

The University of Cape Town Pesticide Network Discussion Forum presents

Mechanisms for Preventing the Illegal Pesticides Trade

23 May 2024 | 14:00 – 15:30 PM (GMT +2)

PRESENTERS

Rorisang Mantule (Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Nutrition, Lesotho)

D'Arcy Quinn (CropLife International)

Bill Garthwaite (Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - FAO)

FACILITATOR

Prof Andrea Rother (University of Cape Town)

Please **introduce yourself** (name, job title, organization and country) in the **chat section** of Zoom.

Only the presenter and facilitator will speak.

Any comments or questions from attendees should be typed in the **chat section**.

Please keep your microphones muted and cameras off during the discussion

Question 1 Background

Role of Government in Tackling the Illegal Trade in Pesticides

Rorisang Mantule

Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition - Lesotho



What is an illegal pesticide?

- Illegal pesticides are pesticide products that are sold or distributed without a valid registration
- *illegal trade of pesticides* refers to any trade of pesticides that does not adhere to one or more legal obligations at the international, regional, national or subnational level. From a practical perspective, this encompasses concerns related to (a) illegal pesticides; (b) illegal trade methods; and/or (c) illegal markets.

Examples of illegal pesticides

- **banned pesticides**
- **unregistered pesticides**
- **Restricted pesticides**
- **Countrefeits/fakes**
- **decanted**



