

# CropLife Africa Middle East: 2002 to 2007

## 2002-2007: CropLife Africa Middle East engaged five years in the difficult but exciting mission to represent the Plant Science Industry throughout Africa and the Middle East

Five years ago, CropLife Africa Middle East was created and registered as an international association under Belgian law, then affiliated to CropLife International with the goal to give the Africa and the Middle East region its own voice within the global federation. Since then a real improvement of the image of our industry has been noted in the region. This has been achieved by a dedicated dynamic team pursuing its main objectives: the regulatory harmonisation initiatives in the three hubs; the improvement of product stewardship and strong communication efforts supported by the global secretariat and the other regional associations. A special tribute is to be paid also to organisations and institutions such as the FAO, the World Bank, GEF, WWF, PAN-UK, PAN-Africa, ADB and other partners for their strong support and constructive cooperation within the Africa Stockpiles Programme.

IFDC has been very active in various issues and activities carried out by CropLife Africa Middle East, most importantly, in joint training activities, making the MoU lively and the partnership between our two organisations a very successful one.

Pride and satisfaction over the progress and results achieved during the past five years should, however, not lead to complacency! There remain many and demanding industry challenges to be addressed in the future. Among many other issues we need to address the IPR issue and focus on strong actions against counterfeited and fraudulent products in the markets in our region. Our engagement and relevant activities will be carried in synergy with local authorities and other stakeholders engaged in pesticide and agricultural policies.

I am thus looking forward to your continued and valuable support.

Wishing you all, individually and collectively, a Happy and Prosperous New Year for 2008!

Dr Rudolf Guyer  
President CropLife Africa Middle East  
c/o Syngenta Crop Protection AG  
Schwarzwaldallee 215  
P.O. Box CH-4002 Basel  
Switzerland



## What's happening?

- Training prize for North Africa Middle East
- Namibia obstocks and container management
- Obstocks project for Jordan, Syria, Lebanon
- ASP South Africa
- Cascade training in Mali and Tanzania
- Mozambique RU ToT
- Ivory Coast 20 years
- IFDC partnership plans for 2008
- Tanzania job anyone?
- Strengthening Ghana NA
- New Jordan legislation



## Training Prize for North Africa Middle East

Dr. Said Abdellah, Training Specialist for CropLife Egypt received an award from CropLife Africa Middle East for his outstanding contribution to training activities in the sub-region of North Africa Middle East.

Dr. Said had been certified by CropLife Africa Middle East as a Master Trainer within the context of the capacity building programme led by training consultant, Peter Mills, since year 2003.

Since then, Dr. Said has conducted numerous cascade trainings in and outside Egypt that included replicate ToT's, dealer certification training and Integrated Pest Management capacity building, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture of Egypt.

He contributed to dealer training activities in Iraq within the frame of the USAID funded Agricultural Reconstruction and Development project in Iraq (ARDI), where he conducted four dealer training sessions covering 65 trainees in each session.

Dr. Said also cooperated with FAO regional office for the Near East in developing training



manuals, and will launch a Master Trainer programme in Yemen in December 2007 funded by the FAO.

In a ceremony held at CropLife Egypt offices in Cairo on 03-December-2007, the Regional Coordinator for CropLife Africa Middle East, Ali Mohamed Ali and the Chairman of CropLife Egypt, Sarwat Sakr, presented the proficiency certificate and training prize to Dr. Said in tribute to his outstanding performance on training.

Contact: [ali-croplife@nets.com.jo](mailto:ali-croplife@nets.com.jo)

## Obstocks Project for Jordan, Syria and Lebanon

Mr. Richard Thompson of the FAO visited Jordan in November 2007 in preparation for initiating a regional obsolete stocks disposal project intended to cover Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

During his visit, Mr. Thompson deliberated with Mahmoud Altabaishi, Chairman of CropLife Jordan (AMATPA) and officials of the Ministry of Agriculture of Jordan on the prospects of the intended regional project.

In addition to the already initiated obstocks project in Syria, approximately 22 tons of obsolete stocks of DDT have been identified in Jordan pertaining to the Ministry of Health.

Mr. Thompson communicated with the Regional Coordinator, Ali Mohamed Ali, on the issue and is expected to revisit Jordan in the same context for more deliberations on the project.

