

## STDF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT TITLE:	SPS Capacity Building in Africa to Mitigate the Harmful effects of Pesticide Residues and to Maintain Market Access	
PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT:	5th progress Report	
PROJECT START AND END DATES	From: January 2011	To: December 2013
PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT:	From: 1 January 2013	To: 30 June 2013
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:	Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricole (FIRCA)	
PROJECT SUPERVISOR	International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)	
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<p><b>OVERVIEW:</b></p> <p><b>I Project Objective(s)</b></p> <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"> <li>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>);</li> <li>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.</li> <li>3. To create/strengthen national laboratories (equipment, training, accreditation, <i>etc.</i>) for analyses and monitoring of pesticide residues and other harmful substances.</li> <li>4. To raise awareness of farmers, middlemen and warehouse managers on suitable and unsuitable pesticides and their application (addressing concerns about cost effectiveness).</li> <li>5. To strengthen intra- and inter-country capacity and expertise to adequately advice on SPS issues that might arise, thus reducing potential disruption to trade from non-compliance.</li> </ol>		

The project is being implemented in **Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo.**

## **II Progress in Project Implementation To date**

The project has raised awareness at the regional level on the international SPS standards and regulations applied by the cocoa importing countries and their impact on cocoa trade with producing countries. This was achieved through the project launching workshop, country activities and regular discussions about the issue during the ICCO meetings since September 2011.

EDES/COLEACP, the main project implementation partner has conducted training and workshop in Ghana on Self Assessment Guide System (SAS), training of trainers on food safety and good agricultural practices (GAP). A Self-Assessment Guide for Cocoa in Ghana has been carried out and the final report is being finalized. Similar activities were initiated in Cameroon and would be followed by the same in Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo. These activities have strengthened the commitment of stakeholders to adhere to international regulations to enhance their access to export markets.

In Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Cameroon, there has been considerable progress in the training of law enforcement agents on anti-counterfeit measures on pesticides, and on cross border trade of illegal pesticides and other agrochemical products. Trainings were organised or financed by both public and private sectors.

The project consultant has prepared a policy paper on the implications on cocoa production of the propose EU ban on neo-nicotnoids – a chemical compound that is commonly found in pesticide used on cocoa. The project consultant is also finalizing a scientific paper on pesticide efficacy and risks, and the third edition of the manual on “Pesticide Use in Cocoa: A Guide for Training Administrative and Research Staff”.

Preparations have been finalized on Training of the Trainers (ToT) on training modules for SPS measures, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Warehousing Practices (GWP). The first ToT one will take place in Côte d'Ivoire in July 2013 for experts from Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Togo. The second ToT will be held in Ghana in September 2013 for experts from Ghana and Nigeria.

## **III Issues and Results Achieved During Reporting Period**

The national authorities in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria released counterpart contribution in cash to the project. Nigeria organized a national sensitization workshop in March 2013. A regional meeting of the National Coordinators with the PEA and ICCO was held in Abuja, Nigeria in March 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to review project implementation status in each participating countries and to develop a revised work programme up to December 2013. **(Project activities 1.2 and 6.2)**

Drafting of the Self-Assessment Guide for Cocoa in Ghana was completed in March 2013 and the document was reviewed by the technical working group and steering committee in April 2013. The Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) in Ghana carried out a technical audit of three laboratories to identify their needs concerning training and technical assistance. EDES finalized consultations with the relevant authorities in Cameroon to adapt the Self-Assessment Guide for Coffee for the cocoa sector and with Côte d'Ivoire to develop the Self-Assessment Guide. Implementation in Cameroon has already started. **(Project activities 2.0 and 3.5)**

Development of 21 training modules has been finalized by EDES with cocoa experts from Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Based on these tools, a Training of trainers (ToT) session on GAP, post-harvest treatment and transport, traceability through the supply chain, and safe use of phytosanitary products has been scheduled to take place in Côte d'Ivoire on 15-20 July, with participants from Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Togo. A second session will be organized in September in Ghana, with participants from Ghana and Nigeria. **(Project activities 2.4 and 2.5)**

The ICCO document on “Best Known Practices along Cocoa value Chain” is now available for dissemination. This document will be presented and distributed at the proposed regional workshop to be held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in November 2013. **(Project activity 3.1)**

