



CropLife Africa Middle East

Avenue Louise 326, Box 35  
 1050 Brussels - Belgium  
[www.croplifeafrica.org](http://www.croplifeafrica.org)

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

GROWING FOOD - CREATING RENEWABLES - SUPPLYING SUSTAINABLY



Representing the Plant Science Industry





# CropLife

## Vision, Mission and Values

### **Vision:**

Working together for sustainable agriculture.

### **Mission Statement:**

As a global network we act as an ambassador for the plant science industry, encouraging understanding and dialogue whilst promoting sound science and agricultural technology in the context of sustainable development.

### Values and Beliefs:

#### **Respect:**

- Respect the views and values of others and act with honesty, humility and humanity.
- Seek the respect of others for our values and beliefs.

#### **Openness:**

- Communication is a fundamental priority in all our activities.
- We will act with openness in all our dealings with stakeholders and actively engage in dialogue, exchanging opinions and facts, in order to increase society's understanding of our industry and our understanding of society.

#### **Commitment:**

- We are committed to serve our members and stakeholders operating to the highest possible standards of professionalism ensuring the effective and prudent management of our resources.

#### **Technology:**

- We believe in the benefits that technology brings to human development and progress, and to sustainable agriculture.
- We believe in the complementary and synergistic nature of technologies developed and offered by the plant science industry.
- We believe in science as the engine of innovation and the core principle of regulatory decision-making.

#### **Sustainability:**

- We are committed to promoting full and effective stewardship (the responsible and ethical management of a plant protection or biotechnology product throughout its life cycle) to the field level, and recognize that the appropriate management and use of our products is an important element underpinning sustainable agriculture.
- We will strive to work together with others to achieve a proper balance between all dimensions/pillars of sustainable development.
- We will strive to maintain a healthy, ethical and viable business environment for the plant science industry.

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## 1. Editorial

Dear Reader

During the past year, the global CropLife network and CropLife Africa Middle East continued to be heavily engaged in the same policy issues that have defined our industry priorities in previous years. With the publication of the FAO Guideline on Highly Hazardous Pesticides in Spring 2016, the issue of the Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) has now been given a framework by which regulators and country authorities should deal with this issue. CropLife and its member companies fully support the implementation of these guidelines and CropLife has offered to work together with all stakeholders to implement the proposed processes as described in the guidelines. Added to this, our member companies have made further progress in conducting their voluntary internal portfolio review whereby they carefully assessed those product uses that might qualify as highly hazardous.

In addition to the issue of HHPs, the monographs published by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) continue to have a major effect in the public debate on the regulation of pesticides, both in developed and developing countries. Meanwhile, reputable scientists presented their concerns about “pesticide assessments” that contradict and question the findings and conclusions of the responsible legal authorities in charge of pesticide registration, such as the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in Europe and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the USA. It has been rightly observed that such publications “do not help Science nor Society” since these IARC monographs ultimately undermine the existing legal base and framework for credible decision making by governments. It is to be hoped that over time the societal trust in science and professionally conducted risk assessment will be re-established and that political decision making will not become the norm for pesticide registrations. Most OECD countries seem to have recognized the dangers and risks to be exposed to political campaigns against selected pesticides in such regulatory decision making. Many of these countries

have therefore clearly confirmed their existing regulatory decisions and have openly stated that they disagree with the published conclusions by IARC describing glyphosate as a potential carcinogenic. In the European Union, the current regulatory decision making system has not as yet been able to issue such clear statements.

The EU continues to struggle to define a way out of the political confusion that it has got into with the non-registration of glyphosate but also with the proposed criteria regarding Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals. As it stands today there is a high probability that the EU will finally approve a legal framework for identification EDCs that will be in conflict with current global agreements on the import of food and feed commodities needed in the EU. This outcome is expected as a result of the unavoidable revoking of existing Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) and Import Tolerances (ITs) once the new regulations come into force. Most likely the resulting multibillion US\$ trade conflict will be brought before the dispute resolution body of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and a yearlong trade battle will develop. These foreseeable trade disruptions between the EU and the rest of the world will ultimately result in higher food and feed prices for EU consumers and it will also impact the income and welfare of producers and exporters of concerned agricultural commodities to the EU.

In addition to our continued engagement in the above policy issues during the year, our association maintained its efforts in stewardship activities and in engaging in the fight against counterfeit and illegal products. In 2016, the Spray Service Provider (SSP) concept was implemented with more external partners than ever before and with new opportunities identified almost monthly. The further growth and implementation of the SSP concept will continue to be our priority in 2017 and beyond.