Contact: [ali-croplife@nets.com.jo](mailto:ali-croplife@nets.com.jo)

## ASP South Africa

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, (DEAT), the managing agency for the Africa Stockpiles Programme (ASP) in South Africa, has been reviewing the design of its ASP project following the successful pilot collection of unused pesticides from farmers in Limpopo Province last year.

An informal meeting took place in December at which Chris Waller, Manager of the Obsolete Stocks Programme at CropLife International, explained how countries such as Australia, Canada and France have developed programmes to manage farmer-held unused pesticides and empty containers, and how these experiences could be applied in South Africa. DEAT are considering the ideas suggested.

Contact: [les.hillowitz@icon.co.za](mailto:les.hillowitz@icon.co.za)



L-R: Tinus Joubert, Dee Fischer, Chris Waller and Nompheo Daniel

## Cascade Training in Mali

During the week of 03 to 07-December-2007, 12 Directors of Agriculture and 22 Heads of Agriculture were provided with two separate two-day training sessions in responsible use of pesticides. The objective of these two trainings were to evaluate Master Trainers, to conduct control and repressive actions against frauds/counterfeits. As well as request stewardship reports and plan for future activities. Four Master Trainers from 2005 ToT sessions facilitated two two-day training sessions focused on "effective implementation of pesticides laws and decrees" in order to combat frauds and counterfeits in the pesticides market. Participants were trained on importance of pesticides in agricultural productivity and sustainability, registration/regulations, IPM/SU-RU in the cotton sector and on obsolete stocks.

Recommendations were made for cascade training with implication of pesticides inspectors, local administrative authorities, customs, and major stakeholders. In addition, recommendations were made on the needs to identify and certify dealers/retailers, to conduct education activities with the media and repressive actions against counterfeiters. Dates for reports on 2007 stewardship activities and 2008 ToT's were set.

Contact: [bama-croplife@aviso.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@aviso.ci)



Top: Opening ceremony with Directors of Agriculture



Bottom: Nonon Diarra addresses Heads of Agriculture

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# Namibia Obstocks and Container Management

In early December a visit was made to Namibia for which the purpose was as follows:

- To assist CropLife Namibia in their planning for 2008.
- To meet with Kevin Helps (FAO) to access the "obstocks" situation.
- To assist CropLife Namibia in designing a "container management" programme.

Present for the CropLife meetings were Herman Louw and Riaan Moolman. For meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MoA): Renier Burger, Registrar, Paulina Shiyelekeni, Pesticide Management and Joseph Izaaks, Agriculture Extension.



Standing at the back, Herman Louw, CropLife Namibia. Front, L – R Joseph Izaaks and Renier Burger of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, Namibia examining the obsolete stocks held by the Government of Namibia



Drums being "triple rinsed" with the wash water contained

Les Hillowitz undertook presentations covering the four focus areas under Stewardship identified by CLI.

He met with the Ministry of Agriculture and covered the following with them: the ASP, Responsible Use training, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and counterfeit products, and container management.

He visited the Ministry of Agriculture Pesticide Store in Okahandja and viewed the obsolete stocks held by the Namibian government, primarily Deltamethrin UL based products purchased for locust control. Volume approximately 8500 litres, (separate report sent to Chris Waller). Also found approx 500 empty DECIS drums which were viewed as a problem by the MoA. Identified a local recycler who met all the CLI requirements and arranged for them to collect the containers once these had been "triple rinsed". CropLife Namibia undertook to manage the cleaning process and the hand-over to the recycler. This unexpected development helped greatly in the understanding of a container management programme.

Les also had a follow-up meeting with the MoA which included Kevin Helps and the issue of developing a "clean-up" project was discussed.

Les also assisted CropLife Namibia in developing their "Action Plan" for 2008.

Contact: [les.hillowitz@icon.co.za](mailto:les.hillowitz@icon.co.za)



Triple rinsed drums with holes made at the bottom of each drum.

Clean drums awaiting collection by the recycler



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# Training of Trainers in Responsible Use: Mozambique

This was the first intervention with IFDC in East & Southern Africa since the closing of the project in Malawi in early 2005.

