



TRANSCRIPT

Discussion date: 30 November 2022

Topic of Discussion: Rights-based approach to Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) management

12:5 Adetonah
5 PM Sounkoura: Hi everyone I 'm Adetonah from Benin GAPROFFA NGO

12:5
6 PM Tatum uct: Good day all, welcome to our discussion today! My name is Tatum from UCT, South Africa and I will be your chair today. Before we begin, kindly can all participants introduce themselves (name, job title, organization and country) in the chat section. Only the presenter and facilitator will speak. Any comments or questions from attendees should be typed in the chat section. Please kindly keep you microphone muted and cameras off during the discussion.

12:5 Ahmad
7 PM Mahdavi: Hello from Ahmad Mahdavi, University of Tehran, Iran.

12:5 Andrea Rother -
7 PM UCT, South Africa: Hello All, I am Andrea Rother, Head of Env Health Div at UCT, South Africa. You are most welcome.

12:5 Norman
8 PM Maseko: Hello everyone, I am Norman Maseko from Eswatini, EHO, Ministry of Health

12:5
9 PM mwanja Baker: Hello Mwanja Baker here from commercial Horticulture and Diversification Uganda Limited.

12:5 Dr Saraswatee
9 PM Gaya: Hello everyone, I am Dr Saraswatee Gaya, Head of Occupational Health Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness, Mauritius, SAICM Focal Point for Mauritius

1:00
PM Anna Püschel: Hello, I am Anna Püschel, Senior Stewardship Manager at Bayer AG, Germany

1:00
PM Leah: Hello, Leah Utyasheva, Centre for Pesticide Suicide Prevention, University of Edinburgh

1:01
PM Tatum uct: Good day all, welcome to our discussion today! My name is Tatum from UCT, South Africa and I will be your chair today. Before we begin, kindly



can all participants introduce themselves (name, job title, organization and country) in the chat section. Only the presenter and facilitator will speak. Any comments or questions from attendees should be typed in the chat section. Please kindly keep you microphone muted and cameras off during the discussion.

- 1:02 PM Baskut: Hello! Baskut Tuncak from the US, director of the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI).
- 1:05 PM Blessings: Hello everyone. Blessings Mulima, Pesticides Control Board, Monitoring and Enforcement Officer, Malawi.
- 1:06 PM Lolem Lokolile Bosco: Hi , Lolem Lokolile Bosco from ministry of health, Kenya and UCT Student (DPRM)
- 1:07 PM Asuman: Hello Everyone
- 1:08 PM Asuman: My name is Asuman Kyabise I am an irrigation agronomist working with ministry of water and environment in Uganda
- 1:10 PM MaXhosa Lamani: MaXhosa Lamani, OHS Inspector at Department of Employment and Labour, South Africa.
- 1:10 PM Adetonah Sounkoura: please increase little sound by presentator
- 1:10 PM Zonke_RSA: Hello everyone, I'm Zonke working with the Department of forestry, fisheries & the environment in South Africa and a DPRM UCT student.
- 1:11 PM Union Mapxashike: Greetings colleagues, i am Union Mapxashike an Environmental Officer with EMA Zimbabwe
- 1:12 PM Anthony Wainaina: Anthony Wainaina, MCRM Student and Ministry of Health
- 1:12 PM georgina jaffee: Afternoon
- 1:12 PM Zinhle: Zinhle Xulu from SA. DPRM dtudent and working with DALRRD
- 1:13 PM Jenny Rönngren: Good afternoon, I'm Jenny from the Swedish Chemicals Agency.



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- 1:13 PM Gabriel: Good morning from Massachusetts! I'm Gabriel from the Toxics Use Reduction Institute, UMass Lowell
- 1:14 PM guy mathurin: Good day to everyone. Caribbean Pesticides Management regional project coordinator with FAO. Based in Barbados
- 1:16 PM Hiram Williams: Good day. Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board. St.Kitts and Nevis
- 1:16 PM georgina jaffee: Please advise if South Africa has committed to any of these resolutions.
- 1:21 PM Adetonah Sounkoura: Moost of African countries have not any measures of remediation or compensation ect...
- 1:21 PM Tatum - uct : You may join the SAICM/UCT HHP CoP WhatsApp group here:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JFBuA0TRuRZONAqm8JHpp0>
- 1:22 PM Tatum - uct : You may sign up to the SAICM/UCT HHP CoP here:
<https://saicmknowledge.org/community>

Question 1: Does your country have a human rights-based approach to pesticide management, (e.g., the right to be protected from certain exposures, information/participation, and/or access to effective remedies)? If so, what are some of the success stories? If not, what are the main obstacles to developing or implementing a human rights-based approach for pesticide management in your country? List your country in your response.

