



BETTER FARMING
BETTER FOOD
BETTER HEALTH

BioCOPPA Index Pilot Report- Kenya

1. Introduction

The BioCOPPA Index was piloted in Kenya on Tuesday, 29th April 2026, in Nairobi through a national stakeholder validation workshop hosted at the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB). The pilot workshop brought together a cross-section of stakeholders from government agencies, research institutions, and the pest control and crop protection industry.

Key participating institutions included the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB), Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Museums of Kenya, research institutions, academia, and representatives from the biologicals and pest control industry. The broad participation ensured that regulatory, scientific, policy, and industry perspectives were adequately represented.

The objective of the piloting workshop was to gather expert input and practical insights from national stakeholders to validate the applicability, relevance, and robustness of the BioCOPPA Index within the Kenyan regulatory and institutional context. Stakeholder feedback was intended to support the operationalization of the BioCOPPA Index and inform refinement of the framework for use in Kenya.

The BioCOPPA Index is a first-of-its-kind tool in Kenya and across the African region, designed to assess whether a country's regulatory, institutional, and policy environment is ready to support the development, registration, and adoption of biologicals and biopesticides. By providing a structured and evidence-based assessment, the index enables countries to quantify systemic readiness, identify regulatory and institutional gaps, and prioritize reforms needed to support the safe and effective uptake of biological crop protection solutions.

2. Objectives of the Stakeholder Validation Workshop

The specific objectives of the BioCOPPA stakeholder validation workshop were to:

- Present the BioCOPPA Index framework and methodology to national stakeholders
- Validate the relevance of the BioCOPPA indicators within the Kenyan regulatory and agricultural context
- Gather stakeholder feedback on the clarity, completeness, and practicality of the assessment criteria
- Identify existing strengths and gaps in Kenya's regulatory environment for biologicals and biopesticides
- Build national ownership and shared understanding to support future application of the BioCOPPA Index in Kenya

3. Workshop Proceedings

The workshop was conducted as an interactive, participatory forum combining technical presentations, plenary discussions, and guided validation sessions.

Participants were introduced to the BioCOPPA Index structure, including its thematic pillars, indicators, and



BETTER FARMING
BETTER FOOD
BETTER HEALTH

scoring approach. Discussions focused on how the index aligns with existing regulatory processes for pest control products, plant health systems, research and innovation ecosystems, and policy frameworks relevant to biologicals and biopesticides.

Stakeholders provided feedback on:

- The current regulatory pathways for biological products
- Institutional coordination among regulatory, research, and policy actors
- Data requirements, risk assessment, and evaluation procedures
- Capacity needs for regulators and support institutions
- Opportunities to strengthen approval, monitoring, and post-registration systems for biologicals

The validation process emphasized constructive dialogue, with participants sharing practical experiences and recommendations drawn from their respective mandates and areas of expertise.

4. Key Insights from Stakeholder Discussions

Key insights emerging from the workshop included:

- Recognition of growing national interest in biologicals and biopesticides as part of sustainable agriculture and integrated pest management strategies
- Acknowledgement of existing regulatory progress, alongside the need for clearer, more tailored pathways for biological product registration
- The importance of inter-agency collaboration between regulatory authorities, research institutions, and industry stakeholders
- Identification of capacity-building needs related to risk assessment, evaluation, and stewardship of biological products
- Strong support for the BioCOPPA Index as a useful diagnostic and planning tool to guide policy and regulatory improvements

5. Conclusion and Next Steps

The BioCOPPA Kenya pilot workshop successfully validated the relevance and applicability of the BioCOPPA Index in the Kenyan context. Stakeholder engagement demonstrated strong interest and commitment to strengthening the regulatory and institutional environment for biologicals and biopesticides.

Feedback collected during the workshop will inform refinement of the BioCOPPA Index indicators and scoring, as well as the development of country-specific recommendations for Kenya. The BioCOPPA Index is expected to serve as a strategic tool to support evidence-based decision-making, regulatory reforms, and investment planning to accelerate the safe adoption of biological crop protection solutions in Kenya.



BETTER FARMING
BETTER FOOD
BETTER HEALTH

Pictorials



Picture 1: Stella Simiyu giving a presentation on the BioCOPPA Index



Picture 2: Stakeholders in the policy space during a group discussion



BETTER FARMING
BETTER FOOD
BETTER HEALTH



Picture 3: A stakeholder giving their views during the plenary session



Picture 4: Group Photo of all the stakeholders in attendance