



Stewardship

Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture Botswana

The INTERPOL anti-counterfeiting workshop in Gaborone provided the opportunity to meet with Loitseng Sebetwane, Registrar and Tshepo Lilly Masedame, Senior Scientific Officer. The visit was basically a "situation analysis" following the Feasibility Assessment undertaken by Cam Davreux in early 2012 on behalf of the FAO.

All the obstocks as covered in the report to the FAO remain unchanged and in the last few months' additional obstocks have been collected by Industry and delivered to the store.

The situation with regard to the empty pesticide containers also remains unchanged. The containers in the North of the country, mentioned in the report, were delivered to the Sabele store earlier this year.

The security of the store remains a huge issue. The decision takers within the MOA of the Government of Botswana are aware of the seriousness of the situation.

Les Hillowitz



Loitseng Sebetwane and Tshepo Lilly Masedame

Insecticide & Herbicide Resistance Workshop

On 26 September the Plant Science Consultants Association organized a workshop on Insecticide & Herbicide Resistance, which took place at the Villa Academy, Gauteng, South Africa

The program comprised of the following:

- The Importance of Resistance Management
- What is IRAC ?
- What is Insecticide Resistance ?
- The Biology of Lepidopterous Pest, Leafminers and Whiteflies
- Insecticide Mode of Action Classification
- An Anti-Resistance Strategy in Tomatoes – a coordinated agrochemical industry approach
- Effective Application of Pesticides
- Herbicide Resistance in the Summer Rainfall Region
- Discussion: Strategies for field trials impacted by resistance

Les Hillowitz

World Cocoa Foundation-African Cocoa Initiative: Spray Services Provider Training

A training took place from 17 – 20 September, in the MFou region, in Cameroon and a second on 25 – 28 September, in Divo, Côte d'Ivoire

There were 35 participants from CONAPROCAM, a producer organization in Cameroon, and 26 from 6 producer organizations in southern Côte d'Ivoire.

The sessions in both countries were organized in line with the framework of the World Cocoa Foundation-African Cocoa Initiative (WCF-ACI) for which trained individuals would hire their services as spray services providers (SSP's) to cocoa producers by applying pesticides to the farms. The training focused on the following:

- Pests and pesticides
- Pesticide formulations, toxicity and PPE
- Pesticide Regulations
- Mixing and the application of pesticides
- Application equipment (mist blower) and calibration

The courses were conducted using a participative approach and consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. An evaluation of the trainees was undertaken

Bama Yao



Participants (Above L) were evaluated on their knowledge of crop protection products (Above - R), and on the use of knapsack sprayers and on misblowers (Bottom-L & R) (Photos - Courtesy of CropLife Cameroon).



WCF-ACI, update on the Activities Plan of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire

On 18 September, in Abidjan, M. Dosso and F. Traoré, President and Vice President of CropLife CI, Kinda Kassoum, National Coordinator WCF-ACI SSP Project Côte d'Ivoire, and B. Yao, Regional Coordinator CropLife AME got together to review the activities of the association.

The following topics were covered:

- Cooperation with the Crop Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, particularly the revision of the regulations. The revised draft of the regulations has been sent to all relevant ministries who are members of the Pesticides Committee for comment before submission to the government for signature
- The training workshop for customs and pesticide inspectors in southern Côte d'Ivoire planned for the week of 21 October
- The IPM training workshop targeting vegetable producers and growers of major subsistence crops, scheduled for November 11-14
- Follow-up on the proposals to ProCacao, the Conseil Café-Cacao; the President and the National Coordinator of the WCF-ACI project were assigned to contact both institutions
- Feedback on the meetings with ICRAF and CIPEXCI were reported on, and their requests for the training of SSP Trainers need to be carefully considered for their implication in the programs

Bama Yao



Regulatory

The Regional Regulatory Committee (RRC)

Following the last meeting in Cairo in June, the RRC met in Monheim, Germany, on September 16 and 17. In addition to the core members of the RRC, Xavier Schmid, regulatory consultant for CropLife AME and Ludovic Loiseau from Syngenta joined the meeting at which the following topics were discussed:

- A presentation and discussion on the risk assessment model for pesticide traces potentially to be found in groundwater based on the SIC GROW reference data from the USA. The tool has a good potential to predict potential traces and to assess the related risk.
- The discussion of similar risk assessment models for surface water, operator exposure and environmental risk assessment. These models potentially may become very valuable to conduct a more detailed and more specific risk assessment for both old and new active ingredients and products being registered in the region of Africa and Middle East. The work and underlying data and studies were compiled by the so-called SPARK teams, being sub-teams of the overall project team, "Principles of Regulations".
- In addition to ongoing regulatory issues, the team discussed and finalized planned missions to Cameroun and Nairobi. The agenda for the Regulatory Hub Meeting taking place on October 29-30 in Dubai was finalized and the attendance of RRC members coordinated. Finally, the team discussed the update of the Strategic Imperative Regulatory for the year 2014.

Rudolf Guyer

Courtesy Visit to the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) in Cairo, Egypt.

Following the meeting between the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) and the Regional Regulatory Committee (RRC) at the Ministry of Agriculture in June, a short courtesy visit was paid to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the APC on September 26.

The ongoing commitment of CropLife towards earlier made proposals in the field of stewardship and anti-counterfeiting activities was confirmed. The initiation of a special Anti-Counterfeiting project by CropLife Egypt was mentioned and the possible cooperation with the APC was discussed. Both parties confirmed a speedy follow-up meeting to the June discussions.

Rudolf Guyer



The CropLife delegation with the Chairman Prof. Mohamed Abdel Megeed and Vice Chairman Dr. Yehya A. Ibrahim of the Agricultural Pesticide Committee

Anti Counterfeiting

INTERPOL Integrated Training, Gaborone, Botswana



Françoise Dorcier, Criminal Intelligence Officer, presenting the training objectives

INTERPOL Trafficking in Illicit Goods and Counterfeiting Sub-Directorate conducted an integrated training in Gaborone, Botswana 9 – 11 September. The training was followed by “field operations” on 12 & 13 September.

The invited countries to the training included Zambia, Namibia, Malawi and South Africa.

CLAME presented on the “Risks Associated with Counterfeit and Illegal Pesticides”

Other private sector presentations included:

- Counterfeit personal care products, health at risk.
- How to disrupt the trafficking of cigarettes
- Counterfeit tools
- How to detect counterfeit clothing
- Working together to combat piracy – Microsoft
- Detecting counterfeit computer supplies threat posed by counterfeit home products
- Counterfeit home care products, a danger for the consumer

Les Hillowitz

Group Photo



Representing the Plant Science Industry

WHO warns against use of substandard insecticides

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has generated a country-wide 'public health alert' to stop the use of substandard insecticides, fearing that the WHO-approved products will no longer be effective to eliminate mosquitoes spreading dengue virus if this practice is not checked immediately.

It has particularly addressed the Punjab government to ensure implementation of a global treaty -- Stockholm Convention 2000 -- and take criminal action against "the mafia which has launched locally manufactured insecticides and selling the same using WHO label," an official told Dawn.

The organisation says aedes mosquito is getting stronger with every passing day due to massive use of the substandard pesticides

The WHO was using last group of pesticides – pyrethroids – and if the same lost its efficacy, the program to eliminate dengue and malaria diseases will suffer a country-wide blow, said the official. "Currently, the WHO-approved insecticides will not be effective to kill next generation of aedes mosquitoes if proper measures are not taken," he quoted the WHO as saying. He said the WHO had also insisted upon the Sindh and KPK governments to make procurement of anti-dengue and anti-malaria insecticides under the Global plan for Insecticide Resistance Management in malaria vectors (GPIRM) like other provinces had done.

The WHO says as two provinces are not making procurements under GPIRM for long, the ratio of efficacy of insecticides in malaria has dropped below 80 which is a dangerous sign. He further quoted the WHO as saying that the ratio of resistance in aedes mosquito was also gradually increasing due to massive use of locally manufactured insecticides.

