

EVENT NAME

Accelerating Seed Delivery through Sustainable Seed Systems Webinar

EVENT DATE: THURSDAY, 15 JULY 2021

EVENT BY: BRIAN HERNANDEZ

EVENT CHAT

[2021-07-15 09:50:04] [Aneela zameer durrani] good evening from Pakistan

[2021-07-15 09:50:47] [Nataly Merino] Hi from Belgium

[2021-07-15 09:51:05] [Francis Chomba] Good afternoon colleagues. Francis from Zambia 🇿🇲

[2021-07-15 09:51:38] [Lesley Perlman] Good morning! Good evening! Feel free to introduce yourself in the event chat! We will get started in about 10 minutes.

[2021-07-15 09:51:46] [Dick Tinsley] Dick Tinsley from Colorado State University

[2021-07-15 09:52:42] [krithika anbazhagan] Krithika from ICRISAT, India

[2021-07-15 09:52:54] [Nataly Merino] Nataly Merino - PhD Student at Ghent University - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/enmega/>

[2021-07-15 09:53:02] [Aneela zameer durrani] Aneela from Pakistan

[2021-07-15 09:53:10] [Mamadou Cisse] Hi from Switzerland

[2021-07-15 09:53:22] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Zachary Baquet with USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security joining from DC

[2021-07-15 09:53:25] [Papias Binagwa] Papias Binagwa from SFGS Tanzania

[2021-07-15 09:53:51] [] Hi Benedict from Nigeria

[2021-07-15 09:54:20] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome Papias, Mamadou, and Aneela! Thank you for joining us today

[2021-07-15 09:55:11] [Francis Chomba] I am Francis. Livelihoods Officer for Caritas Kasama in Zambia.

[2021-07-15 09:55:22] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Please take a moment to introduce yourself and let us know where you are joining from

[2021-07-15 09:55:52] [Abu B Yarmah] Abu Yarmah, Food for the Hungry, Washington DC.

[2021-07-15 09:56:13] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Hello Francis! Glad that you can join us today

[2021-07-15 09:56:42] [Shuyu Liu] Shuyu from Texas A&M University

[2021-07-15 09:57:15] [Daniel Jefferson Winstead] Hello from Penn State University!

[2021-07-15 09:57:40] [Aneela zameer durrani] looking forward for great discussion all honored participants are from recognized forums

[2021-07-15 09:57:51] [Thelma L. Soriano] Hi I am from Philippines

[2021-07-15 09:59:16] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome Abu, Shuyu, Daniel, and Thelma! Happy to have you here today

[2021-07-15 09:59:29] [Hilmy Ishak] Hello from Farmer to Farmer Sri Lanka Program, Colombo

[2021-07-15 10:00:07] [Solomon Gelalcha] Solomon Gelalcha, Crop Production Specialist, FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

[2021-07-15 10:00:08] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Hello Hilmy! Thank you for joining

[2021-07-15 10:00:18] [Tafadzwanashe Nyoni] Tafadzwa CNFA Zimbabwe

[2021-07-15 10:00:34] [Steve van der Merwe] Hi all, Steve from South Africa... African Seed Production Services.

[2021-07-15 10:00:55] [Paul Mason] Hello from Albany New York

[2021-07-15 10:01:01] [Donald Mavindidze] Hi Donald from HarvestPlus

[2021-07-15 10:01:07] [Emily O'Hara] Hello, all! Emily R. O'Hara here from TechnoServe in D.C.

[2021-07-15 10:01:23] [Chris Ibyisintabyo] Chris Ibyisintabyo (UN-WFP) based in Ghana

[2021-07-15 10:01:24] [Daniel Karanja] Daniel Karanja from CABI (<https://www.cabi.org/>) Nairobi, Kenya

[2021-07-15 10:01:44] [Jose Maria Alves Ornai] Halo to all From F2F Timor-Leste

[2021-07-15 10:01:52] [Aroma Patrick] Hello

[2021-07-15 10:02:22] [Roy Durlave] greetings from Dhaka Bangladesh

[2021-07-15 10:02:29] [Shachi Gurumayum] Hi all, Shachi Gurumayum here!

[2021-07-15 10:02:33] [Wilbert Mutezo] Wilbert Mutezo. Zimbabwean

[2021-07-15 10:02:34] [Dan Silverstein] Zachary: Great to see you.

[2021-07-15 10:02:38] [Christopher J Butler] Good morning! I'm with the International Potato Center

[2021-07-15 10:02:39] [Rutger Groot] Rutger Groot, East-West Seed Knowledge Transfer

[2021-07-15 10:02:40] [Don Humpal] Hello, from DAI.

[2021-07-15 10:02:43] [Ian MacNairn] Ian MacNairn AFR/SD and detailee to Sahel RO

[2021-07-15 10:02:43] [Emilia Umaña Acosta] Hello! Emilia from World Coffee Research

[2021-07-15 10:02:48] [Debashish Chanda] Hi everyone ! Debashish from CIP Bangladesh

[2021-07-15 10:02:48] [Aroma Patrick] Aroma Patrick-Camkwoki Grassroot Initiative For Development Limited-Uganda, Northern Uganda, Lira City

[2021-07-15 10:02:50] [Happy Sikalengo] Good evening from Tanzania. Happy Sikalengo from RIETA SEEDS.

[2021-07-15 10:02:52] [Walter de Oliveira] Walter de Oliveira - Resilience Officer @ FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central Africa

[2021-07-15 10:02:53] [AHMED FAZEEL] AHMED FAZEEL

[2021-07-15 10:02:55] [Heather DeLong] Hello from NYC; Technical Advisor, Food & Water Systems Team (Ag & Markets), CARE USA

[2021-07-15 10:02:55] [Louise Sperling] Louise Sperling. SeedSystem USA

[2021-07-15 10:02:56] [Fleur Kilwinger] Hello, Fleur Kilwinger from Wageningen University the Netherlands

[2021-07-15 10:02:58] [Ahmed Ekzayez] Hello everyone . Ahmed Ekzayez. Turkey

[2021-07-15 10:02:59] [Kate Fehlenberg] Hello from the US. Eager to hear this session -! Kate

[2021-07-15 10:03:02] [Marcel Vitouley] Marcel Vitouley, Benin, African School of Economics

[2021-07-15 10:03:03] [Maria Boa] Hi everyone!, from Merida, Mexico!

