March 2021

Stay safe and healthy!

**Activity Updates and New Resource**

S34D and New Markets Lab published an article in the February edition of the journal Agronomy titled *Using Regulatory Flexibility to Address Market Informality in Seed Systems: A Global Study*. This paper addresses a gap in the current literature regarding the role of law and regulation in linking the informal and formal seed sectors and creating more inclusive and better governed seed systems. The study focuses on two key dimensions: extending market frontiers and liberalizing seed quality control mechanisms. The paper finds that flexible regulatory approaches and practices play a central role in building bridges between formal and informal seed systems, guaranteeing quality seed in the market, and encouraging market entry for high-quality traditional and farmer-preferred varieties.

This paper was written by our CRS colleague, Dr. Bhramar Dey, and our S34D partner Katrin Kuhlmann. As an STA, Bhramar (Bhramar.dey@crs.org) is S34D’s MEAL and policy lead. Katrin (kak84@georgetown.edu) is a law professor at Georgetown University and President of New Markets Lab.
Happy reading!

**Other Resources**

- **Financial Service Provider Inventory Scan for Niger report.**
- **Financial Service Provider Inventory Scan of East Africa report.**

**Forage Seed Systems and Feed Reserves webinar in Ethiopia.**

**Kuza** and CRS’ digital platform for rural agripreneurs pilot in Kenya and the **Feed the Future** success story about creating income opportunities for rural youth.

**S34D featured blogs published on Agri Links:**
- Market-led seed interventions in emergency response
- Yellow bean corridor analysis in Tanzania
- Digitally tracking adaption of new bean seed variety
- Regulatory flexibilities bridge gaps between seed systems

**Contact**

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