

SECOND PROGRESS REPORT
(1 JULY 2011 – 31 DECEMBER 2011)

PROJECT NAME	SPS Capacity Building in Africa to Mitigate the Harmful Effects of Pesticide Residues in Cocoa and to maintain Market Access (STDF/PG/298)		
EXECUTING AGENCY	Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricole (FIRCA)	PROJECT SUPERVISOR	International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	<p>The main objective of the project is to maintain market access for cocoa beans from Africa through capacity building in SPS, in order to produce good quality cocoa that complies with the relevant international regulations and legislation on pesticide residues and other harmful substances.</p> <p>The specific objectives of the project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To collect information on Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) standards and other relevant issues and to ensure that it is available to all stakeholders along the cocoa supply chain (via websites, workshops, publications, <i>etc.</i>); 2. To take any necessary action to ensure that the relevant stakeholders (farmers, co-operatives, middlemen, warehouse managers and other agencies) use recommended procedures and practices such as Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Warehouse Practices (GWP), both along the cocoa supply chain and in the supply of inputs such as pesticides. Emphasis will initially be placed on issues related to: (a) pesticide availability (in stores, cross-border movement, abatement of illegal products, <i>etc.</i>), quality, user-selection and application, (b) drying methods for cocoa beans. 3. To create/strengthen national laboratories (equipment, training, accreditation, <i>etc.</i>) for analyses and monitoring of pesticide residues and other harmful substances. 4. To raise awareness of farmers, middlemen and warehouse managers on suitable and unsuitable pesticides and their application (addressing concerns about cost effectiveness). 5. To strengthen intra- and inter-country capacity and expertise to adequate advice on SPS issues that might arise, thus reducing potential disruption to trade from non-compliance. <p>The project is being implemented in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo</p>		
PROJECT START DATE	January 2011	PROJECT END DATE	December 2012

GENERAL REPORTING**A. BROAD PROGRESS ACHIEVED TO DATE:**

The project was officially launched at a regional workshop held from 7 – 10 June 2011 in Yaounde, Cameroon. The workshop raised awareness on international SPS standards and regulations applied by the cocoa importing countries and their impact on cocoa trade with producing countries. The workshop also reviewed the constraints faced by the stakeholders along the cocoa supply chain in meeting international SPS requirements and measures to address them in the countries that are participating in the project.

National Project Steering Committees were set up and inaugurated in all participating countries. Project activities in the participating countries started following the official launch of the project in June 2011. EDES/COLEACP, is the main project partner in the implementation of activities to enhance the capacity of stakeholders in cocoa value chain to apply Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on rational pesticide use, and also to enhance the capacity of the countries to monitor and enforce adherence to SPS standards in cocoa. EDES has decided to implement these activities first in Ghana before they are implemented in the other countries. This decision by EDES coupled with late release of counterpart funding has delayed implementation of project activities in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo. Therefore, while project implementation was on scheduled in Ghana, and some progress was been made in Côte d'Ivoire, only limited project activities had so far taken place in Cameroon, Nigeria and Togo. In all the participating countries, the level of awareness on SPS standards has improved and stakeholders are increasingly committed to adhere to international regulations to enhance their access to export markets.

In Ghana, the project is improving the capacity of national institutions to train farmers on the application of rational pesticide use and to conduct Self Assessment Analysis on food safety requirements.

CropLife Africa has trained relevant stakeholders in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire on anti-counterfeit pesticides.

A dedicated website (www.icco.org/sps) for the project is being continuously updated with current information on international food safety standards and requirements. The website has presented a platform for dissemination of information on cocoa SPS and other related issues.

B. ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD:**➤ GHANA**

- In Ghana, the project was launched at a national workshop held in September 2011. In addition, there had been various media activities to raise awareness on SPS standards in cocoa production and trade.
- Posters, leaflets and flyers were produced for sensitization. “The Cocoa Farmers” newspaper, a flagship publication of the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana is being used as the main sensitization medium. A special issue of the newspaper focusing mainly on the project was produced and thousands of copies were distributed to cocoa farmers in all the cocoa regions.
- Two Training of Trainers (ToT) were organized on food safety issues and Good agricultural Practices (GAP). The first training session was held from 7 -20 November 2011 and the second training session took place from 21 November to 2 December 2011. A total of 20 trainers had been trained. The training covered food safety, pesticide efficacy and risks, importance of pesticides selection and application, drying of cocoa beans and cocoa quality. The trainings were conducted by EDES/COLEACP
- Two staff of Quality Control Company of Ghana Cocoa Board (QCCL) attended a 5 day workshop from 28 November to 2 December 2011 in Limuru, Kenya organized by EDES/COLEACP on Self Assessment Methods and GAP. The workshop provided participants with improved skill to analyse SPS systems, build self-assessment guides and self-monitoring systems and to evaluate quality assurance systems, etc. The workshop covered the following topics: the regulatory context and role of private operators; self-monitoring principles and sector self-assessment guide concept; EDES methodology and facilitation techniques; process analysis and diagnosis; audit and sampling plans in the context of self-monitoring; risk analysis; traceability in the context of self-assessment; and preparation, distribution and management of a sector self-assessment guide.
- Crop Life Africa organized and sponsored a training of trainers workshop on anti-counterfeit pesticides from 6 – 7 October 2011. Participants to the workshop were drawn from pesticide suppliers, pesticide dealers, farmer groups, plant protection and regulatory services division of the Ministry of Agriculture, environmental protection agency, Ghana Standards Authority, Ghana Cocoa Board, Police, Custom Services, Immigration and representatives of the Bar and the Bench. The training provided the participants with the insight to pesticides Nature, how to read and recognize labels, the motivation for trading in counterfeit and illegal pesticides and their consequences, and usage and what should be looked for on shipping documents on pesticides.
- The National Steering Committee and the Project Implementation Committee met several times during the reporting period to plan and coordinate several project activities. These included plans for regional workshop in the cocoa regions, district farmer sensitization and community sensitization meetings, and distribution of sensitization materials.

➤ COTE D’IVOIRE

- The appointments of the members of the National Steering Committee were confirmed through a Decree signed by the Minister of Agriculture.
- In August 2011 an awareness meeting was organized among stakeholders including FIRCA, CGFCC, LANADA, Ministry of Trade, Plant Health Inspection Service, Ministry of Agriculture, DPVCQ, ANADER, GEPEX, Crop Life Africa, UCOOPEXCI and CDINORM.
- Preparations for national workshops to sensitize farmers have been finalized and approved by the national authorities.
- From 17 – 28 October 2011, the National Coordinator attended a two weeks training in Brazil on capacity building on production, processing and trade of cocoa.
- The project team organized a training workshop for the key stakeholders from 29 November to 1 December 2011 to improve awareness on SPS standards and to develop strategies to ensure compliance with international regulations.
- A comprehensive list of all pesticides, herbicides and other agrochemicals used in the country was compiled and published as “Phytosanitary Catalogue 2011“. The catalogue was published in December 2011 and has been distributed to all stakeholders. It will be used a training material on GAP and GWP.
- The association of the group of exporters has agreed to participate in the project and to finance activity 2.5 which involves training of warehousemen on GWP especially relating to the selection of and application of insecticides for stored product pests.
- CropLife Africa organized training in October 2011 for key officials from Customs, Quarantine Agency, Immigration Service and Plant Protection Agency. This first training focused on problems with pesticide products and anti counterfeit measures and how to detect fake, obsolete and banned substances. The training was conducted on 14 October in Aboisso and 28 October in Abengourou. A second batch of training would be organized in early 2012.
- In November 2011, CropLife trained 72 agro-dealers in handling of pesticides and their responsibilities to supply quality pesticides to farmers.