[2021-07-15 10:03:03] [Muhammad Ashraful Habib] Hello, this is Muhammad Ashraful Habib from Bangladesh

[2021-07-15 10:03:06] [Daniel Bailey] Daniel Bailey USAID/RFS

[2021-07-15 10:03:07] [DANNY LEMBS] Hello all. Danny Lemba from Zambia - Self Help Africa

[2021-07-15 10:03:08] [Joseph Bangnikon] Joseph Bangnikon, Global Communities, USA

[2021-07-15 10:03:11] [Madete Pauline] Madete S.K Pauline- FAO Somalia

[2021-07-15 10:03:11] [Bettina Haussmann] Bettina Haussmann from KWS Germany

[2021-07-15 10:03:15] [David Douches] Good morning from Michigan State University
[2021-07-15 10:03:16] [Aaron Larsen] Aaron Larsen, Samaritan's Purse, Boone, NC, USA
[2021-07-15 10:03:17] [Luke A Colavito] Hi All, Luke Colavito, Senior Economist, iDE
[2021-07-15 10:03:21] [AHMED FAZEEL] AGRICULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER NESTLE NIGERIA
[2021-07-15 10:03:26] [Stephen Okeyo] Hello everyone! Stephen Okeyo, M&E officer SFSA-Kenya
[2021-07-15 10:03:27] [Omar Diouf] Omar Diouf GGGI Lead Regional CSA Africa
[2021-07-15 10:03:29] [DANNY LEMBS] Sorry that should have been Danny Lemba
[2021-07-15 10:03:34] [Rutger Persson] Rutger Persson, Team Leader S4R project, AFC/ Global Crop Diversity Trust
[2021-07-15 10:03:38] [Jean Markendy CHARLES] Hi everyone, Jean Markendy CHARLES, MEAL Officer from SAP Project in Haïti
[2021-07-15 10:03:41] [Salvador Fernandez Rivera] Salvador Fernandez-Rivera, Mexico, greetings to all.
[2021-07-15 10:03:47] [Jill Cairns] Hello everyone, Jill Cairns from CIMMYT Zimbabwe
[2021-07-15 10:03:49] [Oluwabukola Makinde] Hello Everyone, Program Aide, Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture and Development Texas
[2021-07-15 10:04:00] [Paul Gibson] Paul Gibson--Plant Breeder-Makerere University Regional Centre for Crop Improvement, Uganda
[2021-07-15 10:04:02] [Eva Weltzien] Eva Weltzien and Fred Rattunde UW Madison
[2021-07-15 10:04:35] [Jeffrey S Boshart] Hello All. Jeff Boshart from Church of the Brethren Global Food Initiative.
[2021-07-15 10:04:37] [Ibidun S. Adetiloye] Hi all from Nigeria. Ibidun Adetiloye , National Center for Genetic Resources and Biotechnology (NACGRAB)
[2021-07-15 10:04:38] [Soressa Abawa Bakala] Hi every one! This is Soressa From Addis Addis Ababa Ethiopia
[2021-07-15 10:04:42] [Edward Walters] Ed Walters TA agriculture and Markets, CRS, USA
[2021-07-15 10:04:44] [DANNY LEMBS] Kema Lemba - Self Help Africa - Head of Programmes
[2021-07-15 10:04:56] [Marilyn Chottah] Marilyn Chottah- Catholic Relief Services- Tanzania
[2021-07-15 10:05:04] [Mukhtar Ahmed] Hi everyone Mukhtar Ahmed Crop Modeler from Pakistan
[2021-07-15 10:05:17] [Edo Lin] Hi this is Edo Lin, good to see many old friends here!
[2021-07-15 10:05:17] [ADELAIDA HARRIES] Adelaida Harries
[2021-07-15 10:05:19] [Morgan Timme] Hello all. Morgan Timme, NCBA CLUSA
[2021-07-15 10:05:25] [] Serah Hinga of Gikabu Millers Kenya.
Honored to be here.
[2021-07-15 10:05:29] [Soressa Abawa Bakala] From Self Help Africa-Ethiopia
[2021-07-15 10:05:36] [Desmond Asamoah] Hello everyone,

This is Desmond Asamoah, Institutional Relations Associate at Grameen Foundation

[2021-07-15 10:05:59] [David Mowbray] Hi everyone, David Mowbray here, Farm Radio International

[2021-07-15 10:06:30] [Ackson J. MWANZA] Ackson J. MWANZA, Self Help Africa, Zambia!

[2021-07-15 10:06:43] [George Kotch] Welcome everyone from the World Coffee Research group

[2021-07-15 10:07:03] [Kate Fehlenberg] Good to see you, David M of FRI

[2021-07-15 10:07:10] [Scovia Adikini] hello every one, Scovia Adikini from NARO Uganda

[2021-07-15 10:07:10] [Paul Porter] Hello, Paul Porter from Somali Agricultural Technical Group (SATG) and Filsan

[2021-07-15 10:07:29] [Komal Pradhan] Hi everyone, This is KOMAL PRADHAN from Nepal

[2021-07-15 10:07:35] [David Vanderpool] Howdy, David Vanderpool from Convoy of Hope

[2021-07-15 10:07:38] [Keshav Bhusal] Hello everyone, Keshav Bhusal from SUA AHARA II, Nepal

[2021-07-15 10:07:54] [Dr. SVR Shetty] Hello, Greetings from S V R Shetty, Former COP, West African Seed Alliance, ICRISAT/USAID. Now based in India..

[2021-07-15 10:08:02] [Happy Sikalengo] Hello everyone, Happy Sikalengo from RIETA SEEDS Tanzania.

