PROCEEDINGS REPORT
ON
THE NATIONAL PLANNING WORKSHOP ON
THE HARMONIZED SEED SECURITY PROJECT
(HASSP)

4th - 6th August 2010
LI LONGWE - MALAWI.

Compiled By:
Peter Mbiko Jere
Workshop Facilitator – Malawi
EMAIL: pjjere@globemw.net

August 2010
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### ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

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<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td>Agriculture Technical Clearing Committee</td>
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<td>CAADP</td>
<td>Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme</td>
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<td>DARS</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture Research Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUS</td>
<td>Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability</td>
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<td>FANRPAN</td>
<td>Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network</td>
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<td>FRIM</td>
<td>Forestry Research Institute of Malawi</td>
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<td>GM</td>
<td>Government of Malawi</td>
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<td>GMO</td>
<td>Genetically Modified Organism</td>
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<td>HASSP</td>
<td>Harmonised Seed Security Project</td>
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<td>HYV</td>
<td>High Yielding Varieties</td>
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<td>IPPC</td>
<td>International Plant Protection Convention</td>
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<td>ISPM</td>
<td>International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures</td>
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<td>ISTA</td>
<td>International Seed Testing Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>LMO</td>
<td>Living Modified Organism</td>
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<td>NEPAD</td>
<td>New Partnership for Africa’s Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPPO</td>
<td>National Plant Protection Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSA</td>
<td>National Seeds Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMU</td>
<td>Project Management Unit</td>
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<td>PT</td>
<td>Proficiency Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>PVO</td>
<td>Private Voluntary Organisation</td>
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<td>PVP</td>
<td>Plant Variety Protection</td>
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<td>QPM</td>
<td>Quality Protein Maize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QPM</td>
<td>Quarantine and Phytosanitary Measures</td>
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<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern Africa Development Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDC</td>
<td>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPS</td>
<td>Sanitary and Phytosanitary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSC</td>
<td>SADC Seed Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSSN</td>
<td>SADC Seed Security Network Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSU</td>
<td>Seed Services Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>STR</td>
<td>Simplified Trade Regime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRF</td>
<td>Tea Research Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPOV</td>
<td>International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCU</td>
<td>Value for Cultivation and Use</td>
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</table>
1.0 WORKSHOP CONTEXT

FANRPAN, through a consultative process developed the Harmonized Seed Security Project (HASSP), which represents a direct response of the Member States of SADC to the low availability and limited access by farmers in the Region, to key agricultural inputs. FANRPAN is piloting the project in four countries - Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to improved food security and poverty reduction through increased seed security and better disaster preparedness in the SADC region. The project seeks to domesticate and implement the three SADC approved protocols which were the outcome of the SADC Seed Security Network project, at national level. As part of activities towards meeting the set objectives, FANRPAN in partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), held a Malawi National HASSP Workshop which was attended by 38 stakeholders in the seed industry. The workshop took place at Cross Roads Hotel, Lilongwe from 4th to 6th August 2010.

Workshop Objectives - Dr. Bellah Mpfu

The workshop was convened with the aim of achieving the following six objectives:

1. To foster a common vision of the four year harmonized seed security project - a pilot project which follows the SADC Seed Security Network (SSSN) phase 1 project.
   a. Understanding of the SADC seed harmonization protocols:
      i. Document 1. Variety Release and Registration
      ii. Document 2: Seed Certification and Quality Control

2. To map existing seed projects and initiatives to avoid overlap.

3. To establish a quantifiable baseline of where we are starting from (BASELINES).

4. To generate a multi-stakeholder national work-plan (DOMESTICATION OF THE SADC HARMONISED SEED SYSTEM)

5. To create a governance and management system for the project (GOVERNANCE).

6. To establish how we will share information among ourselves at national and regional level and how we will communicate externally (COMMUNICATION).

Workshop Methods

A number of methods were deployed during the planning workshop. This was aimed to draw as many issues and lessons and as much consensus as possible to guide the Harmonised Seed Security Project at regional level. Some of the methods were:

- Key note address
- Paper presentations by stakeholders
- Working group sessions - analysis and planning
- Plenary discussions
- Consolidation of work plan and budget

Matter arising in plenary

Members asked why the project had taken so long to be implemented. In reply, the workshop was informed that it took time to reach consensus on the project design, hence the delay.
2.0 SESSION 1 - KEYNOTE ADDRESS: DOMESTICATING THE HARMONIZED SEED SECURITY PROJECT (HASSP), POTENTIAL CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES – By Moses Siambi, Phd & Mary Mgonja Phd - ICRISAT

2.1 Background
• Reliable sources of competitively priced, locally adapted high quality seed of improved varieties coupled with appropriate inputs and management practices can greatly increase and sustain agricultural efficiency, productivity and profitability.
• The number of farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa who purchase HYV seeds from formal institutions such as Parastatal seed organizations and Private seed companies, ranges from 5-10% and these are mainly the high income farmers (World Bank).
• Access to quality seed facilitates food resource diversification and prevention of genetic erosion in rural agriculture.
• In 60% of Africa’s countries governments control the seed industry – and where they are not, a viable commercial market is not yet filling the gap.

2.2 Current Challenges
• The limited development of commercial seed systems in Africa is because national seed markets are too small to support significant commercial investment - especially for most secondary crops.
• Commercial seed companies face several constraints to seed trade.
• The constraints range from the lengthy testing period before official Variety Release, different Seed Certification Standards and Phyto-sanitary controls that limit seed movement.
• Even with the resolution of these barriers, commercial seed companies are reluctant to introduce proprietary materials into markets where these cannot be protected.
• It is also important for the public sector to protect its own materials and manage its intellectual property to maximize the benefits of publicly funded breeding programs.

2.3 The Process
• The realization of the need to harmonize seed regulation was recognized and discussed since 1987.
• The three sub regions of Sub Sahara Africa pursued harmonization of seed policies concurrently.
• The SADC harmonization protocol was signed off in 2010.
• The HASSP is a pilot in four countries - Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

2.4 The Long Road
• In southern Africa, The harmonization discussions started in mid 1980s - Harmonization was first proposed in a Regional Review of Seed Systems development strategies implemented under the Food Security Technical and Administrative Unit (FSTAU) of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) in 1987.
• Over the subsequent 15 years, harmonization issues were considered in at least 11 Regional meetings and Five National Workshops.
• Workshop debates were wide ranging - greater emphasis on Seed production and distribution strategies and less on Regulatory Frameworks.
2.5 Timeline of the Process

- 1987 Study of National Seed Systems
- 1988 SADCC Technical Experts Meeting on Regional Seed Production and Supply
- 1993 Regional Workshop on Improved On-Farm Seed Production for SADC Countries (22-26 November 1993; Mbabane, Swaziland)
- 1994 Regional Workshop to Discuss a Study on Harmonization of Seed Laws (4-6 October 1994; Harare, Zimbabwe)
- 2000 Roundtable Discussion on “The sui generis Protection of Plant Varieties under Article 27.3(b) of the TRIPS Agreement, Harare, Zimbabwe
- 2000 Sub-Saharan Africa Seed Initiative Stakeholders Workshop, Lusaka, Zambia
- 2001 Sub-Saharan Africa Seed Initiative Stakeholders Workshop, Kadoma, Zimbabwe
- 2002 Strategic Planning Workshop for the Seed Sub-Committee, Nyanga, Zimbabwe
- 2003 Discussions on harmonization of Release, Phytosanitary and Certification procedures
- 2006-2008 Funding of the Phase 1 of the SSSN by the SDC
- 2007 Formulation of the three Harmonization Systems, with procedures and schedules of standards
- 2007 Fourteen SADC Permanent Secretaries of Agriculture endorsed the three-point seed policy proposal and recommended that this be fast-tracked through a SADC Memorandum of Understanding
- 2008 Discussion on domestication of the Harmonized Seed Security Project (HASSP).
- 2010-2013 Start implementation of HASSP in four pilot countries: Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Swaziland
- Since 2004 the Seed Science Centre – Iowa State University (SSC-ISU), International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) have provided technical support to the Southern African Development Community Seed Security Network (SADC/SSSN)

