Salient Achievements of Seed Systems Work in SA (Nepal & Pakistan in focus)

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Maize Improvement & Seed Systems Specialist: AIP

Summarized for 2018 performance evaluation

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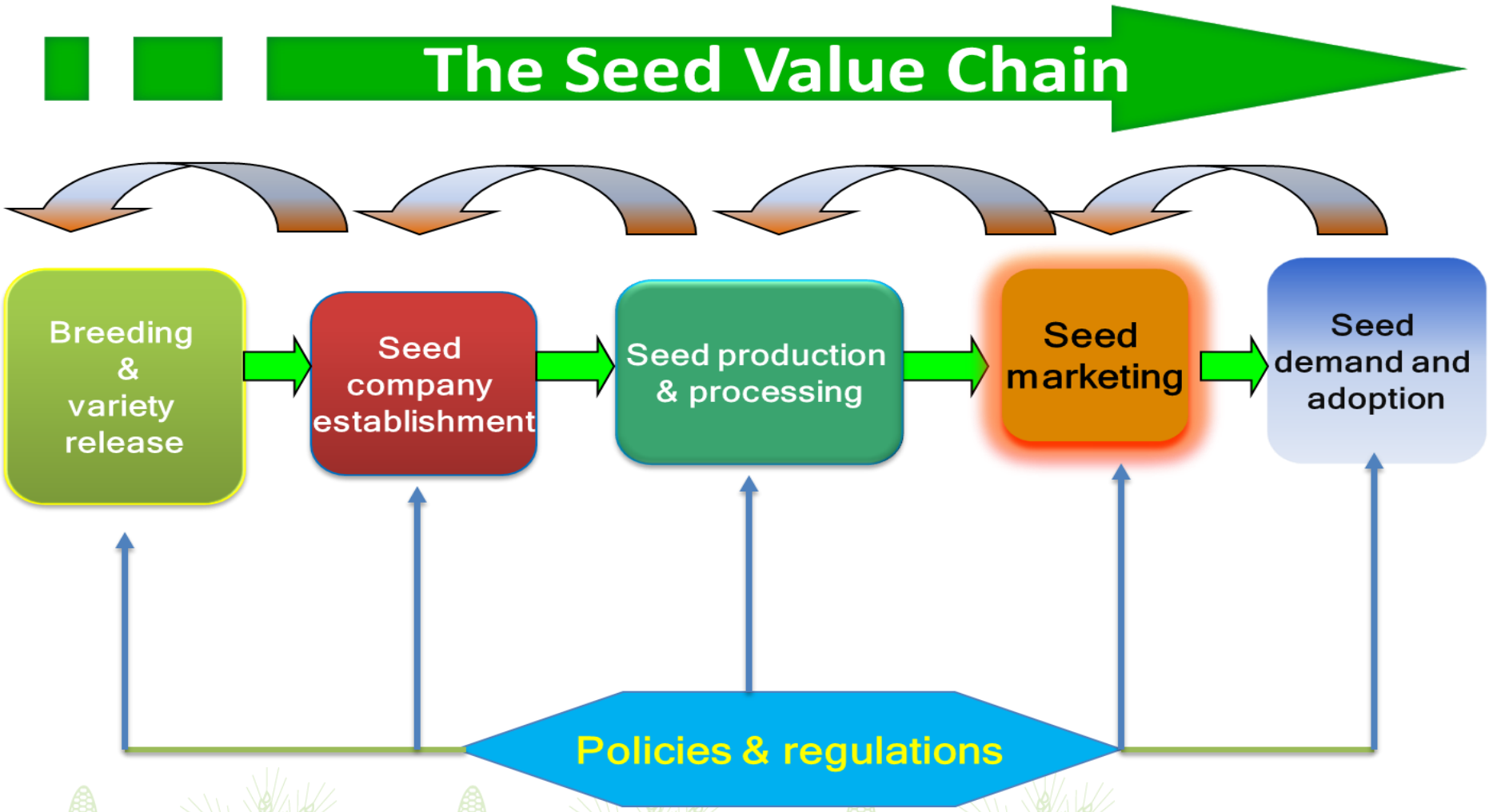
Components of functional seed system



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New products evaluation, validation and release