Yours sincerely



Eric Bureau  
*President of the Board of Directors*



Rudolf Guyer  
*Director General*

## 2. Key Data and Hub Structure

CropLife Africa Middle East A.I.S.B.L. represents the Plant Science Industry in the countries of Africa and the Middle East. The Plant Science Industry includes manufacturers and distributors of crop protection products (pesticides), seeds and biotechnology products.

### At the end of 2016 the association consisted of:

- 10 company members
- 24 national associations
- 1 professional organization engaged in the promotion of biotechnology solutions for the African continent

CropLife Africa Middle East was registered as an international non-profit organization in Brussels in November 2002. The association is legally fully independent but maintains a strong link with the global CropLife network.

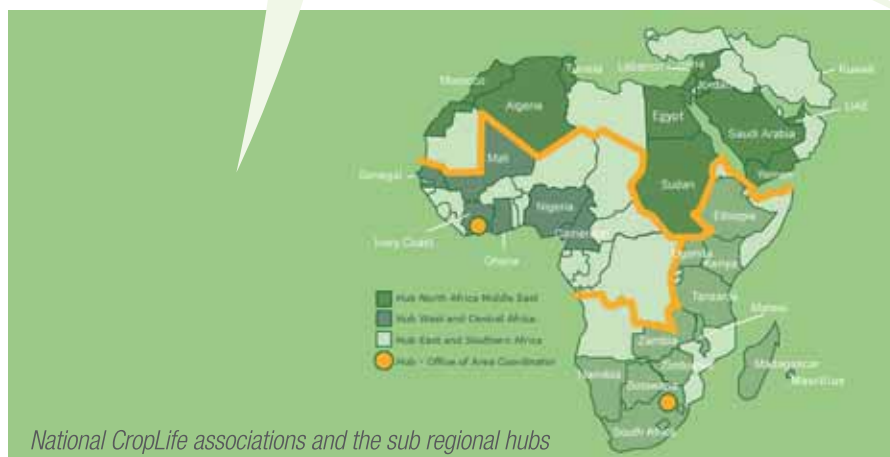
In order to achieve the highest impact at country and sub regional level, a decentralized hub structure has been established:

- North Africa Middle East sub region covering all the countries belonging to the Arab League. Following the retirement of Ali Mohamed Ali, Rudolf Guyer acts as Regional Director for this hub and obtains needed support from the Vice President and Hub Chair, Michel Chartouni.
- West and Central Africa is managed by Yao Bama, Regional Director based in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. This sub region again follows respective political groupings where sub regional regulatory harmonization and alignment is envisaged.
- East and Southern Africa is managed by Les Hillowitz, Regional Director based in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Regulatory matters in the region are managed by Stella Simiyu, Director Regulatory Affairs and Stakeholder Relations.

It is our association's mission and objective to motivate and engage as many partners and stakeholders as possible to help in the promotion and development of state of the art technological solutions needed for productive and sustainable agricultural systems in Africa and the Middle East. Despite the fact that the membership of multinational companies in national associations is rather limited across the region, it is the ambition of our association to convince and motivate all these local members to observe and implement the same international standards and apply all stewardship measures and activities as defined by the International Code of Conduct on Pesticides Management to which all members of the CropLife network are committed.

### Our company members are:

- Arysta LifeScience
- BASF
- Bayer CropScience
- Dow AgroSciences
- DuPont
- FMC
- Monsanto
- Sipcarn Oxon
- Sumitomo
- Syngenta



## 3. Stewardship and Spray Service Providers

### 3.1. IPM and Responsible Use

What is IPM?

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, IPM means considering all available pest control techniques and other measures that discourage the development of pest populations, while minimizing risks to human health and the environment.

For farmers, IPM is the best combination of cultural, biological and chemical measures to manage diseases, insects, weeds and other pests. It takes into account all relevant control tactics and methods that are locally available, evaluating their potential cost-effectiveness. IPM does not, however, consist of any absolute or rigid criteria. It is a flexible system that makes good use of local resources and the latest research, technology, knowledge and experience.

IPM includes the development and use of chemical, natural, biological and biotech products for pest control. It may also involve computer-aided sampling and decision-making as well as improved farm equipment.

Farmers are the primary decision-makers in IPM programs. Individually or collectively, they have to decide on how to manage all pests that may damage crops. The role of the plant science industry is to provide access to a wide range of useful technologies, products, services and as much information as possible on the characteristics, costs, specificities and optimal use strategies. Most farmers will combine different IPM tactics and tools.

