



OECD AGRICULTURAL SEED AND FOREST SEED CERTIFICATION

Csaba Gaspar

Programme manager

OECD Seed Schemes & OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

32nd ISTA Congress, HICC, Hyderabad, India



Summary

- **General overview of the OECD**
- **Seed Schemes**
- **Forest Seed and Plant Scheme**
- **OECD and ISTA common issues**
- **Areas for harmonisation & cooperation**





OECD

The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development** is

- An inter-governmental organisation
- 36 member countries
- It's aiming to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world (**Better policies for better lives**).

To do that OECD provides:

- Policy & economic analyses
- Policy advises and recommendations
- **Set international standards.**



Agricultural Standardisation

OECD Codes & Schemes Unit (voluntary part II programmes):

- Tractor Codes
- Fruit & vegetables Scheme
- **Agricultural Seed Schemes**
- **Forest Seed and Plant Scheme**



General overview of the OECD Seed Schemes

Mission Statement: The OECD Seed Schemes facilitate the international trade of quality seed by applying harmonised seed varietal certification standards and procedures.

Mission Vision: Globally harmonised seed varietal certification supporting the wider development of a productive, sustainable and resilient agriculture and food system

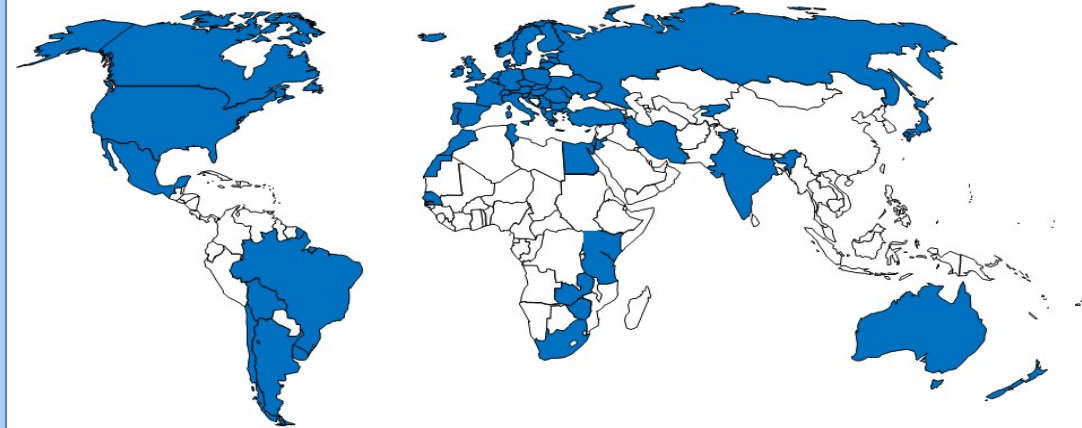
Quality seeds for world needs



General overview of the OECD Seed Schemes

Established
1961
(OEEC - 1958)

8
Schemes



61
Participating
countries as
2019

204
Species

60.000
varieties eligible
for OECD
certification

1.100.000
tons of
OECD certified seed
per year



General overview of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

Mission Statement:

The OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme facilitates the international trade of forest reproductive material through harmonised standards certifying its provenance, identity, quality and traceability, thus contributing to the sustainable use of valuable forest genetic resources.

Mission Vision:

Global certification system for forest reproductive material supporting the development of a productive, sustainable and resilient forest sector



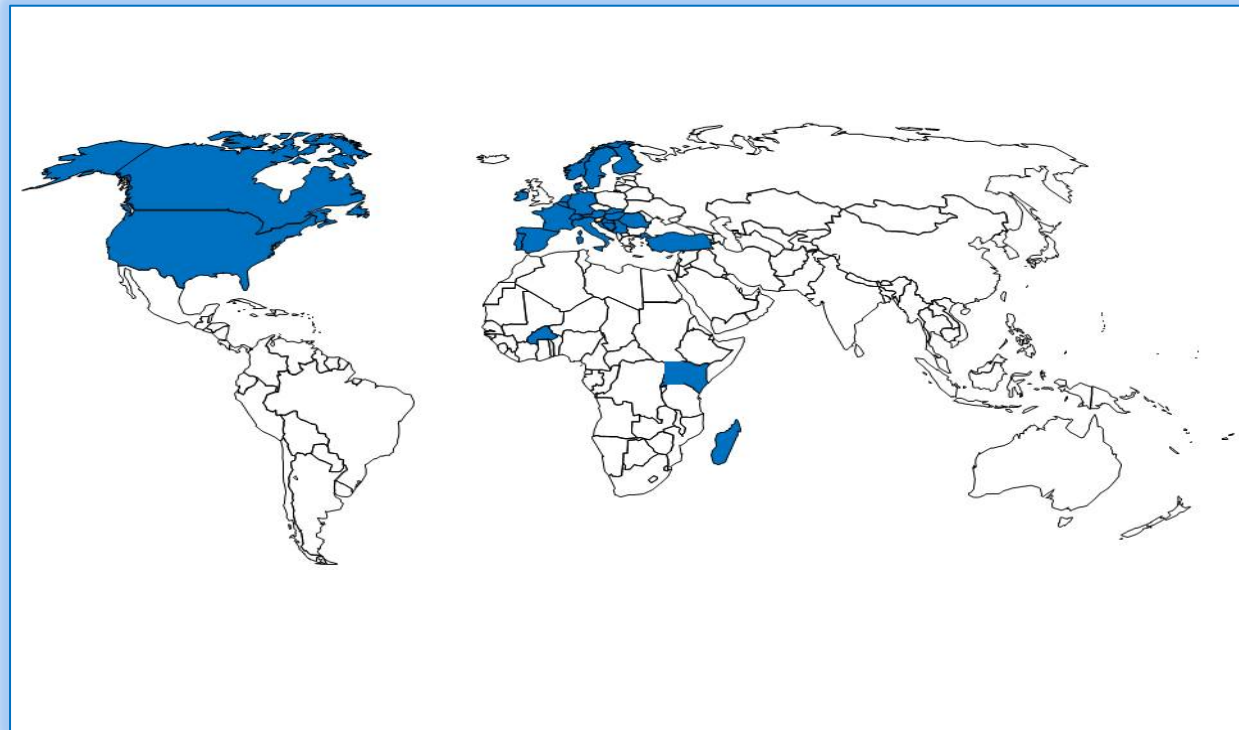
General overview of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

