



# East African Community Efforts to Harmonization Pesticide Regulatory Systems: A Model Approach for Regional Solutions

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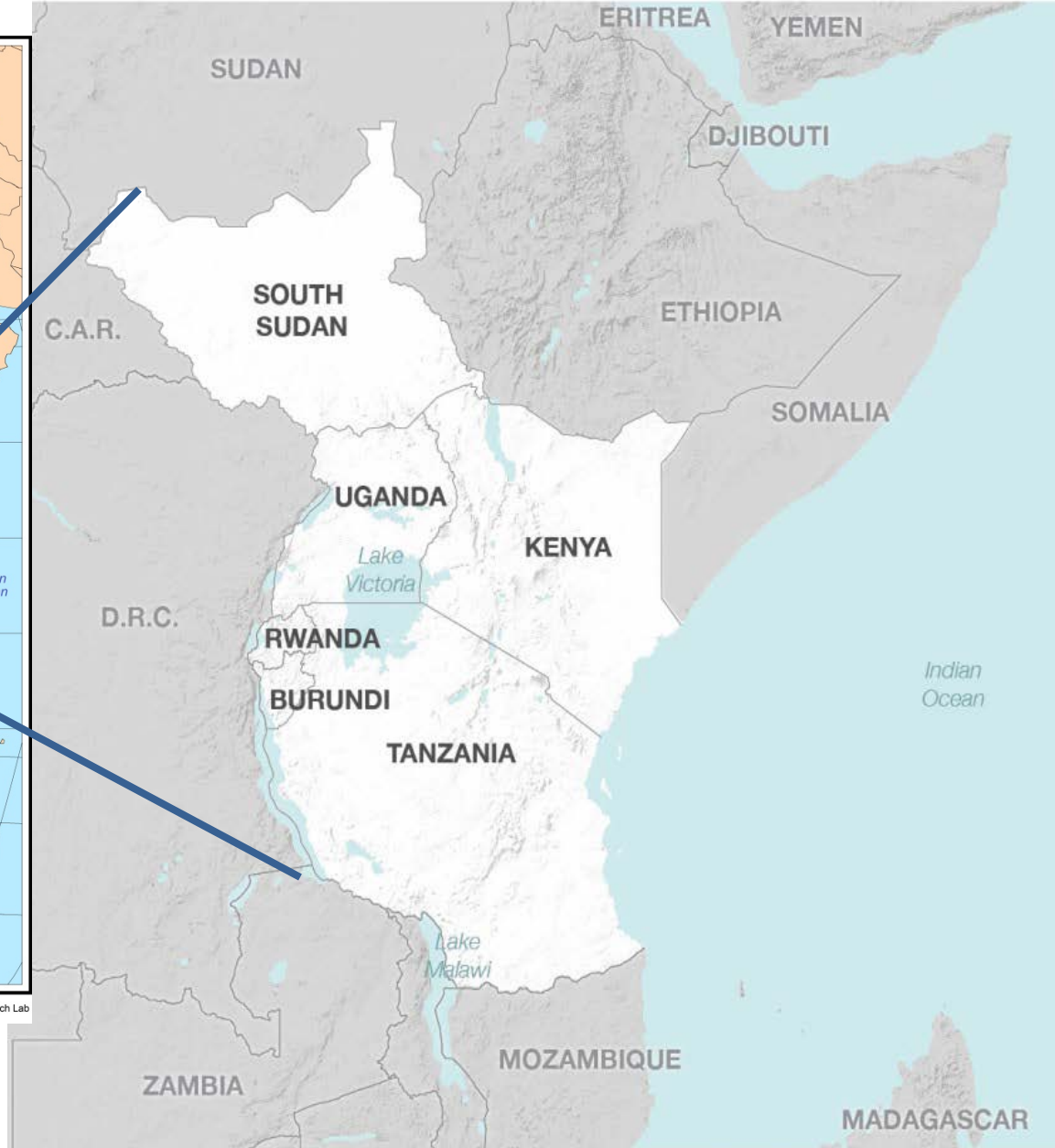
# EAC Member Countries

The EAC now comprises six countries; South Sudan joined the EAC in early September 2016.

## AFRICA



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University of Alabama



# Why harmonize national systems regionally?

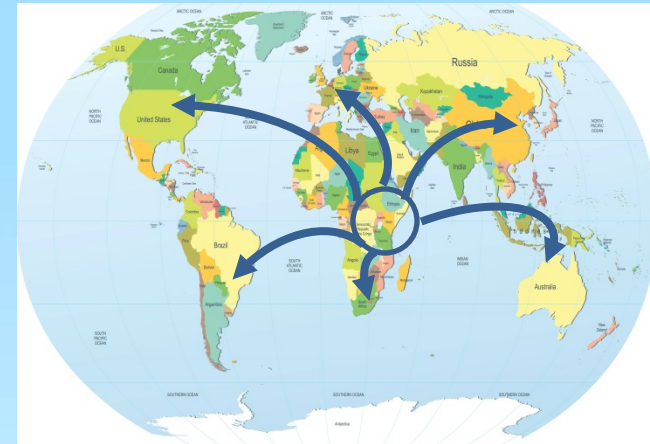
## National/Regional Benefits

- Leverages regulatory resources
- Provides incentives to register new products and establish new trade standards (ie., MRLs)
- Growers gain access to newer products faster and adds more tools for pest control options
- Reduce residue violations in export markets

