

STDF PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

APPLICATION FORM

The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) provides grants (up to a maximum of US\$30,000) to assist eligible organizations in developing countries to develop full proposals for projects seeking to: (i) enhance capacity to meet official or commercial requirements in the sanitary and phytosanitary field and so facilitate market access; and (ii) better protect human and animal health and plants against disease and pest hazards related to cross border trade.

Complete details on eligibility criteria and other requirements are available in the *Guidance Note for Applicants* on the STDF website (www.standardsfacility.org). Please read the *Guidance Note* before completing this form.

This form should be completed by eligible organizations interested in applying for STDF funding to develop a project proposal. It is designed to provide the STDF Working Group, which makes decisions on STDF funding, with an overview about the project you wish to develop. This form should be completed in English, French or Spanish.

PPG Title	Africa Joint Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project
Budget requested from STDF	US\$27,750
Full name and contact details of the requesting organization(s)	African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)
Full name and contact details of contact person for follow-up	Dr Raphael Coly, AU-IBAR PO Box 30786 – 00100 Nairobi, Kenya Tel. +254 3674000/229 Fax +254 3674341 Email : raphael.coly@au-ibar.org

I. Background and rationale

1. Provide an overview of the SPS situation and issues in the country or region, as appropriate. This should include a description of any SPS priorities or issues identified in the Integrated Framework's Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS), SPS-related capacity evaluations, national development strategies or policies, or other relevant documents. It should also describe the institutional framework for SPS management (see Qn. 7. A-C of the *Guidance Note* for further information).

Protecting human health and achieving economic growth by facilitating trade in safe food is an important challenge for Africa. Recent increases in food borne incidences have added fresh impetus to the need to ensure food safety. Examples include microbial hazards in fresh fruits and vegetables, meat and poultry contaminated with pathogens such as *E. coli* and *Salmonella*, animal diseases such as BSE and Avian Influenza, and the growing public concern towards pesticide residues in food has further increased the call for a global shift towards the use of safer pesticides.

A World Health Organization (WHO) survey on the ability of national authorities to offer effective protection against adverse environmental factors, clean water supply, basic sanitation and food safety showed that less than 10% of the 136 developing countries had adequate capacities.

Currently, few African countries have adequate capacity to conform to the WTO SPS agreement based on abilities to perform scientific analysis, risk assessment and meeting the requirements of the international market. A number of stakeholders in government ministries, academia, research institutions, laboratories and the private sector are key to its implementation.

Africa's underdeveloped capacity to address pesticide MRL trade constraints continues to be a major obstacle and poses difficulties for producing safe food for domestic consumption and export of high valued crops to regional and overseas markets (primarily EU nations). As a result of the lack of MRL compliance capabilities, African countries do not directly assess the health impact of chemical exposure primarily associated with pesticide residues. Recently, there have been a number of trade disruptions related to the use of pesticides that have been restricted or banned. Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ghana have experienced economic losses as a result of concerns raised by trading partners about the suspected use of highly toxic pesticides. For example, recently, due to suspected use of endosulfan, Japan raised concerns over Ghanaian cocoa beans and the EU banned exports of fish from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Furthermore, in 2010, Burkina Faso was unable to export honey to Morocco due to lack of pesticide residue data. At national and Intra-African levels there are significant economic losses resulting from shipments rejected due to pesticide residue violations. Furthermore, market access impediments can also occur due to lack of pesticide residue data.

This PPG proposes to better prepare African countries to join a global pesticide residue data generation and capacity building project, with the aim to empower African countries to conform to official standards recognized under the WTO Agreement, including Codex maximum residue levels (MRLs), and to actively engage in the process of implementing

those standards to which developing countries are obliged to adhere. The global pesticide residue trial project is complex in design and requires a high level of coordination, planning, and preparation to ensure its success. Through this project, Africa will have the opportunity to actively engage with the primary international standard-setting body with the objective of gaining access to international markets. Furthermore, this project aims to facilitate the use of reduced risk pesticides in the culture of tropical fruit crops. The common practice of intercropping complicates pesticide selection in that residue profiles and established MRLs for understory crops may differ from tree crops. Therefore the use of newer, safer products would have ancillary health benefits with regard to non-target crops.

2. What key SPS problems and/or opportunities would this project preparation grant address? Explain the background to these problems/opportunities, their importance for the stakeholders concerned, particularly for market access and poverty reduction, and the expected benefits of developing a project in this area. See Qn. 7. D. of the *Guidance Note*.

