

## Stewardship

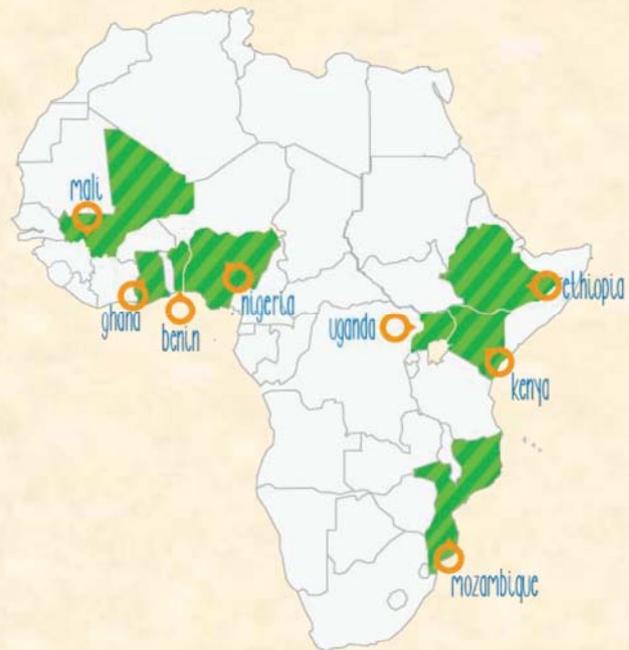
### SSP Project Kicks-off in Ethiopia in Partnership with IFDC 2SCALE

CropLife Ethiopia has followed in the steps of the now growing number of CropLife National Associations to develop a Spray Service Provider Project in partnership with IFDC. The project is targeting to train an initial 60 SSPs who will provide the necessary services to 900 farmers in the vegetable sector in 2 districts of the country.

A total of 15 participants attended the TOT facilitated by Perry Ngoma from 14 to 18 March in the Ziway district which is a vegetable production area. Participants were drawn from CropLife Ethiopia member companies, government extension services, farmers' organizations and staff from IFDC. Following the post- and practical tests at the end of the 5-day program, 10 certified trainers emerged who will soon be core in the rollout of the project.

A refresher training will take place to include a 2- day IPM training for all active trainers after their first active season. This will not only help to reinforce the knowledge and skills acquired but will also add detailed IPM knowledge which is essential in the management of pests and diseases.

Les Hillowitz



2SCALE



Group Photo

## CropLife Malawi Continues to Rollout SSP Program in Cotton

CropLife Malawi (CLM) is in the process of implementing a Spray Service Provider (SSP) Program in the cotton sector of the country. The SSP project is being implemented with financial and technical support from Malawi Oilseeds Sector Transformation (MOST), a DFID funded program. The project is targeting to train 60 SSP trainers who would in turn train 1,800 SSPs to service more than 20,000 cotton farmers across the country. This target would only be for the initial phase as these trainers have the potential to train more SSPs in the following seasons who will possibly service an additional 24,000 cotton farmers bringing the total number of farmers to be serviced to 44,000 in the next two seasons.

CLM had already trained 20 trainers by end 2015 but following a project review it was apparent that more trainers would be needed to achieve the objectives established. This led to the organization of two additional training sessions, one carried out in February 2016 in Blantyre and the most recent in Lilongwe 7 - 11 March 2016, which was facilitated by Perry Ngoma.

The training was attended by 11 participants comprising staff from the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development (MoAIWD) and field officers from the Clinton Development Institute (CDI) working with small-holder farmers in Malawi.

Based on the "Pre", "Post" and "Practical Tests", it was seen that the basic knowledge level of the group was such that most, especially officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, will be able to conduct the training of SSPs immediately. The presence of the new CLM project coordinator, Kenson Ndalama was very valuable as it gave him a better understanding of the SSP concept and the level of quality required from all the trainers.

We have now reached the stage where MOST and CropLife Malawi should set a target for the trainers in readiness for the next cotton season. This should be done immediately as implementation could take a long time. MOST and CropLife Malawi should also agree with stakeholders on how the project will be implemented and the various roles of each player. This is one of the most important steps following the ToT. At the end of the season a review of the project implementation should be conducted to ascertain the effectiveness of the program.

