**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**I) PERSONAL DATA**

**Name:** MITI Francisco

**Birth:** 7th July, 1964

**Place of Birth:**  Chipata, Zambia

**Marital Status:** Married

**Address:** SCCI, P.O. Box 350199, Chilanga, ZAMBIA

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**Nationality:** Zambian (National Registration Card number : 349808/52/1)

**II) ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION**

**2.1 2008: PhD in Plant Breeding**

Obtained PhD in Plant Breeding under the Faculty of Science and Agriculture at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermarizburg, South Africa. The sponsor was Rockefeller Foundation. Course work covered in year 1: Qualitative genetics, quantitative genetics, Advanced Plant Disease Epidemiology, Plant Pathology in the Field, Plant Nematology, Introduction to Biometry, Advanced Scientific Communication, Principles of Genetic Engineering, Experimental design & Regression, Population genetics and Advanced plant breeding. Block courses were covered in year 2:- Applied Plant breeding; breeding of maize, legumes, root crops (cassava, sweetpotato), small grains (millets, sorgum), and bananas; breeding for resistance to striga; breeding for tolerance to abiotic stresses; nematology; bacteriology; Participatory Rural Appraisal; SPSS and other computer packages (Word, projects, quicken); molecular markers; biotechnology; Intellectual property rights; advanced seed technology; and seed business management. A three year research study “Breeding investigations of maize (*Zea mays* L.) genotypes for tolerance to low nitrogen and drought in Zambia” was conducted in Zambia 2004-07. ([www.acci.co.za](http://www.acci.co.za)).

**2.2 1997: M. Sc. Seed Technology**

Obtained a Masters of Science degree in Seed Technology at the Edinburgh University in the United Kingdom (UK). The training included: Seed biology, seed pathology, plant breeding, agronomy, seed production, germ plasm conservation, plant protection, seed processing, seed storage, seed treatment, seed packaging, seed marketing, seed promotion, seed quality control (variety testing and listing; seed inspection; seed sampling, seed testing, post control, pre-control, seed certification and quality assurance) and seed industries.

**2.3 1990: B. Sc. Agriculture Science**

Obtained a B. Sc. Agriculture Science Degree at the University of Zambia. This was a five years degree program (1995-90) and covered the following courses physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, animal science (anatomy, physiology, nutrition, genetics, breeding, production & husbandry, ) soil science (physics, irrigation, drainage, chemistry, fertilizer, land evaluation & improvement), crop science (botany, entomology, plant physiology, forage crop production, crop production, germ plasm conservation, plant breeding, seed technology, horticulture), rural economy and extension education, agricultural engineering (farm power, machinery, structures) agricultural statistics,

**III) PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION**

**3.1 2018: Certificate in Plant Variety Protection**

Trained in intellectual property rights for Plant Variety Protection. The course was offered by the (UPOV) in Geneva, Switzerland.

**3.2 2010: Certificate in Results Based Project Management**

Trained in Results Based Project Management. The course was offered by the Federation of Kenya Employees and was held in Nairobi, Kenya

**3.3 2002 (December):**  **Certificate in Logical Framework Analysis**

Trained in Logical Framework Analysis by the Project Management Training Consultants (PMTC) Zambia Limited. The course covered project identification, design/preparation, implementation, evaluation, indicators, monitoring and reporting. It also included identification and analysis of project stakeholders, problem, objective, risks project planning and construction of a logical framework.

**3.4 2001 (March-April):**  **Certificate in seed quality management**

Obtained a certificate in Seed Quality Management at a course in Lisbon, Portugal. Understands the provision of quality services and quality assurance in an undertaking in general and in seed provision in particular.

**3.5 1999 (August): certificate in management of Technical Cooperation Projects**

Obtained a Certificate in Management of Technical Cooperation Projects after the training by the International Training Centre, TURIN. The cousre covered project cycle, project formulation (principles, approaches), project management (concepts , characteristics), project organization, team building & motivation, project implemntation (team building, motivation, prioritizing actions, work plans, securing commitment), monitoring & evaluation ILO model.

