



## North Africa Middle East

### World Bank Supports Tunisian Development

The World Bank Group President, Robert Zoellick conducted a 2-day visit to Tunisia in April 2011, aimed at supporting the country's interim reform agenda which is focused on jobs, accountability and transparency.

Mr. Zoellick reported that the World Bank is working on a \$ 500 million program in budgetary support to provide a boost for the transitional government's efforts in transparency of public procurement, beneficiary participation in service delivery and retraining of unemployed workers. He noted that this support was part of a multi-donor effort, and that the African Development Bank, the European Union and other donors were also supporting these reforms with an additional \$ 700 million.

Mr. Zoellick visited agricultural communities in Beja in the northwest of the country. These are among the poorest areas in Tunisia and an example of sharp regional disparities. Within Tunisia, Beja has high unemployment and poverty. World Bank projects there from 2003-2009 supported olive and almond tree plantings and pasture improvement to promote soil and water conservation, along with important road improvements. In addition, a World Bank project supported small-scale irrigation in mountainous areas. In Beja, Mr. Zoellick met with Local Development Committee members to hear of their plans for future development and their perspective on the prevailing circumstances in Tunisia. Public works programmes are envisaged for low-skilled workers in these remote regions, and Mr. Zoellick said the World Bank was exploring how it could be more helpful in accelerating a correction between the areas of privilege and want.

Also in Tunis, Mr. Zoellick met with Donald Kaberuka, President of the African Development Bank to discuss areas of cooperation across North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

The World Bank's private sector arm, the International Finance Cooperation, has a committed portfolio of US\$ 250 million in 6 companies, mostly in the financial sector and infrastructure. IFC aims to help restore confidence by helping both foreign and local investors create sustainable jobs in the poorer regions. Moving forward, the IFC will focus on helping under-served segments of society like micro, small and medium-sized business owners get access to finance, and supporting infrastructure projects.



World Bank Group President  
Robert Zoellick & Donald  
Kaberuka

Photo: Courtesy World Bank

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## Pesticide Applicators Project Progress

In the context of moving the CropLife/ACDI-VOCA joint project, the Regional Coordinator and Alexandra Harrison, accompanied by Dr. Said Abdella had a meeting with Prof. Ahmed Gamaledin Wahba, the Under Secretary of the Agricultural Research Centre (ARC) for Training and Agricultural Extension, to discuss the ongoing implementation of the project.

The meeting took place on 28 April at the ARC premises in Cairo with the attendance of Prof. Monir Almas, Director of CAPL, and focused on the following issues:

- ◆ Conducting the designated master trainer sessions during the 2nd half of May aiming at the certification of 50 trainers who will cascade downwards the operator and applicator training during the project period.
- ◆ Preparation and validation of the training materials by both CropLife AME and ACDI-VOCA.
- ◆ Outlining the scope of work for the grower and farmer awareness campaigns for the period to end 2012.
- ◆ Agreement on the content and timelines of the parallel media campaign for the project.
- ◆ Agreement on organization of the official launch event of the project to take place in the 2nd half of Sept at the ministry of agriculture in Cairo.

It is worth noting that the official launch event will be attended by the Executive President of CropLife AME, Dr. Rudolf Guyer, and Dr. Keith Jones, Director of Stewardship and Sustainable Agriculture of CropLife International.

The Launch event is scheduled to take place on 18 Sept 2011.

The project's steering taskforce is expected to meet in Cairo during the 2nd half of May 2011.



## West & Central Africa

### Annual Hub & Regulatory Workshop

On April 12-13, the West & Central Africa Hub and Regulatory workshop took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. This was held under the patronage of the Delegated Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Water Resources in charge of Agriculture.

Participants included 60 representatives from various organizations and institutions involved in pesticide management and policies of pesticide usage in the region, including:

- ◆ Registration and regulatory authorities from key countries of the region as well as both regional and sub-regional political and regulatory blocs such as regulatory ECOWAS (COAHP), CILSS (CSP) and CPAC (CEMAC).
- ◆ Representatives from the Regional Regulatory Committee (RRC) of CropLife AME;
- ◆ Representatives from CropLife International, including Bernhard Johnen, Director Int. Policy Affairs.
- ◆ Nationals associations within the hub and Areas Coordinators of CropLife AME.
- ◆ Executives of CropLife Africa Middle East including the President, Executive President and Hub Chairman as well representatives of member companies within CropLife AME.
- ◆ International organizations and agencies including FAO/RAF, IFDC-MIR Plus, USAID-ATP, IFPRI and the Burkina Biotech Association.

