

## STDF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT TITLE:	“COCOASAFE”: CAPACITY BUILDING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING IN SPS IN COCOA IN SOUTH EAST ASIA	
PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT:	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4th <input type="checkbox"/> 5th	
PROJECT START AND END DATES	From: NOV 2013	To: OCT 2015
PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT:	From: MAY 2014	To: OCTOBER 2014
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:	CABI SOUTH EAST ASIA OFFICE	
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### OVERVIEW:

*Briefly describe: (i) the objective of the project; (ii) progress in project implementation to date; (iii) any particular issues faced and/or results achieved during this reporting period.*

#### (I) Project Objective(s)

The overall development objective of this project is to produce and trade cocoa that meets food safety and international SPS standards. The immediate objective of the project is to increase awareness of SPS issues among supply chain stakeholders through innovative knowledge dissemination.

The specific objectives of the project are:

1. Improving the quality of cocoa through capacity building in SPS;
2. Promoting and facilitating knowledge sharing between stakeholder groups participating in the project, and;
3. Raising awareness among cocoa stakeholders beyond the project’s immediate reach on food safety concerns in the whole supply chain (and how to address them).

#### (II) Progress in Project Implementation to Date

Project implementation has continued in the participating countries as described in the work plan. In Indonesia, Training of Master Facilitators (TOMF) was conducted in September following the period of Ramadan. The TOMF for Indonesia was held at the Indonesian Coffee and Cocoa Research institute (ICCRI) from 15-26 September 2014. Prior to the organization of the training, the Indonesia National Steering Committee (NSC) reviewed and agreed the syllabus for the TOMF. The syllabus was adapted to include issues related to local conditions in Indonesia such as locally developed planting material, shade management, crop diversification, soil fertility and health, pest and disease management, cocoa safety

and quality standards for exported beans (**see training manual attached**).

Participants including local extension agents, nursery workers, farmers' leaders and junior scientist from ICCRI were selected by the NSC to participate in the training session and also recommended by the local extension service agency for estate crops. A list of the participants, including their age, gender, education background and occupation is **attached to this report**.

The TOMF was divided into three modules covering theory, practical and group discussion. The first two modules were carried out at the beginning of the TOMF. The topics covered during these modules were cocoa sustainability, cocoa (food) safety and cocoa production as a business. Once the first two modules were delivered, participants were divided into groups and discussion and exchange of ideas was encouraged by the facilitators. This module was very successful as it allowed participants to share major threats and issues affecting cocoa (food) safety and identify common problems, leading to more sound and participatory recommendations.

In Malaysia, the project carried on activities with the implementation of Training of Facilitators (TOF) for local extension staff (Activity 1.3), farmers' groups/cooperative leaders (Activity 1.4) and for agro-dealers (Activity 1.5). Activities 1.3 and 1.4 were carried out in four different locations in Malaysia: Sabah, Sarawak, Perak and Pahang. The training for extension staff from the Malaysia Cocoa Board (MCB) and farmers' group leaders covered topics on SPS, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), safety, production and post-harvest practices.

Training of agro-dealers (Activity 1.5) took place at the Cocoa Research and Development Centre Kota Samarahan, Sarawak. The agro-dealers participating in the training were selected from three cocoa producing regions in Malaysia, namely Sabah, Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak. The training for agro-dealers covered topics such as SPS, GAP and information on pesticides such as regulations in Malaysia, pesticide classification and formulation, pesticide labelling and registration, list of registered pesticides for cocoa in Malaysia and pesticide and human health.

### **(III) Issues and Results Achieved During Reporting Period**

During the reporting period, the project achieved considerable progress and is up-to-date in relation to the work plan. In Indonesia, the project was able to successfully deliver training to 20 Master Facilitators (TOMF). Evaluation of Master Facilitator's knowledge prior to the training was recorded. At the end of the training, a post evaluation was undertaken, with all farmers recording a high success of improved knowledge. Preparations are underway to initiate activities related to Training of Facilitators in Indonesia (TOF). In addition, the final version of the training manuals was finalized and printed in Indonesian Bahasa.