- 17 types of maize trials consists of 60 sets
- Distributed & tested in collaboration with 23 NARS and seed companies
- Over 50 new maize products identified & product requests in process
- Three new maize varieties released and at least five in pipeline for 2019
- Reached out to Int. breeding hubs in Colombia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Zimbabwe (for maize); Ethiopia & Taiwan (for legumes & vegetables)

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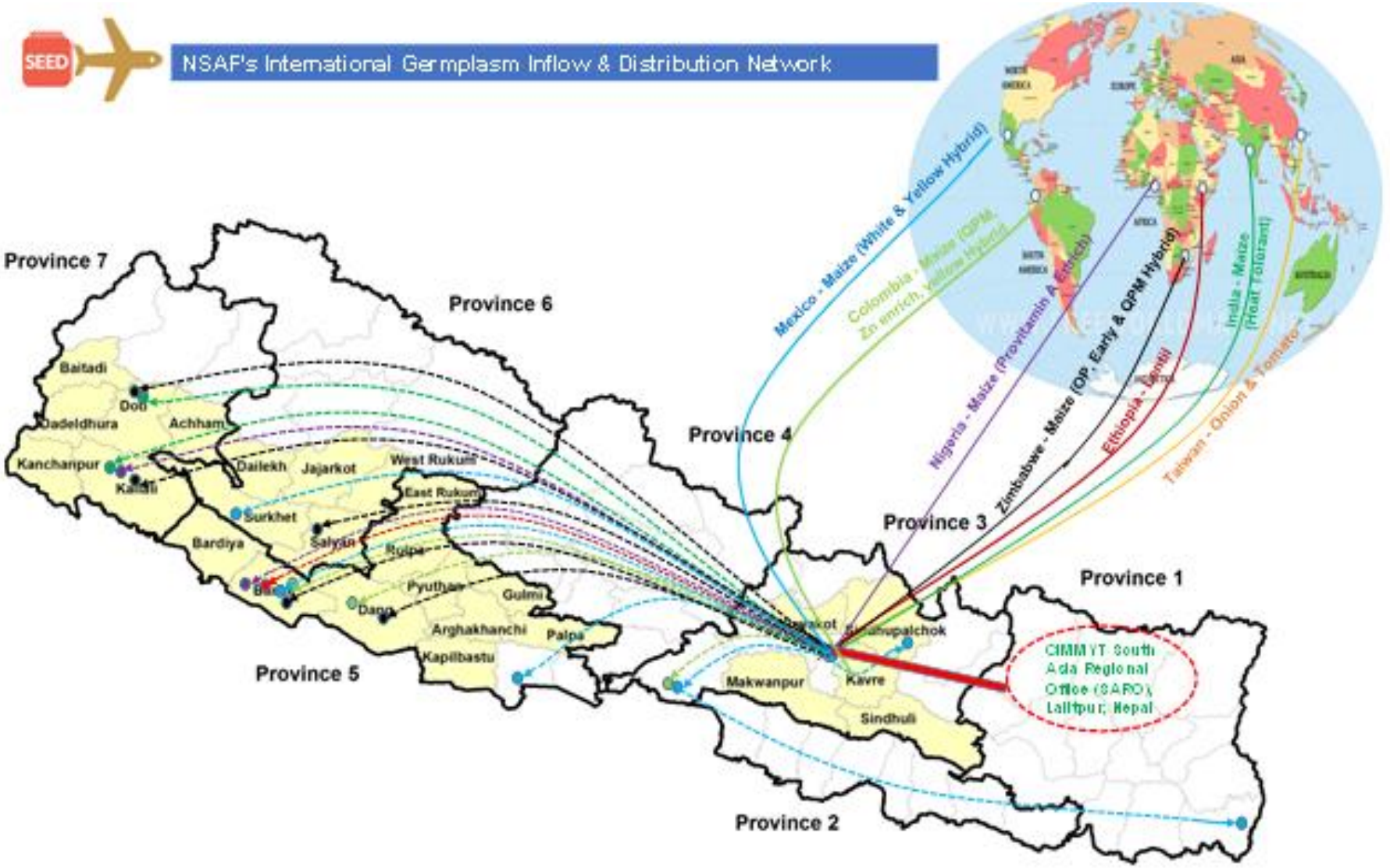
Reaching out to international breeding hubs



