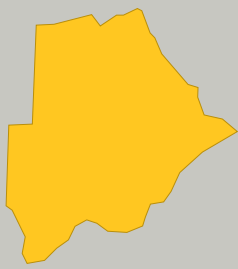


Botswana



Region
Eastern and Southern Africa

UPOV membership status
Member of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO); initiated the procedure for acceding to the UPOV Convention

Participation in OECD Seed Schemes
No

ISTA accredited member laboratories
No

GM crop approval for cultivation (domestic or non-domestic use)
No

Law on Plant Variety Protection
No

The seed sector in Botswana

The agriculture sector in Botswana contributes 3% to the country's GDP. The government certifies and produces seed through its Department of Agricultural Research (DAR) and distributes new varieties through its Seed Multiplication Unit. The DAR is responsible for administering seed certifications through the 1976 Seed Certification Act (CAP 35:07), which is complemented by the country's Seed Bill. The government distributes seed to farmers throughout the country through the DAR to support programs such as the Integrated Support Program for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD), which began in 2008. ISPAAD is one of the main agricultural support schemes to address challenges in the arable sub-sector, such as poor technology adoption by farmers and low agricultural productivity. Farmers receive inputs, including seeds, through this program, which is implemented by the extension services department of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security.

Observations

There are ten index companies with a presence in Botswana, covering both field crops and vegetables, though Klein Karoo Africa and Seed Co are the only two with testing locations. With two technical staff dedicated to training farmers, Seed Co is the sole company carrying out extension services.

There is a complete lack of breeding, seed production and processing among the ten companies in the country. Klein Karoo Africa, Capstone Seeds, Seed Co and Starke Ayres are all headquartered in neighboring South Africa, which suggests that Botswana is solely a distribution channel for those companies.

Company activities identified in Botswana

| Company Companies selected for the Access to Seeds Index | Crops in Portfolio | | Company activities in country | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
| | Field crops | Vegetables | Breeding location | Testing location | Seed production | Processing location | Sales | Extension services |
| Advanta | ● | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Capstone Seeds | ● | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Corteva Agriscience | ● | | | | | | ● | |
| Hygrotech | | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Klein Karoo Africa | ● | ● | | ● | | | ● | |
| Sakata | | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Seed Co | ● | ● | | ● | | | ● | ● |
| Starke Ayres | | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Zamseed | ● | ● | | | | | ● | |

Other index companies are also active in the country. However, country-specific information for these companies is not available or was provided under non-disclosure.

Other companies identified in the regional landscaping study and their activities

| Company Companies selected for the Access to Seeds Index | Crops in Portfolio | | Company activities in country | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| | Field crops | Vegetables | Breeding location | Testing location | Sales |
| Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB) | ● | | | | ● |
| Feed Seeds | ● | | | | ● |
| Gear Force | ● | | | | ● |

