



PRESS RELEASE

Twenty-two leading seed companies selected for first Access to Seeds Index New initiative benchmarks seed companies in Western and Central Africa on support for smallholder farmers and the SDGs

A new study by the Access to Seeds Index evaluated 118 seed companies across 20 countries in Western and Central Africa. This resulted in the selection of 22 companies best positioned to support the productivity of smallholder farmers. Early 2019 the Access to Seeds Index will announce the leading seed company in this region.

Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 19 June 2018 – The Access to Seeds Index, an initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the government of the Netherlands, aims to encourage seed companies to step up their efforts to support smallholder farmer productivity. “By benchmarking seed companies, the index gives credit to companies that show leadership and encourages others to follow their example,” says Ido Verhagen, executive director of the Access to Seeds Index. “It also provides valuable information for governments, research institutes and donors interested in building partnerships with seed companies.”

The regional seed sector in Western and Central Africa clearly has potential. Seventeen of the twenty-two selected companies are from the region itself. Only five companies are from outside the region, four of them are also part of the global index. What stands out is that there are five Nigerian, three Malian and two Senegalese companies on the list.

In early 2019, the first Access to Seeds Index for Western & Central Africa will be published. It will show which seed company can be named ‘leading in supporting smallholders in Western and Central Africa’. Twenty-two seed companies have been nominated; the selection was based on company business models, track record and regional presence.

“Smallholder farmers need to not only produce more food, but at the same time adapt their agricultural practices to changing weather conditions caused by climate change. By improving access to quality seeds, seed companies can make a vital contribution in supporting smallholder farmers with overcoming this challenge,” says Mr. Verhagen.

Improving the productivity of smallholder farmers is one of the main targets on the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals agenda (SDGs). By measuring the seed industry’s performance, the Access to Seeds Index aims to contribute to achieving these goals.

Next to seed companies also seed cooperatives play a crucial role in this region. In July 2018 the Access to Seeds Index will launch an additional study on 54 seed-producing cooperatives.

Note for editors

Background information about the Access to Seeds Index:

- Link to the [Methodology for the 2019 Access to Seeds Index](#) including an animation with an introduction to the Access to Seeds Index (available in French and English)
- Link to the [Landscaping study for the Regional Access to Seeds Index for Western & Central Africa](#) (only available in English)
- Below you will find an overview of the identified leading seed companies per country and a list of the 22 selected seed companies in Western and Central Africa

For more information, please contact Anke van Bruggen: avanbruggen@accesstoseeds.org



Access to Seeds
Index

Regional Index for Western & Central Africa

	Company	Country	Seed portfolio	Ownership
1	AGRIPLUS	MLI	Field crops & vegetables	Private
2	AINOMA	NER	Field crops & vegetables	Private
3	BILOHF	CIV	Field crops & vegetables	Private
4	Da-Allgreen Seeds	NGA	Field crops & vegetables	Private
5	DowDuPont	USA	Field crops	Listed
6	East-West Seeds	THA	Vegetables	Private
7	Faso Kaba	MLI	Field crops & vegetables	Private
8	GAWAL	CHN	Field crops & vegetables	Private
9	Heritage Seeds	GHA	Field crops	Private
10	Maslaha Seeds	NGA	Field crops	Private
11	Monsanto	USA	Field crops & vegetables	Private
12	NAFASO	BFA	Field crops	Private
13	Pop Vriend Seeds	NLD	Vegetables	Private
14	Premier Seed	NGA	Field crops & vegetables	Private
15	Seed Co	ZWE	Field crops & vegetables	Listed
16	SEDAB	SEN	Field crops	Private
17	SEMAGRI	CMR	Vegetables	Private
18	Soprosa	MLI	Field crops & vegetables	Private
19	Syngenta (ChemChina)	CHE	Field crops & vegetables	Private
20	Technisem	FRA	Vegetables	Private
21	Tropicasem	SEN	Field crops & vegetables	Private
22	Value Seed	NGA	Field crops & vegetables	Private



Access to Seeds Index



Access to Seeds Index

- Companies selected for the 2019 Access to Seeds Index
- Companies that did not meet the selection criteria

