Introduction: Debates and Successes in Local Seed Production and Marketing



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Seed of Survival (SoS) Webinar
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Seed of Survival: Lessons from Ethiopian Famine

- **Drought and famine of Ethiopia in mid-80s showed that:**
  - Breakdown of the seed systems perpetuates further insecurity and vulnerability
  - Seeds are central to survival of farmers during the time of adversity/ disaster – need for a resilient seed system
  - Seeds are not just another inputs but a living resource continuously evolving and deeply associated with food systems of indigenous and local farming communities
  - Formal seed system inadequate in meeting seed needs – timely, volume and diversity of locally adapted seeds
  - Importance of conservation (*in-situ* and *ex-situ*) and continuous re-deploying of diversity of local/landrace seeds
  - Need broadening the seed security framework that address day-to-day seed issues and encompass seed sovereignty
  - Investing in strengthening farmer seed systems is vital





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Seed Security Framework for a Resilient Seed System

- **Farmer empowering seed security framework**
  - Using a farmer-centered and holistic approach
  - Recognizing farmers' production, saving, exchange and marketing of seeds and not mere receiver of seeds
  - Expanding beyond availability, access of quality seeds to encompass adaptability, choice and capacity to produce and save own seeds – seed sovereignty framework
- **Integration of farmer seed systems**
  - Recognition and inclusion of farmer seed systems
  - Strengthen farmer seed systems
  - Support farmers' rights for self-reliance and control over their seeds





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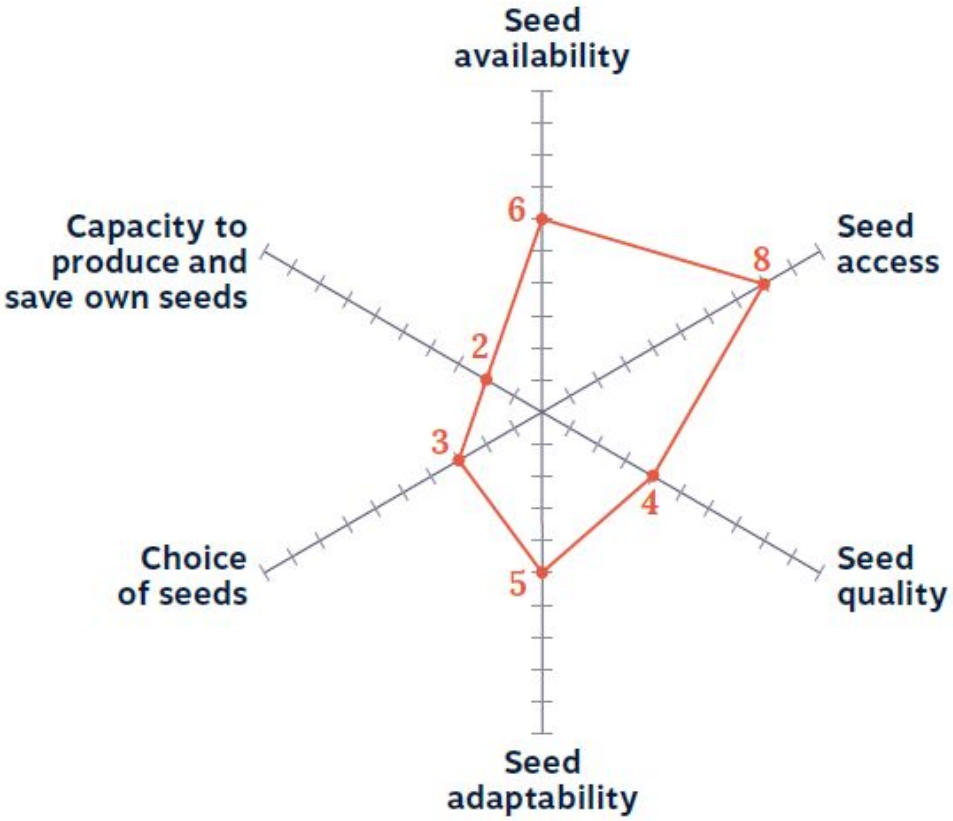
Seed Security assessment and Action Planning (SSAAP)



