



African Cereal and Legume Breeding Consortium (ACLBC)



INAUGURAL WORKSHOP 2025

**Catalyzing Seed Technology Adoption through
Partnership, Performance & Field Experience**

19th -20th August 2025

**Confirm Participation for the event by
registering on the link below or scan the
QR Code**

Date: 19th -20th August 2025

Venue: KALRO HQ, Nairobi
Field day - Njoro

Registration Link
[Click to Register](#)

**Scan to
confirm**



Terms of Reference- ACLBC Maiden Annual Workshop

Theme:

“Catalyzing Seed Technology Adoption through Partnership, Performance & Field Experience”

Dates:

Arrival of Participants: 18th August 2025

Workshop Dates: 19th – 20th August 2025

Venue: Park Inn by Radisson Westlands Nairobi (Workshop)
KALRO Research Station, Njoro (Field day)

Pre-registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/afstawshtaata>



Scan Code:

1. Background and Rationale

The African Cereal and Legume Breeding Consortium (ACLBC), a collaborative initiative driven by the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) and the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA), was established to accelerate the adoption and scaling of improved seed technologies in Africa. The ACLBC targets the engagement of over 200 seed companies to commercialize TAAT-vetted varieties and hybrids of cereals and legumes.

In preparation for the maiden ACLBC annual workshop, a 2-acre demonstration plot has been established in collaboration with the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO). The demonstration showcases newly released, high-potential varieties of maize, soybean, rice, wheat, high-iron beans (HIB), sorghum, and millet. These are intended to stimulate interest among seed companies and catalyze the adoption, branding, and scaling of these elite varieties and hybrids from CGIAR Centres and Advanced Agricultural Research Institutions.

This workshop is organized by TAAT and AFSTA in collaboration with KALRO. The TAAT Clearinghouse provides overall coordination, with compacts supporting seed sourcing and breeders' participation. AFSTA is responsible for interactions and onboarding the seed companies. KALRO monitors and evaluates the demonstration plot, which will inform future scale-up efforts under ACLBC.

The ACLBC Annual Workshop will serve as a critical milestone for convening stakeholders to evaluate these varieties in the field, interact with TAAT Compacts and breeders (technology owners), and make informed decisions on future collaborations, licensing, and seed production.

2. Workshop Objectives

- Showcase the potential of TAAT-vetted varieties under real field conditions.
- Facilitate seed company engagement with breeders & TAAT compacts
- Conduct participatory selection of preferred varieties based on:
Yield potential, Disease resistance and Market demand

- Strengthen partnerships for licensing & commercialization.
- Develop a roadmap for scaling ACLBC activities.
- To foster dialogue on technology commercialization, policy support, and access to foundation seed.
- To facilitate networking and partnership building among technology providers, breeders, seed companies and stakeholders in legumes and cereals.
- To build the capacity of breeders and researchers through hands-on sessions on modern breeding techniques and tools
- To support ACLBC's mission of accelerating seed technology adoption across Africa.

3. Key Features of the Workshop

- **Field Visit to the Demonstration Plot:**
Participants will tour the 2-acre demonstration plot, subdivided into standardized 100 m² sections featuring a diverse range of newly released crop varieties.
- **Participatory Variety Evaluation:**
Seed stakeholders will assess the performance of varieties in terms of growth habit, disease resistance, grain quality, and yield potential. Structured evaluation forms and guidance will be provided to capture feedback.
- **Engagement with Technology Owners:**
Breeders and representatives from TAAT Compacts (Maize, Rice, Soybean, Sorghum/Millet, HIB, and Wheat) will be present to discuss variety characteristics, origin, performance data, and commercialization opportunities.
- **Knowledge Exchange Sessions:**
In-depth discussions on seed licensing, foundation seed availability, regulatory pathways, and market opportunities.

4. Expected Outcomes

- 5+ seed companies express intent to license showcased varieties.
- Documented list of preferred varieties for follow-up.
- Draft roadmap for ACLBC scale-up (led by TAAT/AFSTA).
- Strengthened partnerships between seed companies, breeders, and TAAT Compacts.
- Increased interest in licensing and scaling newly released varieties.
- Documentation of stakeholder-preferred varieties for follow-up support and seed system integration.
- Enhanced understanding of the seed commercialization process under the ACLBC framework.