[2021-07-15 10:08:24] [David Mowbray] Good to see you too, Kate Fehlenberg

[2021-07-15 10:08:46] [Sydney] Hello, from DevPact, Johannesburg

[2021-07-15 10:09:07] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome David, Happy, and Dr. SVR Shetty! Thanks for joining us!

[2021-07-15 10:09:22] [Dean Muungani] Hello, Dean Muungani, IITA, Ibadan, Nigeria

[2021-07-15 10:09:32] [David Vanderpool] Thanks Zachary

[2021-07-15 10:10:04] [julian Hamilton-Peach] Salaam from Penang, Malaysia; looking forward to learning about success.

[2021-07-15 10:10:06] [Celestina Jochua] Hello, Celestina Jochua, IIAM, Mozambique

[2021-07-15 10:10:17] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Thank you for staying up late and joining us from Nepal, Komal and Keshav!

[2021-07-15 10:10:18] [George Odingo] George Odingo

[2021-07-15 10:10:22] [Romaric Armel Mouafo Tchinda] hello everyone, Cameroonian from Canada

[2021-07-15 10:10:22] [Lloyd LePage] hello eveyone. Lloyd Le Page, Senior Adviser and AgriFood Lead, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. l.lepage@institute.global

[2021-07-15 10:10:27] [Happy Sikalengo] Thanks Zachary

[2021-07-15 10:10:53] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome George! Where are you joining us from?

[2021-07-15 10:10:54] [Julie Kariuki] Greetings from Nairobi, Kenya. Julie Kariuki, MEDA

[2021-07-15 10:11:28] [ALEMAYEHU KUMA] Greetings from Ethiopia, Alemayehu Kuma, GOAL Global

[2021-07-15 10:11:38] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Hello Romaric, Lloyd, and Julie! Glad you could join us!

[2021-07-15 10:12:10] [Pramel Kumar Gupta] Hello Everyone, Greetings from GREEN Foundation, India

[2021-07-15 10:12:23] [James Rhoads] Hello from Athens, GA USA- Jamie Rhoads, Assistant Director FtF Peanut Innovation Lab

[2021-07-15 10:12:30] [George Odingo] George Odingo, Global Associate Director, Ag/FS&Livelihoods. BRAC International based in Nairobi

[2021-07-15 10:13:19] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] The White Paper that Ian Barker is referring to is here:
https://www.syngentafoundation.org/sites/g/files/zhg576/f/2021/03/23/white_paper2021final.pdf

[2021-07-15 10:13:35] [Diba Dida Wako] From USAID Somalia

[2021-07-15 10:14:06] [Temi Adegrooye] Hello everyone. Temi Adegrooye, Partner at Sahel Consulting, Abuja, Nigeria

[2021-07-15 10:14:10] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Crops to End Hunger website:
<https://www.cgiar.org/excellence-breeding-platform/crops-to-end-hunger/>

[2021-07-15 10:14:31] [Tom van Mourik] Hi everyone, Tom van Mourik, KIT Royal Tropical Institute, part of the consortium that convenes the Integrated Seed Sector Development Africa CoP <https://issdafrica.org/>

[2021-07-15 10:15:08] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome Tom! Thanks for sharing the link

[2021-07-15 10:15:18] [Neil Rowe Miller] Hi, Neil Rowe Miller from Tearfund/CFGB Tanzania

[2021-07-15 10:15:47] [Carl Wah] Hi @Neil!

[2021-07-15 10:16:20] [Neil Rowe Miller] Hey Carl. Where you at these days?

[2021-07-15 10:16:27] [prerna garg] Hello Everyone, Glad to connect. I am Prerna Garg from India founder of A Dialogue. A Dialogue focuses on conservation of biodiversity and traditional ecological knowledge through design and innovation. will be happy to connect for collaboration/partnership in india. Thanks, Best, Prerna, prerna@adialogue.in
https://www.instagram.com/adialogue_/
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/prerna-garg-6b4b451a6/>

[2021-07-15 10:16:30] [Abass Akande] Hello, Akande Abass from AJE AGRICULTURE, Nigeria.

[2021-07-15 10:16:53] [julian Hamilton-Peach] Please use less English jargon (e.g. right-siding). Not everyone understands. Thank you.

[2021-07-15 10:16:54] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome Abass!

[2021-07-15 10:17:02] [Bola Amoke Awotide] Greetings from Bola Awotide-IITA, Bamako,Mali.

[2021-07-15 10:17:28] [Srini] Hi everyone, Srini from CIP Kampala office

[2021-07-15 10:17:57] [Ibidun S. Adetiloye] Hi all, Ibidun Adetiloye. Desk Officer, Nationality Variety Release Committee, NACGRAB, Nigeria. Thanks.

[2021-07-15 10:18:18] [Hideraldo Duarte] Hi everyone, Hideraldo Duarte from IRRI, Mozambique

[2021-07-15 10:18:18] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] If you have question for presenters, click on the Q&A button on the right. If you see a question you like, give it an up vote with the thumbs up icon

[2021-07-15 10:19:14] [Louise Sperling] Is there a direct link to the White Paper ? (apologies if I missed this)

[2021-07-15 10:19:14] [Rutger Groot] Great presentation Ian, good to see you here again!