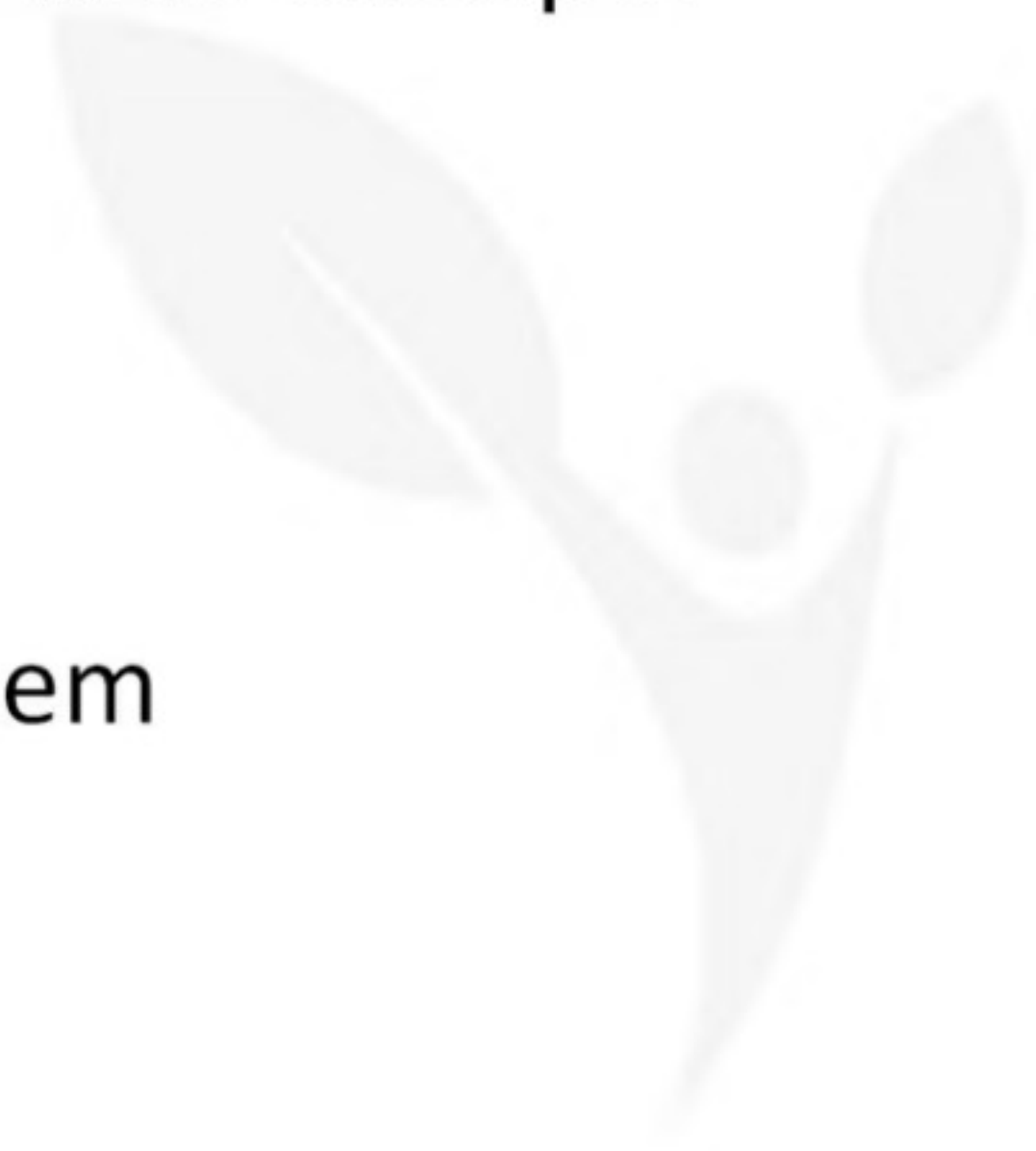
Illegal markets

- **street pesticides**
- **Formal markets**
- **informal markets**
- **Internet sale of pesticides**



Why are we concerned?

- undermines national registration and governments' risk reduction schemes, and public confidence in such schemes.
- It distorts pesticide markets by replacing legitimate products with cheaper and possibly more hazardous products.
- Are often very toxic.
- Have not undergone the strict safety testing required for approval
- Often do not have important safety information
- Can pose severe health risks to the farmers who handle and use them



Why are we concerned?

- Unknown ingredients can damage or completely destroy the treated crop or the whole farm, thus compromising farmer livelihood
- unknown, increased pesticides residues in food (loss of market, health hazard)
- May be persistent in the environment
- Could be an HHP
- difficult to control/regulate
- source difficult to trace



What should we do

- Strengthen regulatory action
- Enforcement of the law
- regular monitoring
- Awareness raising
- Trainings (regulators, law enforcement agencies, border control agencies, etc)
 - Identification of counterfeits
 - risks
 - law enforcement
- Collaboration (national inter-agency, intergovernmental)
- Collaboration with Industry/ manufacturers
- **any other thoughts?**



