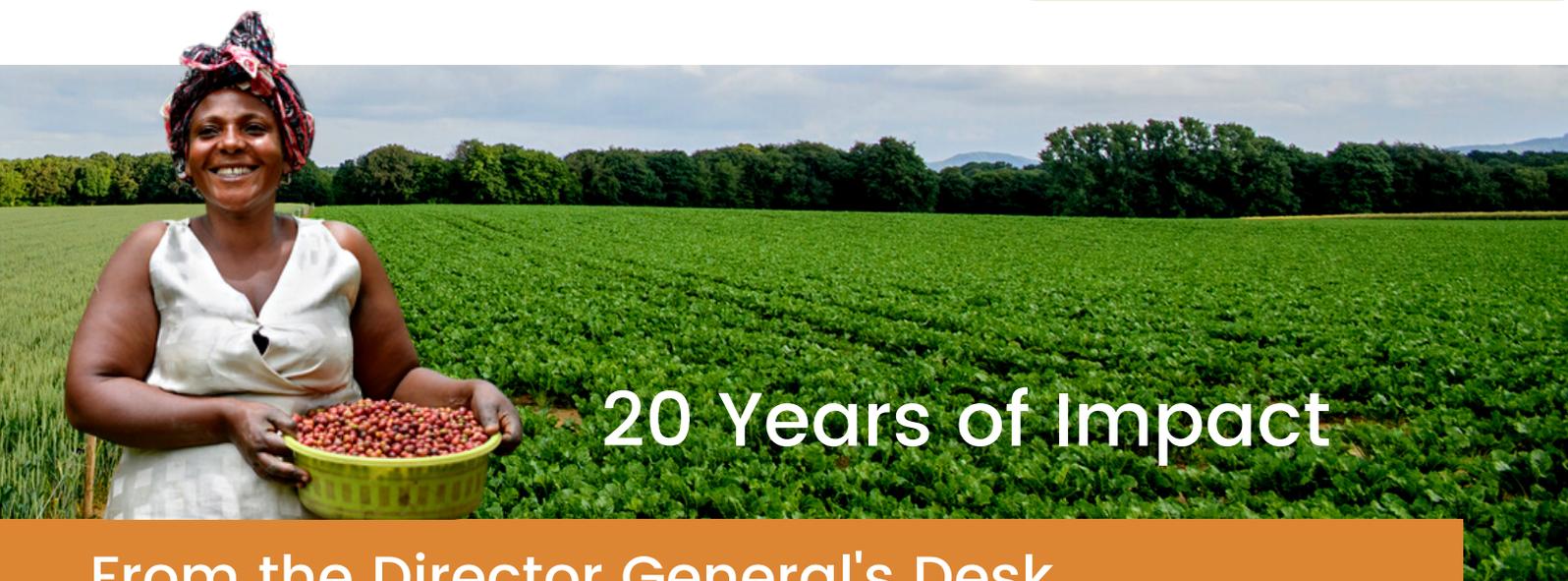


# Newsletter

Partners in Sustainable Agriculture



## 20 Years of Impact

### From the Director General's Desk

#### Celebration & Conversations Around 20 Years of Impact of Plant Science

In this edition of the newsletter, you're invited to join in the celebration of 20 Years of the impact of the Plant Science industry in Africa Middle East, a celebration for every farmer, community, and consumer that the plant science industry has impacted in the past 20 years.

The journey of 20 Years of the impact of Plant Science in Africa Middle East officially started with the establishment of CropLife Africa Middle A.I.S.B.L East in 2002. In this newsletter, there's something for all to learn, celebrate, and enjoy.

Farmers across the continent have been using plant science solutions that protect crops from environmental stresses such as pests, diseases, and weeds.

Since then, plant science has proven its value in agriculture. It has increased crop yields, reduced labour costs, and helped commercial farmers improve yields, improve the livelihood of smallholder farmers and their families, and support their local economies.

Farmers are adopting the technologies, and they choose to do so year after year because of the amazing environmental, economic, and social benefits that the technologies provide for their farms and communities.

To celebrate 20 years of plant science, CropLife Africa Middle East and its regional plant science network is sharing stories of achievement through its 20 years of existence. The campaign has brought together voices from various stakeholders to demonstrate the impact across the entire agricultural value chain – including local farmers, like Agnes Boateng from Ghana, to scientists, and other influential leaders.

Join us as we share our experience and explore our 20 YEAR journey in pursuit of food security.



#### Dr Samira Amellal

Director General  
CropLife Africa Middle East

Engage with us here:



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## Where and When did it all Begin?

### 23 May 2002

1st General Assembly (founding assembly) at the hotel Holiday Inn in Amman, Jordan by 16 founding member companies.

Appointment of the members of the Executive Committee (Board of Directors).

1st meeting of the Executive Committee. Election and appointment of President, 3 Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary.

### 31 October 2002

Publication of the Articles of the Association in the Belgian Official Gazette.

### 10 November 2002

Effective Date of legal existence of the association: Association International Sans Buts Lucratif (A.I.S.B.L., a non-for-profit international association).

Establishment of the new brand CropLife in the region of Africa Middle East.

Funds for the association. Involvement of Board members in the management of the association.

As we celebrate 20 years of plant science, we look to the future and the importance of continuing to leverage the benefits afforded by plant science to address the challenges we face today and those we are yet to face.

## 16 Founding Members of CropLife Africa Middle East:

1. Ivory Coast Union de la Profession Phytosanitaire en Côte d'Ivoire (UNIPHYTO)
2. Egypt CropLife Egypt
3. Kenya Agrochemical association of Kenya (AAK)
4. Association Marocaine de Négociants Importateurs et Formulateur de produits Phytosanitaire (AMIPHY)
5. South Africa Crop protection and Animal Health Association (AVCASA)
6. Monsanto Europe S.A.
7. Aventis CropScience S.A.
8. Bayer AG
9. BASF
10. SIPCAM S.P.A.
11. Syngenta Agro
12. DuPont de Nemours France S.A.S.
13. SUMITOMO Chemical Company Ltd.
14. Dow AgroSciences Export S.A.S.
15. Makhteshim Agan Industries
16. FMC Chemical SPRL

## Some Key Considerations for the Establishment of the Association

### Legal establishment of the Association in Brussels, Belgium, and the hub concept.

After a careful review and assessment of all the most promising regional options (South Africa, Kenya, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Morocco) it was decided to establish the association in Belgium. One important reason was the fact of the possible synergies with CropLife International and with the European association. Especially the relationship with CLI has remained extremely important with most of the association's funding coming out of CLI and its global committees such as the Stewardship and the Regulatory Committees. The choice was also influenced by the decision to establish a sub-regional hub structure with three hubs North Africa Middle East (Arabic language and Arab League member states), West and Central Africa (ECOWAS), and East and South Africa (SEARCH registration harmonisation initiative at the time). The decision for this hub structure allowed them to deploy the planned very limited staff resources where they would deliver their greatest impact, namely close to their related hub countries. Still, after 20 years of existence, CropLife AME has no staff resource based in Brussels.