A refresher training should be held which should include a 2- day IPM training for all active trainers after their first active season. Emphasis was made to the project coordinator and all trainers, that the Project Team needs to pay special attention to record keeping, as this will provide evidence of improvement covering both, the number of farmers serviced and the impact of the program on pest management, safety aspects and sales of pesticides.

The involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture, especially that they are all focused on cotton production will provide the much needed support, impetus and the political will that a project of such magnitude needs

Perry Ngoma



Group Participants



Practical Sessions

## CropLife Ghana and Wynca Sunshine Hold Workshop to Formally Launch Container Management Program

As background CropLife Ghana and Wynca Sunshine Agric signed an MoU on 27 November 2015 to collaborate and implement a flagship program for the collection and recycling of empty pesticide containers, into non-domestic items. The MoU was seen as a step in the right direction for the container management program being implemented. In the agreement, all empty pesticide containers collected from across the country, including the Ejura Sekyedumase Pilot Scheme (mostly HDPE) will be processed by CropLife Ghana in a wash bay and shredded before onward transportation to Wynca Sunshine Agric, in the Ashanti Region for recycling. The shredded chips are to be processed into pesticide container caps/tops. This agreement is expected to improve the collection of empty pesticide containers from across the country.

A workshop took place at the Anita Hotel, Ejisu, Kumasi on 11 March covering the following:

- Create a platform for CropLife Ghana to announce the national container collection scheme;
- Inform especially, the distributors of Wynca Sunshine Agric about the container collection program and the need to return in particular Wynca pesticide bottles at a fee of 10p each;
- Use the occasion to introduce Wynca Sunshine's new products to the distribution network and farmers
- To inform EPA/CCMC of the need to prioritize the proper disposal of empty pesticide containers in the system
- The expected outcome of this launch is:
  - That empty pesticide containers will be properly disposed off without causing environmental hazards
  - That farmers and distributors will transport empty containers to EZOV (Environmental Services Ghana) willingly
  - That the publicity for the CropLife Ghana container management scheme will become known across the country

In his presentation Fred Boampong, highlighted that only about 14 CropLife Ghana member companies are prepared to contribute towards the container management program to be implemented. This he says is unfair and that the regulators should take strict action to eliminate the "free riders".

The Deputy Director of EPA/CCMC, Mr. Joseph Edmund encouraged all importers to follow the example of Wynca Sunshine by using innovative ways to collect back their empty containers from farmers and distributors. He pledged the use of his office, through the EPA Act, to make sure that importers comply.

A total of 45 participants, including major distributors, farmers, regulators, EZOV Ghana and Industry members participated at the workshop.

**Fred Boampong**



Left: Fred Boampong,  
CropLife Ghana,

Right: Mr. Li of Wynca  
Sunshine Agro



Below: Mr. Li of Wynca  
Sunshine Agro (Left)  
Joseph Edmund, Deputy  
Director of the Ghana  
EPA/CCMC (Centre) Dr.  
Dixon, Former PPRSD/  
MoFA Director, and  
Chairman for the workshop.



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## SSPs Activities Have Started in Nigeria with IFDC

Spray Service Provider (SSP) activities have started in Nigeria with the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC). In January 2016, CropLife Africa Middle East signed a contract with the 2SCALE (Toward Sustainable Clusters in Agribusiness through Learning in Entrepreneurship) project to set up SSP schemes in tomatoes, maize and chilies.

In early February, Siji Ofoesuwa, project coordinator of CropLife Nigeria, together with staff of 2SCALE farmer communities in Kaduna, Oyo, and Plateau state visited the areas where activities will take place. During these visits, meetings were organized with farmers to create awareness about the SSP concept and to select the right farmers to become SSPs. In every state 30 potential SSPs were selected to be trained during the project period.

Following the awareness creation process, the first Training-of-Trainers (ToT) program took place in the middle of February in the Northern state Kaduna in which 9 field officers from member companies, 2 2Scale staff and the new field coordinator of CropLife Nigeria were trained to become SSP trainers. A second ToT was organized in the first week of March in the Southern State of Oyo in which 9 field officers from member companies, 2 2Scale staff and 1 staff member of the Western Agro-Input Dealers Association (WAIDA) participated. Both courses were facilitated by Siji Ofoesuwa, with the assistance of the CropLife trainer, Gbenga Aiyeku from Insis (member company) during the second course. During the 6-day program, participants learned about the responsible use of pesticides and correct application. All participants succeeded in both the written test and practical tests.