## Rest of the World Benefits

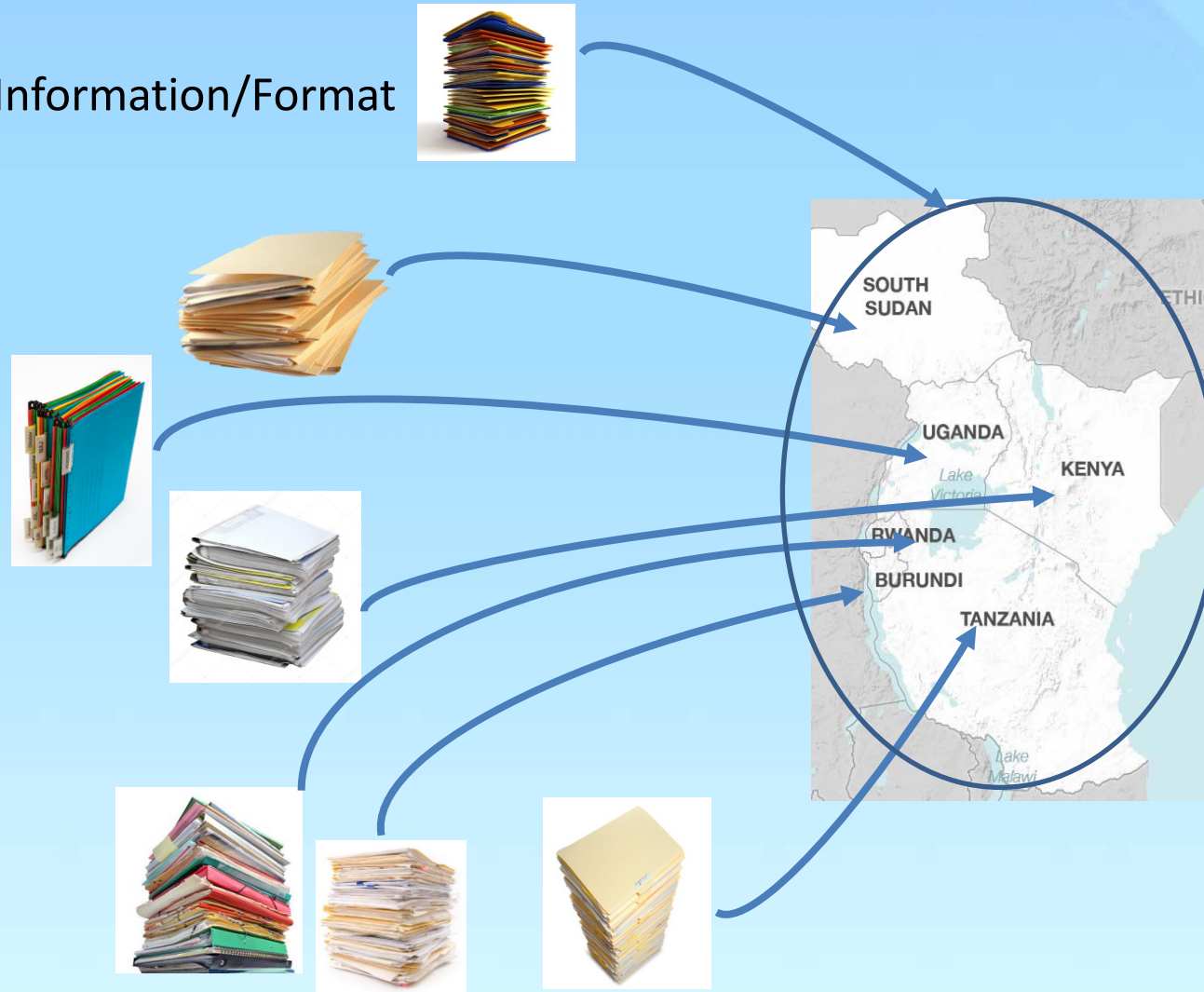
- Again...reduces MRL violations at ports of entry
- But....also reduces MRL violations of exports to the region (registrations of new AIs, leads to new import MRLs of AI)

