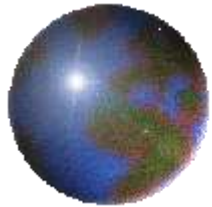


# SEED QUALITY NEEDED IN DEVELOPING SEED SECTOR



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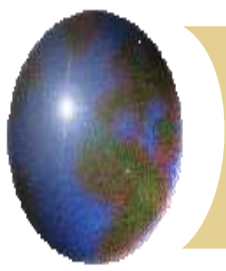




## The Areas of Concern

- ✚ Is a regionally adopted approach in seed quality requirements more likely to bring up seed sector development than a best practice approach?
- ✚ Can regional certification cope with new breeds?
- ✚ How does seed for domestic use co-exist with seed for international trade?





# Seed Sector Development

- ✦ The desire for improved productivity, achieve food sufficiency/security has driven man to constantly develop improved varieties of plants. This growth has seen shift from informal sector to the formal sector.





# Structures Needed in Seed Sector Development

## Requirements for a vibrant seed sector:

- ✚ Viable research/plant breeding system
- ✚ Laws and regulations to govern the seed sector
- ✚ Standards both national/international
- ✚ Audit and accreditation
- ✚ Market access
- ✚ Suitable production sites



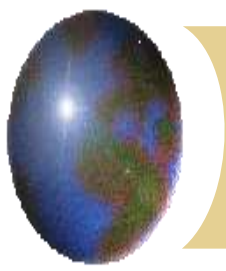


# The Best Practice Approach

*This approach to seed sector development assumes:*

- ✚ End user is well informed
- ✚ Supplier guarantees the product quality
- ✚ Every player in the sector understands the legal responsibility/issues governing the sector





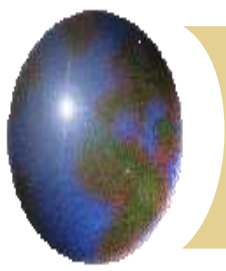
# Regional Seed Sector Adoption Approach

Agricultural production and trade in the recent past has tended towards a regional approach.

*This enhances*

- ✚ Market access
- ✚ Bargaining power and
- ✚ Creates a bigger market



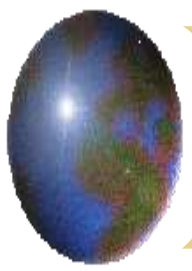


# Regional certification continued

*The regional seed certification approach can be viable if there is:*

- ✦ Common seed policy
- ✦ Regional/international standards
- ✦ Mutual recognition
- ✦ Common training arrangements
- ✦ Sufficient volume for seed trade





# Examples of Regional Approach in the Seed Sector.

- ✿ In Eastern Africa, countries of Kenya Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and South Sudan, Sudan have come together to harmonise the seed certification systems. In this way the following will be of use to the entire region.
- ✿ Non-OECD countries (Rwanda and Sudan) will strive to become members. Tanzania recently became a member for cereal crops
- ✿ A larger market will be opened for seed sector investors
- ✿ The entire region may take advantage of skills and experience of OECD member states (e.g. Kenya).
- ✿ Shared facilities and conducive climatic conditions provide competitive business environment to the region







# Developing Nations and New Breeds

The past ten years saw the liberalisation of the seed industry in the developing world. This has led to:

- ✦ Increased production for both subsistence and export crops
- ✦ A wider genetic base for crop production and breeding purposes.
- ✦ Increased incomes.
- ✦ Job creation especially in the horticultural sector.



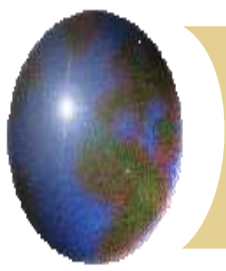


# Coexistence of Seed for Domestic Use With Seed for International Trade.

- ❖ The developing world has both the formal and the informal seed sectors.
- ❖ Seed companies contract growers who have:
  - ❖ Knowledge in seed production
  - ❖ Adequate land to provide the stipulated isolation distance from crops of the same species.

**Note:** Different crop species can be produced for seed use in the same field viz sorghum and maize or beans.

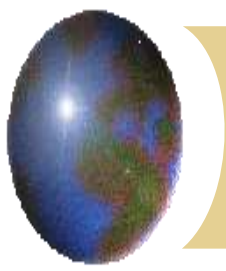




# Seed Certification

- ✚ Formal seed production undergoes the official seed certification process as stipulated by both the national and the international seed certification standards. Informal seed does not follow any seed certification system.
- ✚ There may be need to assist the informal seed sector.

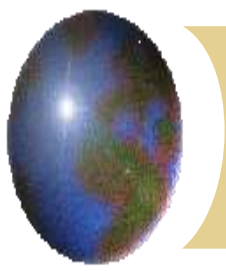




# Challenges

- ❖ Inadequate variety listing and PBR laws in many countries in Africa.
- ❖ Lack of seed certification systems
- ❖ Limited number of PBR offices
- ❖ Many countries have not enlisted into international systems on seed quality and movement
- ❖ Lack of elaborate breeding programmes for many crops





# Challenges

- ❖ Lack of harmonized seed standards
  - ❖ Low level of understanding of seed production systems
  - ❖ Limited varietal maintenance programmes
- Emerging diseases and pests

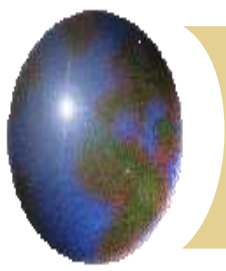




# Response to Areas of Concern

- ✦ Is a regionally adopted approach in seed quality requirements more likely to bring up seed sector development than a best practice approach?
  - ✦ Yes?
- ✦ Can regional certification cope with new breeds? Yes?
- ✦ How does seed for domestic use co-exist with seed for international trade?
  - ✦ Yes: use of common standards.





THANK YOU