A policy paper on EU ban of neo-nitocinoids prepared by the project consultants is currently under review by the relevant institutions in the project participating countries for their opinion on the implication of the ban on cocoa production. The project consultant also submitted a preliminary draft of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the manual on Pesticide Use in Cocoa: A Guide for Training Administrative and Research Staff. **(Project activities 1.3 and 3.1)**

## **PART A: PROGRESS AND RESULTS**

### **A. PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS:**

#### **CAMEROON**

- National sensitization workshop took place in May 2013 and was chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development in the presence of other top dignitaries. **(Project activity 1.2)**
- Education materials were produced and distributed at the workshop to the stakeholders. These materials include list of products approved for use on cocoa, leaflets and pamphlets of pesticide application, etc. **(Project activities 1.2 and 2.1)**
- Farmer outreaches were carried out from 24 to 29 June 2013 in different areas of cocoa production in the country on the rational use pesticides in production and storage of cocoa. **(Project activity 2.1)**
- The National Steering Committee met in May 2013 to review the project and provided direction on the implementation of project activities to achieve better results. **(Project activity 6.3)**
- Information on the project and other related activity in the country was being compiled to be uploaded on the project website. **(Project activity 1.1)**

#### **COTE D'IVOIRE**

- A national workshop was organized in June 2013 to validate the “Phyosanitary Catalogue” which contains the list of pesticides approved on cocoa. **(Project activities 1.2 and 2.1)**
- CropLife Côte d’Ivoire has been collaborating with the project to design and publish a Newsletter for dissemination of information on SPS related activities in the country **(Project activities 2.2 and 3.4)**
- Tender for the procurement of laboratory equipment was completed and contract was issued for the supply of the equipment. **(Project activity 3.5)**
- Preparatory arrangements were finalized with EDES to conduct Training of Trainers (ToT) on SPS standards, GAP and GWP for experts from Côte d’Ivoire, Cameroon and Togo. The training will be conducted from 15 – 20 July 2013. **(Project activities 2.4 and 2.5)**
- Arrangements were finalized to carry out the first national sensitization workshop in July 2013. **(Project activities 1.2 and 2.1)**

#### **GHANA**

- The Technical Committee for the Self-Assessment Guide on Cocoa and Project Steering Committee finalized the self assessment exercise and produced a draft document. **(Project activity 2.0)**
- The draft Self-Assessment Guide on Cocoa in Ghana was reviewed at a workshop held in May 2013. **(Project activity 2.0)**
- The Ghana Cocoa Board, Quality Control Company Ltd of Ghana and Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana trained farmers and other stakeholders on the importance of proper pesticide selection and other good agricultural practices. **(Project activities 2.1 and 2.2)**
- The National Resource Institute (NRI) has been selected to: i) Review legislation on food safety, aiming to make recommendations for regulatory reform. The assessment was carried out through a training workshop and field surveys. Ii) Review the regulation regime covering registration and application. **(Project activity 3.2)**

#### **NIGERIA**

- The first national sensitization workshop was carried out in March 2013 and it brought together all the stakeholders in Nigeria with the high level presence of the Federal government. **(Project**

### **activities 1.2 and 2.1)**

- Plans have been finalized to hold two regional farmer outreaches in July and August. **(Project activity 1.2)**
- A project steering committee was established in April 2013 to help accelerate project implementation as was adopted in Ghana. **(Project activity 6.3)**

### **TOGO**

- Two training sessions for cocoa producers had been organized with the support of Federation of Unions of Cocoa Producers of Togo (FUPROCAT) which produced the following results: **(Project activity 2.1)**
- Risk assessment of pollution and contamination by pesticides were carried out for 30 cases. **(Project activity 2.1)**
- 412 farmers trained on standards for sustainable cocoa production. **(Project activity 2.1)**
- Demonstration to 31 farmers on best pre-harvesting practices and demonstration to 310 farmers best post harvest practices including pod breaking, fermentation, drying, sorting and bagging. **(Project activity 2.1)**