1. Benin

- Benin Semences
- Accueil Paysan
- FAS
- Prochimat
- Mont Cassado
- Dallas Cyties

2. Burkina Faso

- NAFASO
- NANKOSEM
- Sourou Agro Business
- Entreprise EPAM
- KING AGRO
- FAGRI
- Monsanto

3. Cameroon

- SEMAGRI
- Rhoticam
- Phytograines
- Technisem/Tropicasem
- JACO
- The Farmer House
- Jardin des Agriculteurs
- AgroPlants
- Pop Vriend Seeds

4. Chad

- IHDL
- FENOPS
- ESCOR-Agro
- SahelAgritec
- Le Reveil

5. Côte d'Ivoire

- CRNA
- ONDR
- BFCD
- SPV-CI
- Agro-Services
- Technisem
- BILOHF

6. Democratic Republic of Congo

- GAVANAT
- CEPROSEM
- CORIDEK
- APSK
- INERA
- APSKO
- CESIM
- DowDupont

7. Gabon

- GCIAE
- Horta Gabon
- Technisem

11. Liberia

- Arjay Farm
- BRAC
- Agriculture Infrastructural Investment Company
- Dokodan Farmers Cooperative
- Gbeelay-Geh Women Cooperative
- GREEN STAR
- Aim Global Company Ltd.

12. Mali

- AGRIPUS
- Faso Kaba
- Seneso
- Soprosa
- Comptoir 2000 SA
- Camara Semences
- Syngenta (ChemCina)

14. Nigeria

- Premier Seed
- Value Seed
- Maslaha Seeds
- DA-Allgreen Seeds
- ITN HYDROMAK
- GAWAL
- Savannah Seeds
- JAMMYNAGARI Seed
- Seed Co
- East-West Seed

15. Republic of Congo (Congo Brazzaville)

- CONGOSEM
- IRA
- CNSA

16. Senegal

- CCPA
- SEDAB
- GIE Khaly Amar Fall
- CNT
- RESOPP
- RNCPS
- SOCODISPA
- ETB TAMBEDOU et Fils
- Tropicasem
- Niayes Sarraut
- Technisem

17. Sierra Leone

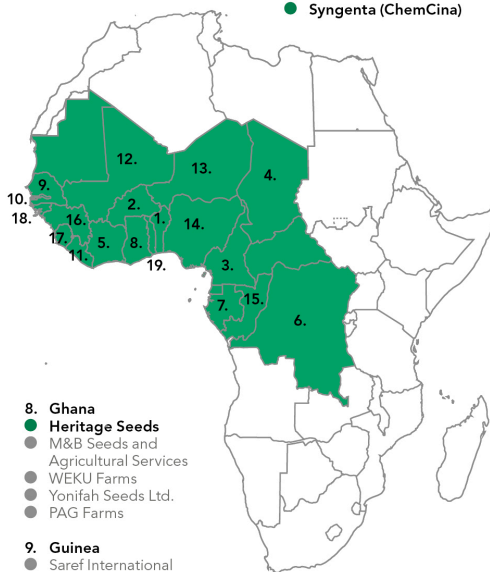
- Seed Multiplication Programme (SMP)
- Seed Tech International
- Debar Group
- Farming First Sierra Leone
- Genesis Farm
- Mountain Lion

18. The Gambia

- Gambia Horticultural Enterprises
- Afric Agro Action
- RAYAN farm & poultry
- Niani Banni Seed Cooperative

19. Togo

- Ets LE PAYSAN
- ESOP-Semences
- Abé Solo-Seeds Company
- Cooperatives
- Technisem
- STIEA
- MONFITH



8. Ghana

- Heritage Seeds
- M&B Seeds and Agricultural Services
- WEKU Farms
- Yonifah Seeds Ltd.
- PAG Farms

9. Guinea

- Saref International
- Agriculture Qualité
- SPCIA
- Entreprise Tidiane Agriculture
- Comptoir Agricole
- Coopérative semencière de Koba

10. Guinea-Bissau

- MBORMAF
- APALCOF
- Contuboeil Semence
- LVIA

13. Niger

- AINOMA
- La Sahélienne
- Alhéri
- GANDU
- Ets HUSA'A
- Ambouta
- FESA