

# PRESS RELEASE

Programme on Integrated Seed Sector Development in Ethiopia  
ISSD Oromia South and West Unit



**Gold Mark Hotel, Bishoftu, Oromia; July 30, 2017:-** The ISSD Oromia South West unit has conducted seed core group meeting on July 14, 2017 to discuss on the key issues relating to seed and specify the direction for the upcoming period. ISSD Oromia South West unit is steering the wheel towards the seed sector development and alleviating the bottlenecks of the sector both in the Oromia region and at national level.

The meeting was chaired by the former deputy head of BoANR and currently ATA Oromia Region Coordinator Obbo Ababa Diriba as delegated by regional seed core team chair person. The participants emphasized on the issues relating to EGS production which directly affect the access and availability of seed in the region. During discussion several strategic issues that are believed to address the problems of seed sector of region were put for discussion. Overviews of main achievements of the ISSD over the past years were presented along with the remaining challenges by Obbo Kidane G/Tsadik Seed Value Chain expert. The seed core team members and decision makers were identified main challenges; critical issues of seed sector and the way forward were stated.



The core-group members have also discussed on the challenges of 2017 production year thoroughly and to draw a lesson for the 2018 EGS production. Progress of establishment of regional independent seed regulatory body has been also one of the concerns of the core-group meeting. The core-group, then, came up with future actions and also assigned coordinating organizations for each activity.

The seed core-group members finally agreed to develop the guideline which clearly defines the role and responsibilities of each seed producers and stakeholders, concept note on the establishment of seed information management system, guide line for the collaborative variety popularization, operational guideline which indicates the contract base/ jointly planning seed/ EGS/ seed multiplication and develop comprehensive document which shows the current practice and performance of seed marketing being undertaken by different bodies and exit strategy of government from seed distribution in the region up to the end of September 2017.

The programme on Integrated Seed Sector Development in Ethiopia aims to strengthen the development of a vibrant, market-oriented and pluralistic seed sector in the country, where quality seed of superior varieties is available and affordable for a larger number of farmers, thereby contributing to food security and economic development in Ethiopia. This is the vision of the ISSD programme in Ethiopia. [www.issdethiopia.org](http://www.issdethiopia.org)

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