



TASAI

THE AFRICAN SEED ACCESS INDEX

Launch Event

Date: March 12, 2015

Venue: Sankara Hotel, Westlands, Nairobi

Time: 10:00am - noon

10:00 Tea and Refreshments

10:30 Welcome and Introductions – Ms. Njeri Gakonyo (Moderator)

10:35 Overview of TASAI – Dr. Edward Mabaya, Cornell University

10:50 Panel discussion: What TASAI Can Do for Africa's Seed Sector.

- **Technology Transfer:** Dr. Denis Kyetere (AATF)
- **Private Seed Sector:** Captain Karanja (Freshco Seeds)
- **Public Policy and Government:** Mr. Kenneth Owano Ayuko (Deputy Director of Agriculture for Policy Development Coordination)
- **Farmer's Voice:** Mr. Stephen Muchiri (East African Farmers' Federation)
- **Seed Sector Development:** Dr. George Bigirwa (AGRA)
- **Country expert (Kenya):** Dr. John Mburu (REMPAI)

11:20 Q&A and Discussion

12:00 Adjourn

About TASAI: Timely availability of improved seeds at affordable prices is critical to increased productivity by smallholder farmers in Africa. Improved seeds can deliver state of the art technology to farmers including higher yields, disease and pest resistance, climate change adaptation, and improved nutrition. Over the last two decades, formal seed systems in Africa have been gradually liberalized resulting in increased participation of private seed enterprises (multinationals, regional and domestic companies). This new tool - The African Seed Access Index (TASAI) – monitors the development and competitiveness of national seed sectors in Africa. The central objective of TASAI is to encourage African governments and development agencies to create and maintain enabling environments that will accelerate the development of local private sector-led seed systems serving smallholder farmers.

TASAI - Towards competitive seed systems serving smallholder farmers.