[2021-07-15 10:19:32] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Welcome Bola, Srini, Ibidun, and Hideraldo! Thank you for joining us today

[2021-07-15 10:19:35] [Lesley Perlman] The White Paper that Ian Barker is referring to is here:
https://www.syngentafoundation.org/sites/g/files/zhg576/f/2021/03/23/white_paper2021final.pdf

[2021-07-15 10:20:31] [Tom van Mourik] For the integration between the formal (more focus of this white-paper) and informal seed sectors, please see the work of ISSD and ISSD Africa. As Ian states, the two systems are not exclusive and experience has shown there is a lot to gain from a better coordination, integration of formal and informal, leading to greater reach and synergies

[2021-07-15 10:22:01] [Syed Mahmudul Huq] Hi everybody good evening, Syed Mahmudul Huq, CIMMYT Bangladesh

[2021-07-15 10:22:02] [Tom van Mourik] ISSD principles <https://issdafrica.org/guiding-principles/>

[2021-07-15 10:22:05] [Rutger Groot] Indeed, Tom, the systems are complementary. But it is inevitable that SSA smallholder farmers are in dire need of quality genetics from international breeding programs to introduce resistances and climate resilience

[2021-07-15 10:23:34] [Tom van Mourik] Indeed Rutger, and these varieties can find their way to farmers through both the formal and informal systems and the right support can move informal and semi-formal actors towards the formal sector

[2021-07-15 10:26:21] [Abass Akande] AJE AGRICULTURE is agribusiness startup in Nigeria, providing farm inputs for smallholder farmers (end-to-end value chain) in Nigeria. We need partnership and fund for inputs distribution. Any connection will be grateful!! .

[2021-07-15 10:26:52] [Godwill Makunde] Godwill Makunde, CIP Mozambique

[2021-07-15 10:27:03] [Rutger Groot] Abass, contact hadiza.yaro@eastwestseed.com

[2021-07-15 10:27:40] [Edward Mabaya] This is excellent work. Can we get copies of the presentations?

[2021-07-15 10:27:47] [Rutger Groot] Very sensible story Nora, thank!

[2021-07-15 10:28:16] [Epaphras Milambwe] Very informative story

[2021-07-15 10:28:23] [Michael Sultz] A copy of the slides and a webinar recording will be sent to everyone who registered for the webinar.

[2021-07-15 10:29:03] [Edward Mabaya] Thanks Michael. Looking forward ...

[2021-07-15 10:29:36] [Soressa Abawa Bakala] Excellent!

[2021-07-15 10:29:36] [Yenus Ali] Hello everyone Yenus from Ethiopia

[2021-07-15 10:30:29] [Ibidun S. Adetiloye] Thanks Nora for the Presentation.

[2021-07-15 10:31:10] [Nora L Lapitan] my pleasure, Ibidun!

[2021-07-15 10:33:46] [Dyborn Chibonga] At what point do you bring in farmer preferences for taste, home storage and processing etc. It has been seen that sometimes high productivity varieties are not taken up due to poor taste etc

[2021-07-15 10:34:05] [Karen Hokanson] Greetings from University of Minnesota & Feed the Future Biotech Potato Partnership

[2021-07-15 10:34:07] [Wilfred Ouko] Hi Everyone - Wilfred Ouko, Program Advisor, Mercy Corps

[2021-07-15 10:34:17] [Suleymen Abdureman Omer] Hello everyone! Suleymen Abdureman Omer

Technology and Knowledge Transfer Officer, Research Extension and publication Office, Haramaya University, Oromia Region, Ethiopia.

Email: suleymanabdureman65@gmail.com

Mobile: +251920268645

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/suleymen-abdureman-63b091126>

[2021-07-15 10:35:04] [Elhadji Abdou Gueye] hello every one E A GUEYE from Sénégal

[2021-07-15 10:35:07] [Lloyd LePage] will this Seed2B presentation be made available ?

[2021-07-15 10:35:33] [NGABU Justin] Justin NGABU from DRC fabien.ngabu@gmail.com and nationalbk@rupfa.org

[2021-07-15 10:35:54] [Ibidun S. Adetiloye] Variety Registration and Release is a key and critical stage in Varietal Release system.

[2021-07-15 10:35:57] [Nora L Lapitan] @Dyborn, farmer preferences are considered at the very beginning and are part of the target product profile

[2021-07-15 10:36:39] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Thanks for your questions! Marianne Bänziger and Richard Jones (co-authors on the White Paper with Ian Barker) are answering some of your questions so please check those out

[2021-07-15 10:37:32] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] @Lloyd LePage, the presentation will be shared with all who registered for today's event and posted to Agrilinks

[2021-07-15 10:37:51] [Michael Friedmann] Have you considered the issue of vegetatively propagated crops being propagated by the farmers, so that the SME seed companies might have challenges in their business plans? eventually due to seed degeneration and availability of new varieties will bring repeat purchases, but this will only happen after a certain amount of years.

[2021-07-15 10:38:43] [Yenus Ali] yenusmi2008@gmail.com

[2021-07-15 10:42:08] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] To post questions for speakers, please use the Q&A button to your right

[2021-07-15 10:43:21] [Brian Hernandez] Hello Papias, I'm going to send you a private message to help trouble shoot

[2021-07-15 10:45:39] [Rutger Groot] Very interesting Jane to hear that public extension systems generally disfunction. Have you studied the work of East-West Seed Knowledge Transfer - which trains 150,000 smallholder farmers annually...?

[2021-07-15 10:47:57] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Thank you for your question @Rutger. Would you please post it in the Q&A section? Thank you!

[2021-07-15 10:48:01] [Rutger Groot] To what extent does AGRA nowadays include fruit & vegetables (high nutritional value for consumers, high added value for smallholder farmers) in their focus programs?

[2021-07-15 10:50:59] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] If you missed the beginning of the presentation, please know that the webinar is being recorded. We will send out the presentation and recording. We will also post them to Agrilinks.

[2021-07-15 10:53:31] [Jane Ininda] @Rutger Groot-Thank you for your question. AGRA does support seed companies. Most of these seed companies produce vegetable seed as well.

[2021-07-15 10:59:04] [Rutger Groot] Excellent to hear Barbara. A huge challenge is to convince smallholder farmers that it makes sense to invest in quality seeds instead of using genetically deteriorated Farmer Saved Seeds: the only way to get access to improved genetics for higher yields, longer shelf life, higher disease resistance and better climate resilience!

