

Projects Portfolio

PROJECT PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT

The selection of projects is carried out through a systematic, transparent and demand-driven process, working in close consultation with key stakeholders. A major criterion is to access technologies that meet pressing needs but are not currently available to small-holder farmers in Africa because of limitations flowing from intellectual property rights associated with the technology.

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

Emphasis is on food security and poverty reduction particularly for resource-poor farmers in SSA

- Projects must address high priority constraints
- The technology interventions should link solutions to end-user needs
- The projects should have the potential to enhance institutional synergies
- The size of the projects should be such that they optimise resource use
- Project objectives should be achievable within reasonable timeframes
- The projects portfolio should reflect a reasonable geographic balance and a mix of short and long term outcomes

PRIORITY PROBLEM AREAS

- *Striga* control in cereals
- Cowpea productivity improvement in Africa
- Banana and plantain productivity in Africa
- Nutritional quality enhancement in cereals
- Drought-tolerance in cereals
- Mycotoxins in food grains
- Cassava productivity increase in Africa

PROJECT-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Technology licensing and regulatory approval
- Freedom to operate assessments
- Liability protection
- Product development and testing
- Product deployment
- Facilitating commercialisation
- Product stewardship
- Partnership management
- Communication and public awareness

PROJECTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

Striga control in smallholder maize fields in Sub-Saharan Africa

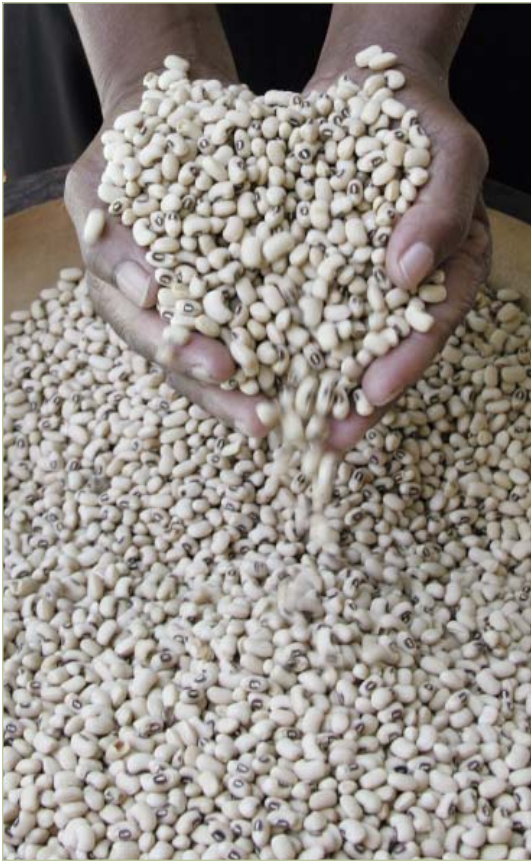
Objective: To enable smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa have access to appropriate *Striga* control technologies such as seed of Imazapyr-resistant maize (IR-Maize), *Striga* tolerant varieties and suppression and trap cropping management systems.

Product: Herbicide-resistant maize seeds coated with Imazapyr herbicide (StrigaAway®)

Partners: Africa 2000 Network, Agricultural Research Institute, Mwanza, BASF, Chitedze Research Station, Farm Inputs Care Centre Ltd, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre, Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, Kenya Seed, Lagrotech, Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya, Ministry of Agriculture, Malawi, Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania, National Agricultural Advisory Services, Uganda, National Agricultural Research Organisation, Uganda, Tansed International Ltd, The Western Regional Alliance for Technology Evaluation, Tropical Soil Biology and Fertility Program of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture, University of Malawi, Bunda College, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel, Western Seed, Zum Seed Ltd.



Better tools, better harvests, better lives



Developing high quality *Maruca*-resistant cowpea varieties for use by smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa

Objective: To enable smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa to have access to farmer-preferred, cowpea varieties with resistance to insect pests, especially the pod borer *Maruca vitrata*.

Product: High quality cowpea seeds with increased productivity and resistance to *Maruca* pod borer.

Partners: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), National Agricultural Research Systems in target countries of west Africa: Institut de l'Environnement et de Recherches Agricoles (INERA); Burkina Faso, Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR); Zaria, Nigeria, CSIR-Savanna Agricultural Research Institute (SARI); Ghana, Programme for Biosafety Systems (PBS), Monsanto Company, Network for the Genetic Improvement of Cowpea for Africa (NGICA) and The Kirkhouse Trust.

Improvement of banana for resistance to banana *Xanthomonas* wilt disease

Objective: To develop banana *Xanthomonas* wilt resistant bananas from east African preferred germplasm.

Product: Banana varieties that are farmer-preferred, high yielding and resistant to banana *Xanthomonas* wilt.

Partners: Academia Sinica, National Agricultural Research Organization of Uganda (NARO), Institut de recherche agronomique et zootechnique (IRAZ), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), public and private tissue culture laboratories in the Great Lakes region of Africa including Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA)

Objective: To develop drought-tolerant maize and make it available royalty-free to small-scale farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Product: Drought-tolerant maize varieties for Sub-Saharan Africa.

Partners: National agricultural research systems in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Monsanto, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Howard G. Buffett Foundation

Improving rice productivity in nitrogen-deficient and saline environments of Sub-Saharan Africa

Objective: To develop rice varieties with efficient uptake and use of nitrogen for nutrient-deficient soils and also varieties that are more tolerant of saline conditions to increase yields in salty environments.

Product: High yielding farmer-preferred rice varieties with increased nitrogen use efficiency and higher tolerance of saline soils.

Partners: National agricultural research systems in Nigeria, Ghana, Burkina Faso and Uganda, Arcardia Biosciences, Public Intellectual Property Resource for Agriculture (PIPRA), International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Program for Biosafety Systems (PBS), DuPont-Pioneer and United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

PRODUCT CONCEPTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

- Reducing aflatoxin contamination in maize and peanuts in Africa
- Mechanical equipment for labour productivity improvement in cassava production and utilisation

AATF is a not-for-profit organisation that facilitates and promotes public/private partnerships for the access and delivery of appropriate proprietary agricultural technologies for use by resource-poor smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa. AATF is a registered charity under the laws of England and Wales and has been given a tax-exempt status in the USA. It is incorporated in Kenya and in the UK and has been granted host country status by the Government of Kenya where it is headquartered.