

### Nepal Seed and Fertilizer Project Seed Component Review

**Building resilience and self-reliance in Nepal's seed sector:** 

NSAF's seed systems interventions, achievements, lessons, and challenges

AbduRahman Beshir Issa (PhD)

Seed systems lead with contribution from NSAF seed team

a.issa@cgiar.org

Annual Review Meeting 22-12-22, Kathmandu







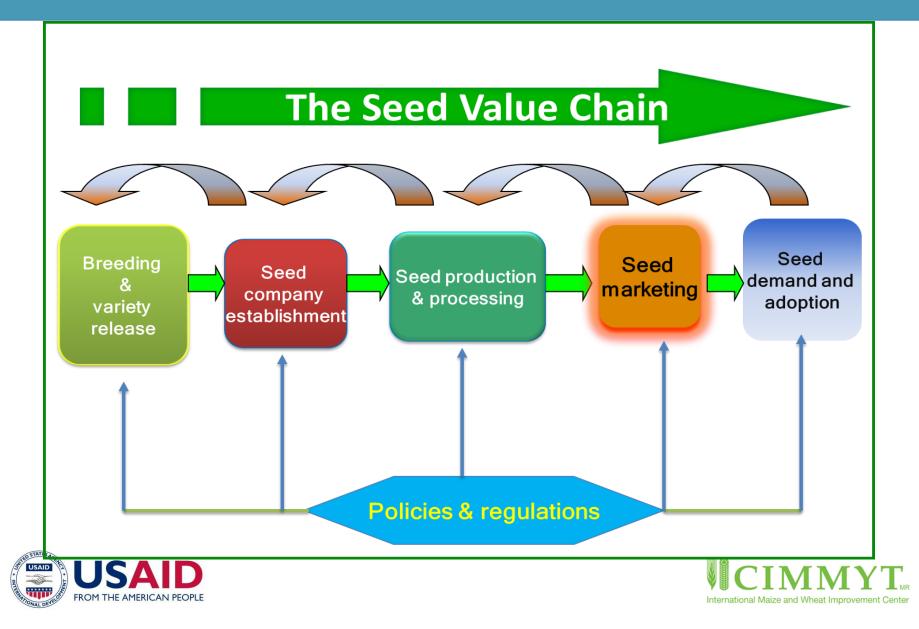
# **Rationale/Background**

- Over 80% of Nepalese farmers are not getting quality certified seed
- Very low variety turn over (RC,47yrs; AR-2, 41yrs; Red Croel,32yrs; Radha-4, 28yrs of age since recommended)
- Low SRR- Cereals, 21%, Lentil, 5% ......MoALD, 2021
- Nepal spends millions of dollar annually for the import of seed & grains of food crops (in 2020/21 nearly 130 million USD for import of maize grain)
- **One in three children** in Nepal are malnourished (stunting)
- Local hybrid seed production at nascent stage (demands met via import)
- Absence of **market-oriented** seed system
- Scope for seed sector development











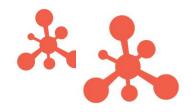
### **NSAF TARGET CROPS**



International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center



### ENHANCING THE R&D CAPACITY



- Before 2017 only one private seed company has a designated R&D site as compared to seven in 2021
- NARC-Private sector evaluation network



- Products evaluation and validation/MLT
- Introduction of new germplasm, >900 maize, 21 Veg, 11 lentil products shared
- New products allocated (Maize, tomato and onion)



- New field designs (Alphalattice)
- Analytical software
- International training
- On job training