Question 1

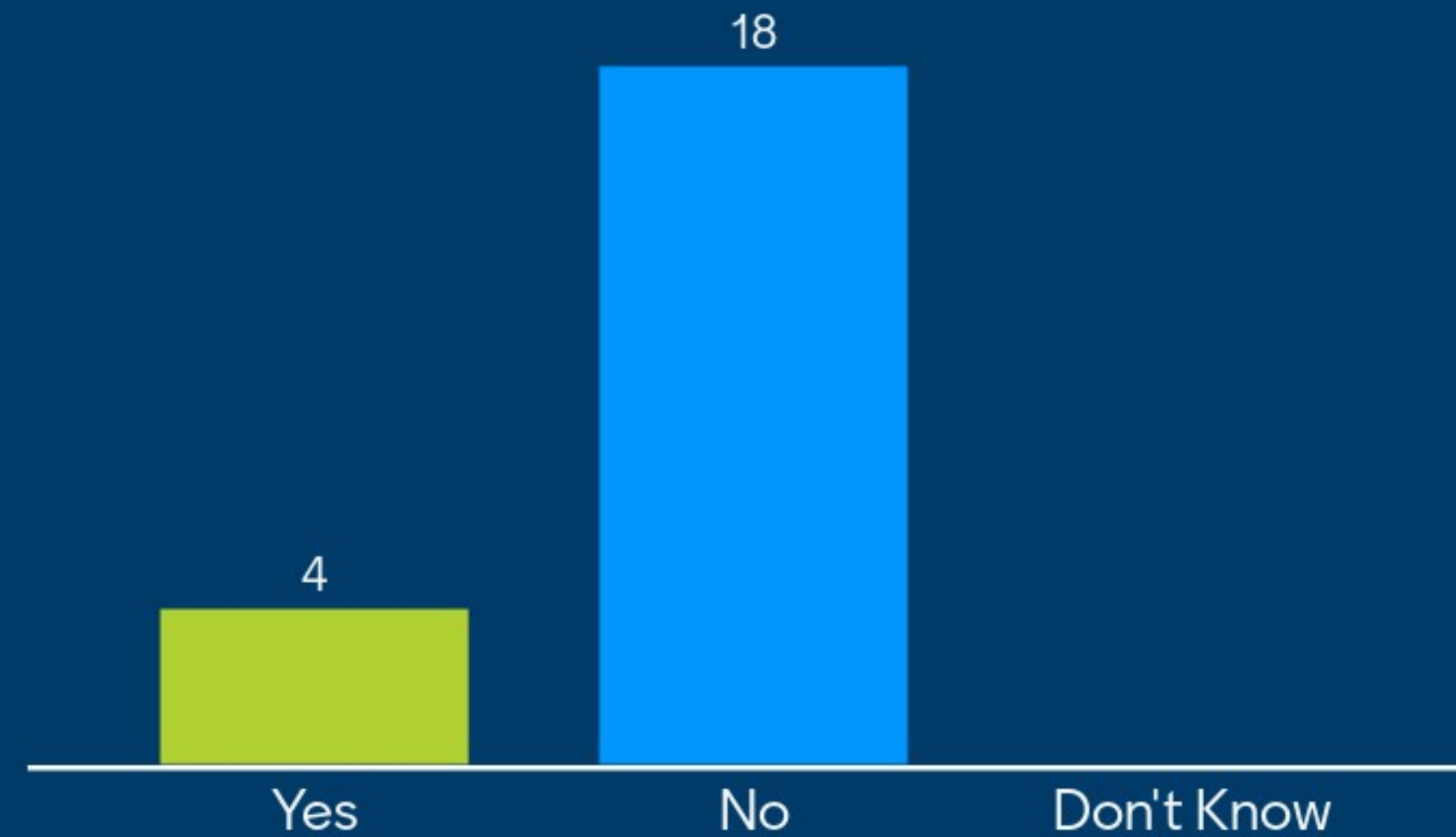
A. Give examples of cases of illegal trade in pesticides you have experienced in your country

B. How did you deal with/address the situation?

Participants are welcome to respond to the question in the chat section of Zoom

Please keep your cameras off and microphones muted – all questions and responses to go in the chat section

Is there enough capacity in your country to identify these illegal pesticides or to prevent their trade within and between countries?



What challenges is your country facing as a result of illegal trade in pesticides? Include your country in your response

Nigeria-Pesticide poisoning cases where the active ingredient is unknown and delays medical response.

Zambia: contribution to development of resistance due to indiscriminate use of pesticides especially in agric; poisoning

End users purchasing non-registered products from across borders including online (Ireland)

Challenges faced in Tanzania are the same as those pointed out by the presenter

street pesticides sold at taxi ranks for the control of various household pests that are decanted and sold in coke bottles and the bait sold in plastic bags. there is a huge increase in poisonings SA

How can challenges of illegal pesticides/trade be overcome in your country?
Include your country in your response

Industry Perspectives

D'Arcy Quinn
CropLife International



Question 2 Background

Identifying Your Country's Available Legal Tools to Support Compliance and Enforcement Efforts

