



Successes, Lessons and Challenges from Legume Seed Multiplication and Marketing: Experiences from Tsehay Union in North Partnership Cluster



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Introduction

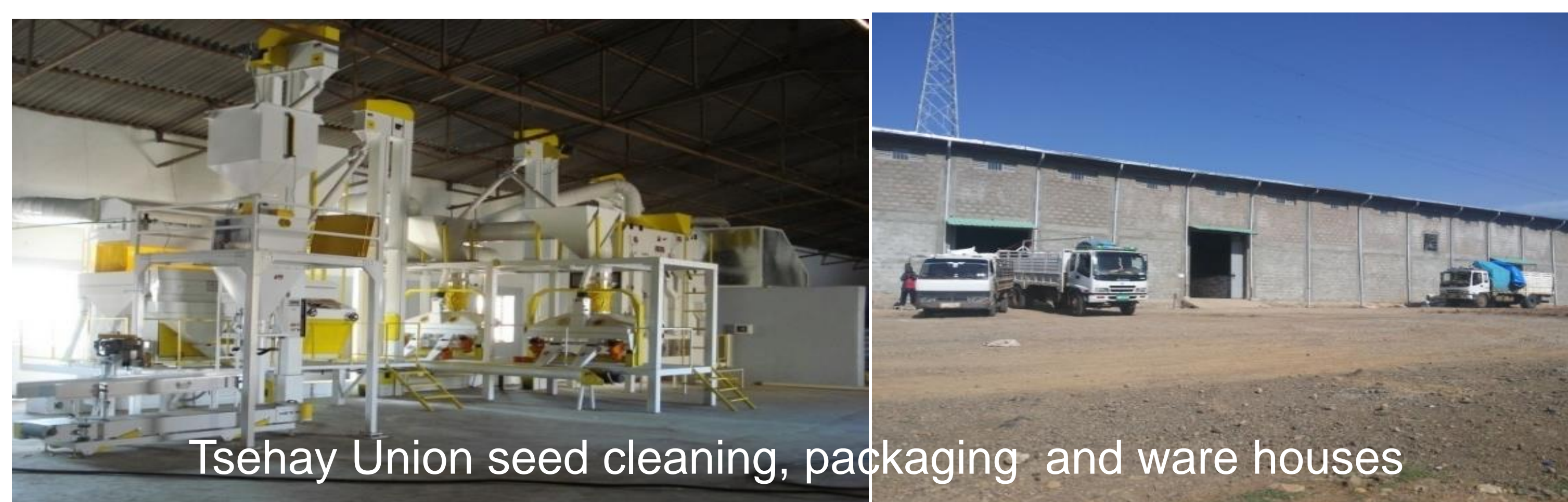
- Tsehay union had covered more than 150 ha of land for chickpea seed multiplication for the last 5 years
- More than 240MT seed was been collected and supplied per year
- Gondar research center, N2Africa, MBI and Gondar University
- Two seed multiplication cooperatives with 175 member farmers have been involved in chickpea seed multiplication.

Key achievements

- Number of chickpea seed producer farmers increased from year to year, i.e., from 90 to 175 farmers
- Total land area under seed multiplication also increased from 25 h during the first year to 150 h by now leading to
 - ✓ Increased quality grain production which has yielded to price increment, i.e., from 1900 ETB to 2300 ETB contributing to smallholder farmers income earning
 - ✓ An estimated increase of more than half (from 256MT to 500MT) of chickpea grain marketed made
- Collaboration with GARC through N2Africa facilitated Public-Private Partnership (PPP) has enhanced farmers capacity through trainings on improved seed multiplication and agricultural production techniques
- Use of inoculant technology for seed production as well as grain production has increased from season to season

Challenges

- Basic seed supply for certified seed multiplication
- Disease and pests
- Shortage of organic and inorganic chemicals supply
- Weak market linkage national and international
- Lack of modern agricultural mechanization for legumes

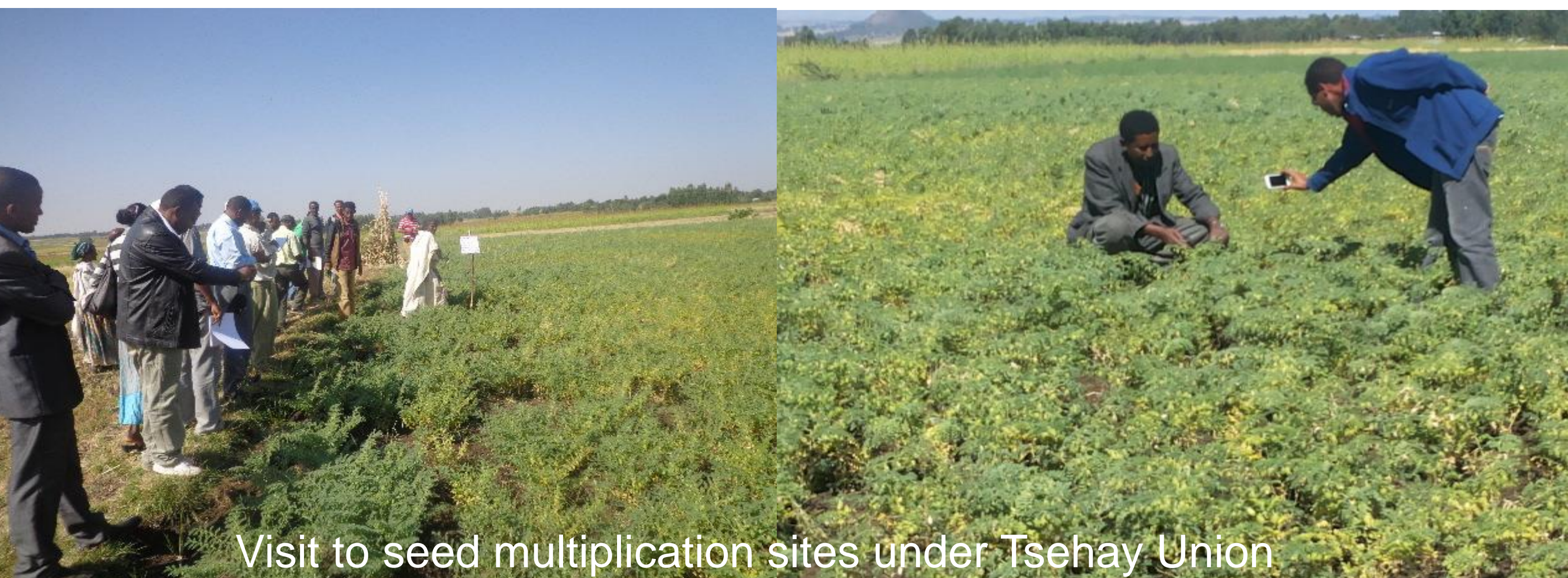


Opportunities

- The Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) are more advantageous in fulfill technical gaps
- Inoculant technology is affordable to smallholder farmers and can ensure soil sustainability
- High demand by member famers to get engaged in seed multiplication because of 15% margin on grain market price

Way Forward

- Investment on chickpea value addition and processing to ensure market for famers so that motivating them to keep using improved chickpea seed
- Work closely with the national and regional agricultural research systems to ensure availability of basic seeds
- Legume mechanization to encourage farmers to produce more grains, hence ensuring seed market



Lessons Learned

- Seed distribution chain has been made short due to unions role in the seed production and distribution, i.e.,
 - ✓ **Framers** ↔ **PC** ↔ **Union**
- International market demand big size seeds with quality and quantity, hence high need for investment on variety development and seed production
- Multi-actor Partnerships is more advantage for solving different legume value chain challenges