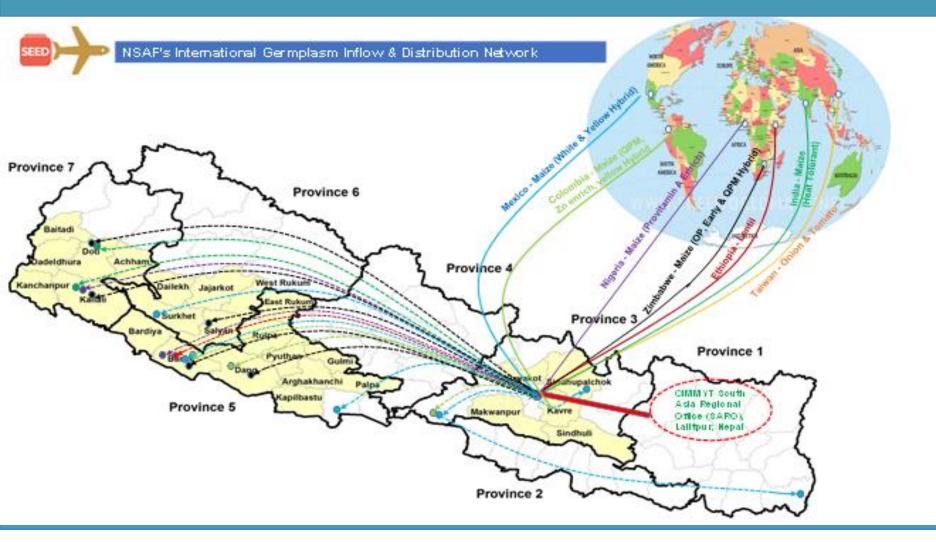




### NSAF'S R&D INTERVENTIONS AND INNOVATIONS IN HYBRID SEEDS













# MAIZE PRODUCTS ALLOCATED

Product Name	Туре	Potential yield (Mt/ha)	Grain yield advantage over check (s) (%)
SA2272-1	Zn enriched	10.9	20%
CLTHY15031	Yellow hybrid	12.9	44%
SA2283-14	QMP hybrid	9.20	105%
SA2181-11	Yellow SC hybrid	10.7	121%
CZH142133	White TWC hybrid	9.40	42%
EEPVA-12	Provitamin A hybrid	7.0	27%







# **PRODUCTS ALLOCATED**

Product Name	Туре	Potential yield (Mt/ha)	Grain yield advantage over check (s) (%)
SA2181-4	Yellow SC hybrid	9.4	93%
CLTHY16155	Yellow TWC hybrid	11.0	52%
CZH142145	White TWC hybrid	11.2	43%
CZP1508	White OPV	8.0	15.7%







### Varieties identified for registration









#### **Released/Pipeline varieties**

- Onion (one released one in pipeline)
- Two tomato hybrids (in pipeline)
- Kernel Zinc enriched maize (in pipeline)
- Two fine rice varieties from NRRP
- Lentil cultivars identified for excess moisture









#### INTRODUCTION, VALIDATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF NSAF'S CROP VARIETIES





### **Interventions in Quality Seed production**

#### **Key areas of interventions**

- Best management practices
- Public private partnerships
- Access to early generation seeds
- Tailor-made trainings Farmers/seed growers Mid career technicians CEOs and higher level professionals
- Seed quality awareness









AMERICAN PEOPLE

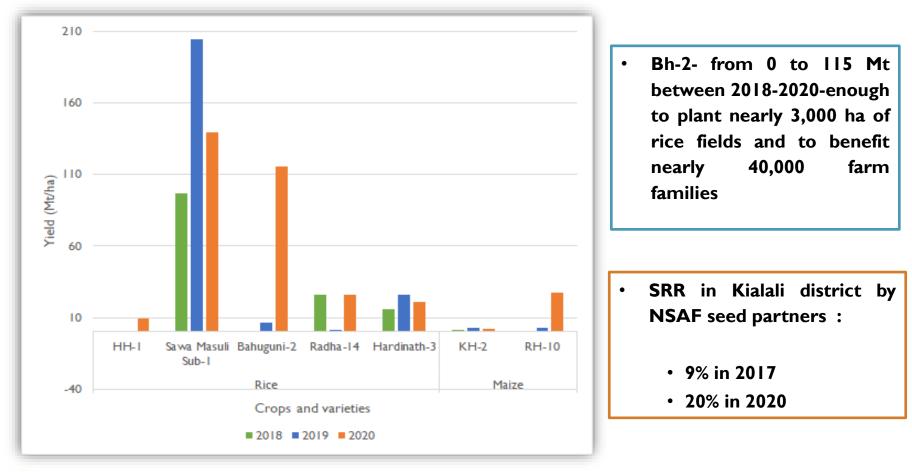
# Total Seed and area coverage (2017-22)

- 11, 885 MT seed produced and sold
- Area covered 0.36 million ha
- 83% of the seed is from rice and
  - 15% from maize





