Progress and Prospects of PACA

PACA Secretariat, AUC

PACA PPM 2014
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Outline

• The Aflatoxin Challenge
• PACA Genesis and Progress
• PACA Structure
• PACA Secretariat Refined Strategy
• PACA Pilot Country Selection and Activities
Aflatoxin is a developmental challenge to Africa, adversely affecting three spheres:

- Public health
- Trade and economy
- Food and nutrition security
Factors contributing to the Aflatoxin Challenge in Africa:

- Conducive climatic conditions
- Traditional crop production and post-harvest practices
- Food insecurity and limited dietary diversity
- Low levels of awareness about the problem and options
- Weak institutional capacity: policy, regulations, putting research into use
- Complexity of the problem, which makes targeting interventions difficult

This situation is aggravated by poorly coordinated responses.
Aflatoxin management calls for ‘a bag of tricks’ (integrated, valid options) to address this complex problem:
PACA is an attempt to advocate for, share knowledge, and catalyze significant aflatoxin control efforts on the continent.
PACA Genesis and Progress

- Consultation on an African response
- Birth of the partnership platform
- Official launch and AUC leadership
- Strategy development and stakeholder engagement
- Country activities Kick-off
PACA Strategy 2013-2022

Strategy development:

- Consultative
- Multi-stakeholder
- Multi-Sectoral
- Inclusive
- Transparent
Vision:
An Africa Free From the harmful effects of aflatoxin

Mission:
To support agricultural development, safeguard consumer health and facilitate trade by catalyzing, coordinating and increasing effective aflatoxin control along agricultural value chains in Africa
### PACA’s strategic thematic areas (STAs) and key result areas (KRAs)

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<th>Strategic Thematic Areas</th>
<th>Key Result Areas</th>
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<td><strong>Research and Development</strong></td>
<td>- KRA 1.1: Generating information and evidence</td>
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<td><strong>Policies, legislation, and standards</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Trade and health</strong></td>
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<td>- KRA 3.2: Creating incentives that encourage positive behaviors with respect to</td>
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<td>- KRA 4.3: Improving capacity of value chain actors, civil society organizations</td>
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<td>**Public awareness, advocacy, and</td>
<td>- KRA 5.1: Increasing public awareness, information sharing and knowledge</td>
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<td>communication**</td>
<td>- KRA 5.2: Improving policy and political will through targeted communication</td>
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The PACA structure:

**Technical Subcommittee**
- 1 REC, 2 Tech Agency, 1 Health, 1 Research (support by Secretariat)

**Budget, Finance & Administration**
- 1 AUC, 1 REC, 1 Dev Partner, 1 Farmer Org, 1 CSO (support by Secretariat)

**African Union Commission**

**PACA Steering Committee**
- 1 AUC, 2 RECs, 2 Technical Agencies, 1 Farmer Organization, 1 Civil Society, 1 Private Sector, 1 African Health, 1 African Research, 1 Development Partner, 1 PACA Secretariat

**PACA Secretariat**
- Program Manager, Technical Advisor, Program Officers, Administrative Support, Consultants

**PACA Platform**
- Broad engagement of diverse stakeholders involved in aflatoxin control in Africa
PACA is overseen by a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee that provides overall leadership and drives the strategic direction of PACA.

- The Steering Committee (SC) consists of 11 member organizations representing pertinent sectors, geographical blocks and areas of expertise.
- While various sub-committees have been envisioned for PACA, currently the SC has two active sub-committees— the budget, finance and administration and the technical sub-committees.
PACA Secretariat Refined Strategy

- The PACA Community was established as a **community-based approach** to mitigate the harmful effects of aflatoxin
- The community identified **Strategic Thematic Areas (STAs)** and **Key Results Areas (KRAs)**
- The Secretariat is responsible for **supporting its Community members in their efforts to eliminate the harmful effects of aflatoxin**
- The broader PACA community represents diverse needs and priorities, making **it is difficult to comprehensively support all Community members**
- The Secretariat has **human capacity and financial constraints**

The Secretariat must make strategic decisions to identify what it **should be doing to support its Community members**
The PACA Secretariat’s **mission** will be to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of **governments** to tackle the aflatoxin challenge in Africa.

**Rationale 1:** Governments have wide sphere of influence: central to the aflatoxin issue because they can enact policies and launch initiatives that change behaviors and set priorities for all other stakeholders.
The PACA Secretariat’s mission will be to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of governments to tackle the aflatoxin challenge in Africa.

Rationale 2: Despite governments’ wide sphere of influence, there are few actors currently focused on supporting governments set a cohesive agenda for aflatoxin control.
The PACA Secretariat’s mission will be to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of governments to tackle the aflatoxin challenge in Africa.

