



OECD ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE ILLEGAL TRADE OF PESTICIDES

IOMC Webinar:

“Addressing illegal trade and traffic of industrial chemicals, pesticides and waste for sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020”

OECD Secretariat



Illegal trade in pesticides

Problem: Distortion of pesticide markets

- Has economic impacts:
 - on farmers
 - on pesticide manufacturers
- Poses a threat to human health and the environment
- Undermines national legislations on pesticide registration and the credibility of regulatory authorities



Illegal trade in pesticides

OECD Response: OECD Network on Illegal Trade of Pesticides (ONIP)

- Raising awareness
- Improving collaboration within and between countries, e.g. through the OECD Recommendation and use of the Rapid Alert System (RAS)
- Developing best practices, e.g. as described in the Best Practice Guidance (BPG), develop training for inspectors



Illegal trade in pesticides: Development of a Council Recommendation

Work towards the establishment of a legal framework to strengthen activities against illegal trade in pesticides, that would:

- Encourage countries to fight illegal international trade of agricultural pesticides at national level
- Encourage countries to facilitate international cooperation



OECD Recommendation online!

The Recommendation of the Council is available on the Compendium of OECD Legal Instruments:

- <https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/en/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0446> (in English)
- <https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/fr/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0446> (in French)



Illegal trade in pesticides: Best Practice Guidance (BPG)

The BPG describes best practices for identifying, and responding to, illegal trade throughout the life cycle of a pesticide.

- i.e. manufacture, formulation, export, transportation, import, wholesale/retail, use and disposal.
- Included in the Council Recommendation as a tool to develop national programmes.



Best Practice Guidance online!

The Best Practice Guidance to identify Illegal Trade of Pesticides is available on the OECD public site:

Series on Pesticides, no 99: [Best Practice Guidance to Identify Illegal Trade of Pesticides](#)



OECD Secretariat activities

- 2019, Trade and Agricultural Directorate initiated a project “New digital technologies to tackle trade in illegal pesticides”, paper published April 2020
- February 2020, Project proposal for the Working Party on Environmental Performance: Developing a compendium of best practices in monitoring and enforcing compliance and fighting environmental crime
- OECD Task Force on Countering Illicit Trade, webinar “[Illicit Trade in a time of crisis](#)” on 23 April 2020.



New digital technologies to tackle trade in illegal pesticides

OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD) project report
“[New digital technologies to tackle trade in illegal pesticides](#)”
(April 2020)

- argues that the adoption of blockchain in the pesticide supply chain would provide end-to-end product traceability, chain of custody, and access to real time information about the products being traded.
- this would allow for the rapid identification and reporting of problems within the supply chain.
- The use of such a shared, secure, system facilitates the work of control agencies.



New digital technologies to tackle trade in illegal pesticides

- Big data analytics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can increase the capacity to track and trace pesticide products, at the border and on online platforms.
- Challenges for adoption of new technologies:
 - High initial costs for IT development and infrastructure
 - Complexity of these new techniques
- Additional policy actions are required beyond new digital technologies to effectively tackle illegal trade, e.g. increased awareness raising among supply chain actors, strengthening sanctions against illegal trade, improving legal frameworks where necessary, and providing training on how to identify illegal trade.



Illegal trade in pesticides: Capacity building

OECD is involved in a capacity building exercise in West Africa and the Sahel.

- Focussed on compliance and enforcement of pesticide regulation.
- Series of workshops:
 - Dakar, Senegal, 1-2 March 2018 (targeted at inspectors and national Heads of Inspection Services)
 - TBD (targeted at policy makers)



Recommendations

- Stay ahead of the curve!
- Coordinated action is key. Make use of existing expertise and networks to the maximum extent to build stronger networks for the future.
- Consider adhering to the OECD Recommendation on Countering the Illegal trade of Pesticides.
- Use and disseminate the Best Practice Guidance to increase a common understanding of Illegal Trade.



Illegal trade in pesticides

Thank you very much!