Globalization of the food supply has the potential to expose consumers worldwide to food hazards and many countries that rely heavily on imports for their food security. Increasingly, governments worldwide are moving toward implementing risk-based approaches to food safety management that requires all operators in the supply chain to share responsibility for food safety and apply measures to reduce food safety hazards. Concurrently, developed countries are setting increasingly restrictive pesticide MRLs for many of the specialty crops produced in Africa. This represents a significant hurdle to market access for Africa's producers of specialty crops.

The Codex Alimentarius is the globally recognized, WTO-mandated body responsible for setting food safety standards to help in the facilitation of international trade in safe foods. Participation of African nations in the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) has significantly increased in recent years. In particular, Kenya has been actively involved, co-chairing the electronic Working Group to provide guidance to facilitate the establishment of Codex MRLs for minor uses and specialty crops. In 2009, the delegation of Kenya introduced a discussion paper containing several recommendations based on the responses to a questionnaire circulated to members of the Electronic Working Group. These recommendations, among others, related to the inclusion of new commodities in the Codex Classification; encouraging the development of representative commodities; training in residue data generation and submission to the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR); fostering collaboration to develop and promote submissions to JMPR for prioritized specialty crops and minor uses. In 2010, the CCPR endorsed the Working Group's recommendations to encourage Codex members and observers to continue to identify and nominate priority chemical/uses on minor crops and to submit data for JMPR evaluation including the possibility for *multiple countries working collaboratively to develop data to support the establishment of MRLs on minor crops* and the bundling of such data to be presented by one lead country for JMPR evaluation and with an understanding that an official letter should cover all information on the registered GAPs. In 2011, the Committee agreed to re-establish the electronic working group chaired by the U.S. and co-chaired by Kenya and Thailand to work on the development of criteria for use by CCPR and JMPR to determine the minimum number of field trials necessary to support the establishment of MRLs for minor crops/specialty crops in order to facilitate data submission to JMPR.

As an outstanding agenda item of the CCPR, specialty crops and tropical fruits have been a major priority to most developing countries because of the high value and vast market for these commodities. Among the specialty crops considered within Codex, tropical fruits

dominate the list of African exports and a broad survey of farming practices across the African region show that 80% of the African rural farming communities rely on tropical fruits as the primary source of income. If African producers are unable to meet import requirements, market access is impeded, resulting in loss of income for subsistence farmers. Hence, building capacity in this regard is critical to achieving poverty alleviation in rural Africa. In terms of international standards, there are still no Codex MRLs for most of the tropical fruits groups and specialty crops exported from Africa, this is largely because of lack of economic interest by pesticide registrants to generate the residue data needed to establish Codex MRLs. As a result, many governments/regions are establishing “minor use” programs to help fill these data gaps and take a more active role in identifying, registering, and setting trade standards to support their agricultural sectors. Building the capacity of developing countries to generate high quality pesticide residue data will effectively enhance their participation in the Codex standard-setting process and ensure access to newer, low-toxicity pesticides for farmers - an important priority for Africa.

Over the past several years, many African countries have participated in pesticide-related training programs led by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the European Pesticide Initiative Program (PIP), the United Nation’s Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), CropLife, and other organizations. Many African countries are now demonstrating a better understanding of the process of pesticide MRL establishment and assessment of the risk from dietary intake of residues. The next logical step to support African countries is to move beyond general training, and to work toward implementing concrete actions to address specific barriers to expanding trade with developed countries.

The global pesticide residue trial project is an important undertaking for Africa that will allow the region to effectively engage with international standard-setting bodies through the generation of high quality scientific data, with the objective of gaining access to international markets. Commitments to provide technical support for the project have come from the participating pesticide manufacturers, FAO, USDA, and the U.S. Interregional Research Project (IR-4)¹. Additionally, at a recent meeting in Ghana where the proposed project was discussed, a PIP representative also agreed that participants would benefit from collaboration on the capacity building aspects of the project, whenever possible. The project team has communicated with the PIP staff over the past several months and have agreed to coordinate work conducted under this project and the PIP project as much as possible, particularly in the area of capacity building training (see attached letter of interest). The project team will closely consult with the PIP on the final selection of crops/pesticides to be addressed in the project, in order to avoid duplication of work previously conducted by PIP and to best coordinate any future work. For example, the PIP project has already conducted residue trials for avocado and passionfruit with azoxystrobin in Kenya, so this project could address other representative crops of sub-group 006B in order to complete the group residue requirements (e.g., banana, papaya, pomegranate, mango).

