PPP_14

STDF | STANDARDS *and* TRADE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

CASESTORY

Southern Africa: Setting up Pest-Free and Low-Pest Areas to Boost Fruit Exports

Timeframe: **2020 to date**

LED BY

PUBLIC SECTOR

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), South Africa

Department of Plant Protection (DSV), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Mozambique

Stellenbosch University (SU), South Africa

Eduardo Mondlane University (EMU), Mozambique

Agricultural Research Council (ARC), South Africa

Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA), Belgium

PRIVATE SECTOR

Citrus Research International (CRI), South Africa

FruitFly Africa (FFA)

GOVERNANCE

An MoU was signed between Fruit Fly Africa, a South African industry service company, and DALRRD to define their respective roles and responsibilities.

FUNDING

The initial partnership was funded through a three-year STDF project with a budget of US$2.9 million, which included US$2.17 million from national government and industry partners (75% of the total budget).

PURPOSE

A shared border between South Africa and Mozambique pointed to the need for a regional approach to more effectively control fruit fly challenges affecting trade. Learning from a successful public-private partnership to manage fruit flies in South Africa, this collaboration was expanded to establish and maintain Pest-Free Areas (PFAs) and Areas of Low Pest Prevalence (ALPPs) at a regional level and benefit trade from both countries.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PUBLIC SECTOR

- Conducted surveillance of fruit fly species and worked towards establishing PFAs and ALPPs in compliance with international (IPPC) standards.
- Designed and rolled out diagnostic tools, identification systems and databases to support the establishment and maintenance of PFAs and ALPPs.
- Provided guidance to ensure compliance with phytosanitary standards, facilitated recognition of PFAs and ALPPs, and reported results to trading partners.

PRIVATE SECTOR

- Conducted research to define thresholds for ALPPs and developed strategies for pest monitoring and management tailored to growers' needs.
- Managed the Area-Wide Integrated Pest Management programme, including sterile insect releases, trap servicing, sanitation efforts, and aerial baiting operations.
- Engaged with growers to raise awareness of pest management practices and implement effective monitoring and control measures.

LESSONS

- Allocating resources for prevention, early detection and rapid response is more effective and efficient to manage invasive fruit flies than controlling a widespread infestation.
- Neighbouring countries have much to gain from collaboration between their public and private sectors, including to promote knowledge transfer, capacity building, stronger risk preparedness and efficiency in project delivery.
- Active engagement of private companies with growers allowed timely decision-making and quick responses to detections and spread of exotic fruit fly species.

UP-SCALING OPPORTUNITIES

- The framework established for identifying and maintaining PFAs and ALPPs in Southern Africa can be extended to other countries in the SADC region through collaboration, fostering broader regional benefits.
- Trade will continue to improve as more importing countries recognize PFAs and ALPPs (including South Africa's recognition of PFAs and ALPPs Mozambique).
- Monitoring has been sustained by larger-scale growers and associations, with workshops planned to engage growers' associations and highlight the requirements and benefits of PFAs and ALPPs. Strengthening private sector commitment, and integrating the operational database with other systems, will be key to ensuring long-term sustainability.

RESULTS

ESTABLISHMENT OF 6 PFAS AND 47 ALPPS (FOR Z. CUCURBITAE, C. CAPITATA AND B. DORSALIS)
across Mozambique and South Africa.

DEVELOPMENT OF OPERATIONAL AND ECONOMIC MODELS
showcasing the advantages of PFAs and ALPPs, with larval and adult identification tools made publicly accessible for target pests and related species.

Creation of an
ONLINE DATABASE
for trap data and pest identification, supported by freely available training tools, enabling early detection of invasive species and use by non-specialists.

Achieved
POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS through reduced pesticide use and sustainable pest management practices.

Source: Agricultural Research Council, providing insights through oral and written contributions since the STDF/PG/567 project, F[3]: "FRUIT FLY FREE" (arc.agric.za)