2.6 Regional Consultations

- In August 2007, all 14 SADC Permanent Secretaries of Agriculture endorsed the three-point seed policy proposal and recommended that this be fast-tracked through a SADC Memorandum of Understanding
- In addition they endorsed the inclusion of a regional protocol for the protection of new varieties of plants. Under this protocol individual countries will enact their own plant variety protection (PVP) laws in line with the regional protocol, which is compliant with the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)
2.7 Context of the Process
Areas of harmonization:
• SADC Crop Variety Testing, Registration and Release System,
• SADC Seed Certification and Quality Assurance System, and
• SADC Quarantine and Phytosanitary measures for Seed.

2.8 The SADC Variety Release System
The variety holder selects two SADC countries and applies for national variety testing and release in the two countries - the target agro ecologies of the two countries should be similar in order for the variety holder to meet the basic requirement of testing in any of the two countries.

2.9 Domestication of the three components of HASSP
In the country where application for regional release is filed, national release requirements must be met:
• In the second country of national release, requirements for national release must be met.
• The variety is released at the national level in the country of application, and
• The variety is released at the national level in the second country.
  o In the four pilot countries, there could be differences in national requirements for variety release and therefore there could be possible delays.
• The variety holder applies for SADC variety release through the NSA in the country of application and an application form is accompanied by results of DUS, VCU, suggested name, proof of national release in the two countries and reference sample.
  o The ease of access or processing of the required documentation may differ and this may cause further delays in the Regional Variety registration.
  o Failure to pay fees for maintaining of the system, and
  o Limited capacity and unavailability of breeders to follow up on the system may pose a serious challenge. Testing for VCU and DUS requires a fee and therefore the breeders must have access to funds to facilitate payment to NSA which verifies the application and stores the reference seed sample.
• NSA verifies the application stores the reference seed sample
  o The country of application for DUS testing is responsible for the safe storage of a reference sample of the candidate variety. However this may be constrained by infrastructure limitations such as lack of cold storage and or power failures that may result in loss or reduced viability of the reference seed sample.
• The variety is entered in SADC Variety catalogue for marketing if approved or with reasons for rejection if not approved
  o Inclusion of varieties in the SADC Variety Catalogue will incur an initial application fee and, upon successful registration, an annual fee for as long as the variety remains on the list. Failure to meet application fee may result into failure of entering into the catalogues of excellent materials. If fees are not paid within thirty (30) days the entered materials will be automatically eliminated from the Catalogue.
• Variety Tests: Testing for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) and crop specific requirements for Value of Cultivation and Use (VCU).
This requires adequate biophysical data for each test site and crop management recommendations which are site specific to determine crop specific requirements for VCU.

- Safe storage of the reference seed sample by the country of application for DUS and period of validity of SADC variety registration:
  - Inadequacy of infrastructure such as power failure may result in loss of the reference sample.
  - With validity time being 20 years, a poor succession plan may result in loss of institutional memory with regard to understanding the timing for requesting for renewal.
  - Fees: Failure to pay initial fee and successive annual fee may result in missing out in registering some good varieties because of financial constraints.

- Registration of Genetically modified varieties:
  - GM will not be eligible for inclusion in the SADC Variety Catalogue (If GM varieties are released at the national level in some countries, there is no assurance that there will not be gene flow either through seed or pollen across national borders).

### 2.10 The SADC Seed Certification and Quality Assurance System

The System will in particular:

- Improve seed quality as a result of improved facilities and skills;
- Save time and resources because importing countries will no longer need to re-test the imported seed;
- Allow more efficient movement of seed in the region through the use of common terminology, standards, procedures, seals and labels; and
- Facilitate better targeting of relief seed.

### The possible challenges

- Need for regular capacity building in record maintenance to keep pace with staff turnover;
- Capacity to continuously assist in solving technical problems arising from the system;
- Availability of specialists to serve in specific technical committees and resources to sustainably support functioning of such committees and capacity building;
- Seed classes and use of other international certification schemes.
  - The seed certification classes in the SADC Harmonized Seed System may not comply with classes applied in other certification schemes and this may cause confusion (With these policies - procedures for public research institutes to release new varieties are not a regulatory issue, but rather an issue of research management).

### 2.11 SADC Quarantine and Phytosanitary Measures

The measures will:

- Reduce direct and indirect costs related to seed trade;
- Encourage safe movement and dissemination of seeds;
- Introduce a rationalized SADC pest lists for the movement of seeds between Member States, and between SADC and outside countries;
- Ensure that procedures are carried out in a transparent manner and supported by appropriate documentation.
Possible challenges:
- Pests are dynamic - it is not clear how often pests lists will be reviewed, and hence a review of the Quarantine list.
- The Phytosanitary documentation and procedures to be used in the harmonized seed system for SADC may need to be streamlined further and adopt common formats.

2.12 General Challenges and Opportunities
- Member state failure to provide strong political support and good will;
- Most of the activities supporting harmonized seed system require sustainable financial support, though currently availed by the donor it is not certain how funding will be sourced to support the system sustainably;
- Not certain how fast PVP will be introduced into more member states;
- Adaptability and use of the system by Breeders, Seed Companies NGOs and development agencies;
- Political instability or any other adversity in the target country may hinder implementation;
- Countries capacity/skills, incentives availability and willingness to adopt, realign and comply with the new / amended procedures such as collection and sharing of information;
- Facilities and physical premises may require major capital injection to bring them to the minimum level for operation especially with the seed testing facilities;
- Connectivity in the region is sometimes a challenge and this can affect regular updating and retrieval of information.

Matters arising in plenary
Participants posed the following questions in plenary. Corresponding answers from the workshop are also provided as follows:

Q1. How will harmonization make seed cheaper?
It will be cheaper with regard to reducing costs of research if a variety is available in all countries. On the other hand looking at the economic perspective due to different economies it might be difficult to really lower the price. But generally the seed will be affordable and accessible in time.

Q2. Will harmonization not discourage breeders fearing that other breeders in the region might breed the same seeds they are breeding and thereby overtaking them on the market?
The harmonization will not affect breeding since different breeders have different breeding systems thus harmonization will actually promote competition.

Q3. What can we learn for western and eastern African countries on seed harmonisation?
The west and the east have gone through the harmonization process and the PMU will be drawing relevant lessons from them in due course.
3.0 SESSION 2 - ALIGNING NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND PRACTICE WITH SADC SEED PROTOCOL
This session had back to back presentations as follows:

3.1 PRESENTATION 1: THE SADC & NATIONAL PROTOCOLS ON VARIETY RELEASE -
by Mrs G. Kaudzu – SEED SERVICES UNIT - DARS

Purpose
• To make it convenient and cheaper for new and existing varieties to gain access to SADC member states.
  o Availability of more varieties;
  o More companies to invest in seed business in SADC;
  o Farmers to have a wider choice.

Organization
The Project Management Unit (PMU) to coordinate with technical assistance from the SADC Seed Committee (SSC) in consultation with the National Seeds Authority (NSA).

