

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



OECD SS



Global Hunger Index by severity



UPOV



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.



Seed is Life