



**Simon Mucheru Maina**

Mr. Simon Mucheru Maina is the Ag. Director, Seed Certification and Plant Variety Protection Directorate at the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS). He holds a BSc and M.Phil in Plant Genetics from Moi University. He has extensive experience in plant variety protection and seed quality assurance. He has undergone extensive training in plant variety protection, seed certification and seed policy in Japan, United States and The Netherlands. He has offered leadership as a seed system and plant variety protection expert in development of regional seed systems under COMESA, ARIPO and EAC. In particular, he chaired the ARIPO Technical Committee on Plant Variety Protection that oversaw the development and adoption of Regulations under the Arusha Protocol for the protection on new Varieties of Plants from 2015 to 2019. He also led the Kenyan team of experts that participated in the development of the draft East Africa Seeds and Plant Varieties Bill. He has spearheaded capacity building of local and regional seed inspectors.