

Actions to accelerate biocontrol (Kenyan perspective)

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Integrated Biopesticides Manufacturers Association

IBMA Kenya is a non-profit organization primarily to promote and advocate the use of biologicals and associated products in integrated crop protection, organic farming, and public hygiene..

We represent manufacturers, distributors, researchers and growers of biocontrol solutions and natural products that are environmentally safe.



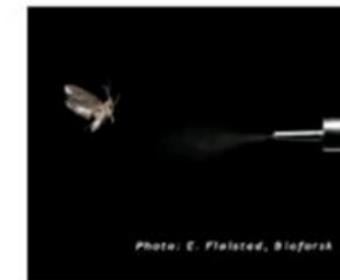
Microbials

Viruses
Bacteria
Fungi



Macrobiols

Predatory mites
Insects
Nematodes



Semiochemicals

Pheromones
Plant volatiles



Natural and
Biochemical
Products

Plant extracts
Seaweed products
Basic chemical
substances



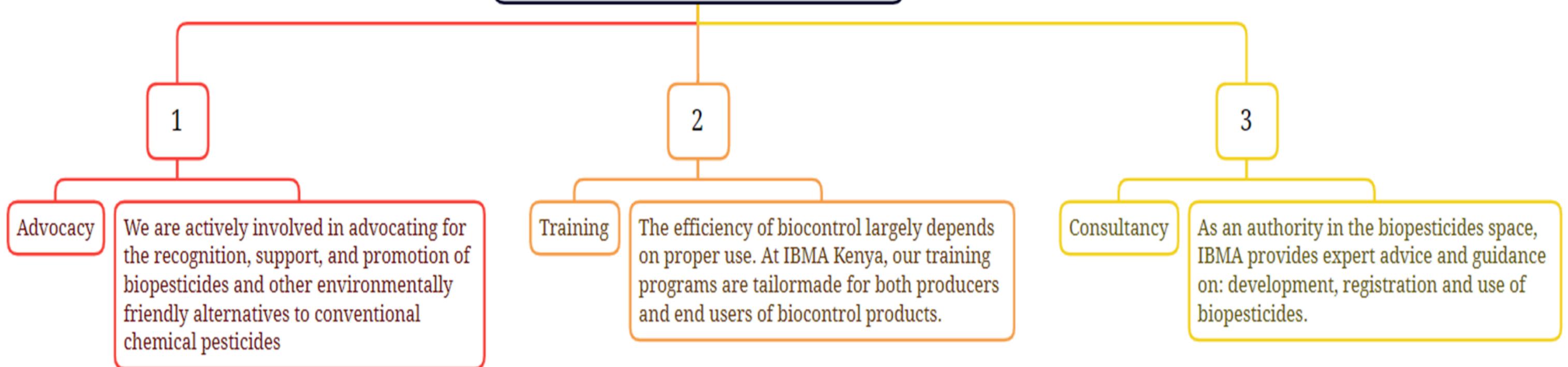
Mission

To advocate and promote innovative and effective crop management tools to better health of the people and the planet by providing safe agricultural inputs.

