

**Activity 7: Identification and Training of Smallholder seed producers**

**Objective and intended output:** Train farmer groups in quality seed production. Output-number of farmers trained

**Materials and methods:** Efficient farmer groups with a biases on women headed, were chosen to produce QDS or community based seed. Representatives from the groups together with other progressive farmers were then selected and trained on the principles of quality seed production (use of foundations seed, correct separation distance, rouging, proper harvesting and post-harvest handling, packaging, storage and sale)

**Results and interpretation:** 72 farmers were trained on production of QDS seed in Kenya and Tanzania; Uganda and Ethiopia to provide the numbers.



QDS farmer inspecting his crop

**Next steps:** Avail the seed producers foundation seed of the different varieties. Organize more trainings with the already trained being TOT, backstopped by the research team and extension staff. Link the seed producers to agro dealers and farmers to market off their seed. Acquire small seed processing plants to be piloted by farmer groups in different finger millet growing areas. Engage youth in seed production and distribution.