The WHO alert communicated 'serious' message after the dengue virus had reached 35 cities of the country in the current peak season of the disease. Among them Karachi and Swat are the two most vulnerable cities which have reported dengue fever deaths.

"Islamabad is heading towards next most high-risk city from where the huge reserves of the vector were found recently," the WHO said.

"Pakistan is signatory to Stockholm Convention 2000, agreeing to ensure the rational use of public health pesticides and to ensure use of quality assured products with minimum risk to environment and human health", the health alert said.

The WHO insisted on the use of WHOPES recommended products in the pest control programs.

"As per national policy guidelines 2007, in Pakistan only products meeting the WHOPES/FAO standards can be used for pest control of public health importance."

It said the products which were not from WHOPES pre-qualified source, contained the higher quantities of impurities which were the major cause of skin and other cancers.

"Non-qualified products are environmental hazards contaminating environment, food stuff and underground water sources," the WHO said. It said "the products which are not from pre-qualified sources contain excipients (binding agents) which do not allow the release of required amount of pesticide to kill the vectors of public health importance, thus increasing the chances of development of resistance in prevalent vectors."

The current WHO Global Plan for Insecticide Resistance Management insists on the use of carefully selected pre-qualified products to minimise the chance of insecticide resistance development in dengue and malaria vector which is the major challenge to vector-borne disease control program.

"Therefore, it is communicated that no local product should be labelled with WHO reference to misguide common people and VBD control programs. There is no doubt that the local products are from non-qualified sources and have no place in vector control programs and can lead to resistance," the WHO warned.

Lahore - 18 September - Reported By Asif Chaudhry - Dawn.com



**World Health
Organization**

Anti-Counterfeiting Flagship Project launched in Egypt

On September 26 a meeting was held at the offices of CropLife Egypt in Cairo to kick-off a new Anti-Counterfeiting Project. The project will receive some support from the regional association but the newly created Anti-Counterfeiting Steering Committee in Egypt will be responsible for the implementation. All major companies joined the initial meeting and are committed to contribute to the success of this project. After the completion and approval of the detailed project plan and budget, a launch event will be conducted towards the end of this year or early 2014. Similar Anti-Counterfeiting Flagship Projects are planned for West and Central Africa and in East and Southern Africa.

Rudolf Guyer



The newly created Anti-Counterfeiting Steering Committee Egypt, with its Chairman, Sarwat Sakr.



Representing the Plant Science Industry

Association Management

Monitoring and Evaluation on Trade Facilitation workshop



On 23 – 27 September, in Abidjan, 40 participants representing the public sector (Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture and Customs Services) and the private sector (CropLife Côte d'Ivoire represented by the Executive Secretary, and Groupe Bolloré) got together for a 5-day workshop. This was organized by WTO to prepare the participation of Côte d'Ivoire to the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference. To this end the objective was to ensure the participation of Côte d'Ivoire to the regional and multi-lateral negotiations with focus on:

- Updating on the resolutions of the workshop held in 2008
- Sensitizing stakeholders on the needs to simplify the procedures

The participants were split into 3 working groups to discuss either “policy or legal framework”, “measures related to customs formalities for the import/export”, or “customs control procedures”.

The participation of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire was justified by the needs to consider pesticides as specialized “products or goods” and how the import and export procedures and transportation constraints, particularly the non-tariff items can impact on the availability of pesticides on the market. In addition and more importantly, is the issue of the illegal trade on pesticides to relate to customs control procedures, which was brought to the attention of the workshop.

Bama Yao



Representing the Plant Science Industry

CropLife Zimbabwe donates IT equipment to Government Pesticides Registration Office

CropLife Zimbabwe has donated computer equipment and a specially designed software package to the Pesticides Registration Office in the Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development

Presenting the equipment, consisting of a laptop computer and a 3-in-1 printer, the Chairperson of CropLife Zimbabwe, Ms. Yevai Goto, said it would help the Pesticides Registration Office to process registration applications more speedily. A large number of these applications are in respect of crop chemical products manufactured or distributed by members of CropLife Zimbabwe.

