



Crop
Protection
Stewardship

Stewardship Vision 2020

CropLife
INTERNATIONAL 

Crop Protection Stewardship

Stewardship is often described as the life-cycle approach to product management. It is the ethical way to manage crop protection products from their discovery and development, to their use and final disposal and phase out.

CropLife International and its member companies are committed to promoting effective stewardship in and away from the field, and believe that the appropriate management and use of our products helps underpin sustainable agriculture and safeguards the environment and public health.

CropLife International has developed a stewardship vision – Vision 2020, which builds on the successes and lessons learnt from implementing the earlier Vision 2010. Vision 2020 describes the global vision and strategy underlying our stewardship programs and our commitment to monitor and report their impact. As with Vision 2010, the focus of our strategy is on the latter part of the

stewardship life-cycle – Integrated Pest Management and Responsible Use of Pesticides (including the management of pesticide resistance development), Container Management, Prevention and Management of Obsolete Pesticide Stocks and Implementation of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides. The first part of the life-cycle is managed by CropLife International's member companies.

An underlying theme of our strategy is that we are not solely responsible for the effective stewardship of crop protection products. Through partnerships we can bring in additional experience and expertise to increase impact and outreach of our programs. Ultimately, the aim of these joint programs is to maximize benefit and minimize risk from the use of our industry's products in support of sustainable agriculture and the provision of safe, nutritious and affordable food.

THE PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP LIFE-CYCLE OF A CROP PROTECTION PRODUCT



Global Stewardship Guidance

● THE CONTEXT

CropLife International's stewardship activities are not undertaken in isolation; stewardship implementation and outcomes are driven by social and economic trends and developments in addition to technical requirements. The following key trends and developments have been identified:

- An increasing number of stakeholders and the interests of the end-consumer lead to increased public awareness and the creation of secondary standards by the food chain industry
- Environmental issues like sustainable resource use, carbon footprint and ecosystem services (water, biodiversity) became a central issue on the public agenda
- The fast development of biotechnology raises the issue of integration of crop protection and biotechnology
- The recent food crisis made agricultural production an important issue on the public agenda
- The crop protection industry faces more diverse interests and expectations as information access improves, public consciousness increases and regulators pushing new and stricter standards
- Counterfeit products and illegal trade remain an important issue

VISION

To be recognised as a responsible industry promoting effective stewardship programs, which are essential elements of sustainable agriculture, food security and food safety.

● STRATEGY

- Promote and implement stewardship so that it is recognized by key internal and external stakeholder as a vital contributor to food safety and security, sustainable development and sustainable agriculture
- Position the crop protection industry so that it is recognized as the key source of expertise in stewardship
- Alignment of industry stewardship strategy/areas/priorities at global regional and national levels
- Support regional stewardship projects that have been adapted to regional and cultural differences, and demonstrated needs
- Promote and report industry-wide performance indicators and measure progress against these
- Promote stewardship throughout the value chain through partnerships and demonstration of best practices:
 - addressing and supported by key stakeholders
 - with a major focus on food value chain, especially farmers
- Leverage the industry's stewardship activities in the industry's regulatory and communication activities

● GOALS

- To have a complete, reliable and quantitative picture of impact and effectiveness of the industry's stewardship programs in the key focus areas
- To initiate a continuous cycle of review and improvement to increase impacts and outreach, and recognition of the value of stewardship
- To report and validate activities and impacts to key stakeholders
- To gain recognition as a contributor to sustainable agriculture and food safety and security

IPM/Responsible Use

● VISION

Industry-led IPM/Responsible Use programs (IPM/RU) are recognized as essential elements of sustainable agriculture. Major stakeholders actively seek partnerships with industry to disseminate and implement these programs.

