

World Sesame Convention

Istanbul. August 19-20, 2019

**Case for a
'Global Sesame Alliance'
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The Context for Sesame seed

- World production 4-5 million tons (India, China, Nigeria, Tanzania, Myanmar, and many more)
- Consumption **value** ~ **\$ 6.5 Billion**
- Markets: Japan, USA, Europe, China, India, and many more

The Context for Sesame seed

- Oilseed: health benefits; rich source of essential nutrients; excellent ingredient for processed foods; lends itself to value addition; functional food; used in pharma / nutraceuticals; cosmetics;
- **Yet, potential is under-explored**

The Context

- Smallholder cultivation; low yields; newer challenges (GW/CC)
- Logistics issues in cargo movement
- Contract performance issues
- Under-developed MIS
- Inadequate research on health benefits

Capture Market Opportunities

- Needed a systematic approach to promote production, processing, value addition, distribution and consumption.
- Will benefit all stakeholders: growers, processors, consumers, traders, service providers

The Way Forward

- **Global Sesame Alliance (GSA)** of stakeholders may be the answer
- GSA will be global platform; GSA can help address quality and trade issues, to start with; then look at production, processing, consumption, policy, investment, research etc
- Sesamum sector helps advance U.N. SDGs

The Way Forward

- We can work with governments to recognise / support GSA
- Work with international institutions such as FAO
- U.N. International Year of Sesamum
- World Sesamum Day
- Will open up exciting opportunities !!

Thank You

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