In brief, the ultimate benefits of the project to the region will be:

- Overcome hindrances to export markets access due to the absence of corresponding

¹ The IR-4 Project was established in 1963 as a partnership between USDA and the state agricultural experiment stations to assist specialty crop growers by developing data that is necessary to support the registration of safe and effective crop protection chemicals (pesticides) on fruits, vegetables, herbs, and other specialty horticultural crops.

- pesticide trade standards for specialty crops and tropical fruits of importance to Africa
- Facilitate access to and use of reduced-risk pest control measures
 - Increase technical expertise through future work sharing and joint review programs
 - Build a sustainable process for regional data generation required for the establishment and adoption of Codex MRLs for Africa's priority crops
 - Strengthen Africa's engagement and participation in the Codex MRL-setting process

3. Which government agencies, private sector, academic or other organizations support this PPG request? Letters of support from each of these organizations must be attached (Appendix 1). See Qn. 7. E. of the *Guidance Note*.

Under the African Union, the InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the InterAfrican Phytosanitary Council (AU-IAPSC) are working closely with the Coordinating Committee for Africa (CCAFRICA) to address issues related to Codex work. CCAFRICA and its member states have petitioned AU-IBAR to support the effective participation of African countries in six priority Codex Committees. Among the priority Codex Committees identified is **Pesticide Residues**, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, Contaminants in Food, Fish and Fishery Products, Food labelling, Food Hygiene, and Food Additives. For these six Codex committees, AU-IBAR will provide institutional support for the meetings of African experts who will analyze agenda items and provide guidance to countries in order to establish country positions to harmonize at regional and continental levels. Thus far, AU-IBAR has supported two African expert meetings on pesticide residues and even supported the participation of two pesticide residues experts in the 2010 and 2011 CCPR sessions in order to coordinate the positions of African delegates. CCAFRICA has requested AU-IBAR to support the participation of African countries in Codex work. Consequently, with the endorsement of the Codex contact points (CCPs), AU-IBAR has created a Standards and Trade Secretariat as a permanent mechanism (with the AU providing a permanent funding source) for participation in Codex work, to address animal health and food safety and trade standards.

This proposed work is ideally aligned with AU-IBAR's mandate of facilitating trade of agricultural products in compliance with SPS standards and encouraging participation of African nations in SPS standard setting organizations. Thus AU-IBAR, will provide the overall coordination for the proposed project. IAPSC is also contributing to Codex work but to date, has participated more actively in the Committee on Food Labeling. IAPSC has two senior officers, one in plant pathology and the other in entomology. Those qualified countries interested in participating in the proposed project possess a great deal of expertise in the area of pesticide residues and as such AU-IBAR and AU-IAPSC will rely on national expertise whenever possible. IAPSC will engage in the proposed work as peer observer with the primary role of reviewing and endorsing the project residue analysis.

Under the auspices of AU-IBAR, the Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standard-Setting Organizations (PANSPSO) also supports this proposed work. PANSPSO aims to provide institutional support for assisting Member States in enhancing effective representation in international standard-setting organizations such as Codex, OIE and IPPC. PANSPSO project activities include: 1.) international and regional harmonization of SPS policies, 2.) technical capacity building toward effective contribution to the standard-setting process, and 3.) Collection and dissemination of data related to existing and emerging standards.

Similar efforts are being coordinated in Southeast Asia and Latin America. FAO and the EU Pesticide Initiative Program (PIP), have expressed their support of developing this initiative in Africa. The qualified countries that have expressed interest in participating in this project are Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal and South Africa. Letters of support from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana and South Africa are included under Appendix 1.

4. Are the activities to be carried out under this PPG related to any past, present or planned bilateral or multilateral donor projects and programmes? If so, identify the related activities below and explain how the PPG would complement and build on them. See Qn. 7. F. of the *Guidance Note*.

Related programs include the EU funded Pesticide Initiative Program (PIP), a European cooperation program managed by COLEACP and implemented at the request of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States. The global objective is to: “Maintain and, if possible, increase the contribution made by export horticulture to the reduction of poverty in ACP countries”. Hence, a focus of the PIP program is to ensure compliance with EU regulatory requirements and legislation by ACP countries, with the objective of meeting MRL requirements for the export of fruits and vegetables to the EU and to promote the use of Codex MRLs for regional/national purposes.

Activities under this program include:

- Selection of priority crops in participating countries
- Examination of existing registrations in participating countries and determination of needs
- Selection of substances for the trials
- Establishment of Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) and determination of need for import tolerance/maximum residue limit
- Obtaining Codex / EU MRLs / import tolerances if needed
- Registration of products used in their country of origin for commodities tested

Over the past three years, many African countries have also participated in USDA/FAO joint training programs in order to better prepare Africa for this residue data generation project. These training programs have included workshops in the areas of:

- Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) and compliance
- Conducting residue field trials
- Pesticide registrations

- Risk Assessment and data evaluation
- Minor Use programs
- Understanding and engaging in the Codex process

All the activities listed above will be critical to the successful implementation of the PPG. Furthermore, some of the challenges (as identified by the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)) of comprehensively evaluating the available residue data will be addressed by the PPG.