The SSP trainers from the Northern states were able to immediately put their training skills into practice, as from the 7 to 25 March, 3 SSP training programs were organized in Kaduna state in which a total of 30 farmers were trained to become SSPs. The SSP trainers were from member companies, Candel and Harvestfield.

The trainers will not have much time to rest, because in the next few weeks 2 SSP training programs are planned to take place in Oyo state and 2 more in Plateau State to train a further 60 SSPs. In these states, additional member companies of CropLife Nigeria will train the SSPs.

**Manon Mireille Dohmen**



ToT in Kaduma



SSP training in Kaduna

## CropLife Uganda Kicks-off SSP Activities for USAID Project

CropLife Uganda started activities under the project titled “Professionalizing Spray Service providers (SSPs) and Agro-Dealers”. A baseline study was carried out, 14 SSP-trainers were trained, an inception workshop was organized to plan activities, and 150 farmers were selected to become SSPs. The first activity that took place was a baseline study in which data was collected among 20 stakeholders (including extension officers), 50 farmers and 30 agro-dealers to determine the current situation regarding pesticide management and application. The results of these findings is expected sometime in April.

In the week, 7 - 11 March, 14 extension officers were trained to become SSPs. The reason to train extension officers and not the field staff of member companies, as is normally the practice in other SSP projects, is that member companies of CropLife Uganda do not have staff in the districts where the SSPs will be trained. In addition, the extension officers speak the local languages and know the farmers in their respective areas. The training was facilitated by Evelyn Lusena and the program took place in Mukono. During that same week Manon Mireille Dohmen, Training Coordinator of CropLife Africa Middle East facilitated an inception workshop. The program took place on 8 March in Kampala and was attended by the Chief of Party of Agricultural Inputs Activity, the Marketing Manager and 4 Field Coordinators of Agricultural Inputs Activity, and the Project Manager, Project Coordinator, Financial Assistant, and 2 Field Officers of CropLife Uganda. During the workshop it was explained what CropLife is, including its activities in other countries in the region. Most time was spent on the SSP concept. The facilitator explained the concept in detail and during discussions participants covered how all the elements can be best implemented in the Agricultural Inputs Activity project and what can be expected of each stakeholder. At the end of the day a training calendar was prepared.

A total of 150 farmers have been selected to be trained to become SSPs. The first selection was undertaken by the field staff of the Agricultural Inputs Activity in close collaboration with stakeholders, including the agricultural district officers. The final selection was undertaken by CropLife Uganda. The farmers are from the following districts: Kamuli, Kapchorwo, Kasese, Kiryandongo, Lira, Luwero, Masaka, Masindi, Mbale, and Mubende. The SSP training programs are all scheduled to take place during April 2016. The SSP activities are partly funded by the USAID Feed the Future - Uganda Agricultural Inputs Activity. CropLife Uganda signed a contract with the project in January 2016 to set up a network of 150 SSPs covering maize, beans and coffee farmers in 10 districts. In addition, 200 agro-dealers will be trained on product knowledge and shop management. It is expected that all activities will be completed by end September 2016.

Manon Mireille Dohmen

## (SSP) Concept Introduced to Borno state in Nigeria

All SSPs that were trained are already active in spray teams. In December 2015, CropLife Nigeria, on behalf of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), did an assessment among these existing spray teams. They discovered that although many of them have been applying pesticides for 3 years or longer, there was a great deal of room for improvement of their knowledge and skills. It was therefore decided to give them the full SSP training.

Last month, CropLife Nigeria signed a contract with the IITA project “Putting Nitrogen Fixation to Work for Smallholder Farmers in Africa” (N2Africa) to give the existing spray teams proper training and to monitor their work in the field.

Babajide Adigun, the CropLife Nigeria field coordinator for the Northern Region, says that although each of them have been applying pesticides for a long time, they still learned a lot. He tells: “One of the most interesting topics for them was that on counterfeit pesticides. Normally they buy pesticides from guys that come to their community with cheap products. Very often the products did not work or were even harming the crops. Now they understand that they were probably buying fake products. Because the programs were facilitated by two of our member companies, Harvestfield and Miagro, they now have a direct link to ensure the supply of good quality products.”

