

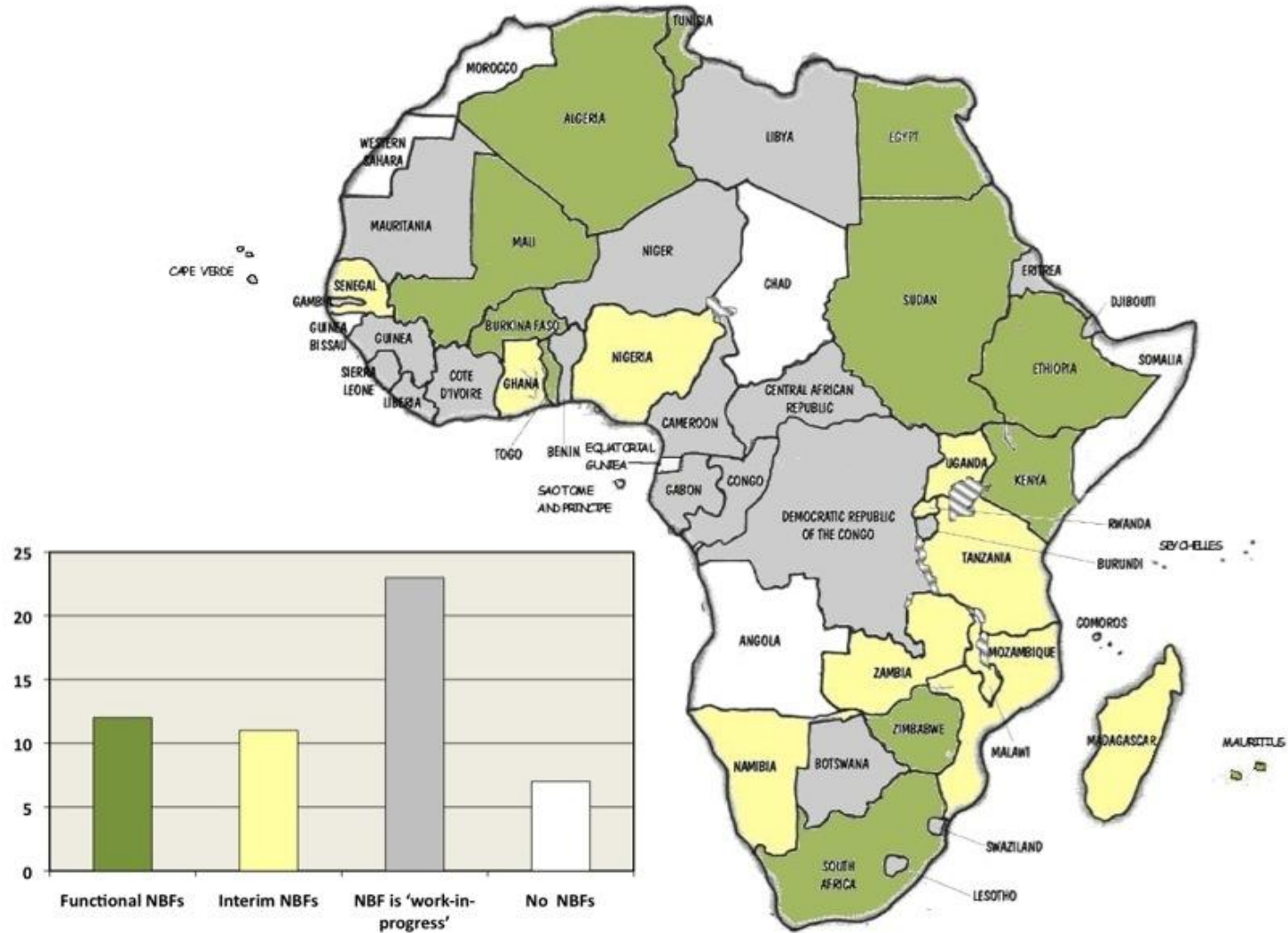
# **Genetically modified organism (GMO) for African agriculture: Challenges and opportunities**

Eastern Africa Region Perspective on  
Agricultural GMO Policy

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# Status of national Biosafety frameworks



# Agricultural GMO Policy

- Biotechnology and Biosafety policies
- Biosafety laws or bills
- Biosafety implementing regulations/guidelines
- Other legislations that may have clauses on Biosafety and Biotechnology

# Burundi

- Is developing its National Biosafety Framework
- Human capacity development
  - Few staff has been trained in biotechnology/biosafety.
  - 4 public universities have established a B.Sc course in biotechnology
  - 1 public university has MSc. course in biosciences and biotechnologies

# Rwanda

- National biosafety policy developed
- Draft biosafety bill
- Biosafety guidelines
- Current trade guidelines according to EAC
  - Human capacity development
    - Few staff has been trained in biotechnology/biosafety.

# Ethiopia

- National Biosafety Framework is under development spear headed by Environmental Protection Agency
- Biotechnology policy is in draft form
- Human capacity development.
  - Several PhD and MSc. have been trained but none of institutions has a critical mass
  - Laboratories at Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural research (EIAR) have adequate capacity to handle risk assessment

# Sudan

- Has developed a National Biosafety Framework.
- No experience with GM trials.
  - Most of the existing biotechnologies are involved in tissue culture especially micro propagation and use of molecular markers in breeding.
- Human capacity development.
  - Several PhD and MSc. have been trained.
  - The trained staff in biotechnology /biosafety have increased from less than 50 in 2003 to more than 200.

# Tanzania

- Has developed a National Biosafety Framework under the National environment policy (1997)
- Has functional Biosafety guidelines
- Human capacity development.
  - Several PhD and MSc. have been trained but none of institutions has a critical mass
  - Laboratories at University of Dar and MARI have adequate capacity to handle risk assessment
  - University of Dar has mounted an undergraduate program in biosafety



# Uganda

- Has developed a National Biosafety Framework.
  - Biosafety Bill is in draft form.
- Has Biotechnology policy in place.

## Human capacity development

- Several PhD and MSc. have been trained.
- MSc. research projects to support risk assessment have been launched
- Makerere University has mounted an undergraduate program in biosafety.
- Biosafety inspectors have been trained
- Trial managers have been trained.

# Kenya

- Has a National Biosafety Law.
- Has an approved Biotechnology/biosafety policy.
- Human capacity development.
  - Several PhD and MSc. have been trained.
  - KU and UON have mounted an undergraduate program in biosafety.
  - Biosafety inspectors have been trained
  - Trial managers have been trained.

# DR Congo

- Draft national biosafety policy
- Draft Biosafety bill
- National Biosafety guidelines

# Madagascar

- National Biotechnology/Biosafety policy
- Draft Biosafety bill
- Biosafety guidelines

# Djibouti

- No stand alone Biotechnology policy
- Biotech issues implicit in policy on environment
- No specific Biosafety law
- No legislation of GMOs under the trans-boundary movement

THANK YOU