### Example of varietal turnover- example of Bahugani -2 rice

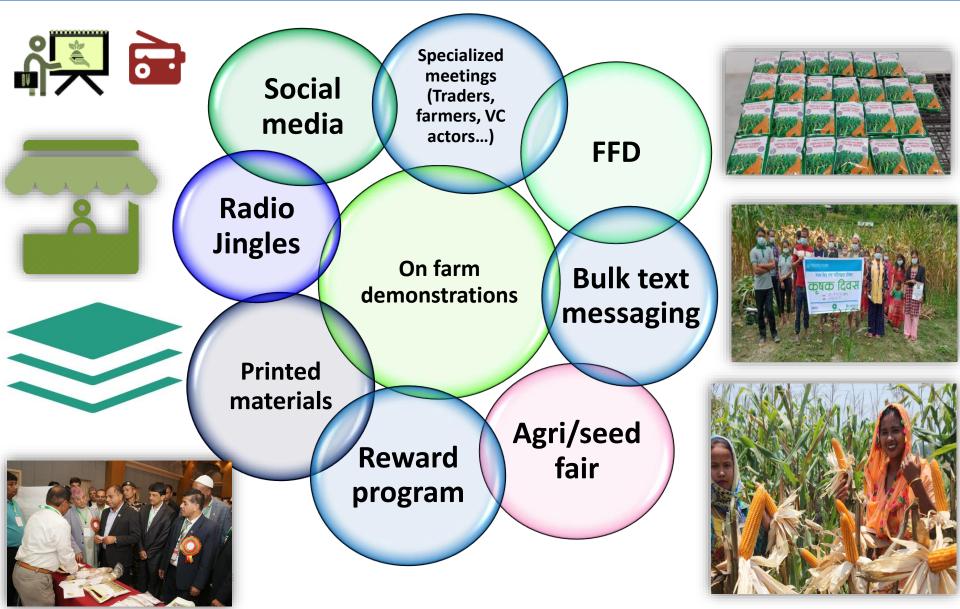


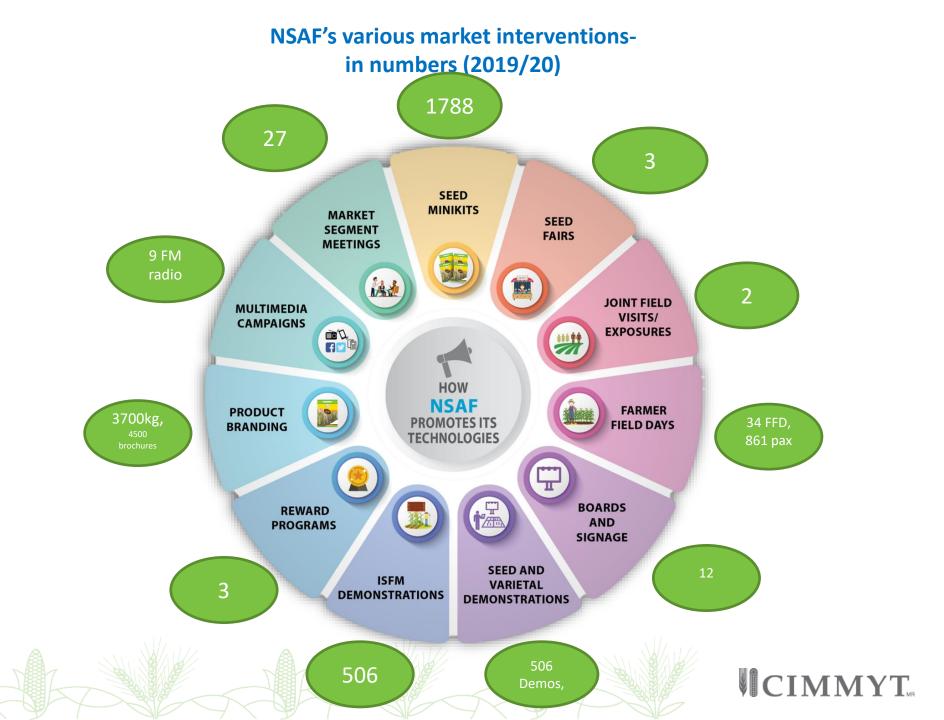
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Cente





### SEED MARKETING/PROMOTION









# **ENHANCING SEED DEMAND & ADOPTION**

- Promotion of recently released varieties
- Focus on preferred traits
- Various nudging tools to increase SRR
- Linkage with output/end users markets
- Seed information system







