



East and Southern Africa Hub and Regulatory Workshop

“Strengthening Regulatory and Policy Environment for Effective Pesticides Management”

The East and Southern Africa Hub and Regulatory Workshop was held on 20th – 21st August 2019 in Nairobi Kenya. The workshop was focused under the theme “Strengthening Regulatory and Policy Environment for Effective Pesticide Management”. The workshop brought together representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture in Kenya, Pesticide Regulators representing various countries in East and Southern Africa, Industry representatives, Members of the Regional Economic Communities of EAC and SADC, Pesticide, Vector control Industry Experts and partners (SNV, FAO) among others.

The Workshop was officially opened by the Principal Secretary (PS) for Agriculture Mr. Harry Kimtai. In his opening speech, the PS noted that in Kenya, achievement of 100% food and nutrition security is a key pillar in the Government development agenda dubbed, “The Big 4” Agenda.

He further noted that the Kenyan Government was concerned about the threat posed by pests and diseases in the achievement of this important objective which was a threat to food safety.

For that reason, the PS noted that the workshop had come at an opportune time when, more than never before, enhanced and deliberate public private partnerships in tackling the food security challenges was critical. He noted that the Kenyan Government recognized and appreciated the role the pesticide industry plays in driving the agriculture sector.

In his speech the PS said that although Kenya’s pesticide industry has net worth of about Kshs. 12 Billion (Freight on Board-FOB value of imports), the pesticides needed to be used safely and efficiently in order to achieve the desired results. Towards this end, the Kenyan Government through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation, and its institutions such as PCPB and KEPHIS have continued to foster cooperation with the industry on a number of stewardship activities.



Group Photo

In order to bolster the Regulatory and Policy Environment, the PS noted that the Kenya Government was currently working on several legislative instruments including:

- Reviewing the Proposed Pest Control Products (PCPB) Bills and Regulations 2016
- The Statute Laws Miscellaneous Amendments Act, Number 18 of 2018, which introduced changes to the Anti-Counterfeit Act, Number 13 of 2008,
- The Crops Act (Several crops) Regulations
- Waste Management Bill 2019

Further, Kenya continues to be a part of regional and global discussions such as the East African Community (EAC) Pesticides Harmonization Program, Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, CODEX, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) – World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Environment Assembly among others.

The President of CropLife Africa Middle East, Mr. Dirk Hartman in his speech noted the following *“This theme could not have come at a more appropriate time than this. The pesticide industry globally is going through a transformation with the aim of ensuring sustainable agriculture. But with this transformation, comes in the need for stronger policy and regulatory environment at the same time ensuring that we maximize the use of the crop protection products while ensuring minimal risk. This is critical for our network and I believe for each one of us here in our own individual and institutional capacities we have one common goal: to produce our food in a sustainable manner – and improve the livelihoods of our farmers”.*



Left: CLAME President – Dirk Hartman during his opening speech



Right: Guest of Honor Principal Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock – Mr. Harry Kimtai

The workshop provided a great opportunity for regulators and industry to interact and discuss on topical issues affecting the industry. Some of the key highlights discussed included:

1. Harmonization of pesticide regulations – fast tracking harmonization. It was noted that the process was taking too long, and the following were recommended:
 - Formation of EAC regulators forum
 - Joint meetings between EAC & SAPReF
 - Fast tracking implementation of guidelines while awaiting the due processes of legislation
2. Regulatory frameworks for vector control products - The session provided an overview of regulatory practices throughout the continent and insights into the successes and challenges experienced by manufacturers and regulators in vector control products
3. Association Management: The session provided national associations with insights on association management, the National Associations also had an opportunity to evaluate their capacity building needs and review their current structure.
4. Updates on implementation of ongoing regulatory efforts such as GHS, Registration of Biologicals, Mode of Action labeling, Minor changes procedures, retesting and relabelling of products, Confidential Business Information, emergency registration procedures for FAW and crop grouping among others
5. On Stewardship activities, participants in the hub meeting were taken through the SSP projects, CLAME Stewardship priority areas for 2020 – this included Container Management, Resistance Management and MoA labelling and FAW training for the East & Southern Africa sub-region. National Associations were able to identify their communication needs and communication tools needed to support their stewardship functions.

Evelyn Lusena & Stella Simiyu Wafukho





P.S. Ministry of Agriculture Mr. Harry Kintai being welcomed by President CLAME Mr. Dirk Hartman



Below: EAC Representative Mr. Fahari Marwa



Left: CLAME Director General, Dr. Samira Amellal

President of CropLife Tanzania – Harish Dhutia with P.S. Agriculture Mr. Kimtai



Stewardship

Grassroot Sensitization on Responsible Use of Pesticides and Pest Management Technologies by CropLife Kenya

Small scale farmers at community level are always in need of information on how to increase their productivity. This information and technologies are what makes the difference between a successful commercially oriented farmer and a traditional subsistence farmer. In this dynamic age, new and easily adoptable technologies are at farmers disposal, only that the masses are not aware of this or have the disposition to adopt them.

In order to correct the situation, CropLife Kenya (CLK), its member companies, the County Governments of Nyeri/ Kajiado and Remington Africa partnered to organize 2 trade fairs for the purpose of interacting with farmers on new technologies for enhanced crop production and environmental sustainability.

The 2 events held on 26 and 27 July and on 31 July, offered an excellent opportunity for CLK to disseminate the message on responsible use to the thousands of farmers in attendance. The SSPs featured prominently in both exhibitions with farmers being made aware of the important roles that they can play in reducing pesticide exposure as well as improving food safety. CLK also drummed up support for their container management program by encouraging farmers to avoid the reuse of pesticide containers as well as to follow triple rinsing and puncturing of all containers before disposal.

CLK member companies were present to offer a bouquet of revolutionary solutions to farmers. This ranged from seed, to pest management options as well as soil fertility management. The Chair of CLK, Patrick Amuyunzu, attended the Nyeri exhibition on the 26 and 27 July where he gave an interview to a local television station. An excerpt of this interview can be found on https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=494771464603240&id=512188825573482 The clip is regrettably without subtitles but neighboring East African countries should be able to comprehend which focuses on anti-counterfeiting.

During the trade fair on 31 July 2019 in Kajiado county, farmers were organized in groups of 25-30 and were chaperoned to all stands which had a classroom setting. This ensured maximum contact with the exhibitors, be it over a reduced duration of 30 minutes per stand. Farmers were at liberty to go back to stands they had a particular interest in at tail end of the event. This system has been tested by CLK on a previous occasion and has proven to be a good process for enhanced contact with all farmers attending exhibitions.

Benson Ngigi



Stewardship



Photos from the event



Stewardship

Bio Pesticides – “Future in Egypt” workshop 29 July 2019

CropLife Egypt in collaboration with the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) organized a workshop, Bio Pesticides – “Future in Egypt” on 29 July 2019 at the Pyramisa Hotel - Cairo.

The workshop was attended by approximately 75 participants from:

- The Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC)
- The Plant Protection Research Institute (PPRI)
- The Central Agricultural Pesticide Laboratory (CAPL)
- The Plant Pathology Research Institute
- The Weed Research Central Laboratory
- Also, in attendance were a number of university professors, The Dean from Heliopoles University and the Chairman of the Phytosanitary Committee.
- CropLife Egypt member companies included Bayer CropScience, BASF, Syngenta, FMC, Nufarm, Kafr Elzayat and Corteva.
- Stakeholders from Bio product companies and organic farms were also present.



Participants were divided into 6 groups to interact and share experiences. A questionnaire was distributed to discuss the following topics, ending with each group concluding with recommendations:

Topics for discussion:

- Registration
- Analysis
- Evaluation
- Production
- Application
- Handling

Dr. Sherif Ayoub (CLE Chairman) stated the importance of these new innovations and that international organizations should adopt these, that registration requirements should be reviewed to make it easier to register bio pesticides especially products for weed control while considering the environmental impact. He further mentioned that handling instructions should be clear on label and the need to promote awareness and the training for applicators. Dr. Ayoub confirmed that CLE will follow up on the recommendations of the workshop.

Said Abdella



Stewardship



Prof. Mohamed Elzemaity delivered a presentation under the title of "Strengthen Bio Pesticides between reality and hope"



Dr Sherif Ayoub delivered a presentation "Biologicals - Biocontrol products - Bio pesticides"

Said Abdella delivered a presentation over "Key Elements for a Regulatory Framework"



Group Photo

Stewardship

CropLife Côte d'Ivoire IPM/RU training Workshop

CropLife Côte d'Ivoire, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) of Côte d'Ivoire, undertook the second training session of the year on IPM/RU of pesticides. The workshop, which took place on August 26-30, in Yamoussoukro, attracted 70 participants comprising of 20 pesticide dealers, 16 applicators and 34 counselors. Many of the participants were seeking their first certification as professionals while others are undergoing the renewed process.

