

# AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP (CABO DELGADO)

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**FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER**

*Strengthening Humanitarian Response*

## Agenda

### **1. Key elements of Seed regulation in Mozambique**

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- 1.2 Main actors involved in the seed system
- 1.3 Main steps for seed release and registration
- 1.4 Main steps for seed company registration

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- 3.2 Seed vendor and producer documentation
- 3.3 Seed company registration in the ANS database
- 3.4 Seed quality certificate (from national laboratories)
- 3.5 Additional quality tests foreseen at the provincial/district level

## Key elements of Seed regulation in Moçambique

### 1.1 Source of regulation (1)

Seed regulation (*Regulamento de Sementes, Decreto 12/2013 e Diploma Ministerial 58/2018*): registry, production, processing, transport, commercialization, import, export, quality control and certification of seeds (specific norms only for some cereals, pulses, tubers, and fruit plant seedlings, art. 19).

Regulations for the Protection of New Plant Varieties (*Regulamento de Protecção de Novas Variedades de Plantas, Decreto 26/2014*): opportunity for entry of national and foreign private seed companies willing to engage in breeding programs as it protects property rights of owners of seed varieties.

## Key elements of Seed regulation in Moçambique

### 1.1 Source of regulation (2)

Rules of Procedure of the National Seeds Committee (*Diploma Ministerial 115/2014*): establish the rules of organization, competence and operation of the National Seeds Committee.

Rules of Procedure of the Sub-Committee for the Registration and Release of Varieties (*Diploma Ministerial 82/2015*): establish the rules for the organization, powers and operation of the Sub-Committee for the registration and release of Varieties.

Phytosanitary Inspection and Plant Quarantine Regulations (*Regulamentos de Inspeção Fitossanitária e Quarentena de Plantas, Decreto 5/2009*)

## Key elements of Seed regulation in Moçambique

### 1.2 Main actors involved in the seed system: 6 types of actors (1)

#### (1) Research and breeding institutions

- Agricultural research institute of Mozambique (*Instituto de Investigação Agrária de Moçambique, IIAM*): focus cereals, legumes, roots and tubers.
- CIMMYT (International center for maize and wheat improvement): focus on maize
- CIAT (international center for tropical agriculture): focus on common beans (*feijão manteiga*)
- IITA (international institute for tropical agriculture): focus on soybean and cowpea (*feijão Nhemba*)
- ICRISAT (international crops research for the semi-arid tropics): focus on groundnut, sesame, and pigeon pea
- CIP (international potato center): focus on potato and sweet potato.

## Key elements of Seed regulation in Moçambique

### 1.2 Main actors involved in the seed system: 6 types of actors (2)

#### (2) Regulators

- National Authority of Seeds (*Autoridade Nacional de Sementes, ANS*)
- The Phytosanitary Authority within the MoA (*Departamento de Sanidade Vegetal do MADER*)
- Custom authority (*Autoridade tributaria de Moçambique*)
- National seed laboratories (*laboratorios nacionais de sementes*): only state-managed laboratories (no private actors). 5 laboratories: Maputo, Chokwe (Gaza), Namacurra (Zambezia), Nampula (Nampula), Chimoio (Manica).

(3) Seed producers and processors: IIAM, seed companies, seed producers, and associations.

## Key elements of Seed regulation in Mozambique

### 1.2 Main actors involved in the seed system: 6 types of actors (3)

(4) Marketing/distribution: agro-dealers (wholesale and retail), NGOs, and UN agencies.

(5) Knowledge and education: public extension service (MADER)

(6) Smallholder farmers and informal merchants: represent 90% of the total value of the seed value chain. Main stakeholders of the “informal seed system”. Seed from formal systems can enter the informal seed system when farmers recycle and use certified seed themselves, without undergoing formal seed inspections and certification processes. This seed is considered to be Seed of Declared Quality (SDQ).

## Basic concepts of Seed regulation in Mozambique

### 1.3 Main steps for seed and registration release: research and breeding

Choice of varieties: depending on their use (physical characteristics) size, color, texture, and food consumption values in terms of nutrients.

Agro-ecological adaptation to the region: considering the predominant production system in the region, market supply and demand.