[2021-07-15 10:59:44] [Jane Ininda] @Rutger Groot-AGRA is working to reduce the Extension worker:Farmer ratio from the current 1:5,000 to 1:500, now being achieved in our geographies. We have 33,000 VBAs serving farmers

[2021-07-15 11:00:43] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Thanks All! For your questions and the rich discussion in the chat. Starting the Q&A session soon, please add your questions to the Q&A section

[2021-07-15 11:01:38] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Also check out answers in the Q&A section. Presenters and White Paper authors have answered many of your questions

[2021-07-15 11:02:30] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] If you have clarifications for answers provided, please use Reply

[2021-07-15 11:03:03] [Echima Titus Lendi] Echima Titus Lendi @echimatlen@gmail.com, Bsc (Hon) Agribusiness Management (Muk)-Uganda

AgriBusiness Development @Palm Corps

[2021-07-15 11:03:52] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] This webinar is part of the Ag Transformation theme month on Agrilinks: <https://agrilinks.org/post/agriculture-catalyst-inclusive-economic-transformation>

[2021-07-15 11:06:31] [Gary Jahn] Great presentations and information!

[2021-07-15 11:06:45] [Aneela zameer durrani] excellent discussion

[2021-07-15 11:09:10] [Jean Claude Rubyogo] To accelerate quality seed in the hands of farmers - it may be good to have seed system nested in the food systems approach - the commodity demand pulls the seed

[2021-07-15 11:13:10] [Edward Walters] Yup. Just logged into SeedSAT

[2021-07-15 11:14:37] [Rutger Groot] Interesting question to Tony . Quality seed prices seem high, but the hugely increased dwarfs the initial investment. THAT is the very thing which has to be demonstrated to farmers!

[2021-07-15 11:14:46] [Edward Mabaya] By the way, The African Seed Access Index (TASAI) also highlights key bottleneck along formal seed value chains. More information is available at <https://tasai.org/>

[2021-07-15 11:21:21] [Carl Wahl] @Rutger Groot - I would encourage you to read / watch the materials produced by ISSD on unpacking farmers perceptions of certified seeds (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rq155vtHH9s>), as there is a lot of complexity around the value of seeds that influence decisions around purchase.

[2021-07-15 11:22:09] [Paul Gibson] I missed whether the white paper is available to us yet. If so, please give the link again.

[2021-07-15 11:23:14] [Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS)] Link to the White Paper: https://www.syngentafoundation.org/sites/g/files/zhg576/f/2021/03/23/white_paper2021final.pdf

[2021-07-15 11:24:22] [Ibidun S. Adetiloye] what is Agra doing to strengthen local seed business in Africa.

[2021-07-15 11:24:56] [Paul Gibson] Thanks much for the link.

[2021-07-15 11:25:06] [Rutger Groot] interesting read from Uganda: <https://www.wur.nl/en/project/unique-case-study-shows-adoption-good-horticulture-practice-in-uganda.htm>

[2021-07-15 11:26:27] [Dick Tinsley] thank you for an interesting webinar

[2021-07-15 11:26:49] [Rutger Groot] interesting CGIAR article from Uganda: <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/113459>

[2021-07-15 11:27:11] [Essegbemon Akpo] great talks
[2021-07-15 11:27:30] [Epaphras Milambwe] Thank you for sharing interesting materials @Rutger
[2021-07-15 11:27:53] [Michael Saltz] Thank you everyone for joining us today! Don't forget to visit Agrilinks.org to see some of the excellent Ag Transformation content coming out this month: <https://agrilinks.org/post/agriculture-catalyst-inclusive-economic-transformation>
[2021-07-15 11:28:16] [Abass Akande] how can SME access USAID fund?
[2021-07-15 11:28:25] [Epaphras Milambwe] Thanks
[2021-07-15 11:28:35] [Jean Markendy CHARLES] Thank you!!!
[2021-07-15 11:28:37] [Sanata Traoré] Thanks all
[2021-07-15 11:28:41] [Amah Delphine] Thanks to everyone for the great presentations.
[2021-07-15 11:28:45] [Tony Gathungu] Thank you!
[2021-07-15 11:28:59] [Rosanna Kingston] Will you share the presentation?
[2021-07-15 11:29:07] [Paul Mason] Thank you everyone for a very informative webinar!
[2021-07-15 11:29:17] [David Dudenhoefer] The presentations were excellent. Thank you!
[2021-07-15 11:29:18] [NGABU Justin] Thank you
[2021-07-15 11:29:19] [Tom van Mourik] Thank you and nice to see you Barbara and Ian!
[2021-07-15 11:29:19] [George Odingo] thanks for this webinar
[2021-07-15 11:29:38] [Ibidun S. Adetiloye] Thanks for the interesting webinar.
[2021-07-15 11:29:43] [Kuyet Joshua] Thank you for your time panellist.
[2021-07-15 11:29:46] [Papias Binagwa] bye
[2021-07-15 11:30:03] [Rogers Kakuhenzire] Good and informative presentation
[2021-07-15 11:30:13] [Srini] amazing discussion
[2021-07-15 11:30:25] [Solomon Gelalcha] Excellent presentations. Please do not forget to share the presentations and the discussions with us.
[2021-07-15 11:30:25] [Srini] Thanks to all and have a good time
[2021-07-15 11:31:08] [Solomon Gelalcha] Bye!
[2021-07-15 11:31:15] [Mir Aszad Ali] thanks to all
[2021-07-15 11:31:37] [Nataly Merino] Thanks

Q&A SECTION

Posted Questions

[10:18 AM]

Dick Tinsley asked : In the foreseeable future can the formal seed industry, both private and public provide more than just a small percent of the seed requirement for most counties in Africa particularly for smallholder farmers and thus how much seed will continue to be provided through the market seed sources?

9 upvotes | 1 answer | 0 reply

Richard Jones answered -

As the commercial seed sector expands, there is already increasing interest in the production and marketing of a more diverse range of crops. In some countries regulatory impediments are holding this process back and this is addressed in the paper. Ultimately the success of a more commercial approach will depend on getting good products into the market.

[10:35 AM]

Neil Rowe Miller asked : Commercial producers rarely invest in self-pollinated crops (e.g. most legumes). As a result, "commercialization" falls to the public sector. But public institutions struggle to finance production and distribution. How can we assure commercialization of such crops?

