



SEED SECURITY ASSESSMENT TRAINING

“Building Capacity to Conduct Seed Security Assessment in Africa”

WHAT? Country and Regional Seed Security Assessment (SSA) training

INTRODUCTION: Each year, large amounts of financial and human resources are used to support the food security of households and communities affected by natural and man-made crises. One of the most common emergency responses to the affected farming households is distribution of crop seed and planting materials. However, most seed related responses are not informed by rigorous assessments of the need for seed, and therefore run the risk of being ineffective, inappropriate and, in the worst cases harmful.

Maximizing the impact of seed related interventions requires concerted and collaborative efforts by different agencies. A recent review¹ in the horn of Africa and the Sahel showed that there is generally a deficient understanding of the impact of disaster on seed security. This is mainly due to inadequate seed security assessment and/or limited use of the few existing seed security assessment reports and recommendations.

Through an ECHO-funded project², FAO in collaboration with CRS has developed new, rapid and simple tools for assessing seed security at household and community levels. Training is now being offered to practitioners working in seed related fields in countries in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel. The countries covered by the project are: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger in the Sahel and Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan in the Horn of Africa.

¹ Draft SSA meta-analysis

² Building capacity for better food and nutrition security programming in emergency and rehabilitation contexts through improved seed system assessment, enhanced integration of nutrition and strengthened accountability to affected populations (<http://www.fao.org/in-action/food-security-capacity-building/home/en/>)



Objectives

The overall objective is to build capacity at country level to conduct high quality and accurate seed security assessments in emergency and rehabilitation situations. This will be achieved by training courses coupled with actual assessments.

Training Content

- 4 days class work to include data handling, analysis and reporting
- 1 day field work

Assessment

As a continuation of the capacity building process, Actual assessments will be undertaken by graduates of the training during 2014.

WHERE & WHEN?

Region	Country	Location	SSA Training/practice	Assessment support
Horn of Africa	Kenya	Nakuru	30 th June to 4 th July, 2014	October/November
	South Sudan	Juba/Yei.	14 th to 18 th July 2014	October/November
	Somali	Argesa	4 th to 15 th August, 2014	18 th 31 st August, 2014
	Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	25 th to 29 th August, 2014	October/November
	Regional	Nairobi	25 th to 26 th September, 2014	N/A

FOR WHOM?

Organizations

The training targets government line ministry and departments, and organizations involved in seed related activities within the country. Key among these are; Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), particularly department of crop production; International and National Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) supporting seed related activities.

Participants and their eligibility

Participants will be drawn from the above organizations and the following criteria will apply in selecting the participants.

- All trainees must pass the CRS–World Bank e-learning course on Seed System Security (http://www.crslearns.com/seed_systems/menu.html). This is a 5 – 6 hour interactive course that may be taken on-line or via pen drive. Pen-drives will be made available to potential trainees from FAO country offices (see contact persons below).
- Individuals **must be** those responsible for seed related program design and or monitoring and evaluation in emergency / rehabilitation projects and programmes e.g. Project/program managers, project



coordinators, M&E Officers, Training officers.

- Individuals must have good command in English, and computer literate, particularly in Microsoft word and Excel.
- Must be willing to fully participate in all the training activities as well as be available for subsequent assessment activities.
- Must submit his/her application 3 weeks before the stipulated training date. This should come with recommendation letter from his/her organization.
- Applicants from organizations planning to conduct seed security assessment in the next 6-9 months will have added advantage.

Notes

- Only 20-30 participants will be taken on first come first served basis after meeting the above criteria. (Registration form shall be available from the contact persons).
- Participant for the regional ToT training will be identified from among the participants at country trainings. 4-5 persons per country.
- Women are encouraged to apply.

Indicative country level participant list

Institution	Total	Comment
Government	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be drawn from Ministry of Agriculture (crop production / agricultural extension / plant protection / monitoring and evaluation/ agricultural research) and Disaster management authority / ministry.
International and Local NGOs	10 - 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country Food Security Cluster leads are expected to manage the selection process.
UN FAO	2 - 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project/Program officers involved in seed related activities
Private sector	2 - 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed companies
CRS	2 - 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project/Program officers involved in seed related activities
Total	21 - 30	

CONTACT DETAILS

Region/Country	Focal persona	E-Mail	Telephone
Horn of Africa	Joseph Okidi	Joseph.Okidi@fao.org	+254 (0) 733 997696
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