Vision

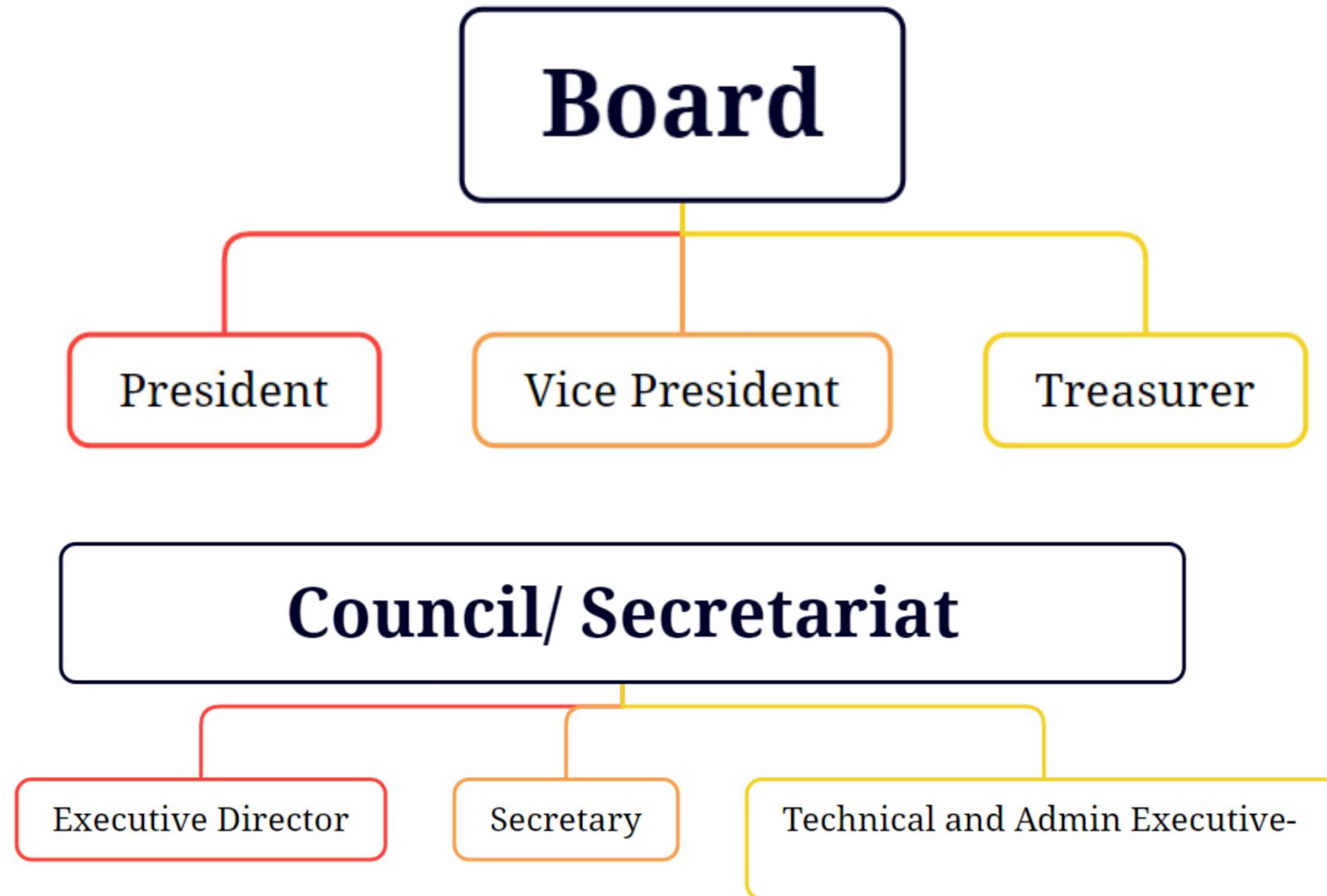
To ensure adoption of bio-intensive crop management programs through innovative farming solutions developed in partnership with growers for growers.

Main Activities



IBMA Kenya- Structure

Professional Working
groups- KWS



Professional Working
groups- FCM Systems
Approach



The regions potential and scope is massive and there are strong tail winds, but focus must be maintained

Farmers are realizing the value of quality biologicals when they are properly applied

- Biologicals that work can reduce inputs, management and cost over time. Help crops tolerate year-round stresses by balancing the system around the crop
- Increased lifespan of chemicals on farm (biologicals limit resistance)
- We only scratching the surface in the region with biologicals to date

Consumers, Global Policy and Regulation are forcing adoption

- Pressure to “go green” and remove chem - Consumers are demanding more from what they consume as they become more informed
- More hurdles for new chemical actives
- Quality of biologicals has improved



GAPS & CHALLENGES IN THE REGISTRATION & COMMERCIALIZATION OF BIOPESTICIDES IN KENYA

- 1. Regulatory & Institutional-** The registration process for biopesticides is lengthy, complex and costly
- 2. Awareness, Knowledge & Perceptions-** Low awareness among farmers of biocontrol options; Perception that biocontrol are slow to act and less reliable compared to chemical pesticides.
- 3. Policy, Strategy & Support Systems-** Lack of a strong national strategy or action plan specifically for biocontrol that integrates regulatory reform, farmer training, production & distribution; Weak extension services: under-resourced, overstretched, insufficient reach especially in remote areas



ACTIONS TO ACCELERATE BIOCONTROL ADOPTION

- 1. Regulatory changes & enabling environment-** Minimize the data requirements and regulations on biocontrol products (policy briefs, policy dialogues, data waivers, data extrapolations)
- 2. Approval of biopesticides-** Regulatory bodies to fast-track approval of biocontrol (emergency registrations, label extensions)
- 3. Mainstreaming Integrated Pest Management (IPM)-** National Agroecology Strategy for Food System Transformation (NAS_FST); Farmers are being encouraged to reduce reliance on chemical pesticides and instead embrace alternatives
- 4. Funding and partnerships-** To promote biocontrol initiatives in smallholder farming systems



CONCLUSIONS

1. Biopesticides play an important role in pest management
2. Adoption of Integrated Pest Management strategies will lead to sustainable pest management
3. Reduction of residues on produce lead to better health of consumers & workers



Thank you



Biocontrol: the only risk is you forget it is safe