Roles
• The PMU: Set up and maintain:
  o The SADC variety catalogue;
  o The SADC Variety Database.
• SSC: Provide technical support to the implementation and improvement of the system.
• NSA: Facilitate implementation of the SADC protocol.

The SADC Variety Catalogue
• To be developed and maintained by the PMU;
• New varieties to be included in the catalogue if they meet the requirements set by the SSC;
• Varieties of crops for which DUS and VCU data is available will be included in the catalogue.

The SADC variety database
• PMU to develop and maintain a SADC variety database to include all varieties submitted for regional release (accepted or rejected);
• To be accessible to all member states;
• Details to be included in the database to be determined by SSC;
• Reasons for rejection of the variety to be included in the database.

Variety tests
• Testing for Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS):
  o DUS data to accompany application for regional variety release;
  o DUS to be done in the country of application for one year;
  o Should be done by a competent public institution or a delegated private organization;
  o To be done in accordance with the descriptor guidelines developed by UPOV;
  o SSC to develop guidelines for DUS of crops without guidelines.
• Testing for value for cultivation and use (VCU):
  o To inform farmers about the merits of the candidate variety;
    ▪ Merits: Maturity period, yield, storability, resistance etc.
  o Variety should be tested for performance and adaptability in the recommended agro-ecological zones for two years;
  o VCU information from field experiments must accompany application for regional release;
  o Field experiments must be conducted in at least two countries in similar agro-ecologies;
  o Growing conditions should be specified and accompany VCU information;
  o VCU to be done by the applicant under the supervision of the NSA or by independent and competent agricultural organization (Public or Private).

• Crop-specific requirements:
  o To be developed by SSC.

• The reference seed sample:
  o For DUS testing and will be stored by the county of application (NSA).

• Naming of varieties:
  o A unique numbering system (identification number) for all varieties;
  o Identification number to be linked to the variety name and synonym.

• Period of validity of SADC variety registration:
  o 20 years;
  o Application for renewal- not later than 1 year.

• Sharing of variety information:
  o Applicant to present all required information;
  o Any confidential information to be marked and will be treated as such by authorities.

• System monitoring and evaluation:
  o SADC/FANR to develop procedure for monitoring the system.

• Fees
  o Initial application fee will be required;
  o Annual fee upon successful registration.

**Participation and Implementation of the system**

• SSC and PMU to implement the system.

• Participation
  o All member states;
  o Existing staff and facilities to be used.

• Registration of existing varieties
  o Existing varieties will be entered in the catalogue provided;
    ▪ An application is submitted;
    ▪ Variety is listed in the national variety list in at least two countries.

• Verification of application:
  o By NSA and be forwarded to PMU within 30 days;
  o PMU to validate and forward a copy to NSAs in all member states.

• Registration and release
  o All NSAs and applicant to be advised on the date the variety is entered in the variety catalogue if successful.
  o Variety to be considered released from the date it is entered in the catalogue and can be multiplied in all SADC countries.
• Access to prohibit marketing
  o Application to prohibit marketing of a variety can be lodged if;
    ▪ Variety is not suitable for cultivation in any part of the state;
    ▪ Variety presents a risk to the environment;
• Registration of GM varieties
  o GM varieties are not eligible for registration in the catalogue.
• Varieties to be withdrawn if;
  o Information submitted was incorrect and was overlooked by NSA;
  o Application fees are not paid;
  o Non-conformity to DUS;
  o No application for renewal after 20 years.

Overview of variety release legislation in Malawi
• Variety legislation incorporated in the national seed legislation;
• Seed Services to facilitate implementation.

Variety list
• Varieties approved for release to be included in the variety list for recognition;
• Variety list to be published at least once a year;
• Residents in Malawi or anyone authorized for recognition of the variety.

Requirements
• DUS which will be verified by the SSU;
• Be identified by a denomination.

Fees
• Application to be made along with the necessary application fee;
• Applicant to meet cost of verification of the variety.

Rejection of application
• Applicant does not provide the necessary information;
• Is not entitled to make the application;
• If the variety has already been recognized.

Deletion from list
• If information was incorrect;
• If it is in the public interest;
• The applicant is not able to maintain the variety;
• If variety no longer conforms to DUS.

Overview of variety release process in Malawi
• DUS and VCU testing are conducted by breeders;
• Conducted in three years on station and two years on farm in different agro-ecological zones;
• Varieties preferred by farmers are selected;
• Proposal written to ATCC for release;
• After release, Seed Services Unit verifies quality of the variety;
• Varieties released are documented (listed) by Secretariat of ATCC (Department of Research).

Inconsistencies between the SADC protocol vs. National process
• Review and make the legislation operational;
• Variety release committee – ATCC sub-committee;
• Variety List/catalogue
  o Separate from all the other technologies.
• Variety database
  o Need to develop one accessible to all stakeholders.
• Variety testing
  o DUS to be verified by SSU (NSA).
• Naming of Varieties
  o Identification number to link variety to names.
• Validity period
  o Need to be specified.
• VCU
  o NSA should supervise.

Alignment to SADC protocol
• Review and align to the SADC protocol;
• Implement.

Stakeholders
• National seeds office- Coordinate/facilitate review;
• Breeders – develop descriptors and implement;
• National variety release committee- Review release procedures;
• Public/private-variety listing;
• Seed growers/companies – Implement;
• Attorney General’s office – review and enforce the act.

Status of the plant variety protection
• Drafted without farmers’ rights;
• Presented to stakeholders who suggested that farmers’ rights be included;
• Submitted to Ministry of Justice;
• Suggested that farmers’ rights be removed because these were already included in the Access and Benefit Sharing Act of the Environmental Affairs Department;
• Farmers’ rights removed;
• Submitted to Ministry of Justice.
Purpose
To ensure that seed of varieties listed and traded is of high and known quality.

Organization
Coordination by PMU with technical support from SSC and NSAs.

Role of PMU
- Maintain records of all stakeholders;
- Assist in solving technical problems;
- Support capacity building in the member states in consultation with SSC.

Role of the SSC
- Provide technical support to the implementation of the system;
- Provide auditing guidelines;
- Formulate penalties.

Role of NSAs
Implement and operate the system with PMU and SSC; NSA to facilitate implementation of the system.

Participation and implementation of the system
- Participation
  - All member states;
  - Existing staff and facilities to be used;

Table 1: Seed classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed class</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Produced from</th>
<th>Label colours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-basic</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Breeders seed</td>
<td>Violet band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic seed</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Pre-basic/breeders seed</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified seed I</td>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Basic or higher seed classes</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified seed II</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>C1 or higher classes</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Declared seed</td>
<td>QDS</td>
<td>Complies with special requirements</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rules and directions

- Seed produced under other international certification;
- NSAs to conduct post control tests;
- PMU - may also conduct post control plots;
- Samples to be drawn according to ISTA rules;
- Laboratory standards for seed to be traded (Table 2 & 3).

Table 2: Field standards - SADC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Isolation Distance (M)</th>
<th>Max. off-types %</th>
<th>Min no of inspections</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G/nuts</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/peas</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/beans</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize (H)</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Laboratory standards - SADC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Min. Germ. (%)</th>
<th>Min. Pure seed (%)</th>
<th>Max. Moisture Content (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G/nuts</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/peas</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/beans</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize (H)</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accreditation
- NSAs to be responsible for licensing and accreditation/registration;
- PMU with SSC to formulate minimum training requirements;
- NSA to issue a certificate and IDs to qualified staff;
- All participating (public/private) to comply with standards;
- NSA to advise PMU on capabilities of the laboratories to be accredited;
- One or two laboratories to coordinate Proficiency Testing every year (ISTA rules).

