



## Supporting Seed Systems for Development

# S34D Newsletter



### May 2023

S34D is delighted to announce that it has received a no-cost extension (NCE) through late December! This NCE will allow S34D to continue and expand its activities and produce quality outputs. We look forward to the additional time with you, readers. Stay tuned, as various S34D reports are in the works!

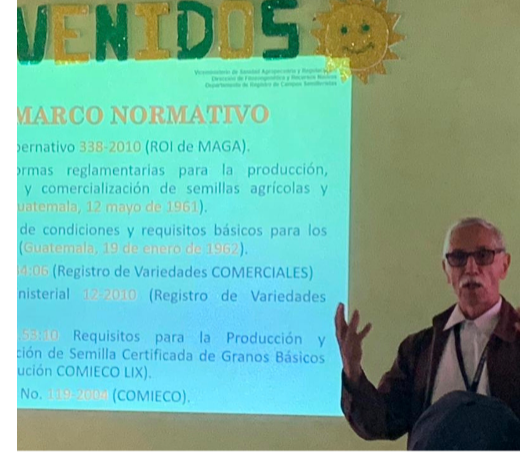
## Workshops & Conferences

### S34D in Guatemala

S34D's Director of Operations traveled to Guatemala from April 16-22, meeting with USAID Mission staff to provide updates on S34D activities in-country, which include strengthening the enabling environment for bean and potato value chains and translating participatory action research into cash-based seed security responses. The meeting was attended by USAID Washington and Guatemala, CRC Guatemala, and S34D staff.



S34D was also in attendance at a training for potato farmers facilitated by La Asociación de Organizaciones de los Granos Cuchumatanes (ASOCUCH) in Aldea Paquix, Chiantla, Huehuetenango. The training focused on national seed standards, presenting the seed registration regulatory framework and process for certifying seed. Two representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture's (MoA) Department of Field Seed Registry – Ing. Mauricio Hernandez and Department Chief Ing. Salvador Sandoval – presented various regulations and procedures for seed registration and provided an overview of its new SIGIE platform (the Import and Export Management System), an electronic registration system now used by the MoA for seed registration. There were 21 attendees over the two-day training, including three women and four youth. Shortly after the training, ASOCUCH began a multi-pronged campaign promoting the purchase and use of certified seed and developing a road map that documents farmers' barriers to obtaining certified seed and marketing seed.



Ing. Salvador Sandoval chief of the Field Seed Registry department, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock discusses the seed registration regulatory framework, Jason Sullivan

Participants complete a Seed Field Supervision Report form, Jason Sullivan

## Reports & Publications

### Report on Formal Seed Sector Key Informant Interviews in the Democratic Republic of Congo



This study was undertaken to better understand DRC's formal seed sector and processes, including its development and current status, particularly in its eastern region. Findings from the report offer insights as to how current relief seed dissemination approaches impact the functioning and development of the formal seed sector in the areas studied. The report shares recommendations as provided by respondents, disaggregated by region.

[Read The Full Report](#)

### Seed and Market Systems of the Eastern DRC: A Fragile State Case Study



This report presents one of three case studies undertaken as part of a broader study to explore and develop models for the emergence of enhanced and resilient seed systems in fragile state contexts. Eastern DRC was selected as one of the regional case studies given the variety of challenges it faces, including a high prevalence of conflict, limited government capacity, weak rural organizations, and climate variability, among others. Findings identify key formal seed system actors, private seed company opportunities and constraints, organizational approaches to seed production and distribution, and areas of resilience and vulnerability in seed system development models. Study conclusions are accompanied by recommendations for future programming in the region.

[Read The Case Study](#)

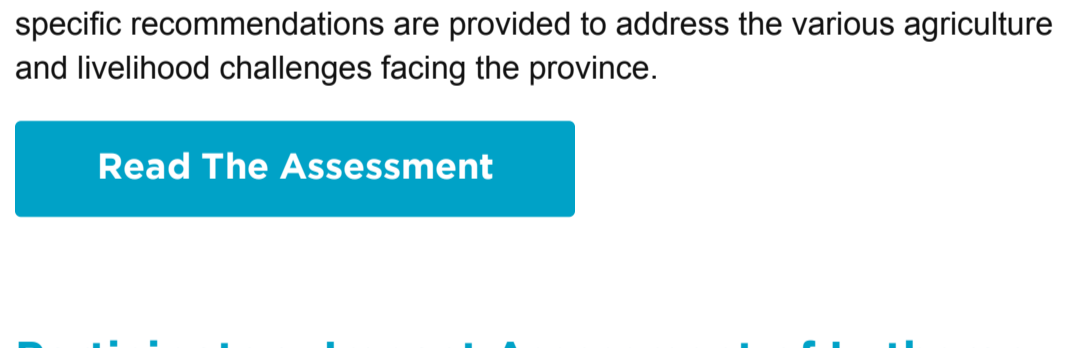
### Participatory Impact Assessment of CRS Ditekemena Emergency Seed Interventions in Kasai Central Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo



This report presents the findings of a participatory impact assessment (PIA) of emergency seed interventions implemented by Catholic Relief Services under the Ditekemena emergency food security program in Kasai Central province, Democratic Republic of the Congo. The aim of the assessment was to generate evidence on the impacts of selected emergency seed interventions on community beneficiaries and on local seed systems, using focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) with relevant stakeholders to gather information on how such interventions impact crop production, household food security, and livelihoods. Seed-specific recommendations are provided to address the various agriculture and livelihood challenges facing the province.

[Read The Assessment](#)

### Participatory Impact Assessment of Lutheran World Federation Emergency Seed Interventions in Adjumani District, Northern Uganda



This report presents the findings of a participatory impact assessment (PIA) of emergency seed interventions implemented by Catholic Relief Services under the Ditekemena emergency food security program in Kasai Central province, Democratic Republic of the Congo. The aim of the assessment was to generate evidence on the impacts of selected emergency seed interventions on community beneficiaries and on local seed systems, using focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) with relevant stakeholders to gather information on how such interventions impact crop production, household food security, and livelihoods. Seed-specific recommendations are provided to address the various agriculture and livelihood challenges facing the province.

[Read The Assessment](#)

### Forage & Forage Seed Capacity Building Report



In early March of this year, S34D held a two-day Forage and Forage Seed Capacity Building Workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The high-level goal of the workshop was to contribute to the availability of quality forage seeds for increased forage productivity so as to narrow the gap between livestock roughages demand and supply and increase efficiency in the value chain. A total of 23 technical frontline staff involved in the production of forage and forage seeds for increasing forage cultivation were in attendance – over a quarter of which were female. Read the report to learn more about the rationale, objectives, participation, and proceedings of the workshop.

[Read The Full Report](#)

Stay safe and be well,

S34D team

## Contact

Want to know more about S34D? [Visit our website](#) or simply reply to this email newsletter. [S34D@crs.org](mailto:S34D@crs.org)



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