

A Comparative Analysis of Peanut Seed Systems: Searching for Innovation to Sustainably Unlock Improved Genetics

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Improved varieties hold great promise for improving yield and resilience across the all peanut producing areas. However, in many countries and particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, the predominant varieties are often decades old and sub-optimal despite efforts to introduce and scale improved varieties. There are several potential reasons for limited adoption, but the predominant limitation lies in the structure and function of the seed systems. Using data collected from primary sources and key informant interviews across several countries, we have developed a comparative analysis of peanut seed systems and identified common economic, social and environmental challenges using a sustainability lens. Through key case studies, we have also proposed potential interventions and strategies for resource limited environments and identified future potential bottlenecks for scaling improved varieties.