# 

#### The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

#### VARIOUS SEED EXTENSION MATERIALS IN LOCAL LANGUAGES

बहुगुणी धान - २

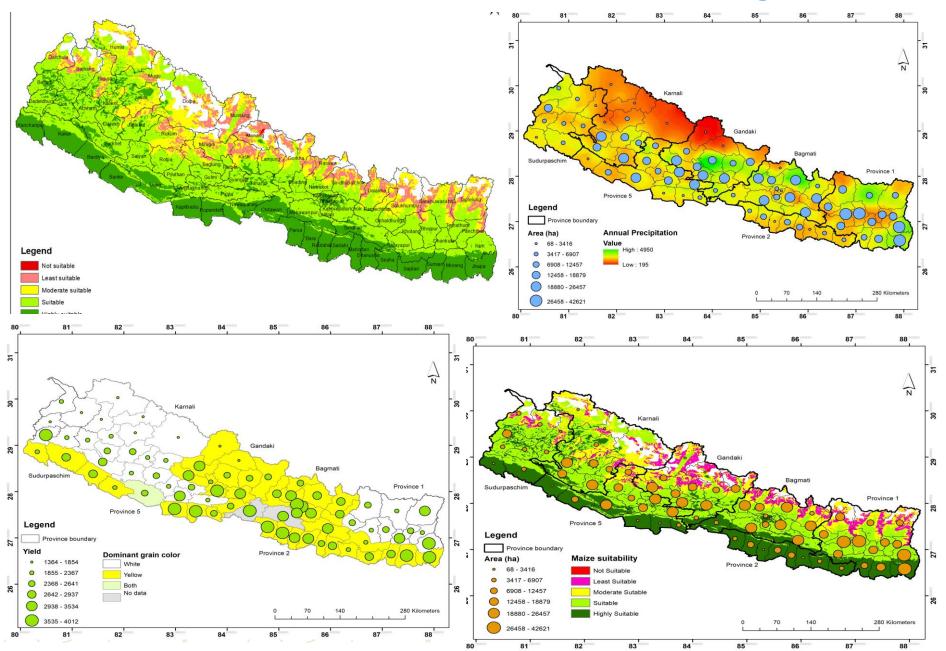
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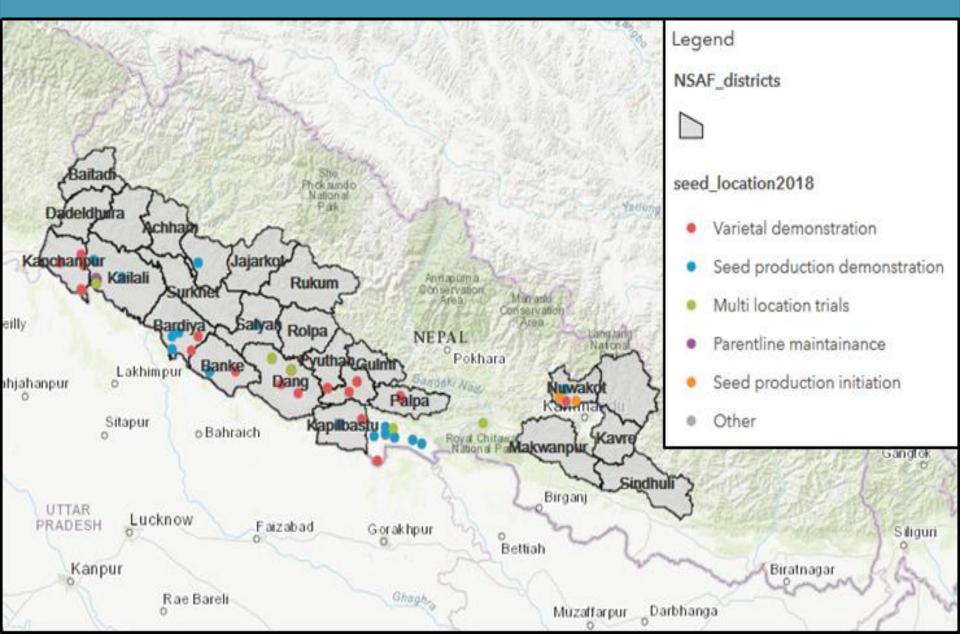




### Data driven maize seed marketing

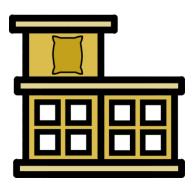








# WORKING WITH PRIVATE SEED COMPANIES







- Business mentoring
- Staffing with required personnel
- Capacity building
- Diversified products portfolio

- Business plan development
- Access to finance
- Value chain approach
- Market access

- Increased sales
  volume
- Increased seed quality
- Increased business literacy







### Collaboration with AFU and OSU









# **POLICY INTERVENTION**

- Products (R&D) licensing to the private sector
- Hybrid seeds quality and certification standards
- Private sector involvement on products testing
- Tripartite agreement to fast track variety release
- Inclusion of biofortified crops under National Planning commission







# **POLICY INTERVENTION...**

- Seed sector financing
- Enhance private sector engagement-SEAN
- Nepal Seed Vision review (2013-25)
- Policy related studies: seed subsidy...









