

## **Changes in Myanmar's Seed Regulatory Framework**

Myanmar's National Seed Committee (NSC) has approved a number of regulatory changes for the seed sector on 11 April 2018. The changes aim at improving the investment and business climate for domestic and foreign seed companies. The changes have been informed by a multistakeholder process that included the main public sector and private sector actors. This process has been facilitated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MoALI), Department of Agriculture (DOA) and the Wageningen University and Research (WUR), with support from IFC-WBG and the Netherlands Embassy in Yangon.

The main decisions of the NSC are that from now on:

- Companies need only one seed business license per crop group (either field crops, horticulture or industrial crops)
- The compulsory variety testing to assess value for cultivation and use (VCU) has been removed for onion, cucumber, potato and papaya
- There will be a one-stop-shop for all seed related activities (i.e. variety registration including PVP, quality assurance and seed business licensing)
- There will be a system of accreditation for internal quality assurance systems of companies (both field inspections and lab tests)
- Parental lines of varieties that are used for production of seed that are destined for 100% export don't need registration; a morphological description suffices and
- A number of conditions for seed import have been cancelled, only the application form, seed and phytosanitary certificates and the invoice. All measures have come into force immediately, only for the accreditation and one-stop-shop new systems and guidelines have to be developed first.

For more information:

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