



ANNUAL REPORT

2
0
1
9

About CropLife

CropLife Africa Middle East A.I.S.B.L. is a not-for-profit industry organization representing the leading global manufacturers of pesticides, seeds and biotechnology products in Africa and the Middle East. The regional association was registered in Brussels in November 2002 and currently represents more than 20 national associations across the region. The association is legally fully independent but maintains a strong link with the global CropLife network (www.croplife.org).

Together with the national associations, CropLife Africa Middle East is the voice and advocate for the Plant Science Industry.

We are committed to sustainable agricultural practices and to the responsible use of plant science technologies in the region. We promote the understanding of the benefits of modern plant science solutions. We are convinced that these products and solutions developed and distributed by our member companies are indispensable to sound and sustainable production of agricultural food and fibre.

We promote the professional and responsible use of these products which improves the incomes and livelihoods of farmers and their families and has the potential to contribute decisively to the growth of rural and national economies.



Member Companies

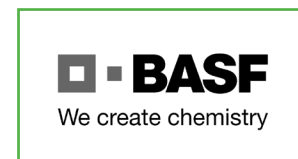


TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE	SECTION
4	Editorial
5	Regulatory and Advocacy
10	Stewardship Highlights
12	Spray Service Provider (SSP) for Sustainable Services
13	Anti-Counterfeiting
15	CL AME Association Management 2019
18	Plant Biotechnology

Editorial

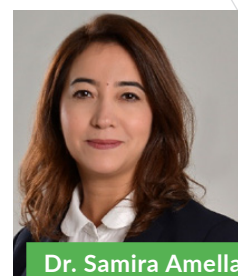
Dear readers,

Challenges have dominated agriculture in our region over the past year, the invasion of Fall Armyworm, locust plagues, unpredictable climate change and increased activism and media attention on the perceived risks of pesticides to consumers placing science-based decision making under scrutiny. Faced with these challenges, the efforts of Crop Life Africa and Middle East (CL AME) and its national associations remain dedicated to advocate and encourage governments to rely on science-based decision-making.

Before we move onto 2020, let's look back and reflect on some of the notable achievements of the past year. Following our strategic priorities CropLife AME staff worked diligently to increase the resilience of decision makers, the development of regulatory frameworks focussing specifically on harmonisation and data protection and the effective management of regulatory issues. Our efforts also covered the adoption of CBI guidelines by the EAC Sectorial council and the enhancement on the setting of MRL's, consumer safety and trade in Africa's agricultural commodities. We also intensified our dialogue among the regulatory authorities in more than 23 countries through our Sub-regional workshops in the region. Critical topics addressed included: Emergency Registration Procedures - in the light of emerging pests and diseases; changing policy landscape for pesticides, especially highlighting the MRL import tolerances and hazard based regulatory decision making. Also, strides in the implementation of GHS, Protection of Confidential Business Information, Risk Assessment Procedures for both conventional pesticides and Biologicals, Mode of Action labelling, Regulations and Quality Assessment in anti-counterfeiting efforts and minor formulation changes and risk mitigation.



Dirk Hartmann
President



Dr. Samira Amellal
Director General

We also continued with our commitment on the advancement of sustainability and stewardship across the region. In the past year, we continued to support efforts in container management in 9 countries and advocated on the implementation of Mode of Action labelling. The Spray Service Provider (SSP) concept has been further developed and continues to be our main driver in rolling out IPM and responsible use of pesticides with our key partners in several countries. Our commitment to contribute in managing the threat of food security posed by Fall Armyworm was a Training of Trainer workshop held for West African countries and to ensure the rollout to farmers to fight this pest.

On the challenge of counterfeit and illegal products, we worked diligently to nurture coalitions and stakeholder alliances. These included the likes of USDA-USAID-Michigan State University initiative in West Africa, the US DoJ/ICHIP-USPTO in a joint workshop attended by 12 francophone countries in Africa and REACT in Nigeria and Kenya, INTERPOL in Cape Town, the WCO-JICA in Kenya, the WIPO-Ethiopia IPO and the Ghana Customs (GRA)-SGS. This level of cooperation gave us the opportunity to reinforce and empower our messages to both, governments and the media in the region to address the challenges of counterfeiting as a collective responsibility.