Bill Garthwaite

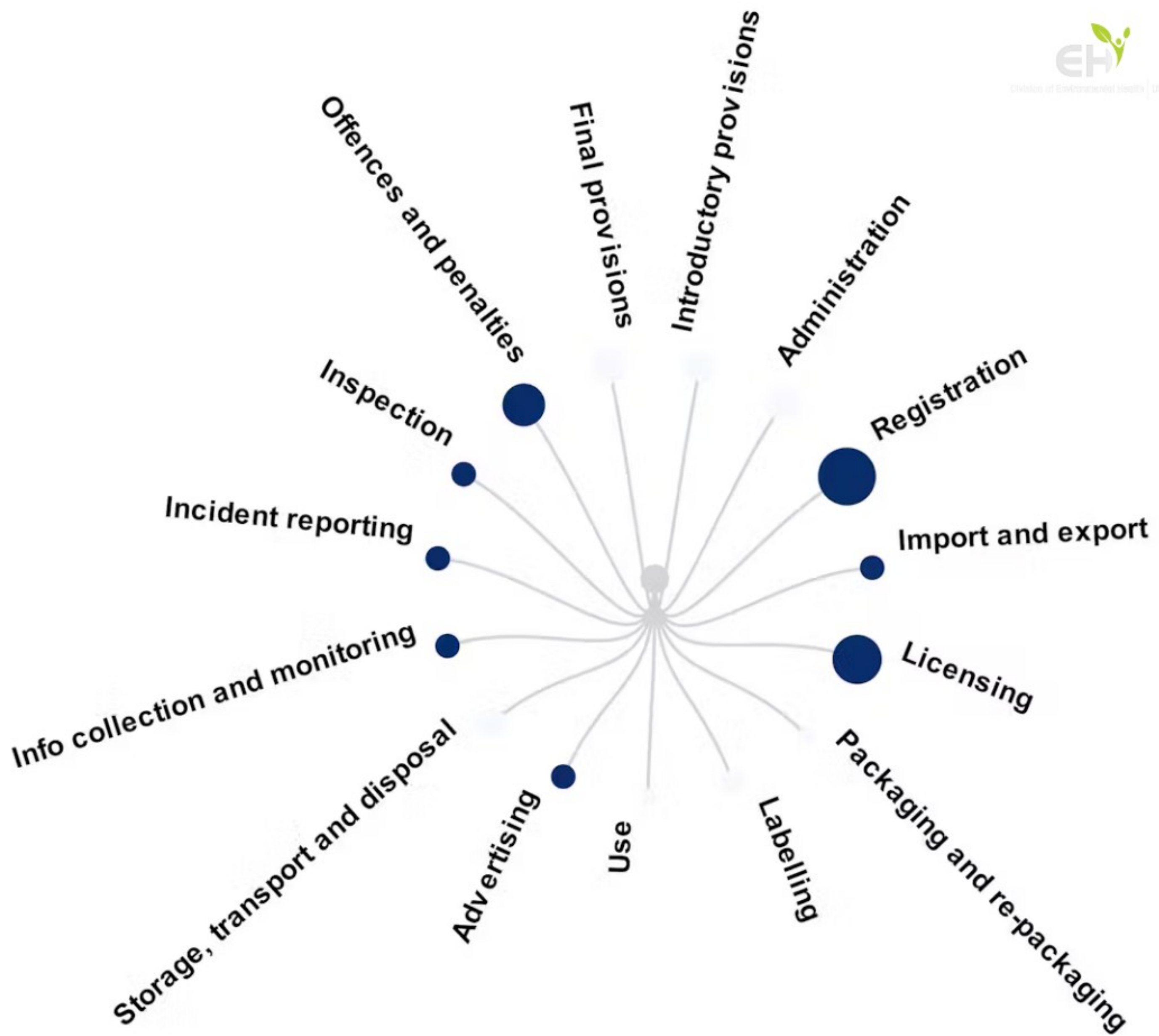
Consultant, Development Law Service
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



The tools available in pesticide legislation vary widely between countries, even among neighbors.

