



**GRANT STDF/PPG/359**  
**Africa Pesticide MRL Initiative**

**FINAL REPORT**  
**by AU-IBAR**

## **SUMMARY**

The STDF Working Group approved the PPG request (STDF/PG/359) in October 2011. Entitled "Africa Pesticide MRL Initiative", this PPG was requested by African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) on behalf of Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal and Uganda. Under this PPG, an amount of up to US\$27,500.00 was allocated for the development of an African Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project. The PPG was implemented from January to June 2012.

The main activity implemented was the meeting of the steering committee that was held from 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya at AU-IBAR Headquarters. The minutes of this meeting are attached as Appendix 1.

Following the meeting of the steering committee, the group started the drafting of a project proposal entitled "African Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project: Strengthening regional capacity to meet pesticides export requirements based on international standards".

The objective of the project is to enhance regional capacity in pesticide residues data generation to contribute to the process of establishing and implementing international pesticide residues standards.

The final project proposal (attached as Appendix 3) was submitted to the STDF Secretariat in September 2012 for consideration.

This report is submitted to WTO with respect to the contract signed with AU-IBAR on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012 for the implementation of the STDF/PPG/359. It is mainly composed of the minutes of the meeting of the steering committee and the financial report (attached as Appendix 2).

### **Appendix 1: Minutes of the first meeting of the Steering Committee Africa Pesticide MRL Initiative**

**AU-IBAR Headquarters Nairobi, Kenya**

**March 15 – 16, 2012**

Thursday, March 15, 2012

With support from a project preparation grant awarded by the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF-PPG-359), Project Steering Committee (PSC) members convened to formulate plans for a regional project to develop the capacity to generate reliable pesticide residue data for MRLs for select minor use crops as a means to promote harmonization with international standards and enhance market access. Meeting participants included registration officials, field trial experts and laboratory experts from governments, universities and research institutes in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, Cameroun and Senegal. Unfortunately due to travel authorization requirements and time constraints,

South Africa was unable to attend, however a representative from the producer industry in South Africa also joined a portion of the meeting. Participant list attached as Annex 1.

Raphael Coly, Project Coordinator for the Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standard-setting Organizations (PAN-SPSO) gave opening remarks and introductions. Other members offering introductory remarks included PSC leader Lucy Namu, of Kenya Plant Health Inspection Service (KEPHIS), Michael Braverman, expert field trial consultant of the IR-4 Project, and Jason Sandahl of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA/FAS). Professor Ahmed Elsawalhy, Director of the African Union – InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) offered welcoming remarks and endorsed the project and extended his best wishes to the steering committee for a productive and successful meeting. He charged the group with collaboratively producing a draft project proposal in a timely manner to allow adequate time to circulate the proposal for input and support prior submission to the STDF by the end of May.

Geoffrey Onen of the Ugandan Government Analytical Laboratory presented the project concept as a review for the PSC core group and to update the new members brought into this meeting (additional national field and laboratory experts, Senegalese participants from the Ministries of Agriculture and Health, and Secretary of the Central Africa Inter-State Pesticide Committee (CPAC)). Jason Sandahl then gave an update on parallel initiatives developing in Southeast Asia and Latin America.

Three weeks prior to this meeting at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Minor Use Summit (GMUS2) in Rome, the steering committee members who were in attendance held a group discussion following the Friday special session on preparing for residue field trials. (Meeting minutes included as Annex 2). During this discussion, it was advised that the PSC hold in-country consultations on this proposed project with relevant stakeholders to better inform indicative tasks under this PPG. Lucy Namu, Chief Analytical Chemist of KEPHIS presented the results of Kenya's consultative meeting. In short, the meeting brought together regulatory agency and Chair of the taskforce (KEPHIS) and pesticide and registration body (PCPB) bodies, growers, agrochemical industry, and the Kenya agricultural research institute for the purpose of identifying priority crops of economic importance with immediate plant protection needs that could be addressed by the proposed project chemicals, and to propose possible participation in implementation of field trials.

During the afternoon discussion on proposal drafting, Caitrin Martin of USDA/FAS highlighted some of the consistencies with a parallel project grant being implemented by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and identified the following items as requiring draft language from the PSC:

- The institutional framework for SPS management in the region and any SPS priorities or issues identified in SPS-related capacity evaluations.
- Links with national development strategies and policies,
- Ownership and stakeholder commitment,
- Ways in which the proposed project promotes public-public or public-private cooperation,
- Potential project risks and mitigation methods,
- Details on implementing/supervising organization, and
- Project management (including roles and responsibilities).