**\*TAKE AWAY:** Supporting regional efforts benefits the region, but also facilitates trade into the region!



# What is the vision of the EAC effort?

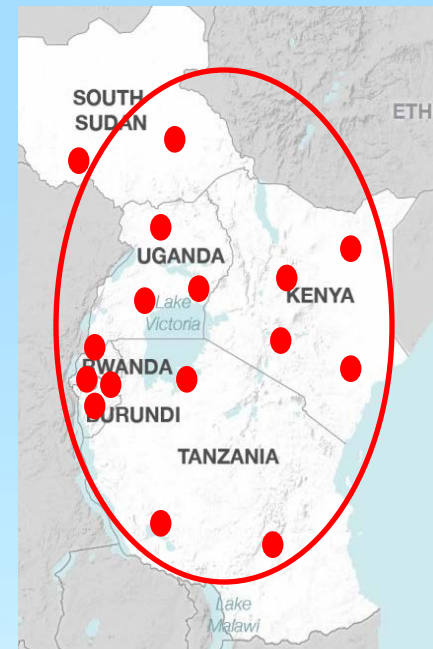
- Common Data Package: Information/Format





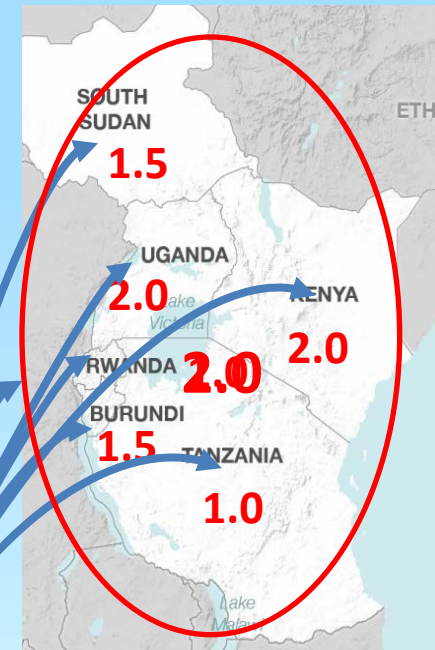
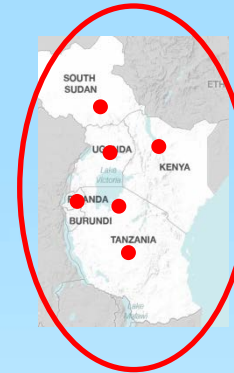
# What is the vision of this effort?

- Common Data Package: Information/Format
- Mutual Recognition of Efficacy Data/Joint Trials
  - Reduce total number from 16 to 3 or 4



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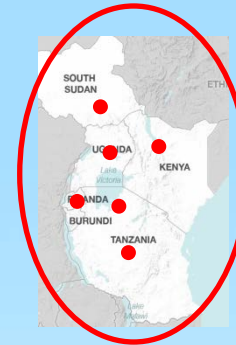
- Common Data Package: Information/Format
- Mutual Recognition of Efficacy Data/Joint Trials
  - Reduce total number from X to Y
- Mutual Recognition of Residue Data/Joint Trials
- Common Adoption of MRLs (Codex, then decision process if no Codex)



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- Common Data Package: Information/Format
- Mutual Recognition of Efficacy Data/Joint Trials
  - Reduce total number from X to Y
- Mutual Recognition of Residue Data/Joint Trials
- Common Adoption of MRLs (Codex, then decision process if no Codex)
- Multi-year process, but ultimate goal of a single submission registration system



# What is the mechanism?

- Effort is supported under the umbrella of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community (1999)
  - Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania (1999)
  - Republic of Burundi, Rwanda (2007)
  - South Sudan (2016)
- Article 108 on Plant and animal Disease Control states: Partners states shall:
  - a) Harmonize policies, legislation and regulation for enforcement of pest and disease control
  - b) Harmonize and strengthen regulatory institutions
  - e) Adopt common mechanism to ensure safety, efficacy and potency of agricultural inputs including chemicals, drugs and vaccines etc



# What is the process?

- Established 3 Expert Working Groups to discuss and work out technical details
  - Efficacy harmonization (# trials, # seasons, locations, etc)
  - Residue harmonization (residue data, MRL adoption considerations, etc)
  - Registrations (labeling, data requirements, etc)
- Held 3 EWG meetings (October 2016, February 2017, March 2018)
  - Completed work on:
    - Harmonized Application Form for registration of conventional pesticides
    - Harmonized Labeling Requirements for pesticide products
    - Agreement on guideline documents for efficacy, residue, and registrations

# What was learned?

- Harmonization encourages investment into, and from, the region
- Harmonization simplifies adoption/establishment of regional MRLs
- Harmonization requires mutual trust, communication and cooperation
- Regular participation is essential by Expert Working Groups in the harmonization process

# How can we all support this and similar efforts?

- Encourage other regions to work toward harmonization (find out what other regional efforts have been done, are in progress, or where there may be interest)
- Financial support to hold regional planning and implementation meetings (mostly travel/venue)
- Technical support to provide guidance at meetings
  - experts/consultants
  - guidance documents
- Need to harmonize the harmonization! Mechanism to coordinate between the regions (CILSS/ECOWAS/EAC/other?)

# Acknowledgements

- Paul Ngaruiya (Kenya- Pest Control Products Board)
- Mike Odong, late (Uganda Pesticide Registrar, and one of lead delegates to EAC EWG)



# THANK YOU!!!

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