Shakiru Quadri from N2Africa is enthusiastic is encouraged by what has taken place. According to him, the program is very good because it is practical and focused on the things that are important for applicators to know. He also praised the facilitation skills of the field coordinator of CropLife and the trainers of the member companies.

Manon Mireille Dohmen



SSP's being trained

## Building training capacity in Cameroon



With the retirement of Gisele Etoundi, trainer from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), a replacement is needed to facilitate the joint training programs of CropLife Cameroon & MINADER.

In addition, many trainers from the member companies are no longer available and the newly recruited field officers have little or no experience in undertaking Training of Trainer (ToTs) sessions.

To remedy this a five-day training was facilitated by R. Yeboue. This took place in Douala between 29 Feb – 4 March.

Each participant was thoroughly evaluated and were presented with certificates of competence.

For the closing ceremony, CropLife Cameroon organized a media briefing to cover the importance of Responsible Use training and the handling of pesticides by only reputable and trained personnel.

The President of CropLife Cameroon, Henri Fosso, stressed on the contribution of pesticides to sustainable agricultural production, and the role of CropLife Cameroon in the organized agricultural sector by supplying quality products and providing supporting stewardship activities. He stressed on the needs to put in place a banking system and credit measures to support the agricultural sector in Cameroon. He then called on a joint effort to combat the illegal trade of pesticides in the country.

Bama Yao



The training session involved sound interaction among the participants (Top) the briefing of media by the team led by H. Fosso, President of CropLife Cameroon (Right)



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## CropLife and African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP), explore opportunities in Africa.

On 16 March a meeting took place with Cecilia Khupe, Chief Operations and Compliance Officer, African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP) to explore possible opportunities in Africa.

The prime funder of this NGO is the The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funding. They also obtain some funding from Dutch Aid, IDH; USAID and some private sector companies for specific tasks.

The AFAP network in Africa is as follows:

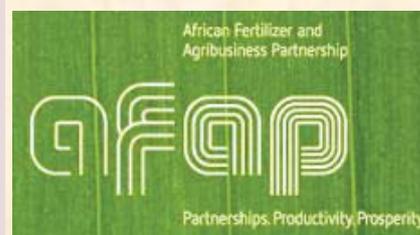
- In West Africa they have their regional office in Ghana which is a gateway country for a number of countries in West Africa. Projects have been managed out of the Ghana office for countries such as Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and Nigeria.
- In East Africa the regional office is in Tanzania, a gateway country to East Africa countries. The Dar es Salaam port is very critical to this region as goods come through this port to reach up to Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and Zambia.
- In Southern Africa the regional office is in Mozambique, a gateway country for countries such as Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The Beira and Nacala corridors, for their ports are very critical to these land locked countries. All fertilizers coming through these corridors consider the 4 countries as their market.

AFAP has, and is, doing some work in Kenya, Ethiopia, Madagascar with private sector companies. Both parties will look at the possibilities that may exist to collaborate in these countries and others.

Les Hillowitz



Cecilia Khupe, Chief Operations and Compliance Officer,



## Inception workshop for the Regional FAO/GEF project in 9 CILSS countries and the Initiative "Pest and Pesticide Management in the Sahel and West Africa" (PPM/SWA).

The workshop took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 2-4 March and was organized by the FAO and Institut du Sahel. It had two main purposes. Firstly, as the official inception of the FAO/GEF project entitled "Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides including POPs and Strengthening Pesticide Management of The CILSS member states" covering Burkina Faso, Chad, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal. Secondly as the launch of the wider regional initiative entitled "Pest and Pesticide Management in the Sahel and West Africa" (PPM/SWA) which covers all fifteen ECOWAS member states plus Mauritania and Chad.