The objective of the annual event is to:

- ◆ Share knowledge on the issue of global challenges as related to threats to food security, agricultural production and economic development.
- ◆ Roll-out and guide the regulatory groups on the “principles of regulation” (PoR), and the needs to upgrade current regulatory frameworks.
- ◆ Share knowledge on the Rotterdam/PIC convention.
- ◆ Update the group on GHS and the risks of inaccurate communication on pesticides and chemicals.
- ◆ Guide the team on e-searching of regulatory information.
- ◆ Provide tools and guidance to the national associations on the strategic priorities identified by CropLife and the subsequent alignment of activities, for the funding of such activities.
- ◆ Guide them in seeking partnerships leading to cooperation in common areas and in the overall strengthening of the associations resulting in improved performance.

The national TV network and newspapers covered and reported on the events of the workshop.



Delegated Minister of Agriculture of Burkina Faso. with executives of CropLife Africa Middle East



Representatives of National Associations during the group work

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## Anti Counterfeiting

On 17 March CropLife Mali held an "Anti-Counterfeiting Day at the Grand Hotel in Bamako.

Participants included the regulatory bodies of the Ministry of Agriculture, CropLife Mali, ASP Mali, Customs Services and agro-dealers.

The objective of this undertaking was to:

- ◆ Sensitize the group on the issue of counterfeit and illegal pesticides on the market.
- ◆ Highlight the need for better enforcement of the regulations and to consider harsher penalties for such malpractices.
- ◆ Consider the creation of an Anti-Counterfeiting Committee.
- ◆ Improve training, education and communication with the agro-dealer network on this issue.
- ◆ Involve major stakeholders such as ASP Mali on specific ongoing projects.
- ◆ Develop an updated list of registered CPPs for customs services and key stakeholders.
- ◆ Involve the media in the training and communication activities.
- ◆ Use the media to "name and shame" culprits and on any seizures.



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## Mali - Training of CPPs Dealers

On 27-29 April, 23 agro-input dealers (incl. 2 females) of the CNFA network operating in the Kati suburb, located approximately 15 km from Bamako and whose activities cover mainly CPPs, underwent a training programme. The training programme, as part of the MoU between CropLife Mali and the CNFA project for Agro-dealers Strengthening Program in Mali (CNFA/ASPM) focused on:

- ◆ To provide knowledge on the regulations related to CPPs (registration, dealers licensing and certification).
- ◆ Sensitization on counterfeit and illegal CPPs, business planning and stock management to avoid the accumulation of obsolete stocks.
- ◆ Information products categories (insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides), and formulations
- ◆ Toxicity and labels including pictograms,
- ◆ transportation, storage and good warehousing practices,
- ◆ Legislation and regulations,
- ◆ Stewardship activities and Good Agricultural Practices



## ECOWAS Commission



On 15 April in a side meeting during the hub workshop, Rudolf Guyer and Bama Yao met with Alain SY Traoré, ECOWAS Commission and Marc Atouga, IFDC/MIR Plus.

The purpose of this meeting was as follows:

- ◆ To formalize the cooperation between ECOWAS and CropLife AME through a MoU as previously discussed in Lomé.
- ◆ To capitalize on the progress for the benefit of the ongoing harmonization initiative and the PoR, and thus serve as a reference for a public-private partnership.
- ◆ Such a framework would assist in better planning of the joint activities and the guiding of ECOWAS on pesticide issues.
- ◆ ECOWAS will submit a draft MoU, which hopefully will be concluded and before the end of the year.

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## East & Southern Africa

### CropLife Madagascar

Having been inspired by the Spray Service Provider (SSP) project in Zambia and Bayer's "Spray Gang" Kenyan experience, CropLife Madagascar (CLM) decided to launch its own project called PSAP (Paysans Specialistes en Applications Phytosanitaires) or Professional Farmers in Phytosanitary Applications.

