



### **IAN BARKER**

Ian Barker is Head Agricultural Partnerships at the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, based in Basel, Switzerland. He works on improving the availability of quality seeds of improved varieties to small holder farmers, with a current emphasis on the situation in selected countries in East and West Africa. The work follows a development strategy based on the belief that engaging private sector skills and investment, through innovative public private partnerships, is the key to breaking the current bottleneck in seed availability. Dr. Barker is also interested in developing innovative models to accelerate the transfer of technology from breeding programs, through variety release and development and ultimately to farmers. He was previously Head of Seed Systems at the International Potato Center, based in Nairobi, Kenya.