A specifically designed software-based database has been installed on the laptop to capture and process information presented at the time of registering or re-registering a pesticide and in applications for import permits. It will quickly generate various reports that the office requires.

The new equipment will also help the Pesticides Registration Office to track down and minimise sales of illegal crop chemicals and counterfeit products, as the database will hold records of all registered products and suppliers. Last year CropLife Zimbabwe sponsored the Pesticides Registration Officer, Mr. Kwadzanai Mushore, to attend its annual accreditation course, from which he graduated with flying colours

Yevai Goto, CropLife Zimbabwe



Yevai Goto, Chairperson of CropLife Zimbabwe (top right) and Kwadzanai Mushore, Registrar (seated) with the software developer (bottom left) and Nozipo Nziramasanga, head of the Farm Feeds and Fertilisers Department in the Ministry of Agriculture (top left).

Visit of the US Deputy Secretary of Agriculture



L-R US Consul General, Earl Miller, USDA Deputy Secretary, Krysta Harden and Eric Wenberg, Minister Counselor for Agricultural Affairs, US Embassy, Pretoria.

The US Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Krysta Harden led a trade mission to South Africa to promote US agricultural trade and investment in sub-Saharan Africa. The mission moves from South Africa to Mozambique. The trade mission launches USDA's Sub-Saharan Africa Trade Initiative, which aims to expand US agricultural commercial ties in the region. The mission includes 18 US companies and 16 US agricultural commodity trade associations.

High-level discussions took place with the South African Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr Pieter Mulder.

Eric Wenberg, Minister Counselor for Agricultural Affairs, Pretoria Embassy, hosted an "Open House" function in honour of Ms. Harden.

Les Hillowitz

Association Management Training: SAGA (CropLife Sudan)

CropLife Africa Middle East conducted Association Management Training for the Sudan Agrochemicals Association (SAGA) on 24-25 September 2013 at the Grand Holiday Villa Hotel, in Khartoum.

Eighteen participants from the executive committee and member companies attended the two-day training program.

Manon Dohmen, the CropLife Africa Middle East, Professional Trainer - Knowledge & Skills facilitated the training intervention. All participants confirmed that the training was both useful and beneficial. It gave direction that could lead to better organizational management and how additional financial resources could be accessed. A SWOT analysis demonstrated on how the national association could maintain its strengths, overcome weaknesses and threats and move forward in a more positive manner.

Faisal M Ali, SAGA



Representing the Plant Science Industry

Plant Biotechnology

Uganda

As diseases and pests destroy up to 40% of crops in Africa and the continent spends several billions of dollars to import food to feed its growing population, agriculture scientists on the continent say Africa has no option but to adopt Genetically Modified (GM) crops to overcome the challenge.

They are optimistic that the adoption of GM crops is the best solution to increase yield and fight crop diseases that are creating a major challenge to agriculture on the continent.

On a recent visit to Kampala, Uganda as part of a four-day field trip organized by the Biosciences for Farming in Africa (B4FA), Ugandan scientists appealed to African countries to vigorously go for biotechnology tools and GM crops to reduce hunger and poverty on the continent.

Uganda has the regulatory framework on Biosafety but yet to table the policy before its parliament, for the passage of the law, yet it is currently applying four GM crops, namely Banana, Cassava, Maize and Sweet Potato at the Confined Field Trials (CFT).

Ghana on the other hand has passed the Biosafety law in 2011 paving the way for the trials of GM crops, such as rice, Bt cowpea, High protein sweet potato and Bt cotton, at the CFT level, but yet to go commercial.

Speaking in separate interviews with The Enquirer, Dr. Geoffrey Arinaitwe, Consultant, Biotechnology Unit of the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) of Uganda, said Biosafety laws must be implemented fast and quick.

'We need the law, I'm not just pushing for the law but pushing for good foods and the law can make it good.'

He said Uganda has the regulatory framework for biotechnology, but noted that without the legislative instrument to back it, there will not be any advancement in its agricultural agenda.