It was attended by 77 participants including representatives from all 17 countries involved in pest and pesticide management, including regulators, registrars, officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Environment as well as those from regional and international organizations including FAO, GEF, INSAH-CILSS, the ECOWAS Commission, the WAEMU Commission, IITA, PAN-UK and PAN-Africa. CropLife International and CropLife Africa Middle East also attended, represented by Hans Dobson and Bama Yao respectively, since both organizations are co-funders of the FAO/GEF project

The inception workshop objectives were:

- To inform the participants on the objectives, strategies, and activities of the Project and the Initiative to ensure adoption by the key stakeholders.
- To update participants on the roles and contributions of the key stakeholders.
- To finalize the operational plans, indicators and M&E approach

Mohamed Ammati and Richard Thompson from FAO provided the background to the project, from the conception phase to the current stage of imminent implementation. Prof Antoine Somé from INSAH underlined the relevance of the initiative PPM-SWA for Sahel and Western African countries particularly for the establishment of the 17 country wide regionally harmonized pesticide registration scheme.

Following presentations and discussions of project components to help participants better understand project activities; Working Groups were organized to provide inputs for the preparation of the work plan and budget for 2016.

Both the Project and the Initiative PPM-SWA draw on regional expertise to mainstream activities related to elimination and prevention of obsolete pesticide stocks; and strengthen sustainable pesticide life-cycle management at national and regional levels. In particular, it focuses on the following:

**Component 1: Safe Disposal of obsolete pesticides and the remediation of heavily contaminated soils.** The current situation indicates approximately 600 tons of obsolete stocks in Chad, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal. The upcoming inventory in Bissau Guinea, Gambia and Cape Verde, and confirmation of the stocks in the former countries should bring the level to approximately 850 tons. Added to the disposal of these stocks, the project will remediate 8 identified heavily contaminated sites in Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal. The various activities to be conducted under this component will capitalize on the experience of the Africa Stock Piles team from Mali. An approach for coordination with other projects such as those in Benin, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana will be initiated.

**Component 2: The management of empty pesticide containers (CM).** The ongoing CM pilot in 7 communities of 2 production areas in Mali is promising for the collection subcomponent. Upon validation, the pilot will be extended to other communities and production areas, followed by other countries (Chad, Burkina F. and Senegal). A financially and environmentally sustainable regional approach covering the ECOWAS sub-region needs to be developed. The triple rinsing and puncturing of empty pesticide containers is to be promoted as per the "Road Map for CM" of CropLife International and the FAO Guidelines.

**Component 3: Strengthening the regulatory framework by improving the status and activities of the national pesticides management committee (Comité National de Gestion des Pesticides, CNGP) and ensure involvement and coordination of the Sahelian pesticides committee of the CILSS (Comité Sahélien des Pesticides, CILSS-CSP) in post-registration activities.** CILSS-CSP is chairing this component and should facilitate the signature of the tripartite ECOWAS-WAEMU-CILSS agreement to ensure and accelerate operations of the W. African pesticides registration committee (WAPRC) covering all 17 countries.

**Component 4: Promotion of alternatives** is chaired by IITA-Benin and focuses on inventory, screening and validation of available IPM tools. This is supported with demonstrations and through farmer training programs. The tools will then be scaled-up for use in Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal.

The communication activities are expected to address and promote the IPM tools and CM, and together with the Monitoring and Evaluation program, to communicate the environmental benefits of the project focusing primarily on the disposal of 850 tons of obsolete pesticides, decontamination of eight heavily contaminated soils, and an operational pilot CM scheme.

**Bama Yao / Hans Dobson / Richard Thompson**

The outputs of the group work were reported to the participants (Right) under the supervision of the representatives of the institutions and organizations involved in the project management.



A brief on financial management of the project by the FAO team

## Regulatory

### Regulatory Meeting for the Maghreb Countries

This year's meeting took place on 22-23 March in Lyon, France, bringing together representatives from Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and CropLife associations from Morocco and Tunisia. Officials from the two country's regulatory authorities gave presentations on changes made to regulatory requirements during the past year. CropLife representatives also provided updates on the Global Harmonized Labelling System (GHS), Emerging Policy Issues including Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), Endocrine Disruptors (EDs) and Pollinator Health. An interactive session followed that concluded with a recommendation to organize a training covering various topics under the overall theme of the Principles of Regulation (POR) program in the course of the year involving other ministry officials also responsible for the management of the regulation of crop protection products in one way or another.



Participants at the Maghreb meeting

The second day of the meeting was dedicated to providing updates on the implementation of container management programs by the countries. Two special guests, Detlef Döhnert and Pierre de Lepinau, made presentations covering the *Global status of empty pesticide containers collection schemes* and how the French system, ADIVALOR - (*Agriculteurs Distributeurs Industriels pour la Valorisation des déchets Agricoles*) operates. This was followed by country updates on the status of the projects and finally the development of country action plans.