Information
NSA to communicate to PMU every year about activities conducted in the system.

Fees
NSA to charge certification fees.

Seed certification legislation in Malawi

Varieties for certification
Only varieties recognized in the country, certified.

Table 4: Seed classes in Malawi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed Class</th>
<th>Produced from</th>
<th>Label/ tags Colours</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breeders seed</td>
<td>Nucleus seed</td>
<td>White colour</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic seed (BS)</td>
<td>Breeders seed</td>
<td>Purple colour</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified seed I (CI)</td>
<td>Basic seed</td>
<td>Blue with a single stripe</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified seed II (CII)</td>
<td>Certified seed</td>
<td>Blue colour with two stripes</td>
<td>If there is shortage of certified seed I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration
All fields for seed registered.
Table 5: Field inspection (OECD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Isolation distance (m)</th>
<th>Off-types (%)</th>
<th>No of inspections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G/nuts</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/peas</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/beans</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize (H)</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Laboratory testing (ISTA) Table 6.
Re-testing of imported seed.

Table 6: Laboratory standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Min Germination (%)</th>
<th>Min. Pure seed (%)</th>
<th>MC %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G/nuts</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/peas</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/beans</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize (H)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inconsistencies between the two protocols

- Seed classes
  - SADC – 5
  - Malawi – 3
- Labels/Tags – All different.
- Differences in field and laboratory standards
  - Malawi standards high.
- Licensing of private sector
  - Only government crops officers.
- Seed released in two SADC countries allowed
  - Seed released in Malawi only.
- Re-testing of imported seed done in Malawi.
Alignment of the inconsistencies

- Review the national legislation

Stakeholders

- NSA – facilitate review and implement;
- Seed inspectors- trained and implement;
- Analysts – trained and implement;
- Quarantine and Phytosanitary officers- trained and implement;
- Seed growers/companies- Trained/implement;
- Attorney general – Review and enforce.
3.3 PRESENTATION 3: SADC PROTOCOL ON PHYTOSANITARY AND QUARANTINE MEASURES FOR SEED AND THE MALAWI LEGISLATION - by Mr M Soko

Introduction

Seed
- Important input in Agricultural productivity, food security;
- Seed trade - agricultural growth and regional seed security – a big challenge;
- Restricted movement – diverse legislation and procedures (certification and quality control, and in quarantine and phytosanitary measures) - movement of emergency seed consignments not accommodated;
- Seed markets – segregated, small and difficult to access;
- Variety release process – very demanding and slow – restrictive etc...

Harmonization of Seed Regulations
- Integrating smaller and isolated national seed markets into one larger SADC market for seed.
- Leading to promote the entry of new improved varieties in the region; and
- Ease the movement of quality seed from countries with surplus to countries in need of seed as both national and regional seed suppliers will find SADC a more attractive market.
- Lower costs and simpler administration - encourage local, small-scale seed producers and suppliers to expand their activities.
- The overall benefits will be increased investments in the seed sector, increased seed production, access to more varieties, and increased competition - farmers will be offered access to a wider portfolio of quality seed products at more affordable prices

Purpose of the SADC harmonised protocol - QPM for seed
- To enhance safer and faster movement of seed through establishment of common science-based Quarantine and Phytosanitary Measures for seed in the SADC region; specifically will:
  - Reduce direct and indirect costs related to seeds trade;
  - Introduction of a rationalised SADC pest lists; and
  - Ensure that procedures are carried out in a transparent manner and supported by appropriate documentation.

Organization
- PMU of the SSSN – facilitator of the harmonisation process;
- SSC and SADC Plant Protection Sub-committee - Technical support;
- NPPOs will be able to contribute technical information and advice to SADC Plant Protection Sub-committee;
- FANR Directorate of the SADC Secretariat - Overall supervisor.
Pest Lists
- Adherence to 2 rationalized pest lists – seed-borne, economic importance and does not occur in the region:
  - A SADC list of pests which require control when seed is traded between SADC Member States; and
  - A SADC list of pests that require control when seeds are traded into a SADC country from outside the region.

Advantages of adherence to the pest list
- Testing and quarantine – only for pests which are not common to all SADC countries;
- Re-testing of seed consignments on arrival may be reduced/may eventually no longer be necessary except where suspicion of new pest’s possibility of being introduced.
- The need for a country to test seeds which is to be re-exported after a period in transit may be reduced.
- Fewer pests will need to be checked for at entry points; clearance and entry of consignments will therefore be faster.
- Easy movement of seed from outside SADC between/among SADC countries without further testing after initial tests by one SADC country.

Implementation of the rationalized SADC pest lists will result in considerable cost savings for the seed trade.

Equivalency
- Member States are encouraged to recognize that an alternative level of protection or risk reduction may be obtained by applying alternative methods to control quarantine pests. The method used must be declared and must be technically and economically feasible for use as long as it provides the same level of protection against pests. To promote trade and speedy movement of seeds within SADC, the use of mutually recognized alternative measures should be encouraged in line with the provisions of the SPS Agreement.

Documentation - Key documents
- Plant Import Permit: Must accompany the seed lot and be presented to inspectors at exit and entry points.
- Phytosanitary Certificate: Is issued by the exporting country and serves to certify that requirements specified on the Import Permit have been met. The Phytosanitary Certificate must therefore also be presented to the inspectors at exit and entry points.
- Non-compliance Notification: Is issued by the importing country and forwarded to the NPPO of the exporting country in the case where consignments of seeds, and/or the accompanying Phytosanitary Certificates, do not comply with the conditions set in the Plant Import Permit, and/or where a quarantine pest has been intercepted.
- Re-export Phytosanitary Certificate: The need for this document occurs when a consignment of seeds, arriving from the export country, is being stored and/or repacked by the importing
country under circumstances which may expose the consignment to infestation or infection before re-export to a third country – or if the consignment stayed longer in the transit country than determined by the NPPO. The Certificate is issued by the country where the seeds were in transit and is attached to the Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the exporting country.

Format for SADC permits and certificates

- Generic format- Compliant with the IPPC format
  - For ease of streamlining trade of seeds in SADC and facilitating documentation and essential analysis, Member States will adopt common formats for the various certificates and other documents and ensure that the certificates provide the necessary information.

Where these forms are not yet being used, the PMU will assist as required with their introduction.

The MALAWI Plant Protection Act (1969) CAP. 64:01

Citation; “An act to provide for the eradication of pests and diseases destructive to plants, to prevent the introduction and spread of pests and diseases destructive to plants, and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto”.

- Enacted 1964;
- Never been revised but well overdue – efforts in place;
- Covers plant and plant products;
- Implementer(s) – DARS as main, FRIM and TRF as “Subcontracted parties” for specialty plant and plant products.

Elements of the Act that relate to Seed (Movement)

- No proper definition of seed;
- Religiously - considered as part and parcel of the plant and plant products while;
- Logically seed considered as:
  - Botanical seed and
  - Vegetative planting materials.
- Very sensitive/stringent to seed movement as vegetative material – tissue culture or quarantine;
- Centralized issuance of permits and Certificate – may be decentralized through the COMESA- STR initiative;
- Favours imports from Africa, more especially Southern Africa which includes almost all SADC countries – Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe’ except 2;
- Basic condition for seed importation – declaration of inspection in active growth and freedom from viral infection very prominent;
• Does not Cover GMOs and LMOs;
• Most seeds require fungicide + insecticide treatment.