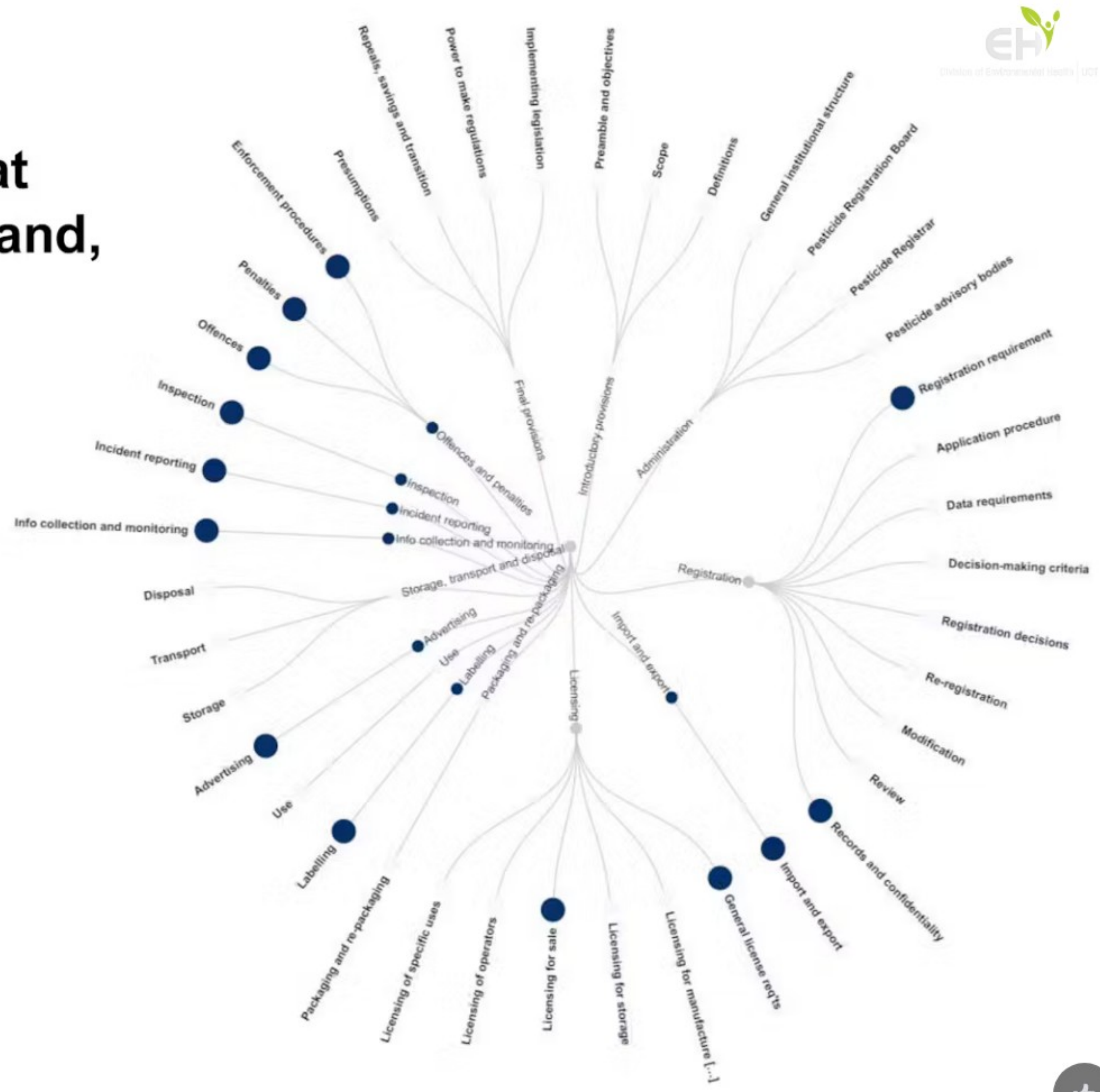


A few elements of legislation are particularly critical for supporting actions to address the illegal trade of pesticides.



