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Contact Us
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Email: pesticide-management@fao.org
Website: www.fao.org/pesticide-registration-toolkit

Website: iomctoolbox.oecd.org

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A pesticide registrar is a gatekeeper…

Pesticide registration is the process whereby the responsible authorities – pesticide registrars – decide whether a pesticide can be sold and used. This decision is based on the evaluation of scientific data that should demonstrate that the product is effective for its intended purpose and does not pose an unacceptable risk to human or animal health, or to the environment.

The proper evaluation of pesticides, before they are registered and authorized to be made available on the market, is an important data- and knowledge-intensive mechanism to make sure that only pesticides that are right for local conditions are used.

As such, the pesticide registrar is a gatekeeper at the national (or regional) level and plays a central role in the authorization of pesticides!

Challenges of pesticide registration authorities in developing countries

Pesticide registration authorities in many developing countries face serious challenges such as:

- insufficient staff
- lack of an adequate registration scheme
- limited technical expertise
- lack of risk assessment methods
- limited access to information

This means that exhaustive evaluation of pesticides, as carried out in countries with greater technical capacities, is generally not feasible.

The Pesticide Registration Toolkit helps registrars with limited resources to make smart use of existing information to mitigate these constraints.

What is the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit?

The Toolkit is a web-based registration handbook intended for day-to-day use by pesticide registrars. It helps registrars make informed decisions through the optimal use of existing data, methods and evaluations. It is available in English, and for most parts, in French and Spanish. Limited text is available in Arabic, Chinese and Russian.

The Toolkit provides links to reliable international information sources and provides methodologies and strategies for registration that can be adjusted to the level of available resources in the country. As such, the Toolkit responds to the needs and capacities of registration authorities in developing countries.

How can the Toolkit support you?

Are you a pesticide registrar? Then this Toolkit is for you!

The Toolkit is divided into modules to help you:

- Assess what data may be required for the evaluation of a specific type of pesticide for a particular purpose. These include chemical pesticides and biopesticides for agricultural and public health uses.
- Evaluate the technical aspects of the pesticide registration dossier submitted by the applicant, using broadly accepted methods or existing assessments from reputable registration authorities.
- Choose the appropriate pesticide registration strategy and procedures, depending on available local resources and priorities.
- Find pesticide-specific information, such as registrations in other countries, scientific reviews, hazard classifications, labels, MRLs and pesticide properties.
- Make your own decisions on whether to register a pesticide and what risk mitigation measures to apply.

20% 3% 77%

Staffing of pesticide registration authorities in developing countries (FAO survey 2013, 109 countries)

1-2 staff 3-6 staff >6 staff

Explore the Toolkit.
It’s free!

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To start using the Toolkit, open this link in your browser:

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“I want all my staff to have the Toolkit on their PC and to use it on a daily basis”

The pesticide registrar of Morocco
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