

**MOU RENEWED BETWEEN CROPLIFE AFRICA MIDDLE EAST & IFDC**

In 2004 a Memorandum of Understanding was established for an initial period of 5 years between the International Centre for Soil Fertility (IFDC) and CropLife Africa Middle East. This was endorsed following the effective lobbying efforts of Yao Bama Octave and Raphael Vogelsperger on the side of CropLife and IFDC respectively. The original agreement was signed by Yves Demeure, Vice President CropLife AME and Rob Groot, Director Africa Division of IFDC at the hub meeting for West and Central Africa in April 2004 in Ouagadougou.

Based on the shared objectives of the two organisations numerous joint activities have taken place over the past five years particularly in the area of training and stewardship. Initially the focus of activities was primarily in West and Central Africa. Cooperation was then broadened to all countries where the two organisations were active. Joint efforts focused on training and were delivered by the two training specialists, Peter Mills and Raphael Vogelsperger. Since 2009 this cooperation has been extended and is now based on the shared funding of Manon Dohmen, an expert in training and association building from IFDC. With Manon we have been able to broaden the area of cooperation beyond coordination and execution of training courses. Our common activities include the preparation and rollout of translated toolkits for local trainers in several local languages and the coaching of national associations in their role as local partners in the Africa Stockpiles project (ASP).



Parties to the signing of the MoU



Marjatta Eilittä and Rudolf Guyer exchanging signed documents



Delegates at the signing

With the view of continuing the existing cooperation both organisations have agreed to extend the Memorandum of Understanding for a second term of 5 years. The formal signing ceremony took place in Accra on June 3, 2009 at the premises of IFDC. This was an extremely well organised event with many interesting guests and visitors. A particular thank you goes to Marjatta Eilittä who signed the contract on behalf of IFDC.

CropLife Africa Middle East looks forward to an equally successful and fruitful cooperation between the two organisations in the next five years.

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## WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA

### ANTICOUNTERFEITING - CropLife Côte d'Ivoire

An anti-counterfeiting campaign was held on 3 March 2009. Participants included CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and the Department of Crop Protection, Ministry of Agriculture.

The objective of the campaign was to locate and confiscate illegal pesticides. The campaign initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with CropLife Côte d'Ivoire is being implemented in agricultural areas where pesticides are widely used.

Illegal pesticides were confiscated in the Divo region which is about 150 km North West from Abidjan. Illegal products had been imported from neighbouring Ghana and were being sold by retailers in the market or directly to farmers on their remote villages or farms.

A reporting team funded by CropLife Côte d'Ivoire was made up of customs and police officers and journalists were sent to the site. A media documentary is in preparation to sensitize and educate the public.



### ALLIANCES/COOPERATION

A meeting with USAID/ATP in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso was held between 27-29 May in order to make final preparation for the signing of the MoU. Participants included Raphael Volgesperger, Rose Lum Wanzie and Jules Sombié.

Areas of cooperation between the USAID/ATP project and CropLife Africa Middle East were identified as:

- training activities (ToTs, Cascade/Subject Matters, IPM),
- Linking the CropLife network to other stakeholders particularly the end users of CPP's.

The tentative signing of the MoU is scheduled to take place during July.

### IFDC/MIR PLUS

A project meeting was held on 29 May at the IFDC Office, Burkina Faso with G. Dimithè and 8 members of the project team to discuss future activities.

Discussion on future activities related to regional ECOWAS regulatory harmonization and GHS workshops. Tentative date for this is September 2009.

## NORTH AFRICA MIDDLE EAST

### CROPLIFE EGYPT RE-ELECTS EXECUTIVE BOARD

CropLife Egypt held its General Assembly Meeting on 2 May 2009 and the Executive Board of the association was elected for a further 3-year term of office.

The board was elected as follows:

* Chairman	Sarwat Sakr
* Vice-Chairman	Zohair El-Far
* Secretary	Abdelfattah Saad
* Treasurer	Said Abdella



Chairman: Sarwat Sakr

### IPM TRAINING IN CAIRO

CropLife Africa Middle East and CropLife Egypt together with the Central Agricultural Pesticides Laboratory (CAPL) of the MOA jointly organised the 3rd launch of the IPM training course which was held at the CAPL conference hall in Cairo between 31 May - 4 June 2009.