### Establishment of the new brand CropLife in the region of Africa Middle East.

The above-described redesign of the corporate identity of the global industry association network became one of the top priorities for the regional association Africa Middle East.

Over the years most of the African associations adopted the new brand which was a particular challenge in non-English speaking environments such as in Arab and French-speaking countries.

Unlike a name change in a multinational firm where the headquarter simply decides and implements such a name change for all global company branches, the individual members of the CropLife network (roughly 100 National Industry Associations) must be convinced one by one to decide on such a name change. Reviewing this situation after 20 years shows that the African network along with the Asian regional association is the region where the name change has been implemented most consistently and significant respective communication and image benefits have materialised.

### Funds for the association. Involvement of Board members in the management of the association.

With 2-4 % of the global market value, the region Africa Middle East is the last regional priority for most member companies. Membership fees are difficult to justify with the result-oriented African company heads being the representatives of the Board. At the same time, the reputational exposure of the industry is probably the biggest in Africa, but this concern normally is not equally shared by the company business functions in charge of Africa. Therefore, global funding – approved at the HQ level of the companies – was and continues to be extremely important for the association to pursue its mission.

With its limited funding available, the Association structure had to be kept as lean as possible. The association has benefitted from the fact that several company representatives regarded their engagement and contribution to the association as a personal commitment to Africa which would not necessarily improve their company's business performance in the region. With the personal operational involvement of the President, the three Vice Presidents, and the Treasurer, the association was successfully established and run for the first 6 years without the need for a CEO / Director General.

– Dr. Rudolf Guyer, President and Director General CropLife Africa Middle East 2002–2017





## Congratulations from Morocco

As we celebrate CropLife AME's 20th anniversary this year, it is my big pleasure, as Executive Director of CropLife Morocco, to extend my warmest congratulations on behalf of all our member companies. Our local Moroccan association has always closely worked with CropLife AME. Our collaboration intensified from 2006 when we officially and proudly became CropLife Morocco.

We renew our commitment to CropLife AME longstanding mission for a sustainable agriculture while ensuring responsible pesticide use in line with country regulations.

- Boubker El Ouilani, CropLife Morocco Executive Director

## Congratulations from Uganda

### 20th anniversary congratulatory message to CropLife Africa Middle East.

A big congratulations to CropLife Africa Middle East (CLAME) for celebrating 20 years of providing Crop Protection Industry support in Africa Middle East. CropLife Uganda is especially proud to be part of your journey. This anniversary is not just about a corporate anniversary, this is an anniversary of a family who never gave up despite all odds.

It has been a pleasure to work with you over the years to promote good stewardship practices and advocate for a favourable environment to enable crop protection science to reach our farming communities and help ensure safe food production, a healthy environment and

sustainable agriculture.

CropLife Uganda has achieved many accomplishments through CropLife Africa Middle East (CLAME) support, among them, the establishment of a network of 314 Spray service providers in eight associations serving over 6,000 farmers in multiple crop value chains and awareness creation around counterfeit products.

You are surely destined for the biggest corporate successes in history.

- Betty Atto, Executive secretary  
CropLife Uganda

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## MESSAGE FROM CROPLIFE MALAWI

### Plant Science Impact in Associations

#### The Impactful Road to the 20th Anniversary of CropLife for the Malawian Farmer and Economy

##### INTRODUCTION

CropLife Malawi (CLM) joined the global flagship of the CropLife family in 2006, 18 years after its establishment in 1988 as the Pesticides Suppliers Association of Malawi (PSAM). CLM has remained a strategic organization for the plant science industry in Southern Africa and Malawi. It has offered an enormous positive impact on the well-being of farmers and the socio-economic well-being of the country.

The impact has been in many specific interventions championed by the regional and global CropLife family.

##### Chemical Pesticides

The availability of chemical pesticides in our respective countries remains a substantial positive contribution to the socio-economic development of the countries as it has helped increase the crop yield as these pesticides have helped protect the crops from damaging pests and diseases. The increased output has led to food self-sufficiency, effectively improving the country's economic growth. In addition, chemical pesticides remain the reliable and cost-effective means of managing farming businesses, providing employment and livelihoods to over 85% of the population of Malawi.

##### Regulatory

CLM has actively collaborated with various stakeholders, including the government, in developing and reviewing different regulatory pieces of legislation in managing the pesticides industry in the country. In addition, the collaboration with the regional and global CropLife members has helped to ensure that the domestic legislations have harmonised the broader perspectives, best practices, and solutions to the specific and general challenges faced by the country. CLM has collaborated with the government and stakeholders in the enactment of the Pesticides Act and Pesticides Regulation.

##### Spray Service Providers (SSPs)

The Spray Service Provider concept has remained the best stewardship service assisting smallholder farmers targeting a wide range of farming communities in an affordable, sustainable, and responsible way in the use of pesticides. The programme has capacitated over 14000 SSPs, which positively impacted the communities where they live. It remains one of the significant sources of their livelihood in addition to the responsible use of these pesticides. Furthermore, it positively impacted the lives of these 14000 SSPs as it provided them with resources for their livelihoods and the lives of over 150,000 farmers annually who have managed to increase the yield of their respective farming operations at an affordable and responsible manner annually.

##### Empty Container Management (ECM)

ECM is one of the stewardship programmes CLM has undertaken over the years, educating the masses and actively ensuring that the pesticide containers are appropriately handled and disposed of for the safety of man and the environment. The recycling program of the empty containers is at an early stage with the pilot working effectively. Once in full operation, this will help exporters of various products in the accreditation to comply with the needs of their EU customers; sensitisation of farming communities on triple rinsing and proper disposal has paid dividends.

##### Integrated Pest Management (IPM)/Responsible Use (RU)

The training of private and public officials on IPM has provided an avenue for farmers to manage their farming enterprises cost-effectively while reducing the risks to both the environment and human health of our communities.