**3.6 1993 (Apri-July): Certificate in seed production and technology**

Trained in seed production and seed technology by the International Agriculture Centre (IAC) in the Netherlands. The course covered seed biology, plant breeding, seed production, seed processing, seed sampling, seed dressing, seed processing, seed packaging, seed storage, seed marketing, seed promotion, variety testing, variety release, seed inspection, seed testing, seed certification. Obtained a certificate in seed production and technology

**4.0 IV) SUMMARY OF WORK EXPERIENCE**

## 4.1 2021 January to present: Acting Director of Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI)

## SCCI is a government department responsible for seed quality control in Zambia. The institute oversees the following: a) variety testing, registration and protection; b) seed production, inspection, and seed delivery systems, and; c) seed testing, certification and facilitation of seed trade.

## 4.2 4.2 2004 to January 2021: Head of Variety Testing, Registration and Protection

Variety Testing, Registration and Protection involves assessment of candidate varieties for Distinctness Uniformity and Stability (DUS) in order to establish variety identity, as well as evaluating a variety for Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) for purposes of establishing variety performance prior to release in Zambia. DUS is also used for the granting of the Plant Breeder’s Rights.

**4.3 2004 to January 2021: Secretary of the Variety Release Committee**

During this period I have been the Secretary of the Variety Release Committee (VRC) of Zambia. The VRC considers merits and demerits of candidate varieties. It releases those found good and rejects varieties not considered good.

## 4.4 2016-17 Team leader for Zambia application to OECD

## Lead a team of seed personnel in preparing Zambia’s application for membership to seed schemes of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). This involved preparing documentations and practice by stakeholders to be in line with OECD. Standards in Zambia’s seed law were reviewed and stakeholders trained to ensure adherence to the world standards of the OECD. Zambia’s application to become a member of OECD was approved and Zambia became an OECD member of the maize and sorghum seed schemes on 22nd Dec 2017.

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## 4.5 2013-20 Member of the Technical Committee of APPSA Project in Zambia

## The Technical Committee of the Agricultural Productivity Programme for Southern Africa (APPSA) in Zambia was involved in: reviewing and recommending subproject applications; monitoring and providing technical guidance on implementation subprojects; reviewing reports of subprojects and providing technical support to subprojects during its implementation. APPSA activities were coordinated by the Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) and financed by the World Bank.

## 4.6 2002 to 2008 Subprogram Manager of the Seeds subsector

Has served as seeds sector Sub-program manager until 2008 when use of this title ceased. Subprogram management involved coordinating the seeds sub-sector and assisting Director of SCCI in management of human, physical and financial resources at the Institute (the roles were equivalent to those of an Assistant Director, a position not established at SCCI).

## 4.7 2002 to 2003: Chief Seeds Officer in charge for Seed Systems and Inspections in Zambia.

The Job ensured production and marketing of quality seeds is in accordance with set regulations. The position also ensured coordination of initiatives in the cottage (rural) seed industry in order to promote the development of a sustainable seed delivery system in rural areas of Zambia.

# 4.8 1994 Acting Head of the Official Seed Testing Station

Was overseeing seed testing in Zambia. Managing physical and human resourses at the Official Seed Testing Station. Certifying seed lots meant for sale.

**4.9 2000- 2003 Seed Quality Assurance Manager**

Appointed Seed Quality Assurance Manager in Zambia. Prepared Zambia’s Official Seed Testing Station for the first audit by the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA). This involved leading the laboratory in writing up the seed testing manual, standard operating procedures and essential documentation for the laboratory. Led the laboratory into an audit that led into the re-accreditation of the country’s only ISTA laboratory. Ensuring that the laboratory adheres to international standards in seed testing and signing international seed analysis certificates.

In February, 2002, 2003, 2005-2013: Was a lead Auditor for the licensing of private seed testing laboratories in Zambia.

