Supporting seed entrepreneurship and increasing yields and incomes for African farmers.

- Partnering with AFTSA to harmonize seed policy in the COMESA Region
- Working to improve Quality Seed Access in Malawi, Zambia, and Nigeria (SPEAR)
- Partnering with the University of Nairobi to develop a Seed Enterprise Management Institute (SEMIS)
- Facilitating seed policy harmonization for ECOWAS countries
- Developing new seed laws for Ghana

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- In the past 12 years, the Global Seed Program at Iowa State University’s Seed Science Center has facilitated international projects on seed policy and biosafety rules and regulations in over 80 countries worldwide. Currently the program has on-going projects in 30 countries.
- Ten process management manuals have been developed by program scientists that serve as definitive training resource materials on seed and biosafety policies and regulation in countries around the world. The manuals are also used as technical tools, references, and guides for regulatory officials and clients.
- To increase farmer productivity, stimulate market development, and enhance seed availability, the ISU Seed Science Center is partnering with the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) to harmonize seed policies and regulations in 19 Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) region countries.
- As part of the SPEAR project, ISU scientists are partnering with regional and national organizations in Malawi, Zambia, and Nigeria to conduct a pilot study in Africa on enabling better access to improved seed varieties with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- The Seed Science Center at ISU is partnering with the University of Nairobi, through AGRA, to establish a new center of excellence called the Seed Enterprise Management Institute (SEMIS). By providing train-the-trainer programs and assisting with the design and installation of seed processing plants, ISU, along with the University of Nairobi, will play an integral role in enhancing human capacity in seed technology and business and in improving livelihoods across Africa.
- Developing quality management guidelines and providing support to improve quality management systems in seed companies across Malawi, Zambia, and Mozambique are just a few additional ways that program scientists and staff are making an impact on seed quality to facilitate trade in Africa.

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