Seed Trade Organizations

Simon M. Maina
Head, Seed Certification and Plant Variety Protection
KEPHIS

Seed Enterprise Management Short Course for NPPOs and Seed Quality Regulators - UON
Seed Trade Organizations

• These are associations whose membership may include breeders, seed companies, seed distributors and other stakeholders in the seed industry.

• They may be organised at national, regional or international level e.g. STAK, ASTA, AFSTA, ISF

• Their aim is to promote trade in seeds
What is Expected of a Seed Trade Ass.?

- Promote existence of a vibrant seed industry:
  - Profitable business ventures
  - Offer service to society by enhancing provision of high quality seeds to provide food, raw materials for industry, income, employment etc.
What is Expected of a Seed Trade Ass.? 

• A vibrant seed industry requires:
  – Relevant legislation
  – Focussed national policies
  – Well informed/sensitized policy makers
  – Well established seed dealers – Seed merchants, distributors and stockists
  – Friendly business environment
  – Market access
What is Expected of a Seed Trade Ass.?

• A vibrant seed industry requires:
  – Access to good varieties
  – Suitable breeding environment
  – Harmonization of national and international policies and standards
Roles of Seed Trade Ass.

- Avail relevant information to members and other stakeholders in the seed sector
- Represent seed trade in seed forums
- Advocating for an enabling environment for seed business at national, regional and international level – policy, legislation and regulatory reforms in the seed sector
- Create linkages with other organizations
Roles of Seed Trade Ass.

- Build capacity for seed companies, distributors, seed sellers and farmers.
- Disseminate relevant information to members and related stakeholder.
- Promote development of seed statistical databases.
- Promote ethical and good practices by all players in the seed sector.
- Promote national, regional and international trade in high quality seed.
Roles of Seed Trade Ass.

• Address challenges facing seed industry such as:
  – Constraints in moving seed – trade barriers, taxation, coats of labour.
  – Counterfeit seeds.
Players in the Seed Sector

- Breeders and breeding institutions
- Seed multipliers (companies)
- Seed growers
- Seed processors
- Seed marketers
- Importers
- Farmers
THANK YOU