

KENYA QA recommendations

A total of 5 key recommendations to address deficiencies and/or opportunities in the QA area of Kenya's seed system have been developed by the assessment team and vetted with stakeholders. The recommendations are roughly, but not strictly, listed in order of importance or recommended sequencing.

Recommendation # 1: Expansion of crop scope/portfolio for seed QA
Description
Support national seed regulatory authority (KEPHIS) to develop protocols for all priority scheduled/focus crops with a view to formalizing seed certification for a wider range of crops, including for vegetatively propagated materials
Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs
Cost of developing protocols for certification, including meetings
Recommendation # 2: Reduction in low quality and counterfeit seed
Description
Develop practical plans to address low quality and fake seed, e.g.: support full adoption and use of scratch card labels; strengthen seed inspectorate units for proper surveillance and monitoring; provide support for retesting and repackaging of expired and torn packets; and implement appropriate levels of pre- and post-control activities
Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs
Cost of creating awareness for efficient use of scratch labels,
Recommendation # 3: Digital tools for increased volume and efficiency
Description
Identify opportunities and practical, recommended approaches to support QA processes with digital tools such as e-certification, GPS-linked field tracking and inspection reporting, and online registration of seed growers
Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs
Cost of purchase of GPS electronic gadgets for inspectors and training

Recommendation # 4: Implement legal enforcement measures to uphold quality assurance standards
Description
Support enactment and implementation of government legislation and penalties meant to deter dealers in fake and low-quality seed
Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs
Cost of strengthening seed inspectorate unit of the regulator

Recommendation # 5: Support national seed regulator to achieve and maintain highest seed quality standards
Description
Support purchase and maintenance of physical infrastructure and manpower resources determinant to high quality seed; laboratory equipment and personnel, vehicles, irrigation facilities and implementation of private seed inspectors' program
Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs
Cost of lab reagents, replenishment of obsolete lab equipment, additional staff, cost of new vehicles and maintenance of vehicles, cost of irrigation units