##### CleanFARMS Project (CFP)

The CleanFARMS project came in as one of the solutions to accumulated obsolete and expired pesticides within the farmstead and various smallholder households. CLM and its partners have safely disposed of over 300 tons of these obsolete stocks through high-temperature incinerators in safe disposal facilities outside the country. The project positively impacted farmers sensitised and capacitated on the importation, handling, storage, and usage of pesticides to prevent similar accumulation. Our environment is safer today because of this project.

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## Technologies

The introduction of new technologies, such as herbicides and other pesticides, has helped to improve the productivity of various farming companies because the unit output of production has surpassed the previous outcomes several folds and remains the major contributor to the socio-economic advancement of most farmers. It continues to provide food self-sufficiency, economic well-being, and employment to an Agro-based country like Malawi.

## CONCLUSION

CLM and its CropLife family remain unwavering impactful partners to the socio-economic development of farmers at the household and national levels.

- Christopher Beya, CropLife Malawi

## MESSAGE FROM CROPLIFE ETHIOPIA

### Pesticide Spray Service Brings Additional Income, Creates Jobs for Ethiopian Youth in Agriculture

Farmers in Ethiopia apply pesticides in their crop production, but pests and diseases still cause major crop losses. One of the reasons for the poor pest and disease control is that the input supply systems are inefficient and underdeveloped. It is therefore difficult to get good quality pesticides on time at a fair price, especially in remote rural areas. The lack of good quality products is one of the reasons for the occurrence of substandard and illegal pesticides that find their way to the market, especially in places where good quality products are hard to find. Another challenge is the irresponsible use of pesticides; many farmers do not read or cannot read the label, do not know how to measure, or mix the pesticides, and do not protect themselves adequately from exposure to pesticides. On top of this, they are not aware of pre-harvest intervals with the risk of residue levels that are above the allowed Maximum Residue Levels (MRL's), leading to the rejection of crops if an export item possesses a health risk to the local consumer.

CropLife Ethiopia with immense support from the regional industry association, CropLife Africa Middle East, continuously works with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and non-governmental partners such as IFDC (2SCALE), SNV (Hortilife), USAID (Feed the Future), GIZ (GIC) and others to promote responsible use of pesticides in the field.

As part of this effort, CropLife Ethiopia has been training farmers to be Spray Service Providers (SSPs) in four major regional states of Ethiopia in Oromia, Amhara, SNNP, and Tigray. Over 1845 youth were trained as SSPs and equipped with all necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and knapsack sprayers.

Through this intervention with the 2SCALE project, the reporting 24 SSPs were able to generate 65,700 ETB (1,169.23 Euro) for themselves. Just within two months' time, they were able to address and create awareness among 105 smallholder farmers via the SSP concept. Besides the fact that these SSPs were able to generate an average additional income of 2,738 ETB (49 Euro) on monthly bases via serving SSPs, they were able to show signals of fruitful results at the commencement and a possible bright future for the SSP model.

These undertakings are part of the commitment and stewardship activities towards the responsible use and handling of pesticides practiced by CropLife Ethiopia and its partners (MoA, IFDC, SNV, USAID, and GIZ).

- Fasil Tadesse, CropLife Ethiopia

## Navigating the Regulatory Terrain 20 years on!

We began the journey in 2002 with an open mind to the myriad challenges that faced our region including among others, inadequate regulatory frameworks, low capacities in terms of personnel, and skills in the application of best practices in the regulation of crop protection products. We trace the phenomenal growth during these few years of existence, picking out the successes, challenges, learnings, and a firm focus on the future.

CLAME embraced principles of regulation, referred to as POR as a blueprint to guide engagement with key regulatory stakeholders in the subregions. POR, developed by CropLife International through an analysis and collation of 5-8-9 societal goals and expectations, principles of an effective regulatory system, and best practices for registration of crop protection products respectively.

The first decade was dedicated to dialogues and activities focused on inviting policymakers to reflect and re-assess national and regional regulatory systems to better benefit society and agriculture and used the POR as a starting point for enhancing the performance of regulatory systems and building capacity for science and risk-based decisionmaking. Thus, by 2012 several countries analyzed their respective systems using the POR questionnaire to determine the areas of focus for capacity building.

### Principles of Regulation



#### 1. Societal Goals

- i. Clear protection goals
- ii. Adequate procedures
- iii. Science-based decision making
- iv. Products access and safety assurance
- v. Enforceable performance measures



#### 2. Effective Registration system

- i. Sound Policy framework
- ii. Data quality, transparency & IP protection
- iii. Harmonisation with international practices
- iv. Product use assessment
- v. Responsible action & clarification of roles
- vi. Compliance monitoring and response system
- vii. Periodic review of products
- viii. Impact assessment of policy revisions



#### 3. Best practices in Registration

- i. Defined quality assurance standards
- ii. Product safety assessment with sufficient data
- iii. Harmonised data requirements & risk assessment approaches
- iv. Data sharing
- v. Tiered approach to product assessment
- vi. R.A based on established procedures & test methodologies
- vii. Fostered communication
- viii. Established data call in system
- ix. Laboratory animal testing **ONLY** when necessary

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Harmonisation of pesticide regulatory frameworks was and still is a key pillar in implementing best practices. Way back in the early years of 2004, significant progress was made in the (NAME) subregion where most national authorities accepted and adopted the harmonised dossier for the registration of new products. In addition, there was a commitment to developing a harmonised label and a harmonised registration certificate. Harmonisation efforts in the NAME subregion were co-driven by CropLife Africa Middle East and the Arab Organisation for Agriculture Development (AOAD). The pace gained in the first five years, however, was not sustained due to the ensuing political climate in some of the countries in the NAME subregion and countries have continued to pursue individual activities.

In the West and Central African subregion, there has been slow progress in the implementation of the West Africa common pesticides registration framework initiated way back in 2005. The West African Pesticides Registration Committee (WAPRC) set up 3 functional organisational institutions and in the recent past efforts are ongoing to operationalise the committee.