Established

1967

29

Participating
countries



427

species

28

Million ha basic
material

4000

tons of
certified forest
seed

470

millions of
certified plants



OECD and ISTA

- **Both OECD and ISTA play an important role in the international regulatory framework of the seed sector**
- **OECD certified seed is usually tested by ISTA**
- **ISTA is a key partner for OECD: observer organisation**



OECD and ISTA Seed Schemes

Reference and application of ISTA rules and standards in the OECD seed varietal certification system:

- Maximum seed lot size
- Sampling & Fastening of seed containers
- Seed testing (analytical purity and germination)
- Analysis result: reference to ISTA OIC



OECD and ISTA Seed Schemes

Participation of ISTA in the work of the OECD Seed Schemes:

- **Ad-Hoc Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques (BMT)**
 - Internationally recognised methods
 - Harmonisation between OECD, ISTA, UPOV and AOSA
- **Ad-Hoc Working Group on Labelling**
 - Fastening methods (stapling)
 - Label security
 - Combatting Fraud
 - Harmonisation of information on ISTA and OECD certificates and labels



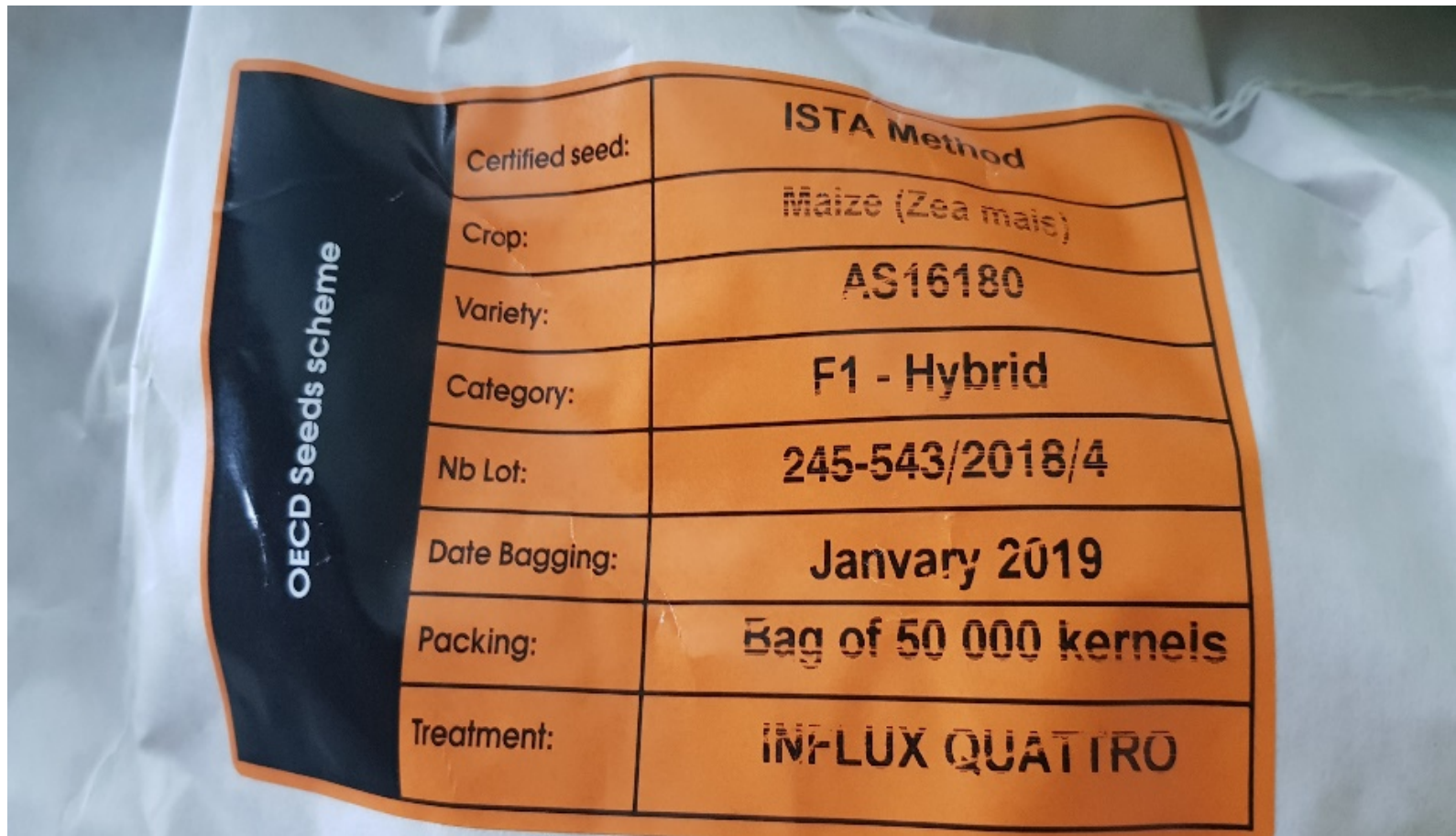
OECD and ISTA Forest Seed and Plant Scheme