Stability and productivity of seed: to assess production trends of a given seed (fluctuation and drops) over the years in a given area.

Resistance to the main pests and diseases (phytosanitary aspects): assess resistance from the field to the harvest.

Crop cycle: tendency to release early varieties to allow households/producers harvesting in a short period.



## Basic concepts of Seed regulation in Mozambique

### 1.4 Main steps for seed company registration

Registration of seed producers and processors: registration of seed chain actors in the ANS' database and assessment of available infrastructure and equipment.

Registration of multiplication fields based on and standard production processes.

Laboratory analysis: sample of seeds need to be tested before entering the market to certify the quality. Key parameters are purity, germination, moisture, origin, treatment (optional).

Seed processing: this includes reception, drying, cleaning, treatment, weighing, packaging, labelling, and storage.

## Challenges regarding the implementation of the seed regulation

### 2.1 Seeds certification

Side-selling by seed subcontracted producers: some subcontractors sell seed to seed producers who are not the ones provided for in the contracts.

Number of laboratories in the country to release certification: this leads provincial and district authorities to ask for additional quality tests that are not carried out in licensed laboratories. However, that is necessary to prevent seeds from being damaged during long transports from one province to another and storage.

## Challenges regarding the implementation of the seed regulation

### 2.1 Seeds certification

Inadequate funding to support ANS operations: limited HR, low certification fees, high labelling costs (producers request standardized labels to ANS)

Logistics costs for producers to pay for ANS officers for inspections: transport and allowance (beyond the certification fees) to be paid to ANS officers to move to the production units for inspection.

Lack of understanding from producers about key requirements provided for in the Regulation: this includes unclear deadline for completion of the certification process.

# Challenges regarding the implementation of the seed regulation

## 2.2 Seeds marketing

Non-payment of fines: in the event that the Seed Regulations are violated, there is the challenge of non-payment of fines by violators. e.g., seed suppliers has led them to buy grain from informal producers and sell it has a seed). Fines should be directed to the suppliers for marketing purposes (not to small-holder farmers that saved OPV seeds at the community level).

Lack of preventive sanctions: the level and nature of some of the Regulation's fines are low and are not effective in deterring non-compliance.

Lack of seed traceability: due to the lack of labels, it is difficult to trace the seed production line for accountability purposes.

Lack of knowledge regarding seed regulation: This means that there are no complaints directed at the offender.

## Recommendations for partners engaging in seeds distributions

### 3.1 Vendor documentation

Documentation approved by the ANS (for registration in the ANS database) and analysed by the SPAE/DPAP team (*alvará, certificado de autorização de venda de sementes, NUIT, cadastro único*).

### 3.2 Vendor and producer documentation

Field inspection booklet for seed production (in addition to the documents mentioned above): For most crops, seed multipliers are subject to 3 inspections of their production fields which take place at 3 stages of the crop cycle (growth stage, flowering stage and harvest). Seed suppliers who are not multipliers and who buy seed for resale must always request the certificate confirming the quality of the seed, which is issued by the competent authority.

## Recommendations for partners engaging in seeds distributions

### 3.3 Seed company registration in the ANS database

All seed producers and suppliers must have been registered at ANS database and must present a license issued by the ANS as a producer or seller of certified seeds.

### 3.4 Seed quality certificate from national seed laboratories

Buyers must request it from their suppliers. This document reports all the quality tests carried out on a given batch of seeds (purity, seed germination, moisture content) and is valid for 6 months. Buyers MUST check that the quality tests are carried out on each batch of seeds that make up the final quantity to be purchased (the seeds purchased may be part of different batches). NB. Batches may have a maximum weight set by law ([page 232, decree 12/2013](#)), this is important to prevent fraud.

## Recommendations for partners engaging in seeds distributions

### 3.5 Additional quality tests foreseen at the provincial/district level

The DPAP and the SPAE of each province (or SDAE at the district level as alternative) may ask partners to give a sample for each batch to test seeds germination rate and cuttings.

These tests are not conducted in accredited laboratories due technology and capacity constraints in some provinces. These additional tests are carried out because seeds may undergo significant stress and loss traits of their quality during transportation and storage even when the 6-month certificate is valid.

# Obrigado

## Useful links

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