### **REGIONAL ACTIVITIES, COORDINATION AND MONITORING**

- The project consultant has commenced work on the scientific paper on pesticide efficacy and risks and finalized a policy paper on the implications of the proposed EU ban on neo-nicotinoids. The scientific paper is currently being finalized before it is submitted for a peer group review **(Project activity 1.3)**
- The project consultant has been finalizing a draft of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the manual on Pesticide Use in Cocoa: A Guide for Training Administrative and Research Staff. **(Project activity 3.1)**
- The ICCO document on “Best Known Practices along Cocoa value Chain is now available for dissemination. **(Project activity 3.1)**
- Development of 21 training modules by EDES with cocoa experts from Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. Based on these tools, Training of trainers (ToT) sessions for experts from the 5 countries of project implementations are now scheduled to take place between July and September. **(Project activity 2.2)**
- The Regional Coordinator, the National Coordinators and the Representative of ICCO attended the national sensitization workshop for the project in Nigeria held in Abuja, Nigeria from 7 – 9 March 2013. This occasion was also used to review the status of project implementation in all the countries and discussed a revised work plan for project implementation. **(Project activity 6.1 and 6.2)**
- Coordination of project activities with project partners such as EDES and CropLife. **(Project activity 6.2)**
- Monitoring of project activities in the participating countries through regular consultations with major stakeholders. **(Project activity 6.2)**

## **B. TIMEFRAME AND BUDGETING**

*Explain whether the project is on-track with regard to: (i) the budget; and (ii) the original timeframe. If either the expenditures and/or timeframe are off-track, please explain and describe the corrective actions being taken.*

**(i) The Budget:** The project is on track with regards to the original budget as revised during the project pre-launching meeting held in Accra, Ghana in January 2011.

**(ii) The Original Timeframe:** The project was originally to be completed by December 2012. A one year budget neutral extension was granted by the STDF to bring project completion to December 2013. The late release of counterpart contribution in cash in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo caused delays in project implementation. In addition, the decision by EDES (a major project partner) to first implement project activities in Ghana before the other countries also caused delays in implementation in the affected countries. The release of Counterpart contribution in cash has significantly improved in all countries except Togo. EDES has agreed to accelerate project implementation. Corrective actions have been decided during the meeting held in Nigeria in March with the Regional Coordinator, the National Coordinators and a Representative of ICCO and followed by consultations with other parties involved in the project. A revised programme of implementation of project activities in each country was agreed in June to accelerate progress.

## **C. OTHER IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES**

*Describe any significant changes to the project design, context or partners during the reporting period, or any other issues faced, and actions that are being taken in response, if appropriate.*

A regional "Workshop Dissemination of GAP and Responsible Pesticide Use and on Harmonization of National SPS Regulations in the Cocoa Sector" will be organized in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire from 4 – 8 November 2013. The aim is to bring the project stakeholders together to present recently developed training materials, guides and research papers prepared by the various parties involved in the project (EDES, Croplife and ICCO), focusing on four key project activities so as to widely disseminate documents in each implementing countries and accelerate project implementation.

## **D. OTHER COMMENTS:**

*Please provide any other relevant information or observations on the project, e.g. on lessons learned, particular challenges or issues that may arise in the next reporting period, changes to the logframe, etc.*

Efforts will be made in all the participating countries to implement a significant part of the project by December 2013. However, given the resources that are being made available by the national governments, project implementation is expected to continue beyond December 2013.

**E. PROJECT DOCUMENTS:**

*Provide a list of key documents (e.g. mission reports, training materials, workshop reports, etc.) produced during this reporting period. Copies of the final versions of these documents should be attached to this report.*

1. Fifth progress report
2. Work programme and budget for STDF grant financed project activities up to December 2013
3. Proposal for workshop on responsible pesticide use and harmonization of national SPS regulations
4. Revised project activities
5. Report of the project review meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria
6. Report on project activities by EDES
7. Self-assessment guide for cocoa in Ghana