**4.10 1997-2003 Seed desk officer for GRZ, donor and NGOs seed initiatives**

1. Worked as a Seed Desk for the seeds subsector and therefore an entry point for seed services by various seed programs.
2. Coordinated rural seed programs multiplying seeds through smallholder farmers in rural areas in the country. This work covered all the three agro-ecological regions of Zambia. The coordination involves devolpment of training materials, training of farmers, training of government extension staff, training of NGO staff and generally farming community. The training focussed on seed production, quality control, marketing, market promotion, entrepreneurship. Trained personnel for licensing as seed inspectors and samplers.
   1. **1996-7 Seed Agronimist (On study leave)**

Pursued Masters Dedgree in Seed Technology at Edinburgh University, UK. Studied seed biology, plant breeding, seed physiology, seed pathology, seed production, seed quality control, seed marketing and seed industry.

**4.12 1996 Acting Head, Official Seed Inspection Service**

Was overseeing seed inspections in Zambia. Managing physical and human resourses in seed inspections.

**4.13 1993-6 Acting Head, Official Seed Testing Station)**

Was overseeing seed testing in Zambia. Managing physical and human resourses at the Official Seed Testing Station. Certifying seed lots meant for sale.

4.14 1991-3 Seed Testing Officer

Supervised testing of seeds in moisture content, purity analysis, determination of other seeds, germination capacity, seed vigour and viability through tetrozolium test. Breaking of seed dormancy, maintenance of seed collections (herbarium) and checking seed analysis certificates (local or internation) was also a regular activities

##### 5.0 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## 5.1 Previous consultancy engagements

**5.1.1 November 2021 – February 2022**

**Inclusion of barley as a COMESA crop:-** This work involved: a) Determining suitability of barley to be included under the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations; b) Developing standards for variety release, seed production, seed testing and seed certification for barley; c) Developing a regional pest list for plant quarantine and phytosantary service for seed; d) Developing standard operating procedure for the production and certification of seed of barley varieties, and; e) Present findings to the COMESA Seed Committee. The exercise was funded by Heineken in collaboration with COMESA. Barley has since been included as a COMESA crop under the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations.

**5.1.2 August 2021 – September 2021**

Conducted regional training for seed personnel in West and Central Africa under CORAF. The training was held in Burkina Faso and concentrated on evaluation of varieties for DUS and VCU at country level for purposes of release at national level and registration at ECOWAS regional level. Crops covered included maize rice, sorghum, groundnuts, cassava and tomato.

**5.1.3 January – March 2021:** International Consultant to develop a comprehensive training manual for seed personnel in Malawi. The work involved describing principles of elements of the seed value chain and development standard operating procedures for key elements of value chain. The key elements of the seed value chain included; variety development, variety testing of Distinctness Uniformity and Stability (DUS) as well as for Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU), variety release, variety registration, variety maintenance, seed multiplication, seed inspections, seed processing, seed sealing, seed labeling, seed sampling, seed testing, seed certification, seed marketing, seed storage, pre and post control and inspection of seed trade.

**5.1.4 September 2018 to December 2018**: International Consultant to Eritrea for the Service contract to finalize draft seed proclamation and develop guidelines and standards for seed certification process. This was funded by the European Union and involved the following: a) Works to finalize the Seed Proclamation of Eritrea and securing approval of stakeholders;; b) Developing guidelines for variety evaluations evaluation of Distinctness Uniformity and Stability (DUS) as well as for Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU), variety release, seed production, seed inspections, seed processing, seed sealing and labeling, seed testing, seed certification and control growing (pre- and post-control) in line with COMESA, and c) training of about 40 agricultural scientists and stakeholders in use of the developed guidelines for seed services in Eritrea.

## 5.1.5 October 2017 to December 2017: International Consultancy to develop Desmodium and Brachiaria seed production systems in Zambia for the “Push-Pull for Sub-Saharan Africa” programme. The work reviewed the legal framework, potential stakeholders and examined business potential in relation to the provision of locally produced seeds of Desmodium and Brachiaria in Zambia.