Participation of ISTA in the work of the OECD Forest Scheme:

- Joint ISTA/OECD e-Handbook on Seed Testing and Nursery Practices
- Participation in the Working Group on Traceability
- Development of the Strategic Plan and implementation plan for its delivery



Cooperation Combatting fraud



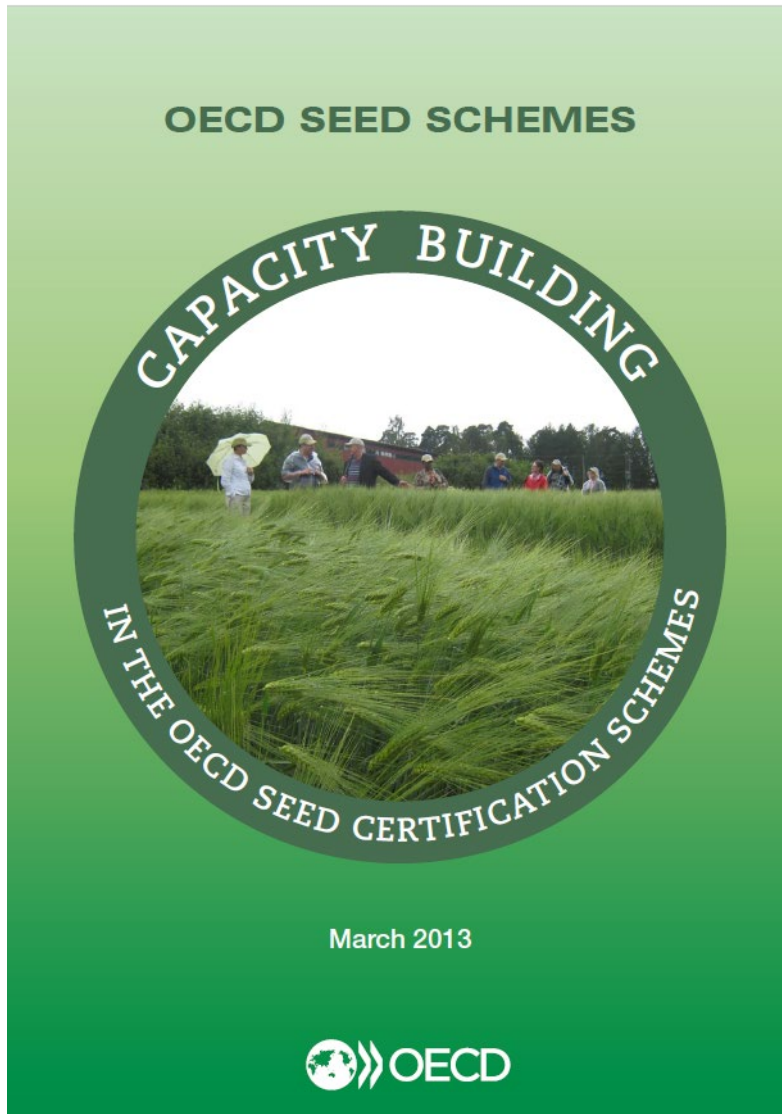


Cooperation Combatting fraud

- **Exchange of information and cooperation between the organisations on**
 - Label/certificate security methods
 - Fraud cases
- **OECD Seed Alert System**
 - ISTA has access to the system
- **Possible application of digital technologies for seed trade, traceability and certification**
 - OECD Blockchain Policy Centre



Cooperation Capacity building





Csaba Gaspar:
csaba.gaspar@oecd.org

<http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/seeds/>