



*Enhancing Phytosanitary Systems for Healthy  
Plants, Safe & Sustainable Trade”*



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
**PLANT HEALTH**  
2020

**Sub-theme:**

**Import controls and Export certification in phytosanitary systems**

**Title:**

**Capacity building towards implementation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards for  
market compliant agricultural produce**

**Presented by:**

**Joseph Kigamwa, KEPHIS, Kenya**

Kigamwa J.N.<sup>1</sup>, Mutui T,<sup>1</sup> Macharia I.<sup>1</sup>, Kipyab P.<sup>1</sup>, Muthomi J.W.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), Kenya

<sup>2</sup>University of Nairobi, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Crop Production and Plant Protection, Kenya



# Introduction

---

- Centre of Phytosanitary Excellence (COPE) is a virtual learning center hosted at KEPHIS headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya.
- COPE was established through a regional partnership involving government, private sector and international stakeholders.



## Introduction cont'

- The initial funds were provided by KEPHIS, the Netherlands Plant Protection Service (NPPS) and the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) in the project phase between 2007 and 2011; this was managed by CAB International (CABI).
- COPE was officially launched on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC), Nairobi Kenya by the then Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Kareke Mbiuki.



# Problem Statement

---

COPE was established with the rationale that:

- A) African countries lack effective systems for managing phytosanitary measures at the national level and
- B) also lack good regional co-ordination of the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).



# Justification

---

- The mission of COPE was initially to provide Phytosanitary capacity building services to clients in public and private sectors to address capacity gaps in Africa linked to phytosanitary issues.
- COPE is now positioned to serve as a sub-regional virtual centre and is already recognized by the Regional Plant Protection Organizations i.e. AU-IAPSC and RECs such COMESA , EAC as well as IPPC to address capacity gaps in Africa linked to phytosanitary issues



# Objectives

---

Major objectives or functions currently are:

- To support capacity building of African countries by developing and offering trainings programs in line with market requirements;
- To do regional Pest Risk Analysis;
- To plan for and implement the phytosanitary conferences;
- To facilitate the development and publishing of African Phytosanitary Journal.



# Methodology

---

- To make COPE sustainable it operates under a business plan with fee based courses and activities in the plan; the COPE website ([www.africa-cope.org](http://www.africa-cope.org)) is well populated with current and past information.
- Works with clear targets:
  - Trainees – 500 per year with annual growth projected.
  - PRA – 1 per year
  - Phytosanitary Journal – 2 per year
  - Phytosanitary Conference – every two years

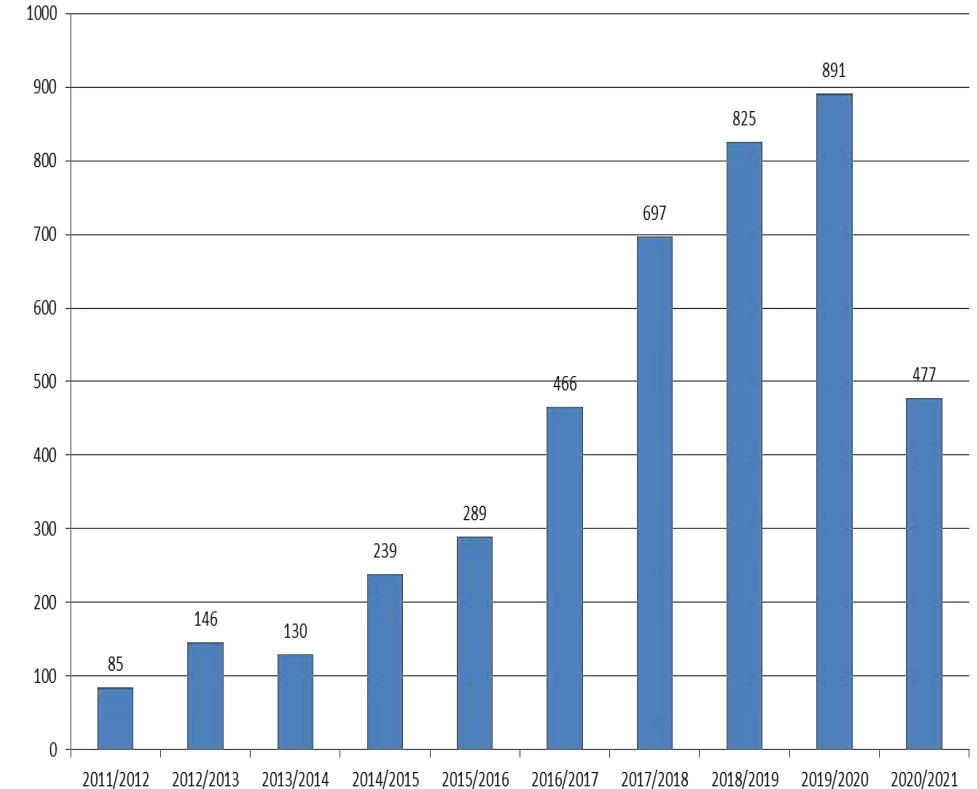


# Results



## 1. COPE Training

- COPE has a curriculum that guides its trainings (updated in 2019; the initial one was done in 2011). The curriculum is not limiting, as COPE tailor-makes the trainings to suit its clients demands.
- The University of Nairobi facilitated the development of the curriculum in both 2011 and 2019; it was supported by experts from KEPHIS, CABI, KALRO, other universities like Kenyatta University.
- COPE has trained over 4,300 participants drawn from Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia, South Africa, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Botswana, Lesotho, Nigeria, Somali, Sudan, South Sudan and others on a number of specific sanitary and phytosanitary areas of concern.