- 1:25 PM S - Christine Fuell: If a pesticide is listed under the Rotterdam Convention, it is NOT banned, however, Parties to the Convention can decide about their potential future import into their countries. They have the liberty to not consent to import.
- 1:25 PM Adetonah Sounkoura: Excellent presentation Baskut
- 1:26 PM S - Christine Fuell: Christine Fuell, PhD
 Senior Technical Officer, Team Leader, NSPRD
 Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 E-mail: Christine.fuell@fao.org
 Web: <http://www.pic.int>



1:26 Adetonah
PM Sounkoura:

@Adetonah Do you have some data from Africa mainly West Africa.
thanks

1:26
PM Peter Hurst:

Peter Hurst - hallo everyone

1:27 hyacinth chin
PM sue:

Hyacinth Chin Sue Jamaica
Not aware of any human rights provision to protect

1:27
PM Peter Hurst:

Peter Hurst - peter.hurst@bluewin.ch

1:27
PM Gabriel:

Thank you, Baskut, for your thorough presentation

1:28
PM Tatum uct:

You may respond to the poll here: <https://www.menti.com/al7rtwib812n>

1:28
PM Asuman:

Asuman Kyabise

1:28 S - Christine
PM Fuell:

It is not a question

Iran- No but there are lots of information online, booklets, etc. in Persian for how to avoid pesticides, cure pesticide poisonings etc., as per my decades of experience in the field and lab in Iran like many other developing countries there are many people killed by pesticides due to different reasons despite our decades activities and a good society (IRANTOX) with many physicians, pharmacologists, myself (agri-environment)...Biggest obstacle here lack of cooperation between different sectors and people.

1:28 Ahmad
PM Mahdavi:

1:29 S - Christine
PM Fuell:

It was a statement

1:29
PM Asuman:

asumankyabise@gmail.com

1:29
PM Gabriel:

In the global south, pesticide use is linked to the main economic activity of the countries, agriculture, which represent most of their GDP and pay politician to stall any sustainable and environmental justice initiative.



1:30 S - Christine
PM Fuell: It was a piece of information from the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat

1:30 hyacinth chin
PM sue: Obstacles to human rights provision to protect against exposure could be lack of awareness

1:31 Ahmad
PM Mahdavi: @ Gabriel, Thanks, agree.

Malawi - Human rights based approach to Pesticides Management in Malawi are covered under different legislations. For instance, The Occupational Health and Safety Act details measures that can be adopted at the workplace to ensure the safety of workers from exposures to hazardous chemicals and pesticides. Main barrier in the case of Malawi is that alot of people are not aware of their rights. Thus are exploited and often times most issues go unreported. I believe this is the area that as a country we would work on to ensure people are aware of the dangers of hazardous chemicals as well as how the laws are framed to protect them from exposure from hazardous chemicals

1:31
PM Blessings:

1:31
PM Asuman: In my opinion, I am a ugandan citizen and i think the potential danger of pesticides and other agrochemicals has not really been enough attention

1:32 Anthony
PM Wainaina: Kenya. The constitution is conscious to human rights and guarantees for human health and environment. There are also multiple pieces of legislation that provide for chemicals borrowing a lot from international laws and conventions.

1:32
PM Tatum uct: You may respond to the poll here: <https://www.menti.com/al7rtwib812n>

Pesticide Action
Network UK
1:32 PAN UK-Sheila
PM Willis (privately): Sorry if this has been asked already, but will you share the presentations?

1:32 Ahmad
PM Mahdavi: But in Oil economy based countries kind of wealthy, government should not stall activities to ban, restrict, etc. toxic chemicals including pesticides.

1:33 Adetonah
PM Sounkoura: yes i fully agree with Baskut

1:33
PM Tatum uct: @all we have five minutes to respond to Q1



- 1:36 PM Gabriel: There are technologies of precision agriculture to reduce harmful exposures. Water management is also key.
- 1:37 PM Andrea Rother - UCT, South Africa: Adetonah - please do type your comment; we welcome it.
- 1:37 PM Adetonah Sounkoura: Usually people don't know the disease from intoxication and normal disease
- 1:37 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: In Mauritius we have the Dangerous Chemicals Control Act 2004 ...An Act to provide for the prevention of damage to health and to the environment caused by dangerous chemicals and for better protection of the workers, members of the public and the environment against dangerous chemicals.
- 1:38 PM Pesticide Action Network UK PAN UK-Sheila Willis: @ Gabriel there are also safer alternatives
- 1:40 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: In Mauritius we are moving towards safer alternatives already...
- 1:40 PM Asuman: Is it Possible for the presenters to share their slides with us on our emails. if yes then my email is asumankyabise@gmail.com
- 1:42 PM JONAH: This is Jonah from Madagascar, we have legislations that protect users from hazardous pesticides based on Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions
- 1:42 PM Andrea Rother - UCT, South Africa: Asuman: please make sure you sign up for HHP CoP and you will receive the slides and a digest summary of discussion (as will everyone who has signed up!).
- 1:43 PM Tatum - uct : Hi Asuman, the slides will be shared with you with a digest (a summary of the discussion). You may sign up to the HHP CoP and you will receive these documents in the days to come.
<https://saicmknowledge.org/community>
- 1:43 PM glory boniventure: Hello Everyone, Glory Boniventure Occupational Hygienist from Tanzania
- 1:44 PM Gabriel: @ Sheila Willis I am aware of the alternatives. However, pesticides are poison and other approaches are still in low Tech Readiness Level. So,



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while promoting alternatives, I would promote precision agriculture and water treatment as well.

