</b> Another issue raised was the provision of additional facilities, such as storage, where farmers could store their produce. The Project Director responded by noting that, as a pilot project, the EMSAS initiative might not be able to provide related facilities immediately. However, he expressed optimism that such facilities might be included in future phases if the project is scaled to other parts of the country.</p>

<b>Agenda 6</b>	<b>Presentation by Project Director: Roles and Responsibilities of the Stakeholder Working Group (SWG)</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	Mr. Sadiq Gulma made a detailed presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) members. He outlined the specific mandates of the SWG members, emphasizing their importance in the successful implementation of the project. The presentation highlighted how each member could contribute to the project's objectives and foster collaboration among all stakeholders.
<b>Agenda 7</b>	<b>Round of Introductions by SWG Members</b>
	Following Mr. Sadiq's presentation, there was a round of introductions by the SWG members. Each member shared their mandates within their respective agencies and discussed how they could contribute to the project's success. This session fostered a collaborative atmosphere and highlighted the diverse expertise present within the group.
<b>Conclusion</b>	The inception meeting concluded with a strong commitment from all participants to actively engage and contribute to the EMSAS-Hydroponics project. The meeting successfully laid the foundation for the project's implementation, fostering a collaborative environment and ensuring alignment among all stakeholders. The rescheduling of the MoU signing and the robust discussions held during the meeting underscored the project's potential to significantly impact agricultural resilience, food security, and conflict reduction in Kubau LGA and beyond.

<b>Action Points</b>				
S/N	Action Points	Person responsible	Deadline	Status
1.	Schedule a new date to sign the MoU for the project formally	GHI/PBC		

**Photos from the Meeting:**



**Figure 1:** Cross-section of the EMSAS-Hydroponics project team with members of the SWG during the inception meeting.



**Figure 2:** Engr. Sadiq Abubakar Gulma (Project Director of the EMSAS-Hydroponics project)-Left with Dr Yusuf Makama (Council Secretary of Kubau LGA as the Project Proponent)



**Figure 3:** Engr. Sadiq Abubakar Gulma (Project Director of the EMSAS-Hydroponics project) - Left with Mrs Afiniki Ahmadu (Gender Expert of the EMSAS-Hydroponics Project) - Right