Inconsistencies with the SADC seed Protocol
• Quarantine pest list and the categories – Malawi has one based on pests and another based on plant species and also out-dated.
• Regional definitions like South Americas, East Africa etc.
• Definitions – SADC based on slightly latest version of ISPM 5 while Malawi is very old and out-dated.
• Elements of Equivalence not properly embedded in the Plant Protection Act of Malawi.

Alignment of the national legislation and procedures to SADC protocol
• Review of the Plant Protection Act (content and procedures) – DARS office and Attorney General to coordinate the Stakeholder’s consultation process – in line with SADC protocol and IPPC standards.
• Review procedures including pest list – Plant Protection Research Scientist, Academia and Pest Risk Analyst (Consultant – donor input if available).
• The process may lead to rigorous changes - for effective and sustainable outcome there is need to build capacity in the main executors who are point of entry/exit Plant Heath inspectors.

Matters arising in plenary
Participants posed the following questions in plenary. Corresponding answers from the workshop are also provided as follows:

Q1. What does it take for your office to orient with farmers, and how accessible are you?
The presenter indicated that they already accessing the farmers through Seed Services i.e. seed inspectors.

Q2. As a country what can we do to consolidate the act?
The presenter stated that the process started 3 years ago but nothing has materialized to-date. Finances were the main problem.

Q3. Clarification on the statement that there is no proper definition of seed:
The presenter confirmed that the Plant Protection Act does not have the definition for seed.

Q4. The act needs serious review; can we tag a dead line, and what can be done to speed up the process?
Organizers stated that it is in the log frame as an output of the project. It will be included in the work plan.

Q5. What is the status of phytosanitary measures in SADC region, are we at the same level?
Organisers stated that it is different in every country. Zambia seems to be more advanced. Nevertheless, the differences in status provide an opportunity for the countries to learn from each other.

Q6. Between the Plant Protection Act and the Seed Act, which is superior? Each one is important in its area and complements the other.

Q7. What is the ideal seed system, what are we harmonizing to? Organizers stated that there is no ideal situation. The protocols of the SADC Harmonized Seed System were developed through an extensive consultative process among SADC Member States and the harmonization is towards those protocols.

Q8. Will the government allow private companies to conduct DUS tests? There will be delegation by government breeders to private companies.

Q9. Is there a retest of imported varieties? Yes. Any company or individuals doing anything contrary are doing so illegally.

Q10. What is the life span, funding sources, and sustainability of PMU? Currently the program is being funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for 4 years. In the program there are fees to be paid towards continuity of the program. Other donors are willing to fund the same.

Q11. How prepared is Malawi for seed trade? As a country we need to work hard to reach the regional standard where gaps have been identified.

Q12. Don’t we foresee administrative barriers after harmonization? If all the countries involved align to the SADC protocol this can be dealt with.

Q13. Table of standard, minimum germination % for maize for Malawi is 90% but for SADC 70%. Is Malawi going to lower its standard? It is not a comfortable development for Malawi, 70% is relatively lower for performance in the field. Problem is the issue of not retesting the seed after importation.

Q14. Some countries are producing GMO seed. Will this not be a set back of the harmonization process? GMOs are not illegible because of discrepancy and lack of capacity to monitor process in the different countries, thus GMOs are not included.

Q15. With the SADC protocols in place, is the Malawi government going to allow private companies to certify seeds?
With SADC standards in place, the government will consider allowing private companies to certify seeds.

Q16. What is the composition of PMU and SADC seed committee?
PMU is composed of Project coordinator, database manager, and project assistant. The SADC seed committee will be composed of four national seed authorities and 2 National Plant Protection Organisations, all from the pilot countries. Nevertheless, countries will participate using the existing structures.

Q17. How will the PMU work?
PMU will be contracting out in the specified countries working with the SADC Seed Committee and National Seed Authority. PMU is just a coordinating unit.
3.4 PRESENTATION 4: MAPPING OF STAKEHOLDERS FOR ASSOCIATION OF SMALLHOLDER SEED MULTIPLICATION ACTION GROUP (ASSMAG) AS PILOT COMMUNITY BASED SEED PRODUCERS IN THE HARMONISED SEED SECURITY PROJECT - by Mr A. Banda - ASSMAG President

Background information for ASSMAG

- ASSMAG stands for Association of Smallholder Seed Multiplication Action Group, a farmer based organisation mandated to multiply and market open pollinated variety (OPV) maize and legume seeds. Have also expanded to disease free cassava cuttings, sweet potato vines, improved fruit tree seedlings and agro-forestry seedlings.
- Was established in 2001 with eight (8) affiliate associations which fall under eight (8) Agricultural Development Divisions (ADDs), forty nine (49) Seed Marketing Action Groups (SMAGs) with initial 2,450 seed growers country wide 40% of whom were women seed producers.
- ASSMAG works as a coordinating body for smallholder seed producers affiliated to it through SMAGs.
- Started as a Ministry of Agriculture/European Commission initiative called Maize Productivity Task Force Action Group II for the increased seed production of improved varieties in 1996.
- Average production levels of ASSMAG are 20% of the total national seed production which comprises entire membership of Seed Traders Association in Malawi (STAM), but the organisation’s market share is currently at 10%.
- ASSMAG membership cuts across all the country’s ecological zones. This, in itself, gives ASSMAG an edge over others in as far as producing a variety of seed crops is concerned.
- ASSMAG is a full member of the country’s seed organisation called Seed Traders Association in Malawi which is a private sector seed companies grouping.

The organisation’s strategic outlook

**The Vision:** Become a household name in provision of high quality and affordable seeds.

**Mission Statement:** Provide customers with high quality and affordable seeds of superior performance and contribute to food and income of smallholder members and farmers.

**Major Goal:** To operate as a sustainable seed programme in the country through the commercialisation of its operations.

Farmers’ challenges in the seed value chain

- Research centres do not have enough foundation seed and planting materials for the improved crop varieties for smallholder farmers to multiply due to inadequate financial resource allocation.
- ASSMAG membership has challenges in contributing for inspection costs by Seed Services Unit to the extent that they depend on its Secretariat to pay related fees on their behalf.
Without project orientation programmes, ASSMAG seed producers do not receive much needed annual training sessions vis-a-vis seed production to maximise required seed quantity and quality regarding new variety releases.

Until now, the national policy is not clear on plant breeders rights (PBR) to the extent that a particular variety is used free for all without control as opposed to other privately owned brands.

Seed Services Unit, an organ responsible for licensing and quality control, does not have enough resource allocations to carry out its mandatory seed inspections as per their required frequency and schedules in a growing year.

Research and information transfer for farmer adoption is a challenge due to extension delivery system through demand-driven approach.

Access to inputs and financial credit is a nightmare as they are considered to be a risky lot by lending institutions.

Lack of mini seed processing equipment.

Of all farm produce, seeds are late and slow selling category let alone a project promoted but without considering linking the seed farmers to the market.

ASSMAG stakeholders
- Government Ministries of Agriculture (Headquarters, DCP, DARS, SSU, Seed Breeders, Plant Protection); Ministry of Trade and Industry; Ministry of Finance.
- CGIARs (CIAT; ICRISAT; CIMMYT; IITA; ICRAF).
- Farmers Organisations: (Farmers Union Of Malawi; NASFAM; GALA)
- Seed Traders Association of Malawi.
- Monsanto and Seed Co in their own right.
- NGOs: (WVI; AAIM; Concern Worldwide; CADECOM; Plan International; ELDS; etc).
- MCCCI.
- World University Service of Canada (WUSC).
- Bunda College of Agriculture. Farmers Organisation Co. Ltd.
- Private Seed Traders and Agro-dealers.
- Malawi Commodity Exchange (MACE) of IDEAA.
- The seed end user farmer communities.
- CSO: CISANET.