### **REACHING LAST MILES, PARTNERSHIP & GESI**

- Working directly with 20 public, private and civil society partners (including NARC centers)
- Indirectly working with more than 2500 seed value chain actors
- Joint monitoring, annual planning and review meetings, Sub grant agreements, Interaction workshops with provinces...to strengthen partnerships
- Promote inclusive seed system: more women and disadvantaged communities





### **OUR INTERVENTION**

- Inclusive seed business model
  - Women seed growers groups Banke-Market access
  - Lead women cooperative farmers-Hariali Seed Co. Mid hills of Nepal- Skill and technology transfer
  - Agrovets network in the remote areas of Nepal- Enhance availability
  - Engage youth and marginalized communities
- Synergies with other rolled out projects
  - HTMA, CSISA, Other USAID projects (K-2, IPM-Nepal, CRS...)
  - B2B and experience sharing among local private sector









**USAID** अमेरिको जनताबाट



CIMMYT... अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय मकै तथा गहुँ सुधार केन्द्र

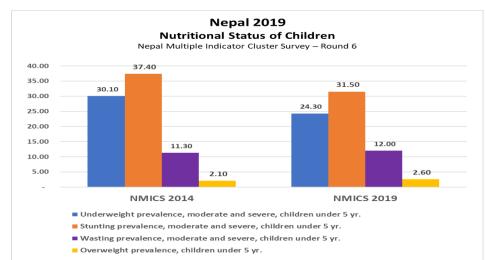
खाद्यान्न तथा तरकारी बालीहरूको गुणस्तरीय बीउ उत्पादन सम्बन्धी अगुवा महिला कृषकहरूको क्षमता अभिवृद्धि तालिम

मिति : २०७६ असोज <mark>८ र ९ गते</mark> स्थान : बलेफी गा.पा.-५, सिन्धुपाल्चोक



# PROMOTION OF BIOFORTIFIED PRODUCIS

#### **Nutritional Status of Children**



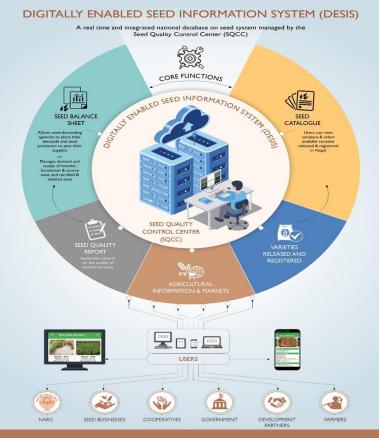
- PVA hybrid seed production
- Zinc enriched synthetic maize
- QPM hybrids shared
- PVA+QPM hybrids under testing
- Working Khajura Masooro-3







# **DIGITAL INNOVATIONS**

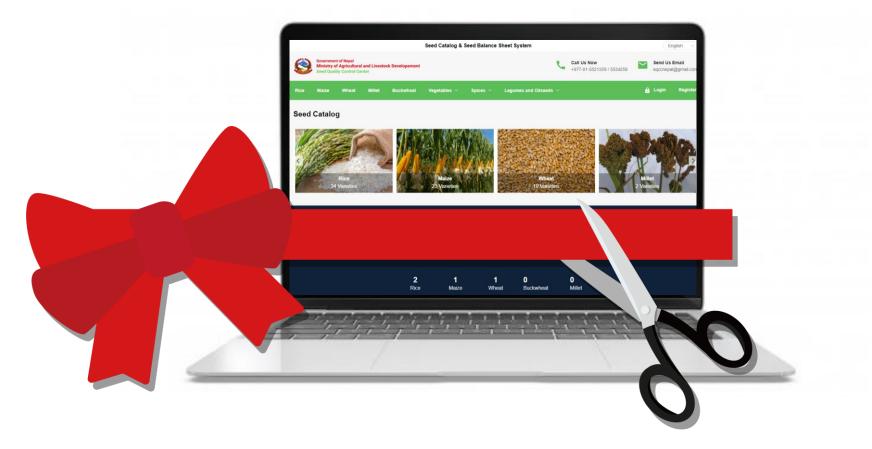








### Official Launching of Digitally Enabled Seed Information System https://seed.sqcc.gov.np





### **DIGITALLY ENABLED SEED INFORMATION SYSTEM**

	Seed Catalog & Seed Balance Sheet System									English V			
۲	Government of Nepal Ministry of Agricultural and Livestock Development Seed Quality Control Center							Call Us Now +977-01-5521359 / 5534258			Send Us Email sqccnepal@gmail.com		
Rice	Wheat	Maize	Millet	Buckwheat	Finger millet	Foxtail millet	Proso millet	Barley	Vegetal	bles ~ Spices	~ Legum	:s ~	Oilseeds 🗸
												🔒 Login	Register

