

BEAN SEED SYSTEMS AND DELIVERY

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Bean Seed Workshop Held at Cross Roads Hotel,
Lilongwe, Malawi

23-24th September 2010

Background:

- **The McKnight Foundation through the Collaborative Crops Research Program (CCRP) is supporting several agricultural research for development projects focusing on grain legumes in the Southern Africa Community of Practice (SAf-CoP): Malawi, Tanzania and Mozambique.**
- **One of the research projects supported under this programme is the Bean Seed Systems and Delivery, where CIAT is collaborating with DARS, IIAM and ARI-Uyole to identify effective and efficient options.**
- **The project is now in its 4th year of operation, and over the past 2 annual SAf- CoP meetings (Maputo and Bagamoyo) - there has been common interest from various SAf-CoP projects to link with the Bean Seed project**

Background:

- **The CCRP and the Bean Seed project agreed to conduct this workshop to share the seed experiences from the bean project and other CoP projects and beyond, so that lessons generated from this workshop can guide the other projects working with different legume crops**
- **Hence this 2-day workshop taking place at here Cross Roads Hotel, Lilongwe, from September 23-24 2010.**
- **This workshop is being organized by the CCRP through the Seed System and Delivery project with financial support from the McKnight Foundation**

Background:

- **The participants include: Grantees of the various SAf-CoP projects, donor representatives, government agents, Non-governmental organizations, private sector and agro-dealers.**
- **The stakeholders have come together to share experiences and insights on the challenges and opportunities of the seed systems and delivery**
- **And design seed systems that can work better for various needs and under different circumstances, with the aim of improving the supply of seed for legume crops, linking with the higher goal: improved crop productivity, nutrition and livelihood.**

Objectives

- **The objective of this workshop is to identify and agree on working and suitable (efficient and sustainable) seed systems which will reach the targeted communities and make a difference in the livelihood of the people.**

Specific objectives

- **Share seed systems experiences across the CoP projects and beyond**
- **Appreciate the existing national/regional seed systems contexts and initiatives**
- **Identify suitable seed system elements which can be scaled up/out**
- **Design appropriate, efficient and sustainable seed system(s) to diffuse preferred improved grain legume germplasm**

Expected Outputs

- Documented evidence of key issues for promoting better seed system development, capturing perspectives from different actors in the seed value chain
- Clearly documented understanding of the stakeholders perceptions on their *goals, the value of partnerships, the issues of policy and the challenges of working cross crops*
- Seed systems designed to address:
 - Breeder/Foundation seed
 - Decentralized seed multiplication;
 - Engaging the private sector/marketing
 - Demand creation/information strategy
- A plan of actions – how to move forward