● STRATEGY

- Adopt a harmonized set of guidelines
- Build more local sustainable training capacity
- Increase funding and outreach through partnerships
- Prioritize project with the view to increase impact and outcome
- Agree KPIs and measurements



● GOALS 2020

- All the member companies and associations have a harmonized set of IPM/RU guidelines and commonly accepted and effective IPM/RU programs implemented at field level in selected countries
- Expanded geographical outreach and increased impact through partnership and alliances implementing consistent and effective IPM/RU programs globally at farm level
- Biotech and Resistance management strategies are included in IPM/RU
- Impact assessed in key countries
- Key alliances with the food value chain are established to disseminate and implement common approaches to IPM/RU



Container Management 2020

● VISION

To have a safe and responsible management of empty, properly rinsed pesticide containers worldwide, with our industry recognized as a leader for this initiative.

● STRATEGY

- Develop container management (CM) programs in key countries
- Provide guidance and support for CM programs
- Establish information flow for all countries
- Seek and implement cost reduction opportunities
- Base all decisions, program components and end use applications on solid technical science
- Work with governments and other country stakeholders to achieve these goals, e. g. consider promotion of mandatory regulations as means to involve all stakeholders

● GOALS 2020

- Business models developed and established for established and new pilot schemes resulting in improved efficiency and cost reduction (ultimate goal: breakeven)
- Industry leadership position recognized by external stakeholders through success stories, branding, benchmarks and demonstration of best practices that are based on sound scientific and technical footing
- Regulatory acceptance that properly rinsed containers are non-hazardous; only properly rinsed containers enter the system
- End-use application of high value with 100% containers recycled
- Crop protection industry abiding by all health, safety and environmental policies; significant reductions in health risks and environmental footprint
- Expansion of program to key countries



Obsolete Stocks 2020

● VISION

To have a world free of the legacy of obsolete stocks and with effective measures to prevent their reoccurrence. This will be achieved through multi-stakeholder efforts in which industry is recognized as a key partner.

● STRATEGY

- Reduction of risk to companies participating in the CropLife International obsolete stocks program
- Progressive destruction/safeguarding of stocks of products originating from participating companies
- Influencing national and international policy on obsolete stock prevention
- Major focus on the Africa Stockpiles Program (ASP)
- Promote a common policy within industry
- Provide informed expert resource to participating companies
- Enhance reputation through effective participation in multi-stakeholder activities

● GOALS 2020

- Substantially reduced stocks of CropLife International member companies through completion of disposal component of the ASP
- Prevention policies and mechanisms in place
- Provide input to locust pesticide procurement policies to minimize unwanted stocks
- Agrochemical waste management programs in place in key countries
- Ongoing close collaboration with major stakeholders and donors e.g. FAO, World Bank (Global Environment Facility)
- Map of obstocks situation in OECD countries
- Sustainable collection schemes planned in high risk OECD countries
- Enlarged group of participating companies
- Company commitment to measurable prevention measures



International Code of Conduct 2020

● VISION

Members of CropLife International know, follow and promote internally and externally the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides (CoC). The reputation of the industry is enhanced with outside stakeholders (governments, NGOs, food value chain and general public) as a result of adherence to the code and full participation in its further development.

● STRATEGY

- Use established e-learning modules to drive awareness in CropLife International member companies, associations and relevant key stakeholders and demonstrate extent of awareness at company, regional and country level
- Encourage the relevant authorities to adhere to the CoC
- Encourage FAO/WHO/UNEP and other “coder owners” to promote the CoC as the primary guiding principle for chemicals management
- Maintain and improve inputs into CoC guideline development

● GOALS 2020

- Continue awareness (>90%) of the CoC for relevant people in member companies and associations
- Contribution to CropLife International Tri-Annual Stewardship report; report to be submitted to FAO and others
- Verified reporting of non-observance of the code approaching zero
- Promotion of CoC to all members of distribution chain undertaken

Resistance Action Committees 2020

● VISION

Resistance management is seen as an integral part of the stewardship approach to management of crop protection products and is regarded as an essential element of sustainable pest control. Promotion of voluntary resistance management strategies should be a priority for industry and non-industry stakeholders.

● STRATEGY

- Integration of the Resistance Action Committees (RACs) into CropLife International's stewardship strategy
- Develop proactive training programs (for regulatory authorities, extension services and users), including development and distribution of communication material and outreach strategy
- Review the need to broaden membership of the RACs
- Establish a global network through increasing regional presence, particularly via CropLife International associations

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