#### Seed Catalog



Seed Suppliers







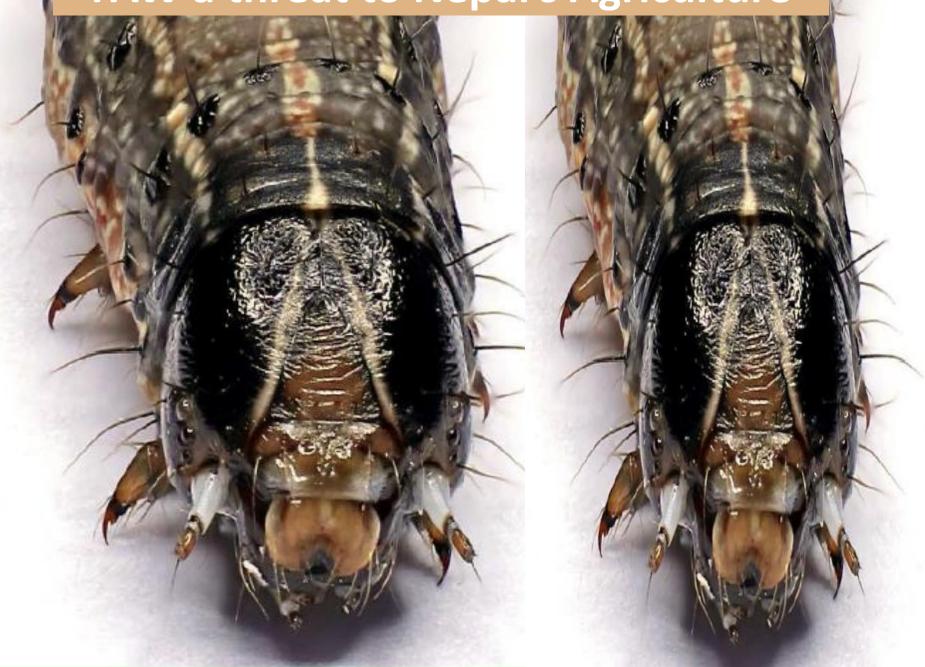
# DESIS ON THE MOVE

- More than 60 crops and 850 varieties updated on the catalogue
- Seed demand and supply of various classes of seeds managed online (started with rice and wheat...)
- A national digital platform to integrate and coordinate the three tier of government and stakeholders of the seed sector
- New features in progress
  - Digital seed inspection and certification
  - Seed import and export management
  - Seed tracking and online report sharing
  - Seed Information Portal





# FAW a threat to Nepal's Agriculture





# OUR INTERVENTION

- Awareness campaign (Banke over 1000 farmers)
- FAW online training over 500 participants
- Working with USAID IPs, PPS, PQPMC, MoALD FAW taskforce
- Animation FAW video in Nepali (National TV broadcast over 1 million viewers)
- Pheromone lures: surveillance network
- 5000 Fact sheets
- Preparation to test FAW tolerant maize (HPR)





#### EEDIFUTURE

#### Push pull technology demo

- Location: Regional Agricultural Research, Station, Khajura, Banke Purpose :
  - ficacy of push-pull technology on fall army fortunate event that it reaches Nepal. Chemical

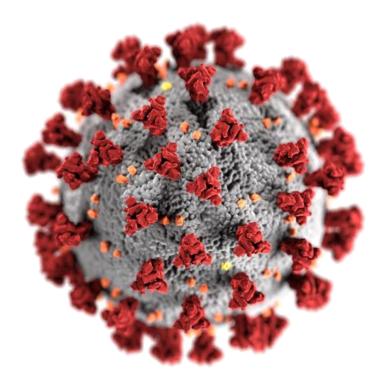
  - est control is central to realization the full benefits of a combination of if ISFM and elite crop hybrids. FAW if not managed can potentially support to whole crop in the feld
- Treatments :
- Push-pull farming system + Best management practices (BPIPS) with mineral fertilizers
- Push-pull farming system with organic amendment (FYM)

#### Mode of action





# COVID-19 IS ALSO AFFECTING THE SEED INDUSTRY



- Seed supply chain disruptions
- Migrant returnees and Job creation
- EGS supply for next season
- Seed and grain yield impact
- Engage with seed companies and other VC
- In country seed availability and future scenarios





# NSAF COVID-19 response Seed relief to C19 affected communities









## **RICE VARIETIES DISTRIBUTED**

- 1. Sawa mansuli sub 1, mostly in Barbardiya- 4990Kg , Radha-4, 10Kg
- 2. Radh-4=
- 3. Radha-4=
- 4. Sawa Mansuli sub 1,

Raptisonari, 5000Kg Thakurbaba, 1050Kg

Thakurbaba, 3950Kg Total 15000Kg





## IN FIGURES (2017-2022)

- 670,194: HH benefitted
- 364,468: Hectare-improved ag. practices
- 256, 152: Million USD value of sales
- 64,750: Metric tons of maize from local hybrid seeds
- 13, 888: Individuals trained
- 11, 885 : Metric tons of seed sold