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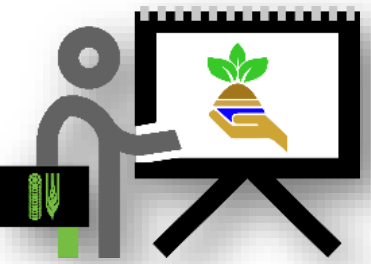
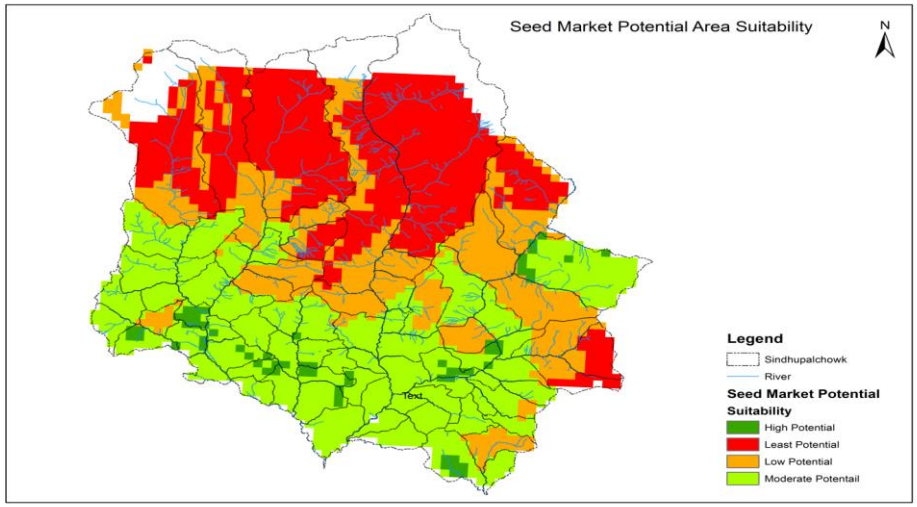
Quality Seed production

- 3479 MT of seeds under NSAF & 100 MT under AIP produced and sold
- Via 25 seed companies and NARS
- Enough to cover 65,000 ha and to benefit 0.25 million HH
- Five seed companies in Nepal start engaging in hybrid maize seed production for the first time
- NSAF Seed sector financing; USD 250K on soft loan-Nepal

Seed Marketing & Promotion

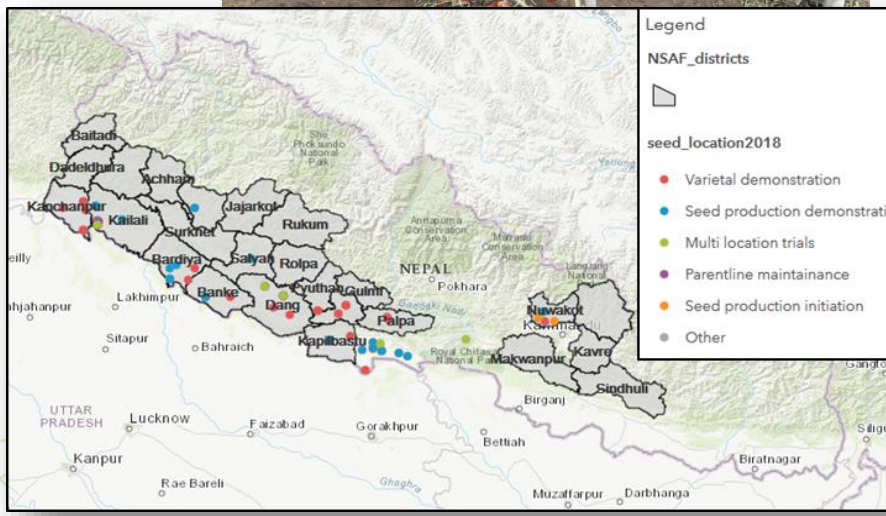


- Design and content support for seed packaging and branding
- Working with SEAN, 2500 Agro dealers network
- Five radio jingles and 200 FM radio spots in Nepal
- >30k visitors DAWN expo-Pakistan
- 252 on farm demonstration, information on GIS
- Agro-ecology based seed market segmentation
- Seed Business plan development -Nepal