7 upvotes | 1 answer | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

In the course of writing the White Paper we came across several examples that challenge this perception. Companies with strong brand recognition are marketing non-hybrid crops especially where there is a strong product market

Neil Rowe Miller replied -

"where there is a strong product market" is the key. Soybean, high value vegetable crop seed, yes. But legumes grown largely for subsistence are rarely touched by the commercial sector.

[10:15 AM]

Paul Mason asked : Is the improvement of open pollinated varieties a part of the modern plant breeding program, and if so, what varieties are of particular interest, and why?

6 upvotes | 2 answers | 0 reply

Marianne Bänziger answered -

Many crops are still being improved as hybrid and open-pollinated crops, for a range of reasons. As an example, there are recently improved open-pollinated and hybrid maize varieties available in Sub-Saharan Africa. OPVs are often produced and disseminated by smaller seed companies.

Richard Jones answered -

The list of crops covered under CtEH is given in the White Paper

[10:27 AM]

Guy FAURE asked : Where is the voice of farmers and farmers' organisations to orient/monitor the steps? Are farmers just clients? Such a topic is key, especially when public funds are mobilized to support breeding and the seed systems.

6 upvotes | 2 answers | 1 reply

Marianne Bänziger answered -

The CGIAR seeks to systematize that farmers are involved in 1. defining the "product profile", i.e. the breeding goal, and 2. in testing of new varieties that are being developed with those goals. Farmers need to be systematically involved AND heard. Why trying to promote a variety that farmers do not want?

Guy FAURE replied -

it is a weak participation. The needs are collected through surveys/other means and the reactions of farmers through other surveys. It does not ensure that the choices are in line with farmers needs.. You can design a beverage based on such a strategy and do not necessarily meet the needs of the population (even if you sell the product). But it is just an example.

Tony Gathungu answered -

Here is a good source for the work being done under Demand Led Breeding.
<https://www.demandledbreeding.org/approach>

[10:30 AM]

Tom van Mourik asked : How does one measure genetic gain in farmers' fields? That is an accumulation of multiple improved varieties that may or may not be adopted by farmers, the changes in practices and inputs other than the seed of improved varieties, as well as the quality of the seed of the improved varieties/...

5 upvotes | 1 answer | 0 reply

Marianne Bänziger answered -

That's indeed the challenge. See Bottleneck 14 for some proxies.

[10:32 AM]

Ackson J. MWANZA asked : Have you done any work to push for the global or regional acceptance of variety characterization in the quest to harmonize the seed standards for ease of exportation and importation of seed?

3 upvotes | 1 answer | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

There has been a lot of work to address this issue at the level of regional economic communities - particularly SADC, COMESA and ECOWAS in sub-Saharan Africa

Ackson J. MWANZA replied -

Wonderful. Thanks Richard.

Read through a couple of online scripts on the same but full detailed documentation has been a hustle to access.

If you have any documentation or links on the same - I'd appreciate if you shared.

[10:43 AM]

Srini asked : In the seed value chain, from TC production to basic seed, it is clear about seed classes and able to monitor well about performance, but after basic seed, it is not clear which classes of seed farmers are accessing in informal sector. So, is it good idea to connect formal with informal sector ?

3 upvotes | 0 answer | 0 reply

[10:49 AM]

Guy FAURE asked : How do you integrate the interactions with the informal seed systems (around 80% of farmers in Africa access seeds through the informal seed system)? A few of them through cooperatives. How to manage/improve this broader seed system (formal and informal)?

3 upvotes | 2 answers | 0 reply

Richard Jones answered -

The White Paper was explicit in not addressing the important issue you raise in your question. However there is no reason why cooperatives cannot get involved in seed production and marketing and there are already examples of this in some markets. CABI has done some interesting work on linking seed producers to commercial seed companies to overcome the marketing bottleneck that individual seed producers are not in a good position to address

Marianne Bänziger answered -

No simple answer.

More widely available simple information about seed and varieties would help. The ability for more farmers to provide feedback (including to seed quality) and/or become involved (eg as seed producer) would help.

[10:29 AM]

Walter Chivasa asked : Why is the private sector/breeding missing in the breeding stages of PLC?

2 upvotes | 2 answers | 0 reply

Richard Jones answered -

This is addressed in the White Paper as we recognize that the private sector is already involved and likely to expand its investments into CtEH crops

ian barker answered -

Very good point Walter. I forgot to say that the report also did not address the growing importance of private breeding or even public-private breeding in relation to smallholder farmer based systems. We were concentrating on seed delivery of public bred varieties.

[10:35 AM]

Dick Tinsley asked : Until the seed industry has developed to reach remote areas isn't necessary to rely on local agro-business to be the final seed multiplier? Please consider this webpage: https://webdoc.agsci.colostate.edu/smallholderagriculture/The_Crop_Genetic_Pump.pdf
2 upvotes | 0 answer | 0 reply

[11:09 AM]

Walter de Oliveira asked : Most of the smallholder farmers do not have the financial means to buy commercially available seed. How do you relate the replacement of farmers' fields via varietal and the great genetic gain mentioned and the right of farmers to use and exchange farm-saved seed?
2 upvotes | 2 answers | 0 reply

Richard Jones answered -

There are well documented examples of smallholder farmers purchasing seed. Farmers have traditionally shared seed through exchange, local markets, gifts etc and most countries are not putting any restrictions on these measures unless farmers start to package and market own-saved seed commercially.

Marianne Bänziger answered -

Outside high-income countries and for the crops and breeding programs looked at (public), farmers can purchase seed and have the right to use and exchange farm-saved seed. It is important that the public sector covers farmers rights when the public sector licenses the variety to a seed company.

[11:18 AM]

Kate Fehlenberg asked : Community-based extension workers/ agro dealers will be key: perhaps CGs, AGRA, Seed/ input trade associations could invest here in a corps of trained, monitored, equipped community based input dealers and TA support-?