IPM allows farmers to manage diseases, insects, weeds and other pests in a cost-effective and environmentally sound way.

Approximately two years ago CropLife Africa Middle East developed a 2-day specific IPM course and with the opportunities that the Spray Service Providers offer, the rollout of this training into this sector commenced.

As a continuation of this rollout, during 2016, active SSPs in several countries underwent this training on IPM principles.

**Good use  
of local  
resources**

**Farmers  
are the primary  
decision-makers  
in IPM programs**

### 3. Stewardship and Spray Service Providers

#### 3.2. Spray Service Providers (SSPs) in the Picture

CropLife Africa Middle East has expanded its network of Spray Service Providers (SSPs) further into the region with several partners. In some countries, including Malawi, Egypt and Zambia, activities that started in previous years continued, while in other countries new SSP projects commenced. Also, the variety of crops increased and now includes beans, chillies, cocoa, coffee, cotton, cowpeas, groundnut, horticulture, maize, onions, rice, soybean, sunflower, tomatoes, and vegetables.

*Proud SSPs in Ethiopia (IFDC/2SCALE project) showing their protective equipment and certificate*



SSP is more than training; it's a concept. A Spray Service Provider (SSP) is a farmer who has received special training to apply pesticides, is linked to a member company of CropLife to guarantee access to good quality and approved pesticides, and who hires out his services to (fellow) farmers to spray their lands. SSPs are supplied with proper equipment, and monitored and coached in the field. So far, CropLife Africa Middle East has implemented 28 SSP projects in 12 different countries in Africa, reaching more than 110,000 farmers.



*Scouting exercise in Kenya*



*SSP training in Nigeria with the GIZ/CARI project*

# 28 SSP projects in 12 different countries in Africa



### 3. Stewardship and Spray Service Providers



Practical test in Nigeria with IFDC/2SCALE project



Training at an Agricultural Technical School in Egypt

Active SSPs in several countries who were trained during previous projects, were offered a special 2-day course in Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Almost 1'100 SSPs followed the course in Cote d'Ivoire (159), Ghana (522), Malawi (137), Nigeria (254), and Zambia (19).