14 IPM Master Trainers with their certificates

14 trainees participated to the course representing plant protection, plant pathology, extension service, horticulture, vegetables and the pesticide departments of the National Agricultural Research Centre (ARC).

The program included 11 training sessions covering different aspects of the IPM standard course.

The 14 participants received certificates of competence as IPM master trainers, bearing the logos of CropLife Africa Middle East, CropLife Egypt and the Ministry of Agriculture of Egypt.

## ANTI COUNTERFEITING CAMPAIGN CONTINUES IN EGYPT



Directors of CropLife Egypt and CAPL chairing the Campaign

During May 2009, CropLife Egypt conducted awareness training programmes in 3 Egyptian governorates within the context of the ongoing anti-counterfeiting campaign.

The number of participants has increased significantly with over 150 participants per programme.

The feedback received from the participants was very positive and numerous requests were received by CropLife Egypt to cascade the program on a country wide basis.

CropLife Egypt and Central Agricultural Pesticides Lab (CAPL) are considering the expansion of the campaign beyond the originally planned 8 training programs in 2009.



Audience at the Anti-Counterfeiting Campaign in Egypt

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## EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

### COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY SKILLS TRAINING

CropLife Tanzania initiated a training course on Media and Advocacy Engagement for both, members and non members. This training was as a result of the realization that there is a real need to have proper skills in communication and advocacy.

The training took place at the Tanzania Episcopal Conference in Dar es Salaam under the facilitation of Dr. Charles M. Kayoka, Senior Lecturer, Institute of Mass Communication, University of Dar es Salaam. Both CropLife Kenya and CropLife Uganda had representatives at this training.

Communication and Advocacy Skills are a prerequisite for effective communication and advocacy among members and stakeholders. These are pertinent subjects in today's era which is to a large extent dominated by globalization and free trade, and influenced by the mass media. Members and partners are not sufficiently equipped in the area of communications and advocacy.

In this regard, they require the following skills:

- \* To impart knowledge covering the Responsible Use of pesticides.
- \* To mobilize resources and support for projects / programmes of interest.
- \* To link up with other like-minded people/ institutions for the purpose of forming a network
- \* To alert stakeholders and the public in general on the potential challenges, threats and opportunities.
- \* To counteract cases of adverse publicity, or distorted facts, or tarnished image.

The training content comprised of the following:

- \* Media communication skills, media engagement strategies, print media content analysis, managing adverse media publicity.
- \* Stakeholder analysis, defining advocacy and elements of advocacy, advocacy strategy development, networking in advocacy, communicating advocacy messages.



CropLife Group hard at work

The training embraced a great deal of interaction, exchange of experiences, practical sessions, group presentations, and evaluation. At the end of the day participants were expected to:

- \* Acquire skills for effective media engagement.
- \* Acquire skills to develop a strategy and manage advocacy campaigns through media and other forums.
- \* Develop samples of advocacy strategies for their own organizations.

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## TOT TRAINING – CNFA - TANZANIA

The first training intervention with CNFA in Africa took place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 18 - 22 May 2009

The training consisted of two parts: Theory and practical on facilitation skills and individual coaching. The following topics were part of the training:

- Preparation of a training program
- Adult learning
- Training methods & approaches
- Training aids
- Facilitation skills
- Evaluation
- Follow-up

A total of 13 participants attended the program. Participants were a mix from the private as well as public sectors.



The knowledge of the participants was evaluated with a pre and post evaluation as well as with individual coaching.

All 13 participants received certificates of competence.

Average percentage pre test            33%

Average percentage post test        73%

The improvement of the knowledge of the participants from the first day to the last day was quite remarkable.

As a next step the CLI IPM course will be given to the same group. This is scheduled for 8 - 12 June 2009.

Group of CNFA Tanzania Commercial Trainers

## COMESA TO LAUNCH CUSTOMS UNION

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) plan to launch a customs union at its annual meeting at Victoria Falls next month, Secretary General, Sindiso Ngwenya said at the weekend. The meeting would launch a regional payment and settlement system and COMESA's "Buy Africa, Build Africa" initiative, aimed at increasing local value added to primary commodities.