On his part, Dr. Titus Alicai a plant virologist of NARO added that for Africa to reduce hunger and poverty it is incumbent on it to adopt GM, stating that 'I can say without fear of contradiction that it is safe.'

He said however that the safety aspects of ensuring that GM products have no toxins and allergies, and no effects on the environment must be guaranteed.

'We are asking for a bio-safety law so that whatever we come up with, it would be of benefit for the farmer without the law the products would remain in our labs,' he said.

Responding to health fears expressed by concerned organizations, Dr. Alicai said perceptions that GM crops are not safe for human consumption are unfounded.

He stated that there are no evidence to back that assertion, asserting 'It's just people's beliefs; it has nothing to do with the technology or the sciences.'

'For those of us who support the technology we do it on case by case basis, it is not blanket, depending on individual needs, we implement it by bringing benefits and values to the communities,' Dr. Alicai stated.

'Some communities that are strongly opposed to these technologies don't have the problems we have, they are food secure, they have credit cards, they have monies in their pockets, they walk into supermarkets and pick whatever they want, they buy the food but have never seen the crop,' he contested.

Dr. Alicai therefore called on African countries to take opportunity of the Biotechnology tools including GM Organisms to fast track its agriculture development.

Mark Boye - Modern Ghana "Africa Should Adopt Genetically Modified Crops—Scientists Advocate " 11 September 2013



Dr Geoffrey Arinaitwe at a GM banana nursery in Kampala, Uganda

GM crops: African opposition is a farce, says group led by Kofi Annan



Group chaired by former UN Secretary General urges farmers to shake fear of the unknown and adopt new technologies - Mark Tran : The Guardian

Concern in Africa over genetically modified crops has been dismissed as fear of the unknown by an environmental group chaired by Kofi Annan, the former UN secretary general.

A report by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (Agra), published on Wednesday, describes opposition to GM crops as "a farce". It points out that such crops have been subjected to more testing worldwide than new non-modified varieties, citing reports from the EU, the World Health Organisation and the US national academy of sciences.

Only four African countries – Burkina Faso, Egypt, Sudan and South Africa – have fully commercialised GM crops. But Agra says most countries across the continent are at various stages of creating the environment for commercialisation.

Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria and Uganda are conducting field trials of biotech crops, the final step before full approval of commercialisation. Most African countries have put in place the requisite policy and regulatory frameworks, despite growing public jitters over genetically modified food.

Agra's Africa Agricultural status report states: "There is growing public opposition to GM crops in Africa that is best described as a fear of the unknown. Unless milled, the import of GM foods is banned in Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. More important to seed-sector development, these bans signal the arbitrariness and unpredictability of public policy."

Agra is an independent organisation based in Kenya that aims to double the income of 20 million small farmers and reduce food insecurity by 50% in 20 countries by 2020. Critics of the group accuse it of showing its true colours after initial coyness over GM foods.

"This report clearly indicates their full support for GM crops, and their intention to use their influence to open African doors for Monsanto's and Syngenta's patented GM crops," said Teresa Anderson, international advocacy co-ordinator for the Gaia foundation, an advocate of food sovereignty that asserts the right of people to define their own food systems.

Group chaired by former UN secretary general urges farmers to shake fear of the unknown and adopt new technologies - Mark Tran : The Guardian cont.

"Characterising the refusal of most African countries to commercialise GM crops ... as 'fear of the unknown' is patronising and shallow. Agra has willfully chosen to insult farmers' concerns in their aim to expand corporate agribusiness into Africa."

The Agra report urges African countries to further invest in agricultural research and development to ensure food security amid concern that some nations are lagging behind. "In terms of personnel engaged in agricultural research, Africa has the world's lowest capacity, with only 70 researchers per million inhabitants (compared with the US and Japan with 2,640 and 4,380, respectively)," it says.