A timeline was discussed for drafting the full project proposal and deadlines were agreed upon as follows:

- March 27 - Zero draft completed
- April 10 - Core Group revisions completed(AU-IBAR, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, CPAC, USDA, IR-4)
- April 24 - AU-IBAR to distribute for review to advisory bodies (FAO, JMPR), peer observer (AU-IAPSC), and additional stakeholders (CPAC, EAC, COMESA, CILSS, SADC, other member states)
- end May - First STDF submission

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## **Friday, March 16, 2012**

Michael Braverman, of the U.S. IR-4 Project, presented an overview of Good Laboratory Practices (GLP), elaborating on the responsibilities that will be required of key study personnel to be involved in the proposed project (study director, quality assurance unit, and test facility management). He stressed the necessity of proper documentation of methods, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and protocols in GLP test systems.

Lucy Namu, PSC leader then opened the floor for countries to present the outcomes of any country consultations. Michael Odong, Principle Inspector of Uganda National Bureau of Standards presented on behalf of Uganda. The National Bureau of Standards held a discussion with the following stakeholders: The National Codex Committee, Agricultural Chemical Technical Committee, National Agricultural Research Organization, Makerere University Schools of Agriculture and Physical Sciences, Directorate of Government Analytical laboratory, and Chemiphar Laboratory (Private). Candidate crops identified as banana, passionfruit and pineapple (widely produced and exported). Mango, guava, avocado (widely produced, not exported). The current registration status of the proposed chemicals was reviewed. Chemicals under temporary registration approval for use by the floriculture industry include Azoxystrobin, Chlorantraniliprole, Spinetoram. Potential field trial sites were also identified.

Benoit Bouato, permanent Secretary of the Comite inter-état des pesticides d'Afrique Centrale (CPAC) presented on pesticide management activities and harmonized registration process among the six CEMAC (Economic Community of Central African States) member countries (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Gabon, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Chad). Among the six member countries, only Cameroon and Chad have functional pesticide registration systems. Bouato discussed CPAC organization and provided an overview of the CPAC Common Regulation on Pesticide Registration in Central Africa, and Registration Criteria (adopted in 2005). The CPAC Secretary also presented a list of CEMAC export products and their pests/diseases and methods of mitigation (including IPM).

Professor Amadou Diouf of Senegal presented on past experiences with PIP residue projects and indicated that mango is the candidate crop for this proposed project. Also discussed were fruit fly mitigation methods in mango and potentials for synergies with existing programs working toward this objective.

Michael Braverman then took the floor to describe that the process for requesting registration for a specific commodity begins with requests to the chemical companies submitted by grower/grower groups or research institutions. He also indicated that part of the capacity building involved in this project includes guiding the interaction with Agrochemical manufacturers to convey grower needs and priorities. As such, the PSC will aim to develop a framework to identify mutual interests.

With regard to requirements for minimum number of field trials, the estimated numbers [Guava (4) Lychee (6), Mango (6), Pineapple (6)] were based on the guidance document produced by the CCPR

working group on minor uses (to be presented at the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCPR in April 2012.). These criteria for number of field trial required for minor crops were based on FAO production statistics and GEMS cluster diet. This is an issue requiring guidance from JMPR. It was mentioned that in residue field trials, we will expect a certain degree of variability (Study director to provide guidance on selecting trees/fruits for sample and analysis). We should encounter a reasonable range of residues expected by the grower. The objective here is to establish MRLs that will protect both the consumer and the grower (to ensure that the crop may be exported), thus variability to reflect live application is actually ideal.

Michael Braverman described in detail the elements of conducting supervised field trials and answered a number of specific questions regarding GLP study specifications, calibration of equipment, GAPs, etc. Rosemary Nganga of KEPHIS inquired as to the JMPR requirement for laboratory accreditation (either GLP or ISO)? This is another issue that will require input from JMPR advisor.

In the afternoon, Paul Ngaruiya of Kenya’s Pest Control Products Board chaired the session during which Michael Braverman continued with GLP overview training on the laboratory phase of supervised field trials. During this time, the Core Group from the PSC held a side meeting to discuss details and draw conclusions based on issues raised during the meeting. The items discussed include country participation as residue study implementers and observers, proposal timeline and budgetary considerations, country points of contact and communication, and agrochemical industry interests.

