

# Assessment of the Kenya PERSUAP assignment

Michael Colegrove (Volunteer) 1 - 15 July 2015 - Nairobi, Kenya

## Overview:

The primary objectives for the volunteer's assignment were as follows:

- Conduct an assessment of pesticide safety along pesticide life cycle i.e. (policy, purchase, transport, use and disposal)
- Identify and document the major constraints to safe use of pesticides in selected F2F country projects
- Make recommendations of possible solutions to the constraints identified
- Update country specific list of approved active ingredients (AIs) for selected country projects
- Upgrade and/or document recommended integrated pest management practices in F2F project areas in Kenya...the **SUAP**

## The assignment

1. Attached to this document are the '**Travel Notes**' taken by the volunteer during the 15-day assignment.

These notes identified the organization, persons interviewed, issues raised in discussions and whether issues (or problems) dealing with pesticides were relevant.

As issues were discussed a list of possible volunteer assignments was developed. This was not a requirement of the SOW, but provided an opportunity for the Kenyan CRS/F2F staff to develop new MOUs, and/or source volunteers for future assignments.

2. An "**Open Letter to all Future Volunteers**" is presented that the volunteer (Michael Colegrove) recommends be sent to any future volunteer who may be exposed to, or dealing with pesticides as part their SOW. This will alert volunteers as to their responsibilities to be in compliance with USAID regulations. It also defines those pesticides that may be available at the assignment location or in the market place.
3. A "**Safer Use Action Plan**" (**SUAP**) is the second document addressed to future volunteers and CRS/F2F staff. The information was abstracted from several PERSUAPs from Kenya, Uganda, and the F2F global PERSUAP. References are provided for the complete documents which will be supplied to the volunteer by the CRS/F2F office in Nairobi.

## Issues:

1. The Pest Control Products Board (PCPB):

This is the 'competent authority' responsible to register and analyze all pesticides brought into Kenya before they are legally registered for use. The current list available to the public is five years out of

date. Further there is no classification as to the relative toxicity of these chemicals. A cursory review of the documents made available to the F2F interviewers revealed that several chemicals were prohibited for use by the USEPA.

**[Subsequently the USAID Environmental officers supplied an updated list of all prohibited pesticides through 2014]**

2. The Ministry of Agriculture was unaware of the above discrepancies and promised to provide a list of "banned" chemicals. This did not occur before the Volunteer left Kenya.

***[This should be followed up by the F2F staff]***

3. A visit was scheduled with veterinary department officers in Kitui. The designated Officer failed to show up at the office on two occasions so no interview was held, nor were any data available. The F2T staff faxed him a list of interview questions and he promised to answer them in 48 hours. He failed to do so.

***[F2F staff members will pursue this information and forward the questionnaire to the volunteer and included in the FINAL report.]***

#### **Future Volunteers:**

Those volunteers who will be working with hosts using pesticides will have to a little bit of "home work" **BEFORE** arriving in Kenya. Suggestions and observations are presented in an "OPEN LETTER" that should be sent to the volunteers during the selection and evaluation of potential volunteers. The tables of pesticides were abstracted from several sources to assist the volunteers in identifying the chemicals they are likely to encounter during their assignments. The **SUAP** will provide potential and actual volunteers with additional information on USAID and USEPA requirements.

#### **CRS/F2F Organizational Support:**

1. Transport, accommodations, and technical support by the F2F office was excellent.
2. The choice of interviewees were representative of the existing, and potential hosts for future volunteer assignments.
3. USAID mission officers (Regional and Kenya) were very supportive and appreciative of the F2F programs and volunteers. Very good professional and personal relationships have been formed.

#### **Key CRS personnel:**

Nyambura Theuri nyambura.theuri@crs.org  
Gabriel Mbokothe gabriel.mbokothe@crs.org  
Martin Waweru martin.waweru@crs.org

#### **Key USAID personnel:**

David Kinyua dkinyua@usaid.gov  
Wilkister Magangi wmagangi@usaid.gov