



**Supporting
Seed Systems
for Development**

S34D Newsletter

August 2022

Reports & Publications

As our team begins traveling again in compliance with current pandemic guidance, we hope that this update finds you all happy and healthy through these uncertain times. In this newsletter, S34D brings you three reports and a newly released publication.



Seed Systems in Fragile States: Haiti Case Study

With insights drawn from the literature and key informant interviews, S34D is reviewing seed systems in the DRC, Haiti and South Sudan. **This overview focuses on Haiti** and concludes that there is a need for definitive seed law and regulatory frameworks for private sector investment. In addition, informal sector traders are as important if not more important than formal sectors seed traders in developing resilient seed systems in fragile states and need to be incorporated into seed sector development. There is also a need to better understand the gender dynamics of the seed sector, especially the role of female informal traders. Ignoring the gendered dynamics of women's work in the formal and informal seed sectors would jeopardize the future inclusive development of these systems.

Transforming Last Mile Seed Delivery: Case of High Iron Beans (HIBs) Niche Market Business Model in Lower Eastern Kenya



The Alliance of Biodiversity International and CIAT and National Agricultural Research Systems partners have developed high iron and zinc bean varieties through biofortification to combat both hidden hunger and malnutrition. The Pan-African Bean Research Alliance conceptualized the niche market business model envisioning efficient and effective last-mile seed delivery of the high iron and zinc beans. The micronutrient-rich attribute of these beans is appealing to seed companies, agro-dealers, and end-user [farmers]. However, the delivery of these varieties to the last mile is yet to be achieved. **The first season study report** can be found here. **This second season report** continued to determine if efficient and low-cost non-traditional channels for seed distribution (viz use of motorbike riders) can enable reaching the last mile while presenting a viable business case for seed companies and agro-dealers.



Effects of Agricultural Input Fairs on Seed Markets: A Review

This **review** comprises information from four different studies from Malawi, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. The review examines the market effects of Diversity for Nutrition and Enhanced Resilience fairs, draws lessons learned and provides recommendations for the use of fairs for market system development.

Strengths and weaknesses of organized crop seed production by smallholder farmers: A five-country case study



Smallholder farmers play a key role in food crop seed production, yet community roles, operational structures, seed production efficiency, aspects of sustainability, and the social and policy environments in which these groups operate have been poorly studied and described. **This study** attempts to better understand these factors by drawing cases from twenty-five seed producer groups in five countries (Vietnam, Uganda, Zambia, Niger, and Guatemala) that deal with nine crops. Our findings point to actions that external stakeholders could undertake to strengthen smallholder farmer seed production in recognition of their contribution to food and nutrition security.

Contact

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