



Fostering a dynamic seed system in Tanzania



Background

In Tanzania, many farmers continue to lack access to high yielding, disease-free certified seeds, which hinders agribusiness growth and food security efforts. The Tanzanian 2010-2011 National Panel Survey found that only 16.8 percent of rural households are using improved seed varieties. Laws and regulations surrounding seed systems have been improved but require further attention to increase the ability of farmers to access improved varieties and associated technologies

Partners

The New Markets Lab (NML) is a non-profit organization established to open new markets to the benefit of smallholder producers and entire communities through inclusive economic systems and innovative legal and regulatory approaches.

www.newmarketslab.org

The SAGCOT Centre Ltd (SCL) is the administrative unit of the Southern Agriculture Growth Corridor of Tanzania, a multistakeholder partnership that aims to transform agriculture by catalysing responsible private investments and fostering inclusive business models.

www.sagcot.com

Partnership Status

The SAGCOT Centre Ltd. (SCL) and its implementing partner the New Markets Lab (NML) are developing an inclusive and innovative program on seed law and regulation with the support of AGRA's Scaling Seeds and Technologies Partnership (SSTP) initiative. Legal and regulatory systems that facilitate access and availability of high-quality seeds are central to agricultural development and food security, and these goals are embedded in Tanzania's commitments under the G8 Cooperation Framework to Support the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.

The project will focus on:-

- Operationalizing these commitments and building systems for effective implementation of seed laws and regulations in a way that incorporates the needs of stakeholders of all sizes across value chains, including smallholder farmers, local enterprises, and women.
- The partnership leverages SCL's experience with fostering agribusinesses that benefit smallholder farmers and supporting corridor-led growth through public-private collaboration and NML's expertise in building inclusive legal and regulatory systems for seed systems and related areas of economic law and regulation.

Focused along the SAGCOT Corridor, the seed law and regulation project will help promote a dynamic seed system in Tanzania by openly sharing information on the structure and implementation of existing laws and regulations and engaging a diverse group of stakeholders on an ongoing basis to work through issues that arise. The project will produce a user-friendly legal guide to help enterprises navigate existing requirements at the national and regional levels and better understand the process for bringing new seeds to market. The legal guide will also support the work of Tanzania's public sector in improving and implementing legal and regulatory structures.

The legal and regulatory partnership is designed to be both practical and inclusive, identifying challenges and opportunities facing existing stakeholders and facilitating future growth in the seed sector. Throughout the project, SCL and NML will work with partners across business, government, and the legal field. This project could serve as a model in Tanzania and other countries to design interactive legal and regulatory systems that can effectively deliver improved seed and support the implementation of the G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition policy commitments, ultimately building lasting business and legal capacity in Tanzania's seed sector that can support dynamic and inclusive growth.