For 2020, we aim to concentrate our efforts in establishing strategic partnerships in order to provide a common voice through multi-stakeholder approaches. This will help to advance solutions to the many challenges facing our industry in our region.

In addition to the above we are committed to:

- Advocating for an efficient, predictable, and science based regulatory system;
- Intensifying our promotional efforts in stewardship outreach;
- Addressing the anti-counterfeiting issue as a collective responsibility;
- Strengthening our national associations to advocate a favourable environment for pesticide industry in the countries;
- Proactive communication and advocacy to be able to provide a media balance for industry in the countries

Looking into 2020 and beyond, It's both a privilege and opportunity to play a part in helping agriculture in Africa and Middle East grow and the Board and the executive team of CL AME are proud to pursue this mission.

Regulatory and Advocacy

Our Challenges

The global population will exceed 8 billion by 2030, which will increase calorie demand by 50 percent. Yet only 5 to 10 percent more land globally can be used for agricultural production.

More food must be produced on existing farmland by increasing crop quantity and quality. Agriculture must also provide renewable sources of fuel, fiber and feed, while protecting natural habitats and resources.



Our Solutions

Make the latest agricultural technologies available world-wide as countries ensure their appropriate use through sound regulatory systems.

Establish, improve and harmonise regulations and registrations of crop protection products worldwide for their effective and responsible use.

Gains and Pains in Regulatory Capacity Enhancement

“ Innovation of biologicals has increased 20,000 fold



We highlighted at the end of 2018 the harmonised framework for registration of biologicals and how industry innovation of biologicals has increased over 20,000-fold. This is due to the efforts by industry to improve the efficacy and safety of products to meet the needs of farmers to address the increasing threat from crop pests and diseases but also to contribute to safeguarding human and environmental health. In this piece we cover the subject of regulatory capacity, which was one of our key targets for 2019 using the concept of the “principles of regulation” and specifically the principles for an effective regulatory system and the challenges we continue to face.

”

“ In recent years,



countries in our region together with international partners have devoted enormous resources in building strong agricultural systems to withstand climate change and other growing challenges, including drought, hunger, malnutrition, agricultural productivity gaps and vulnerability. One effort has been the development of institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks upon which agricultural sub-sectors can flourish. This includes building capacity in regulatory science to ensure that new technologies can be used to positively and sustainably improve crop production.

”



“ While there may be no perfect or complete regulatory system



various stakeholders including the crop protection industry have made contributions to the changing terrain of regulation of crop protection products. This has been by encouraging the adoption of sound policy frameworks in AME countries. In 2019, facilitation of training and exchanges by regulators-to-regulators during the 3 sub-regional meetings in Dakar Senegal, Nairobi, Kenya and in Cairo, Egypt all under the theme of “Strengthening Pesticides Management through Effective Enforcement of Regulations.” These events brought together a total of over 250 participants, drawn from regulatory authorities of up to 25 countries, national CropLife associations, stakeholders, partners and key institutions involved in pesticide policies and management.

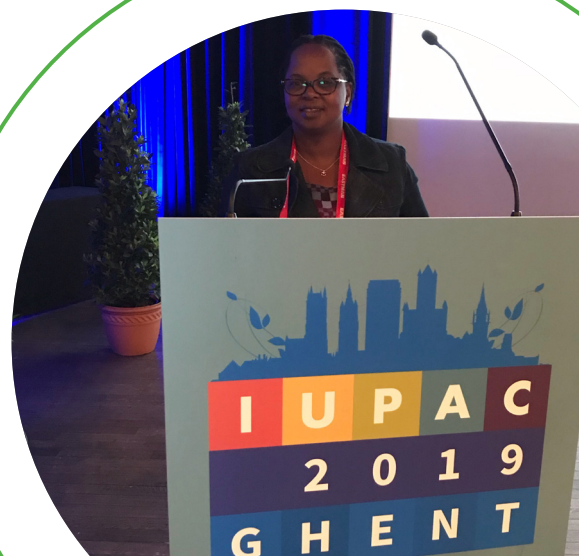
”

“ Through these events,



critical topics such as Emergency Registration Procedures- in the light of emerging pests and diseases; changing policy landscape for pesticides, especially highlighting MRLs, import tolerances and the impact of hazard based regulatory decision making. Also strides in the implementation of GHS, Protection of Confidential Business Information, Risk Assessment Procedures for both conventional pesticides and biologicals, Mode of Action labelling, Regulations and Quality Assessment in anti-counterfeiting efforts and Minor Formulation changes.