In the earlier years, harmonisation efforts in the East and Southern African subregion resulted in the adoption of "The harmonised application form", otherwise known as the SEARCH form. Other key documents were developed; including, drafts of a harmonised label; trial protocols for maize, cotton, and sugarcane accepted by seven countries; residue trial protocol; accepted by five countries and a set of four guidelines for registration of generic products, Biopesticides, the repacking and small pack requirements and "Border Control Procedures" respectively. During the same period, a close alliance was established by the Southern African Development Community (SADC), leading to the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

## Harmonisation of Regulatory Frameworks

<b>2022/2027</b>	<b>NAME:</b> Reestablishment of commitments to the application of harmonized application form; implementation of GHS; MOA labeling <b>WCA:</b> Operationalisation of WAPRC <b>ESA:</b> Implementation of EAC pesticides Harmonised guidelines and SADC guidelines
<b>2017/2022</b>	<b>NAME:</b> Individual country efforts <b>WCA:</b> West African Pesticides Registration Committee (WAPRC) draft application forms, harmonised testing protocols, procedures for evaluation, and inspection procedures <b>ESA:</b> Development of EAC harmonised guidelines and initial adoption
<b>2012/2017</b>	<b>NAME:</b> Individual country efforts <b>WCA:</b> Signing of ECOWAS, WAEMU, & CILSS agreement to establish a single reg. structure; draft CILSS registration guidelines and requirements <b>ESA:</b> SADC amendment of respective legislations; adoption of GHS; Capacity enhancement in risk assessment; Establish a common protocol for efficacy trials; Establish a common protocol data for residue trials; Review and customize existing procedures for import and export of pesticides based on the common seed procedure
<b>2007/2012</b>	<b>NAME:</b> Harmonized measures on minor changes in pesticide formulation, change of source of formulation, and the "me too" registrations <b>WCA:</b> Drafting a framework for regulatory harmonization - CILSS- CSP <b>ESA:</b> SEARCH registration application requirements accepted in EAC; SEARCH harmonized application form approved named the SADC registration form
<b>2002/2007</b>	<b>NAME:</b> Harmonized application dossier <b>WCA:</b> Initiation of CILSS- CSP <b>ESA:</b> Initiated, SEARCH Form guidelines for mutual data acceptance and Repacking and Small pack Requirements the registration of generic products

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The East African Community now comprised of the seven Partner States; Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, and the recent addition of DR Congo has registered the fastest growth in harmonisation efforts with a strong revival of the work in 2016 by the secretariat. A Technical Working Group comprised of officials from registration authorities in the Partner States has spearheaded the development of harmonised pesticides; six of them have already been approved for adoption by the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security (SCAFs). These include guidelines on the conduct of efficacy trials; supervised pesticide residue trials; data requirements for conventional pesticides, data requirements for biopesticides and biocontrol products; protection of confidential business information, and designation of efficacy trial centres. As a private sector group; CLAME has participated in the stakeholder validation processes at the invitation of EAC. The region is looking to complete another set of guidance documents for mutual recognition and emergency registration.

CLAME played a significant role in the implementation of an EAC - Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa's project to facilitate increased farmer access to effective conventional pesticides and bio-pesticides in the EAC Partner States, assessing the status of domestication and implementation of the harmonised pesticide registration system.

Another fundamental contribution by CLAME has been the support for the uptake of best practices in sustainable pesticide management. Since its inception, a total of 58 sub-regional hub meetings have been organised targeting an average of 25 country representatives. This was only interrupted during the last 3 years due to COVID-19-related challenges. These subregional regulatory meetings formed a significant platform for capacity enhancement - the exchange of skills, knowledge, and information among regulators. CLAME was able to liaise with other experts from other regions on critical topics as identified in the GAP analysis such as harmonisation, risk assessment, emergency registration, implementation of Global Harmonised Labelling System (GHS), implementation of intellectual property rights (IPR), regulation of biologicals, equivalence, minor changes, Mode of Action labeling, risk mitigation, MRLs, consumer Safety and Trade, Minor use challenges and emerging policy issues including Highly

Hazardous pesticides (HHPs), endocrine disruptors (EDs), and pollinator health.

Another milestone during this period was the release of the FAO/ WHO guidelines on highly hazardous pesticides giving guidance primarily regarding article 7.5 of the international code of practice on pesticide management and with the objective of encouraging countries to identify HHPs in use to assess the risks involved and decide upon appropriate measures to mitigate these risks.

Come the 2020s, even with the vagaries of COVID-19, CLAME maintained its regulatory functions by adopting a digital strategy. This saw the successful organisation and launch of e-submission dialogues with authorities. The very first online E-submission portal was officially launched in Egypt by the Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) in 2020. Other countries are at different stages of implementing submission platforms. Webinars were held on critical topics such as MRLs, Food Safety and Trade in Agricultural commodities, storage stability, risk assessment training, and the use of drones in agriculture and pesticide application. Through this, we had contact with over 1000 stakeholders on various topics.

As we look into the future - gathering the successes of the PoR framework in supporting the establishment of regulatory systems and enhancing capacity building, CLAME looks to combine these with the Sustainable Pesticides Management Framework to navigate today's increasingly complex environment. AME region is made up of some 72 countries, each facing various challenges that negatively impact agricultural production and therefore food security including, among others, increased pests and disease pressures brought about by climate change. This is a region where regulatory processes for pesticides are also becoming more complex, less predictable, and highly politicised, amidst the grave challenges of increasing capacities for producing enough food safely. The influence of policy shifts from risk to hazards and growing mistrust in science is here with us yet, together with other actors, we have to overcome challenges that were identified at the beginning, by continuing to support the ongoing efforts in capacity enhancement in pesticide regulation and management to address registration and post-registration hiccups and push for workable harmonisation models to enhance innovation uptake in the sub-regions. Here is to the next 20 years of collaboration!

## 20 Years of Impact through the Spray Service Provider Programme

No matter where you live, Ghana, Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi, or Nigeria...plant science has contributed to the availability of food and to the profitability of farmers. Take a moment to read farmer testimonials from different countries.

### Meet Ashenafi Misganaw, 27 years old from Ethiopia

Ashenafi Misganaw a 27-year-old is one of the many youths who got his SSP training through a partnership with IFDC's 2SCALE project. Ashenafi said that "The training was ground-breaking and eye-opening. I loved the fact that it was interesting and practical. I did not experience this much detailed technical and life/business skills training in the formal education system, even while doing my BSc. After the technical training, I have provided professional spraying services and now can identify the misleading information provided by local chemical suppliers in my area. Now I am determined to supply chemical and other

inputs in addition to the SSP services. The programme will help me make some money. It will also help me contribute to the well-being of smallholder farmers and reduce their cost of production. I was unemployed and desperate for a job but now the partnership with 2SCALE provided me with employment and an opportunity to serve the community. I am one of the two graduates among the trained and deployed SSPs. That makes me determined to coordinate campaigns with the remaining SSPs and strongly work on the awareness creation of misuse of chemicals and to help smallholder farmers."

### Meet Agnes Boateng, 65 years old from Ghana

"My name is Agnes Boateng, a cocoa farmer at Ahwerewam Ashanti region in Ghana. I was introduced to SSPs 6 years ago by CropLife Ghana. I have since been using their services to manage my farm by performing all Good Agricultural Practices, especially pruning, mistletoe removal, and spraying. I used to spend a lot of money on pesticides which were increasing my cost of production but the intervention of SSPs reduced this cost drastically hence saving some money and resulting in a positive increase in the number of bags harvested from 6 to 8. As I speak to you now there has been no black pod disease on my farm for over 3 years now because they spray well and don't leave any affected pod on the farm. I wish to thank all the SSPs as well as CropLife Ghana for the training and capacity-building support given to the SSPs."



## 20 years of Plant Science Impact: Promoting IPM/RU-SU through Public Private Partnership

“Integrated Pest Management and Responsible Use-Safe Use (IPM/RU-SU) is at the core of the good agricultural practices (GAPs) training approach”. Delivering IPM/RU-SU activities requires strong cooperation among the key stakeholders for impactful programmes. To this end, CropLife Cameroon and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) of Cameroon signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 27th March 2019 to formalize the joint capacity-building programmes for farmers and other stakeholders of the pesticide supply chain. Training workshops are thus organised every year in different regions of the country gathering more than 500 farmers, dealers, trainers, and extension agents. The programmes are facilitated by certified trainers from CropLife Cameroon and from the MINADER. The programmes focus on IPM/RU-SU to ensure that farmers are empowered for proper handling the pesticides thus safeguarding human health and protecting the environment in line with the CropLife International stewardship principle to “maximize the benefits and minimize the risks”. Another additional topic relates to Anticounterfeiting with the aim of countering and avoiding fraudulent pesticides, thus ensuring that only registered pesticides are delivered to the farming communities.



Signature (L) and exchange (R) of the MoU between the President of CropLife CM and the MINADER.



Participants during a group work session (L), and a sensitization exercise on CTF pesticides (R) Cameroon.

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Knowing the different parts of a sprayer (L) for proper use and maintenance, and a practical exercise on calibration of sprayers (R).

## Anti-counterfeiting

with the aim of countering and avoiding fraudulent pesticides, thus ensuring that only registered pesticides are delivered to the farming communities. The development of the pesticide market in Africa in recent decades has been accompanied by the development of parallel illicit trade of pesticides leading to the proliferation of counterfeit and other illegal (CTF) pesticides.

CropLife Africa Middle East (AME) has for the past 20 years collaborated with partners to fight against CTF pesticides through three flagship programmes. These have been rolled out in North Africa and the Middle East (NAME), in East and Southern Africa (ESA), and West and Central Africa (WCA) with Egypt, Kenya, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ghana.

The activities are centered on:

- Awareness raising with the aim to sensitize stakeholders on the risks and impacts of CTF pesticides on human health and the environment, and the financial, economic, and social impacts of CTF pesticides.
- Capacity building to empower farmers to identify CTF pesticides, and law enforcement authorities comprising of Customs, pesticide inspectors, and control agents to trace, track and seize CTF pesticides, and prosecutors and other judiciary officers for prosecution and enforcement of administrative and penal measures.
- Law enforcement by engaging frequent control and inspections, prosecuting infringement cases, and enforcing deterrent penal measures.

Achievements include:

- Improved collaboration to deliver programmes.
- Increased communication with farmers. Many programmes have thus been delivered in cooperation with national organisations and institutions such as the ACA in Kenya, the CNLC in Côte d'Ivoire, and the ACN in Uganda... international cooperation refers to Interpol, OECD, Michigan State University A-CAPP, the USG (USPTO, USAID, CLDP...), REACT, WCO, WIPO...
- Reports on control and inspection operations engaged in different countries led to seizures of important quantities of CTF pesticides, counterfeiters were arrested, and plants were closed down. The most noticeable ones were in Egypt, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Uganda, and Tanzania.

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Raising awareness and building capacity for the Customs Services and other border control agents (L) and for the administrative authorities and the civil society (R).

## Twenty years of Impact in the Middle East

Since the establishment of CropLife Africa Middle East in 2002, there has been positive cooperation and support for all programmes that enhance the role of the pesticide industry in sustainable agriculture.

These programmes include interactive training courses in the field of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programmes, responsible use of pesticides, and Spray Service Providers (SSP) in addition to combating pesticide fraud and smuggling. We share the activities through pictures from around the Middle East.



CLAME establishment in 2002



CropLife participation with Arab League

## Plant Science Impact in Egypt

Through the years, CropLife Egypt has played a big role in supporting Agriculture in Egypt and maintaining the pesticide industry through stewardship activities, regulatory activities, and fighting pesticide illegal trade:

1. Kicked off the pesticide dealers' training/certification scheme in Egypt in 2002 and trained/certified the first batch of 1,500 dealers in Egypt.
2. Signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with both the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Pesticide Committee (APC) to undertake IPM/RU programmes and promote the SSP concept.
3. Kicked off an Anti-counterfeiting campaign in 2013 and developed/aired awareness videos in addition to several workshops on the ground with industry stakeholders and law enforcement authorities.
4. CLE participated in development projects funded by donors (USAID – GIZ – FAO – Dutch Embassy – Drosos) and executed many training and awareness programmes:
  - ACIDI/VOCA project which concluded 50 certified Master Trainers and awareness/training reach to 3,000 farmers.
  - Premium Project for Egyptian Small Growers which concluded 75 certified Master Trainers and training 528 SSPs from Agricultural Technical Schools and awareness reach to 1,500 farmers.
  - Knowledge-Economy Foundation project which concluded 45 SSPs from the Faculty of Agriculture, Benha University.
5. Supported the establishment of an E-submission portal to facilitate regulatory work for pesticide companies in Egypt and train registered pesticide companies to use the system.



ACF workshop with Law Enforcement



IPM/RU/SSP training



E-submission portal training



MOU signature with APC

## CropLife Zambia Success Stories for the 20th Anniversary 2022 of CL AME

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/PWnbrHkOsWs>

CropLife Zambia is an Association of Agricultural Chemical Importers and Distributors. The Association has existed since the 1980s under the name Zambia Agrochemical Association (ZAA) and changed its name to CropLife Zambia in 2006. The Association was set up to serve the interests of the Agricultural Chemical industry

and to act as the first point of contact and a mouthpiece for the industry. Among its members are all the multinational agrochemical Companies (representatives of Manufacturers), local Companies (importers & distributors), and retailers. CropLife Zambia currently has 28 members on its books accounting for over 80% of the market share.

Over the years CropLife Zambia has been involved in several projects and a brief statement of these projects hereunder:

1. **Creation of Partnerships** in the agricultural industry and crop protection sector. The partnerships have been a great milestone as this has enabled CropLife Zambia to create awareness of its vision and mission as an organisation. These partnerships are first within the CropLife Zambia members and then with Government and private institutions. Some of the organisations CropLife Zambia has and is continuing to collaborate with are, but are limited to the following:

Table 1. List of CropLife Zambia Partners

No.	Name of Partner	Area of Cooperation
1	CropLife Africa Middle East	
2	MUSIKA	Responsible use awareness activities Agro-dealer certification program CM
3	Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI)	Responsible Use IPM
4	CABI Southern Africa Centre	Integrated Pesticide Management (IPM)
5	Ministry of Agriculture and Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA)	Agro-dealer certification program, Digitalisation Project CM
6	International Development Enterprise (IDE)	SSP programmes
7	Zambia Seed Trade Association	CM
8	Tandem Circular	CM
9	SeedCare	CM
10	Cotton Board of Zambia	Responsible use, Advocacy
11	NewTech Recycling	CM
12	M&F Recycling	CM
13	EDGE Project	Responsible use
14	Care International Zambia	Agro-dealer certification program

In August 2021, CropLife Zambia and Zambia Seed Trade Association (ZASTA) entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that has seen the two institutions share the Secretariat and other resources. This partnership is continuing to leverage each other's strengths beyond the sharing of the secretariat resources to collaborations on projects such as the Container Management project.

## 2. Training and Capacity Building.

Training of stakeholders in the agriculture industry has been one of the successes of CropLife Zambia. The types of training are:

### a. Training of Trainers Course on Safe and Responsible Handling of Pesticides.

This is designed to ensure member companies have skilled trainers for in-company and industry capacity building and who can also be contracted by CropLife Zambia on a need basis to train other institutions and NGOs.

### b. Safe and Responsible Handling of Pesticides.

Over the years, more than 2500 staff from member companies and developmental agencies such as MUSIKA, and IDE Zambia have been trained by CropLife Zambia in the responsible and safe handling of pesticides as well as in Integrated Pesticide Management (IPM). The CropLife Zambia certificate on the safe and responsible handling of pesticides is recognised by ZEMA as one of the core competence requirements, a prerequisite for the issuance of a ZEMA Pesticides and Toxic Substance (PTS) license.

CropLife Zambia, in conjunction with ZEMA and MUSIKA successfully developed a training manual on the safe and responsible handling of PTS for agro-dealers and pesticide handlers. This training manual is used by both CropLife Zambia and ZEMA as a reference manual when conducting training on the safe and responsible handling of pesticides.

### c. Integrated Pesticide Management (IPM) Course

This is a course that has been offered by CropLife Zambia to member companies and SSPs, since 2016, to ensure sound and responsible advice and recommendations are provided to the farmers.

### d. Spray Service Providers (SSPs). In Zambia, about 2,004 SSPs were operational as at end of 2018, out of over 6,000 SSPs that have been trained over the years. CropLife Zambia Trainers have also been involved in training and supporting the establishment of SSP projects in other countries, such as Malawi, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Uganda.

### e. Anti-Counterfeit and Illegal Pesticides Training and Awareness.

CropLife Zambia has over the years actively worked with various stakeholders to explore ways of fighting counterfeit and illegal trading of pesticides. Key partners such as ZEMA and the Intellectual Property Unit of the Zambia Police Service have been instrumental in the campaign against this vice.

### f. Digitalisation – Distance Awareness Training on Stewardship.

The program was designed as a stop-gap measure to continue providing stewardship information to small and medium-scale rural farmers. Farmers received the stewardship messages via an SSD text message and had the opportunity to interact with an expert in crop protection either virtually or physically as the Covid-19 conditions would allow. In 2020/21 growing season, over 94,000 farmers were reached with stewardship messages, and in the 2021/22 growing season, 250,000 texts were sent out, with about 92.71% success rate of reaching the targeted farmers. During the Monitoring and Evaluation, there was an overwhelming response from the farmers.

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### 3. Empty Pesticide Container Management Project:

The project on empty pesticide container management started in the year 2011 when CropLife Zambia along with its members and CLAME started the consultative process of removing empty pesticide containers from the farmers and of the environment. Some of the stakeholders included ZEMA and MUSIKA. CropLife Zambia members began to discuss the possibilities of establishing a container project value chain to reclaim empty pesticide containers from the farmers, recognising the environmental and health risk of the containers.

#### 2013

CropLife Zambia with financial support from MUSIKA develops concept notes and considers partnerships with Recycle Global (Now called M&F Recycling) to implement the collection and recycling of empty pesticide containers. But Company recycles waste plastic for construction materials such as conduit pipes, etc. Prospects of establishing the first aggregation hub in Mkushi at AgriWes are started.

#### 2018

A New Recycling company, called NewTech Recycling established with support from Millennium Challenge Account and MUSIKA. NewTech recycles waste plastic into fencing poles and trusses / Plastic "Timber" from regular plastic waste. The recycler is yet to obtain appropriate environmental permits from ZEMA to recycle plastics from empty pesticide containers.

The Zambian government released the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations, and this fits perfectly in the CropLife Zambia stewardship agenda. CropLife Zambia engages ZEMA to proactively begin to establish aggregation hubs country wide to demonstrate compliance to EPR regulations that were introduced.

#### 2021

CropLife Zambia with financial support from Bayer Zambia resumes the prospect of establishing aggregation hubs, with the first hub to be located at AgriWes farm Centre in Mkushi. CropLife Zambia Signs an MoU with Syngenta Zambia which had been implementing a waste management project through Tandem Circular Consulting. Syngenta Zambia through Tandem provides logistical and technical support and a Heliosecc for the treatment of wastewater treatment.

Toward the end of 2021, CropLife Zambia signed an MOU with MUSIKA, that saw MUSIKA provide a plastic Crusher. CropLife Africa Middle East further continues to support the project to ensure that NewTech Recycling Company has appropriate wastewater treatment facilities and obtains the required environmental permits.

On the 20th of October 2022, the first ever empty pesticide container aggregation hub site in Zambia was launched. In the initial phase, the hub will service commercial farmers and then later include Small to medium-scale farmers.



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#### 4.Regulatory and Advocacy.

##### a. Mode of Action:

CropLife has been working with the regulator, ZEMA to include "Mode of Action" on all pesticide labels used in Zambia.