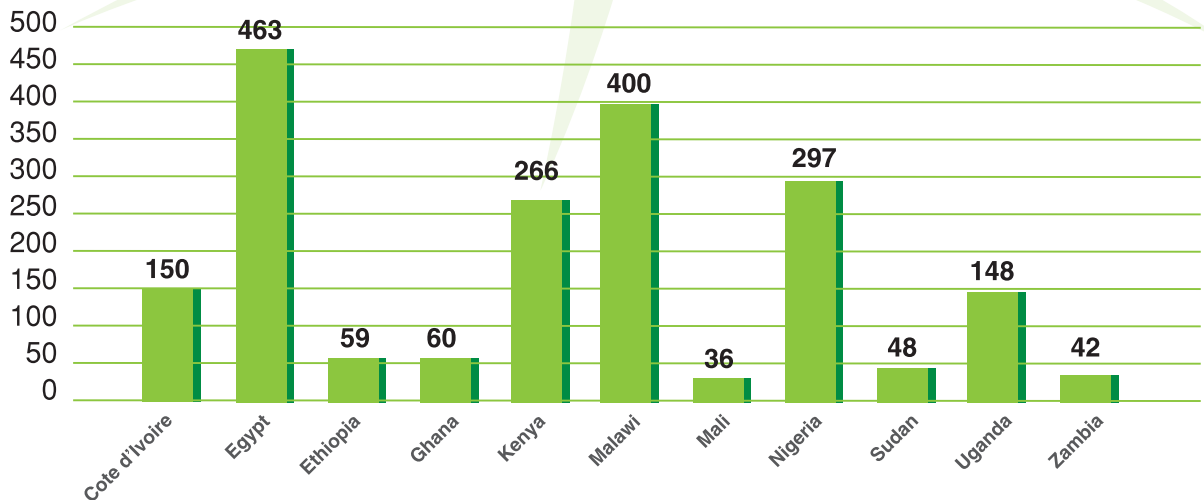


Freshly trained SSPs from the cotton association, Masara in Ghana

# Special 2-day course

## Number of new SSPs trained in 2016

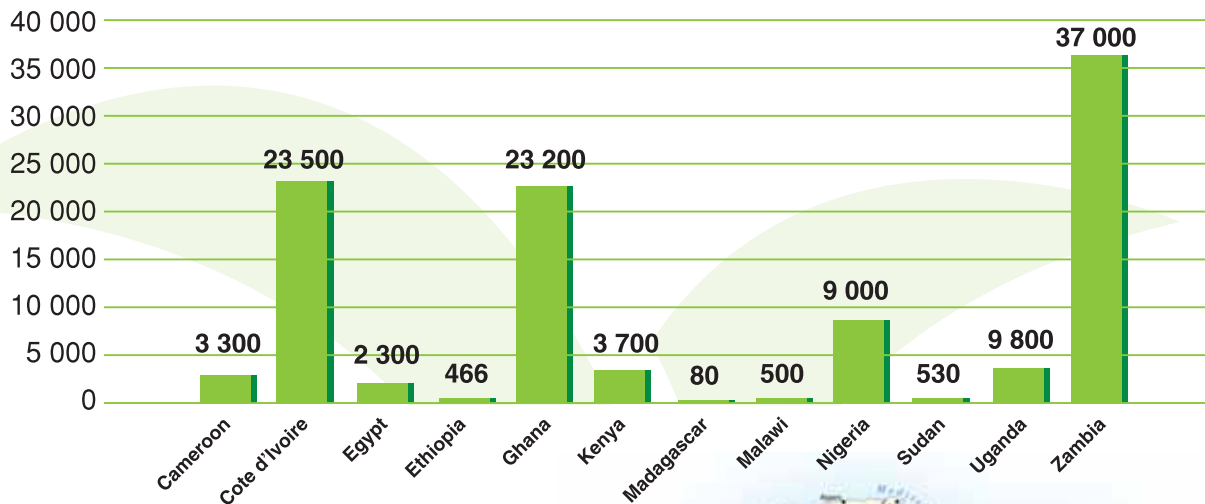
*Slightly fewer than 2,000 SSPs were trained during 2016*



### 3. Stewardship and Spray Service Providers

## Number of farmers reached by end 2016

Activities in Zambia started in 2009, while in Ivory Coast, Ghana and Nigeria, in 2013. Other countries followed in 2015 and 2016.



**Cote d'Ivoire** 150 SSPs trained in cocoa with FIRCA

**Egypt** 463 SSPs trained with USAID/Blue Moon

**Ethiopia** 59 SSPs trained with IFDC/2Scale

**Ghana** 60 SSPs trained with Masara Cotton Association

**Kenya** 266 SSPs trained with SNV

**Malawi** 400 SSPs trained with DFID/MOST

**Mali** 29 SSPs trained with IFDC/2Scale

**Nigeria:** - 78 SSPs trained with IFDC/2Scale

- 24 SSPs trained with IFDC/2Scale in cassava

- 120 SSPs trained with Palladium/Propcom

- 30 SSPs trained with GIZ/CARI

- 45 SSPs trained with IITA/N2Africa

**Sudan** 48 SSPs trained with IFAD

**Uganda** 148 SSPs trained with USAID/Ag Inputs

**Zambia** 42 SSPs trained with iDE and USAID/Profit+

trained to-date, reaching more than 100,000 farmers

### Monitoring in Nigeria

3 projects were evaluated by CropLife Nigeria during 2016. This, after SSPs had been active for a period of 6 to 10 weeks. Some of the results are:

- In the GIZ/CARI project in rice in Jigawa state, the SSPs reached an average of 5.1 farmers and 67% of them indicated that they were satisfied with their earnings.
- SSPs in the IFDC/Scale project serviced an average of 8.3 farmers in maize, rice, and vegetables in Kano, and Oyo state, and 75% confirmed satisfaction with the extra income. They received an average amount of 60 USD and 75% said to be satisfied with their extra income.
- Most farmers were reached in Borno state with the IITA/N2Africa project in maize, groundnut, and soybean. SSPs reached an average of 14.5 farmers, and 93% confirmed their satisfaction with the additional earnings.

- In all the projects, the main challenge was dealing with empty pesticide containers. CropLife Nigeria is therefore making every effort to set up a container management program.

### Why SSPs ?

- Better control of pests and diseases - higher yields for the farmers
- Better application with less damage to the environment
- Business opportunities for youth in rural areas
- Improved access to quality pesticides - reduction of illegal products
- Reduction of child labour
- Compliance with certification and other standards (Maximum Residue Levels)
- Starting point for container management

### 3. Stewardship and Spray Service Providers

#### 3.3. Empty Container Collection

The plant science industry's goal, by 2020, is to continuously improve the farmer return rate, and the number of countries with container management programs, collecting 50% of all the containers shipped into the global market and recycle as much as feasible into end use applications.