## 5.1.6 October 2016 to January 2017: Consultant of the African Seed Access Index (TASAI) monitoring the development and competitiveness of national seed sectors in Africa. The central objective of TASAI is to encourage African governments and development agencies to create and maintain enabling environments that will accelerate the development of local private sector-led seed systems serving smallholder farmers. The work of the Consultant was carried out in Zambia

## 5.1.7 May 2016: Consultant of COMESA in training of customs staff and seed personnel in COMESA on documentations in the implementation of the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations, 2014.

## 5.1.8 January – March 2016: Seed expert of the GFA for the GIZ seed industry study in Zambia. The study covered seed policy, legal framework, variety development, variety release, seed production, seed processing, seed marketing, seed quality control and seed use. Appropriate stakeholders were interviewed on the same.

## 5.1.9 August 2015: Consultant of the Iowa State University (ISU) to the Agriculture Policies Support Program in Ghana, funded by the US Agency of International Development and ISU. The work was for Capacity development in the government of Ghana, the private sector, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on the provision of various services of the seed value chain in respect of maize, sorghum, rice, pearl millet, soybean, groundnuts, cowpea, yam, sweet potato and cassava.

## 5.1.10 2015: Awarded a Project grant under CIMMYT to upscale use of drought tolerant maize varieties in Zambia. Since then I have continued to receive yearly research grants (on evaluation of maize germplasm) from CIMMYT Harare up to now (2022).

## 5.1.11 2014-15: Consultant for developing a seed quality assurance system in Mozambique. This involved variety release; seed production and inspection; and; seed testing and certification

## 5.1.12 2012: Lead Consultant in re-aligning Zambia’s seed laws to SADC Technical Agreements on seeds. The work was sponsored by the Harmonized Seed Security Project. (HaSSP) of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN).

## 5.1.13 2015: Lead Consultant in re-aligning Zambia’s seed laws to the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations of 2014. The work sponsored by the ACTESA/COMESA.

## 5.1.14 2010 – 2014: COMESA Meetings on Seed.

## Participated at various COMESA meetings/workshop in Zambia, Mauritias and Kenya, aimed at harmonizing seed trade regulations in the COMESA region. This work resulted in the development of the COMESA Seed Trade Harmonization Regulations of 2021. The regulations cover: Variety Release; Seed Certification, and; Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary Service on seed.

## 5.1.15 2010 (Nov. – Dec.): Consultant in carrying out a baseline study of Genetics Access and Transfer in Zambia. This work was funded by Seed Policy Enhancement in African Regions (SPEAR) through ICRISAT-Bulawayo.

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## 5.1.16 2010 (Aug. – Sept): Consultant in carrying out a baseline study of the seed industry in Zambia. The administrative work of this study was done by the Africa Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) while supervision was by the Harmonized Seed Security Project. (HaSSP).

## 5.1.17 2009 (January-February): Was a lead consultant for the Mid Term Review of the Rights to Seed Project under Self Help Africa and sponsored by DFID

## 5.1.18 2007 (March-April): Lead consultant for the Mid-Term Review of the SADC Seed Security Network (SSSN). The sampled countries included in the review were Botswana, Malawi, South-Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## 5.1.19 2007 (August-September): Lead consultant of the Groundnut production and Marketing study in Zambia. The consultancy was offered by the International Crops

Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

## 5.1.20 2005 (Sept. to Oct.): Consultant for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Carried out consultancy to assess input needs of farmers in Southern, Eastern and Western provinces during the 2005/06 agricultural season. Following the exercise FAO undertook to assist vulnerable farmers with inputs in the target areas.

**5.1.21 2002 (May to July):** Lead consultant on the Comparisons of different seed programs study. The Consultancy was offered by MDSP project of the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida).

