Because multiple genotypes have already been introduced in SSA, preventing any more introductions is crucial.

C3.7-1
REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR SEED HEALTH
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Seed production and movement is an increasingly global business where seed lots may move through five or ten countries before they are planted. Phytosanitary certification for international trade of seed specific pests of concern, and each seed lot can be tested or inspected for multiple pests. As an outcome, seed exporters must meet the phytosanitary requirements set by the importing National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) for each country they enter. To create an alternative phytosanitary mechanism in seed trade, in 2022, USDA-APHIS published a Regulatory Framework for Seed Health (ReFreSH) accreditation standard and supplemental participant manual. The program will accredit a systems approach for managing phytosanitary risk in the seed supply system. A systems approach under ReFreSH would leverage current seed industry best management practices. This allows for flexibility in pest management if entities can provide equivalence in efficacy. The new regulatory framework will allow for an audit-based accreditation for managing seed health as an alternative to consignment-by-consignment inspection or testing for phytosanitary certification. Currently, pilot projects are being established to determine if a systems approach will provide phytosanitary equivalence and an appropriate level of protection against pests of concern. The pilot will also give information about the extent of NPPO resources that are required to implement this program.

C3.7-2

CGIAR GERMPLASM HEALTH UNITS APPLY A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO GERMPLASM SEED HEALTH PROTECTION FOR CONSERVATION AND SAFE INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION


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Text
Germplasm seed exchange from CGIAR genebanks and breeding is important to global agricultural research and development programs. Seed as a pathway for pest spread is an inherent risk for international seed exchanges. Phytosanitary controls have been established in accordance with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to protect global plant health from transboundary pest invasion. This presentation summarizes pest risks to international germplasm distribution; CGIAR Germplasm Health Units (GHUs) procedures to ensure the production and distribution of pest-free germplasm; bottlenecks to germplasm distribution, including the inadequacy of phytosanitary regulations guided by the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) of IPPC; and consequences of delayed germplasm access on crop improvement programs. It also presents the ‘CGIAR Greenpass Phytosanitary Protocol (CGPP)’ concept as a comprehensive phytosanitary compliance assurance procedure. Based on a systems approach of pest risk identification and pest risk mitigation in the germplasm seed production pipeline and the rigorous implementation of phytosanitary controls in collaboration with national plant protection organizations, the CGPP is expected to fast-track pest-free germplasm distribution to the global community.