In line with this objective, in 2016, container management continued to be a major stewardship activity within the region and where there are currently 10 Container Management Schemes in place. This comprises 9 "pilot programs" and 1 in the "mature phase" category.

#### Significant progress was made during the year in that:

- Collected tonnages increased in South Africa, Ghana and Mauritius
- In partnership with FAO, a scoping project in Cameroon was completed with two pilot projects expected to be implemented by mid-2017 in the northern and south-western parts of the country
- The partnership with GEF/FAO in Morocco has led to the commitment by CropLife Morocco to a 3-year pilot project in the Agadir region. This will commence in earnest in 2017.

Although recycling can take a number of different approaches, in Africa the main end products produced from our containers are fencing materials and refuse bags, both offering limited human contact.

# A road map describing how to establish a container management program is available.



*Shredding of cleaned empty containers in Ghana*



### 3. Stewardship and Spray Service Providers

#### 3.4. CropLife Involvement in the Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides

CropLife International and its predecessors have been co-ordinating and supporting projects to identify, remove and destroy obsolete pesticide stocks since the mid-1990s.

Up until the start of the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP) in 2003, CropLife International facilitated more than 25 separate projects that had safely disposed of over 3,000 tons of obsolete pesticides from Africa, Asia and Latin America. All projects were carried out in partnership with donors or donor agencies. Additionally, there have been regular obsolete stocks collections in OECD countries, normally associated with container management programs implemented by independent organisations that are partly funded by CropLife International member company contributions. Since 1990 over 15,000 tonnes have been collected in nine OECD countries.

CropLife International's commitment to the safeguarding and disposal of obsolete pesticides continued in 2016 with involvement in 10 country projects in Africa, usually in partnership with FAO or the World Bank, and consideration of other projects worldwide.

In Eritrea, a watching brief was maintained in an FAO country project where CropLife International has provided the services of a Technical Adviser for Disposal (TAD) and a financial contribution to the ongoing removal and destruction of the stocks by high temperature incineration.

In Mali, CropLife International also provided a TAD to the World Bank obstocks disposal project, who provided technical support to the tendering process in 2016 and will continue to provide technical assistance to the disposal process in 2017.

The phase (1) CropLife International-funded safeguarding projects (Ghana, Kenya, Cameroon and Malawi) were all in the process of preparing for FAO disposal tenders in

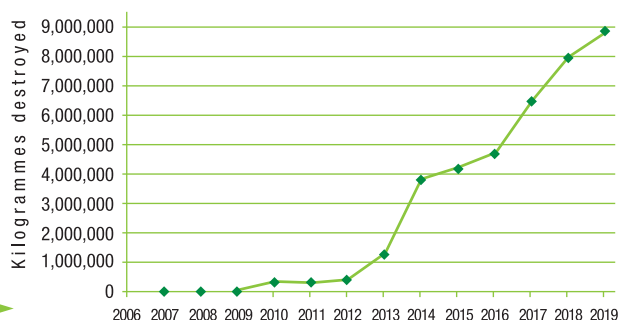
2016, except for Kenya where a basket of funds was assembled from CropLife International, CropLife Africa Middle East, CropLife Kenya, FAO and the Government of Kenya for a disposal operation that started in late 2015 and successfully completed in early 2016. Removal and destruction of stocks from the remaining countries is expected to be completed by Q1 2017.

In 2016, the phase (2) safeguarding projects in Benin and Morocco handed over data from outreach and declaration campaigns in the private sector, as well as, stock verification information to supplement the FAO inventories. In Morocco, the quantity of verified obstocks turned out to be somewhat less than the inventory suggested, whereas the quantity in Benin was several times more than expected. CropLife International have also contributed funds, along with the Global Environment Facility, for the collection, safeguarding, removal and destruction of the high-risk stocks identified in both countries, which will be undertaken by a hazardous waste company contracted by FAO. On the basis of this successful approach taken in Benin and Morocco, planning is underway to identify and remove stocks in two more countries in collaboration with FAO. A condition of this further support from CropLife International is that measures are adopted to prevent future build-up of obsolete stocks, particularly unused stocks from locust control operations. This was the subject of a multi-stakeholder workshop hosted by FAO in 2015.

