1. Breeder registers with the Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI)

2. Applicant submits pre-release application for SCCI to conduct distinctness, uniformity, and stability (DUS) trials and national variety release trials (NVRT)

3. DUS/NVRT tests conducted by SCCI or authorized private inspectors
   - DUS: Minimum 2 growing seasons
   - NVRT: Minimum 2 sites and 2 growing seasons

4. Breeder may gather additional information about variety to supplement NVRT tests

5. Variety owner submits application for variety release to Variety Release Committee (VRC)

6. Breeder presents test results to VRC

7. VRC approves or denies application

8. If approved, variety is registered in variety catalogue and can be released for seed production and marketing

8. If denied, variety not permitted to be produced and marketed

Pre-release for limited seed production and marketing may be allowed during NVRT testing

Key:
- = Application
- = Testing
- = Evaluation
- = Regulatory determination

VRC Composition
- Secretariat = SCCI
- VRC Members:
  - Zambia Agriculture Research Institute
  - Representatives of farmers’ associations and unions
  - Zambia Seed Trade Association
  - University of Zambia School of Agricultural Sciences, Crop Science Department
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Breeder
  - Seed specialist