The program was facilitated by eight trainers from CropLife Côte d'Ivoire and covered the following 10 topics:

- Basics on pesticides, IPM and GAP
- Pesticide regulations in Côte d'Ivoire
- Labels/labeling and understanding the pictograms
- Poisoning and First Aid Measures
- Importance and the Use of PPE
- Tackling Counterfeit and other Illegal Pesticides.
- Safe Transport and Storage of pesticides
- Pesticide Use in Public Hygiene
- Spraying Equipment, Maintenance and Application of Pesticides
- Pesticide Application and Fumigation of stored commodities

All participants undertook the required written evaluation test; those in the applicator group undertook an additional practical test. All participants in the counsellor's group passed the test, while 19 out of 20 participants and 31 out of 34 participants in the dealer's and applicator's group passed the test, respectively.

The Director of Plant Protection and Quality Control (DPVCQ) of the MINADER chaired the closing ceremony, supported by the President, Vice President, the executive team, trainers and members of the Training Project Team. He praised CropLife Côte d'Ivoire for the continuous support to the MINADER and for the well-organized training workshops to provide the needed and updated knowledge to professionals involved in the daily handling of pesticides in the country. He again committed the full support from the DPVCQ to fight against illegal pesticides, and on the promotion of PPE in the country, as these two issues received special attention throughout the workshop.

Bama Yao



Partial view of the participants during a lesson (Top-L) and the closing ceremony (Top-Right) chaired by the Director of DPVCQ (Right).

Photo: Courtesy CropLife Côte d'Ivoire.



Stewardship



CropLife Egypt Continues Responsible Use and Anti-Counterfeiting awareness training at BASF clinics

CropLife Egypt collaborates with BASF by delivering training in Responsible Use of pesticides and on Anti-Counterfeiting awareness through their one-day clinics. BASF held their most recent one-day clinic in Wady Elnatroun - Behira Governorate on 17 July 2019.

Mahmoud Said, CropLife Egypt Master Trainer delivered both, the training in Responsible Use as well as the awareness and perils of using counterfeit products. He further explained the importance of using PPE when applying pesticides.

Said Abdella



Mahmoud Said delivering the Responsible Use and Anti-Counterfeiting awareness sessions

Regulatory Advocacy

Cooperation NAFDAC and CropLife Nigeria on the Responsible Use of pesticides

Following the recent cases of poisoning due the misuse of crop production products (CPPs) the National Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and CropLife Nigeria agreed to undertake joint sensitization programs on the responsible use and handling of pesticides in the country.

A workshop was organized on August 6-7 in Kano, which attracted more than 60 participants comprising of Kano State agrochemical dealers, the Nigeria Agro-Inputs Dealers Association (NAIDA), representatives of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment. Many officers of NAFDAC accompanied Dr Bukar Ali Usman, Director of Veterinary and Allied Products (VMAP) Directorate and Chair of the workshop. The delegation from CropLife Nigeria led by President Mahmood Tauhid, comprised of the executives and many representatives from member companies.

The discussions focused on the recent regulatory measures aimed at mitigating the abuses/misuse of some CPPs. Among such measures are the census of agro-dealers which will be followed by a training program and improving the labelling of CPPs to avoid use in households.

The use of PPE during the handling of CPPs was highlighted through demonstration practices as was proper measuring, calibration and maintenance of spraying equipment and application techniques.

Siji, Executive Secretary CropLife Nigeria



Above & Below: Trainers from CropLife Nigeria undertaking exercises on the proper wearing of PPE.



President M. Tauhid (standing) addressing participants on the objectives of the workshop.



Association Management

CropLife Egypt and Blue Moon sign modification of MoU

CropLife Egypt and Blue Moon modified their signed MoU to exert every possible effort to map out and engage all potential stakeholders to deliver their services to smallholder farmers with gender equality and youth focus and cooperate with other stakeholders in the agribusiness community.