A MoU was signed between active local partners; BV Lac, a CIRAD-EU led project and the regional office of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) in January 2011 for a 4 month project. The objectives of the project were the following:



Steering Committee Meeting

- ◆ Select leading farmers, provide them with the appropriate training in pesticide safe use, pest identification and assist them in developing themselves into sound spray service providers.
- ◆ Involve local authorities and farmers' cooperatives in the overall project.
- ◆ Support and monitor the SSP's after the training by making sure they are maximizing the benefits of their training

The Ambatondrazaka region, which is the N°1 region for rice production was selected. CLM allocated a project officer on a consultancy basis and has financed the overall cost of the project amounting to \$ 4000. BV Lac Project offered logistics and facilities such as offices, computers, training materials, vehicles and financed the after-training monitoring activities. BV Lac's contribution is estimated at around \$ 2500. The MoA has taken over the management of the project. Its regional registrars participated in the training on pest identification and control and its local service called CSA (Centre de Service Agricole) has conducted monitoring activities

A steering committee was created to pilot the project. The committee was composed with 12 members comprising of CLM, BV Lac, MoA and 4 farmers' cooperatives and meets twice a month. The farmer's cooperatives have selected some of their members and the project has also called for new applicants on local radio stations. Almost 50 farmers have applied and were interviewed by members of the steering committee. Finally, 27 applicants were selected and the 3 day training programme completed 9 - 11 March 2011. All trainees successfully completed the final examination and received Personal Protection Equipment from CLM and a badge proving their abilities to offer spraying services for the year 2011.



Training Group

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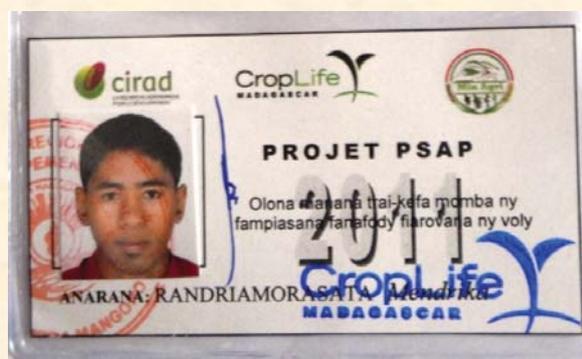
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## CropLife Madagascar

The monitoring activities were conducted during the 6 weeks from March 21 to April 27. A control sheet has been designed and is completed weekly by follow up officers from the MoA and technicians from cooperatives. From the analysis of the data, the findings are the following:

- ◆ 13 of the 27 SSP's have had their spraying services paid for daily resulting in substantial additional income. They can be considered as professional SSPs;
- ◆ The main crops serviced were: rice, beans and tomatoes;
- ◆ Some SSPs are paid on a daily basis: averaging 3200 MGA per day. Others are paid per spray, averaging 800 MGA per 16 l spray.

The meeting bringing the project to a close took place on April 27 whilst the MoA proposed to continue the monitoring of the SSPs with their own funds. Discussions took place between the stakeholders covering lessons learned. Decisions were taken to launch a Phase (2) of the project in September 2011 and to widen the project scope. Selected SSPs from Phase (1) will benefit from a refresher course whilst other farmers will be selected to enlarge the SSP basket. Local pesticide distributors will be more involved to maximize on the synergies with SSPs. A local SSP association will be created with BV Lac's support to defend their profession. All stakeholders were extremely happy with this CropLife Madagascar initiative and promised greater involvement for the Phase (2) programme.



Left: CropLife Madagascar PPE

Above: The 2011 SSP Badge

## ASP South Africa

Notification was received from the Task Team Leader at the World Bank that the closing date extension for the project in South Africa is with the regional vice president for signature. Everyone is pleased to have this breathing space to be able to finalize the project. The "review mission" by the World Bank is likely to take place sometime in June.

## Zambia

During the last week of April, Herman Louw undertook a training course in line with the needs of the Spray Service Provider project in Zambia. The hosting institutions were Project PROFIT and CropLife Zambia.