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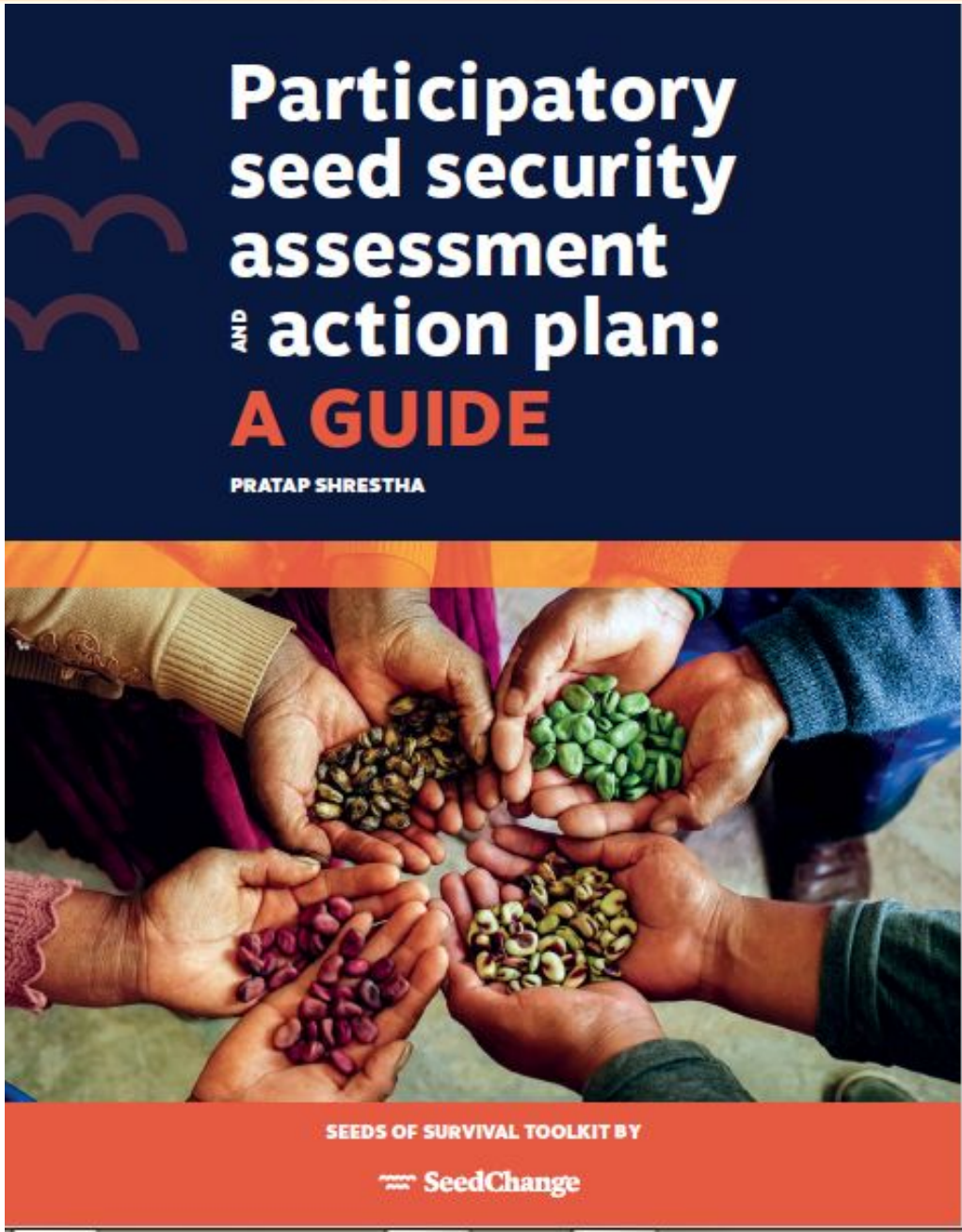
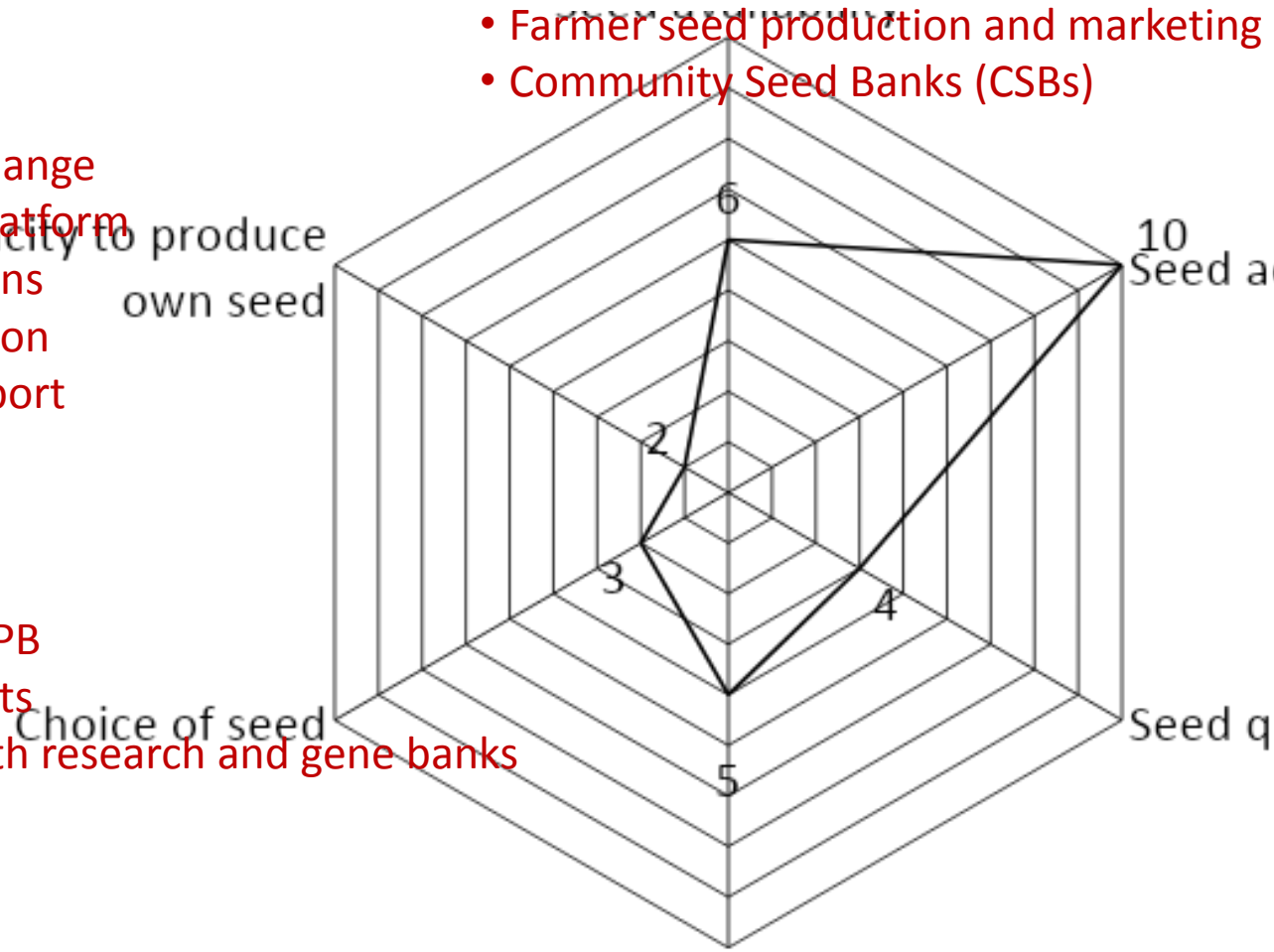


