

Tanzania



Region
Eastern and Southern Africa

UPOV membership status
UPOV member

Participation in OECD Seed Schemes
Yes

ISTA accredited member laboratories
Yes

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

Law on Plant Variety Protection
Protection of New Plant Varieties (Plant Breeders' Rights) Act (2012)

Seed sector in Tanzania

Currently, there are more than 100 private seed companies operating in Tanzania, with many involved in variety development, seed production, processing, marketing, exporting and importing seeds. The private and public sectors both conduct seed production, processing and marketing.

The Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) is a semi-autonomous government agency, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, that was established in 2003 by the Seed Act No. 18. TOSCI is responsible for the certification and promotion of quality agricultural seeds produced or imported into the country for sale.

The government established the Tanzania Seed Company (TANSEED) to operationalize the law, which dealt with certified seed production, processing, marketing and distribution. TANSEED later closed because of competition after the government liberalized trade in the late 1980s. As a result, the Seed Act of 1973 was replaced by Seeds Act No. 18 of 2003. Since then, the country joined both the International Seed Testing Association for seed testing procedures and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Seed Scheme for facilitating international seed trade.

Tanzania created its Plant Protection Act in 1997 and the Protection of New Plant Varieties (Plant Breeders' Rights) Act in 2002 and in 2008 added further regulations. In 2012, Tanzania enacted its new Plant Breeders' Rights Act in line with the UPOV Convention of 1991.

Observations

There are 23 index companies present in Tanzania, and 10 of those have seed production locations. Corteva Agriscience, East African Seed, East-West Seed and Pop Vriend Seeds are the only ones involving smallholder farmers in seed production activities. East African Seed, East-West Seed, Pop Vriend Seeds and Rijk Zwaan stand out by having activities spanning the entire seed value chain.

Twelve companies have testing locations and 10 provide extension services in the country, while six have breeding locations and processing locations.

Company activities identified in Tanzania

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	●	●		●			●	
Bayer	●	●		●			●	
Bejo		●					●	
Charoen Pokphand	●	●					●	
Corteva Agriscience	●				●*		●	●
Demeter Seed	●	●					●	
East-African Seed	●	●	●	●	●*	●	●	●
East-West Seed		●	●	●	●*	●	●	●
Enza Zaden		●					●	
FICA Seeds	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Kenya Highland Seed		●			●		●	●
Kenya Seed Company	●	●					●	
Known You Seed		●		●			●	●
Monsanto	●	●			●		●	
Namdhari Seeds	●	●					●	
Nuziveedu Seeds	●			●			●	●
Pop Vriend Seeds		●	●	●	●*	●	●	●
Rijk Zwaan		●	●	●	●		●	●
Sakata		●					●	
Seed Co	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Syngenta	●	●					●	
Zamseed	●	●					●	

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

* Company involves smallholder farmers in seed production activities

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
Beula Seed Company and Consultant	●	●			●
IFFA Seed Company	●	●			●