The graph below shows progress on disposal over the years since 2006 and projected until 2019. It shows that no significant disposal under the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP), which began in 2003, occurred until 2009 due to the long process of establishing modes of collaboration and the time taken to set up projects. However, since 2012 the disposal rates have accelerated and there continues to be steady progress with an average of around 1,000 tonnes of obstocks destroyed per year.



Figure 1. the recorded and projected destruction of all ASP/post-ASP obstocks at November 2016



## 4. Regulatory Matters and Advocacy

2016 was a year our association observed many milestones in the regulatory terrain; continued to search for solutions to the challenges that we face and engaged proactively with all stakeholders on the basis of the Principles of Regulation.

Our objective for the year was to contribute to capacity enhancement efforts in risk assessment, an action that was also agreed upon by stakeholders at the 4th International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM4) as a critical step in the management of chemicals. Overall, we were engaged in 14 key regulatory workshops covering the topics of risk assessment, implementation of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), implementation of the Global Harmonized Labelling System (GHS), Emerging Policy Issues including Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), Endocrine Disruptors (EDs), IARC monographs program and Pollinator Health among others. All these were punctuated by a key demonstration of the challenge of contending with a potential hazard based future as far as regulation of pesticides is concerned. We also joined other stakeholders in the course of action to promote universal principles of regulation of pesticides through various engagements in the region.

Regulation, as we all know, is necessary for society's well-being but it must be designed to meet universal principles and applied judiciously, but when it becomes complex, onerous and overlapping, it translates to becoming an inhibitor rather than an enabler for would-be beneficiaries. Such is the case with the road the European Commission policy process on ED's has come. In the middle of the year, the European Commission published the proposed criteria for "endocrine disrupting properties" to be used in the EU regulation of pesticides and biocides. This aside, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) had provided a scientific opinion in 2014 on the scientific criteria for identification of endocrine disruptors and appropriateness of existing test methods for assessing effects mediated by these substances on human health and the environment. The conclusion was that EDs can in fact be treated like most other substances of concern for human health and the environment by being subject to risk assessment and not only to hazard assessment. Unfortunately, the future that we glare into unless things change, is a purely hazard-based one. A regulatory approach that does not take into account both adverse effects and the likelihood of exposure, one that may lead to the phasing out of plant protection products based on inherent properties only and therefore deny farmers tools which would enable them to produce safe, healthy and affordable food.

**EU proposed criteria for EDs are purely hazard-based and do not take into account both adverse effects and the likelihood of exposure**

***"Regulation is necessary for society's well-being but it must be designed to meet universal principles and applied judiciously, but when it becomes complex, onerous and overlapping, it translates to becoming an inhibitor than an enabler for would be beneficiaries. .."***

**FAO/WHO Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides give guidance with regard to 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".**

In terms of trade, the proposed criteria would impose unjustified trade barriers and place political, not scientific restrictions on agricultural products currently exported to Europe. These restrictions may entail imposition of Import Tolerances (ITs) that are impossible to meet. A recent study shows how regions, countries and respective commodities will be impacted if the EU proposed criteria on EDs are implemented as is. For Africa, the most impacted countries in terms of trade will be South Africa, Kenya, Egypt and Morocco for fruits and vegetables exports and Ivory Coast and Ghana for cocoa exports to Europe. Other commodities that will be affected include coffee and nuts.

## 4. Regulatory Matters and Advocacy

Another milestone in the year was the release of the FAO/WHO Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides giving guidance primarily with regard to 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”. This was a key message in our engagement with stakeholders in the year that - as far as possible - problems with HHPs should be prevented by means of an effective pesticide regulatory system. During the coming year we will be engaged more and more in sharing tools and approaches for risk mitigation.

The final and continuing challenge in the year was the apparent contradiction arising from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) monograph program evaluation. This went against reviews of many well-respected national regulatory agencies including the USA, Canada, Germany, and Australia among others leading to misinterpretations that the pesticide substances evaluated constitute and present a real risk to human safety. Understandably this created significant public concern and pressure on regulators to ban certain products in various jurisdictions. It should be remembered that over the years, IARC has generated hazard identification classifications on many everyday products, including cell phones, Aloe Vera, talcum powder, and even coffee. But there is no irrational call to ban these products. The challenge remains that the misinterpretation of IARC classifications by regulators to ban products could have a profound negative impact on global food security. Already 30-40 percent of the world's crop production is lost annually due to the effects of weeds, pests and diseases.

Looking forward to 2017, we would like to focus on the two key policy proposals; the HHP guidelines by providing industry's contribution to risk mitigation and the EU proposed criteria for defining ED.

