

SEED QUALITY ASSURANCE, MANAGEMENT & CONTROL PROCESSES COURSE: 24th April-6th May 2017

INTRODUCTION

- ❑ Quality assurance of seed is extremely important in agriculture:-
 - to ensure proper maintenance of varieties with improved traits
 - to ensure that seed remains viable and able to produce vigorous plants
 - to guarantee the absence of pathogens and insects
- ❑ This is achieved through continuous testing using the appropriate and approved procedures both in the laboratory and in the field.

Overall objective - To enhance participants' practical knowledge and skills on seed testing, quality assurance and certification procedures.

Specific objectives

- To create awareness on the components and functions of seed value chains
- To enhance knowledge of the national and international laws and regulations governing the seed industry.
- To strengthen the understanding of the standard operating procedures in the seed quality management system.
- To impart skills on seed fields inspection for maintenance of genetic purity.
- To enhance skills of seed testing methods for evaluation of physical and physiological quality.
- To improve the knowledge on phytosanitary quality through the identification of insects and pathogens.

Expectations

- Knowledge on determinants of seed quality and certification process
- Ability to recognize various quality problems associated with seed
- Hands-on skills on seed testing methods.
- Knowledge on the role and impact of seed legislation on the seed industry.
- Knowledge on national, regional and international laws, regulations and agreements that facilitate seed production and trade.
- Knowledge on the processes in the management of a quality seed enterprise
- Ability to maintain, interpret and communicate information using ICT for a quality seed enterprise.