**PART B: STATUS OF THE OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES**

Output / Activity	Indicator / Target:	Actual performance: (% complete)	Comments (results and challenges faced)
<b>Output 1: Enhanced SPS awareness among key stakeholders in the cocoa supply chain</b>	<b>Indicator 1:</b> Increase in farmers' knowledge and understanding regarding the effect of the use of harmful substances in production		
Activity 1: Project website	<b>Target 1:</b> Establish website <b>Target 2:</b> Updated regularly	100% 50%	
Activity 1.2: Regional and national awareness raising workshop on SPS issues	<b>Target 1:</b> Create awareness and inform stakeholders	80%	The regional workshop was held in June 2011. National workshops have been held in Cameroon, Ghana, Togo and Nigeria.
Activity 1.3: Scientific paper on pesticide efficacy and risk and dissemination of information to stakeholders	<b>Target 1:</b> Produce scientific paper and other information <b>Target 2:</b> Format information and distribute	50% 20%	Scientific paper on pesticide efficacy is being finalized. Policy document on neonicotinoid has been produced
<b>Output 2: Enhanced capacity of relevant stakeholders to apply GAP and GWP</b>	<b>Indicator 1:</b> GAP and GWP fully adopted and sustained by farmers and others		
Activity 2.0: Develop a self-assessment guide for the cocoa sector in the country	<b>Target 1:</b> Establish general sanitation, food safety and commercial quality requirements for cocoa	35%	Completed for Ghana. Under way in Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire
Activity 2.1: Develop/upgrade locally adopted training modules in SPS measures to cover pesticide selection and application	<b>Target 1:</b> Provide training modules on SPS measures	60%	CropLife will continue in the countries
Activity 2.2: Develop/upgrade locally adopted training modules on GAP and GWP	<b>Target 1:</b> Provide training modules on GAP and GWP	85%	21 training modules on GAP, post-harvest treatment and transport, traceability through the supply chain, and safe use of phytosanitary products
Activity 2.3: Conduct Training of Trainers (ToT) on the training modules for SPS measures, GAP and GWP	<b>Target 1:</b> Trained expert to carry out cascade training up to farmers level	10%	Preparation initiated for training to take place in July and September 2013
Activity 2.4: Carry out national farm out reaches to inform and train	<b>Target 1:</b> Trained farmers	40%	Activity will be accelerated after ToT



Output / Activity	Indicator / Target:	Actual performance: (% complete)	Comments (results and challenges faced)
farmers on SPS measures, GAP and GWP			
Activity 2.5: carry out training for warehousemen on GWP	<b>Target 1:</b> Trained warehousemen	20%	Activity almost completed in Ghana
<b>Output 3: Enhanced institutional capacity to implement SPS measures in-country</b>	Indicator 1: strengthened domestic regulatory and legislative provisions on SPS standards, adapting them to international standards		
Activity 3.1: Review ICCO Guidelines on Best Know Practices in the Cocoa value Chain, and the Manual on the safe Use of Pesticides	<b>Target 1:</b> Revised manuals <b>Target 2:</b> Distributed to the stakeholders	70%	Best practices manual under revision and the 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition of the manual on safe use of pesticide is almost completed
Activity 3.2: Formulate/update relevant domestic regulatory and legislative provisions on SPS standards and adapt to international requirements	<b>Target 1:</b> Review local legislations	20%	Work started in Ghana and Cameroon by EDES
Activity 3.3: Produce and distribute technical materials to the law enforcement agencies especially at borders and other import and export points on SPS regulatory requirements	<b>Target 1:</b> Training and information material	55%	Carried out by CropLife in Ghana, Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire
Activity 3.4: Conduct training for officers from customs, quarantine, immigration and plant protection department on problems with pesticide products	<b>Target 1:</b> Trained and informed law enforcement agencies	60%	Carried out by CropLife in Ghana, Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire
Activity 3.5: Enhance capacity of national laboratories to carry out product and residue analyses	<b>Target 1:</b> Equipped laboratories and trained technicians	40%	Equipment available in Ghana and Nigeria. They are being procured in Côte d'Ivoire
Activity 3.6: Strengthening of national licensing procedures for evaluation of new pesticide products	<b>Target 1:</b> efficient licensing procedures	0%	This will be discussed at the regional workshop to take place in November 2013
Activity 4.1: Harmonization and compliance with relevant regional / international provisions	<b>Target 1:</b> Harmonized legislation	30%	This will be discussed at the regional workshop to take place in November 2013
Activity 4.2: Enforcement of relevant regulations in cross border trade in pesticide products	<b>Target 1:</b> Enforced border	0%	This will be discussed at the regional workshop to take place in November 2013
Activity 4.3: Create an appropriate framework where participating countries can address cross-border issues (e.g. smuggling)	<b>Target 1:</b> Regional cooperation	0%	This will be discussed at the regional workshop to take place in November 2013
Activity 4.4: Collaboration with key regionally-operating stakeholders	<b>Target 1:</b> efficient licensing procedures		Regional stakeholders are involved in the project