CropLife Africa Middle East has a MOU with COMESA.

**ETHIOPIA****Roll out of IPM / Responsible Use Training within the Cooperative Movement in Ethiopia****IPM /Responsible Use training to Cooperative Unions in the Oromia Region in partnership with SNV**

A series of trainings were given to selected groups of seed producers within the cooperative movement. CropLife Ethiopia identified this group of specialised farmers who were in need of "responsible use" training and discussed a joint training programme with SNV. SNV is an NGO who works on various rural development projects. The organisation is presently assisting farmers on specific projects throughout the country.

The linkage with SNV has brought the two organisations much closer and this could result in a Memorandum of Understanding in the foreseeable future.

The training intervention was undertaken on a trial basis and has proved to be extremely successful. The participants, rural development agents, crop protection experts and the farmers themselves were highly satisfied on the training content and now have a greater appreciation on the responsible use of pesticides.

This initial contact also provided the opportunity to suggest to the cooperative unions to set up spray teams for their members in order for all the requirements for the safe use of all pesticides to be fully attained



Getachew Cherinet conducting the training

**Details of the trainings undertaken.**

No. of Trainings	Organisation	Type of Training	Participants	No. of Participants
1	Arsi Zone, Didaha Cooperative Union	Responsible Use of CPP's	Rural Development Agents, Crop Protection Experts	13
2	Arsi Zone Cooperative Union	Responsible Use of CPP's	Farmers	39
1	Ambo Zone, Ambo Cooperative Union	Responsible Use of CPP's	Rural Development Agents, Crop Protection Experts	21
2	Ambo Zone, Ambo Cooperative Union	Responsible use of CPP's	Farmers	50

The Ambo Cooperative Union has 59066 members made up of 52590 males and 4176 females

The Arsi Didaha Cooperative Union has 17876 members, 16714 male and 1162 female

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Roll out of IPM Training

As part of the roll out in South Africa, the first IPM Training took place in Limpopo, close to the Tompi Seleka College of Agriculture. The training was coordinated by Israel Mashile who participated in the Master Trainer Programme in Addis earlier this year.

The primary aim of the training was to explain the relationship between chemical weed control and hand weeding. The participants were interested in this subject and the social benefits that this brought with it.

Some difficulties with the evaluation of the economic thresholds were experienced, however this became clearer with the use of practical demonstrations and illustrations. After the session the two concepts "above economic threshold and below economic threshold" were well understood.

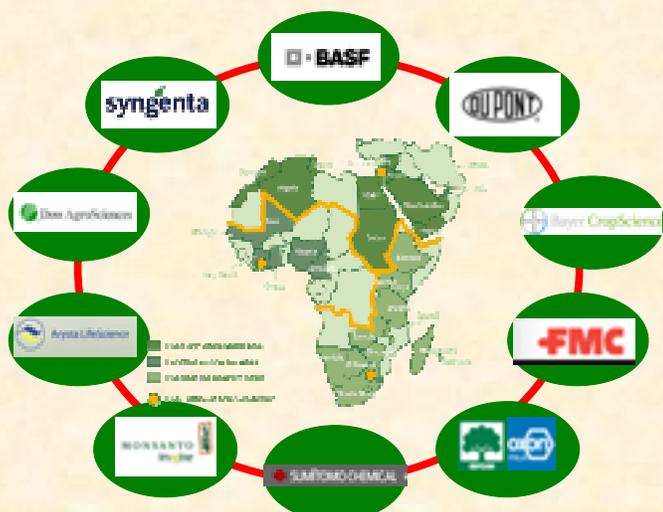
The participants also gained a clearer understanding that by making use of basic IPM methods, they could use less money on the purchase of chemicals by placing greater emphasis on a system of thorough scouting, in order to make the overall programme more effective.

The group came from different rural villages where families operate under the tribal communal land system. Participants also needed some training on the different types of insects including the beneficiaries.

Planned training for 2009 includes the Low eld College of Agriculture in Nelspruit and Taung College of Agriculture followed by the extension officials in Kimberly.



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**GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY**

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