



Partnership
for Aflatoxin
Control in Africa

Partenariat pour
lutter contre
l'aflatoxine en Afrique

Parceria para o
Controle da
Aflatoxina em África

الشراكة من أجل مكافحة
الافلاتوكسين في أفريقيا

PACA Strategy Development and Stakeholder Consultation Workshop- 10-12 April, 2013 Communiqué

The PACA Strategy Development and Stakeholder Consultation Workshop was held from 10-12 April 2013 in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. The workshop brought together continent-wide technical knowledge and expertise on Aflatoxin in order to build understanding of PACA's work to date, provide input on PACA Strategy and future direction, prioritize specific intervention activities based on agreed criteria, and to develop key results areas for action.

The PACA Strategy Development Workshop was facilitated by PICO team, a strategy consulting firm. The workshop was attended by more than 110 experts and stakeholders from the different sectors of agriculture, trade and health. The PACA Strategy Development Workshop was co-hosted by the Tanzanian Food and Drug Authority, the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), and the Nelson Mandela Institute of Science and Technology. The three-day meeting consisted of four sessions where different activities took place.

Prior to the PACA Strategy Development Workshop, the PACA Steering Committee (SC) convened their meeting from 8-9 April, 2013 in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. The SC discussed the following issues: PACA's progress thus far, update on Aflatoxin initiatives on the continent, the 2013 budget, the PACA Secretariat transition to the AUC, work planning for 2013-2014, and the Strategy Development Workshop.

Day I, April 10

The meeting was officially opened by Hon. Dr. Hussein A. Mwinyi, Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania. Following the official opening of the meeting, the African Union Commission (AUC) presented its perspective on PACA origin and purpose. This was followed by several scene setting presentations by the AUC, IITA, Common Markets for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology.

The AUC laid the foundation for the meeting by presenting the background and context for PACA Strategy Development Workshop. IITA presented an overview on Aflatoxin, agriculture and food security. A representative from COMESA followed with a presentation on the impact of Aflatoxin contamination on trade and its related monetary loss to the continent. The Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology followed with a presentation reflecting on the short and long term impact of Aflatoxin on health.

During the afternoon sessions, buzz groups (groups of 8-10 people sitting at round tables) were formed within the plenary to identify and discuss the various opportunities and challenges within agriculture, trade, and health sectors related to Aflatoxin on the continent. The buzz groups later reported back on their groups' identified opportunities and challenges for each sector. This was followed with a discussion among all participants.

Day II, April 11th

On the second day, discussions on the opportunities and challenges of Aflatoxin across sectors continued, followed with discussions on strategic thematic areas. PICO Team engaged all participants in suggesting various strategic thematic areas followed by prioritization of thematic areas. Following the plenary session, buzz groups were formed for identifying priority strategic areas. The group identified the following key thematic areas for PACA:

Theme 1: research and technology for control of aflatoxins.

Theme 2: legislation, policies, and standards in the management of aflatoxin in Africa.

Theme 3: growing commerce and trade while protecting lives from aflatoxins.

Theme 4: enhancing capacity building on aflatoxin management, control and regulatory processes to ensure reduced exposure.

Theme 5: public awareness, advocacy and communication.

During the afternoon, five parallel working groups were formed that developed detailed content for each thematic area, including: a problem statement; challenges; opportunities; objectives; and Key Results Areas. A sixth group was formed to discuss the modalities for Inter-Sector Coordination and Partnership Brokerage. The groups were resolved for another plenary session where they shared their thematic areas.

Day III, April 12th

The third day started with finalizing the reporting by the thematic small groups from the previous day. It was followed by a final synthesis of strategic areas for action where participants were able to look at the objectives, vision and mission of PACA for suggestions and recommendations. The plenary session broke into parallel working groups where participants looked at aspects of operationalizing the plan:

- PACA Roles, Responsibilities, and Governance
- Partnerships and Communications
- Financing and Grant-making Processes and
- Programs, Projects and Activities

Following the exercise of operationalizing the plan, groups shared specific action recommendations for each area and summarized all results.

Strategic Planning Task Forces (SPTF) were established on a voluntary basis from the plenary. These task forces will be responsible for giving detailed input on the identified strategic areas of the strategy document.

Next Steps

Workshop participants agreed on the following timeline and next steps:

- PICO team to develop the draft strategy for PACA with consideration of all suggestions and recommendations from the various stakeholders
- PACA Secretariat to distribute the draft strategy to Workshop participants for comments and input (24 May 2013)
- Contributions and inputs from workshop participants to be incorporated into the draft strategy document by (3 June 2013)
- PICO team, PACA Secretariat, PACA Steering Committee and the identified Strategic Planning Task Forces (SPTF) to finalize the draft strategy (30 June 2013)
- Final PACA strategy document to be delivered by PICO Team (30 June 2013)
- PACA strategy validation workshop (TBD)

The meeting was officially closed by the Honourable Dr. Donan Mmbando, Acting Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania.