



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

ENHANCING FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY IN AFRICA

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) was founded by FAO and the World Health Organization in 1963, with the mandate to develop international food standards in order to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in food trade. The number of Codex members in the African region has increased considerably since it was first set up. However, it was necessary to further strengthen the participation of African countries in Codex activities, in order to enhance general awareness on the importance of food safety, and its potential negative impact on health, development and trade, especially at the level of policy and decision-makers.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

A total of 259 participants from 47 African countries were trained during the five workshops held during the project. As a result of these workshops, which included a high-level ministerial meeting with the six countries of the East Africa Community, knowledge of Codex rules and procedures was enhanced; and understanding and experience of implementing food control activities within a well managed food control system was increased. In addition, the workshops raised awareness of the need for African countries to participate and contribute to the work of Codex, to ensure that international food standards developed by the Codex Alimentarius Commission reflected African realities. They also enhanced collaboration among these countries, and demonstrated to their senior government officials the need to invest in Codex work and activities.

IMPACT

The project contributed to increasing consumer protection and improving export-import trade, as a result of greater food safety and quality enforcement.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD458 917

Duration

May 2014 - April 2017

Resource Partners

Government of Switzerland

Partners

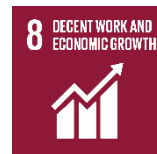
African Union, Coordinating Committee for Africa, Coordinating Committee for North America and the Southwest Pacific, National Codex Contact Points, International Life Sciences Institute South Africa

Beneficiaries

National Codex Contact Points

ACTIVITIES

- Workshop 1: Codex Capacity Building Workshop for African Member States, 68 participants trained.
- Workshop 2: 2nd Pan-African Codex Capacity Building Workshop, 67 participants trained.
- Workshop 3: Sub-regional East African Food Safety Capacity Building Workshop, 49 participants from Eastern Africa trained.
- Workshop 4: Workshop for Risk Managers on Microbiological Risk Assessment. 35 participants from five Eastern African countries and ten Central African countries trained.
- Workshop 5: High-level Ministerial meeting, to raise awareness for food safety at a high decision-making level, attended by 19 participants from the six countries of the East African Community.
- Pamphlets produced for the three Safer Food for All initiatives packs, with key messages, including examples and illustrations, case studies and teaching plans to improve food safety and consumer health protection.
- Facilitation support plan for the roll-out of Safer Food for All initiatives at the country level (administrative structures, training mechanisms, information technology requirements) developed.
- Key provisions for inclusion in the preliminary proposals of the Draft Regional Standards identified.
- Preliminary structures of the Draft Regional Standards developed.
- Clear steps of involving and seeking inputs from all interested members of Codex Coordinating Committee for Africa identified.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project Code

FAO: GCP/RAF/486/SWI

Project Title

Codex Capacity Building Workshop for Africa

Contacts

Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa

FAO-SFS@fao.org

Jean Kamanzi (Lead Technical Officer)

Jean.Kamanzi@fao.org



South-South and Resource Mobilization Division
Marketing, Outreach and Reporting Team (TCS3)
Reporting@fao.org