Dr. Sherif Ayoub, Chairman of CropLife Egypt and Manal Saleh, General Manager of Blue Moon, signed the MoU modification on 28 July at the offices of CropLife Egypt, to work together in an effort to provide capacity building programs that fit within the scope of activities related to:

1. Compliance with GLOBALG.A.P. and Fairtrade criteria for the “responsible use of pesticides” and
2. Providing job opportunities through the “Spray Service Provider program”
3. Develop a container management pilot program

Said Abdella



Dr. Sherif Ayoub and Ms. Manal Saleh signing the amended MoU

L/R Said Abdella, Ali Nenai, Sherif Ayoub, Manal Saleh, discussing the benefits of the amended MoU



Association Management

Christopher Beya, newly appointed Executive Secretary of CropLife Malawi

Chris has over 21 years of experience in managing business entities of varied agribusiness portfolios covering tobacco, agricultural inputs, crop and livestock farming. He was the General Manager for Agricultural Trading Company (ATC) and TIL Limited, both subsidiary companies of AHL Group Limited; and Deputy Executive Secretary for the Tobacco Association of Malawi (TAMA) in-charge of market and business strategy development, operations management and cooperative development.

Prior to these positions Chris worked as an Operations Manager for Chamwabvi Investments Limited and as a Farm Manager for Chikowa Produce Limited and Press Poultry Limited, subsidiary companies of Malawi Development Corporation (MDC) and Press Corporation Limited, respectively. He also had a stint with Malawi Bureau of Standards as Standards Officer.

He will share his time as Executive Secretary for CropLife Malawi as well as on his own consulting company, Mchilika Trading Company Limited and Mchilika Horticultural Farm Limited.

Chris is the holder of master's in business administration (MBA) from Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI), a Post Graduate Diploma in Management Studies, Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and Diploma in Agriculture all from the University of Malawi.

We look forward to having Chris on board.

Evelyn Lusenaka



Christopher Beya



Plant Biotechnology

Biotech Crops Continue to Help Meet the Challenges of Increased Population and Climate Change

Seventy Countries Adopted Biotech Crops to Provide Solutions to Hunger, Malnutrition, and Climate Change

(TOKYO, JAPAN-August 22, 2019) A total of 70 countries adopted biotech crops through cultivation and importation in 2018, the 23rd year of continuous biotech crop adoption, according to the *Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops in 2018* (ISAAA Brief 54) released by the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA) today. Twenty-six countries (21 developing and 5 industrialized countries) planted 191.7 million hectares of biotech crops, which added 1.9 million hectares to the record of plantings in 2017. The continuous adoption of biotech crops by farmers worldwide indicate that biotech crops continue to help meet global challenges of hunger, malnutrition, and climate change.



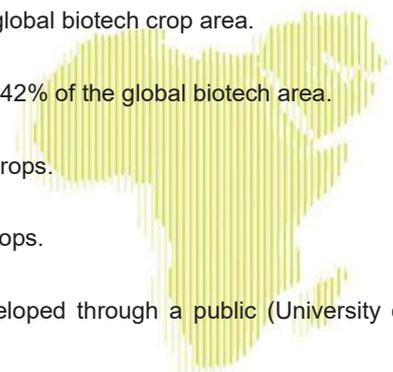
In 2018, it was reported in the *United Nation's State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* that hunger is growing year after year for three consecutive years, and at the levels equivalent to the records a decade ago. Furthermore, the 2017 Global Report on Food Crises revealed that hunger and malnutrition continue to rise, with around 108 million individuals in 48 countries at risk or in severe food insecurity. Biotech crops, developed with improved traits such as increased yield, more resistance to pests, improved nutrition, among others, are undeniably necessary to address these global challenges affecting the lives of so many families globally.

"GM technology has contributed to all facets of food security. By increasing yields and reducing losses, it contributed to food availability for more families. By enabling farmers to improve their processes and join the modern supply chain, it improved physical access to food. Through raising farmer and rural incomes, it improved economic access to food. Through rigorous standards of food safety and hygiene programs, it contributed to better food utilization," said Dr. Paul S. Teng, ISAAA Board Chair. "While agricultural biotechnology is not the only key in enhancing global food security, it is an important scientific tool in the multi-disciplinary toolkit."

Biotech crop plantings have increased ~113-fold since 1996, with an accumulated area of 2.5 billion hectares, showing that biotechnology is the fastest adopted crop technology in the world. In countries with long years of high adoption, particularly the USA, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, and India, adoption rates of major crops are at levels close to 100%, indicating that farmers favor this crop technology over the conventional varieties. More farmers' and consumers' needs, more diverse biotech crops with various traits became available in the market in 2018. These biotech crops include potatoes with non-bruising, non-browning, reduced acrylamide and late blight resistant traits; insect resistant and drought tolerant sugarcane; non-browning apples; and high oleic acid canola and safflower.