Other organisations in seed industry in the country
- All STAM members (mostly through contract farming arrangement)
- WVI
- NASFAM
- Grain and Legume Association (GALA)
- Bunda College of Agriculture
- Associations under ILARD Project
- Large scale and other individual seed producers (best defined by SSU).
Some seed related projects
- World Vision International with some isolated communities.
- Research into Use in Legume Platform for 22 seed farmers promoting G/nuts, Soybeans and Beans.
- AGRa grants to selected indigenous seed producers of Seed Tech, Funwe Seeds and ASSMAG promoting Maize (Hybrid and OPV) seed through Programme for Africa Seed System (PASS).

HASSP pilot project with ASSMAG
- For impact and milestones on Project;
- Project should initially be carried out in three ADDs of Kasungu, Salima and Lilongwe;
- The districts to be covered should be within proximity of Lilongwe;
- In Kasungu ADD, it should cover districts of Mchinji, Kasungu, Dowa and Ntchisi;
- In Salima ADD, it should cover districts of Salima and Nkhota-kota;
- In Lilongwe, to cover Lilongwe only.

Crops to be considered for HASSP
- Maize (Hybrid MH26, MH28 and OPV ZM521, ZM621);
- Soya Beans (Makwacha and Nasoko);
- Beans (Maluwa, Khlophethe and Napilira);
- G/nuts (CG7, Nsinjiro and Chalimbana 2005);
- The actual number of seed growers and hectares and other project logistics have to be agreed upon at the outset with project facilitators based on achieving excellent results.

Possible sources of foundation seed
- Some ASSMAG producers from on-going programme;
- Seeds from Legume Platform under Research into Use (RIU) Project;
- Seed Breeders from Chitedze Research Station;
- Other seed producers as per direction and guidance of SSU who have inventory of all seed growers.

Activity timelines and responsible organisations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>TIMELINE</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE ACTOR/s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Selection of Growers/Sites</td>
<td>31 August, 2010</td>
<td>ASSMAG/CISANET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Land verification</td>
<td>15 September, 2010</td>
<td>SSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Training of selected growers</td>
<td>30 September, 2010</td>
<td>CISANET/SSU/Breeders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Land Preparation</td>
<td>30 September, 2010</td>
<td>ASSMAG growers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project up-scaling

- This is critical and obvious if seeds availability is to be enhanced nationally and within the region.
- But up-scaling will depend on successful accomplishment of initial round.
- Up-scaling should involve adding more seed producers and other sites in two more ADDs of MZADD and MADD.

Topics for community workshops

- General seed production skills;
- Quality Control;
- Field Management;
- Marketing Skills;
- Record Keeping and Gross Margin Skills;
- Group Dynamics and Leadership skills;
- Seed storage management (packaging, storage, fumigation);
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SP) orientation.

Required support vis-à-vis seed processing and storage-capital expenditure?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost (K)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Packaging materials</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressing Chemicals</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warehouse facility</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini seed equipment</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sealing machines</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighing scales (indust.)</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility vehicle P/Up 4x4</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed transportation</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,300,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At US$1=K150

US$ 182,000
Concluding remarks

- A Project like this can only be successful if:
  - All players are dedicated, committed and are passionate;
  - Where resources and inputs meant for the project are timely disbursed;
  - Over and above, where seed producers who sweat, toil and break their backs in good faith, are assured of timely sales and rewards of their produce.

Matters arising in plenary

Participants posed the following questions in plenary. Corresponding answers from the workshop are also provided as follows:

Q1. Can ASSMAG consider being more focused by just focusing on its main goal which is seed production and use strategic partnership to do seed marketing?
ASSMAG is already focusing on strategic partnership with agro-dealers as outlet of the seed produced

Q2. Seed distributors like Chemicals and Marketing mostly/largely import seed from other countries, wouldn't this be an area of fear to the seed producers?
It is our fear. Government intervention is needed in terms of policy to ensure that locally produced seed is given the priority.

Q3. Has ASSMAG considered up-scaling production to cater for the regional market?
Up-scaling seed production might cause backlog unless particular markets out side have been identified. Scaling up should wait until pilot phase is done.

Q4. ASSMAG seems to focus on domestic seed supply, how does it align with HASSP regarding exporting seeds?
ASSMAG intends to align to producing seed that is demanded on the regional market.

Q5. Does HASSP have the capacity to meet the training requirements of ASSMAG? Are there alternatives?
The areas will be prioritized according to availability of funding.

Q6. On capital expenditure, is ASSMAG aware of the seed industry development aid by ICRISAT?
ASSMAG has not interfaced with ICRISAT, the initiative will be taken. But HASSP has funding for community seed projects but not enough to meet the entire capital expenditure budget.
4.0 SESSION 3: IDENTIFICATION OF NATIONAL GAPS AND PRIORITIES IN RELATION TO VARIETY RELEASE, SEED CERTIFICATION AND QUALITY CONTROL, AND QUARANTINE AND PHYTOSANITARY SYSTEMS

This was a working session intended to identify gaps, contradictions, opportunities and priorities in the seed sector in Malawi. Participants formed 4 groups and were assigned the following tasks:

Group 1:
1. Gaps, contradictions, opportunities and priorities associated with the Variety Release Protocol
2. Gaps and needs associated with Institutional (Personnel) capacities along the seed value chain

Group 2:
1. Gaps, contradictions, opportunities and priorities associated with the Seed Certification and Quality Regulation Protocol
2. Gaps and needs associated with Seed certification and regulation facilities

Group 3:
1. Gap and priority analysis of the Quarantine and Phyto-sanitary Protocol
2. Gaps and needs to do with information and knowledge management

Group 4:
1. Gaps and needs to do with Community seed projects

In plenary, the 4 groups made the following presentations

Variety Release - Group 1

Gaps
- Maintenance of reference sample will require capacity building in terms of infrastructure and software for maintaining the database for reference samples (SPGRC/MPGRC issues);
- National register for varieties has not been systematic to allow for cross referencing when variety has been released elsewhere in the region;
- Development of descriptors since current status reveals inconsistencies;
- Naming of varieties and coding for varieties and hybrids developed locally or adopted from the CGIAR;
- Two systems need to be maintained separately since one already serves national interest and the SADC protocol would take care of regional releases when DUS/VCU issues are concerned-cost implications;
- Focal point at national level to implement the SADC protocols bearing in mind the existence of SSU and ATCC-since NSA is non-existent in Malawi;
- Capacity for testing and verifying GMOS and LMOS is currently lacking;
- ATCCCC has no legal mandate to reinforce implementation of protocols.
Contradictions
• Two protocols are being considered as separate entities but complementary hence no contradictions.

Opportunities
• Private sector involvement will drive the market for seed;
• Capacity building;
• Institutions already available in Malawi (accredited laboratory, SSU, ATCC);
• Draft PBR available.

Seed Certification Protocol – Group 2

Gaps
• Seed Classes: Malawi 3 SADC 5;
• Licensing of private sector not allowed under Malawi registration;
• Seed release requirement.

Contradictions
• Minimum germination to pass seed: Malawi 90% SADC 70% for basic seed;
• Labels and tags are different;
• Retesting of imported seed;
• Minimum standard levels required to pass seed.

