

Pesticide Risk Reduction Programme – Ethiopia

Baseline study start-up meeting

Summary of the first two days

joint collaborative programme on pesticide registration and post-registration



MoA



ALTERRA



saicm



Towards a sustainable use of pesticides in Africa

Summary (1)

- The Ethiopian Pesticide Proclamation no. 674/2010 is in place since 1 year, but the associated regulations, directives and guidelines are not yet in place to fully enforce the proclamation.
- Many problems with pesticides are observed by the workshop participants:
 - The numbers of registered pesticides in class III and class U are low.
 - Insufficient knowledge of farmers and development agents about pesticide use and handling.
 - Protection measures not sufficiently respected by applicators & farmers.
 - Many incidents of poisoning
 - Residues in certain crops and in the environment
 - Misuse and abuse of pesticide
- The research and data on pesticide risks to the environment and human health are insufficient. Those data that are available are not compiled.



Summary (2)

- Unregistered pesticides meant for flower farms are under an interim arrangement by which it is allowed to import and use pesticides without prior registration (but with the knowledge of MoA).
- There are few extension activities concerning risks of pesticides.
- Few (flower) farms do not respect standards and regulations.
- Some flower farms are reluctant to provide data on pesticide use, training of personnel, etc.



Summary (3)

- Efforts are undertaken by MoA to establish standardized pesticide residue analysis in crops, but the infrastructure and technical capacity for residue analysis elsewhere in Ethiopia is minimal.
- Lack of co-ordination regarding pesticide affairs among stakeholders.
- Lack of pesticide poison centres in Ethiopia.

General recommendations (1)

- The regulations and directives for the implementation of the Pesticide Proclamation should be issued soon. Enforcement should be strengthened.
- Environmental protection activities in relation to pesticides need more co-ordination between different authorities and institutions concerned.
- The training and awareness raising programme on pesticide risks for farmers and other people handling pesticides at the grass roots level should be implemented. This should be an on-going activity and not a single project like PRRP. Use television, radio and other mass media.

General recommendations (2)

- Make the list of registered pesticides available on-line.
- Establish Maximum Residue Limits (MRL's) for Ethiopia.
- Compile and publish findings of any Ethiopian studies on pesticides.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for pesticides should be tax-free.
- In agreement with the **Rotterdam? (check!!)** convention, there should be a (chain) mechanism for the registration of pesticide poisoning incidents.
- For pesticide risk assessment, learn from other countries but adapt to the Ethiopian situation.

Recommendations to PRRP-Ethiopia

- Ways should be sought to include pesticide residue analysis activities in PRRP.



Recommendations for the baseline study

- Also include data from health centres:
 - Pesticide poisoning
 - Blood analyses
- Include flower farms in farm surveys, as well as big farms, smallholders and households.
- Concentrate farm surveys on certain regional states:
 - Agro-ecological zones with highest pesticide use and/or highest pesticide risk.
- Involve on-going research activities of other sectors outside the project in the baseline study.