The programme comprised of the following:

- ◆ Introduction to Pests
- ◆ Pest Management, Crop Management and other Factors
- ◆ Introduction to IPM
- ◆ Introduction to Biological control
- ◆ Introduction to Chemical control
- ◆ Scouting & Pest Management Decision Making Cycle
- ◆ Pesticide Selection and Dose Rates
- ◆ Pesticide Classification by type, hazard and mode of action
- ◆ Pesticide Formulations
- ◆ The Pesticide Label
- ◆ Hazard, Exposure & Risk included symptoms of poisoning and first aid
- ◆ Protective Clothing and Equipment
- ◆ Pesticide application Equipment, Nozzles, Calibration & Maintenance
- ◆ Buying Pesticides
- ◆ Transport and Storing of Pesticides
- ◆ Preparing for spray: Calculations, Measuring & Mixing and Equipment
- ◆ Application of pesticides in the field included Best Practices
- ◆ Clean up after application included pesticide leftovers and empty containers
- ◆ The Basics involved in adult training



**Zambia cont..****Practical Training Sessions covered**

- ◆ How to prepare for a Spray Service Provider training session
- ◆ From “shop to field” – Training sessions by participants on the whole process
- ◆ Basic record keeping for a SSP

17 delegates from the agro-inputs industry participated. Both written and practical testing was undertaken

**The results of the participant's assessments were:**

4 Certificates of Competence – with distinction  
 10 Certificates of Competence  
 3 Certificates of Attendance  
 Average achievement: 62%

Individual Training Session

**Namibia**

During the week of 7 March Herman Louw undertook a training course for pest control operators in Namibia. The hosting institution was Coopers Environmental Science together with CropLife Namibia.

Topics covered were:

- ◆ Pest and Pesticide Knowledge Base – Part 1
- ◆ Pest and Pesticide Knowledge Base – Part 2
- ◆ Health, Safety and First Aid
- ◆ Responsible use of pesticides
- ◆ Pest management practices
- ◆ Pesticides and Formulations
- ◆ Pests and their control in Namibia – Part 1
- ◆ Calculations and practical application practices (Outdoor)
- ◆ Introduction to HACCP
- ◆ The Law in Namibia
- ◆ Pest Management Practitioner – Customer care and conflict handling

6 Pest Control Operators were trained – All from the commercial sector. Candidates were tested by means of written examination & practical application .

The results of the participant's assessments were:

- ◆ 1 Certificate of Competence – with distinction
- ◆ 5 Certificates of Competence



Training in application equipment

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## Ethiopia

In pursuit towards their objective of setting up a “poison information centre”, CropLife Ethiopia met with the “Directorate, Minister of State” to discuss the possibility of a public private partnership (PPP). The tentative details developed are:

That the State will pursue the possibility of including this undertaking in next year’s budget for which submission must be finalized by June this year.

CropLife Ethiopia will be responsible for the necessary training and have already made contact with Dr. T.B. Menge, head of the poison information centre in Nairobi, Kenya. This training is scheduled for September.



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Project Team Meeting “Operations” - Geneva	May 13
CropLife Zambia AGM	May13
Project Team Meeting “Operations” - Geneva	May 13
Spray Service Provider Training, Zambia	w/c 16 May
Global Anti Counterfeiting Meeting hosted by Bayer CropScience	May 19
CoC Meeting - Brussels	May 23
Anti-Counterfeiting workshop, CropLife Egypt/MOA-Cairo	May 26
Launch of Cocoa Project by ICCO - Cameroon	June 6-10
AGM and ExCo (2)-2011 - Brussels	June 14
Communications Steering Committee meeting - Brussels	June 14
Stewardship Steering Committee meeting - Brussels	June 15
Anti-Counterfeiting Steering Committee Meeting - Brussels	June 15
Crop Protection Strategy Council Meeting - Brussels	June 16
Project Team Meeting Obsolete Stocks - Brussels	June 17
RRC Meeting 2-2011 - Pau	July 4
Hub and Regulatory Workshop, East and Southern Africa - Nairobi	Aug 16-17
POR training for AME team	Aug 18
ACDI-VOCA project launch event in Cairo	Sept 18



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