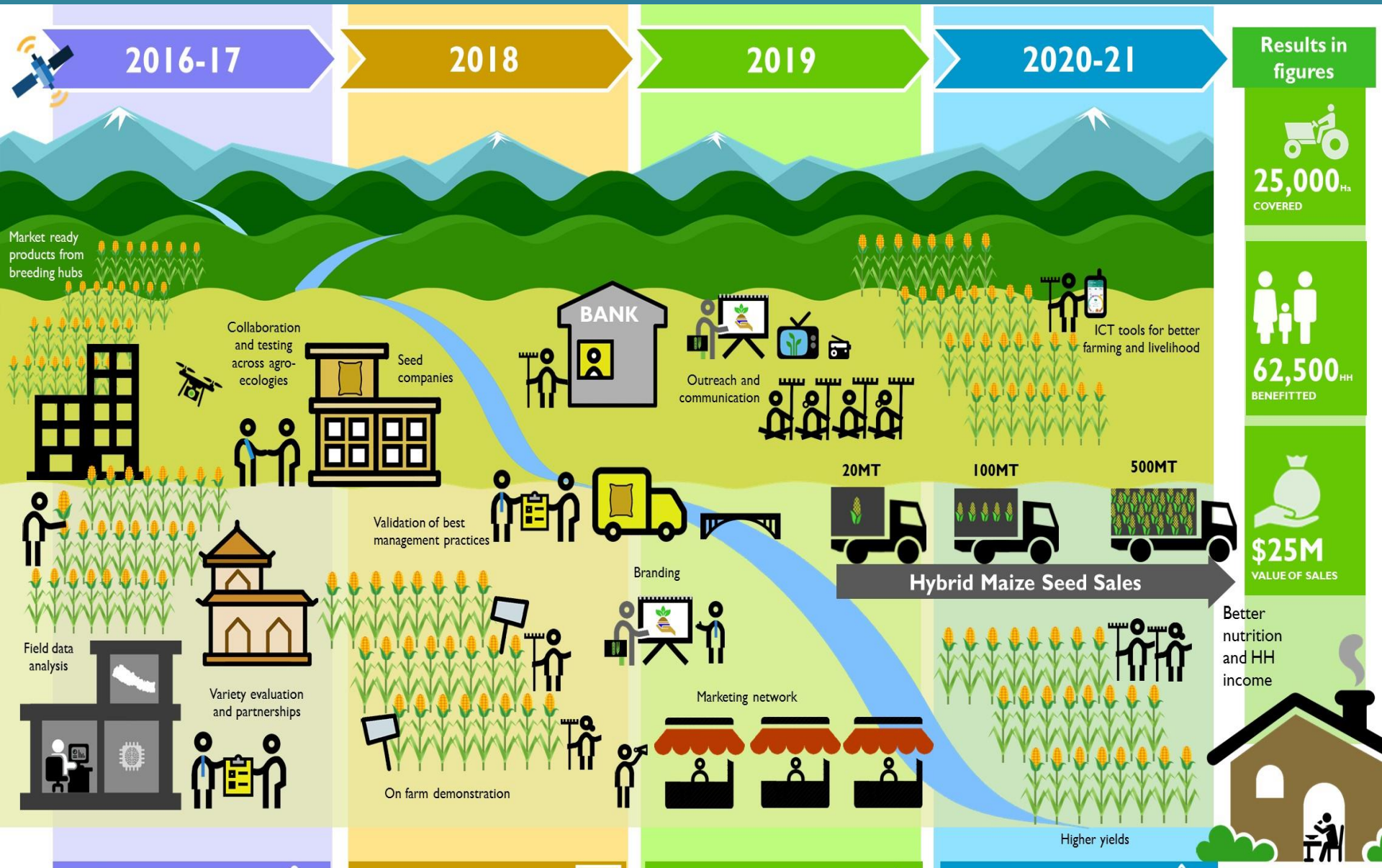


Enhancing seed demand & adoption

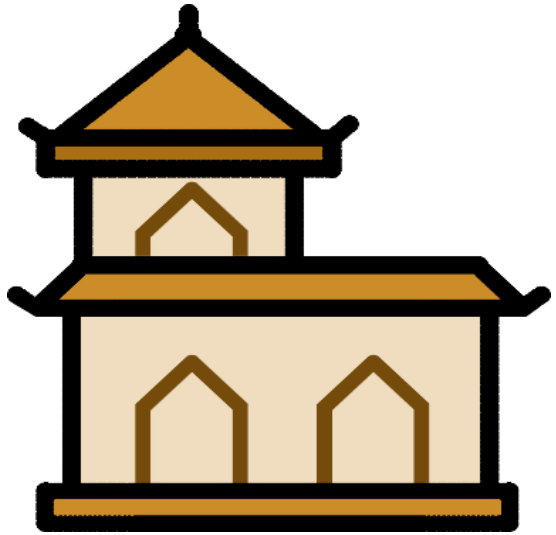
- Promotion of recently released varieties in demos…etc
- Focus on farmers/market preferred traits
- Various nudging tools to increase SRR
  - Farmers field days
  - Traders meetings
  - Farmers meetings
- Linkage with output/end users markets based on value chain studies
- Initiated digitally enabled seed information system in Nepal
- Draft hybrid maize seed scaling up pathway



NSAF's hybrid maize seed scaling pathway



Policy lobbying



- Draft licensing directives for NARS products to private seed companies- Nepal
- Draft hybrid seeds quality and certification standards
- Private sector involvement on new products testing and validation

- Tripartite agreement to fast track variety release or registration
- Enhance the role of SEAN in Nepal
- Seed sector financing- a new financial package
- Initiated policy related studies: impact of seed subsidy…

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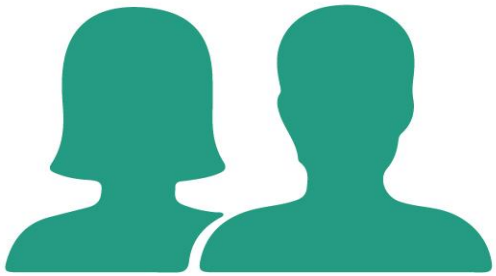
Partnership and GESI



- Working directly with 42 public, private and civil society partners (including NARC centers)
- Indirectly working with more than 2500 seed value chain actors
- 15 organized group visits to NSAF and AIP sites
- Accomplished joint monitoring, annual planning and review meetings, Sub grant agreements, Interaction workshops with provinces…to strengthen partnerships
- Collaboration with other projects including HTMA-II, CSISA, KISAN-II, IMIC-Asia and inter program activities with SEP and SIP (Nepal) and GWP (Pakistan).
- 20% women participation in professional trainings; 50% women attendance in FFD
- Promote inclusive seed system: more women & disadvantaged communities