5. Target Participants

The workshop is expected to attract about 50 participants majority of whom will be seed companies

- Seed companies and aggregators (ACLBC members and prospects)
- TAAT Compact representatives and breeders
- Officials from KALRO and the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS)
- Development partners and donors
- AFSTA and TAAT Clearinghouse representatives

6. Logistics

1. Participants will be responsible for the transportation and accommodation to and from the workshop
2. ACLBC will be responsible for local transportation to the workshop venue and to the demo plot in Njoro
3. ACLBC will be responsible for full conference facilities, including Lunch, Coffee breaks, and workshop materials

7. Tentative Workshop Program

Date	Time	Activity	Facilitator/Lead
18 th August	All Day	Arrival and Check-in of Participants	Workshop Secretariat
	18:00 – 21:00	Welcome Cocktail and Networking Session	Sponsor
		Registration of participants	TAAT CH
19 th August	06:00 – 10:00	Departure to Njoro	Moderator
	10:00 – 13:00	Field Visit to Demonstration Plot – Variety Showcase	KALRO / TAAT Compacts
	13:00 – 14:45	Lunch	Sponsor
	14:45- 15:45	Question and Answer session	Compacts
	15:45 – 18:45	Return to Nairobi	
20 th August	08:30 – 09:00	RECAP of Field Visit	KALRO/TAAT
	09:00 – 10:00	Workshop objectives, Welcome Remarks	TAAT/AFSTA
		Goodwill message	Main sponsor
		Opening of Workshop	D G KALRO
		Keynote Presentation	Sponsor
		Panel Discussion: Commercialization & Seed System Integration	TAAT, AFSTA, Seed Companies
	10:00 – 10:15	Tea/Coffee Break	
	10:15 – 11:30	Presentations from Compacts on Variety Performance and Scaling Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maize ➤ Wheat ➤ Soybean ➤ Rice ➤ Sorghum/Millet ➤ HIB 	TAAT Compacts
	11:30 – 13:00	Group Discussions: Variety Preferences, Scaling Pathways	All Participants
	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
	14:00 – 15:00	Breeder/TAAT Compacts -Seed Company Interaction & Technical Q&A	TAAT / Breeders/Seed Companies
	15:00 – 16:00	Visit to some KALRO Facilities	TAAT / Breeders/Seed Companies
	16:00 – 17:30	Plenary: Feedback & Recommendations	Rapporteurs/ Moderator
		ACLBC- Operations, Expectations, Next Steps	Geoffrey
		Workshop Communiqué and Closing Remarks	AFSTA
21 th August		Departure of Participants	
		Informal interaction Breeder/TAAT Compacts - Seed Company continues	

Sponsoring ACLBC's inaugural Workshop & Field Demonstration

Below are the available sponsorship opportunities for visibility during the event:

1- Workshop Package sponsorship (40\$*50pax) = \$2,000

- Logo on the program
- Recognition in printed materials
- Logo visible on the banners in the meeting room
- Sponsor banners displayed
- 5 min talk on the company/products

2- Field day set-up (40USD*50pax) = \$2,000

- Logo on the program
- Recognition in printed materials
- Logo visible on the banners at the fields
- Sponsor banners displayed
- 5 min talk on the company/products

3- Networking cocktail (35USD*50 pax) = \$1,750

- Logo on the program
- Recognition in printed materials
- Sponsor banners displayed at the cocktail venue
- Recognition in speech at the Cocktail

4- Lunch sponsorship (20USD*50pax) = \$1,000

- Logo on the program
- Recognition in printed materials
- Sponsor banners displayed at the lunch area

5- Transport to the field day = 800USD

- Logo on the program
- Logo of the sponsor visible on the banners on the buses
- Sponsor banners displayed at the bus area

6- Field cap/Hat (20USD*50) = \$1,000

- Sponsor Logo on the program
- Sponsor and organizer Logos on the cap

7- Coffee/tea Breaks (15USD*50pax) = \$750

- Logo on the program
- Logo visible on the banners on the buses
- Sponsor banners displayed at the refreshment area

