Webinar on
Seed Production of Improved Maize Varieties: Best Practices

Date: July 26, 2021 at 14:00 hrs. East Africa Time (GMT +3:00)
# Seed Production of Improved Maize Varieties: Best Practices

**Date:** July 26, 2021 at 14:00 hrs. East Africa Time (GMT +3:00)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Resource Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>14:05</td>
<td>0:05</td>
<td>Housekeeping</td>
<td>Nicholas Davis (Global Maize Program Manager, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:05</td>
<td>14:10</td>
<td>0:05</td>
<td>Opening remarks, course expectations and objectives</td>
<td>B.M. Prasanna (Global Maize Program Director, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:10</td>
<td>14:40</td>
<td>0:30</td>
<td>Distinguishing characteristics of CIMMYT’s improved maize inbred lines, hybrids and OPVs &amp; criteria for selection of appropriate varieties</td>
<td>Dagne Wegary (Maize Breeder - Southern Africa, CIMMYT) and Dan Makumbi (Maize Breeder - Eastern Africa, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:40</td>
<td>15:10</td>
<td>0:30</td>
<td>Methods for maintenance of inbred lines &amp; quality assurance/QA/QC</td>
<td>Berhanu Tadesse (Maize Breeder - Eastern Africa, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:10</td>
<td>15:40</td>
<td>0:30</td>
<td>Protocols for seed production of maize hybrids and improved OPVs</td>
<td>James Gethi (Maize Seed Systems Specialist - Southern Africa, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:40</td>
<td>15:55</td>
<td>0:15</td>
<td>Discussion (Q&amp;A)</td>
<td>B.M. Prasanna (Global Maize Program Director, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:55</td>
<td>16:05</td>
<td>0:10</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:05</td>
<td>16:35</td>
<td>0:30</td>
<td>Seed inventory management &amp; seed road maps</td>
<td>Walter Chivasa (Maize Seed Systems Coordinator - Africa, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:35</td>
<td>17:05</td>
<td>0:30</td>
<td>Good Agronomic Practices for improving seed production yields in maize</td>
<td>Munyaradzi Jonga (Seeds Production Manager, AATF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:05</td>
<td>17:20</td>
<td>0:15</td>
<td>Discussion (Q&amp;A)</td>
<td>B.M. Prasanna (Global Maize Program Director, CIMMYT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:20</td>
<td>17:25</td>
<td>0:05</td>
<td>Wrap-up</td>
<td>Hussein Haji (Executive Director, SATG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:25</td>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>0:05</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
<td>Abdallah Togola (Economic Security Coordinator, ICRC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** 3:30

Note: Each session will be composed of a 25min presentation plus 5min of Q&A

Follow this link to register for the online event: [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIldeqtpjosG91o38D-svY5e01gNUjFmbm5](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIldeqtpjosG91o38D-svY5e01gNUjFmbm5)
Presenter Profiles

B.M. Prasanna
Director of CIMMYT’s Global Maize Program and the CGIAR Research Program on Maize

Dr. B.M. Prasanna leads CIMMYT’s global maize program, which focuses primarily on maize improvement in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Asia. He provides technical oversight for an array of multi-institutional projects on the development and deployment of improved stress resilient maize germplasm in the tropics, as well as novel tools and technologies for enhancing genetic gains and breeding efficiency. Prasanna also leads MAIZE, a CGIAR alliance of more than 300 research and development institutions worldwide that seeks to mobilize global resources in maize research and development to achieve a greater strategic impact on maize-based farming systems in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

b.m.prasanna@cgiar.org

Dagne Wegary Gissa
Maize Breeder - Southern Africa, CIMMYT

Dr. Dagne Wegary works as maize breeder for CIMMYT. Based in Zimbabwe, he focuses on the development and deployment of high-yielding, biotic and abiotic stress-tolerant maize varieties for resource-poor farmers in eastern and especially southern Africa. He coordinates multilocation on-station regional variety trials in collaboration with NARS and seed companies in southern Africa.

D.Wegary@cgiar.org

Dan Makumbi
Maize Breeder - Eastern Africa, CIMMYT

Dr. Dan Makumbi is a Senior Scientist and Maize Breeder with CIMMYT’s Global Maize Program, based in Kenya. Dr. Makumbi has worked on the development of drought stress tolerant maize inbred lines and hybrids, quality protein maize (QPM), and tolerance to Striga and aflatoxin. He has developed several high-yielding, stress-tolerant hybrids that are grown in eastern Africa. Dr. Makumbi has also been engaged in capacity building of NARS breeders in eastern Africa since 2008.

D.Makumbi@CGIAR.ORG

Berhanu Tadesse
Maize Breeder - Eastern Africa, CIMMYT

Dr. Berhanu Tadesse recently joined CIMMYT as a maize product development breeder for CIMMYT’s maize breeding pipelines in eastern Africa. In this role, Berhanu plays a key role in increasing genetic gains through formulation, testing and identification of impactful hybrids. He also contributes to the regional collaborative maize breeding network and capacity building of partner institutions in eastern Africa. Prior to joining CIMMYT, Berhanu worked for the Ethiopian Institutes of Agricultural Research (EIAR), where he was a national maize research coordinator.

B.ERTIRO@cgiar.org
**James Gethi**  
Maize Seed Systems Specialist - Southern Africa, CIMMYT  
Dr. James Gethi holds a PhD in Plant Breeding from Cornell University in New York (2003) and is currently the Senior Seed Systems Specialist for southern Africa at CIMMYT, based in Zimbabwe. As an expert in varietal registration, hybrid seed production, and maintenance of inbred lines, he supports seed company and NARS partners to commercialize CIMMYT maize products across the continent, especially in southern Africa. His research focuses on hybrid producibility, seed production patterns, herbicide sensitivity to inbred lines to improve productivity, evaluation of hybrid parental lines, descriptor development and product profiles generation.

[J.Gethi@cgiar.org](mailto:J.Gethi@cgiar.org)

---

**Walter Chivasa**  
Maize Seed Systems Coordinator - Africa, CIMMYT  
Dr. Walter Chivasa is CIMMYT’s maize seed systems coordinator for Africa. He is responsible for co-developing and executing CIMMYT’s maize seed scaling strategies, managing and developing strategic partnerships, and implementing activities to promote the effectiveness and impacts of CIMMYT products in SSA.

[W.Chivasa@cgiar.org](mailto:W.Chivasa@cgiar.org)

---

**Munyaradzi Jonga**  
Seeds Production Manager, AATF  
Dr. Munyaradzi Jonga is a Seed Production Manager at AATF. He is an agronomist and seed production specialist with vast experience in seed systems, seed production, capacity building, seed regulations, agricultural research and extension. He has a passion for agriculture and the seed sector development and management in Africa. Dr. Jonga holds BSc and MSc degrees in Crop Science as well as an MBA and PhD in Business management. He got agricultural research and extension experience working in the fertiliser, crop chemicals and seed industries, where he gained vast knowledge of various farming systems both in the smallholder and large-scale farming sectors. He has worked as a Gazetted Seed Inspector, Seed Production & Quality Assurance Manager and Operations Manager, and has contributed to agriculture and seed sector development through training of seed growers and seed industry personnel during formal workshop presentations and field work.

[j.munyaradzi@aatf-africa.org](mailto:j.munyaradzi@aatf-africa.org)