

DEFINING MODELS, TOOLS, AND CASE STUDIES FOR CESSA

Models are defined as a standard or example for imitation, comparison, or emulation.

Examples include:

- Community-based seed production schemes to produce open-pollinated varieties and clonally propagated crop varieties,
- Early-generation seed production through commercial entities, and
- The use of mother-baby trials for testing new varieties against existing popular varieties.

Tools are defined as a template, software, or physical instrument that enables one to perform a specific operation or series of operations to enhance the outcome of a given activity or process. A tool is something (*such as an instrument or apparatus*) used in operating.

Examples include:

- CIMMYT developed an Excel tool for tracking maize seed production to support small seed companies in Africa that can be adapted to other crops,
- MMM (*Mulika Mbegu Mbaya* – Swahili for “Spot Poor Quality Seeds”) software made by Agri-experience for farmers to report complaints, and
- KEPHIS AgroTracker to ensure agro-inputs are high quality using mobile and web technologies.

Case studies are defined as an analysis of one or more practices, events, or business cases that broader lessons can be extracted from and adapted to other contexts for replication of improved practices.

Examples include:

- Use of DNA fingerprinting to test variety identity and seed purity,
- Building capacity of agrodealers through different strategies and channels, and
- Third-party seed inspectors to scale and enhance seed certification processes.

Taken together, models generally apply specific tools to be successful, while case studies provide the context and considerations for those models and tools to be adapted successfully to different contexts (i.e., different countries or crops with different regulations, partners, and production environments).