➤ **TOGO**

- There was a change in the National Project Coordinator. A new project coordinator with more relevant expertise required in the project was appointed in August 2011.
- A total sum of one million CFA francs was paid into the project account as part of the government counterpart contribution in cash.
- The project team developed a detailed work plan for the implementation of project activities.
- The project was official launched at a national workshop in September 2011. The workshop was attended by the representatives of Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Agriculture, CCFCC, producers’ organizations, input suppliers, exporters, Plant Protection Service, and other stakeholders in the country.
- The first round of sensitization of farmers was done during the general farmers’ meeting marking the end of 2010/2011 cocoa campaign year. During this occasion, farmers were

provided with the list of permitted pesticides and the ones that are banned and should not be used.

- The government is finalizing procedures to enact a new decree to focus on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards for the agricultural sector in the country.

➤ **NIGERIA**

- Detailed plan for the national workshop to launch the project was completed. This was done by two sub committees (publicity and contact, and mobilization).
- Financial pledge of about \$60,000 was secured from stakeholders in the private sector and arrangements had advanced for the payment of 60% of government cash contribution to the project. Project activities would start as soon as the required funds have been secured.
- In July 2011, the Nigerian Export Promotion council (NEPC) and Cocoa Association of Nigeria (CAN) organized a two-day National conference on Pesticide Residues and other harmful Substances in Cocoa. The objective of the conference was to enhance institutional capacity and to promote responsible pesticide use in cocoa production and trade in Nigeria.
- As a direct result of awareness created by the project, three national institutions have acquired laboratory equipment for use in analysis of MRLs and other quality parameters. The institutions are National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and Agricultural Quarantine Service.

➤ **CAMEROON**

- Efforts are on going to secure the necessary funds from the government so that project activities could start.
- EDES/COLEACP trained key official from relevant authorities in Cameroon on Self Assessment Guide for Coffee. The acquired capacity and expertise would be used for the cocoa sector.
- The CropLife Cameroon and the Cocoa SPS Africa project has published a list of approved pesticides on cocoa distributed by its members. The list also includes information on how to recognize the approved pesticides from the fake ones in the market.

C. ACTIVITIES REMAINING FOR NEXT PERIOD AND BEYOND:

Continue to create awareness among all the stakeholders along the cocoa supply chain about SPS standards in cocoa production and trade.

Continue to develop the capacity of the participating countries to develop and implement Self Assessment Guide System for the cocoa sector.

Continue to enhance the capacity of cocoa farmers and trader to apply the concept of Responsible Use (RU) of pesticides through the application of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Warehouse Practices (GWP). This activity will be carried out through Training of Trainers (ToT) and Farmers' Field Schools (FFS).

Enhance the institutional capacity in each participating country to monitor and enforce adherence to SPS standards in cocoa through formulation of relevant domestic regulations and legislatives as well as enhancing the capacity of national laboratories to conduct SPS tests and analyses.

Strengthen regional collaboration and cooperation to control and eradicate illegal and adulterated pesticide products.

D. OTHER COMMENTS:

Project implementation in Ghana is on schedule and has achieved more output than initially planned. However, the late start of project activities in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo as a result of constraints identified earlier would lead to a need for the extension of the project implementation period to complete project activities in these countries.

Deliverable / Targets Table (Log-frame) for activities scheduled to start during 1 July to 31 December 2011

