Workshop - Measuring Seed Sector Performance
Goals and expectations measuring performance of seed sector in Africa – private sector perspective

Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire, Tuesday 25- Wednesday 26 October 2016
Our Visions

**ISF Vision**
“A world where the best quality seed is accessible to all, supporting sustainable agriculture and food security”

**AFSTA Vision**
“All farmers have access to quality seed, for food security”
A reality ...

ISTA

Global Hunger Index by severity

UPOV

OECD SS

ISF
What we are looking for

• Adapted & harmonized seed laws & regulations, common seed catalogues and fast tracking implementation
• IP protection=> UPOV 1991 as minimum (ARIPO, OAPI)
• Facilitate Access to Germplasm
• Investment & collaboration in development /use of locally-adapted seed products
• Public-private partnerships / cooperative seed action plans
• Strengthen seed associations
• Investment in capacity building
• Use of trade and arbitration rules Strong
• Recognition of the voice of the industry in the agriculture development agenda
The Seed Industry in Africa

- Meets only 20% of seed demand thus a net importer of seed from outside
- Few countries have a dynamic research system that involve private sector with well established variety release and seed production
- Poor government support for effective distribution seed to farmers; Complex seed business registration process, no one stop licensing office
- Weak seed regulatory framework to enable cope with the dynamics of the global seed industry
- Few integrated companies (approx. 20)
Some issues in Africa

- Seed subsidies programs with no exit program hence distorting the seed markets, thus limiting investments in seed business should not compete with seed industry efforts in breeding
- Rising fake and Illegal seeds due to weak seed trade regulations
- National segmentation of markets prevents regional seed exchanges, thus limiting investment interest; currently being addressed through regional harmonisation of seed regulations but domesticating these regulations is still a challenge
- Less interest of youth to study agriculture in general and plant breeding in particular; Youth find agricultural courses comparatively less rewarding
- Limited resource capacity(Human, facilities) to ensure production of quality Seed quality
Information gaps

- More reliable statistics /seed industry information on farming profiles and seed markets limits adequate planning
- More information on specific regional preferences on crops
- Information on Agriculture training programs with focus on seed sector in different Countries
- Information on public private partnership opportunities
- Information on Donors programs related to Seed in Africa and opportunity for Private companies to participate
- More information on the use of the indices initiatives
Conclusions

- Private Seed Sector is engage and will continue to engage in Africa

- Strong National Seed Trade associations are critical for next steps.