#### YIELD OF TARGETED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES WITHIN TARGET AREAS [MT/HA] EG 3-10

#### Yield increment of NSAF crops in Zol (2017-2020, Mt/ha))











### **Rewarding Achievement**





## SALIENT FEATURES





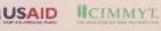


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Nepat Seed and Fertiliter Project International Training Workshop on Quality Hybrid Maize Seed Production an Seed Business Management in South Asia

International Training Workshop on Quality Hybrid Maize Seed Production and Seed Business Management in South Asia

FEEDIFUTURE



al Seed and Fertilizer Project

d Handover emony of Diverse ze Inbred Lines

Handing over of new seeds & varieties to public and private partners





August 15 - 18, 2022 | Ram



## THE NEW PRODUCTS INCLUDES

- Biofortified maize hybrids (PVA, QMP+PVA)
- Extra early maturing (less than 100 days)
- Aflatoxin tolerant synthetics
- FAW tolerant inbreds
- Sweet and pop corn varieties
- White and yellow kernel hybrids
- Single and three way crosses
- Inbred lines with diverse traits
- NARC and Seven private seed companies received the seeds







## NEW ONION VARIETY REGISTERED

# "Khumal Pyaj-2"

- Yield potential:35-40
  Mt/ha
- Average weight of onion bulb: 120-130 gm
- Bulb skin color: dark violet
- 100% yield advantage over Red Creole- a market dominated variety released in 1990









### VARIETY REGISTRATION ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**Ongoing Activities:** 

- NMRP and GATE-Nepal collaborate to register zinc enriched synthetic white maize.
- Lumbini Seed Company working on proposal for yellow and white hybrid maize.
- SEAN Seed Service Center and Gorkha Seed Company to register two hybrid tomato variety
- R&D License for NSAF supported two seed companies under review
- Field testing of potential varieties of Lentil, tomato and onion varieties







#### HYBRID SEED CERTIFICATION AND INSPECTION TRAINING

- Familiarize crop inspectors with the new hybrid seed quality control guidelines
- Practical field exercise for quality monitoring
- 49 participants on hybrid maize and 40 participants on hybrid rice all provinces including private crop inspectors
- In collaboration with SQCC NMRP and NRRP. Conducted for the first time in Nepal.









### HYBRID MAIZE SEED PRODUCTION HUB IN DANG

- In 2021/22 hybrid maize production was held in Dang in collaboration with private seed companies, PMAMP, NMRP and NSAF
- Initially 20 ha planted, however, seed was harvested from only 10ha, due to parental seed quality issues.
- Nearly 9.0Mt seed so far collected which will be enough to cover 450ha with expected grain production of more than 3000Mt.
- Major lessons from hub Approach:
  - Importance of clustering lands as blocks for ease of farm operations, logistic management, seed collection, transportation and frequent seed quality monitoring.
  - The hybrid maize production hub fosters collaboration and market access by integrating major value chain actors viz contract growers, seed companies and end users.
- Technical support from full time staff of NSAF and fertilizer and machinery support from PMAMP was critical for farmers motivation and back stopping
- Farmers from hub are now requesting more hybrids that can able to maximize profit.







# **Strengthening partnership for scaling**

### • CCDABC:

- Rice seed 1,400.0 kg (Bahuguni-2: 1,200 kg and SMS-1: 200 kg)
- Maize Seed: 50.0 kg (25 kg each RH-10 and Zn enriched)
- Hybrid rice seed: 140.0 kg (HH-1)
- ASDP, Surkhet:
  - 25 kg Zn enriched maize









- 29 April to 01 May 2022
- 35 participants, led by the secretary of MoALD
- Senior officials from MoF, NPC, SQCC, NARC, CCDABC, PMAMP, SEAN and NSAF
- Objectives were-
  - visit hybrid seed production fields,
  - visit performance of field trials and
  - Evaluate the level of engagement of public private partners in the seed value chain.



High level joint field monitoring visit













#### ENHANCING THE CAPACITY OF PRIVATE SEED COMPANIES THROUGH EXPOSURE VISITS

- Exposure visit to Hyderabad-India, 3-6 May 2022
- Five partner seed companies participated in the trip
- The exposure visit includes:
  - B2B interaction with Indian seed companies
  - Participate in the IMIC Asia field day
- The main purpose of the visits were:
  - Practical visit and experience sharing from the seed business operations of Indian seed companies involved in hybrid seeds







