SEMIs SEED PROCESSING PLANT INSTALLATION

The Seed Enterprise Management Institute (SEMIs) Project at CAVS is funded by AGRA. The project management team has Prof. A.W. Mwang'ombe as the Principal Investigator, and Prof. F. Olubayo and Prof. Kiarie Njoroge as key team members. The project did acquire high capacity seed processing machines in 2014 as its major deliverables of establishing a seed factory plant for both teaching and processing purposes. The machines include, seed sheller; seed cleaning machine, seed sorting machine, seed treating machine and packaging machines.

Seed shelling machine before installation	The seed sheller ready for operations

The project engaged a consultant firm backed up by Dr. Yuan Shyy from Iowa States University, and Mr. Dave Westphal to install the processing machines which had been shipped to the factory building in CAVS as separate pieces. Setting up the machines took many steps which included; assembling, installation, training and testing of the machines all which were achieved between 3rd June and 1st of July, 2015. Currently, final testing and handover is awaited.

Laying of frames at onset of installation process	Duct extension works for air screen cleaner cyclone

| Prof. Mwang'ombe attending the factory review works | Completed factory building where the processing machines are housed |

The seed processing equipments have a capacity to process 5 tonnes of seeds per hour for which the factory is envisaged to process 500MT of seeds. This is incredible since seed companies such as Elgon Kenya Limited have come up to request a contract to have their seeds processed by SEMIs as soon as the machines start operating. The new partnerships of providing services to other seed companies promise to add income to the Institute for eventual self sustainability.

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Installation of seed processing machines is complete