

Programme on Integrated Seed Sector Development in Ethiopia ISSD Oromia South and West (ISSD-OSW, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia):

Effective seed dissemination mechanisms assessment in informal seed systems since its initiation in Oromia

ISSD-OSE program unit has conducted assessment on effective seed dissemination mechanism at six woredas of Oromia regional state. The rationale of this assessment was to identify the best mechanism of seed dissemination; type of crop that farmers prefer to distribute among each other; number of farmers involved; and to differentiate whether male or female farmers often use recycled seed.

Location of the study

This study was conducted at Tole, Goro, Dugda, Boset, Lume and Sire woredas of Oromia regional, where ISSD program has started implementing crowd sourcing approach in informal seed system in 2017 cropping season.

Methodology and tools

In this study qualitative data were used. The data sources for this study were primary data. During the assessment 16 women farmers and 11 men farmers, a total of 27 farmers were interviewed. One Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) per woreda and observation were the data collection tools used. Narration and contextual interpretation were also used to analyze qualitative data obtained.



Woman farmer produced Haricot Bean Boset Woreda

Results of the assessment:-

- The major mechanism that farmers are using to disseminate the preferred varieties is selling, and followed by exchange with another seed/varieties
- There is a marked variation in seed dissemination across woredas. Lumeworeda did better than others
- Of all crop varieties that were deployed through this programme farmers recycled more seeds of pulses like faba bean and haricot bean than other crop types.

- Crowd sourcing and Participatory variety selection approach is a good way to address the needs and interests of women and men farmers as well as their differential preferences for varietal traits
- The deployed varieties are exchanged among farmers and it is moving out of their kebeles and woredas in some cases
- Women farmers are relatively good in disseminating the varieties in small amount through exchanges and gifts
- Majority of the farmers disseminate seeds in different forms after they have increased the amount growing for two or more seasons.
- Weak monitoring and support services by development agents and woreda agricultural experts have limited the wide dissemination of seed in this approach.



Farmers in Tole and Goro Woreda produced Chick Pea



Woman farmer produced Food Barley Dugda Woreda

The program on Integrated Seed Sector Development in Ethiopia aims to strengthen the development of a vibrant, market-oriented and pluralistic seed sector in the country, where quality seed of superior varieties is available and affordable for a larger number of farmers, thereby contributing to food security and economic development in Ethiopia. This is the vision of the ISSD program in Ethiopia. For more information www.issdethiopia.org

Address: -

Program on Integrated Seed Sector Development in Ethiopia ISSD Oromia South and West Unit
BALEKER BUILDING, NEAR SERAWIT AGONA CENIEMA, GOTERA AREA Tele Phone:
(+251) 114-67-38-62 Fax: (+251) 114-66 67-68, Finfinne, ETHIOPIA