The ISAAA report also highlighted the following key findings:

- The top 5 countries with the largest area of biotech crops planted (USA, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, and India) collectively occupied 91% of the global biotech crop area.
- Biotech soybeans reached the highest adoption worldwide, covering 50% of the global biotech crop area.
- The area of biotech crops with stacked traits continued to increase and occupied 42% of the global biotech area.
- Farmers in 10 Latin American countries planted 79.4 million hectares of biotech crops.
- Nine countries in Asia and the Pacific planted 19.13 million hectares of biotech crops.
- In Asia, Indonesia planted for the first time a drought tolerant sugarcane developed through a public (University of Jember) and private (Ajinomoto Ltd.) partnership



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Plant Biotechnology

- The Kingdom of eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) joined South Africa and Sudan in planting biotech crops in Africa, with the introduction of IR cotton. Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Malawi granted approvals for planting IR cotton opening Africa to biotech crop adoption.
- In Europe, Spain and Portugal continued to adopt biotech maize to control European corn borer.
- More area planted to biotech crops for farmer and consumer needs included potatoes with non-bruising, non-browning, reduced acrylamide and late blight resistant traits; non-browning apples; insect resistant eggplant; and low lignin alfalfa, among others.
- New crops and trait combinations in farmer fields include insect resistant and drought tolerant sugarcane; high oleic acid canola and safflower.
- Various food, feed and processing approvals for Golden Rice, Bt rice, herbicide tolerant cotton, low gossypol cotton, among others.
- Cultivation approvals for planting in 2019 include new generation herbicide tolerant cotton and soybean, low gossypol cotton, RR and low lignin alfalfa, omega-3 canola, and IR cowpea, among others.

With the continuously increasing adoption of biotech crops worldwide, farmers are at the forefront of reaping numerous benefits. "We were fed up with weeding and spraying pesticides to control bollworms and weeds. When the technology was introduced, we rapidly picked it up," said Frans Mallela, a farmer from Limpopo Province, South Africa. Le Thanh Hai, one of the early adopters of biotech maize in Vinh Phuc Province, Vietnam, said that biotech maize has helped revive maize farming in their province and stressed that many farmers now grow biotech maize because of its benefits. Rosalie Ellasus, a farmer from Pangasinan, Philippines, said that she adopted Bt maize because she gained more yield with less production cost, compared to conventional maize varieties. "There was not even a trace of pests considering that we did not apply insecticide. Furthermore, we no longer need to visit our maize field every day and this gives us peace of mind," Ellasus added.

ISAAA



Dr. Paul S. Teng, ISAAA Board Chair.

Plant Biotechnology



GM Crop Adoption Continues to Move Forward in Africa

Africa continues to make steady progress in the adoption of biotech crops with Nigeria becoming the first country in the world to approve biotech cowpea, thus, adding a new biotech crop to the global biotech basket, according to ISAAA's latest report, *Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops in 2018*.

The Kingdom of eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) joined South Africa and Sudan in planting biotech crops in Africa, with commercial planting of insect resistant (IR) Bt cotton. Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Malawi granted approvals for planting biotech cotton as proof that Africa is ready for biotech crop adoption.

Two launch events were held in Africa, particularly in Nigeria and South Africa. One event was held in Abuja, Nigeria, on August 22, 2019, while the second event happened in Pretoria, South Africa, on August 27, 2019. The launch in Nigeria was co-organized by ISAAA *AfriCenter* and the Open Forum on Agricultural Biotechnology-Nigeria (OFAB Nigeria). It was attended by 30 biotech stakeholders comprising top biosafety regulators, communicators, and journalists. The event was presided over by National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA) Director General Dr. Rufus Ebegba and National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) Chief Executive Officer Prof. Alex Akpa.

Presenting the highlights of the report, *AfriCenter* Director Dr. Margaret Karembu hailed Nigeria's progress in biotech crop development and adoption noting that the country is a leader in agricultural technology approvals enabled by an efficient biosafety system. "The world is in a technological advancement trajectory.

The green revolution that had taken the world by storm in the second half of the 20th Century is quickly transitioning into gene revolution." Dr. Karembu said. "We are now progressing into genome editing, a more precise and accurate technology to effectively develop more productive, highly nutritious and climate-resilient crops for our rapidly-increasing population," she added.

During the launch in Pretoria, it was revealed that South Africa's average biotech crop adoption rose from 93% in 2017 to 96% in 2018, sustaining its ranking among the top 10 biotech crop countries in the last two decades. The event was organized by *AfriCenter* in collaboration with Agricultural Writers Association South Africa.

ISAAA





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