**Trainees reduced in 2020/21 FY due to effect of COVID-19**



# Results cont'

## 2. Regional PRA

- COPE is in conjunction with other EAC country's NPPOs, a regional PRA network was established.
- Regional PRAs have been done for three commodities i.e. rice, maize and beans that were adopted by the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 (<https://www.eac.int/documents/category/sanitary-and-phytosanitary-sps-measures>).
- The PRAs assist in regional trade by ensuring that trading of agricultural commodities between EAC countries and others does not bring any negative impacts to the economy in terms of introduction to quarantine pests.



**Regional Pest Risk Analysis meeting**



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
**PLANT HEALTH**  
2020

# Results cont'

## 3. phytosanitary conferences

COPE with various partners has organized two phytosanitary conferences i.e. 2016 and 2018.

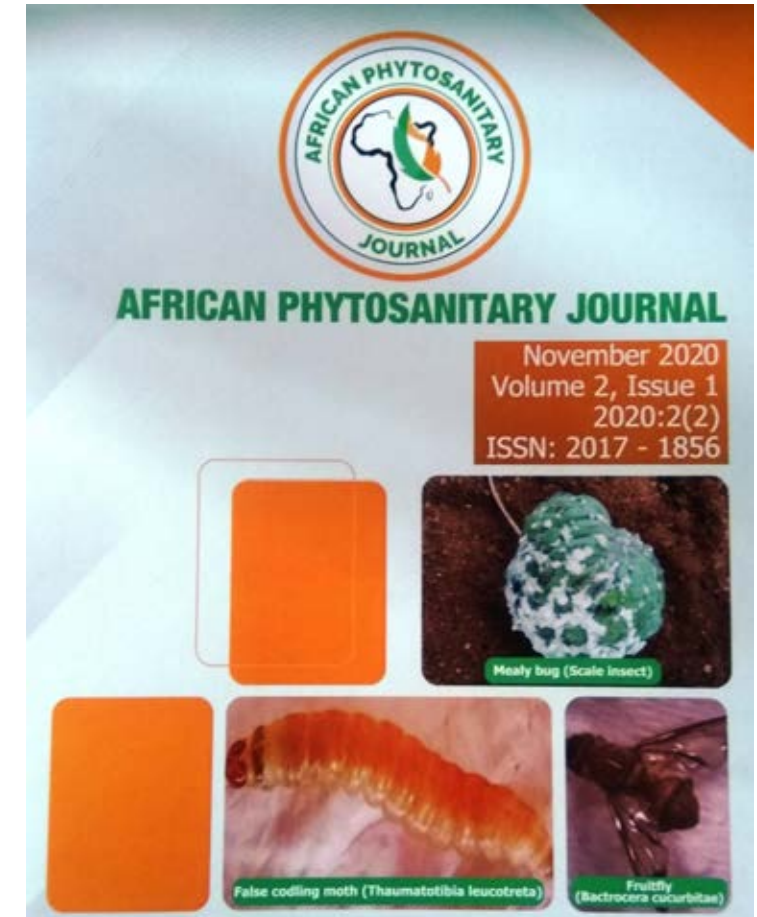
It is hosting the phytosanitary conference 2021 in line with International Year of Plant Health);



# Results cont'

## 4. African Phytosanitary Journal

- Develops and publishes the African Phytosanitary Journal (done volume 1 and 2; currently working on volume 3).
- The African Phytosanitary Journal logo is registered and has a DOI number under crossref.





# Conclusion

- In conclusion, COPE has supported Capacity building towards implementation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards for market compliant agricultural produce.
- In the recent past due to market demands, African countries are requesting for more courses linked to laboratory training on plant health and analytical chemistry plus seed certification that assure a science-based approach to market access.





# Recommendations

- Public and private entities in Africa need to use this facility to train their staff on sanitary and phytosanitary issues.
- Participate in regional PRAs thereby supporting trade.
- To send phytosanitary papers for publishing in the phytosanitary journal; this is a platform for publishing issues of phytosanitary to make it stronger.
- Actively participate in phytosanitary conference when they are organized



**ONLINE TRAINING ON  
PEST RISK ANALYSIS  
FOR SOUTH SUDAN  
OFFICERS**



# Acknowledgements



**Theme:** *"Enhancing Phytosanitary Systems for Healthy Plants,  
Safe & Sustainable Trade"*

[www.africa-cope.org](http://www.africa-cope.org)



---

For more information, please contact:

[www.africa-cope.org](http://www.africa-cope.org)

[www.kephis.org](http://www.kephis.org)

[Facebook.com/3<sup>rd</sup> phytosanitary Conference 2020](https://www.facebook.com/3rdphytoconf)

Twitter: [@3rdphytoconf](https://twitter.com/3rdphytoconf)

**Theme:** *Enhancing Phytosanitary Systems for Healthy Plants, Safe & Sustainable Trade"*

[www.africa-cope.org](http://www.africa-cope.org)