## 5.1.22 2001 – 2008: SADC Meetings on Seed.

## Participated at various meetings/workshop in Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, Mozambique, Malawi, and Botswana aimed at harmonizing seed regulations in the SADC region. This work resulted in the development of Technical Agreements of: Variety Release; Seed Certification and quality assurance, and; Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary Services on seed.

## 5.1.23 2001 – 2002: Part of the team that formulated the Plant Breeder’s Rights

Was a consultant in the formulation of the draft plant variety protection that provided rights to plant breeders, community and farmers in Zambia. The part on Plant Breeder’s Rights has since been enacted

## 5.1.24 2001 (Dec.): Reviewed, evaluated and prepared the Terminal Report for the UNDP support program (Smallholder Farm Systems Diversification Program.

The UNDP supported the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries through its Smallholder Farm Systems Diversification Program between 1997 and 2001. At the end of this program I was one of the team that prepared the Terminal Report of the program which also had a seed component.

**5.1.25 2001 (October):** Consulted by Agricat Limited to carryout seed needs assessment in nine rural districts of Zambia.

**5.1.26 1999 (October):** Consulted by University of Zambia to carryout seed needs assessment in 15 rural districts of Zambia.

**5.1.27 1997:** Consultant to prepare an Inception Report of a Sida supported Seed ultiplication and Distribution of Improved Seed/Planting Materials Project (MDSP).

**5.1.28 1995 (October):** A local consultant on an international study ‘seed security for small-scale farmers’. This seed security study was an NRI/ODI funded project, 1995.

5.1.29 **1995 (January to May):** Consultant for a seed health technical course in mycology by

DANIDA.

## 5.2 Other major accomplishments

**5.2.1 June 2019**: Technical Assistant to Mozambique on OECD Seed Schemes and training in DUS, VCU, Pre-Control and Post Control in Mozambique. The assignment involved facilitation of a stakeholder workshop on awareness creation of OECD seed schemes and potential benefits of Mozambique joining the same. It also covered training of about 36 seed personnel in DUS, VCU, Pre-Control and Post Control.

## 5.2.2 2014: Part Time Lecturer at the University of Zambia – Seed Science

## Part-time Lecturer of the Seed Science course at the University of Zambia. This is a Masters Degree course towards the award of the: MSc Agronomy Degree.

**5.2.3 2010-13: Harmonization of seed policies in COMESA**

Participated at COMESA Stakeholder Workshops in Zambia, Kenya and Mauritius during which the region discussed and agreed on the harmonization of seed policies in the COMESA Region.

## 5.2.4 2011 (September): Released four maize varieties in Zambia (MMV 405, MMV 415, MMV 420, MMV 530) through ZARI. The varieties were developed by the writer under a project funded by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

## 5.2.5 2009 to Present: Part Time Lecturer at the University of Zambia

## Part-time Lecturer of the Seed Systems course at the University of Zambia. This is a Masters Degree course towards the award of the: MSc Seed Systems and Plant Breeding Degree.

## 5.2.6 2008 (October): Awarded a 3 year grant for breeding maize by AGRA

## Award was for breeding of maize for high yield potential under Low N and drought by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). The Grant was renewed (May 2012) for a further 3 year period in (2012-2015).

## 5.2.7 2005 (Jan.): Grant by IFS

## Was awarded a grant by International Foundation for Science (IFS) to research on influence of different crop management practices on variety release in Zambia.

## 5.2.8 2002 (March): Reviewed, evaluated and prepared a Completion Report by the

## Multiplication and Distribution of Improved Seeds and Planting Materials Project (MDSP) of the Swedish Internation Development Agency (Sida).

The Multiplication and Distribution of Improved Seeds and Planting Materials Project (MDSP) of the Swedish Internation Development Agency (Sida) run from 1997-2002. At the end of the project it was reviewed and evaluated in order to prepare a precise Completion Report.

## 5.2.9 2002 (Jan.-Feb.): Reviewed, evaluated and prepared a Terminal Report for the World Bank support to the Agriculture Sector Investment Program (ASIP).

