**CALL FOR PROPOSALS ON SUBJECTS FOR STANDARDIZATION**

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) is developing the National Standardization Plan (NSP) for 2019-2022. The NSP prioritizes areas of standards development or revision in line with requests by the private sector for purpose of improving business operations and facilitating trade. Stakeholders are therefore requested to submit their requests for development of new standards, revision of relevant Kenya Standards and harmonization of Standards at EAC and/or Africa (ARSO) level for purposes of promoting trade within the country, region and the continent.

The Eastern Africa Grain council sort feedback from its members, which include farmers, traders, processors and financial institutions. This was done to consolidate the prevailing issues across the grain sector. They are as follows:

1. Corruption – It is of high concern that corruption is rampant in the grain industry.
2. Policy enforcement on liberalization of the market – Farming is an enterprise that is embraced with all status pf people, mainly the poor. If the market is liberalized, then the rich will dictate all the dynamics against the benefit of the poor.
3. There should be a policy in place to safeguard the quality. This will be in a bid to minimize people who want to get rich quickly by compromising grain quality at the expense of consumers. All players in the grain sector should embrace good agricultural practices.
4. Grain quality should be streamlined to protect the end consumer for subpar goods. Aflatoxins in grains and other foods are the main cause of cancer cases in the country. Data from healthcare agencies suggests that most cancer cases are because of the food we consume. The direct correlation should raise alarm and strict measures should be taken to ensure that the food products from the grain sector are fit for human consumption.
5. Drying and storage facilities for Maize and beans.
6. Maize flour, cake flour and composite flour - In the mentioned flours , there is need to review the microbial requirements as this products are not ready to eat , specifically E.coli and instead call out the harmful strain of the microbe . There is also need to develop a cake flour standard as the market is growing and to guide and control imports.
7. Corn flour - Fine corn flour is produced from shelled corn kernels and this area needs to be standardized.

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| **Organization** | **Sector** | **Product/ Service to be standardized** | **Brief Description of Product or service or issue** | **Standard Level** |
| Nzoia Coop | Farmer | Grain Industry | 1. Corruption – It is of high concern that corruption is rampant in the grain industry. 2. Policy enforcement on liberalization of the market – Farming is an enterprise that is embraced with all status pf people, mainly the poor. If the market is liberalized, then the rich will dictate all the dynamics against the benefit of the poor. 3. There should be a policy in place to safeguard the quality to minimize people who want to get rich quickly by compromising grain quality at the expense of consumers. All players in the grain sector should embrace good agricultural practices. 4. Grain quality should be streamlined so as to protect the end consumer for subpar goods. Aflatoxins in grains and other foods are the main cause of cancer cases in the country. Data from healthcare agencies suggests that most cancer cases are as a result of the food we consume. The direct correlation should raise alarm and strict measures should be taken to ensure that the food products from the grain sector are fit for human consumption. | Kenya Standards |
| Unga Limited | Processor | Maize flour/Cake flour/Composite Flour | 1. There is need to review the microbial requirements as this products are not ready to eat, specifically E.coli and instead call out the harmful strain of the microbe . 2. There is also need to develop a cake flour standard as the market is growing and to guide and control imports. | East Africa Standards |
| Movement Supply and Service ltd | Service Provider | Drying and storage facilities for Maize and beans  Price Fluctuation | 1. Standards need to be put in place to control price fluctuation in the grain industry. | East Africa Standards |
| FOOD PROCESSING COMPANY; SOTRAPA | Processor | Corn Flour | 1. Fine corn flour is produced from shelled corn kernels. The area needs to be standardized. | East Africa Standards |

**Priority Areas**

The prevailing priority areas for the listed issues were:

1. Priority to contribute to production or efficiency.
2. Potential to safeguard food quality and safety.