1:47

PM Georgina jaffee: Please send me the information. Georgina.jaffee@longview.co.za

1:48 UNEP_Mihaela

PM Paun: The UNEP/FAO/WHO Synthesis Report on the Environmental and Health Impacts of Pesticides and Fertilizers and Ways to Minimize Them is available here <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/environmental-and-health-impacts-pesticides-and-fertilizers-and-ways-minimizing>

1:49

PM Baskut: here here

1:50 Dr Saraswatee

PM Gaya: In Mauritius we also have the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2005 as legal framework

1:52

PM Gabriel: Thank you @ Mihaela

Question 2: In your opinion, what responsibility do pesticide companies have to respect human rights? Should these responsibilities be made mandatory in legislation? If yes, who would be responsible for their enforcement and monitoring? If not, why not?

Mwankhongono

2:08 -Zao Roy

PM Kaonga: Definitely yes.

2:09 Belarmina

PM Almeida: Angola- Yes

2:09 Belarmina

PM Almeida: Surely yes

2:09

PM Chitra Grace: Yes.. (India)

2:09

PM Georgina jaffee: definately



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- Mwankhongono
- 2:09 -Zao Roy
 PM Kaonga: A right to life is a human right. To cut that short is inhuman.
- 2:09 Dr Saraswatee
 PM Gaya: Since we have a legal framework in Mauritius, it doesn't happen here...but cannot say about other countries
- 2:09 Peter Hurst:
 PM Peter Hurst: Peter - ILO Training Package on Workplace Risk Assessment & Risk Management for Small & Medium-Sized Enterprises. ILO SAFEWORK Geneva 2013. ISBN 978-92-2-120764-5 (print); ISBN 978-2-127065-2 (web pdf); http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/instr/WCMS_215344/lang--en/index.htm
- 2:10 Gabriel:
 PM Gabriel: Enforcement of employer responsibility is obstructed by big agricultural and chemical corporations, seen as a cost of labor and externalities. While those groups pay politicians to stall any sustainable initiative.
- 2:10 Finbarr Horgan
 PM (privately): It is not clear how to respond to the poll - can you resend the link - thank you
- 2:12 Asuman:
 PM Asuman: Yes they are violating their responsibility to human rights because they don't avail the necessary information to the users about the potential danger of the pesticides if they are not used as recommended since these companies in most cases don't use the experts available in LMIC for purposes of translations and sensitization
- 2:16 Chitra Grace:
 PM Chitra Grace: All pesticide companies need to take responsibility as there are negative externalities at all levels of production, consumption and disposal of pesticides. These impacts may be on the users, waste managers, environment and general public. Since their "product" directly or indirectly affects all, it is imperative that they need to take responsibility for the same
- 2:16 Dr Saraswatee
 PM Gaya: The main problem lie in the informal sector in Mauritius...we are raising awareness towards the safer use of pesticides.
- 2:17 Tatum uct:
 PM Tatum uct: In the interest of time, you may respond to question 2: In your opinion, what responsibility do pesticide companies have to respect human rights? Should these responsibilities be made mandatory in legislation? If yes, who would be responsible for their enforcement and monitoring? If not, why not?



- 2:18 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: Companies importing dangerous chemicals in Mauritius are not violating human rights...and I can only answer for my country not for other countries
- 2:19 PM Peter Hurst: Peter - check out multinationals and their Behaviour based Safety Programs.- the new trend. Fatalities, injuries, diseases happen because of poor health and safety behaviour by workers. Not because the systems of work were defective and basic rights to H& S were not respected by companies
- 2:22 PM Tatum uct: n the interest of time, you may respond to question 2: In your opinion, what responsibility do pesticide companies have to respect human rights? Should these responsibilities be made mandatory in legislation? If yes, who would be responsible for their enforcement and monitoring? If not, why not?
- 2:24 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: A legal framework needs to be in place to protect workers
- 2:25 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: We must have enforcing agencies...otherwise a legal framework is not enough
- 2:26 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: Personal Protective Equipment must be as a last resort....some may not even have the APPROPRIATE PPE....
- 2:26 PM Ahmad Mahdavi: Answering again- Iran- Surely yes, and must be made mandatory in legislation. A group consist of related government agency (here in Iran Plant Protection organization, Ministry of health) watched by responsible people from Academics and science and all under global responsible agencies WHO, FAO, etc.
- 2:27 PM Peter Hurst: Peter Try establishing a National Health and Safety Policy Agriculture. Clear role for government -Min of Labour, Min of Ag. Labour inspection sewvices in
- 2:28 PM Andrea Rother - UCT, South Africa: Due to the technical issues, please note that we will go over time by 5 mins. Thank you for your indulgence.
- 2:29 PM Gabriel: There should be a system to monetize and internalize externalities to fund development of new technologies and alternative approaches.
- 2:29 PM Tatum uct: Make sure you have signed up for the HHP CoP: <https://saicmknowledge.org/community>