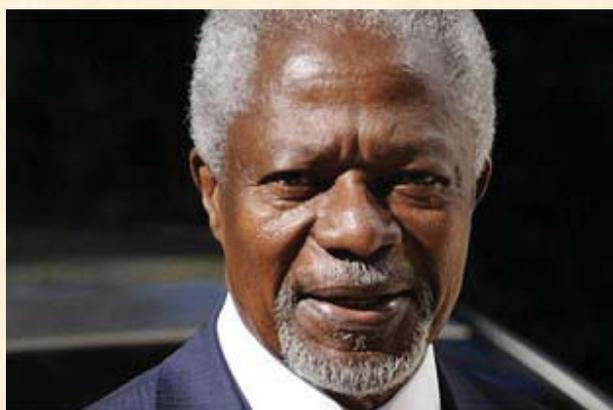
It notes that smallholder farm yields fall short of the estimated potential for most food crops (cereals and pulses). The average grain yields remained at about one-third to half of the world's average (1.1-1.5 tonnes per hectare versus 3.2 tonnes per hectare) between 2000 and 2010. Sub-Saharan Africa has the greatest gaps between potential yields and realised yields for several crops, particularly maize and rice.

"Plausible explanations for the low yields include lack of access to quality resources such as water, inputs and low use of new technologies that require money – such as fertiliser, machinery and irrigation technology," the report says. "The development and dissemination of new technologies and practices that increase yield potential for a particular area depend on a country's ability to make needed investments, and farmers' skills and willingness to adopt the technologies."

Anderson said the key was quality, not quantity, of research, and questioned the approach of most agriculture research institutes. "They are usually focused on producing a few varieties that claim to address individual (not complex) issues," she said. "Farmers are advised to grow these new varieties instead of their traditional crops. What we are clearly seeing as a result is that seed diversity is disappearing in Africa, while communities complain that the new varieties are tasteless, lack nutrition, or are more vulnerable to particular pests."

The report coincides with a meeting in Maputo, Mozambique, of the African green revolution forum, organised by Agra. The focus of the talks – which bring together heads of state, ministers, NGOs and scientists – is "scaling up and financing inclusive agribusiness through transformative public private partnerships".

The forum takes place 10 years after 40 African countries, convened by the African Union, signed the Maputo declaration, committing at least 10% of their national budgets to agriculture development.



Kofi Annan - Former UN Secretary



Photo: Watchmen News



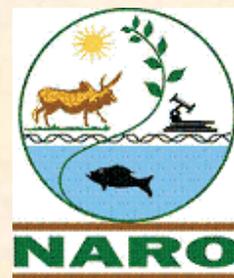
NARO-Uganda Launches Biosciences Information Center

Uganda's National Agricultural Research Organization has established a Biosciences Information Center. The center, launched on 12 September 2013 will serve as a designated reference center for biotechnology communication for the national agricultural research systems in Uganda. The Center will be hosted at the National Crop Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI), Namulonge and will also be part of ISAAA's global network of biotechnology information centers spread across Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

"This Center is going to ensure that Uganda and the whole world are aware of the significant steps the country is making in modern agricultural biotechnology," noted Dr. James Ogwang, the Director of NaCRRI when speaking during the launch. Currently, Uganda has several institutions working on various biotech crops. These include Universities and Public Agricultural Research Institutes (PARIs) including NaCRRI, where several biotech crops including bananas, cassava, maize, rice are being tested in confined field trials. The goal of the new Center is to become a hub for the dissemination of information, and provide a forum for discussing the priorities, benefits and concerns of using the biotechnology in Uganda.



Dr. Yona Baguma, the Head of the Biosciences facility at NaCRRI (center right) and Dr. Margaret Karembu, Director ISAAA AfriCenter (center left) officially unveil the Uganda Biotechnology Information Center flanked by Dr. Mariechel Navarro of ISAAA (left) and Dr. Barbara Mugwanya, UBIC Director (right). (Photo Courtesy of Crop Biotech Update)



National Agricultural Research
Organisation (NARO)

Drought-tolerant maize could be available by 2017 in Kenya

A drought-tolerant maize variety could be available to farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2017, according to scientists working on the project. The study, being conducted by scientists at Kenya's Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), aims to develop a maize variety that can grow in the arid and semi-arid lands.