### Sub regional regulatory meetings

- **March 22-23 , 2016 - Maghreb Regulatory;** benefiting 20 representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and CropLife associations from Morocco and Tunisia.
- **May 10-11, 2016 - WCA Regulatory Meeting;** benefiting 25 participants from regulatory authorities and Ministries of Environment of Cameroon, CILSS, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal.
- **Sept. 6 -7, 2016 - Eastern and Southern Africa Regulatory Meeting;** benefiting 24 participants including 15 regulators from 11 countries.
- **October 25 -26, 2016 - North Africa & Middle East Regulatory Meeting;** brought together 50 participants from industry and regulatory officials from Egypt, Sudan, Lebanon, Oman, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

### Meetings with other stakeholders

- **Continental Workshop** on Harmonization of Pesticides Regulations in Africa organised by Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR) and Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC).

# Continuing challenge

- **The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA II)** bringing together well over 2000 participants representing 170 nations.
- **Bee Health Conference** - Harare Zimbabwe organized by Zimbabwe's national apiculture association bringing together 50 participants from various sectors.
- **Stakeholders' workshop** on Registration of Microbial Biopesticides in Malawi. International Union of Toxicology regional workshop on Environmental Toxicological Risk Assessment targeting a mix of professionals from health, environment, chemical industry and agriculture.
- The General Assembly of the African Apicultural Platform bringing together 96 delegates from thirty-nine (39) out of the fifty four African Union Member States and Four Regional Economic Communities attended: ECCAS, CEN-SAD, COMESA and UMA.



## 5. Anti-Counterfeiting Activities

Several CropLife national associations implemented anti-counterfeiting activities during 2016.

**The main objectives were:**

- To make stakeholders and responsible government authorities aware of the problem and related risks with illegal and counterfeit pesticides, including economic risks to national economies resulting from bans on exports of crops treated with illegal and counterfeit pesticides.
- To work with government authorities to prosecute those selling and distributing illegal and counterfeit pesticides.
- To get a better understanding and detect the source of counterfeit pesticides including ports of entry, and local distributors selling illegal products.
- To raise awareness at farmer level to refrain from purchasing illegal and fake pesticides.

### Did you know...

Counterfeit and illegal pesticides continue to be the fastest growing “competitor” for pesticide suppliers in Africa Middle East. Their combined share is bigger than any of the leading multinationals. Most national associations estimate that counterfeit products are responsible for between 15% and 20% of their respective markets, with some extreme situations suggesting 40% to 80%. Hot spots are certain regions in Egypt, Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania and Malawi.

### Spray Service Providers are Part of the Solution

CropLife Africa Middle East actively promotes the Spray Service Provider (SSP) concept in which farmers who have received special training, sell their application services to fellow farmers. One of the key elements of the SSP concept is that each SSP is directly linked to member companies of the CropLife national association network to guarantee access to legal pesticides.

Owing to the fact that SSPs live in the same community as the farmers, it is unlikely that they will be dishonest, as the consequences are severe, including losing business as an SSP, and in a worst-case scenario, be expelled from the community. In addition, SSPs are trained in the application and responsible use in handling

pesticides, and have in general, a much better knowledge on pesticides than shady dealers that roam the communities with their products. SSPs are also trained on the risks of using counterfeit products and on how to recognize such products.

Through the SSPs, awareness is created among farmers on counterfeit pesticides, and because SSPs triple rinse and puncture the empty containers, these cannot be used any longer to be refilled with fake products. To-date, more than 100,000 farmers have been reached through the SSP program. At the moment, there are active SSP programs in Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia.



# Recognizing counterfeit products

## 5. Anti-Counterfeiting Activities

### Training

For customs officers and other law enforcement agencies to be able to confiscate counterfeit pesticides, one needs to know what to look for. CropLife Africa Middle East has developed a special training course for law enforcement agencies on how to recognize counterfeit pesticides and why it is so important for farmers and the agricultural sector to reduce the influx of illegal products on the markets. Added to this, representatives of farmers' organizations and agro dealers were also trained on similar topics.

Anti-counterfeiting training in Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ghana, and Uganda, during the year covered the following:

- 536 law enforcement officers
- 590 agro-dealers
- 190 farmers



### Confiscating Illegal Pesticides in Egypt

The Ministry of Agriculture announced in January 2016 that it would intensify its raids to confiscate counterfeit pesticides. Over a period of 5 months during the year, the following was undertaken: closure of 658 unlicensed retail shops; seizure of 2,500 tons of pesticides and fertilizers; raids on 3 large repacking facilities in Nubaria and Burg Elarab and the seizure of 50 tons smuggled pesticides at a farm in the Badr village. All cases are still before the courts with the seized goods are under tight security control.