Malaysia also recorded considerable progress in project implementation. Following the TOMF organized at the beginning of the project, four (4) TOF were organized for farmers' leaders and extension service officers, with a total of 160 facilitators attending the training sessions. Of these 160 facilitators, 117 are lead farmers and 43 are extension service officers. It was highlighted that Malaysia has a dedicated extension service office for cocoa, which made the process of selection of extension service officers easier.

Malaysia also organized a TOF for agro-dealers, with a total of 17 participants attending. In Malaysia, authorities have set lists of approved products to be used in cocoa, making the process of training easier. According to the national regulation, agro-dealers (pesticide dealers) in Malaysia must register with the National Pesticide Board and attend training on pesticide usage to gain basic information. The regulation also includes a monitoring programme implemented by the Pesticide Board to ensure correct use of pesticides and allowed products for specific commodities. All pesticides sold in Malaysia must comply with national standards of label registration and must be recorded by the Pesticide Board. Questionnaires were distributed to farmers' leaders, agro-dealers and processors/collectors who attended the TOF. Completed questionnaires have being received and the information is currently being processed for analysis. The CocoaSafe website in Malaysia was also launched during the reporting period ([www.koko.gov.my/cocoasafe](http://www.koko.gov.my/cocoasafe)).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) was organized to coincide with the TOMF in Indonesia in September 2014. The meeting was attended by representatives from the National Steering Committee (NSC) from Indonesia and Malaysia, in addition to representatives from CABI, both from the regional office in South East Asia and the UK, and a representative from ICCO. Due to budget constraints, other representatives from the PSC, namely the FAO representative, STDF Expert Working Group, Mars and Papua New Guinea (PNG), were unable to attend; however, the report of the meeting was sent to all Members for comments and observations.

A major issue discussed during the Steering Committee meeting was the involvement of PNG during the second year of the project. Consultations are on-going between the project partners to evaluate the possibility of organizing a TOMF in PNG, pending a positive reaction from authorities and availability of funds to carry out this activity. Consultations are currently underway with private sector initiatives in PNG to identify possible cooperation areas for the benefit of the cocoa sector. In addition, the PSC also discussed the issue of underspent budget registered during the first year of the project. It was highlighted that better financial reporting was necessary to ensure that all reports reflect the reality of project implementation. The under-expenditure registered during the first year of the project is already allocated to corresponding project activities and it was highlighted that a change in the time of the organization of the TOMF in Indonesia (following the period of Ramadan) was the main reason why project funds were not fully used in relation to the work plan. A copy of the full report of the PSC is available (**see attached report**).

## **PART A: PROGRESS AND RESULTS**

### **A. PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS:**

*Describe progress in implementation during this report period, including key outputs/outcomes, based on the project logframe.*

#### **INDONESIA**

- Development of locally adapted training material for TOMF was completed in Indonesia, with changes to the curricula based on local conditions (**Activity 1.1**).
- Project partners in Indonesia organized the Training of Master Facilitators (TOMF) from 15-26 September 2014. The training was attended by a total of 20 participants from the following cocoa producing regions: West Sumatra (1), Lampung (1), West Kilamantan (1), East Kilamantan (1), North Kilamantan (2), South Sulawesi (2), West Sulawesi (2), Central Sulawesi (2), Southeast Sulawesi (2), Bali (1), East Java (1) and ICCRI junior scientists (5). (**Activity 1.2**).