Seed Security assessment and Action Planning

- Seed distribution and marketing
- Farmer seed production and marketing
- Community Seed Banks (CSBs)

- Seed training & exchange
- Multi-stakeholder platform
- Farmers' organisations
- Local seed certification
- Policy and legal support



- Farmer seed production
- CSBs
- Access to income/ loan
- Seed price

- PVS and PPB
- Diversity kits
- Linkage with research and gene banks

- Seed selection
- Seed processing & storage
- Quality of source seed

- Seeds for climate change, agro-ecology
- Seeds for diversified production niches/ small farmers
- PVS and PPB

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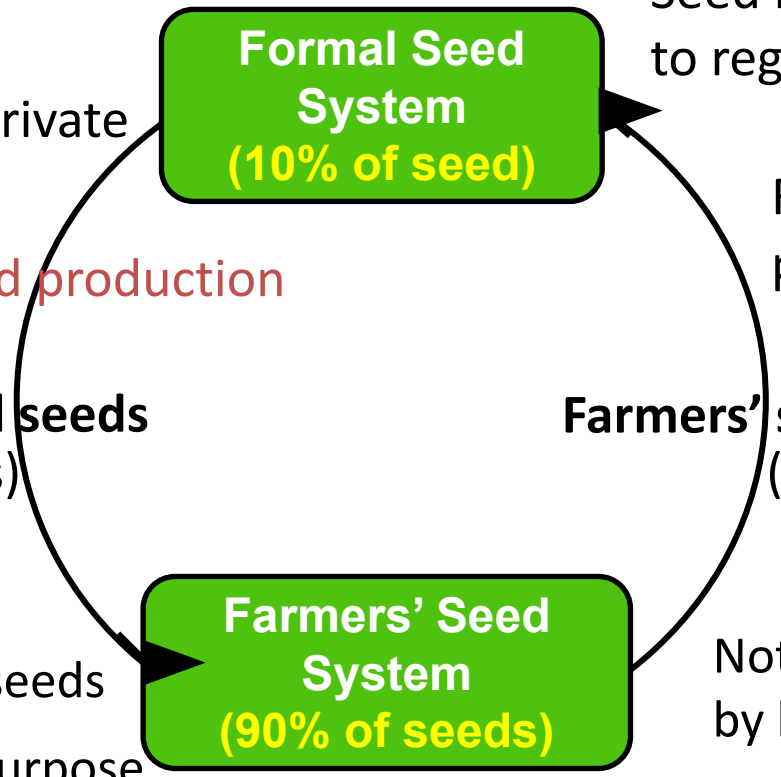
Strengthening National Seed System

Production and marketing of formal seeds

Government farms and private companies are engaged

Community-based seed production (Decentralization)



