

CIMMYT Global Maize Program

Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA&QC) Training Workshop on Maize Seed Value Chain

17th to 19th May 2017, CIMMYT, Nairobi, Kenya



CIMMYT_{MR}
International Maize and Wheat
Improvement Center

Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) are key for developing effective plant breeding programs and commercial seed production systems. The CIMMYT maize seed system specialists in eastern and southern Africa are actively working with national agricultural research systems (NARS) and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with the objective of producing and developing high quality improved maize hybrid seeds to the farmers. Considering the need for capacity building of national seed certification agencies and SMEs in efficient utilization of molecular marker-based seed testing coupled with other phenotypic based methods for QA & QC in the commercial maize seed value chain. CIMMYT is pleased to announce a regional training workshop on **QA & QC of Maize Seed Value Chain** to be conducted at Nairobi, Kenya during May 17-19, 2017. The course is particularly designed for scientific/technical personnel involved in maize breeding, seed production and seed certification from both public and private sector institutes in eastern and southern Africa.

Course Objective:

To impart theoretical and practical knowledge on advanced QA and QC tools which can be routinely applied in commercial maize seed sector with aim to consistently produce high quality seeds for the farmers.

Course Content:

During the course the participants will have both theoretical and practical exposure to the following aspects:

- Importance of QA & QC in seed business
- Seed quality issues at different stages of seed production and available methods to test genetic purity and genetic identity
- Phenotypic characterization and maintenance of maize parental inbred lines
- Molecular marker and their use in maize seed quality testing
- QA & QC implementation in private sector: success stories and lessons
- MLN free commercial seed production

Course participants will also be able to interact and share experiences, information, and come up with the practical approaches to implement molecular marker based QA & QC for maize seed quality testing.

Logistics:

The course includes a series of lectures by CIMMYT scientists, and invited experts from private sector organizations, followed by field visits to maize research station at KALRO-Kiboko for field demonstrations. The participants will visit BeCA-ILRI maize lab to gain practical experience on how to apply molecular markers, data analyses and interpretation the results.

Language of the course: English.

Course Lecture Notes: The course lecture notes/presentations as well as a technical manual on QA&QC in the maize seed production will be provided to the trainees.

Cost: A maximum of 35 trainees will be selected for the workshop based on review of the applications. CIMMYT will cover the cost of participation for limited number of participants especially from seed certification institutes/ public sector and trainees selected from SME seed companies. All other participants are expected to cover their cost of participation including travel and accommodation.

Application process and selection of candidates:

This course targets seed system specialists and personnel from seed certification agencies. Interested colleagues may apply for participation in this training workshop by filling in the attached application and submit by 27th March 2017. All the applications will be reviewed by the course organizers (CIMMYT Global Maize Program) and selected candidates will be informed by 31st March 2017.

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