According to Sylvester Anami, the lead researcher and a senior research fellow at JKUAT's Institute of Biotechnology Research, the early stages of the study that started in 2011 with funding mainly from Kenya's National Council for Science and Technology are showing positive results. Anami says that the new maize variety is proving significantly tolerant to drought stress. The stems are stronger, its cells are arranged in a clear pattern and much greener, meaning that it has higher chlorophyll content and thus high yields are expected, he adds. He revealed this in Nairobi during the Open Forum on Agricultural Biotechnology in Africa (OFAB) meeting last month (29 August)

The study, Anami explains, uses a gene silencing approach — changing a plant's gene without changing its DNA — to improve tolerance to drought stresses in maize. This approach ensures that plants use their own stored energy. He adds that the physical characteristics of this maize variety under dry conditions are similar to those that are grown in normal conditions.

According to Anami, Kenya is mostly covered by arid and semi-arid lands, thus the need to find drought-tolerant crop varieties. He adds that the country has experienced a decline in maize yields and could not be able to feed her rapidly growing population by the year 2050.

"Agriculture in the country is predominantly rain fed. This is hardly sustainable considering the increased demand for food caused by the rapidly growing population," Anami says.

Anami adds that, "Sustainable maize supply lies in the provision of drought-resistant variety and the new variety has higher chlorophyll content — the substance that enables plants to manufacture food."

But the main challenge to the study is inadequate funding and this might delay its end result.

Margaret Karembu, the director for the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications (ISAAA) AfriCenter in Nairobi, tells SciDev.Net that the progress of this study shows the availability of research capacity in agricultural biotechnology in the country.

She explains that the study will help address problems of climate change and rapidly growing population in Sub-Saharan Africa. "This project is addressing a very important constraint to food security in the country," she adds.

Jane Otado, a senior official with Kenya's Ministry of Agriculture, tells SciDev.Net: "We need to do continuous awareness on biotechnology to the public and to the policymakers to enhance its success".



Sylvester Anami, the lead researcher and a senior research fellow at JKUAT's Institute of Biotechnology Research,



Ivory Coast: 2.4 million Farm Jobs to be Created

The world's top cocoa grower aims to create 2.4 million new jobs by the end of 2016 through investments in agriculture.

Nouhoun Coulibaly, head of project planning at the Ministry of Agriculture, said on Friday (20/9/13). Ivory Coast is recovering from a decade-long political crisis. The economy expanded by 9.8 percent in 2012 but unemployment, especially among the young, remains high and many complain that the revival has not trickled down to ordinary Ivorians. Coulibaly said the government planned to invest more than 2 trillion CFA francs to improve and diversify the agriculture sector to create jobs - Reuters



UPCOMINGevents

UPCOMINGevents

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Meeting with potential partners for A/C and SSP Projects: CropLife Uganda	Oct 14-15
Anti-counterfeiting training for customs and inspectors, S-E Cote d'Ivoire	Oct. 21
Meeting with PCPB by RRC members and DG	Oct 22
Kick-off of Flagship Project Anti-Counterfeiting Kenya	Oct 22
Global IPM Project Team Meeting, Raleigh, USA	Oct 22
Global Stewardship Steering Committee Meeting, Raleigh, USA	Oct 23
Hub and Regulatory Meeting North Africa Middle East, Dubai, UAE	Oct 29-30
Meeting with COLEACP, Brussels	Nov 6
Board Meeting in Brussels (noon to late afternoon)	Nov 7-8
IPM/RU training workshop Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Nov.11-14
Meeting of the Obsolete Stocks Project Team, (Brussels?)	Nov 18
SAICM Regional Meeting, Pretoria, South Africa	Nov 18-22
CILSS-CSP 2nd ordinary meeting for pesticides registration	Nov.25-29
Steering Committee Meeting of CLP and ACI in Accra	Dec 3-5
PRD Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels	Dec 9
POR project Team Meeting, Brussels	Dec 10
RSC Meeting, Brussels	Dec 11-12

GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY

Representing the Plant Science Industry



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