**Stella Simiyu Wafukho**



Group discussions: Above (Left) representatives from Morocco and (Right) representatives from Tunisia

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## Anti-Counterfeiting

### CropLife Cote d'Ivoire undertakes Anti-Counterfeiting Training Workshop for Enforcement agencies in Cote d'Ivoire

The workshop in Bondoukou, Cote d'Ivoire on 17 March was organized under the ongoing support program of CropLife AME to strengthen capacity for anti-counterfeiting activities in the country.

Thirty-eight enforcement agents involved in the control of transboundary movement of goods alongside the N-Eastern border between Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana participated in the training. CropLife AME was represented by Bama Yao and CropLife CI represented by G. Liabra, President of the Executive Committee, K. Yeboue, Executive Secretary and A. Coulibaly, Counselor of the ExCo.

Presentations and discussions highlighted on the following:

The responsibility of CropLife Cote d'Ivoire and the pesticide industry

Pesticide regulations in Cote d'Ivoire to protect man and the environment.

Pesticides, sustainable agriculture, population growth, hunger and poverty.

Illegal pesticides: counterfeit products associated with health, socioeconomic, and environmental risks.

Cooperation among enforcers and security services to fight the illegal pesticides.

**Bama Yao**



Participants addressed on the risks of illegal pesticides in presence of the Secretary General of the Prefectorate (Below) who was then presented with a copy of the pesticides directory by the President of CropLife CI and of the decree for pesticides control at entry points of the Cote d'Ivoire by the officer of the Crop Protection Directorate of the MINADER (Right & Above)



## Association Management

### CropLife Cameroon Holds General Assembly

CropLife Cameroon held its General Assembly on 4 March, in Douala, Cameroon at which approximately 20 participants representing the member companies of CropLife Cameroon attended

In his welcome address the President, Henri Fosso focused on:

- The pesticides market
- Stewardship activities
- Anti-counterfeiting
- Communication activities

The executive committee was asked to initiate contact with the new Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), with the aim of organizing a meeting as soon as possible

**Bama Yao**



Participants at the General Assembly

### CropLife South Africa Holds Annual General Meeting

At the CropLife South Africa AGM which was held on 15 March, the following Executive Committee was elected:

Marcel Dreyer	<b>President</b>
Klaus Eckstein	<b>Vice President</b>
Antonie Delpont	Johan Du Plessis
Kobus Steenekamp	Rodney Bell
Cecelia van Rooi	Maurius Boshoff
Quinton Cross	Roy Cackett
Jacques Du Preez	Chris Thompson

**Tom Mabesa**



Several of the participants at the AGM

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## CropLife Mauritius Holds Annual General Meeting

CropLife Mauritius held its Annual General Meeting on Friday 22 March 2016 at the seat of the Mauritius Co-Operative Agricultural Federation Ltd, Caudan, Port Louis.

Five Full Members and 3 Associate Members were present. The Full members were: Messrs. Clifford Dove (Roger Fayd'herbe & Co Ltd), Sebastien de Ravel (Island Chemicals Ltd), Dani Joseph (COROI Maurice), Dineshsing Goburdhun (Mauritius Co-Operative Agricultural Federation Ltd) and Jean Francois Claite (Blychem Ltd). The Associate Members were: Messrs. Gerard Rene (Greimex), Munesh Mungur (Dubreuil Multipurpose) and Vitaldass Ramiah (Ramiah Trading). Apologies were received from 2 full members: Messrs. Nicolas Langlois (Suchem Ltd) and Tithraraj Reesaul (Kirsh Co Ltd)

The Managing Committee for 2016 was elected as follows:

President: Mr Clifford Dove (Roger Fayd'herbe & Co Ltd)

Vice President: Mr Dani Joseph (COROI Maurice Ltee)

Secretary: Mr Jean Francois Claite (Blychem Ltd)

Assistant Secretary: Tithraraj Reesaul (Kirsh Co Ltd)

Treasurer: Mr Dineshsing Goburdhun (Mauritius Cooperative Agricultural Federation)

Assistant Treasurer: Mr Sebastien de Ravel (Island Chemicals Ltd)

In his report the outgoing President, Mr Clifford Dove, gave an overview of the milestones of the association since its inception in June 2005. Three Master training courses were conducted with the help of CropLife Africa Middle East. CropLife Mauritius was registered as a training institution with the Mauritius Qualifications Authority and also acquired the status of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) which would allow access to CSR funds from local companies for the realization of projects.

