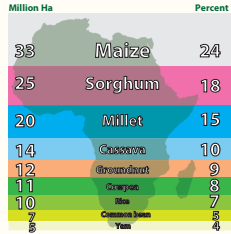
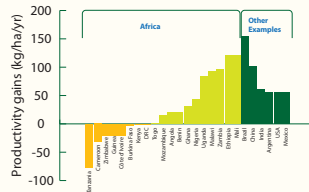


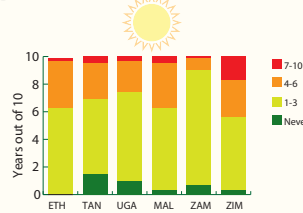
**1** Maize occupies more farmland than any other staple crop in Africa



**2** On average, **growth in maize productivity** across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) appears stagnant... but that average hides significant progress being made in many countries who have important lessons to share with their struggling neighbors.

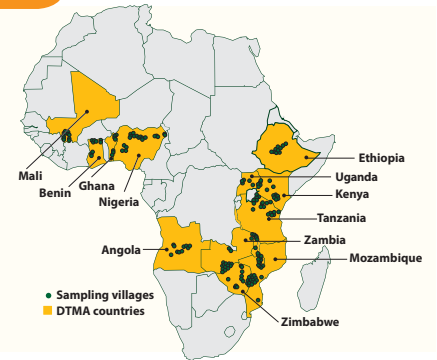


**3** Most African farmers experience drought several times every decade.

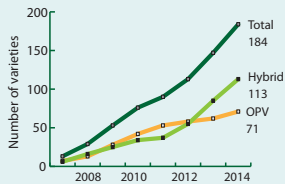


**4** Since 2006, the Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa (DTMA) project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, has been working to develop and deliver more than **200 new, high-yielding, drought-tolerant maize varieties** and **60,000 metric tons (MT) of seed** to African farmers by **2016**.

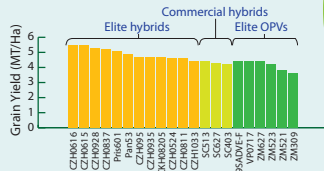
**5** DTMA has worked with national systems in **13 countries** across Africa; these countries account for **72%** of all maize grown in SSA.



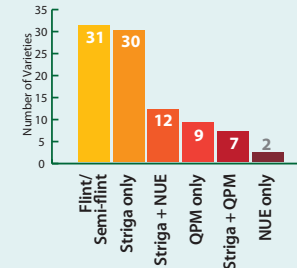
**6** DTMA has made **205 releases**, representing **184 distinct varieties**, mostly hybrids which yield on average nearly **49% more grain than OPVs on-farm**. Hybrids are becoming more and more popular in Africa.



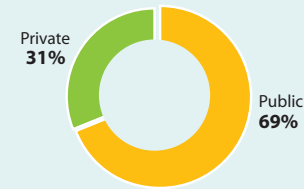
**7** The new hybrids yield higher than or comparable to the commercial varieties currently on the market. Even some of the new OPVs give comparable yields to the popular commercial hybrids, especially under drought conditions.



**8** Many of the new varieties have other **desirable traits** in addition to drought tolerance and superior yield.



**9** Variety releases by DTMA were in partnership with both **public and private** institutions.

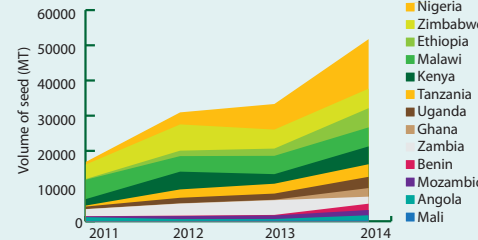


**10** When selecting varieties, farmers are principally concerned about **grain yield**, but **early maturity**, **stay-green characteristics**, and **kernel texture** are also important.

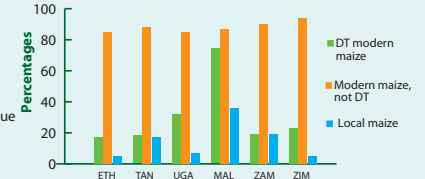
**11** **Yellow and orange** maize varieties are common in West Africa, but outside of West Africa, only **Angola, Mozambique and Ethiopia** have released a few yellow or orange maize varieties.

**12** DTMA provided local seed companies with **germplasm** and **technical backstopping** for seed production, as well as **financial support** to popularize the new varieties through demos, field days, and media.

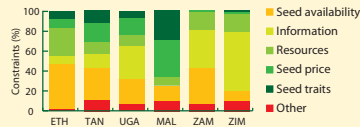
**13** In 2014 alone, DTMA facilitated the production of nearly **52,000 metric tons** of certified seed of improved maize varieties across the target countries, enough to plant more than **2 million ha** and touch the lives of approximately **5.2 million households**.



**14** Adoption monitoring surveys indicated that **farmers are already growing DTMA varieties**, though the level of early adoption varied from country to country.



**15** **Constraints** preventing wider adoption by farmers of drought-tolerant maize varied significantly from country to country, meaning we will need **tailored strategies** to overcome them.



**16** **US \$150 million of additional funding** is required in the next 10 years **to scale** drought-tolerant maize and continue developing **new varieties** that incorporate tolerance to **multiple stress** factors. **Increased investment** in research by the **national governments** is the key for **sustainable productivity growth** in the long run.

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