

The logo of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) is a circular emblem. It features a central scale of justice. The text "INTERNATIONAL-SEED TESTING ASSOCIATION" is written around the perimeter of the circle. Inside the circle, above the scale, it says "UNIFORMITY IN SEED TESTING".

Strategic Plan for the ISTA 2022-25

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Presenter:
Location:
Date:



The Purpose of the Strategy

To define the goals to implement the articles and to propose further developments for the coming triennium

In addition, 2024, the 2022-2025 strategy will build on the previous 100 years

In its second century, ISTA will aim to continue its expansion by working both within regions and internationally, indeed as it always has.



Key assumptions



ISTA is a leading global organisation that:

- **Sets and publishes seed sampling and testing methods for trade, national and international regulations, export and import.**
- **Cooperates in building seed testing capacity and capability.**
- **Has an international accreditation body in seed sampling and testing, recognising the competency of any laboratory or entity involved.**
- **Encourages seed science where innovative research makes the link between scientific developments and applications to meet the needs of the seed sector.**

The key goals of the strategy

1. **Develop scientifically sound rules and methods for seed sampling and testing that meet the needs of the seed sector**
2. **Contribute and develop collaborations to increase seed testing capacity and capability worldwide**
3. **Strengthen the accreditation system to ensure it meets the needs of ISTA members and other stakeholders**
4. **Strengthen the Science and Technology underpinning ISTA to develop innovative research to make the link between scientific developments and applications in seed sampling and testing and to allow the requirements of the seed sector to be met**
5. **Seek the needs of members, stakeholders**
6. **Manage ISTA affairs**

Goal 1: Develop scientifically sound rules and methods for seed sampling and testing that meet the needs of the seed sector

1. Support the Technical Committees (TCOMs) to attract more contributors to the TCOMs as members **through initiatives such as Young@ISTA.**
2. Strengthen the 'basic' tests of purity, other seed determination, moisture and germination, including developing methods for new species, **especially tropical and sub-tropical species.**

High priority Species & Common Name	Medium priority Species & Common Name
<i>Allium sativum</i> (Garlic)	<i>Andrographis paniculate</i> (Green chiretta)
<i>Amaranthus viridis</i> (Amaranthus)	<i>Curcuma longa</i> (Turmeric)
<i>Benincasa hispida</i> (wax or ash gourd)	<i>Saccharum officinarum</i> (Sugarcane)
<i>Crotalaria juncea</i> (Sunhemp)	<i>Trachyspermum ammi</i> (Ajwain)
<i>Guizotia abyssinica</i> (Niger)	<i>Zingiber officinale</i> (Ginger)
<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> (Roselle)	
<i>Moringa oleifera</i> (Drum Stick Tree)	

Goal 1: Develop scientifically sound rules and methods for seed sampling and testing that meet the needs of the seed sector (cond..)

- 3. Develop additional sampling methods where required (e.g. sampling of seed mixtures, small (and expensive/valuable) seed lots and for some seed transmitted pathogens e.g. where a disease may be sporadic within the seed lot).**
- 4. Develop tests and methods based on science and new technologies and facilitate the application of new or emerging technologies into current methods by supporting the work of the technical committees and encouraging membership participation in development of new tests and methods.**
- 5. Facilitate the access to rules by encouraging translation of the ISTA Rules into more languages and developing new ways of promoting the importance of the ISTA rules in the seed value chain.**



Goal 2: contribute and develop collaborations to increase seed testing capacity and capability worldwide



- 1. Enhance ISTA training programmes to further facilitate implementation of sampling and testing methods:**
 - Continue to encourage and organise training sessions including in-person workshops
 - Online training using current training tools and methods
 - Develop capability to train trainers regionally
- 2. Grow ISTA membership sustainably.**
- 3. Continue marketing and promotion into regions to attract new members.**
- 4. Facilitating regionally based ISTA representatives through e.g. liaison offices/officers**
- 5. Increase communication within the membership and stakeholders including social media.**
- 6. Expand partnerships with international organisations and the seed industry to build seed capacity and capabilities.**

- 1. Maintain and develop the accreditation services, providing high quality audits and proficiency tests, and training in Quality Assurance.**
- 2. Continue to evaluate and improve the structure and scope of accreditation for seed sampling and testing, to meet the needs of stakeholders, member laboratories and sampling entities, and relate this to the cost.**
- 3. Continue the process of implementing electronic certificates.**
- 4. Investigate options to cooperate with other accreditation bodies with the aim to improve the efficiency of the ISTA accreditation system.**
- 5. Further expand the Proficiency Tests programme with the inclusion of new kinds of tests and species covered by the ISTA Rules.**
- 6. Enable more ISTA auditors, across the regions, by supporting potential auditors to become trained.**



Goal 4: Strengthen the Science and Technology underpinning ISTA to develop innovative research to make the link between scientific developments and applications in seed sampling and testing and to allow the requirements of the seed sector to be met



- 1. Develop mutually beneficial collaborative opportunities with other science and technology organisations.**
- 2. Encourage the application of new and emerging technologies where appropriate in seed sampling and testing to increase efficiency and that meet the needs of stakeholders.**
- 3. Build science capability through attracting more scientists and researchers into ISTA work either directly, through collaboration or through initiatives such as [Young@ISTA](#).**
- 4. Facilitate science capability through information technology.**



Goal 5 : Seek the needs of members, stakeholders



- 1. Consultation with Designated Authorities, member laboratories, and industry with the aim of strengthening their role.**
- 2. Consultation and collaboration with organisations and stakeholders involved in the seed sector with the aim of strengthening their role.**



Goal 6: Manage ISTA affairs



- 1. Promote and communicate the ISTA worldwide.**
- 2. Provide tools for training and communication facilitating the technical work of the TCOMs.**
- 3. Manage the finances of the Association to provide resources to achieve the goals.**



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