The PPG will give consideration to the following criteria in choosing among the pesticides being proposed here: Azoxystrobin (Syngenta); Pyriproxyfen (Valent/ Sumitomo), Chlorantraniliprole (Dupont), Spinetoram (Dow). All proposed chemicals are of extremely low toxicity and well-suited for this project. Furthermore, for these pesticides, there is very little residue data currently available, and very few existing Codex MRLs. There must be support from the pesticide manufacturer to provide test product, use patterns, technical and other support, and to seek registrations of these pesticides in the countries participating in trial work. IR-4 has committed to contributing some existing data and they have also offered technical support for project implementation. The PPG will ensure that approved experimental use permits are obtained for the countries that will participate in the pilot project.

5. Have you discussed this PPG request – or funding for the project proposal which would result from it – with any potential donors (bilateral, multilateral, Enhanced Integrated Framework, etc.)? If so, provide information below and indicate any potential sources of funding for the project to be developed through this PPG. See Qn. 7. G. of the *Guidance Note*.

AU-IBAR will provide in-kind contribution for the project to be developed through the proposed project planning activities. Direct contribution could also be jointly provided to organize workshops. In parallel with this PPG, USDA is working to secure funding to include northern African countries (Morocco and Egypt) to participate in the project planning meetings. USDA is also working to secure funding to support the technical services of the IR-4 Project to help guide, design, and direct the project plans. Once the project concept has been strengthened through support of this PPG, multiple partners, including a potential full project grant to STDF, will be approached that have expressed their willingness to support the project either in-kind or financially: USDA, USAID, FAO, CropLife, and participating pesticide manufactures.

A primary goal of this larger project would be to ensure its sustainability by securing long-term financial commitments from these various organizations that would continually establish crop/pesticide priority lists and work toward local registrations and data generation to establish trade standards. If this project is implemented successfully, we believe that there will be significant incentives for a long-term program to be established through partnerships between the public and private sectors.

II. Implementation

6. What are the expected start and end dates for this PPG?

The proposed start date is **January 2, 2012** and end in **May 31, 2012**. This timeline will allow for essential planning and preparation for the Joint Pesticide Residue Data generation project in the African region's participating countries.

7. What activities would be carried out under this PPG? Provide a description of each activity below, specifying the persons / offices responsible, as well as the completion dates and expected outputs.

Activities carried out under this project will be primarily led by the AU-IBAR. A steering committee comprised of participating country technical experts will provide overall guidance to the project and direct its further development and implementation. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will play a role of project coordinator, ensuring that work conducted under this project coordinates similar and related efforts in other global regions, and will serve as an overall project liaison between the AU-IBAR/Steering Committee and other stakeholders and partners, including COLEACP-PIP, FAO, IR-4, CropLife, pesticide manufacturers, exporter organizations, etc. Consultants will be brought into the project conceptualization and development phases to ensure the projects viability. It is anticipated that international consultants will include a pesticide regulatory/technical expert, a senior member of the JMPR, and an IR-4 Study Director.

Because of their extensive experience in minor use research, IR-4 has been requested to lead the technical aspects of this project, playing the role of Study Director. This will require working with all stakeholders to make decisions about field trial locations, selection of crops/pesticides, analytical advise and consultation, development of trial protocols, and coordinating efforts for data reports and submissions to the JMPR, and to ensure that existing and available data is best utilized and incorporated into the project.

Activity	Responsible	Tentative date of Completion	Expected output
Designate a PPG steering committee for Africa at AU-IBAR (Kenya). Steering Committee Members to include national experts from Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, and South Africa	AU-IBAR	January 31, 2012	Term of reference (TOR) drafted
Develop priority crop/chemical questionnaire for Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa. Follow	Steering Committee, AU-IBAR, USDA, residue trial consultants (pesticide	February 28, 2012	Listing of participating countries and areas of interest for

up by designated members of the steering committee	residue technical expert, IR-4 and JMPR senior reviewer)		participation Capacity of the countries to participate evaluated
Develop draft full project grant proposal	AU-IBAR lead, with input from Steering Committee and USDA	March 30, 2012	Draft proposal
Present proposal at Codex expert committee for CCPR for further review	Steering Committee	April 30, 2012	Final revisions incorporated in the draft proposal approved
Hold a consultative workshop for participating countries based on interests and propose details for participation	Steering Committee, AU-IBAR, USDA, IR-4, pesticide manufacture representatives, other stakeholders	May 15, 2012	Proceedings of workshop with specific participation commitments for proposal on Joint Pesticide Residue Data generation project in the African Region
Submit final draft proposal to STDF and other potential sponsors to implement the project	AU-IBAR (STDF), USDA (other sponsors)	May 31, 2012	Final project document on Joint Pesticide Residue Data generation project in the African Region prepared

