

# Effective Seed System Leads to Improved Food and Income Security



## Seed Trade Association of South Sudan (STASS)

Presented

By

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# STASS - Background

- ❑ Was formed in 2015
- ❑ Re-formed in March 2018
- ❑ Comprised of 7 executive members (all representatives of local seed companies)
- ❑ Formed under the directive of the National Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and funding from AGRA

# Vision and Mission of STASS

- ❑ **Vision:** A vibrant seed industry with appropriate and adequate quality assured seeds for increased farmers' productivity
- ❑ **Mission:** To coordinate and oversee the development of the seed industry in South Sudan for sustainable agricultural and economic development
- ❑ **Core Values;**
  - Quality service
  - Integrity
  - Innovativeness
  - Sustainability

# Purpose and Objectives

**□ Purpose;** to organize the seed industry so that quality seed is produced and accessed by farmers

## **□ Objectives**

**□** Production of quality seeds

**□** Promote the development and adoption of better technologies

**□** Mobilize resources for enhancing the capacities of the industry

**□** Create awareness on seed

**□** Establish linkages with regional and global bodies in the seed industry

# Roles and Responsibilities of STASS

- ❑ Coordinate and oversee seed production and Trading
- ❑ Build the capacities of seed companies, agro-dealers and farmers
- ❑ Awareness creation
- ❑ Resource mobilization for the industry
- ❑ Network with regional/global associations and researchers
- ❑ Lobby and advocate for a conducive environment for the industry

# STASS Membership

## □ Primary members (seed companies)

- Producers
- Importers
- Local or international (registered in SS)

## □ Associate members

- Agro-dealers
- Institutions or agencies involved in seed matters (Research, NGOs, etc)
- Foreign based seed companies

# Present Seed Companies

1. PRO Seeds Ltd
2. Seed Grow Company Ltd
3. Green Horizon
4. Kerepi Farmers
5. GAIS
6. Affa Seed Co. Ltd
7. Gumbo Glow
8. MASCO Ltd
9. Aruda Co. Ltd
10. Blossom Seeds Co. Ltd
11. Equatoria Seeds Co. Ltd
12. Afroganic
13. Century Seeds Co. Ltd
14. Savannah Seeds Co. Ltd
15. Sudds Enterprises
16. South Farmers
17. SMART Seeds and Agro Input Co. Ltd

# Agro-dealers in Juba

1. Wetland Agric. And Vet Supplies
2. Farm Care Consult International
3. Kareef International Co. Ltd
4. Kilimanjaro Agrobusiness
5. Tropical Agribusiness
6. Elgon Agroseed Ltd
7. Star Cross and General Supplies
8. MGA Agrobusiness
9. KDH AgroInputs Co. Ltd
10. Kubi Agrofarm Co. Ltd
11. Seeds centre
12. Jumbo Seeds
13. MJ Solutions (Agric Tools and Seeds)
14. Lojurya Agrobusiness
15. Tefco Co. Ltd



# The Seed

- ❑ Literarily, it's what's planted to grow into a plant
- ❑ A good seed;
  - High genetic purity
  - True-to-type (Physical purity)
  - Viable
  - Good weight and size – enough food reserves
  - Disease and pest free – treated with the right chemical

# Importance of a Good Seed

- ❑ Ensures increased productivity and production; (contributes 20 – 25% yield increase)
- ❑ Adds value to other resources
- ❑ Improves HH incomes and general economy
- ❑ Increased adoption of improved varieties
- ❑ Builds trusts and reduces conflicts amongst the stakeholders

# The Seed Market in the Country

- ❑ Generally poor seed is in the market;
  - Not true-to-type
  - Less viable
  - Not sorted
  - Diseased or infested
  - Grains packaged as seed
- ❑ Handled by anyone
- ❑ Some locally produced seed are substandard
- ❑ Few agro-dealers in limited areas
- ❑ Farmers use saved seeds
- ❑ Limited knowledge of seed demand
- ❑ Limited interest on hybrid varieties

# Way forward for the Seed Industry

## STASS to take charge

- Coordinate and oversee activities of all seed companies and agro-dealers
- Network with regional and global bodies in the industry
- Build capacities of seed companies, agro-dealers and farmers
- Mobilize resources; support from development partners
- Lobby for a conducive environment for the industry
- Create awareness on improved technologies

## Government/MAFS

- Support efforts of STASS
- Enact laws that enhance the industry

## Research to develop better technologies

## Development partners to work with us

# Our Current Focus

- Lobby with MAFS to conduct seed certification, and us to monitor seed import (Traceability)
- Register all seed companies and agro-dealers
- Establish and strengthen agro-dealers in selected areas
- Lobby for more investment/funding
- Awareness creation on Seed and improved varieties (seed forum, Seed Trade Show, mass media)
- Develop constitution and strategic plans
- Promote hybrids (conduct of evaluation trials)
- Document all seed production activities

# STASS and Development Partners

## ❑ Our Desire

- Creation of Seed Block Farms
- Zoning of Seed Production
- Seed handling facilities (processing and storage)
- Machinery (Tractors)
- Capacity Building

## ❑ Support from Development Partners

- Contracting of Seed companies to produce seeds
- Funding for acquisition of facilities and machineries and to facilitate the seed certification processes
- Capacity Building

# Achievements and Challenges

- STASS now operational
- Already established a working relationship with regional associations
- Already collaborating with CIMMYT and AATF for promotion of maize hybrids
- Creating partnerships with vegetable seed companies

## Challenges

- Limited funding
- Institutional weaknesses amongst stakeholders
- Limited experience within STASS

# **Thank you**

**Questions/Clarifications.....**