Regarding participation, it was concluded that while the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) could play an important role in facilitating communication, these organizations will not be included as part of the proposed project steering committee. If this proposed project is approved, the countries carrying out field trials would be Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, and Senegal. Senegal has participated in COLEACP-PIP trials and thus has proven capacity but it should be noted that Senegal’s confirmed interest is pending provision of a letter of support. With regard to South Africa’s participation, resolution is sought on South Africa’s eligibility to participate under STDF guidelines. It was proposed that the PSC invite the participation of South Africa but with the understanding that their participation may need to be funded by national resources. Countries to be invited to participate as observers include Mali, Cameroon, and tentatively Benin and Zambia. These countries were proposed based on their current capacities and interest in the project; and the need to establish more of a regional balance between ECOWAS and EAC. Also discussed here were the language considerations of the participation of francophone nations. Regarding country points of contact, the Core Group (Namu, Onen, Kaoneka, Osei-Fosu) confirmed their dedication to continue acting as country POC. AU-IBAR will follow up with Senegal to invite their participation, identify the appropriate POC, and request letter of support.

Regarding the need to confirm specific industry interests in the region, it was proposed that the PSC and project coordinator (Sandahl) jointly draft a message to the head offices of the four chemical companies to solicit their interests for registration (e.g. which crops to pursue in which countries). This proposal would then be filtered down to the regional AgChem offices.

The following candidate crops were identified by steering committee members:

| <b>Country</b> | <b>Candidate crops identified</b>                          |
|----------------|--|
| Kenya          | Avocado, mango, passionfruit, pineapple                    |
| Uganda         | Banana, passionfruit, pineapple                            |
| Tanzania       | Guava, avocado, banana, mango, pineapple, passionfruit     |
| Ghana          | Banana, papaya, mango, pineapple                           |
| Senegal        | Mango (not produced for export: pineapple, papaya, banana) |

Lucy then gave a readout of the topics discussed by the Core Group. Caitrin gave a recap of the PPG Terms of Reference, evaluating the progress that was made during the two day meeting, items that were completed and items that are in progress. Jason, Lucy and Raphael gave their acknowledgements and closing remarks and the meeting was adjourned.

#### **NEXT STEPS/ACTION ITEMS**

1. Candidate countries that haven't already done so are to hold their in-country consultations as soon as possible, engaging the relevant stakeholders to ensure the most constructive input.
2. The PSC is to adhere to the timeline for drafting the project grant proposal.
3. The USDA team will consult with the representatives of Dow, Syngenta, Dupont, and Valent/Sumitomo on the specific areas of interest in African region. This will serve to initiate regional and country contact with the AgChem partners.
4. Those PSC members (and project partners in other regions) attending the April session on the CCPR will request to hold a consultative meeting with JMPR Secretariat Madame Yong Zhen Yang. FAS to make contact with a list of areas requiring guidance.

-“Homework assignments” from IR-4 field trial consultant include:

- a) consulting local horticultural specialists,
- b) monitoring timing of flowering, fruit development, maturity/harvest
- c) identifying potential trial sites (to include describing ease or difficulty of transporting frozen samples across borders in the event that the laboratory analysis is to be conducted in a different country than where the field trials were conducted).
- d) Providing detailed estimates of field trial/analytical costs in each candidate country.
- e) completing field and analytical questionnaires developed by IR-4 (**by April 2, 2012**). The questionnaire would be circulated to the POC of representative countries for circulation to appropriate laboratories in their countries

**Annex 1: First STDF/PPG/359 Steering Committee Meeting to formulate a regional project for data generation for MRLs for selected minor use crops**

Venue: AU-IBAR Office in Nairobi, Kenya

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

| COUNTRY |   | NAME & SURNAME  | CONTACTS  |
|---------|---|---|---|
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| <b>SELF-SPONSORED</b>                                |    |                  |   |
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## **ANNEX 2: Readout of the project stakeholder meeting in Rome – GMUS2, March 24, 2012**

8:30 - 13:00 - Preparing for Supervised Field Trials - Considerations for Initiating National or Cross-National Residue Projects

13:30 - 14:30 - African stakeholders met to discuss details of the proposed African pesticide residue initiative to be coordinated with Asian and Latin American regions to achieve joint data submissions to the JMPR for reduced risk chemistries on tropical fruits. The countries represented include Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, and Mali.