Mr Dove then highlighted on the activities during the year 2015. Two members, Kirsh & Co and Suchem Ltd joined the association. Regarding the Container Management Project, bins for the collection of empty containers were constructed and placed in 4 target areas. An 'Accord de Partenariat' was signed with representatives of the 4 target groups and with the recycler. A French version of the (English) poster on triple rinsing was prepared and posted at strategic locations. Also, a leaflet on triple rinsing was prepared and distributed. Training of farmers was carried out on a regular basis and more than 500 farmers located in the target areas were trained. Funds were received to extend the Container Management Project to Rodrigues. Two training courses on the Responsible Application of Pesticides were conducted for the benefit of sprayer-men at Omnicane Ltd and at Bel Ombre SE.

Mr. Dove, being re-elected President of Crop life Mauritius, thanked the Committee for renewing the confidence placed on him. He said that that amongst the association's priorities for 2016 were the implementation of the Container Management Project, the continuation of training sessions on responsible use of pesticides and the development of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) concept amongst farmers and other stakeholders.

**Mukesh Rughoo**



L - R: Gerard Rene, Sebastien de Ravel, Jean Francois Claite, Clifford Dove, Dani Joseph, Dineshsing Goburdhun, Mukesh Rughoo,

## CropLife Kenya Holds 57th Annual General Meeting

CropLife Kenya (CLK) held its 57th AGM on 24th March 2015. There were no significant changes in the leadership of the association and Susan Njoroge of Syngenta retained the Chairmanship. In her speech she outlined the successes the industry had made in 2015 and this included:

### CleanFarms Kenya Project

It was noted that since 2009 the project had collected and repackaged a total of 205 tons of obsolete pesticides and 19.3 tons of containers. These stocks were all shipped to the UK for disposal with export being completed in February 2016. This disposal element was supported by CLI, CLAME, CLK, FAO and MOAL&F.

### Container Management Program

CropLife Kenya had received funding from the World Bank through KAPAP which helped in establishing a container management system in 10 counties. An additional 3 counties had been established earlier. CLK was directly funding the collection of empty pesticide containers through Environmental Combustion Consultant Limited (ECCL) and needed financial support to establish the system in other counties.

### Sprayer Service Provider (SSP)

CropLife Kenya collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture under the Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP) funded by SIDA to establish the SSP program in 10 counties in 2015. In 2016, CLK will continue with the program in 11 counties in terms of evaluation, monitoring and support of the SSPs.

### Anti-Counterfeiting Project

The activities of the Anti-Counterfeiting Project were achieved through:

A baseline data report which was presented to the industry in February 2016

Accreditation of technical staff of member companies

Accreditation of agro vet outlets

Training of farmers/stockists

Printing of posters and brochures

TV Programme on counterfeiting under "Shamba-Shape Up" that ran last year from March to September 2015.

CLK intends to continue with these activities in 2016 especially the radio jingles for awareness creation in local radio stations.

### National Stakeholders field day

A national farmer demonstration and exhibition was held in Bungoma sponsored by CLK in collaboration with USAID Feed the Future program.

CLK member companies attended and over 2000 farmers were trained. CLK intends to hold two further events in 2016/2017.

### Strategic Plan

CLK in the process of reviewing the Strategic Plan put in place in 2010 which will be presented to the industry later this year. The strategic plan will run from 2016 to 2020.

Evelyn Lusena



Participants at the CropLife Kenya AGM

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## Plant Biotechnology

### ISAAA Annual Report on Biotech Crops for 2015 Launched in Beijing, China

The ISAAA Annual Brief (51) on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (1996 to 2015) of the Global Commercialization of Biotech Crops and Biotech Crop Highlights in 2015, authored by ISAAA Founder and Emeritus Chair Dr. Clive James was launched in a press conference in Beijing, China last April 13, 2016. The Report was presented by Dr. Paul S. Teng, ISAAA Chair of the Board who reported the 20 year achievements of biotech crops and the highlights of 2015.