**Rationale 3:** The Secretariat can achieve this mission by directly supporting governments and forging strong partnerships and working with other aflatoxin control stakeholders.
### Comparative Advantages of the PACA Secretariat

#### Advantages of being an African Union-Based Organization

| 1. Access to high-level government stakeholders | 5. Ability to leverage the established CAADP framework to set priorities |
| 2. Authority to convene high-level REC and government stakeholders | 6. Neutral, unbiased third party image |
| 3. Authority to set agenda for stakeholder conventions | 7. Esteemed, high-quality brand |
| 4. Support from a large, diverse multi-stakeholder community |
Roles of PACA Secretariat: three key roles to support governments

Alignment with Secretariat’s Comparative Advantages

- Financial Resources Provider
- Knowledge Manager
- Convener
- Technical Assistance Provider
Role descriptions

Convener

Work with RECs and other stakeholders to convene continental, inter-regional, regional, and country meetings

Knowledge manager

Aggregate evidence, gather knowledge, and disseminate information

Financial Resources

Mobilize resources and fund projects aligned with country plan approach

Provide catalytic grants: e.g. testing equipment to enhance gov’t capacity

Technical Assistance

Provide TA in the short-term (3 years)
PACA Secretariat Activities

• Serve these roles and conduct activities at three levels:
  – Continental
  – Regional
  – Country-level
At the **continental** level, the Secretariat will undertake three key activities, of which aflatoxin mainstreaming into continental frameworks will be a key priority.

### Aflatoxin Mainstreaming into Continental Frameworks
- Meet and communicate with CAADP, CODEX, and other continent-wide frameworks
- Ensure consistency and congruency between continental and regional frameworks and country plans

### Continental & Inter-Regional Convenings
- Convene biennial PACA Partnership Platform meeting; work with RECs to organize additional inter-regional meetings; promote alignment; share new developments and best practices; resolve specific challenges / bottlenecks across countries and regions

### Knowledge Management
- **Identify, document, and disseminate best practices and effective technologies** to mitigate the harmful effects of aflatoxin
- **Serve as a technical knowledge hub** for all aflatoxin research documents
- **Monitor** aflatoxin control outcomes across the continent
Regional activities: How the secretariat will work with RECs?

Regional Economic Communities

1. Collaborate to **define the country plan approach** across pilot countries
2. Collaborate to **support the development and monitoring** of country plans
3. Responsible for **ensuring consistency and congruency** between country plans and ongoing REC activities, as well as REC policies and frameworks
4. The Secretariat will provide grants to fill government capacity needs identified in country plans, while RECs will **supervise and manage the implementation of all capacity support efforts** and take over the financial and implementation responsibility
Regional Activities: collaborate with RECs in three areas

Regional Convenings

- Organize regional convenings to **promote the execution of country plans and REC priorities**

Harmonization of Regulatory Frameworks

- Harmonize regulatory frameworks and prioritize aflatoxin control efforts through regional frameworks

Country Planning & Execution

- Jointly own and advise design and execution of all steps in the country planning approach
- RECs will **guide and advise governments the implementation of the country plan**
- The Secretariat will support RECs by providing grants to countries for gov’t capacity support

Thus, the Secretariat will:

- Ensure that Secretariat activities are aligned to RECs’ aflatoxin priorities and activities
- **Collaborate** and provide financial support for the regional aflatoxin convenings
- Provide **technical support** for ongoing REC activities
- Support RECs’ **capacity** to independently own country plan execution long-term
Country-level Activities

Prepare Country Plans: Year 1

Stage 1: Gather evidence to inform plan

Stage 2: Validate & finalize country plan

Execute Country Plans: Year 2 - 5

Stage 3: Support gov’t capacity to implement plan

The Secretariat will enhance government capacity to implement the plan and monitor progress, but will not implement or fund country plan activities. However, it will support resource mobilization strategy and plan.

Stage 4: Monitor progress and advocate

The Secretariat will enhance government capacity to implement the plan and monitor progress, but will not implement or fund country plan activities. However, it will support resource mobilization strategy and plan.
Implementation approach: from piloting to scaling

2014 pilot countries: Gambia, Malawi, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda

Maps are illustrative
For governance over the country planning approach, there will be multi-sectoral Country Steering Committee (CST) chaired by the country focal point.

- Respective RECs will play facilitation role to support the operations of CST.
- CST will work hand in hand with a local Country Officer, funded by the PACA Secretariat.
Theory of Change:

Long-Term Outcomes
- Mitigation of the harmful effects of aflatoxin

Intermediate Outcomes
- Adoption of policy & regulatory frameworks
- Access to best practices
- Improved aflatoxin awareness
- Alignment of activities and resources across stakeholders
- Support & accountability for needed aflatoxin interventions

PACA’s Activities
- Mainstreaming into and harmonization of continental, regional, and country frameworks
- Knowledge management
- Continental, regional, and country convenings
- Country plan development
- Resource mobilization and stakeholder alignment for country plans
- Capacity support to governments for plan execution
- Monitoring of country plan progress
Selection of Pilot Countries

• Selection process and criteria reviewed at the side event in the 10th CAADP PPM, Durban
• Criteria validated and weighted by RECs
• **Pilot countries** selected:
  – Gambia, Malawi, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda
Pilot country activities underway in 2014:

1. Support country-led food safety and aflatoxin situation analysis and action planning (C-SAP)
2. Mainstream food safety and aflatoxin control through the PACA initiative in CAADP NAFSIPs and other frameworks (Mainstream FoodSAC)
3. Establish Africa Aflatoxin Information Management System (AfricaAIMS)
Conclusion

- Aflatoxin is a developmental challenge to Africa
- There is moral reason and economic and social imperative to mitigate the aflatoxin problem
- Partnership is key to deal with the complex problem of aflatoxin contamination
- Phased approach, coherent strategies and plans, and accountability and measuring progress are vital for greater impact
THANK YOU!