##### b. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations:

CropLife Zambia played a key role to ensure that this piece of legislation is enacted, and this was successfully passed in August 2018. The next step is to support ZEMA to ensure that all subsidiary laws and guidelines to effectively implement EPR are in place and function

##### c. Importation of Liquid Fertilizers – ZARI:

Some of the CropLife Zambia members also deal in liquid fertilizers as they offer a complete crop protection solution package. Turnaround time for obtaining an Import Permit for liquid fertilizers from the regulator, Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI) was taking too long, more than the 30 days stipulated. In addition, the Import Permit validity of 30 days was too short compared to other countries in the region. Following discussions between CropLife and ZARI, the turnaround time was reportedly improving, and the validity period was increased from 30 days to 90 days.

#### 4.Visibility and publicity of CropLife Zambia

CropLife Zambia successfully exhibited at the 2022 AgriTechExpo in Chisamba and at the 2022 Agriculture and Commercial Show in Lusaka. This was to ensure the visibility of the association and increase its footprint in the agricultural landscape of the country.

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## 20 Years of Plant Science Impact

**As we celebrate 20 years of impact, we sat down with CLAME's Director General to find out her thoughts about the advancement of agriculture in the region:**

**Samira, what would you say are your most memorable moments?**

Launch of our motto "Partners in Sustainable Agriculture" in 2018 which is not only a motto; this phrase encompasses what CL AME members do every day. Through the collective work of member companies, CL AME Network, and other agricultural organisations and partners, we will facilitate a future with food for all while preserving the integrity of our environment.

Each achievement of any new project defined by the board of Directors and implemented by the CL team to serve the small holder farmers and to grow agriculture in our region is a memorable moment for me and I am proud of it. CLAME team is a small team, that works together from the conception of the project to implementation.

I am proud of young African and Arabic women, who represent our industry's vision. CropLife Africa Middle East and its regional network is the voice and leading advocates for the plant science industry in the Africa Middle East Region. I believe in the integrity and the vital role of the plant science industry to help farmers grow and advance sustainable agriculture and nutritious food production in the region.



**What do you still want to see achieved in agriculture?**

- I look to the future with confidence and conviction that our industry, along with our key partners, will be successful in advancing and implementing sustainable agriculture in Africa and the Middle East region.
- More and more training of farmers to enable the responsible use of crop protection and new technologies. I will work to ensure the access and adoption of Plant
- Science solutions by smallholder farmers. I believe that our industry can play a vital role to reach the ambition that Africa and the Middle East can feed themselves and contribute to the agriculture challenges.
- Build trust and initiate education of the public about the role of industry, the products, how the products are regulated, how they are used, etc.
- I hope that all the National Associations can conduct a national container management programme with our agriculture partners.
- Adoption by the government of laws to support enforcement against illicit pesticides.
- Ensure that all our National Associations are well managed and that we all are working jointly and united by a passion for improved agriculture through engagement and partnerships.

**Dr Samira Amellal**  
Director General  
CropLife Africa Middle East

# Newsletter

Partners in Sustainable Agriculture



## 20 Years of Plant Science Impact

**As we celebrate 20 years of impact, we sat down with CLAME's Regional Director – East and Southern Africa to find out her thoughts about the advancement of agriculture in the region:**

**Evelyn, what would you say we have achieved with regards to Association Management?**

Growing the National Associations and seeing them achieve their mandate – to ensure that their members are well represented and create a favourable environment for members to deliver innovations and technologies to farmers is my greatest achievement. Having a robust National Association means the industry in the respective country is growing and they are able to achieve public-private partnership (PPP).

CLAME has a network of 22 National Associations across AME and this has enabled our members to bring solutions to farmers in pest and disease control, be a critical partner in agriculture policy and regulatory dialogues, and ensure that we maximize the use of our product while at the same time reducing the risk associated with their use.



**What do you still want to see achieved in agriculture?**

Our goal as CLAME is to see the growth of Agriculture within the AME region and we will continue supporting the National Associations to achieve this in their respective countries. As go forward, we will strive to grow our network within the region and continue to support the existing National Associations critical areas of stewardship, regulatory and anti-counterfeiting.

**Evelyn Lusena**

Regional Director East and Southern Africa

## 20 Years of Plant Science Impact

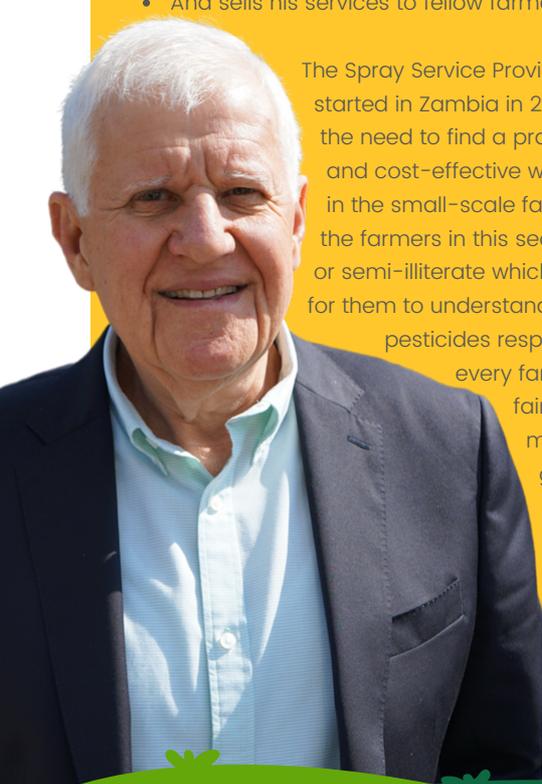
**As we celebrate 20 years of impact, we sat down with CLAME's stewardship leader to find out his thoughts about the advancement of agriculture in the region:**

**Les, what would you say are your most memorable stewardship moments?**

My belief is that the most memorable achievement in the line of Stewardship during the 20 years was the development and introduction of the Spray Service Provider concept. In short, the concept addresses the professionalisation of pesticide application for smallholder farmers and covers all elements of Stewardship.

So what is a Spray Service Provider:

- A young farmer
- Who has received special training
- Is linked to member companies
- And sells his services to fellow farmers



The Spray Service Provider (SSP) programme started in Zambia in 2009. It was born out of the need to find a practical, self-sustaining and cost-effective ways of using pesticides in the small-scale farming sector. Most of the farmers in this sector are either illiterate or semi-illiterate which makes it very difficult for them to understand fully how to use pesticides responsibly. A few farmers in every farming community are fairly literate and this makes the idea of a core group of well-trained farmers able to apply pesticides on behalf of untrained farmers, the most ideal. This is what makes the SSP concept a winning solution.