2 upvotes | 2 answers | 4 replies

Richard Jones answered -

Programs like the African Fertiliser Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP) and AGRA are doing this

Kate Fehlenberg replied -

Indeed. Can this work be expanded by more support? Would be Last Mile boost

Kate Fehlenberg replied -
Thanks to all for replies!

Richard Jones answered -
There is a need to identify and focus on those individuals best placed to take up the challenge of input marketing and demand creation.

Kate Fehlenberg replied -
Indeed, as many seed companies cite lack of Demand as reason to turnover/ update their portfolios. Aside from pro market research, a base of community extensionists and input dealers could be valuable sentinels/ monitors of farmer demand/ capacity needs for seed companies, breeders, etc.

Kate Fehlenberg replied -
Asia does this somewhat well via govt -sponsored District/ COmmunity-level sponsored agents. In Africa, perhaps support could come also from input associations/ donors etc -?

[11:18 AM]

Echima Titus Lendi asked : F1 seeds prices way higher for our local farmers to adopt, how can different sectors make this F1 seeds cheaper for local farmers to adopt and increase their multiplication effect

2 upvotes | 1 answer | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -
Increased competition between commercial seed companies should lead to more competitive pricing

Echima Titus Lendi replied -
Perfect, so there is need to support commercial and SMEs by offering subsidies (policy makers)

[10:35 AM]

Srini asked : VPC less attract private sector due to its nature of the crop. Once farmers buy seed, they don't buy again for the next seasons. this situation makes discourage seed entrepreneurs to venture into VPC seed business. how to ensure VPC seed business more attractive?

1 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[10:38 AM]

Edo Lin asked : Regional integration on seed catalogues, seed certification?

1 upvote | 2 answers | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

In many cases the policies, laws and regulations have been developed but are not being fully implemented. There also needs to be more attention to developing policies, laws and regulations that can be practically implemented.

Edo Lin replied -

Hi Richard, you and I have been working on the SSA seed scene for at least the past 25 years and today we are discussing the same issues!

Tony Gathungu answered -

This one requires a lot of policy advocacy. Most countries have signed off on many of the policies and regulations but actual implementation remains a major challenge. We at Seeds2B have been working on regional harmonization on variety registration within ECOWAS, EAC, and COMESA. We also focus on "testing" the systems in select countries.

[10:43 AM]

Kate Fehlenberg asked : RE Regional trade: COM-SHIP has been on books since 2015 but ground-level implementation still underway. COMESA and other reg bodies could use support (staff; tech solutions; one M&E) to help get to ground

1 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[10:43 AM]

Carl Wahl asked : What are the metrics for a "better" crop? I scanned the white paper but I'm not seeing what those metrics are and how they are determined. Any references available to the same are appreciated.

1 upvote | 1 answer | 1 reply

Marianne Bänziger answered -

Good point. Implied instead of spelled out..... Something a farmer would consider as better, a crop that provides greater value in farmers' context..

Carl Wahl replied -

Thanks Marianne - Yes, it would be good to have a sense of how diverse farmer views (male/female, wealth / poverty levels, commercial access) are taken into account.

[10:45 AM]

Ravi Singh asked : Seed systems for self-pollinated and hybrid crops is different and then also different for crops within crops. We need to develop stage-gate system for them to identify intervention points that will have marked differences in seed availability and turnover. Any comments?

1 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Marianne Bänziger answered -

The answer would fill a book. Lots of influencing factors that make self-pollinated versus hybrid crop seed systems successful, or not. I agree that defining stage gates can help to rationalize bottlenecks and approach possible solutions, for a particular crop and in a particular context.

[10:50 AM]

Kate Fehlenberg asked : Please detail SeedSAT (Jane of AGRA)- what is it/ how does it work?

1 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Jane Ininda answered -

Seed Systems Assessment Tool-please the website

[11:00 AM]

Arndt BRODKORB asked : Is there any possibility to get the presentations from the speakers for further reflexion regarding the topics?

1 upvote | 1 answer | 1 reply

Michael Saltz answered -

A copy of the slides and a webinar recording will be sent to everyone who registered for the webinar.

Arndt BRODKORB replied -

Thanks

[11:12 AM]

Solomon Gelalcha asked : General question (related to PLC): how do you envision subsistent farmers in the SSA access the highly productive/ quality seeds of hybrid crop varieties, given the high cost associated with royalty/ ownership by multi-national companies?

1 upvote | 1 answer | 1 reply

Marianne Bänziger answered -

That's why public sector breeding programs and deployment through a wider range of seed companies stays important . It prevents monopolies and fosters a wider range of options and lower seed costs.

Solomon Gelalcha replied -

Thank you very much Marianne.

I cannot agree more that the public breeding program remains key...and need to be supported!

[11:13 AM]

Eva Weltzien asked : The White paper proposes mostly the increase of supply of seed of fewer varieties, would it not be more important to build on farmers' demands and capacities?

1 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[11:24 AM]

Srini asked : As you know farmers often do not buy VPC seed, meanwhile, we are encouraging private sector to venture into VPC seed business. Many NGOs distribute seed for free which also distort seed business even for new seed entrepreneurs who like to venture into VPC seed business. how to address this issue?

1 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[10:34 AM]

ADELAIDA HARRIES asked : How do you ensure the deliver of new varieties from NARS to seed enterprises? Is the licensing approach a solution?

0 upvote | 2 answers | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

There is a need for clear processes that are transparent and which can incentivize the public sector to reach out to the private sector

ADELAIDA HARRIES replied -

Which are the clear processes?

Tony Gathungu answered -

The licensing approach is a good approach to ensure funds get re-invested back to the breeding programs and seed companies are able to invest in the new materials. However, these licensing approaches need to be clear for both parties and therefore the need for coaching and capacity building for the NARS on variety licensing

[10:34 AM]

Abass Akande asked : How to partner with seed2B in Nigeria?