- 2:30 PM Dr Saraswatee Gaya: It has to be mandatory
- 2:30 PM Chitra Grace: pesticide companies could be asked to do research and innovation to develop alternatives and to use their parallel "extension staff" in the field to influence the farmers to encourage them to make safer choices

Question 3: How can extending and strengthening workers' human rights in agriculture help with the elimination of Highly Hazardous Pesticides in your country? List your country in your response.

- Pesticide Action Network
- 1:53 PM UK PAN UK-Sheila Willis: @Gabriel - prevention is better than cure, please consider sustainable agroecological solutions
- 1:53 PM Gabriel: Access to hazard information and protective equipment is key
- 1:53 PM Adetonah Sounkoura: I have to leave because i have an another meeting starting 5mn.
- 1:54 PM Gabriel: Thank you for the heads up @ Sheila Willis. I promise I will :)
- 1:54 PM Adetonah Sounkoura: Sorry for that. i very appreciated this meeting and well done for organizers.
- 1:54 PM Tatum - uct : Question 3: How can extending and strengthening workers' human rights in agriculture help with the elimination of Highly Hazardous Pesticides in your country? List your country in your response.
- 1:55 PM Tatum - uct : You may respond to the poll here: <https://www.menti.com/a17rtwib812n>
- 1:56 PM Ahmad Mahdavi: Iran- Surely a lot provided that there are strong enforcement programs available and executable .
- 1:57 PM Andrea Rother - UCT, South Africa: I agree with Peter.



- 1:57 Norman
PM Maseko: Strengthening human rights in Eswatini could surely help the country to stop young children at subsistence level to stop practically working in fields before going to school in the morning, by so doing their right from pesticides exposure will be activated
- 1:58 Ahmad
PM Mahdavi: Yes, do you want me to talk?
- 1:58 Chitra Grace: When the workers' human rights which would be inclusive of safety work practices especially in the context of hot tropical climates, it would be better to totally restrict access to HHPs. This would lead to lesser intentional and non-intentional pesticide poisoning. (India)- Chitra Grace, Global Institute of Public Health (GIPH), India
- 1:58 Andrea Rother
- UCT, South
PM Africa: Ahamd - pls type the clarification
- 1:59 Ahmad
PM Mahdavi: As I always mentioned we have problems of ENFORCEMENT in developing countries .
- 2:00 Tatum uct: You may respond to the poll here: <https://www.menti.com/al7rtwib812n>
- 2:02 Andrea Rother
- UCT, South
PM Africa: Thanks Ahmad.
- 2:03 Chitra Grace: Thank you for your response Robert. I guess it doesn't fare well to the many workers who engage as daily wage labourers
- 2:04 hyacinth chin
PM sue: there are other organisations supporting agriculture such as IICA in the Caribbean and Latin America.
- 2:05 hyacinth chin
PM sue: IICA can support activities under rural development of technology transfer to help farmers.
- 2:08 Ahmad
PM Mahdavi: Iran- Surely yes, and must be made mandatory in legislation. A group consist of related government agency (here in Iran Plant Protection organization, Ministry of health) watched by responsible people from Academics and science and all under global responsible agencies WHO, FAO, etc.



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SAVE THE DATE for the next discussion: 12 December 2022 at 10h00 - 11h30 GMT+2. The discussion will be on farmers perspectives on HHPs.

<https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php?RGID=rdf98fca9d1f735687fa528ac0efb2575>

2:34

PM Tatum uct:

2:36

PM Leah: Thank you very much for the excellent session.

Pesticide Action
Network UK

2:36 PAN UK-Sheila

PM Willis: Great session, thanks

2:36 Dr Saraswatee

PM Gaya: Already registered for 12 December

2:37 Dr Saraswatee

PM Gaya: Thanks everyone

2:37 Dr Saraswatee

PM Gaya: Bye

Mwankhongon

2:37 o-Zao Roy

PM Kaonga: Thanks.

2:37

PM Chitra Grace: thanks

2:38 Belarmina

PM Almeida: thanks