



# Seed system in Tanzania to enhance farmer access to improved vegetable varieties

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# ***Vegetable seed system in Tanzania***

## **Outline**

- Variety registration
- Types of vegetable seeds systems
- Vegetable seed classes
- Challenges, and Opportunities
- Way forward



# Variety registration



***“No variety shall be released in Tanzania unless it has passed DUS test”***

## Requirements for DUS test:

- Advanced lines (Stable)
- Descriptor
- UPOV technical questionnaire of the candidate line
- Seed sample
- DUS Fees



# Registration.....

- DUS test is done by TOSCI
- Once the candidate line pass DUS test it qualify to be registered as new variety.
- Vegetables are exempted from VCU (value for cultivation and use) trials.





# Types of vegetable seed system

A seed system is a set of activities contributing to variety development and seed production and delivery to farmers

1. Formal seed system
2. Semi formal seed system  
(Quality Declared Seeds)
3. Informal seed system



# 1. Formal Vegetable seed system

- Formal seed system is characterized by a well-regulated and organized set of activities, from breeding to delivering certified seeds of known and registered varieties to farmers.
- Distinctive feature of formal seed system:
  - ✓ *Registration of seed producers or seed companies and the certification process, which is usually controlled by a public regulatory body.*

## 2. Semi formal seed system (community based)

- Are at the interface of Formal and Informal seed system
- QDS is a category of seed produced by a registered seed producer subject to quality control and complying with the minimum standards for the crop species concerned
- Registered trained small scale farmer or a group of small-scale farmers

# Semi formal...

- Producers produce for their own use or for sale to the neighboring farmers within the ward where the QDS is produced.
- In Tanzania only OP varieties that are on the official national variety list can be produced under QDS and not F1 Hybrids
- QDS is an alternative seed quality assurance adapted to contexts where the official seed regulatory bodies (TOSCI) have limited resource to implement a complete certification scheme.

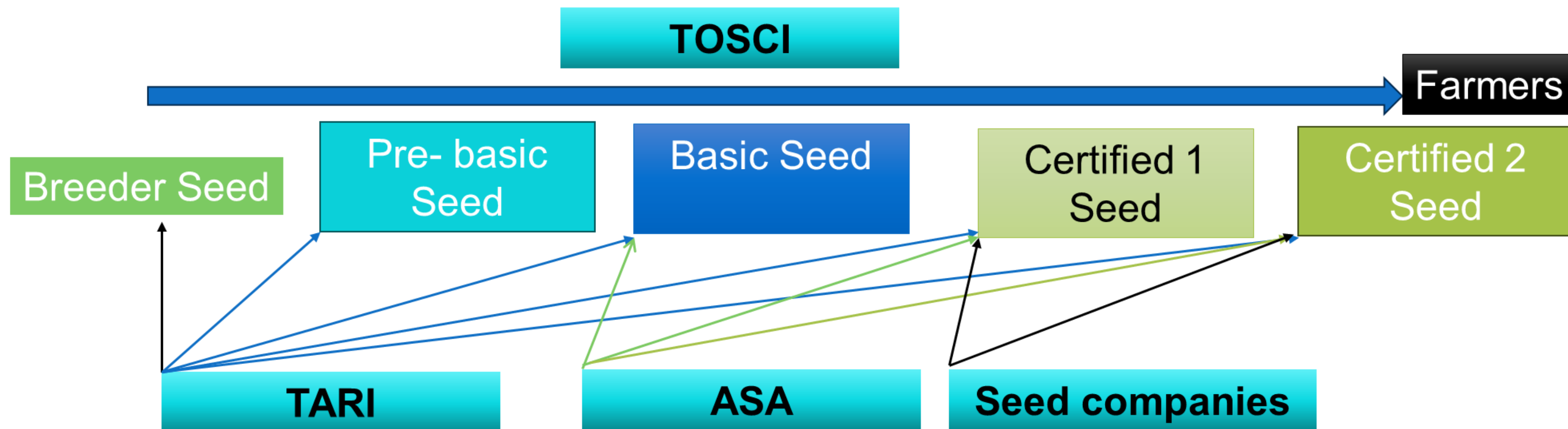


### 3. Informal seed system

- This system is outside the control of government agencies, with no external seed quality control.
- This system includes: farmer-saved seed, gifts, barter, and seed purchasing from local markets.
- Seed = Grain



# Vegetable seed classes





# Seed systems summary



# Institutional framework

- Key Institutions:

- **TOSCI** (Seed regulation and quality control)
- **TARI** (Research, production and distribution)
- **Universities** ( Research)
- **ASA** (seed production and distribution)
- **TPHPA** (Seed health control)
- **MoA** (Policies)

- Public – private partnership:

- ✓ Training and capacity building



# Challenges

- Climate change
- Seed fraud

# Way forward

- Development and Promotion of Climate –Resilient seed varieties
- Enforce seed law, penalties for violation and regular inspections





# Thank You



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