”



“ This year, these dialogues covered a few other areas



of the 8 principles for an effective regulatory system, specifically, dedicated sessions on risk assessment which explored further into approaches for operator exposure. Others like the Risk Mitigation sessions held in Kenya and Zambia respectively, placed emphasis on use assessment of each product that is evidence-based using sound scientific principles, quality data and ensuring transparency of the regulatory processes. Risk Mitigation workshops specifically focused on carrying out “a country needs assessment” to ascertain critical issues in pesticides management, including HHPs and development and implementation of risk mitigation initiatives in line with identified critical issues. These included, clarity of responsibilities of each party throughout production and supply chains and call for responsible action in light of the best practices advocated in the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management and setting up of a compliance monitoring system and active response process to manage any potential adverse incidents.



“ The fast tracking of harmonisation



within the sub regions, and internationally while considering local needs and conditions was in 2019 and continues to be a key focus in the efforts to build capacity, specifically the application of modern standards to all products. We support the efforts in the dialogues towards the establishment of mechanisms that ensure harmonisation of regulations and practices in the East Africa Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC), ECOWAS, CILSS countries, Central Africa Inter- State Pesticides Committee (CPAC), Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), among others.



“ Amidst some of the successes



in enhancing capacities of stakeholders in effective management of pesticides across the entire value chain are challenges of changing policies and consumer preferences, particularly blowing from Europe into the region and in some instances, politics slowly replacing science and a source of public debate and divergence. EU Implementation of the hazard-based approach to the regulation of pesticides and the increasing preference of its consumers for products that have been produced using zero pesticides, has “led to reduced access to modern agricultural tools, such as plant biotechnology and crop protection products, contributing to stagnating agricultural productivity and economic development” . Is this the way the region wants to go recognizing that it has the biggest challenge in feeding its people in the near future?



“ Our ambition in 2020



is to seek to navigate around the huge challenges of food safety and security, faced in the Africa and Middle East region. Specifically, how crop protection and biotech products can contribute to solving these challenges and how to ensure that their regulation is both a safeguard for society and a stimulant for innovation – “A new agricultural transformation that is appropriate, that recognizes the continent’s diverse environments and climates, and that considers its histories and cultures while benefiting rural smallholder farmers and their families” .



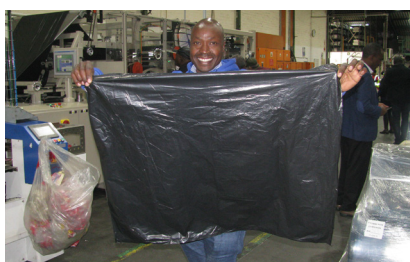
Stewardship Highlights

Container Management

Our aim for 2019 was to support the development of Container Management in the major markets within the region and to improve the effectiveness of container collections.

To this end we undertook a container management workshop in South Africa early in the year at which 13 countries participated. During the year the number of pilot programs increased from 8 to 11, with Zimbabwe, Benin and Cameroon joining this group. The management of empty pesticide containers in Benin and Cameroon is part of the FAO/GEF project, "Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides and Strengthening Sound Pesticide Management," with whom we partner.

Plastics collected during the year will certainly exceed the 5.6 million kg collected in 2018. Several more pilot programs are under development of which the outcome will be seen during the course of 2020.



IPM and Responsible Use

During the period we produced relevant and effective training and awareness raising materials with widespread application by smallholder farmers, normally supported within the Spray Service Provider concept. Partnerships were developed for maximising impact of stewardship in terms of scale and sustainability, including a concerted approach in the promotion of PPE.

Our longer-term goal is to implement pilot initiatives in IPM & Responsible Use that have the potential to be scaled upwards, including the use of digital tools for both training and outreach.



Resistance Management

Our goal is to promote awareness of resistance and strategies to address resistance management amongst regulators, partners and farmers.

The promotion of Mode of Action (MoA) labelling at country level is key, to be able to track this at regional level and in so doing link this to IPM training.