Capacity building

- Organized seven local training
- Conducted three international training
- Co-organized/supported/participated in four international/regional conferences
- A total of 1374 participants in the various trainings
- Machinery support to NMRP
- Continued supporting the maize stem borer mass rearing facility in Pakistan
- Mentoring and supervising 14 GMP-LRS in Nepal and Pakistan

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Knowledge into use

- Three published journal articles
- Four full length conference papers
- Four poster presentations on international conferences
- Seven news paper articles on CIMMYT website and local media
- Seven high quality power point presentations

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Enhanced CIMMYT/Projects' visibility

- Hybrid maize intervention appreciated by partners in Pakistan and Nepal.
- AIP external evaluation report solidify the innovation of maize work and private sector engagement
- Preliminary NSAF mid-term evaluation report identify hybrid maize intervention as one of the priority focus area
- USAID-Nepal officially acknowledged the work under NSAF
- CIMMYT's DG, DDG and MC members expressed satisfaction on the progress of NSAF during the BoT meeting
- NSAF become a leading and sought after seed project in Nepal
- Contributed to CIMMYT's good name and reputation among national governments

Membership and others…

- Member of USAID FAW taskforce in Nepal
- Member of technical and steering committee of NSAF
- Member of CCMC and one of the authorized cheque signatory
- Healthy budget management both under NSAF and AIP regardless of the challenges in fund releases and insufficiency
- Initiated & led the translation of the Nepali FAW video and currently converting the characters