#### High-level Government of Nepal Officials' Exposure Visit to Kenya 26 July – 03 August 2022









# **Purpose of the visit**

- Get lessons and experiences from Kenya's agricultural research system and seed sector development
- Special emphasis was given to:
  - hybrid seed varietal development and deployment process,
  - seed policies and regulation,
  - seed quality monitoring and certification system,
  - variety release system and
  - enabling environment for the private sector in the seed industry,
- A 21 pages comprehensive report prepared for submission to the Ministry









Secretary MoLAD of GoN Dr. Govinda Prasad Sharma, planting a tree at the premises of Seed Co (right) and the Nepal delegation visiting the hybrid maize fields at seed Co R&D farm in Kitale





**Nepal Seed and Fertilizer Project** 

International Training Workshop on

Quality Hybrid Maize Seed Production and Seed Business Management in South Asia

August 15 - 18, 2022 | Kathmandu, Nepal









Organized by

GIAF



Supported by





## **Objectives**

- Share global experiences on developing competitive hybrid maize products & seed production technologies
- Address key aspects of hybrid seed business strategies and management practices
- Enrich **technical**, **managerial and leadership** skills of seed company owners and their staff.
- Share experiences on variety registration, seed certification, seed quality monitoring and enabling seed policies and regulations







Glimpses of the hybrid maize seed training 15-18 August 2022

Nepal Seed and Fertiliter Project International Training Workshop on Quality Hybrid Maize Seed Producti Seed Business Management in South

- 60 participants from Nepal and south Asian countries
- 14 resource persons both in person and online
- Practical exercise on seed road map and business plan development



### **Participants and resource persons**

- Private seed companies
- Public research institutions
- NARC commodity program
- Agricultural Universities
- Seed quality regulatory
- 14 resource persons
- Jointly organized by SQCC, SEAN, NMRP, 1CGIAR SEI







# Refresher Webinar on Fall Armyworm Management in South Asia

July 21, 2022







Organized by















#### FAW REFRESHER WEBINAR FOR SOUTH ASIA 21 JULY 2022

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Share latest updates and scientific advances
- Awareness creation and experience sharing
- Address the importance of enabling policy environment
- Enhance collaborations and networking
- Inaugurated by Sec. MoALD of GoN







# Nearly 600 online participants from:



#### **Other nationalities (3%)**









## HYBRID RICE SEED EXPOSURE VISIT









### **IN BANGLADESH**









#### RESEARCHERS AND TECHNICIANS TRAINING ON BIOMETRY AND BREEDING OPTIMIZATION (HYDERABAD INDIA)









# EQUIPMENT SUPPORT-TO ENHANCE SEED QUALITY AND QUANTITY











# **KEY LESSONS**

- Private sector engagement
- Elite germplasm
- Strengthening seed value chains
- R & D license issuance
- Digital innovations (DESIS)
- Local hybrid maize and rice seed production







# Challenges

- Maintaining seed quality
- Skilled manpower across the seed value chain
- Financial resources
- COVID-19 and climate change
- Volatile seed market systems
- Regulatory system to ensure seed quality







# Acknowledgement

- MoALD, NARC, SQCC, MoALM&C
- Seed company partners
- SEAN, CEAPRED
- Farmer cooperatives
- NSAF team- Fert, M&E, Socio Economics, Communications, Admin...
- NSAF-NARC staff
- USAID-Nepal Mission
- HTMA, CSISA

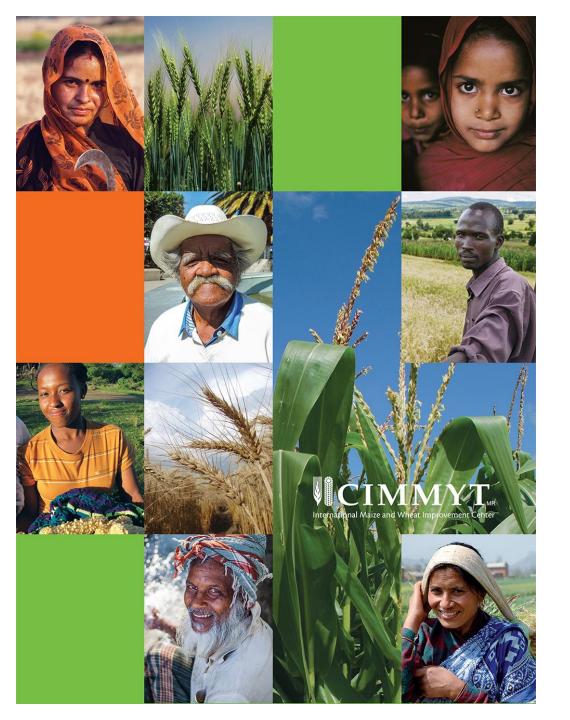








### Nepal's first PVA hybrid, PSC on farm demo (June 2020)



# Thank you for your interest!