As background, the "Agricultural Input Markets Strengthening" Project (AIMS) is a USAID-funded project based in Mozambique. The project focuses on agri-inputs dealer development activities primarily in the Beira and Nacala Corridors whilst policy issues will impact at both regional and national levels. The six main areas of activity are:

- Business Development / Human Capacity Building
- Association Building
- Technology Transfer and Extension Support
- Increased Production of Improved Seed Varieties
- Improved Policy Environment and Agri-Inputs Regulatory Regime
- Regional Collaboration.

AIMS is a short-term project, only two years and will close in December 2008. There is a strong possibility of a new IFDC project materializing, catering for the Southern areas of the country. This project will not be funded by USAID but by the Gates Foundation.

The management of the AIMS project will relocate to Maputo before year end and this is where Larry Hammond, Chief of Party will be based. The training component will continue to operate out of Beira.

A ToT / Safe Use Training was carried out in Beira the



The group of the 17 participants following the issuing of the certificates

week of 10 December with 17 participants ranging from the Ministry of Agriculture to established dealerships. The training was carried out in Portuguese by Paulo Cruz of ANIPLA (CropLife Portugal). The overall impression was that this was highly successful and well appreciated by the IFDC. A more detailed report will be issued by the trainer during January 08.

An action point agreed to is that Les Hillowitz will arrange a meeting with the key industry players and IFDC before the end of the 1st quarter 2008, in Maputo.

Contact: [les.hillowitz@icon.co.za](mailto:les.hillowitz@icon.co.za)

## Technical Advisor (Disposal) Position

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) in Tanzania wishes to employ a suitably qualified and experienced Technical Advisor (TAD) to facilitate activities necessary for the safe and complete disposal of obsolete pesticide stockpiles in Tanzania, as part of the country ASP project. The TAD will be required to advise

NEMC on all activities relating to the location, identification, collection and ultimate destruction of national pesticide stockpiles. This position is being funded by CropLife International on behalf of the companies participating in the CropLife International Obsolete Stocks Programme. For further details, see [www.africastockpiles.net](http://www.africastockpiles.net)



## IFDC Partnership: Preparation of 2008 Action Plans

Following meetings with Raphael Vogelsperger and Manon Dohmen of IFDC, CropLife Africa Middle East coordinator for West Central Africa, Bama Octave Yao, announced the following cooperative activities for 2008 for the West and Central Africa region.

- ToT's/Follow-Ups: participation of IFDC in activities in Ghana, Nigeria and Burkina Faso. Activities in Mali will be considered for Project 1000+ and request by/agreement with CropLife Mali. Other countries will be considered according to funds availability and specific projects.
- WACIP: national associations in Mali and Burkina Faso shall initiate closer cooperation through specific projects with farmers' organizations.
- International Workshop on Integrated Crop Management (ICM): this will be based on IPM and Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) and shall be considered after the IPM internal course to be held early in 2008. Possible period could be late during the year.
- Regulations: a training workshop is to be considered and organized for regulators. Preliminary discussion to be carried out with IFDC Policy Officer for date, venue and budget.
- Communication: request for submission of

### Cooperation on Training, Capacity Building, ICM, Regulations, Communications, IPR's, Association Strengthening

specific activities following participation in the recent ToT's in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR's): participation in and contribution to activities will be considered following the plan to be developed by CropLife Africa Middle East.
- Association Strengthening and Hub Workshop: date and venue were communicated; IFDC will participate and make a presentation. It is agreed to organize a seminar for the national associations to finalize their country action plans, to be held on the day prior to the opening of the Hub Workshop. This seminar will depend on the overall budget allocation for the workshop.

Contact: [bama-croplife@aviso.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@aviso.ci)

## Strengthening National Associations: Ghana

In a meeting between Bama Octave Yao, CropLife Africa Middle East area coordinator for West and Central Africa and the Executive Secretary of CropLife Ghana, the following activities were established for further strengthening of an already professional association:

- recommendations and orientations for preparatory activities for 2008 hub workshop to be held in Accra.
- call for submission of 2007 stewardship reports and schedules for 2008 training activities.
- overview and discussion on priority areas; needs for strengthening partnership with BUSAC, engaging cooperation with IFPRI, AGRA and other stakeholders.
- recommendations and orientations for meeting (Jan.'08) with MDs of member companies of CropLife Ghana

Contact: [bama-croplife@aviso.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@aviso.ci)

# Cascade Training: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Peter Mills of CropLife Africa Middle East conducted a five day "Training of Trainers Follow-up" Course in Dar es Salaam, in December-2007. Master Trainers from government, industry and NGO's, previously trained in "Training of Trainers" courses in 2005 & 2006, were supervised in a five-day programme, which included a two-day Responsible Use training for industry personnel.

