



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Zambia Launching Digital Seed Inspector Training with Support from USAID

INTRO

Prior to Covid-19, an in-person seed inspector training was offered in Lusaka to both those interested in obtaining a seed inspector license and seed inspectors who sought to renew their existing license. The course entailed a few weeks of training at specific times throughout the year, which limited attendance to 20-40 participants annually. The emergence of Covid-19 resulted in the cancellation of in-person trainings; however, with support from USAID, the Zambia Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI) was able to quickly pivot to provide online trainings using the Zoom platform. Building upon these efforts, Feed the Future Global Supporting Seed Systems for Development activity (S34D) and SCCI devised a plan to develop an online e-learning seed inspector course, which offers the dual benefits of minimizing in-person training costs while allowing users to take the course anywhere and at any time.

ZAMBIA SEED INSPECTORS COURSE

S34D has worked in close collaboration with SCCI to co-create an online e-learning course for public and private seed inspectors. Based in Zambia, Mwabu/iSchool served as the architect and developer of the platform. The online course contains eight units and twenty-two sub-units across the thematic areas of the Zambia seed industry, plant breeding, seed multiplication, certification, processing and sampling, and covers several crops including legumes, cereals, root and tuber crops, oil seed and pasture legumes and grasses. Each unit contains knowledge quizzes throughout and an end-of-unit test. After completing all units and tests, the trainee can take a final exam to renew their seed inspector license or to obtain a new one.

Application forms

Seed Inspector Training Application

Course overview

All (including archived) Search Sort by course name Card

Seed Inspector Examination Seed Inspector Initial Training Seed Inspector Refresher Training

ONLINE LEARNING RESULTS

During the Zoom meetings in FY21, SCCI trained 97 people in Zambia: 22 from the public sector and 75 from the private sector; of these, 78 – including 21 women – passed the final exam. SCCI also trained 50 people in Mozambique and Malawi, of which 35 – including 5 women – passed the final exam. The number of certified seed inspectors in multiple countries is expected to increase when the e-learning platform goes live in August 2022.

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