Opportunities
• Import lead time shortened;
• Harmonisation is aligned to OECD system;
• Licensing of private inspectors;
• Reduction in cost of certification;
• Maintaining our high standards will create a competitive advantage for us for quality seed;
• Bureaucracy reduction.

Priorities
• Harmonization document (MoU) to be signed by Minister of Agriculture;
• In-country PMU/NSA to be set up;
• Sensitize stakeholders about harmonization;
• Review seed law;
• Capacity building;
• Variety cataloguing.
Gaps and needs on SS

- Capacity building: seed companies;
- Re-organization of NSA for semi-autonomy;
- More quality laboratories;
- Networking with other countries;
- Variety Cataloguing.

Phyto-sanitary Protocol – Group 3

Gaps

- Outdated Act (e.g standard definitions - seed), pest list and guidelines; Human resources - Training and Quantity; Infrastructural facilities and equipment at entry points; Public awareness of this service; Quarantine and Phytosanitary process needs to be well understood; “harmonization” of Seed Inspection and Phytosanitary services.

Contradictions

- Pest lists – based on place of origin e.g. in SADC; Schedule I of Malawi Act not captured in SADC system. If Plant Protection Act is reviewed then most inconsistencies will be removed.

Opportunities

- A chance to review the Act; Review of Pest List (Surveillance); Training of personnel; Farmer training and awareness; Encourage participation of farmers.

Priorities

- Review of the Act; Facilities (Computer, telephone and internet connectivity, photocopiers and Fax machines; Lab equipment (Inspector’s kit etc.)
5.0 SESSION 4: STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Participants also conducted a stakeholder analysis of the seed sector. Results of the analysis are presented in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Fears</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Private sector| • Variety Development and Release  
• Seed Production  
• Distribution and Marketing  
• Conduit for seed movement | • Access to bigger markets  
• Access to more suppliers  
• Producing in countries with lower productions costs, expertise and strong institutions  
• Better movement of germ-plasm and trial material across borders  
• Reduce variety release costs | • Policy inconsistency  
• Technological advancements  
• Influx of un-adapted and junk seed  
• Destruction of seed grower base  
• Entry of GMO products  
• Threat of multinational seed producers and distributors |
| Farmers       | • Production of seed  
• The target market-involved in the commercial production  
• Lobbying for conducive environments(policy)  
• Provide feedback on seed variety performance | • Skill development(trainig in seed production, processing and storage)  
• Access to affordable and quality seed  
• Wide base of variety choices  
• Increased productivity due to timely access to seed and early planting  
• Income and livelihoods improvement  
• Women will have access to land | • Flooding of seed from outside, keeping local farmers out of business  
• The concept of ME if not properly handled may lead to seed dumping off  
• Does HASSP address the issue of women land ownership and resources (equipment and working capital). |
| NGOs          | • Mobilizing resources  
• Technical assistance in process facilitation e.g. value chain development and participatory approaches  
• Capacity building particularly farmer training and agribusiness etc.  
• Knowledge development | • Easier procedures for sourcing seed from the region  
• Saves resources and time  
• Potential partnership areas with government and private sector in programme | If regulatory structures are not strengthened NGOs may be exposed to buying sub standard seed for farmers |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government implementers</th>
<th>and information dissemination/sharing of experiences at global level.</th>
<th>Facilitating market linkages hence increased incomes to the farmers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Main driving force for the implementation of the project</td>
<td>• Capacity strengthening of institutions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Facilitate information dissemination to policy makers</td>
<td>• Training of cadres who are involved in implementation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Legal advice</td>
<td>• Infrastructural and facility development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Monitoring the project implementation.</td>
<td>• Exchange of information through national &amp; regional databases.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If legal advisors are not informed in time, everything will fail to proceed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Integrity of actors who have an effect on the project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If policy makers are not well informed, the domestication process will be delayed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.0 PLENARY SESSION 3: PLANNING THE HASSP ACTIVITIES

6.1 PRESENTATION OF HASSP LOG-FRAME - BY DR. B. MPOFU

**Overall goal:** To contribute to improved food security of smallholders in the SADC region through increased availability of and access to seeds.

**Project objectives:** SADC Harmonized Seed Regulatory System domesticated and implemented in Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with important data, information and knowledge, utilized in the wider SADC region for evidence-based decision-making on seed systems.

**Outputs**
1. Seed variety release policies in Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe aligned with SADC protocols.
2. Phytosanitary policies in Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe aligned with SADC protocols.
3. Seed certification policies in Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe aligned with SADC protocols.
4. Measures to operationalize the realigned policies introduced and related capacity of government, civil service and other key stakeholders strengthened.
5. Seed certification facilities strengthened or established and successfully functioning in the four focal countries.
6. Data, information and knowledge created is stored and shared.
7. Community seed projects strengthened/established and successfully functioning in Malawi
6.2 WORK-PLAN AND BUDGET
Based on the analysis of gaps, contradictions, opportunities and priorities, participants developed the following work-plan and budget for the Malawi HASSP intervention. Participants worked in groups to develop the work-plan and budget which was later consolidated in one table as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outputs &amp; Target</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Responsible Partners</th>
<th>Req’d Budget for Yr 1 in USD</th>
<th>Total Est’d Budget for 4 Yrs in USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESULT AREA 1: Seed variety release policies in Malawi aligned with SADC Protocols</td>
<td>1. To re-align seed variety release policies in Malawi with SADC protocols</td>
<td>1. Update national register of released varieties (for ease of cross-referencing)</td>
<td>National variety register updated (1)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-2013</td>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SADC variety register developed (1)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-March 2011</td>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Develop/update variety descriptors for released varieties in line with the regional protocols</td>
<td>Descriptors published (all varieties)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-2013</td>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Develop standard variety naming and coding system for released varieties</td>
<td>Names and codes developed (all crops)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2011</td>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Budget - Sub-total 15,000 35,000
### RESULT AREA 2: Phyto-sanitary policies in Malawi aligned with SADC protocols

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. To Review the Plant Protection Act</th>
<th>1. Develop TOR and Hire a Policy Consultant for Act revision</th>
<th>Consultant hired</th>
<th>Septembe 1st -15th, 2010</th>
<th>FANRPAN/DARS/CISANET</th>
<th>9,000</th>
<th>9,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Hold a stakeholders meeting and formulate a task force</td>
<td>Views incorporated in the draft 2-4 October, 2010</td>
<td>DARS/NRC Plant Protection</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Finalize and submit the final draft to the Task force for final review</td>
<td>1st draft Act 15-30 October, 2010</td>
<td>CISANET/DARS</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Submit to Ministry of Justice and Feedback to Taskforce 2nd draft Act 15-20 November 2010</td>
<td>CISANET/DARS</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Submit the Final document to Justice for submission to Parliament Final document 1-10 December, 2010</td>
<td>CISANET/DARS</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. To Build phyto-sanitary capacity 1. Train Plant Health Inspectors in Phytosanitary Procedures 31 Inspectors trained 20-30 Sep, 2010</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Equip labs and border post with basic equipment</td>
<td>Computers with accessories (6); Equipment (Dissecting, Microscopes and Inspector’s tools) purchased</td>
<td>Aug-Sep 2010</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Procure and install communication facilities</td>
<td>Internet installed</td>
<td>Aug-Sep 2010</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Procure motor vehicle</td>
<td>Vehicle procured</td>
<td>Oct-10</td>
<td>DARS/FAN RPAN</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Conduct one awareness meeting for farmer groups in Phytosanitary measures for various</td>
<td>3 meetings for Farmer group leaders conducted</td>
<td>Aug-Sep 2011</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. To document pest list and review phytosanitary guidelines</td>
<td>1. Call for specialist meeting (Academia, Research Scientists) to review guidelines</td>
<td>1-10 Sep 2010</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULT AREA 3: Seed Certification policies in Malawi aligned with SADC Protocols