This was an excellent opportunity for CropLife Tanzania to learn to appreciate what is involved in arranging training and to understand fully the requirements for any training. It was also an opportunity for CropLife Tanzania to appreciate the need to form partnerships. Master Trainers and CropLife Tanzania will work together in future for all training programmes and together will endeavour to form alliances with potential partners. The formation of partnerships is now a major priority for CropLife Tanzania for 2008, and suggestions and plans have been discussed and set in place for this to be successful.

The participants in the two-day Responsible Use training, in their evaluations of the course and Master Trainers, were highly appreciative of the course. The main comments from the evalua-



Above: Dr. Joyce Daffa provided very valuable input, including introductory discussions, two excellent lessons, leading discussions and general organisation.

tion, were that this type of training needs to be more widely carried out, as there are many individuals and farmers requiring Responsible Use training in Tanzania. This a is very talented group of Master Trainers, who now need support for cascade training throughout Tanzania.

Contact: [peter.mills@mweb.co.za](mailto:peter.mills@mweb.co.za)

Below: Participants pose, some with their certificates, together with Master Trainers and CropLife Tanzania executives & staff.



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# CropLife Côte d'Ivoire celebrates 20 years

Côte d'Ivoire national association, UNIPHYTO, celebrated their 20th Anniversary on 13-December-2007 in Abidjan. This was under the patronage of the President of the Funds for Development and Promotion of Cocoa and Coffee, under the Presidency of the Minister of Agriculture. This gathering was attended by approximately 200 participants, including:

- ◆ Directors and Heads of departments from Ministries of Agriculture, Industry, Environment.
- ◆ Directors of Extension Services, Research Institutes.
- ◆ Cotton and export crops company representatives.
- ◆ Pesticides Regulatory Authorities, Management Officers.
- ◆ Committee Members of CropLife Côte d'Ivoire.
- ◆ Media representatives, former Chairmen of the National Association.
- ◆ Farmers and Farmer Based Organisations, Retailers, Applicators, Academics, Students of the Agronomy School.

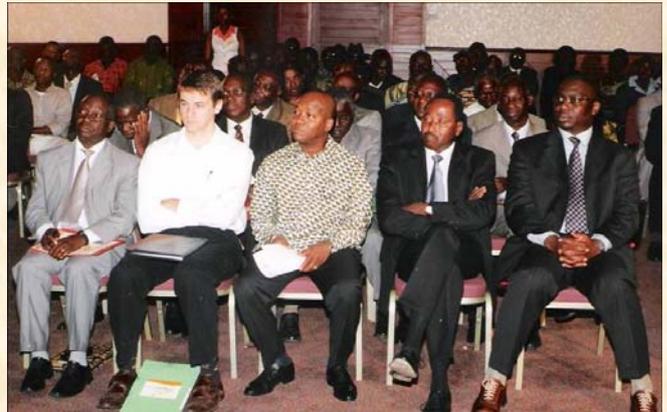
#### Outcome:

- addresses by CropLife Africa Middle East and the national association raised the issue of, and called for an urgent need for alleviation of fraudulent/counterfeited pesticides in the market.
- the Minister of Agriculture committed his department to be engaged in such action and will implicate the government and other administrative authorities (customs, police, trade...)

▪ the industry will be fully associated in all upcoming government programmes for the post-crisis revival of agriculture.

▪ the Funds for Development and Promotion of Cocoa and Coffee (FDPCC) will be engaged in partnership with CropLife Côte d'Ivoire through a MoU.

Contact: [bama-croplife@aviso.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@aviso.ci)



The message on combating counterfeits was well received by officials among those the Minister of Agriculture (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), the President of FDPCC (middle) and the Technical Counsellor of the Minister of Industry and Promotion of the Private Sector (left) E. Fillon (white shirt), and Justin Yoboué (far right) of UNIPHYTO represented the pesticide industry.