Currently only two countries in the region have MoA labeling regulated, namely Ethiopia and South Africa. Kenya is likely to introduce voluntary MoA labeling during 2020. MoA labeling is heavily promoted at the three regional Hub & Regulatory Workshops.

The buy-in and support of the country regulators is critical for MoA labelling to be recognized as a core resistance management tool. Within the region, regulations need to be amended, which regrettably takes time.



Obsolete Stocks

2019 has been a year of wrapping up existing projects and planning for the future. The 15 year CropLife International commitment to the Africa Stockpiles Programme ended on December 31, 2018, but a further seven year phase has now been approved to the end of 2025. CropLife International has remained engaged with various countries where its principal contribution is complete, in order to monitor progress of partners and provide technical assistance to ensure that disposal is successful.

Obsolete stocks projects have been completed in Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania and Tunisia, and are moving towards completion in Benin, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria and Senegal.

In 2019, a lot of thought has gone into the concept of 'prevention' to ensure that obsolete stocks don't accumulate as they have in the past. The public and private sectors must work together to understand and tackle the most common causes of pesticides becoming obsolete. Prevention is a core theme of CropLife International's future obsolete stocks activities.

Talks are continuing with the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and national authorities to formulate these prevention strategies and also to develop practicable methods to manage the small quantities of obsolete stocks that inevitably arise, however responsibly pesticides are regulated and managed.



BEFORE - 2015



AFTER - 2019

While attending the FAO Cameroon Project Steering Committee meeting in November 2019, Hans Dobson inspected the empty store at Edea, after 40 tonnes of safeguarded obstocks were removed in 2018.

Spray Service Provider (SSP) for Sustainable Services

In Nigeria, 72 partnerships were established including with:

- Member companies of CropLife to purchase pesticides in bulk against competitive prices.
- Micro finance institutions to access credit for the purchase of pesticides.
- Processing companies and plantations to facilitate contracts for 20 hectares and more.
- Farmers' organizations to services their members.

In 2019 a new boast was given to the Spray Service Provider (SSP) concept by assisting them in creating SSP associations. SSP associations are perceived by CropLife as a way to ensure sustainable service delivery by the SSPs. A total of 21 associations were established in Nigeria bringing together more than 500 SSPs, while 8 associations with 140 member SSPs were created in Uganda. Through a variety of activities, partnerships with stakeholders were established and the capacity of members was built on association management.

Capacity building of members during a training program on association management in Kaduna, Nigeria.



Demonstration on teamwork in Kabale district, Uganda.



Field Officer Mushin Lawal Gambo of CropLife Nigeria during the stakeholder forum in Kano, Nigeria.



Field Officer Richards Maiwada (right) of CropLife Nigeria during a monitoring visit to one of the SSP association in Jigawa state in Nigeria.



Anti-Counterfeiting

“Strengthening Cooperation to Alleviate Counterfeit and other Fraudulent Pesticides”

The recent increase in the use of pesticides especially herbicides in the Africa region has been accompanied with the proliferation of counterfeit (CFT) and other fraudulent brands with the subsequent threats to human health and the environment. Adding to such threats, the socio-economic risks may impact on the sustainability of the agricultural economies and the overall national economic development in the region.

CropLife Africa Middle East (AME) and its member companies continued the fight against the illicit trade of pesticides in the region by **“Addressing the Anti-counterfeit Issue as a Collective Responsibility”**. The three flagship programs intensified the awareness creation and capacity building activities through the strengthening of cooperation and synergy among stakeholders. These activities were expanded with the active support from international cooperation.

1. Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships against CFT and other Fraudulent Pesticides

Local initiatives were undertaken to strengthen the cooperation and create synergy among the key stakeholders as a vital component to combat CFT and other fraudulent pesticides.

Platform meetings together with workshops using various communication tools were used for awareness creation covering the nature and scope, the risks and impacts of CFT pesticides and to engage the stakeholders in this challenge. At the same time capacity enhancement programs provided knowledge and tools to farmers and end-users, customs services, regulators and security forces for the detection of CFT pesticides. Such illegal pesticides could therefore be avoided for use by the farmers, and seized by the enforcement agencies.

A breakthrough was the border control cooperation between Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana at the Takikro-Gonokrom checkpoint. Customs officers and agents, pesticides inspectors and control agents and other security forces from the two countries participated in a joint training workshop during which they were provided with tools to identify fraudulent pesticides. They then committed to using this knowledge to halt the cross-border movement of pesticides between the two countries.