Item ID	Activity No.	Item Description	Target Finish Date	Actual or Forecast Finish Date	Status: (% Complete)	Comments
1	Activity 1.0	Contract signed			100%	Completed
2	Activity 1.1	A website network will be established within the first two months of the project, initially using the ICCO website as a hub. The various components of this Programme will be described via links to technical and National pages (thus enabling information to be disseminated in French and English). Both the hub and links will be “dynamic” and regularly updated throughout the course of the project.	February 2011	June 2011	100%	The website is continuously being updated with global information on SPS and project activities in the countries
3	Activity 1.2	One regional workshop will take place in order to launch the project and to raise the major SPS issues among key authorities. These will be followed by a series of national events (2 in each participating country).	July 2012	July 2012	60%	The regional workshop was held in June 2011. National workshops have been held in Ghana and Togo.
4	Activity 1.3	Publications will place information on pesticide efficacy and risks into the public domain, via relevant scientific papers, posters, flyers, <i>etc.</i> throughout the duration of the project. Press reports will be made available for radio & TV (National and rural) and newspapers; other means of communication will involve: local events via farmers’ organisations, extension workers, <i>etc</i> and mobile cinema vans	April 2011	June 2012	30%	This activity is continuous throughout the duration of the project
5	Activity 2.0	Develop a self assessment system on cocoa production and trade along the value chain	December 2012	December 2012	20%	This is a new project activity to be implemented by EDES/COLEACP. Training has been done for Ghana.
6	Activity 2.1	Raise awareness among farmer organizations about the importance of pesticide selection and application, and drying of cocoa beans	December 2012	December 2012	25%	This activity has been partly carried out in Ghana and Togo
7	Activity 2.2	Dissemination of and, where necessary, design of comprehensive, locally adapted training modules in SPS measures: specifically on pesticide selection, application and cocoa drying, for which existing training literature could be improved. This will be completed in the first half of the	March 2012	December 2012	20%	This activity has been carried out in Ghana

Item ID	Activity No.	Item Description	Target Finish Date	Actual or Forecast Finish Date	Status: (% Complete)	Comments
		project and to be in place for the second cocoa growing season. Certain final alterations may be made in the light of feed-back from growers and trainers.				
8	Activity 3.1	ICCO will continue to assist in the formulation/ updating of relevant domestic regulatory and legislative provisions on SPS standards, adapting them to international requirements. Two resources that will continue to be updated are (a) <i>Guidelines on Best Known Practices in the Cocoa Value Chain</i> and (b) <i>Manual on the Safe Use of Pesticides</i> .	December 2012	December 2012	50%	The ICCO Secretariat organized an “International Workshop on the Safe use of Pesticides in Cocoa and harmonized Legislations for Food Safety” from 25 -27 January 2011 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The ICCO Secretariat continued to work with the cocoa industry to develop guidelines on best known practices in cocoa warehousing.
9	Activity 3.2	Formulate/update relevant domestic regulatory and legislative provisions on SPS standards and adapt them to international requirements	December 2012	December 2012	5%	Activity has started in Ghana
10	Activity 3.3	Provide technical material and conduct workshops on raising awareness on cocoa SPS among custom officers, quarantine, immigration, plant protection officials, etc.,	December 2011	June 2012	20%	Activity has been partly done in Ghana and Cote d’Ivoire
11	Activity 4.1	Enhance harmonization and compliance with relevant regional and international SPS provisions	December 2011	June 2012	20%	Activity has been partly done in Ghana and Cote d’Ivoire
12	Activity 4.4	Collaboration with key regionally-operating stakeholders (e.g. STCP and <i>CropLife</i>).	September 2012	December 2012	60%	CropLife Africa initiated a project in Ghana to combat counterfeit pesticides
13	Activity 6.7	Project inception report	January 2011	March 2011	100%	Completed
14		Project external evaluation	December 2012	December 2012	0%	Not started

Target. *The following information is not required if a target has been met and the information has been provided in a previous project report. If a target has not been achieved or is likely to be delayed, provide:*

- A) *Likely impact on the project.*
- B) *Reason for delay.*
- C) *Corrective action planned to be taken, if any.*

Item ID	Activity No.	Target Delay Notes.
3	Activity 1.2	A) Delays in implementing other project activities B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project in 4 countries C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged
4	Activity 1.3	A) Delays in implementing other project activities B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged
6	Activity 2.1	A) Delays in implementing other project activities B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged
7	Activity 2.2	A) Delays in implementing other project activities B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged
9	Activity 3.2	A) No significant impact B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged
10	Activity 3.3	A) No significant impact B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged
11	Activity 4.1	A) No significant impact B) Delays in securing all necessary funding for the project C) Extension of project implementation period is envisaged