The trained SSPs are equipped with a set of basic Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) together with a knapsack sprayer. An identity card is provided to help identify these individuals by the farmers as well as a ledger to record day-to-day activities. The overall aim of stewardship is to maximise benefits and minimise risks when using crop protection products.

Maximising benefits include:

- Pesticides applied by people who are trained
- Better application
- Better selection of products

Minimising risks include:

- Wearing of PPE
- Triple rinsing of containers
- Safe disposal of containers
- Safe transport of pesticides
- Reduced use of fake products by improved access to quality products

The concept was rolled out in more than 14 countries using a "Standard Operating Procedure for Spray Service Provider Projects" with more than 14,000 SSPs trained since 2009, reaching in excess of 140,000 farmers. This was later supported by the development of a Spray Service Handbook.

**What do you still want to see achieved in agriculture?**

My wish is to see this concept adopted by more stakeholders and countries.

**Les Hillowitz**

Stewardship Director Africa Middle East Region

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## 20 Years of Plant Science Impact

**As we celebrate 20 years of impact, we sat down with CLAME's regulatory and stakeholder affairs leader to find out her thoughts about the advancement of agriculture in the region:**

**Stella, what would you say are your most memorable regulatory moments?**

One day in 2016, Michael Odong, a regulator from Uganda (God rest his soul) reached out to me requesting copies of draft documents that had been developed under the Southern and East Africa Regulatory Committee for Harmonisation of Pesticide Registrations (SEARCH) anywhere in our archives. Hmm.... he needed them because he and other regulators in the EAC Partner States were re-embarking on the road to harmonisation.

This unexpected call was the genesis of the tremendous progress being made by the EAC on harmonisation. Its Technical Working Group comprised officials from registration authorities in the partner states have spearheaded the development of

pesticides Harmonised guidelines and six of them have been approved for adoption by the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security (SCAFs) by 2019.

These include:

- Guidelines on the conduction of efficacy trials;
- Supervised pesticide residue trials;
- Data requirements for conventional pesticides;
- Data requirements for biopesticides and biocontrol products;
- Protection of confidential business information and designation of efficacy trial centres.



We were also privileged to participate in the assessment of the extent of implementation in 2021 and the results have formed the basis for ongoing efforts in deepening harmonisation to facilitate increased farmer access to effective conventional pesticides and bio-pesticides in EAC partner states, assessing the status of domestication and implementation of the harmonised pesticide registration system. Today, regulatory reviews happening in the EAC PS have to a great extent incorporated these guidelines.

This recognition and other similar ones where we have been called, as a stakeholder group to join others on the table to be part of the solution have been fulfilling. Notably, I have seen us support the enhancement of the capacity for regulators by fostering platforms for the exchange of information, skills, knowledge, and expertise with peers in the region and beyond. This has resulted in the progress in implementation of best practices of pesticide regulation in some countries such as GHS, e- submission, and mode of action labelling. On the regional and international scene, we have regularly participated in Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) and United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) dialogues, sharing efforts towards sustainable management of pesticides.

**What do you still want to see achieved in agriculture?**

An enabling environment that fosters innovation, sustainable agricultural productivity, food security, and livelihoods.

**Stella Simiyu Wafukho**

Director Regulatory Affairs & Stakeholder Relations

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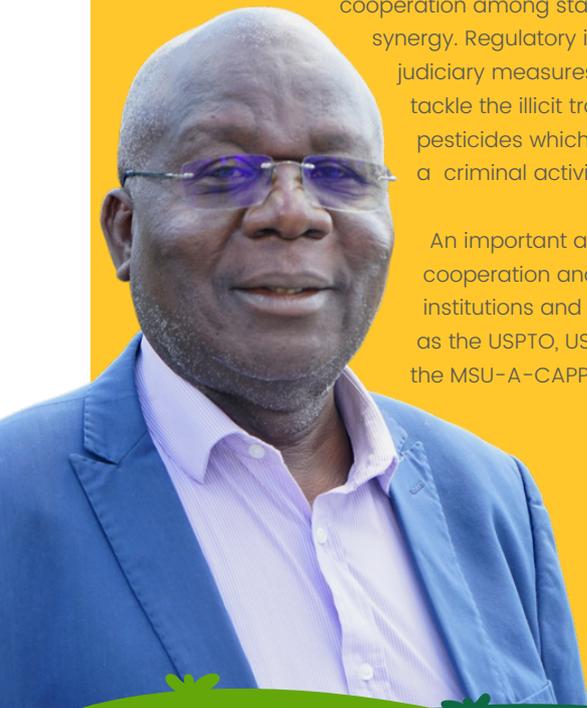
## 20 Years of Plant Science Impact

**As we celebrate 20 years of impact, we sat down with CLAME's Regional Director, West and Central Africa to find out his thoughts about the advancement of agriculture in the region.**

**Bama, what would you say are your most memorable moments?**

Counterfeit and other illegal (CTF) pesticides were proliferating on the markets for the past decades due to the lack or weak enforcement of laws and regulations. This situation with no doubt impedes the economic and social development in the countries, as the associated risks and impacts of CTF pesticides on agriculture, are the backbone of the economy in these countries. The awareness-raising and capacity-building programmes delivered by CropLife AME throughout the Nation Region have been impactful. Farmers, agents of the Customs Services, other law enforcement authorities, and the administrative authorities are supportive of and embarked on the fight against CTF pesticides, recognizing the importance of cooperation among stakeholders for synergy. Regulatory initiatives and judiciary measures are envisaged to tackle the illicit trade of CTF pesticides which are considered as a criminal activity.

An important achievement is the cooperation and alliances with institutions and organisations such as the USPTO, USAID-CLDP, OECD, the MSU-A-CAPP, REACT...



**What do you still want to see achieved in agriculture?**

Farmers, especially smallholders, are the first victims of the illicit trade of pesticides, thus must be "protected" to guarantee agricultural productivity for food sovereignty and economic development. For this purpose, future programmes will be delivered to empower the farming communities so that they can recognise, avoid and denounce cases to the law enforcement authorities.

Proper law enforcement is crucial, and efforts must be made in every country to respond with deterrent penal measures to the illicit trade of pesticides while strengthening regional cooperation for border control operations.

**Bama Yao**

Regional Director West Central Africa