2. Tackling CFT and Fraudulent Pesticides through International Cooperation



The USAID “Feed the Future” program and USDA supported a study by the Michigan State University (MSU) under the leadership of Prof. Steven Haggblade. The findings of the study were shared during the two annual workshops of CropLife Africa Middle East attended by more than 160 participants. The study confirmed the proliferation of fraudulent and poor quality pesticides on the markets in West Africa with the subsequent impacts. The report also noted the need for well-equipped laboratories for quality assessment to support the enforcement activities and other initiatives to counter the illicit trade.

The US Department of Justice International Computer Hacking IP (ICHIP) for Africa, in Nigeria, in coordination with the US Computer Crimes and IP Section organized with the support of the US Patent and Trade Office and the US Embassy in Dakar, Senegal, and CropLife AME a workshop to build enforcement capacity and improve cooperation in addressing and tackling the trade of illicit pharmaceuticals and pesticides. The 58 participants comprised of prosecutors, regulators, law enforcement bodies and customs officials from 13 African francophone countries.

REACT an AntiCFT capacity building organization held two workshops for more than 150 Customs officers and agents on IP Enforcement in Nigeria and Kenya. CropLife AME provided some important contributions through presentations focusing on the risks and impact to health and the environment focusing on the shared responsibility in alleviating such criminal CFT activities.



CL AME Association Management 2019

Association Management is one of the strategic priorities aimed at ensuring that CropLife national associations are well managed and able to defend the interests of their members. Currently there are 22 National Associations in the Africa and Middle East region.

The objectives of Association Management are :



For national associations to respect and implement the Code of Conduct



To continuously monitor performance including Stewardship and Regulatory activities, plus projects



To build capacity of National Associations through training on governance and sustainability to be able to carry out their Stewardship and Regulatory functions



Association Management 2019 activities :

Association management training - East and Southern Africa Regional Workshop

East and Southern Africa: Association Management training was offered to the Board and members of the National Associations to build their capacity on governance, management and sustainability during the ESA Regional meeting.

COUNTRY SPECIFIC APPROACHES TO ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT.

1. Capacity Building of CropLife Zimbabwe

CropLife Zimbabwe reviewed their association management challenges in a meeting facilitated by CLAME for the Executive Committee and Directors of member companies. The current Executive Committee will draw up an action plan covering the reorganization of the industry which includes the review of the governance structure, Board and Constitution and how this will be implemented and presented to the members.



Executive Committee members CropLife Zimbabwe



Participants in the Training of Trainers for Malawi. Signing of the PROSPER Markets partnership agreement by CropLife Malawi

2. Malawi – Project Management Capacity Development

With guidance and support from CLAME, CropLife Malawi started a new SSP project under the PROSPER Markets project funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). CLAME and CLM organised a Training of Trainers aimed at developing 15 SSP trainers for the Cotton Sector. In addition, CLAME supported monitoring of SSPs trained in the previous MOST project. In November 2019, CropLife Malawi signed an agreement with PROSPER Markets which is aimed at 'Promoting the Use of Genuine and Safe Agro Chemicals in Malawi through Spray Service Providers'.

3. Ethiopia- Project Management Capacity Development

Under the new phase of HortLife II project, SNV proposed a Partnership Agreement with CropLife Ethiopia, with the primary objective of improving and strengthening the capabilities of CropLife Ethiopia in the area of project implementation in cooperation with partner organizations. CropLife Ethiopia is expected to set up a Project Management Unit capable of implementing such projects sustainably in the future aimed primarily at the improvement of pesticide usage at the level of smallholder farmers in general and in particular for vegetable smallholder farmers.



Signing of Partnership Agreement between CropLife Ethiopia and SNV

4. West and Central Africa :

Associations were called to revisit their internal organization structures to handle the numerous issues, strategic and otherwise, specific and emerging issues such as EDs, NNI, GHS implementation, MoA labeling, etc.



CropLife Ghana created a Technical Committee in July



CropLife Nigeria created a Stewardship Committee



CropLife Cote d'Ivoire is currently reorganizing their existing committees and created a FAW team comprising of the participants that underwent the recent FAW training in West Africa.