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>COMPLETED</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>BUDGET - SUB-TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>To have seed certification policies aligned with SADC protocols by December 2011</td>
<td>1. Sensitize stakeholders and Review current Seed Act</td>
<td>Seed law reviewed by MOFS and other stakeholders</td>
<td>Consultant /DARS/CIS ANET/STAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Submit reviewed Seed law to Ministry of Justice for further review</td>
<td>Seed law reviewed</td>
<td>Jan - March 2011</td>
<td>Ministry of Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Sensitize Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture</td>
<td>Parliamentary committee sensitized (22 members)</td>
<td>March - April 2011</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Present Reviewed Seed Law for Parliamentary approval</td>
<td>Reviewed Seed Law approved</td>
<td>April - May 2011</td>
<td>Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Sensitize stakeholders on the Reviewed Seed Law</td>
<td>50 Stakeholders sensitized on the reviewed seed law</td>
<td>Sep - October 2011</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. To operationalize the reviewed</td>
<td>1. Orient the SSU staff to the seed law</td>
<td>10 Seed analysts and 10 Inspectors</td>
<td>On going</td>
<td>Local PMU, SSC &amp; NSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESULT AREA 4: Measures to operationalise the re-aligned policies introduced and related capacity of government, civil service and other key stakeholders strengthened</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. To develop policies that will operationalise the re-aligned policies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Finalize enactment of PBR</strong></td>
<td>PBR Act in place (1)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2011</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Put in place an act to provide for the legal establishment of ATCC</strong></td>
<td>Agricultural Technology Release Act in place (1)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2013</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. To monitor the process of operationalising the re-aligned policies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Establish an M&amp;E tool to enable ATCC monitor varieties</strong></td>
<td>M&amp;E tool available (1)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2013</td>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Procure reagents for molecular fingerprinting of released varieties and quality assurance</strong></td>
<td>Reagents available (various)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2013</td>
<td>DARS</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Train local personnel in molecular fingerprinting of released varieties</td>
<td>Personnel trained (10)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2013</td>
<td>DARS/University</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Procure storage facilities for managing the reference materials</td>
<td>Storage units available (5)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2011</td>
<td>DARS (MPGRC)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Procure computers and software for data management of reference materials</td>
<td>Equipment available (2 units)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2011</td>
<td>ATCC</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Train database managers for reference materials</td>
<td>Personnel trained (5)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2013</td>
<td>ATCC/University</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. To build local capacity to undertake DUS/VCU in line with regional variety release protocols</td>
<td>Personnel trained (20)</td>
<td>Sept 2010-Aug 2013</td>
<td>ATCC/University</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Budget - Sub-total** | **25,000** | **112,500**

**RESULT AREA 5: Seed Certification Facilities Strengthened or Established and Successfully Functioning**

| 1. To strengthen seed certification facilities in Malawi | One vehicle procured | Nov 2011 - March 2012 | Ministry of Agriculture (DARS) | 45,000 | 45,000 |
## Result Area 6: Data, information and knowledge created is stored and shared

1. **Develop a Database for all information related to operationalization of the program**
   - **1. Procure a Server**
     - 1 server procured
     - **Ministry of Agriculture (DARS)**
     - **Budget - Sub-total**: 6,000

2. **Develop/pr cure Software**
   - Software procured
   - **Ministry of Agriculture (DARS)**
   - **Budget - Sub-total**: 18,000

3. **Provide training in Database management**
   - May require training in RSA for 3 officers
   - **FANRPAN/DARS**
   - **Budget - Sub-total**: 5,000

4. **Develop and launch a Phytosanitary website**
   - Website launched
   - **Ministry of Agriculture (DARS)**
   - **Budget - Sub-total**: 8,000

5. **Rehabilitate pest sample Museums**
   - Collection of new 'pest' samples and improved preservation of reference samples
   - **Ministry of Agriculture (DARS)**
   - **Budget - Sub-total**: 5,000

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**Budget - Sub-total**: 69,000

---

**Budget - Sub-total**: 13,000
RESULT AREA 7: Community seed projects strengthened/established and successfully functioning in Malawi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. To enhance seed production</th>
<th>1. Register of farmers (seed producers) 40 farmers (seed producers) doing 40 hectares registered with Seed Services Unit</th>
<th>1st – 15th Septembe r 2010</th>
<th>ASSMAG and SSU</th>
<th>350</th>
<th>1,400</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Train seed producers (field management; seed production and quality control; seed storage management; record keeping)</td>
<td>40 farmers (30 legumes 10 maize) trained from 5 districts trained in seed production in 2 training sessions</td>
<td>15th -30th Septembe r 2010</td>
<td>ASSMAG, S SU and Breeders</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Acquire foundation seed</td>
<td>250Kgs of OPV maize foundation seed acquired for 10 hectares</td>
<td>Sept 2011 to Aug 2014</td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1600Kgs groundnuts foundation seed acquired for 20 hectares</td>
<td>Sept 2011 to Aug 2014</td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>900Kgs of beans foundation seed acquired for</td>
<td>Sept 2011 to Aug 2014</td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Action | Details | Start Date | End Date | Responsible | Cost
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Distribute foundation seed</td>
<td>Transport hired to deliver seed to 5 districts</td>
<td>Sept 2011 to Aug 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Facilitate inspection of fields</td>
<td>3 field inspections of 40 farmers-40 hectares</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ASSMAG and SSU</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. To enhance the capacity of farmers to market their seed</td>
<td>Train farmers seed marketing skills (GMA, packaging, branding, advertising, contract farming)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ASSMAG, TAM and FUM</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Hire storage facility</td>
<td>1 storage facility hired for 3 months</td>
<td>1st Septembe r - 31st December 2011</td>
<td></td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Hire seed processing service</td>
<td>Seed processing service hired to process 40 tons of maize</td>
<td>1st -15 Septembe r 2011</td>
<td></td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Hire transport service</strong></td>
<td>Transport hired to deliver the seed</td>
<td>1st - 30th October 2011</td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Develop legal tools to facilitate contract marketing</strong></td>
<td>1 legal tool developed to facilitate contract marketing by a consultant</td>
<td>1st - 15th October 2010</td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. Negotiate market deals</strong></td>
<td>40 farmers linked to the market</td>
<td>1st - 30th October 2011</td>
<td>ASSMAG</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Budget - Sub-total**

| **10,350** | **92,800** |

**GRAND TOTAL FOR THE PROJECT**

| **299,650** | **600,600** |
ANNEXES

1. COMMENTS BY Dr. LUHANGA - CONTROLLER - MoAFS

Dr Luhanga, Controller in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security made the following remarks on the 2nd day of the workshop as part of his input to the process:

- There is need for central coordination of the programme on behalf of networking partners (like CISANET).

- It is important to ensure that there is prioritization to effectively implement the plan – do little but do it well.

- The budget should be done professionally to ensure reality of costs.

- Lessons learnt from Malawi and elsewhere should be taken into consideration in building the project – those with experience should make input.

- Position of resources – the season is already starting, the earlier the resources are available the higher the chances of success since the project is farm related and therefore needs to align to season.

- Strengthen the M and E component to ensure more accountability.

- Address issues of ownership in the project design to ensure sustainability especially at governmental and community level.

- The government of Malawi is fully committed to the seed industry and the industry is progressing well but success depends more on commitment of network partners.