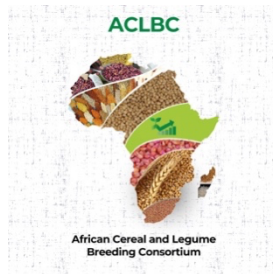
Please contact AFSTA Secretariat for sponsorship on afsta@afsta.org

Workshop Registration Deadline: August 5, 2025

Pre-registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/afstawshptaata>



Scan Code:



INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Inaugural Workshop of the African Cereal and Legume Breeding Consortium (ACLBC)

Theme: *Catalyzing Seed Technology Adoption through Partnership, Performance & Field Experience*

Dates: 19th – 20th August 2025 (Participants to arrive on August 18th and depart on August 21st)

Venues: KALRO Research Centre Njoro, Kenya **and** ParkInn Radisson Westlands Nairobi (Njoro is 181 kms from Nairobi and 24kms from Nakuru [*About 3.5hrs*])

1. Introduction and Background

The African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) and the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) are pleased to invite you to the Maiden Annual Workshop of the African Cereal and Legume Breeding Consortium (ACLBC).

This workshop, held in collaboration with the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), is a key event for accelerating the adoption and commercialization of improved seed technologies in Africa. It will provide a unique platform for seed companies, breeders, and other stakeholders to evaluate high-potential, newly released varieties of key cereals and legumes in the field and forge partnerships for their dissemination.

2. Workshop Objectives

The primary goals of the workshop are to:

- **Showcase** the on-field potential of new, TAAT-vetted crop varieties.
- **Facilitate** direct engagement and partnership-building between seed companies, breeders, and technology owners.
- **Conduct** a participatory selection of preferred varieties based on yield, resilience, and market demand.
- **Foster dialogue** on technology commercialization, policy support, and access to foundation seed.
- **Develop a clear roadmap** for scaling up ACLBC activities across the continent.

3. Program Highlights

The two-day program will be interactive and results-oriented, featuring:

- **Field Visit to a Demonstration Plot to be held on 19th August 2025 (Njoro):** An extensive tour of the 2-acre plot showcasing elite varieties of maize, soybean, rice, wheat, high-iron beans, sorghum, and millet.
- **Participatory Variety Evaluation Workshop on 20th August 2025:** A structured session for stakeholders to assess and provide feedback on the performance of different varieties.

- **Technical & Business Sessions (Nairobi):** In-depth presentations and panel discussions on variety performance, seed licensing, regulatory pathways, and market opportunities.
- **Networking Opportunities:** A welcome cocktail and dedicated sessions to foster interaction and collaboration among participants.

4. Target Participants

The workshop aims to bring together approximately 50 key stakeholders from the African seed sector, including:

- Seed companies and aggregators (ACLBC members and prospective members).
- Breeders and representatives from TAAT Compacts.
- Officials from National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS).
- Development partners and other strategic stakeholders.

5. Logistical Information

Please note the following arrangements for the workshop:

- **Participant Responsibility:** Participants are expected to cover their own costs for travel (to and from Nairobi) as well as accommodation.
- **Organizer Responsibility:** The ACLBC Secretariat will provide the following at no cost to registered participants:
 - Local transportation from Nairobi to the demonstration plot in Njoro at KALRO Research Station to the workshop venue and back.
 - Full conference facilities, including all workshop materials.
 - Lunch and coffee/tea breaks during the workshop and field visit days (August 19th and 20th August 2025).
- **Accommodation:** Below are the Hotels available *(Note that delegates will carter for their accommodation and all other expenses Except the conference package as specified.)*

Hotel name	Rate (USD)	Contact
Park Inn by Radisson Nairobi Westlands (Workshop Venue)	88	Joan Bor , Sales Manager Westlands Nairobi, Waiyaki Way, Nairobi, Kenya P.O. Box 14409 – 00800 T: +254 709 498 000 D: +254 795 740 756 Email: joan.bor@parkinn.com Website parkinn.com/hotel-nairobi
Jacaranda Hotel	90	Peter Mokua Senior Sales Manager Jacaranda Hotel Nairobi P.O. Box 14287, 00800, Nairobi, Kenya Phone: +254 0711-089000 Mobile: 0100130241, Mobile No. +254 722 970 818 E-mail: peter.mokua@jacarandahotels.com

We look forward to welcoming you to Kenya for this important event.