

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

**REGULATORY APPROACHES TO  
ENSURING ADHERENCE TO SEED  
QUALITY STANDARDS AND ETHICS**

**Presentation to Trainees**

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# Introduction

## Define Regulation

- To make orderly, control, direct or govern according to rules, principles, requirements, rates, amount, standard or law.
- Name seed quality regulatory Authority in your country
- Who makes regulations in your country?

# REGULATORY APPROACHES

- Through regulatory approaches governments establish benchmark for seed quality providers and institutions for the seed the provided.
- The approaches include:-
  - Licensing
  - Certification
  - Accreditation
  - Self regulation

# APPROACHES CON'D

- These are not mutually exclusive and are complementally
- Each has distinct purpose and can contribute to overall strategy for ensuring quality seed is provided
- All are based on evaluation of adherence to explicitly defined STANDARDS
- All create uniformity of practice by seed providers and delivery of seed
- They may differ in the following ways:-
  1. Whether mandatory or voluntary
  2. In nature of issuing and enforcing regulations
  3. In respect the part of seed system is the object of evaluation

# APPROACHES CON'D

4. In the level of detail of requirements
5. Scope of standards
6. In the frequency with which evaluation is carried out
7. In the assessment methodology used .

Which of the approaches require stricter enforcement all the time in order to deliver quality seed?



# LICENSING

- This statutory requirement in most countries
- Before registration as a seed provider
- Capacity evaluated including
  - 1. buldings
  - 2. equipments
  - 3. personnel
  - 4. farms

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# CERTIFICATION

- Countries use both internal and external seed quality control system to ensure their seed remains popular with the customers.
- Certification process **MUST** be understood by seed growers, providers and customers in order that quality seed is provided according to set standards.
- Certification is based on generations from breeder to the time the farmer/customer plants

# CERTIFICATION CON'D

- Seed classes indicate how many generations a seed lot is removed from the originating Breeder.
- Each class has required level of quality
- Seed classes:-
  1. Breeder
  2. Prebasic or Foundation (in USA system)
  3. Basic or Registered (in USA system)
  4. Certified, CG1, CG2, CG3

**What terms are used in your country?**



# CERTIFICATION CON'D

- Certification requires:-
  1. field inspection where seed crop is of known seed class, and inspectors follow required standards
  2. Lab analysis to determine, genetic purity, physical purity, germination, vigor and seed health
  3. Insurance of certificate to sell or not for sale

# ACCREDITATION

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# SELF REGULATION

- To be explained in the next lecture on guidelines for seed industry self regulation.

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# CHALLENGES

- Seed providers are issued with licenses for premises, equipments and human resource once without mechanisms for re-inspection or for upgrading
- No clear mechanism for appeal when aggrieved by regulator as this may take a long period to be addressed
- Enforcement is weak promoting disregard for seed standards
- Enforcement is open to abuse due to corruption
- **What challenges do you encounter in your country?**

ANY QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH;  
ASATENI SANA

**LETS MOVE TO NEXT  
LECTURE.**

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