#### **MALAYSIA**

- Project partners in Malaysia organized four training courses for TOF farmers' group leaders/cooperative leaders in four different locations. The events took place in Sabah (16-20 June 2014), Sarawak (11-15 August 2014), Perak (22-26 June 2014), and Pahang (16-20 June 2014). A total of 117 farmers' group/cooperative leaders received training. (**Activity 1.3**).
- Project partners in Malaysia organized four training courses for TOF for extension service workers in four different locations. The locations and dates for the TOF are the same as the ones for Activity 1.3. A total of 43 extension service workers received training. (**Activity 1.4**).
- The TOF for agro-dealers was organized at the Cocoa Research and Development Centre Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, from 22-26 August 2014. A total of 17 agro-dealers participated in the training. Agro-dealers were selected from the three main cocoa producing areas: Sabah (3), Peninsular Malaysia (7) and Sarawak (7). (**Activity 1.5**).
- A baseline/impact survey was carried out in Malaysia following the organization of the TOF for farmers' group/cooperatives leaders, extension service workers and agro-dealers (Activity 1.8). The result would be reported in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Progress Report.
- Project partners in Malaysia designed and launched a website/knowledge exchange platform for Malaysia ([www.koko.gov.my/cocoasafe](http://www.koko.gov.my/cocoasafe)). (**Activity 2.2**). This site is also linked to the main CocoaSafe website managed by CABI.

#### **REGIONAL**

- The PEA carried out the updating, maintenance and monitoring of the website/knowledge exchange platform for the project ([www.cocoasafe.org](http://www.cocoasafe.org)). (**Activity 2.3**).
- The PEA organized the 2nd PSC meeting, which took place at ICCRI, Jember, Indonesia, from 25-26 September 2014. (**Activity 3.1**).

**B. TIMEFRAME AND BUDGETING**

*Explain whether the project is on-track with regard to: (i) the budget; and (ii) the original timeframe. If either the expenditures and/or timeframe are off-track, please explain and describe the corrective actions being taken.*

The project is on-track with regard to budget and the timeframe.

**C. OTHER IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES**

*Describe any significant changes to the project design, context or partners during the reporting period, or any other issues faced, and actions that are being taken in response, if appropriate.*

No significant changes to the project design, context or partners in this reporting period. Authorities from Malaysia have decided to organize a Farmers' Field School in early 2015 in Perak using MCB training fund. This is an additional contribution outside the project original budget.

**D. OTHER COMMENTS:**

*Please provide any other relevant information or observations on the project, e.g. on lessons learned, particular challenges or issues that may arise in the next reporting period, changes to the logframe, etc.*

Due to issues with the design of the original project activities, a limited budget was allocated for travels expenses and DSA for facilitators during the TOF in Indonesia. As a result, ICCRI has proposed that the TOF in Indonesia should be reduced from 5 days as originally described in the proposal to 3 days. The number of TOF will not be affected (5 in South Sulawesi, Southeast Sulawesi, West Sulawesi, East Java and West Sumatra) as well as the information delivered during the training. Approval from STDF is requested for implementation of these changes.

The PSC has held discussions among its members on ways to include PNG in the project. Current project activities for PNG include the production and printing of a locally adapted TOMF training manual and printing of posters. A comment was made during the 2<sup>nd</sup> PSC meeting that if printed material for PNG was produced and no commitment or funds for training are secured information may not be distributed adequately. At present, the main obstacles to organize training in PNG are lack of funds and logistic and communication problems within PNG.

It is proposed that a delegation of PSC Members organizes a mission to PNG early next year to obtain a firm commitment from local authorities to participate in the project and commit to looking for funding and allocating counterpart contributions for activities in PNG.