5. North Africa and Middle East :

Focus for 2019 was in reactivating the North Africa Middle East national associations such as Egypt. The unstable political situation in the Middle East in earlier years impacted on our network in the region. The NAME Hub meeting was held in Cairo, Egypt.



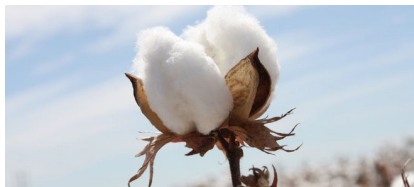
Regional NAME
Workshop
in Cairo - Egypt

Conclusion :

2020 will see renewed efforts by the CL AME team in Association Management by building the capacity of the national associations in strategy planning and project management.

With increased regulatory and stewardship challenges in the different countries, it is imperative that the national associations are sufficiently strong to defend the interests of their members through the creation of strong alliances and partnerships.

Plant Biotechnology



As an update on biotechnology in Africa, 2019, continued the incremental progress that was made towards the approval and use of plant biotechnology across the African continent, primarily for insect-resistant biotech (Bt) cotton.

Nigeria established itself as a regional leader for agricultural innovation in 2018 when the government there approved Bt cotton and insect-resistant biotech (Bt) cowpea. In 2019, the country continued that leadership with the establishment of a food and feed approval system based on the recognition of risk assessments from other geographies, a model that may be followed by neighbouring countries in West Africa. Nigeria also made progress with its variety registration process which is needed to allow for immediate cultivation of Bt cowpea varieties. In Ethiopia, maize trials continued in 2019 and research partnerships using genome editing were formed around sorghum, maize and yam. Research on wilt-resistant bananas and other products continued through 2019 in Malawi. Regulations to allow for the implementation of the biosafety law in Ghana were finally passed after years of delay – giving developers a path forward to market.



In other parts of Africa, conversations about the opportunities presented by plant biotechnology to manage the serious, ongoing damage caused by Fall Armyworm were elevated to the highest levels of government policy makers. Incorporating insect-resistant biotech varieties into an Integrated Pest Management strategy was successful in combatting Fall Armyworm in both Latin America and South Africa, and could certainly be part of a potential solution for other African farmers facing this destructive pest if policy makers give farmers those choices.

In 2019, several African countries began showing a real interest in genome editing technology and related policy. Fortunately, there was not an immediate movement towards adopting the restrictive European position as codified in 2018 by the European Court of Justice. Some countries – Kenya, Ethiopia, and Nigeria in particular – planned or completed national-level events to discuss both genome editing applications and examples of practical policy. In Kenya, there were follow up efforts to draft genome editing policy more in line with those that exist in Latin America.

CropLife Africa Middle East Team

- **SAMIRA AMELLAL** — Director General
- **STELLA SIMIYU WAFUKHO** — Director Regulatory Affairs and Stakeholder Relations
- **LES HILLOWITZ** — Director Stewardship
- **BAMA YAO OCTAVE** — Regional Director West and Central Africa
- **EVELYN LUSENAKA** — Regional Director East and South Africa

Board Members of CropLife Africa Middle East

- **DIRK HARTMANN** — President CropLife Africa Middle East
- **JEROME BARBARON** — Vice President, CropLife Africa Middle East
- **GEORGES KASSIS** — Vice President, CropLife Africa Middle East
- **KLAUS ECKSTEIN** — Director, Bayer
- **MARCEL DREYER** — Director, UPL
- **PRABDEEP BAJWA** — Director, Corteva Agriscience
- **PHILIPPE CATTAN** — Director, FMC
- **JORDI USO** — Director, Sipcam-Oxon
- **GUY LIABRA** — Director, CropLife Côte d'Ivoire
- **PATRICK AMUYUNZU** — Director, CropLife Kenya
- **MOHAMED CHETOUANI** — Director, CropLife Morocco
- **RODNEY BELL** — Director, CropLife South Africa



CONTACT US



CropLife Africa Middle East
International Association AISBL Rue
Théodore de Cuyper 100 B-1200 Brussels



+32 2 770 00 37



+32 2 772 72 88



info@croplifeafrica.org



@CroplifeAME



www.croplifeafrica.org

DESIGNED BY
Partnet.ma



CropLife
Africa Middle East