



SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
SADC SEED CENTRE

ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SADC HARMONIZED SEED REGULATIONS

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Introduction

- The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is implementing the Harmonized Seed Regulations (HSR) since 2014 with the launch of the regional variety release and registration system. As such, this paper highlights key achievements, lessons learnt and future prospects of the HSR implementation.



Purpose of the System

- Facilitate the availability of high quality seed to farmers in the SADC region
- Make it easier and cheaper for new and existing varieties to gain access to SADC markets
- Stimulate the availability of more varieties of seed and encourage investment in the seed sector
- Encourage faster and safer movement of seeds and reduce costs related to seed trade



Achievements

- Regional variety release and Registration:
- Awareness Creation on the Harmonized Seed Regulations
- Establishment of the SADC Seed Committee:
- Domestication of Seed regulations





SADC Regional Varieties :

Company	Number of varieties	Crop	Variety Name
SeedCO	8	Maize	SC 303, SC 529, SC 719, SC 727, SC 608 & SC 637
		Sorghum & wheat	SC Shaku & SC Shine
Monsanto	6	Maize	DKC 80-31; DKC 80-33, DKC 80-53; DKC 80-73, DKC 90-89 & DKC 90-53
Syngenta	5	Maize	MRI 624, MRI514, MRI 455, MRI 614 & MRI 634
Panar	4	Maize	PAN 3M -01, PAN 4M-21, PAN 7M-81 PAN 4M-23
	23		



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Awareness Creation on the Harmonized Seed Regulations

The SADC Seed Centre has made presentations in Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe to inform, develop shared understanding and garner commitment among stakeholders in the seed value chains to utilize the HSR



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Establishment of the SADC Seed Committee:

- Established may 2016; held two meetings



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Domestication of Seed regulations

- Among the SADC Member States, Angola, Swaziland, and Mozambique legislations have recognized regional regulations while Zambia and Malawi are pursuing the amendments of their seed acts



Lessons learnt

- It is a requirement that prior to Regional release applicants need to:
 - Carry out DUS and VCU tests for one and two similar seasons respectively
 - Release variety in two SADC Member States
 - * Keep MLV Trial Data Properly especially the data that was used at the time of releasing the variety at country level).



Future Prospects

Having this 23 regional varieties

- The SADC Seed Centre in collaboration of the NSAs, NPPOs and the USAID funded Seed Trade Project will pilot the implementation of the SADC seed certification and quality assurance system.
- NSAs and NPPOs will facilitate and enforce the certification and phytosanitary standards



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Future Prospects

- more Seed businesses are encouraged to use the system
- Stakeholder collaboration to see a successful implementation of the SADC Harmonized Seed System.



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Acknowledgement

USAID has supported the activities of the SADC Seed Security Centre over the years and the progress made so far reflects this investment. Additionally, the voluntary participations of the Seed houses to use the SADC system and the effort of the NSAs to process the regional variety applications is highly appreciated.



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Thank you!