**E. PROJECT DOCUMENTS:**

*Provide a list of key documents (e.g. mission reports, training materials, workshop reports, etc.) produced during this reporting period. Copies of the final versions of these documents should be attached to this report.*

- i. TOMF Training Manual in Malay and Indonesian versions
- ii. List of participants & TOMF Program for the four TOF held at MCB R&D Centres in Jengka (Pahang), Teluk Intan (Perak), Kota Samarahan (Sarawak) and Kundasang (Sabah).
- iii. List of participants and programmes for the TOMF in Indonesia
- iv. Two survey questionnaires (i.e. for farmers and agro-dealers) have been distributed to participants and completed questionnaires are being analysed by MCB.
- v. Analysis of results from questionnaire.
- vi. Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Steering Committee Meeting held at ICCRI, Jember, Indonesia
- vii. Report on Cocoa Safe Website Development for Malaysia
- viii. Progress Report from Malaysia
- ix. Progress Report from Indonesia

**PART B: STATUS OF THE OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES**

<b>Output / Activity</b>	<b>Indicator / Target:</b>	<b>Actual performance: (% complete)</b>	<b>Comments (results and challenges faced)</b>
<b>Activity 1.1:</b> Developing locally adapted curricula for training of trainers, tailors for key intervention points in the value chain.	<b>Target 2:</b> Manual for TOMF to enable MF to train facilitators developed and translated into Malay and Indonesian	100%	The manual for TOMF training ready on time and has been distributed to trainees in hardcopy and softcopy.
<b>Activity 1.2:</b> Running the TOMF course.	<b>Target 1:</b> 20 master facilitators (farmer leaders and agricultural extension staff) trained in Indonesia.	100%	TOMF managed to train 20 master facilitators from 10 provinces in Indonesia, i.e. South, South East, Central and West Sulawesi, West, North and East Kalimantan, Lampung and West Sumatra, East Java and Bali.
<b>Activity 1.3:</b> Training of facilitators: farm group/cooperative leaders.	<b>Target:</b> 80 facilitators from farm group/cooperative leaders in Malaysia ready to train farmers in farmers field schools (FFS)	146%	TOF managed to train 117 facilitators from farm group/cooperatives in Malaysia. They are ready to implement Farmer Field School (FFS) if the budget is available.
<b>Activity 1.4:</b> Training of facilitators: local extension staff	<b>Target:</b> 80 facilitators from local extension staff ready to train other officers/extension staff in Field Schools on Cocoa Safe.	54%	TOF managed to train 43 extension officers in Malaysia. They only have a very limited number of extension staff with focus on cocoa. Therefore, 46% of the allocation were used to train more farmer leaders.
<b>Activity 1.5:</b> Training of facilitators: agro-dealers.	<b>Target:</b> 40 facilitators' representing agro-dealers.	43%	TOF only managed to train 17 agro-dealers from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. They only have a very limited number of agro-dealers registered under Pesticide Board of Malaysia.

<b>Activity 1.8:</b> Designing survey questionnaires for baseline and impact studies.	<b>Target 1:</b> 3 questionnaires for farmer leaders, agro-dealers and processors/collectors	100%	2 questionnaires for farmer leaders and agro-dealers have been translated into Malay and used in TOFs for all participants in Malaysia. Analysis of the survey results were still in progress.
<b>Activity 2.2:</b> Designing and creation of website/knowledge exchange platform.	<b>Target 1:</b> Website online in Malaysia <a href="http://www.koko.gov.my/cocoasafe">www.koko.gov.my/cocoasafe</a> .  <b>Target 2:</b> Report of the Meeting produced.  Website ( <a href="http://www.cocoasafe.org">www.cocoasafe.org</a> ) online	100%	The website captured all activities to date from the inception meeting to the latest TOMF training workshop in Malaysia.  Waiting comments from NIAs and other partners for further improvement.
<b>Activity 2.3:</b> Updating, maintenance and monitoring of website/ knowledge exchange platform			
<b>Activity 3.2.</b> Organizing 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Steering Committee Meeting and preparing the Report.	<b>Target 1:</b> Project Meeting organized. <b>Target 2:</b> Report of the Meeting produced.	100%	Second Project Steering Committee Meeting was organised at ICCRI, Jember, Indonesia from 25-26 September 2014 and participated by representatives from all NIAs (Indonesia and Malaysia), ICCO and CABI. Final Report of the Meeting was produced in October 2014 and were distributed to all participants electronically.