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## Regional Pesticide Regulatory Challenges in West Africa

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# Outline

- 1. Sahelian countries, 1992**
- 2. Coastal countries, 2008**
- 3. Remaining challenges**

# 1. Sahelian countries

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# Sahelian regulatory chronology

- **Pest invasions 1970's and 1980's**
- **Regional control efforts through CILSS**
- **Countries cooperate; see benefits of pooling scarce technical resources**
- CILSS issues regional pesticide regulations 1992
- Sahelian regional regulator (SPC) operates from March 1994
- National legislation follows, modeled on regional regulations

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# Sahelian regional regulatory model

Regulatory phases	Tasks	Responsibility
Pre-registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New product testing</li></ul>	National regulators
<b>Registration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Review applications</b></li><li>• <b>Decide on product approvals</b></li></ul>	<b>Regional collective decision (CSP)</b>
Post registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Register traders</li><li>• Market monitoring</li><li>• Environmental impact</li><li>• Health impact</li></ul>	National regulators

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# Sahelian regional regulatory model

## **Strengths**

- Regulator savings: sharing scarce technical resources
- Private sector savings: 1 application, instead of 9
- Harmonized decisions limit smuggling
- Other regions emulate the Sahelian model:
  - Coastal West Africa
  - Central Africa
  - East Africa

## **Weaknesses in implementation**

- Few certified testing laboratories
- Limited national monitoring capacity post-registration
- Limited financing for national and regional regulators



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# Slow implementation in coastal countries

## Coastal countries, 2008 onwards

### **Round 1. Minimal implementation (2008-2012)**

- No regional regulator established
- Coastal countries move slowly in absence of a regional regulator

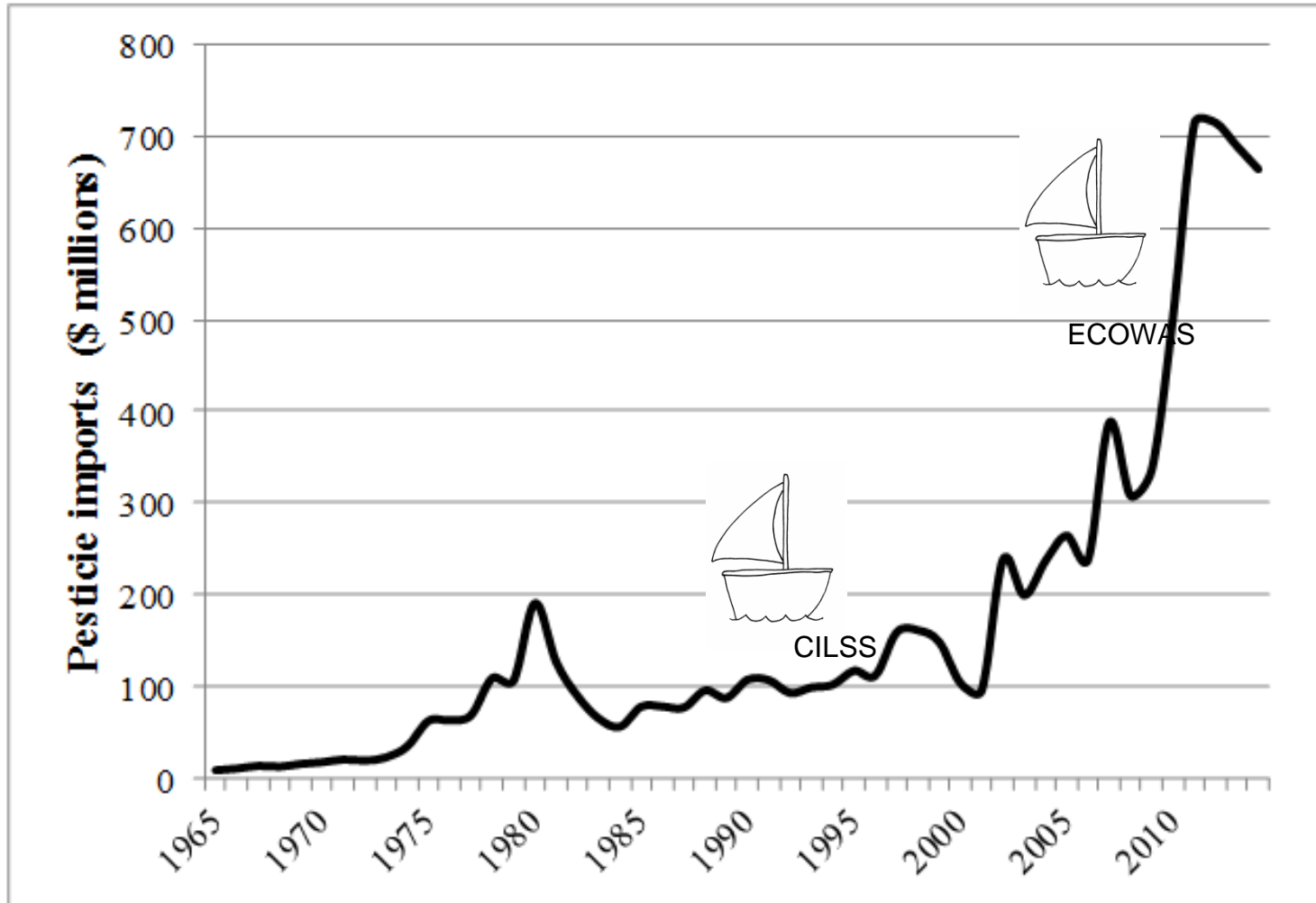
### **Round 2. ECOWAS asks CSP to facilitate implementation in coastal countries (2013-present)**

- CSP to serve as transitional Coordinating Unit for WACPR
- Technical discussions begun
- No regional regulator established; no clear funding source

# Obstacles to WACPR implementation in the coastal countries

- **Late start, during a period of rapid pesticide market growth**
- Well-established national regulators already exist
- Conflicting national registration decisions
- National regulators risk losing financial resources to the new sub-regional regulator
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Table 3. Number of pesticides registered by national regulators in the coastal countries, 2015

	Herbicides	Insecticides	Other	Total pesticides
Côte d'Ivoire	432	607	271	1,310
Ghana	212	205	91	508
Guinea	94	54	14	162



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# Remaining challenges

## **Sahel and coastal countries**

- Post-registration monitoring: markets, environment, health
- Requires additional financial resources

## **Coastal countries**

- Mobilize new financial resources for national and regional regulators

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