The global hectareage in 2015 was 179.7 million hectares, planted by 28 countries, a decrease of 1% (1.8 million hectares) from the 181.5 million hectares in 2014. The Report emphasized that this marginal decrease is due to current low prices of commodity crops soybean, corn, cotton and canola, which are likely to revert to higher hectareage levels when crop prices improve. Future prospects include expansion of current biotech crop hectareage, new biotech crops in the pipeline and the potential of the new breeding technologies in developing new traits and products.

Presentations were also made by Dr. Randy Hautea, ISAAA Global Coordinator on the *Overview of Biotech Crops in Asia* and by Mr. Hernan Viola, the Agro-Industrial Attache of the embassy of Argentina in China, on the *Biotech Benefits to Argentine Agriculture*. Some 30 media outlets attended the press conference from trade, general, business, online, broadcast and international media.

ISAAA



### USDA Deregulates Two Lines of GE Corn



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced the deregulation of two lines of genetically engineered (GE) corn on March 23, 2016.

The first line was developed by Syngenta Seeds, Inc. for both insect-resistance and glufosinate - ammonium resistance.

APHIS is extending deregulation to this line based on its similarity to a previously deregulated corn line. The second line was developed by the Monsanto Company for resistance to the herbicides dicamba and glufosinate.

The final documents for these deregulations are available at the USDA APHIS website

ISAAA

## Australia's OGTR Authorizes Commercial Release of GM HT Canola

Australia's Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has issued a license in response to application DIR 138 from Bayer CropScience, authorizing the commercial release of canola genetically modified (GM) for dual herbicide tolerance and to facilitate production of the GMOs. The release is authorized to take place throughout Australia. The GM canola and products derived from the GM canola may enter general commerce, including use in human food and animal feed. Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has approved the use in food of material derived from this GM canola.

The decision to issue the license was made after consultation on the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) with the public, State and Territory governments, Australian Government agencies, the Minister for the Environment, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee and local councils, as required by the Gene Technology Act 2000 and the corresponding State and Territory legislation.

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**Australian Government**

**Department of Health**

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

## New Approaches Needed to Meet Sustainable Development Challenges



FAO Director General Jose Graziano da Silva called on government ministries and international agencies to break through traditional silos and embrace more creative approaches to tackling today's developmental challenges as embodied by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Speaking at the Forum for the Future of Agriculture in Brussels, the FAO Director General reiterated that the SDGs are interlinked and calls for new combinations of policies, programmes, partnerships and investments to achieve common goals and produce the most needed public goods. He also underscored the need to utilize a broad portfolio of tools and approaches, including agroecology and biotechnology to eradicate hunger, fight every form of malnutrition and achieve sustainable agriculture. These tools ought to serve the needs of family members, whose empowerment should be a central part of sustainable development interventions, as well as the 80% of the extreme poor and undernourished people that live in rural areas.

"It is essential to invest and create new products, technologies, processes and friendlier business models to support them, improve their resilience and enable them to produce more in a sustainable way," the Director General said.

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>CLAME Board and General Assembly, Brussels,</b>	<b>April 4-5</b>
<b>IPM/RU Project Team meeting, Brussels</b>	<b>April 6</b>
<b>Stewardship Steering Committee meeting, Brussels</b>	<b>April 7</b>
<b>Container Management Project Team meeting, Brussels</b>	<b>April 8</b>
<b>CropLife Zimbabwe AGM</b>	<b>April 18</b>
<b>AU workshop for the validation of the framework for harmonization of pesticides regulations in Africa, Cairo</b>	<b>April 17-19</b>
<b>Hub and Regulatory Workshop, WCA, Abuja, Nigeria</b>	<b>May10-11</b>
<b>CropLife Tanzania AGM, Arusha</b>	<b>May 21</b>
<b>Anti-Counterfeiting Training Workshop for Enforcers in Northern Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>May 23</b>
<b>Anti-Counterfeiting training workshop for Enforcers in Western Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>June 23</b>
<b>BEECON, South Africa, Oudtshoorn</b>	<b>July 1-2</b>
<b>Hub and Regulatory Workshop ESA, Dar es Salaam</b>	<b>August 30-31</b>



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