## Funds released to combat counterfeits



Bama Yao (WCA Hub Coordinator, top), calling on the officials for the need to engage urgent repressive actions against frauds and counterfeits.



Between Bama Yao (WCA Hub Coordinator, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Justin Yoboué (President, 3<sup>rd</sup> from right), the former presidents of UNIPHYTO (from left to right): Roger Yéboué, Adama Coulibaly, Luc Gondo, Namita Koné representing Siaka Koné, and Lohoury Guigui.

## News Snippets

### Imminent Pesticide Legislation in Jordan

A new pesticide regulation based on the Agricultural Law is expected to be issued in Jordan towards Jan/Feb 2008. The MOA conducted consultations with CropLife Jordan (AMATPA-Jordan) on the provisions and drafts of the new regulation. AMATPA-Jordan held a meeting with representatives of the industry including local and multinational representatives, and conveyed their remarks on the expected regulation to the official authorities. The new regulation is expected to provide for stricter abidance by globally accepted regulatory standards.

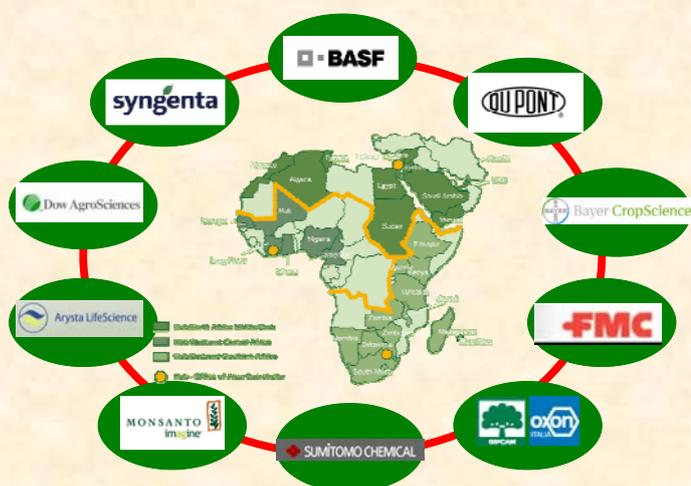
Contact: [ali-croplife@nets.com.jo](mailto:ali-croplife@nets.com.jo)

### CropLife Jordan website

Experimental launch of the local associations website ([www.amatpa-croplifejordan.org](http://www.amatpa-croplifejordan.org)) started in December-2007. It is anticipated that the website will go publically live during the course of January 2008. The website has been developed to enhance the association's communications activities.

### RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

- CropLife Africa Middle East's North Africa Middle East Hub Train-the-Trainer course for post-graduate students at the Mediterranean Agronomy Institute in Bari, Italy: 02 to 09-January-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Train-the-Trainer Course for USAID MARKETS Project and IFDC with CropLife Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria: 21 to 25-January-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East, Executive Committee Meeting, Brussels, Belgium: 06-February-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Obsolete Stocks Workshop: Brussels, Belgium: 07 to 08-February-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Train-the-Trainer Follow-up Course for CropLife Senegal, Dakar, Senegal: 25 to 29-February-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Train-the-Trainer Course for CropLife Mali, Bamako, Mali: 03 to 07-March-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Train-the-Trainer Follow-up Course for CropLife Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe: 17 to 21-March-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East, West Central Africa Hub Meeting, Accra, Ghana: 08 to 10-April-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Train-the-Trainer Follow-up Course for CropLife Ghana, Accra, Ghana: 14 to 18-April-2008.
- CropLife Africa Middle East Train-the-Trainer Follow-up Course for CropLife Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso: 05 to 09-May-2008.



### Contributors:

Ali Mohamed Ali (North Africa Middle East)

[ali-croplife@nets.com.jo](mailto:ali-croplife@nets.com.jo)

Bama Octave Yao (West-Central Africa)

[bama-croplife@aviso.ci](mailto:bama-croplife@aviso.ci)

Les Hillowitz (East-Southern Africa)

[les.hillowitz@icon.co.za](mailto:les.hillowitz@icon.co.za)

Peter Mills (Training)

[peter.mills@mweb.co.za](mailto:peter.mills@mweb.co.za)