0 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Tony Gathungu answered -

Seeds2B is working in Nigeria and happy to partner. Please contact our country director - Isaiah Gabriel at isaiah.gabriel@syngenta.com

[10:38 AM]

Srini asked : Even if you do demonstration crops like sweetpotato, we are not sure about number of times multiplication, unless we see it visually the performance of the planting material which directly affects Sweetpotato seed business. How to ensure that we can attract farmers to focus 100% VPC seed business?

0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[10:38 AM]

Steve van der Merwe asked : Where can we get access to the white paper ?

0 upvote | 1 answer | 1 reply

Lesley Perlman answered -

The White Paper that Ian Barker is referring to is here:

https://www.syngentafoundation.org/sites/g/files/zhg576/f/2021/03/23/white_paper2021final.pdf

Steve van der Merwe replied -

Tnx

[10:40 AM]

Srini asked : commercialization of EGS requires systematic ways of measuring seed requirement based on area under sweetpotato with backward calculation. But statistics related to area under crops always a challenges in public sector. Quality of statistics related to VPC directly linked to current challenges

0 upvote | 1 answer | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

You are correct but there are interesting technologies emerging to address this issue including SMS messaging, market research using mobile phones etc.

Srini replied -

True but adoption of ICT technologies still in nascent stage particularly for VPC crops, particularly for Sweetpotato.

[10:43 AM]

melkam mesenbet asemie asked : i am not clear with systemic Gaps
0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[10:44 AM]

Hans Bhardwaj asked : How do we create demand for new and better products is the most critical step in the LCM process. I don't see any mention of that in the white paper or what is being presented/discussed here. Any thoughts how we plan to create demand (pull strategy) for the new products?
0 upvote | 1 answer | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

This is discussed in the paper itself. For example understanding the needs of traders/processors to guide breeding, and then developing working partnerships to stimulate demand through demonstrations, etc

Hans Bhardwaj replied -

Thanks Richard. Who conducts these demonstrations on farmer's fields and what else if anything is being done to create demand?

[10:44 AM]

Lainey Wolf asked : I had to join late today. Will this presentation be recorded and shared afterwards? Or could I possibly receive a copy of the presentations? Thanks!
0 upvote | 2 answers | 0 reply

Tony Gathungu answered -

Yes. The presentation is being recorded

Zachary Baquet (USAID/RFS) answered -

We will send an email to all registered participants with links to the recording, slide deck, and transcripts. Check out Agrilinks for updates too.

[10:46 AM]

Happy Sikalengo asked : AGRA was supporting seed companies with capacity building through SEMIs at The University of Nairobi. Currently, accessing the program is expensive especially for small companies like RIETA SEED.
How is AGRA supporting the capacity building nowadays?

0 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Jane Ininda answered -

AGRA is continuously supporting seed businesses through BDS as well i.e. On-site training of seed companies in planning, quality control and information. SEMIS continues to operate as well

[10:46 AM]

Seid Ahmed Kemal asked : I suggest to evaluate the seed system/delivery for cereals and food legumes separately so that more supports can go to crops with weak PLC

0 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Richard Jones answered -

Your comment has been taken onboard as the list of crops under CtEH is more focused on crops with weak PLC's

[10:48 AM]

Greg Traxler asked : Is anyone using variety adoption identified through DNA fingerprinting to measure average varietal age, rate of varietal turnover or rate of genetic gain in farmers fields?

0 upvote | 2 answers | 1 reply

Richard Jones answered -

BMGF has invested in this in Tanzania and I believe a number of other countries.

Greg Traxler replied -

Thanks. Are any of those results published or are the data available?

Richard Jones answered -

I believe some results have been published but do not have the details to hand. BMGF/AGRA should be able to assist

[10:53 AM]

Dick Tinsley asked : do most host countries have the financial resources to supervise the formal seed sector. For example in Kano, Nigeria there was just one certification team for the entire state trying to certify seed production in half hectare plots.

0 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Richard Jones answered -

You are correct and therefore we propose increased use of commercial service providers. This is already happening in several countries - Kenya, Zambia, Malawi to some extent and South Africa

[10:56 AM]

melkam mesenbet asemie asked : I want to do more on sweet potato seed improvement and maximizing its production and productivity in Ethiopia to deliver improved seed for poor farmers can I get support from Agrilinks or USAID
0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[11:06 AM]

Walter Chivasa asked : Is the white paper available to the public?

0 upvote | 2 answers | 1 reply

Michael Saltz answered -
Yes you can find it here: <https://bit.ly/3tl61n6>

Richard Jones answered -
Yes - a link has been provided

Walter Chivasa replied -
Thank you very much.

[11:14 AM]

Aneela zameer durrani asked : How we fix indicators for better seed criteria
0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[11:15 AM]

Srini asked : Often I see seed certification process done only for released variety, yet large number of market preferred variety is landrace particularly for sweetpotato. there is a gap between EGS producers and QDS producers. The gap can be high transaction costs to access seed how to connect this missing link
0 upvote | 1 answer | 2 replies

Jane Ininda answered -
True and good comments, There is need for quality control for EGS as well

Srini replied -
I agreed. but those who produce EGS (i.e., public sector) were not have accredited labs

Srini replied -
except KEPHIS Kenya

[11:16 AM]

Kate Fehlenberg asked : Farmer capacities will be key: turnover time, risk mitigation, ensuring ALL inputs required for new varieties, including TA, is critical to farmer uptake
0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[11:19 AM]

Eva Weltzien asked : What type of businesses are being considered SME's to be supported? Are farmer cooperatives an option?
0 upvote | 1 answer | 0 reply

Tony Gathungu answered -

Not at the moment. Mostly single business entities are the ones being supported

[11:28 AM]

Chikelu Mba asked : The private sector will arise when there is effective demand
0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

Deleted Questions

[10:57 AM]

Jim Barnhart asked : Sorry All. I have to drop. Very interesting and thank you to all our presenters!
0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply

[11:01 AM]

Arndt BRODKORB asked : Arndt Brodkorb (missio Munich)

Is there any possibility to get the presentations from the speakers for further reflexion regarding the topics?

0 upvote | 0 answer | 0 reply