Project coordinator, Dr. Raphael Coly (AU- PANSPSO) introduced the STDF project planning grant, a small grant to develop a full project proposal, discussed the terms of reference and an upcoming meeting of the project steering committee (to take place in Nairobi, March 15 -16). Based on comments from the participants and recommendations from STDF working group members Yong Zhen Yang and Renata Clarke, it was decided that it is critical to incorporate input from those stakeholders who cannot participate in this first planning meeting due to resource and/or time constraints. A more inclusive in-country electronic consultation can serve to document the status of current capabilities in order to best ensure that the expected project results can be achieved. Specific criteria were discussed for consideration of which countries are best suited to conduct the field/lab work and which countries could benefit from participating in the project as observers. The questionnaires developed by Dr. Michael Braverman (IR-4) will serve as templates for assessing country capabilities. Additionally, the importance of addressing pests of economic importance was expressed, so we will incorporate the target pests for the four project chemicals and ask that each country identify those that are priorities in the region.

The meeting adjourned with the following two week action items:

- USDA/FAS will incorporate priority pests into the questionnaire and refine project template based on experience in the Southeast Asian Nations
- Project steering committee will conduct in-country outreach, distributing project concept, terms of reference, and country questionnaires for the purpose of soliciting input from relevant stakeholders within country.
- AU-IBAR to reach out to \*Amadou Diarra as contact representative of CILSS (Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel).

\*CILSS was unavailable to attend the March 15-16 steering committee meeting in Nairobi.

## Appendix 2: Financial Report

The STDF will reimburse AU-IBAR for work carried out under this Contract on the basis of an invoice and itemized declaration of expenses, supported by necessary receipts, up to a maximum of US\$27,500 (as described below).

| Item  | Description of inputs required   | Estimated in-kind U.S. contributions (US\$) | Funds requested (US\$) | Actual Expenditure |
|---|--|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Expertise</b><br><i>If used, include national or international consultants</i>   | Technical guidance by international consultants on the design of the project (assignment of crops, chemicals, countries, number of trials, etc.). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IR-4 advisor: 6 days @ \$500 per day = \$3000</li> <li>JMPR advisor: 7 days total @ \$800 per day = \$5600*IR-4 matching in-kind contribution</li> <li>*U.S. in-kind contribution</li> </ul>  | USD 3,000                                   | USD 5,600              | -                  |
| <b>Travel</b><br><i>If appropriate, include international flights for consultants (economy class), in-country travel, Daily Subsistence Allowance, etc.</i> | Consultative Workshop (Nairobi) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultant airfare (IR-4 advisor, and pesticide residue technical experts) 2 @ \$2500 = \$5,000</li> <li>Consultant DSA @ USD 225 per day x 5 days x 1 person = \$ 1,125</li> </ul>   | USD 6,125                                   |                        | -                  |
| <b>Stakeholder meetings and workshops</b><br><i>If appropriate, include travel of participants, hire of venue, facilitator, etc.</i>                        | <b>Consultative Workshop</b> (Nairobi) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Airfare ----11 steering committee members @ USD 1,000 per ticket (averaged cost) = \$11,000</li> <li>DSA for 11 Steering Committee members @ USD 225 per day x 3 days = \$7,425</li> <li>Venue cost @ USD 700</li> <li>* USDA coordinator travel and DSA in-kind (estimated USD 3,225)</li> <li>*No travel costs for additional Kenya and AU-IBAR participants</li> </ul><br><b>Capacity Assessment</b> (national assessments for analytical capacities and field trial locations) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local transit costs @ USD 1,525</li> </ul> | USD 3,225                                   | USD 20,650             | USD 22,078.98      |
| <b>General operating expenses</b><br><i>If appropriate, include telephone calls, photocopying, administrative assistance, etc.</i>                          | Stationary, telephone cards, photocopies, administrative costs   |   | USD 1,500              | USD 3,323.45       |
| <b>Other costs (describe)</b><br><i>Project proposal</i>  | Steering Committee staff resources   | USD 1,500                                   |                        |                    |

|                               |  |                       |                       |                      |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>compilation at AU-IBAR</i> |  |                       |                       |                      |
| <b>Total</b>                  |  | <b>USD<br/>13,850</b> | <b>USD<br/>27,750</b> | <b>USD 25,402.43</b> |

**Total Funds Received**      USD 13,750.00  
**Actual Expenditure**        (USD 25,402.43)  
**Balance to be refunded**    USD 11,652.43

**Appendix 3: Final Project Document developed under STDF/PG/359**