8. List all the stakeholders (government, private sector, academia, etc.) that may have an interest in this PPG and the resultant project. Explain how will they be consulted and involved during the implementation of the PPG (e.g. interviews, validation workshops, etc.).

The technically qualified countries that have expressed interest are Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal and South Africa. Participating countries have committed to provide the institutional framework that has been identified as key to the trial. USDA, FAO, and IR-4 will provide technical guidance to the development of the project, while the partnering pesticide manufactures will be included in consultations to ensure their support of the project.

9. Who will take the lead in the development of the project proposal under this PPG? If you propose national experts and/or international consultants for this task, provide their full name and contact details below. A Curriculum Vitae and record of achievements for each person proposed should be included in Appendix 2. If no names are provided, the STDF will provide a shortlist of consultants if the PPG request is approved.

The steering committee is led by the coordinator of AU-IBAR's PAN-SPSO. Steering committee members include regional experts on pesticide residues from Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. The steering committee along with USDA and AU-IBAR will

collaborate in drafting the project proposal. The steering committee will develop workplans, oversee technical exchange workshops, and will serve to provide overall guidance to the project, contributing invaluable regional expertise. The national experts comprising the steering committee are well qualified in the fields of toxicology, chemistry and pesticide registration. USDA will take the lead in coordinating the activities proposed here. Both the Steering Committee lead and USDA project lead have vast experience in project design and implementation. It is anticipated that international consultants will include an IR-4 Study Director, a pesticide regulatory/technical expert, and a senior member of the JMPR to ensure the viability of the project design.

Accompanying CVs are provided with other supporting documents as required.

Steering Committee Members:

- Raphael Coly, AU-IBAR (Kenya) Raphael.Coly@au-ibar.org
- Paul Osei-Fosu, Ghana Standards Board posei@gsb.gov.gh
- Lucy Namu, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) lnamu@kephis.org
- Bakari Kaoneka, Ph. D. of Tanzania's Tropical Pesticides Research Institute
kaonekab@yahoo.com
- Geoffrey Onen, Principle Government Chemical and Analytical Laboratory
onengff1@yahoo.com

III. Budget

10. What is the total estimated budget (in US\$) required for this PPG? Specify the amount that is requested from the STDF and the in-kind contribution (if any). Complete the budget table below.

Item	Description of inputs required	Estimated budget (US\$)
Expertise <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"> IR-4 advisor: 7 days @ \$500 per day = \$3500 JMPR advisor: 7 days @ \$800 per day = \$5600 *IR-4 matching in-kind contribution *USDA in-kind contribution	USD 9,100 *In-kind contributions USD 7,000
Travel <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"> Consultant airfare (IR-4 advisor, JMPR advisor, and pesticide residue technical expert) @ \$2500 = \$7,500 Consultant DSA @ USD 225 per day x 5 days x 3 persons = \$3375 	USD 10,875
Stakeholder meetings and workshops <i>If appropriate, include travel of participants, hire of venue, facilitator, etc.</i>	Consultative Workshop (Nairobi) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airplane ticket ----3 steering committee members @ USD 1000 per ticket (averaged cost) = \$3000 Local transport cost for needs assessment on national analytical capacities and trial sites @ USD 500 DSA for 3 Steering Committee members @ USD 225 per day x 3 days = \$2025 Venue cost @ USD 750 * USDA coordinator travel and DSA in-kind (estimated USD 3225) *No travel costs for additional Kenya and AU-IBAR participants	USD 6,275 *In-kind contributions USD 3,225
General operating expenses <i>If appropriate, include telephone calls, photocopying, administrative assistance, etc.</i>	Stationary, telephone cards, photocopies, administrative costs	USD 1,500
Other costs (describe) <i>Project proposal compilation at AU-IBAR</i>	Steering Committee staff resources	*In-kind contribution USD 1500
Total		USD 27,750

Appendices

Appendix 1: Letters of support from each of the organizations supporting this proposal.

Appendix 2: Curriculum Vitae and record of achievements for any consultants proposed to implement this PPG.