Seed registration and Certification to regulate seed quality

Recognized and guided by national policy & law

Farmers producing, saving, exchanging and selling their seeds

Seed quality vary based on purpose
Seed exchange/ selling based on trust

Not formally regulated but guided by local knowledge and values

Not recognize by seed policy and law
Formal production and marketing illegal

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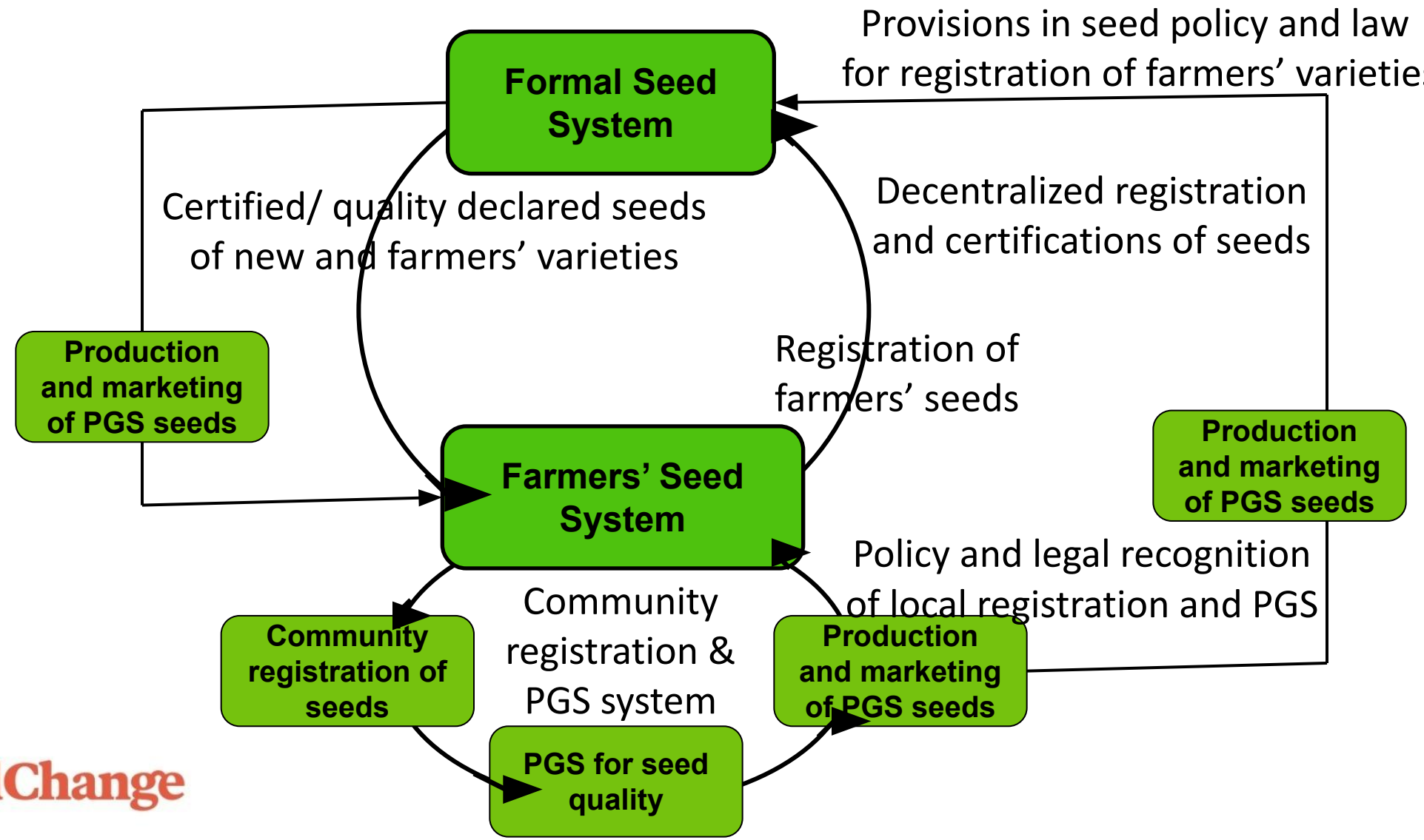
Registration and Certification of Farmers' Seeds



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Piloting of Community-based Seed Production and Marketing

- **SoS Webinar series aim to share and document work and experience on:**
  - Piloting of Participatory Guarantee System for the production and marketing of local seeds (Bolivia and Mali)
  - Production and marketing of PPB and local seeds through decentralized (local) formal certification (Nepal and Cuba)
  - Production and marketing of PPB and local seeds without formal certification through community seed bank and farmers' cooperatives (Nicaragua)
  - Piloting of production and marketing of locally certified PPB and formal seeds through CIAL and Farmer Seed Committee (Honduras)





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Thank You

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