SEMinar on
Plant Variety Protection and
Technology Transfer:
The Benefits of Public-Private
Partnership.
Geneva, April 11 and 12, 2011
The Role of Private Sector in
Kenya
Evans Sikinyi
Executive Officer
Seed Trade Association of Kenya

Layout
- Role of Agriculture
- Technology Development
- Technology Transfer
- Recommendations
Role of Agriculture in Kenya

• Total Land 58 M ha
  ➢ 11 M ha receive adequate rain
  ➢ 7.0 M ha in agric production

• Agriculture Contribution
  ➢ 26% GDP directly
  ➢ 27% links with manufacturing, transport & services related
  ➢ 60% export earnings

Challenges

• Increased population
  ➢ 20M in 1970s to 42 in 2010
  ➢ Increased production/ expansion in land

• Climate Change
  ➢ Unpredictable weather patterns, crop failures
  ➢ Need new crops, appropriate varieties & production technologies

Private and public partnership necessary
Challenges cont

• Employment
  ➢ Diversification in crops
  ➢ Labour intensive, 2m directly in Horticulture, 3.5m indirectly
• Production inputs
  ➢ Appropriate varieties
  ➢ Quality seeds
  ➢ Costly fertilizers & other inputs

Role of public in Technology Dev

• Research was by public sector and technology disseminated by a specialised public organ.
  ➢ KARI and Kenya seed co.
• Reduced funding to Research hence changes
  ➢ Commodity crops like Tea, Coffee, pyrethrum had to involve private sector in funding research - Foundations. Cess by farmers and companies
  ➢ KARI and Universities collaborate with private sector in research and licensing of technology
Role of public cont

• Set up development authorities to support specific commodities
  ➢ Horticultural Development Authority, for market information and training farming community
  ➢ Incentives e.g. tax rebates, free inspection
  Encouraged private sector, hence the success

Current situation

• Private sector has invested in breeding
• Private sector can access public varieties
• Collaboration between public and private in funding, prioritization, extension and marketing
• IP policy in most public institutions encouraging breeding and commercialization of technologies
No. of Seed Companies over time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Registered Seed Merchants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 – 2005</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 – 2006</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 – 2007</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 – 2008</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2009</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 -2010</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No. PVP Applications in Kenya
Country source of PVP applications

Varieties released between 1998 and 2010
Role of private sector in Floriculture

- Heavily invested in Breeding and infrastructure development
- Partnerships locally and internationally
- Multiplication and bulking site
- Introduction of new technologies
- Association of breeders
Who is STAK

- An Association of registered Seed Companies
- Formed in 1982 under Societies Act cap 108
- Operated on voluntary basis
- Independent Secretariat set up in 1999
- 30 members accounting for over 90% of formal seed sold in Kenya

Role Of STAK

- Promote and support efficient production & trade in quality seed in Kenya and the Region
How

• Advocacy for Policy, legislation and regulatory reforms in the seed sector
• Capacity building for seed companies, distributors, seed sellers and farmers
• Promote ethical and good practice by all involved in seed business
• Promote regional seed trade in the region

Key areas

• Five key areas were identified to restrict seed movement in region:
  – Variety evaluation, release and registration process
  – Seed certification
  – Phytosanitary measures
  – Plant Variety Protection
  – Import/export documentation
What is being done

1. Review of the National laws and regulations
   • To allow private sector participation in certification
   • Review PVP
   • Variety testing and release regulations in place
   • National Seed Policy in place for launch in May
2. Harmonization and rationalization of laws and regulations in Eastern Africa (10)
3. Harmonization COMESA region (19)
   Private sector leading role in the process

Conclusion

• Private sector can play a major role in technology development and is ready
• It is key in technology transfer
• Collaboration with public is crucial
• They need facilitation to play their role in terms of legislation and incentives
Which way

- Harmonization will improve trade within the region
- Private sector to be involved in decision making on tech transfer or use, e.g. the subsidy programs
- Certification, for self regulation which should result in efficiency in service provision
- More access to public technologies
- Form a Federation private sector associations involved in agriculture

ASANTE SANA

THANK YOU