Key milestones in 2019

- Diverse maize products allocations and further variety releases
- Enhanced private sector engagement in seed production and marketing
- Digital Seed Information Systems
- Capacity building of partners across the seed value chain
- Continue works on knowledge sharing and CIMMYT's visibility across SA

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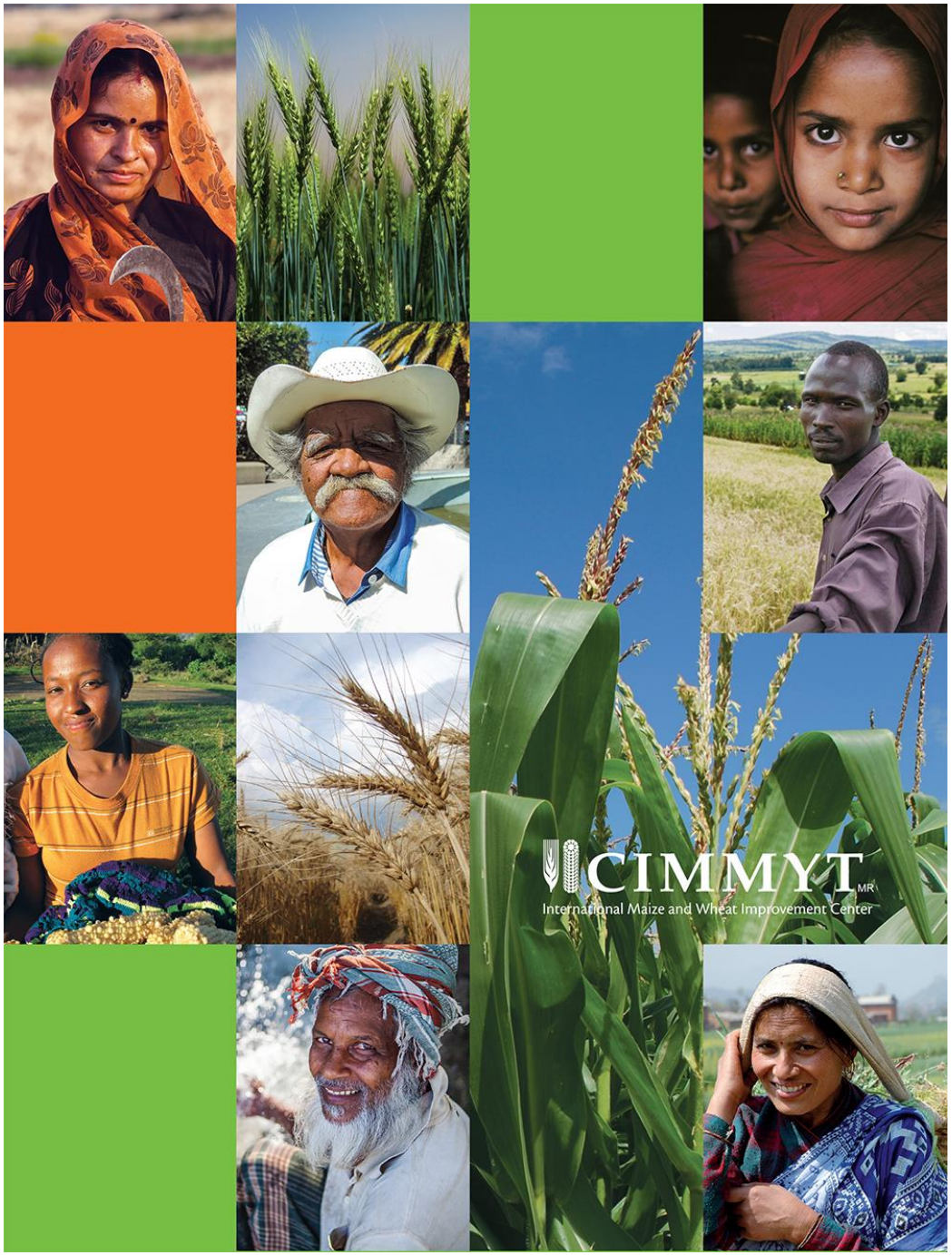

Thank you for your interest!