# GIZ CROP PROTECTION BASELINE STUDY

**Locations**
Benin, Burkina-Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia

**Dates**
11-07-2017 - 30-04-2018

**Summary**
Pests and diseases often limit how much smallholder farmers can produce. They affect crops both pre and post-harvest by reducing their value or making them unsafe for human consumption. Farmers try to reduce losses through a range of techniques, some of which have human or environmental health impacts. This project aims to understand and report on current crop protection practices and identify the most effective, safe and innovative options to integrate into GIZ’s programmes in 14 countries.
Study findings show that the alignment of national pesticide legislation with international standards ranged from good to poor across the 14 countries and almost 20% of registered pesticides are classed as highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs). Few low-toxicity or biological products are registered and a specific registration pathway for biological products exists in only six countries, whilst farmers, retailers and extension workers showed a lack of awareness of safe pesticide handling.

At the national level, policies to phase-out of HHPs from the country’s supply chain are required, together with policies to increase the availability and affordability of safer, low-toxicity alternatives. GIZ are already excluding recommendation, procurement or use of HHPs within their programmes.

National policies to promote the implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) are in place in some countries but knowledge of IPM remains low. To address this, further key stakeholders should be supported to promote and implement IPM and innovative and complementary extension methods including ICT can be used to increase reach with farmers. Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector should promote relevant voluntary standards among young transitional farmers in particular and support farmer compliance with the standards (including IPM implementation).

Fall armyworm is a major invasive pest in Africa (see evidence note by CABI) and adopting IPM is the safest long-term control option. GIZ is working with manufacturers of biological control products to promote their development and uptake.

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**Donors**

GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

**CABI Project Manager**

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