Study #3152

Contributing Projects:
- P342 - Technological and institutional innovations for assessing and mitigating food safety risks related to aflatoxins designed and tested, including capacity building

Part I: Public communications

Type: OICR: Outcome Impact Case Report

Status: New

Year: 2019

Title: Public and private sector help scale Aflasafe and increase awareness and capacity to mitigate aflatoxin in Burkina Faso and Ghana

Short outcome/impact statement:
In 2019, public and private sector actors launched initiatives to help scale Aflasafe and increase awareness and capacity to mitigate aflatoxin in Ghana and Burkina Faso. Collaborative partnerships like these help countries sensitize value chain actors and consumers to aflatoxins, while at the same time increasing demand for safer food and awareness of and demand for solutions. IITA works through partnerships to provide technical assistance in implementing strategies that raise awareness of the problem and solutions.

Outcome story for communications use:
IITA in collaboration with the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-ARS) and national institutions have developed several biocontrol products under the trade name Aflasafe for use in Sub-Saharan Africa. Two of the countries in which Aflasafe is being registered, distributed and used include two West African neighboring countries – Ghana and Burkina Faso.

In Ghana, the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) launched an outreach program to extend aflatoxin awareness across the country [1]. While the GSA is a standard setting body it has interests in improving aflatoxin management and has strong working relationships with multiple public and private organizations relevant to safe food supply. The program was funded by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), with IITA as a partner, reflects ongoing public sector support for action on aflatoxin in Ghana. Actions stimulated in 2019, the Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IITA to provide a suite of information products to increase awareness [2]. GCX wants to ensure that farmers and farmer organizations can meet their quality specifications. These interventions all contribute to Ghana’s Growth and Transformation Plan, which includes targets for improved crop production, storage, and farmer well-being.

In Burkina Faso, the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Handicrafts, in collaboration with the national farmers organization launched a national project to control aflatoxin in maize. This project was funded by Le Fonds pour l’application des normes et le développement commerce, supported by the World Trade Organizations, STDF facility. This project supports strengthening aflatoxin-safe value chains. Aflasfe BT01 is part of the package of value chain improvement.
Reporting 2019 Evidences

Links to any communications materials relating to this outcome:
- https://tinyurl.com/ya5c95da
- https://tinyurl.com/y8u75g5p

Part II: CGIAR system level reporting

Link to Common Results Reporting Indicator of Policies: Yes

Policies contribution:
- 332 - Ghana Standards Authority launched National Aflatoxin Sensitisation and Management initiative
- 333 - Ghana Commodity Exchange rolled out a suite of national aflatoxin mitigation and control strategies, including Aflasafe
- 334 - Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Handicrafts (Burkina Faso), in collaboration with the national umbrella organization of farmers, launches national multi-faceted approach to control aflatoxin in maize, including Aflasafe

Stage of maturity of change reported: Stage 1

Links to the Strategic Results Framework:
Sub-IDOs:
- Reduced biological and chemical hazards in the food system
- Appropriate regulatory environment for food safety
- Increase capacity of beneficiaries to adopt research outputs

Is this OICR linked to some SRF 2022/2030 target?: Too early to say

Comment: <Not Defined>

Geographic scope:
- Multi-national

Country(ies):
- Burkina Faso
- Ghana

Comments: <Not Defined>

Key Contributors:
Contributing CRPs/Platforms:
- Maize - Maize
- A4NH - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health
Contributing Flagships:
- F3: Food Safety

Contributing Regional programs: <Not Defined>

Contributing external partners:
- GCX - Ghana Commodity Exchange
- BMGF - Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Government of Ghana
- STDF - Le Fonds pour l’application des normes et le de´veloppement du commerce
- MCIA - Ministry of Trade, Industry and Handicrafts / Ministère du Commerce, de l’Industrie et de l’Artisanat (Burkina Faso)
- AGRA - Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
- USDA - U.S. Department of Agriculture
- USAID - U.S. Agency for International Development

**CGIAR innovation(s) or findings that have resulted in this outcome or impact:**

**Innovations:**
- 730 - Aflasafe GH01 and Aflasafe GH02 for Ghana
- 729 - Aflasafe BF01 for Burkina Faso
Elaboration of Outcome/Impact Statement:
In 2019, public and private sector actors launched initiatives to help scale Aflasafe and increase awareness and capacity to mitigate aflatoxin in Ghana and Burkina Faso. Collaborative partnerships like these help sensitise value chain actors and consumers to aflatoxins, while at the same time increasing demand for safer food and awareness of and demand for solutions, like Aflasafe. IITA in collaboration with the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-ARS) and local national institutions have developed several biocontrol products under the trade name Aflasafe for use in sub-Saharan Africa.

In Ghana, the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) launched the National Aflatoxin Sensitisation and Management initiative to increase and extend aflatoxin awareness across the country [1]. The GSA has a mandate to set aflatoxin standards and an interest in improving aflatoxin management. It also has strong working relationships with other government bodies and organisations throughout the country and is active in areas such as improving testing infrastructure. This initiative, funded by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), with IITA as a partner, reflects ongoing public sector support for action on aflatoxin in Ghana. AGRA already collaborates with several institutions in Ghana. This partnership offers them an entry point to work with a public institution that has the power to achieve large-scale change. Also, in 2019, the Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX) rolled out a suite of national aflatoxin mitigation and control strategies which are designed to increase and extend aflatoxin awareness across the country [2]. Farmers and farmer organisations must first meet quality specifications before they can trade on the GCX, so GCX has a strong interest in mitigating aflatoxin as part of its quality assurance mandate. GCX also contributes to the government’s Growth and Transformation Plan. This new suite of strategies, co-implemented with IITA, will contribute to targets related to improved crop production, storage, and farmer wellbeing.

In Burkina Faso, the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Handicrafts, in collaboration with the national umbrella organization of farmers, launched a national project to control aflatoxin in maize. Funded by Le Fonds pour l’application des normes et le de veloppement du commerce (STDF) the project will strengthen understanding on how biocontrol and good practices can be integrated and implemented along the value chain to reduce contamination [3]. This will include the use of Aflasafe BF01. IITA is a technical partner.

References cited:

Quantification: <Not Defined>
Gender, Youth, Capacity Development and Climate Change:

Gender relevance: 0 - Not Targeted
Youth relevance: 0 - Not Targeted
CapDev relevance: 1 - Significant

Main achievements with specific CapDev relevance: As part of the Aflasafe Technology Transfer and Commercialization Initiative, IITA works through partnerships to transfer the know-how about the technology and to provide technical assistance in implementing strategies that raise awareness of the problem and solutions. In Ghana, IITA is helping to build the capacity of Ghana Commodity Exchange Warehouse Officers on aflatoxin and how to control it, including using Aflasafe GH02 alongside good agricultural practices. IITA also advises the Ghana Commodity Exchange on optimal methods and equipment for independent aflatoxin testing.

Climate Change relevance: 0 - Not Targeted

Other cross-cutting dimensions: <Not Defined>

Other cross-cutting dimensions description: <Not Defined>

Outcome Impact Case Report link: Study #3152

Contact person:
Ranajit Bandyopadhyay, Principal Plant Pathologist, IITA
r.bandyopadhyay@cgiar.org