Screen shot of the website of APC ([www.apc.gov.eg](http://www.apc.gov.eg)) which also provides information in English in addition to Arabic.

### Shaping Up in Kenya

To reach young farmers, CropLife Kenya collaborated with the "Shamba Shape Up" program, a 30-minute weekly TV program in both English and Swahili that educates the East African rural audience. It is broadcast on leading TV stations in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania reaching an estimated 7 million farmers in the first series and topping 11 million by the end of the third series. CropLife Kenya provided inputs on 14 episodes, including some highlighting the issues of counterfeiting, how to recognize counterfeits, and mitigation measures. The videos can be seen on: <http://www.agrochem.co.ke/videos.html?limitstart=0>

### Market Study Kenya

According to a market study conducted in Kenya covering 4350 farmers, 19% had never heard of counterfeit pesticides. Also, most agro dealers were not aware of the problem: among the 740 dealers interviewed, 8% were not aware of illegal pesticides, while 22% could not identify them. Most shocking was the fact that 38% of the farmers and 27% of the dealers acknowledged that they would buy counterfeit pesticides. The results of the study were used to develop a strategy to fight illegal pesticides.

## 5. Anti-Counterfeiting Activities

### Professionalizing the Industry

In Uganda, an Agri-Input Web Platform was established in June 2016 by the USAID/Ag Input Activity project in close collaboration with CropLife Uganda, the Uganda Seed Trade Association (USTA), and the Uganda National Agro Dealers Association (UNADA). The main objective was to collect information on seeds, pesticides, and fertilizers, including the availability of approved products on the market. The web platform encourages greater transparency in the sector, providing the public with a wide range of information on input suppliers, registered products, new products and seed varieties in the market, and also covers the agro-dealers in each locality.

In order to clean up the supply chain in Kenya, CropLife Kenya developed a program on accreditation. The first step in the program was focused on the member companies of CropLife Kenya. The technical staff of companies were trained on the Code of Conduct of CropLife Kenya, covering matters of counterfeiting and the need to clean-up the supply chain within the industry. The second step was done by the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) - a statutory body charged with the responsibility of registering and controlling pesticides in Kenya. Agro-dealers are obligated to attend staff training, licensing and store layout requirements as part of their accreditation certification.

Poster from Kenya



*Destine Ariye and Geoffrey Okullo from CropLife Uganda (left) providing information during an exhibition in Lira*

# Providing wide range of information



## 6. Update on Plant Biotechnology in Africa

This past year presented both successes and setbacks for African farmers to plant biotech crops. On the positive side, movement towards the cultivation of Bt cotton in several countries was one of the most significant milestones. The governments of Malawi, Nigeria and Kenya all approved Bt traits for commercial release, pending that variety registration trials are subsequently completed in each country. Likewise, the governments of Ethiopia, Cameroon and Ghana are conducting multi-location field trials with decisions on deregulation expected to be announced in the near future. In this same time period, the government of Burkina Faso took the decision to phase out its cultivation of Bt cotton due to perceived issues related to the fiber quality of the variety into which Bt was introduced.

The progress on the cultivation of genetically modified (GE) maize was more measured than cotton. Although Tanzania and Nigeria have conducted their first confined field trials of herbicide tolerant, insect resistant and drought tolerant maize, the country expected to be leading the commercialization of GE maize in sub-Saharan Africa, Kenya, continues to encounter delays related to institutional responsibilities. Despite the fact that Bt maize was approved for commercial cultivation a year ago, variety registration trials have yet to be conducted and Kenyan farmers are still unable to benefit from this technology.

On the policy front, 2016 was likewise a year of progress and challenges. Guidelines were issued for commercial release in Ghana, proclamations and directives are being amended to improve system functionality in Ethiopia and Tanzania, respectively, and the government of Zambia continues to express interest in amending its policies to facilitate access to Bt cotton. At the same time, the Ugandan parliament has been unable to pass a biosafety law to facilitate access to technologies coming from their public sector while Kenya has continued to implement its ban on GE imports. Making sure African farmers have the same choices as their counterparts in dozens of other countries requires that the wide collection of farmers, scientists, government officials, academics and industry reps engage and speak on behalf of plant science.



# Successes for African farmers