Looking more closely, these key elements go beyond just looking at import and inspection provisions and, for example, can include:

- Registration requirements
- Records and confidentiality
- Import and export
- General license requirements
- Licensing for sale
- Labelling
- Advertising
- Info collection and monitoring
- Incident reporting
- Inspection
- Offences
- Penalties
- Enforcement procedures



Question 2

A. What questions do you have about the illegal trade of pesticides?

B. How have your country's regulations either supported or posed challenges for your compliance and enforcement efforts related to illegal trade of pesticides?

Participants are welcome to respond to the question in the chat section of Zoom

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What strengths/innovative approaches in your regulations have been effective to enhance compliance/enforcement related to illegal trade of pesticides?

multi-stakeholder approach
crucially involving the
intelligence community

Stringent penalties,
imprisonment and fines

Collaboration among
stakeholders including police
,industry and end users

none

Zambia regulates the
importation, exportation, trade,
transportation, storage and
manufacturing. The pesticide
regulators also work with
customs department

Comprehensive regulatory
frameworks, rigorous
registration processes,
enhanced border controls,
collaboration and
coordination.

Zambia.: Availability of
personnel to enforce the
pesticides laws;
Collaboration with line
ministries and agencies

Generally, since illegal pesticide
sales are primarily conducted
online, the most effective
approach would be to implement
stricter regulations for E-
commerce, with a focus on
enforcement.

What strengths/innovative approaches in your regulations have been effective to enhance compliance/enforcement related to illegal trade of pesticides?

strengthening control and setting up a customs nomenclature for pesticides

Approaching illegal trade of pesticide from a health and environmental perspective. letting users know that we are all involved.

Increased Awareness and Education
Campaigns
Strengthened Border Control and Inspection Mechanisms
Tighter Regulatory Standards and Monitoring

More severe penalties

Namibia- capacity building in Chemical Risk Management

List changes/improvements to your regulatory framework to better support compliance/enhance enforcement against the illegal trade of pesticide

Zambia: Formation of the pesticide regulation Task Force

collaboration with other relevant sectors when monitoring and compliance of illegal trade

Punitive penalties as deterrent measure regulation specifically covering illegal trade

People buy illegal pesticides because they are viewed as being cheaper. Perhaps a task force should be created to determine the prices and offer safer pesticides to the public for lower price.

For Malawi the following should be considered
□ Review the law to enable Enforcement officers to be stationed at the borders
□ Introduce proper monitoring guidelines on sale, restrictions of HHPs

Regional collaboration

Fine implementation for non compliance

For Malawi □ Introduce special fees/higher fees for registering/ importing HHPs into the country

List changes/improvements to your regulatory framework to better support compliance/enhance enforcement against the illegal trade of pesticide

the penalties are far too low and must be increased if this is to be considered a deterrent?

Collaboration with interpol, immigration and farmers. Internal manufacturing of low-cost green pesticides branded pesticides...

List specific guidance/information/support useful to strengthen regulations to enhance compliance/enforcement efforts

Kemi guidance documents
FAO guidance documents

Aligning pesticide regulations with international best practices and standards ensures that the country stays updated with the latest developments in pesticide safety and regulation. Th

1- Strengthening Legislation: Harmonization of Regulations, Stricter Penalties, Clear Definitions and Scope, 2- Enhancing Monitoring and Surveillance, Advanced Tracking Systems, Regular Inspections,

For Malawi □ Guidance on establishment of monitoring and tracking systems for imports □ Support to train Monitoring & enforcement officers, police/customs officers on regulations and curbing illeg

National and regional compilation of data on illegal trade (all products not just pesticides), quantification of loss to economies, human health etc t

border enforcement increased, border management authority,

Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT DISCUSSION:

DATE: **15 August 2024**
TIME: **14:00 – 15:30 GMT+2**
TOPIC: **Biopesticides**

PRESENTERS:
TBC

Registration link posted in chatroom