The World Bank supported the Agricultural Sector Investment Program. This program guided the development of the agricultural sector in Zambia from 1996 to 2001. At the end of this program I was one of the team that prepared the Terminal Report of the program.

**5.2.10 2001 (June): International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)**

Participated at the 26th Congress of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) in Angers, France.

## 5.2.11 2001 (February): Strategic Plan for the Agriculture Sector in Zambia

Participated in the writing up of the Strategic Plan for the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. The paper spells out areas prioritized for attention in the Agriculture Sector for 5 years.

## 5.2.12 2001 (January to June): Follow on program to ASIP

Participated in the writing up of the Seeds Sub sector program for a follow-on program of the Agricultural Sector Investment Program (ASIP). The follow on program called Agricultural Commercialization Program (ACP) was to guide the agriculture sector in Zambia for 5 years.

## 5.2.13 2000 (December): Cabinet Memoranda

Trained to write Cabinet Memoranda. The training involved writing of Cab Memo proposing new legislation, amending existing legislation, repealing a legislation, report and letters.

**5.2.14 1995 (June) : ISTA congress in Denmark**

Participated at the 24th Congress of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), in

Copenhagen, Denmark.

##### 6.0 PUBLICATIONS

Miti, F., P. Tongoona and J. Derera. 2010. S1 Selection of maize genotypes to tolerance to low nitrogen in Zambia. African Journal for Plant Sciences.

Miti, F., P. Tongoona and J. Derera. 2007. Breeding investigations of maize genotypes for low nitrogen and drought. A PhD Thesis, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa.

Chipili, M.M., and F. Miti, 2006. The role of the private sector and agricultural associations in the development of the seed industry in Africa – a case for Zambia. Paper presented at the CEN-SAD Seed Conference, 25-27th April 2006, Tripoli, Libya.

Miti, F., and M.M. Chipili. 2006. Genetically Modified Seeds and its impact to biodiversity in Africa. Paper presented at the CEN-SAD Seed Conference, 25-27th April 2006, Tripoli, Libya.

Miti, F. 2005. Genetic Engineering, Seed Industry and the farmer (small-scale). Which way? Lusaka, Zambia

Kanungwe, M. B., E.D. Zulu, P. Thole, M. Mbunji,, B. Mc Arthur, F. Miti, K.M. Katyamba, and N. Ndambo. 2001. Seed Sub-program of the Agriculture Sector Investment Program (ASIP II). Ministry of Agriculture of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Lusaka, Zambia.

Miti, F. 2002. Comparisons of different seed programs in Zambia. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Lusaka, Zambia.

Ngoma, H., F. Miti, and M. Mbunji, 1999. Multiplication and distribution of improved cassava and sweetpotato planting materials in Zambia. In: Akoroda, M.O. & Teri, J.M. (eds.). Food security and crop diversification in SADC countries: the role of cassava and sweetpotato pp 353-359.

Zulu, E.D. and F. Miti. 1999. An inventory of the informal Seed Sector in Zambia. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Lusaka, Zambia.

Tripp, R., D.J. Walker, F. Miti, S. Mukumbuta, and M.S. Zulu. 1998. Seed Management by small-scale farmers in Zambia. A study of cowpea, groundnut and sorghum seed in the southern and western provinces. NRI Bulletin 76. Chtham, UK: Natural Resources Institute.

Zulu, E.D., and F. Miti. 2000. Positive developments in the Seeds Sector. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Lusaka, Zambia.

Miti, F. 1997. Factors affecting imbibition damage in soybeans. MSc thesis, University of Edinburgh.

Miti, F. 1990.. Seed Certification of Unshelled Groundnuts. (1990). BSc thesis, University of Zambia (UNZA).

##### Membership of professional bodies

* Maize Breeders’ Technical Network for Africa
* International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)
* Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

##### 7.0 REFEREES

1. Mrs. Mable M. Simwanza

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