



NEWS STORY



ISSD OSW June 01, 2019 Finfinne, Ethiopia: - ISSD Ethiopia Oromia South and West program unit organized a contractual EGS production agreement signing ceremony among different parties on June 01, 2019. The contractual EGS production were signing workshop was held in the presence of Oromia Regional State Bureau higher officials among which Oromia Agriculture and Natural Resource head and Deputy head, Oromia Cooperative Promotion Agency head and deputy head, Oromia Agricultural Research Institute General Director and Oromia ATA General Director. Ten farmers' cooperative unions, three private seed producers, one public seed producer and Oromia Agricultural Research Institute were participated on the signing ceremony and workshop.

After the registration of the participants, ISSD-OSE unit program manager Obbo Fikre Mulugeta expressed his warm welcoming remarks to the participants and enlightens the objectives of the workshop and also described that contract EGS production is a negotiated, voluntary, deliberate, and legally binding agreement among ratifying parties and it holds when it seems each party mutual benefits. The contractual EGS production was initiated by ISSD-OSE in the year 2018 which has registered a remarkable result in the curbing of the shortage of EGS to some extent. This agreement binds contracting parties to upsurge or improve the accessibility of foundation seeds. The general aim of this agreement is to ensure accountability and responsibility on the production of EGS and have centrally managed EGS supply and distribution to seed producer organizations. He invited Obbo Dhaba Dabale Oromia Agriculture and Natural Resource Bureau head to address opening speech.

Obbo Dhaba in his opening remark has stated that, seed is a crucial input in the course of our agriculture sector transformation. Our seed system is constrained by inefficient seed production and marketing system. This type of demand driven agreement is a far-reaching solution for the inefficiency of the seed sector in our region. Making available and accessible EGS products is a crucial effort geared towards satisfying the farmers' needs of improved seed varieties to boost production and productivity in the region. Particularly, he added, this is a new chapter of action which is coordinated and collaborative execution EGS production by the seed sector actors with a method to address the bottle-neck challenges in crop production sector. He also under scored that all the signatory bodies should effectively deliver their duty at full level.



Obbo Dhabaa Dabale opening the workshop



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According to the signed agreement for breeder seed class five crop type and 24 varieties {wheat (13), food barley (4), tef (2), soybean (3) and sorghum (2)} to produce a total of 48.75 quintals, for the pre basic seed class seven crop type and 28 varieties {wheat (12), food barley (4), tef (2), soybean (3), finger millet (2), sesame (2) and sorghum (3)} to produce a total of 751.5 quintals, for basic seed class six crop type and 16 varieties {maize (5), wheat (5), tef (2), chick pea(1), lentil (1) and Haricot bean (2)} to produce a total of 2,951.9 quintals of different seed classes will be produced.

After the opening of the workshop three power point presentations on different thematic areas of EGS were presented. The first presentation which focused on exploring the plan and achievement of 2018 EGS agreement were elucidated and enlighten that this initiative is to ensure accountability and responsibility on the production and distribution of EGS. He also explained the status of last year agreement entered and draw lessons for an improvement; and also put solutions for challenges faced. The second presentation covered overall performance Oromia Agricultural Research Institute regarding the production of EGS for this year. The third presentation alerted the general utilization of seed during the past three years and clearly indicated 2020 EGS plan based on the demand collected from seed producers in the region.

During discussions IQQO has raised the shortage of land to EGS products to its commitment level whereas OSE raised the scarcity of foundation seed to fulfill its promise. On the closing remarks, Obbo Dhaba underscored that this agreement helps to overcome the difficulties that encountered this economic activity which requires a coordinated and joint effort of all actors in the seed system. He emphasized that the regional government is highly committed to enforce the agreement. Finally he extended his sincere gratitude to the participants and wished safe journey home.



Agreement signing b/n OSE and IQQO



Agreement signing b/n OSE and Lume Adama

The programme 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 programme in Ethiopia. www.issdethiopia.org

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