



# Zamseed

Access to Seeds Index

**Corporate Data**  
Headquarters: Lusaka, Zambia  
Ownership type: Private

Zambia Seed Company Limited (Zamseed) was founded in 1981 as a joint venture between the government of Zambia and several private entities, including the Zambia Seed Producers' Association (ZSPA) and the Zambia Cooperative Federation (ZCF), and with considerable support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The company has operations in field crop and vegetable seeds, with a focus on maize-breeding activities.

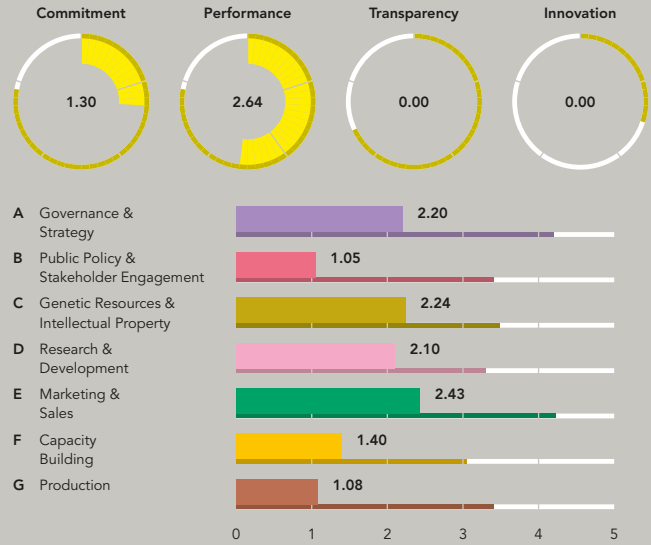
**10**  
rank out of 17  
score 1.84

## Regional Index – Eastern Africa

Ranking tenth out of 17 Regional Index companies, Zamseed's performance is characterized by some strengths in Marketing & Sales and opportunities in Public Policy & Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Building. Transparency can be improved.

Zamseed has established proactive

breeding programs covering all of its field and vegetable crops as well as the development of other varieties and local crops. The company uses field days and agricultural shows to make these improved varieties available to smallholder farmers in Regional Index countries.



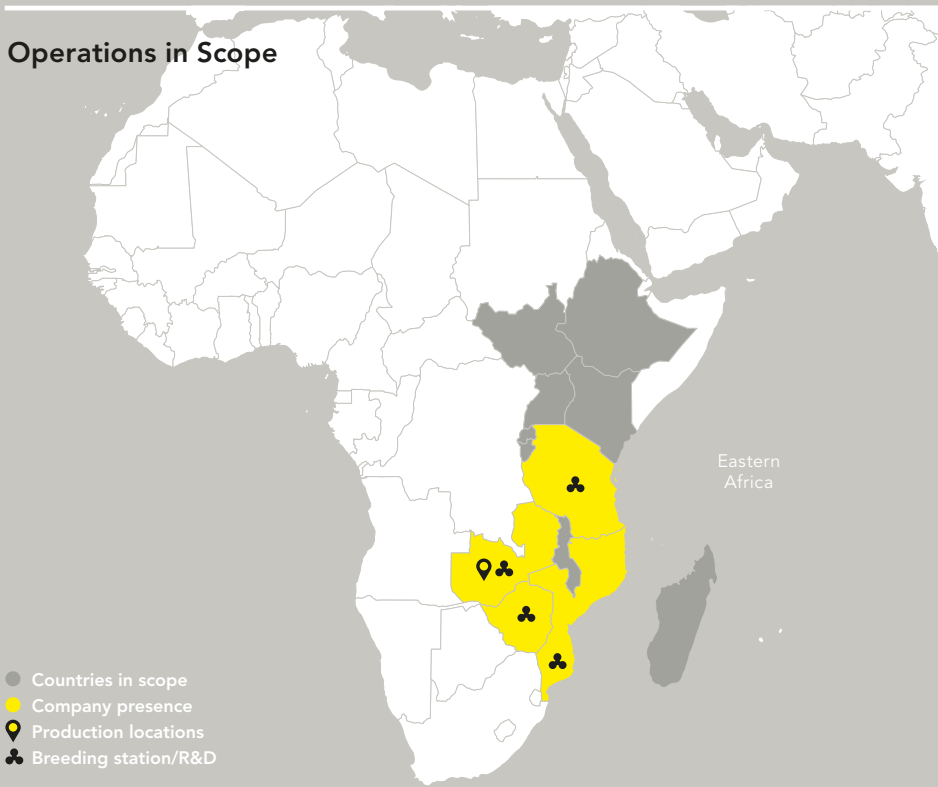
## Leading Practices

Zamseed has contributed its own germplasm to collaborative projects with international research institutes, including the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). These contributions have helped breeding for crop varieties tailored to the needs of smallholder farmers in Regional Index countries.

## Areas for Improvement

- Zamseed is encouraged to improve disclosure of its activities related to global food and nutrition security and access to seeds for smallholder farmers.
- It is also encouraged to improve the disclosure of its activities in Capacity Building, details of which are currently limited.
- Zamseed could leverage its industry position in Eastern Africa to engage stakeholders and policymakers, with the goal of creating an enabling environment for smallholder farmers.

## Operations in Scope



## Notable Findings

- Zamseed uses annual field days and agricultural shows in Tanzania and Zambia to promote the adoption of improved varieties by smallholder farmers.
- The company involves smallholder farmers in seed production in Zambia. Smallholder farmers account for 5% of the seed production of maize and 100% for other crops in its portfolio, although it is unclear which crops.

## Index Crops in Portfolio

| Global Field Crops     | Sales |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Breeding Focus |     |                  |               |              |              |
|------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|-----|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | BDI   | ETH | KEN | MDG | MWI | MOZ | RWD | SSD | TZA | UGA | ZMB            | ZWE | Broad adaptation | High altitude | Mid altitude | Low altitude |
| Barley                 |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               | ●●●          |              |
| Beans, dry             |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Maize                  |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●   |     |                | ●   |                  |               | ●●●          |              |
| Pearl millet           |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Rice, paddy            |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              | ●●●          |
| Sorghum                |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               | ●●●          |              |
| Soybean                |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               | ●●●          |              |
| Wheat                  |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               | ●●●          |              |
| Global Vegetable Crops |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Broccoli               |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Cabbage                |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Carrot                 |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Cauliflower            |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Chili pepper           |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Cucumber               |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Eggplant               |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Garlic                 |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Green bean             |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Lettuce                |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Melon                  |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Okra                   |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Onion                  |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Pumpkin                |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Spinach                |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Squash                 |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Sweet pepper           |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Tomato                 |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Watermelon             |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Local Field Crops      |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Chickpea               |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Cowpea                 |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Pigeon pea             |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               | ●            |              |
| Local Vegetable Crops  |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                |     |                  |               |              |              |
| Amaranth               |       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | ●              |     |                  |               |              |              |