

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON “REVAMPING GROUNDNUT VALUE CHAINS OF WEST AFRICA THROUGH AFLATOXIN”

THEME: CALL FOR ACTION TO ENRICH
LIVELIHOODS AND ECONOMICS

SEPTEMBER 1 – 2, 2015

DAKAR, SENEGAL



ECOWAS AFLATOXIN ACTION PLAN

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- * Goal of the Action Plan.
- * Strategic Objectives.
- * Expected Outcomes.
- * Strategic Interventions.
- * Resource Mobilization.
- * Proposed Coordination Structure.



Goal of the Action Plan

The Overall Goal of the ECOWAS Aflatoxin Control Action Plan (ECOACAP) is to “enhance agricultural development, safeguard public health and facilitate international and sub-regional trade in the ECOWAS region”.

The Overall Objective is to “ reduce prevalence and levels of aflatoxin contamination in food and feed within ECOWAS sub-region”.



Strategic Objectives

To achieve the overall objective, the following specific objectives will be pursued:

1. To enhance demand for aflatoxin safe food and feed;
2. To improve the pre and post-harvest management practices for selected crops within the ECOWAS sub-region as a means of reducing aflatoxin contamination in food and feed; and,
3. To put in place an enabling policy and regulatory environment for controlling aflatoxin in food and feed in the ECOWAS sub-region.



Expected Outcomes

Effective implementation of the ECOACAP will lead to important outcomes in the ECOWAS regions that will benefit as a whole the citizens of the sub-region. Expected outcomes are;

1. Improved income of farmers and other actors such as traders and processors in the value chain through increased quantity of safe food in the ECOWAS region;
2. Improved health of the population including farmers and consumers; and
3. Increased regional and international trade as a result of regionally harmonised policies, standards and practices.



Strategic Interventions

The Strategic Interventions clarify how the Action Plan will deliver on the three strategic objectives (SO) that have been identified by stakeholders.

SO 1: Enhance Stakeholder awareness and demand for aflatoxin safe food and feed

4.1.1 Improved communication and awareness creation.

4.1.2 Strengthening Capacity for aflatoxin sampling and estimation in the ECOWAS region.

4.1.3 Strengthen aflatoxin risk assessment, monitoring, management and communication capacities.

SO 2: Improve the crop management and post-harvest handling practices to mitigate aflatoxin contamination in food and feed

4.2.1 Enhance use of available technologies for crop production, harvesting , post-harvest handling including processes.

4.2.2 Enhance provision of agricultural advisory services to small-scale farmers.

4.2.3 Establish/Investigate alternative uses for contaminated produce.

SO 3: Create an enabling environment for aflatoxin control within ECOWAS

4.3.1 Harmonise relevant policies and regulations the ECOWAS region to enhance trade.

4.3.2 Build capacity of stakeholders to develop and implement policy guidelines and regulations.

4.3.3 Strengthen farmers associations and value chain actors as a driving force for market related initiatives to encourage good practices.



Resource Mobilisation

The resource mobilisation could take two forms, namely, coordinated funding at regional level (for overarching regional initiatives such as policy harmonization and for specific initiatives covering multiple countries) as well as bilateral funding of country level activities.

- Establish a task force at regional level to lead mobilization of resources through member states and development partners.
- Package interventions identified in the EACAP in terms of coherent, marketable projects.
- Use CAADP National Investment Plans and the Regional Investment Plan to mobilize resources (incorporate the EACAP into the regional and national investment plans).



Proposed Coordination Structure

- Presentation of draft action plan to statutory bodies of the ECOWAS Commission.
- CORAF will implement aflatoxin control projects on behalf of ECOWAS.
- PACA will work with CORAF and other stakeholders in order to align grassroots activities.





Thank you